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WAR NEWS SUMMARY

Haig's Forces Win Commanding Position Over Cambrai—Italians Holding Own—Russians Holding Positions Against Germans.

After hard fighting after which the troops came to hand-to-hand contact with varying results, Field Marshal Haig's forces now are in possession of the town of Bourlon and the greater part of the Bourlon wood west of Cambrai, giving them a dominating position over the much-sought-for railroad center and the surrounding country.

English, Welsh and Scottish battalions, aided by the cavalry, now dismounted, encompassed the defeat of the Germans who had concentrated fresh reserves—men of extreme valor—to face the British in their do-or-die efforts to win the positions which mean so much toward the ultimate capture of Cambrai, with its tentacles of railroads and highways leading in all directions and on which Field Marshal von Hindenburg is so dependent for support.

Little except the gaining of this town and of the wood had had a place in the strategy of the British commander-in-chief since his dash last week placed his forces west and southwest of Cambrai virtually upon the threshold of the town. Ever since the initial attack the Germans had tenaciously disputed every inch of ground, realizing that with the fall of Bourlon and the wooded heights their tenure of Cambrai would be seriously menaced. Several times previously the British had gained footholds in both the town and the wood, but each time under vicious counterattacks were compelled to relinquish them.

The northeasterly portion of the wood apparently now is the sole remaining part of it that is still in German hands and, being only about 3-1/2 miles distant from Cambrai, the Germans are doing their utmost to hold it, and even to drive back the British who have gained a footing there.

Since the beginning of the battle of Cambrai, the British war office reports have been extremely meagre of details of the fight and the last communication gives no hint of the proposed intentions of General Byng after the conquest of Bourlon and Bourlon wood has been made secure. Apparently, however, with these strategic points safely in his hands it is not unreasonable to surmise that, having had several days in which to draw up his guns and realign his forces, Byng will almost immediately strike again in an endeavor to capture Cambrai.

The army of the German Crown Prince has not given up its efforts to overcome the success of the French last week northwest of Rheims, where the gradual incursions into the German line are threatening Laon. Here the Germans again have made two violent attacks, but their efforts brought them, as has been the rule recently, nothing more than repulse and the additional loss of numerous men. Similarly in the region of Verdun the Germans have been worsted in attacks against General Petains front.

In the Italian theatre, the troops of General Diaz are more than holding their own against the savage attacks of the Austro-Germans from the region of Lake Garda eastward to the upper reaches of the Piave river. After last week's severe repulses with heavy casualties the invaders have switched their main offensives to the Asiago plateau sector, but here also they have been held by the Italians without the gain of a yard of ground.

Attack has been met with counter-attack and in addition to inflicting heavy losses the Italians also have captured two machine gun batteries.

The fighting along the Piave river from the hilly region to the Adriatic has been sporadic, but the one place where the enemy attempted to cross the river on pontoons he was wiped out by the fire of the defending artillery.

For the first time in several weeks there has been activity on the northern Russian front and notwithstanding the uncertain political conditions in Petrograd and other parts of the country, the Russians are holding their positions against the Germans. Near Jacobstadt the German artillery opened a strong artillery action against the Russians who replied in turn. To the south and also on the Rumanian front there has been a revival of activity, both from the trenches and in the nature of scouting reconnaissances.

American Steamer Sunk in Mediterranean.

The American steamer Schuykill has been torpedoed and sunk in the Mediterranean. The Navy Department was advised Saturday that 40 men of her crew had been landed at a Mediterranean port. There was no naval armed guard aboard.

Whether there was loss of life was not known at Washington, but it was assumed that the 40 men rescued comprised the Schuykill's full complement.

Russian Ambassador Repudiates Bolshevik Government.

Boris Bakmeteff, Russian ambassador to the United States, Saturday formally repudiated the Bolshevik government in Petrograd and announced that he recognizes no control that seeks to break from the Entente and make peace with Germany. His action is regarded as likely to force an early decision from the United States as to its attitude toward the Bolsheviks, if that element continues in power.

CAPTURED SUBMARINE

German U-Boat Captured by American Destroyers Sent to Bottom by Members of Her Crew.

