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PRESIDENT ASKS NATION RETAIN PARTY IN POWER

"Change Would Be Interpreted Abroad as Repudiation of My Leadership" — Republican Leaders Would Control, He Says.

President Wilson Friday issued an appeal to the people to return a Democratic Congress in the November elections if they approve of his course in this critical period.

Return of a Republican majority to either house of Congress, the President said, "would be certainly interpreted on the other side of the water as a repudiation of my leadership."

The President said he would accept the country's verdict without cavil, but that if it was adverse the power to administer the great trust assigned him would be seriously impaired.

President's Statement.
The President's statement, which was given out at the White House, follows:

My Fellow Countrymen: The congressional elections are at hand. They occur in the most critical period our country has ever faced or is ever likely to face in our time. If you have approved of my leadership and



wish me to continue to be your unembarrassed spokesman in affairs at home and abroad, I earnestly beg that you will express yourselves unmistakably to that effect by returning a Democratic majority to both the Senate and the House of Representatives. I am your servant and will accept your judgment without cavil, but my power to administer the great trust assigned me by the Constitution would be seriously impaired should your judgment be adverse, and I must frankly tell you so, because so many critical issues depend upon your verdict. No scruple of taste must in grim times like these be allowed to stand in the way of speaking the plain truth.

Asks Undivided Support.
I have no thought of suggesting that any political party is paramount in matters of patriotism. I feel too keenly the sacrifices which have been made in this war by all our citizens, irrespective of party affiliations, to harbor such an idea. I mean only that the difficulties and delicacies of our present task are of a sort that makes it imperatively necessary that the nation should give its undivided support to the government under a unified leadership, and that a Republican Congress would divide the leadership.

The leaders of the minority in the present Congress have unquestionably been pro-war, but they have been anti-administration. At almost every turn, since we entered the war they have sought to take the choice of policy and the conduct of the war out of my hands and put it under the control of instrumentalities of their own choosing. This is no time either for divided counsel or for divided leadership. Unity of command is as necessary now in civil action as it is upon the field of battle. If the control of the House and Senate should be taken away from the party now in power, an opposing majority could assume control of legislation and oblige all action to be taken amidst contest and obstruction.

Says Leaders Would Control Him.

The return of a Republican majority to either House of the Congress would, moreover, certainly be interpreted on the other side of the water as a repudiation of my leadership. Spokesmen of the Republican party are urging you to elect a Republican Congress in order to back up and support the President, but even if they should in this way impose upon some

FLOOD CONDITIONS IN THE MOUNTAIN REGION

Toxaway Line Crippled; Slides at Bryson City; High Water at Asheville.

Reports from Asheville yesterday said that heavy rains in the Hendersonville and Lake Toxaway section have raised the rivers and the Toxaway division is out of commission from Hendersonville to Toxaway. Communication is also destroyed. The French Broad was reported to be 18 feet high at Penrose, following a rainfall of over five inches in 24 hours.

At Asheville the river was about seven feet Tuesday night and was not rising rapidly. Two years ago the French Broad climbed 23 feet above normal. Business establishments along the water front kept watch on the river. The Hans Kees Tannery moved leather and much machinery to the upper stories of its plant.

The Gloucester Lumber Company, at Rosman and the Carr Lumber Company, of Pisgah Forest, lost practically all bridges on their logging roads and are tired up for several weeks. The work of 2,000 negro soldiers engaged in cutting and shipping wood in the Pisgah timber boundary is stopped by the flood conditions.

Slides on the Murphy division of the Southern, west of Bryson City, caused the annulment of trains for a time.

CROPS WERE DAMAGED BY HEAVY RAINFALL.

Streams Were Greatly Swollen and Many Smaller Bridges Destroyed.

Almost continuous rainfall for six days has caused all streams of the county to be greatly swollen and much bottom land to be flooded. Many farmers have sustained great loss to crops in the field. While at no time the river has anything like approached the volume of the July flood of 1916 the steadiness of the rainfall has caused much uneasiness. At no time have the river bridges been threatened. The highest the water came was within about 12 feet of the McDowell bridge, and it was possibly never within 25 feet of the "lower" bridge.

However, some of the creeks and branches have, for the most part, risen above what they did in 1916. Hunting creek was at least two feet higher, and both bridges across it between here and Hickory were destroyed.

The record of rainfall kept by the weather bureau at the State Hospital showed 18 inches to have fallen between Thursday night, when the rains began, and Wednesday morning.

Credulous voters on this side of the water, they would impose on no one on the other side. It is well understood there as well as here that the Republican leaders desire no so much to support the President as to control him. The peoples of the allied countries with whom we are associated against Germany are quite familiar with the significance of elections. They would find it very difficult to believe that the voters of the United States had chosen to support their President by electing to the Congress a majority controlled by those who are not in fact in sympathy with the attitude and action of the administration.

