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THE CENTREVILLE OBSERVER

"ALL THE NEWS AL[illegible]"

As [illegible] As [illegible] —Weekly visits of The Observer into its many homes.

LOCAL NEWS WILL BE FOUND ON EVERY PAGE

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ANNOUNCEMENT OF GOVERNMENT PLANS FOR DRAFTING NEW NATIONAL ARMY THIS MONTH

HOW THE GREAT WAR HOSTS WILL BE SELECTED

No Favoritism to Be Shown in Drawing Names of Men Who Are to Fight Country's Battles.—What the County Boards Will Do Regarding Exemption Requests Clearly Outlined in Plan Adopted by President Wilson. "Slackers" Will Have Slight Chance of Escaping Duty.

Complete details of the regulations for drafting the new national army were announced at Washington Monday, and Queen Annes countians may now know the rules governing the next step toward selecting the Nation's war hosts from the millions registered for service on June 5th. The regulations leave to be prescribed later the manner of determining the order of liability of the men registered, but set forth in great detail the method of arriving at exemptions and the work generally of the local and district boards named last week to carry out the task.

For weeks the young men between 21 and 31 who registered last month, their parents, sisters, brothers, friends and other relatives have been anxiously awaiting the draft plans. Many have, doubtless, been hoping that there would be some clause which would indcate sweeping possibilities of exemption. This theory was disproved however, by the announcement of the actual plans, in which it is made very clear that no partiality whatever is to be shown.

Queen Annes countians who must be exempted include:
Officers of the United States.
Ministers of religion or students of divinity.
Persons in military or naval service.
Subjects of Germany and other aliens.
County or Municipal officers.
Persons in Federal service.
Pilot and merchant marine sailors.
All [illegible] with dependent wives or children; son of a de[illegible] brother [illegible] dependent orphan child under 16 years of age.

Exemption regulations add little to the terms of the draft law, the question of whether a man between the ages of 21 and 30 is entitled to exemption because of dependents, the nature of his occupation or physical unfitness being for the boards to decide after proper investigation.

It is made very clear, however, that there are to be no class exemptions and that each individual case must be decided upon its merits. The local boards, one for each county of less than 45,000 population, or city of 30,000, with additional boards where necessary for each additional 30,000 population, will pass upon claims for exemption except those based upon industrial or agricultural occupation, subject to appeal to the district boards. All cases involving agricultural or industrial exemptions will be passed upon by the district boards, one for each Federal judicial district, which also will decide appeals from decisions of the local boards.

Equal Justice To All.

In the near future a date will be set by Brigadier General Crowder, Provost Marshal General, for the meeting and organization of the boards. At the same time it is expected that the selection regulations will be promulgated, so that the process may be put under way without delay. The present intention is to call the men selected to the colors about September 1, or as soon thereafter as the cantonments to house them can be completed.

In a statement accompanying the announcement of the regulations, the President called upon the boards to remember that "Our armies at the front will be strengthened and sustained if they be composed of men free from any sense of injustice in their mode of selection." The statement follows:

"The regulations which I am today causing to be promulgated, pursuant to the direction of the selective service law, cover the remaining steps of the plan for calling into the service of the United States qualified men from those who have registered; those selected as the result of this process to constitute, with the regular army, the National Guard and the navy, the fighting forces of the nation, all of which forces are under the terms of the law placed in a position of equal right, dignity and responsibility with the members of all other military forces.

Men On Even Plane.

"The regulations have been drawn with a view to the needs and circumstances of the whole country and provide a system which it is expected will [illegible] with the least inequality and per[illegible] hardship. Any system of selection for military service, whether [illegible] or involuntary in its operation, necessarily selects some men to bear the burden of danger and sacrifice for the whole nation. The system here provided places all men of military age upon an even plane and then by a selection which neither favors the one nor penalizes the other, calls out the requisite number for service.

"The successful operation of this law and of these regulations depends necessarily upon the loyalty, patriotism and justice of the members of the boards to whom its operation is committed, and I admonish every member of every local board and of every district board of review that their duty to their country requires an impartial and fearless performance of the delicate and difficult duties intrusted to them. They should remember as to each individual case presented to them that they are called upon to adjudicate the most sacred rights of the individual and to preserve untarnished the honor of the nation.

