

# BUILDERS FACE RECORD SEASON

### United States Field Agent Reports Revival All Over the Country.

## WEST CRITICIZES UNCLE SAM

### Improvement During 1919 Will Equal That of Any Five Years in the Country's History — Report \$100,000,000 Contracts.

Washington.—A decided revival of building all over the country, but particularly in the middle West, is reported by Henry T. Teague, field agent for the United States department of labor, who has just completed a six-weeks' tour from coast to coast.

"There will be a great deal of public building during the next six months," says Teague. "The public improvement program for 1919, I am convinced, will equal that of any five years in the country's history, and the road-building activities from the Atlantic to the Pacific, once they are under way, will be tremendous.

"The scope of improvement work is much larger in the West than in the East.

"There is much criticism in the West of the government's failure to go ahead with its own building operations. In many localities federal buildings, for which sites, plans and appropriations were made before the war, are held up because the original appropriation is not high enough to cover the increased cost of construction and additional money has not been granted.

New Orleans, says Mr. Teague, shows more building activities than any city he visited. The city is spending \$14,000,000 on the municipal docks, employing more than 10,000 men.

South Bend, Ind., is developing a model industrial residence section, giving homes to 12,000 new employees of the Studebaker corporation, which is to build a new \$8,000,000 factory.

Here's Building Program. Other important building projects reported by Mr. Teague are:

Newark, N. J.—\$3,000,000 department store by J. L. Bamberger.

Kansas City, Mo.—\$2,000,000 inter-urban station.

Sioux City, Ia.—\$2,000,000 grain elevators for the Terminal Grain corporation.

Milwaukee—\$1,000,000 apartment hotel, \$750,000 hotel and \$250,000 department store.

Allentown, Pa.—\$500,000 office building and theater.

Detroit, Mich.—\$350,000 department store.

Cleveland, O.—\$300,000 store and theater building.

New Haven, Conn.—\$300,000 addition to Grace hospital.

Evanston, Ill.—\$250,000 hospital.

Chicago—\$18,000,000 railway station.

Portland, Ore.—\$500,000 stadium and live stock pavilion.

The department of labor's division of public works and construction development reports that approximately

\$100,000,000 in private building contracts were reported to it in February. The total of the January contracts was only half that sum.

Nearly all the states showed an increase from week to week during last month in private construction work. The New England states, for instance, in the first week of February reported contracts awarded to the amount of \$330,000; in the second week, \$550,000; third week, \$630,000, and fourth week, \$700,000. Of this construction, 22 per cent was of an industrial character, 32 per cent business and 46 per cent residential.

New England's showing, however, is far behind that of the Western states, Iowa, Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana, Michigan, Missouri and Kansas show a fivefold increase in February over January. In this district the figures are: First week in February, \$15,000,000; second week, \$9,000,000; third week, \$46,000,000; fourth week, \$50,000,000.

Private Work 91 1/2 Per Cent.

In the middle West 91 1/2 per cent of the construction contracts for February were for private construction, 8 per cent state and municipal work and

# WHOLE SIBERT FAMILY IN WAR

Washington.—Should Maj. Gen. William L. Sibert, director of the chemical warfare service of the United States army, ever decide to write his autobiography he can, like the late Col. Theodore Roosevelt, his warm personal friend, tell what "my five sons and I" did to lick the kaiser, for every one of the male members of the Sibert family is in the service, and every one has an excellent record of achievement behind him.

An interesting question around the Army and Navy club and in army circles generally just now is: "What do you suppose will be the next assignment of General Sibert?" for this distinguished son of Alabama is recognized as one of the big men of America's fighting forces, and it is generally conceded that he will be picked for some important place, even if the chemical warfare service is not perpetuated.

General Sibert's work as the builder of the Gatun dam in Panama is known all over the world. It is also generally known in this country that he carried the first expeditionary forces to France, where he and his engineers paved the way for Pershing. Owing to the necessity for secrecy in his latest command, however, his work as director of the chemical warfare service is not so familiar to the American people.

Chemical Warfare Service. The chemical warfare service came into existence as such on July 13, 1918, by executive order. Its function was to manufacture gas, to load it into shells, devise additional appliances for delivering it, and to provide defensive appliances for protection of the troops against similar devices on the part of the enemy.

That this function was fulfilled is shown in the fact that on November 11, the day the armistice was signed, standard plants were in operation with a production capacity greater than that of France, England and Italy combined, and we were turning out ten times more gas than Germany. We kept our allies supplied with toxic gases, and while very little exclusively American equipment got to France, every American soldier at the front was wearing a mask that was wholly American in make.

While America, under the direction of General Sibert, produced ten tons of gas to Germany's one, the surface of production had hardly been touched when the armistice was signed, and had the war lasted until the spring of 1919 Germany would have been flooded with toxic gases such as the world never dreamed of before. Among these gases is one that is known as methyl, produced at Wiloughby, O., near Cleveland, in what was known as "the Mouse Trap." Only five men in the world know what the composition of this gas is, yet it is said to be 70 times more powerful than mustard gas. So great was the secrecy in its manufacture that the men at the plants were carried to and from their meals under guard and kept under constant surveillance.

