

BRIDGEPORT EVENING FARMER

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THE WAR INVESTIGATION

THE QUESTIONS asked by the senate committee on military affairs are not remarkable for the knowledge of manufacturing processes they exhibit.

Too frequently the distinguished questioners appear to believe that the tools necessary for intricate manufacturing operations grow on trees, and have only to be picked to be utilized.

The wonder is, to all who are familiar with manufacturing processes where new articles are to be produced, that so much progress has been made.

The manufacturing of rifles is no simple operation. Bridgeport has had its own experience, in a great plant which even now three years after the war has not the output it was designed to make.

There might have been more Springfield rifles on hand, but the government arsenals had been working at reduced speed because of lack of appropriations.

When the war began for America three concerns were making a modified Enfield rifle for the British. General Crozier decided to adopt this rifle for the United States; a wise decision, because it saved long and costly preparation for the manufacture of some other type.

With machine guns, as with ordnance, they cannot be built in a week, nor in considerable quantities for months. In the meantime as fast as the troops arrive in France, they are supplied with the French machine guns, at a saving of time and ships.

Thus far the American people have nothing to be ashamed of with respect to the speed of their preparation for war.

THE HIGH COST OF PORK

MR. HOOVER'S recommendation for a porkless day is well calculated to bring down the price of pig, just as his meatless day has reduced the price of meat, even in the presence of an increasing foreign demand.

There is nothing in the Hoover program that the ordinary citizen cannot meet. The country has an abundance of potatoes and other vegetables. It has the largest crop of corn in its history. It will not be difficult to restrict the consumption of sugar to three pounds per person per month.

Pay no attention to those who whisper that there is no need of saving. The government is in a better position to see the world than the rest of us are. Hoover, who is the eyes and the mind of the government for this purpose, says that saving is imperative. Then let us save. Nobody would be harmed by eating less, except those who now are already on the efficient normal ration. They need not eat less.

The rest of us will improve in health and happiness, by adding to one meatless day, and one wheatless day, a porkless day, and one meal on each day without any meat whatever. As for sugar, three pounds per month per person is not a hardship. It is scarcely a self denial.

JUST THE OLD GAME

HABIT IS hard to be rid of. Too much significance should not be attached to the assertion of President Storms, made to the public utilities commission, that presently the trolley monopoly will raise again the price of street railway transportation. The experience with the first raise has not been especially fortunate. Already the men who operate the street lines are beginning to realize that a higher fare does not necessarily mean more business.

Those who are familiar with the part that public service corporations have played in the government of the state of Connecticut know what sort of representatives have been developed. In an attitude half whining, a quarter defiant and a quarter bulldozing the officers of railroad and trolley companies approach the public tribunals.

It is not of particular consequence nowadays what these men do, or what they say. Their little day is almost done. Their manners and their methods have brought transportation to the brink of anarchy. It will be for other men with other ideals and other aims to restore what has been torn down. Government control of broken down private transportation is coming in seven league boots. The day of railroad finance is almost done. The day of railroad service is almost here.

MAKES ATTACK ON POLICEMAN

For attacking Police Sergeant Burns when that officer found him rolling in the snow with another man, last night, Ralph K. Bowman, of 1915 Fairfield avenue, was fined \$25 and costs by Judge F. E. Bartlett in the police court this morning. Burns told the man to go home and he struck at the policeman, who charged him with breach of peace and resistance.

CENTRAL N. E. ROAD TIED UP BY STORM

Winsted, Dec. 14.—Traffic on the Central New England railroad is crippled, school sessions here have been suspended and many communi-

ties throughout this section are snow-bound as a result of a 12 inch snow fall last night, which was piled in huge drifts by the high wind. A telephone message from Poughkeepsie today was to the effect that that end of the Central New England was completely tied up. It was hoped to get the line open during the day.

The new Portuguese government yesterday promulgated a decree that President Machado, against whose regime the recent successful revolution was directed, must reside outside of Portugal until the expiration of the period for which he was elected.

The first two ambulance sections presented by the American Red Cross were turned over to the Italian army yesterday by Major Bernon Prentice.

LIBERTY BOND LESSONS

By HOWARD SPEER Of Hinkels Bros. & Co.

LESSON NO. 15

Tomorrow is the Big Day!

A few years ago a man wrote a book about "Friday, the Thirteenth." It was a story of panic and disaster, and ever since then the mention of Friday, the Thirteenth, has sent cold shivers up and down people's backs.

But that day and phrase are going to be thrown into the discard and replaced by one that stands for bright, cheerful things instead of gloom and depression. It is SATURDAY, THE 15th.

