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$2,000,000 FIRE AT NORFOLK VA., WORK OF INCENDIARIES

Blaze Under Control Last Night After burning Hours In The Heart of City

FOUR KNOWN TO BE DEAD AND MANY INJURED; SOLDIERS SAVE CITY

Naval and Military Enlisted Men Have Fire District Under Control and Clear It of Suspicious Characters; Fire Tugs Aid in Fighting Flames. List of Buildings Burned and Esti. Distinct Explosions.

mated Losses; Four Separate and

Norfolk, Va., Jan. 1.—Naval patrols rounded up suspicious persons throughout the afternoon while five men were arrested as suspects. Two of these Hugo Schmidt and H. K. Lessing, said to be Germans, were tonight turned over to department of justice agents.

Tonight there were reports that two Germans had been shot by sailors during the day, but neither the police nor naval authorities would confirm them.

At least three are dead and a score injured and a property loss now estimates at over $2,000,000 resulted from a series of four separate and distinct fires in Norfolk today, which practically destroyed two blocks in the heart of the retail business district of the city.

The first three fires were preceded by mysterious explosions and the 4th, which broke out tonight in the Atlantic hotel, was of a suspicious nature. There is no question in the opinion of the police and fire officials that all were of an incendiary origin Five arrests of suspicious characters have been made.

The fire area is bounded by Granby and Tazewell streets, Monticello and City Hall avenue on the east side of Granby street; and on the west side from Brooke avenue to Tazewell St., extending back about 150 feet to a lane, which undoubtedly saved the Naval Y. M. C. A., and a number of other large structures.

On the west side of Granby street, the Lenox, Carpenter and Tazewell buildings, all six stories high were completely destroyed or practically wrecked. On the east side of the street the Monticello Hotel and the old Granby Theatre buildings were swept away. The Dickinson building a big Commercial structure between the Granby Theatre building and the hotel, were damaged only by water. Both of these are practically fire proof.

Chief McLoughlin at 8 o'clock tonight declared that the progress of the fire had been checked although the ruins are burning fiercely. He is confident that the danger is over, if the militia can check the work of the incendiaries.

BIG FIRE THREATENED CAMP STEWART, ORDER TO WATCH FIRE-BUGS

Newport News, Va., Jan. 1.—Fire tonight destroyed three negro dwellings near Camp Stewart threatened the camp for two hours or more. There were thousands of soldiers quartered in the camp. The alarms were turned in through the camp telephone exchange which led to the belief that the camp was burning.

A false alarm called a second fire company two miles from the camp a few minutes before a second alarm was sent in from the camp as a precautionary measure. Business houses and firms near the water front today was warned by Department of Justice agents to keep a careful watch for incendiaries.

GOES OUT OF BUSINESS

Nash and Tucker, one of Louisburg's largest grocery concerns closed its doors in a mutual dissolution and discontinuance Tuesday. Mr. Tucker expects to be included in an early draft for the army, and Mr. Nash will take a position with McKinne Brothers Co.

A. J. UNDERHILL DEAD

Louisburg, Jan. 1.—Mr. Alpheus J. Underhill, 89 years of age, died at his home eight miles south of this city Monday afternoon.

Mr. Underhill was a native of Johnston county, but for about 50 years he has been a resident of the county He was an honored and high ly esteemed citizen, having a large family connection. He was a charter member of the Rock Spring Baptist church and has even been one of its most substantial supporters.

The funeral services were conducted Tuesday afternoon at his late residence by Rev. Walter M. Gilmore of Louisburg, and the interment was made in the family burying-ground nearby.

One son, Mr. J. Alpheus Underhill, with whom he lived, and five daughters, Mrs. John Wheless, Mrs. Augustus R. Strickland, Mrs. Richard Strickland, all of this county, and Mrs. J. F. Stallings, of Wendell, and Wright Mann, of Carlyle, Ark., survive him.

