

MEETING AT CLEMSON

Demonstration Agents Already Declare Present Session the Most Profitable Yet Held.

Clemson College, Feb. 14.—The interest and enthusiasm of the county agents and extension specialists in the farm demonstration work grows as the session advances. All agents already pronounce this the best annual meeting ever held and there is still some of the best work unfinished. As a special feature of the Thursday morning program Mr. L. I. Guion, of Kershaw, as president of federal land bank for this district addressed the meeting on the value of the land bank in agricultural progress. Mr. Guion made a straightforward talk explaining how loans and low rates on long terms make it possible to buy farms and to improve farms already owned.

The regular program was devoted to gardening and orcharding problems and there were talks by Prof. S. C. Newman on the work of the garden and orchard, specialist of the extension division; by C. M. Barnett, agent for Oconee on stimulating on home gardens; by Geo. H. Hoffman, horticulturist of the extension division, on city gardening, and by C. B. Faris, agent for Greenwood on home orcharding. Mr. Faris' work in Greenwood county has done much toward developing considerable commercial orcharding in that county and has attracted wide attention to the possibilities elsewhere.

At the afternoon session the sweet potato received special attention, a paper by Mr. G. P. Hoffman on harvesting and stringing potatoes was given close attention and the discussion showed that the agents are alive to the importance just now of that great Southern food crop. Mr. Hoffman, under direction of the extension division, has already done valuable service last season directing construction of potato curing houses, reports from which show only about one per cent loss. Farmers by scores from every part of the State are already requesting this service for 1918 sweet potatoes.

Selection and disease control was discussed by Mr. L. H. Harter, of the United States department of agriculture. Prof. H. W. Barre, director of the South Carolina Experiment Station, discussed plans for prevention of cotton anthracnose. Prof. Barre emphasized the necessity of planting seed free from anthracnose on land not infected, and as the most important immediate step stated that seed two or three years old will in any probability be free from anthracnose which does not survive three years. A practical demonstration in spraying fruit trees was held Thursday afternoon. At the close of the session Prof. C. C. Newman, horticulturist of the college and station, conducting the demonstration.

Mr. Bradford Knapp, general agent in charge of the farm demonstration work in the South, arrived today and will address the meeting tonight. Friday, the last day, will be devoted to live stock and dairying subjects.

AUSTRIA HOPES FOR PEACE.

Emperor Issues Manifesto to People.

Amsterdam, Feb. 14.—The Austrian emperor has issued at Vienna the following manifesto:

"To my peoples: Thanks to God's gracious aid we have concluded peace with Ukraine. Our victorious arms and the sincere peace policy which we pursued with indefatigable perseverance, have shown the first fruit of a defensive war waged for our preservation.

"In common with my hard tried peoples I trust that after the first conclusion of peace, which is so gratifying an event for us, general peace soon will be granted suffering humanity.

"Under the impression of this peace with Ukraine our glance turns with full sympathy to that aspiring young people in whose heart first amongst our opponents the feeling of neighborly love has become operative.

"It has been the first to leave the camp of our enemies in order, in the interest of the speediest possible attainment of a new and great common aim, to unite its effort with our strength.

"Having from the first moment I mounted the throne of my exalted forefathers felt myself one with my peoples in the rock-like resolve to fight out the struggle forced upon us until an honorable peace was reached, I feel myself so much the more one with them in this hour in which the first step now has been taken for the realization of this aim. I look forward with full confidence to the near and happier future.

"May the Almighty bless us further with strength and endurance that not only for ourselves and our faithful allies, but also for entire humanity we may attain a final peace."

Mrs. J. M. Dick has gone to Plantersville to visit relatives.

PREPARE FOR NEXT WINTER.

State Fuel Administrator, Speaking at Clemson, Says Some Communities May Get No Coal.

Clemson College, Feb. 14.—Addressing the farm demonstration agents meeting here tonight B. B. Gossett, federal fuel administrator for South Carolina, made it plain that it is incumbent upon the people of the State to lay in large supplies of wood now for use next winter, or else suffering from the lack of fuel might result.

"No one knows how much coal there will be for general fuel purposes next year," Mr. Gossett said. "Indeed it is entirely possible that those communities that have an abundant wood supply available may be denied any coal next winter, especially as they have the entire spring and summer to prepare for the winter by laying in a large reserve stock of wood."

Millers Certificates.

Millers' certificates for farmers to use showing that the farmer has had ground substitutes for wheat flour, in order to buy flour from a retailer, under the new ruling of the Food Administration, can be secured from Mr. G. A. Lemmon, County Food Administrator at City National Bank, or from E. I. Reardon, Assistant County Food Administrator, at the Sumter Chamber of Commerce.

These certificates will be supplied only to millers, and in limited quantities, in order that the millers will become familiar with the ruling. Millers will then be required to write direct to William Elliott, Federal Food Administrator for their certificates.

Farmers will not be supplied with certificates by the food administrators.

