

# WASHINGTON SIDELIGHTS

## Alien Enemies Must Avoid the District of Columbia

WASHINGTON.—Alien enemies, beware. Keep out of the District of Columbia. Don't even come near the District line. If you do you will be locked up instantly. Such is the warning of the United States attorney's office issued after investigating the cases of two aliens who deliberately violated the law.

Assistant United States Attorney Arth said, in talking to Frederick Xander, an alien who left the city December 15 only to come back again, that his office has got tired of warning aliens that the exclusion act must be obeyed to the letter and that no excuses will be taken any more.

Xander's act was a deliberate violation, the authorities say, and he was sent to the District jail. The man, who formerly lived at 3721 Conduit road, pleaded homesickness for his wife and babies. He had coached his family as to what to do in case he was apprehended and they assisted him to hide.

This is his second trip to Washington. He stayed in Baltimore for a while and, according to his story, he failed to secure work and took a chance and came back to Washington.

Another alien, Joseph Obrecht, said to be an Alsatian, was informed by Marshal Splain that his joining an Alsatian society, of which the French ambassador is president, did not make him a Frenchman, and he must go out with the rest of the German subjects.

Obrecht came back to Washington after a visit to New York city and again took up the occupation of a chef. He was placed on the train for Baltimore.

## Bootlegger Sadie Picked Wrong Man for a Customer

DETECTIVE HARRY EVANS ran into a walking "bootlegger" one morning while on his way to police headquarters. He was about to board a car near his home when he saw Sadie Patterson, colored, lugging a heavy suitcase. Sadie gave him a smile and the detective's inquisitive nature was aroused.

"What have you in the suitcase?" he asked.

"Whisky," she answered.

"What are you going to do with it?" queried Evans.

"Sell it; I've got eight quarts—you want to buy one?"

"Sure; how much a quart?" asked Evans. She told him \$3, and the detective handed her the money and she produced the whisky. She was arrested, to her astonishment, and taken to police headquarters on the charge of violating the Sheppard act.

Washington has become literally as dry as a bone. It has been that way since last autumn, and that is one of the most striking phases of the wartime changes a stranger notes here. Men who formerly poured libations to the god John Barleycorn pledge one another in cider, ginger ale or grape juice with a pinch of lemon. And yet it is only a few years since William Jennings Bryan and his grape juice proclivities were the prime joke of the Washington journalists.

To be sure, prohibition does not completely prohibit in the District of Columbia any more than it has done elsewhere. One reads in the local papers almost daily of the arrest of some enterprising "bootlegger," who has smuggled in from Baltimore, which is the nearest oasis of large proportions, a consignment of strong waters.

## Girls Juggle Station Baggage in the Capital City

THE newest thing to come to light in the "invasion of a man's province" in Washington is a flock of girl baggage masters at Union station. For six months they have thrived in their new atmosphere "unnoticed and unsung."

Each girl handles daily as many as 150 pieces of baggage. During rush seasons they "lift" 200 pieces per day. Punching the checks, sending the suitcases down the chute, they declare it the most thrilling part of the work. Lots of muscle and a sweet disposition are the necessary qualities.

Miss Grace Withy and Misses Mary L. and Ethel Simpson acted as spokesmen for the group of 12 girls. "Do we like our work?" they answered. "We're just crazy about it."

"My whole heart is in my work," said Miss Withy. "It is really fascinating. We get lots of 'knocks,' but we don't mind it much. We can take care of ourselves."

The girls wear uniforms on the line of the messenger uniform. They are dark blue, and set off with a regular messenger cap.

Miss Mary Simpson holds the record for muscle achievement. "I carried a trunk that the porter couldn't even get out of the taxi," she said.

"What is the first thing you do when you come to work in the morning?" the girls were asked.

"Oh, no, we don't powder our noses first; we put on our uniforms," they replied.

Standing behind the counter of the baggage room, they look very much like steamship pilots, with their blue uniforms and seafaring caps.

