

The Smithfield Herald

VOLUME 36

SMITHFIELD, N. C., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1917.

Number 77

TWO U. S. SOLDIERS KILLED.

Five Others Wounded During Fighting in France. Casualties Occurred During Artillery Combat.

Washington, Nov. 27.—Two American soldiers were killed and five were severely wounded in the artillery combat with the Germans November 20, General Pershing reported today. Those killed were: Private Harry L. Miller, field artillery, Baker, Ore.; Private Charles Rissmiller, field artillery, Reading, Pa.

The severely wounded are: Sergeant Julian M. Peek, Hartwell, Ga.; Sergeant Andrew Engstrom, Fort Still, Okla.; Private Harry C. Watkins, North Bend, Ore.; Private Oscar F. Jones, Lucas, Ohio; Private Joseph Lewitt, Mount Holly, N. J. All are artillerymen.

THE NEWS AT SELMA.

Selma, N. C., Nov. 29.—Mess. J. M. Stone and Charlie Pippin, of Fremont, spent last Sunday with the family of Mr. R. E. Richardson.

Rev. H. H. Honeycutt, of Powellsville, filled the pulpit at the Baptist church last Sunday in the absence of the pastor, and preached a powerful sermon to a large audience.

Mess. T. C. Henry and W. L. Stancil spent last Sunday with friends in Wilders township.

Mrs. S. A. Godwin left yesterday to spend the week-end with her parents near Old Union church.

Mr. W. A. Henry, of near Kenly, has been here this week visiting relatives.

Mr. Jno. I. Barnes, of Clayton, was here for a few hours yesterday on business.

Mr. F. B. Whitley spent Sunday in Wilders township with relatives and friends.

Miss Hazel Hamilton returned to Durham Monday afternoon spending the week-end with her mother, Mrs. Ida Moxing.

Mr. D. B. Wilder, of Clayton, was in town Tuesday for a few hours on business.

Thanksgiving Services will be held tonight at the Baptist church beginning promptly at 7:30 o'clock. A special program has been arranged for the occasion.

Rev. Chas. E. Stevens and Rev. J. G. Johnson will be the principal speakers at Bible and Flag Presentation at the Hatcher school house near here today. The ceremonies will be under the auspices of the Jr. O. U. A. M.

Beginning December the 1st will be a change in the services at the Baptist church. The church is now having services three Sundays in each month, and this will be changed to two Sundays in each month. Services will be held morning and evening on the second and fourth Sundays.

Mrs. C. W. Richardson is in Raleigh this week visiting Mrs. E. V. Denton who is very ill. Mrs. Denton is a sister of our townsman, Mr. L. D. Debnam.

Misses Maude Shamburger and Alice Harsh are house guests of Mrs. N. E. Edgerton at her beautiful home on Railroad street this week.

The Knitting Club of the Local Red Cross was entertained Tuesday afternoon by Mrs. W. G. Ward at her home on Massey street. Dainty refreshments were served and the occasion was a very enjoyable one to all present.

Mr. N. E. Edgerton, Jr., arrived today from Trinity College to spend Thanksgiving with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. N. E. Edgerton.

Mr. Kayton Hamilton, of Randolph-Mason Academy, arrived Tuesday to spend some time here with relatives for the benefit of his health.

Mr. B. H. Woodard and Miss Bertha Woodard arrived yesterday to spend Thanksgiving with relatives here.

Superintendent E. H. Moser and Prof. W. C. Williams left yesterday for Charlotte to attend the Teachers Assembly in session there.

Mr. and Mrs. E. V. Woodard spent last Friday in Raleigh, and attended the Birth of the Nation at the Academy of Music.

Mrs. Arthur J. Oliver returned Sunday from a visit to her parents in the Sanders Chapel section.

Mr. Thomas Parker and Miss Lillie Ward were married Wednesday at the home of the bride near Selma.

We are informed that Mr. Wade Brown who is now with the Johnston County Farmers Union will open an up-to-date Hardware store here on January 1st.

The third number of the Lyceum Attractions being held in Selma this

season was given at the graded school auditorium Tuesday night, and was enjoyed by a large crowd.

