

Mount Airy News.

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THE WINSTON-SALEM MOB

The city of Winston-Salem has just had a fearful experience with a mob. Now Winston-Salem is no greater sinner than other towns because of the experience. If one cares to read the New Testament he will notice that many times the county was in the hands of angry mobs.

In the light of these facts what is to be done? The most sensible thing to do is to treat a mob in a sensible way. In these days of rapid fire guns it is possible to actually destroy a mob, but this is hardly the thing to do.

After a thousand or two years of further education of the race the mob spirit may be pushed back in the subconsciousness of the people until it will not be so ready to manifest itself, but until this is done a very safe thing to do is to protect a suspected criminal that no mob can get at him.

In the meantime the public should protect itself against the lawless element in the human mind by stopping the bad habit of allowing a million guns and pistols to be in the possession of people and stored about in hardware stores where they can be easily secured.

There is no getting away from the fact that mobs are going to continue to form and to allow arms and ammunition to be in a dozen different stores about a town is a nice way to arm a mob as well as to get property destroyed once the mob spirit is aroused.

Education and a general uplift is the real cure for this kind of uprising, and some good day the race may reach a point of development that this kind of disturbance will be a matter of history, but that day may be a long way off.

OUR ORPHAN CHILDREN

This nation has responded nobly to the numerous calls for money to help carry on the war. This is right and proper, but it is a fact that the war has overshadowed other objects of public effort to a large degree.

ABOUT MT. AIRY PEOPLE

When times again are normal and we are disposed to look back over these memorable days it is going to be a subject of comment how our people here in Mount Airy have come to the call of every cause that has wanted money.

It is noticeable that the farmers are liberal with their donations of tobacco to the Red Cross. They give with a smile and show that they are giving from a big heart and are not

disposed to question the wisdom of such giving.

And while our people have been responding so readily to the objects of the war they have not overlooked the needs of the needy here at home. When the epidemic of influenza had us in its grip the town came to the rescue nobly.

And we should not forget the work of the doctors and nurses and druggists and ministers during these trying days. They worked with every ounce of energy and ability they could muster trying to meet the demands made upon them by the public.

A FALLEN HERO.

In years to come people of this section will hear much of the life and death of A. W. Tilley, of this county, who died on a battle field in France fighting for freedom's cause.

WATER AND A MOB.

We have long heard that good way to stop a dog fight is to throw water on them. From talk that is out about the water thrown on the mob at Winston one would think that water puts fight in a man rather than taking it out.

Died in Charlotte.

The remains of Mr. Bert Clark who died of influenza and pneumonia in Charlotte were brought to this city for burial yesterday. Two weeks ago Mr. Clark was married to Miss Ruth Miller of this county and they began housekeeping a few days later in furnished apartments in Charlotte.

At best the Allied table will be less than ours, for the Allied peoples are denying themselves more in order to transport soldiers.

750,000 UNITED STATES SOLDIERS FOUGHT IN THE DECIDING BATTLE

21 American Divisions Participated in Battle of Argonne, or Which History May Call Sedan, the Battle Which Brought Germany to Her Knees and Ended the World's Bloodiest and Costliest War; Americans Played Large Part.

Paris, Nov. 17.—Out of the confusion and haze of the crowding military events on the western battle line since late in September, when battle followed battle until from Flanders to Verdun there was ceaseless action, it is now permissible to outline to a certain extent the part played by the American armies in the final decisive battle of the war, which ended with the armistice of last Monday.

Military reasons heretofore have prevented accentuating the accomplishments of the Americans except in a most general manner. The dispatches from the field have been necessarily fragmentary and possibly were overshadowed by the accounts of the more dramatic operations over the historic battle fronts to the west.

But it now may be stated that 21 American divisions, totalling more than 750,000 American combat troops, participated in the action beginning September 26, known variously as the Battle of the Argonne and the Battle of the Meuse, but which history may call Sedan—the battle that brought Germany to her knees and as far as human foresight goes ended the world's bloodiest and costliest war.

In order to understand the military situation which made the Argonne operations the crux of the war, it is necessary to go back to the reduction of the St. Mihiel salient in the middle of September. This brilliant American accomplishment is still fresh in history. It cut off at one stroke a menacing projection toward Verdun and weakened the enemy's defensive by threatening Metz, one of Germany's two greatest advance railway centers for distributing troops and supplies along the Montmedy-Sedan line.

Metz also was the pivot on which the enemy swung through Belgium into France and therefore obviously it was the pivot on which his retirement must hinge. The Argonne, the next step below here, threatened the great railway arteries running westward from Metz.

With the conclusion of the St. Mihiel action the steady inflow of American forces caused a displacement of power as between the allied and German armies. Thus it no longer was necessary to pursue a policy of reducing a salient or nibbling at it. The American troops had shown what they could do.

A broader policy of general attack along the entire line was then adopted and the high command called upon General Pershing to take the Argonne sector, admittedly one of the most difficult of the whole front. The broken terrain, the topography and the lack of roads made a problem difficult to describe.

The outstanding feature of the Argonne forest is a long chain of hills running north and south covered with a dense growth of trees and undergrowth, making an advance difficult and offering superb defensive qualities. Virtually no road exist in the forest except for a few transversal passes running east and west.

"Our Live Artery."

From the edge of the forest, where the resistance was viciously strong, the enemy possessed innumerable flanking positions. But beyond this difficult region lay the Montmedy-Sedan line, which was recently captured. A German order described it as "our live artery."

