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LOCAL NEWS IN FORM

MATTERS OF INTEREST TO THE READERS OF THE PATRIOT FAR AND NEAR.

Chapter O. E. S.—Mrs. J. M. Johnson and Miss Blanche Johnson went to Star, Montgomery county, Tuesday to assist in the organization of a new chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star.

Troxler-Creasy.—Mr. Lonnie Troxler and Miss Mattie Creasy, both residents of this city, were married Monday afternoon at the home of Rev. Shuford Peeler, who performed the ceremony.

Revival Meeting.—A revival meeting will begin at the First Reformed church at the 11 o'clock service Sunday morning. The pastor, Rev. Shuford Peeler, will be assisted by Rev. C. C. Wagoner, of High Point.

Move to Greensboro.—Mr. J. W. Bethell and family, of Reidsville, yesterday moved to this city for the fall and winter months. Miss Mildred Bethell, a daughter, is a student at the State Normal and Industrial College.

Three Divorces.—The Superior court this week has granted divorces in the following cases, all the parties being white: Hattie Sheets vs. L. A. Sheets, Mary S. Cottrell vs. Larkin S. Cottrell and Mary McIntyre vs. Lindsay McIntyre.

A Good Meeting.—The revival meeting which began at Grace Methodist Protestant church the third Sunday still is in progress. Large crowds are attending the services and splendid results are reports. A number of persons have made professions of religion.

For Treatment.—Paul Tate, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Tate, who has been quite ill for several weeks, was carried to Baltimore Tuesday for treatment in Johns Hopkins hospital. He was accompanied by his father and a nurse. The young man has been in bad health for a year or more.

On Fair Business.—Mr. Garland Daniel, secretary of the Central Carolina fair, went to Lynchburg, Va., yesterday to visit the fair in progress there this week and look over some of the race horses and special attractions he is thinking of booking for the big fair to be held here October 12-15.

On Distilling Charge.—S. E. Phillips, whose home is near Gibsonville, was given a hearing Monday before United States Commissioner Collins on the charge of illicit distilling and held for the December term of Federal court under a bond of \$300, which was furnished by his brother, J. M. Phillips.

Engagement Announced.—At a rock party given yesterday afternoon by Mrs. A. L. Petree, at her home on West Gaston street, announcement was made of the engagement of Miss Blanche Dawson, a daughter of Rev. and Mrs. W. L. Dawson, of Pomona, and Mr. Arthur K. Moore, a young business man of this city. Their marriage will take place in October.

"Two-Bit" Dinner.—About 100 members of the Greensboro Chamber of Commerce attended the first "two-bit" dinner of the season at the Y. M. C. A. Tuesday night and enjoyed a good spread. The speaker of the evening was Mr. E. Sternberger, of the Revolution cotton mills, who talked on economic conditions as viewed from different standpoints. Other "two-bit" dinners will be given by the Chamber of Commerce at intervals during the fall and winter.

J. M. McGhee Dead.—Mr. James Madison McGhee, a well known citizen of High Point, died at his home in that place Monday afternoon. He had been in feeble health for the past seven years. Mr. McGhee was 66 years old and a native of Guilford county, having been born near Jamestown. He is survived by his widow, two sons, a daughter and three brothers. The funeral was conducted from the home yesterday afternoon by Rev. Dr. G. T. Roster, pastor of Wesley Memorial Methodist church, of which Mr. McGhee had been a member for many years.

Death of a Veteran.—Mr. J. Madison Hunt died late Tuesday afternoon at the residence of Mr. F. M. Keith, on Dick street, where he had been making his home for some time. He was originally from Randolph county. He was 84 years old and a Confederate veteran. The funeral was held from the Keith home yesterday afternoon at 3 o'clock and interment made in Greene Hill cemetery. Rev. Dr. Melton Clark, of the First Presbyterian church, conducted the services.

WANTS TO CROSS THE BORDER

ARMY OFFICER WOULD TACKLE THE MEXICAN BANDITS ON OWN TERRITORY.

