

# THE ROBESONIAN

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## JOIN THE RED CROSS

Lumberton is Only Important Town in North Carolina That Has No Chapter

### OWE ALL TO OUR COUNTRY

We Owe it to Our Country to Make Supreme Sacrifice for its Welfare—Red Cross Stands at Head of Relief Organizations of the World—Great Drive for New Members

### SEND IN YOUR NAME AT ONCE

To the People of Lumberton and Vicinity:

At the request of the American Red Cross headquarters, I have undertaken to aid in organizing a chapter of the Red Cross at Lumberton. Lumberton is the only important town in the State that has no chapter. The great sacrifices which those who are called to the army have to make should move our hearts to undertake the work of supporting and taking care of our wounded and sick soldiers with willing spirits. We ought to give all that we have, if necessary, as we owe it to our country, and to those who are being called to make supreme sacrifice for its welfare. Those who remain at home cannot satisfy their consciences unless they do something for the cause of their country, and especially for the relief of humanity in this great struggle for right against wrong. The Red Cross is the most important and the most promiseful non-political and non-sectarian organization in the world for the administration of war relief measures such as relieving and nursing the sick and wounded and taking care of helpless women and children. It stands at the very head of the list among benevolent and humanitarian organizations of the world, and is the only organization officially recognized by the government in the way of charitable activities in connection with the war.

There should be a Red Cross chapter or auxiliary or branch organization in every town and every country school district in the United States. Its method of organization will enable it to concentrate its tremendous forces wherever humanity is in distress and needs specific relief. Wherever either by reason of natural causes or by the sinful hand of man people are suffering, the instrumentalities of the Red Cross will go as the merciful Samaritan to bind up the wounds of the afflicted, render aid to the injured, comfort and solace the broken hearted. There are bad conditions to be remedied. We not only need to look after the sick and wounded soldiers of America and her Allies, but we must help to feed the women and children who have been oppressed and injured by the godless Hun and his allies.

If you are a good American citizen and believe in the Christian religion, you cannot fail to respond to the cause of the Red Cross organization at this time. Therefore every adult American man and woman should join the organization and share in the humanitarian spirit exemplified and bear his or her part in the enormous task which the organization has undertaken in relieving the world from the suffering inflicted upon it by the "most damnable foe that ever fired a cannon, that ever drove home a bayonet, that ever sunk a hospital ship, that ever shelled women and children in lifeboats upon the high seas, that ever crucified captured enemy soldiers, that ever cut the hands off children in captured territory, that ever lived to fasten its demon clutches on the throat of civilization."

A great drive for new members for the Red Cross is being made everywhere at this Christmas time. Our community has been blessed in many ways. Those who have been the recipients of these many blessings ought to do something for their fellow man as an evidence of their gratitude. You can join now by sending your name to either one of the following committees on organization:

J. A. Sharpe, Mrs. J. R. Poole, Mrs. R. C. Lawrence, Junius J. Goodwin, Mrs. N. A. Thompson, R. D. Caldwell, Mrs. Junius J. Goodwin, A. E. White, H. M. McAllister, H. B. Jennings, K. M. Barnes, Mrs. James Williamson, W. H. Humphrey, J. D. Proctor, Mrs. L. T. Townsend, Mrs. John D. McAllister, Miss Janie Carlyle. We hope to enroll 1,000 members in Lumberton and the surrounding territory which has been assigned to Lumberton, including the townships around here. A special effort will be made to obtain the co-operation of the people in the country. As soon as we procure a sufficient number for organization, a meeting will be called, and organization will be perfected and officers elected.

Remember that the work which the Red Cross will do will not interfere in any way with the work being done by the National Special Aid.

A. W. McLEAN.

Since the last issue of The Robesonian the following persons have subscribed as members of the American Red Cross chapter to be organized in Lumberton, 76 of such members have

## ANSWERING QUESTIONNAIRES

Members of Local Bar and Others Kept Busy the Days Through Assisting Registrants—Some Features That Relieve the Monotony.

Members of the local bar have been kept so busy every day during the past week in assisting men registered for military service in filling out their questionnaires that they have called in other citizens to assist in the work. The commissioners' room at the court house has been a busy place every day since the work of filling out these questionnaires began Saturday of last week. Men eager for assistance have crowded the room all day, and some registrants have spent half a day or longer there waiting their turn. It takes one not familiar with the questionnaires about an hour to fill out the questions, but those who have had practice can fill one out in about half that time.

