

German Declaration Of War On United States Expected

Judge Henry L. Stevens Makes Stirring Patriotic Addresses To Two Audiences Here Yesterday

Describes Japanese Attack As The Most Dastardly Yet Made

It Is Now Time To Realize That Situation Is Not a National Joke

In a stirring patriotic address, punctuated by experiences gained in World War No. 1 and linked closely with the dastardly Japanese attack made upon American lives and property last Sunday, Superior Court Judge Henry L. Stevens, former National Commander of the American Legion, pleaded last night before a small audience in the American Legion hut for guns, supplies and support to our armed forces and commander-in-chief sufficient to "whip ten Japans." His address, a part of a program arranged around a dedicatory program and the presentation of John W. Hassell's portrait, was well received.

Extending congratulations to the legionnaires for the work they had accomplished, Judge Stevens said he hardly knew what to say, but seconds later he had taken up the treachery of a double-crossing Japanese militarists as his subject, and he condemned the aggressors, pausing often to say that Americanism would win the battle.

"I feel vastly different tonight from the way I felt last Saturday," Judge Stevens said. "I was worried about the people taking the serious situation facing this country as a national joke. Soldiers and sailors were running home week-ends. People were griping and belly-aching because they could not buy gas from 7 to 7. They were sore because the streets were darkened a few nights. It appeared that people were not willing to make even small sacrifices. But maybe it was not so bad after all, for as news started coming in Sunday night from Pearl Harbor, one's nerves began to tingle. An enemy had challenged our integrity, our freedom and our way of life, and we felt then, and feel now that under God we will protect that integrity, that freedom and that way of life."

"Those treacherous, sawed-off, double-crossing yellow Japs struck four blows below the belt. They did not say war would start at a certain time, but on a balmy Sunday afternoon just a few days before Christ's birthday and when our troops were relaxed and on leave for the week-end and when the scheming envoys were talking peace in Washington they advanced one of the most dastardly attacks ever made by any government, superceding German tactics if such are possible."

"In the last war," Judge Stevens continued, "I was a captain of a machine gun company just as our hero whose memory we honor here tonight was. At that time I faulted German military leadership and not the people for the debacle. After 20 years I have decided I was wrong. I have seen the German people, as a whole, burrow under and plow over country after country. I now blame it on every man, woman and child in Germany. It is a bloody attitude, but I only wish they had turned us loose instead of stopping us on November 11, 1918, and allowed us to kill the barbarians down to the cradle, for from the time of the Hun, they have caused trouble. I believe Germany instigated and initiated the Japanese attack on Hawaii."

"But with that attack heretofore discordant chords have been harmonized and unified. Grievances have been banished, and where we

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No One Hurt When Automobiles Crash

No one was hurt and no great property damage resulted when Brownie Whitehurst crashed his 35 model car into the rear of an old 29 model driven by Jesse B. Williams, colored, on the old River Road between Hamilton and Palmyra last Thursday night. Damage to both cars was estimated at \$50 by Patrolman Whit Saunders who investigated the accident soon after it was reported the following day.

After plowing into the Williams car, Whitehurst apparently lost control of his machine and it continued into a nearby yard, coming to a stop only after striking a tree.

Whitehurst claims Williams was parked in the highway. Both were charged with careless and reckless driving and were given a hearing last evening.

CALL FOR MEN!

Due to the state of war that now exists, the United States Marine Corps needs men urgently. Men between the ages of 17 and 30, now have an opportunity to enlist in the most outstanding military organization in the world.

The Marine Corps has always played an important and brilliant part in all wars that the United States was involved in. At this time, those who want to show their true patriotism for our country, may enlist at the Raleigh recruiting station for the duration of the emergency in the Marine Corps.

Timely Program For Dedication Of Post Hut Monday Night

Portrait of Late John W. Hassell Presented to Legion Post Bearing His Name

Free of debt and growing, the John Walton Hassell Post, No. 163, of the American Legion dedicated its building on Watts Street here last evening with a timely and very fitting program which was featured by the presentation of John Walton Hassell's portrait and by an address by a former National Commander of the American Legion, Judge Henry L. Stevens.

John Walton Hassell, a native of Williamston, was the first American officer from Martin County to give his life for his country in the first World War, and strangely enough the program to do honor to his memory was scheduled for the same day in which the Congress of the United States declared a state of war existed between this country and Japan.

The program last evening rekindled in the minds of the small crowd the value of Americanism and the American way of life, and made one feel that Mr. Hassell and the millions of others who sacrificed their lives did not do so in vain.

