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# THE FRANKLIN TIMES

AN ADVERTISING MEDIUM THAT BRINGS RESULTS

A. F. Johnson, Editor and Manager.

THE COUNTY, THE STATE, THE UNION

Subscription \$1.50 Per Year

VOLUME XLVII.

LOUISBURG, N. C., FRIDAY, SEPT. 13, 1918

NUMBER 30

## STORMY WEATHER ON THE WAR FRONT CONTINUES

### British Commander Reports Further Progress Near Neuve Chapelle and Armentieres.

#### ENEMY HASTENS HIS EFFORTS ON REAR LINE EAST OF THE RIVER LYS.

British Attacked Epehy Wood Tuesday Where Hard Fighting is Reported; But Generally the British Troops Were Not Active Yesterday, Partly Owing to Mud and Ooze Which Made Progress Difficult; Civilians Driven From Home, Property Confiscated.

London, Sept. 10.—Further slight progress for the British near Neuve Chapelle and Armentieres, and local engagements in the center of the line in the vicinity of Epehy and Gouzeaucourt, southwest of Cambrai, are reported by Field Marshal Haig in his communication of tonight. The communication follows:

"Except for local fighting in the Epehy and Gouzeaucourt sectors in which we secured prisoners, there is nothing of especial interest to report from the battle front south of the Scarpe.

On the Lys front our patrols have made slight progress northeast of Neuve Chapelle and west of Armentieres.

"Stormy weather continues."

With the British army in France, Sept. 10.—The most important news from the north today is direct corroboration of the fact that the Germans are working with all haste in the preparation of their rear lines east of the river Lys and that they are being reinforced with concrete machine gun nests in considerable numbers.

**Battlefield Covered With Mud.** Although the resistance from enemy rear guards has increased all along the line, especially in the center areas, where a much greater volume of machine gun and artillery fire is being encountered, the British troops have made further progress. Rain has fallen incessantly and the battlefield in many places now is covered with soft mud, and the shell craters are filled with ooze, which makes rapid progress difficult.

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Generally the armies are still at a pause and what forward movements have been carried out have been more in the nature of line straightening and for the suppression of active German positions.

**Hard Fighting at Epehy Wood.** Epehy Wood has been the scene of hard fighting. The British attacked it today, but details are lacking.

From a number of reliable sources it is learned that the enemy is evacuating the civilians from numerous villages and towns in his rear and is exhibiting his customary methods while doing it. The civilians, in most cases old men, women and children, are being forced from their homes with only a handful of their possessions; their property is either being confiscated by the German authorities or being carried off by the troops.

**Mutinuous Spirit Among Germans.** Further confirmation of the mutinuous spirit in sections of the German army has been received. Prisoners who were in the immediate vicinity of an engagement on Aug. 22, say that an infantry regiment of a Bavarian division suddenly threw down their arms. They retired declaring that they absolutely refused to fight for Prussia any longer.

In addition to other troubles which seem to have been multiplying of late, the German commanders now have suddenly come to realize that their system of defense with respect to depth is totally inadequate under the conditions encountered in continuous fighting.

A captured seventeenth German army order says:

"A new outpost zone cannot be selected daily and the troops must hold the foremost line. The troops must un-

derstand this, or they will retire against the wishes of the command and describe the ground which they have lost as an evacuated outpost zone. This cannot be permitted for tactical reasons and must not be allowed for moral reasons."

#### Farmers Union Picnic.

The Farmers Union of Franklin County will hold its annual picnic Friday Sept. 20th at Prospect church near Four Bridges.

This is to be an open meeting and all farmers and friends of the Farmers Union are invited. This will be a basket picnic and a basket of good "War Eats" will be in order. Dr. H. Q. Alexander, President of State Farmers Union will be the speaker of the morning and Dr. B. W. Kilgore, State Chemist will address the meeting in the afternoon.

J. C. JONES, Sec'y.

#### From France.

The following letter from Mr. Willie Macoon will be read with much interest.

Somewhere in France, Aug. 10, 1918.

