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UNDER GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT

Railroads to Spend One Billion Dollars for Additions.

TWENTY-NINE MILLIONS FOR SOUTHERN RAILWAY

Administration Authorizes Vast Sum to Be Invested in Betterments and Equipment During Year.

Washington, May 19.—Railroads under government operation this year will spend nearly a billion dollars for additions, betterments and equipment, or approximately three times as much as in any one of the past three years.

Total capital expenditures approved by the railroad administration as announced today are \$937,961,318. Of this big sum \$440,071,000 will be spent for additions and betterments, such as stations, and other property improvements; \$479,686,000 for equipment—cars and locomotives already ordered, through the railroad administration; and \$18,203,000 for track extensions.

The figures show the determination to let the railroads make any necessary improvements which they had neglected during the last three years through permitting tracks to run down and postponing all possible projects requiring big expenditures of capital. It also is shown that the railroad administration is not encouraging many extensions of lines during the war emergency.

Requests Pared Down.

Railroads this year asked much more than was actually approved, and the railroad administration eliminated \$349,247,000 or nearly one-fourth of the proposals. In paring down the budgets to this extent the administration made it plain that most of its decisions might be reconsidered later in the light of any growing necessity or lack of need of betterment. In general the trunk lines, were given authority for improvements and equipment for the transportation of the great flood of traffic towards Europe. In many cases, however, the budgets were cut sharply.

Part of the capital will be supplied by the government from the \$500,000,000 revolving fund of the administration, although advances will be repaid eventually by the individual roads. Wherever possible, railroads will finance their own enterprises without government aid.

Examination of the roads' budgets has been directed by Robert S. Lovett, chief of the railroad administration's division of capital expenditures, and John Skelton Williams, in disapproving certain items, Director General McAdoo adopts the same policy for railroads which, as secretary of the treasury, he asks other business interests to adopt as a war measure.

FRANK GARY, JR.

Mr. Frank Gary passed successfully the entrance examinations on April 16 to U. S. Naval Academy. Mr. Gary is seventeen, a Sophomore of Citadel Military Academy, and a successful business man of his age. He will no doubt carry off the available honors at the Naval Academy.

OUR ATTRACTIONS.

The flowers around the Postoffice are blooming beautifully and make that part of town an attractive place.

The Monument Park is unusually pretty this year, the flowers and evergreens being luxuriant and the two handsome signs left from the reunion bids everyone welcome. The signs should be permanent.

500 Arrests Are Reported in Ireland

IRISH VOLUNTEERS CALLED FOR TO AVOID CONSCRIPTION MEASURE.

London, May 18.—The Evening News today says:

"The situation in Ireland arising from the discovery of the German plot is so grave that 500 arrests already have been made."

London, May 18.—Faced with the possibility of a revolt in South Ireland following the arrest of thirteen leaders of the Sinn Feiners, if conscription is enforced, Sir Edward Short, Secretary of State for Ireland, has issued a proclamation calling for voluntary enlistments.

The proclamation, it is said, was issued "in hope that it would not be necessary to resort to compulsion" to gain Irish recruits.

In a previous proclamation the Lord Lieutenant had stated it had come to the attention of the Government that certain subjects of King George in Ireland had entered into treasonable communication with the Germans.

The Government is attempting to have Ireland's quota in the empire's army brought to its proper strength without recourse to conscription.

The Secretary of State's announcement was the first intimation that abandonment of the Irish conscription plan was even remotely possible. While it was issued ostensibly to gain recruits and block the German-Sinn Fein plot it is considered certain it will result in a lessening of the animosity aroused by the possibility of enforced war service.

"Meanwhile," says The Chronicle's Dublin correspondent, "the danger of the enforcement of conscription may be finally and definitely put aside."

The Freeman's Journal (of Dublin) says:

"While it is possible that a few foolish persons may have conspired to invoke German aid, the Irish people, notwithstanding the provocation of England, are not pro-German."

There were other arrests later, among those taken into custody being Dennis McCullough, Professor Valera was arrested at his home at midnight. Some of the principal arrests were made at Belfast.

Darrel Figgis, who was seized in Dublin, was taken to Dublin Castle in an army lorry and there placed under guard. Figgis is secretary of the Sinn Fein organization and a poet and writer. Arthur Griffiths, another of the arrested men, is president of the Sein Feinners.

MR. GEORGE REID DEAD.

Mr. George Reid, son of Mr. T. H. Reid, died at Chester Hospital on Sunday morning, May 19th, at 5 o'clock. He was sick about two weeks, suffering from a complication of diseases, one of which was jaundice.

The funeral was conducted yesterday morning at the home, three miles from Abbeville. The interment followed at Long Cane cemetery. The deceased was about twenty-eight years of age. His mother, who was Miss Dusenberry, died about two years ago. He is survived by his father, two sisters, Mrs. R. C. Wilkes and Miss Maggie Reid, and a brother, Mr. Hoyt Reid.

We extend hearty sympathy to the bereaved family.

Attention! Young Men! Register!

