

# THE GREENSBORO PATRIOT

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## LOCAL NEWS IN BRIEF FORM

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

**Killed Big Hawk.**—Mr. C. E. Marley, of Pleasant Garden, killed a big hawk a few days ago that measured three feet and seven inches.

**Preaching at Brick Church.**—The Patriot is requested to announce that there will be preaching at Brick church Sunday morning at 11 o'clock. The note containing this request failed to state who will preach.

**Holiday Barbecue.**—Mr. A. M. Scales yesterday entertained the members of his class of the First Presbyterian Sunday school and a few specially invited guests at a barbecue at his home northwest of the city.

**Gave Bond.**—Clarence Idol and C. L. McLeod, the two young men arrested near Guilford Battle Ground on the night of the 22nd with an automobile load of liquor, waived extradition when carried before Justice of the Peace Collins for a preliminary hearing. They gave bond in the sum of \$1,000 each for their appearance at the next criminal term of court.

**Aged Woman Dead.**—Mrs. Victoria Braxton, a sister of Mr. J. Van Lindley, of Pomona, died suddenly Christmas eve at her home near Snow Camp, Alamance county. The funeral and interment took place Saturday afternoon at Center church. Mrs. Braxton was 72 years old and a woman who was greatly beloved in her community. She leaves two sons and two daughters.

**Free Playground.**—Mr. Cesar Cone has offered the city the free use of the large vacant lot lying between Summit avenue, Chestnut street and the main line of the Southern Railway for a playground for the children of that section of the city. The lot is to be graded and put in proper condition by the city. While the lot is offered for temporary use, it has been intimated that the city might have it permanently for a playground.

**Mr. Peeler Leaves.**—Rev. Shuford Peeler, who recently resigned the pastorate of the First Reformed church of this city, after a service of twelve and a half years, preached his farewell sermon to the congregation Sunday morning at 11 o'clock. Yesterday he and Mrs. Peeler went to their new home in Charlotte. The Reformed church has no organized congregation in Charlotte and Mr. Peeler will develop the work as a mission field.

**Executive Committee.**—A meeting of the executive committee of the State Normal and Industrial College was held in this city Tuesday, when a number of matters in connection with the routine business of the college were considered. The meeting was attended by Dr. J. Y. Joyner, state superintendent of public instruction; Judge J. D. Murphy, of Asheville; T. M. Bailey, of Mocksville, and Col. G. W. Hinshaw, of Winston-Salem.

### UNEXPECTED DEATH MONDAY NIGHT OF MRS. J. W. ANGEL.

Mrs. J. W. Angel died unexpectedly Monday night at her home on Mendenhall street, following an illness of a few hours' duration. She went to the Southern passenger station Monday afternoon to board a train for Belew's Creek on a visit to relatives, but before the train departed she was seized with a sudden illness and was removed to her home. It was realized that her condition was critical and she continued to sink until 8.30 o'clock, when the end came. Several months ago Mrs. Angel suffered a stroke of paralysis, but it was thought that she had recovered from this.

The funeral was held yesterday morning at 11 o'clock at the First Christian church, of which Mrs. Angel was a member, followed by the interment in Greene Hill cemetery. The services were conducted by Rev. Dr. P. H. Fleming.

Mrs. Angel was born and reared in Forsyth county, near Belew's Creek, and before her marriage was a Miss Fulton. She is survived by her husband, Capt. J. W. Angel, a well known conductor on the North Carolina railroad; two sons and a daughter.

Mr. P. L. Fields, of Pleasant Garden, was among the welcome callers at The Patriot office during the holiday season.

## ONE DEAD AND TWO INJURED

### YOUNG MAN IN JAIL AWAITING PRELIMINARY HEARING ON CHARGE OF MURDER.

As the result of a dispute over a five-cent purchase and a shooting scrape in Welborn's grocery store and restaurant, on East Market street, about 1.30 o'clock Saturday morning, John Christian, colored, is dead; Frank Christian (John's brother) and James Nolan, both colored, are seriously wounded, and E. E. Welborn, a young white man 20 years old, is in jail facing a murder charge.

