

CONSERVE FOOD URGED BY COKER

CHAIRMAN COKER ISSUES PROCLAMATION EXPLAINING FOOD SUPPLY OUTLOOK.

DISPATCHES FROM COLUMBIA

Doings and Happenings That Mark the Progress of South Carolina People, Gathered Around the State Capital.

Columbia. Production and conservation of food is urged in an address to the people of South Carolina by David R. Coker, chairman of the civic preparedness commission.

The proclamation follows: Whereas, the national government and our state government realize that an ample supply of foodstuffs, both for this country and for those other countries who are likewise at war with the imperial German government, is necessary for the successful prosecution of military operations. They also realize that the available food supplies of the world are entirely inadequate and that the successful prosecution of this war is menaced by said food shortage. They have, therefore, called upon the people of South Carolina to discontinue as far as possible, their drafts upon the already heavily depleted national food reserves by the production at home of every possible pound of food for man and beast.

In order that the people of South Carolina may be advised of the national peril caused by food shortage, and that effective steps may be taken in this state for food production and conservation, the governor of South Carolina has constituted a commission known as the commission for civic preparedness for war. He has charged this commission with awakening our people to the necessity of united and patriotic action in the face of national peril.

Some Food Facts.

That the people may be properly informed and induced to take the necessary co-operative action, the following facts are recited:

The available supplies of foodstuffs are at the lowest in all food-producing countries that they have been for over 50 years.

Prices of most foodstuffs have about doubled during the past two or three years.

The government crop report forecasts a wheat crop which will be short of American consumption.

The reserve supplies of meats are far below normal.

A nation at war requires more food than a nation at peace.

France, England, Belgium and Italy are short of food and are largely dependent on American imports, and, unless some means is found of supplying them, they can not continue to fight effectively.

The South is importing from the West and North \$600,000,000 to \$700,000,000 worth of foodstuffs annually, and is thus a tremendous drain on the nation's food resources and, consequently, is now a menace to the nation's safety.

Under such conditions, the price of cotton will fall, but the price of foodstuffs will advance still further (unless regulated by law).

The raising of foodstuffs in the South is accompanied by an improvement of the soil, as legumes are universally used in a food crop rotation. This enables cotton and other crops to be more cheaply raised the following year.

The programme for increased foodstuffs is identical with the programme for preparation for the boll weevil, and an increase of the acreage of foodstuffs and of the production of live stock would be necessary if the world were at peace.

Farm laborers are leaving the state in great numbers. Cotton requires more labor than any other crop. Foodstuffs and live stock can be produced with much less labor.

If the state and nation do their duty in the production of foodstuffs (as we confidently believe they will), the next cotton crop will probably bring a fair price, and we do not wish the impression to go abroad that this commission advocates a wholesale abandonment of the cotton acreage planned. We do, however, most strenuously urge every farmer in South Carolina to produce ample provisions for his family and laborers and a surplus for sale. We urge upon the town people the planting of waste lands and back yards to garden truck. We urge every man, woman and child in the state not to waste food. Food waste under present conditions is criminal.

A pound of cotton at 20 cents will actually buy less foodstuffs now than normally.

A campaign for food production and conservation will be waged in every county in the state. Practical plans for effectively meeting the situation will be presented.

We call upon the people of South Carolina—black and white, old and young—to enlist as one man in order that this great state may stand forth conspicuous in national service, solidly supporting our great and good president in this hour of national peril.

County Boards Are Named.

The state board of education meeting this week elected members of the county boards of education. The list was announced by J. E. Swearingin, state superintendent of education.