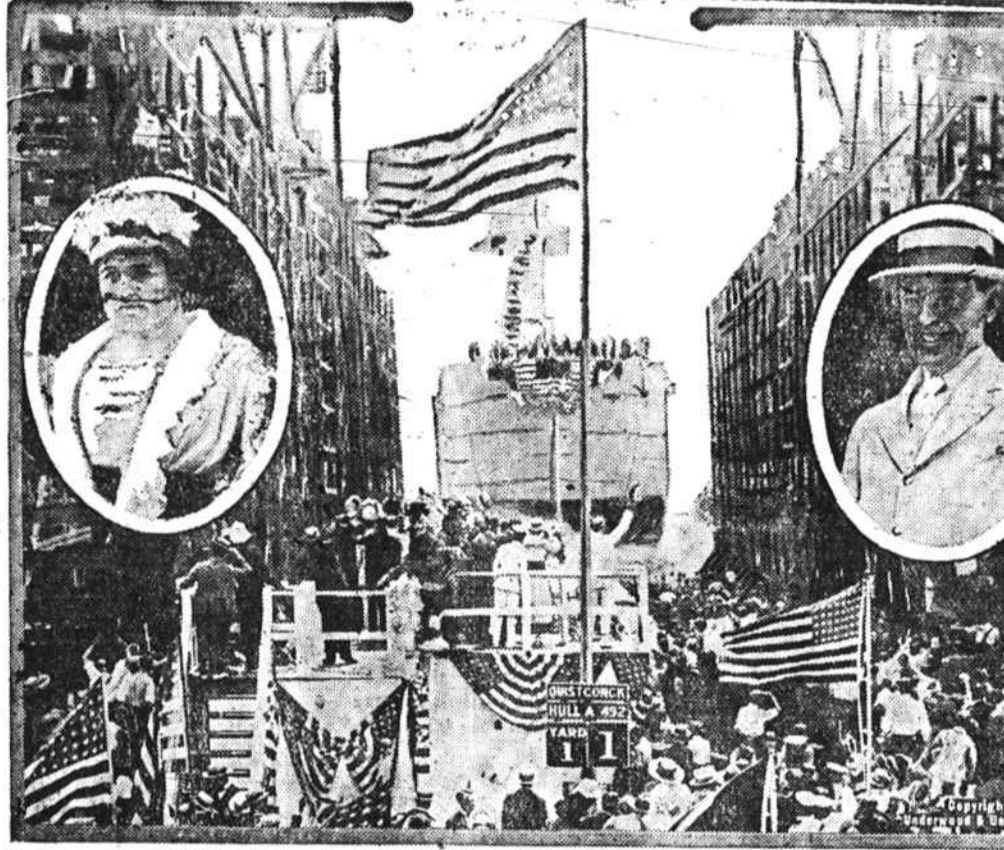
My dear Elizabeth:— Since writing you last we have served one turn in the trenches.

I am not allowed to say how many days. The facilities for writing while in the trenches are not very good, but I'm going to try to make amends by telling you all the news I can think of in this letter. You needn't ever get uneasy because you don't hear from me, for if I should happen to go down on the casualty list you would be notified by wire, so bear this in mind. "No news is good news."

Our Company was very lucky, we had not a single casualty. I'm glad to say, I just feel that "Co. D." will be lucky all through the war. I can't begin to write you a description of this war, if I could see and talk to you I might give you a faint idea of how things go while we are in the trenches. In the day time everything is quiet. I mean so far as movement of troops is concerned. Everybody tries to be as still as possible for fear of being seen by a German sniper, if one of those birds see you, you have a slim chance of seeing your experiences to your comrades or home folks. Just to show you what they can do, I will relate this experience.

One of the boys pulled off his helmet to comb his head (to scratch his head) and unthoughtedly laid his helmet on top of the parapet. It very promptly came rolling back in the trench with a German bullet mark on it. Of course we are doing the same thing to them, for there are just as good marksmen in our army as anywhere else. When it begins to get dark old Fritz begins sending up his flares to light up no man's land, and from then until day break it is almost a continual flare. The lights and flares are beautiful if one could forget their significance. There is hardly a second during the day or night that you can't hear shells whistling through the air or bursting in your own sector. Shells of all sizes from a 303 cartridge (rifle) on up, some of them pretty near as tall as a man. When these big shells hit the ground and burst they throw earth, rocks, brick etc., up in the air perhaps a 100 ft or more. Then there are shrapnel shells which explode in the air, if one of those happens to burst near you its a miracle if you ever get to tell the tale to anybody. Not very long ago a shrapnel shell burst about fifty feet from where I was standing, the broken pieces of shell whizzed past me, but fortunately I wasn't hit, in about two seconds I heard another coming, I flattened out on the ground immediately, maybe a little quicker than that. The prayers of the good people at home took care of me in this case for the shell failed to explode and hit in the path I had just come over about ten steps behind me, it buried in the ground. I can't say how deep for I didn't stay there long enough to investigate. Do you blame me? The fuse in the next shell wasn't timed exactly right, it hit the ground about fifteen feet from me and "Brush" and threw mud etc., all over us. We were so close to it that it failed to hurt us. You see it is this way when the shells hit the ground they bury about 5 or 6 feet deep and when they burst they don't do very much damage right near where they hit for the flying pieces go up then fall back in a radius of from 20 to 200 feet. "Brush" and I have been out on No Man's Land for a short way, we couldn't see anything alarming. The Boche must have known who was out man hunting (I) We have rather thrilling experiences sometimes, but the boys are all cheerful and we have our fun and jokes in the trenches just as we do when we are in camp. When we are in line (in camp too) we are well fed and clothed, no kick coming from any of the boys. We are in it to the finish and we are going to win.

