

# THE ROBESONIAN

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## DISASTER FACES U. S. IF U-BOAT WAR-FARE IS NOT CHECKED

Great Destruction of Ships is Threatening Existence of Great Britain and France and Menacing United States

Washington Dispatch, May 2. The enormous inroads on the world's shipping made by German submarines within the last few weeks has brought to American government officials a full realization of the disaster that faces the United States and the Allies if the undersea warfare is not checked.

Governors and State Representatives here today for a National defense conference will take home to their people a message from the government emphasizing that there must be the fullest co-ordination by the States in war preparation if Germany is to be defeated.

Secretary Lane told the conference that the great destruction of ships was threatening the existence of Great Britain and France and menacing the United States. No one, he said, knew the exact number of ships lost recently, but estimates put last week's submarine toll at 400,000 tons. Later he explained that this estimate probably was too high.

Secretary Lansing in a statement during the day declared the seriousness of the submarine situation could not be exaggerated. Reports to the State Department give a total of eighty vessels lost in one week.

The British mission announced that the rate of destruction in recent weeks had continued unchanged and that it showed no alarming increases. All its members agree the situation is critical.

A bureau of navigation report prepared recently estimated the world's ship construction in 1916 at slightly less than 2,000,000 tons. If the Germans keep up their present rate of destruction officials admit without hesitation that their campaign threatens to sweep the seas.

## FOOD CONSERVATION MEETING

Discussing Plans to Increase Food Production—Prominent Speakers

A meeting of vast importance is being held at the court house this afternoon at which plans for increasing food crops and meeting the present crisis along the food line are being discussed.

Among those who will speak are Commissioner of Agriculture W. A. Graham of Raleigh, who will speak on the subject of better fertilization, better cultivation and seed selection; Prof. W. C. Riddick, president of the A. & E. college, Raleigh, who will show why everybody should help in this crusade for raising more food-stuff; Prof. Dan T. Gray, of the swine department of the A. & E. college, who will discuss livestock raising, and Hon. A. W. McLean of Lumberton, who will discuss plans of publicity and organization.

The above named speakers and a number of farmers of the county met in the court house this morning at 10 o'clock and arranged the program for this afternoon.

## CANDIDATES FOR ROAD BOARD

Those Who Have Filed Names as Candidates for Road Commissioners

Five members of the Robeson county road commission will be chosen at the election to be held Monday of next week, May 7. The following names have been filed with Register of Deeds M. W. Floyd as candidates in the various districts:

District No. 1—Lumberton, Britt, Orrum, Wishart, Howellsville townships—J. I. Townsend, Democrat; J. R. Kinlaw, Republican.

District No. 2—Rowland, Gaddy, Fairmont, White House, Sterlings—J. E. McLeod, Graddy H. Floyd, both Democrats.

District No. 3—Maxton, Alfordsville, Pembroke, Back Swamp, Thompson—J. A. McCormick, Democrat.

District No. 4—Red Springs, Smiths, Raft Swamp, Saddle Tree, Burnt Swamp—I. T. Brown, Democrat; W. K. Culbreth, Republican.

District No. 5—Lumber Bridge, Shannon, Parkton, Rennet, St. Paul—Robert Monroe, J. Browne Evans, both Democrats.

Mr. J. M. Butler, who has served as chairman of the present board since it was organized in March last, has decided not to offer for election, withdrawing in favor of Mr. J. Brown Evans of St. Pauls. At a good roads meeting held in St. Pauls last Saturday Mr. Evans was endorsed for the office.

## These Have Enlisted

The following young men have enlisted in the army at the local recruiting station this week: Jack Edmund, C. A. Bennett, S. H. Tucker—all of Lumberton; P. Cook and S. Soles of Dillon, S. C.; C. T. Pridgen and Ellis Tyner of Buie; W. F. Dupue of Columbus county; M. D. Watson of Winston-Salem; C. Sessoms, St. Pauls.