I need not tell you, my fellow countrymen, that I am asking your support, not for my own sake or for the sake of a political party, but for the sake of the nation itself, in order that its inward unity of purpose may be evident to all the world. In ordinary times I would not feel at liberty to make such an appeal to you. In ordinary times divided counsels can be endured without permanent hurt to the country. But these are not ordinary times. If in these critical days it is your wish to sustain me with undivided minds, I beg that you will say so in a way which it will not be possible to misunderstand either here at home or among our associates on the other side of the sea. I submit my difficulties and my hopes to you.
WOODROW WILSON.

Drowned in Mill.

Last Saturday Mr. Jim York, a respected citizen of Lower Fork township, was drowned in his mill when the high waters of the South Fork River washed the pillars from under the mill. He and his son were the only ones in the mill at the time. The younger man managed to escape.

GERMANY HAS FORWARDED ANOTHER NOTE TO U. S.

New Note Tells of Changes Made — Kaiser Stripped of Some Powers.

Yesterday afternoon's dispatches said that another note from the German government reached Washington yesterday. It supplements the last brief communication, saying armistice terms were awaited, by reciting in detail governmental changes which have taken place in Germany as evidence that the kaiser has been deprived of all power of making war and negotiating peace.

This time the Germans do not address President Wilson personally but send the information to the American government, apparently recognizing that the stage of personal appeals has passed with the transmission of their armistice and peace plea to the allies.

It reiterates that the actual power and responsibility of government has been transferred to the reichstag and describes the progress of the necessary constitutional changes.

The note probably will be forwarded immediately to Paris, where the supreme war council already is reported to have formulated terms upon which the United States and the allies might permit a cessation of hostilities.

As word of the new German move came, it was learned that President Wilson was working on a reply to the last note from Vienna in which the Austrian government accepted all principles and conditions of the president and asked for an armistice and peace proposals.

It was thought that the reply would probably be made public before night, and was expected to inform the authorities at Vienna that on the basis of acceptance of all conditions, including actual independence and not mere autonomy for subject nationalities, their request has been referred to the governments with which the United States is associated.

SHE DIED IN NOBLE SERVICE FOR OTHERS

Miss Bessie Roper Was Victim of Influenza, Contracted While Nursing Voluntary at State University.

Another Morganton girl has given her life as a sacrifice for others. Miss Bessie Roper, who was born and reared here, but was more recently of Asheville and Chapel Hill, died at Chapel Hill Tuesday night, Oct. 22, a victim of influenza-pneumonia. Miss Roper contracted the disease while nursing University students, having volunteered her services at the beginning of the epidemic. She was ill just one week before her death. For several years she had been doing special nursing at Chapel Hill. When the epidemic began its ravages in the University she felt it her duty to go where she was most needed, thus making the supreme sacrifice like the soldier who dies for his country. Three of her patients at the University infirmary, whose recovery was at one time in serious doubt, recovered, their lives saved by her ministrations.

Besides her widowed mother, Mrs. Cora Roper, of Asheville, among other immediate relatives she is survived by three sisters, Mrs. E. Clodfelter and Mrs. M. Benjamin, of Asheville, and Mrs. Sid Berry of Morant, and two brothers, James Roper, in service in France, and Odis Roper, of Columbus, O. The remains were brought to Morganton Wednesday night and interment made Thursday. Many handsome floral designs attested the love and esteem in which she was held.

Miss Roper was a member of the Methodist church, Asheville, and was a good church worker.

Accompanying the remains to Morganton were Mrs. M. Benjamin, Misses Lizzie Neville and Maggie Pickford and Mr. Bernard Lazarus.

A Pneumonia Victim.

Marshall S. Lowman, of Connelly Springs, died Sunday morning, death resulting from influenza-pneumonia. He is survived by his mother, Mrs. E. Lowman, and one brother. Funeral services were held Monday morning at 11 o'clock and interment was made in Warlick's chapel cemetery.

"Millions for morale" is the true and effective slogan of the United War Work campaign as expressed at a recent meeting of workers in Kentucky.

WAR WORK CAMPAIGN WILL NOT BE POSTPONED

United War Work Campaign to Be Carried On As Planned Week of Nov. 11-18.

"The date of November 11-18 originally decided upon for the United War Work Campaign will be adhered to, inasmuch as country wide reports indicate that the 'flu' is waning."

This announcement was made by Mr. P. H. King, director of the United War Work Campaign in the Southeastern department, after he had conferred with Dr. John R. Mott, director general of the United War Work Council. This decision was reached after careful consideration, and consultation, and after a personal conference with President Wilson, and members of the War Department.

