

The Watchman and Southron.

THE SUMTER WATCHMAN, Established April, 1880.

"Be Just and Fear not—Let all the ends Thou Aims't at be thy Country's, Thy God's and Truth's."

THE TRUE SOUTHRON, Established June, 1880.

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TRAITORS IN OKLAHOMA.

ANTI-DRAFT DEPREDAATIONS CONTINUE ON RAILROADS.

A Number of Railroad Bridges Burned Last Night—General Bands Operating in Widely Separated Sections.

Oklahoma City, Aug. 4.—Reports received by railroads indicate that depredations attributed to draft resisters continued last night. The bridge of the Missouri, Oklahoma and Gulf Railroad at Calvin, eighty miles south of Muskogee was burned and another of the Missouri, Kansas and Texas between Kanawa and Maude was also burned. The latter bridge is twenty miles from the first. From Francis, Oklahoma, comes a report that Missouri, Kansas and Texas bridges at Tyola were burned last night. The sheriff of at least four counties and a hundred men are searching for several bands.

The disturbed area is roughly one one hundred miles long by ninety wide. The topography is rugged. Only an estimate can be made of the number of rioters, but these run from five to fifteen hundred. The section includes a large mixture of tenant whites, negroes, half-breeds and Indians. The friction between landlords and tenants in this section resulted in a federal investigation in 1915.

FEDERAL TROOPS SENT.

Drastic Steps to Be Used in Oklahoma.

Washington, Aug. 4.—The proposition that federal troops may be sent to quell the anti-draft demonstrations was discussed at this morning's conference and a probable decision will be reached within twenty-four hours. Officials believe it is hardly likely that they will be sent until it becomes apparent that the civil authorities are unable to cope with the situation. It is the intention of the government to deal quickly and severely with the situation.

MAY CHANGE SYSTEM.

Ships May Be Examined at Norfolk, Va.

Washington, Aug. 3.—Great Britain has suggested that the examination of neutral ships bound from ports south of New York to Europe be transferred from Halifax to Norfolk, Va., in order to relieve the congested conditions in the Canadian port.

The state department has referred the question to various other departments interested and will not be able to reach a decision until it has heard from them. The treasury has been asked if its customs examination could be carried out there; the postoffice department has been asked about the delivery of the mails and the shipping board about any agreement it may have entered into as to neutral shipping.

The British have long been anxious to relieve the congestion at Halifax. At the time the examination of shipping was transferred largely from British ports to Halifax it was stated that another British port to the south, possibly in the Bahamas, would be selected for the examination of ships from Gulf ports. Since America's entrance into the war, however, Norfolk has become the most desirable port for the southern examination.

This would, of course, necessitate the erection of considerable American examination machinery along lines absolutely untried by this government. Just what would be done with the mails is uncertain.

BOY SCOUTS CAMP.

The Annual Outing of Boys at Pawley's Island.

Secretary Birchard and a party of thirty-one boys left this morning for a ten day's outing at Pawley's Island. They expect to reach camp this afternoon. Mr. H. J. Harby is cooperating with the camp by giving the use of two cottages for the campers while they are on the island. Following is a list of those going:

H. L. Birchard, Scout master; Ansley Hurst, assistant scout master; Henry Edmunds, Hubert Osteen, Austin Beck, Ambrose Beatham, Bert DeLorme, Deaussure Edmunds, John Blanding, Harry Birchard, Jack Wright, Norman Jennings, Lloyd Cochran, Johnnie Sandel, DuPre Rhame, Charles Haynsworth, John Haynsworth, Walter Rowland, Leslie Denniston, Robert Edmunds, Leland Edmunds, George Dick, Henry McLaurin, Darby White, Stanley Weinberg, Julius Pitts, B. R. China, James Boney, Harry Ryttenberg, Harold DeLorne, Franklin Jackson, Glenn Birchard, Allen Harvin, John Bradford, chief cook; Jim Stutter, assistant cook.

ON PRACTICE HIKE.

YOUNG OFFICERS FROM FORT OGLETHORPE ON EIGHT DAY MARCH.

The Wind-up of The Training Camp is a Strenuous Undertaking.