This serious business is not without its humorous features. Some of the registrants have the idea that those who are assisting in filling out their questionnaires have the power to send them to the army or let them stay at home. The other day a negro kept bothering a lawyer who was speeding up on filling out questionnaires, doing his possible. This negro kept showing his questionnaire under the lawyer's nose and repeating the request, "Fill this out." The lawyer was taking them as they came and kept getting madder and madder at this particular negro's importunity. Finally he jumped up, rolled out a cigar and in a terrible voice roared, "You want me to fill yours out right now, do you?" Visions of being sent forthwith, without a chance to be heard, to the army, staggered this impatient negro. He wilted at once and humbly assured the irate lawyer that he was in no hurry. "Take your time, boss, take your time," he said.

An Indian gave in "Stacy" as the name of a son. He did not know Lawyer H. E. Stacy of Lumberton. When Mr. Stacy asked him how he came to name the boy Stacy the man replied, "I heard of a lawyer at Lumberton one time named Stacy and liked the name." And Mr. Stacy, who had pricked up his ears in anticipation of a compliment to his attainments had to be satisfied with a tribute to the soft and pleasing sound of his patronymic when rolled upon the tongue. That Indian rejoiced in it and so gave it to his son.

There are questions regarding one's preference as to artillery corps, infantry corps, aviation corps, etc. A negro wanted enlightenment about the artillery corps. A lawyer told him it meant the big guns. "Don't put me down there, boss," he said. "Put me with the little guns." "When that thing starts I want a gun myself!"

Another, seeing that array of different "corps" instructed the man who was filling out his questionnaire not to put him down among the corpses—anywhere but there.

Another earnestly assured one who informed him, in reply to his question, that the aviation corps meant service up in the air, that he did not want to go there, that he wanted to keep his feet planted on the ground.

## GOV BICKETT WILL SPEAK

He Will Deliver Address in Lumberton at Annual Meeting of Camp Pope January 19—This Will be a Big Day.

Commander J. A. McAllister of Camp Willis H. Pope, Confederate veterans, has just received a letter from Governor Bickett accepting an invitation to deliver an address in Lumberton on January 19 at the annual meeting of the camp.

This will be a big day in Lumberton. Governor Bickett is without a superior in the State as an orator and is popular with the people. He will be heard here by a large crowd, no doubt. The celebration will be one fitting the day and the honored orator of the occasion. Further announcements will be made later.

ing being reported in that issue: E. I. Pool, J. T. Glover, N. A. Thompson, W. I. Linkhaw, C. M. Fuller, Chas. P. McAllister, D. D. King, T. A. McNeill, Sr., M. J. Merritt, C. B. Redmond, Miss Josephine Breece, A. F. Ward, Mrs. F. L. Nash, Mrs. Geo. B. McLeod, Dr. H. T. Pope, Manly G. Lee, Mrs. James L. Williamson, W. C. Sessoms, Geo. M. Whitfield, F. A. McLeod, W. W. Davis, John H. Wishart, P. S. Kornegay, Miss Lina Gough, Dr. John Knox, H. H. Anderson, Ira B. Townsend, Dr. Thos. C. Johnson, Dr. Jas. A. Martin, Stephen McIntyre, Miss Augusta Blake—making a total number of persons subscribed up to this time 106, and this leaves 94 members yet to be secured.

Mr. McLean states that he is desirous of having the organization meeting to take place during the coming week, as it is essential that the chapter be formed before the end of the present year.

The business men of Lumberton having made such a fine showing in signing their willingness to become members of the proposed chapter, it is urged that the women lose no delay in putting in their lot and making the organization a complete success. The men of the town are behind the Red Cross, and now with the assistance of the women success will be certain.

## LIGHTLESS NIGHTS

White Way Lights to be Reduced and Electric Signs to be Cut Out Thursday and Sunday Nights—Order to be Carried Out in Lumberton.

Mr. H. M. McAllister of Lumberton, county fuel administrator, has received instructions from the State fuel administrator, Mr. A. W. McAllister of Greensboro, to see that the instructions in the notice printed below be carried out in Lumberton, which means that Lumberton will have so-called "lightless nights".