## PRESIDENT AND WIFE AT FIRST HOG ISLAND LAUNCHING



The first ship fabricated at the Hog Island yard was launched in the presence of President Wilson and other government officials. The vessel, one of 110 identical 7,500-ton, 11 1/2-knot cargo carriers to be built at the biggest shipyard in the world, was christened the Quistconck by Mrs. Wilson, that having been the name by which the Indians knew Hog Island.

I can't say when for there is a hand greater than man's that guides the destinies of nations as well as individuals. We can't have a fire while we are in line for old Fritz doesn't seem to like the color of the smoke so the government issues us little cockers composed of alcohol and some other compound, with it we can warm our food and even boil coffee in our dugouts, they don't make any smoke whatever. Trench life isn't so bad after all. Now, after reading this don't get worrying about us, for it won't do one bit of good. I haven't the slightest feeling whatever that I'm going to get hurt. There are so many prayers from so many good people back home that I feel they will be answered.

None of you can ever hope to, "Bennie" and "Brush" record "cause we are regular globe trotters. We don't even let the war interfere with our travels, we go right ahead just as if there was no war at all.

August 4th was the fourth anniversary of this great war, let us all hope that before the 5th anniversary all the boys will be back home enjoying prosperity as they were before the war began. This afternoon we had service by our chaplain, Mr. Jim Turner of Wake Forest. He made a splendid talk from John 3-16. I think all the boys liked his talked very much. They all like him too for he is so very congenial with the boys.

Our mail comes about once a week, there's no regularity to it, but that is about the average, sometimes its more than a week, and sometimes less. I haven't failed to hear from you but twice since we have been getting mail. You all can never know the pleasure it gives a fellow over here to hear from home. "Brush" isn't much of a letter writer he lets me tell all the news, and of course when you hear from me it is just the same as hearing from him, for usually he and I are

right together. You know my twin Brush is the best boy in the world. Yesterday, I was a little sick and he asked the Lieutenant to let him stay in with me to wait on me. I don't know how I'd get along were it not for him. Guess I have told you all the news except war news and you see that ever day in the papers. With much love to all of you home people. Devotedly,

WILLIE GLENN MACON, Co. D, 129th Inf't, 30th Div., American E. Forces, France.

**Mr. Tom Knott Entertains.** On Thursday evening last Mr. Tom Knott entertained a large number of friends by giving a delightful barbecue supper at the home of Mrs. W. B. Horton.

Those present spent an enjoyable evening, various games were played. Supper was served, including barbecue, chicken and cake.

The guests were as follows: Miss Mattie, Louie and Maude Rhodes, of Wendell, Lottie Noblin, Durham, Agnes, Bessie Doub, Jesse Gladys Lassater, Bertha Mez Horton, Bessie Knott, Mary and Lizzie Mae Wall, Mattie Fuller, Leslie Mounticell, Dewey Wall, Ewell Heathcock, Hester, Ivan Lassater, Garry Wall, Lee Knott, Tom Knott, Ralph Noblin, Jarvis Knott, Graham Knott, Braxton Lassater and Eula Fuller. Mr. and Mrs. Horton, Mrs. Wall, Mr. and Mrs. Bridges.

**Lieut. Jno. Wilder Tomlinson Killed.** San Antonio, Tex., Sept. 11.—Second Lieutenant John Wilder Tomlinson, 23, son of John S. Tomlinson, Washington, D. C., was killed instantly in a side slip fall of his airplane near Brooks Flying Field here today.

Mrs. Tomlinson, the mother of Lieutenant Tomlinson, is a native of Louisville, N. C., and before marriage was Miss Nellie Wilder and is a first cousin of Mr. R. G. Allen, of this city.

## PRICES STILL HIGH

On Louisville Market and the Sales Are Increasing as the Season Advances.

The warehousemen are proving their assertions to the many farmers who visit Louisville Tobacco Market that they expect to make this market the best in the State when the many remarks "that its the highest I have seen" is being freely used by many who visit all markets and the expressions of the many farmers speak the satisfaction they feel as has been done so general on the local market this week. The sales are increasing in bulk as the season advances and the price seem to be holding on better than we expected. The better grades are showing an advance and the demand is good. All Companies are represented here.

You are welcomed at all times.

**Harris Wagstaff.**

Roxboro, Sept. 8.—An event of much interest throughout the State occurred on last Saturday afternoon when Mrs. Belle Wagstaff gave in marriage her daughter, Vera, to Mr. Grover C. Harris, of Louisville. The ceremony was very simple, with only near relatives of the couple present. Rev. J. A. Dally gave the impressive vows, while Miss Huldal L. Hester presided at the piano.

