

# THE ROBESONIAN

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NUMBER 22

At 1 p. m. today a dispatch states the Allied lines, composed of Americans, British and French, are holding firm. The British have retaken some of the ground lost to the Germans yesterday.

## GERMANS RESUME HAMMERING AT DOOR OF AMIENS

British Withdraw From a Village and German Gain of a Mile is Noted—Savage Fights Reported at Other Points.

## BRITISH NAVAL FORCES RAID GERMAN SUBMARINE BASES

After three weeks of preparation in the Somme, during which time they launched an offensive in Flanders, the Germans have resumed their hammering at the front door of Amiens. For days there has been heavy artillery firing along the northern sectors of the Somme salient, and finally the German infantry began their attempt to advance on the line passing Villers-Bretonneux, Hangard, Bailles and Castel. The first attacks were repulsed but subsequent attacks, centered about Villers-Bretonneux, have caused a British withdrawal from this village, according to a report from Field Marshal Haig. This marks a German gain of about a mile.

Villers-Bretonneux is about 11 miles directly east of Amiens and is on the northern end of the latest fighting front. It is situated between the Somme and Luce rivers and while it is flanked on the south by low-lying ground, it is backed by rolling hills to the west and northwest. The fighting on the rest of the front where the Germans have resumed their drive toward the allied base of supplies in northern France has not, so far as known, resulted in any notable retirements on the part of the Allies. The German official report issued on Wednesday was silent as to events in this sector of the front.

An attack on this particular part of the line in the Somme region had been expected and it is probable preparations to meet it had been made. The British lines held firm in this region during the last days of the initial drive while the Germans were able to forge ahead further south until they reached the village of Castel, about three miles from the railroad running to Paris from Amiens. Recently a French counter-offensive at Castel won back considerable ground and it was evident that unless the line further north could be advanced materially the Germans had little chance to make important gains in their operations to the south of Amiens.

This new drive has been made at the same time that another blow has been struck at the British and French lines northwest of Ypres. Savage fighting is reported at various points along the line from Baillieu to Merville and Berlin claims that heights to the northeast of Baillieu have been stormed. Coincident with these attacks there have been assaults on the British forces near Bethune, along the Lave river, but these have been repulsed.

British naval forces raided Tuesday the German submarine bases of Ostend and Zeebrugge. Five old cruisers, which had been filled with concrete for blocking the channels, were run aground, blown up and abandoned by their crews. Observations carried out by aviators yesterday showed that grave damage had been done to the mole at Zeebrugge, while the bulks of sunken steamers are said to at least partly block the channel leading out to sea from the port of Ostend.

On the front in France, with the exception of the Somme salient, there has been little fighting of an unusual nature.

## McCASKILL ENTERS RACE.

Long Republican From Cumberland Will Oppose Godwin For Congress Again.

A surprise was sprung Tuesday when A. L. McCaskill of Fayetteville, Republican, filed his name with the State Board of Elections as a candidate for Congress in the Sixth district. It will be recalled that two years ago McCaskill opposed Representative Godwin and that in a joint campaign over a part of the district the two furnished entertainment for the faithful and the pure and untrifled. Godwin said McCaskill was running for postmaster of Fayetteville before, a job he did not get. Maybe Mack sees some other good plum he wants to get in line for in case unexpected things happen.

## Champ Clark Offered Senator Stone's Seat.

Gov. Gardner of Missouri last night tendered to Champ Clark, Speaker of the House of Congress, the appointment as Senator to succeed the late Wm. J. Stone.

Mr. and Mrs. K. M. Biggs returned yesterday from Baltimore, Md., where they spent 10 days.

Mr. Lemuel Barnes of R. 1 from Barnesville is among the visitors in town today.

## To The People of Robeson And Liberty Loan Workers:

Robeson county was allotted \$300,000, this being on the basis of a three billion loan. Subscriptions for \$235,000 have thus far been obtained. Our goal is to make it \$400,000. To do this we must obtain \$165,000 additional subscriptions.

The Government is expecting subscriptions from the whole nation to the extent of five billion dollars and if we do our full share, we must raise the \$400,000.

