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SHIP CARRYING 2,179 U. S. SOLDIERS SUNK

Torpedoed by U-Boat Off British Coast—1,912 Officers and Men Saved and List of Rescued May Prove Even Larger—Troops Composed Principally of Michigan and Wisconsin Guardsmen and Were on British Ship.

The Cunard liner Tuscania, carrying 2,179 American soldiers, has been torpedoed and sunk off the Irish coast but official reports received at Washington late last night said 1,912 of the officers and men had been saved and indicated that the list of rescued might prove even larger. The troops, composed chiefly of detachments of Michigan and Wisconsin national guardsmen, were traveling on the Tuscania, a British vessel, under convoy of British warships.

The Tuscania was the first ship carrying American troops to Europe to be sunk by German submarines, but the American transport Antilles was torpedoed and sunk in the war zone while returning to the United States from France and 14 soldiers were lost with 155 other persons, including several members of the naval armed guard.

The Tuscania's position when she was sunk is taken to indicate that she was bound to England. Her sinking definitely discloses that British ships are being used to carry American troops abroad supplementing American transport tonnage. This has been intimated before and finally arises from the decision of the supreme war council to augment Pershing's army during the present year.

SACRIFICES NECESSARY.
War Savings Campaign Will Be Greatest Ever Carried on in Robeson—Robeson Folks Must Buy \$1,059,280 Worth of War Savings Stamps.

Mr. Gilbert T. Stephenson of Winston-Salem, State organizer of the War Savings committee for North Carolina, spent yesterday in Lumberton but did not deliver the public address he was scheduled to deliver because the court house was not available on account of the murder trial. He talked to the pupils at the graded and high school yesterday afternoon, however, and to members of various committees appointed for this campaign in the commissioners' room at the court house at 3:30 p. m.

Mr. Stephenson is tremendously in earnest about this matter and he impressed both audiences he addressed here yesterday with the seriousness of the war and the vital importance of united action on the part of all the people. Robeson county folks are expected to purchase War Savings stamps during this year to the extent of \$1,059,280. Mr. Stephenson declared that the campaign to sell these stamps is the most important ever launched. Further report of his talk at the court house will be given in Monday's Robesonian.

3,101 TONS NITRATE OF SODA.
Orders Placed by Robeson County Farmers—That Amount Made Up of Orders Ranging From 2 Bags to 40 Tons—Order Sent to Washington.

Orders for nitrate of soda placed with members of the committee that had the matter in charge in Robeson totaled 3,101 tons. Mr. W. K. Bethune, chairman of the committee, finished canvassing the orders this morning and wired the total tonnage to the Department of Agriculture at Washington. He will mail a detailed report this evening.

The orders ranged in amount from 2 bags to 40 tons, quite a number of orders being placed. The time during which orders might be placed expired Monday, the 4th. Those who placed orders will be notified how much soda has been apportioned to Robeson and they will then have to deposit with the National Bank of Lumberton money sufficient to pay for the amount they will be allowed.

FARM DEMONSTRATOR BEGINS WORK.
New Demonstrator For Robeson Entered Upon Duties Monday—Will Write Articles About His Work For The Robesonian.

Dr. A. H. Kerr, Robeson's new farm demonstration agent, arrived Monday and has entered upon his new duties. Dr. Kerr is a native of Sampson county, but came to Robeson from Norfolk, Va., where he had made his home for some time. Dr. Kerr is assisting Mr. W. K. Bethune, chairman of the committee appointed in Robeson to take orders from the farmers in Robeson for nitrate of soda to be furnished by the government at cost, in checking the orders. He has promised to write some articles concerning his work for the Robesonian at an early date.

FARMERS' INSTITUTES.

Institutes at Orrum and Rex Well Attended—"Production, Conservation, Patriotism" the Theme—Samples of War Bread—3 Institutes Will Be Held in County in March.