"Our armies at the front will be strengthened and sustained if they be composed of men free from any sense of injustice in their mode of selection, and they will be inspired to loftier efforts in behalf of a country in which the citizens called upon to perform high public functions performs them with justice, fearlessness and impartiality.

List To Be Published.

Upon organizing, the local boards will take over from the registration boards all registration cards, which they will number serially and list for posting to public view. Then, after having been advised of the method by which the order of liability for service shall be determined and of the quota to be drawn from its territory (minus credits for enlistments in the National Guard or regular army) each board will prepare a list of persons designated for service in the order of their liability, post the list, give it to the press, and within three days send notice to each designated person by mail.

As the men so notified appear, the boards first will make a physical examination in accordance with special regulations to be provided, bearing in mind that all persons accepted by them will be reexamined by army surgeons if the physical examination is passed successfully then comes the question of exemption.

Who Must Be Excused.

Persons who must be exempted or discharged by the local board include: Officers of the United States, of the states, territories, and the District of Columbia, ministers of religion, students of divinity, persons in the military or naval service of the United States, subjects of Germany, all other aliens who have not taken out first papers, county or municipal officers, customhouse clerks, workmen in Federal armories, arsenals and navy-yards, persons in Federal service designated by the President for exemption, pilots, merchant marine sailors, those with a status with respect to dependents which renders their exclusion desirable (a married man with dependent wife and child, son of a dependent widow, son of dependent, aged or infirm parent, or brother of dependent orphan child under 16 years of age,) those found morally deficient and any member of any well recognized religious sect existing May 18, 1917, whose creed forbids participation in war and whose religious convictions accord with the creed.

Claims for exemption because of dependents may be made by the man himself, his wife or other dependents, or by a third party who has personally investigated the case. A claim made by the husband must be accompanied by supporting affidavits signed by the wife and by the head of a family residing in the same territory.

A claim by the wife or a third party must be accompanied by two supporting affidavits signed by heads of families. Similar rules govern claims on the grounds of other dependents, the dependents or third parties being authorized to file claims with suporting affidavits. In each case the board must be satisfied before it grants exemption or discharge that the dependent or dependents actually are supported mainly by the fruits of the man's mental or physical labor.

District Board Has Last Say.

Local boards are required, subject to appeal, to pass upon claims for exemption or discharge within three days after the filing of affidavits.

The district board must decide appeal cases within five days after the closing of proofs and their decisions are final. If the ruling of a local board [illegible] service.

In passing on claims for exemption on the ground of employment in necessary industrial and agricultural occupations, the district board must be convinced that the particular enterprise affording such employment actually is necessary to the maintenance of the military establishment or national interest during the emergency.

"The evidence must also establish," the regulations say, "if the particular industrial enterprise or particular agricultural enterprise is found necessary for one of the above purposes, that the continuance of such person therein is necessary to the maintenance thereof and that he cannot be replaced by another person without direct, substantial, material loss and detriment to the adequate and effective operation of the particular industrial enterprise or agricultural enterprise in which he is engaged."

Exemptions Not Permanent.

Later the President may from time to time designate certain industries or classes of industries that are necessary and the district boards will be so notified. It will be the duty of each board, however, to ascertain the available labor supply for such industries outside the men called for military service and to take the result into consideration in determining such things.

"If, in the opinion of the district board," this section of the regulation concludes, "the direct, substantial, material loss to any such industrial or agricultural enterprise outweighs the loss that would result from failure to obtain the military service of any such person, a certificate of discharge may be issued to him."

Certificates of exemption will not necessarily be permanent. They may be revoked with changing conditions, or may be granted only for prescribed periods.

OLDEST POSTMISTRESS RESIGNS.

Mrs. A. M. Skinner, probably one of the oldest postmistresses on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, has tendered her resignation and left the post office at Wye Mills on July 1st, after a stewardship covering a period of more than twenty years. Mrs. Skinner, who is now more than 70 years old, was postmistress at the Wye Mills office when the civil service law went into effect. This law placed her beyond the age limit and she was not able to take the examination for reappointment. Her faithfulness to her post during the many years she had filled it led J. B. T. Roe to take the examination. He was appointed and later named her as his assistant. Following Mrs. Skinner's resignation Mr. Roe named Mrs. Elizabeth L. Shortall as her successor. Mrs. Shortall assumed charge of the duties of the office last Monday.

