

The Watauga Democrat.

Advertising Rates on Request.

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF BOONE, AND WATAUGA COUNTY.

\$1.00 Per Year.

VOL. XXX.

BOONE WATAUGA COUNTY, N. C., THURSDAY MARCH 13, 1919.

NO. 22.

Interesting Letter From France.

The following interesting letter to Mr. and Mrs. W. N. Howell of Brookside, N. C., from their son, Vance, now stationed at Mas-singy, France, has been handed us for publication:

Dear Father and Mother:

Ever since the 19th of September 1917, I have been in the 81st Division of Uncle Sam's Army. I was placed in a medical department of the division. Medical instruction prepared the detachment to care for the sick and wounded on the battle field.

In this letter I am not speaking of the operations of the operations of the medical detachment alone, but of the division as a whole.

Early in July 1918, the 81st division was ready for overseas service. We were ready to try our luck with German submarines and baffle the treacherous waves of the Old Atlantic. On the 31st day of July we weighed anchor in New York harbor for Liverpool, England. As our vessel plunged into submarine land every soldier turned for a farewell glimpse of the statue of liberty and the home land. It is impossible to express our feelings. I am sure a deep feeling of pride predominated in every soldier's heart, yet an undercurrent of sorrow passed over us, as the last traces of our America sank from our sight beneath the waves of the western sea. Our voyage was long and eventful. Despite the mines and submarines that lay in our path, we landed in Liverpool on August 12th. We had a short stay in Liverpool and soon took a train for a long trip across England. We made several stops while traveling across the island which gave us a chance to see the country and cities. The greater part of the country is a rolling plain. You can travel miles and miles without seeing a rock, stump or even a tree. The country is in a very high state of cultivation. As far as you can see your eyes are greeted with green pastures, fine herds of cattle and immense fields of wheat.

We found the following cities of England very beautiful and interesting: Birmingham, Oxford, Winchester and South Hampton. Winchester is especially interesting from the fact that several English kings were buried there, and Oliver Cromwell once partly destroyed the city. Winchester is credited with having the second oldest cathedral in the world.

On the night of the seventeenth of August we crossed the English Channel for Cherbourg, France. We passed through the famous English net which has caught so many German submarines. We steamed by several ships that were all under water except the tops of the masts. They had been sunk by German submarines. You can imagine some of our feelings. We had a short rest at Cherbourg and then started across France to the battle line. We often stopped in French towns for a rest. We were favored with a short stop in Paris.

It was in the last days of September that our journey introduced us to the Alsace-Lorraine Sector, in the Vosges mountains. During the nineteen days that we held this front, we had our first taste of war. We held this front with good results and showed the Germans that we had plenty of the stuff you call fight. At the expiration of the nineteen days we were relieved, and moved up the battle line by way of St. Mihiel and Nancy to Verdun. Verdun and the near vicinity was held by the French, but a few kilometers away the Ger-

mans were heavily entrenched. They were so strategically located that the French had not been able to dislodge them for four years. Our division was given the task of helping change the battle front on this sector of "No Man's Land." It is useless to give the result. When the Yanks received orders to go over the top the Germans only had two alternatives, die in their tracks or beat it toward the Fatherland. I am safe in saying they did both. In the meantime they gave us a warm reception with artillery, gas and machine guns. The horrible sound of those German shells. The memory of them makes you shudder. The air vibrated with the mournful sound of machine gun bullets and the doleful whir of gas shells. The scenes and memories of battles will never be forgotten by the boys on the field. The German watch-word seemed to be "take no prisoners, show no mercy, give no quarters." But alas! poor Hun, he was doomed. His first line of defense broke, the second followed suit, and he broke and run. At this stage of the fight a German major waved a flag of truce. Suddenly the noise of battle ceased and the most deadly silence I have ever experienced prevailed over the bloody field. The sudden change from the noise of battle to perfect quiet was such a shock that we were at loss to know what had happened. When we came to ourselves we realized we were the victors. The Huns had lost the battle of Verdun. Americans and Germans who were a few minutes before engaged in a life and death struggle, now exchanged souvenirs and talked of the battle. One of the German soldiers asked me how much territory the Yanks wanted to take in a day. I replied, "when we take the territory surrounding Berlin we will consider it a days work."