Sergt. F. W. Braley, who had been in charge of the local station for some time, has been transferred to the Charlotte station and Serg. Jas. B. Bradford has been transferred from Charlotte to Lumberton. Serg. Bradford arrived here yesterday.

## Condition of Mrs. Frank Gough Improved

The condition of Mrs. Frank Gough, who has been critically ill at her home, Chestnut street, for several days, is unimproved.

Mr. A. B. Jordan, editor of the Dillon Herald, Dillon, S. C., and Mrs. Thad Bethea, Jr., of Dillon, are among the business visitors in town today.

## TO HELP FARMERS PRODUCE MORE FOOD STUFFS

Senate Passes Measure Appropriating \$10,000,000 to Purchase Nitrates for Fertilizing Purposes—Would Increase Production of Food Crops—National Committeeman McLean Urges Support of the Measure

Washington Dispatch, May 1. Appropriation of \$10,000,000 for purchase by the government of nitrates for fertilizing purposes and their distribution at cost to farmers of the Atlantic seaboard would be authorized by a bill today by the Senate, 52 to 8.

Increase in production of food crops, mostly in South Atlantic States, is the object sought. The bill provides for transportation of nitrates from Chile in government vessels and their sale by Federal authorities to farmers.

Many Southern farmers and agricultural organizations endorsed the measure. Senators Smith of South Carolina and Smith of Georgia, told the Senate that the government could buy nitrates now stored in this country, sell them to the farmers, and later replace them by bringing in more from Chile. Several Senators who expressed fear that nitrate supplies needed for manufacture of powder might be depleted were told that present supplies are sufficient for two years.

South Carolina Senator said that by making nitrates available at reduced prices, the corn and cotton crops of the South Atlantic seaboard could be increased from 50 to 100 per cent.

Senator Simmons of North Carolina declared middlemen's profits and lack of transportation facilities from Chile were responsible for exorbitant nitrate prices at present.

A Washington special of the 1st to the Wilmington Star has the following:

Senator Simmons made a strong speech in support of the joint resolution presented to the house today providing for an appropriation of \$10,000,000 to be used to help the farmers of the country to produce more food stuffs. Hundreds of telegrams came to Senators Simmons and Overman today urging them to support the bill.

National Committeeman A. W. McLean of Lumberton wired that the farmers were very much interested in the passage of the resolution and urged the North Carolina delegation to lend their support. The resolution provides:

"That the President is authorized and directed to procure, or aid in procuring, such stocks of nitrate of soda, and other fertilizers and fertilizer ingredients, as he may determine to be necessary, and find available, for increasing agricultural production during the calendar year 1917, and to dispose of the same on credit or otherwise, at cost, in such way as he deems best to facilitate the purpose. For carrying out the purposes of this resolution, there is hereby appropriated, out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, available immediately and until expended, the sum of \$10,000,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary, and the President is authorized to make such regulations and to use such means and agencies of the government as in his discretion he may deem best. The proceeds arising from the disposition hereunder of fertilizers and fertilizer ingredients shall go into the Treasury as miscellaneous."

## BELAMY BRIEFS

Chopping Cotton—Commencement

May 3 and 4—Personal Correspondence of The Robesonian.

Bellamy, May 2—Chopping cotton seems to be the order of the day in these parts.

Mrs. Gussie Jerret and infant of North Lumberton are visiting Mrs. Jerret's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Branch.

Mr. Henry Todd spent a short while at the capital Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Walters of Red Springs are spending several days visiting relatives in this section.

Mr. J. H. McLean was a Lumberton visitor Saturday.

Misses May Parish and Ruth Melvin spent a short while at Lumberton Saturday p. m.

Mr. M. C. Taylor of Maxton spent Sunday with home folks.

Mrs. Annie Stephens and Miss Lillie McLean attended the union at Mt. Eliah Friday and Saturday. They reported a very pleasant time.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Freeman and children, Misses Pearl and Alma, visited at the home of Mr. E. O. Freeman Sunday.

