



The GLORIOUS FOURTH

The dawn of the Fourth—the old annual story—
The nervous man's dread and the small boy's glory,
The east is yet gray when all the land rumbles,
And the small cannon pops and the big cannon grumbles,
And the torrid sun creeps through a blue haze of powder,
And the torpedoes snap and the cannons boom louder—
On the Fourth of July—
The old-fashioned Fourth of July.

Glorious Victory of TRENTON

The winter night is cold and drear,
Along the river's sullen flow;
The cruel frost is camping here—
The air has living blades of snow,
Look! pushing from the icy strand,
With engines freezing in the air,
There sails a small, but mighty band,
Across the dangerous Delaware.

A rush—a shout—a clarion call,
Salute the early morning's gray;
Now, roused invaders, yield, or fall;
The worthy land has won the day!
Soon shall the glorious news be hurled
Wherever men have wrongs to bear;
For freedom's torch illumines the world,
And God has crossed the Delaware!

—Will Carleton.

THE winter of 1776, the year of the glorious Declaration of Independence, found the fortunes of the budding nation at their lowest ebb. Beaten, buffeted and broken, the little army of George Washington had been pushed beyond the Delaware. He had scarce 4,000 men to command, while Cornwallis and Howe, the British commanders, had six times that many scattered over New Jersey and New York.

Many Americans were becoming disgusted with the war. Even Washington's troops were disheartened and he faced the calamity of having all but 1,500 of them quit the service the first of the year, when their enlistment expired. To make matters worse, General Gates and some other high officers in the army were trying to influence congress against Washington. They used every argument they could to discredit their leader.

Brilliant Strategy.

But while almost the entire country was losing heart, Washington was planning a brilliant stroke to revive the patriotism of the people and the enthusiasm of his troops. He determined to strike a blow at the British forces in New Jersey, a dangerous thing to do, one must admit, when it is remembered that he was outnumbered six to one.

He was too wise a man to risk battle with the main British force. He decided to attack one of the detachments

occupying the various cities of New Jersey. After careful deliberation he selected Trenton as the point to be stormed. It was nearest his own position across the river and the majority of the troops there were Hessians, German soldiers England had hired to fight in America. Cornwallis and Howe had gone to New York with their staffs, where social life and gaiety was at a higher pitch than in the little New Jersey towns.

Left Trail of Blood.

Washington's plan was to cross the river Christmas night with a body of picked troops, a time when he thought the German commander, Colonel Rahl, and his officers and men would be carousing. He assembled the attacking force quietly on his side of the river.

Some of the troops Washington had ordered to join him failed to arrive at the crossing point in time. But despite that disappointment Washington pushed on. He determined to make the attack with the column he had accompanied. Washington's troops were so poorly clad on the march that day that a courier from General Gates in Philadelphia was able to trail Washington's force by bloody footprints in the snow. When men key their courage to that point nothing can stop them.

Patriots' Powder Spoiled.

Delay at the ferry made an attack before daylight impossible. Washington had hoped to surprise the British and Hessians. The river was filled with floating ice and it looked for a time as if most of the little army might be drowned in crossing. But fortune smiled on them and none was lost.

Once on the New Jersey side, at a point about nine miles from Trenton,



Washington Watching the Last of His Troops Land Before the Battle.

a terrific storm of snow and sleet drove into the faces of the soldiers. It soon ruined what little powder Washington's men had, so the order was passed to rely on the bayonet. Washington

divided his men into two columns, one under General Sullivan and one under General Greene. They were to march by different roads and attack the British outposts simultaneously.

"Advance and Charge!"

General Sullivan became somewhat dubious about the outcome while on the march and sent a messenger to Washington to ask what should be done. "Advance and charge," was Washington's succinct reply. Washington said in his report the next day that he might have retreated at this time had he thought he could have crossed the river without being discovered by the British.

It was nearly eight o'clock before the American advance met the first British outposts. The latter were attacked quickly and driven back on the town without trouble. A rattle of musketry from the outposts announced the beginning of the battle. Wayne Whipple says in his "Life of Washington" that the Americans were so mad that morning that they would have attacked the British with broomsticks.