Farmers institutes held at Orrum Monday and at Rex Tuesday were largely attended and very instructive. Those who had charge of the institutes were highly pleased with the interest taken by the farmers. The themes of the speakers at the institutes was "Production, Conservation and Patriotism." The speakers at Orrum were Mr. T. B. Parker, director of the institute work in the State, Mr. G. M. Garren, Mrs. Henley, assistant in the home demonstration work in the State, and Mr. W. K. Bethune of Lumberton.

At Orrum the girls of the community club had on display seven varieties of war bread baked from recipes furnished by Miss Lulu M. Cassidy, home demonstration agent in Robeson. Substitutes for flour it all looked like it would have tasted good to a hungry man.

The speakers at Rex were Mr. Parker, Mrs. Henley, Mr. W. Lennon of Lumberton, Dr. A. H. Kerr, county farm demonstration agent, and Mr. A. K. Robertson, assistant in the boys corn club work in the State.

A public dinner was served both at Orrum and Rex.

The institutes were conducted under the auspices of the county agricultural society and Miss Lulu M. Cassidy, home demonstration agent, presided at the meetings.

Three special institutes will be conducted in the county during the month of March. One will be at Ten Mile March 20 in connection with the county meeting of the Robeson division of the Farmers' union.

TEXTILE SCHOOL HERE.

Lumberton Cotton Mills Agree to Government Proposition For Textile School—School Will Open in June.

At a conference of the officials of Lumberton's cotton mills last evening it was decided to establish a textile school here for the mill operatives. The school will be conducted in the East Lumberton school building, and will open June 1, and will last three months. Classes for pupils between 14 and 18 years will be taught in the afternoon and there will be a night school for all above 18 years.

Prof. Dean of Washington, who has been employed by the Government for some time, will have charge of the school. At this school mill operatives will be trained for higher efficiency of work, which will open channels for promotion.

The school was made possible by the mill companies, which agreed to furnish half the money, while the Federal government will furnish the other half.

Prof. T. E. Browne, professor of vocational training at the A. & E. college, Raleigh, attended the meeting and outlined the plans for the establishment of the school.

Members of Robeson Reserve Militia Will Meet Next Monday Evening.

Captain J. B. Malloy of Parkton, First Lieutenant C. V. Brown of Lumberton and Second Lieutenant W. O. Bennett of Maxton met at Maxton last evening and decided that the 21st Co., N. C. reserve militia, should be divided into 3 divisions of 26 men each and that each division should meet and organize Monday evening of next week at 8 o'clock. The Lumberton division, composed of members at Lumberton, Fairmont, Marietta and Allentown, will meet at the court house in Lumberton; the Parkton division, composed of Parkton, Lumber Bridge, Shannon and St. Pauls, will meet at Parkton; the Maxton division, composed of Maxton, Rowland and Red Springs, will meet at Maxton.

A meeting of the entire company will be held in Lumberton Monday evening, February 18.

Examination of Registrants Discontinued For the Present.
Chairman T. L. Johnson of the army exemption board of Robeson district 1, received a telegram from headquarters yesterday to stop examination of registrants for military service until further notice. One hundred men were called to report for examination in Lumberton Monday and Tuesday and the result of that call and the examination of those who reported was prepared for today's paper, but must be held over for the next issue.

DIXON NOT GUILTY

So Said Jury in Case Last Evening After Being Out Only Eight Minutes.

PLEAD SELF-DEFENSE

Large Crowds Attended the Trial Which Began Thursday of Last Week—Examination of Witnesses Was Completed Monday Afternoon and Lawyers Argued the Case Two Days.

"Not guilty" was the verdict rendered by the jury in the case in which W. D. Dixon was tried for his life on the charge of killing Alfred Thomas, Indian, at Pembroke on the night of November 10, last year. The case was turned over to the jury at 6:17 last evening and it was only eight minutes later that the jury rendered its verdict of not guilty.