## Humors and Exasperations of the Red Tape Tangle

IN THE labyrinthine paths of an expanded government one comes across a few definite signs. For instance, the government wants more workers and wants them badly. The government wants more buildings. The government wants more homes for newly arrived clerks.

The manner in which the government goes about getting its help would be a source of unending joy to the applicant did it not fret him. The same is true about buildings and in a lesser degree about homes.

Here is part of an appeal which the civil service commission has sent broadcast all over the United States: "Thousands of workers are urgently needed in the prosecution of the war. The actual fighting forces would be powerless without an efficient civilian army behind them." Among the many who responded to this appeal was a former Texas woman of excellent education. She worked in the post office of her home town, and is the kind of material which should be invaluable to the government in these stressful times. She visited the civil service commission.

"Are you a resident of Washington?" asked the clerk.

Her home, the applicant explained, was in Texas.

"Then," said the clerk, "under the regulations you must go to Texas and take your examination."

"But," protested the applicant, "if you want clerks as badly as you say—"

The clerk was inexorable. "You must go back to Texas and take the examination," he repeated. And Uncle Sam thus lost a clerk.

A prominent expert—one whose time is supposedly of considerable value to the government—was recently ordered to make some tests in a Western city. He went there two months ago, stayed two weeks and returned to Washington without having done anything—for the simple reason that none of the material required to make the tests had been sent to him.

About a month ago he made a second journey. The offices in which he was put to work were so cold that the work could not be carried on. About half of the required material had arrived. He came back to Washington. He made his third trip to this city to do the work he set out to do two months ago, and he is there today waiting for the necessary paraphernalia to arrive.

## MORE SPRING WHEAT ASKED OF FARMERS

Large Supply of Food and Feed-stuffs Needed in 1918.

Agricultural Department Asks Increased Pork Production and Larger Acreage of Grain Crops.

Washington, D. C.—The planting of an increased acreage to spring wheat and the production of an increased supply of other food products and of live stock, especially hogs, is recommended in a supplementary food production program issued by the United States department of agriculture.

This program re-emphasizes and amplifies the food-production program for 1918 issued by the department in August, 1917, and other suggestions made in the fall and the first of this year regarding increased pork production and increased production of food-stuffs in the South.

Taken in connection with the recommendations previously made, it suggests in full the proposals which the department thinks it desirable to offer with a view to secure enough meat and dairy products, cereals, sugar and other staple and perishable foods, wool and cotton for the nation, its armies, and the allies. It gives suggestions for the approaching spring operations, based upon the latest available information as to the condition of the fall-planted crops of winter wheat and rye and as to the number of meat and dairy animals reported for 1917.

They represent the best thought of the specialists of the department who have had the benefit of advice from agricultural leaders throughout the country.

**Our Best Efforts Required.** "Notwithstanding an increased production of staple crops in the United States in 1917, there is need for more food," the program states. "Taking into account our own needs, the needs of the nations associated with us in this war, and the needs of friendly neutral nations, our best efforts will be required to provide enough food in 1918. Whether the war continues or not, the demands on this country, because of the increasing population and the needs of Europe will be great. An especially strong demand will be made on this country for meats and live stock. In 1917, notwithstanding the many difficulties encountered, the farmers planted the largest acreages in the history of the nation, harvested record crops of most things except wheat, and succeeded in greatly increasing the number of live stock."

"The situation is such that chief emphasis should be given to the production of the great staple food products, with special stress on wheat and hogs, the leading war foods."

The South is urged to provide food for its own people and feed for its live stock and then to plant as much cotton as can well be cultivated and harvested. To raise hogs and beef animals the world need for meats and fats is made clear. Farmers are urged to join with the men on the ranges in providing sheep whose wool is needed to equip soldiers.

The program discusses the farm labor problem, points out the lines of effort for relief, and outlines the activities of the federal and state agencies to furnish assistance.