The fuel administrator for North Carolina has received instructions from Washington, taking effect December 15th, which cancels previous order regulating time for illumination of advertising signs and for electric signs.

The order provides that all signs of every kind, including merchants' signs, directional signs, theater signs, hotel signs, advertising signs, display lighting on buildings and elsewhere, shall be discontinued completely on Thursday and Sunday nights of each week. On these same nights stores not open for business must not show even inside lights more than are necessary for safety, and municipalities with cluster lights for extra bright lighting for white-way effect, must reduce on Thursday and Sunday nights to only so much lighting as is necessary for safety. These nights will be called "lightless nights".

Newspapers are requested to urge householders to observe these nights with as few lights in the home as possible.

The spirit of the order is that on Thursday and Sunday nights there should be no more outdoor lighting than is absolutely necessary for safety of street passages and dangerous spots.

The State fuel administrator has been charged by the U. S. fuel administration with giving full effect to this order, using the full authority granted by the Federal administration, if there are individual violations. The chairman of local fuel committees throughout the State of North Carolina are requested to give publicity to this order, and to request their respective local municipal authorities to aid them in the enforcement of the order, the purpose of which is to conserve the fuel supply and thereby assist in relieving the fuel situation.

## Notice and Questionnaire to Registrants.

As stated in Thursday's Robesonian, the army exemption board of Robeson district mailed from the 15th inst. to the 18th, from the office in Lumberton of the chairman, Mr. T. L. Johnson, notice and questionnaire to registrants up to order number 500. Since that date notice and questionnaire has been mailed to each registrant whose order number is between 501 and 1,032. All whose order number is between 501 and 632 were mailed notice and questionnaire on the 19th; between 633 and 732 on the 20th; between 733 and 832 on the 21st; between 833 and 932 on the 22nd; between 933 and 1,032 on the 24th. Each notice is dated and each registrant is required by law to execute his questionnaire and return it to the exemption board within seven days from the date on which it was mailed to him. Failure to do so constitutes a misdemeanor punishable by not to exceed one year's imprisonment; and such failure may also deprive one of valuable rights and result in one's immediate induction into military service and trial by court martial. Those whose order numbers are below the highest number given above but who have failed to get their questionnaire should apply to the local board for a copy in order that they may be able to return it within the time specified.

The local board of Robeson district 2, office at Red Springs, mailed from the 19th to the 24th, inclusive, notice and questionnaire to registrants whose numbers are between 116 and 767, as follows: 19th, 116 to 240; 20th, 241 to 456; 21st, 357 to 473; 22nd, 474 to 576; 24th, 576 to 767.

## Dentist Arrested on Charge of Murdering His Wife.

Dr. L. J. Johnson, a dentist of Middlesex, near Raleigh, was arrested at Wilson Saturday night on a warrant charging him with the murder of his wife, who died in Richmond a few days ago after taking a capsule containing poison, which, it is said, she thought was a headache remedy. Johnson was arrested at a hospital in Wilson, where he took poison Thursday in an attempt to end his life. The police say Johnson, who is 23 years old, was engaged to a young woman at Middlesex and had kept secret his marriage of 3 months ago to Miss Alice Knight, a 19-year-old stenographer of Richmond.

## Splendid Christmas Trade—Town Full of People.

Lumberton merchants are enjoying a splendid Christmas trade. The town has been filled with shoppers for several days and today the town is running over with people from all sections of the county and many from the outside.

## Oyster Supper at Oakdale Wednesday Evening.

Mr. C. K. Morgan of the Oakdale section is a Lumberton visitor today. Mr. Morgan informed The Robesonian that there will be an oyster supper at Oakdale Wednesday evening, to which the public is invited.

## PEACE NEGOTIATIONS BEGUN

Central Powers Played Trump Card at Outset of Peace Parleys—Activity on Fighting Fronts Below Normal.

Peace negotiations between the Teutonic allies and the Russians have begun at Brest-Litovsk. And apparently the enemy has played a trump card at the outset, for on the proposal of Prince Leopold of Bavaria, the German commander-in-chief on the Russian front, Dr. Von Kuehlmann, the German foreign secretary and an astute politician, has been chosen unanimously as official chairman.