The following are the boards appointed:

Abbeville, David H. Hill and G. A. Crowther; Aiken, L. E. Croft and J. B. O'Neal Holloway; Anderson, E. C. McCants and J. B. Watkins; Bamberg, S. G. Mayfield and J. H. A. Carter; Barnwell, R. Boyd Cole and W. M. Jones; Beaufort, E. E. Lengnick and M. C. Riser; Calhoun, Tom M. Hamer and J. A. Merritt; Charleston, W. M. Whitehead and R. E. Seabrook; Chester, D. L. Rambo and J. T. Bigham; Chesterfield, W. P. Pollock and J. O. Taylor; Clarendon, D. R. Riser; Colleton, S. P. J. Garris, Jr. and S. B. Saunders; Darlington, T. E. Wilson and L. W. Dick; Dillon, H. N. Cousar and J. Earl Bethea; Dorchester, J. Oley Reed and C. E. Owens; Edgefield, Edwin H. Folk and G. F. Long; Fairfield, J. H. Thornwell and J. M. Douglas; Florence, C. H. Jones and George Briggs; Georgetown, W. C. Bynum and P. H. Pow; Greenville, C. O. Milford and M. E. Brockman; Greenwood, Ira B. Taylor and J. F. Entzminger; Hampton, Ben S. Williams and Charles Peoples; Horry, P. W. Bethea and A. J. Baker; Jasper, C. Miles Jaudon and Joseph Glover; Kershaw, N. P. Gettys and L. T. Mills; Lancaster, J. K. Connors and W. D. Twitty; Laurens, B. Y. Culberson and R. E. Babb; Lee, D. A. Quattlebaum and W. P. Baskin; Lexington, J. W. Ballentine and B. J. Wingard; McCormick, T. M. Ross and R. E. Moody; Marion, T. C. Easterling and O. H. McMillan; Marlboro, R. C. Newton and J. A. McMillan; Newberry, O. B. Cannon and James P. Kinard; Oconee, S. M. Mar-L. K. Sturkie and J. B. Koon; Pickens, C. E. Robinson and G. W. Coggins; Saluda, M. G. Crout and E. W. Able; Sumter, H. H. Brunson and H. G. Osteen; Union, Davis Jeffrey and M. R. Sams; Williamsburg, W. C. Hemingway and M. A. Shuler; York, T. E. McMackin and E. W. Hall.

Holleman Gets Full Pardon.

J. Townes Holleman of Anderson was granted a full pardon by Gov. Manning for the purpose of restoring his citizenship. Holleman was serving a sentence of two years in the state penitentiary, imposed by Judge Hayne F. Rice, February 9, 1917, following Holleman's plea of guilty in the court of general sessions of Anderson county to the charge of breach of trust with fraudulent intent. Judge Rice had said:

"I do not hesitate to say that I am sure Mr. Holleman had proved himself a useful and excellent citizen until the time of his unfortunate breach, and that if pardoned he will again prove himself to be a useful and excellent citizen. I do not wish to be understood as recommending pardon, but in no sense do I oppose it."

Kurtz P. Smith, solicitor of the Tenth circuit, who was present at the time of Holleman's plea of guilty, has said that he "heartily concurs in the petition for his pardon."

More than 5,000 citizens of Anderson and Pickens counties and some from adjoining counties signed the petitions urging the governor to grant a full pardon.

Favors Universal Training.

Upon request for an opinion Gov. Manning addressed the following telegram to The American of New York:

"Your wire, I am unequivocally for universal service selective by the government. Congress should not delay in this matter. We are in war. Plans for its effective conduct must be determined by experts. It is almost criminal for men untrained in military affairs to set up their opinions against those of trained experts. The president and military experts urge universal service. The American public demand it. It is just and fair and it is democratic. The volunteer system has failed in the past. Are we to benefit by experience? Universal service will make for efficiency and will bring us success and an earlier peace."