Built Up Big Army. Within less than six months, in addition to the building and equipping of the big manufacturing plants, the location of training camps, proving grounds, etc., General Sibert had built up an army of about 2,000 officers and 20,000 enlisted men, nearly every man in the organization being above the average in intelligence.

William L. Sibert was born near Gadsden, Ala. He was graduated from the university of that state and from West Point in 1884. He is a major general in the regular army. His sons in the service are as follows: Franklin C. Sibert, lieutenant colonel, divisional machine gun officer, A. E. F., France; graduated from West Point in 1912; William O. Sibert, major, chemical warfare service, U. S. A.; divisional gas officer, Seventy-seventh U. S. division, A. E. F., France; University of Virginia graduate, class of 1911; Harold W. Sibert, major, corps of engineers, Washington, D. C.; Cornell graduate, class of 1915; Edwin L. Sibert, first lieutenant, field artillery, West Point, 1918; Martin D. Sibert, corporal, A. E. F., Russia.

## TAKING A JOY RIDE IN A WAR TANK



Girl students of Smith college, Northampton, Mass., going relief work in France, enjoy a ride on a tank of the "Three Hundred and Thirty-third Infantry at Varennes en Argonne, France.

## VEERING TO NORMAL

### Business Shown to Be Slowly Re-adjusting Itself.

### Federal Reserve Board Gives Result of Inquiry Made by Its Agents.

Washington, D. C.—The federal reserve board made public summaries of reports from federal reserve agents throughout the country in answer to a questionnaire recently sent out to ascertain the extent of business and industrial readjustment. The reports showed in general large stocks on hand by manufacturers and dealers and a lessened demand, with prices decreasing in many cases.

A typical example of the reports from industrial districts was afforded by the tabulation of replies to questions from business concerns in the Philadelphia federal reserve district. These questions and classified replies

were as follows:

Are the quantities of materials, supplies, and goods as shown by your last inventory larger than usual? Yes, 114; no, 120.

Are they principally for war or civilian business? War work, 20; civilian business, 221.

Have the prices of your product been lower recently from the high prices prevailing during the war? Yes, 148; no, 93.

Is labor more abundant? Yes, 225; no, 21.

Is labor less restless? Yes, 147; no, 91.

Is there less re-employment? Yes, 186; no, 82.

Is labor more efficient? Yes, 90; no, 142.

Has there been any lowering of wages? Yes, 17; no, 228.

Are you paying less for raw material? Yes, 131; no, 80.

Have you a satisfactory amount of orders on hand? Yes, 81; no, 150.

## Would Have Maternity Paid for by the State

Buenos Aires.—Senora Julieta Renshaw, a physician, who last week announced her candidacy for a seat in the Argentine chamber of deputies, declared that her program, if elected, would include government recognition of maternity as a state function. Doctor Renshaw, who is the first woman candidate for parliament in the history of the country, says that the state must support maternity as a duty, not as charity.

## PROPER DRAINAGE FOR ROADS

### Tile Drains Are Much Superior to Open Ditches or Those Filled With Stone or Gravel.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.) Open ditches have been used frequently in some of the southern states for subdrainage roads through low, flat sections. Ordinarily only one ditch is used, and it is located a few feet outside of and parallel to the road. This ditch usually is made about two feet wide and three to four feet deep, with vertical banks. The material excavated from the ditch is used to build up the roadbed, and the surplus water from the side ditches is turned into the deep ditch at convenient intervals. The use of such ditches

one-half per cent government construction.

New York and New Jersey also show important increases in February, and in these two states residential building made up only 10 per cent of the total. Ohio, West Virginia and Pennsylvania also show a slight improvement over the January figures, and 38 per cent of the total was for residences.

Minnesota and the Dakotas reported contracts of about \$1,000,000, as against \$500,000 for January.

These facts show that the hesitancy about starting construction projects because of the high cost of materials is apparently being overcome all over the country.

# FOR BETTER ROADS

## PROPER DRAINAGE FOR ROADS

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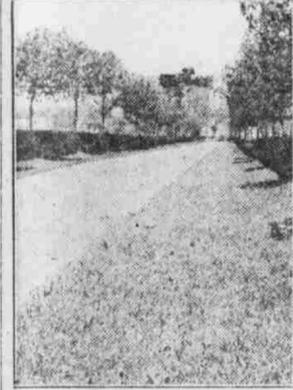
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Good Road Leading to a Farmhouse With a Good Stand of Grass on Each Side—Very Few Weeds in Evidence.

should be decided upon with care. There are ditches in the South, within the coastal plain, where sand clays and indurated clays occur a few inches underground, that have stood with vertical sides since the middle of the last century. They have been cleaned repeatedly, and no doubt have become somewhat enlarged, but considering the cost of maintenance and the service given, they have been entirely satisfactory. In other soils of a gravelly nature, however, the sides of such ditches would not stand, and the cost of keeping them clean would be excessive. In certain localities the open ditch soon will become obstructed by the banks breaking away and by the growth of vegetation, and is very seldom economical in the long run.