Washington Dispatch, Nov. 24. A German submarine captured recently by two American destroyers was sent to the bottom by members of her crew opening cocks below while their shipmates stood on deck with hands raised in signal of surrender. All of the crew were taken prisoners. One of the Germans was drowned while being transferred to a destroyer and another died. The latter was buried with military honors.

Secretary Daniels announced the capture and sinking of the submarine today in a formal statement which made no mention of prisoners nor of the reason for the boat sinking. The details leaked out at the department later, but the secretary would neither confirm nor deny them, saying he had issued the statement in agreement with the British admiralty and could not add to it.

There was a report in naval circles that approximately 40 men, including five officers, were taken off the submarine. If this were true, it was pointed out, the vessel undoubtedly was one of the largest of the cruiser type known authentically to be operated by the Germans.

The action occurred in the war zone, several days ago, and the submarine went down while one destroyer was attempting to tow her to port. Although the British policy is to publish nothing in such cases, an agreement was reached between the navy department and the British admiralty to give out certain facts which Secretary Daniels announced in a brief statement. Officers of both the war and navy departments, however, were too late over the news to keep it quiet. First the report spread that some prisoners had been taken, and before the day was over the story of just what happened, was out.

Mr. Daniels' statement said a destroyer on patrol duty, sighting a periscope at 400 yards, headed for it and dropped a depth bomb; that the submarine came to the surface soon afterward and was fired upon by two destroyers, a second having come up; that the submarine, apparently damaged, did not return the fire and sank immediately after the destroyer had taken her in tow.

It is now known that the submarine rose because her steering gear was damaged by the explosion of the depth bomb. As she appeared above the water to meet gun fire from the destroyers at close range, most of her crew clambered on deck and raised their hands. Boats put off from the destroyer to take the prisoners on board and while this was going on, some members of the crew were busy opening the sea cocks below. When the prisoners were removed and a tow line had been attached, the captured craft, filling through the open cocks, went down.

Navy officers assume that the German sailor who died was wounded by shell fire, though it is understood that Admiral Sims' report did not clear up that point.

CONGRESS CONVENES DEC 3

New Session Expected to Rival Last in Important Action.

Washington Dispatch, Nov. 25. Members of Congress are beginning to return to Washington for the opening of the second session of the war December 3. Most of them expect the new session to rival the last in important action and few think it will end before the general congressional campaigns next fall.

Appropriations for the war promise to require much time and there is much new as well as unfinished war legislation to be dealt with. President Wilson's opening message soon after Congress reconvenes will determine, in great measure the program of new legislation. Many domestic matters, including prohibition and woman suffrage, are promised attention.

Future relations between this nation and Germany's allies may be determined early in the session. Many members of Congress expect the President's opening address to deal with the question of whether war shall be declared against Austria, Turkey and Bulgaria. Sentiment in favor of such action is general among members now here.

Bolshevik Demand Peace at Once.

Petrograd Dispatch, Nov. 25. Leon Trotsky, foreign minister in the Bolshevik cabinet, has sent a note to the diplomatic representatives of neutral powers in Petrograd, according to the official news agency, informing them of the measures taken by the government to effect an armistice.

The note adds: "The consummation of an immediate peace is demanded in all countries both belligerent and neutral. The Russian government counts on the firm support of workmen in all countries in its struggle for peace."

Want to Round Out \$4,000 by Tonight.

The committees appointed to wage the campaign for Y. M. C. A. contributions in Robeson are making a special effort to secure the \$4,000 allotted to Robeson by tonight. However, the campaign will close tonight regardless of what amount has been raised.

GREAT FIELD FOR WORK

Families of Men in Service Need Encouragement and Aid More Than the Soldiers Need Presents—Any Cases of Need in Robeson Should be Reported as Indicated Below.