**Spring Wheat.** In dealing with the question of spring wheat, the program states: "The acreage of spring wheat should be increased in order to make certain that we shall have an adequate supply of wheat for our own uses and to meet the needs of the allies."

"While the area of winter wheat sown in 1917 was the largest on record, the condition of the crop, as reported on December 1, was the lowest ever recorded, indicating a probable production of only 540,000,000 bushels. Whether the actual production will be greater or less than the estimate will depend upon conditions prevailing between now and the time of harvest. If there were planted to spring wheat in the United States this year an acreage equal to the sum of the record planting in each spring wheat state within the last ten years, there would be sown approximately 23,300,000 acres. If there should be planted an acreage equal to the sum of the record planting for each state within the last five years there would be sown approximately 21,000,000 acres. The record planting for any year was 20,381,000, in 1911. The acreage for 1917 was 18,511,000."

"The department of agriculture has carefully studied all these records and other data in connection with the present war conditions and needs, and believes that it will be possible this year to secure an acreage in excess of the record acreage which was planted in 1911. It is believed that increased acreages can be secured in states and sections where spring-wheat production is known to be reasonably promising, and that such increases can be made without upsetting farm plans."

It is hoped that many farmers, especially in the northern part of the corn belt, will find it possible to plant five to ten acres additional in wheat. In some cases they will plant more. In

Period of Rest Coming. See the studious young man. How solemn he is. His brow overhangs like the back of a snapping turtle, and he is as ominous as the first mutterings of an earthquake. He burns the midnight oil in great quantities, poring over ponderous tomes until he is worn almost to skin and bones. But never mind, he will presently have ample opportunity to rest. In a short while he will be admitted to the bar, and after that he will not have anything to do.—Kansas City Star.

a number of states in the eastern and central portions of the country where spring wheat has not been grown in recent years, the crop is now being re-established and it is recommended that this movement be encouraged.

To a small extent the acreage in oats, if necessary, could be reduced in the interest of wheat. Likewise, a very small portion of the acreage which normally would be planted to corn in the northern part of the corn belt might be sown to spring wheat.

If the acreage of spring wheat indicated for some of the states cannot be planted, the barley acreage, which is known to grow better in some localities, might be increased. The use of barley for food is increasing in this country and it is a welcome food in Europe.

**Summary of Other Recommendations.** Following is a summary of other important recommendations regarding cereals, meat, poultry, and perishables.

**Hogs.** The number of hogs should be increased by at least 15 per cent during the year 1918.

**Sugar.** Effort should be made to maintain the acreage of sugar cane and sugar beets, and to increase those areas in so far as these crops are well established or are necessary to sound agricultural practice.

Production of satisfactory substitutes for sugar, including sorghum, corn and cane sirup, maple products and honey can and should be increased.

Sorghum sirup, it is pointed out, may be produced in nearly every state in the Union, and increased production of sorghum sweets would enable the public to conserve still further the sugar supply in the form most available for transportation to our soldiers.

**Dairy Products.** The supply of dairy products should be maintained to meet the needs of this country and to help supply the increasing demands of the allies.

**Poultry.** Poultry production should be increased greatly, especially in back yards and on farms where waste material is available and the purchase of expensive grains and other material is not required.

**Corn.** An acreage of corn approximately equal to that of 1917 should be planted, with possible slight reductions in certain sections to free areas for spring wheat.

**Oats, Barley, Rice, Buckwheat and Flaxseed.** The area in oats should be maintained, especially in regions and on soils which are not so well adapted to other grains, but with a small reduction to provide for increasing the wheat acreage. Barley production should be increased in regions where it grows best, especially in the northern edge of the corn belt and in sections north and west of the belt; and rice, buckwheat and flaxseed production should be maintained and, if possible, increased.

**Grain Sorghums.** The production of grain sorghums (kafr, milo, fetterita, etc.) should be increased greatly throughout the drier portion of the Plains region. Kafrs are the most certain grain crops in this section and they can be made to supplement wheat as human food and to replace corn as animal food.

