

umes at large camps 315 smaller camps and posts, 148 naval and marine stations, 360 libraries and branches overseas.

More than 1,500 branch libraries and stations have been established in the huts, canteens, clubrooms and hostess houses.

Two hundred and fifty vessels have libraries; there is a deck library on every transport.

More than 2,000,000 volumes have been collected and placed in circulation.

Three-quarters of a million volumes of technical works have been purchased thus far.

More than 5,000,000 copies of periodicals have been placed in the hands of our forces.

Trained librarians serve our wounded as well as their more fortunate brothers in arms.

More than a million books sent overseas and millions more are to be sent.

DISTRICT COURT OPENS MONDAY

The September term of the United States District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee, which has twice been postponed on account of the epidemic of influenza, will open tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock, with Judge Sanford presiding and United States District Attorney, Lee Douglas and his assistant, Ben H. Littleton, as prosecutors.

For the last two months if one sought quietude and repose, he would find all the necessary conditions in the Federal building. Even the sound of the fitful saw and hammer, which has been a feature of the custom house for about two years, ceased for long intervals; the elevator periodically failed to elevate, and everything contributed to the somnolent atmosphere of the building.

But it will not be so tomorrow. The docket of the court is full to overflowing, and there will descend upon the Federal building an army of witnesses, litigants and those who seem never to learn that Uncle Sam will not tolerate the marketing of corn and wheat in liquid form. From the hills and mountains they will come; they will fill the corridors and the offices of the building, perch on the stone coping outside, while the erstwhile loafing elevator will go up and down, loaded to the guards, and with whining complaint.

Some of them will have never been in a big town before, and will carry home with them memories of the big doings in town which will adorn many a tale around the big log fire. Some will carry back with them impressive and lasting lessons in the obligations of citizenship, while others will go back and offend Uncle Sam again.

THIRTEENTH DISTRICT TO OPEN CAMPAIGN

The united war work campaign for the Thirteenth district will be opened by a meeting Sunday evening at 7 o'clock at the Bordeaux Methodist church. Some of the best four-minute speakers from the city are on the program. Everybody is cordially invited to be present.

Meetings will be held at Scottsboro Tuesday evening at 7 o'clock and on Wednesday evening at 7 o'clock there will be a meeting of the entire district at the Jordan Methodist church. A splendid program is being arranged for this occasion. The responsibility of raising the quota for the Thirteenth district has been placed upon the shoulders of F. E. Gillette, Marshall; Richard S. West, captain; Dr. W. W. Core, Ernest Walton, Dwight L. Jordan, W. M. Hard and W. J. White lieutenants. Each one of whom will be at the head of a team of enthusiastic workers who are determined to see that the Thirteenth district goes away over the top.

Every man, woman and child in the district is expected to do his or her duty. People are asked to call on leaders and they have time to call on them and call them how much they are willing to give in dollars and cents toward the welfare and happiness of our boys "over there."

Oak Tree's Lumber.

Pompano, Mo., Nov. 8.—(By International Service.)—An oak tree recently felled here produced the following: three sixteen-foot logs, four eight-foot logs, three ten-foot logs and six two-foot logs, a total of 142 feet of lumber.



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—and the people of America are GOING TO SHOP aside the traditional "put-it-off" and "eleventh hour" chasing EARLY.

They are going to, wholeheartedly, co-operate heretofore awful waste of man-power, freight, car days and DO THEIR CHRISTMAS BUYING NOW.

Patriotic American women are already laying there in search of Yuletide gifts.

America Will Heed These Christmas Shopping As She

Mail and Express Packages

The usual Christmas congestion must not be permitted to affect the quick transportation of troops and munitions. Therefore, all gift packages must be sent prior to December 5.

No Extra Working Hours

Christmas shoppers are also advised that the Government has ruled that no extra hours of service shall be rendered by employes of retail stores to care for Christmas business. Whatever Christmas shopping is done must be completed in the regular store hours.

Season for Christmas

The Government has requested all retail stores to extend the period October, November and December, and to co-operate to the fullest on such scale and with such methods as are consistent with the best

Commercial Economy Division

THE SOUTHERN SKY

By LATIMER J. WILSON.

The highlands of Tennessee provide many excellent sites for an astronomical observatory. What is more splendid than the starlit sky spread above the mountain summits on an autumn evening?

We live in the bottom of an ocean of air. Due to variation in temperature and consequently pressure a perpetual motion is taking place between currents of air of different density. These shifting currents interrupt the rays of light from the stars and planets, and the greater the disturbance the more obliterating will be the effect as observed with a powerful telescope. Regions where the atmosphere is comparatively quiet during longer periods are the best places for the astronomical observer.

to photograph the interesting discs of these worlds the atmosphere must be as quiet as a pool of still water. How easy it is to see through water that is motionless compared with even these shallow water that is moving with a swift current. The earth's atmosphere is a fluid mass very aptly compared in this respect with a body of water.

In the inland regions of the south the air is like a warm blanket spread over the landscape. Where the stars seem to shine with a steady light the indication of a steady atmosphere is in evidence. Violent twinkling of the stars indicates a violently disturbed condition of the strata of the air. The pencils of light from the luminous point that forms the stellar images pass through changing strata of different density, strata as perceptible as defects in a bad lens. No matter how perfect they may be, no telescope will show the medium of the air through which the light is being transmitted.

will be an imperfect image formed by the lens.

But the relative quiet of the southern light, where literally are formed pools of still air above the valleys in the highlands, furnishes an opportunity for excellent work with an astronomical telescope whether it may be equipped as a visual or as a photographic instrument.

The denser atmosphere in the lowlands affords a thicker blanket, less transparent because of the haze. Telescopic observation of the planets is rather helped by this condition, but photographs of the faint objects in the sky would not be thus benefited. Photography of such objects as nebulae, star clusters, or the star clouds of the Milky Way demand a very transparent sky. There may be a more disturbed condition of the atmosphere in the lowlands, but the haze and as transparent as possible. The presence of a luminous sheet of fog or haze would obliterate entirely the faint bodies in the background as attempted by photography. Only the brightest stars could be seen through the photographic process.

Thus the highlands of the Southern inland states would afford an opportunity both for the astronomical use of the telescope and for the visual observation of the stars and planets.