

# The Watauga Democrat.

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## HARRY LAUDER'S WAR MESSAGE FROM THE TRENCHES.

We Have the Fate of the World in Our Hands—One From the Front Line Trenches.

(Harry Lauder, famous Scotch singer, has recently reached America fresh from the front line trenches in France, where he gave the best of his art to the soldiers. His only son, Jack Lauder, was killed in action in France says the Charlotte Observer.)

New York, Nov. 17.—"There is no woman, no child in America today who can be spared in the great and terrible work of helping win the war. If I could bring home to every one in this land the duty of doing his part, while the lads now in France and the hundreds of thousands soon to join them are doing their part, it would be the best service I could render the world.

"They asked me last night for 'The Wee Hoose Amang the Heather.' I sang it for them—but I sang it for them—but I told them the song is a hymn now, ever since I sang it for 15,000 Scottish soldiers formed about me in a horse shoe at Arras. That 15,000 had just been through the hell on earth that the Hun has made in fair France—they were 15,000 lads longing for the wee home among the hills of Auld Scotland.

"Many a lad from America must go through that hell—that the Hun may be banished from the world forever—and many a lad will long for his wee home over here before this levelish war is done. Then, can any one who stays at home do less than give of his all to see that these boys shall come safely home again?

"I would give every dollar I have and ever expect to possess in this world to have my own boy back again! And many is the lie that can be saved, if every one who must stay at home will help. You have given dollars to your government in two liberty loans. You may be asked for more—must be asked for more if victory is to come. But the sooner the whole resources of the nation are put into the one business of making the world a place where brute force and the reign of might can never enter again, the less will you be called upon to sacrifice in the long run.

"Every family can save a soldier's life, perhaps, by saving an insignificant amount of food daily. Every ounce of energy that can be concentrated in Europe at this time shortens the struggle. If you want to bring your lads home again soon, help them to win the victory!

"We, over there, have learned what sacrifice means. We have been close to the terrible danger. We have seen Belgium and France suffer, and we have known what it would mean if the enemy broke through. You, over here, can scarcely realize the terribleness of that danger. To you, it must seem that the struggle is far away. And yet America is like a city in the valley, at the head of which, far away, is the dam holding back a flood of dangerous waters. The flood is far away, but if the dam breaks, the fate of the city is sealed.

"This is your struggle—the world struggle to make peace possible. The future of civilization itself is at stake; if the free people of the world cannot crush out the brutal savagery that plunges the world into war, then the world is not worth living in. Have the hundreds of thousands of brave lads who have sacrificed their lives that you might be safe, died in vain?

"You Americans have the fate of the world in your hand. The holding back of one individual less by so much the chances of

## New Exemption Rule to Apply in Second Draft.

(Raleigh Special Charlotte Observer) Governor Bickett, through the adjutant general's department, gives notice of a new rule in the matter of exemptions from army service that will be of special interest and apply particularly to the approaching second draft. It is said that any man drawn and insisting that he is entitled to exemption after the local board has ruled otherwise, can go on to the concentration camp and, within seven days after arriving there, can make application to the commanding officer, and if that officer finds merit in the case, he can call upon the local board to take steps to reverse its order and allow the man to return to his home.

Governor Bickett says that letters being received from many parts of the state indicate to him that parents and wives of many of the soldiers in service do not understand the system of allotments and allowances that are provided for those dependent on a soldier in the service. In the first place the government expects the soldier to set aside at least \$15 of his \$30 salary per month for his family, if married, and for any dependents in the case of those not married. The government fully supports the soldier, feeding, clothing and doctoring him so that he needs only pin money and \$15 per month is considered ample for his personal needs.

In addition to these allotments from the wages of the soldiers, the government makes additional allowances to dependents as follows: \$15 for wife and no child, wife and one child, \$25; if wife and several children, \$32.50 for wife and two children and \$5 for each additional child; if no wife but one child, \$5 per month; two children \$12.50; three children \$20; four children, \$30 with \$5 per month for each additional child. As to parents, the schedule is \$10 for one parent; \$20 for two dependent parents, each grand child, brother or sister and additional parent dependent \$5.

The governor says that it will be seen from this that the total provision made is \$25 for one parent; \$30 for wife; \$35 for two parents; \$40 for wife and one child; with \$5 per month for each additional child. For wife and one child and parents the government pays \$45 per month plus \$15 that can come out of the soldier's wage. The governor wants the widest possible publicity given to this phase of the care that the government is assuring the families of soldiers in the service.

## Mrs. P. O. Stuchell Tells How She Cured Her Son of a Cold.

"When my son Ellis was sick with a cold last winter I gave him Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It helped him at once and quickly broke up his cold," says Mrs. P. O. Stuchell, Homer City, Pa. This remedy has been in use for many years. Its good qualities have been fully proven by many thousands of people. It is pleasant and safe to take,

the allied democracies to crush the power of savagery and brutality. If I could only make it plain—as it has become plain at home—that every individual is responsible for the success or failure of this war, then there would be no doubt of the answer.

"America has done wonders—but it is not yet half aroused. When it is fully aroused there can be no doubt as to the result. The lads over there will have died in vain!"

## BRITISH SMASH HINDENBURG LINE

### 8,000 GERMANS TAKEN

Number of Towns and Villages Taken and British are Continuing the Attack. Forces within Gun Range of Cambrai, Railroad Center. Positions Thought Impregnable Taken. German Losses Heavy in Addition to the Captured.

(From the Associated Press Reports)

The great Hindenburg defense line, upon which the German commander-in-chief had built his hopes of holding the British from inroads into the open territory beyond, has been smashed. And the task apparently was an easy one.