Since the Armistice has brought about a cessation of hostilities we have had a chance to recall the great principles for which we have fought. The world will long remember the victory of liberty and khaki. They know no retreat. We are proud of the fact that we have had the opportunity to fight for the grandest nation and the greatest people in the world. We shall never regret our service to you. Every one of the khaki clad would go thru another similar struggle for the same cause.

Now our thoughts drift back to home and friends. We are anxious to return to "America" to watch the results of our victory and the development of our great nation. The thing that now interests us most is "Where do we go from here?"

Your loving son,
VANCE.

Two Hundred Dollars More for Hospital in Boone.

EDITOR DEMOCRAT: I was glad to see a suggestion in the last issue of your paper by Mr. H. W. Horton that sufficient money be subscribed in the county to build and equip a first class hospital in Boone. I cannot imagine anything that is more needed, and Mrs. Stringfellow and myself will each subscribe \$100.00 to said fund, so you can add our names to the list started by Mr. Horton for like amount.

W. W. STRINGFELLOW,
Aniston, Ala.

96,368 United States troops were returned during the month of February by the cruiser and transport force of the navy.

Mr. Wilson's Triumph.

(From The New York Times.)

Americans who regretted the President's decision to absent himself from the country in these days of domestic need and urgency, and the Times was one of those which regretted it, will not only cheerfully admit the greatness of his achievements at the Paris Conference, but will rejoice in their recognition of his now amply demonstrated fitness for the work he undertook. Mr. Wilson's presence at the Conference has not been a cause of discord or of jealousy; it has not been resented. It was seen from the beginning that he went there not to dominate, as his critics said, but to unite the nations. He has been marvelously successful in bringing into agreement men who represented interests that seemed to be conflicting. His influence in this work has prevailed because all the other nations represented looked upon him as a wise and impartial friend, interested only in making justice and the welfare of peoples the basis of the decisions reached. His triumph in securing unanimous approval of the league of nations constitution is one in which every American may take pride.

Mr. Wilson has a dreadful way with his critics. He does not reply to them, he does worse. They rail at him as an idealist, a visionary, a man without practical objectives, or if he have them, that they are impossible of acceptance and they obligingly point out the things he ought to do. Mr. Wilson calmly continues his great labors, and presently lays his critics flat and leaves them helpless, either by doing the very things they had proposed, and doing in a manner better than they ever dreamed of, or else by attaining his ends in a way that robs their objections of every point. We are confident that Mr. Beck, for instance, must regret the violence of the language he used in his Lincoln Day address when he said that Mr. Wilson's foreign policy throughout "has been a black stain of dishonor upon the American people"; that "his principles have been a crazy patchwork of contradictions," consistent only in one idea, that the war "must end in a peace without victory." If this be just criticism, then Mr. Wilson has as his accomplices in dishonoring the American people, in constructing "his crazy patchwork of contradictions," and in bringing the war to an end without victory, some fourteen nations of the earth, including the greatest civilized nations. Such criticism recoils disastrously upon him who utters it. Not even the natural desire of a great political party to find or create "issues" for the coming presidential election can give lodgment in the minds and hearts of the people to this estimate of Mr. Wilson's distinguished service.

Dies of Measles.

Mr. J. Crit Brown died at his home on Middle Fork of New River, last Wednesday evening, after an illness of several days with measles. Mr. Brown was an honest, industrious citizen. He leaves a wife and five young children, and several grown children by his first wife, who has been dead for a number of years.

14,000 men of the famous 27th division arrived at home in New York last Thursday, the 6th inst. The 27th fought with the 30th division in breaking the Hindenburg line.

