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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1917. One Hundred and Forty-seventh Day of America in the War.

THE WORLD'S HEART-SONG.

"Dixie," most inspiring of songs, was the tune to which the first of our soldiers sailed to an unknown fate in France. It was "Dixie" that broke the tenseness of the final moments, stirring the heart-heavy throngs on the pier and the men aboard ship to cheers.

"There was a silence, then a quiet note or two, with that breath-catching pause that we know so well, then a whirling uplift of quick melody, and the ship's band had burst into the ringing strains of "Dixie!" says the Southern Woman's Magazine.

"It was the same 'Dixie' that Lincoln proclaimed a national possession when he had it played by the government band in Washington on the fateful day of Lee's surrender. It is loved by Americans, north and south. It now bids fair to encircle the earth.

"This was the South's battle song of the '60's. It tells the story of heroic armies long ago dissolved, and of blood-red banners furled these many years. It stirs the heart to memory and to tears.

"Yet it is not a martial air. We do not stand to its strains, nor do we uncover when it is played. It is intimate and human, filled less with grandeur than with joy. It is more than a war song—it is the heart song of the South.

"It is our song of childhood and soft lullabies, of youth, and pride, and happiness. It holds the perfume of magnolia and of jessamine. It is tender with the sound of the south wind blowing through long moss. It is vibrant with the rustle of palmetto leaves, and sweet with the melody of slave voices singing in the cotton and the cane.

"In the heart of its lightness, it carries the patriotism and sacrifice of splendid youth, the eternal youngness of our long-gone heroes. Its strains defy regret and grief. They bring to us, through many years, the spirit of a generation that held to the joy of life even in the midst of desolation and defeat. In their melody, the dauntless hope of such youth lives again.

"'Dixie' is the home song of a brave and lovely land. It holds no bitterness, it makes no plea. It goes straight from heart to heart.

"And, now, of this dear Southern song of ours, we make a gift to the armies of our allies over the seas. It will take to them something of the same exultant eagerness that it always brings to us. It will carry to them, also, a message from the South more full of truth and meaning than any that mere history can teach."

MAY REVOLUTIONIZE SHIP-BUILDING.

Concrete ships are to become a reality. Following long and exhaustive experiments with barges and small craft, a yard is being established at Chicago for construction of a 12,000-ton concrete cargo steamer for service on the Great Lakes.

Technically, concrete is a combination of steel and concrete, which in its practical application results in a laminated hull with steel reinforcing. Concrete is applied under air pressure with a specially designed machine. By this process the usual forms required for concrete work are done away

with, while the most elaborate streamline hulls are produced at low cost. Advantages claimed for such vessels are that they cannot rust, burn or leak, and the cost of maintenance and repairs is practically eliminated.

Success of the first vessel will result in extensive construction operations, with plants on both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts and at a Gulf coast port.

Should the plan prove commercially feasible, it promises to revolutionize ship-building and to aid materially in the rapid construction of a merchant marine.

MARKETING, THE FARMER'S PROBLEM.

The disappointing experience of the Molino sweet potato growers who were offered only 40c a bushel for their product locally, and had difficulty in finding a profitable market, while Chipley growers were getting \$1.50 a bushel for their potatoes, again demonstrated the need for more efficient marketing facilities in this section.

The state marketing commissioner authorized by the last Legislature will be of valuable assistance to all growers of the state when the department is fully organized for assisting in the marketing of local crops.

In addition to supplying authentic information to shippers regarding conditions in the distributing centers, its purpose will be to establish contact between the farmer and consumer, bringing about a direct-from-the-farm medium of exchange.

The plan as outlined provides that any person in the state having agricultural products for sale may list them with the commissioner, who will also compile a list of consumer wants. Both lists will be published in daily or weekly bulletins for distribution among farmers and consumers.

The bureau will serve only as a medium of information, and will be in no sense a selling agency. It will be paid for out of the revenue from the sale of fertilizer tags.

A similar plan has been in operation for some time in Louisiana, where it has met with success.

Such a system would have been considered impractical a few years ago, but the farmer is rapidly learning that not in producing, but in marketing, lies his greatest problem. He is experimenting as industriously with selling plans as with seed and fertilizer, and is profiting in proportion to his success in finding the best market.

OUR NEIGHBOR PLANS ROAD BUILDING.

Baldwin county, our Alabama neighbor, will vote on a \$75,000 road and bridge bond issue September 17. The bonds, if authorized, will provide a correlated road system for the county, extending from Mobile Bay to the Perdido, and making Pensacola of easy access via the Lillian bridge and Nunez ferry.

As Baldwin county is Pensacola's natural trade territory, and the people of that section would wish to do their buying here, if afforded reasonably good transportation facilities, the election is of prime importance to us.