Camp Warden McLean, Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., Aug. 1.—Yesterday saw the final elimination of men from the training camp, about two hundred and twenty-five receiving the discharges, and all who remained will receive commissions, unless some unusual occurrence takes place to injure their standing in the camp between now and the end of the camp. Every one of the men from Sumter, city and county, are still sticking to the camp, which means that they will get commissions, unless they show themselves physically or otherwise unfit for exercising the duties of an officer while on the 9-day practice march, which begins at 6.30 tomorrow morning.

The marches will be very short ones, and the only difficulty to be encountered is the intense heat, for the weather now is about as hot as it ever gets to be in Sumter. The past few nights even have been very warm, a circumstance which has not been the case heretofore. Strict orders have been given for the conduct of the march, violations of which will result in summary dismissal. The most important of these is the prohibition of water along the way for drinking purposes, as there is fear of its being contaminated, and the measure is necessary to protect the health of the men. Water will be furnished by the quartermaster department.

An incident of interest to Sumter and Lee county people is the attaching of Mr. Cecil D. Brearley, a son of Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Brearley of St. Charles, to the Y. M. C. A. force in Chickamauga park. There are army Y. M. C. A. buildings for each regiment, and a host of Y. M. C. A. men are doing a great deal of good and appreciated work among the soldiers.

Rev. John D. Gillespie, who is well known in Sumter, paid the camp a visit today. He is now in charge of a church at Ringgold, Ga.

TWO PRISONERS ESCAPE.

White Men Gain Freedom From Penitentiary.

Columbia, Aug. 3.—Two white prisoners, Harry Faubert, Lexington, and W. P. Ritts, Charleston, escaped from the State penitentiary last night at 9.30 o'clock, making their way out of a window of the hospital and scaling the wall. Ritts has a sentence against him of one year for adultery. Faubert was a long termer, but the nature of the crime of which he was convicted could not be learned last night.

The two men started up Blanding Street from the penitentiary toward Main street after their escape, and when last seen were going up the hill toward the city jail still attired in stripes. Penitentiary guards began a search of the neighborhood, but up to a late hour last night had not caught the fugitives.

WOMAN KILLER HANGED.

Fisher Brooks Executed at Mobile, Alabama.

Mobile, Aug. 3.—Fisher Brooks was hanged here today for the murder of Julia May Hess, whom he killed in a taxicab. The body was found in a creek near the city with the throat cut. Robbery was the motive. Albert Sanders, a negro, is under sentence to die for the same crime.

WHOLE COST OF DRAFT.

Washington, Aug. 3.—The cost of drafting America's first great National Army—from registration to enrollment—was placed by Secretary Baker today at \$8,650,480 in his estimates to congress.

This amount includes all overhead expenses of registration, examination and selection. It is based on registration of 10,000,000, examination of approximately 5,000,000 and enrollment of 1,187,000.

"On a tentative estimate that the generous system of exemptions and discharges will result in a necessity for examining four registrants to produce one soldier," said Secretary Baker, "it is apparent that the system must be capable of examining 5,000,000 during the year.

"For this task the organization includes a personnel of more than 18,000 persons."

Vienna, via Amsterdam, Aug. 3.—The Austro-Hungarian troops have entered Czernowitz, the capital of Bukowina.

BEGINNING TO FEAR.

TEUTON OFFICERS TAKEN PRISONERS IN FLANDERS DRIVE TALK FREELY OF CONDITIONS.

Germany Short on Men—Entire Class of 1918 in the Field and Parts of 1919 Class on Front.

British Headquarters in France and Belgium, Aug. 3.—(By Associated Press.)—German officers captured in the battle in Flanders have discussed quite freely both the military and political situation as it affects the fatherland. Germany's loss in man-power they admit to be serious.

The interesting information has been volunteered by these prisoners that the entire class of 1918 recruits now is in the field in its entirety, and what is more significant, it is said small elements of the 1919 class were on the battle front.

The whole trend of the statement made by these captive officers is that they are beginning to fear they may lose the war. More depressing than anything else is the fear that there may be another winter campaign. Peace without annexation or indemnity is endorsed by all the officers who have discussed the question, but most of them have indicated that they favor the annexation of Eastern Belgium and a part of the coast of Flanders, if such a thing possibly could be done.