WILL HONOR [illegible]

PRETTY EXERCISES [illegible] FOR TOMORROW AFTERNOON ON MCKENNEY LAWN.

Queen Annes lads who have answered the call to The Colors will be given the key to Centreville tomorrow afternoon, and the citizenry of the entire county is invited to come and participate in the exercises to be held in honor of the boys who will wear the khaki of Uncle Sam's fighting men. Just forty-three county boys have enlisted—some are in France; others are serving in various capacities and the remainder await the summons which is expected before the latter part of July.

Plans to do honor to the young men who have sacrificed their [illegible] business ambitions on the altar of national patriotism, have been arranged by the Centreville Lodge of Masons, and nothing will be left undone to make tomorrow a memorable occasion in the annals of Queen Annes. Spence's Band of sixteen pieces, from Easton, will be present and furnish music for the occasion. The celebration will be held on the lawn of William McKenney, and the program follows:

March—Spence's Band.
Prayer—Rev. G. J. Hill.
Singing—America.
Scripture Reading—Rev. J. D. Cummins.
Oration—Warren S. Seipp.
Music—Band.
Oration—William James Heaps.
Music—Band.
Presentation—Judge P. B. Hopper.
Prayer.
Star-Spangled Banner.

Masons To Meet At [illegible].

At 2.30 o'clock tomorrow afternoon the Masons will meet in their lodge room and at 2.45 o'clock they will march into the Opera House where and be joined by the boys who have enlisted. The march will then be made to the McKenney Lawn, through the Railroad Avenue entrance. Should the weather prove too stormy [illegible] for an out-door demonstration, the meeting will be held in [illegible] of the Opera House [illegible] Annes [illegible] ren S. Seipp, who is [illegible] of the Grand Lodge of Masons of Maryland. The next will be William James Heaps, of Benjamin Franklin Lodge, No. 97, Baltimore.

Judge P. B. Hopper will present each boy who has enlisted a bible and silk flag with proper and appropriate inscriptions on each.

A complete list of the county honor roll, giving the names and addresses of each enlisted man and the branch of service he has entered appears this week.

MIDNIGHT FRACAS RESULTS IN DEATH

NOAH TURNER IS THE VICTIM

WOUND INFLICTED WITH PENKNIFE BY JOHN BANKS, A BROTHER-IN-LAW, PROVED FATAL—ALTERCATION GREW OUT OF TROUBLE OVER WOMAN.

Three years ago, in New York City, a woman's brother was stabbed to death while defending her. Last Saturday night, in Stevensville, another one of her brothers was stabbed to death while he was defending her. In the latter case the man who did the stabbing was the woman's husband. The woman is Ada Banks, of Kent Island, and her husband, John Banks, aged 23, is in Centreville jail awaiting a hearing on the charge of manslaughter. The second brother died in University Hospital, Baltimore, Wednesday night. His name was Noah Turner and he was 30 years old. All are negroes.

According to the story told by Banks he had worked hard all day Saturday and did not leave the house until 11 o'clock when he started out in search of his wife. She had gone to a picnic in Crab Alley Neck and because of the lateness of the hour he feared that she might have been injured. About midnight he found her in Stevensville talking with another man and her brother, Noah Turner.

He says that he was angered by her conduct and slapped at her, whereupon the brother, with an oath, struck him alongside of the head and said he could not abuse his sister. Banks had been cutting a stick of wood with a pocketknife, and when Turner struck him he swung around and the knife entered Turner's stomach.

Lived For Three Days.

The injured man was removed to the office of Dr. Charles E. Snyder, who immediately realized that the wound was serious. Turner was carried home, but grew gradually worse and finally was removed Tuesday morning to the University Hospital, Baltimore. Internal hemorrhages finally produced death.

It was not until Tuesday morning that Banks was arrested by Constable Samuel Brown and brought to Centreville Jail.

