

The Watauga Democrat.

VOL. XXVIII.

BOONE WATAUGA COUNTY, N. C., THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 6, 1917.

NO. 50.

NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF DEFENSE.

Soldiers' Business Aid Committee.

The Soldiers' Business Aid Committee for Watauga county, appointed by Gov. T. W. Bickett, and composed of Messrs. Geo. P. Hagaman, W. R. Gragg, W. D. Farthing, M. P. Critcher, M. B. Blackburn and J. M. Moretz, all of Boone, met at the courthouse in Boone on the 25th, ult., and organized by electing George P. Hagaman Chairman and J. M. Moretz, Secretary.

The purpose of the Committee shall be to render assistance to United States soldiers, sailors and marines, in managing the details of their private business while they are away from home, and to render them assistance in obtaining employment when they return.

Hereafter the word "soldier" shall be construed to include all persons in the military or naval service of the United States. The details of the business especially to be looked after, upon request of a soldier, are:

a. To render, without charge, any legal service desired from time of call to the colors until the end of the war.

b. To see that during the absence of the soldier there shall be no lapse in his insurance policies, no failure to pay taxes on property nor interest on mortgage indebtedness, and to make such legal transfers of property as the soldier or his family may desire.

c. To see that no advantage shall be taken of any soldier in legal proceedings in which he may be a party, or in which he may have an interest.

d. To look after and assist in caring for all persons who may be, or who may hereafter become, dependent upon a soldier for support.

e. To aid soldiers in securing employment when they return.

f. To arrange for special training or education of soldiers partially disabled by wounds or disease.

g. To see that all soldiers who are called to the colors are properly registered, so they may vote during their absence.

h. To perform any other service for soldiers when necessity therefor arises during their absence at the front.

Little Boy Badly Injured By Explosion of Dynamite Cap.

Mr. Lee Robbins, of Shulls Mills, was in town Friday and told The Democrat of a fearful and most deplorable accident that occurred in that town Wednesday evening. The four-year son of Mr. Gus Luttrell in some unknown way got in his possession a dynamite cap, which, he exploded, the result being the loss of a thumb on one hand, the loss of the four fingers on the other to the first joints, the left eye being literally blown from his head, while serious, if not fatal, wounds were inflicted in his abdomen. Drs. Hardin and Perry dressed the wounds of the little patient and he was hurried to the hospital in Bristol for treatment.

—Mr. Hartley Hunt, of Grandin, forester for the Grandin Lumber Co., was an interesting business caller at our office Saturday, coming to the village mainly to visit his daughters, Misses Sattie and Alice, who are in school here.

If any of the drafted ask exemption on account of poor eyes they can go to France and get Lease.—Hendersonville Hustler.

AT GRAND REUNION SOUTH'S SOLDIERS GIVEN GLAD HAND

Camp Nimrod Triplett, No. 1273, of Watauga County, North Carolina, met at Hinson Chapel, Amanda, N. C., in its 26th annual reunion Thursday, August 9 and Friday, August 10, 1917.

The crowd was summoned together by music with life and drum. Then Capt. E. J. Norris called the assembly to order and the congregation were led in devotional services by Rev. J. F. Eller.

Then came the address of welcome delivered by Prof. D. J. Horton.

Mr. Horton said: Captain Norris, Old Friends, Veterans, Ladies and Gentlemen:

It having fallen to my lot by the kind expression of the committee to make to you—particularly to YOU, old Veterans, the address of welcome, and being impressed with the fact that I am called upon to make this address to men, the noblest of any class in any age of the world's history—to men who made the golden pages of our proud history during the sad conflict between the States in the sixties, it affords me a great pleasure, such as is inexpressible. To you, the representatives of those who met the enemy on many battlefields—to you, our Southern braves, who love liberty and home with a love that is high as the mountains and as deep as the oceans that sing at their feet—you who were as brave as Hannibal's troops who fought for Carthage—as brave as the Trojans who were masses of courage.

Had we the spirit today that you had during those bloody days, the Napoleonic spirit possessed by the common enemy of the world today on the part of the Germans would be forever crushed, our democracy would put on the crown of victory, the Kaiser would step down and out and perfect peace would be the world's watchword.

