

# POLK COUNTY NEWS

The Only Paper Published in Polk County.

A Live, Clean Newspaper for the Home.



AND THE TRYON BEE

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## ATROCITIES OF THE GERMANS.

### Same Treatment Given Soldiers of the United States as of Other Nations.

#### LEST WE FORGET

It is surprising to a great many people to see how slowly the American people, or at least a considerable portion of them, are becoming aroused over the war situation. The newspapers of the entire country, public officials and public speakers, have time and time again, told in the plainest language, just what the situation is, and to the horrible deeds of Germans, and yet so many of our people are still asleep. Sometimes, even, we hear some one say, "I can hardly believe that things are so bad as painted by newspaper accounts." We wish they were not so bad. But you must bear in mind that the allies are at war, not with human beings, for they have long since ceased to be such, and have degenerated into worse than wild beasts. The German soldier of today is a murderer, seducer and savage.

One of the worst arraignments against the Germans was made by Prof. G. F. Nicolai, former physician to the Imperial family of Germany, and professor of physiology at the University of Berlin. In a recent published book from his pen, entitled "The Biology of the War," occur these paragraphs:

"The military personage who is numbered among the most prominent but whose name I shall not mention, inquired of me whether it might not be possible to fix shells with cholera germs or plague bacilli so that the shells could be sent back of the front firing line."

"As I replied to him that I did not think it would do to use procedures so lacking in humanity, he answered me in a tone tinged with contempt: 'Humanity is not to be considered in this war and Germany has a right to do everything she pleases.'"

The Baltimore Sun, commenting upon the above paragraphs, says:

"Professor Nicolai added that in Germany many millions of people are reasoning in the same way as this man, who in other ways has manifested marked superiority of character. Others, he said, have even more cruel ideas, and a medical officer on the General Staff asked him whether it would not be possible to inoculate the Russians with bacteria, saying: 'With such cattle everything is legitimate.'"

"Professor Nicolai is known as a humane as well as skillful physician by a number of medical men in this country who studied with him in Germany, one of whom called our attention to these facts. It is perhaps unnecessary to add that Professor Nicolai is now serving a term in a German military prison. It is all right to do these things, but it is highly improper to talk about them. Along the same line take the following extract from a recent speech of Charles Edward Russell, delivered in Birmingham, Ala., in which he says:

"I wish I could take you to Belgium," he said, "Poor, bleeding Belgium. I solemnly swear to you that sitting in a little room on the fifth floor of a building in Paris are prematurely aged man and woman driven from their home in Belgium who saw their daughter torn from them and driven into forcible concubinage with a German officer who now has three children by that forced unholy union. They saw another outraged and killed, and they saw their only son driven at the point of the bayonet to dig German trenches from which the conquerors could kill his fellow countrymen."

And I say to you that the tears of that father and that mother falling upon the little table between them are writing a message which shall go down the ages and which will cause future generations forever to point the finger of scorn at those who were responsible for that and a thousand other outrages like it."

But what is even worse than all, to we Americans, is an article appearing in the dailies of last Sunday, giving an account of the treatment of American soldiers captured by the Germans, as follows:

"How the Germans 'did in' twelve Americans last October was told by Albert B. Sykes, attached to a division. When their bodies were not lying from paralysis caused by an automobile accident in the confusion of an air raid. He said:

"Twelve infantrymen went out on a night patrol. They failed to return. When their bodies were not visible on no man's land next day everyone concluded that they had been taken prisoner."

They had been taken prisoner all right. And they came back to us the next night. When dawn came, following the night after their disappearance, they were lying out in front of our trenches."

"Every man had his eyes gouged out. Their bodies were terribly mutilated. In several cases the hands and legs were gone."

How much longer is it going to take to get the American people 'fighting mad?' How many more of our boys must receive the same, or

worse treatment before our people are aroused as they should be, to the situation? If there is a drop of patriotic blood left in your veins, such accounts should bring you to a full realization of just what we are up against, and just what manner of brutes we are at war with.

