

## FIGHTING RESUMED ON WESTERN SECTOR

### GERMANS STRENGTHEN LINE AND RENEW ATTACKS

The Enemy Launched Heavy Attacks Thursday South of the Somme.

### GAIN GROUND ON FRENCH.

Make Furious Attack on a Nine Mile Front North of the Amiens-Noyon Road.

(News and Observer.)

Paris, April 4.—German troops numbering well over a hundred thousand delivered a terrific attack today against the French along a front of nearly nine miles from Grivesnes to north of the Amiens-Roye road. They were met with a storm of fire from the French guns, and although the assaults were repeated time after time, they succeeded in gaining only a small section of ground.

The French retained Grivesnes, but the Germans occupied the villages of Mailly, Raineval and Morisel. The announcement by the war office tonight of this new offensive also says that by a powerful counter-attack the French made progress at this point.

London, April 4.—South of the river Somme the Germans launched heavy attacks early this morning on the British and French forces, says a statement issued this evening by the British war office. On the British front the enemy made progress in the direction of Hamel and the Bois de Vaire.

On the French front, immediately on the right of the British, the Germans, according to the statement, gained ground in the angle between the rivers Luce and Avre.

### May Be Beginning of Enemy's Greatest Effort.

Washington, April 4.—Renewal of the German assaults against the British and French lines in Picardy today indicated to military observers here that the Germans, having gathered strength during the lull of the past few days, might now be ready to launch their greatest effort. Some officers think the allied commanders realize that only the first phase of the gigantic battle has passed, and that this probably accounts for the fact that no extensive counter-movement has been undertaken as yet.

It is pointed out that the previous record of the German high command argues against any possibility that it would be content with minor strategic advantages already gained by their costly enterprises. The battle of Verdun continued for months before the Germans admitted their object was unattainable.

### THE DAYLIGHT SAVING LAW.

#### Full Text of the Law Which Went Into Effect Saturday Night.

An Act to save daylight and to provide standard time for the United States.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that, for the purpose of establishing the standard time of the United States, the territory of continental United States shall be divided into five zones in a manner hereinafter provided.

Sec. 1. The standard time of the first zone shall be based on the mean astronomical time of the seventy-fifth degree of longitude west from Greenwich; that of the second zone on the ninetyth degree that of the third zone on the one hundred and fifth degree; that of the fourth zone on the one hundred and twentieth degree; and that of the fifth zone, which shall include only Alaska, on the one hundred and fiftieth degree. That limits of each zone shall be defined by an order of the Interest Commerce Commission, having regard for the convenience of commerce and the existing junction points and division points of common carriers engaged in commerce between the several States and with foreign nations, and such order may be modified from time to time.

Sec. 2. That within the respective zones created under the authority hereof the standard time of the zone

shall govern the movement of all common carriers engaged in commerce between the several States or between a State and any of the Territories of the United States, between a State or the Territory of Alaska and any of the insular possessions of the United States or any foreign country. In all statutes, orders, rules, and regulations relating to the time of performance of any act by any officer or department of United States, whether in the legislative, executive, or judicial branches of the Government, or relating to the time within which any rights shall accrue or determine or within which any act shall or shall not be performed by any person subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, it shall be understood and intended that the time shall be the United States standard time of the zone within which the act is to be performed.

Sec. 3. That at two o'clock antemeridian of the last Sunday in March each year the standard time of each zone shall advance one hour, and at two o'clock antemeridian of the last Sunday in October in each year the standard time of each zone shall, by the retarding of one hour, be returned to the mean astronomical time of the degree of longitude governing said zone, so that between the last Sunday in October at two o'clock antemeridian in each year the standard time in each zone shall be one hour in advance of the mean astronomical time of the degree of longitude governing each zone, respectively.

### MANY NAMES ARE THE SAME.

#### One Hundred Thousand "Smiths" Listed in Allotment Files in Bureau of War-Risk Insurance.

There are more than \$100,000 "Smiths" listed in the allotment and allowance files of the Bureau of War-Risk Insurance of the Treasury Department—1,040 John Smiths, 200 John A. Smiths, 1,560 William Smiths and 200 William H. Smiths. It takes 110 card index trays and a good-sized squad of filing experts to keep track of all the enlisted men in the fighting forces of the country who answer to the name of "Smith."

There are more than 2,000,000 cards in the allotment and allowance files of the Bureau of War-Risk Insurance, and because of the great repetition of certain names Secretary McAdoo has asked all soldiers and sailors to give their full names, not initials, in applications and in correspondence, and to write all names in a clear, legible hand, printing them out rather than using script.