DIRECTORS MEETING

At a meeting of the First National Bank held on Tuesday a semi-annual dividend of 5 per cent was declared and a neat sum was transferred to the undivided profits account. The report of the cashier was especially gratifying and encouraging, showing resources of over $600,000.00, deposits $500,000.00 with no indebtedness.

Mr. W. D. Jackson, who has served the bank in the capacity of bookkeeper for the past several years and who has proven a most efficient official, was elected Assistant Cashier to succeed Mr. T. W. Watson, resigned.

The business of the bank the past year has been especially pleasing to the directors and points to a greater business in the future.

LIST OF LETTERS

The following is a list of letters remaining in the Postoffice at Louisburg not called for Jan. 4th, 1918.

Mr. Jonas Alston, Mrs. Mattie Alston, Henry Collins, J. N. Daniel, Esq., Mr. W. F. Davis, Miss Grace Y. Harris. Mr. O. G Hawks, Mr. G. S. Myers, Dr. J. P. Nicholson, W. A. Pearce, Miss Sallie B. Rogers, Mr. R. L. Savage, Mr. Holmes Spencer, Cleveland Wadrick, Miss Martha Williams.

Persons calling for any of the above letters will please state that they saw them advertised.

R. H. DAVIS, P. M.

MRS. FANNIE AYSCUE DEAD

At the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Ed Falkner, near Alert, Mrs. Fannie Ayscue died Saturday afternoon, Dec. 22, at 6 o'clock

Mrs. Ayscue, who was the widow of Mr. Wiley Ayscue who died some 18 years ago, was 69 years of age. She had been in poor health for some time but not until about ten days before her death was her condition considered critical.

Her remains were removed to her own home, a half mile away, where the funeral services were conducted Monday afternoon 3 o'clock by her pastor Rev. J. H. Harper, of the Mountain Grove Baptist church ,and the interment was made in the family burying ground near by.

Six children survive her, four daughters, Mrs. Louis J. Pernell, of this city, Mrs. Ned Wheeler ,of Wilson, Mrs. Richard Worsley and Mrs. Ed. Falkner, of Alert, and two sons, Wm. Ayscue, of Laurel and Wiley Ayscue, Jr., of Alert.

Mrs. Ayscue was a good woman, highly esteemed and respected by all who knew her.

—We are requesed to state that the Red Cross meeting will be held every Wednesday regardless of the weather as the soldiers are badly in need of the articles being made.

Y. M. C. A. FUND

Atlanta, Ga. Dec. 31.—Though the latest report issued by the War Work Council, Y. M. C. A. from New York City shows $1,662,573 raised by the seven states comprising the Southeastern Military Department during the recent campaign; it is safe to state that the total now exceeds $1,800,000 according to Executive Secretary B. A. Ackley.

Tennessee leads the Southern States having subscribed over $400,000. Georgia has jumped from fifth place to second place since December 1st. report, with 351,580 raised. The other five states have also over-subscribed their quotas, in the following order; North Carolina, Alabama, South Carolina, Mississippi and Florida.

A national increase of $2,000,000 in subscriptions this month is estimated $50,153,054 being the country wide total previously reported. This $17,000,000 over subscription has saved the day of the Army "Y". Before the War Department made known its additional calls upon the Red Triangle, its budget for nine monthsending June 30, 1918, called for an expenditure of $35,000,000.

It can be roughly estimated that $20,000,000 of this fund will be spent for work among enlisted men in the United States. The budget for October 1st, estimated $11,120,000, but demands since have nearly doubled. An equal sum will probably be spent overseas with the men of the American army and navy; the original budget calling for $11,994,000. When General Pershing requested the Army "Y" to take over the canteen service in France, an outlay of $5,000,000 not in the budget was made necessary.

In France with our boys 1,500 secretaries will be used. About half that number was previously estimated There are now 500 secretaries serving French, Italian and Russian soldiers at the request of their respective governments, their numbers increasing on an average of 100 monthly. Work in the vast prisoner of war camps abroad will require expending at least $1,000,000 of the Red Triangle war fund.