Do you want YOUR BOY sent home in such a mutilated condition? Do you even want YOUR NEIGHBOR'S BOY so maltreated? Of course you do not. Then there is but one thing to do. Do everything within your power to help wipe the German army off the face of the earth. One of the best ways to help is by lending your money to the United States Government to help prosecute this war. It takes money, money, MONEY to conduct a war. Uncle Sam is not asking you to GIVE HIM ONE CENT, he simply asks you to LOAN HIM YOUR MONEY, for which he will pay you interest. Haven't you faith enough in the United States Government to believe that it will do what it promises?

Buy Liberty Bonds if you are able; buy War Savings Stamps if you cannot buy Liberty Bonds; Buy Thrift Stamps if you cannot buy War Savings Stamps. But buy, buy BUY.

### NOMES OF SOLDIERS AND SAILORS WANTED.

To the Relatives and Families of Soldiers and Sailors:

The War and Navy Department here maintains a Bureau where a roster or register is kept of all officers and enlisted men in the Army and Navy.

I am addressing this open letter to you who have near relatives or loved ones in the service to ask you to write me giving the full name and address of the Soldier or Sailor near to you. Give me the number of his regiment and company. The branch of the service he is engaged in, and the name of the Camp, Cantonment or vessel where he is located.

Do this, and in case of emergency I will get first information concerning them and notify you so as to relieve your anxiety.

I want to do all I can for the noble boys who have answered their Country's call to the Colors and I want to impress on the loved ones that are left behind that this office is ready to do all in its power to serve them and welcome any correspondence and will give any matter prompt attention. When you send me the names I will list them in a book kept for that purpose in my office and be thereby ready to render any aid that they may desire.

ZEBULON WEAVER,  
Member Congress 10th N. C. Dist.

—W. S. S.—  
STOP WHINING.

The fact is that the people back home have not begun to make their sacrifice, however it may seem to some of us who feel that we are paying tremendously. Most of us have only duties, although we are prating about our rights. We must catch something of the spirit of the men who work 20 hours out of the 24 under the most distressing conditions, if we are to win this war. We must realize, too, that any slacking on our part, any whining about inadequate pay or hard conditions simply make more hard the conditions under which our brothers on the fighting line are living and toiling.

We have yet to learn in this country what sacrifice means. But it is certain that we shall learn before this war is over, for the truth will be forced upon us, whether we like it or not. The standard test of our patriotism is that we must quit thinking about ourselves, our wages, profits, salaries, or comforts, and get down to business, just as the soldiers are doing. If we are not patriots, we shall continue, through our complaining, to increase the difficulties of the men who are fighting our battles. All talk about rights will be futile, if Germany wins, and we ought to realize it as well now as at any other time. We shall postpone the day of Germany's defeat and be responsible for the deaths of thousands of American soldiers whose lives might otherwise have been saved, if we keep on talking about our rights.—Shreveport Times.

The Times has stated the case fairly. One man complains because he must eat a little less flour bread than formerly; another because he thinks that so long as he has the money he should be entitled to buy anything he wants, another whines about the inconveniences of travel, and so it goes everywhere. The sacrificial spirit, the spirit of service regardless of cost in money or word, has not yet been born in our people as a whole. We must be born again before we shall be worthy of our soldiers and worthy of Divine favor.—Manufacturers Record.

—W. S. S.—

### The Candellilla Plant.

The wax of the candellilla plant is used in making candles, phonograph records, wood and leather polishes, floor wax, certain varnishes, linoleum, rubber compounds and celluloid, and it also enters into use in pharmacy and in the making of electrical insulation. The candellilla plant grows on the poorest quality of soil, and before it was found to have a commercial value for the wax contained it was considered a pest.

## FROM OUR FRIENDS OVER THE COUNTY

Some Items of General Interest Gathered By Our Correspondents From Various Sections of Polk County

### BRIGHT'S CREEK.

School is progressing nicely, with Miss Sue Ledbetter as teacher. Mr. Ben Holbert, of Richmond, was in this section a few days since.

T. C. Laughter made a business trip to Saluda, one day last week. Mr. Curtis McCrow, of Saconon, spent Sunday with his uncle, R. F. Constant.