The United States Food Administration has informed all county administrators that there is no excuse for raising the price of baker's bread, and to watch this phase of the food situation closely.

Violations of the rule regarding the amount of wheat flour or sugar that can be sold or purchased by any one individual will be certainly detected and dealt with. This is being proved frequently. The Food Administration facilities for detecting violations are numerous and very efficient.

Mechanical or Civil Engineers Wanted.

The war department has asked the Public Service Reserve to secure men for inspection of ordnance and munitions. These men are wanted for immediate service and must be qualified mechanical or civil engineers, men who have made good and are not over 60 years of age. The pay for this service is from \$1,200 to \$4,000 per annum, depending upon the fitness of the applicant. Some of the ablest will be given commissions in the army. Hundreds of these men are needed.

Letters of application giving full information with two or more supporting letters, may be sent to the undersigned and will be forwarded to the war department promptly.

A. C. PHELPS,
Enrolling Agent, U. S. Public Service Reserve.

Red Cross Notes.

The Southern Division of the American Red Cross has been asked to furnish 350 phonograph records in good condition out of a lot of 4,500 that has been requested by Major Perkins for the amusement of the American soldiers in France.

The request came to Colonel William Lawson Peel, division manager, from the National headquarters with the further request that they should be sent to the Red Cross clearing house in New York as soon as possible.

Anyone who has phonograph records that they would like to give for the use of the American soldiers will please send them at their earliest convenience to the Southern Division Warehouse at 32 James St., Atlanta, Ga.

A telegram has just been received from Washington by the Bureau of Junior Membership of the Southern Division, American Red Cross, asking that the school authorities have the school children of the Southern Division compete in drafting a 20 word message interpreting the good will of the American school children to the school children of the Virgin Islands.

The best message received will be forwarded from Washington as a representation of the friendly feeling of the children here for those in our newest territorial acquisition. All messages must be in Washington by February 20th, addressed in care of the Junior Red Cross Organization.

If the Food Administrator gets in behind all the merchants, retail as well as wholesale, who have charged more than twelve cents for sugar there will be many a one in the same boat as the South Carolina wholesaler who is reported as having effected a compromise by paying over to the Red Cross the sum of \$450.

MITENS IN FRANCE.

Truck Drivers Make Gloves of Coat Tails.

With the American Army in France, Jan. 31 (Correspondence of The Associated Press)—American army truck drivers have found a use for the strips of heavy khaki cloth cut from the bottoms of soldiers' overcoats. One of the drivers discovered that mittens of extraordinary warmth could be made from the cloth and now nearly every driver of a motor truck or automobile is wearing a pair or has determined to make himself some the first time he has a spare ten minutes.

Many units of the army in France discovered that the regulation overcoats were too long when first they donned them. The bottoms, becoming soaked with rain or caked with mud, flopped about the legs of the men and made the garment a burden. Some soldiers discarded their overcoats whenever it was possible for them to and many colds or other ailments resulted.

Then one entire division—a newly landed organization of former National Guardsmen—suddenly appeared with coats that reached to the knee or an inch above it. The old long coats were exchanged by their owners for the new ones in response to an order signed by the general commanding. About the same time soldiers in other divisions cut their coats off themselves or had them trimmed down. Some men who were among the first division to enter the trenches clipped the objectionable bottoms with knives.

In a trench an overcoat that strikes the ankles, drags in the mud and water and is nearly as bad as no coat at all. The practice of cutting off overcoats now has become general through the zone of the American army and a garment of the length usually seen in the United States rapidly is coming to be regarded as a sort of curiosity over here.

All this shearing, of course, left many strips of cloth as short coats. There was nothing to do with the pieces. Many a boot was polished with khaki.

An army motor truck driver leads a cold life. For many hours a day he sits exposed on the front of his machine, often spinning along at a rate that would cause an epidemic of heart disease in the traffic squad of any American police department. The drivers manage to keep fairly comfortable sometimes wearing three suits of heavy woolen underclothes.

Their chief complaint has been that they could not keep their hands warm and many have been known to stop their machines in the road and

toast their fingers at the exhaust pipe. Then a driver with a pair of scissors, needle, thread and a good imagination cut four shapes from an overcoat bottom, sewed them together in pairs and found that by wearing the mittens over the regulation knitted gloves his hands remained warm even in the coldest weather.

Overcoat bottoms are in demand now.

FIRE ON HAMPTON AVENUE.

One Residence Burned Last Night and Two Others Damaged.