With Army Y. M. C. A. "huts at a cost of over 7 hundred thousand $700,000 and over 500 secretaries in active service in twenty-five training camps, forts and naval stations of the Southeast; this department now has the largest equipment and personnel in the United States. Atlanta headquarters ships over 4,000,000 sheets of writing paper and half as many envelopes for use in the Army and Navy "Y" buildings in the Southeast.

There are now o ver 2,00 Red Triangle secrotaries in army and navy service throughout the Unitd States.

BOWDEN - HOLMES

At the Baptist Pastorium in this city at 3 o'clock Wednesday afternoon Jan. 2, Mr. Geo. N. Bowden and Miss Florine Holmes were happily married, Rev. W. M. Gilmore performing the ceremony.

Mrs. Bowden is the only daughter of Mr. Thomas Holmes in the Flat Rock neighborhood.

Immediately after the ceremony the bridal party left for their future home near Justice.

POPE'S ITEMS

Jack Conyers, from Camp Sevier, S. C., spent last week at home with his people.

Mr. Billie Conyers and wife, of Richmond, and Mr. S. V. Ayers, of Dublin, Ga., are spending a few days with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Conyers.

Miss Maud Fuller of the Blind School of Raleigh spent part of the holidays with her people at Pope's.

Mr. Henry Upchurch and wife, of Norfolk, spent Christmas with her people, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Pierce.

Mrs. R. L. Conyers is visiting her sister, Mrs. Blanche Cox at Raleigh

Mrs. Other Holden, who has been quite sick for several days, is improving.

Everybody is invited to come out to Pope's next Sunday, as we are going to organize our Sunday School and will need your aid.

Miss Maggie Poole, who is teaching at Pope's, is spending the Christmas holidays with her people in Rougemont.

G. H. P.

MR. J. C. JONES DEMONSTRATOR FRANKLIN COUNTY

Louisburg, N. C.

Dear Mr. Jones:

I want to congratulate you upon the work you are doing in the question of food conservation. I sincerely hope that you will get the cooperation of every man, woman and child in Franklin county for it seems to me this is the most critical period of the whole war is approaching and it depends upon the people at home to decide whether we shall pass thro it safely or not.

Tens of thousands of people, men, women and children will perish this winter in Europe from starvation.

Unless the people of America economize in the use of food stuffs and use those which cannot be exported the number of starving people will be multiplied; and the soldiers of our allies and those of our own country cannot keep up the fight.

The armies of our allies have fought bravely for three years and millions of lives have been los and housands of homes destroyed in their effort to protect their counries and their homes from he cruel Germans, and now our own soldiers are "over there' helping fighting as only Americans can fight, and they are fighting to keep the Germans away from Americans and out of their homes.

All this will have been done and lost unless America can keep them supplied with food. It depends upon the American homes to decide whether our Government can supply this food or not, for already practically all the surplus has been shipped and only what can be saved by economizing remains to be shipped. This shortage of food stuffs can be met easily if we will just substitute corn meal for flour, chicken, fish and other meals for pork and beef, two or three days in the week and cut down our consumption of sugar—and this will work no hardships upon us—it will be doing our country as great a good, almost, as a soldier will.

Our allies are needing foodstuffs, NOW, and if our people live up to their opportunity and the task imposed upon them they must save and subsitute NOW.

If we, the people of Franklin county are patriotic now is the time to show it, and by economizing in the things our government asks, is the way we can prove it. With best wishes,

Cordially yours,
E. L. BEST.

CITY BANK WILL OPEN TOMORROW

John T. West Is President and R. G. Allen Cashier, of New Institution

The City Bank, Raleigh's newest banking institution, will open its doors for business tomorrow morning at nine o'clock. The capital stock of the new concern is $25,000 and will be increased, according to the directors, to $100,000 a little later.

The organization meeting was held yesterday afternoon and John T. West was elected president of the new bank Victor C. Moore, Dr. W. A. Withers, John A. Allen are vice-presidents. R G. Allen will be cashier.