The following letter, which explains itself, has been sent by the Governor to the chairman of the county council of defense of each county in the State:

To the County Chairman of the Council of National Defense:

One of the most intelligent officers at Camp Sevier has recently written a letter about the soldiers, in which he says:

"The people back home need to be encouraged, particularly the families of those men who are in the service. You have no idea the large number of letters coming in from wives, mothers and fathers, telling their husbands and sons that the crops which they left in the fields are going to waste for the lack of labor to harvest it; that the children are hungry because there is no money with which to buy provisions; that the wife is sick and no one to look after her. That is the place for a great work. The men here do not need Christmas presents or feasts. They are all well cared for, have their friends and acquaintances, but they cannot fully devote themselves to their work because they are thinking continuously of the dependents back home. Many telegrams come each day telling of sickness. The greatest work that the people at home can do is to visit the families of men who are away. If they need the necessities of life or a doctor, see that those things are furnished. They need comforting because in so many instances it is the first time husband and wife have been separated, and also father and mother and son. They can hardly endure this separation. They feel as if they have lost all there is in the world for them to look to in time of trouble. The field is unlimited, and you cannot imagine what joy it would bring to the hearts of the men here if they knew there was a little Christmas in their homes."

I think it is of the first importance for your county council to read this letter carefully and take steps at once to look after the families of soldiers and especially to see to it that where there is poverty and sickness, that these people are extended not only whatever financial aid is necessary, but also given human sympathy. It also call your attention to the allowance made by the government to families of dependents. Many of these dependents do not know how to make their claims against the government for these allowances, and I suggest that you get the lawyers of the county to prepare whatever papers are necessary to secure these allowances wherever they are merited. Please give to extract of the above letter the widest publicity possible in your county.

T. W. BICKETT, Governor. Raleigh, Nov. 22, 1917.

Report Any Case Where Aid is Necessary.

Any cases where families of Robeson county men in service need help of any kind will be given attention if they are reported to any member of the county council of defense or of the soldiers' aid committee. They are: Robeson council of defense—H. E. Stacy, chairman, Lumberton; A. E. White, Lumberton; J. B. McCormick, Parkton; J. S. Oliver, Marietta; A. R. McEachern, St. Paul; A. J. McKinnon, Maxton; Dr. J. L. McMillan, Red Springs.

Robeson soldiers' aid committee—L. R. Varner, chairman, Lumberton; J. D. Proctor, treasurer, Lumberton; Jno. H. McKay, secretary, Red Springs; Jno. S. Butler, St. Paul; P. A. Edens, Rowland; J. P. Wiggins, Maxton.

Any one reporting any cases where help is needed will be performing a patriotic service.

Legal Advisory Boards for Next Selective Draft.

Governor Bickett made public Friday the full list of legal advisory boards for every county in the State to assist the county exemption boards in the next selective draft for the national army. The members of these advisory boards are expected to give legal advice not only to the exemption boards but to any man drawn who feels that he needs special advice as to the application of the rules of the draft to his case.

The advisory boards for Robeson and other counties in this section of the State are:

Bladen—J. B. Clark, R. E. McCulloch, Jr., R. D. White.
Columbus—C. D. Koonce, Donald McCracken, Porter Hoffman.
Cumberland—Chas. G. Rose, V. C. Bullard, W. C. Downing.
Harnett—J. A. McLeod, J. C. Clifford, W. L. Godwin.
Johnston—Edwin S. Smith, Gordon B. Rowland, N. W. B. Whitley.
Robeson—R. C. Lawrence, J. Dixon McLean, A. P. Spell.
Scotland—W. H. Witherspoon, W. H. Neal, E. H. Gibson.

Charged With Embezzlement.

C. N. Clark, a piano agent representing R. J. Bowen & Brother of Winston-Salem, who worked in this county during the summer, has been arrested in Florida on the charge of embezzling funds belonging to the company he represented. The papers were sworn out in this county and Clark will be sent back here for trial. He is now in jail at Tampa, Fla. Sheriff R. E. Lewis was notified this morning of his arrest.

RED SPRINGS NEWS ITEMS

Union Services at Presbyterian Church Thanksgiving Day—Bazaar Dec. 17—\$600 for Army Y. M. C. A.—Social and Personal.

Correspondence of The Robesonian.