I earnestly ask that you help to reach this goal by Friday night of this week. The time is rapidly drawing near when the campaign will end. To slow up our efforts at this time gives aid and comfort to the murderous Hun. While we are striking, let us make the blow ring around the world. The greater the number of bonds that are subscribed for, the sooner we can expect the war to end. When the Kaiser and his rapist court understand that the American people not only loan their Government three billion, but add two billions to make the stroke the more severe, we will no longer be known as the "contemptible American people," but known as a foe who has to be reckoned with and consulted in shaping the affairs of the world, so as to make the world not only safe for Democracy, but, above all, safe for Christianity.

Will you continue to do your duty to the end?  
A. W. McLEAN,  
Chairman Liberty Loan Committee  
for Robeson County.

## BALL OF FIRE IN SKY.

A Meteor Leaves a Trail of Light in the Heavens and Some Folks Say It Was a Learned Meteor That Could Spell—Observed Over Wide Range of Territory.

Many people were excited in Robeson county about 8:30 of the clock Tuesday evening by the appearance in the sky of what some described as a ball of fire which burst and scattered into figures of light which spelled the word "German."

The phenomenon was observed at widely separated points. In yesterday's daily papers it was mentioned as having been seen at Charlotte, Salisbury, Spartanburg, S. C., Wilmington and other places, the strange sight creating more or less excitement everywhere it was observed. Observers elsewhere are not reported, however, to have caught the visitor in the heavens trying to spell.

The Charlotte Observer says the object was observed over a distance of more than one hundred miles and that the United States weather observer there declared the strange visitor to be a meteor or meteorite. He explained that frequently meteors don't reach the earth intact but explode and shatter themselves into small particles and dust before crashing down for a head-on collision with the earth. He explained that the bright trail left behind was caused by the sudden heating of the atmosphere.

Meteors have been known to act that way before they ever heard of the great world war and this wanderer through vast spaces no doubt had no idea of cutting up such capers as were attributed to it by some observers. But all the same some folks are going to die believing that it was some sort of special warning.

## FIRE LAST NIGHT.

2 Small Dwelling Houses Burned in Eastern Part of Town—Fire Started in Unoccupied Building—Fire Truck Stuck in Mud.

Fire of unknown origin destroyed two small residences in the eastern part of town last night about 9 o'clock. The fire started in a 2-room building which belonged to Mr. Wm. Freeman and which had been unoccupied for some time. The other residence belonged to Mr. O. J. Williams. Mr. Williams saved most of his furniture. Both Mr. Freeman and Mr. Williams carried insurance, but not a sufficient amount to cover their loss.

The Williams residence could no doubt have been saved had it not been for the fact that the fire truck stuck on a cross street near the V. & C. S. railroad. The driver of the truck started out Second street and had to turn back on account of the street being washed out near the V. & C. S. railroad, and while driving across to Fifth street the truck stuck in the mud and it was several hours before it could be released.

Members of the fire company carried the hose by hand, and succeeded in getting water to the fire in time to save other buildings nearby.

## Boy Being Tried For Rape.

Elbert Goodyear, said to be 15-years old, is being tried before Recorder E. M. Britt on the charge of rape. The girl in the case is said to be under 14 years of age. The trial is in progress as the Robesonian goes to press. All spectators are barred from the court room while the hearing is in progress. Both parties live in the Barnesville section.

## LUMBER BRIDGE GOES WAY "OVER THE TOP"

Liberty Loan Campaign Inaugurated With Prayer Service—Campaign Resulted In Selling \$10,400 In Bonds.

Correspondence of The Robesonian.

Lumber Bridge, April 22.—On the evening of April 18th a well-attended prayer service was held at the Baptist church to ask God's blessing on the country, and His guidance in the campaign that was to be inaugurated the next day for the sale of Liberty bonds. Short addresses were made by Dr. C. G. Vardell and the pastor, Rev. J. L. Jenkins, and silent and audible prayers by them and others. The meeting was inspirational. All came away believing, as our cause was just, God would heed our request to open the hearts of our people to lend to the Government every dollar available in this hour of stress and danger.

