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SUNDAY, APRIL 21, 1918

Speaking of April showers—what was that we had yesterday?

By doing your best you are doing your bit; no more, no less.

Nat Goodwin at least is wise enough not to try to support more than one wife at the time.

April showers make May flowers, eh? Well, next month should be a prolific producer of flowers.

An exchange was not so far off the main line when he referred to Hoover as secretary of the interior.

They are talking about melting up the silver dollars. If this is done what will become of dollar dinners that were so popular several years ago?

The Charlotte Observer has figured out that the new shipyard to be established here is to be located hard by the "dram tree." But what's in a name?

We believe it would be proper now to refer to a conversation between the Governor of North Carolina and the Governor of South Carolina as a dry affair.

The superintendent of the Hickory schools has resigned to take up the occupation of farming. He only exercised good judgment, from a financial point of view, in his decision.

Talking about the high cost of living—that is something that we don't indulge in these days because of certain statutes made and provided to cover just such language.

Time for paying your poll tax is passing. If you desire to be a qualified elector in good standing, you had better purchase yourself one of these receipts at Sheriff Jackson's office on or before the first day of May.

Just because a fellow refuses to join in the singing of the Star Spangled Banner is not an infallible sign that he is pro-German. It sometimes means that he believes there is enough of suffering in the world already.

The Charleston News and Courier believes Secretary Daniels is big enough to live down the praise bestowed upon him by Hearst. It may be true, as Josephus has overcome some mighty handicaps in his career.

A Chicago judge holds that Professor Thomas was not guilty of disorderly conduct. That may be good law from the judge's viewpoint, but it looked to us like the professor smashed a whole bunch of laws reaching from the Mosaic down to 1918 statutes.

The law requiring that women alien enemies be accorded the same attention as the male of the species is O. K. In fact, it should be more drastic, for a woman can work more harm when engaged in devilish work than two or three men.

In this day when it seems to be a habit to skin the government out of everything possible, especially in the matter of providing sites for cantonments, shipyards, and other war undertakings, the offer of Phillip Allen to give the government 100 acres of land lying in the town of Southport to be used as site for coaling station or other purpose, is refreshing news.

A MOST SERIOUS MATTER.

The most important and serious request this paper ever made of Wilmington is—Buy Liberty Bonds to the limit. In times past, The Dispatch has urged the adoption or rejection of various measures at that time in the public eye, but it has never appealed to the people more seriously and on a more serious subject than it does now in its earnest plea for a more hearty and prompt response to the call for purchasing Liberty Bonds. The need is vital to your future; your property, your freedom, your very life and that more sacred than your life—the lives of the women and children—are all at stake. Will you sit still and not do your all to guarantee this protection to life and property? Were you to give the money without hope of its return, and solely as an assurance for yourself and your family, you would no doubt gladly make the sacrifice. But you don't have to make that sacrifice. The government pays you interest and returns premiums on the insurance.

But, why should one argue for this great proposition? It is one that the people should rush to accept, and cry for more. Don't put it off another day, but buy your bond, and buy just as much as your finances by the greatest straining will permit. Go the limit. If you don't, there will be no limit to the consequences.

A PROMISE.

Now just listen at The Asheville Times in the following irresistible appeal to the newspaper men of North Carolina:

"The North Carolina Press Association has decided to hold its next session in Asheville. The date has not been arranged. The North Carolina newspaper men will be thrice welcome to everything that is here—and if it is not here, it will be sent for."

We expected nothing less than a warm welcome; we also expected that the hospitality of the city would run in great floods, and it all looked mighty tempting, but that final statement "if it is not here, it will be sent for" is too much to be resisted. That promise covers a lot of territory, and were it made by other than The Times man we would possibly be inclined to think that he had let his enthusiasm run away with him, but somehow we are inclined to take it at its face value. We shall expect that "it will be sent for," and hope that it will get in without attracting the attention of over-zealous officers. But, you must remember your promise, Mr. Times man, as some of the brethren are not a bit bashful and you are likely to get a jolt.

ONE MONTH OF BATTLE.

For one month the German hordes have been rolling in dense waves against the Allied front in France and Belgium, with the more intense blows launched at the British troops, in an effort to break through the lines and roll up a crushing defeat for the defenders, but they have failed to reach their goal. True, the offensive has met with a certain degree of success, but when the object of the drive is considered, the gains of terrain have not been sufficient to offset the great loss in man-power to the Germans, and as the situation is at the end of the month the battle is a defeat for the German arms.

The Central Powers had planned for this the mightiest battle in the world's history, and these preparations had never before been approached. It was the last word in offensive tactics. Men, munitions, military science and genius had been mobilized in heretofore undreamed of strength for the avowed purpose of smashing the lines, first crushing the British, then wiping out the French. The master minds of the German general staff could see nothing but success, and it is said that officers in the army freely offered wagers that the drive would go through in less than a fortnight.

