THE COURIER

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OHIO STATE LIBRARY

TAFT PRAISES WILSON

FORMER PRESIDENT DECLARES SPIRIT OF WASHINGTON ACTUATES OUR CHIEF EXECUTIVE IN DEALING WITH INTERNATIONAL SITUATION.

In an address before the Washington Association of New Jersey last Monday, ex-President Taft said that in his opinion this country is threatened with a serious invasion of its rights as a neutral by the warring nations of Europe. Mr. Taft declared that if a crisis should arise, no jingo spirit must be allowed to prevail. "And when the President shall act," he declared, "we must stand by him to the end."

Quoting part of the treaty of Algiers, proclaimed in 1907 and entered into by the United States and eleven European nations, the speaker explained what he considered to be our interest in the present war. He claimed that our interest should be limited as follows:

"In preserving and increasing the commerce of the United States with the belligerents; to the protection as to life, liberty and prosperity of our citizens residing or traveling in their countres, and to the aiding by our friendly offices and efforts in bringing those countries to peace."

Mr. Taft then called attention to the fact that the President has already tendered his offices by way of mediation, but they have not been accepted. He further declared that the people of this country, without respect to previous views or European origin, will follow Wilson if a crisis is reached. In answer to critics of the present administration, Mr. Taft declared that Wilson, in trying to preserve strict neutrality, has only been faithfully following the example set and the admonitions given by our first President. Washington faced a similar situation during his administration, maintaining a policy of neutrality through a general European war and against mighty odds and under conditions that tried his very soul. In his farewell address, he restated and re-inforced this policy as a legacy to the American people.

BELGIAN RELIEF FUND

Following contributions have been received by Randolph County Committee:

Previously reported	$82.21
Rev. S. S. Robins, Kingston, Mass	1.00
Rev. Joel Trogdon, Farmer	.50
Mrs. Joel Trogdon, Farmer	.50
Erman Trogdon, Farmer	.25
Adleta Trogdon, Farmer	.25
Velna Trogdon, Farmer	.25
Hazel Trogdon, Farmer	.25
E. N. Howard, Farmer	.90
Mrs. C. E. Stedman, Farmer,	.25
Asheboro Graded School, High 2nd Grade	.14
Contributions Sent in By Mrs. Mollie F. Skeen, Mechanic	
Miss Janie Welch	.50
Victor Parks	.25
Roscoe Parker	.25
Total	$ 87.50

As a rule, the cities, and towns and individuals that are helping the Belgians the most are also aiding their home poor and unemployed the most. Just to mention Petersburg, Virginia, that responded so generously to the Belgian Relief, raising money in all sorts of ways, with entertainments, also holding a regular exchange for sale of bread, pies and cakes donated by the ladies, and now for its own poor inaugurates "Bundle Day" when nearly 500 contributions were received including [illegible] canned goods, [illegible] besides a good sum of money. Two large boxes of foodstuffs were turned over to the Salvation Army to relieve immediate suffering.

Philadelphia while giving and working continuously for the Belgians also is working for its own poor and unemployed. Lincoln's birthday was made a special "Self-Sacrifice Day" people being asked to give up some personal luxury for the poor at home. The simple statement and call met with such a hearty response that people poured into headquarters all day, the money chutes being choked with coins at times and keeping six persons busy counting. Many gave out of their poverty. A note wrapped around a penny read as follows. "A sacrifice of one penny from a woman who has been out of employment for one year. And for the sake of many like myself who has begged for work, I wish you success in your efforts for the unemployed." This was typical of hundreds. The Lord still sees the "widows mite." One old woman dropped in 15 cents with a note saying—"I have a room and will do with [illegible] meal, and the 15 cents will buy [illegible] loaves of bread for one [illegible] Pleased as I am."

