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FIERCE BATTLE CONTINUES ON WEST FRONT

German Losses Estimated at Over 400,000 Men—Strength of German Offensive Apparently is Fast Diminishing—Everywhere the British and French are Holding the Enemy—Offensive Against Italians Expected—Situation in Russia Attracts Attention.

The gigantic battle which the Germans began a week ago this morning on the west front in France against the British forces has been going on without cessation and the Germans have regained much of the ground they lost in 1916, but their losses have been so enormous as to more than offset any ground gained. This morning's Associated Press summary is as follows:

The strength of the German offensive in France apparently is fast diminishing. On the seventh day of the titanic battle there were strong indications that the enemy was feeling materially the strain he had undergone and that his power had been greatly impaired through hard usage. While the town of Albert has been captured from the British and west of Roye the French have been compelled to give ground in the face of greatly superior numbers, the British have repulsed heavy attacks, both north and south of the Somme, and also driven back across the Ancre river the Germans who forded the stream Wednesday.

The fighting still continues of a sanguinary character on all these sectors but everywhere the British and French are holding the enemy. Especially severe has been the fighting west of Albert, where the Germans, in an endeavor to debouch westward, were repulsed by Field Marshal Haig's men with the heaviest casualties.

The British gains between the Somme and Ancre regions are represented by the recapture of the town of Morlancourt and Chipilly. South of the Somme they have advanced to Proyart, which lies to the south of Bray.

All along the 50-mile front from the region of Arras to the south of the Oise near Noyon the effects of what was to have been the final stroke to end the war in a victory for the Teutons are only too plainly evident in the re-devastation of the countryside and the wreck and ruin of the towns, villages and hamlets through which the armies have passed.

Westward from where the old battle line reared itself the Germans everywhere have pushed forward for material gains, but with foes before them who fought with the greatest bravery and stubbornness and cede no ground unless recompensed at usurious rates in men killed, wounded or made prisoner. It is estimated that in the great attacks delivered in mass formation more than 400,000 of the nearly a million men the Germans threw into the fray are dead, wounded or in the hands of their foes.

About 25 miles represents the greatest point of concentration made at any place by the enemy in his advance, and of the big salient he has left his flanks dangerously open to counterattacks which, if successful, possibly might result in a retreat greater than the 1916 retrograde movement of von Hindenburg and nullify in its entirety the drive that has been accomplished. It is not improbable that British and French reserves and possibly American troops, known to be behind the battle front, soon will be thrown against the weakened enemy.

Notwithstanding the strength of the German drive nowhere has the British or French front, along the latter of which American troops have given a good account of their ability as fighters, been even dented. Ground has been given, it is true, but so skillfully and with such precision of movement that from north to south a surveyor scarcely could have worked out a more even line. Still intact in the hands of the allied forces are portions of the old line from which Hindenburg fell back in his "strategic" retirement in 1916.

Just who is in command of the German forces seems to be somewhat in doubt. Late dispatches report that Field Marshal von Hindenburg has been at Dvinsk, in the Russian theatre, and German war correspondents assert that Gen. von Ludendorff not only planned the offensive but was on the ground last Friday personally to control the attacks.

On the other battlefronts the operations continue of a minor character, but daily the situation in Italy gives greater indications that an offensive against the Italians is in prospect. Large reinforcements continue to be drawn up behind the line by the Austrians and Germans and the artillery activity on the whole front is growing more intense. The fresh men being sent to this theatre are said to have been drawn heavily from the Rumanian line.

In Russia the situation again attracts attention, the Ukrainians and Bolshevik having recaptured Odessa from the Teutonic allies and in addition now hold the important towns of Nikolayev, Kherson and Znanaka. Reports also have it that the Cossack General Korniloff's troops have been surrounded by the Bolsheviks.

As was to be expected, the Germans synchronously with their attack in France, reopened last week strong submarine attacks against British allied shipping. Twenty-eight merchantmen flying the British flag were sent to the bottom, 16 of them being of 1,000 tons or over and 12 of small tonnage. The previous week sev-

enteen British merchantmen of both categories were destroyed. The Italians during the week lost three steamers and six sailing vessels in submarine attacks.