Notwithstanding the unfavorable weather, a good crowd met at the auditorium the next day. Misses Wilson and Murray of the faculty sang delightfully "Keep the home fires burning." Lula Hubbard of the 6th grade recited an original patriotic poem, and Dr. Vardell stirred all with an excellent address. When the finished subscriptions began to pour in thick and fast and it was not long before every blank application for bonds on hand, was used. Eight stalwart patriots were selected to round up any who for any cause were not present at the meeting. Mr. R. B. Bennett was the efficient secretary.

Following is the list of subscribers: L. C. Hubbard, \$100; Rev. J. L. Jenkins, \$50; Leonard Hubbard, \$50; W. T. Chason, \$100; Mrs. L. C. Hubbard, \$50; W. A. Chason, \$50; C. M. Asher, \$100; W. H. Chason, \$100; Lucy John, \$50; M. D. J. McGowan, \$200; J. W. Hall, \$200; Leontia Chason, \$50; Roger Hall, \$50; A. B. Chason, \$50; Lillian Hall, \$100; T. C. DeFaur, \$100; J. E. Clifton, \$100; Mrs. Neize Malloy, \$100; Mrs. J. S. Hodges, \$100; Mrs. A. B. Smith, \$100; J. S. Hodges, \$100; Lulu Hubbard, \$50; J. E. Clifton, \$100; Presbyterian church, \$100; Farmers Trading Co., \$200; Robert Monroe, \$100; E. Currie, \$200; John Monroe, \$100; L. L. Shaw, \$200; A. M. Currie, \$50; W. E. Marley, \$100; Margaret E. Tolar, \$50; Dr. Thos. Stamba, \$100; Annie McL. Tolar, \$50; Mrs. Thos. Stamba, \$100; Bruce Pace, \$50; M. L. Marley, \$1,000; A. N. McDonald, \$100; Miss Mary M. McGowan, \$50; R. B. Bennett, \$100; D. B. Monroe, \$100; John H. Sharples, \$50; Annie R. McGowan, \$50; Charles V. McGowan, \$50; Mrs. A. F. Dunn, \$50; J. H. Hall, \$50; E. Tolar, \$50; W. Tolar, \$50; Dr. R. W. Lancaster, \$100; Total, \$10,400.

## TRAIN RESUME SCHEDULE

V. & C. S. Quickly Gets Back to Normal After Being Flooded—Telephones on Trains.

With at least two miles of the track covered with water, things did not look at all encouraging for Virginia & Carolina Southern Railroad officials Saturday and Sunday. However, by hard work on the part of all employees the road was soon put in condition for trains to pass over in safety.

This reporter accepted an invitation to take a ride over the road for some distance with Mr. J. Q. Beckwith, assistant to the general manager, Tuesday. At that time the water had subsided, but one could get an idea of conditions while the water was flowing here and there.

While on this trip the reporter was very much surprised when he saw Mr. Beckwith standing on a work train and using a telephone. He was talking to a railroad employee at Hope Mills. Upon investigation it was learned that all V. & C. S. trains are equipped with a telephone and by stopping the train the line can be connected in a very short time so that a member of the train crew can talk to any point on the line.

The trains on this road began running on schedule time again Tuesday. The heavy rains that fell Friday, Saturday and Sunday morning made a regular pond in several places along the line—at the "Y" here in Lumberton, at Meadow Branch, Bee Gee and Powers, and between St. Pauls and Hope Mills, at Little Mars, near Oakland. The line was cut at Big Marsh, near Tobermory, but was repaired before any trains were due. Trains ran on schedule time between St. Pauls and Elizabethtown, and one end of the road between Lumberton and Hope Mills was open all the time.

When the line was cut between St. Pauls and Lumberton it was open between St. Pauls and Hope Mills, and vice versa. No serious damage was done to the roadbed anywhere.

## Young David of Clio, S. C., Accounted for 7 Boches.

A young South Carolina officer, son of Dr. David of Clio, was overwhelmed by Germans but accounted for 7 of the enemy before he was killed. In a letter to his father Lieut. Daniel C. Roper, son of Internal Revenue Commissioner Roper, tells of the gallant fight of young David, as follows:

"You will be proud to know of the case of a South Carolinian, son of Dr. David of Clio, S. C. He was overwhelmed by the Boches but he had a pile of human flesh in front of him. He fought like a tiger—accounted for seven Boches with his pistol and then was fighting with an empty rifle when struck from behind."