Washington's surmise about Colonel Rahl and his officers was correct. They had spent the night at the home of Abraham Hunt, drinking and making merry. Hunt had furnished them an elaborate Christmas supper. While the supper was in progress, late that night, a negro servant entered the room and gave Colonel Rahl a note. The latter thrust it in his pocket without looking at it. It was fortunate for America that he was too drunk to act properly, for that note was from a Tory warning him of Washington's approach.

Hessian Colonel Killed.

While the officers drank and sang Washington's men had fought their way into the outskirts of the town. The British cannon was captured and trained down the streets on their former owners. The sound of firing brought realization of the danger to Colonel Rahl and he rushed from the Hunt house to form his men. He was a brave man, but he had stayed too long at his merrymaking. More than a thousand Hessians had surrendered already. Colonel Rahl rallied some men and made a show of resistance. Almost the first fire wounded him mortally.

When the Hessians saw their commander fall, some of them started to retreat toward Princeton. But Washington sent a detachment to head them off and they soon surrendered.

Long before noon the Americans were in possession of the entire city and the British and Hessian prisoners were being transported across the river for safe-keeping. Washington sent couriers to congress with the joyful news. It spread quickly over the country and enthused the cause of liberty so well that Washington was able to hold his army together and face the British in the spring with determination and courage.

ENROLL BOYS FOR PRODUCTIVE WORK

T. E. BROWNE SENDS OUT LETTER AND ASKS ORGANIZED AGENCIES TO ASSIST HIM.

DISPATCHES FROM RALEIGH

Doings and Happenings That Mark the Progress of North Carolina People, Gathered Around the State Capital.

Raleigh.

As State Director of the National Boys' Working Reserve, Mr. T. E. Browne has started the work of getting enrolled for productive labor all available young men between the ages of sixteen and twenty-one. He is sending out letters to the secretaries of the Y. M. C. A. organizations through the State, Boy Scout Masters, Secretaries of Chambers of Commerce and Boards of Trade to the men whose names are sent. Enrollment cards will be mailed and it is urged that these agencies assist in getting the boys of the towns and the cities enrolled.

"I have recently been appointed State Director of the National Boys' Working Reserve. The purpose of this organization is to secure the names and addresses of all young men between the ages of sixteen and twenty-one who are available for some kind of productive labor either upon the farm or in industrial plants, and who are willing to be employed for not less than three weeks. To those whose names are forwarded to the state director, or some designated enrolling officers, enrollment cards, eligibility rules, oath of service and other literature will be mailed. When the card and other blanks are properly filled out and returned to this office, the signer is enrolled in the Boys' Working Reserve and an effort made to get him employment consistent with his desires. The farm demonstration agents and other organizations are rapidly securing the names of farmers and industrial workers who are in need of help.

"This letter is going to secretaries of the Y. M. C. A.'s, Boy Scout Masters, Secretaries of Chambers of Commerce and Boards of Trade with the hope that they will assist the State Director in getting the boys of the town and cities enrolled. We cannot hope to get the country boys into this organization for the reason that they are needed upon their own or their fathers' farms. This organization does not accept for membership boys working upon a project in which they have a personal interest. For this reason, members of the various agricultural club activities can only become members when they have extra time to be devoted to work upon some neighbor's farm. North Carolina has always been found doing its work in every national crisis. This is an opportunity for the boys of the cities and towns who are not eligible for enlistment in the army to 'do their bit' toward the production of crops and the manufacture of necessary articles, which is just as important a part of the nation's defense as fighting and at the same time, receive pay.

"It is desirable that we have a large enrollment in the Boys' Working Reserve that labor may be available for the harvest of the large crop of food and feed crops which we are expecting to be made this year. Boys who successfully comply with the requirements of the organization will be awarded a Federal badge, a very pretty bronze medal, indicating that they are members of the national organization which is rendering a necessary patriotic service. It is very much desired that the various papers of the state and all organizations interested in the securing of profitable employment of their thousands of city boys who are unemployed during the summer, and who can furnish the necessary labor for the farmers, will give 'his movement all possible publicity. The State Director will furnish all the information possible to those who are interested."

New Enterprises Authorized.

The Forsyth Auto Company of Rural Hall; capital \$25,000 authorized and \$1,000 subscribed by J. G. Clayton, J. R. Clayton and others for operating auto lines in Forsyth and Stokes counties.