Practically all the stores are closed today, so that the proprietors and clerks can enjoy and observe Thanksgiving Day.

In this issue of The Herald appears an advertisement announcing and explaining the Pay-Up-Week and Dollar Day to be held in Selma in December. The merchants will offer special inducements to their customers who settle their bills during this week, Dec. 10th to 15th. On Thursday, December 13th, "Dollar Day" many attractive bargains in staple merchandise will be offered. The individual adds of the merchants will appear in later issues of The Herald.

The ladies of the Circles of the Methodist church will hold a bazaar December 14th and 15th. Attractive booths of fancy work, knitting, bags, canned fruits etc. will be on display. Many articles suitable for Christmas gifts will be displayed, and it is hoped the booths will be liberally patronized. Chicken salad, coffee, hot chocolate and sandwiches will be served.

The Municipal wood yard is a reality. The City Fathers have rented and fenced in a lot on the corner of Waddell and Webb streets and the wood is being brought in daily. Mayor Temple says that more than 400 cords have been contracted for, and can be delivered at once. They have also arranged to have the wood sawed up and delivered when it is so desired by the buyers. This patriotic move will be appreciated by the public and will no doubt save to our people much suffering when the icy winds of winter really begin to blow.

TUESDAY IN THE GREAT WAR.

Inside Russia the unsettled condition of affairs daily seems to be growing more serious. All communication now has been severed between north and south Russia, even the foreign embassies in Petrograd being unable to get in touch with Odessa and other points to the south. Unofficial advices are to the effect that the Russian northern army is in dire straits for food, having had no bread for several days.

Around the village of Bourlon and Bourlon wood and about Fontaine Notre Dame in the region of Cambrai the British troops are keeping hard after the Germans. In both sectors General Byng's forces again have made considerable progress especially at Fontaine, where, having evicted by the Germans after the initial drive of last week, they again have obtained a footing in the town and have advanced almost to the main street. A heavy concentration of enemy machine guns in the Folie wood did not succeed in stopping the British advance. The southern portion of Bourlon village also was entered by the British after a hot fight, but after having rescued some of their troops who had been isolated there for some time the British withdrew to their original positions.

Possibly in a supreme endeavor to break the Italian line before British and French reinforcements enter the fray, the Austro-Germans, comprising an entire division, have attacked the Italians in the Brenta valley, on the northern sector of the Italian front. Like similar, though smaller, attacks during recent days the offensive was stopped by the Italian artillery and infantry, the enemy suffering heavy losses in men killed and made prisoner. Four additional attacks between the Brenta and Piave rivers also were put down with severe casualties and everywhere the Italians held their original line.

Another American steamer, the Actaeon, a former German vessel, has been sunk by a German submarine. Boats containing 21 survivors have boats with additional members of the crew are missing.

Notwithstanding the violence of the fighting in the Cambrai region last week, the British casualties were several thousand less than the week previous, totalling 30,314. —Associated Press Summary.

Leslie Flowers, 9-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Flowers, of the Barnesville section, of Robeson County, is in the Thompson Hospital at Lumberton with his left leg broken below the knee as the result of getting caught under a disc harrow. It is thought amputation will be necessary, says a dispatch to the News and Observer.

NEWS ITEMS FROM KENLY.

Kenly, Nov. 26.—Sunday afternoon at three o'clock, the Rev. C. K. Proctor, pastor of the Methodist Church at Selma, delivered a most excellent address in the high school auditorium on: "The Red Cross and Its Work." The stage was artistically decorated with national and Red Cross flags, ferns, and many beautiful flowers. The several church choirs of the town jointly rendered the music, with Mrs. Jarvis Edgerton at the piano.

Mr. Proctor, after an appropriate presentation by the Rev. C. P. Jerome, spoke for half an hour essentially as follows:

"During the last three years, a sentiment has swept over the world to the effect that Christianity has failed. If it has not failed, asks the sceptic, why did it not prevent the great world war? Again, if Christianity is a vital force in the world today, why does it not stop the war now? Still another question is raised: If Christianity is alive, why doesn't it do something for the millions who are suffering?"

"The first two questions may be completely answered by asking a counter question: Why has not God in His wisdom and power already eradicated all evil of every kind from the earth and from the souls of men? Let him who would dictate to God answer that. The third question may be answered completely and satisfactorily by a brief recital of facts.