The high command told Pershing to cut it. The American first army was put in motion from St. Mihiel. In nine days it was on the Argonne line ready for an attempt the failure of which might mean disaster and the success of which would give untold results.

This quick movement of an enormous body of men, the establishment of a new line of supply and all the complicated military preparations were regarded with pride by the American commanders.

The Americans knew what confronted them. They realized that this was no second St. Mihiel, but an enterprise at which other armies had balked for four years. They knew that there was to be fought a fight

to rank with the first battle of the Marne, and Verdun, with the Somme and the Chemin des Dames; and they knew that on them depended the fate of the great attack on the rest of the front. If forced back here the enemy must give way to the west. If he held he could hold elsewhere.

It was at daybreak of September 26, when the Americans went in. Using nine divisions for the preliminary attack and under vigorous artillery support they advanced five kilometers the first day. But the enemy was not taken wholly by surprise. The second day he threw into the line five counter attack divisions he had held in close reserve.

The first phase of the action ended October 31, during which the American's gains were not large but they compelled the enemy to use a large number of divisions, which became slowly exhausted, and thus were unable to parry the hammering he was receiving from the French and British on the west.

It was bitter fighting in the woods, brush and ravines, over a region perfectly registered and plotted by the enemy, where his guns, big and little, could be used with the greatest efficiency. The original nine American divisions in some cases were kept in the line over three consecutive weeks.

The American reserves then were thrown in until every division not engaged on another part of the line had been put into action. It is a fact commented upon with pride by the American commanders and complimented by the allies that seven of these divisions that drove their way through this hard action never before had been in an active sector, while green troops, fresh from home were poured in as replacements.

The Associated Press' dispatches from day to day told what these men did; how the enemy was slowly pushed back from his strongest and most vital positions, through one defense system after another, using his finest selected troops, which had been withdrawn in many instances from other portions of the line, in an effort to hold an enemy which he derisively said last spring could not be brought to Europe, and if so, would not fight, and even if he tried to fight would not know how to do so.

The attack delivered the morning of November 1, which began the second phase of the Argonne battle, was the death blow to the German army. Between September 26 and October 31, enemy divisions to the number of 36 were identified as being opposed to the Americans in this sector. Between November 1 and November 6, the enemy threw in 14 fresh divisions, but all in vain.

Fighting every foot of the way the American advance averaged five kilometers daily over terrain constantly growing more difficult with the lines of communications and supply daily lengthening and attenuating, while roadmakers for the transport and other supply organizations worked day and night at their tasks.

Day by day the official communications and the telephone even to the farthest advance line told the Americans that for every mile the Germans gave way before them they were yielding another mile to the British and French on the left; that the American pressure was felt like an electric current throughout the line.

On the morning of November 2 the German official communication told the Americans they had won, because for the first time in the war, the enemy officially admitted that the American attack had effected a break-thru. The Americans knew that what finally happened on the morning of November 11, when the armistice was signed, was only a question of days.

Last Monday morning the general commanding a certain division was called to the telephone in a far advanced position and asked if he had understood that hostilities were to have ceased at 11 o'clock in the morning.

"Yes," replied the general, "I did. But at 10:58 we were going like hell."

U-Boat Pays Penalty For Attacking Vessel.

On board American Destroyer, American Port in France, Oct. 31—One German submarine which lay in wait for American transports outside the harbor entrance here recently is believed to have paid the full penalty for attacking one of our repair vessels. American naval men believe the Hun craft is now lying destroyed on the ocean floor, the effect of the explosion of a 500-pound depth charge.

The captain of the big American repair ship which was recently attacked off the capes, came aboard an American destroyer during the visit of the Associated Press correspondent and there was an opportunity to hear from him some of the features of the attack. "The submarine screened itself by

coming to the surface back of one of our chasers which lay off to port," said the captain.

"The lookout saw the torpedo coming and it looked as though it would strike the stern. But it just cleaved us, passing under our fantail, and as the fantail has an overhang of only 12 feet from the rudder post you can understand how close it came. Then the enemy ducked as the guns opened fire and that was the last seen of it."

The submarine which made the attack is believed to have been destroyed soon after at almost the same spot where she fired on the repair ship. A destroyer came across her near the shoals off the harbor entrance. Immediately a 500 pound depth charge was dropped at a distance of 80 yards from the enemy. This is very near for such a charge, and the under-water explosion must have had serious effect.

The listening gears, or "in ears" as the sailors call them, established that

the submarine was lying helpless on the bottom. Another depth charge went down on the foundering victim. This time a great patch of oil rose to the surface indicating that her fuel oil tanks had been blown up. The "in ears" showed there was no further sound from the stricken craft and though the watchers remained on guard through the night the submarine made no more move from the bottom.

"The appearance of the patch of oil on the water is a pretty sure sign," said the escort, "and yet it is not absolutely certain because of a cunning device which the enemy is using. Knowing that oil on the water indicates their destruction, they now carry an oil tank which releases oil even when they are not hit. They trust by this to create the impression that they have been disposed of, and then as their attackers move off the submarine scurries away."

Advertisement for Rayo Lamps featuring an illustration of a man with a lamp and text: 'Rayo Lamps A Rayo Reflection When your boy comes back let the bright radiance of your smile and the cheery presence of the Rayo Lamp reflect your welcome.'

Advertisement for coal titled 'About The Coal Situation' discussing the coal shortage during the war and promoting Shelton's coal service. Includes phone number 272 and name Shelton.