"The disadvantages of postponing outweighed any apparent disadvantages which might come from such a delay," Dr. Mott stated.

Mr. King pointed out that although health regulations might in some instances perhaps prevent the holding of large mass meetings, the local leaders throughout the southeastern department may be depended upon to exercise their care, and best judgment, and ingenuity in adopting plans to suit the changed conditions.

PEACE TALK GOES ON AND ALLIES PUSH ON.

In All Battle Zones Are Continuing Without Mercy to Drive Foe Before Them—In France German Line is Slowly Disintegrating.

While both Germany and Austria are seeking to secure a cessation of hostilities and Turkey also is reported to be favorably disposed toward peace, the Entente Allied troops on all the battle fronts are giving no heed to peace proposals, but are continuing without mercy to drive their foes before them.

And in all the battle zones the allies are meeting with marked success. In France, the German battle line is slowly disintegrating under the violence of the allies offensive; in northern Italy the Austro-Hungarians are being forced back by the British, French and Italians with heavy losses in men killed, wounded or made prisoner; near the shores of the Mediterranean in Albania the Italians are driving the Austrians toward Montenegro frontier, while in Asiatic Turkey, both in Syria and Mesopotamia, the British are fast clearing the Turks from their former strongholds.

Although the Germans in France and Flanders still are strenuously resisting the allied attempts to break their line, they are giving away steadily under the force of the attacks.

South of Valenciennes, in France, Field Marshal Haig's forces, notwithstanding stiff opposition, have advanced their line in the general operations which as in view the capture of Valenciennes and pressing on toward Mons and Meurbruge in the general converging movement that is going on between Belgium and the region north of Verdun.

In connection with this general movement, the Americans northwest of Verdun have begun an operation which possibly may have important results. For the first time since the Americans entered the war they have opened fire against the back lines of the enemy and heavily bombing Longyou, some 15 miles distant from the American first line positions. It is over the territory through which the American guns are throwing their shells that the Germans have been reinforcing their lines eastward, and should the blasting process prove effective in blazing a trail along the Meuse for a quick advance by the Americans it is not improbable that a German retreat from the region east of St. Quentin northward toward Luxembourg will be necessitated.

Mrs. Bolick Died in Hickory.

Mrs. M. E. Poteet was called to Hickory Thursday to the bedside of her daughter, Mrs. Nettie Bolick. The death angel visited the Bolick home twice Thursday, the little daughter, Mary, aged 11, dying Thursday and the mother Thursday night. Both were buried in the same grave Friday afternoon at Bethel church. Surviving are her husband, Mr. D. B. Bolick, and three children, her mother, four sisters and three brothers.

Buy more War Savings Stamps.

MORGANTON BOY IN THICK OF THE FIGHT

Has Low Opinion of Huns—Horrible Tales True—Thinks War Can't Last Long.

The following letters were received this week from a young Morganton officer and make mighty interesting reading:

Somewhere in Belgium,
Sept. 5th, 1918.

Dear Sister:—

Your letter was received a day or so ago, and I was mighty glad to hear from you. There isn't much news to tell you. I am happy as a lark, and having the best time in the world. We are out of the front line, and I'm pretty glad to be out. We do enough work to make us eat and sleep heartily, and that's about all. We just came out yesterday, and the boys are spending the time killing "cooties" and cleaning up in general. Tomorrow we start on a journey. I expect that it is possible that we will have an opportunity to take part in a big show before long. I hope they push them back to the Rhine this year. I kind of feel sorry for the poor Germans, they are getting their wind up. Our outfit took part in a little show the other day and they did themselves proud. They aren't scared of anything on the top side of the earth. What we did took about two lines in the Official Communiqué, but if you had happened to be in it would take a book. I was at the dressing station when they brought our wounded in, and everyone of them said the same thing, it was, "D—Blighty, give me a cigarette and tie this place so I can get back after Mr. Boche." It was their first real fight and they take it like veterans. They are "Fighting Sons of Guns." I heard a British officer say that our spirit was the same as their Anzacs and Canadians. We want to get in the fight and have it over with. The English spirit is different. I don't know what it is, but this officer said it was. Nevertheless, they are fine soldiers, as are all of the allies. One of our boys got six Huns in the show, one being an officer. I guess that his wife is wondering why he hasn't written home lately. The American got a fine pair of field glasses and a watch, but the latter won't run.