Oh! it is said that Napoleon's hosts fought no harder when France and her allies were crushed than you fought for your own southern allies whose petals dropped blood for the hearts that were hushed—that you fought like the legions of Caesar with more than a Rome to defend. It is said that wherever brave men are mentioned the lips of love whisper your names.

I believe that as you would have died for the South
When you mustered and fought for the gray,
That your lives are with reverence embalmed
In your country's affection today.

I believe that when the archives of God
Shall unobscure the things that forever endure,
Southern valor, immortal as truth and as love
Will abide there forever secure.

For courage like yours, Southern men, grand, grim, titanic warriors of a cause, forever just cannot die. It was born of blood and your tears; and the life that you gave it was your life immortal; it cannot be measured in years. The bards of coming ages will defy your dust.

The sleeve you call empty—ah, it is not empty;
But honor its meshes enfold,
And the scars you call ugly are symbols of beauty
Whose meaning the years will unroll—
Your body was bruised, lacerated, disfigured,
To keep you a beautiful soul.

Then we meet you and we greet you
On this glad reunion day,
Survivors of our Southland's cause,
Your fame can never decay,
For we love you, grim old heroes,
As in the years gone by,
When your courage thrilled the world
When you dared to do and die.

Welcome, then, thrice welcome, here today,
You men who wore Confederate gray,
Your youth is past, your growing old,
But still your hearts are brave and bold.

The cause you love, for which you fought,
Like blasted hopes has come to naught,

We bid you welcome, every one,
As though you were our mother's son,
Fling wide your gates, wide open stand,
I welcome this heroic band,
We're glad you've come, so freely take
Glad hands and warm we with you sake.

We say it now, and mean it too—
There's nothing here too good for you,
We cannot give you what we would,
But then we've done the best we could.
Love and smiles for those who linger.

Tears and love for those who die,
Till we meet in grand reunion
In the mansions in the sky.

After the appointment of various committees, Col. F. A. Olds of Raleigh, delivered a very interesting and enthusiastic address on the general topics of the day.

Following this, Capt. John Fuller of Mountain City, Tenn., spoke on the cause of the Germanic war and why

the United States was involved in this war. His speech was plain, forceful and reasonable. Mr. Fuller is a man of great ability.

In the afternoon several of the old soldiers made interesting talks interspersed with excellent music by the choir at Hinson Chapel. Before adjourning the roll was called and the following old Confederate veterans were present:

C. Arrant James, Wm. S. Blair, Jas. B. Blair, T. Anderson Cable, Wm. Coffey, Rufus Campbell, D. C. Dugger, B. R. Dugger, H. A. Davis, H. H. Farthing, R. H. Farthing, T. B. Fletcher, Empey Gragg, G. P. Gryder, E. M. Greer, Jas. W. Horton, Holland Hodges, Capt. Wm. M. Hodges, Dr. Hoghead, J. J. Henderson, H. M. Isaac, Noah Isaac, W. W. Justice, Isaac Londa, L. D. Miller, F. P. Mast, Robert Mast, E. J. Norris, Wm. D. Norris, Jacob Norris, Wm. Norwood, W. W. Presnell, Dr. J. B. Phillips, Joe C. Shull, M. A. Tague, G. R. Vandye, Abe Wineburger, Martin Warren, W. A. Williams, Thomas Love, George Younce.

On Thursday night there were camp fires on the grounds and the people were entertained by foot races of the old soldiers and stories of the "Sixties."

On Friday after music by the fife and drum the congregation engaged in devotional services led by Rev. J. J. L. Sherwood. Next followed the splendid address of Miss Anna Smith the granddaughter of the late Abner Smith, who lost his life in the Civil War. Her subject was "Soldiers of N. C." Miss Smith said:

"The bravery and devotion to duty displayed by the soldiers of North Carolina during the Civil War has never been surpassed by any people in the world's history.

"The world will always wonder at and admire the valiant deeds of the men who followed Robert E. Lee, Stonewall Jackson and those other matchless leaders of the Southern cause. No army ever fought as they did; they battled against overwhelming odds and their many victories were only achieved by death-defying courage and devotion to duty equal to that of the soldiers of ancient Rome.