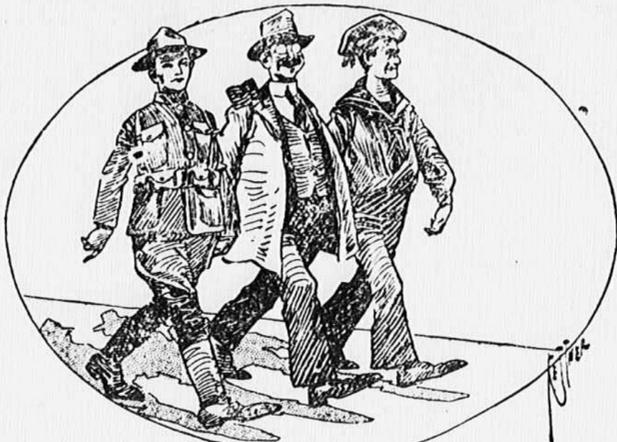
Agents Give Up Vacation.

United States farm demonstration agents in South Carolina will not be furloughed during the month of June, provision having been made for continuance of the work by Bradford Knapp, head of the farm demonstration work in the South. That the agents be kept in the field during the campaign was requested by Gov. Manning in a letter to Mr. Knapp.

"We are now making a vigorous campaign to increase the crop of all food supplies and the demonstration agents are doing valuable work, which we hope will not be interrupted by a furlough in June," said Gov. Manning.

The governor suggests that the agents be given a rest period during the winter months. "I recommend to state, county and municipal authorities in the state of South Carolina that they endeavor to plant food crops in the lands at their service for the support of people who are dependent upon them for sustenance," said Gov. Manning, discussing the preparedness campaign. He thinks that by this means those people in the state who are hesitating at this critical time from planting food crops will see that there is a vital necessity for increasing both the number of food producers and the amount of food produced.

ONE HUNDRED PER CENT AMERICAN



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BRITISH VISITORS HERE FOR MOST IMPORTANT CONFERENCE IN HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES

Some Of Empire's Most Prominent Men, Headed By Foreign Minister Arthur J. Balfour, Arrive To Take Part In War Council To Convene In Washington As Soon As France's Representatives Arrive—Port Of Arrival Kept Secret.

With the Balfour Party.—Great Britain's high commissioners to the international war council to begin in Washington this week set foot on American soil and made their way to the capital.

Arthur James Balfour, secretary of state for foreign affairs of the empire, formerly premier and often called the dean of the world's elder statesmen, was the central figure of a party that included some of Great Britain's most prominent men. With a genial smile playing over his features, he consented to a brief interview, warmly expressing his appreciation of all the United States has done as a neutral in charitable and relief work in Belgium and German prison camps, his gratification that England and the United States now were allied for a common purpose, and his conviction that this country in its war efforts would assault the world, particularly Germany.

The object of the commission, Mr. Balfour said, was to "make co-operation easy and effective between those who are striving with all their power to bring about a lasting peace by the only means that can secure it, namely, a successful war."

"Your president, in a most apt and vivid phrase," Mr. Balfour added, "has proclaimed that the world must be made safe for democracy. That self-governing communities are not to be treated as negligible simply because they are small, that the ruthless domination of one unscrupulous power imperils the future of civilization and the liberties of mankind are truth and political ethics which the bitter experience of war is burning into the souls of all freedom-loving peoples."

Received With Honors.

England's leading statesman, having safely avoided the German submarines and mines which sent Lord Kitchener to his death, were received with the highest honors as guests of the American people when they arrived at a place in America which cannot be named. A delegation of state, war and navy department officials welcomed the commission in the name of the Government, and set out with them to the capital for what is admittedly the most vital conference in American history.

The commission was received with the utmost simplicity and cordiality, and with every recognition of the fact that Great Britain had given of her very best. It is said indeed, that no foreign minister has left England for the length of time that Mr. Balfour will be away since the Congress of Vienna a century ago.

The forms welcome was extended by Third Assistant Secretary of State Brockwind Lee, through the presentation to Mr. Balfour of a letter of greeting from Secretary Lansing, which the British statesmen acknowledged with equal simplicity while British and American officials mingled together.