#### Full Name and Address Necessary.

There are 262 John J. O'Briens in the files and is 50 cases the wife's name is "Mary." There are 15,000 Millers and 15,000 Wilsons on file in the bureau. There are 1,000 John Browns, and 1,200 John Johnsons. It is not enough to say "George Miller," for there are 1,040 of these, nor is it enough to say "George J. Miller," for this is not unique. The full name and the complete post-office address are both necessary to identify a man.

Soldiers and sailors are therefore urged to give explicit complete careful information concerning their names, post-office addresses, and rank and organization at time of application, in their applications and in letters addressed to the bureau.

#### Aab First Name on List.

The honor of holding first place in the alphabetical card catalogue system goes to Clayton Aloysius Aab, second-class seaman, now somewhere on the high seas on an American battleship. He is closely pressed, however, by Earl Olaf Aabel. The names then runs by the hundreds of thousands all the letters of the alphabet and end with Joseph Zyny.

The importance of clear, legible hand writing is strongly emphasized by the Bureau of War-Risk Insurance. Allotment and allowance awards have sometimes been delayed by baffling signatures, by incomplete addresses, and by failure to notify postal authorities of removal. In correspondence with the bureau and on all applications, names and addresses should be printed, rather than written in script.—The Official Bulletin.

#### Too Late for this Issue.

For some reason our Clayton letter did not reach us until this morning. This makes it too late for this issue. We regret the omission, but when Uncle Sam's mails fail to bring letters to us or, time, we cannot help it.

## GETTING READY FOR ANOTHER BIG BATTLE

### EITHER SIDE MAY TAKE OFFENSIVE AT ANY TIME.

The Feeling Prevails That Another Great Battle Will Soon Be Raging on Somme.

### ENTENTE'S TROOPS EAGER.

After Respite of Several Days They Want to Get at The Enemy Again.

The papers for yesterday morning carried the following Associated Press War Summary:

Although the fighting activity along the entire front of the new Somme offensive remains slight, there still prevails the feeling that soon again battles on a large scale will begin, and with the allied troops after the respite of several days strongly arrayed in battle formation and eager to test their strength against that of the foe.

From the Somme to the Oise river, along that portion of the battleline which bulges out toward Amiens, Ailly and Breteuil, the big guns of the opposing side have opened in duels of great proportions, and it apparently is not unreasonable to assume that either side at any moment may take the offensive with their infantry in resumption of a battle which ranks among the greatest the world has ever seen.

Since the beginning of the present week there has been no marked change in the alignment of the opposing sides from Arras southward to Chauny. The fighting has lacked the sanguinary character of the previous days, owing in the part, no doubt, to the extremely bad weather conditions. Neither the Germans nor the allies have been idle, however, for daily there has been going on a reinforcement of strategic positions, both in man and gun power for the coming engagement upon which it is conceded so much depends for the victors.

In the vicinity of Lens artillery duels of intensity have been revived on some sectors and in Belgium at various points reciprocal shelling continues. In both these regions, however the infantry has kept to the trenches, except for patrols and reconnoitering purposes. An American sector has been heavily attacked with gas.

In the Italian theater there still is no indication of when the expected big battle between the Italians and the Teutonic allies will burst, but daily there is increasing activity all along the front.

Along the various fronts the firemen of both sides are keeping up their intensive activity, bombing positions behind the lines, searching out troop and transport movements and engaging in aerial combats. The French war office reports more than 13 tons of projectiles having been dropped on German railroads and cantonments at Ham, Chauny and Noyon, also in the region of Roye in the Arras front.

The Austro-Hungarian foreign minister, Count Czernin, in an address to the Vienna municipal council has declared that Austria-Hungary did not intend to go begging for peace, "but to enforce it by our moral right and physical strength."

### RED CROSS GIRLS HELPED TO DIRECT MILITARY TRAFFIC.

Paris, April 2.—Girls attached to one front line unit of the Red Cross made a fine record in the recent German offensive.

At Roye they took over the direction of military traffic. One girl in gray uniform standing at the four corners directed columns of guns, cavalry, supply wagons, and troops, thus preventing a terrific jam.

The unit had been located at Grey-court, a few miles back of the lines, doing reconstruction and relief work, when the offensive began. They were the last women to leave several towns before the Germans entered, and were on duty in half a dozen villages, widely separated, when word came of the German advance.

They aided hundreds of refugees to the railheads, and established a temporary kitchen in one town, feeding 250 British soldiers who had not eaten for hours.

Show your patriotism by contributing to the American Red Cross.

### AT THE CAPITAL OF BANNER.

Fine Speech Made by R. W. Herring on War Situation. Death of Jesse West, Age 65 Years. Death of a Five Year Old Child. Personal Items of Interest to Many.

Benson, N. C., April 4.—Mr. Seth Creech who is in Chapel Hill arrived last night and will spend a few days here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Willis Creech.