And Tomorrow is the Big Day! Tomorrow, Dec. 15th, the first coupon on Liberty 3-1-2 per cent. bonds comes due. More than four million Americans bought those bonds, and tomorrow they are going to cash in.

Not far from the time when that book about "Friday, the Thirteenth," appeared there was another book written by Mr. O. Henry, one of America's best-loved story writers. He called his book "The Four Million." He felt that a lot had been written and said about "the four hundred," and that most of it was false and artificial, including the "four hundred" themselves. And so he dwelt with "The Four Million"—the every day kind of man and woman, boy and girl, that we all meet everywhere all the time. He said that these were the real American people.

Would that O. Henry could be alive tomorrow, Saturday, the 15th, to see beloved four million marching up to the banks with their American Liberty coupons as the best proof in the world that he was right. It would make a long line, those four million, if they could be strung out single file. And what an inspiring sight it would be!

A bright-eyed, eager little boy would lead it, you may depend upon that. His duty is to take the pennies and nickels that he had saved so carefully and buy a Liberty Bond with them, and anybody who would get ahead of him in that line on December 15th has got to sit up all night! Just behind him would probably be a tired looking woman with a day's hard work ahead of her at home and no time to lose in waiting. Then a man with a lunch box on his way to the factory. A busy looking man of affairs in next line. He is catching an early train, and he shuffles impatiently a whole handful of coupons, representing probably \$100,000 of bonds.

And so the line would go on, rich and poor, young and old, pale and rosy, the eager foreigner with his first taste of Liberty dividends, white men and black and yellow, all races, all creeds, all politics, but glory to God in the highest—all Americans!

But just because this is the very first time that the four million have ever lined up in this way there will be many among them who won't be quite sure about what they ought to do to get their interest.

First of all, if your bond is only part paid you can't collect any interest, of course. The bank that bought the bond for you is entitled to this December 15th coupon because it has advanced the full price of the bond to the government and it must get some return on its money in order to stay in business.

But if your bond is paid for in full the collection of interest is almost too easy to talk about. Take a pair of scissors and cut off the right hand corner of your bond. Be sure you get the right one—the one that has Dec. 15, 1917, printed on it. Don't cut off any more; you may lose them.

Now take your coupon to any bank in town—savings bank, national bank, or trust company. Or take it to any reputable dealer in stocks and bonds. Any one of them will give you the full face value of your coupon, without any charge or commission of any kind. You don't have to sign any papers. You don't have to give your name. You don't have to leave your coupon and go back later for the money. It's just a case of walk up to the window, hand over the coupon, take your money, lock it up in your pocketbook, and move on, lost again in the stream of life, but one of the four million just the same, and blessing Saturday, The Fifteenth.

PORTUGUESE SEND TROOPS GREETINGS

Lisbon, Dec. 14.—The government established in consequence of the recent revolution has telegraphed greetings and messages of encouragement to the Portuguese troops which are fighting the Germans in France and Africa. The Portuguese legations have been informed of the establishment of the revolutionary government.

Bernardino Machado, the deposed president, must live abroad until the expiration of the term for which he was elected. The cabinet has not decided what disposition to make of former Premier Costa and former Foreign Minister Soares.

393 WESLEYAN MEN SERVING WITH COLORS

Middletown, Dec. 14.—Two service flags which have been hung in the nave in Memorial Chapel, Wesleyan university, show that 393 Wesleyan men are with the colors, including 12 faculty members or assistants, 156 undergraduates and 225 alumni. It was pointed out today that 40 per cent. of the men in college last year and 10 per cent. of the alumni are now in war service.

The flags, together with a United States flag which forms the center of the group of three, were presented to the university by the Alumni council.

COTTON CONSUMPTION.

Washington, Dec. 14.—Cotton consumption during November was 590,763 running bales, the census bureau announced today.

FARMER WANT ADS. ONE CENT A WORD

MME. KERENSKY TOLD HUSBAND MAY BE LYNCHED

London, Dec. 14.—The Russian authorities have ordered the release of all civilian German prisoners in exchange for 4,000 Russian officers in German prisons, according to a dispatch from Haparanda.

It is reported reliably, the dispatch adds, that Russian troops have been ordered to evacuate Finland. The commander of the fortifications at Sveaborg is said to have acknowledged officially the independence of Finland.

Civil offenders in the Petrograd prisons have been removed to jails in the provinces to make room for counter revolutionary suspects, who are arrested continually.