Verdicts no heart was made gladder by the verdict than that of Mrs. Dixon, who had stayed by her husband throughout the trial. There was much interest in the trial, which was begun Thursday afternoon of last week. The examination of witnesses was completed Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning the attorneys began their plea. Mr. T. L. Johnson, representing the State, was the first to speak. He was followed by Mr. A. W. McLean for the defense, followed by Mr. H. E. Stacy followed Mr. McIntyre for the defense. Mr. Stacy's speech completed Tuesday's session. Those who spoke yesterday were: Mr. T. A. McNeill, Jr., for the State, Messrs. W. S. Britt and G. B. Patterson for the defense and Solicitor S. B. McLean for the State, followed by the charge to the jury by Judge Connor.

There was much interest in the case and large crowds packed the court room throughout the trial. Attorneys for both the State and defense made a hard fight.

The jury was composed of the following: Edwin Barfield, C. E. Iman, D. A. Pittman, D. S. Marley, W. S. Small, P. S. Steed, A. A. Wright, G. M. Baggett, F. N. Fisher, N. J. McMillan, A. H. Parker, Hector McMillan.

This trial completed the work of the term and Judge Geo. W. Connor of Wilson, who presided, left last night for Wilmington.

The following testimony, in addition to the report published in Monday's Robesonian, was offered:

Rural Policeman Walter Smith.
Walter Smith, rural policeman, testified that he recalled the time when he was sent for to go to Pembroke to assist in arresting Alfred Thomas. He said that Thomas cursed him and Dixon after they had succeeded in arresting him, that Thomas kicked him and when he threatened to kill Thomas if he kicked him again Dixon asked him not to hurt Thomas. Thomas declared he would kill Smith and Dixon if it took him 10 years to do it, and that he had the steel jackets to do it with. The witness corroborated the testimony of his defendant in regard to his deputizing him to arrest a negro before the killing. He also stated that Dixon was the best he ever saw on catching negroes.

On cross examination the witness said that Thomas was drunk when he and Dixon arrested him. When asked if he had not been in Thomas' store since, he said he went into the store on one occasion and asked Thomas the price of eggs. Thomas replied, "thirty cents to anybody besides you, but forty cents to you." He left without buying the eggs.

A. B. Beasley.
A. B. Beasley's testimony was that he worked in the McCormick Co's store at Pembroke; was in the store on night Thomas was killed. Saw Dixon soon after the shooting. Dixon was holding handkerchief to head and was bloody. He saw the screwdriver in evidence fall out of Dixon's clothes when he pulled off his coat. When asked about Dixon's character the witness said it was good, while that of Thomas for danger and violence was bad.

P. B. Burks.
P. B. Burks testified that he had heard Thomas say he would kill Dixon and Smith if it took him 10 years. The witness also testified that Dixon's character is good and that of Thomas was bad.

Mrs. W. D. Dixon.
Mrs. W. D. Dixon, wife of the defendant, testified that they had six children, twins 3 years old and a baby that was 3 weeks old when Thomas was killed. That her husband unloaded brick the day before the killing and went home just before dark; ate supper about 6:30; after supper talked about getting some things for the children. Saw nothing unusual or strange in husband's appearance or actions. Was in bed when she heard shooting. Jumped out of bed and ran to door. Heard somebody say "Where is Dixon?" Heard Dixon say "Here I am." Went and got cloak and returned to door and saw husband coming up steps. He was bleeding freely and holding handkerchief to head. Asked husband to let her bathe his wound. When asked what was the matter, her husband replied that Thomas had shot him and he had shot Thomas. Her husband handed her his pistol and left. The witness

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PARKTON PARAGRAPHS.

Death and Funeral of Capt. O. L. Johnson—Red Cross Rally to Be Held Soon—Bad Roads—Personal and Other Items.