Miss Sallie Barfield is spending the week-end with home folks.

Mr. Raymond Capps of Cedar Grove visited in this section recently.

Mr. James Barfield was a Lumberton visitor Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. McLean visited at Mr. J. B. McLean's Sunday.

We wish to correct the mistake made in last Thursday's issue when we stated the commencement at Antioch would be May 1-2. It should have been the 3rd and 4th.

—On account of other attractions at the Lyric theatre, Miss Irene McLeod's elocution class will give its entertainment at the opera house tomorrow night, instead of at the theatre. The recitals given by Miss McLeod's class are always highly entertaining and no doubt a large crowd will witness the one tomorrow night. An admission fee of 10 cents will be charged to pay for use of opera house.

## PARKTON PARAGRAPHS

Commencement at Lumber Bridge—Good Stands of Cotton—Vote For Bond Issue or Hold Your Peace About Bad Roads—Two Stills Captured—Preacher Joins Navy

Correspondence of The Robesonian. Parkton, May 1—A good many of our people have been attending the commencement at Lumber Bridge which seems to be a great success. We were advised that this has been a most successful term. The rain last night interfered somewhat with the exercises, but we should be very grateful for the rain as it was much needed, especially for small grain and Irish potatoes.

The stand of cotton for this community was never better. Mr. J. D. Gillis is the first to report cotton chopping.

Much hail fell in this community last night but not much damage is reported.

Rev. Joel Snyder of Fayetteville will preach the commencement sermon at the auditorium next Sunday morning at 11 o'clock.

Miss Ellison, teacher of the Sixth and Seventh grades, and her pupils went on a picnic this afternoon at the Raeford powerplant, which is an ideal place for such occasions, traveling in two teams and reports a most lovely and enjoyable time.

Mr. A. M. Stubbs returned from Pittsburgh Saturday evening where he attended the district conference and reports a great time. Rev. H. B. Porter will arrive Wednesday, as he stopped over at Carthage on his way home to visit home folks.

Mr. P. H. Fisher and family and W. T. Lotte, where they had been on a visit. They left Charlotte this a. m. at ten o'clock in their car and arrived home at 9 p. m.—Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Jones arrived today from Marvin, where they spent Sunday and Monday with relatives.

We are unable to say what the people expect to do in regard to the bond election, but we are of the opinion that bonds No. 1 will be killed and that bonds No. 2 also, unless the voters are better informed. We can only speak for self, and that is the Clark bill, as we see it, should be supported, and carried by a handsome majority. If not, why not? or forever hold your peace on good roads.

Chief Newton of St. Pauls, N. A. Watson of Hoke and Chief C. L. Beard of Parkton rolled into town late Saturday evening after a hard day's work on blind tigers. They captured two blockade liquor stills just across the Cumberland line on or near the Gallberry in a branch about a mile from the Malloy ford.

One of the stills was found in a crib and the other one was in the branch ready for operation, but at this stand it seemed that the still had not been operated, but the officers report 36 barrels—or at the least calculations 1500 gallons—of beer, and everything just ready to charge; and the officers claim that the would-be stillers are minus at least \$450 at the price they would have realized from not less than 90 gallons of white lightning or fire water. There was no one at the still and so far no arrests have been made, but the officers are not quite through with the investigation. The goods were all split and the still removed or literally put out of commission. Let the good work go on. The right men are at work.

Rev. W. M. Miller, pastor of the Presbyterian church, left Monday for Washington, D. C., where he will enter the navy. He had only been here a few months but made many friends who will greatly miss him. He was a good preacher and pastor.

## \$5 WON BY MRS. W. W. PARKER

Several Answers Were Received in Dropped Letters Contest in Connection With the Robesonian's Buy-at-Home Page

The \$5 in gold advertised to be given away at the conclusion of the four insertions of the Buy-at-Home page in The Robesonian was won by Mrs. W. W. Parker. It was stated in the offer that the first person to bring or send the correct answer to The Robesonian office would be awarded the prize. A number of correct answers were received, but Mrs. Parker's answer was received at 3:45 p. m. Monday, April 30, the next correct answer being received at 4:30 p. m. on the same day.