Miss Ethel Hege, of Winston-Salem, left this week after spending several days here at the home of Dr. and Mrs. J. F. Martin.

Chief Henry and Mrs. Henry spent Monday at Bues Creek with relatives and friends.

Mr. O. C. Hill went to Sanford Sunday and returned Monday.

Capt. J. W. Goodrich was taken to Rocky Mount to a hospital Tuesday morning for treatment.

Miss Flora Canaday, of Raleigh, spent a few days here recently with her sister, Mrs. O. A. Barbour.

Mr. J. M. Henry, father of our townsman Chief Henry, is quite sick at his home near here for the past few days.

Miss Maybelle Cobb, of the Benson School Faculty, is in Fremont this week with relatives who are sick.

Mr. Lausie Hodges was discharged recently from service at Camp Jackson and returned home yesterday.

Mr. J. F. Blackman, of Camp Jackson, was here Sunday spending the day with Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Henry. Judge W. S. O'B. Robinson, of Goldsboro, was here for a short while yesterday talking to his friends on business matters.

Miss Nettie Anderson, of Raleigh, was here for a few days recently visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Anderson.

Mr. and Mrs. Uriah Britt are visiting relatives in Bentonsville township this week.

Sheriff and Mrs. Turlington, of Harnett County, were here Sunday spending the day with Mr. and Mrs. Eli Turlington.

Mr. Eli Morgan left yesterday for Norfolk where he is enlisted in the here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jesse D. Morgan.

Messrs. Claud Canaday and J. F. Lee were visitors to Fayetteville yesterday on business matters.

Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Johnson, of Oxford, were here a few days recently at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Johnson.

Misses Dixon and Kerfees, of the School Faculty here, recently spent a day or two at Camp Sevier, Greenville, S. C.

Mr. and Mrs. L. Gilbert, and L. Gilbert, Jr., were visitors to Smithfield Tuesday.

Mr. W. E. Barbour, of Four Oaks, was here Wednesday on business matters.

Mr. Cleon Austin, of Clayton township, was here for a short while Tuesday on business.

Mrs. Pat. Moore has gone to her home at Wendell after spending several days here with Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Peacock.

Miss Annie Laurie Wicker spent Sunday at her home in Elon College visiting relatives.

Miss Myrtle Ashcraft spent last Sunday with relatives in Florence, S. C.

Mr. Nady Ennis, who has been in the hospital at Fayetteville, for the past several days has returned home much improved.

Mr. Haywood Dixon continues sick at his home a few miles west of Benson.

Willie Norris, the five year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Norris, of Elevation township, died last Friday night of meningitis and was buried Saturday afternoon at St. Mary's church. The little girl had only been sick for a day or two and her death was a shock to her friends and relatives.

Miss Ida Wilkes, who has been holding a position with the Farmers Commercial Bank, left Monday for Slocum, where she has accepted a position.

Mr. and Mrs. Darius Duncan, of Raleigh, are here this week spending some time with Mrs. Sarah Duncan and Mr. and Mrs. Claud Canaday.

One of the finest speeches which has been made during the war was delivered last Tuesday night by Hon. R. W. Herring, of Fayetteville. Mr. Herring is a splendid speaker and has a clear in-sight into the real causes of the war. It is to be regret-

### THE SPIRIT THAT WILL WIN THE WAR.

Prominent Johnston County Farmer Offers Wheat Crop of 1917 and 1918 to Government at Its Own Figure. Will Use Corn Bread Himself.

Raleigh, April 4.—Evidences of the patriotism of the great body of North Carolina farmers are continually appearing. No more ringingly patriotic and inspiring communication has come into the office of the North Carolina Food Administration than a terse letter from Mr. Walter Rand, a prominent farmer of Johnston County, who lives on Garner, Route 1. Every word of Mr. Rand's letter is worth reproducing. Here it is:

"Mr. H. A. Page, Raleigh, N. C.,

"Dear Sir:—

"I saw in yesterday's paper that the breadstuff of the French soldiers had been cut on account of the wheat shortage. I have about 60 bushels of fine wheat (raised on my farm) that the government can have at their own figures delivered anywhere they say at any time. I have about 75 acres in wheat this year and as soon as that is cut they can have every grain of it except enough to plant another year. We will eat corn bread and guarantee not to use one dust of flour."

WALTER RAND.

Needless to say Mr. Page was highly pleased with Mr. Rand's letter. "This is the spirit that will win the war," he declared.

### U. S. TO CONSTRUCT GUN HURLING SHELL 105 MILES.

Washington, April 1.—The United States Navy Department plans to construct a long-range gun capable of carrying 105 miles.

It will be developed along the so-called subcaliber plan.

This embodies the creation of a large gun of big caliber and the inserting therein of a tube for a smaller caliber shell.