The men are highly intelligent. An officer who has made a study of economic matters said the war already was costing the fatherland ten billion marks annually in interest charges. He appeared to be deeply impressed by the gravity of the situation.

Almost without exception the German officers still maintain that Germany is innocent of causing the war and say there is "all manner of documentary evidence to prove it."

Discussing the present battle, the German officers say that the British gas shell bombardment on the two nights preceding the opening of the infantry charge was most effective and that the Germans suffered heavily. The Guard Fusiliers were heavily gassed Sunday and Monday nights. Sunday night they were still in their supporting positions, but the following night, preceding the battle, they were in the process of carrying out a relief movement. The men wore gas helmets, but the gas clouds from the British penetrated the helmets and large numbers of the troops were overcome.

A German division which was being held in support on the back line crossing the Ypres-Menin road also suffered severely. So disastrous was the effect of the gas at this point that at least one battalion which was being rushed up to the relief of the men in the front lines never reached its objective.

It is the irony of fate that it was in this section of the front that the Germans early in the war for the first time in history inaugurated use of gas shells.

NAVY MEN NO POISON SQUAD.

McGowan Forbids Testing Doubtful Foods on Them.

Washington, Aug. 2.—Navy men are no "poison squad," says Paymaster General McGowan, chief of the navy's Bureau of Supplies and Accounts, in an order insuring on rigid inspection of food purchases. "It is therefore directed," he said, "that every effort be made to try on the navy any experiments or tests of any food products whatever shall be promptly suppressed. It should be constantly borne in mind that doubtful food is bad food and will be treated as such."

WILL PUNISH AGITATORS.

Government Will Hunt Down Anti-Draft Agitators at All Costs.

Washington, Aug. 4.—Persons resisting the draft law, whether in Oklahoma, or elsewhere, will be sought out, run down and brought before the proper authorities, no matter at what cost, the department of justice officials announced today. Provost Marshall General Crowder and Assistant Attorney General Fitts conferred at length as to the steps to be taken to check the anti-draft agitators in North Carolina, Georgia, Oklahoma and other localities.

TWO BILLION TAX.

War Tax Bill Ready to Be Reported.

Washington, Aug. 3.—The war tax bill carrying more than two billion dollars has been virtually completed and will be reported to the senate tomorrow or Monday.

FAVORS WELL-TO-DO.

KITCHIN DECLARES SENATE COMMITTEE HAS WRITTEN INTOLERABLE INEQUALITIES IN THE BILL.

He Says Burden Has Been Shifted From Big Concerns to Small Men.

Washington, Aug. 3.—Chairman Kitchin, of the house ways and means committee, declared in a statement tonight that intolerable inequalities in favor of the more prosperous have been written into the war tax bill by the senate finance committee.

In rewriting the ways and means committee's measure, said Mr. Kitchin, the senators have taken an enormous load of taxation from the big business concerns and placed it upon the business man and others having modest incomes; have stricken out by wholesale the house proposals for taxes on luxuries, submitting levies on necessities; have eliminated income tax schedules that would have taken needed millions from the incomes of the rich; and have added a grossly inequitable excess profits section which is impossible of administration.

The statement of the house leader generally was accepted as a warning that should the finance committee amendments prevail in the senate, they will encounter a stubborn resistance once the measure gets to conference.

Among Mr. Kitchin's criticisms are that the finance committee struck out the Lenroot amendment increasing surtaxes on incomes of \$40,000 to \$1,000,000, thus relieving large incomes of taxation totalling \$66,000,000 annually; repealed the munition manufacturers' tax, relieving munitions makers of more than \$25,000,000 a year; exempted all corporations from taxation dividends received from other corporations, relieving the big corporations of more than \$50,000,000 taxes a year, and eliminated the additional house tax on the transfer of estates, relieving big estates and inheritances of \$6,000,000 the first year and \$38,000,000 or more yearly thereafter.

The finance committee struck out entirely, said Mr. Kitchin, many millions of dollars of taxes which the house had imposed on the manufacture and sale of automobiles, tires, cigars, musical instruments and numerous other luxuries, and shifted over \$100,000,000 to the owners of automobiles and to necessities like sugar, coffee, tea and cocoa.