All young men who have become twenty-one years of age since the last registration, or who will become 21 before June 5th, 1918, are required to register on the last named date. Applicants for registration will appear before the Board of Registration for Abbeville County in the office of J. L. Perrin, Clerk of Court, on the day named. Heavy penalties follow a failure to properly register.

CONGRESS ANXIOUS

TO CLOSE SESSION

Revenue Matters May Detain Body, However.

TO HEAR FROM McADOO

Secretary Plans Conference With Leaders—Chamberlain Inquires Bill Up in Senate.

Washington, May 19.—Congress probably will decide this week whether it shall abandon plans for adjournment July 1 in order to enact the new revenue legislation asked for by Secretary McAdoo.

The revenue question comes to the fore tomorrow, when Secretary McAdoo is to confer with congressional leaders. Before a decision is reached, President Wilson's views will be sought.

In other respects congress is regarded in good position for closing down in July. Two-thirds of the regular appropriation bills virtually have been disposed of, while the \$11,700,000,000 army and \$1,500,000,000 navy bills are to be submitted early this week to the house and senate, respectively.

The Chamberlain resolution, authorizing the senate military committee war inquiries, probably will be brought before the senate Tuesday. Leaders of both factions hope to submit compromise amendments which will remove President Wilson's objections and still allow the aircraft, ordnance and other army investigations planned by the military committee to proceed.

RED CROSS CANTEN.

The ladies of the Red Cross have organized a Canteen and will give what is called "attention service" to the soldiers who pass this way. The organization is in charge of Mrs. Denny Miller who has as her first assistant chairman, Mrs. C. C. Gambrell and Mrs. J. H. Sherard as second assistant.

The town is divided into wards and each ward has a captain and two lieutenants and seven assistants. These assistants must be over twenty one years old and a solemn oath is required of all, no one may take advantage of the soldiers.

The captains are Mrs. M. T. Coleman, Mrs. P. A. Cheatham, Mrs. J. C. King, Mrs. A. B. Morse, Mrs. C. H. McMurray, Mrs. W. F. Nickles, and Mrs. W. C. Sherard. These ladies will wear a uniform of blue, and, no doubt, will do great good.

Four automobiles will be enlisted for service, the drivers being ladies and in uniform.

SEEING THE SOLDIERS.

Mrs. T. L. Davis and Miss Fannie Stark went up to Spartanburg last Thursday and spent a pleasant day with friends at Camp Wadsworth.

Lieut. Albert Morse came down from Camp Wadsworth Sunday to visit homefolks. He was accompanied by Lieut. Houghland of Indiana, and Lieuts. Booth and Below of New York.

AETNA EXPLOSION

CLAIMS FIFTY-SIX

Many Others in List of Injured and Missing.

A SCENE OF DESOLATION

Three Southern Boys Killed in Destruction of Great Chemical Works Near Pittsburgh.

Pittsburgh, May 19.—Fifty-six men are known to be dead, 94 injured and in hospitals and 31 employees of the Aetna Chemical Company are missing as a result of the mine explosions yesterday which wrecked this company's explosive manufacturing plant at Oakdale, 16 miles from this city. This report is the result of the day's investigation by State, federal, county and city officials.

Throughout the night and all day today men were extinguishing small fires in the debris and bringing out remnants of human bodies. In most cases there was nothing to indicate identity.

NEW BOOKS.

The Library under the efficient management of Mrs. Henry Norwood, is beginning to take on new life. An active campaign has been inaugurated for new members and has been most successful. With the money received for these members new books will be bought which will add greatly to the popularity of the place. A list of these books will be published as soon as they arrive.

Mrs. Norwood has reindexed and shelved the books and she will be glad to have those interested call and look over them.

DEATH OF MRS. KENNEDY.

On last Tuesday night as the clock struck 12, the spirit of Mrs. Lizzie Kennedy was translated from earth to Heaven. She had been very ill for about ten days. On account of her age friends were apprehensive from the beginning. Just a few days before her death pneumonia developed and the end was hastened. Rev. J. P. Pressly conducted the funeral and made the address. Rev. R. T. Kerr of Bradley offered prayer. The burial then took place in the Due West cemetery. Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Devlin, Mr. W. W. Purdy, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Kerr, Mr. and Mrs. J. Livy Watson of Bradley and Mrs. J. No. Kerr of Verdery, Mr. and Mrs. Cogburn, and Mr. Carol Cogburn of Ridge Springs, S. C., all relatives, attended the funeral. Mrs. Kennedy was preceded just fifty years ago, lacking 12 days by the death of her husband, Mr. Edmund P. Kennedy. She leaves two sons, Mr. A. D. Kennedy and Mr. E. P. Kennedy, both of Due West, to mourn her loss. A very large circle of kindred and friends mourn with them.—A. R. Presbyterian.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Allen went to Greenville to visit home folks last week-end.

GERMANS READY FOR BIG DRIVE

Boys Of 21 To Enroll June 5th

NEW REGISTRATION EXPECTED TO ADD 800,000 TO NATION'S DRAFT LIST.