Secretary of the Navy Daniels is understood to be favorable to putting the plan into execution as soon as possible. On the other hand, some navy authorities believe such a gun would be of no military importance and would mean an inhuman warfare upon civilians such as America has never sanctioned.

However, it is the intention to go ahead with the sub-caliber gun and probably it will be used eventually to fire into Berlin, in retaliation for the long-range firing upon Paris. Such a gun is bound to be more or less inaccurate, and only valuable as a means of retaliation.

Military authorities who were frankly skeptical when the Paris bombardment first occurred, now admit it is possible to develop a gun which would shoot 105 miles.

To do this it will be necessary to develop a tube longer than any now used by the United States. The longest gun is a 16-inch, on one of the new dreadnaughts. This is about 65 to 70 feet long, but the new gun would develop a muzzle velocity for the shell of 5,000 feet per second, as against a velocity of 2,600 feet per second, which is about normal.

It will be necessary to provide a special powder which burns extremely quickly.

It is likely that only one—or at least only a very few such guns will be produced.—Baltimore American.

### Bradley-Holt.

Mr. Andrew L. Bradley and Miss Mittie Holt went to Goldsboro Tuesday evening, April 2nd and were married.

Mr. Bradley is a member of Co. D, 120th Infantry at Camp Sevier. Mr. Bradley was in the first contingent to leave Smithfield last fall and went to Camp Jackson, and later transferred to Camp Sevier.

ted that a larger crowd did not hear his speech.

Dr. J. A. Martin, of Lumberton, was here for a few days recently visiting his brothers Drs. W. T. and J. F. Martin.

Mr. Jesse West who lived near Hannah's creek died at his home last Monday afternoon and was buried Tuesday. He was past sixty-five years of age and had been in feeble health for several weeks. His remains were buried at Hannah's Creek church of which he was a member.

## TO INCREASE NUMBER OF SECOND DRAFT

Army Officials Expect to Have 3,000,000 Under Arms Within a Year.

### MANY MORE TO BE CALLED

President is Resolved That Reinforcements Shall Be Poured into France.

Washington, April 2.—President Wilson's decision to place all the military resources of the nation, including its deep reservoirs of man-power, at the disposal of General Foch and the Entente Allies for use when needed in the campaign against Germany, is being followed by definite plans for putting more men in France at the earliest possible moment.

Not only is it the purpose of the President, as Commander in Chief of the Army, to rush all troops in training over to Europe as rapidly as it can be done consistently with the safety of the great movement of men involved, but it is the plan to hurry along the second draft and increase the size of the second call to the colors. Several weeks ago it was announced that the basic number for the second call would be approximately 800,000 men. It is understood that plans have now been made for nearly doubling the number of men to be drafted during the next twelve months.

The statement was made today that during that period the number of men to be drafted will probably be much nearer 1,500,000, bringing up to more than 3,000,000 the total number of men put into military training by the Government including the regulars, National Guard and national army units.

A report was current late this afternoon that General Crowder, the Provost Marshal General, had been called upon to supply a much larger number of drafted men in April than had been expected prior to this time. When General Crowder was asked whether the quota for the second call had been increased beyond 800,000 and he had been called upon to furnish more this month than had been contemplated, he said that he had received no new orders, and that any information regarding draft plans would have to come from the War Department or from Major Gen. March, the acting Chief of Staff.

The aggregate strength of the American forces now abroad and at home, on active duty and in training camps, is between 1,500,000 and 1,600,000 men. This includes regulars stationed in the Philippines, Hawaii and Panama and at Continental posts. It also embraces all branches of the service, combat and non-combatant.—The New York Times.

### Death of Mr. I. J. Eason.

On Friday night, March 29, 1918, the death angel came to the home of Mrs. I. J. Eason and bore away her beloved husband. On Friday night, March 22, 1918, just as he was retiring, he was stricken with paralysis and was not able to leave his bed again. He was sixty-two years old.

He bore his suffering with much patience, and remarked several times that he would soon be at rest.

On the second Sunday in March he joined the Missionary Baptist church at Live Oak and was to have been baptized the second Sunday in April. But the death angel called him before he was baptized. Still we feel that he is asleep in Jesus and is at rest.

Just before his spirit passed away he shook hands with his loved ones and begged them to meet him in a better world.

His funeral was preached by Rev. R. R. Lanier, and his body laid to rest in the family burying ground. All was done for him that physicians and loved ones could do, but none could stay the icy hand of death. He had finished his work and went to receive his reward.

He leaves a wife, five children, three brothers, and two sisters besides many friends to mourn for him. But they do not mourn as those who have no hope for their loved ones.

### FRIEND.

P. S. The deceased was a brother of Mr. W. M. Eason who lives near the Smithfield Cotton Mills.