Misses Eva, Millie and Gray Hill, Perlia and Ernest Laughter, spent last week-end with relatives at Edneville.

Mrs. M. C. Hill and D. G. Hill visited the Mills family, Sunday.

Mr. M. E. McCrow, T. C. Laughter, Grace Laughter and Geter Bradley spent Sunday at W. G. Hill's.

Mr. R. K. Walker and B. J. Hill went to Mill Spring on business, one day last week.

Mr. Isaac Walker of Mill Spring, was in this section Sunday.

Miss Perlia Laughter was the guest of Miss Margaret Hill, Tuesday.

Misses Eva and Millie Hill spent Wednesday with Bertha and Pearl Laughter.

### MILL SPRING ROUTE 1.

Rev. W. W. Womack filled his regular appointment at Lebanon, Sunday.

Mr. Davis Elliott was the guest of Mrs. W. E. Elliott, Sunday night. Miss Odessa Mills attended teachers' meeting Saturday, in Columbus. Mr. Bert Edwards accompanied her.

Mrs. V. Hardin and children, of Forest City, were visitors at Rev. W. W. Womack's, Sunday.

Misses Bessie Thompson and Reba Fields were visitors at Lebanon Sunday, for a short while.

Rev. Rollins preached at Big Level, Sunday.

Mill Spring correspondent, just think. The singing convention is to be at Rock Springs, Sunday, and the measles being in that section, has us bluffed off.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Elliott and Missie Womack went to Rutherfordton, Saturday, on a shopping expedition.

Mr. A. F. Corbin was in Rutherfordton first Monday.

Our farm demonstrator visited the school at Lebanon one day last week. We are expecting him to call on the good old farmers here, soon.

## OLD AGE.

As the days roll by  
And the years drop in;  
Fond aspirations die  
In the hearts of men,  
And it's hard to smile  
At the deepening gloom.  
Still—life is worth while,  
Where faith is abloom.

As the days pass out,  
And the years depart;  
Failures along the route  
Deeper pierce the heart;  
And it's hard to smile  
As life's burden accrue;  
Still—life is worth while  
If friends remain true.

As the days give way  
To the fleeting years;  
And a spray of gray  
If the evening appears;  
'Tis hard to smile,  
As we view the past;  
Still—Life is worth while  
With virtues that last.

Oh, the days drift on;  
The years, how they rage;  
With a painful groan  
We encounter old age;  
And it's hard to smile  
Thru the midnight haze;  
Still—life is worth while  
Where hope is ablaze.

—Jas. W. Heatherly.

### SILVER CREEK.

Miss Sue Ledbetter and Thelma Constant were pleasant guests of Miss Grace Arledge, Sunday.

W. G. Green's family are all ill with measles, and are reported not much better.

Miss Nona Searcy spent Saturday and Sunday on Pea Ridge.

Mr. Sams, the county agent, came over last Friday, and helped some of the farmers sow grass seed.

Hurrah for Polk county commencement, March 22nd.

J. L. Hill and family left Monday for Idaho, their future home.

Monroe Sain and family have taken charge of J. L. Hill's place here.

Patterson Arledge, Jr., has German measles.

Miss Thelma Constant has returned home from Landrum, after a delightful visit of two weeks.

Mr. Reece Arledge, of Spartanburg, came to spend Sunday with his parents.

Mrs. M. J. Higgins is quite ill at this writing. We hope she will soon recover.

### FISHTOP.

What was the reason we failed to get our NEWS last week? We missed it very badly.

The cold wave struck us last Sunday. Hope it will not injure the fruit.

Farmers have been hauling in their fertilizers for several days.

Clayton Pace has returned home from Pomona for a visit.

Miss Flora Bradley went to Saluda last Wednesday.

T. A. Bishop and son, Spurgeon, went to Saluda on business on the 9th.

Posey Halford and family passed through this section last week, on their way home from a visit to relatives and friends on the mountains.

Reed and Douglas Henderson returned home, Sunday, from a visit to their grandfather, Jasper Henderson.

Carolina Bishop, daughter of Roiston Revis, was buried at the Ridge Cemetery on last Friday.