Red Springs, Nov. 24.—On Wednesday afternoon the ladies missionary society of the Methodist church gave a reception at the home of Mrs. W. N. Gibson to the Methodist teachers and girls of Flora Macdonald college. The beautiful parlor and reception hall were decorated with pink roses and ferns, and the dining room with pink chrysanthemums and lighted with candles. Receiving in the front hall were Misses Gladys Toon and Sallie Pearsall and Mrs. T. C. Rogers. Miss Sadie Cogington introduced guests to the receiving line, which consisted of Mrs. W. N. Gibson, hostess, Mrs. W. J. Council, president of the missionary society and Rev. A. J. Parker, pastor of the church and Mrs. Parker. Refreshments consisting of pink and white brick cream, cakes, coffee and mint were served by Misses Bessie Jones and Glennie Graham. About 75 guests were present. Miss Gertrude Courtney, voice teacher at Flora Macdonald, gave several solos which added greatly to the pleasure of the afternoon.

Mrs. Narion of Smithfield spent a few days this week with Miss Louise Purcell.

Messrs. Angus Bryne, Austin Roberts, Lathrop Buie and Henry McPhaul of Camp Jackson and Will Bohann of Camp Sevier spent the week-end at home.

Union service will be held in the Presbyterian church on Thanksgiving day at 11 o'clock. The sermon will be preached by Rev. A. J. Parker and there will be special music.

There will be a bazaar on December 17th in the gymnasium of the college, given by the college association. This bazaar will be held in the afternoon and at night the glee club of the college will give an entertainment in the auditorium. There will be a doll booth, Japanese booth, fancy booth and refreshment booth, the proceeds of which will go to the Vardell chair.

On last Sunday night there was a union service held in the Methodist church at which time Mr. Charles G. Vardell, Jr., gave a very interesting and instructive talk on the Y. M. C. A. work in the army. Mr. Vardell being secretary of the Y. M. C. A. at Fort Oglethorpe. A collection amounting to \$500 was raised and \$100 at the college.

Mr. James Hall of Glenwood spent the week-end at home.

J. B. Bowen of Lumberton is Now Captain Bowen.

J. B. Bowen, with the title of captain, is expected home tomorrow or next day from Fort Oglethorpe, where he went three months ago to the second officers' training camp. News that he had been commissioned captain of infantry was conveyed in a telegram received by Mrs. Bowen Friday. Captain Bowen was private secretary to Mr. A. W. McLean when he volunteered for the training camp, and he left here with the determination to win the very grade of commission that he has won.

The second officers' training camps close tomorrow and the graduates will be commissioned in 3 classes for immediate service under orders made public the other day by the War Department.

Men in List A are to fill existing vacancies in the national army and are to be attached to regular army organizations for duty. They will be given leave until December 15, when they will proceed to their stations.

Those on List B are recommended to be commissioned eventually as provisional second lieutenants in the regular army. At the close of the camp Thursday they were commissioned second lieutenants in the officers' reserve camps and attached to regular army regiments to be commissioned in the regular army as vacancies occur.

List C includes all other men from the camp who are recommended for commissions. They will be commissioned in one officers' reserve corps or national army as designated as additional officers to various units until vacancies for them occur.

Mr. E. J. Pope, who also attended the second camp at Fort Oglethorpe, returned home last week. He did not receive a commission but is on the reserve list.

Another Auto Driven Into End of Bridge.

A Buick roadster was driven Tuesday night of last week with considerable speed against one of the end railings of the iron bridge across Lumber river on the Creek road at the Kingsdale mill, about one mile from Lumberton. Mr. E. S. Rudd of Laurinburg was driving the car and was on his way to Lumberton. A little further to one side and Mr. Rudd and his car would have landed in the middle of the river. The car was battered up badly, but no one was hurt. This is the second accident of the kind that has occurred at the same place within two months. It is a dangerous place. The road, which is good enough to invite speeding, curves sharply in to the bridge and one not familiar with the road runs right to this curve before he sees the bridge. If some sort of danger sign is not placed at this point there is great danger of some one being killed there.