"Although every Southern State furnished thousands of brave men who fought and died in defense of the cause which they believed to be right and every Southern commonwealth has a just reason for being proud of the bearing of her soldiers in that gigantic struggle, yet North Carolina will always feel that she deserves to rank first among them all; both for the number of men contributed to defend the Confederacy and for the bravery displayed by those men on the field of battle. See what our own State of North Carolina did during the war. Out of a voting population of 115,000 we sent 125,000 men to the field (more than one-fifth of the men furnished by the Southern States) and our losses in killed was greater than that suffered by any other Southern State. While it is true that we gave to the Confederacy no great leader like Lee or Jackson, yet we furnished the brave and devoted soldiers who won their victories and beat off the overwhelming foe when retreat was the only course left to pursue.

"The army of Stonewall Jackson was composed largely of North Carolinians and to the courage and fidelity of our soldiers this immortal record owes his many victories over armies largely superior in numbers.

"The pages of history will never record greater bravery than that displayed by the North Carolinians at the battle of Gettysburg. In the face of artillery and infantry fire, before which it seemed nothing mortal could stand, the North Carolinians, led by Pettigrew, Fender and other heroic leaders, charged up the bloody heights and into the enemies' trenches; while other Southern troops also charged across the valleys, up the hills and into the lines of the Northern army. The soldiers from North Carolina led them all, going further into the enemy's lines on that memorable day than even the Virginians whose bravery at Gettysburg has been so highly praised by their own historians, but at what a dreadful cost was our fame at Gettysburg won; nearly all of the brave men who charged up the fatal hillside on that July day either were killed or wounded.

"At Chickamauga, one of the bloodiest battles ever fought, the North Carolinians again won the distinction of going farthest into the enemy's lines. At Antietam or Sharpsburg we sustained fearful losses, including our gallant General Branch. At Seven Pines, Malvern Hill, Chancellorsville and Lookout Mountain our losses in killed and wounded were heavy, in fact, in every great battle of the Civil

War North Carolina soldiers did their share of the fighting and sustained more than their share.

"The first man killed in the battle at Bethel was Henry L. Wyatt of North Carolina. General Longstreet, on being asked what state furnished the bravest soldiers for the South replied that he had always found more dead North Carolinians on the field of battle. This statement from one of the great commanders of the Confederacy should add additional weight to the evidence of the bravery of our soldiers during the Civil War.

"Surely, North Carolina has just cause to feel proud of the record of her soldiers during the Civil War. First to shed their blood in defense of the South and the last to surrender, their bravery was equaled only by their loyal devotion to the Southern cause.

"And while we turn the pages of our war record with pride we cannot but feel that

"The paths of glory
Lead but to the grave."

"The war was a great tragedy in our nation's history. The suffering endured by our soldiers can never be truly described. The battlefield retained its toll of death but disease claimed about as many. The soldiers who survived were many of them disabled for life either from wounds or from disease.

"The Civil War cost us thousands of our bravest men and left desolate homes and weeping women and children in every part of our state from the mountains to the sea. No country escaped the sorrow and suffering of this dreadful war. Watauga, though a small county in population at that time, furnished a large number of soldiers for the Confederacy. Many of these lost their lives, either in battle, by disease or from other causes. The first soldier from Watauga county to give his life for the South was Abner Smith of Silverstein. When the first call to arms was sounded and the land of his forefathers was threatened with invasion, he cast his lot with the South and with many other men from Watauga was mustered into the 37th Regiment of N. C. Infantry.

"The 37th Regiment was sent to the eastern part of this state and took part in the battle of Newbern. After this battle the Confederate forces fell back to Kingston and here March 24, 1862 Abner Smith was killed by the accidental discharge of a gun in the hands of a careless comrade. Although not killed in battle Abner Smith gave his life for the Southern cause.

"History shows that North Carolina stands first in whatever she undertakes. North Carolina has many historic facts for which she has never been given credit by some. Situated between Virginia on the one hand and South Carolina on the other, and always a very modest state, she did not proclaim the facts as the other two states who have made the welkin ring, as it were, with their deeds of valor. For every fact that they can give we can give one better. The first settlement of America was made in 1785 on Roanoke Island, N. C. The first white child born on American soil was on this island.

"North Carolina had a tea party at Edenton and one at Wilmington some time before the noted one in Boston, Mass., and the participants were not disguised as Indians as they were, but boldly proclaimed that they would not be taxed unjustly and threw the tea overboard. She declared her independence of the British crown in Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, May 20, 1776, more than a year before it was declared in Philadelphia, Pa.

