

U. S. CAN BECOME MIGHTIEST NATION

Experts Agree All Other Belligerent Countries Could Be Surpassed.

LEADS IN ACTUAL WEALTH

Possibilities Are Unlimited, It Is Declared, if Uncle Sam Should Choose to Develop Vast Powers

Should the United States choose to develop all her vast powers, military experts agree, she will become the strongest military nation in the world. No belligerent on either side will equal her.

Other nations, or empires, have large populations; but none has so many intelligent, energetic citizens of the type from which, universal experience shows, the best fighting material comes.

No other nation can approach her in natural resources.

No other nation can approach her in actual wealth.

No other nation can approach her in self-efficiency and ability to flourish without outside assistance of any sort.

No other nation can approach her, history shows, in the invention of new weapons of war; and leading American military men know that this factor takes a very important position in the calculations of foreign military councils when estimating the ability of the United States to resist or to attack.

The population of the United States and its colonial possessions is nearly as large as the combined population of Germany and Austria-Hungary.

The entrance of the United States into the war would add to the resources of the entente a national stock of gold as large as the combined gold reserve of France, Russia and Great Britain. When the gold in private hands is considered the preponderance of Uncle Sam is still more impressive. The gold stock of the central powers together is only about one-fifth of ours.

But iron, steel and copper are still more important in war than gold, and here the United States shines so brilliantly as to dim the rest of the world.

The United States produces more pig iron than all the other countries of the world combined.

The central powers' pig iron production is equivalent to three-eighths of this country's production.

Great Britain, France and Russia combined produce only a little more than half the amount mined and smelted here.

But when we come to copper, that indispensable of war, the full importance of the United States is realized.

In 1916 the United States produced twice as much copper as the rest of the world.

The central powers produce about one twenty-fourth as much copper as the United States. Great Britain, with all her colonies, produces only one-twelfth as much.

In industrial development and large-scale production, American energy and ingenuity lead the world.

While exact figures are lacking, it is known certainly that the United States has more than four times as many automobiles as all of the rest of the world put together. And the rate of production is putting this country farther ahead in automobile ownership every moment, despite vast exportations.

About three-fourths of the automobile factory facilities, it is estimated, will be put to work immediately on munitions in case of war.

The railroad system of the United States compared with other nations, is a giant among pigmies.

It would be possible to spread this inventory of the American resources over many pages. Nowhere else does a man's labor produce so much as here, due to the unequal utilization of mechanical power.

All that is needed to turn this mighty cataract of national energy to the business of war is time and preparation.

New York to Train Big Army. Albany, N. Y.—When New York state's plan of universal military training, with the changes now projected, is in effect, 240,000 boys from sixteen to nineteen years of age will be under instruction. This is a larger force than the regular army.

Only in the third year of the course will the boys use regular rifles and ammunition. Great pains will be taken to get instructors who are gentlemanly in manners and conduct and whose influence on their charges will be good in every way.

Motor Boat Data Ready. The navy department has made a complete inventory for military use of American merchant and sailing vessels, including pleasure craft down to the smallest motor boat. It is said that so thorough has been this preparation that the records show every boat, its speed and capacity, its owner and possible method of use. The motor boat inventory was begun some months ago under navy department directions, with a view to the utilization of these craft for the formation of a motor boat patrol.

HIGHEST NAVAL OFFICER



REAR ADMIRAL W. S. BENSON. Chief of naval operations and ranking officer of the United States navy since the death of Admiral Dewey.

SHIPBUILDERS TO RUSH WORK ON U. S. WARSHIPS

Big Firms Double Their Forces and Put Contracts for Navy Ahead of All Others.

Washington.—Construction of navy craft by the Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock company, the Fore River Shipbuilding company and the Electric Boat company will be speeded up to the limit of the plants. Work on two battleships at the plant of the Newport News company, at Secretary Daniels' suggestion, already is proceeding under doubled crews, and the offers of the other two companies to take similar steps met with the secretary's hearty approval.

At the Newport News plant it is estimated that the battleship Mississippi, recently launched, can be completed by midsummer instead of January 1, 1918, as called for in the contract. The keel of one of the four new battleships recently contracted for will be laid on the slip vacated by the Mississippi instead of a merchant vessel, as had been intended.

Representatives of the Fore River and Electric Boat companies called on Mr. Daniels, offering to rush work on destroyers and submarines for which they have contracts, setting aside other private work to that end. They were told to get ahead at full speed. The plan is to get the vessels launched as soon as possible, freeing stocks for the new set of destroyers and submarines to be authorized in the pending navy bill.