The bank will occupy quarters recently constructed and equipped in the lobby of the Superba Theatre. R T. Uzzle, with the officers of the bank, will constitute its board of directors —News and Observer.

COSSACKS BATTLE WITH BOLSHEVIKIS

Petrograd, Dec., 31.—The battle between the Kaledines Cossacks and Bolshviki troops has been resumed at Kursk, midway between Moscow and Restov on Don. It is reported that there have been heavy casualties in the three days fighting.

The Bolsheviki are reported to have occupied Poltava, the scene of the historic battle between Peter the Great and Charles of Sweden.

There is a famine at Moscow.

GEN. KONILOFF DEAD?

London, Jan. 1.—A dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph from Petrograd says there is an unconfirmed report that Lieutenant-General L. G. Korniloff, former commander-in-chief of the Russian armies is dead.

DROVE AMERICANS OUT

London, Jan. 1.—It is reported that the Bolsheviki have expelled the members of the American railway mission at Irkutsk, Siberia, says a dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph from Petrograd.

EARTHQUAKE HITS GUATEMALA CITY

Large Part of the City Was Destroyed On Christmas Day. Appeal to Red Cross

New York, Dec. 27.—Guatemala city the capital of the republic of Guatemala was partly destroyed by an earthquake on Christmas day, according to meager advices received here last week.

A large number of buildings were wrecked, including the National palace, which houses the various branches of the government, the general postoffice and the railway.

"About sixty persons are reported killed and a large number injured."

The American Red Cross has been appealed to for aid.

Guatemala was the third capital of the republic of Guatemala, having been designed for the capital city following the earthquake of 1773, which destroyed "Old Guatemala," the second capital. It is situated high on a plateau at an elevation of 4,850 feet above the sea level. In the great square, which is typical of the cities built by the Spanish invaders of Central America, are situated all the government buildings, including the palace.

The city has a poulation of approximately 100,000, and is the seat of the Guatemala university and of a polytechnic college. It contains many old cathedrals, public libraries and a museum. Most of the houses are only one story because of the prevalence of earthquakes. The industries are for the most part confined to the manufacture of muslins, fine cotton yarn and artificial flwers. It is the center of trade for the entire country.

Forty are reported to have been killed and hundreds are made homeless by an earthquake which shook Guatemala city Tuesday night and yesterday. The earthquake is believed to be still in action, according to advices received late today by the state department.

Seror Don Joaquin Mendez, Guatemalan minister here, has been cut off from communication for two days. No cable message has come through at this time.

A previous message from the American legation in Guatemala city said the national palace, railroad and postoffices and many dwellings had been damaged. The legation was somewhat shaken, but all the Americans and the diplomatic staff were safe at that time. The Brilish legation was wrecked.

Martial law has been declared.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Register of Deeds Yarborough issued marriage licenses to the following couples during the month of December

White—Bussell Carlyle and Prossie Williams, Walter Wester and Myrtle Place, W. O. Fuller and Fannie Green Macon, P. A. Davis and Minnie S. Allen, Roy M. Dean and Gertrude A. Cooke, Early E. Smith and Addie M. Lancaster, Frank Murray and Lena Bobbitt, Ervin Tunstall and Minnie Shearin, Ashley McGhee and Annie Shearin, Charlie Medlin and Jennie Horton, Benj. Baker and Sallie Smith, R. H. Poythress and Eunice L. Harper, Luther Medlin and Elsie Pearce, E. L. Leonard and Lillie Wood, Ballard P. Harris and Belle Dickerson, W. Vance Bane and Rachel M. Mitchell, Benny Perry and Daisy Perry, Charlie E. Wilder and Lola B. Wilder, John Adkins and Martha Davis, Ernest Dickerson and Corah Preddy, Jesse B. Champion and Anna M. Thompson, Spencer West and Zena Edwards, Herbert Leonard and Beatrice Hight, J. E. Bunn and Sadie Bettie Wheeler.