Miss Clyde Hassell, sister of Mr. Hassell who was among the first from this county to volunteer his services in 1917, presented the portrait to the Legion post and it was unveiled by little Miss Mary Carolyn Leggett, a cousin of the late Mr. Hassell. The portrait was accepted for the post by Elbert S. Peel who read a brief review of Mr. Hassell's life and a letter describing him in service and his death in France on July 18, 1918. "The same challenge that faced Mr. Hassell in 1917 faces us today," Mr. Peel commented.

The local Legion Post first considered the construction of a home back in 1935. A building committee was named and a few years later the structure was completed. The debt remaining after Legionnaires and friends had contributed their services, money and material was cleared with profits from the fair held this year. The key was presented to H. G. Horton, representative of Commander J. R. Winslow who was unable to attend on account of a death in his family.

J. Sam Getsinger, a member of the Legion, read a resolution of appreciation for the support accorded the post in the construction of the building.

Time To Forget All Grievances, Jurist Tells Grand Jurors

By the Grace and Help of God We Will Handle the Job Now Before Us

Addressing the quarterly meeting of the Martin County grand jury here yesterday, Judge Henry Stevens called for a united effort in the fight against aggressors, and said that by the grace and help of God we will handle the task now before us.

Explaining to the jurymen that he had already outlined their duties in a previous charge, Judge Stevens said that the last report showed everything was in good shape and that he wanted to congratulate the people for the splendid condition. Considering it unnecessary to make a detailed survey of offices, school buses and other public property, the jurist instructed the jurymen their only duty this term was to pass on the bills of indictment and file their report.

In a charge lasting less than five minutes, Judge Stevens, past national commander of the American Legion, stated that this country is now at war. "I don't care whether you like the President and the government or not, but he is our President and this government is our government, and we want to keep them. We want to keep all that is fine and good and just. It is time to bury all our grievances and do our level best to save this country which has been brought about by sweat and blood. We want to fight."

Sailors Return To Posts In Numbers

Advised of the new emergency created by the dastardly action of Japan, sailors returning to their stations, traveled through here in large numbers late Sunday. Agent Banks estimated that more than 100 of the service men were aboard the eleven buses operating on two schedules Sunday night. Their cash running low, many more were bumming their way back to Norfolk to report to their station officers. It was also stated that quite a few traveled by private conveyance through here during the late afternoon and night.

A few soldiers were in this area over the week-end, but most of them were returning to their stations even before the emergency was created. Others made immediate arrangements to report for duty. Raleigh Harrington, a member of the Army Air Corps, was advised by telephone about 1 o'clock yesterday morning to return to his station in Georgia. Daniel Lilley, home from Allsboro Field in the Canal Zone, said yesterday he was looking for a telegram momentarily advising him to return. Young Lilley, stating that he was ready to go, just recently came home on a furlough to stay until after Christmas.

No official announcement had been made early today, but it is not considered likely that the service men will be granted furloughs during the Christmas season. However, it is possible that some few will be able to visit home during the period.

Navy Issues Urgent Call For More Young Men Immediately

Following Japan's dastardly attack on American life and property Sunday, service recruiting stations have been crowded with volunteers, early reports stating that the call to the youth of the land was being answered 10 now to one when war broke out on April 6, 1917.

"The United States is at war and the need for men in America's fighting Navy is urgent," today asserted Lt.-Comdr. McFarland W. Wood, officer-in-charge of Navy recruiting in the Carolinas.

"Carolians have always been foremost in defending this country in time of war and I am sure the people of these two Southern states will not fail to respond now," he declared.

"During all the wars in America's history, the men in North Carolina and South Carolina have joined the colors to fight off attackers, and a quick, large muster of recruits is expected from the Carolinas to help defend the nation in this times of crisis."

Nazis Give Up Hope Of Taking Russian Capital This Winter

Yes, Russia Is Still Fighting The German Barbarians, And Winning, Too

Pushed into the background on the front pages of the American press, the struggle in Russia continues just the same with the Russians claiming victories over the invaders around Tula. The Nazis, said to have virtually abandoned all hope of taking Moscow this winter, are certain to have suffered terrific losses during recent days. An unconfirmed report states that the Germans have lost six million men since the invasion was started last June.

The official report coming from Berlin announcing the virtual withdrawal from the Moscow front and delayed plans for its attack is a bit baffling since one scoundrel, Adolf Hitler, said a short time ago that the Russian armies had been smashed and that Moscow would be taken before Christmas. It is difficult to understand how Hitler is going to explain to his people the failure of the German armies in their Russian campaign. The battle of Russia is still progressing at a fierce pace.

The German announcement can mean one or many things. It can mean that Hitler is withdrawing from Russia in preparation for an all-out attack on England. He may be planning to tighten the blockade around the British Isles and go back to Russia when the weather is more inviting. Many of his men have frozen to death in the cold that has sent the mercury to points as low as 39 degrees below zero, and winter has not struck in all its fury yet.