A special train of five cars, which had been waiting with steam up and crew aboard for five days, at once got under way for the capital, guarded as almost no other train ever has been in this country. Double protection had been afforded at all tunnels and bridges, and every mile of the track had been gone over within the previous 24 hours to guard against a possible fanatic. No detail of any sort whatsoever which could betray the place of arrival or route of travel was allowed to escape.

Break Into Groups.

Almost immediately when the train started the large party broke up into groups of army, navy and state department officials to begin at once the informal conversations which are expected to sketch out America's part in the world-fight against German autocracy. Mr. Balfour and Secretary Long, Lieut. Gen. T. Bridges, who drew the first blood for England in August, 1914 and Maj. Gen. Leonard Wood and

Rear Admiral Sir Dudley de Chair and Rear Admiral F. F. Fletcher were soon in deep conversation on the various phases of American participation.

On all sides it was reiterated that the British had come in a spirit of service and appreciation, and that it was their hope that lessons they had learned in the war at such cost might be of service to this country in avoiding similar mistakes. Similarly, as one official expressed it, the commission was moved by exactly the same feelings which raised the Stars and Stripes to the flag tower of the Parliament building in London for the first time a foreign flag has ever flown there in history.

Secretary Balfour, a tall, slim, white-haired man of 69 years has held the highest posts in the empire since he first entered parliament 43 years ago, saw today the completion of one of his life hopes expressed under vastly different circumstances on January 15, 1896, when he was largely instrumental in averting war between England and America over the Venezuela dispute.

NATION-WIDE ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN DECIDED UPON.

Best Means of Disposing of War Bonds, Department Flooded With Offers.

Washington.—A nationwide advertising campaign of extraordinary proportions has been decided upon by Secretary McAdoo as the most effective means of disposing quickly of the \$5,000,000 bond issue soon to be offered to the public.

So many patriotic offers of aid have poured into the Treasury department recently that practically every method of publicity in the country will be at the Government's disposal, without a charge in helping to make the issue a success.

Newspapers, magazines, street car advertisements, even the billboards, soon may be proclaiming the issue in big type and summoning every American to his duty to his country by subscribing. Large advertising agencies have offered their services, free of cost, in writing the advertisements and otherwise assisting in the campaign.

Many newspapers have opened their advertising columns, without charge. Officials have welcomed such offers and expect others of a similar nature. There will be no general campaign of paid advertising, it was said authoritatively, nor the insurance of any items of expense whatever that are not absolutely essential.

Five million dollars will be available for all items of expense. A force of approximately 1,000 persons will be added to the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, already working night and day to meet the present heavy demands of the Government, and at least 200 clerks will be employed in the clerical work incidental to the big bond issue. This force will be obtained through the civil service.

Offers of assistance have been received from many unexpected sources, apartment stores have offered not only to accept subscriptions, but to solicit them.

There probably will be at least 150,000 places in the United States where bonds may be purchased.

REPORT IS ALSO RECEIVED AT BASAL.

Basel, Switzerland, via Paris.—A dispatch from Constantinople dated April 21 says the Ottoman Government has notified the American Embassy that following the example of the Ally, Austria-Hungary, it has broken diplomatic relations with the United States.

CLUB WOMEN END MEETING

Nineteenth Session at Hartsville Closes. —Mrs. Coker Re-elected President. Mrs. Ellerbe Vice President.

Hartsville.—The 19th annual session of the Federation of Women's Clubs of South Carolina, was filled with business and pleasure. There were 150 delegates present at the session. Following the reading of the minutes and report of the credential committee at the last meeting of the session, Mrs. M. W. Coleman, a former president, delivered an address. In the place of Miss Margaret Mazzyk, chairman of the reciprocity department, who was absent, the report of the department was read by Mrs. G. E. Gibbon. Mrs. J. L. Coker, Jr., of Hartsville, was almost unanimously re-elected president; 117 votes were cast. Mrs. Coker getting 116; Mrs. J. E. Ellerbe of Marion, 1. Mrs. Ellerbe was elected vice president at large. There was then a recess. Tea was served on the spacious veranda at the home of Prof. Carl Jean Tolman. Following this was an exhibition by members of the student body of Coker College in the beautiful new swimming pool. This proved interesting to the visitors and delegates and many expressions of praise of this fine feature of the college were sounded. Following this all assembled again in the auditorium and after roll call two songs composed by South Carolina women authors, names not given and each entitled "Carolina," were sung by girls of the high school. The first was voted the best.