**Potatoes.** The normal acreage of Irish and sweet potatoes should be maintained in 1918, notwithstanding the large crops in 1917.

**Hay, Forage and Pastures.** Wherever feasible, the area devoted to hay, forage and silage crops should be increased and these products should be used to a greater extent in place of grains and other concentrates.

**Beef Animals.** The number of beef animals should be maintained and, in areas where it is clearly the best range and farm practice, should be increased.

**Beans, Peas and Peanuts.** The production of beans and peas should be increased in regions to which they are adapted, because of their high food value, keeping qualities, and availability for domestic or export trade. Soy beans and peanuts should be increased in order to supplement beans and peas as human food, as a source of much needed oil, and as animal feeds.

**Perishables.** (a) Market gardens near large consuming centers should be increased so as to meet, as nearly as possible, the needs of the community, and in order to obviate the necessity of transporting such products from distant points.

It is important to do all that is possible to relieve the strain upon transportation facilities.

(b) The planting of home gardens, especially for family needs and for preserving food for future use, again should be emphasized.

(c) The commercial production of perishables generally should be increased above normal wherever it is reasonably clear that transportation and marketing facilities will be available.

**Literally.** "We've got to get a good actor" to play the role of Satan in that spectacular performance.

"Then there'll be the devil to pay"

**Instinctively Dislike.** "Do you like the clinging-vine variety of people?"

"Not much. They're too apt to be some kind of suckers."

**Left-Handedness.** At least one human being in fifty is left-handed. This is the minimum estimate. Some authorities say four in fifty. W. Franklin Jones declares that 4 per cent of the race are born left-handed, but about three-fourths of these are converted by training into more or less imperfect right-handers. On the other hand, about 1 per cent of the race, though born right-handed, is trained to use the left hand because of accidents to the right.—Scientific American.

## TO SPEED NEW FLEET

Call Is Issued for 250,000 Volunteers to Aid in Work.

Reserve Organization of American Mechanics Is Formed to Complete Great Shipbuilding Program Planned to Win the War.

All states have been requested to contribute their quota of volunteer shipyard workers to speed America's new merchant fleet to rapid completion. The United States Shipyard Volunteers of the Public Service Reserve has been formed, embracing skilled workers in many trades. Two hundred and fifty thousand workers will be enrolled, all of whom will stand ready to respond when they are called to go to shipyards for service.

An appeal for volunteers has been made by the department of labor, the council of national defense, the shipping board, the 20,000 four-minute men, governors of the various states, organized labor and business men. The aim is to fill all the present and future needs of the government's shipyards.

Pay of volunteers will be in accordance with the prevailing wage in the shipyards at the time they are called. Construction of houses for the workers is being pushed with energy, and the necessary homes will be ready when the men are called.

**Preliminaries Are Arranged.** All preliminary work, such as the building of shipyards and shipways, construction of housing facilities, preparation and transportation of material, and the training of workmen, is being rushed to completion. Thus the organization of the shipyard volunteers is being hastened with energy and enthusiasm.

Volunteers are requested to go to the nearest enrollment agent of the public service reserve or state council of defense and sign up. Should there be no "rolling agent" in the vicinity, they are asked to write to Edward N. Hurley, chairman of the United States shipping board, Washington.

Cards are issued to all applicants, bearing statements of the purpose of the shipyard volunteers, classifying them according to trades and asking signers to respond when called. Buttons will be given to volunteers bearing the inscription, "U. S. Shipyard Volunteers." In addition, the worker will receive a certificate signed by Chairman Hurley, which reads:

"This is to certify (name of volunteer) of (city, state), has enrolled in the United States Shipyard Volunteers of Public Service Reserve to aid the nation in its imperative needs for merchant ships with which to overcome the submarine menace and maintain our forces at the front."

**Shipyards to Win or Lose.** "The world war will be won or lost in the American shipyards. Every rivet driven is a blow at the kaiser. Every ship turned out brings America nearer to victory."