The Allies knew what to expect, and had done all that was possible for them to prepare their defenses. It was realized that the struggle would be severe, and they warned the people months ahead to be prepared for gloomy times in the early part of the offensive. Their defense was planned along certain lines which are now beginning to be revealed, and this policy has been adhered to, showing that their calculations had in the main been correct, as at no time has it been necessary to abandon the tactics put into use at the beginning of the drive.

To date, the battle has resulted more in accordance with the plans outlined by the Allied generals than those prepared by the enemy. The Allies are just as they had planned for, while the German is far from his objectives.

The battle is not over. The enemy must do something to make

good his threat or acknowledge defeat. He still has considerable reserve strength, and this will be used with utter disregard for human life in the further desperate efforts. His losses have been tremendous, possibly double what he expected to sustain in accomplishing his purpose, yet he is short of his goal.

Haig's Fabian policy has conserved the British man-power to a remarkable degree, while exacting the greatest possible toll from the enemy, and his army still has much good fight left in it was shown by the recapture in a quick drive Friday night of all the ground the Germans had gained in the terrific fighting of all Thursday and Thursday night.

While the Germans are bringing up men from the Eastern front, the French, Italians and Americans are joining the British in numbers believed to be sufficient to hold the enemy's further efforts. Behind all of this is the Allied mobile force reported to be some 800,000 men ready to be flung into the fray when the time comes for the counter attack.

The past month has been one of much gloom to the Allied cause, and there yet may be other anxious days, but there are many indications that the worst is about over, and that failure of the German to accomplish the "peace drive" will be history. The end of the month finds the situation the brightest of any day since the offensive was launched in all of its fury.

TUESDAY'S MEETING.

Let every man who has the best interests of Wilmington at heart attend the meeting at the Court House Tuesday morning for the welfare of the whole city and not because of some selfish motive. This meeting is called jointly by the Chamber of Commerce and the Rotary Club, and is for the general purpose of nipping anything in the bud that might have a tendency to work to the injury of the coming prosperity of Wilmington and North Carolina. The spirit prompting the call for this meeting is one that commends itself to those who are loyal to their city, and it will meet the hearty response the promoters expect it to. They have the right idea in wanting to kill off any injurious movement or spirit in its infancy, believing that an ounce of prevention is worth more than a pound of cure.

***** WITH THE EDITORS. *****

Rocky Mount Telegram: Some citizens express surprise that this city is not named in mention that is made of the Virginia league this year, and there are some few of the older dyed-in the wool fans that are wondering what this city might do, though it isn't hard to answer them since there is generally no interest here. The great American game this year is making war and we are all, or should be in it up to our necks and we have no time for baseball. It does mighty well as a peace time diversion but with the scarcity of labor and the increased demand upon the efforts of all of us this is no time for "playing" baseball. Incidentally we might add that with all of the incentive of naval bases and army camps we have our very serious doubts if the circuit may get to going this year either, though if they may we can but wish them well.

Duplin Record: Why is a Congress? What is it? Is it a debating society? Is it a grand jury? Is it a lawmaking body? We think it is intended to be the latter, but for the life of us we can't tell from the record they print and send out just what it is. Anyhow, just for a change, and for the better, at least just now, we wish they would pass the laws the President asks for and give him the money he asks for and let him get on with the war. Also, leave some of this investigating business to the department of justice where it belongs.

Lumberton Tribune: It is possible that North Carolina may furnish the next speaker for the National House of Representatives, according to newspaper reports. The death of Senator Stone, of Missouri, last week may bring this about in a short while. It is thought that Speaker Champ Clark will be a candidate for Senator Stone's seat, and if he is elected to it, the speakership will very likely go to Claude Kitchin, of North Carolina.

OUR DAILY BIRTHDAY PARTY. Prince of Udine, who headed the Italian mission to the United States, born at Turin, 34 years ago today.

Mrs. Belle Case La Follette, wife of the Wisconsin Senator, and who is noted as a suffrage leader and writer, born at Summit, Wis., 59 years ago today.

Dr. Clarence A. Barbour, president of Rochester Theological Seminary, born at Hartford, Conn., 51 years ago today.

Merrill Moores, who is a candidate for re-election in the Seventh Indiana congressional district, born at Indianapolis, 62 years ago today.

Gilbert N. Haugen, representative in Congress of the Fourth Iowa district, born in Rock Co. Wis., 49 years ago today.

Merchandise is constantly pouring into this store. Last week's arrivals included so many of the things that you have been waiting for that we have written this ad for your convenience. Every section has been improved and brightened by the new merchandise. Will you come and see?

Boys' Wash Suits

Little suits for youngsters between the ages of 6 and 10 years in white and all colors. Sailor and military effects reasonably priced at \$1.25 to \$2.50.