Mrs. M. E. Raybon returned last night from Raleigh, where she spent some time.

## SPEED UP LOAN DRIVE.

Secretary McAdoo has made another plea for local campaign committees not to stop working after communities reach their Liberty loan subscription quotas. The goal is \$5,000,000,000. Robeson county has not reached its quota of \$300,000. In order for Robeson county to do its part in raising the amount above the minimum of \$3,000,000,000 it should take at least \$400,000. That amount ought to be subscribed by the end of this week.

## ROBESON UNION IS LOYAL.

County Union Passes Patriotic Resolutions—Want Experimental Work in Fertilizers and Crop Production Placed in Hands of Competent Man.

## WOULD EXPELL DISLOYAL OFFICIALS AND MEMBERS

That the Robeson division of the Farmers' union is loyal to the Government and the administration in its war measures was made plain by the resolutions passed at the called meeting of the body held here yesterday. Quite a number of union members attended the meeting and judging from what was said during the session, each member of the union present is behind the Government.

The following resolutions were passed:

**Patriotic Resolutions.**  
"Resolved: First, that we endorse the present National Administration of our Government."  
"Second, that we urge our members to buy all the Liberty bonds within their means, also the buying of all War Savings and Thrift stamps possible; economical administration along all lines and the conservation of food and all foodstuffs."  
"Third, that we grow all the foodstuffs possible."

"Fourth, that we resolve to conform to all requirements of our Government until we have achieved the victory."

"Fifth, that we recommend the expelling of any official or union member who is not in thorough accord with our present National Administration."

"Sixth, that we commend the State union's action in the purchase of \$10,000 worth of the third Liberty loan issue, which is the largest purchase made by any fraternal organization in the State, considering the amount of dues collected from members."

**Want State Chemist Relieved of Part of His Duties.**

The following resolutions with reference to the analysis of fertilizers was passed by the union:  
"Whereas the State chemist of North Carolina now analyzes all the fertilizers and fertilizer materials used by the farmers and directs all crop experiments looking to the selection of the proper kind and amount of fertilizer to be used for the different soils and crops of this State and also has full charge as director of all demonstrations, extension and other propaganda work whereby the idler farmer is instructed in all matters concerning the use of commercial fertilizers; therefore, be it resolved: That it is the sense of the Farmers union of Robeson county that it is unwise to place so much power and responsibility in the hands of any one man and that the State board of agriculture and board of control of the A. & E. college are hereby petitioned to relieve the State chemist of a part of his present superabundance of duties and responsibilities and limit his efforts and activities to the analytical chemical work of the State and to put upon him no other duties whatsoever."

"This county union further petitions said boards to place all experimental work in fertilizer and crop production in the hands of a competent man specially qualified for this work, having a thorough knowledge of the soil of the State and practical familiarity with the fertilizer and other requirements of crop production, and to put on this man the additional responsibility of directing all demonstration and extension work with a view of placing before the farmers any results of practical value obtained from his work in fertilizing and crop investigation."

"That a copy of this be sent to each above-named board, the commissioner of agriculture, the Governor of the State, and the State press."

The next meeting of the union will be held at Back Swamp the third Wednesday in June.

The "State council" was represented at the meeting by Mr. R. W. H. Stone, a former member of the State executive committee of the union. He came to Lumberton Monday night and Tuesday in company with Mr. W. K. Culbreth visited several union members in the county.

## Free French Lessons for Registrants Going to the Front.

Rev. H. A. Grantham, priest in charge of Trinity Episcopal church, inspired by a desire to render any patriotic service in his power, wants to give lessons in French free to any registrants of Robeson who are going to the front. Mr. Grantham speaks French fluently and will be able to render a great service to registrants. He will be glad to see any registrants who care to take advantage of this opportunity.

## PRESBYTERY CLOSING TODAY

Sessions of Fayetteville Presbytery Well Attended—Closing Session Will Be Held This Afternoon After Dedication Service or This Evening—Church Will Be Dedicated This Afternoon.

As stated in Monday's Robesonian, the new Presbyterian church will be dedicated this afternoon and there will be a special service this evening in connection with the dedication. The program for this evening is given elsewhere in this issue.

