

GERMAN DRIVE NOT SO STRONG TUESDAY

Germans' Broad Sweep As in Early Part of Fight Narrowing Down.

STRATEGIC RESERVE MAY LAUNCH BIG ATTACK SOON

Officially Reported That Seventy German Divisions, 840,000 Men Have Been in the Great Drive. Losses Are Very Heavy It is Claimed that American and French Soldiers are Fighting Side by Side With the British.

Tuesday the great battle on the Western front kept up its fury. The story of the day is thus briefly summarized by the Associated Press for the daily papers.

After six days of terrific fighting the German offensive in France is beginning to show signs of losing its momentum. The progress of the enemy has materially slackened and the formation of the dent made in the allied line west of Cambrai has begun to resemble the familiar wedge like salient, instead of the broad, straight forward movement of an overwhelming force which carries all before it.

At its apex the wedge has gone beyond Albert, to the south of that place and is to the westward of the old allied line as it stood a year ago when von Hindenburg made his "strategic retreat." From this point the line runs off to the northeast at a gentle angle with the line to the south running back until it reaches the Oise river.

In spite of tremendous exertions and terrible losses, the German efforts to widen the tip of this salient were defeated on Tuesday. The British lines have stood firm to the north and have forced the Germans to turn southward toward the point of least resistance.

Official statements issued at London confirm the report from Berlin that American forces are engaged in the struggle. They are reported as "fighting shoulder to shoulder" with the French and British in the region of Roye, on the southern side of the salient driven into the allied front. There has been no official report sent to Washington as to the identity of these troops who are taking part in the greatest battle in history.

With the slackening of the German pace there come indications that the allies are ready to strike back somewhere along the front. Just where this blow will be launched will not be known until it is struck, but it may be expected that its impact will be terrific. It is known that the allied war council at Versailles created a great strategic reserve of men to be used in just the contingency which confronts the armies which have borne the brunt of the fighting since last Thursday morning.

Each succeeding reveals the plan of the Germans absolutely to crush the allied lines west of Cambrai, a terrain which could not be defended by von Hindenburg a year ago. Each official report show that this sector is valueless from a military standpoint and that the Germans have paid a terrible price for their advance to the lines established by the allies during the first two years of warfare.

It is officially reported that 70 German divisions, of 840,000 men, have taken part in the fighting and that troops have been moved from every part of the western battle front to reinforce the armies which have been forcing the British to fall back. Observers at the front say that the German losses have been frightful and that the enemy has lost from 10 to 20 per cent of his men, by the most conservative estimates.

The situation as it stands seems to be a repetition of the dash of General von Kluck on Paris in 1914, when the German artillery and transports could not keep up with the infantry and the French were able to turn back the invaders at the Marne. Reports from various sectors in the last two days have indicated that the German infantry, relying on its mass attacks, has fought without the customary assistance of artillery. To bring up heavy guns requires time and the German advance will steadily become more painful and costly.

To Organize Night School.

A meeting will be held in the Methodist Chapel at the old cotton mill, Thursday evening, April 4th, at seven o'clock, for the purpose of organizing a night school. The class will be open to any who wish to attend, that is, to all beyond the age of fourteen, whether they be employees of the mill or not. It is earnestly requested that all those in that vicinity who cannot read and write well will accept this opportunity. The class will be in charge of Mrs. Eleanor M. Zachary.

PORTRAIT GALLERY OF OUR SOLDIER BOYS



WILLIS M. BARBOUR

Willis M. Barbour, of Ingrams township, went to Camp Jackson, September 7, 1917, being one of the volunteers to be in the first contingent to go from the Local Board No. 1. He is a son of Mr. B. Eldridge Barbour and is 29 years of age. He is a member of Company C, 317th Machine Gun Battalion.



JESSE MORRIS BRANNAN.

Jesse Morris Brannan, of Oneals township, went to Camp Jackson last Fall. He is the son of Mr. William Ruffin Brannan and Malinda Brannan, and was born May 26, 1887. He was assigned to duty at Camp Jackson in Company G, 322nd Infantry. Mr. Brannan is a farmer and is married.



A. V. FAIRCLOTH.

Corporal A. V. Faircloth, age 27 years, of Smithfield, went to Camp Jackson last Fall where he was assigned to Company C, 306th Engineers. He is married but has no children. Several weeks ago he was transferred from Camp Jackson to Camp Merritt, New Jersey, and in all probability, is now on the other side of the Atlantic doing duty for Uncle Sam.

THOUGHTS OF A "PERFECT DAY."