On the African front, the Germans are said to be withdrawing east of Tobruk without a decisive turn in the desert fighting.

A report from Uruguay this morning stating that a German battleship of the Graf Spee type was operating off the coast of South America.

Aside from talking over a possible court martial for those responsible for the poor defense in Hawaii Sunday, Congressional and departmental leaders are discussing a 150 billion dollar victory program.

Young Boy Hurt In Auto Accident Here

Billie Cullipher, Jr., 14 years old, suffered a broken leg and was slightly bruised, when he rode his bicycle into the path of Mr. George H. Harrison's car on East Main Street, near the Presbyterian church yesterday morning about 10:30 o'clock. The boy was running a school errand when he was hurt.

Riding east on the street, Cullipher turned to the left of a car that was backing from a parking place and into the path of the Harrison car which was traveling slowly at the time. The victim was picked up by Mr. Harrison and removed to the Brown hospital where he is reported to be getting along all right. Both bones in the boy's left leg were broken.

NEW SCHEDULE
A new schedule for the school holidays in this county was announced yesterday, the superintendent stating that most of the white schools would close on Friday of next week and reopen on January 5th. It was not certain today whether Jamesville and Bear Grass would close for the full two weeks or reopen on January 1st, the date proposed in the first schedule. Teachers and several of the committees asked for the longer holiday.

Serious Reverses Experienced By United States Following A Declaration Of War By Japan

American Diplomats Are Ready To Leave Within A Few Hours

One Dissenting Vote Cast As United States Declares War On Monday Afternoon

A formal declaration of war by Germany against the United States is expected within a few hours, according to a news report coming out of Stockholm, Sweden, this morning. The report stated that American diplomats had already packed their earthly belongings and were ready to leave Germany on short notice. Later reports stated that the American diplomats had already left Berlin.

Virtually recognizing a state of war to exist between this country and Germany, the American people could see immediately no marked change in the situation that reached far-reaching and serious proportions two days ago. The action is certain to have a definite meaning in that Germany may center a greater force in the Atlantic in an effort to tighten a blockade around Britain and thwart the delivery of lease-lend supplies. It was also pointed out that such action would make it almost impossible for German naval units to go to Japan's aid in the Pacific, but there is the possibility that Japan and Germany believe their separate forces are adequate to handle the situation in both oceans.

Typical of the Germany we have been warned against, the government has told its people that the United States first attacked Japan and that the attack was without provocation. Under such conditions, false, of course, and in accordance with the tripartite pact, Germany must declare war on the United States.

Local Toy Collection Very Disappointing

Old Santa Claus will not be burdened with toys or other articles when he starts his visits to the humble homes of this community this Christmas. The collection of toys, sponsored by the local Kiwanis Club here last Saturday, was very disappointing. Canvassing the town, the youths gathered hardly enough toys and other articles to fill more than one or two scant packs.

No one is being asked to discard a single toy that might afford joy to the owner, but housewives are earnestly urged to contribute those toys the usefulness of which in their homes has long since gone. Those who found it inconvenient to gather the toys, old clothing or other articles last Saturday are asked to leave word at The Enterprise office and Professor D. N. Hix will send a messenger for the bundle.

If you have a spare dollar or two to spare in the name of needy humanity right here at home, hand it or mail it to Rev. John W. Hardy, treasurer of the Christmas Cheer movement. Don't wait to be canvassed for a donation. Send it today.

Williamston Native Captain Of Battleship In The Pacific

Williamsotn and Martin County are well represented in the thick of the fight between this nation and the treacherous Japs in the Pacific. Complete details are not to be had, but at least half dozen men from this county are attached to the Pacific fleet or are stationed at Pearl Harbor, according to indirect reports heard here during the past few hours.

Reliable reports that Don Godwin, a native of Williamston, is captain of the Battleship Maryland, that the ship was accompanying other ships in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, when one of the group was sunk. It is believed here that Captain Godwin sailed his ship with its crew of approximately 2,000 men out of the harbor to engage the Japs in battle soon after the surprise attack was directed on the harbor and other strategic centers in the Pacific. Meagre information has been received, but according to reports a big naval engagement was underway in the Pacific soon after the attack and again yesterday morning.

REFERENDUM

In the heat of the war now raging, Martin County farmers are urged not to forget to participate in the cotton referendum scheduled throughout the cotton belt next Saturday. Polling places will be opened in most of the townships for the convenience of the cotton growers.

Superior Court In Final Session Of Term On Tuesday

Human Life Apparently Carries Comparatively Little Value In This County

Opening a week's term of Martin Superior Court here yesterday morning for the trial of both criminal and civil cases, Judge Henry L. Stevens cleared the docket and adjourned the tribunal at 11:40 this morning.