Indications are that it will carry, the only strong opposition being from taxpayers who object to the manner in which the present roads are maintained. Assurance, however, is given that a systematic system of dragging and maintenance will be provided.

With the completion of the Lillian road and the Nunez Ferry road in first-class condition, heavy and profitable traffic from Baldwin county seems assured.

Senorita Diaz, Cuban copper king's daughter, has arrived "at an Atlantic port" on a vacation, with 96 trunks, 24 suit cases and 30 grips. No wonder they didn't mention the port.

A family residing in the English village of Gilsland has occupied a cottage for over six centuries without a break.

Society item in Russian press: "Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Romanoff are spending the summer months in Siberia."

How is a large woman to dress on the new allowance of four and a half yards per skirt and still look slender?

According to 1911 census, Greater London had a population larger than that of the whole of Canada.

The railroad car situation makes it a case of carry your own bundle of coal.

CAUGHT AT RANDOM

"I bought sweet potatoes at 45 cents the peck, and Irish potatoes at the same price, from a wagon at the door, this morning, and what is more encouraging, continue a well-known man, 'the huckster told me that the next time he came around, probably the first of the week, the prices would be even lower. That is what comes from having a little home-gardening, and we cannot too strongly stress the advice to our people to keep it up. I'll venture the assertion that four thousand families in the county have fed themselves from their own gardens, and with their own efforts, and believe the lesson is one which will never be forgotten. Our people may keep it up in the fall, for gardens thrive even after the ground up north is covered with white mantle of snow. I hope to see 'The Journal' again do good work and 'father the home-gardening movement' in great measure again by making itself the agency for providing many with free seeds."

"School is coming on again, and I do hope that the movement which started during the lifetime of my good friend Frank Mayes will be again pursued," said a gentleman. "The movement I refer to is that of providing books for unfortunately situated little ones who may have to forego the pleasure of school because they will be unable to provide themselves with books. I know personally that, in years gone by, had not The Journal have taken the lead, many a child would have been without school privileges. The movement, too, inculcates in the minds of many a spirit of denial to small details, for I know of cases where children and older persons have done without pleasures to contribute to the free book fund. Thus it acts in several ways for good."

"Little as you think of it, Escambia county is sending quite a number to the front, and I betray no secret of value to the enemy when I say that the total from this county alone will figure much in excess of half a thousand. Not content with furnishing men for the ranks, Pensacola has sent men who even now may be in the thick of battles in the bloodiest of fields. The young men going out," continued the veteran of '66, "make me wish that I could take many years builded on my shoulders, but I just cannot help talking it right out in meeting that Uncle Sam has nothing in the way of kicking at what Escambia, and particularly Pensacola, has furnished both as officers and in the ranks."

"I do hope," said an enthusiastic Pensacola man, "that opposition to the G. F. & A. shops will not result in sending that industry into Alabama. Every payroll helps, and this has been recently proven by the establishment of several industries here, not the least of which is the tar and turpentine plant west of the city. There, roll there is quite a consideration. Then there is the navy yard, where government contractors are making use of the labor of so many men. Had this have been missing, our town would have felt it, in the absence of shipping, and 't only goes to prove the valuable asset to any city as many payrolls as possible. Therefore, for one do hope the G. F. & A. shops may be erected here and that the opposition will be withdrawn."

"When the little seaman's mission was held regularly in Jim O'Brien's building on Baylen street wharf," said one who always attends these meetings, "the good ladies who were interested very often furnished the sailor boys from the merchant ships comfort bags and reading matter, and I know that ships sailing the seven seas have carried books obtained at Pensacola. Within the past few weeks the captain of a vessel which was here on a call told me that at Aden, which, I believe, he said was in Arabia, he found a circulating library which had its origin at Pensacola. I remember those meetings, where many good friendships were formed, and where many a sailor boy from the merchant fleet was made to feel at home. Dr. Cushman was the missionary, and before that well-known good man became so feeble, he made it his lifework to look after the sailor. Services were held each Sunday, usually in the afternoon, and on a week night, usually on Thursday, I believe. The devotional services were held, then volunteer selections at entertainment were asked. I have heard some of the most unusual ability at recitation, song and story, offered, after which a collection of cakes and coffee would be served. One night, one seaman who was about half-drunk, but who was attracted by the singing, offered a selection for the program. Swearing rather profusely, he arose and began to recite. He had heard some of the most unusual ability at recitation, song and story, offered, after which a collection of cakes and coffee would be served. One night, one seaman who was about half-drunk, but who was attracted by the singing, offered a selection for the program. Swearing rather profusely, he arose and began to recite. He had heard some of the most unusual ability at recitation, song and story, offered, after which a collection of cakes and coffee would be served. 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