[illegible] is constant and teaching [illegible] as to the Belgian Relief, [illegible] ng in every way with enter[illegible] suppers, theatre performances, [illegible] besides systematic co[illegible] at the same time instituting "Bread Lines" soup kitchens, and arranging employment for men by the thousands. According to the Federation of Churches Bureau thousands of families are taking on the care of another family, and work given to 2,000 men. A "Bundle Day" was inaugurated when 500,000 bundles were collected, and after careful sorting and handling given out to all who applied. The railway stations and depots where bundles were received were overwhelmed with packages from the hearty response of the people of New York City. The Hotel Knickerbocker opened up its doors to any who were hungry giving out rolls, coffee, frankfurters and cornbeef, sandwiches, with the cherry sign over the table, "Good luck and welcome. There's a better time coming." The New York Sun with its daily Bread Line, feeding always more than 2,000, the women standing in the bitter cold and rain, often with babies on their arms, just waiting for a loaf of bread. Any human being would be touched with the appeal as represented by the letter below of the great need and the real hunger; also showing the fine gratitude of the recipient by his return to help others:

A man—just one of the two thousand who gather daily outside The Sun's free bread depot at 9 First street—has got a job since the rainy day when hunger and poverty drove him into the bread line. Yesterday he wrote a letter to the editor of The Sun, and this is what he wrote:

"Sir: This is to thank you for a loaf of bread. The thought wasn't born in me a year ago that I should be thanking somebody for giving me bread.

"You don't care about hearing how a few months ago it seemed as if a big wind—an evil wind—blew all of a sudden and swept away, first the wife and little baby (I hadn't hardly got to know) and the room we called our home and everything I had saved and then landed me in a hospital.

"I only write to make real to you my thanks for the bread that day—that rainy day. If I could just let you know how empty I was then in the line and how good that bread tasted. Say, when you're all gone inside it's an awful feeling, isn't it. You haven't got any spirit, have you? and you don't seem to care much or what it would be wise to do. You can't keep on hunting your job even.

Thought of Nothing But Eating.

"The all gnawing pain so terrible that it seems at least as if nothing would answer—not even the hope of heaven—nothing, nothing, but something to eat! Oh, that blessed loaf of bread! Excuse me—it sounds animal—but it's true. I didn't think at the time of anything but eating it—didn't bless—just broke it and then put half in each pocket.

"When I first came out of the hospital there was a fellow I knew helping me land a job because I was that weak I couldn't walk about all day. He lent me money for a week's lodging and one meal a day. He had little enough himself for his family and a kid of his got sick. I felt so bad because I couldn't yet pay him back his money. When it was paid up I wouldn't have had him know it, not if I starved would I let him lend me another cent. I saw their kids cry one day when their mother said there was no more bread. She had asked me to eat with them that day and I didn't know they had so little.

"I've paid them back now—and some besides. I've gotten John on his one! I've had a square meal. You know, our children are dear to us because there's nothing more to eat but keep on till you've had enough. There's nothing so comfortable—[illegible]—not even a good conscience. But that wet, hungry line, that I was part of! That saving loaf of bread—bread of life to me! I was too proud to come and take it freely the first day after my money gave out. Forty eight hours made me humble.

"Say, here is 50 cents in stamps for five loaves. I'd ask nothing better than to see a chap as hungry as I was eat one of them—and I wouldn't give a darn (while he was eating it) whether he was eating worthily, so long as he was hungry—it's terrible to be hungry."

PROGRESS OF PARTY RECORD

The Sixty-third Congress expires March 4, and it is not expected that Congress will reconvene till next December, unless the European war situation forces an extra session. President Wilson and his Democratic associates feel proud of the record of the party, and think that Congress can rest on its laurels. The Underwood-Simmons tariff law is entirely satisfactory to Democrats; although Republicans, who thrive on protection, try to make the country believe that the new tariff law is the cause of business depression.

The Federal Reserve Act seems to be working well. It is a noteworthy fact that J. Elwood Cox, Republican from High Point, was one of the first to praise the new law. Some other Democratic measures, such as the Anti-trust Law and Trade Commission Act, have not yet had a fair trial, but will be tested before the next Congress meets.