Presbytery was expected to adjourn this morning's session, but at 1 p. m. this afternoon there was some unfinished business which will be transacted after the dedication service this afternoon or after the service this evening. More than 100 out-of-town delegates have attended the sessions.

Fayetteville Presbytery, in session in Lumberton's handsome new Presbyterian church this week, is being well attended and much interest is being taken in the meetings. The opening sermon was delivered Tuesday evening at 8:30 by the acting moderator, Rev. V. R. Gaston of Aberdeen. Text, Hebrews 4:16—"Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need," from which Mr. Gaston preached a very forceful sermon.

After the sermon followed the reading of the minutes and the election of officers. Rev. R. A. McLeod of Galatia, clerk of the presbytery, was elected moderator; Rev. J. J. Murray of St. Pauls, temporary clerk, was elected clerk; and Rev. Eugene Alexander of Raeford was elected temporary clerk. Rev. A. W. Crawford of Greensboro, synodical home missionary of North Carolina, made a very pleasing report on the mission work. The meeting adjourned to meet Wednesday morning at 9 o'clock.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. H. J. Mills of Rowland Wednesday morning beginning at 9 o'clock. Then the minutes were read and approved and other business was attended to.

Rev. J. J. Murray of St. Pauls, and Rev. R. A. McLeod of Galatia asked permission of presbytery to join the marine corps, which permission was granted.

The 11 o'clock service was conducted by Rev. J. J. Hill of Red Springs, assisted by Rev. J. J. Murray of St. Pauls and Rev. Dr. F. O. Hellier of Laurel Hill. Then the Lord's supper was observed and the meeting adjourned to meet Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

Wednesday Afternoon.  
Meeting called to order by the moderator. A program committee was appointed to outline a program for the presbytery so as to avoid confusion as to times and dates of meetings.

Rev. J. K. Hall of Parkton tendered his resignation as stated clerk of presbytery, which was accepted.

Rev. H. G. Hill of Maxton was elected principal delegate to the general assembly to be held in Durant, Alabama, the 16th of May. He has been a member of the presbytery for 55 years and was once chairman of one of the assemblies. Alternate, Rev. I. N. Clegg of Rowland. Lay delegate, Elder S. B. McLean of Maxton, alternate, Mr. Dan McArthur of Maxton, R. F. D.

Presbytery will meet with the church of Kenley, Johnston county, some time in October, date to be named later.

Wednesday Evening.  
A program in the interest of foreign missions was carried out Wednesday evening. The report on foreign missions was read by Rev. H. J. Mills. In the report special mention was made of the churches at Maxton and Laurinburg. The church at Laurinburg contributed \$11 per member last year while the church at Maxton contributed more than \$7 per member.

After the report had been submitted and adopted short talks were made by the following: Rev. J. K. Hall, subject, "Our Obligation"; Rev. W. S. Golden, subject, "The Call of the Heathen World"; Rev. J. J. Murray, subject, "How God Has Blessed Our Efforts." Each of the speakers handled his subject in a masterly manner and was listened to with interest by the large crowd present.

A music recital will be given at the Orrum high school tomorrow evening, April 26th, at 8:30.

Mr. D. J. McLean of Smith township is a Lumberton visitor today and announces in this issue of The Robesonian that he is a candidate for county commissioner, third commissioners' district.

Mr. H. E. Hinds has handed in his name to the primary managers as a candidate for town commissioner in the first ward. This makes two candidates in this ward. Mr. W. P. McAllister is the other candidate.

Mrs. T. N. Higley is very sick at her home on the corner of Cedar and Seventhstreets. Her brother Mr. J. M. Pope of Durham came Monday night to see her and will be here for several days. Mr. Pope is also a brother of Dr. H. T. Pope.

Mr. H. E. Stacy will speak at Alfordville school house Friday evening at 8:30. He will be accompanied by Prof. J. E. Poole, county superintendent of schools. Miss Kate McKenzie is teacher.

## BRIEF ITEMS OF LOCAL NEWS

—Born to Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Hinds, Monday, a 9-pound girl.

—License has been issued for the marriage of Fletcher Pate and Leila Bullard.

—Mr. G. E. Rancke, Sr., was 82 years young Sunday. He is still hearty and active.

—Members of the Presbyterian congregation generously pounded their pastor, Dr. G. E. Moorehouse, Monday night.