Correspondence of The Robesonian. Parkton, Feb. 5.—Capt. O. L. Johnson died Monday morning at 9:40 o'clock. Deceased had been in declining health for more than a year, but had only been confined to his bed for about two weeks. He was 56 years of age. The funeral was conducted today at 2 p. m. from the M. E. church, of which deceased was a constant member, conducted by his pastor, Rev. W. L. Binness, assisted by Rev. J. L. Jenkins, pastor of the Baptist church. Each speaker said a special tribute to deceased, Mr. Jenkins stating that he had known him for 4 years and 8 months, and spoke of him in the highest terms, and that morally he was one of our best citizens, upright in every respect. He was a total abstainer and had never taken a drink of whiskey or smoked a cigar. He was a man of strong constitution and possessed a most remarkable memory; was a Bible scholar in the Sunday school, a man that was much interested in education and had served as chairman of the board of trustees of our graded school up until his health failed him. Following were the pall bearers: J. G. Hughes, A. H. Perry, Collier Cobb, E. B. Daniel, J. B. McCormick. The two hymns used at the church were Nos. 315 and 582. The singing by the large choir was most beautiful. Interment was in the Parkton cemetery, attended by a very large congregation of friends and relatives. The following appropriate selections were beautifully rendered at the grave: "It is Well With My Soul," "Rock of Ages," and "In the Sweet By and By." The floral offerings were very beautiful—a large pillow by the family, a design by the Sunshine class, one by the Ladies Aid Society, one by the Sunday school, a beautiful wreath by Mrs. R. B. Hutson—all of which were sufficient to cover the grave. Deceased is survived by his wife and two sons: Leo L. of Florence, S. C., and Edwin W. of Parkton, and two brothers—William R. of Parkton, R. 2, and Dallas C. of Clinton, and two sisters—Mrs. M. B. Davis of Dundarrach and Mrs. T. J. Edwards of Parkton.

Out-of-town people who attended the funeral were: D. C. Johnson of Clinton, Mr. W. S. Maddox of Laurinburg, Mrs. S. D. Dargatz of Wilmington, Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Davis of Dundarrach, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Johnson of Florence, S. C., Mr. L. C. Cook of Red Springs, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Odum of St. Pauls, R. F. D. 1.

We extend our sincere sympathy to the surviving ones.

Mrs. A. M. Stubbs has returned from a visit to her son, Mr. J. H. Stubbs, at Camp Sevier, Greenville, S. C., and reports many interesting things of her trip. One special mention is the special home erected for the mothers, fathers, sisters and brothers of those who are in camp at that place. From this report we confess we believe the Government has made no mistake in erecting this building.

Master Erle Williamson left today for Bingham high school.

Mrs. J. P. McMillan and two children of Perry, Fla., are spending some time with relatives in town.

Plans are being formed by the executive committee of the Red Cross for a rally, some date to be mentioned later. A speaker of much note is expected. We have not as yet been thoroughly aroused on this important cause. We must wake up and get busy.

The union prayer meeting will be held at the Presbyterian church for the ensuing month. These meetings are already meeting with success and are largely attended. The singing is inspiring.

The new teacher for the high school arrived Monday morning from Tennessee. She comes to fill Miss Ellison's unexpired term.

Mesdames M. and M. A. McMillan of R. 2 were visitors in our town this afternoon.

Bad roads up our way and much complaint.

Brick Bought For Third Tobacco Warehouse.

All contracts have been signed and the brick bought for the erection of Lumberton's third tobacco warehouse. As has been stated in The Robesonian, the new warehouse will be made of brick and will be 80 by 200 feet. It will be erected corner First and Walnut streets. Work will be begun on the building next week.

The warehouse company will be incorporated and will be known as the Planters Warehouse Co. Messrs. A. W. McLean, R. D. and L. H. Caldwell and K. M. Biggs are the promoters of the new warehouse.

The house has been leased to Messrs. Knox & Smith, experienced warehousemen of Henderson, who will conduct the house during the coming season.

It is probable that another warehouse will be built here before the opening of the selling season.

Box Supper at Pembroke Friday Night.

Correspondence of The Robesonian. Pembroke, Feb. 6.—A box supper will be given at the Indian Normal Friday night, February 8. Proceeds will be used by the domestic science class to secure a stove. Everyone is cordially invited to attend.

