

Jackson County Journal

VOL. IV NO. 7

SYLVA, N. C., JAN. 10, 1919.

\$1.50 THE YEAR IN ADVANCE

FROM CORPORAL BECK

Bennettable, France,
December 6th, 1918.

Dear Editor and readers of the Jackson County:—As the ban of censorship which heretofore forbade our make known where we were and what we were doing in France has now been lifted, I will endeavor to give you a few of our travels since leaving the states.

Most of us boys have now changed our opinion of the censor man and now regard him as a "decent sort of chap," as Tommy says, instead of a guy who is always trying to make you smother it and have you tempted to smuggle surreptitious letters and all kinds of codes, signs and hieroglyphics nobody could "comprenez" but yourself and then you have to study like heck sometimes.

I was formerly a Jackson county boy; enlisted in July 1917, in the Canton Abulance Company No. 1 N. G., and came overseas with that organization. We landed in England in the early days of June 1918. We couldn't get accustomed to England, for at time of year dark doesn't come until 11:00 P. M. and daylight again at 3:00 A. M., so we who couldn't sleep in daytime were in a position not at all to be envied. We crossed the English Channel and landed at La Havre, France, on the 22nd day of June, 1918, touching for the first time the land which was destined to be the scene of so many strange and long-to-be-remembered incidents. Here, more than ever, we began to realize that our drift had been detained at the long anticipated destination. Like the Ancient Mariner, gravity had drawn us to the brink where we would soon emerge into the greatest battles of modern times. Here, at La Havre, a great debarkation port, were preparations and machinery on all sides of us for the destruction of mankind, some of which had been to the front, delivered its blow and been sent back to the workshops for repair. All around us we began to spy countless numbers of people from many countries, whose language, mode and customs of life were entirely foreign to and different from ours.

Not many days elapsed until we took a side-door pullman, a model of train thoroughly tried out by the soldiers of the A. E. F. We traveled two days, passing through Paris, and finally stopping at Fayl-Billet, a quaint little French village down almost in sight of the Alpine Mountains. We put in our time here drilling and training for our work at the front.

July 29 we again took boxcars toward the North, traveling two days and nights, passing through Paris, Bologne, Calais and into Belgium. On the first day of August we again found ourselves with the 30th Division, the first time since leaving the States. Here, in Ypres and Kemmel Hill Sector, our Division, in its infancy we might say, stood the supreme which proved its efficiency as a fighting unit and worthiness of being christened Old Hickory. It was here that the boys from the Carolinas and Tennessee viewed for the first time the "God-Forsaken Half-acre between two infantries where the ghosts of so many dauntless heroes flit and flirt. It was here that our first Divisional comrades who fell as matryrs to Liberty were buried. At their heads under the Nine Elm Trees were placed the little white crosses which now bear more honor than all the tombs of ancient Kings.

Go, passer by,
At the Homeland tell
Obedient to her ideals
They fell.
During all our engagements in

Belgium and Flanders we were attached to the British Army. We fought in Belgium until the tenth day of September, when we began our move southward and back again into France. Until the 23rd of Sept. we were out of the lines recuperating and preparing for further engagements. On the 24th of Sept. we had again moved up to the Sector which we were to occupy, several kilometers east of Albert and Perenne, the Huns occupying the famous Hindenburg Line, St. Quentin Canal and the town of Bellecourt. On the 29th Sept. our Division was given this system of the enemies' stronghold as its objective. It was one of the strongest positions the Huns had all along the line at that time. It was a great task and we met with stubborn resistance. But the Huns were surprised in looking out in No Man's Land and seeing the Yanks coming after them, instead of the Tommies. We took our objectives and pressed on. A month later, we had occupied positions four miles from Bohain, more than twenty-five miles from where we began the chase, having captured the towns of Bellecourt, Noroy, Juncourt, Montebrehin, Templeaux, Busigny, Molain, Andigny, Bohain and a number of others. In less than a month's continuous fighting we had won the distinction of being one of the best fighting units in the A. E. F., winning a commendation from Sir Douglas Haig, Commander of the British Armies in France, and also the comradeship and admiration of the 4th British and Australian Armies.