The dead man was employed on the farm of Daniel Hopkins, on Kent Island, and Banks worked for Carville Tolson, near Stevensville. The two negroes, according to Banks, had always been the best of friends. Banks states positively that he had no intention of cutting Turner, but that he swung his arm about to force him away, as he supposed the first blow would be followed by others. He sticks to the story that he had forgotten in his anger over his wife's conduct, that he had the knife in his hand.

Bears Good Reputation.

The accused bears an excellent reputation on Kent Island. He is a hard worker and has never before been at odds with the law. When seen by an Observer reporter yesterday he was so nervous that he could scarcely tell the story of the affray which led to his arrest.

He will be held for the action of the November term of the Circuit Court for Queen Annes county.

LOAFERS MUST WORK

GOVERNOR HAS POWER TO MAKE THOSE WHO SHIRK "DO THEIR BIT."

The compulsory work bill just passed by the legislature will round up the loafers in Queen Annes county and throughout the State. The operation of the law is in the hands of the governor who will, it is reported, enforce [illegible] the ages of 18 and 50 [illegible] why he is not working. The fact that a man is wealthy will be no protection for him when the nation needs him to help in food production or any other industry essential for safety and existence.

The bill is not aimed at the man who wants to work but cannot get a job at his trade, but at the fellows who never work at all. The measure provides for the assignment of able-bodied male persons between the ages of 18 and 50 years, inclusive, not regularly and continuously employed, to work in occupations carried on by the State, county, or the city of Baltimore or by private employers. It gives the governor the power to assign or reassign the men brought under the provisions of the measures.

It recites that anybody who refuses to work will be subject to a maximum fine of $500 or an imprisonment of six months. Failure to register calls for a fine of $50 or less.

SUDLERSVILLE'S FOURTH

PUBLIC SPEAKING, DRILL, PARADE AND BASE BALL GAME ON NATION'S BIRTHDAY.

Although plans for a big observance of Independence Day in Sudlersville were abandoned because of the war, a very appropriate and pleasing program was rendered, which was enjoyed by seven or eight hundred persons.

In the afternoon addresses were delivered by Rev. James A. Leach, of the M. E. Church, and Senator J. H. C. Legg, of Centreville. The Home Guards, under the direction of Capt. J. E. Gilfillan gave an exhibition drill on the High School campus, and this was followed by a ball game in which Price defeated Sudlersville by the score of 5 to 2.

In the evening an automobile parade was the attraction. There were numerous beautifully decorated cars, and a completely equipped ambulance and first-aid car. Revolutionary characters were portrayed by a number of young men and young women in appropriate costumes.

A Red Cross festival in the evening concluded the day's exercises. About $150 was cleared and this sum will be divided between the Red Cross Chapter and the Civic Betterment League of Sudlersville.

APPOINTED ASSISTANT CASHIER.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the [illegible] Bank of Maryland, last week, Miss Esther Spear was appointed assistant cashier, to succeed Miss [illegible] Ahern, resigned. Miss Spear formerly resided near Centreville.

DELIGHTFUL JULY FOURTH CELEBRATION STAGED LAST WEDNESDAY AT STEVENSVILLE

RED CROSS EVENT PROVED A MAMMOTH SUCCESS

All Kent Island Joined Heartily in the Demonstration That Will Long Be Remembered. Splendid Parade in the Afternoon, Followed by Public Speaking.—Carnival at Night.—Mayor Strange and Former Senator Moss the Speakers.—Between 4,000 and 5,000 Persons Present.

Old Kent Island, the land of legendary lore and historical romance and blessed with manifold natural beauties, was the scene of a thrilling Fourth of July celebration last Wednesday, staged in Stevensville under the auspices of the Kent Island Chapter of the American Red Cross. Between four and five thousand persons, eager to witness every detail of the day's program, thronged the pretty town and enjoyed to the fullest extent the many delightfully attractive features arranged for their pleasure.

The celebration commenced with a parade in the afternoon, followed by public speaking and concluded with a street carnival during the evening.

All Kent Island joined heartily in the spirit of the celebration.

Just a few days ago a Kent Island Chapter of the Red Cross was formed. The Chapter has been especially active and last week it was decided to hold a Fourth of July celebration to raise money for the organization. No admission was charged to any event, but a neat sum was collected through membership fees.