The dispute that caused the trouble had its origin in the purchase of a package of cigarettes from Welborn by an unknown negro. It appears that after making the purchase the unknown negro used some very violent language and stepped back from the counter as if to prepare himself for the use of some sort of weapon. Thereupon, it is stated, Welborn drew his revolver and began firing indiscriminately into the crowd of 15 or 20 negroes who were in the store at the time.

The negro who was the cause of the shooting made good his escape immediately after the gun was drawn by Welborn, without getting the contents of any of the chambers of the pistol. The negro is said to have made the remark that they were going to take the place and show Welborn a few things.

It is understood that even after the strange negro left the store Welborn continued to fire into the crowd, seeming very much excited. It was during this firing, it is stated, that the two Christians and Nolan, the latter a boy of 14 years, were shot.

John Christian was shot through the head and fell to the sidewalk, where he was found apparently more dead than alive upon the arrival of police officers a few minutes after the shooting. He was removed to St. Leo's hospital, where he died Tuesday afternoon.

Frank Christian and young Nolan were carried to their homes and given medical attention. Their recovery is expected.

In Municipal court yesterday Judge Brown set Welborn's preliminary hearing for Friday, January 7. Mr. Charles A. Hines, who has been retained to defend Welborn, announced that his client was ready for trial at any time, but as the evidence of the two wounded negroes is desired by the prosecution, it was thought best by the court to give them time for recovery.

Young Welborn is a native of Wilkes county and for several years has made his home in this city with three older brothers. He has borne a good reputation and the shooting affair of Saturday morning is said to have been the first trouble in which he has been overtaken. Welborn will plead self defense.

### UNABLE TO PUNISH MOTHER FOR ABANDONING BABY.

Edgar Burton and wife, of High Point, whose arrest for abandoning their infant on a train in this city was mentioned in last Thursday's issue of The Patriot, were given a hearing in Municipal court Thursday. It was found that there is no law in this state under which a woman can be punished for abandoning her baby, and consequently the court was forced to allow the mother to go free.

The father was adjudged guilty and sentenced to the county roads for 12 months. Burton took an appeal and gave bond in the sum of \$300 for his appearance at Superior court.

When the case was called in Municipal court counsel for the defense offered no evidence, merely asking that the child be returned and the case dropped, as the mother had seen the error of her way and still loved the child. Judge Brown had different ideas about the matter stating that there are thousands of homes without babies where the little mites of humanity are wanted and welcomed. He refused to order the return of the child to the mother, stating that he did not believe that a mother who had once deserted her baby would ever be an ideal mother.

The deserted baby, which had been placed in charge of the North Carolina Children's Home Society, has been placed in a good home and legally adopted.

Mr. W. M. Greeson, of Climax, paid The Patriot a short visit several days ago.

## TWO IN SERIOUS CONDITION

### BLOODY FIGHT BETWEEN NOAH BREEDLOVE AND JESSE SWAIM MONDAY.

Messrs. Noah Breedlove and Jesse Swaim, of the Hilltop community, became engaged in a personal difficulty Monday morning that resulted in the serious injury of both men. Mr. Breedlove, who is about 70 years old, is confined to his home near Hilltop suffering from a number of blows received on the head. He has been unconscious much of the time since the fight and has had several convulsions. Mr. Swaim, who is a young man 30 or 35 years of age, is a patient in St. Leo's hospital with a knife wound about six inches long in his abdomen. The condition of both men is reported as serious.

It is said that the trouble between Messrs. Breedlove and Swaim is of long standing, having had its origin in the purchase of a tract of land by Swaim from Breedlove. There was a dispute over the boundary line, and about two years ago Swaim is said to have moved a fence to establish the boundary according to his contention.