Conditions along the Mexican border in the Brownsville district again have become acute, according to messages to the war department from Major General Funston, and a battery of mounted artillery has been dispatched to Progreso, Tex., to prevent a raid by 500 bandits who threaten to cross into America territory.

Colonel Blocksom, in command of the troops near Progreso, reported through General Funston that the bandits seemed to constitute an independent band.

"If Carranza does not stop these bandits," telegraphed Colonel Blocksom, "I believe we shall soon be compelled to follow them across."

Secretary Garrison said he interpreted the colonel's telegram to mean that if conditions did not improve he would find it necessary to recommend that American troops be permitted to pursue attacking forces across the international line whenever necessary to deal with them.

Information placed in the hands of the department of justice by T. R. Beltran, Carranza consul at San Antonio, Tex., bears out to an extent Colonel Blocksom's report that the bandits seem independent of Carranza control. Mr. Beltran contends that former followers of Jesus Flores Magon, leader of a socialist movement in Lower California, have organized on the border and are working surreptitiously to foment trouble between the United States and Mexico.

There are intimations that outside influences are supplying funds for the alleged plot, and department of justice officials have begun an investigation. Officials in Washington think the Carranza authorities themselves are not aware of the extent to which the alleged intrigues have been carried, and are hoping relief for the situation will come through vigorous measures by the Carranza command.

New School Buildings.—The city commissioners yesterday afternoon instructed an architect to prepare plans for two new school buildings. One of them is to be built on the lot recently purchased of Mr. C. A. Bray, on South Spring street, and the other on the corner of Cypress and Dewey streets.

Regulate Jitneys.—The city commissioners are seriously considering the question of enacting an ordinance to regulate the jitney business. The Chamber of Commerce has asked the commissioners to pass ordinances similar to those in other cities of the country, and this will no doubt be done at a very early date. The jitney business here has not reached considerable proportions, but it is being rapidly developed.

New Fire Truck.—The city commissioners, with the co-operation of members of the fire department, are considering bids that have been received from several manufacturers who desire to sell the city a motor chemical truck. The purchase will be made soon and the new equipment will give the Greensboro fire department two motor vehicles, the first purchased having been a combination engine and hose wagon.

To Drag the Roads.—The good roads committee of the Chamber of Commerce has under consideration plans for co-operating with the county authorities in keeping the roads leading into Greensboro in better condition during the coming winter than they have been kept in the past. No definite plan has been worked out, but it is probable that arrangements will be made to use the split road drag quite extensively.

Big Damage Suit.—The Superior court is engaged in hearing a suit for \$10,000 damages brought against Mr. J. B. Stroud, of this city, by Mr. R. H. Mitchell, of Guilford College. Following a cow trade some months ago, it is alleged that Mr. Stroud made certain remarks derogatory to the character and good name of Mr. Mitchell, whereupon the suit for damages was instituted. The case will probably go to the jury today.

Rev. Dr. J. H. Weaver, presiding elder of the Greensboro district, has been spending a few days this week visiting friends and former parishioners in Monroe.

WILL WARN GREAT BRITAIN

PROTEST AGAINST HER TRADE HOLD-UP HAS BEEN DRAFTED FOR TRANSMISSION.

The reply of the United States to Great Britain's defense by Sir Edward Grey of her oppression of American commerce will be sent forward irrespective of the settlement of the differences between this government and Germany. The note has been put in form for transmission and probably will be cabled on the day Secretary of State Lansing returns to Washington.

The document is a redraft of several others bearing on different parts of the general subject. Officials explained that it was not because there was a prospect of early settlement with Germany that the note would be sent soon, but because the recent acts of Great Britain in the packers' cases have shown that temporizing on individual cases is futile. The new note will be a vigorous protest, with certain strong statements that the continuance of her course by Great Britain could only be regarded in an unfriendly light.