After our engagements in the Somme we came out of the lines and moved to villages around Amiens where we were stationed prior to coming to Bennettable, where we are now. No one knows when we shall hear that welcome sound "Homeward Bound", but we hope, in the near future. Until that day comes we are content as we are. We know that we shall be here until autocracy has faded and is forgotten; until a dictated peace has been asked for and is accepted; until the Dove of Peace has spread its wings over the shell-torn and bloodstained soil of Europe and broods peace, progress and prosperity to the unhappy masses.

In the meantime, I am wishing for the Journal and its readers the very best of luck and good fortune. We went forward knowing that you people back home were backing us up and keeping the home fires burning and realising that it was your sacrifice, as well as ours, which enabled us to labor for humanity and pay our debt to our sater Nations.

SAMUEL E. BECK,
Corp. Amb. Co. 118, 105th San. Tn.
Medical Corps, U. S. Army.

ROLL OF HONOR FOR DECEMBER

BETA GRADED SCHOOL.

First Grade. George Parris, Ray Fisher, Frank Bumgarner, Lessie Wiggins.

Second Grade. Hazel Fisher, Grace Cook.

Fourth Grade. Grason Cope, Noe V. Harris, Frank Fisher.

Fifth Grade. Lenore Snider, Elsie Wiggins, Effie Wiggins.

Sixth Grade. Lela Belle Mitchell.

Seventh Grade. Vernie Lee Harris, Bessie Snider.

Eighth Grade. Grady Crawford, Charles Ensley, Tom Gribble.

Mr. and Mrs. John Hastings are visiting Mr. Hastings' parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Hastings, at the Commercial Hotel.

Ed Bryson, of Franklin, was here this week, visiting his sister, Mrs. Carrie McKee.

Sergt. Troy Sheffield and Miss Mamie Bryson were married Dec. 23. Rev. W. W. Marr officiating.—Franklin Press.

COL. THEO. ROOSEVELT DIED MONDAY MORNING

Oyster Bay, N. Y., Jan. 6.—Col. Theodore Roosevelt died in his sleep early today at his home on Sagamore Hill in this village. Death is believed to have been due to rheumatism which affected his heart.

The colonel suffered a severe attack of rheumatism and sciatica on New Year's day, but none believed his illness would likely prove fatal. The former president set up most of Sunday and retired at 11 o'clock last night. About 4 o'clock this morning Mrs. Roosevelt, who was the only other member of the family at Oyster Bay, went to her husband's room and found that he had died during the night. Mrs. Roosevelt telephoned to Colonel Emlin Roosevelt, cousin of the former president, and he came to the Roosevelt home immediately. Cable messages were sent to Major Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., and Captain Kermit Roosevelt, who are in service in France, and telegrams to Mrs. Nicholas Longworth, to Captain Archie, who left yesterday with his wife for Boston, where his father-in-law died today, and to Mrs. Ethel Derby, who is in Aiken, S. C., with her two children.

Telegrams of condolence and sympathy began to pour in from all parts of the country today, as soon as the news of Colonel Roosevelt's death became known.

The former president came to his home on Sagamore Hill from the Roosevelt hospital on Christmas Day, but a week later was stricken with a severe attack of rheumatism and sciatica, from which he has been suffering for some time. The rheumatism affected his right hand and it became much swollen. He remained in his room and efforts were made to check the trouble. Last Saturday the colonel's secretary, Miss Josephine Stricker, called to see him but the colonel was asleep in his room. Miss Stricker said today no one had any idea that death was so near at hand.

Flags were placed at half mast in Oyster Bay today.

After prayers at the Roosevelt home, at which only members of the family will be present, the funeral service will be held at 12:45 Wednesday afternoon, in Christ Episcopal church, the little old frame structure, where for years the colonel and his family worshipped. He will be laid to rest without pomp or ceremony in Young's Memorial cemetery in this village, on a knoll overlooking Long Island sound, a plot which he and Mrs. Roosevelt selected soon after he left the white house.

30TH DIVISION TO RETURN TO U. S. AT AN EARLY DATE

Washington, Jan. 4.—Three combat divisions, the 30th, 37th and 91st, have been designated by General Pershing for early return home from France, General March announced today.

The 30th included national guard troops from Tennessee, North Carolina and South Carolina; the 37th, Ohio and West Virginia guardsmen, and the 92nd Pacific coast troops.

These three entire divisions and the second corps headquarters which operated with the British army in Flanders under Major General George W. Reed, have been added to the priority list and will be returned home as shipping becomes available. The three divisions and the headquarters comprise about 83,000 men.