Let's all get ready for the Fair by commencing now.

### COLUMBUS.

Every effort is being made to have all our Polk county soldier boys home for county commencement. Friday, March 22nd. Let everybody plan to be in Columbus for that day, with well filled baskets. Let mother bring an extra "mother's pie," for some mother's soldier boy, and by your presence show your patriotism to both country and county.

We wish to express our many thanks to the Lanier Club, of Tryon, for the nice lot of good books donated from their library to the Columbus High School library.

The officers of the Columbus Betterment Club were re-elected for another year, as follows: President, Mrs. E. W. S. Cobb; Vice-President Mrs. H. H. Edwards; Secretary, Miss Minnie Arledge; Treasurer, Mrs. J. A. Feagans. At the next meeting, Saturday, March 16, Mr. J. R. Sams will give a talk to the ladies. The ladies of community should avail themselves of the opportunity of hearing what our farm demonstrator has to say to us. We feel sure it will be of great interest.

Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Hughes entertained Misses Rosa Bailey and Susie Riddick Saturday night.

Miss Odessa Mills was home Saturday, and attended the teachers' meeting, which had the largest attendance of any during the school term.

The well at the court house is nearing completion, and we hope to have it ready for the use of the public in a few days.

Quite a crowd of our young people went to a cotton picking at the home of Mr. O. L. Feagans. All report having had a good time.

Mrs. T. M. Johnson and Miss Susie Riddick were shopping in Hendersonville, Saturday.

Mr. R. L. McFarland was home Sunday.

Mr. Irvin Landis' family have moved into the house formerly occupied by Mr. Eli Shields.

Mr. J. K. Gibbs and mother, of Mills City, Montana, are visiting friends and relatives here for a few days.

Mrs. Jane McCurry, of Mill Spring, has moved into the house vacated by J. I. Landis.

J. F. Ormond returned to Spartanburg.

Dr. W. T. Head was in town this week.

### MELVIN HILL.

There was a big, white frost and some ice here, Monday morning.

Several of the Melvin Hill farmers killed hogs, last week.

Mr. Walter Westbrook had a valuable mule to die, recently.

The debating society was organized here, Saturday evening.

Mrs. M. E. Morris visited relatives at Double Branch mines last week-end.

Miss Myrtle Cantrell, of Sandy Springs, attended religious services here, Sunday.

Mrs. Branscom is suffering from an attack of neuralgia and cold.

Mr. Lawter made a flying visit to Cooley Springs to see his mother who has been quite sick for some time.

Mr. J. W. Stacy went to Chesnee, Monday for the purpose of bringing up his new grist mill, which he expects to have in operation here at once.

Mr. Jack Burnett has sold his grist mill to Mr. John Shields, of Green River, and it is to be moved away soon.

Mr. G. A. Branscom arrived home Saturday night, from Florida, where he had been for a few days, looking after his business there. He reports some damage by the unusual cold of last winter to the orange and other fruit crops there.

Mr. T. P. Covington, who has been very poorly for some time, is able to be around again.

Farmers are making good use of this nice spring weather, turning their land, and thus preparing to plant another crop, now that last year's crop has barely been gotten out of the way.

Peach trees are blooming out now; but past observations have taught us that's no sure sign of peaches. However we cannot have peaches unless there are blossoms.

Walter Reed came in home from up in the Allegheny mountains, recently, where he has been exposed to the measles. Every precaution will be taken to keep them from spreading, however.

### TRYON ROUTE 1.

What are we doing to make the county commencement a success? Don your studying cap and sleep with it on until you have your bit studied out.

There is one thing the state requires of us, which we can all do. That is to rise bare your head, stand still and show respect when the Star Spangled Banner is being played.

Mr. and Mrs. M. N. Hall were made glad of the home coming of their soldier boys, Sunday.

Mrs. Jake Holbert is recovering of German measles.

Misses Elsie Edwards and Bessie Hamilton have returned to C. H. S. after being released of German measles.

Misses Sallie Carpenter, Pearl Edwards and a few others spent a few social hours at Walnut Grove, Monday afternoon.