SOME GOOD IN ALL

Something good can always be said. Frank James, the bandit who died in Missouri a few days ago, had refused offers of handsome sums of money to write a book of his experiences—because he said he had promised the Governor who pardoned him that he would not write such a book. Wise Governor who exacted the promise. A book by James would have sold readily and the bad influence it would have had on small boys and callow fledglings cannot be estimated. Give James full credit for observing his promise. He was not legally compelled to do that. The bandit's remains, by his directions, were cremated and the ashes placed in a safe deposit vault. He said he didn't want his grave made a mecca for sight seers. Again score for James.—Exchange.

GENERAL NEWS ITEMS

ITEMS OF LIVE NEWS GATHERED FROM EXCHANGES AND CONDENSED IN BRIEF FORM FOR BUSY READERS.

The town of Concord has 191 pupils enrolled in her recently organized night school.

Mary E. Braddon, the well known English novelist, died at her home, Richmond-on-Thames, England, recently, at the age of 78.

Mme. Sarah Bernhardt, the world's most famous actress, is critically ill in a hospital at Bordeaux, France, amputation of the right leg being necessary.

Mrs. Mary Groome McNinch, a prominent woman of Charlotte, died at her home in that city last Sunday. Mrs. McNinch was a daughter of Rev. P. R. Groome, of Greensboro.

Thomas A. Edison, whose views are always given attention even if not accepted, favors compulsory military training for American young men, declaring that to be the only solution of the problem of national defense.

Jessie May Carver, the eighteen year old daughter of a well known family, was placed in jail at Asheville last week, charged with the murder of her infant by leaving it in the snow to perish.

Fannie Crosby, the blind hymn writer, died recently at her home in Bridgeport, Conn., in the 95th year of her age. She continued writing hymns until a short time before her death.

Viscount Bryce lecturing at the London University recently, said that the real cause of the present great European war was racial consciousness and vanity developed during the last 150 years by the American and French revolutions.

Mrs. Jane Causey was found dead with her head lying in a branch near her home at Bonlee recently. It is supposed she was trying to get water from the branch and fell in. Mrs. Causey was 81 years of age, and her husband, who survives, 90.

R. B. Hayes, of LaGrosse, Va., a student at Wake Forest college, was struck by a Seaboard passenger train while attempting to get off at the crossing near the station, and three hours later died in the Wake Forest hospital last Sunday.

The medical inspector of schools in Boston says that the germs of such diseases as diphtheria, influenza, grip, pneumonia and tuberculosis may be conveyed by the exchange of chewing gum, which is more common among school children than one would at first suppose.

S. W. Brooks, a prominent citizen of Greensboro, died at his home in that city last Sunday. Mr. Brooks was born in England, came to America in early childhood, served in the Northern army during the Civil War, and came South in 1876. He was a leading expert in dyeing.

One white man and two Indians were killed last Sunday near Bluff, Utah, in a battle between a hundred Piute Indians and posses led by United States Marshal Nebeker. The trouble arose over the attempted arrest of one of the Indians on a charge of murder.

Will Aycock, enrolling clerk in the House of Representatives, and a [illegible] Wooten and Senator Rivers Johnson were injured in an auto accident three miles [illegible] B[illegible] last Friday. The injured men were rushed to a hospital and are expected to recover.

Senator Lodge, of Massachusetts, has dedicated his new book, "The Democracy of the Constitution", to the Literary and Historical Association of North Carolina. Senator Lodge says this is done "in memory of the opportunity given to me to speak to them of the Constitution of the United States and of the kindness and hospitality shown to me at Raleigh."

Miss Lizzie Curtis, colored middle aged woman some seventy or seventy-five years, a sister of the late Napoleon Curtis, died February 19, 1915, at the home of her nephew, Mr. John Curtis, at Liberty. The funeral was at Gray's Chapel February 20, conducted by Rev. J. A. King, assisted by Rev. Mr. Kendall, of Asheboro. The deceased was an aunt of Mrs. Sophia Hoskins, the wife of Dr. John Hoskins, of Asheboro.

