

SCHOOL FUND ALLOTTED

Semi Annual Apportionment More Than Half Million Dollars—7,054 Districts Affected.

The largest semi-annual apportionment for distribution among the 7,054 school districts of Nebraska which the state superintendent's office has sent out for many years is announced from that office. There will be \$550,256.74 for distribution and 389,376 children of school age will participate, making \$1.05 per pupil, or an average of \$19.42 for each district.

Table listing apportionment for July, 1918, by counties. Includes Adams, Antelope, Banner, Blaine, Boone, Box Butte, Boyd, Brown, Buffalo, Burr, Butler, Cass, Cedar, Chase, Cherry, Cheyenne, Clay, Colfax, Cuming, Custer, Dakota, Deuel, Dixon, Dodge, Douglas, Dundas, Fillmore, Franklin, Frontier, Furnas, Gage, Garden, Garfield, Gosper, Grant, Greeley, Hall, Hamilton, Harlan, Hayes, Hitchcock, Holt, Hooker, Howard.

Small grain in Nebraska was seriously damaged by extreme heat and lack of moisture, says the July crop report issued by the State Board of Agriculture and United States Bureau of Crop Estimates. Condition of spring wheat was given at 58 per cent, forecasting a production of 4,800,000 bushels, as compared to 6,800,000 bushels for 1917.

There is only one pennant race, and that must be fought out on the western front in Europe, was the consensus of opinion of the president and owners of the clubs of the Western baseball league at a meeting at Omaha. The magnates voted to disband the organization until the end of the war, and the league officially did July 8.

"Nebraska at Work," the motion picture film of state activities now being finished by the state publicity bureau, will be ready about August 15, and civic bodies will be given the first opportunity to book them.

The government has given permission to the North American Hotel company to issue additional securities, and to finish hotel buildings now nearing completion at Grand Island, Kearney, Scottsbluff and Ogallala.

N. C. Allen, superintendent of the Burlington with offices in Omaha, has been appointed by Governor Neville a member of the Nebraska State Council of Defense to succeed George Brophy, retired.

Forty-four members of the St. Paul home guards company, in co-operation with the agricultural agent went out after supper one evening last week and shocked wheat for three farmers. Threshing outfit owners of Buffalo county will receive 9 cents a bushel for threshing wheat and rye. Six cents will be paid for threshing oats.

Several school districts in the vicinity of Virginia, Gage county, have voted \$50,000 bonds for the erection of a consolidated school building.

Material is now being received for the new consolidated school building near Holmesville, Gage county, which is to cost \$70,000.

Omaha maintained its position as the second leading live stock market of the world for the first six months of this year.

Dodge county melon growers say that the prospects for a bumper crop were never better at this season of the year.

The state of Nebraska has stocked up on coal enough for the winter to provide heat for the state capitol and the governor's mansion at Lincoln. The state has laid in about 150 tons of coal, filling the bins to capacity and has the rest which is needed already purchased.

According to railroad crop reports corn in Nebraska is in excellent condition. Winter wheat was damaged to some extent by the hot weather in June, but the damage was not so great as estimated at that time.

A million and a half Frenchmen have died in the war, a million have been disabled, a million women have been made widows, and two million children are fatherless, Madame E. Guerin of Lyons, France, told members of a war savings society at Lincoln.

According to a statement of State Fuel Administrator Kennedy the issuance of fuel cards by the government will have little effect on people of Nebraska, because consumers of this state have heeded the order to lay in their next season's supply.

The Nebraska Nonpartisan league suit in the Lancaster county district court to enjoin the State Council of Defense from interfering with its meeting in this state came to a sudden termination when the league agreed to withdraw all literature from the state branded as disloyal by the council; withdrawal of all paid organizers from outside the state, and the removal of State Organizer O. S. Evans, who was sent into Nebraska from South Dakota, and the conducting of the affairs of the league by local men. The council took the view that if Nebraska farmers themselves wanted to organize the league they were free to do so. "The result is a complete vindication of the council's protest against the circulation of certain literature and the employment in Nebraska of paid and imported organizers," said one member of the state council.

Forty-one of the 93 counties of the state have reported their valuation to Secretary Bernacker of the state board of assessment, showing an increase over last year's assessed valuation of \$15,000,000. The forty-one counties represent two-fifths of the material wealth of the state and a proportionate increase in the remaining fifty-two counties which are yet to report will bring the entire gain up to \$35,000,000, representing one-fifth of the actual value. This would bring the aggregate assessed valuation of Nebraska to \$564,000,000, as compared with \$529,000,000 a year ago.