Countess Panina, former vice minister of public welfare, has been arrested. She is charged with having returned all the ministry funds to the state bank, leaving the safes in the ministry empty when the Bolsheviks took control.

The lodgings of Mme. Kerensky, wife of the former premier, were searched today by soldiers. She was told that she had better notify Kerensky to come to the Smolny voluntarily or he would be in great danger of lynching if found.

The members of the Constitutional Democratic party now in prison will be tried by revolutionary tribunals. Bolshevik leaders express the opinion that the probable penalty will be exile abroad for one year or more.

The senate, the highest Russian court that has been abolished by the Bolsheviks, held a secret meeting yesterday at which it was determined that the members would continue in their offices.

The striking employees of the government departments announce that they are ready to go to Kiev if the constituent assembly is dissolved and the railroad union decides also to go to Kiev.

The people's commissaries continue to attempt to carry out their program. It is announced that the election of officers for the army, for which all men are eligible, will begin today.

— TRY — A Night of Frolic With All the Fixings AT Carpenters' Carnival EAGLES' HALL TO-NIGHT

THAT OPEN ATTIC isn't worth much to you. Is it? Why not convert it into warm, cozy rooms at low cost, by using PEERLESS PLASTER BOARDS

Made in sheets 32 in. x 36 in. Are fireproof, soundproof and sanitary. Any handy man can apply them. A hammer and saw are the only tools you need.

Peerless Boards can be nailed direct to studding. Made from gypsum plaster and are non-conductors of heat and cold. Bring in the measurements of any unfinished part of your house and we will gladly assist you, without obligation.

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AT \$1.25 Extra Good Steering Sleds AT \$1.25 Ives' Mechanical Train complete with track AT \$1.98 Christmas Tree Light Sets or with three batteries \$2.95 AT \$3.95 Men's Slip-On Khaki Sweaters; also at \$3.95 our \$5.50 Heavy Rope Knit Sweater, maroon, navy or oxford AT 45c Saturday Special on Schoenlut Naval War Toy AT 25c To 50c Great variety Silk Neckwear for Men; Christmas Folder with 50c purchase We take pride in the Black Stockings for Men that we furnish at this price AT 4c AND 8c Greatest variety low priced Toys in the city wholesale or retail AT \$1.50 Very fine quality Alarm Clocks

ROBS STORE AND MAKES ESCAPE

Mrs. Charles Razmyski was alone in her husband's meat market at 424 Railroad avenue, yesterday afternoon, when two strange men entered, one of whom engaged her attention while the other looked about as though in search of something. Suddenly the second man made a dash for an open cash register drawer, extracted \$74 from it, and rushed out of the store. The proprietress gave chase, but was unable to overtake the fugitive, and this morning made complaint of her loss to the detective bureau.

The Spanish cabinet has decided on the immediate dissolution of Parliament and the calling of new elections.



Service!

THE word has as many misinterpretations as the over-used "efficiency." What Van Dyk means by service is a well-kept shop, courteous salespeople, the best merchandise at the most moderate prices and a desire to please.

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NATIONAL MARKET CO. Special Prices for Fri. and Sat. December 14-15 FRESH CHOPPED BEEF 18c lb. RIB ROASTS CHOICE CUTS 25c lb. LEG GENUINE SPRING LAMB 28c lb. BREAST OF VEAL 18c lb. LEG OF VEAL 25c lb. JERSEY FRESH HAMS 31c lb. ROASTING CHICKEN 33c lb. CHUCK STEAK OR CHUCK ROAST 20c lb. ROUND STEAK 28c lb. RIB LAMB CHOPS or LOIN LAMB CHOPS 32c lb. SHOULDER OF VEAL 20c lb. RUMP OF VEAL 27c lb. JERSEY FRESH SHOULDERS OR CALLIE HAMS 27c lb. YOUNG FOWLS 32c lb. EXTRA BIG SPECIAL Fancy Dry Picked Turkeys 30c lb National Market Co. Largest Retailers of Meats in America. 870 MAIN ST., NEAR STATE ST. PHONE NOBLE 479. BRIDGEPORT, CONN.

ALLEN'S CASE IS CONTINUED Bernese, Switzerland, Dec. 14.—Felix Calender, vice president of the republic, and head of the department of the interior, was elected yesterday as president of Switzerland for 1918. Dr. Edouard Miller was elected vice president, defeating Gustave Ador, president of the International Red Cross. ALMANAC FOR TODAY Sun rises 7:12 a. m. Sun sets 4:25 p. m. High water 10:21 a. m. Moon sets 4:46 p. m. Low water 5:08 p. m. ADVERTISE IN THE FARMER