"No man who has eyes and ability to think can question the great work that the spirit of Christianity is doing for the world today. The day was when men fed upon creeds, but that day is gone forever. Christianity is bearing fruit now. Who provides each soldier at the front with a copy of the Word of God? Who is it that is making the life of the boys in the camps very much like their former life around the fire-side? Who is going out upon the battlefields of the nations and caring for the millions of wounded heroes there? All of my questions can be answered with one statement: Suffering humanity is being administered to by the people the world over who are filled with the spirit of Christ.

"This spirit of Christ is manifesting itself in many ways, but perhaps through the Red Cross Society it is doing its greatest work, and I want to commend this organization to you. It may be that you cannot go to France. Perhaps you cannot make battleships. But you can join the Red Cross Society. You can give your dollar, your five dollars, or a thousand, it may be; and you can rally to the flag. Let no man place even the weight of a straw in the way of this great work, but let us all fight with all the strength we have to win this war, and win it soon, for humanity and for God."

After the address, a collection was taken.

Three Thanksgiving programs will be rendered in Kenly this week. Monday night in the high school auditorium, a large number of the school children will render a delightful program followed by a box-party by the girls' Athletic Association. Thursday morning in the Methodist church, Rev. C. P. Jerome, pastor of the church, will deliver a special sermon to the people of the community. Thursday evening in the Free-Will Baptist church, the Rev. S. H. Styron, the pastor, will deliver a sermon to the people of the community; also, an orphan-day program will be rendered. A collection was taken in the Methodist church for the Methodist Orphanage at Raleigh, and the contributions amounted to a bit more than sixty dollars.

Meeting of Farmers Union.

Members of the Johnston County Branch Farmers Union are requested to attend County meeting in Selma, Thursday, December 6th, 10 A. M., to meet our Farm Demonstrator, Mr. Johnson, and hear the fertilizer question discussed; and the part the Government will take in supplying the farmers. Others perhaps will also be present.

The Stockholders meeting will convene at 11:30.

W. C. HARPER, Sec'y.

William B. Wilson, Secretary of Labor, head of President Wilson's mediation commission which has been hearing industrial disputes in the West, was removed from his private car Tuesday to a hotel suffering from a break-down and a severe cold.

WEDNESDAY'S WAR NEWS.

Sunday next has been set by the Germans as the date for a conference with the Bolshevik leaders for the purpose of negotiating an armistice. The arrangement for the discussion followed a visit of representatives of the Bolsheviks to the German military authorities on the Teuton side of the fighting front in Russia. The Germans apparently gave quick acquiescence to the proposal of the Russians for an armistice looking to an ultimate peace, for only a few hours intervened between the visit of the Russians to the German line and acceptance by the Germans of the proposition made to them.

While the negotiations are expected to embrace an armistice on all the fronts of the belligerent countries it is certain that the entente allies will give no heed to the overtures, either of the Bolsheviks who comprise the radical section of the Russians who long have desired Russia to cease fighting, or of the Germans, who for even a greater period of time have been endeavoring to put into operation negotiations for a peace that would prove a suitable one for themselves and their allies.

That the Bolshevik leaders are distrustful of the Germans although they have agreed to enter into negotiations for an armistice is apparent from the fact that Ensign Krylenko, the Bolshevik commander-in-chief, has ordered, pending the conference, that there shall be no fraternizing on the part of the Russians with the Germans and advised vigilance and caution by the troops.

Meanwhile the great inter-allied conference is preparing to convene in Paris and doubtless it will be discussed all phases of the tangled situation in Russia and some method agreed-upon to bring the disaffection to an end and permit of the Russian army taking up the gage of battle again or of putting the Bolshevik element in the category of an ally of the central powers.

On the fighting front in Northern France the battle between the British and Germans for points of vantage around Cambrai continued throughout Tuesday night, but on Wednesday died down to somewhat small proportions. The Germans had brought up large numbers of reinforcements and the fighting for Bourlon village, the Bourlon wood and Fontaine Notre Dame was waged with great bitterness, the positions several times changing hands. East and northeast of Ypres violent artillery activity is in progress especially on the sector of Passchendaele, and it seems probable that another big battle in this region is brewing.