As a Northern Lumberman Sees Timber Conditions in Watauga.

Prof. B. B. Dougherty is in receipt of the following letter from Mr. J. D. Loizeaux, of Plainfield, N. J., who was in Boone some time ago, and is published in full by request of the School.

"I was in your town recently and was sorry not to have been able to see you for a little while, which I had anticipated. Of course you do not know me at all, and I will simply say that we are lumber dealers, operating in your county to some extent for the past two years, and hope to continue it, increasing the production."

"My reason for desiring to see you was because I am sure, from what I know of your training school, that it is the fountain head which places before the surrounding country the matter of its needs. Two things have stood out before me as being most essential for the welfare of your beautiful mountain country: The first is that the forests are being wantonly depleted without any thought of recuperation. Your county, to my judgment, is essentially a forest region most valuable for that purpose, and what has already been put into cultivation certainly can be made very valuable for dairy purposes. But, to think that this splendid forest land should steadily be denuded, would seem to me most to be regretted. If the timber were cut judiciously, say about 50 per cent of the trees cut down, there would be at least 80 per cent of the lumber harvested which is growing on the land, while the remaining 20 per cent embodied in 50 per cent of the trees is almost valueless as far as lumber is concerned. Yet, in 20 or 30 years this young growth opened up to the sunshine and relieved of the larger trees which take up the strength of the ground, will very quickly mature into beautiful lumber again. Even though I am not interested to any great extent in the country, I view with great regret the fact that this sort of lumbering is not carried out, and I believe that if you would agitate such a thing it would find its way into the proper channels and would be of great service to your country."

Coy Rogers Returns From France.

Private Coy Rogers, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Rogers, of Route 1, who saw active service on the front in France, returned to his home on Monday of last week, having recently recovered from an attack of pneumonia in an English hospital. Young Rogers was in a number of engagements, his greatest activities being on the Chateau Thierry front but he was fortunate enough to come out without a wound. He has some interesting souvenirs, one of which is a Catholic crucifix suspended by a silver wire on which is strung bone beads, the wearer, a German woman, having been killed in action while operating a machine gun, and the same was taken from her neck by Mr. Rogers. He says that were he to attempt to describe conditions as they really existed over there he would at once be branded as a prevaricator by many people, hence, along this line, he is rather noncommunicative. He was demobilized at Camp Lee, Va.

Representative Joseph W. Fordney, of Michigan, has been elected chairman of the ways and means committee by the Republicans of the house. He succeeds Representative Kitchin of North Carolina.

Bonus For Discharged Soldiers.

The following circular has been received from the Finance Department, Washington, D. C.:

Section 1406 of the Revenue Act approved Feb. 24, 1919, authorizes the payment of a bonus of \$60.00 to officers, soldiers field clerks and nurses of the Army upon honorable separation from active service by discharge, resignation or otherwise. This bonus is not payable to the heirs of any deceased soldier.

Those who are discharged hereafter will receive this bonus on the same roll or voucher upon which they are paid their final pay.

Those who have been discharged and have received their final pay without the \$60.00 bonus, should write a letter to the Zone Finance Officer, Lemon Building Washington, D. C., stating their service since April 6, 1917, the date of last discharge and their present address to which they desire their bonus checks to be sent and enclosing with this letter their discharge certificate or Military order for discharge and both, if both were issued.

Upon receipt by the Zone Finance Officer, Washington, D. C. of this information and the soldier's discharge certificate, this officer will cause checks to be drawn and mailed to the claimants in the order in which their claims were received by him. The discharge certificate will be returned to the soldier with the check.

It is estimated that at least one million and a quarter persons have been discharged from the service who are entitled to the benefits of this Act and while payments will be made as expeditiously as practicable, it will manifestly take considerable time to write and mail this many checks."