Mrs. Harris is a graduate of Louisville College and for several years has been a successful teacher. She has many friends who will wish her much happiness.

Mr. Harris is a popular warehouseman and is well known in the business world. After a few days honeymoon Mr. and Mrs. Harris will be at home to their friends in Louisville.

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## BELGIAN ARMY HONORS THE AMERICAN FLAG



"Old Glory" has been honored repeatedly throughout Belgium in gratitude for American generosity in helping that nation during its darkest days. In the photograph are shown officers of the Belgian army together with their troops marching past the American flag in honor to the nation.

## REVIVAL AT METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. F. S. Love to Preach Sunday.—Rev. F. S. Love will preach at the Methodist church beginning the fourth Sunday. Rev. A. L. Stanford of Wadesboro, N. C., will assist the pastor. Mr. Stanford is perhaps the most successful pastor-evangelist in the Methodist church in North Carolina and his coming to Louisville will be a great opportunity to the people here.

Rev. F. S. Love, President of Louisville College will preach at the Methodist church at the eleven o'clock hour Sunday. The pastor will preach at 8:30 P. M.

**Griffin-Smith.** Mrs. John U. Smith, of this city yesterday announced the marriage of her daughter, Miss Frances Knight Smith to Mr. Graham Ford Griffin, Tuesday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock, Raleigh, N. C. The marriage took place at the parsonage of the First Baptist Church and the ceremony was performed by Dr. T. W. O'Kelly, the pastor. The bride is an attractive young woman of this city. The groom is a native of Louisville, but is now a resident of this city.

**MRS. J. B. CHEATHAM DEAD.** Was on a Visit at the Home of Her Father, Mr. B. W. Ballard.

Franklin, Sept. 8.—This place is bowed under a weight of sorrow today at 4:30 this morning Mrs. J. B. Cheatham, nee Miss Nena Ballard, died at the home of her father, Mr. B. W. Ballard, whom she was visiting. No one in the place, not even her nearest relatives, were prepared for the news, and it was a complete surprise as well as a shock to the entire community when the word was passed from lip to lip that this popular and well beloved woman had died. She came here from her home in Nashville, Tenn., about a month ago to visit her parents, and she was in fine health so far as her friends knew. About a week ago it was announced that she was not well and had decided to remain over for a few days when her husband left for his home. No one was aware at any time that Mrs. Cheatham's condition was even considered dangerous till a few minutes before death came to her. Her husband had been wired to come and arrived on a belated train just 15 minutes after his wife died.

Mrs. Cheatham was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. B. W. Ballard, who are among the most prominent people of Franklin County, and she, during her young womanhood days, was one of Franklin's most popular young ladies. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and lived true to the obligations she assumed when she became a member. She was possessed of a sweet disposition which always drew friends to her.

She was married to Mr. J. B. Cheatham, of this place, and she leaves with him two little children, a boy and a girl. Her father, mother, three sisters and one brother survive. Her sisters are Mrs. William Joyner and Mrs. Yarboro, formerly of Louisville, but now of Oglethorpe, Ga., where her husband is in training for overseas service. Mr. Walter Ballard, who now lives in Tennessee, is her only brother.

The funeral services will be held some time Monday afternoon and the remains deposited in the family burying plot at the city cemetery.

**Happenings Around Dickens.** Dr. and Mrs. W. P. Simpson went to Centerville Thursday on a business trip.

Superintendent of Greenleaf-Johnson Lumber Co., Mr. R. H. Holland, is improving from the fall he got from his horse a few days ago.

Mr. Ben Williamson, of Louisville, was on our streets Tuesday.

Mr. T. H. Dickens and some young parties went to Louisville Tuesday.

Mr. Morris Griffin and sister, Miss Lossie, were visitors in our town Sunday evening.

How about scraping the road? It has a few holes and bumps in it. Cotton crops are right much short. Some say 400 pounds of seed cotton per acre will be the average in this section.

Mr. T. H. Dickens and J. G. Murphy went to Louisville the 29th to the opening sale of the tobacco warehouses.

Mr. Willie Brewer brought a sweet potato to Mr. Dickens' store last Friday and it weighed 3 pounds and 2 ounces. He is a champion hog and potato raiser.

Mr. T. H. Dickens has purchased a new Ford truck to do his hauling with. Capt. J. R. Collins carried a load of tobacco to Louisville Monday. We believe he is a good farmer as well as a good mechanic.

Dr. W. B. Morton filled his regular appointment Saturday and Sunday at White Level. He preached a most interesting sermon to the people of this community.

Mr. F. G. Eston spent Sunday at Buies Creek with his people.

Mr. and Mrs. D. N. Smith were visitors in our town Sunday.

BLUE BELL.—Rev. N. H. D. Wilson will fill his appointment at Katesville Sunday afternoon next.

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