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A MOST FITTING ACT.

The action of Mr. W. M. Sanders in giving the soldier boys—members of Raleigh Motor Truck Company—a fine barbecue dinner on his spacious and well shaded lawn Wednesday, was most fitting and will long be remembered by every one of the boys who are members of the company. This public spirited act of one of Smithfield's best known citizens will show to those who have dedicated their lives to their country's service that the people back home honor and love them for the answer they have made to their country's call.

We are glad that Smithfield has a citizen who is willing to honor the soldier boys in the way they were honored by Mr. Sanders Wednesday. Every citizen of the community honors Mr. Sanders for his thoughtful and public spirited act. It makes it easier for our soldier boys to go forth to fight their country's battles when they know that there are those here and there who are glad to do them honor. The meeting together of the soldier boys with Mr. Sanders and his friends will ever remain a bright spot in their memory.

INFORMING THE PEOPLE.

One of the most needed things at this time is a campaign of education on the subject of why we are at war. The newspapers have published columns after columns of the latest kind of stuff on this subject, but still there are hundreds and hundreds of people who have not yet grasped the situation. The seeming lack of patriotism among the people is, after all, only a lack of understanding.

A series of patriotic rallies held at suitable places in the rural districts at which good speakers are on hand to make addresses would be of untold value at this time. The speeches of Mr. James H. Pou, of Raleigh, have had a fine effect. They have done more to arouse the people to a sense of their duty in the present crisis than hundreds of newspaper articles. There is nothing that will arouse the people in a great crisis like the human voice, uttering words of patriotism and appealing to the best there is in men. The people are not cowards, they are ready to defend their country. They do not yet fully understand. The great principle for which we are fighting has not sunk deep into their hearts. But they are being aroused. They will do their duty. After all there will be no slackers worth mentioning when the test comes.

But the people need to be taught and one of the works of the County Council for Defense is to teach them. They may publish all the articles they wish, but the people will never be fully reached until men of intelligence, men of understanding, and men of sympathy and of persuasive power go before them and tell them of the government's plans and its aims. This is

a time when every man should stand by his government. We are in a great war the importance of which cannot be fully weighed and it is the bounden duty of every man and every woman to stand shoulder to shoulder with the President and help to win the greatest victory the world has ever known.

THE POPE'S PEACE PROPOSAL.

(Editorial in Washington Post.) Pope Benedict's peace proposal unquestionably is inspired by a genuine desire to prevent another year of bloodshed, and in a humanitarian sense it is to be commended. The suggestions outlined by the Vatican as possible peace bases, however, cannot be expected to promote peace. The aloofness of the Vatican from the affairs of this world could hardly be more strikingly shown than by the assumption that France will actually take Germany's bloody and perfidious hand in token of agreement that the question of Alsace and Lorraine shall be referred to arbitration!

Naive as are the Pope's suggestions, they will doubtless be considered by tens of thousands of devout persons as reasonable and workable. It is proper, therefore, that something should be said regarding these suggestions, and the reasons why they are not sufficient to cause the allied nations to suspend for a moment their plans for the absolute defeat of Germany.

The basis of the Vatican's peace proposal is restoration of the status quo ante bellum; a turning backward to the conditions of July, 1914. Now, that is an impossibility, for this reason: In July, 1914, the German government had not destroyed its standing among nations as an honorable government, scrupulous in adherence to the obligations of humanity and treaty engagements. At this time Germany has no honor. She cannot restore her honor. She cannot return to the status quo ante. The other nations, Germany's allies and enemies, cannot restore Germany's honor. There is nothing, therefore, to give the world any assurance of safety, no matter what the peace terms might be. Who would believe Germany if she should profess contrition? What nation would demobilize and subject itself to a treacherous assault by Germany? Germany has taught the world that she cannot be trusted. The combined world, therefore, is engaged in the task of forging chains that will keep Germany from murdering her neighbors.

Monstrous as has been the destruction of human life by Germany's war machine, the most effective, far-reaching, fatal piece of destruction accomplished by Germany was when she destroyed her own honor. From the hour when the world, aghast, discovered that in the twentieth century a nation abreast of science was a savage at heart, a treacherous and murderous savage, there has been but one possible end of the war. That end is the chaining of the savage. Peace conferences with a liar! Solemn written proposals, with the idea of drawing up a binding agreement with a set of savages who do not know the meaning of truth, or binding agreement, or honor! A proposal to prevent the killing of natives in India by entering into protocols with the man-eating tigers is exactly on a par with treaty-making with the German government.

It will be asked, if Germany is incapable of entering into a binding agreement, how is any peace treaty to be made with her in the end? The answer is that peace must be enforced upon Germany. It must be made upon the terms imposed by civilization. It need not be a treaty with Germany; but if it should be, civilization will see that the written word of Germany is secured by a chain around Germany's neck.

"Never again," is the fixed resolve of civilization. Having felt the fangs of the beast, and having painfully assembled the means to shackle him, civilization will not let him slip.

Humanity shares with Pope Benedict the feeling of horror over such bloodshed and desolation. It is to put a stop to it, forever, that humanity refuses to compromise with the German murder system.