Washington, May 18.—June 5 has been set for the registration of all young men who have attained the age of 21 since the last registration day, Provost Marshal General Rowder announced this afternoon.

Men who have become 21 years of age since June 5, 1917, will be registered under the Government selective service act on June 5 this year, according to official announcement received from Washington Saturday by Major Joel B. Mallet, in charge of the selective service in Georgia.

All local boards in Georgia are being notified of the new order and are being instructed to make all necessary arrangements, in accordance with regulations, which are being sent out.

A campaign of publicity is being inaugurated for the purpose of letting every person affected become thoroughly familiar with the new order and avoid confusion over the date of registration.

Under orders from the military department, the work of registering the men will fall upon the shoulders of the local boards, which will eliminate all the confusion incident to the first draft. It is estimated that the number of men to register on June 5 will be only one-tenth of the number who registered for the first draft. General Crowder expects about 800,000 to register in the nation.

In the various cities and counties offices of the local boards will be the places of registration. Members of the local boards will act as chief registrars, and, assisted by the clerks will perform the duties of registrars. Local boards will be required to furnish cards to the sick and non-resident registrants within their jurisdiction, and will be required to certify to the cards of nonresidents.

Robert B. Rhett German Prisoner

Summerville Officer is Now in Hands of Enemy—Day's Casualty List.

Washington, May 19.—The army casualty list issued today contained 59 names, divided as follows:

Killed in action 4, died of disease 4, died of accidents 2, died of disease 3, wounded severely 36, wounded slightly 6, missing in action 4.

Lieut. Robert B. Rhett of Summerville, S. C., previously reported missing, is shown by the list to be a prisoner in the hands of the Germans. Lieut. Jefferson D. Vincent of Buffalo, who died of accident, is the only other officer named.

Besides Lieutenant Rhett the following Southern men are in the list: Die dof wounds, Sergt. William Bell Jr., 96 Woodson St., Atlanta; died of disease, Privates Jesse Chaney, Greenville, S. C., and Thomas L. Walker, Crews, Va.

Wounded slightly: Private Albert A. Lowdermilk, Morgantown, N. C. Missing in action: Master engineer, senior grade, George L. Mackay, Ocala, Fla.

THE CIVIC CLUB.

The regular meeting of the Civic Club will be held at the home of Mrs. W. P. Greene, Thursday afternoon at half past five o'clock.

Bring Up Guns and Supplies to Renew Disastrous Offensive.

TEST OF STRENGTH AWAITED BY ALLIES

Big American Forces Arriving at Front—British Take Village of Ville-Sur-Ancre and Prisoners

Although the Germans in Flanders and Picardy are keeping up incessantly their preparations for a resumption of their spring drive, there is as yet no indication that an attack on a large scale is immediately imminent.

For several weeks past the enemy has been engaged assiduously in bringing up guns and supplies of all kinds and also new forces to reconstitute the units, which the Americans, British and French guns cut to pieces as he tried at various points to break the allied line, and the feeling now is that the work is fairly well done and that any day may witness the commencement of another great offensive.

As today as is the enemy for the battle stand the allied armies, fit so far as men and gun power are concerned, are confident that no advantage will be gained over them except as has been usual by the payment of an awful price in men fed to the guns. Large numbers of Americans daily are being brought to front ready for immediate service.

Meanwhile the big guns continue to roar in mighty duels on various sectors and here and there small bands of infantry constantly are leaving their trenches in raids or small attacks.

The latest of these small affairs, where a bit of ground was required, has been successfully carried out by the British in the capture of the village of Ville-Sur-Ancre on the Amiens sector. Not only was the position taken, but with it 360 prisoners and 20 machine guns fell into the hands of Field Marshal Haig's men.

In raiding operations northwest of Albert and near Hamel the British also were enabled to take additional prisoners and machine guns.

That the Germans in prospect seem evident from their latest operations in the Gul of Finland. Here they have taken the island of Bjorko which lies only 30 miles northwest of the Russian capital.

HONOR ROLL OF HIGH SCHOOL

Grade V.—Ralph Bauknight, Gus Smith, Jeanne White, Frances Gilliam, George Hood, Angela Roche, Lucile Welch—Miss Lucile Kennedy, Teacher.

Grade VI.—Willie Bowie, Ray Swetenburg, Caroline Chalmers, Mary Jones, Elizabeth Lyon, Grace Milford, Debbie Owen, Irene Starnes, Marion Wilson, Bessie Shaw.—Miss Tennant, Teacher.

Grade VII.—Edwin Barksdale.—Miss Lillian Swetenburg.

Grade VIII.—Janie Vance Bowie, Elizabeth Gambrell, Helen Milford, Hal Moore, Mary White.

Grade IX.—Ralph Lyon, Bruce Fant, Helen Eakin, Victoria Howie.

Grade X.—Lois Ferguson, Alpha Graves, Ruby Mann, Mary Reed Moore, Herman Wisby.

COTTON MARKET

Cotton ----- 28 1-2c.