Five hundred farmers, representing 20,000 members of the Nonpartisan league, unanimously adopted resolutions at the first state convention held by the organization at Lincoln, pledging their united support to the government in the prosecution of the war. They also adopted resolutions denouncing profiteers, declared in favor of conscription of wealth, public ownership and state development of Nebraska water power resources.

Omaha has adopted a sugar card rationing system, and all householders of the city are compelled to buy their sugar supply for the next three months by card. The movement has the approval of Washington food authorities and the general belief in the metropolis is that it will spread over the state and nation.

Nebraska stands third among all states of the union in production of cattle and fourth in hogs, corn and oats in the 1917 year book of the department of agriculture just issued. Owing to the failure of Nebraska's wheat crop last year it makes a poor showing in that respect.

The Otoe County Council of Defense went on record at a meeting at Nebraska City as being opposed to the use of any language other than the American in all schools of the country, over the telephone, in public or private places or trains, or any other method of communication.

Sixteen residents of Holt county, have been penalized by J. M. Hunter of O'Neill, county federal food administrator for Holt county, for infractions of the food rules. Penalties in each case took the form of "voluntary" donations to the Red Cross funds.

C. E. Wray, in charge of war savings headquarters at Omaha, reports the latest tabulation of societies formed in Nebraska in the drive which ended June 28 to be 8,272, with twenty-five counties still to make returns. The state's quota was 4,320.

The Northwestern railroad has asked the state railway commission to extend the time for constructing a new depot at Irwin until December 1, 1919, instead of the same date this year. Its reason is a shortage of materials and labor.

In a campaign to rid Omaha of an alleged "arsen trust," State Fire Commissioner W. S. Ridgell has warned risk companies not to accept insurance policies on five business properties.

Final figures show that in the last Red Cross drive Nebraska donated \$2,300,000. For the whole United States the Red Cross war fund now stands \$170,038,000.

Owing to the high price of sorghum farmers in Gage county have planted about five times more cane seed this year than last, in order to conserve the use of sugar.

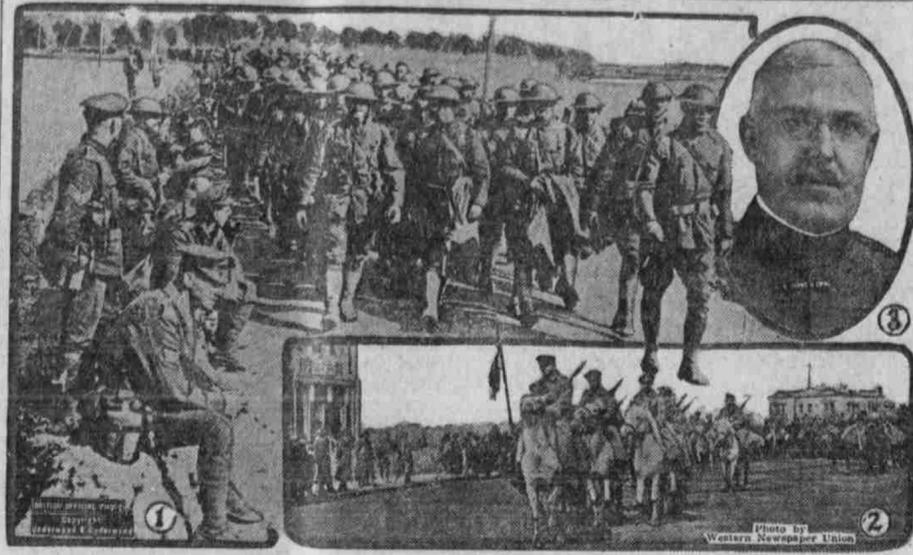
Edward Galloway, a farmer and stock raiser near Adams, finished threshing his wheat crop and reports a yield of from 32 to 35 bushels to the acre.

The Genoa Red Cross chapter has made a wonderful record. It was organized January 1 last, covering a territory with a population of 3,500, since which time it has organized a membership of 1,800, donated the first load of hogs, raised \$15,000 and made and shipped a total of 10,041 articles in six months.

A large number of war savings societies have been organized in Cuming county, all school districts doing their share towards making this movement a success.