Mr. Cameron Williams, of Blowing Rock, who was recently demobilized at Camp Taylor, Ky., and reached his home some days since, was among relatives and friends in Boone last Thursday. He was accompanied by his sister, Miss Marjorie, brother Bowler, and Miss Eunice Holshouser, the efficient Assistant Cashier of the Bank of Blowing Rock. The young man is looking fine; enjoyed camp life, his one regret being that he saw no overseas service.

WHAT'S THE REASON?

MANY BOONE PEOPLE IN POOR HEALTH WITHOUT KNOWING THE CAUSE.

There are scores of people who drag out a miserable existence without realizing the cause of their suffering. Day after day they are racked with backache and headache; suffer from nervousness, dizziness, weakness, languor and depression. Perhaps the kidneys have fallen behind in their work of filtering the blood and that may be the root of the trouble. Look to your kidneys—assist them in their work—give them the help they need. You can use no more highly recommended remedy than Doan's Kidney Pills.

Below is a grateful testimony from a sufferer in this locality:

N. G. Deal, wood worker, Hickory, N. C., says: I suffered a lot from kidney trouble. My back was lame and sore and I had to stop work. At night I was restless and sometimes had to walk the floor. Doan's Kidney Pills gave me prompt relief, removing the pain in my back and making me feel better in every way."

Price 60c, at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mr. Deal had. Foster-Milburn Co., Mfgs. Buffalo, N. Y.

The out-door lights on the campus of our school, look good to the pedestrians of Boone as they grope their way over the present muddy and uneven highway through the village. Surely our town fathers could raise enough money to keep the State of North Carolina from losing one penny and get the New River Light and Power Co., (the A. T. S.) to turn on our lights again. It would be too bad for the school in which the citizens of Boone have considerable cash, to play a losing game in this matter, but for the love of Mike, if there is no relief for us, please quit tantalizing us with the lights on the State's property.

Seventy thousand Swede shoe workers will be thrown out of employment April 15, by suspension of operations in all shoe factories of the country. The close up is due to overproduction during the war, and "unsound speculation" since the cessation of hostilities.

An epidemic of typhoid fever is now raging over Russia. In one hospital in Petrograd 8,000 persons die monthly. In the provinces the mortality is so great that the Bolsheviks have issued orders to kill all the incurable cases, thus hoping to counteract the contagion.

Five persons were shot, two of them probably fatally last Thursday night in another of a series of Sicilian feudist fights in Detroit, Mich. that have resulted in the death of six Italians during the past month.

H. A. Herbert, Secretary of the Navy in Cleveland's cabinet in 1893-1897, died March 6, in Tampa, Fla., aged 85 years. Interment will be in Montgomery Ala.

All employees of the Postal Telegraph company have received notice that a flat increase of 10 percent in wages, dating from Jan. 1, has been granted them.

CHRONIC CONSTIPATION.

There are people who never have a movement without it is produced by a cathartic. Most of them have brought that condition on themselves by the use of mineral waters and strong cathartics that take too much water out of the system and aggravate the disease they are meant to relieve. A mild laxative tonic like Chamberlain's Tablets affords a gentle movement of the bowels that you hardly realize has been produced by a medicine, and their use is not so likely to be followed by constipation.

Food is so scarce that cats sell readily for \$3 each in Bolshevik Russia. Thousands are dying daily of starvation.

DOLLARS AND CENTS.

Counting it only in dollars and cents, how much did that last cold cost you? A man may not always stop work when he has a cold, but perhaps it would be better if he did. It takes about 10 days to get completely rid of a cold under the usual treatment. That time can be much shortened by taking Chamberlain Cough Remedy and proper care of yourself, in fact, a bottle of this remedy in the house is a mighty good investment in the winter and spring months.

FOR THE CHILDREN.

Too much care cannot be exercised in selecting a cough medicine for children. It should be pleasant to take, contain no harmful drug and most effectual in curing their coughs and colds. Long experience has taught that Chamberlain's Cough Remedy meets these conditions. It is a favorite with many mothers.