During intermission of the election of four district vice presidents, Mrs. W. B. Burney, of Columbia gave a talk on the wonderful work of the Woman's Building of that city. Reports from some of the clubs followed. Next was the election of vice presidents as follows: Edisto, Mrs. N. D. Grant of Johnston; Piedmont, Mrs. James D. Watts of Laurens was elected over Mrs. Martin F. Ansel of Greenville; Ridge, Mrs. Leroy Springs of Lancaster; Pee Dee, Mrs. H. W. Carroll of Bennettsville. At an intermission of the election of vice president of the Piedmont a resolution was read by Mrs. Harriet Powe Lynch asking that the federation endorse and confirm the resolution made three years ago to endorse woman's suffrage. Mrs. C. C. Featherstone of Laurens was re-elected recording secretary. Mrs. M. W. Coleman at this juncture made a plea for libraries. Mrs. M. S. McKinnon of Hartsville was unanimously re-elected corresponding secretary. Following were more reports from clubs. Mrs. B. A. Morgan of Greenville was elected treasurer and likewise Mrs. J. A. Cathart of Columbia was re-elected auditor. Next came the reports of departments. First, music department, Mrs. C. C. Lucas; second health department, Miss Julia Irby. Mrs. J. W. Allen was unanimously re-elected general director of Federation of Women's Clubs.

Read For Guard Duty.

Columbia.—The First South Carolina regiment are spending time at Camp Moore, Styx, getting settled. All the units have been mustered into the federal service. The regiment will be ready for guard duty at an early date.

The camp is alive with many recruits. A number of these are with out equipment, but requisition has been made and the equipment should arrive at an early date. The recruits are being put through three and one-half hours of drill each morning and one and a half hours of drill each afternoon. The instruction is by lieut. tenants and non-commissioned officers.

About 500 enlisted men with dependents have been given honorable discharges from the service as per orders from Washington.

Maj. Poore's sanitary corps suffered heavily from the dependent family ruing losing ten men. These vacancies have been filled practically. For the few remaining vacancies Maj. Poore will receive applications from desirable men.

The sanitary condition of the camp is excellent. There was not a man on sick report. Maj. Poore is continuing the medical examination and so far only about 10 per cent have failed to pass the physical test.

SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS ITEMS.

Colleton county citizens at a mass meeting planned for more food crops. Officials of the federal farm loan bank are very much interested in the campaign for more food. The machinery of the bank will be placed behind the movement.

Corporations in this state liable for the federal corporation tax are repaying promptly to the recent circular letter sent out by D. C. Hayward, collector of internal revenue, requesting prompt payment.

Five of the seven members of the South Carolina delegation in the house, it is understood will not support the military bill with the conscription feature unless amended. These are Byrnes, Whaley, Dominick, Nicholls and Stevenson. The two who will likely vote for it are Lever and Ragsdale.

The managers of the cotton mills of Clover are doing all they can do to encourage their employees to plant gardens this summer and are furnishing, free of charge, plenty of potato and cabbage plants.

ORATORS CONTEST BEFORE BIG CROWD

THOMAS HALL GLENN OF WOFFORD WINS ANNUAL EVENT AT WINTHROP.

NEWBERRY 2ND; FURMAN 3RD

Derrick and Bowen Also Good. Great Day for College and University Students—Clemson Cadets Parade and Reception and Dance Follow.