"But the grandest of all—North Carolina was first at Bethel, farthest at Chickamauga and Gettysburg and last at Appomattox.

"It was in the hour of the last march of our troops that General Lee said, 'God bless, North Carolina.' In the late Cuban war the first man killed in the army was Lieut. William Shipp, of Charlotte, N. C. In the navy the first man killed was Worth Bagley, of Raleigh, N. C., and North Carolina troops placed the first American flag on Moro Castle, Cuba.

"The first interment in Arlington Cemetery was George L. Rhinehart, a Confederate soldier of the 26th and 23rd North Carolina Infantry.

"They say North Carolina is slow in enlisting in the present war. Yes, North Carolina is slow; and yet somehow she usually manages to reach the front in time for the crucial moment. North Carolina was slow in the War Between the States. But somehow after she did secede, North Carolinians were always so near the front that after Gettysburg 80 per cent of North Carolina's men were left on the field of honor, many of them lying further within the enemy's lines than the men of any other Southern State. So slow is North Carolina that she could not even be made to surrender until most of the other states had done so. One fourth of the muskets laid down at Appomattox were in the hands of North Carolina soldiers. In June the first shot against Germany was fired and according to official report it sent a submarine down. That shot was fired by James A. Godwin from Eastern North Carolina. He took time to

PROGRAMME.

Following is the programme of the second annual meeting of the Three Forks Woman's Missionary Society to be held with the Boone Baptist church, Sept. 14, beginning at ten o'clock, a. m.:
Opening song, "All Hail the Power of Jesus Name."

Greetings—Mrs. J. M. Moretz; Response—Mrs. Clyde Eggars. Quartette—"Have Thine Own Way, Lord."

Enrollment of delegates. Recognition of visitors. Address by the Associated vice-president—Mrs. D. F. Horton. Report of Sunbeam leader—Mrs. Emma H. Moore. Paper, Miss Reid—How can we Interest Intermediate Boys in Missions? Paper on Y. W. C. A.—Miss Maude Mast. Address by Miss Carroll. Appointment of committees.

1. Time and place. 2. Plans of work. 3. Programme. 4. Nominations. 5. Resolutions.

1 o'clock, p. m. Devotional Exercises—Mrs. G. W. Swift. Report on periodicals—Mrs. Smith Hagaman, and Quartette, "Rock of Ages."—Mrs. Ralph Johnson. Reading, "Stuartship of Missions"—Mrs. G. P. Hagaman. Report on Obituaries—Miss Mary Swift and Mrs. R. M. Greene. Report on Traveling Libraries—Mrs. B. J. Council and Mrs. John W. Hodga. Song, "The Woman's Hymn". Words by Miss Fannie Heck.

Three minute reports of most helpful features of the last years work: Blowing Rock, Mrs. T. H. Coffey. Forest Grove, Miss Alice Moody. Cove Creek, Mrs. Enoch Swift. Boone, Mrs. D. D. Dougherty. Song by the Y. W. C. A. Reading of Resolutions, by Miss Annie Sherwood. Address by Miss Carroll. Report on committees. Reading of the minutes. Seven-thirty, p. m. Sermon by Rev. Baylus Cade.

COMMITTEE.

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prepare slowly and carefully for just that emergency and so, at the psychological moment he was ready.

"Yes, North Carolina may have been slow to enlist in the present war; and if God wills that the worst come to us North Carolina men will be found dead or alive where the fighting is fiercest and the risks deadliest and North Carolina women will be found at home or elsewhere if duty calls to their men, praying for them and trying to do their men's work as well as their own."

Later in the day several men made short speeches. Mr. E. M. Greer, the feeble, made a good practical talk.

Mr. W. F. Sherwood called for by the camp delivered an excellent short address, eulogizing the lives and deeds of the Confederate soldiers.

Rev. Arthur Sherwood, of Bennettsville, S. C., was present and made a very interesting talk. Mr. Sherwood is always a pleasant visitor in Watauga and is to be much congratulated for his educational attainments. In the afternoon (Friday) an excellent short sermon was delivered by Rev. J. L. L. Sherwood commending the old soldiers for their deeds of valor during the Civil War and painting several of the necessary requisites for a good soldier of Christ.

This was a very enjoyable occasion to the old soldiers and will certainly be remembered many years hence by all who were present.

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