To the south of the region of St. Quentin, north of the Aisen, and in the vicinity of Verdun, there have been small infantry operations, with the advantage resting with the French troops.

The Italians continue to hold tenaciously to their northern front between the Branta and Piave rivers against the Austro-German forces, who have been unable, in repeated attacks, to gain additional terrain. An armistice in order that they might bury their numerous dead has been requested by the Austrians, but owing to lack of faith in the enemy's intentions the Italians refused to grant it. Major-General Maurice, chief director of military operations at the British war office, upon whose official statements much importance is placed, announces that the crisis in Italy has passed.

Jerusalem is within sight of the British forces operating in Palestine, but Turks in force have been gathered about the city and it is not improbable that a great battle will have to be fought for its possession. To meet the emergency the British are hurriedly bringing additional men, guns and supplies.

Twenty-one British merchantmen were sunk by mines or submarines last week four more in the aggregate than were sent to the bottom the previous week.—Associated Press Summary.

Friday, December 7, and Sunday, December 9, will be known as "Red Envelope Day" in Raleigh for the Raleigh Rotary Club are going to place in every home in the city a large envelope asking for the Associated Charities and have designated this fund the Home Suffering Emergency Fund. This method is hoped to raise a large amount for immediate use in alleviating suffering and hunger among the poor of the city.

THE WEEK'S NEWS IN BENSON.

Benson, Nov. 29.—Born unto Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Moore last Friday a baby boy.

Mr. J. P. Benson, of Raleigh, was a visitor to Benson Monday afternoon. Mrs. J. E. Wilson and children spent last Sunday and Monday in Sampson County with relatives.

Mr. George Moore and R. L. Flowers have been in Raleigh this week attending Federal Court.

A baby boy of the ten-pound variety arrived at the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Smith Monday night.

Mr. J. M. Langdon, of Pleasant Grove was here yesterday spending the day on business.

The three months old child of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Stone died yesterday morning after a short illness, and will be buried today in the cemetery.

Messrs. George Hall, Jas. Raynor, Ira Raynor, J. R. Barbour and other Bensonites were in Raleigh Wednesday.

Mr. H. W. Weeks who has been in Rabinville for the past few months is home on a short visit to relatives before going to Camp Jackson.

Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Johnson, of Coats, were here yesterday on business matters for a while.

Mr. W. H. Pace, of Raleigh, was a visitor to our city yesterday in the interest of the Atlantic Insurance Co. of Va.

Mr. Adjie Godwin, of Coats, was here yesterday to visit relatives for a while.

Mr. John Britt, of Newton Grove, was here Tuesday and Wednesday spending the time with his son, Mr. M. T. Britt.

Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Norris, of Raleigh, have been here this week visiting relatives and friends.

Mr. R. U. Barbour left yesterday for Tennessee where he will buy several car loads of mules and horses.

Mr. W. R. Denning was a visitor to Henderson Monday on business matters.

Mrs. Edgar Johnson is spending a few days here with relatives. She will return to Oxford the last of the week.

Mr. Ira B. Raynor went to Raleigh and had his tonsils removed the first of the week.

Mrs. C. S. Pipkin, of Lillington, is here on a visit to her daughter, Mrs. J. E. Ligon.

Chief of Police Henry was a visitor to Raleigh this week attending the Federal Court.

Mr. W. H. Royal and C. W. Hall were in Raleigh for a short while the first of the week on business.

Mr. Dudley Norris, of Camp Jackson, S. C., is home for a few days with his parents near Benson.

Mr. and Mrs. J. R. McLamb went to Raleigh Tuesday spending the day and returning in the evening.

Miss Janie Holt, of Jonesboro, has been here for the past few days on a visit to her sister Mrs. J. B. Faircloth.

Capt. J. W. Goodrich who has been in the A. C. L. service at Pinner's Point for the past several weeks was home Sunday to visit his family.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Creech who have been spending some time with relatives in and near Cary returned here Monday.

Practically all the stores in Benson will be closed today for Thanksgiving.

Mrs. J. H. Rose and children left this morning for Raleigh where they will visit friends for a few days.