A noteworthy fact in the composition of the delegations from the various countries allied with the Austro-Germans is that they include men who have stood high in the councils of their respective countries while the men who are to handle Russian interests for the most part are unknown in world politics.

Still another outstanding fact in the meagre details of the formation of the conference that thus far has come through is that Rumania is not credited with having sent delegates to Brest-Litovsk. The possibility is therefore that Rumania has decided to hold aloof from discussing a separate peace, notwithstanding the fact that geographically she will be completely isolated from her allies should the negotiations result in Russia quitting the war.

On the fighting fronts, even in Italy, the activity of the troops is below normal. In France and Belgium the fighting that is in progress is merely in the nature of outpost encounters and bombardments while on the northern Italian front the enemy has lost the initiative which is entirely in the hands of General Diaz's men.

## Miss Louise Holland Killed by Auto at Fayetteville.

Fayetteville, Observer, Dec. 22nd. A heart-rending tragedy occurred here about 10 o'clock this morning in front of the Kress store on Hay street, when Miss Louise Holland, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Holland, of this city, was run down and killed by an automobile, driven by Mr. N. M. Pearson, of Seventy-First township, this county. Miss Holland was crossing the street when Mr. Pearson's car ran her down. The breast bone was broken and skull fractured, and death resulted from the fractured skull about ten minutes after she was taken to Cumberland General hospital. Mr. Pearson was cited for exceeding the speed limit, but the act of her suddenly stepping before the car when it was right on her at a crowded place in the street rendered the accident unavoidable. The point where it occurred is a dangerous one on account of congested traffic, and a bad accident has been looked for there for some time.

Miss Holland is survived by her parents; by two brothers, R. L. Jr., and John C. Holland and by three sisters, Misses Lydia, Minnie and Ruth Holland. She was a twin sister of Mr. R. L. Holland, Jr. She was a communicant of First Presbyterian church.

## Equipment Expected Soon for Home Guards—Members Must be Ready for Any Demand.

First Lieut. C. V. Brown of Lumberton has received the following, which is of special interest to members of the reserve militia for Robeson:

"To the Officers and Men of the 21st Company of the N. C. N. G. Reserve: For your information, I had a talk with the Adjutant General recently. He expects nothing of us in the way of drills until we get our equipment, which he hopes to have soon. However, it is our duty to hold ourselves in readiness at all times, should we be called (before we get our equipment) to execute the law, suppress riots or insurrections, and rebel invasions."

"I want every man to equip himself with a gun of some type and report promptly when ordered."

## JOHN B. MALLOY, "Capt. 21st Co., N. C. N. G. Reserve" Parkton, N. C.

## Took Big Gobbler and Left Runt

—Mr. Gough Says it is the Limit.

State Senator Frank Gough rises to a point of personal privilege. He has been treated shamefully. He says he never kicks without good cause, but that he is long-suffering and kind, but that the man who Saturday night went into his chicken yard and stole his big Christmas gobbler and left in its place a little runt of a turkey that is hardly knee-high to a grasshopper committed the unpardonable sin. He wants his gobbler back and the Robesonian faint would help him, but even public mention in The Robesonian cannot "do the deedable." Much it is feared that never again will he look that big gobbler in the face.

## Farmers' Union Meeting Postponed.

On account of the condition of the roads no meeting of the Robeson division of the Farmers union was held Wednesday of last week. The meeting was postponed until Wednesday, January 9. A representative of a leading fertilizer company will be present at the meeting to be held on that date. All farmers in this section, whether members of the union or not, are asked to be here for the meeting.

## NEXT CALL DECEMBER 31.

Don't expect a Robesonian Thursday of this week. According to its usual custom The Robesonian will skip one issue this week in order to give the force whose faithful work makes it possible for the paper to go to its subscribers regularly twice a week a little much-needed rest and recreation. That gives only three days, at that, as it will be necessary to get back on the job in full force Friday morning in order to resume the grind for another fifty-two weeks. The paper will appear as usual Monday of next week, December 31. Some one will be in the office every day, however, except Christmas day, prepared to wait on any who may call and to write receipts for any who may desire to move the date up on their label.