Ah, the mail man is here before I get it all told. But—continued next week.

## COMMENCEMENT AT COLUMBUS.

### Parade of Soldiers, and Music to be Furnished by Their Own Brass Band.

### POLK COUNTY COMMENCEMENT MARCH 22.

All the plans for the Polk County Public Schools' Commencement are about completed. The program was published in the NEWS a few weeks ago. A large number of valuable prizes have been arranged for the various contests scheduled for this occasion. The majority of the schools are very much interested in every phase of the commencement. A large number of exhibits will be sent in from the schools. These exhibits should be sent to Mrs. T. M. Johnson, Chr., Exhibit Committee, Columbus, not later than Thursday, 21st inst. A declaimer and reciter will be sent from each township, and two spellers from each school in the county. A goodly number of the schools will have representatives in the athletic contests.

A special feature of the occasion will be a company of soldiers from the Rifle Range and a band from the same place. A plea has been made to the officials asking that all Polk county boys who are in training be permitted to come home and celebrate this occasion with us. And last, but not least, a distinguished son of Polk county who is now in the service of Uncle Sam, Sergeant A. Y. Arledge, will make the address of the occasion. In short, this will be a Red Letter day for Polk County.

You cannot afford to miss this special treat, let everybody come and bring a well-filled basket and let us give the soldier boys all they can eat and make them feel that we are willing to hold up their hands, and help them win this war, and at the same time lend our encouragement and support to our public schools.

—W. S. S.—  
J. W. S. COBB, Supt.

### MILL SPRING ROUTE 2.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Belton Jackson, a baby girl.

Miss Maggie Jackson spent Saturday night with Mrs. F. R. Coggins.

Sunny View and Red Mountain schools played a game of base ball, Friday. Score 18-17 in favor of Sunny View.

Mr. John Gilbert passed through this vicinity last Saturday.

Miss Lizzie Williams spent Sunday night with Miss Anna Wilson.

Mr. Bill Jackson, from Spartanburg, S. C., was home Saturday night, returning Sunday.

Mr. N. E. Williams made a business trip to Spartanburg last week.

Mr. J. B. Jackson and wife motored to Mr. William Wilson's, last Saturday.

Mr. Reuben Wilson made a business trip to Spartanburg last week-end, and called to see Miss Pearl James.

Messrs. Charlie Brown and Posie Wilson have returned home from Sheldon, S. C.

Miss Annie Wilson spent Saturday night with Miss Lizzie Williams.

Don't forget the singing convention at Rock Springs next Sunday. Let's everybody be there.

Messrs. Frank Mills and Hobert Whitesides were callers at N. E. Williams' Saturday afternoon.

—W. S. S.—  
COOPERS GAP.

Mrs. W. W. Dimsdale spent the day with her uncle, Mr. H. K. Corn, last Friday.

Mr. Z. T. Lawter and family visited Mrs. Amanda Brown, Sunday.

Mrs. Nora Deal, of Cumberland, Md., (maiden name, Nora Brown) is visiting relatives in this section.

Misses Myrtle and Leona Whiteside spent Sunday at Mr. E. C. Lynch's.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Jackson and Mrs. W. N. Dimsdale and Mr. Leander Brown, made a flying trip to Mr. William Wilson's, to see their old aunt, Mrs. Liza Dimsdale.

Mrs. J. B. Wilson, we are glad to say, is improving some.

—W. S. S.—  
NOTICE

### Of a Call for a Republican County Convention.

A convention of the Republicans of Polk County is hereby called to meet at the court house in Columbus, on Saturday, the 30th day of March, 1918, at 12 o'clock M., for the purpose of electing delegates to the Congressional convention to be held at Asheville, N. C., on April 6th, 1918. Also to nominate a candidate for representative and the various other county officers in Polk county.

The various township chairmen are requested to call and hold their township conventions on Saturday, the 23rd day of March, 1918, and elect delegates to said county convention. All Republicans are earnestly requested to attend these conventions, and participate in the selection of your candidates for county officers.

W. C. ROBERTSON,  
Chairman Republican Co. Ex. Com. Political Advertisement.