The senate plan to tax war excess profits on the basis of the increase shown in any corporation's profits over the average of a pre-war period of three years—the years 1911, 1912 and 1913—is declared by Mr. Kitchin to be manifestly unjust, making an undue discrimination in favor of the fortunate persons or corporations who were highly prosperous during the pre-war period.

On that basis, he said, a corporation of \$10,000,000 capital making \$1,500,000 during the pre-war years and the same now would pay no excess profits tax, while a farmer worth \$20,000, making \$1,200 during the pre-war years and now making \$6,000, will pay over \$1,800 taxes.

"There are hundreds of corporations whose annual profits each reach into the hundreds of thousands and millions," said Mr. Kitchin, "that will pay not a cent of excess profits under the finance committee's amendments because being highly prosperous during the pre-war years they are making the same profits now and therefore have no excess. Under the finance committee amendments as to excess profits and incomes, the United States Steel Corporation, with a billion and a-half capital, making \$270,000,000 annual profits, will not pay a cent of tax either on incomes or excess profits, while the little farmer worth less than \$20,000, making a profit of \$6,000 will pay \$2,071."

Mr. Kitchin cited senate committee amendments which he said would impose excess profits taxes on farmers, merchants, butchers and blacksmiths, but would exempt lawyers, doctors and others including employes and agents, receiving fixed amounts for their services. The classification "employes and agents," he said, should include "officers of corporations like Gary, of the United States Steel Corporation; Schwab of the Bethlehem Steel Corporation; Morgan, of J. P. Morgan & Co., and Dupont of the powder company.

The excess profits tax is entirely unworkable, Mr. Kitchin charges, because it requires "in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred a physical valuation

ANOTHER CABINET CRISIS.

RUSSIAN MINISTRY QUITS AGAIN BUT RECONSIDERS.

Premier Kerensky Will Make Another Attempt to Save The Russians from Traitors and Anarchists.

Petrograd, Aug. 3.—Premier and War Minister Kerensky and all the other members of his cabinet except Vice Premier Nekrazoff resigned tonight. With the exception of M. Terestchenko, the foreign minister, they withdrew their resignations.

The action of Premier Kerensky and his fellow cabinet members came about as the result of accusations against M. Tchernooff, the minister of agriculture, and a complete breakdown of the negotiations to bring the Constitutional Democrats into the cabinet. M. Tchernooff was accused of having been connected with the German general staff.

A last attempt will be made to reconstruct the ministry under Premier Kerensky with the chief new members being exclusively from the Socialist and Radical parties.

The government accepted the resignation, at the same time expressing the conviction that M. Tchernooff will succeed in rehabilitating himself. Vice Premier Nekrazoff informed the Associated Press that some of the documents supposed to incriminate M. Tchernooff already had been examined. He considers the charges against the minister of agriculture as not being very grave, but the cabinet was obliged to accept the resignation provisionally.

M. Tchernooff has been one of the central figures in the present cabinet troubles in Russia. Negotiations for the reconstruction of the cabinet have been in progress for several weeks. One of the conditions raised by the Constitutional Democrats, whose presence in the cabinet was desired, was that M. Tchernooff should resign. M. Tchernooff was appointed minister of agriculture last May.

BURNED IN MINE.

Fatal Coal Mine Accident in Kentucky.

Clay, Ky., Aug. 4.—An explosion in the mine of the Wes. Kentucky Coal occurred here today. It entombed two hundred men. Thirty, mostly negroes, were rescued. Many were badly burned. Smoke is coming from the mine.

POPE CHANGES ATTITUDE.

He Regrets German Treatment of Belgians.

Rome, Aug. 4.—It is stated in vatican circles that the pope's impartial attitude towards official Germany is undergoing a change. The pope is reported greatly to regret the deportation of Belgians.

of all the assets of each taxable individual, partnership or corporation," not only in the year when the tax is collected, but for each of the three years of the pre-war period. Such a stupendous task, it is declared, would take months to perform and as mapped out by the senate amendments would lead to endless confusion.

Many big business concerns which for years have been at the feet of congress praying for favoritism at last have had their prayers granted by the finance committee, the house leader declared.