Monday morning Mr. Breedlove attempted to move the fence back to its original location. The fight between the two men followed, and from all accounts it was one of the bloodiest fights that has been staged in Guilford county in some time. It is said that Swaim struck his aged neighbor several powerful blows over the head with a stick. Breedlove drew his knife and inflicted an ugly wound about six inches long in the left side of Swaim's abdomen. The fight was witnessed by several men of the neighborhood.

Deputy Sheriffs Shaw and Hobbs, in response to a telephone call, went to the scene of the encounter and upon their arrival found Breedlove in a semi-conscious condition. The aged man was hurriedly brought to Greensboro and given medical attention, after which he was returned to his home.

After the fight Swaim walked several miles to the home of a relative near the Central Carolina fair grounds. Later he was carried to St. Leo's hospital, where physicians who examined him reported his condition to be critical in the extreme.

Owing to the serious nature of the wounds suffered by the two men, they have not yet been placed under arrest.

### BLOCKADE STILL TAKEN NEAR HOME OF SHERIFF.

Those who did not expect Sheriff Stafford and his force to pass through the holidays without capturing a blockade still or making a big blind tiger raid are not disappointed. The still, the biggest one taken in Guilford county in quite a while, was captured Monday night on the sheriff's old stamping ground near Oak Ridge.

Sheriff Stafford was at his Oak Ridge home for a little Christmas recreation when he learned that some one had set up and was operating a blockade still about two miles north of his residence and on land owned by Mr. J. E. Dillon, the county jailer. The blockaders having located themselves so conveniently, the sheriff couldn't resist the temptation to pay them a visit. So, accompanied by his brother, Mr. Bob Stafford, and Deputy Murrow Benbow, the high sheriff of Guilford meandered over to the locality Monday night and was rewarded by finding a still of 55 gallons capacity running at full blast. Hugh Martin, colored, who was found in charge of the outfit, was placed under arrest and the distillery seized. Martin was brought to Greensboro and placed in jail to await a preliminary hearing, which was given him before Justice of the Peace Jones yesterday. He was held for the next criminal term of court under a bond of \$500, in default of which he was remanded to jail.

While Martin contends that the still was his, the officers are inclined to doubt his statement. They believe the still was owned by a white man and that the negro was only an employee.

Three or four white men, who are known to the officers, saw the sheriff's party approaching and made a wild break for liberty. The negro was under arrest before he realized what was happening.

Ex-Judge A. L. Coble, of Statesville, who has been visiting relatives in Alamance county, was in the city this week.

## RELATIONS MAY BE SEVERED

### AUSTRIA'S REPLY TO ANCONA NOTE NOT EXPECTED TO MEET DEMANDS.

Washington, Dec. 28.—Unofficial advices received here today conformed with intimations from abroad that Austria's forthcoming reply to the Ancona note will fail to meet the demands of the United States, and Teutonic diplomatic circles here were authoritatively represented as being prepared for a break in diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Various developments, it was agreed, might avoid such an eventuality, but none of the counter-proposals which it has been intimated the Vienna foreign office might advance have been regarded so far as coming within Secretary Lansing's renewal of the demands for disavowal, reparation and punishment of the submarine commander who sank the Ancona with the loss of more than a dozen American lives.

Now that the situation, after being dormant nearly two weeks, is again beginning to take on the aspects of a crisis, the status of the negotiations of the United States over submarine warfare against merchantmen, not with Austria alone but with the Teutonic powers as allies, is commanding attention.

Although Germany has given the United States assurance that she will conform to the principle of visit and search before attack, the practices against which the United States so vigorously contended are being carried on now by her ally Austria, and it has been charged that the Austrian submarines are in some instances furnished by Germany and in others are officered and manned by the German navy. Such a situation, it is being pointed out, amounts to practically a defeat of the submarine negotiations with Germany.