THESE WILL BE SENT TO CAMP NEXT WEEK

24 White Men and 75 Negroes Called To Report in Lumberton First Two Days of Next Week to Go to Camp.

Twenty-four white registrants of Robeson division No. 1 have been called to report in Lumberton Tuesday of next week, April 2, to be sent to Camp Jackson, Columbia, S. C., and 75 colored men are called to report here Monday, April 1st, to be sent to Camp Grant, Ill. The list follows:

White—James Clarence Collins, Fairmont; Frank Jacobs, Raynham; Bird L. Floyd, Orrum; Giles William Mercer, Lumberton; Plummer W. Lowrey, Raynham, R. 1; John Furman Herring, Lumberton, R. 5; Claude Leroy Turner, Fairmont; Robert Brown Andrews, Fairmont; Jessie Missue, Elrod, R. 1; Thomas Alford, Lumberton; Henry A. Hunt, Raynham; Andrew Hunt, Fairmont; Neill L. Hall, McDonalds; Dougald Miller, Fairmont; John McLean, Lumberton, R. 5; Walter Grady Floyd, Fairmont; Owen Hunt, Fairmont; William Anson Todd, Lumberton, R. 2; Kelly Britt, Lumberton; Eldon Claudius Biggs, Lumberton, R. 6; James Wetton Fisher, Lumberton; Bailey Preston Floyd, Fairmont; Lonnie J. Ford, Marietta.

Colored—Rance Mitchell, McDonalds; Wesley McLean, Fairmont; Dock Rozier, Lumberton, R. 1; Fred Little, Blount's Creek; William Stephens, Lumberton, R. 2; Julian Moore, Fairmont, R. 3; Atha Inman, Lumberton; Simon Peter Dunham, Lumberton; Winford Walters, Fairmont; Harvey McArthur, Fairmont; Douglas Powell, Lumberton; John Hooper, Laurinburg, R. 3; Dud Rogers, Lumberton; Bennie McNair, Lumberton; Gurnie Lewis, Fairmont; Clarence Ellis, Lumberton; Smith Worley, Lumberton; Furman McKee, Fairmont; Barnie Walters, Fairmont; Coy Thompson, Fairmont, R. 3; Giles Arnett, McDonalds; Casey Bryan, Lumberton; Kinley Lewis, Lumberton; Ed. Currie, Lumberton, R. 2; Henry F. Thompson, Lumberton, R. 2; James Erving, Fairmont; William Monig, Fairmont; Franklin Bullock, Fairmont; Joe Gaddy, Fairmont; Willie Hill, Lumberton, R. 1; Hezekiah Richardson, Barnesville, R. F. D.; Jasper Thompson, Lumberton; Isaac Pitman, Fairmont; Henry Davis, Fairmont; Leffie Thompson, Bon-daman; William Mort Pierce, Lumberton; Charles Henry Jones, Lumberton, R. 2; Arthur Meares, Lumberton, R. 5; Drandy Thompson, Lumberton; David Jones, Lumberton, R. 2; James McDougald, Rennett, R. 1; Joseph French, Lumberton, R. 6; Jim Bellamy, Long, S. C.; Sim Page, Fairmont; Willie Blackman, Lumberton; Willie James Pittman, Lumberton; William McKellar, Fairmont; Frank Nichols, Fairmont; Robert Cromarty, Lumberton, R. 4; Julius Engene Bryan, Lumberton; Lonnie Leach, Lumberton; Joseph Swinton, Lumberton; James Cade, Lumberton, R. 2; Will Ford, Marietta; Alexander Meaves, Fairmont; James A. Graves, Lumberton; Lairy Hill, Fairmont; Emory Thompson, Lumberton; Bill Purdie, Lumberton, R. 7; James Mack Armet, Marietta; Rufus Hayes, Elrod, R. 1; Troy Rhoades, Lumberton; Aaron Powell, Lumberton; Henry McLean, Lumberton; Lawrence Stephens, Lumberton; Prentice McNeill, Lumberton; Arthur Powell, Lumberton; Harlee Campbell, Marietta; Julius B. Green, Marietta; Vern Stephens, Proctorville; Zeddie Robeson, Lumberton, R. 1; Willie French McNair, Lumberton; Fred Wilson, Fairmont; Cantrey Williams, Marietta.