Units abroad assigned to early convoy, in addition to those al-

ready embarked now total 292,000. Troops in the United States and abroad designated for demobilization, General March said, total 1,379,000.

Demobilization of the army at home has now reached the last class, the combat divisions. Orders for the breaking up of these units already have been sent out, and the task will proceed gradually, under week to week designations of the number to be let out.

The progress of demobilization is being maintained, officials say, an incomplete total giving 630,369 men and 40,491 officers discharged up to January 3.

FROM FRANCE

"Nod-Sur-Seine"

South Central France
December 4, 1918

My Dear Folks:—The brakes have been taken practically off and I'll try a bit tonight to tell you a bit of my experience since I've been from the States.

My regiment sailed from New York on July 31st, landed in Liverpool: England, on Sunday August 11th. On the 12th we took a train and landed at Winchester the same day. On the 19th we took train for Southampton; left there at 7:30 P. M., on "Archangel," crossed the English Channel and landed at Cherbourg, France, the following morning before daylight. Saw Bill McG here for the first and last time since leaving Camp Jackson.

Left there on 21st train and came by a point Versailles near Paris. Arrived at "Tonnure" at 10 p. m. on 22nd Got off and camped here. Hiked out to Chieny (small) 4 kilometers the following day, and here we remained taking drilling in infantry and engineer work till September 18th, when we started for the front. Went (on train) by Chaumont-Epinal, got off at "Bronve-Hensierg" and by some hiking got to Nagmont-Les-Fosser-East of St. Die, 7 kilometers; here we were in a quiet sector, except some artillery and air activity. Did engineer work till October 17th we left for a rest camp—"Fontenay." Arrived here on Sunday, 20th; rested here till November 1st; hiked over to "Thoan" (at night, too) and took train—went by Nancy, got off a bit above there at "Leourville", hiked by St. Mihiel on the 3rd, got to Camp "Nevoteth" on the 6th (reaching on the way some).

On the 9th we went to the trenches to follow up the infantry. Were under shell fire here in Haudimont, Manhenles, Bonzle, Monts and Villers till armistice was made effective. Mostly road work to allow the supplies and ammunition (for the drive) to pass—I'll tell you all about this some time. On the 18th we packed up and started hiking west and south and yesterday at 3 p. m. we landed in this village. Have a good room here and a big "French high" to sleep in and am enjoying a real sure enough rest.

I hope you are all well and happy. My health is good—don't worry about me.

Sergt. A. R. McGUIRE,
Co. B 305 Engineers.

CUT THIS OUT—IT IS WORTH MONEY.

DON'T MISS THIS. Cut out this slip, enclose with 5c to Foley & Co., 2835 Sheffield Ave., Chicago, Ill., writing your name and address clearly. You will receive in return a trial package containing Foley's Honey and Tar Compound, for coughs, colds and croup, Foley Kidney Pills and Foley Cathartic Tablets. For sale by Sylva Pharmacy. adv.

FROM A JACKSON BOY WITH THE 30TH DIV.

Somewhere in France
November 25, 1918

Monday night.
Dear Fred:—Your letter was gladly received yesterday, and was also a surprise to me. I never thought of getting a letter from you. Well I am glad you wrote me as long a letter as you did in answer to the little card I sent you. I had forgotten all about sending you one of those cards. Anyhow I am glad I got the letter from you and I appreciate it very much.

Yes, if you had been over here about the time the boys went over the top you would have thought we—or rather they—were going South with the cat birds. Now I want you to get this thing right. Don't think that I was in the front lines for I was not. The closest I ever got to the front lines was in about four miles; so you can see that I wasn't going over the top with the boys at all. It is almost perfectly safe that far back from the lines. But that didn't keep the aeroplanes from coming overhead at night, nor did it keep the long distance guns from bursting all around. I would follow the line as it moved up. As the front would advance I would go a little farther; so during the Bellecourt drive they went so fast that I could not keep within four miles of the front lines. But I began to think once I was getting along pretty well. When I arrived at one town the Germans were lying around everywhere. I saw one Fritz's head rolled back and forth across the road two or three days before it was moved; some of their legs would be hanging up in trees and the shoe still on the foot. One instance I saw was a wagon, or part of it, hanging up in a tree, shot up there by a big gun or a bomb. And the battle fields were just like they had been ploughed. There are holes in the fields over ten feet, some of them large enough to put a house the size of "Blun" Walker's in. I guess you think I am kind of stretching things a little, but it is about true, Fred.