In this contest letters were dropped from each advertisement and all the letters formed the name and title of a European war leader. Mrs. Parker's answer was as follows:

General Kuropatkin, Russia  
G Lyric Theatre  
National Bank of Lumberton  
Lumberton Motor Car Co.  
DuBois Bakery Store  
A Weinstein's Dept. Store.  
Lumberton Motor Car Co., Foundry Dept.

The Lumberton Bargain House  
K White & Gough  
Miss Josephine Breech  
A Weinstein's Dept. Store  
Pastime  
Planters Bank and Trust Co.  
L. H. Caldwell  
Lumberton Marble & Granite Works, J. H. Floyd, Mgr.

Bell & Jordan, J. B. Strickland, Mgr.

Lyric Theatre.  
The Style Shop, Amelia Linkhauer  
R Grantham Bros.  
Hotel Lorraine, F. A. Crabtree,  
Prop. & Mgr.

Dr. W. W. Parker  
The Wishart Co.  
J. D. McMillan  
A Newmann's 5, 10 & 25 Ct. Store.

Cotton chopping is coming in now. Several have very pretty cotton. The people should plant a plenty of food stuff such as man or beast could eat, and then if the prices go up we will have something to eat.

—There will be a special meeting of the local lodge I. O. O. F. tomorrow night at 8 o'clock. Refreshments will be served. All members are urged to attend.

## MARIETTA SCHOOL FINALS

Splendid Closing Exercises Yesterday—Address by L. Clayton Grant of Wilmington—Picnic Dinner—Crop Prospects Good

Yesterday was a red-letter day for the pupils and patrons of the Marietta graded school, as well as for the hundreds of others who gathered there to attend the closing exercises of the school. The weather was ideal, the exercises were grand, and one and all present had a glorious time.

The exercises opened at 11:30 a. m. with a chorus by the school, after which Rev. J. R. Miller, pastor of the Fairmont Baptist church, offered prayer. The speaker of the occasion, Mr. L. Clayton Grant, a member of the Wilmington bar, was introduced by Rev. B. E. Stanfield, pastor of the Robeson circuit. Mr. Grant's subject was "Democracy and What it Means". With convincing words of oratory the speaker showed that Democracy is to man materially what religion is spiritually. His address was a gem and was roundly applauded.

Mr. Grant served in the recent Legislature with Mr. J. S. Oliver of Marietta, one of Robeson's representatives, and he took occasion to make some complimentary remarks about the manner in which Mr. Oliver represented his people. He declared that Mr. Oliver always voted and stood on the moral side of any public question that arose. He also added that Mr. Oliver proved himself equal to the tasks of a representative and that he should be sent back to the Legislature just as long as he wanted to go, and then some.

After the address the crowd was dismissed for an hour and invited as a whole to a long, broad, heavy-laden table—laden with all the good things one could imagine to satisfy hunger—in a grove near by. Judging from the appearance of that table it is safe to say that the h. c. l. was not considered by the good people of that progressive community when the dinner was being prepared. It was a great feast and the very sight of the table made one feel like eating. After all had eaten to their satisfaction and many to a greater extent, enough food was taken up to have fed several hundred more.

In the afternoon the following program was carried out:

Patriotic medley—young ladies of the school; recitation, Naughty Zell by Evelyn Rogers; chorus, Slumber Time—by six girls; essay, Education—by Bettie Sparkman; duet, Petite Tonkenoise—by Evelyn Rogers and Gilbert Floyd; recitation, The Blacksmith's Story—by Lottie Hayes; duet by two young ladies. Each one taking part in the above program acquitted themselves well.

A reading by Mrs. J. R. Poole of Lumberton was most highly enjoyed and brought forth much applause.