Furthermore, the impasse in the Lusitania negotiations becomes a factor in the situation.

It is admitted that the United States scarcely can require Austria to conduct submarine warfare in its relation to the rights of neutrals in a manner different from that permitted to Germany.

Germany has admitted her obligations not to sink liners without giving warning and make provision for the safety of passengers and crew, providing there was no resistance. So far no agreement has been reached as to the exact meaning of the word liners. The Germans hold it applicable to vessels carrying passengers alone and, plying between certain places on regular schedules. The state department's view has been that the term includes any merchant ship belonging to a regular steamship line, but no issue has been made of the differing interpretations because Germany has undertaken to use such precautions as may be consistent with the use of the submarine, to warn merchantmen and to insure the safety of the passengers and crew, provided these are not a part of the military establishment of the enemy.

The demand of the United States upon Austria in connection with the Ancona is broader than any German admission, being based upon the contention that international law, the Hague conventions and the Declaration of London all require warning before sinking a vessel, and insurance of the safety of the passengers and crew even when the vessel is of belligerent ownership and where she does not comply with German ideas of the term liner. The Austrian government has not admitted any such obligations, and recent events in the Mediterranean indicate that her submarine commanders are sinking merchantmen without warning and without inquiry as to whether they carry neutral passengers. So far no explanation beyond that of military necessity has been offered for this violation of what the state department regards as the elementary principles of international law and of humane warfare.

Unless the expected note from that government should amount to a sudden and total severance of diplomatic relations, it is expected in official quarters that the Austrian foreign office will seek to justify its methods, perhaps adopting one of the original German contentions in the Lusitania case that the appearance of the submarine as a weapon of war has introduced new problems and not only justified but demanded a departure from the old rules.

## MILITARY SERVICE GENERAL

### CONSCRIPTION IS PROBABLE ENGLAND TO ADOPT IT IN MODIFIED FORM—PEACEFUL ASPECT IN BALKANS.

Great Britain's effort to carry on the war without resort to conscription is being anxiously watched in its every development by the American war department, because, army officers say, the United Kingdom's situation touches at the root of conditions the United States faces in carrying out the administration army increase program.

If Great Britain decides for conscription, high officials here said, a long step will have been taken toward the time when universal service will be generally accepted in the United States as a national necessity. If Great Britain goes on with volunteers, American officials feel that nothing short of a great military defeat would bring the United States to universal service. Entirely aside from its part in the European war, officials believe, the question of whether service with the colors in time of need shall be a legally recognized duty of citizenship, is of vital importance on this side of the Atlantic. The virtually unanimous opinion of the commissioned personnel of the army and civil officials of the war department is said to be that adequate preparedness only can be secured on the basis of universal military service.

While Secretary Garrison has made no public declaration of his own opinion, Assistant Secretary Breckinridge, who frequently serves as his chief's spokesman, has clearly indicated in public utterances adherence to the belief that universal service is the only fair and democratic solution to the military problem of the nation. Signs are not lacking that the military committees of Congress will be formally acquainted with this view at the coming hearings, either by the secretary himself or by an authorized spokesman. It is understood, however, that the department will urge that the vital thing is to put through at the present session a definite statement of military policy and create machinery for organization of a citizen army, volunteers to begin with but based ultimately on universal service.

The administration's continental army plan, it was learned authoritatively, is designed to operate with either the volunteer or the universal service system. It was framed with the Swiss system as a model and lacks only one feature—that of compulsory service—to adapt that system to what army officers regard as American needs and conditions. Should events prove that a sufficient number of volunteers will not come forward or public sentiment undergo a change in favor of universal military service, a brief amendment in the law would set the continental army machinery in motion with little delay to establish the citizen army of the nation on that basis.