The Robesonian wishes all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

## N. C. DAY AT SCHOOL

Interesting Patriotic Program Rendered at Graded School Friday—Thrift Stamps Explained by Mr. Varser—Thrift Clubs Will be Organized in Every Grade.

North Carolina day was observed at the Lumberton graded and high school Friday of last week. A very interesting and helpful program was rendered by the pupils of the various grades. The stage was decorated with ferns and United States flags. The program was as follows:

Song—Star Spangled Banner. Tableau by a number of pupils of the various grades wearing flags of the different countries at war.

Song—Your Flag and My Flag—by pupils.

Reading—What North Carolina is Doing—Ennis Sentelle.

Song—Columbia the Gem of the Ocean.

Reading—What Our State Has Done—Robert Allan.

Song—Old North State.

Reading—Money Contribution—Marvin Barker.

Reading—Civil Organization—Frank Campbell.

Red Cross—by third grade.

War and Young Men's Christian Association—by Alton King.

Song—America.

Reading—State Council of Defense—Oscar Bullard and Osborne Lee.

Reading—Fuel and Food Administration—Escar Bullard.

Song—Battle Hymn of the Republic.

After the program Mr. L. R. Varser made a very interesting talk on Thrift stamps. Mr. Varser explained the Thrift stamp issue, how people of the most limited means and people who do not feel that they are financially able to buy a Liberty bond can do their bit to help win the war by purchasing Thrift stamps. "You will be rendering a patriotic duty and your money will be growing, too," he said.

The program was very interesting and thoroughly enjoyed by all present. A good many patrons of the school were present and Supt. Sentelle expressed his desire for more of the patrons to visit the school and see what they are doing.

Plans are being made to organize Thrift clubs in every grade in school, the teacher of each grade to act as treasurer of the grade and give the pupils the desired information.

The fall term closed Friday and the spring term will begin Monday, January 7. Out of town teachers left Friday evening and Saturday for their homes to spend the Christmas holidays; as follows: Miss Mabel Jetton, Shelby; Miss Elizabeth Breece, Fayetteville; Miss Mae Seabolt, Roper; Miss Elizabeth Dexter, Elizabeth City; Prof. R. H. Taylor, Costalla.

Mr. W. J. Prevatt is able to be out today after being confined to his room for three months.

Mr. J. S. Hollman, manager of the Lorraine hotel, will prepare a Christmas tree this evening upon which will be presents for employees at the hotel.

Walter Leach and Mary McArthur, were married in the office of Register of Deeds M. W. Floyd about 11 o'clock this morning. Justice J. M. Smith officiated.

License has been issued for the marriage of Frank Taylor and Alice Oliver; S. B. Hayes and Cathrine Murray; J. C. Pittman and Belma Freeman; A. B. Floyd and Florence Lewis.

Miss Belma Freeman of the Bellamy section and Mr. J. C. Pittman of Maxton were married at the home of Justice J. M. Smith, near Alenton, yesterday afternoon at 3 o'clock. Justice Smith officiated.

Mr. Earl Crump, who enlisted in the Lumber Bridge light infantry several months ago, has been discharged on account of his age. He is only about 17 years old. He has returned home.

Dr. N. A. Thompson amputated the right arm of Mr. Frank Jones, who was so badly broken up at the plant of the Robeson Manufacturing Co. several weeks ago, this morning. Mr. Jones' condition is as favorable as could be expected.

County Auditor and Mrs. J. M. McCallum returned Saturday night from Jacksonville and Tampa, Fla., where they went immediately following their wedding here on the 12th inst. They are at the Lorraine hotel. In the near future they will begin housekeeping in a house on West Third street, directly across the street from the residence of Mr. and Mrs. W. I. Linkhaw, who presented the house to the bride, who is their daughter, as a wedding present.

## BRIEF ITEMS LOCAL NEWS

—Lumberton chapter O. E. S No. 116 will meet Thursday evening in Masonic hall at 7:30.

—St. Paul Messenger: Mr. W. W. Livingston and family, have moved to Cumberland county, up near Manchester.

—All Seaboard trains passing Lumberton are running from one to 5 hours late. All the roads seem to be overrun with passengers.

—A young white man dropped a pistol from his pocket to the sidewalk on Elm street Saturday afternoon. He picked the gun up hurriedly, placed it back in his pocket, and moved on.