The main points of the note may be summed up as follows:

1. The United States denies that the blockade established by Great Britain is legal, except as to the ports in German territory which are covered by sufficient naval forces.

2. No blockade exists or could exist as to Dutch and Scandinavian ports, because the allegation of such a blockade rests on the order in council, which is itself the expression of an illegal act.

3. Seizures and detentions of neutral vessels bound to neutral ports, except for brief visits and search, which could be exercised on the high seas, are indefensible as contrary to law and tradition.

4. The endeavor of Great Britain, after seizure and detention, to place the burden of proof of innocence on the officers of the detained vessels is contrary to international law. In this part of the note this government denies absolutely there is any parallel between the action of the United States government during the Civil war and the action of Great Britain in all cases of seizure on suspicion.

5. A reminder will be given that Great Britain has been advised frequently since the first vessel was held up by a British cruiser that the United States demands that reasonably sufficient proof should be adduced by the capturing vessels or that the neutral vessels should be immediately released.

6. All cases of seizure and detention are essentially subject to diplomatic treatment, and therefore Great Britain's course in denying diplomatic intervention to cases of seizure and detention, and making them solely subject to local courts of justice, is essentially illegal. It is pointed out that taking vessels into port on suspicion is a practical abrogation of the rights of those vessels to be visited and searched expeditiously, and held only on the immediate production of reasonable proof by the captor.

7. Great Britain's attention will be called to the fact that she has only recently been put on notice in the caveat of the state department in the packers' case; that this government proposes to stand on international law as understood by all other nations as against the order in council and all other orders of emergency or expediency issued by Great Britain which have operated against the rights of neutral commerce.

8. Justification of retaliation is not accepted by this government. It is pointed out that the state department has maintained the position that retaliation is essentially wrong in fact and in principle.

Great Britain is told that this government views with increasing displeasure and alarm the results of her course, and tells her that she is expected to make definite promises of amendment. Otherwise, the note says, this government cannot fail to regard a continuance of the oppression of American commerce as an unfriendly attitude on the part of the British government.

Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Merrimon left Tuesday on a visit to the San Francisco exposition.

Miss Thelma Clymer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Clymer, has gone to New York to resume her studies in a school of art.

ALLIES MAKING PROGRESS

EFFORTS TO BREAK THROUGH GERMAN LINES MARKED BY HARD FIGHTING.

Furious fighting still characterizes the united efforts of French and British to break through the German lines on the western front. The allied forces, the French war office announces, continue to gain ground and to add to their captured men, guns and stores.

Foot by foot, as the official communication reads, the French are making progress to the east of Souchez, an important territory from a strategic point of view, and have likewise continued their advance in Champagne. It contains the significant statement that among the Germans taken prisoners were men of the guard corps who had been brought back from the Russian front a few days ago. This would seem to indicate that the Austro-Germans have been compelled to weaken to some extent their eastern battle front in order to reinforce those sections of the western line which the allies are attacking with heavy guns, rapid fire and the bayonet.

Field Marshal Sir John French reports the capture of powerful German defenses around Loos, where the number of prisoners taken by the British has now reached 3,000, 40 machine guns being taken and many destroyed. The British have captured the first and second lines and are heavily engaged in an attack on the third.

The allied trenches in the Argonne are being violently bombarded by the guns of the German crown prince, but no attack by infantry has been attempted. Some of the first line trenches taken from the French by the Germans on this front Monday have been retaken by means of hand grenades.

Details from unofficial sources of the heavy bombardment that preceded the allied attacks Saturday say the German lines are smoldered in dust under the hail of shells, their parapets melted away and the barbed-wire entanglements disappeared.

So thunderous was the onslaught that persons 30 or 40 miles distant were awakened from their sleep. When the French ceased their shelling of the trenches in Champagne and charged the German trenches they found the Germans stupefied by the effects of the artillery fire, gunners being mixed up with infantrymen and all of them huddled around the field pieces.

Germans Still Driving Russians.