Every home in Stevensville was delightfully decorated and crowds came from all parts of the county. It is the first time in many years that a celebration of this sort has even been attempted on Kent Island, and every resident may well feel proud of the excellent showing made on the Nation's birthday.

The entire morning was spent in preparation and the streets were thronged when the parade started.

[illegible] at 2 o'clock [illegible] School and passed through all the streets of the town, disbanding at the M. P. Church, where the exercises of the afternoon were held.

First in line came the Marshals, Frank Thomas, Carroll Palmer and James Cockey.

They were followed by boys and girls on horseback, dressed to represent different characters in American history. Miss Pearl Dean represented the Goddess of Liberty and Stephen Gillespie portrayed Uncle Sam. Then followed a host of lads and lassies attired as Indians, Pilgrims, early settlers, and other figures prominent in American history.

Next came a huge float drawn by twelve mules. On the float were members of the Price band and the Stevensville Junior Order American Mechanics. The band boys were dressed in bright, new uniforms, and the Junior Order members wore white suits and military caps, with the name of their Order in red letters above the visor.

Following came 150 school boys and girls dressed in white and red, carrying American flags.

The Red Cross Division.

It does not detract from the beauty of any other division of the parade to state that the Red Cross display was one of the most effective and interesting of the entire celebration. As the program has been outlined under the supervision of the noble Red Cross workers of Kent Island, the vast throng was enthusiastic over their part in the demonstration.

With the Red Cross flag flying at the head of their division, thirty-five beautiful and accomplished Kent Island ladies, attired in regulation Red Cross uniforms, marched in the parade. Immediately following was an automobile truck fitted out as a Red Cross ambulance. The driver was James Dashields. The nurse was his daughter, Miss Mabel Dashields, and the patient was Mr. Dashields' son. Inside the car was the lad on a field stretcher, and close by sat the nurse administering medicine. A full field medicine kit was displayed and the entire float was prepared to represent a Red Cross nurse administering to the bleeding soldier boys of the Nation. This float was awarded first prize for automobiles.

Another interesting float was that representing the four Maryland Signers of the Declaration, in the act of signing the hallowed document which decreed American freedom from foreign suppression. The four Maryland signers were represented by John F. Ruth, Ollie Calloway, Luther Baxter [illegible]

[illegible] parade. A [illegible] beautifully decorated, concluded the parade. Drs. John R. Benton and Chas. E. Snyder and B. H. Bright, who were the judges of the parade, were almost at a loss to decide to whom honors for the best decorated cars should go. So much care had been taken in the decoration of the cars that every one was entitled to honorable mention.

The prizes were finally awarded, however, as follows:

First—Red Cross Hospital.
Second—Car of W. T. Stevens.
Third—Car of W. H. W. Lowe.

Mr. Stevens' car typified "Agricultural Preparedness." On all sides of the car there were sheaves of wheat. Inside were vegetables, fruits and other products of the soil. All the decorations suggested the necessity of strict conservation of foodstuffs, that the war might be successfully prosecuted.

Mr. Lowe's car was the third prize winner. It was beautifully decorated with flags and bunting, grass and flowers.

To give a list of the cars entitled to appear on the honor roll, would be to mention every car in line. Each and every owner is due great praise and commendation for the interest manifested in the demonstration.

Speaking Thoroughly Enjoyed

Immediately after the parade about 150 school boys and girls formed in lines in the lawn of the Methodist Protestant Church and entertained the vast throng with a flag drill. The girls wore white dresses with touches of red, and the boys wore white blouses and dark trousers. Each carried a flag and the spectacle was not only inspiring, but interesting and pretty as well. The drill was admirably executed and thoroughly enjoyed.

In front of the church a speakers' stand had been erected, and this was gaily decorated with National colors and shields of the Red Cross.

The speakers of the afternoon were Hon. James F. Strange, Mayor of Annapolis, and former Senator Robert Moss, of Annapolis.

Mayor Strange reviewed the work of the Red Cross and told of the wonderful touch of tenderness that this great American organization gave to the horrors of the mighty European conflict. He pictured the work of the Red Cross nurses and other members of the organization on the shell-swept fields of France, and pled for hearty financial support for the furtherance of the task now facing the [illegible]

(Continued On Fifth Page)