Information which Governor Neville is seeking in connection with the state soldier voting law has brought to light that eight Nebraska families have furnished thirty-one sons for Uncle Sam's army and navy. Also the fact that quite a number of families have two and three sons in the service.

Freemont will have no race meet this year for the first time in 20 years, owing to the war and lack of interest on the part of those who usually support the game. Freemont is the oldest race town in the state, from the standpoint of continuous sessions.



1—American troops on their way to front-line trenches, passing through British comrades. 2—Cossack cavalry of the Semenoff-Orloff force passing through Harbin on their way to East Siberia to fight the bolsheviks. 3—Maj. Gen. William R. Smith, one of the American commanders recently promoted by President Wilson.

NEWS REVIEW OF THE PAST WEEK

Two New Pro-Ally Republics Are Established in Northern Part of Russia.

PROBLEM OF AID UNSOLVED

Von Hintze, Pan-German, to Succeed Von Kuehlmann—Italians and French Conducting Successful Offensive Against the Austrians in Southern Albania.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

"What shall we do to help Russia?" was still the leading question for the governments of the allied nations last week. Developments, though they were in the main favorable to the allied cause, had not greatly clarified the situation. It seems apparent that Germany, too, is in doubt as to what course to pursue in the near East. Her policy of terrorism and grab-all has not been working out well and has caused bitter complaint even in the reichstag.

The people of the Murman coast, between Finland and the White sea, where there are large allied military stores under guard of British and American forces, have created the White sea republic, and in the rest of Arctic Russia, from the White sea to Siberia, the republic of Wologozhche has been established. Both of these new states are anti-German and pro-ally and their people promise to form active forces against the Teutons if given aid. In western Siberia the bolsheviks have been defeated again and are reported to have evacuated Irkutsk, and a provisional government for Siberia has been set up in Novonikolayevsk. This government has laid out a program that includes the liberation of Siberia from the bolsheviks; the avoidance, if possible, of foreign intervention; universal suffrage, distribution of the land among the landless and other economic reforms. It intends to summon a constituent assembly and to restore law and order. All this is being done under the protection of the army of Czecho-Slovaks that has continued its victorious campaign against the bolsheviks and the German and Austrian war prisoners who are adding them.

Thus there appears to be forming the established authority that has been considered requisite for the extending of aid to the Russians, at least in Siberia. But President Wilson would not consent to the dispatch of an armed force that would mean the weakening of the western front in Europe, and doubtless the other allied leaders agreed with him. Furthermore, Mr. Wilson especially is averse to departing from the policy of non-interference in the internal affairs of a friendly nation. This does not mean that the allies will abandon the plan to send to Siberia supplies from America and a commission to extend help of an industrial and economic nature. Moreover, the Czecho-Slovaks there are doing so valuable a work that the entente powers intend to give them such moral and material support as they may need, provided they stand by their pledge to refrain from assuming permanent control over the country through which they are passing. If a military force is sent into Siberia it probably will be largely made up of Japanese and Chinese.

Through German sources comes the assertion that the soviet government of Russia has declared it will ally itself with Germany if an Anglo-Japanese expedition intervenes in Siberia. No doubt Lenin would commit himself to such a course, but it is a question whether he would be sustained by any great numbers of Russians.

Germany's penetration of western Russia and Finland has been accompanied by such brutalities that the minority socialists in the reichstag have been attacking the government's policy strongly. Their leader, Hugo Haase, asserts that since the Germans entered Finland 73,000 workmen have

been arrested and many of them, including 50 socialist members of parliament, executed. Because of the numerous executions there, he said, the town of Svenborg has been renamed Golgotha. Finland is on the point of starvation, despite its German friends, and General Mannerheim, commander of the Finnish army, asked Mr. Morris, American minister to Sweden, what chance there was for Finland to get food from the United States. Mr. Morris told him plainly it was very slim so long as Germany held the country under her control. Ostensibly as a measure to save food, the Finnish government has ordered the expulsion of all Jews.

When the news came of the assassination of Count von Mirbach, German ambassador to Russia, in Moscow, at the instigation of a group of social revolutionists, there were many predictions that the kaiser would get revenge by sending a great army to occupy the chief Russian cities, and indeed it was semi-officially stated in Berlin that such would be his course. But after breaking off diplomatic relations the chief Hun apparently thought better of it and a mild statement was issued hoping "that the Russian government and people will succeed in nipping the present revolutionary agitation in the bud." It is not easy to see how Germany would gain much by further grabbing in distracted and starving Russia.