Colored—Robt. McIntosh and Hattie Dean, John Kingsberry and Lizzie Perry, Henry R. Alston, Jr., and M. P. Thomas, Jos. Leonard and Cora Fogg, Willie Fogg and Beulah Yarborough, Solomon Williams and Nettie Durham, Henry Jones and Mandy Perry, Luther Wright and Anna Alston, Lee Alston and Rosa Perry, Nat Foster and Alice Williams, James Davis and Mrs. Annie Davis, Norman Kearney and Kate Yarboro, Calvin Baker and Minnie Williams, Daniel Carpenter and Temple Harris, Davie Green and Julia Hayes.

HEAVY CASUALTIES INFLICTED ON ENEMY

Operations on French Front and in Belgium Confined to Bombardments Heavy Fighting Between Cossacks and Bolsheviki Troops in Southwestern Russia.

Another reverse of the Teutonic Allied arms, following that affected by the French in their initial drive on he northern front in Italy, has been brought about by the Italians in a sharp attack in the famous Zenson loop on the lower reaches of the Piave river.

Here the enemy has been driven to the eastern bank of the stream from positions he has held since the Italians in their retrograde movement from the Isonzo made their stand along the western shore of the Piave. Thus the entire right bank of the Piave has been cleared of the invaders except far to the north, where the battle runs westward from the stream through the hill region.

The fighting for the Zenson bridgehead had been in progress since last Thursday, the Italians keeping energetically after the foe in order to regain the position, which always has been considered a menace to Venice. Heavy casualties were inflicted on the enemy by the artillery and rifle fire of the Italians before he was forced to recross the stream.

On the northern front the infantry again is idle for the moment, but the big guns of both sides are keeping up intensive duels on various sectors, particularly around Monte Tomba and on the Asiago plateau. The enemy is continuing his air raids over important towns on the plain, his latest attack having been directed against Vicenzo, Bassano, Castel, Franco and Treviso. Thirteen persons were killed and forty four others wounded, the majority of them civilians. Only small material damage resulted from the new raids.

Likewise the operations on the fronts in France and Belgium have been confined almost exclusively to bombardments although the German war office claims a further gain of ground by the army of Crown Prince Rupprecht, of Bavaria, over the British south of Marcoing in the Cambrai sector.

There are persistent reports that heavy fighting is in progress between Kaledine's Cossacks and Bolsheviki troops in Southwestern Russia, and that casualties have been heavy. No details of an authentic nature have yet come through, but the reports say the Bolsheviki have been defeated on the southwestern front with enormous losses of men and guns, but that they have occupied the important town of Poltava.

Still further progress has been made by the British troops operating against the Turks in Palestine north of Jeresalem. The Turks in the fighting of the last several days have lost more than 1,000 men killed and wounded and 750 made prisoners.

PENSION WARRANTS

The Following Pension Warrants Have Not Been Called For From Clerk Superior Court's Office

SOLDIERS

W. F. Bailey, H. T. Breedlove, Geo. Carter, G. M. Duke, J. A Ellis, A C. Fuller, Wiley Gupton, John R. Harris, A. C. Leonard, J. W. Mustian, J. D. Pearce, W. J. Wood, Exum Wester.

WIDOWS

Mary C Bartholomew, E. J. Bowden, Bettie J. Hunt, Elizabeth J. Joyner, Cynthia Patterson, Martha A. Perry, Frances N. Upchurch, N. F. Yarborough.

GOLD MINE TOWNSHIP VOTES ROAD BONDS

The citizens of Gold Mine Township have shown to the world their spirit of progress in the successfully carrying of an election for the issuance of bonds to build good roads in that township. The election was held on Monday and despite the snow and bad weather the champions of the issues rallied forth and piled up a majority of nine against the registration.

The progressiveness of the citizens of this township has been closely watched in the past few years and their section on Monday in carrying the good roads election places another flower in their crown.