—Mr. F. L. Israel returned last week from Buie's Creek academy, where he was in school during the fall, to his home in Wishart township. He will teach near his home next spring.

—Rev. and Mrs. R. A. Hedgpeth and family will move from Farnesville to Lumberton the first of next year. They will live in Mr. S. E. Britt's residence, Cedar and Eighth street. Mr. Britt and family will move back to the Britt farm, at Ten Mile.

—In Thursday's Robesonian it was stated that Mr. E. M. Johnson had returned from Charlotte, where he went to consult a specialist for throat trouble. Mr. Johnson went to Charlotte to consult a specialist about a head trouble instead of a throat trouble.

—Mr. J. C. Barnes of the Back Swamp section was among the visitors in town Saturday. Mr. Barnes recently closed a \$7,500 real estate deal, having purchased the land from Mr. D. E. Nance. The land which Mr. Barnes bought is near Back Swamp.

—Don't forget to take the Christmas dinner you have prepared for the inmates at the county home to the home of Miss Lizzie Caldwell, Eighth and Water streets, this afternoon or tonight. Miss Caldwell is anxious that a bountiful dinner be donated for these unfortunate.

—Mr. J. L. McNeill of Buie was a Lumberton visitor Saturday. Mr. McNeill killed Wednesday of last week a 16-month-old pig that weighed 665 pounds gross. Some pig, outweighing his mother, 2-1-3 years old, which also was killed the other day and weighed 435 pounds—and the mother was no slouch of a hog at that.

—Mr. W. G. Gilchrist, who was industrial agent for the V. & C. S. Ry. Co. last year, and who has been looking after Mr. A. W. McLean's farming interests during this year, has resigned his position and returned to his old home at Laurinburg. Mr. Gilchrist's many friends will regret that he decided to leave Lumberton.

—Rev. C. H. Biggs, former pastor of the Lumberton circuit, and family will leave Wednesday for Ellerbe circuit, where Mr. Biggs was assigned by the recent conference. Mr. Biggs and family are visiting relatives at Elizabethtown, but will return to Lumberton Wednesday morning and spend the day here. They have made many friends while living here who regret that they are to leave.

—Mr. Ellis Miller of Fairmont, R. 1, known to fame as the man who since a time when the memory of man runs not to the contrary has been the first in Robeson every year to pay his taxes, was a Lumberton visitor Saturday. He came with his son Mr. C. E. Miller, who came to "be examined," Mr. Miller said, "about going to France." Mr. Miller senior says he is liable to go to France himself without being examined.

—Mr. Warren Prevatt of the Raft Swamp section killed a large otter recently. Mr. Prevatt and Mr. Albert Bruce were in a mill pond duck hunting and Mr. Prevatt spied the otter lying on a log 80 yards from him. He fired at the otter and killed him dead. A good shot. The otter was 4 feet and 7 inches long. Mr. Prevatt says when he gets to France, or Germany, he hopes to get within 80 yards of Kaiser Bill with a loaded gun.

—Mr. Henry Spivey of Marietta was a Lumberton visitor Friday. Mr. Spivey was among the veterans who got their pension money last week. He served four years through the war and is the spriest 78-years-young man you ever saw. He is active and alert, his hair is black, and his beard is only sprinkled with grey. He carries his age so well that, barring accidents, it looks like he will have to be knocked in the head on judgment day.

—Mr. and Mrs. D. R. Britt and their seven children, of Dunn, visited relatives in the county from Saturday till today, when they intended to return home. They came to Lumberton Saturday and spent Saturday night here at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Britt, Mesdames D. R. and John Britt being sisters. Yesterday they went to the home of Mr. Britt's half brother Mr. A. L. Stone, on R. 4 from Lumberton. They are traveling in their auto.

—Mr. Earl A. Thompson is spending a few days at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Thompson, waiting for daily-expected instructions to report at the training camp at Jacksonville, Fla. Mr. Thompson entered the second officers' training camp at Fort Oglethorpe last August and stayed there 2 months, when he had to drop out on account of entering a hospital. After that he went to the university of Georgia for a course of training in the quartermaster's corps. Mr. Thompson will report for a commission at Jacksonville.

—In ordering the address of your paper changed don't fail to give the old address as well as the new. This will save trouble and delay in getting your paper at the new address.