The five-year-old boy of Jeff Johnson, colored, was burned to death here yesterday afternoon. His clothing caught and before the flames could be extinguished the boy was burned so badly that death resulted.

Forty-Four Deaths in Last 11 Days.

Alexandria, La. Nov. 27.—Although there were no additional deaths reported at Camp Beauregard tonight it was announced by Dr. Oscar Dowling, president of the state board of health, that 44 soldiers have died during the past 11 days. Twenty deaths were from pneumonia, 10 from measles and four from spinal meningitis. No cause was given for ten of the deaths. The total deaths for the past three days ending at noon today totalled 22.

The Southern Bell Telephone Company and the Carolina Power and Light Company will put all their wires in Goldsboro underground.

Dr. F. Smith and Mrs. L. J. Best, of Dunn, spent Thanksgiving here with the family of Mr. W. M. Sanders.

FIFTY-EIGHT WERE IN CREW OF THE ACTEON.

New York, Nov. 27.—Fifty-eight men including 31 Americans composed the crew of the American steamer Actaeon, reported sunk off the European coast. A dispatch from London today saying 21 survivors had reached Port Camarinas, Spain, and that the other members of the crew were missing, made no mention of United States naval gunners aboard. Names of none appear in the records of the federal shipping commission here, but it is assumed some were on board, inasmuch as the vessel was controlled by the shipping board.

Formerly the German steamship Adamsturm, of 5,000 tons gross, the Actaeon left New York early in October, carrying government supplies for Bordeaux. It is believed she was on the return voyage when sunk. She was commanded by W. J. Johnson. The vessel was built in Germany in 1909 and was seized by this government after the war with Germany began.

The American citizens on board included U. B. Grady, coal passer, Bellhaven, N. C.

The Actaeon is the first of the seized German steamships to be sunk while in American trade.

Camarinas is a small Spanish town 43 miles southeast of Corunna, in northwestern Spain on the Atlantic.

Top-Dressing on Winter Wheat.

As farm overseer for an estate of six rented farms, I have always found the problem of securing good stands of red clover one of baffling and often discouraging perplexities. A great deal of soil under my management is slightly acid and of low humus content, and in working for permanent improvement the program of manure, limestone and clover, as advocated by the Illinois Experiment Station, has been adopted. Fields to be sown to wheat and clover in the spring are first manured, plowed, then given a three-ton-to-the-acre application of lime dust.

This plan has invariably resulted in excellent stands of clover, even on level, light, gray soils; but anyone who has had any experience in managing rented farms will appreciate the difficulties of trying to induce some renters to spread lime dust.

Thus only parts of two fields of wheat sown to clover in the spring of 1916, received the specified application of manure and limestone. To counteract this lack of fertilizer the alternative of top-dressing the balance of the fields with short manure during mid-winter was seized upon. The unfertilized portion of each field was given an application of six spreader loads of manure to the acre, with gratifying results.

In the summer the Middle West experienced one of the worst droughts in its entire history. The young and tender clover plants were the first to feel the burning effects of the unusual heat. A careful inspection last fall of each field disclosed the fact that those particular parts of each field which were manured and limed showed practically no clover whatever; whereas those parts which were top-dressed had a good stand of clover.

And this is not all: Last winter we had our wheat fields bared to ten below zero weather, and all our old weather prophets predicted utter ruin for both wheat and clover. But the clover on the top-dressed soil defied all precedents, and came forth fresh and green at the first call of spring.—W. J. Koch, in Country Gentleman.

Death of Mrs. D. C. Lee.

A correspondent writes us that on the 27th of October the death angel entered the home of Mr. D. C. Lee and bore away the spirit of his wife. She was 41 years of age. She had been a great sufferer for about three years. She united with the Primitive Baptist church about fifteen years ago and lived a faithful member, attending the services of her church regularly as long as she was able. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Woodall who survive her. Besides, she leaves a husband, two brothers and five sisters and a host of relatives and friends to mourn her departure. A good woman has gone to her reward. She will be greatly missed.

Since time is not a person we can overtake when he is past; let us honor him with mirth and cheerfulness of heart while he is passing.—Goethe.