The primary and intermediate pupils gave a concert and operetta, Tuesday evening. A large crowd witnessed these exercises and pronounced it as being the best concert in the history of the school.

The commencement sermon was preached in Olivet Methodist church last Sunday by Rev. B. B. John, president of Carolina college, Maxton.

The school just closed was pronounced by the patrons as being one of the very best ever. The faculty was: principal, Prof. W. T. Jenrette; intermediate department, Miss Mabel Cherry; primary department, Miss Laura Scarborough, music, Mrs. W. M. Oliver. This was Prof. Jenrette's sixth year as principal of the school and the school has been growing better all the while since he took charge.

The school board is composed of Messrs. J. S. Oliver, J. M. Sparkman and J. J. Page.

Those who attended the commencement were Prof. and Mrs. J. R. Poole and small daughter, Pearl, Mrs. R. E. Lewis and Mr. F. Grover Britt.

The farmers of the Marietta section have splendid stands of cotton, corn and tobacco and are in good spirits. They are making a great effort for a bumper crop and the prospect was never better for one at this season of the year.

## News Notes and Personals From Clarkton

Correspondence of The Robesonian. Clarkton, May 1—J. M. Woodhouse of Concord is visiting his son-in-law and daughter, Rev. and Mrs. W. H. Goodman.

Miss Nell Goldston of Goldston is visiting her brother-in-law and sister Mr. and Mrs. Batchelor.

There was quite a number of visiting ladies in town last week attending the Wilmington Presbyterial.

Mr. William Monroe of Tar Heel spent a part of last week here with relatives.

Mrs. J. T. Lindsay is spending this week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Gooden.

We are glad to welcome to our town Mr. and Mrs. R. K. Craven of Abbottsburg. They have moved to a cottage on north side of town. Mr. Craven is Bladen's popular and clever farm demonstrator.

Mrs. O. L. Clark, Sr., returned last week from Vanceboro after spending a few days with her daughter Mrs. H. T. Joslyn.

Cotton chopping is coming in now. Several have very pretty cotton. The people should plant a plenty of food stuff such as man or beast could eat, and then if the prices go up we will have something to eat.

—There will be a special meeting of the local lodge I. O. O. F. tomorrow night at 8 o'clock. Refreshments will be served. All members are urged to attend.

## SHANNON SCHOOL FINALS

School Closed With a Splendid Concert—Personal Mention Correspondence of The Robesonian.

Shannon, May 2—Mrs. D. C. Downing and little daughter, Ella Emith, of Fayetteville, are visiting at the home of Mrs. Downing's mother, Mrs. R. J. Smith. Mr. Downing spent the week-end with them.

Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Conoly and little daughter, Sarah Ella, and Miss Irene Downer of Raeford spent Sunday at Mr. A. D. Conoly's.

Mrs. King and daughter, Miss Donna, who have been visiting Mrs. King's daughter, Mrs. G. I. Klarrp, have returned to their home at St. Pauls. Mrs. Klarrp went with them and will spend several days there.

School closes Friday night, April 27, with a good concert. The following program was rendered: Welcome Speech by Winifred King; flag salute by Dan Klarrp and school; song by school; "A Bunch of Flowers"—four girls; "A Soldier's Speech"—Annie Hamilton; "My pretty Maid"—dialogue by Luther Currie and Rebecca Shook; "Her Speech"—Ruth Shook; "Early Miss Crocus"—Seavy King; "A Little Sunbeam"—Isadora Hamilton; "I'll Try"—Arthur King; "The Reason Why"—Mildred Currie; "The School House Stands by the Flag"—Bruce McGougan; About Ban Adhem—Reva McGougan; "Before It is Too Late"—Ivey McKenzie; "Counting Eggs"—Polly Powell; Miles Standish's Courtship"—Alton Currie; "Diseases"—Duncan McGougan; "Dot Entertains"—Harriet Currie.