NAVY MARKSMEN ACCURATE

American Gunners Never Showed as Great Proficiency as They Have in Recent Trials.

Data made public recently by the navy department show that at no other time in its history has the marksmanship of the United States navy been so good as it is at present. The new superdreadnaught Nevada gave an example of the general shooting efficiency of the Atlantic fleet. In recent target practice this ship fired 56 shots from her 14-inch guns, and the target, at varying ranges, was smashed 43 times, a record that is believed to equal, if not surpass, any record with similar guns in any other navy.

The following table shows at a glance what the gunners of the Atlantic fleet did with the big guns in the recent target practice:

Vessel	Shots	Hits	P. C. of Hits
10-INCH-15-CALIBER.			
Nevada	56	43	76.8
New York	40	41	102.5
Oklahoma	56	36	64.3
Pennsylvania	56	36	64.3
Texas	59	48	81.4
12-INCH-30-CALIBER.			
Arkansas	45	44	97.8
Wyoming	72	69	95.8
12-INCH-45-CALIBER.			
Delaware	59	45	76.3
Florida	58	54	93.1
Kansas	41	19	46.3
Michigan	46	32	69.6
Minnesota	23	14	60.9
New Hampshire	23	17	73.9
South Carolina	46	28	60.9
Utah	58	50	86.2
Vermont	21	12	57.1
14-INCH-45-CALIBER.			
Kansas	48	37	77.1
Minnesota	44	28	63.6
New Hampshire	46	29	63.0
Vermont	44	28	63.6
16-INCH-45-CALIBER.			
Arkansas	161	91	56.5
Delaware	110	56	50.9
Florida	124	70	56.5
Nevada	158	86	54.4
New York	168	120	71.4
Oklahoma	168	98	58.3
Pennsylvania	174	119	68.4
Texas	167	106	63.5
Utah	145	96	66.2
Wyoming	161	96	59.6

Industrial Canvass Complete.

Both the war and navy departments have available the report of the committee on national defense, headed by Herbert Coflin, which made a thorough canvass of the industrial facilities of the country with a view to their utilization and mobilization in time of war. It became known only recently that the government was making a careful inventory of munition-making machinery in the hands of manufacturers throughout the country. Whether this report has been completed at this time cannot be said.

HIGHWAY BUREAU BILL IS PASSED

SENATE ADOPTS SINKLER-BRICE ROAD MEASURE.—INVESTIGATE PRISON LOSS.

DOINGS OF THE LEGISLATORS

Summary of the Important Bills That Have Been Before the State General Assembly During the Past Week.

Columbia.

The Sinkler-Brice highway commission bill was passed in the senate and the companion automobile license bill, which is to enable the state to qualify for federal aid in post road construction, is expected to get through the upper house with dispatch. No opposition was offered to the prospect of creating a highway commission, as federal aid was contingent upon state-wide organization. The only points at issue were different ideas as to centralization of power for expenditure of funds with the commission or to delegate this authority to county governments. The latter opinion finally prevailed.

Representative Berry, author of the Berry highway commission bill, spoke for more than an hour in the house on his measure. The bill would enable South Carolina to take advantage of federal aid for good roads.

Provisions of the bill are that a commission of seven members shall be appointed by the governor, one from each congressional district. The commissioner of agriculture is to be ex-officio chairman. Members serve without compensation. A state highway engineer is to be employed, who shall not be paid more than \$3,000 and provision is also made for other assistants. An amendment would require a complete classification of roads, to be reported to the general assembly one year hence.

By federal statute, South Carolina this year is entitled to \$143,000 federal aid for post road building this year. Approximately \$1,200,000 will be apportioned to South Carolina, to be spent during a lapse of five years, contingent upon the state's raising sufficient funds to qualify for national aid. State funds would be raised through automobile license. By the original draft of the Sinkler-Brice bill, automobiles of 25 horsepower or less would be required to pay a state license fee of \$5; for 25 to 50 horsepower, \$7.50; over 50 horsepower, \$10; motorcycles, \$2. Motors registered after September 1, one-half annual fee.

Gov. Manning referred to the general assembly, by special message, the correspondence in his hands relating to an apparent shortage in the accounts of the state penitentiary, which shortage arises from the fact that funds of the state prison, in the sum of \$22,819.61 were on deposit in the Lexington Savings bank when that institution failed and these funds remain tied up in bankruptcy, the deposit being carried on memorandum in the books of the penitentiary pending adjustment of the liability concerning them. No intimation is made to reflect on the motives of the retiring superintendent, Capt. D. J. Griffith.

The house adopted a resolution introduced by Representative Crum of Orangeburg providing for an investigation of the matter.