(By Clara Mae Starling, Pine Level, N. C.)
I am thinking of my brother, while in his fight o'er head today;
My whole soul is with him, though he is many miles away.
Yes, my thought are of you, my brother,
Of you more than of any other.
We are glad to see you so noble and brave,
And willing to go "Our" Land to save.
You have the prayers of the family, from one and all
You, my brother, who so nobly answered your country's call.
There are others with just my thoughts today,
To hear of their brothers flying—Marching away.
It breaks our hearts and makes us cry,
While you are facing the front, and willing to die.
Dear Brother, remember how we love you and are trying to plan,
To aid and comfort you all that we can,
We send to you while you are away,
A help and protection called the Y. M. C. A.
For the wounded Soldiers and those that are lost,
We are ever sewing for the American Red-Cross.
When you are happy, bright and gay,
There is some one at home that continues to pray.
Again, when you are blue, and the day seems long and weary—
Longfellow says, "Some days must be dark and dreary."
So cheer up then and cease repining,
Behind the clouds the sun is still shining.
You can always know until your returning,
The Home Fires at Home, will ever be burning.
'Tis said that into each life there dawns a Perfect Day,
Whether in December or whether in May,
The Day that brings you back to us will be our "Perfect Day."

MEADOWS FLOUR MILLS. BUY
one of these. Produce and make your own flour at home. You will then be independent and can help your neighbor to become likewise. Roberts-Atkinson Co., Inc., Selma, N. C.

WANTED.
White men between the ages of sixteen and twenty-one to operate machines in Tobacco Factory. Good wages. Come at once. BLACKWELL'S DURHAM BRANCH, Durham, N. C.

BUY YOUR ACID AND COTTON
seed meal from the Cotter-Underwood Company, Smithfield. Full supply now on hand.

MAKE FARMING A PLEASURE
and success with our No. 4 International Harvester Co's Pivot Axle Riding Cultivator. Can use disc, shovels or sweeps. Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded.—Roberts-Atkinson Co., Selma, N. C.

NOTICE TO TAX-PAYERS
Your State and County taxes are long past due and unless some is paid before April 1st, I shall be forced to proceed to advertise all real estate on which the taxes have not been paid, as required by the law.
W. F. GRIMES, Sheriff,
of Johnston County.

THE SMITHFIELD BUILDING & Loan Association has helped a number of people to build homes. It will help others, and maybe you. New series of shares now open. See Mr. J. J. Broadhurst.

Statement of Receipts and Disbursements BY WILDERS TOWNSHIP ROAD COMMISSIONERS From May 18th, 1917 to March 26th, 1918.

Receipts:	
1917	
May 18th—Received from W. T. Adams, Auditor for proceeds from sale of bonds for township	\$25,045.32
July 24th—Certificates of deposit taken up	1,000.00
Interest accrued on certificates	7.55
Oct. 25th—Certificates of deposit taken up	3,500.00
Interest accrued on certificates	59.00
29th—Received from Auditor for Wilders Township (Auto fund from State)	62.25
Nov. 13th—Received from W. F. Grimes, Sheriff, taxes for 1916....	1,393.33
Dec. 6th—Certificates of deposit taken up	3,000.00
Interest accrued on certificates	65.00
1918.	
Feb. 7th—Certificate of deposit taken up	2,000.00
Accrued interest on certificate	58.22
Feb. 27th—Certificate of deposit taken up	2,000.00
Interest accrued on certificate	60.00
Total receipts for term	\$38,250.67
Disbursements:	
1917.	
May 19th—E. P. Lore, payment on work	\$ 58.00
21st—Ashley Horne and Son, account book	1.00
—Clayton Banking Company, for money placed with them at interest and certificates of deposit taken	24,000.00
—Horne and Talton, premium on bond	37.50
24th—J. T. Barnes, services as commissioner	21.00
—E. S. Whitley, services as commissioner	18.00
25th—E. P. Lore, payment on work	36.25
June 27th—E. P. Lore, payment on work	9.50
July 6th—Wellons and Wellons, selling bonds, etc.	300.00
14th—E. P. Lore, for culvert forms	144.40
—J. T. Barnes, services as commissioner	18.00
24th—R. N. Aycock, Cashier, for interest on bonds.....	625.56
—J. I. Murphy, services as commissioner	20.00
Aug. 18th—E. S. Whitley, services as commissioner	18.00
29th—N. and S. Railroad, freight	9.72
—H. C. Scarboro, culvert pipe and freight	52.60
Sept. 18th—W. M. Sanders, cement, wire and shovel	6.25
—Smithfield Hardware Co., cement	7.50
Oct. 16th—W. A. Myatt, culvert pipe	123.63
25th—J. T. Barnes, services, freight and drayage.....	43.94
26th—H. G. Scarboro, on contract	3,160.00
28th—E. P. Lore, services as engineer	109.41
Nov. 7th—W. T. Adams, Auditor, computing taxes	43.38
—Clayton Hardware Co., cement, etc.	12.70
8th—E. S. Whitley, services as commissioner	10.00
Dec. 15th—E. P. Lore, services as engineer	109.71
—H. G. Scarboro, on contract	3,657.00
21st—Nelson Watson, work on road	15.00
27th—J. T. Barnes, hauling	36.75
1918.	
Jan. 31st—R. N. Aycock, cashier, interest on bonds	626.56
Feb. 8th—C. R. Scott, lumber account	89.62
—H. G. Scarboro, on contract	1,580.00
—E. P. Lore, for services	400.00
25th—H. G. Scarboro, on contract	1,003.00
—J. T. Barnes, for services	18.00
—E. S. Whitley, for services	16.85
March 14—Sam Browning, for work	15.00
—H. C. Scarboro, on contract	1,264.52
15th—M. B. Jeffreys, work	15.00
Total disbursements	\$37,734.35
March 26—Cash on hand deposited with Clayton Banking Company	516.32