Debate, judges, Rev. Mr. Parker, Mr. McKay and Mr. Cheek. Query, "Resolved, That the United States should abandon the Monroe Doctrine". The affirmative side was upheld by Bruce McGougan and Kate Currie and the negative by Alton King and Bertha Currie. Each side brought out some very strong arguments, but the judges decided in favor of the affirmative, as the vote was two for the affirmative and one for the negative.

Next on the program was an address by Rev. Mr. Parker of Red Springs which was much enjoyed by all. Mr. Parker then presented Polie Powell, Douglas Currie, Bruce McGougan and Charles Zedaker with their 7th grade diplomas. After this delicious cream and cake were served to all the audience. This very enjoyable part of the program was due to the efforts of Miss Wyatt McKinnon assisted by several of the ladies of the community and some of the school girls, who served the cream and cake.

There were three of the pupils in school who made a perfect record of attendance during the whole school term. These were Dan Klarrp, Alton King and Kate Currie, these last two living about two miles from the school house.

This concert reflected credit on both teachers and pupils, for each part was well carried out and much enjoyed. Owing to our school building being burned last fall and since then school being conducted in an old dwelling, both teachers and pupils have had to work against many disadvantages and especially in preparing for and carrying through of this program, for it had to be conducted out in the open owing to the lack of an auditorium. This is the second year Prof. Thompson and Miss McKinnon have been with us, and they have had a very successful school. They have made many friends during their stay here who will join us in wishing them a very pleasant vacation and in hoping they may be with us again in the fall. Prof. Thompson and Miss McKinnon left Saturday. Miss McKinnon for her home and Prof. Thompson for Red Springs, where he will spend several days visiting relatives.

## PEMBROKE POINTS

Commencement at Philadelphus—Concert at Glennwood—Personal and Other Items

Correspondence of The Robesonian. Pembroke, May 1—A heavy thunder and rain storm visited this section Monday night. Lightning struck in several places, but no damage was done.

Rev. J. F. Davis is expected to fill his regular appointment here Sunday morning and night. We hope all that can will attend these services.

Several from here have been attending commencement at Philadelphus this week and report the exercises to be very interesting.

The concert at Glennwood Friday night was greatly enjoyed by several of our young people.

Little Alice Dixon has been real sick for the past few days. We all hope for her a speedy recovery. Mrs. J. L. Thaggard has also been on the sick list, but is improving.

Mr. G. D. McQueen is spending a few days out of town on business.

Mr. R. H. Livermore is in the bank during Mr. McQueen's absence.

Messrs. G. M. Chandler and Belton Beasley visited in Glennwood vicinity Sunday.

Miss Bess Cashwell of Parkton spent the week-end with Miss Margaret Odum.

Little Miss George Hall, who has been visiting relatives in Bladen for some time, returned home Sunday.

Mrs. Paul Lee of Wilmington spent the week-end with her sister Mrs. W. E. Hall.

Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Livermore and Mr. and Mrs. Lester Stone were Red Springs visitors Monday afternoon.

Mrs. A. M. Breece and Miss Pearl Sheppard spent Tuesday afternoon with Mrs. E. L. Odum, route 1.

Mr. W. L. Beasley, who has been clerk at the depot here for some time, left last Wednesday to accept a position as agent at Wagram. Mr. Beasley had been here for several years, having worked with Mr. A. M. Breece before he accepted the position at depot, and made many friends who hated to see him leave. Mr. Byrd of South Carolina has taken Mr. Beasley's place at depot.

To Organize Red Cross Branch To the Editor of The Robesonian:

A meeting will be held in the high school auditorium on next Monday at 8:30 p. m. for the purpose of organizing a Red Cross society. All who are interested in this matter are requested to attend.

R. E. SENTELLE.

—Dr. W. T. Martin of Benson spent the week-end here visiting his brother, Dr. J. A. Martin.

READ ROAD LAW AND CLARK BILL IN THIS ISSUE