The Allen-Worley Furniture Company, of Wilson; capital \$25,000 authorized and \$3,000 subscribed by George L. Allen and others.

The Louis L. Liggett Company, of Boston, domesticates with principal North Carolina office in Durham. The capital is \$6,753,000.

Will Name Federal Boards.

The war department called on Governor Bickett to recommend two federal district exemption boards for service in connection with the work of passing on the claims of exemption that were recorded in the selective draft registrations June 5. Private Secretary Sanford Martin took the matter up with the governor over the long distance telephone, he being on his visitation to the eastern Carolina fisheries. The names of those the governor will recommend will go forward at once.

Will Attend Prison Meeting.

Superintendent J. R. Collie, Chairman H. P. Varner, of the board of directors, and Rev. N. C. Hughes, chaplain, will represent the North Carolina state's prison at a special session of the American Prison Association to be in progress in Washington July 2 and 3. The meeting is to especially consider "The Prisons in Their Relation to the War Situation." This is to have special bearing on how best to utilize the prison working forces during the progress of the war.

Auto Tax Soon Due Again.

The time has again come around for paying the automobile tax and the secretary of state, J. Bryan Grimes, is mailing out copies of the new state automobile law, which is sweeping in its provisions.

Some of the provisions of the act, especially those that have been changed or added, are given for the benefit of the owners of cars. One which is being constantly violated will, after July 1, be rigidly enforced throughout the state. This is section 13, which makes it unlawful for children under sixteen years of age to operate an automobile upon any public highway.

Section 17 provides for a maximum speed of eighteen miles in the residence section of a city or town, ten miles in the business section, and twenty-five miles in the country. The muffler cannot be cut out in any incorporated city or town.

Section 20 protects the owners of cars by making it unlawful for any person to use an automobile without the knowledge or consent of the owner, expressed or implied.

Section 21 provides the penalty for a violation of any section of the act, providing that upon conviction the fine is not to exceed \$50, or imprisonment for more than thirty days.

In his note to the automobile owners, Secretary Grimes calls attention to two provisions of the law as follows:

"Beginning with July 1, every machine operated on the highways of this state shall be equipped with dimmers or defectors so arranged that no portion of the beam or reflected light when measured seventy-five feet or more ahead of the lamps shall rise above forty-two inches from the level surface on which the vehicle stands under all conditions of load.

"Under chapter 140, public laws of 1917, two plates, one to be placed on the front of a registered motor vehicle and one on the rear thereof, are to be furnished. These plates must be rigidly fastened to the machine—at least fifteen inches above the ground. Do not swing them to the axle. Under no circumstances can the 1917-18 plates be used on your machine until July 1."

Appointed Bee Specialist.

Announcement is made that C. L. Sams, of Madison county, has been appointed bee-keeping specialist in the entomology division of the state department of agriculture, and he takes up his duties at once, working under the direction of State Entomologist Franklin Sherman. Mr. Sherman says of the bee industry in this state that it is assuming very important proportions and in this period of high cost of living, bees will be found an especially profitable "side line," there being no work or expense to the industry except the care of the bees and gathering the honey. Mr. Sams has been long interested in bee culture and has 150 hives at his place in Madison county now.

Mr. Sherman reports one beekeeper in Martin county as having 450 hives now and working with the view of having 1,000 hives just as quickly as he can develop the additional colonies. One North Carolina beekeeper reported recently having 650 gallons of extracted honey for sale.

Bickett Declines Barbecue Speeches.

Numbers of invitations are coming in to Governor Bickett for him to speak at barbecues and other festive occasions, especially barbecues, and he is turning all of them down and advising the promoters to call off the barbecues and donate the money they would cost to the Red Cross and at the same time save the pigs, which will be much better, under the stress of the times, to let develop to full grown pork. It is an interesting fact that almost every one of those to whom the Governor has made the suggestion of conserving the pigs and aiding the Red Cross by cancelling the barbecues have heartily thanked the Governor for his suggestion and assured him that this course would be followed.

Directorate of N. C. Railroad.

Governor Bickett announced the appointment of the directorate of the North Carolina railroad. W. H. Wood of Charlotte, is president; R. B. Wake Forest, secretary-treasurer; M. Allen, Louisville; J. P. Young, Raleigh; J. Q. Gilky; C. S. Tomlin, Charlotte; C. M. Vanstoy, Greensboro; L. Gwynn, Canton.