House Passes Richey Bill.

The house "passed the buck" to the senate, when it sent over the Richey bill in all its bone dryness, 64 to 49. The bill seasawed in sentiment and wandered hither and thither about the house with its destination more than once uncertain.

It created a spirited debate on second reading, but went through slick as a whistle, 82 to 21. The majority then was such that there seemed a likelihood of overriding a possible veto. It lay calmly until third reading, when the house sprung a surprise, reversing itself, and recommitting the bill. This was thought to be an indefinite delay but the committee on police regulations got busy, and meeting while the house was in session, returned it in its original form, thus eliminating the amendments applied, which made the bill water proof, air tight and bone dry, including a provision which made it unlawful to have even one drop in possession, except for medicinal, sacramental or scientific purposes. There followed a filibuster. Then the house refused to recommit the bill to the judiciary committee, and refused to allow the bill to remain in its original form, thus indorsing the bill as it passed its second reading. In this form it was sent to the upper house.

Senator Purdy of Jasper county introduced a bill calling for a graduated license tax on fish and game preserves. No tax is collected on the first 5,000 acres. A levy of 2 cents an acre will be made on all preserves containing from 5,000 to 30,000 acres; 4 cents from 30,000 to 55,000; and 5 cents on all above 55,000 acres.

A majority favorable report has been made on the bill by Representative N. G. Evans to relieve the Audubon society of the duty of recommending a person for appointment as chief game warden.

The bill establishing a custodial training school for the unfortunate feeble minded white people in South Carolina, many of whom are badly neglected and a burden upon the state, was passed to third reading by the house. The bill provides that the school shall be established upon land owned at present by the state and that the buildings for the school shall be constructed as inexpensively as possible. All the states in the union except 16 have made provision for the feeble minded among their populations. The measure passed by the house is intended to afford protection for at least a part of the feeble minded white people in South Carolina.

An unfavorable report was made by the judiciary committee on the bill by Senator Christensen to limit to \$600, the campaign expenses of any candidate for state office. An unfavorable report was also made by the railroad committee on the proposed flat 2 cents railroad rate bill. A favorable report was made by this committee on Senator J. F. Williams' bill to require all interurban railways to provide adequate heating facilities.

The Crews resolution indorsing the attitude of President Wilson in the impending international crisis has been adopted in the senate. Senator Christensen has introduced a joint resolution to amend the constitution so as to authorize the appointment of women as notaries public, school trustees, library trustees, trustees of state institutions, members of state board of charities and corrections or board of regents or trustees of penal or charitable institutions. The resolution has been introduced upon the request of the Federation of Women's clubs, the author says, and not by request of the Equal Suffrage league.

The general appropriation bill, carrying \$2,650,870.30, has been introduced in the house. A state tax levy of 8 mills will be required to meet the demands on the state government. One mill of the 8 mills will be to make up the deficit of \$200,000 brought over from last year. No new projects are provided for. Many of the appropriations asked by the various departments of the state were pruned to the bone by the committee under the direction of J. T. Liles, chairman. An appropriation of \$475,000 is provided for the State Hospital for the Insane. This provides for continuance of the improvement work. The maintenance cost of the institution was greatly increased because of the "high cost of living."

Provision is made in the bill for the enlargement of the state tuberculosis sanitarium at state park. A total of \$40,000 for several buildings, \$20,000 this year and \$20,000 in 1918, is provided. The erection of these buildings was made necessary because more than 30 beds were conditionally endowed.

A bill was introduced by Representatives Richey, Shull and S. E. Smith to abolish free state scholarships at state institutions. The bill would not affect present holders of scholarships. The house has cleared its calendar of the seven sisters insurance bills, sending the other three to the senate without debate.

Senator Sinkler introduced a bill calling for a bond issue of \$275,000 for permanent road building in Charleston county. The bill calls for a referendum vote. Senator Robinson of McCormick county introduced a bill calling for a road bond issue of \$175,000.

Bills Pass House.

Some important bills that have been sent to the senate by the house of representatives:

To place suburban street car lines under jurisdiction of railroad commission.

To dispense with recording by secretary of state of certain papers.

Requiring vehicles to display white light at night in direction it is proceeding, in counties having cities of 50,000 inhabitants.

To repeal deer and wild turkey act relating to Orangeburg and Bamberg counties.

Relating to close time in creeks, streams and inland waters.

Relating to tax execution collections by rural police of Darlington county.

To license automobiles, etc., in Berkeley county.

Relating to hunter's fences in Berkeley county.

To abolish office of rural school supervisor in Oconee county.

Relating to county government of Darlington county regarding supervisor's office.