Young Man Arrested on Serious Charges.

A. R. Cashwell, a young white man, was arrested here yesterday afternoon by Chief of Police Alf. H. McLeod on the charge of assault with attempt to rape, carrying concealed weapons and having two wives. The warrants were sworn out in Bladen county and Cashwell was taken to Bladen this morning by Deputy Taylor of that county.

Cashwell had been working at the People's garage here for some time.

Democratic Primaries Saturday 3 P. M.

Democratic precinct primaries will be held at the various voting places in the county Saturday of this week at 3 p. m. New township executive committees are to be elected and delegates to the county convention which will be held April 6, will be elected also.

The U. S. army recruiting office which was established here some two years ago will be moved to Fayetteville March 31. The Fayetteville office will be located in the postoffice building.

MORE MEN OFF TO CAMP

Party of Registrants of Robeson Division No. 1 Left Lumberton For Camp Jackson Tuesday Evening.

The following registrants for military service were entrained in Lumberton Tuesday evening for Camp Jackson, Columbia, S. C., by the local board of Robeson division No. 1, except Mr. Hux, who missed connection and left here yesterday morning:

Troy Bullock, Fairmont; farmer. John Braxton Pope, Lumberton; Telephone operator.

Donnie Lee Evans, Laurinburg, R. 3; farmer.

Nathaniel Spivey, Marietta; farmer. Haywood T. Hux, Washington; linotypist.

Mark Page, Barnesville; farmer. Gilbert Pope Taylor, Lumberton, R. 5; farmer.

Sampson Fairfax, Fairmont; farmer. Alpheus E. Thompson, Fairmont; laborer.

Don Neill McGill, Lumberton; salesman. Jake Edwards, Lumberton, R. 2; farmer.

Dargan Hardin, Lumberton, R. 1; farmer. Bennie Tyner, Buie, R. 2; farmer.

Frank Sutton, Lumberton; laborer. Raymond Spivey, Lumberton; farmer.

Roy Turner, Lumberton; farmer. Mr. Pope was made captain of the party.

PARKTON PARAGRAPHS.

Depot Broken Into and Robbed—Death of Mrs. Coleman Beard—Easter Service Sunday Evening—New Residences—Prospects Fine For Potato Crop—Personal.

Correspondence of The Robesonian.

Parkton, March 26.—A. H. Perry, T. E. McNeill, Collier Cobb and Leon Perry were Lumberton visitors today.

Rev. J. L. Jenkins filled the pulpit of the First Baptist church at Washington, N. C., last Sunday morning, and night.

Our town has been without a barber long enough. We cannot understand the situation.

The A. C. L. depot was broken into Friday night. Entrance was made by the use of an auger in the office door. Seven pairs of shoes were taken and other goods. Bloodhounds from Raeford were wired for and at 9 o'clock Saturday morning the trail was taken down the railroad to the house of one Frank McNeill, who lives near J. E. Bethune and Co's mill. Frank was taken in custody and locked up in the guard house until Monday a. m. and was released by paying the cost, as no goods were found in his possession, and, of course, he denied the charge. The dogs did good work and we trust it will have the desired effect in the future.

Misses Esdale Currie, Marie McMillan and Ruby Council of Flora Macdonald college spent the week-end with relatives in town, returning Monday P. M.

Mrs. Coleman Beard died Thursday night at one o'clock at the home of Mr. D. J. Bullard, where she was on a visit to her daughter, Mrs. Bullard, and was buried Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock at the family burying ground near town, known as the McNeill graveyard. The funeral services were held at the new Baptist church at 2 o'clock, conducted by her pastor, Rev. J. L. Jenkins. A very large attendance. Deceased was one of the best women of her community, beloved by all, and is survived by a large family, all of whom are married. She was a consistent member of the Baptist church and will be greatly missed.