Our band is playing outside, one of the most melancholy tunes, but I'm in the highest spirits. A rag time would suit me better. Most of the men are out in the hop fields helping the women pick hops. I believe they'd pick all of them if the women would just talk to them. I haven't heard from mother in nearly three weeks. I've got three of the liveliest little pups you ever saw. They certainly do raise Cain. Their names are Shrapnel, Whizbang and Dud, quite appropriate for pups that were born and bred under shell fire. With love to all.

Oct. 3, 1918.

Dear Father:—

It has been quite a while since I wrote home. We have been having a pretty busy time lately and have been on the go. I went for three days and nights without any sleep and without much to eat. The result is that I am completely run down. I expect to be all right tomorrow. Our division put on a mighty big show the other day and I had the time of my life. I have been under barrages and have been through them and everything else. I'm out of the line now and I don't expect to get very close to it again soon, at least a week or two. Those Huns are the dirtiest, lowest down set of swine that ever disgraced the top side of this earth. We captured one of their boiling down plants where they make the grease from their dead. I saw it myself. Another thing I saw was a man chained to his machine gun. I didn't believe those things till I saw them. I'm off of Germans forever. We took a lot of Huns into the "Chamber of Horrors" where they render lard out of the dead and they could hardly believe their own eyes. I'll bet it made democrats out of them. I was in dugouts that still had the fires in them where old Fritz had been cooking. I ate one of their meals and relished it. But that was before I saw their boiling down pots. I could have had a wagon load of souvenirs but I didn't want them. I've a skin that will still hold water and that is enough for me. I have never heard whether you have ever gotten my allotment of \$50.00 per month or my Liberty bonds. Please let me know. Please also send **READING MATTER.** I think I'll be coming home soon, but I don't know.

INFLUENZA SITUATION HAS GREATLY IMPROVED

New Cases Have Developed During Week But Mostly in Families Where Disease Has Been — Grace Hospital Used As Emergency Hospital.

Those who are in a position to know think that the influenza situation in Morganton has greatly improved during the past week. Red Cross workers have made a house to house canvass since Monday and, though the reports are not yet all in, from those which are in there is sufficient reason to believe that conditions are all the time improving. The lists show a comparatively small number of new cases and the majority of the reports are that the patients are convalescent. Since Monday probably not more than three new families have contracted the disease and it is thought that twenty-five would cover the number of new cases in the town. The number of cases in the country is said to be increasing.

It is the general opinion that the epidemic here is in a comparatively mild form. The number of deaths as compared to that of other towns has been very small.

Through the generosity of the board of directors Grace Hospital was offered as an emergency hospital and many of the victims are receiving treatment there. The hospital is being used almost exclusively for the treatment of influenza patients. But for the fact that the epidemic has been of a less dangerous nature here the situation might have been very desperate, since the town is short of doctors and nurses. Dr. Pfifer was stricken with the disease last week, and while not seriously ill, is still kept in. His being out of the work only three doctors are left in the county to combat the epidemic—Dr. Riddle, Dr. Anderson and Dr. Warlick.

There is general relief that the spread of the disease has been seemingly checked.

BROTHER OF MR. C. L. DAVIS DIED IN PANAMA.
Body Will Be Brought to Charlotte Home For Burial.

Mr. C. L. Davis received a message Monday announcing the death after a short illness of his brother, Mr. Edgar Davis, in Colon, Panama.

Mr. Davis was in government work. He left Camp Meade for Panama two weeks ago. His relatives knew nothing of his illness until a telegram came to the Charlotte lodge of Elks, from the lodge at Colon saying that Mr. Davis had died there. A card was found in his pocket by which it was learned that he was an Elk. The Charlotte lodge was at once communicated with, asking what disposition to make of the body. The Colon lodge was directed to send the body to Charlotte. It will probably be a week or ten days before it reaches that city.

Died of Influenza.

Miss Corrie Estelle Epley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Epley, of near Glen Alpine, died on October 19th at Norrisstop, Pa., of influenza. Miss Epley was a trained nurse and contracted the disease while caring for a patient. She is survived by her parents and several brothers and sisters, one brother a soldier in France.

The remains were brought to the old home and the funeral and burial services, conducted by Rev. C. L. Rodgers, were held at Mt. Olivette church. The death is another of the tragedies of the influenza epidemic, another young life taken when it gave promise of such rich usefulness in the service of others, and given while ministering to the afflicted.

When men have to chain their soldiers to their posts, it looks as if they were licked. Maybe I'm too optimistic, but I believe that the war will be pretty well over by Thanksgiving.

With lots of love to all the family.

The seven great organizations amalgamating for the United War Work drive are working splendidly together and the Red Cross in many communities is co-operating. Religious, racial and sectional feeling is being obliterated, as witness the instance in Tupelo, Miss., when a Catholic priest secured a contribution of a dollar from a Chinaman for the benefit of the Jewish Welfare Board.