—Born to Register of Deeds and Mrs. M. W. Floyd, Tuesday, a 12-pound boy. Or, as Mr. Floyd puts it, a 12-pound Democrat.

—Eddie Brown, colored, 15-years-old, of Clarkton, died at the Thompson hospital here yesterday morning. Death resulted from peritonitis.

—Tomorrow is Liberty bond day by proclamation of President Wilson and will be observed as a legal holiday by the banks, which will be closed.

—The condition of Mrs. F. A. Prevatt of R. 1 from Lumberton, who has been very ill for several days, is reported as being somewhat improved.

—Miss Mattie Ammons left Monday evening for Wadesboro, in response to a telegram stating that her little niece Mattie Mae Morris was very ill.

—Mr. Neill Russ of the Barker's section brought a wagon load of home-raised meat to town yesterday. It was almost like bringing a load of money to town.

—Mr. and Mrs. O. C. Smith moved last week from Bennett, R. 1, to the S. A. Humphrey farm on Saddletree, R. 2 from Lumberton. Mr. Smith was a Lumberton visitor Tuesday.

—Miss Lulu Mae Johnson returned home Monday from Eureka, Cumberland county, where she taught during the last term. School had to be closed on account of an epidemic of measles.

—Miss Annie Ruth Caldwell returned yesterday from Anderson, S. C., where Monday night she gave a recital at Anderson college. Miss Caldwell was assisted by the college glee club.

—There will be a concert at Anloch school house Thursday and Friday night, April 25th and 26th, beginning at 8:30 o'clock. The public is invited to come. Mr. T. L. Grall is principal.

—Ex-sheriff E. C. McNeill of Rowland is among the delegates attending Presbytery here this week. Mr. McNeill announces his candidacy for recorder of the Rowland district in today's Robesonian.

—Mr. Geo. D. Edwards, who came home Saturday to visit home folks, left Tuesday evening to return to Penniman, Va., where he is employed in Government work. Several young men from Lumberton are employed at this place.

—Lumberton talent will put on that dandy show "Society Goes Into Vaudeville," at Fairmont tomorrow evening. The show will be in the graded school building and the proceeds will be equally divided between the Fairmont and Lumberton Red Cross chapters.

—Prof. R. E. Sentelle, superintendent of the Lumberton schools, will deliver an address at the Ten Mile school house tomorrow afternoon at 3 o'clock. The Ten Mile school closes tomorrow. The school will give a concert tonight and another concert tomorrow night.

—Dr. W. A. McPhaul, county health officer, asks The Robesonian to again state that it is not his business to treat sick folks, but to try to keep folks from getting sick. There are those who seem to think that the health officer should treat them when they become sick.

—The Pope Drug Co. has purchased an electric sterilizer for use at its fountain and a man from the factory is expected here this week to install it. This is the kind of sterilizer that is endorsed by the Government and is used at cantonments. It is guaranteed to kill any germ in 3 minutes.

—The Rowland-Red Springs road is badly washed out near the plant of the Robeson Manufacturing Co. west of Lumber river. A number of automobiles had to be pulled out of a hole in the road yesterday. Others coming into town left their automobiles beyond the washout and walked into town.

—Maxton Scottish Chief: Monday's Robesonian reported several ladies of the town had subscribed \$6,350 for Liberty bonds. Lumberton always was blessed with beautiful accomplished and patriotic ladies. God bless them.—Lumberton ladies have increased that amount considerably since then.

—Maxton Scottish Chief: Mr. J. A. Barker of Lumberton, district agent of the Mutual Life Insurance company, was in Maxton Wednesday to deliver a check for \$25,000 to Mr. Winfred Carter, secretary-treasurer of the late J. D. McLean Co., of Fairmont, in payment of a policy on the life of the late J. D. McLean of that town. He also paid the widow of Mr. McLean for a policy payable to her.

—Prof. R. E. Sentelle delivered the address at the closing exercises of the Saddletree school Friday of last week and was unable to get back to town on account of the heavy rains and bad roads. He remained at Saddletree until Sunday, when he and his 11-year-old son, Harris, walked to Lumberton, a distance of 10 miles. He had to badly washed and so many bridges washed away that there was no way to get home except to walk—and they walked.