Raymond Fain, a young white man was arrested in Greensboro last Friday night for breaking into a box car and taking 1,000 pounds of bacon. Fain is said to have broken into a box car on the Southern railway at Greensboro, and after having broken open one of the boxes and taken out some of the bacon, heard the crash of breaking glass, hurried on and escaped the thief.

The Springfield Republican prints what it calls "important information from Turkey by letter to well-informed circles" in Boston, predicting the speedy downfall of the Ottoman Empire. The war is said to be most unpopular in Turkey, and the soldiers have no heart in their fighting. When spring opens great developments are looked for. As a matter of current prophecy, whose truth or falsity will soon be shown, this statement is interesting:

TO SWAT THE GOSSIPS

The High Point Enterprise calls attention to the Kansas women, who by the way have the right of suffrage, have come to the front with a timely example. It may be that since exercising the right to vote and make speeches they have not much time on their hands for talk. At any rate the movement is a good one. The women of Gardner, Kansas, have resolved individually and collectively to "swat the gossips" and the swatting process is to extend to the men.

At a recent meeting of the Mother's Club, which includes nearly every married woman in town, Mrs. Laura Johnson declared that she had something on her mind and she was going to speak out and those who didn't like what she said could leave.

Thereupon Mrs. Johnson declared that the social life of the town was being ruined by the continuous circulation of scandal by word of mouth and that if anything the men were a great deal worse than women. She told how a lot of men in the town seemed to take delight in passing around malicious gossip about married and unmarried women and that she was tired of hearing it.

She declared that the spirit of Christian charity seemed to have departed from the town, and she declared that nine-tenths of the gossip passed around was absolutely untrue or maliciously distorted, as she had taken the trouble, before making any mention of the matter, to make a personal investigation of gossip that had come to her.

She also said that while she would not mention names, she suspected that several members of the club were rather careless in passing along hearsay statements about their neighbors.

The result of the matter was the adoption of this resolution by the club:

"We, the members of the Mother's Club, believing that unkind gossip is contrary to the spirit of the Golden Rule, that it is a hindrance to spiritual growth, and an evil to the community, hereby pledge ourselves to abstain from all such gossip and to use our influence to persuade others to join with us to free our community of this evil."

J. R. MARLEY TURNED LOOSE

The grand jury failed to find a true bill against J. R. Marley at Lexington this week. Mr. Marley was bound over upon a warrant sworn out by a Republican judge of elections who served with Mr. Marley in South Thomasville ward at the election last fall. The evidence was so meagre against Mr. Marley when he was bound over it was not generally believed that much would come of the case.

The territory of Alaska is to have a national bank soon, the charter having been granted.

Carter H. Harrison, five times mayor of Chicago, has been defeated for the Democratic nomination by Robert M. Sweitzer, Clerk of Cook county by a plurality of probably seventy-five thousand.

The Siler City Grit tells of Mr. D. H. Fogleman recently walking from his home near Staley to Siler City, a distance of 8 miles. Mr. Fogleman is 70 years old, and he and his wife will celebrate their golden wedding anniversary, July 16.

A Pittsburg company, the Rivet Steel Company, has refused to bid on a $2,000,000 contract for steel shells for the British army. The president [illegible] that are used to slaughter people.

[illegible] is a fact that the Jews [illegible] of Russia and Central Europe in the East will result in the greatest exodus of Turkey in Europe [illegible] in Asia also, and the movement of the Turkish territory in Asia. The [illegible] to be the possession of Russia, [illegible] with anything to say about it. [illegible] Great Britain is reported as going to hold Egypt and to come in from the south to Asia Minor, dividi[illegible] the latter [illegible] Armenia and the southern part.

Mrs. A. C. Greene, of Raleigh, [illegible] in divorce [illegible] declared that she had seven husbands married to her "husband" [illegible] she had lived for 20 years, and [illegible] could not take the trouble [illegible] in the community in which they have lived.