On the eastern front the Russians near Dvinsk are declared by Berlin to have attempted to recapture ground lost to Field Marshal von Hindenburg Monday, but their effort was unavailing. Progress is recorded for the Germans, who are still driving the Russians from the Vilna sector and for those who are engaged in Volhynia. In this latter region, Berlin says, the army groups of General von Linsingen have crossed the Styre river below the fortress of Lutsk and that the Russians north of Dubno are in retreat along the whole front.

Various reports are in circulation respecting the trend of events in the Balkans. One of these is to the effect that Greece has informed Serbia that she will resist the passage of foreign troops through Greek territory. Another says that Bulgaria and Greece are reported to have agreed to the establishment of a neutral zone between the two countries.

The attitude of the British government with regard to the possibility of Bulgaria entering the war has been plainly stated by Sir Edward Grey, the British foreign secretary. Sir Edward has told the British Parliament that in case Bulgaria assumes an aggressive attitude on the side of the central powers the allies will give their support to "our friends in the Balkans in a manner that would be most welcome to them."

Exhibited Head as Trophy.

Brownsville, Tex., Sept. 28.—The head of Private Richard J. Johnson, the United States cavalryman missing since last Friday's battle near Progreso, has been exhibited as a trophy on the Mexican side of the Rio Grande, according to a statement made tonight by a Mexican prisoner to Hidalgo county officers at Pharr.

MANY KILLED AND INJURED

EXPLOSION OF GASOLINE IN OKLAHOMA TOWN CAUSES GREAT DAMAGE.

Ardmore, Okla., Sept. 27.—A spark from a workman's hammer ignited a tank car of gasoline here late today, and from the ruins of two city blocks razed by the resulting explosion and the fires which followed, thirty-one bodies had been recovered late tonight. The property loss is estimated at \$500,000.

Fifty persons are believed to have been crushed or burned to death while pinned under the debris of stores, wholesale houses and the Ardmore railroad station. Search among the ruins was proceeding methodically tonight, the workers centering their efforts on the mass of lumber and bricks which had been a department store and where it was feared the bodies of many girls and women shoppers and employes would be found.

A score of fires, caused by the flaming liquid which was thrown for blocks when the car which contained 250 barrels of gasoline exploded, were gotten under control after two hours work by the small fire department, aided by every able-bodied man in the city not assisting the injured. The city was placed under martial law immediately.

At 8 o'clock the fires were under control and the city was under martial law. Private homes were immediately thrown open to the injured and scores of men were working tonight in the smoldering ruins along Main street in search for additional victims.

Not a building on Main street escaped damage, either as a result of the force of the explosion or of the fires following.

All school buildings, business houses and residences within twelve blocks of the business district bear evidence of the explosion and practically every window in the city was shattered by its force.

Two workmen were busy repairing the tank at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon. Suddenly one of them struck it with a hammer. A spark from the blow ignited fumes escaping through a small leak. There was a terrific explosion, followed by many smaller ones. The workmen were blown to pieces. The shock shattered the Ardmore railroad station, used by the Santa Fe, Frisco and Rock Island railroads, and the Rock Island freight station and scores of other buildings quickly took fire from the flying liquid.

The flames spread rapidly until all of Main street appeared a roaring furnace. Thirty freight cars in the Santa Fe railroad yards were destroyed. The pall of smoke hanging over the whole city prevented rescuers from doing effective work.

Deeds of heroism were many. A woman waiting at the railroad station with a baby in her arms and a four-year-old child at her side dashed three blocks with her double burden, her own clothes blazing as she ran. Passers-by smothered the flames with their bare hands. The mother was taken to the hospital dangerously burned. The children were not seriously injured.

For five hours after the explosion Ardmore was cut off completely from the outside world. Telephone and telegraph communication was severed by the wrecking of poles in the downtown district.

To Build Cigar Factory.