PHILADELPHUS

Play at Maxton For Benefit of Red Cross Friday Evening—Preparing For Debate—Instructive War Program.

Correspondence of The Robesonian. Philadelphia (Red Springs, R. 2) Feb. 5.—The play "The Dust of the Earth," which was given here some time ago by the Philadelphia high school, will be given in the school auditorium at Maxton Friday evening, February 8. Admission will be 25 and 35 cents. The proceeds of this will go to the Red Cross.

The Athenian Literary society gave a very interesting program Friday afternoon, the principal feature of which was a short play entitled "Too Much Medicine in Law."

Mr. C. W. Whitlock, because of sickness, went home last Friday afternoon, but we are glad to say that he is able to be back in school this week. The high school pupils are preparing for the Triangular Debate which is to take place later on in the spring.

Mrs. D. McNeill, assistant high school teacher, spent the week-end with her husband at camp Jackson. Misses Grace McMillan, Kitty Jones and Julia Pate are at home from Charlotte.

The Willing Workers Missionary society will meet Wednesday afternoon.

The eighth and ninth grades conducted chapel exercises for the school last Friday morning. Each pupil represented some country in the world war, and each stated why that particular country had entered the war; then turning to Miss Myrtle Williams, who represented peace, each country

RED SPRINGS NEWS ITEMS.
District Meeting of Epworth League Friday and Saturday Night—Personal Mention.

Correspondence of The Robesonian. Red Springs, Feb. 6.—Mrs. Margaret Sikes, Mrs. Ernest Sikes and children and Miss Bessie Sikes have returned from a visit to Dr. and Mrs. R. I. Pittman of Fayetteville. Mr. Williams has returned from Baltimore, where he went for treatment. He is somewhat improved, his friends are glad to know.

Halle Smith of Ekin are visiting Mrs. Smith's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Purcell.

Mrs. T. C. Rogers has returned from Charleston, S. C.

Mr. Austin Roberts of Camp Jackson spent the week-end at home.

Friday and Saturday of this week the Epworth league of the Rockingham district will hold a meeting in the Methodist church. There will be delegates from the different churches and meetings afternoon and night. On Sunday Dr. Love, president of Louisville college will preach.

Monday night the second quarterly recital of the year will be held in the auditorium, beginning at 8 o'clock.

Mr. W. R. Webster is quite sick at his home. He suffered a very painful fall some time ago.

Sarah Bullock, the little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bullock, is getting along nicely, following an operation at Highsmith's hospital in Fayetteville on Saturday.

THE RECORD OF DEATHS.

Mr. E. Troy Mitchell, Near Fairmont, Died This Morning.

Mr. E. Troy Mitchell died early this morning at his home near Fairmont. He had been sick two weeks with pneumonia. Deceased is survived by his wife and seven children.

Mr. Mitchell was of a quiet unassuming nature and was well-known and had many friends.

Death of Small Son of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Edwards.

Robert Ennis, small son Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Edwards, died at their home at Newport News, Va., early Tuesday morning of pneumonia. The remains were brought to Lumberton on the Seaboard train this morning and interment was made in the family burying ground near the home of Mr. Edwards' mother, Mrs. W. H. Edwards, about two miles from town on the meadow road, at 11 o'clock. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Dr. C. L. Greaves, pastor of the First Baptist church of Lumberton.

SAM SMALL FRIDAY 8 P. M.

Noted Lecturer Will Deliver His Famous Address on "Uncle Sam's Water Wagon at Court House in Lumberton."

People of Robeson county will have the opportunity tomorrow (Friday) evening at 8, at the court house in Lumberton, of hearing Rev. Sam Small, D. D., the famous Southern evangelist, editor and lecturer. For the past two decades he has been a "Prince of the Platform." He is now one of the leaders in the campaign for national prohibition. A treat is in store for all who take advantage of this opportunity. There is no charge for admission.