Attacking over a front of 32 miles, extending from the Scarpe river east to Arras to St. Quentin, Field Marshal Haig with his English, Scotch, Irish and Welsh troops, has made one of the most rapid and spectacular drives of the present war, catching the Germans completely by surprise in the onslaught, capturing numerous positions which are regarded as impregnable and taking in addition thousands of prisoners and numerous guns.

The apex of the offensive apparently is centered on the important railroad junction of Cambrai lying to the east of the old line midway between Arras and St. Quentin. Here, having taken the towns of Marcoing, Anneux, Graincourt and Novelles, the victorious troops at last accounts were well within gun range of Cambrai, with its railroad lines and roadways branching out toward all the main points of the compass.

The latest advices indicate that the British have not yet ceased their attack, but aided by monster tanks, which are leading the way, followed by infantry and machine gun detachments, pressing forward to further conquest.

THE FRENCH ALSO ATTACK.

Synchronous to the south St. Quentin and east of that point in the Aisne region, the French have begun an offensive. While no details of this movement have been received, it doubtless has the object of pushing back the Germans eastward in the former sector and northward in the latter region toward Laon, strategic moves which, if successful, doubtless would compel that part of the German line north of St. Quentin which is still in tact to fall back participately eastward.

The British drive begun without the usual artillery prelude and as the tanks and infantrymen made their way through the wire entanglements and pressed into German first position the surprised enemy began sending up myriads of signal rockets calling for assistance. Whether aid was rushed up is not definitely known but seemingly the surprised Germans fled in disorder, leaving all kinds of equipment behind and in most cases did not even take time, as is usual, to apply the torch to villages they evacuated.

The British casualties are described as extremely light, while German dead covered the ground as the British pressed forward.

PERSHING PRESENT

Reports to date indicate that the depth of the penetration in the region of Cambrai has exceeded

## What's the Truth?

War stories, always on the wing, I fear me, oft are fictions, and travelers come up and spring their endless contradictions. I can't imagine where we're at, as I compose this sonnet; one man is talking through his hat, another through his bonnet. One man, who's just returned from France, who's seen the armies fighting, says, "Kaiser William's name is Paunce—he's beaten at this writing." I go outdoors to celebrate, my soul is glad and sunny; then comes along another skate, who says, "Don't get too funny. The Kaiser's strength is unimpaired, in fact he's growing stronger; don't fool yourself and think he's scared—he'll fight for nine years longer." One day I read the submarines are knocked out by the British, I prance like springald in his teens, I feel so gay and skittish. And then I read another tale, which starts the teardrops flowing; the efforts of the British fail—the U-boat graft is growing. What is the truth? Where are we at? Produce the facts, doggone it! One man is talking through his hat, another through his bonnet.—Walt Mason in News and Observer.

## An Old Man's Stomach.

As we grow older and less active, less and less food is required to meet the demands of our bodies. If too much is habitually taken, the stomach will rebel. When a man reaches the advanced age of 85 or 90, you will find that he is a light eater. Be as careful as you will, however, you will occasionally eat more than you should and will feel the need of Chamberlain's Tablets to correct the disorder. These tablets do not contain pepsin, but strengthen the stomach and enable it to perform its functions naturally. They also cause a gentle movement of the bowels.

ed five miles, and that at one point at least the troops swept on five miles beyond the German lines capturing additional villages. The offensive was under direct command of General Sir Julian Hedworth, George Byng, and General John J. Pershing, commander-in-chief of the American forces in France, was an interested observer of it.

Meanwhile the Italians everywhere are holding the Teutonic allied invaders along the Piave river and in the hilly region from the upper reaches of that stream to Lake Garda. Nowhere has the enemy been able to gain additional ground. On the contrary violent attacks in the hill country have been repulsed with heavy casualties. Probably owing to previous ineffectual attempts to dislodge the defenders, the enemy has not renewed his attacks against Monte Tomba and Monte Monfenera, the vital points barring the way to an invasion of the Venetian plain from the north. On the coastal front, Italian and British warships are bombarding enemy positions.

Still further progress has been made by the British in Palestine, the line of General Allenby having been driven to points five miles northwest and six miles west of Jerusalem. The former position was taken at the point of the bayonet.

## Certain Cure for Croup.

Mrs. Rose Middleton of Greenville, Ill., has had experience in the treatment of this disease. She says, "When my children were small my son had croup frequently. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy always broke up these attacks immediately, and I was never without it in the house. I have taken it myself for coughs and colds with good results."

## BLOWING ROCK BREEZES

J. Lee Hayes, the old contractor, is building a fine residence for Mr. T. C. Cox, of Wadesboro, N. C. He has also under contract a house for Mrs. Henneesen, of Salisbury. In addition to these new buildings, he will also make repairs on a number of others before the summer season opens. So we see he will be, as usual, a busy man.

Private Hal Hayes, of Camp Sevier, Greenville, S. C., who with his wife, has been visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Hayes, at Blowing Rock, left on his return to camp last week.

There have been a great many wagons passing through this week en route to Lenoir and other points, hauling mountain produce.

Miss Johnson, a teacher in the Blowing Rock public school, has been quite indisposed for a few days, but at this writing is very much improved.

The writer went to Mulberry on Monday of last week to open school but owing to whooping cough being prevalent in the community and the families being quarantined, he will not begin for a few weeks.

Mr. A. M. Mast, of Rufus N. C., was taken to the hospital at Morganton a few days since. We hope that his mind may soon be restored. Mr. Mast was a useful man in a community; a good school teacher and a great worker in the church and Sunday school.

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**TAKE**

## CARDUI

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