The following now appear on the honor roll: Mr. and Mrs. J. C. D. McNatt—a fine boy; Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Hughes—a fine boy.

An Easter service will be held Sunday night at 8 o'clock at the M. E. church. The choir is most cordially invited. The choir has some pretty Eastern music to render, one special anthem quartet, which is especially attractive. A collection for missions will be taken at this service.

The second quarterly meeting of Parkton circuit will convene at Marvin on next Saturday and Sunday. A full delegation from Parkton M. E. church will attend.

Mr. Chas. Bodenhammer has just finished painting his nice bungalow and it's a beauty. Also Mr. J. G. Hughes has just about completed his residence on main street, which is one of the handsomest dwellings in the county.

Mr. J. H. Chasen on route 2, who had the misfortune of losing his dwelling last May 10th, has completed his nice residence and is now occupying one of the nicest residences in his community.

The prospects of the Irish cobbler in this section are encouraging so far. Messrs. J. D. Gillis, B. C. Dixon and J. G. Hughes seem to be in the lead with almost perfect stands.

Election of officers at the Presbyterian church Sunday morning and preaching by the pastor at 11 o'clock; also special missionary collection with the Baptist Sunday school.

Mr. W. R. Tolar was taken to the Highsmith hospital last week at Fayetteville, where an operation for appendicitis was performed. We are glad to report his condition favorable and we trust he may soon recover and return to his loved ones. Mrs. Tolar and children were to see him today.

COUNTER BLOW EXPECTED SOON

Moment Near For Reserves of Allies to Enter Into Action—Slackening in Enemy's Efforts Noted.

GREAT BATTLE WILL TAKE ON NEW PHASE

A Paris dispatch states that Premier Clemenceau told the army committee of the Chamber of Deputies yesterday that the moment was near when the reserves of the Allies would enter into action. The great battle now being waged in France would then take on a new phase and, he added, there was every reason to hope that the enemy would not retain the benefit of the gains made at such a bloody price.

There was a settling down along the British and French fronts where the Germans were trying to break through, states the dispatch, and even within the last few hours there had been noted a slackening in the enemy's effort.

Strategic Reserve Plans of Supreme War Council Now to Be Tested.

Washington Dispatch, March 27.—French and British official statements were scanned eagerly tonight by officials and military men here for the first signs of the counter-blow which they think will be delivered soon by the Allied armies in France, where the rush of the German drive apparently has been definitely checked.

While no official report has reached the War Department showing the participation of American forces beyond a few engineer units, there was reason to believe that some part of General Pershing's army might have taken part in the battles.

The only report reaching the War Department today was a brief summary sent in by General Pershing showing the British battle lines as they stood early yesterday morning. The German claim that 963 guns had been taken also was quoted.

Tonight reports from London showed the British defense to have stiffened sharply in the last few hours. Counter-attacks mentioned, it was indicated, were of local character and not to be confused with the great efforts to be expected to develop now at any moment. Officers said the shock of the German drive appeared to have been absorbed by the withdrawal of General Haig's troops.

All depends, it is said, upon the forces the Allies have been able to muster to deliver the counter-stroke. There has been every indication that both British and French have been using reinforcements sparingly, conserving their reserve power for the day that is just ahead. The strategic reserve plans of the supreme war council at Versailles are now to be tested, it is indicated, for dispatches from all quarters mention the gathering of the "army of maneuvers" for the work in hand.

RECORDER'S COURT.

2 Negroes Given Road Sentences on Charge of Vagrancy—Other Cases Before Recorder Britt.

B. L. J. H. and Willie Sutton and Willie and Rowland Stone were before Recorder E. M. Britt Tuesday on the charge of trespass upon the lands of Mrs. L. A. Edmund. Willie and Rowland Stone were found not guilty, while the others were found guilty of simple trespass and prayer for judgment was suspended upon payment of cost. Judging from the evidence, both B. L. Sutton and Mrs. L. A. Edmund claimed the land in dispute.

Hector Gilchrist, colored, was found not guilty of breaking into the safe in the office of the Lumberton Motor Car Co.