"Those who give their strength and influence to the speedy construction of ships render service that is patriotic and highly essential to the successful termination of the war."

**Quota of Each State.** Each state has been assigned a quota, based upon the population and industries. The quota is as follows:

Maine..... 2,372	New Jersey..... 11,344
New Hampshire..... 1,983	Pennsylvania..... 32,771
Vermont..... 1,293	Ohio..... 19,505
Massachusetts..... 14,321	Indiana..... 10,847
Rhode Island..... 2,555	Illinois..... 23,652
Connecticut..... 4,786	Michigan..... 11,731
New York..... 39,625	Wisconsin..... 9,311
Minnesota..... 8,762	Alabama..... 8,294
Iowa..... 8,231	Mississippi..... 7,488
Missouri..... 11,812	Arkansas..... 6,022
North Dakota..... 2,584	Louisiana..... 7,059
South Dakota..... 2,253	Oklahoma..... 5,436
Nbraska..... 4,608	Texas..... 17,022
Kansas..... 6,230	Montana..... 1,583
Delaware..... 811	Idaho..... 1,670
Maryland..... 6,229	Wyoming..... 818
Dist. of Col..... 1,294	Colorado..... 2,322
Virginia..... 8,453	New Mexico..... 1,422
West Virginia..... 5,227	Arizona..... 582
N. Carolina..... 9,954	Utah..... 1,699
S. Carolina..... 6,213	Nevada..... 256
Georgia..... 11,901	Washington..... 6,969
Florida..... 3,435	Oregon..... 3,204
Kentucky..... 8,250	California..... 11,516
Tennessee..... 7,362	

**Trades Needed in Shipbuilding.** The department of labor has provided the following list showing the kind of trades most needed in shipbuilding, and a special appeal is addressed to men in those occupations to enroll in the United States Shipyard volunteers:

Acetylene and electrical welders, asbestos workers, blacksmiths, angle-smiths, drop-forging men, flange turners, furnace men, boiler-makers, riveters, roammers, carpenters, ship carpenters, clock builders, chippers and calkers, electrical workers, electricians, wiremen, crane operators, foundry workers, laborers (all kinds), leftsmen, template makers, machinists and machine hands (all sorts), helpers, painters, plumbers and pipe fitters, sheet metal workers, cooper-smiths, shipfitters, structural iron workers, erectors, bolters up, cementers and crane men.

**Everybody Does It.** One form which our national lying not infrequently takes is to say, when a prominent friend finally does come around and pay back what he owes you, or part of it: "Why, I'd forgotten all about it."—Ohio State Journal.

**Worth While Quotation.** "Some people seem to take up all the sorrows of the past; to them they add the burdens of the present; then they look ahead and anticipate a great many more trials than they will ever experience in the future."

## MOTHERS TO BE

Should Read Mrs. Monyhan's Letter Published by Her Permission.

Mitchell, Ind.—"Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound helped me so much during the time I was looking forward to the coming of my little one that I am recommending it to other expectant mothers. Before taking it, some days I suffered with neuralgia so badly that I thought I could not live, but after taking three bottles of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound I was directly relieved of neuralgia, I had gained in strength and was able to go around and do all my housework. My baby when seven months old weighed 19 pounds and I feel better than I have for a long time. I never had any medicine do me so much good."—Mrs. PEARL MONYHAN, Mitchell, Ind.

Good health during maternity is a most important factor to both mother and child, and many letters have been received by the Lydia E. Pinkham Medicine Co., Lynn, Mass., telling of health restored during this trying period by the use of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

No Light on the Subject. "Who is the author of the saying, Meeting the devil before day? asks a correspondent of the Adams Enterprise, and the editor replies:

"Dunno. Sometimes we are under the impression that we said it ourself, after we had successfully dodged a well-aimed kerosene lamp on a 3 a. m. stairway."

Twickenham, England, has five horse butcheries, owing to the influx of Belgians.

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