The pan-German party triumphed over its opponents and forced the resignation of Foreign Minister von Kuehlmann because of his "peace impossible by force" speech, and then proceeded to pick Admiral von Hintze, the trickiest and most disreputable of Teuton diplomats, as his successor. Great excitement in the reichstag resulted and the socialists agreed not to vote the war credit, which could not be passed without their aid, until the new minister had announced his policies. Von Hintze is a swashbuckling militarist and the creature of Admiral von Tirpitz. As minister to China he disgraced himself, and as minister to Mexico he deliberately stirred up a row between Huerta and Carranza in order to embroil the United States. The French press accepts the selection of Von Hintze as evidence that the militarists in Germany are stronger than the diplomats and are determined upon a war to the finish. They believe he will do the pan-Germans much more harm than good.

Military operations of prime importance last week were confined to Albania, a field of which little has been heard for a long time. There the Italians and French got very busy and, with the aid of British naval forces in the Adriatic, started an offensive that met with considerable success and is still progressing as this is written. Within a few days the allied forces had advanced more than twenty-five miles on a battle-front sixty miles long, had captured Fieri, an important town eight miles from the Adriatic, and had practically surrounded Berat, the chief city of southern Albania. They also had occupied mountain positions of great strategic value. Before the week closed the Austrians had evacuated Berat.

This Albanian offensive was counted on to have great political effect, especially in Austria-Hungary and among the small nations of the Balkans. Already it had caused evident uneasiness among the forces of the central powers that face the allies from the Adriatic to Saloniki. In Macedonia they made several costly and vain attacks on the allies. The apparent objective of the allies in Albania is the Shkumbi valley and the old Roman road, the Via Egnatia, leading to the Vardar valley and opening the way to a movement toward the east that would outflank the enemy north of Monastir.

If the Austrians are decisively defeated in this region the kaiser may force them to accept Von Below as their generalissimo, despite their protests. The efforts to Germanize the Austrian general headquarters have stirred up the already angry people of the dual kingdom. Another row there has been caused by more or less open assertions that Empress Zita ruined the offensive on Italy by preventing the use of gas and otherwise hampering the commanders. A big

scandal resulted, and extremists in Vienna are asserting that both the emperor and the empress should be literally sequestered and made to take orders from Berlin. Hungary, too, is furious at Austria because the Hungarian regiments were forced to bear the brunt of the attack in Italy and in some cases were practically wiped out.

There were no major operations on the Italian front last week, but the Italians unceasingly harassed the enemy by raids and sorties and in the mountain region improved their own positions considerably. The American aviators on that front kept up their excellent work.

On the western front there was an ominous silence on the part of the Huns. The usual 40 days needed by them to organize a new drive had nearly expired, but still they did not start. However, abnormal activity was observed behind their lines, especially in the regions where the Americans are stationed. On Tuesday the French undertook the first considerable infantry operation in many days and, with the aid of tanks, advanced more than a mile on a front of two and a half miles northwest of Compiègne. Prisoners and guns were captured and positions occupied that serve to protect the important railway junction at Estrees-St. Denis. General Petain also took important ground east of the Metz forest on the Marne front. There were many raids by all the allied forces during the week, and some artillery activity beyond the ordinary in the British sectors.

Such splendid work is being done by the air forces of the allies on the west front that military observers now assert the superiority in the air now unquestionably rests with them. The British flyers have engaged in a number of extraordinary exploits, and the French and Americans are keeping up their end of it most satisfactorily. On Wednesday a squadron of American scout planes flew back of the German lines in the Chateau Thierry region for 50 miles, obtaining valuable information and all returning safely. Colonel Roosevelt was elated by the news that his youngest son, Lieut. Quentin Roosevelt, had downed his first Hun plane. Bombing raids on German cities by the allied airmen are increasing in frequency and effectiveness.

In preparation for the next big drive Von Hindenburg called for a million more men, to be taken from the factories, their places being filled by prisoners and foreigners, and, contrary to agreements, by exchanged prisoners of war. Recruits of sixteen, seventeen and eighteen years are being called, and everything indicates that the supreme command is straining every nerve to end the war this year. To encourage the troops there has been a systematic campaign to mislead them as to America's participation in the war. The people now refuse to believe we are taking an active part in the conflict or that there are more than a few thousands of our men in France.