Frank James, brother of Jesse James and himself a notorious outlaw in former years, died last week near Lexington, Missouri. He had been from a stroke of apoplexy which left him several months of ill health. After the death of Jesse James in the early 80's, Frank surrendered in Jefferson City, Missouri, and was sentenced to life imprisonment in the penitentiary, but after a few years he was thought to have tuberculosis and was pardoned by the governor. He was 74 years of age at the time of his death and had lived the life of a quiet farmer for 30 years.

HEARD IN THE COUNTY

WHAT OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT HEARS AND THINKS—ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM ALL.

Trade was flush in Asheboro last Saturday.

Don't worry about the price of wheat as long as corn is cheap.

Dr. C. A. Hayworth, of Coleridge, was in the city a short while Monday.

Mr. A. S. Pugh, of Asheboro Route 1, was on our streets Monday.

Mr. R. A. Smith, of Liberty, was a visitor here Monday.

Mr. E. L. Hedrick moved into the Marvin Lovett property recently.

Mr. B. F. Henley, of Randleman, was here a few days ago.

Mr. R. B. Finison, of Ramseur, was in the city last Friday.

Mr. B. F. Harden, a prominent citizen of Ramseur Route, 1, was in town Tuesday.

The civic league should take civic pride in having matters adjusted to civic cleanliness.

Mr. A. M. Presnell has taken charge of the Ross blacksmith shop near the Asheboro Chair factory.

Messrs. J. D. Brame and N. C. English, of Trinity, were in town one day this week.

Esq. J. S. Ridge has been confined to his room for the past week, but is improving, we are glad to say.

Messrs. M. C. Johnson and G. H. Maner, of Franklinville, were among the visitors in the city last Saturday.

Mr. R. L. Jarrett and family, of Randleman, have moved back to their farm near Central Falls.

Mr. R. S. Caudle has opened up a store at New Salem and is doing a good business.

Sheriff J. W. Birkhead has let the contract for a nice dwelling to be built on his lot in South Asheboro.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Williams, of Randleman Route 2, were in town one day last week.

Mr. W. T. Smith, of Liberty, gave us a call while in the city on a business trip a few days ago.

Mr. J. R. Smith, of Liberty, was among the callers at The Courier office Monday.

Messrs. A. M. Fogleman, Bruce Staley and N. A. King, of Liberty, were in town Monday.

Mr. Herbert Howard, of Mechanic, now holds a position in the U. S. mail service. He is located in Greensboro.

Mr. G. H. Cornelison, of Seagrove, was a welcome visitor to our town one day last week.

Mr. I. F. Craven, of Ramseur, who went to Baltimore last week for treatment is expected to return home in a few days.

Mr. M. B. Gray, one of The Courier's good friends in the Millboro section, was a welcome visitor at the office a few days ago.

Mr. Troy Redding, of Randleman Route 3, was among the friends of The Courier who called at the office Monday.

Near correspondent spend one night [illegible] Ramseur section. This is a good place to stop at.

[illegible] has dropped out of the road in places as it is only a short distance down to China.

Mr. J. L. Wright, of Coleridge, has moved his family to the farm he recently purchased from Mrs. Jennie Brower. This fine farm is situated about one mile from Franklinville and Mr. Wright expects to greatly improve the already valuable property.

Asheboro offers to the farmers the very best in the way of general merchandise, its stores being well stocked and handling large quantities so goods are able to keep the prices down to the minimum. All the supplies for the farm, not only provisions, but farm tools and implements, fine stock and everything the farmer needs can be secured here.

[illegible] beautiful [illegible] Lake [illegible] old persons do [illegible] week they walked up the hill and then walked down again. They came they saw, but they did not conquer. They blew like zephyrs; their hopes failed in work. They were going to unearth a condition of affairs that would startle the natives. They had cried fraud so loud and long that some people thought there was really something in the claims and the bellowings of the Bashan bulls who had pawed and raised the dust as they bellowed. They did not find apples of gold in pitchers of silver, nor nuggets from mines in their search for evidence before a commissioner. They dropped their long ears and with down cast faces they slunk away. The big things that were to come to [illegible]

DEATH OF MRS. LEVI BRANSON

Mrs. Ellen Branson, wife of Mr. Levi T. Branson, died at her home in Cedar Grove township last Saturday, after a long illness from consumption. The burial was in Hopewell cemetery, Sunday afternoon, funeral services being conducted by Rev. John Tillman.