The new members are Gwynn, who succeeded James Carraway of Greensboro, and Vanstoy, who succeeded Banks Holt.

Plan Anti Typhoid Work.

So far ten counties have made appropriation necessary for conducting a free anti-typhoid campaign for the people this summer. These counties are Caldwell, Columbus, Onslow, Beaufort, Martin, Greene, Johnston, Wake, including the city of Raleigh Surry and Orange.

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IS BUSY FOR BIGGER CROPS

New Hanover, Robeson, Brunswick, Bladen and Other Counties Rally to Need.

Wilmington.—Eastern North Carolina is rallying nobly to the call for increased production of food and feed crops. The county Food Conservation Commissions of New Hanover, Robeson, Brunswick, Bladen and other counties in this section have been energetic in bringing the farmers and business men to a realization of their individual responsibility in the matter of producing and conserving food, which is a problem of equal importance with the raising and equipping of armies in the opinion of government leaders. Not only are the farmers of this section planting every acre in food and feed crops possible, but many of them are using increased amounts of fertilizer so as to assure them an increased production per acre. A comparatively small amount of small grain is grown in this section, but where it is grown the stubble land will be utilized for a second crop, peanuts, soy beans, cowpeas, sweet and Irish potatoes being the principal crops used for this purpose.

Different methods have been used in different sections in arousing the farmers and business men. In New Hanover county mass meetings have been held in many sections and circular letters have been issued. In Robeson county a series of meetings or conferences of farmers, held in practically every school district of the county, were attended by more than 5,000 farmers and farm women, a total of 65 meetings being held. In some counties very few meetings have been held but circular letters and newspaper space have been used liberally.

The people of this section are doing their utmost, but they realize that there must be a tremendous increase in the production of food and feed-stuffs before this state will even be self-supporting.

Will Permit Curtailment.

Raleigh.—In connection with the order by the corporation commission setting the matter of the petition of the railways in North Carolina for cooperation in reducing the present passenger train service in the interest of conservation of the resources of the railroads and putting them in position to give necessary equipment to the movement of troops and food supplies, it is understood that very considerable curtailments will certainly take place. The fact is the railway companies have been instructed by the war department to curtail their train service the country over on the basis of a reduction of about thirty per cent in order that they may be in position as to rolling stock and track clearances to properly handle troops and food supplies for the American army.

Morris Heads Merchants.

Wilson.—The closing feature of the fifteenth annual convention of the Merchants' Association of North Carolina was the election of officers for the ensuing year. J. Frank Morris, of Winston-Salem, was elected president; B. F. Roark, of Charlotte, vice-president; J. E. Davis, of Concord, treasurer; J. Paul Leonard, of Statesville, was re-elected secretary and will continue to devote his time to the association's work. Mr. Morris has been connected with the association for years and was vice-president the past year. He succeeded R. L. Poston of Statesville, as president. Mr. Roark has been a recognized leader in the association for years, and Mr. Davis is president of the Concord Association, which now has the largest membership of any individual local association in the state.

Buys More N. C. Land.

Washington.—The National Forest Reservation Commission approved the purchase of 51,916 acres of land in the White Mountains and Southern Appalachians for inclusion in the national forests of those regions. Land approved by the commission consists of tracts of varying size in Yancey and McDowell counties, on the Mount Mitchell national forest. With the addition of the tracts approved by the commission, the total amount which the government has purchased or is purchasing until the Weeks law is raised to 1,456,200 acres.

NORTH CAROLINA BRIEFS.

Bordeaux, a tenant farmer of Creek township, Bladen county, was charged with the murder of Elizabethtown charged with the most brutal crimes in Bladen county, according to reports reaching here from Bordeaux. It is charged that the death became a cruel tragedy.

The entire lumber trade at Norwood was fire last week.

W. E. Coffin, for many years president of Southern Railway company at Greensboro, died suddenly while sitting on his front porch. He was about sixty-five years of age and had been with the railroad company since reaching manhood.

Contracts for five out of nine army camps will be given the North Carolina Pine association for lumber to go into cantonments. The lumber will cost about \$2,000,000.

The adjutant general has given the authority for the organization of a battery of field artillery with headquarters at Wadesboro.