The senate provision exempting from income taxation all corporation dividends received from corporations repeatedly has been sought, he says, by concerns like United States Steel, Bethlehem Steel, American Tobacco Company and the Duponts. United States Steel alone, he calculated, will benefit by the committee's action in this respect to the extent of \$10,800,000.

Relief prayed for since 1913 by the railroads was granted by the senators, Mr. Kitchin declared, when they provided that the roads need not pay direct to the government a tax on the income from their bonds.

A plea by the United Cigar Stores Company for favoritism, denied by the ways and means committee, was granted by the senate committee, Mr. Kitchin charged, in adjusting exemptions under the tobacco tax. Under senate provision, he declares, a tobacco dealer with a capital of one or two thousand dollars and barely making his living, will get an exemption only on 100 pounds of tobacco, 500 cigars and 1,000 cigarettes, while the United company, with \$30,000,000 capital, will have exemptions totalling 100,000 pounds of tobacco, 500,000 cigars and 1,000,000 cigarettes.

EXEMPTION NOT EASY.

GOVERNMENT SAYS POSTAL EMPLOYEES ARE NOT EXEMPT.

Official Construction of Law Will Disappoint Many Who Expected to Escape Service on Claim of Dependent Families.

Washington, Aug. 3.—A ruling issued today by the postoffice department shows that department officials will make few requests for the exemption of postal employes from military service. Postmasters are instructed not to ask for exemption for carriers or laborers or for clerks in second class offices below the \$1,000 grade, clerks in first class offices below the \$1,100 grade or any above these grades unless they are qualified distributors of mail.

The ruling is the first formal action by an executive department in compliance with President Wilson's order directing that department officials indicate exemptions and that the requirement of indispensability be rigidly enforced. As generally construed the postal ruling shows the purpose of the administration to put the government departments foremost in freeing valuable employes for war service.

The entire mail carrier force, numbering thousands of men, of whom a considerable percentage are within the draft age limits, is excluded from exemption unless for physical reasons or because of dependent families. Every portion of the country is reached by the ruling as even the rural carriers are included. The department's ruling in regard to the clerks leaves railway mail clerks within the exemption classes, as they are highly specialized distributors.

Provost Marshal General Crowder took steps today to reduce the number of exemptions because of dependent families. Instructions were sent to the governors of all States pointing out that the minimum pay of soldiers is now \$30 a month and that local boards must consider whether a man's dependents could not be supported on that amount. The telegram follows:

"Please call attention of local boards to the fact that a soldier's pay is not less than \$30 a month and that all clothing, subsistence, medical treatment and housing are furnished him. Under the law he may allot any portion of his pay to a dependent. Many soldiers receiving \$30 a month are easily able to allot \$25 monthly to the support of dependents. In case of death in line of duty the government will pay to the beneficiary designated by the soldier six months' pay. Section 4 of the selective service act provides that those in a status with respect to persons dependent upon them for support which renders their exclusion or discharge advisable may be discharged, but it does not require that they shall be discharged in all such cases.

"The discretion of local boards invoked by this provision and such boards may well take the facts recited above into consideration in deciding claims for discharge due to dependency with a view to determining whether as a matter of fact the person claiming such discharge will not be in as good or better position to support his dependents after selection for military service than he was before. If such is the case, of course, the discharge should not be granted."

Government officials generally are beginning to take up the individual questions that arise where government employes are called for service. Secretary Daniels said today that knotty problems were arising in the navy department as to what individuals in the clerical department, navy daughtsmen or skilled workers at the navy yards are absolutely indispensable.

General Crowder has suggested to the governors that each assemble the full membership of all district boards in his State for a general conference to insure uniform proceedings regarding appeals. The governors were asked also to appoint an official in each local district to file appeals. County attorneys were suggested.

ONLY COMPLETE VICTORY.

Premier Lloyd George Says He Does Not Trust Germans.

London, Aug. 4.—"Our victory must be so complete that our national liberty shall never again be challenged," said Premier Lloyd George in a speech today. He said he did not trust German peace talk. Neither the kaiser nor his chancellor had yet said they would be satisfied with German soil. They stammer over the word restoration in their peace talk, he said.