Fred, I would not worry about the matter when I tried so many times to get into the service and could not; I would be content and not worry about it at all; you made six attempts to get in; I think you have shown your patriotism even though you cannot join the service.

You mentioned something about the influenza killing so many people. I guess there are a good many people dying with it, but look at the soldiers that were killed the day the war stopped, to say nothing of the time back of this. I had the influenza myself and thought I was never going to get well at all. I was in the hospital for about five or six days; then after I got back to the company they were ready to move farther on down the road. So I haven't had time to write any letters at all in about two weeks. I put in pretty good time yesterday, though.

You mentioned the Belgians; I stayed in that nation for about two months, and would like to be there tonight, for I had me a sure enough girl; and talk about loving! She sure could do that stunt. She called it "corressing, Well, it was all right for me! I had myself a time while we were up in Belgium. We hold Metz today.

I was glad to get the clipping, and it was pretty good, too. If you could have seen the 30th Division going over the top you would have thought the yanks were going instead of coming, and they sure did take the Hindenburg line.

Paul read your letter and said to

tell you that there would be no need of trying to find the Kaiser, for he was gone to Holland; so has the Crown Prince.

I guess I had better close for this time and go sound "Call to Quarters."

Sincerely your friend,

BILL.

ANNUAL STATEMENT

C. W. Wood, listing taxes	19.90
G. T. Wike	18.50
E. D. Tatham	17.50
C. B. Sutton	20.80
W. M. Fowler registrar of primary	12.06
A. S. Moss registrar of primary	10.76
J. R. Ensley	12.90
R. L. Hyatt	15.61
L. A. Melton	14.49
E. M. Moss	14.45
J. M. McClurg, county's part of salary	25.00
W. L. Henson, postage, express, etc.	4.36
W. R. Sherrill, services to Co. Board of Election	16.38
W. A. Stillwell, listing taxes	27.50
A. A. Nichols, examination of Artie Arrington	2.00
John A. Brown, burial expenses of Bill Reed	20.05
E. D. Reese, painting at jail	12.00
F. E. Green, refund on 1917 taxes	2.45
S. J. Phillips, listing taxes	27.50
Edgon, registrar of primary	11.03
Dillsboro & Sylva El. Light Co. lights for C. H. & jail	6.10
Jackson County Bank, borrowed money	475.00
J. N. Lambert, refund on taxes (poll tax)	3.35
S. H. Reed, refund on 1917 taxes	3.32
J. W. Keener, postage	1.00
J. R. Long, services to Board	54.47
Dillard Hooper, services to Bd	18.25
J. L. Jones, S. L. claim	.61
M. A. Norman work on S. L. fence	10.00
T. H. Queen, refund on 1917 taxes	2.10
Henry Dills, work on S. L. fence	4.00
Jackson County Bank, bridge claim to Better Roads Mfg. Co.	989.89
Z. L. Cook work on bridge	23.21
W. Mike Brown, painting Webster bridge	34.00
John Monteith county aid	6.00
Dan Shook	3.00
Viney Wood	3.00
Wm. Brooks	4.00
Tom Ashe	2.50
Narcis Prince	3.00
Charity Jennings	10.00
Mrs. Nathan Long	4.00
Haseltine Mathis	3.00
Nelson Paris	2.00
Jas. S. Farley	5.00
Samantha Brooks	2.00
John C. Bryson	2.50
Mrs. P. W. Mitchell county aid	5.00
C. G. Cunningham county aid	2.00
R. L. Garrett	3.00
J. N. McMahan	3.00
Andy Hall	3.00
Pollie Barnes	2.00
John Pool	3.00
Estes Hoyle	3.00
Clark Painter	2.00
J. A. Gibson	2.00
Mrs. John Cope	3.00
Mrs. Javan Parker	2.00
Melissa Lewis	2.00
Jack Wood	2.00
M. M. Buchanan	3.00
J. M. Parker	3.00
Harrison Owen	5.90
Douglass Monteith	2.00
Geo. W. Green	2.00
Jas. Carver	3.00
Lorenza Bryson	2.00
Mary Deitz	3.00
Mrs. Baxter Owen	2.00
A. S. Bryson, judge of primary election	2.00
H. R. Queen services to Bd	14.80
C. G. Rogers, registrar of primary	10.09

(Continued on page 6)