To regulate operation of elevators in Greenville court house.

House bills sent to the senate were: To allow new jail in Laurens county.

To extend time for hunting deer in Jasper county.

To provide changing hospital in Williamsburg county.

To authorize issuance of bonds by school trustees of Darlington county districts.

To provide tax on motor and other vehicles in Darlington county.

To authorize purchase of road drags in Abbeville county.

To authorize addition of clerk of court office in Marion county.

For election on county court for Florence county.

To repeal Florence county police system law.

To relocate and lay out McCormick county school districts.

To amend act relating to swearing of witnesses in grand jury room by exempting Cherokee county.

HOME DEMONSTRATION

Work For Farm Women Is Extended—Five New Counties Provided For Agents.

Columbia.—The organization of the home demonstration work of South Carolina has been completed for the year 1917 as follows: The 32 counties engaged in the work during 1916 have been retained, seven of these 31 counties employing assistants. Five new counties have been added to the list, making a total of 36 counties engaged in the work under the supervision of 43 county agents.

Following is a list of the counties with agents: Abbeville, Miss. Mary B. Martin; Aiken, Miss. Bossie Harper; Anderson, Miss. Elizabeth Forney; Bamberg, Mrs. B. W. Faust; Barnwell, Miss. Clifford Barratt; Beaufort, Miss. Sallie Hamilton; Charleston, Miss. Pearl Naclier; Cherokee, Miss. Mary Barratt; Chester, Miss. Joe Yarbrough; Chesterfield, Miss. Stolla Mims; Clarendon, Miss. Katherine M. Richardson; Colleton, Miss. Tweedie Fickling; Colleton, Miss. Emma Jane Varn, assistant agent; Darlington, Mrs. F. W. Ham; Darlington, Miss. Carrie Melver, assistant agent; Dillon, Miss. Lucile Lemmon; Dorchester, Miss. Janie E. Coleman; Fairfield, Miss. Maggie B. Turner; Florence, Miss. Annie Mae McLendon; Florence, assistant to be appointed later; Greenville, Mrs. W. M. Williams; Greenville, Mrs. T. M. Groce, assistant agent; Hampton, Miss. Ruth E. Dorrill; Horry, Miss. Annie M. Derham, Jasper, Miss. Ida May Brownlee; Lancaster, Miss. Martha G. Creighton; Lee, Miss. Maude Williams; Lexington, Miss. Lelia A. Fulmer; Marion, Miss. Mabel Harper; Marlboro, Miss. Ida Moore; Newberry, Miss. Willie Mae Wise; Oconee, Miss. Ruth Berry; Orangeburg, Miss. Grace M. Patrick; Orangeburg, Miss. Olive N. Dukes, assistant; Pickens, Miss. M. Elizabeth Mauldin; Richland, Miss. Dorothy Napier; Spartanburg, Miss. Lois C. Ervin; Spartanburg, Miss. Lelia Trimmer, assistant agent; Sumter, Miss. Mary Lemmon; Sumter, Miss. Katie M. Pitts, assistant agent; Union, Miss. Alsie O. Smith; Williamsburg, Miss. Edw. York; Miss. Minnie Lee Garrison.

Miss Edith L. Parrott, state agent, issued the following statement: The month's course of study given for the month of January has just been completed and each agent has gone to the county assigned to her, ready to begin work. Every county agent is employed for 11 months and the assistants for 10 months of the year. During the course of study they have special instructions in butter making and poultry, which has come at a very opportune time, since these two industries are to be especially stressed this year. Each agent has gone to her county with an equipment for making butter which has been approved by H. H. McLain of the dairy division in Washington.

"The agents have, during the past month, put into practical demonstration the advanced course of study for the women's clubs, therefore the second year's work for the women's organizations will be readily promoted under the supervision of the county agents.

"The profit and pleasure gained from this month's course of study have been very satisfactory and we feel that the agents are better prepared for work than ever before.

State Teachers Meet in March. Columbia.—The committee on arrangements for the approaching annual meeting of the State Teachers' association has designed the new high school building on Washington street as headquarters for the teachers. The general session of the convention will be in the Columbia theatre, with the departmental meetings in the high school class rooms. The association meets in Columbia March 15-17, inclusive.

Tobacco Growers Suffer Loss. Sumter.—Judging from the number of reliable white farmers of Sumter and Clarendon counties who either came in themselves or telephoned their orders for more tobacco seed for replanting beds, coupled with the statements that all of the tobacco beds in their neighborhoods had been killed by the unprecedented freezing weather, it now looks as though the tobacco industry in this section of the state has suffered another setback equal to that of the winter of 1916.

SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS ITEMS.

Rock Hill was shocked by the news of the death in Jacksonville, Fla., of J. Edwin Roddey, who was drowned in the Y. M. C. A. swimming pool. Mr. Roddey was well known and was held in the highest esteem by all.

The matter of using Spartanburg as a mobilization point in the event that the United States should go to war with Germany was presented to Congressman Sam J. Nichols of this district, by Paul V. Moore, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce.

The State Democratic executive committee meeting in Columbia ordered an election for the unexpired term of the late D. E. Finley, member of congress from the Fifth congressional district. The primary will be held February 16 at the same time with the primary to fill the regular term.

A third regiment of the National Guard of South Carolina will not be formed this year, according to W. W. Moore, adjutant general. He said that the ways and means committee failed to make financial provision for forming the new unit of the guard as contemplated by the national defense act.

SYRUP OF FIGS FOR A CHILD'S BOWELS

It is cruel to force nauseating, harsh physic into a sick child.

Look back at your childhood days. Remember the "dose" mother insisted on—castor oil, calomel, cathartics. How you hated them, how you fought against taking them.

With our children it's different. Mothers who cling to the old form of physic simply don't realize what they do. The children's revolt is well-founded. Their tender little "insides" are injured by them.

If your child's stomach, liver and bowels need cleansing, give only delicious "California Syrup of Figs." Its action is positive, but gentle. Millions of mothers keep this harmless "fruit laxative" handy; they know children love to take it; that it never fails to clean the liver and bowels and sweeten the stomach, and that a teaspoonful given today saves a sick child tomorrow.

Ask at the store for a 50-cent bottle of "California Syrup of Figs," which has full directions for babies, children of all ages and for grown-ups plainly on each bottle. Adv.

Picked the Right Spot.

"I see where a rich man has built a lake and flower garden on top of an apartment house."

"That would be just the place for a truck garden."

"Why?"

"I don't see how the neighbor's chickens could ever get up there."

CUTICURA KILLS DANDRUFF

The Cause of Dry, Thin and Falling Hair and Does It Quickly—Trial Free.

Anoint spots of dandruff, itching and irritation with Cuticura Ointment. Follow at once by a hot shampoo with Cuticura Soap, if a man, and next morning if a woman. When Dandruff goes the hair comes. Use Cuticura Soap daily for the toilet.

Free sample each by mail with Book. Address postcard, Cuticura, Dept. L, Boston. Sold everywhere.—Adv.

His Double Duty.

Jones walked up the street the other evening with a box of chocolates under one arm and a big package of meat under the other.

"Hullo, Jones!" said Jobson, "you housekeeping? I didn't know you were married."

"I'm not yet."

"What are you doing with those chocolates and that meat, then?"

"Going to see my girl."

"Do you have to furnish the family with meat already?"

"Oh, no; the sweets are for the girl and the meat is for the dog. I have to square both."

BILIOUS, HEADACHY, SICK "CASCARETS"

Gently cleanse your liver and sluggish bowels while you sleep.

Get a 10-cent box. Sick headache, biliousness, dizziness, coated tongue, foul taste and foul breath—always trace them to torpid liver; delayed, fermenting food in the bowels or sour, gassy stomach.

Poisonous matter clogged in the intestines, instead of being cast out of the system is re-absorbed into the blood. When this poison reaches the delicate brain tissue it causes congestion and that dull, throbbing, sickening headache.

Cascarets immediately cleanse the stomach, remove the sour, undigested food and foul gases, take the excess bile from the liver and carry out all the constipated waste matter and poisons in the bowels.

A Cascaret tonight will surely straighten you out by morning. They work while you sleep—a 10-cent box from your druggist means your head clear, stomach sweet and your liver and bowels regular for months. Adv.

Odd Troubles.

"There is one thing queer about spurling on a limited income."

"What's that?"

"The more you live in a society round the harder you find it to make ends meet."

MOTHER'S JOY SALVE

for Colds, Croup, Pneumonia and Asthma; GOOSE GREASE LINIMENT for Neuralgia, Rheumatism and Sprains. For sale by all Druggists, GOOSE GREASE COMPANY, MFR'S., Greensboro, N. C.—Adv.

Suitable Kinds.

"What measure would you select for a line of light poems?"

"Why not try a gas meter?"

If you suspect that your child has Worms, a single dose of Dr. Peery's "Head Shot" will settle the question. Its action upon the Stomach and Bowels is beneficial in either case. No second dose or after purgative necessary. Adv.

Grammatically Sure.

"Can this actor make a tense?"

"Certainly, if he's in the mood."