Chester and Berry McLaurin, colored, were found guilty of vagrancy and were sentenced to 30 days, each on the roads. They gave notice of appeal and made bonds in the sum of \$100 each.

Gaiter Bell and Homer Moore, colored, were found guilty of vagrancy and prayer for judgment was continued upon payment of cost.

FARMERS' UNION MEETING.

Matters of Special Interest to Be Discussed at Meeting in Lumberton April 24.

To Farmers' Union Members:

All members of the Robeson division of the Farmers' union are requested to meet in Lumberton Wednesday, April 24. A matter of special interest to each member of the union will be discussed and acted upon. Let each local urge that its members be present. Remember the date.

F. GROVER BRITT, Sec-Treas. Robeson Union.

Miss Monie Collins has accepted a position in the First National Bank. She began work this morning.

RED SPRINGS NEWS ITEMS.

Recital Next Monday Night—Impressive Prayer Service—Social and Personal.

Correspondence of The Robesonian.

Red Springs, March 27.—Mr. Henry Livermore, who is in a training camp in Oklahoma, was a visitor in town last week. He had been visiting his brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Livermore, in Pembroke.

Mrs. Lytch and little daughter of Lumberton, visited Mrs. Lytch's parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. P. McLeod, this week.

On Monday night the pupils of Miss Emma Taylor gave a recital in the college auditorium by the famous composer Godard. The numbers consisted of organ, piano, voice and violin.

Mr. S. E. Leonard, who has been taking Y. M. C. A. training in Springfield, Mass., was a Red Springs visitor last week.

Mrs. Jennie Goodwin of Lumberton spent last Tuesday night and Wednesday in town with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Pearsall.

Miss Mary McEachern spent Monday in Fayetteville.

Miss Mary Livermore of Thomasville spent a few days in town last week with friends.

Mrs. George Bullock entertained the young matrons club on Wednesday afternoon. Miss Carrie McNeill a bride-to-be, was among the invited guests.

A very impressive prayer meeting was held in the Presbyterian church on Tuesday afternoon. The meeting was led by Miss Pattie Watkins of the college faculty, who gave a very inspiring talk.

Mrs. Harry McLean of Goldsboro is visiting her grandmother, Mrs. Colin Edens.

On Monday night the third quarterly recital of the year will be held in the college auditorium. A very interesting program will be presented.

Mr. G. H. Hall spent Wednesday in Fayetteville attending "the greater North Carolina meeting," in celebration of the completion of the canalization of the upper Cape Fear river.

PEMROKE POINTS.

Easter Egg Hunt Saturday and Special Service Sunday—New Church Nearing Completion—Personal.

Correspondence of The Robesonian.

Pembroke, March 27.—Rev. Rowland Hedgepeth filled his appointment at the Baptist church Sunday at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m.

The new Baptist church is nearing completion and will be more convenient than the school house, which has been used for a church since the church was burned some time ago.

There will be an Easter egg hunt for the small children at the school house Saturday at 3 p. m. and Sunday at 11 a. m. there will be an Easter service by the Sunday school children.

Mr. Charley Stuart spent last week at Coates with his brother, who is sick with pneumonia.

Mr. John Fields spent Sunday at Moss Neck.

Mr. W. L. Beasley, who left there some time ago, has accepted a position with the S. A. L. as clerk in the freight office at Rockingham.

DEBATE FRIDAY EVENING.

Goldsboro and Lumberton Teams Will Hold Public Debate at Goldsboro and Here—in High School Auditorium.

The two teams representing the Lumberton high school in the State triangular debate will go up against two teams from the Goldsboro high school tomorrow evening.

Miss Carolyn Shooter and Mr. Gaston Bruton will go to Goldsboro, where they will defend the negative side of the query, which is, "Resolved, That all industrial disputes should be settled by compulsory arbitration," while Messrs. Redden Britt and Harry Russell will defend the affirmative side at home. Miss Blanche Henley and Mr. Paul Sadler will come here from the Goldsboro school to represent the negative.

The debate here will take place in the high school auditorium at 8 o'clock invited.

BRIEF ITEMS OF LOCAL NEWS

The local banks will observe Monday, April 1st, as a legal holiday.