Lunch Baskets for Beach Use

Carry your lunch this season in one of these neat baskets made by Mexican Indians. They are in two sizes, 29c and 50c each.

Summer Dresses In Cottons

An excellent collection of Ladies gingham and voile dresses for summer wear are here for your viewing. They are in white and all colors and all sizes, priced at \$10 to \$18.50.

Mid-Summer Millinery

Last week's contribution to the millinery department was several shipments of mid-summer hats. White Leghorns and Milans trimmed with wings and flowers feature the assortment. Bon Marche millinery sells for \$4 to \$15.

Mail Orders Filled

Bon Marche

(Incorporated)

Dry Goods of Quality

STATE NEWS

One of the first interesting facts revealed by the religious census of the city which was taken last Sunday afternoon is that there is a total white population of 10,502 inside the corporate limits of High Point. Of this number 1,591, or about 15 per cent, are members of churches, while 6,001, or about 56 per cent, have no connection with any church. Statistics concerning the results of the census in the negro sections of the city are not yet available.—High Point Enterprise.

One of the largest timber land trades of recent months was closed yesterday when the Champion Fibre Company purchased from the Harris-Woodbury company 40,000 acres of timber land lying mostly in Swain county at a consideration which is stated to be approximately \$500,000. The boundary is well timbered in spruce, hardwoods and acid wood.

No plans for immediate operation on the tract have been announced. It is supposed that the pulp wood will be gradually logged and used at the Canton mill and that the hardwoods will be placed on the market.—Asheville Times.

A near race riot was barely avoided at Coats on last Friday when a negro boy was convicted of the crime of false pretense. The probability of requesting the Home Guard to intervene was mentioned about the time the trouble quieted down. Mr. Dupree represented the negro while L. L. Levinson appeared for the State.—Dunn Dispatch.

Sheriff McGeachy went on another still hunt last night and bagged his game. This time the hunting was done in Black River township, where the sheriff and his posse captured a 30-gallon still which was hot from a run just made. About 100 yards from the booze plant the sheriff came across a man, a Mr. Tillman, whom he arrested on suspicion, and who gave bond. No liquor was found.—Fayetteville Observer.

ONE YEAR AGO TODAY IN WAR. April 21, 1917.—Foreign Minister Balfour and other members of Brit-

ish mission arrived in America; French government announced that 12-day Anglo-French offensive had resulted in capture of 33,000 prisoners and 330 guns.

HOE VS HOHENZOLLERN

THE Garden Army of the Republic can drive autocracy from the world, writes Charles Lathrop Pack, president of the National War Garden Commission, in the May number of THE PEOPLE'S HOME JOURNAL. This splendidly patriotic appeal will give you new pride in that Little Garden of yours.

Five fiction stories, special articles, a children's page, many hearty laughs, and departments devoted to home nursing, the care of children, fashions, food, and needlework. All this and more in THE MAY NUMBER OF THE PEOPLE'S HOME JOURNAL. PRICE 10 CENTS. ALL NEWSSTANDS.

Advertisement for DURABLE-DURHAM Hosiery. Includes an illustration of a woman in a garden, a list of product features, and contact information for Durham Hosiery Mills, Durham, N. C.

Spring Draperies

The beautiful colorings of nature are brought out in these new cretonnes and art draperies. Right now is the time to redecorate the interior of your home and these beauties will brighten the dark spots. Cretonnes and art draperies are priced at 29c to \$1.50 yard.

Striped Silk Shirts

An admirable material for making men's silk shirts or women's tailored shirt waists which is of a superior quality wash silk with guaranteed colorings, 36 inches wide, priced at \$1.75 yard.

Children's Muslin Underwear

One of the scarcest items on the market today caused by underproduction on the part of the muslin underwear manufacturers. Children's Princess Slips, priced at \$1, \$1.25; Children's Gowns, priced 75c to \$1; Children's Pants, priced 20c to 50c; Children's Princess Skirts, priced at 50 and 59c.

New Ribbons

It takes constant re-ordering to keep our ribbon stock up to the Bon Marche point of efficiency. A new shipment of narrow and medium width Fifth Avenue Satin Ribbons, priced at 4 to 75c yard came last week.

Pre-Shrunk Wash Skirts

New pre-shrunk wash skirts of delightful quality and in many excellent summer sport styles. Pre-shrunk skirts are priced at \$3 to \$9.50. White Wash Skirts which are not pre-shrunk sell here for \$1.25 to \$2.98.

New Spring Laces

Laces have come back into their own. Several large shipments this week makes our stock complete. Vals, Venetians and Filet laces are the popular number this season. We show them in the better grades only priced at 5c to \$2.75 yard.

Advertisement for THE PEOPLE'S HOME JOURNAL, PRICE 10 CENTS, ALL NEWSSTANDS.