Rock Hill.—Thomas Hall Glenn of Wofford College won the annual contest of the intercollegiate oratorical contest in the auditorium of Winthrop College. Mr. Glenn was the first speaker of the evening, his oration being "The World War, a Greater Democracy." Second place was awarded to S. M. Derrick of Newberry, while W. E. Bowen of Furman was third. Mr. Derrick's subject was "The Nation for Peace," and Mr. Bowen spoke of "America's Message to Nations."

One of the largest crowds ever attending a contest was present. The judges were twenty-five minutes in deciding. Bishop W. A. Gurry, in announcing the decision said the future of democracy is safe with the speakers.

The judges were Bishop W. A. Gurry, S. H. Edmunds of Sumter, E. S. Dreher, of Columbia, Dr. J. L. Mann of Greenville, Dr. E. W. Sikes of Hartsville.

Hundreds of college students were here for the contest and its accompanying festivities. The Clemson band led a company of 150 cadets here on a special train at 11 o'clock. The Clemson men remained until Sunday, Friday afternoon at 6 o'clock the cadets gave a review on Main street, attracting much favorable attention.

Following the contest, a reception was tendered by President Johnson and the student body of Winthrop college and later in the evening a german was given by the young men of Rock Hill in honor of the visitors.

The speakers were heard in the following order:

Organ solo: "Offertoire" (Reid), Sarah Mickle; Thomas H. Glenn, Wofford; "The World War, a Greater Democracy;" E. B. Hope, Citadel; "The Price of Liberty;" J. O'Hear Sanders, College of Charleston; "Preparedness for Peace;" piano solo, "Rhapsodie Henriette" (Liszt), Jessie Armstrong; C. D. Brearly, Carolina; "Small America Fails;" R. H. McDonald, Erskine; "The Call to American Democracy;" S. M. Derrick, Newberry; "The Nation for Peace;" vocal solo, "Robin's Come" (Bartlett), Miriam E. Gilbert; W. E. Bowen, Furman; "America's Message to Nations;" J. S. Watkins, Clemson; "America's Promise—It Shall Be Fulfilled;" R. H. Hatton, Jr., Presbyterian College of South Carolina; "A Nation's Hope;" Ye Banks and Braes;" Glee Club.

Mr. Glenn quoted Mazzini when he said during a crisis in Italian history, "We have arrived at one of those supreme moments in which one world is surely destroying itself. Upon the old a new world shall be founded. The doom of autocracy is sounded, the system has failed." He referred to the revolution in Russia and found a lesson in this for Germany where he believes democracy is important in that message to the world liberty must be carried although a state of war has been necessarily declared in order to accomplish this purpose. However, there is no war on German people but upon German autocracy and vandalism. Democracy will become the guardian of peace in Europe as autocracy has been the instigator of war.

"The Nation for Peace" as discussed by Mr. Derrick drew a picture of the horrible conditions of warfare in Europe now and contrasted it with the hope of the future, as "out from the darkness of the conflict emerges the possibility of international harmony." He discussed the essentials for a lasting world peace, maintaining that the rights of small nations must be respected, freedom of the seas maintained and that there must be no increase in the land or sea armament of any nation. All agreements for a permanent peace must be founded on the "principal of public right," declared the speaker. He denied that the plan is impracticable or that it involves the United States in entangling alliances.

In solving its problems each nation must be assisted by the past, said W. E. Bowen, the Furman speaker. The eyes of the world are upon America and this country is the world's hope in the trial. America's message is democracy in industry, democracy in politics, democracy in religion, justice and peace. Nations will eventually form a strong union to preserve peace and not until then will wars cease.

Officers of the oratorical association were elected Friday as follows: President, W. E. Blakely, Erskine; vice president, H. O. Harris, Furman; recording secretary, H. W. Boozer, Newberry; corresponding secretary, J. B. Gambrell, Citadel; treasurer, J. H. Martin, Carolina; executive committee, J. O'H. Sanders, College of Charleston; W. E. Burnett, Wofford; J. S. Watkins, Clemson; G. R. McElwee, Presbyterian college.