HARD FIGHTING IN YPRES AREA

Important Positions and More Than 1,800 Prisoners Taken by Entente Allies. Blow Is Delivered on Nine-Mile Front. Only On Extreme Right Were Allied Forces Unable to Make Progress. Bitter Fighting Throughout Thursday.

(Associated Press War Summary.)

Again the great Anglo-French war machine has struck the Germans in Flanders and again it has been successful. The village of Langemark and other important positions were taken Thursday and more than 1,800 prisoners already have been counted.

The latest blow in the Ypres area was on a front of nine miles and only on the extreme right were allied forces unable to make progress. The Germans resisted stubbornly, suffering heavy losses, but on the greater part of the front they were forced to leave valuable positions in the possession of the allies.

Before the fighting between Lens had died out the French and British moved forward north of the Ypres-Menin road. Throughout Thursday bitter fighting continued. On the left the French occupied the ground between the Yser canal and Marjevaert and then drove the Germans from the important bridge-head of Dreigrachten.

Field Marshal Haig's men carried the center and right of the attacking line. In the center the British early gained their first objectives and then established themselves in Langemark. Continuing their attack, they advanced a half mile beyond the village, gaining a trench system, which was the final objective of the day.

On the right flank the German resistance was most desperate. Early in the day the British drove the Teutons back, but numerous counter-attacks, in which they suffered severely, enabled the Germans to regain the lost ground.

In the Lens sector the Canadians made further progress east of Loos

and north of Lens. German prisoners to the number of nearly 900 were taken in the fighting here Wednesday and Thursday, bringing the allied total for the two days to 2,700. In Flanders the British also captured some guns from the Germans.—News and Observer, 17th.

Seventeen persons were killed and upward of two score injured, when two trolley cars on the Shore Line Electric Railway met head-on at high speed a short distance from the local station in North Branford, Conn., Monday. Both cars were of heavy construction and the force of the impact locked them together in a mass of twisted iron and steel and splintered wood. Both cars were well filled with passengers and most of the dead were women.

The first three bales of Georgia's new cotton crop to arrive in New York was auctioned from the steps of the Cotton Exchange Monday for \$700, nearly 50 cents a pound. The money was given to Red Cross war fund.

Congress is some talker. Some statistician has figured out that more than six million words have found expression in Congress since March 4th.

Bandit Villa and Bewhiskered Caranza! What has become of them? Since we got into that big fuss in Europe these fellows have dropped out of the lime light.

BARGAINS !!

One excellent cow, \$75.00.
One Registered Pointer, partly broken, \$50.00.
One Kerosene Tank, \$3.50.
Two Single Beds, \$5.00 each.
Come quickly, I leave Smithfield this week.

A. VERMONT

When you think of GROCERIES—let your thoughts turn to

TURNAGE

Smithfield's Leading Grocer

The Best is None Too Good For OUR Customers!

S. C. Turnage

Smithfield, N. C.

WE HANDLE IN BIG LOTS Heavy and Staple Groceries

We buy in Car Load Lots and can make close prices on

Flour, Meat, Meal, Feedstuffs

and other necessary supplies for the Home and Farm.
We sell for Cash Located at the Depot

Stedman Stores Co.

J. D. DICKENS, Manager.

Smithfield, N. C.

Paint Your House Before Cold Weather

If you go through the coming winter without repainting your house the deterioration in value will be twice the cost of painting it now.

Let us figure on the paint for your house. We furnish the best of paints, and quote you the lowest possible price.

Smithfield Hardware Co.

Smithfield, N. C.

Put It Up To The Cook !!!

A bill of Groceries from our house puts it squarely up to the cook. There can be absolutely no excuse for a poor dinner prepared from Groceries purchased from us. NOURISHING FOODS were never more necessary than at this time, when you need to conserve every ounce of your strength. Our MEATS are rich and wholesome. Our VEGETABLES are fresh. Our FLOUR is the very best on the market. Every article of food in the house is selected with care and an eye to the health of our customers. Every purchase you make is the essence of wisdom in Grocery buying—it is the acme of possible economy.

City Grocery Co.

Smithfield, N. C.

Quality Plus Service Our Motto

Plant Turnip Seed

If you Want the Best Turnip Seed
That Money Can Buy

Come To

HOOD'S

The Oldest and Best Seedsmen
in Johnston County

HOOD BROS.

Druggists

On the Square!

Smithfield, N. C.

Quality Plus Service Our Motto

CLEARANCE SALE

OF

Seasonable Merchandise

At Greatly Reduced Prices

In order to close out our Spring and Summer Lines of Merchandise, we will offer for TWO WEEKS, beginning

Saturday, Aug. 18

our stock of Summer Merchandise at greatly reduced prices.

We will offer all Straw and Panama Hats at half price. Men and Boys Cloth and Palm Beach Suits at very low prices.

All Summer Underwear at prices that mean a big saving to you.

Our line of Dress Silks is already under-priced; in order to close out we have cut deep into the price.

All Summer Dress Goods will be closed out regardless of the cost.

We expect to discontinue our line of Laces and Embroideries, hence we offer this line at astonishingly low prices.

COME AND SUPPLY YOUR WANTS

R. C. Lassiter & Co.

Four Oaks, North Carolina.