IMPORTANT.

In ordering the address of your paper changed don't forget to give the old address as well as the new. This will save trouble in the office and cause your paper to be changed much earlier.

BRIEF ITEMS LOCAL NEWS

—Alfred Rowland chapter of the U. D. C. will meet Saturday at 3 p. m. at the home of Miss Myrtle Pope.

—There will be a box supper at Cyclopedia school house Friday night, February 8, for the benefit of the school. Public invited.

—On account of the condition of the roads, Messrs. Bullock Brothers have discontinued their jitney service between Lumberton and Fairmont for the present.

—License has been issued for the marriage of Henry Walters and Lizzie Haskell; H. Q. Beard and Grace Atkinson; Curley Parker and Florence Willoughby; Raiford Walters and Lizzie Lee.

—Dr. A. H. Kerr, county farm demonstration agent, Miss Lulu M. Cassidy, county home demonstration agent, and Prof. J. R. Poole, county superintendent of public instruction expect to attend in Raleigh next week the War Savings institute called by Gov. Bickett.

—The fire company was called out yesterday afternoon at 4:30 on account of a blaze on the roof of a residence occupied by a colored family in the north-eastern part of town; the fire was extinguished before the fire company reached the scene, however. No damage was done.

WILL EXPLAIN FOOD LAWS.

Merchants of Robeson Called to Attend Special Meeting in Lumberton February 11.

Correspondence of The Robesonian. A call to the merchants of Robeson county to attend a special meeting to be held at the court house in Lumberton on Monday, February 11th at 11 a. m. At this meeting Mr. H. E. Stacy, county food administrator, will give special instruction as to requirements of the food laws at this time. He attended a meeting of food administrators held at Raleigh yesterday, at which meeting Mr. H. A. Page, State food administrator, explained the requirements of the national food laws as stated at a meeting of the State food administrators at Washington, D. C.

As special regulations are to be observed by all merchants who sell food-stuffs of any kind, it is important that they be informed as to the laws governing such business.

This is a very important matter and all dealers should attend this meeting.

R. D. CALDWELL,
Chairman Merchants' Special Meeting.

Stockholders Meeting of Farmers' Tobacco Warehouse Co.

At a meeting Thursday of last week of the stockholders of the Farmers' Tobacco Warehouse Co. the report of Secretary-Treasurer W. O. Thompson showed the company to be in satisfactory condition. Prospects for the coming season, which will be the third under the management of Messrs. Bransford & Noblin, are bright. The old board of directors was re-elected, with the exception of Mr. C. V. Brown, who had disposed of his stock, Mr. R. D. Caldwell being elected to fill the vacancy. At the subsequent meeting of the directors, Mr. K. M. Barnes was re-elected president, and some improvements were authorized, a small amount of additional stock to be sold to take care of the necessary outlay.

More Than 212,000 American Troops in France.

Announcement that France will be able before July 1 to manufacture enough artillery to supply 20 American divisions, or approximately 500,000 troops, if the United States meanwhile adheres to an understanding by which France would receive the necessary raw material from America, was made in New York last night by Andre Tardieu, French high commissioner to this country.

Mr. Tardieu made the statement also that there are in France today more American troops than comprised the American army at the time the United States entered the war; at that time he said the American army contained about 212,000 officers and men.

Guilty of Larceny of Meat.

The sentence imposed upon Dock Hardin, Indian, who was found guilty of larceny of meat, by Judge Connor was one year on the roads and then to be hired out by the county commissioners one year, while that of Norman Hardin, convicted of the same offense was 6 months on the roads.

All but fourteen miles of the Appalachian division of the Southern railway, operation on which was entirely suspended last week on account of floods, resumed Monday. Several bridges washed away between Appalachia and St. Charles have not yet been rebuilt. Officials say full operations will be resumed in a few days. More than fifteen bridges and trestles on this division were washed away by the floods. All the snow in this section disappeared during the recent rise in temperature.