Mrs. Branson was a woman of spotless character, a devoted wife and mother, and a true friend. She was a Quaker by birth and a member of Hopewell Friends' church. The esteem in which the deceased was held in her neighborhood was shown by the large crowd which attended her funeral, it being necessary to hold the service outdoors.

Mrs. Branson was 61 years of age. She is survived by her husband and nine children. The sons and daughters are as follows: O. V. and W. T. Branson, Atlanta, Ga.; Mrs. Virgie Presnell, Asheboro; Mrs R. B. Henley, Mt. Gilead; E. L. Branson, Cincinnati, Ohio; Mrs. Worth Garner, Hills Store; John, Roscoe and Miss Sallie Branson, Cedar Grove township.

AMERICAN SHIPS DESTROYED

Neutral Shipping Suffers Severely in War Zones.

Already two American steamers have gone to the bottom as a result of mines laid in the North Sea by some of the warring powers. The American ship Evelyn and her cargo of cotton, bound for Bremen, was blown up near the Bokum Islands just off the German coast last Saturday. The crew drifted in boats several hours, and were finally saved, though one or two died from exposure to the cold.

The American steamer Carib, also laden with cotton and bound for Bremen, went to the bottom off the German coast in the North Sea, as the result of striking a mine last Tuesday. The latest news is that the crew of thirty were probably saved.

The German admiralty says that the destruction of these ships was due to their not following the course prescribed by the Germans to the north of Helgoland. The admiralty reiterates the assurance of the German governmnet as to the safety of the prescribed course.

Several Norwegian steamers have also been sunk by mines in the North Sea, and altogether neutral shipping is considered precarious in that part of the world.

LATE WAR NEWS

Germans Win Great Victory Over Russians

In a terrible battle fought near Suwalki, Poland, last week, the Russians are reported to have suffered a terrible defeat at the hands of the Germans. Of 150,000 Russians engaged in the battle, about 30,000 were killed and wounded and 60,000 taken prisoners. The scene of complete defeat and demoralization in the swampy country where the battle was fought can hardly be described, says an Associated Press correspondent.

EXPORTATION OF CORN FROM NORTH CAROLINA

West Raleigh, Feb 24.—All the corn exported from North Carolina passes through the port of Norfolk, according to W. F. Camp, Chief of the Division of Marketing. For the last two years North Carolina has averaged about 150,000 bushels per year through the port, most of the corn going to Germany. Only the variety [illegible] to ten cents a bushel over Western corn. South African corn is being [illegible] Last year corn will germinate [illegible] per cent, while our corn germinates only 81 to 85 per cent. Our corn is more prolific than the South African, so the corn from the two [illegible] stands on equality.

No corn has been exported this season on account of the war.

T. W. Wright & Son are reported to buy about 1,000 bushels a year of North Carolina home Yellow corn for distribution as seed in the United States. Norfolk also receives from 10 to 11 thousand bushels of other corn from North Carolina. So under normal conditions this would make the total amount of sale of North Carolina corn from 170,000 to 180,000 bushels a year through Norfolk alone. At the same time a good deal of corn is shipped from Norfolk and Richmond into North Carolina. This shows what we do if we had a proper system of [illegible]

[illegible] Davidson Superior court, but the Republicans were not ready. The Democrats were ready and insisted on a trial but the case was continued for the Republicans.

Messrs. A. H. Thomas and W. H. Watkins, Jr., of Ramseur, were in town yesterday.

Mr. W. P. Moffitt, manager of the Franklinville Lumber Company, was in the city yesterday.

Messrs. E. C. Watkins and E. B. Leonard, of Ramseur, were at a short while in town yesterday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Cox are moving from Ralph to High Point. Mr. Cox has a position with the High Point Motor Car Co.