Ditches filled with broken stone or gravel sometimes are used as a substitute for the tile drains. These have been used in all sections of the country, and when properly constructed usually have proved satisfactory for a considerable period of time. When such ditches are used it is common practice to place one on each side of the road immediately under the open ditches. They are excavated to a depth of two to three feet with vertical sides and usually are made about eighteen inches at the top or just wide enough for a man to work in them conveniently. To be effective they must have a uniform grade and be carried to a suitable outlet.

Tile drains in general are much superior to either open ditches or ditches filled with stone for subdrainage roads, and though generally more expensive than either open or stone drains, they usually can be constructed at comparatively small cost. As a rule the tile need never be over six inches in diameter, while for ordinary conditions a diameter of four inches is sufficient.

## CHECK ON ROAD ENTHUSIASM

### Building of Highways That Will Not Wear is Very Discouraging to Taxpayers.

There is only one cause that can check the enthusiasm, now so evident, for good roads, and prevent a steady development in construction. This is the building of roads that will not wear. It is very discouraging to taxpayers to appropriate money for road building and then to have roads constructed that wear out long before the bonds are paid off. Yet this has occurred in many instances.

## MONEY FOR COLORADO ROADS

### Bill Now Pending Before Legislature Calls for \$20,000,000 for Better Highways.

Colorado business men recently united in a movement for a \$10,000,000 bond issue. After getting well into the campaign they discovered their chief opposition was in a general criticism because they asked for too little. The bill now before the legislature calls for \$20,000,000.

## WOMAN WORKS 15 HOURS A DAY

### Marvelous Story of Woman's Change from Weakness to Strength by Taking Druggist's Advice.

Peru, Ind.—"I suffered from a displacement with backache and dragging down pains so badly that at times I could not be on my feet and it did not seem as though I could stand it. I tried different medicines without any benefit, and several doctors told me nothing but an operation would do me any good. My druggist told me of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. I took it with the result that I am now well and strong. I get up in the morning at four o'clock, do my housework, then go to a factory and work all day, come home and get supper and feel good. I don't know how many of my friends I have told what Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has done for me."—Mrs. ANNA METERIANO, 46 West 10th St., Peru, Ind.

Women who suffer from any such ailments should not fail to try this famous root and herb remedy, Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

## Cuticura Soap IS IDEAL For the Hands

Petroleum Substitute. One Spanish substitute for petroleum for miners' lamps contains 77.5 per cent of 93 degree per cent alcohol and 22.5 per cent of benzol. This lamp fuel seems to have met with some approval, but an objection is its low efficiency, the lamp using it developing only 77 per cent of the illuminating power of the standard petroleum lamp. A new mixture designed to yield this brilliancy is made up of 62 per cent by volume of the alcohol, 16 of benzol, 7.5 of rectified turpentine and 14.5 of fuel oil.

## If You Need a Medicine You Should Have the Best

Have you ever stopped to reason why it is that so many products that are extensively advertised, all at once drop out of sight and are soon forgotten? The reason is plain—the article did not fulfill the promises of the manufacturer. This applies more particularly to a medicine. A medicinal preparation that has real curative value almost sells itself, as like an endless chain system the remedy is recommended by those who have been benefited, to those who are in need of it. A prominent druggist says "Take for example Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, a preparation I have sold for many years and never hesitate to recommend, for in almost every case it shows excellent results, as many of my customers testify. No other kidney remedy has so large a sale."

According to sworn statements and verified testimony of thousands who have used the preparation, the success of Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root is due to the fact, so many people claim, that it fulfills almost every wish in overcoming kidney, liver and bladder ailments; corrects urinary troubles and neutralizes the uric acid which causes rheumatism.

You may receive a sample bottle of Swamp-Root by parcels post. Address Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., and enclose ten cents; also mention this paper. Large and medium size bottles for sale at all drug stores.—Adv.

A married woman seldom goes on the lecture platform; she has an audience at home.

Direct current is electricity flowing continuously in the same direction.

## HOW CAN YOU TELL YOUR FAVORITE TOBACCO?

### As Plain as the Nose on Your Face—Just Smell It

Smokers do not have to put tobacco in their pipes to find out if they like it. They can just rub the tobacco between the palms of their hands and smell it. The nose is an infallible guide to smoking enjoyment.

All smoking tobaccos employ some flavoring "to improve the flavour and burning qualities of the leaves", to quote the Encyclopaedia Britannica. Naturally, there is considerable difference in the kind of flavorings used, and the nose quickly detects this difference. TUXEDO Tobacco uses the purest, most wholesome, and delicious of all flavorings—chocolate. And the almost universal liking for chocolate in a great measure explains the widespread popularity of TUXEDO Tobacco.

Carefully aged, old Burley tobacco, plus a dash of pure chocolate, gives TUXEDO Tobacco a pure fragrance your nose can quickly distinguish from any other tobacco. Try it and see.

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## Nebraska Directory

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