Regulations contemplated by the framers of the plan to put the continental army project into effect include the division of the country into military divisions corresponding generally to the present congressional districts. Each military district would be called upon for 333 recruits annually. In the event that compulsory service were decided upon, it is stated, the only action necessary would be to authorize the war department in any year when the quota of recruits from any district has not been made up voluntarily by a predetermined date to draft the necessary men for that purpose from the portion of the population of the district liable for military service.

It is an open secret that the plan is regarded by its framers in its present form as more of a preparatory measure than anything else, paving the way to a decision by the people at large for universal service, and establishing immediately the correct fundamental principles that must underlie any proper military system. That conclusion must be reached these officials insist by a process of reasoning based upon facts, and they look to the men who will enter the continental army, whether they come by the tens or hundreds of thousands in the first few years, to carry home a practical view of the country's military problems.

Mr. James W. Fogleman, of Imperial, Tex., is visiting relatives and friends in the county, this being his first visit to North Carolina in 14 years.

Conscription in modified form is considered probable in Great Britain. Late London dispatches say that the British cabinet has virtually decided upon a bill to this end, which will be introduced in the house of commons next week and give the government the power to act in case of necessity.

The cabinet councils in London have aroused intense interest because of the rumors of dissension among the members, or their inability to come to an agreement on the question of how the British army is to be brought up to the standard deemed essential to the winning of the war. But the latest reports of the cabinet meetings would seem to indicate that the ministers have found a way out of the difficulties confronting them.

The situation in the Balkans—the point of chief interest for the moment in the war—is quiescent. The French and British behind their defensive lines at Saloniki are reported in a dispatch from British headquarters to be well prepared for any attack by the Teutonic allies. These lines describe an arc of about 50 miles extending from the Vardar river to the gulf of Orphanos and are well suited by nature to the requirements of a scientific defense.

Doubt is expressed in Vienna that the Austro-Germans will attack the British and French at Saloniki on the ground that so long as the entente allies are merely held in that position they can do no harm and the expedition will continue to prove a costly one, as well as hazardous, because of the length of the allied communications.

Unofficial advices from Rumania say that Germany is preparing for a powerful Egyptian campaign in which Turks, Germans and Austrians will take part. The proposed army for the venture, it is estimated, will number from 500,000 to 800,000 men.

A Vienna dispatch arriving in Switzerland says the German imperial chancellor shortly will arrive in Vienna with the full conditions under which the central powers will accept peace, and that after a conference with the Austro-Hungarian foreign minister, the conditions will be made known officially to the entente allies.

Again the Russians have vigorously assumed the offensive on the Bessarabian front, but according to Vienna their attacks collapsed under the Austrian fire.

Except at Hartmans-Weckerkopf, in the Vosges mountains, there has been no noteworthy engagement in the west in which infantry has taken part. Elsewhere on all the battle fronts the fighting has been with the artillery, and by sappers and bomb, some German trenches were captured by the French.

### More Boats Torpedoed.

The French steamer Ville de la Clotat, proceeding from the far East for Marseilles with many passengers aboard, has been torpedoed in the Mediterranean. The loss of life among the passengers and crew is estimated at 80, the survivors being picked up by a British steamer and taken to Malta. The official announcement of the attack from Paris says that the vessel was sunk without warning.

Casualties likewise are believed to have occurred in the torpedoing of the Belgian steamer Ministre Beernaert, two boatloads of the crew of which are said to be unaccounted for. The activity of the submarines of the Teutonic allies is further evidenced by the fact that within the last few days they have sent to the bottom British, French and Belgian shipping amounting to a tonnage of nearly 18,000.

An important feature of the week's war news is the announcement that the Indian army has departed from France "for another field of action." It is not known to what field of action the army has been sent. It is assumed that the places of the Indians in France have been filled by drafts from the new armies raised on the soil of the United Kingdom.

Miss Grace Schaeffer, home demonstration agent for Guilford county, left yesterday for Nashville, Tenn., where she will be engaged for four weeks in teaching a special course in domestic science and home economics in the Peabody Normal College.