The El Rees-So Cigar Company, whose business has grown to considerable proportions, has purchased from Mr. J. R. Thomas a lot on Silver Run avenue upon which a modern cigar factory will be built. At present the company occupies the third and a portion of the second floor of the Huffines building, on the corner of South Elm and Sycamore streets, but is cramped for room. Messrs. John T. Rees and V. B. Morgan are at the head of the company, which manufactures a popular cigar that enjoys a wide sale.

Maj. Stedman in Winston.

Congressman Stedman spent Tuesday in Winston-Salem conferring with representatives of tobacco manufacturers regarding the effect upon their business of the action of the British and French governments in holding up shipments to the United States of licorice root. The root is used in preparing certain tobaccos for the market. Maj. Stedman stated he would take the matter up personally with Secretary of State Lansing.

SEVERE GULF COAST STORM

FIVE KNOWN TO BE DEAD AND MANY INJURED—PROPERTY LOSS OF MILLIONS.

New Orleans, La., Sept. 29.—Five persons are known to be dead, many people injured and property loss reaching into the millions has been caused tonight by the most severe gulf storm in the history of the city.

A howling gale with a velocity of 86 miles an hour swept the city at 6 o'clock tonight, demolishing scores of buildings, stripping the roofs from hundreds of other structures and strewn the streets with broken glass and debris.

At 7:30 a rising barometer gave evidence that the storm was subsiding, the center passing to the northwest of New Orleans. The barometer at its lowest registered 28.11, and the wind velocity of 86 miles was the highest ever recorded here.

Railroad and wire communication with the outside world had been cut off and telephone, electric light and trolley service discontinued in the city. All railroads have abandoned train service from New Orleans.

Wireless communication from New Orleans was interrupted by the failure of the electric plant, but messages were sent from the steamship Excelsior at dock here and relayed from the steamship Creole, anchored below New Orleans in the Mississippi river to Mobile.

Mobile, Ala., Sept. 29.—New Orleans and the Mississippi gulf coast tonight were swept by a tropical hurricane that demoralized communication and led to fears of heavy loss of life and property. The Mississippi river levees below New Orleans have broken, houses have been washed away, and at least two lives have been lost in that section, according to a wireless message late today from the Morgan liner Creole, upward bound for New Orleans.

The business district of Biloxi, Miss., is under six feet of water and train service has been abandoned because of washouts throughout a large section about Bay St. Louis.

Last reports coming from New Orleans before all means of communication were lost said that city was in darkness because of the flooding of electric plants. Wind had driven the water in Lake Ponchartrain above the sea wall, and Milneburg and other New Orleans suburbs along the lake were partially under water.

The advices said automobiles were bringing in the inhabitants of that section and that no loss of life had been reported.

Mobile escaped the worst of the storm, but the wind here was sufficient to drive the water over the wharves at the river front and unroof several houses.

COUNTY SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION PROGRAM.

The program committee of the Guilford County Sunday School Association has arranged the following program for the county convention, which will be held at Guilford College Saturday, October 9:

- Morning Session.
 - 10.00—Song service.
 - 10.00—Devotions, Rev. Joseph Peele.
 - 10.25—Music.
 - 10.30—The elementary division, Mrs. F. R. Michaux.
 - 11.00—The secondary division, Miss Martha Dozier.
 - 11.30—Music.
 - 11.35—The adult division, Rev. A. G. Dixon.
 - 12.10—Appointment of committees.
 - 12.15—Adjournment.
 - Afternoon Session.
 - 1.30—Song service.
 - 1.40—Roll call of townships; reports of committees; election of officers.
 - 2.10—"Guilford's Day of Opportunity," E. J. Coltrane.
 - 2.40—The survey of the county, Dr. Thomas Newlin.
 - 3.00—The community training school, W. C. Jackson.
 - 3.20—A chautauqua plan for the townships, A. W. McAllister.
 - 3.40—General discussion of new plans.
 - 4.00—Adjournment.
- Efforts are being made to have every Sunday school in the county represented at this convention. The program has been prepared with a view to approaching some new types of work to be undertaken during the coming year.