A two-weeks' term of Superior court for the trial of civil cases will convene here Monday.

Miss Annie M'White, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert M'White of the Ten Mile section, is ill with pneumonia.

Mr. J. F. Brisson and family moved Monday from the Dresden cotton mill village to the St. Pauls cotton mill.

License has been issued for the marriage of Dock Zurcher and Annie Jane Cason; Henry M. Ivey and Jamie Burks.

Mr. H. B. Robeson has accepted the position of street foreman and sanitary officer. He began work yesterday.

There is some talk of the old Presbyterian church building being converted into a rest room for ladies coming into town from the country.

A sum of money was found on the floor in Messrs. White & Gough's department store yesterday. The owner can get same by applying at the store and describing same.

Mr. N. A. Kinlaw of R. 7 from Lumberton returned Tuesday from Laurinburg, where he served on the grand jury at a term of Federal court. The jury completed its work on one day.

After Friday of this week no more old clothes will be collected by the local Red Cross chapter, and no more will be received at the local headquarters. The campaign closes tomorrow.

Olen W. Odum, 15-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Odum of the St. Pauls section, came to Lumberton yesterday and tried to enlist in the U. S. army at the local recruiting office. His age kept him out, however.

Mrs. Sallie McRae of Washington, D. C., is visiting her sister, Mrs. Mollie Norment, Elm street. Mrs. McRae came to Fayetteville Tuesday to attend the funeral of her mother-in-law, Mrs. Colin McRae, who died Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Hamilton and three children and nurse left early Tuesday morning for Scotland Neck to visit Mrs. Hamilton's parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Whitehead. They made the trip in Mr. Hamilton's car. They are expected home Sunday.

Mr. C. M. Bryan, who lives about 3 miles north-east of town, returned last night from Camp Jackson, where he went in response to a telegram advising that his son, Mr. Warren Bryan, was ill. Mr. Bryan was suffering with some head trouble and his condition was somewhat improved yesterday.

"Society goes into vaudeville" Friday night, April 5th, at the local opera house for the benefit of the Red Cross. The work rooms here will receive all the money. Program and details will appear in Thursday's Robesonian, April 4th. General admission will be 25 cents, reserve seats 10 cents extra.

Mr. N. E. Canady, an electrical engineer from the State Insurance Department, has been in Lumberton since yesterday inspecting the local lighting system. He says that Lumberton's "white way" is the prettiest he has seen and he heartily compliments the town on it; also he is most favorably impressed with the absence of unsightly signs on the streets.

On a 25,000-Mile Auto Journey.

Two men on a 25,000-mile journey in a Maxwell one-ton truck spent an hour in Lumberton yesterday, stopping at the garage of the Lumberton-Motor Car Co. They were Dewey Ealey and M. Stumpf and they left Detroit, Mich., last July for the purpose of soliciting students for the automobile and aeroplane school of Michigan, a State institution. They covered Northern and Northeastern States and are now going South. They came from Fayetteville to Lumberton and left here for Charlotte. They are going to cover the Southern States and will have covered approximately 25,000 miles when they get back to Detroit. The Maxwell one-ton truck was selected for the tour on account of its durability and reliability. The men say they have had no motor trouble and no repairs except cleaning out motor and new spark plugs occasionally.

Fairmont Man Dies in Richmond.

A dispatch of the 25th to the Wilmington Star states that Charles R. Traynham, for many years a member of the firm of O. A. Reeves & Co., tobacco warehouseman of Fairmont, died last Sunday night in Memorial hospital in Richmond, Va., and that the remains were shipped to South Boston, Va., for burial. Deceased was a son of Rev. D. J. Traynham of the Virginia Methodist conference, who survives. He is also survived by his widow, 7 children and 3 brothers.

The family of the deceased lives at Fairmont.

Mr. Carey Elvington Died At Thompson Hospital This Morning.

Mr. Carey Elvington, aged 84 years, died at the Thompson hospital at 1 o'clock this morning. Deceased was brought to the hospital several days ago suffering from the results of a fall when his left hip was broken. The remains were shipped today to the home at Kemper, S. C.