The docket, despite two murder cases, attracted very little attention, and the records of the court apparently show that human life apparently carries little value in this county.

Proceedings of the court: Henry Ellison, charged with drunken driving, failed to appear for trial and papers were issued a second time for his arrest.

Pleading guilty in the case charging him with an assault, O. R. Boyd was given a 30 days suspended road term on condition that he pay costs amounting to approximately \$130.

The case charging G. E. Hyman and James Johnson with forgery was not prosecuted.

Mack Peterson, the colored man who stabbed and killed George Purinton in Williamston's beer garden district a few weeks ago, was pleaded guilty on a charge of manslaughter and was sentenced to State Prison for not less than three and not more than five years.

Charged with temporary larceny, Thomas Ryan, Jr., was found not guilty.

Leon Mizelle, charged with reckless driving and manslaughter, was released, the court directing a verdict of not guilty.

The case charging Howard Griffin with forging J. H. Gaylord's name to a check in the sum of \$14.32 and cashed by a Williamston hotel clerk, was continued.

A verdict of not guilty was directed by the court in the case charging John R. Bryant with drunken driving and manslaughter. Solicitor Gillingham told the court that the State would not be justified on the basis of the evidence in asking for a verdict of guilty.

Charged with seduction, Ervin Cullipher was given a two years' term.

Three Thousand Are Killed and Wounded In Hawaiian Attack

Germans Are Told U. S. Attacked Japan First and Without Cause

Described as the most treacherous and dastardly attack in all military annals, the double-crossing Japan brought war home in a tragic way to the United States Sunday, killing and wounding 3,000 persons, including 350 American soldiers, and fanning the war flame into a world-wide conflagration.

A declaration of war by Germany on the United States, according to a report early this morning from Sweden, is expected within a few hours. It is an all-out affair with the first advantage going to the treacherous attackers.

Dazed and still suffering a dull ache from the first blow on the nose, this country is now rapidly whipping its defenses into shape, observers stating that the German-inspired, double-crossing, sawed-off yellow skunks have scored their greatest victory. That they will make more progress is not to be doubted. That the struggle now underway will last a long time is recognized in reliable quarters as certain.

The declaration of war by Japan, coming after the brutal and surprise attack was made and when Japanese envoys were talking peace in Washington, solidified American opinion in a matter of seconds. What we had been asked to do by our government and which we had argued about and put off we came together as one to take action. The die has been cast.

President Roosevelt will speak to the nation tonight for 30 minutes beginning at 10 o'clock. He is expected to go into details as they relate to the war and our plans for prosecuting the war. Possibly some of the reports heard will be clarified. Until he speaks the country is still biding its ears for reports and rumors of reports.

About 8 o'clock Sunday morning or about 2 o'clock Sunday afternoon, our time, Japanese planes made a surprise attack on Pearl Harbor in the Territory of Hawaii. Two ships, a battleship believed to have been the Oklahoma, and a destroyer were sunk in the harbor. Other ships may have been damaged. Approximately 200 airplanes were damaged or destroyed. Fifteen hundred persons, including about 350 United States soldiers, were killed and a like number wounded. Two or three Japanese planes were shot down, but the surprise attack caught the defenders from their posts of duty in many instances. That portion of the United States fleet escaping damage steamed out of the harbor later in the day, unofficial reports stating that a naval engagement followed. No report on such a battle has been received.

From Hawaii, the attack was directed to other parts of the Pacific. Three American freighters, one between San Francisco and Hawaii, were attacked and sunk. Thailand folded up with ten hours, and reports today state that the Burma Road, China's life line, had been attacked. Wake and Guam Islands, secondary American bases, are reported to have fallen into the hands of the invaders. Attacks were made on the strong British base of Singapore, killing sixty persons and wounding nearly 200 others. Invasion efforts are being made in other quarters.

Man Is Injured In Automobile Wreck

Joshua Rascoe, local colored man, was painfully but not seriously cut on the head in an automobile accident near Mickey's Inn on Highway 64 last Sunday evening at 7:30 o'clock. Rascoe was not injured in the wreck itself, according to one report which stated that his head was pushed through the windshield by another passenger who stampeded out of the car. Rascoe was hospitalized and later discharged with several stitches in his head.

Ira Clark, driver of the car in which Rascoe and several other colored boys were riding, ran into the back end of a car driven by Hardy H. Smallwood. Damage to the cars was estimated at \$25 by Patrolman Saunders. Charlie Clark, one of the passengers in the Ira Clark car, was arrested, Patrolman Saunders stating that Charlie while in a drunken condition drove the car after the accident.