DR. T. B. AYERS PASSES

Young Physician of Proctorville Died in Richmond Saturday of Stomach Trouble—Funeral This Morning Near Rowland.

Dr. Thomas B. Ayers, a well-known physician of Proctorville, died in St. Luke's hospital, Richmond, Va., Saturday. Deceased had been suffering with stomach trouble for several months and his death was not unexpected. The funeral was conducted at the home of Mr. D. B. Ayers, father of deceased, near Rowland, this morning at 11 o'clock by Rev. Dr. Chas. L. Greaves, pastor of the First Baptist church of Lumberton, and interment was made in the family burying ground.

Dr. Ayers was about 28 years of age and is survived by his wife and two children. He was a deacon of the Baptist church at Proctorville, assistant superintendent of the Sunday school and a live church worker. He was a splendid all-around man and in his death the county loses a valued citizen.

Time is Up for All Unlicensed Dealers.

Steps will be initiated immediately to suspend the trading operations of firms or persons who are subject to license under the president's proclamation of October 8, unless applications for license are made at once, according to a telegram received from Mr. Herbert Hoover Friday by Henry A. Page, State food administrator.

In his wire Mr. Hoover stated that many firms and individuals had failed so far to make application, notwithstanding the fact that they should have done so before November 1. Mr. Hoover's telegram was in effect an announcement to those that "Time is Up."

Firms which have licenses are expressly forbidden to buy food commodities from, sell them to, or handle them for any person or firm who is required to have a license but who has not secured the license and complied with the provisions which require the licensee to place on every contract, order, acceptance of order, invoice, quotation and price list, his license number.

Any infringement of this rule should be reported to Administrator Page.

Trial of Gaston B. Means Begins Today.

The trial of Gaston B. Means, charged with the murder of Mrs. Maude A. King, a wealthy widow of New York and Chicago, who was shot to death near Concord last August, was scheduled to begin at Concord today.

The prosecution, as far as has been outlined, relies on a mass of circumstantial evidence to fasten upon Means the charge of murder and it is understood, will seek to show that a fortune of \$2,000,000 which Mrs. King might have inherited through a second will of her husband the late James H. King of Chicago, provided the motive.

Means, a native of Concord, had been the woman's business agent for some time before she met death while at Concord on a visit to his relatives, and according to statements made by District Attorney Swann's office in New York evidence has been brought to light to show that a second will was to be offered for probate. Mrs. King had inherited more than a million through the first will.

Strike of Railroad Clerks Adjusted.

Norfolk, Va., Dispatch, Nov. 26. Announcement that the strike of railroad clerks in local transportation offices which has been on for several days has been adjusted was made tonight by officials of the local clerks' organization. They stated that a telegram was received from J. J. Forrester, president of the International Union at 6 p. m. today to the effect that all differences existing between the clerks and the Atlantic Coast Line, the Southern railway, the Chesapeake and the Old Dominion Steamship company has been settled. That statement was amplified with another to the effect that the clerks affected will be ordered to return to their desks tomorrow morning.

No detailed statement relative to the adjustment of the differences between the clerks and the lines was given out.

Messrs. A. E. White and A. T. McLean attended the Sand Hill fair at Pinehurst Friday. They report a splendid showing of livestock.

UNPAID INHERITANCE TAX

Time Now Short for Payment.

Taxes upon a few inherited estates remain unpaid. Parties due these taxes have been notified personally in most instances that they must be paid at an early date. Personal notice is again being issued by the appraiser and December 1st is given as the limit for these settlements. After December 1st the Corporation Commission will be notified of the delinquents and action will be immediately taken to collect by distress, which will mean an addition of cost to each estate.

Please settle these taxes with the Clerk of the Court before that date.

WOODBERRY LENNON, Appraiser.

BRIEF ITEMS LOCAL NEWS

—Mr. W. F. French returned Saturday from the West, where he went to buy mules for his sales stables.

—Mr. A. Weinstein returned Friday morning from New York where he spent several days buying goods for his large department store.

—Mr. B. T. Blake has resigned as sub-carrier on route 5 from Lumberton. He is now employed in the dry-goods department of Mr. M. M. Rozier's store.