Total receipts for term

I, J. I. MURPHY, Treasurer of Wilders Township Road Commissioners, do hereby swear the above statement of receipts and disbursements is correct, and that there is still on deposit with the Clayton Banking Company at interest Twelve Thousand Five Hundred Dollars.
J. I. MURPHY, Treasurer.
Subscribed and sworn to before me March 26th, 1918.
JOHN T. TALTON, Notary Public.
My commission expires May 11th, 1919.

Stores and Residence For Sale at Public Auction

On Saturday, March 30, at 2 o'clock in front of the D. T. Worley & Company's old grocery stand, I will sell to the highest bidder, 1 two-story brick store and one small store wood building, now occupied by Charley M. Millard, near the Selma Cotton Mills, and 1 4-room residence. New building near D.H.Ferrell's residence
Terms made known on day of Sale
J. H. WORLEY
Selma, N. C.

Seed Irish Potatoes Just Received

We have just received a large lot of nice Seed Potatoes. Come and get yours now before they are all gone.

City Grocery

Phone 1 Smithfield, N. C.

Books About The War

DAY BY DAY THE PEOPLE ARE GETTING MORE INTERESTED IN THE GREAT WAR ACROSS THE SEA. BOOKS ARE BEING WRITTEN ABOUT IT BY MEN WHO KNOW. THESE BOOKS ARE GIVING THE READER A NEW IDEA ABOUT THE SITUATION. WE HAVE NOW IN STOCK A FEW OF THESE BOOKS. SEE LIST BELOW:

- OVER THE TOP**, by Guy Empey, an American who has been over there. For many months this has been the best selling book in this country. Price \$1.50.
 - THE BIG FIGHT**, by Capt. David Fallon, the English soldier who spoke in Smithfield recently. It is a thrilling story by a man who was there. Price \$1.50
 - MY FOUR YEARS IN GERMANY**, by Ambassador Gerald, who was in Germany when the great war began Price \$2.00.
 - UNDER FIRE**, by Henri Barbusse, A vivid story of the terrible fighting in France. Price \$1.50.
 - THE BATTLE OF THE SOMME**, by John Buchan. Price 60 Cents.
 - A YANKEE IN THE TRENCHES**, by Corporal Derby Holmes. The actual life of an American on the Western Front. Price \$1.35.
 - A STUDENT IN ARMS**, by Donald Hankey. This is regarded by many to be the greatest book written by a soldier in the trenches. Price \$1.50.
 - THE CROSS AT THE FRONT**, by Thomas Tiplady. Experiences of a field Chaplain on the Western Front. Price \$1.00.
 - RHYMES OF A RED CROSS MAN**, by Robert W. Service. Price \$1.00.
 - FIGHTING FOR PEACE**, by Henry Van Dyke. Price \$1.25.
 - FAITH, WAR AND POLICY**, by Gilbert Murray. Price \$1.25.
 - COLLECTED POEMS OF RUPERT BROOKE**, Price \$1.25.
 - TOWARDS THE GOAL**, by Mrs. Humphrey Ward. Price \$1.25.
 - MY FIFTY YEARS IN THE NAVY**, by Admiral Charles E. Clark. Price \$2.50.
- Many novels and other books now on sale.

Herald Book Store

SMITHFIELD, North Carolina

Advertising in this paper will bring good returns on the money invested