The fire department was called out last night about 7:30 o'clock by an alarm sent in from the corner of West Hampton and Salem Avenue. When the truck reached the scene the two story residence occupied by Mr. Holmes and Rev. Miller was in flames, the entire second floor then being ablaze. There was delay in getting a stream on the fire and before the fire could be gotten under control the house was practically a total loss and the houses on either side had also caught and been considerably damaged. Rev. Miller who occupied the second floor of the house that was destroyed lost almost all of his furniture and household effects. Mr. Holmes who occupied the first floor was fortunately able to save much of his furniture by the assistance of neighbors who came to his assistance as soon as the fire was discovered. The adjacent house occupied by Mr. Nance, on the first floor, and Mrs. Bracy, on the second was considerably damaged, but was finally extinguished, while the house on the other side, occupied by Mr. L. W. McLeMore, was damaged to a less degree. The house in which the fire originated was the property of Miss Emma Schwartz, the other two are owned by Schwartz Bros.

The fire when discovered was burning between the ceiling of the second story and the roof. Its origin is not known.

STRIKE AT GRANITEVILLE.

Dissatisfaction Over Wages Causes Walk Out.

Aiken, Feb. 14.—The mills of the Graniteville Manufacturing Company at Graniteville, in the Horse Creek Valley, Aiken county, are closed and the machinery idle, while between 500 to 600 operatives, men and women, are on strike demanding substantially a 20 per cent. increase in wages.

London, Feb. 17.—Great quantities of arms and ammunition bound for Finland have been seized in the harbor of Stockholm, according to the Social Demokraten of Stockholm.

SHIP CARPENTERS STRIKE.

Number of New York Strikers Increased to About Four Hundred and Fifty.

New York, Feb. 14.—The number of ship carpenters on strike for higher wages in two yards on Staten Island, where ships for the United States government are under construction, increased today to about 450 and representatives of the men said the strike would assume greater proportions within 24 hours unless the government intervenes. According to reports received by A. E. Wilkie, assistant director of the Emergency Fleet Corporation here, the men who are now getting \$4.80 for eight hours' work are demanding an increased scale with extra pay for overtime and Sunday. The men claim they are entitled to \$6.60.

GOVERNOR SIGNS BILL.

Women May Now Practice Law—State Income Tax Law Repealed.

Columbia, Feb. 15.—Gov. Manning today signed the act admitting women to practice of law in South Carolina. He also signed the bill repealing the State income tax law.

TRADE PROCLAMATION ISSUED.

President Places All Foreign Trade Under License System.

Washington, Feb. 15.—By a new proclamation today President Wilson placed all exports to all countries under license by the war trade board after tomorrow. The proclamation also applies the license system to all imports, thus placing the entire foreign commerce of the country under the system. It is one of the steps adopted for reducing ocean carriage of non-essentials, to release ships for the transportation of troops and war materials.

Atlantic Port, Feb. 15.—An American passenger ship bound for Cuba, which left yesterday, returned today with a large hole above the starboard waterline amidships. She was in collision after midnight with an unknown steamer in a dense fog, whose fate was not learned.

Washington, Feb. 15.—More than half the great number of shipyard workers needed to carry out the country's merchant marine program have been secured in the first half of the first week of the nation-wide campaign by the United States Public Service Reserve. This is shown by incomplete returns to William E. Hall, director of the reserve.

NEGOTIATIONS WITH ROUMANIA.

Berlin Newspapers Print Report That Peace Conference Will be Held.

Amsterdam, Feb. 15.—Berlin newspapers of Thursday evening intimate that peace negotiations with Roumania are about to be opened. The report says that although no official announcement has been issued, it may be assumed that the Roumanian negotiators will first discuss the prolongation of the armistice. They have arrived at the place agreed upon.

Many Bodies Recovered.

Montreal, Feb. 15.—With forty-one charred bodies of babies recovered from the ruins of west wing of Grey Nunnery, which was swept by fire last night, workmen today searched for other possible victims. Officials are unable to give the exact number of missing, but it is estimated that the probable loss of life is fifty to one hundred. The fire was caused by defective wiring.

More bodies which were recovered this morning raised the death toll to fifty-two. Nearly one thousand crippled men, women, wounded soldiers and young babies were enabled to escape through the valiant efforts of the nuns.

Ex-Sheriff Muldrow Dead.

Bishopville, Feb. 14.—Robert E. Muldrow, ex-sheriff of Lee county and a well-known and highly respected citizen, died at the home of his father-in-law, Mr. G. H. Reid, today at 12 o'clock, after being in declining health for several months. He was sheriff of Lee County for twelve years and made an excellent officer. He was a member of the Presbyterian church, and was forty-nine years old. He leaves a widow and one son, Robert E. Muldrow, Jr. The funeral will take place at the Presbyterian church tomorrow.

London, Feb. 15.—Germany has resolved to renew military activities against Northern Russia. This decision is said to have been reached at a conference at imperial headquarters, special dispatches from Holland say. The invasion of great Russia, it is added, will continue, at any rate, until Petrograd has been occupied by the Germans.

Paris, Feb. 15.—French troops last night penetrated the German lines northeast of Courcy on the Aisne front and returned with a number of prisoners. (Official.)

Dr. R. S. Truesdale has returned from Durham, N. C., where he has been holding a meeting at Trinity College.

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