—The first snow of the season fell hereabouts Friday night and Saturday morning. However, it was only a skiff and only those who saw it falling saw it at all.

—Work was begun this morning on Lumberton's new town hall, which, as has been stated in The Robesonian, will be erected at the corner of Elm and Second streets.

—License has been issued for the marriage of Dan A. Stubbs and Euphemia Jackson; Walter B. Farmer and Agatha Rozier; J. P. Lee and Katie Ivey; J. D. Odum and Ruth Johnson.

—Mr. H. C. Roberts has resigned his position as salesman in the McAllister hardware store and left Saturday night for Aberdeen, where he has accepted a position with the Aberdeen Hardware Co.

—If you intend to contribute anything towards a Thanksgiving dinner for the inmates at the county home, don't forget to take it to the residence of Mr. M. G. McKenzie, Elm street, not later than Wednesday night.

—Mr. J. T. McIntyre and family moved Tuesday from their home near Antioch church into a house owned by K. M. Biggs, Eighth and Willow streets. Mr. McIntyre is employed in the store of Mr. John T. Biggs.

—Mr. R. Lewis Shelby left yesterday for Hopewell, Va., where he has accepted a position in the National Bank of Hopewell. Mr. Vance McGill also left yesterday for Hopewell, where he has accepted a position.

—Mr. W. O. Thompson is carrying his right arm in a sling as the result, he says, of a slight misunderstanding with a Ford auto. His wrist was dislocated Thursday night when a Ford backfired when he was attempting to crank it.

—Preston Locklear, Indian, who lives on R. 5 from Maxton, was among the callers at The Robesonian office Saturday. He says he lost a fine milk cow Thursday night. The cow was taken sick Thursday morning. He says the cow was worth \$100.

—A mule belonging to A. C. Chavis of Scotland county had a leg broken this morning as the result of his foot going through a hole in the bridge across the river at the foot of Fifth street. There are a number of holes in the bridge that need immediate attention.

—Mr. and Mrs. T. F. Barnes returned home Wednesday of last week from Morganton, where they went on account of the illness of Mrs. Barnes mother, Mrs. J. S. Tilley. Mrs. Tilley died on the 10th. They were accompanied home by Mr. J. S. Tilley, who will spend some time here visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Barnes, First street.

—Mr. R. C. Lawrence returned Saturday night from Charlotte, where he spent a few days on legal business. While at Charlotte Mr. Lawrence visited Camp Greene. He was favorably impressed with the camp and says the visit was a revelation to him. He was surprised at the splendid arrangements made for the care and protection of the soldiers.

—The concert which will be given at the high school building Friday evening for the benefit of the National Aid no doubt will be well patronized. Mere mention in a notice published elsewhere in this paper of the talented ladies who will take part is ample assurance that the concert will be a treat and would be well worthy of patronage even if it were not for such a worthy object as the National Aid.

—Mr. Alex Barnes of Fair Bluff passed through town Friday en route home from Charlotte, where he had been visiting his son Mr. M. G. Barnes, who is in the training camp there. Mr. Barnes spent one night at the camp and was very much pleased with the surroundings. He says he had a nice trip and the boys seemed to be enjoying the best of health, and are getting along nicely in every respect.

CONCERT FOR NATIONAL AID FRIDAY EVENING

Correspondence of The Robesonian.

At this season of Thanksgiving let our hearts be thankful to our American soldiers who are sacrificing their all for liberty. One way of showing your thankfulness and patriotism is by loyally supporting the concert Friday evening in the high school auditorium for the benefit of our local National Aid. Price 25 cts.

Those giving the programme are young women of exceptional accomplishments and advantages. Mrs. R. R. Carlyle and Mrs. G. R. Hennegar have studied under noted teachers and are musicians of rare ability. Miss Annie Ruth Caldwell and Miss Lillian Proctor are graduates of the Leland Powers school of dramatic art, Boston, and interpret literature with truth, beauty and power. Miss Janie Carlyle with ability conducts the orchestra of 10 pieces composed of Lumberton's musicians.