There have been many stories of the declining morale of the German troops, due partly to the prevalence of Spanish influenza, but it would be foolish to grow optimistic over these reports. The enemy is still strong and can produce an amazing number of men, and confidence in our victory must be based on our growing strength rather than on his growing weakness. The stream of Americans across the Atlantic continues, although it may be they are not being sent so rapidly just now as in recent months. The war department recently decided that all men of the new drafts should be given six months' training on this side.

The senate gave a big boost to the plan for a bone-dry America by voting in favor of the prohibition rider to the agricultural extension bill. It went on record first by reversing the ruling of the chair, that the amendment is general legislation and therefore barred from an appropriation measure. The wets admitted their defeat since the move for war prohibition originated in the lower house, and relied on the president to veto the bill on the ground that the workers in vital war industries should not be deprived of alcoholic beverages.

U. S. TO SEIZE WIRES

PRESIDENT IS EMPOWERED TO TAKE OVER SYSTEMS.

QUICK ACTION ANTICIPATED

Telegraph, Telephone, Radio and Cable Lines Affected—Government Ownership Predicted.

Washington, D. C., July 16.—Power to take over the nation's telegraph, telephone, radio and cable lines now rests in the hands of President Wilson. Both houses of congress have passed the resolution authorizing the president to assume control of communication lines whenever he deems it necessary.

Congressional leaders predicted the president would lose no time in taking over the lines—millions of miles of wire, thousands of men and millions of dollars invested.

Postmaster General Burleson, in whose hands control may be placed would keep the present wire organizations more or less intact, developing an operating organization similar to that now running the railroads under federal control.

"If I am called upon to select a man to direct this work," said Burleson "I will select a man who will give everyone a square deal. There will be no favoritism."

"If the president turns this work over to me, I will be the last man to stand out against any censorship. I do not propose to interfere in any way with the conduct of this or any other branch of the business to the detriment of those involved."

Competing telephone systems in nearly 1,000 cities and towns will be merged by President Wilson, leaders were informed. This will result in economy, administration leaders feel. Business houses which have operated two switchboards will need only one.

Telephone combination also will release many men and women for necessary war work. One wire man will serve where two served before. Duplication of solicitors, branch exchanges and central offices will be eliminated eventually.

Competing companies first will be ordered to interchange service. Then government experts will rearrange equipment until the country's whole telephone system is run as a single unit.

The proposed merger, officials say, will help solve the question of new equipment.

The merger of the two telegraph companies will follow the telephone consolidation, although nothing has been definitely decided.

Friends of government ownership say the lines never will go back into private hands. "Unscrambling" of the lines after the war will be impossible, they hold, if present plans are carried out.

24 Nations in Economic League.

London, July 16.—An economic association of twenty-four nations comprising the entente allies already in existence, according to Lord Robert Cecil, British undersecretary for foreign affairs and minister of blockade, in a statement regarding the world's trade after the war, whether Germany eventually shall be admitted, to this economic association, he said, would be determined by the test established by President Wilson.

The president said December 4 that if the German people should, after the war, "continue to be obliged to live under ambitious and intriguing masters interested to disturb the peace of the world," it might be impossible to admit them to the partnership of the nations or to free intercourse. Germany is the one obstacle to this economic association, said Lord Robert—the Germany described by President Wilson.

Building Owners Blamed for Disaster.

Sioux City, Ia., July 16.—The Sioux City public safety department of the city council and the owners of the Oscar Ruff building were held primarily responsible by a coroner's jury here for the collapse of the Ruff structure June 29, when 39 persons lost their lives. The verdict says failure of the walls of the building caused the collapse. Both of the F. X. Babut & Son and Ruff Drug company contributed to the cause of the accident, the jury said.

Tobacco Rationing Possible.

Washington, July 16.—Government control of the tobacco industry may result from the heavy requirements of the allies and the American military forces abroad. Rationing of the American population is believed to be a possibility.

Failed to Buckle On Belt.

Washington, D. C., July 16.—Failure to buckle his safety belt and the "peculiar quick snap" of his scout plane when it was nosed over for a glide apparently caused the death of Major John Purroy Mitchell, says the official report on the accident at Gormston Field, La., received a few days ago at the War department.

The investigating board found that Major Mitchell's death "occurred in line of duty, and not because of his own misconduct." Major Mitchell was formerly mayor of New York City.