

FRANCO-AMERICAN TROOPS CONTINUE PRESSURE ON GERMANS

They Have Crossed Ourcq River and Penetrated One of Great German Supply Bases—Summary of War News.

The Franco-American troops, continuing their pressure on the Germans in retreat from the Marne, have reached and crossed the Ourcq river and penetrated the town of Fero-En-Tardenois, one of the great German supply bases for the enemy troops inside the Soissons-Rheims salient. Meantime in the center of the allied right wing, southwest of Rheims, attacks by the French have forced the enemy to give further ground and enabled the French to capture several towns of strategic value and to draw their front appreciably nearer the high ground which runs northward from Dormans to Rheims.

On the extreme wings of the gradually decreasing pocket—near Soissons and Rheims, the enemy, heavily reinforced, is holding tenaciously to his ground, realizing that successes there would result in a general crumbling of his plans of defense against the locking up of his entire armies inside the big bag. In addition to the large number of troops for reinforcement that have been thrown on these two sectors, the German long range guns from the region north of Soissons and north and northeast of Rheims are keeping both wings of the salient under a heavy enfilading fire.

Under the battering tactics of the Americans and Frenchmen the German line on the south has now been driven back more than twelve miles from the point south of Chateau-Thierry, where the allied troops locked the door to Paris against the enemy July 18 and themselves became the aggressors in what has turned out to be one of the greatest battles of the war.

The crossing of the Ourcq, even if only by advanced elements of the allied forces, presages a general crossing later on. The French official communications thus far during the battle have been remarkably conservative in their estimates of the gains that daily have been made and it is indicated in unofficial dispatches that allied troops are considerably in advance of the line as announced officially.

Where the Germans are in retreat from the south the cavalry has been brought into the fighting and numerous tanks and machine guns in profusion are everywhere harrying the enemy whose losses are heavy. Meantime airplanes are flying over the retreating hordes dropping bombs, while the big allied guns from the sides of the salient are keeping up their intensive firing from all angles into the densely congested area.

The retreat of the enemy has by no means become a rout, and so long as the picked troops around Soissons and Rheims are able to keep well open the mouth of the bag through which the Germans are falling back, it is expected that the greater portion of the armies of the crown prince will be successful in reaching in order the line where it is intended for them to turn and make a stand.

Just where this stand will be made is problematical. More than half the pocket has been recaptured by the American, French, British and Italian troops opposing the enemy, and there has been no sign of a letup in the retrograde movement. If, as some of the military critics have suggested, Crown Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria purposes to start an offensive against the British in France and Flanders now a diversion against the big battle now in progress, no signs of it are apparent at present. What little fighting there has been in this region consisted of patrol raids, in which the British took a number of prisoners and machine guns.

Evidently impressed by the threat of the British premier that if they remained on strike until Monday they would be liable to military service, a majority of the dissatisfied munitions workers in England will return to work immediately.

Capt. J. P. Russell Has Volunteered for Army Y. M. C. A. Work.

Capt. J. P. Russell, manager of the Lumberton Motor Car Co., has volunteered for army Y. M. C. A. work. Mr. Mangum, State recruiting officer, has recommended that Capt. Russell be accepted and he may be notified this week to report to the Blue Ridge training school, where army Y. M. C. A. workers are trained. While Capt. Russell applied for services abroad, Mr. Mangum thinks he will be given work in home camps for several months before being sent overseas.

Capt. Russell is peculiarly qualified for the work and will make a valuable man in the service. It is understood that men are wanted to handle transportation problems in connection with the Y. M. C. A. work abroad, and Capt. Russell may be placed in that branch of the service as almost his entire life up to a few years ago had been spent in railroad work.

COUNTY CHAPTER RED CROSS

6 Chapters in Robeson Organized Into One County Chapter—This to Simplify Work at Headquarters—Something of the Work of this Great Organization.

The six Red Cross chapters in Robeson, with all their branches and auxiliaries, were organized into one county chapter at a meeting held in the court house here Saturday afternoon. The following were elected as officers of the county chapter: chairman, A. L. Bullock, Rowland; vice chairman, Dr. J. L. McMillan, Red Springs; secretary, Miss Minnie Lennon, Lumberton; treasurer, J. P. Wiggins, Maxton. These will serve until October, when new officials will be elected.

The county chapter is composed of the chapters at Rowland, Maxton, Red Springs, Fairmont, St. Pauls and Lumberton and the branches and auxiliaries of all these chapters. Each chapter will continue to work under its own organization just as before, except all business with the divisional headquarters at Atlanta, Ga., will be done through the county organization. Each chapter will elect one director for each 100 members, including the members of the branches and auxiliaries, and these will meet in the Red Cross rooms at Maxton Thursday, August 8, at 3 p. m. and elect an executive committee and various other committees.

The different counties throughout the Southern district have been or will be organized as Robeson has been organized in order to save correspondence and other work at headquarters in communicating with so many chapters. The county chapter will in no way interfere with the workings of the various chapters in the county. These chapters will continue to elect officers and work just as they have done heretofore. Calls from headquarters will be made through the county chapter, however.

The meeting Saturday was harmonious and quite a number from the various chapters in the county were present. After the matter had been thoroughly explained by Mr. J. G. Lane, representing divisional headquarters, all members present voted to organize into one representative chapter. Mr. Lane expressed himself as being highly pleased with the splendid spirit with which the proposition was received.

The officials of the county organization will meet once each month and the meetings will be held at various places in the county.

Dr. J. L. McMillan of Red Springs was elected chairman of the meeting Saturday and Mr. J. P. Wiggins of Maxton was elected secretary.

Before going into the organization Mr. Lane made a thrilling address. He told of the origin of the Red Cross, what it has done, and asked the question, "What have you done?" The speaker declared that the Red Cross spirit originated when the first son ever went into battle, when the first mother's heart longed for the return of her soldier boy. He continued:

"The work of the Red Cross will not end when Germany has been whipped. It will go on as long as we need friends. It will never end as long as there is a civilized world. The Master showed the Red Cross spirit when he went among Publicans and sinners to help them. Greed is being crucified upon the battlefields of France. The Red Cross has its part in the fight. No races or creeds are refused help by the Red Cross. It is not for one race or profession only. It stands for humanity. Germany is the only nation in the world to ever fire a shot at a Red Cross sign. Nothing would please the Kaiser more than for the American Red Cross to fail in its great work."

Mr. Lane told in glowing terms of the great work being done by the Red Cross both in America and in France. He told of how the Red Cross came to the rescue of refugees from the captured lands of Belgium and France—how the poor and helpless, the orphan and the widow had been sheltered and fed, of the great work of caring for the wounded soldiers. The speaker said that statistics shows that only two soldiers out of every 100 wounded who come under care of the Red Cross die.

Farmer Cut Throats of Wife, Son, Baby and Self.

Knoxville, Tenn., July 28.—With a pocket knife, Jerry B. Shipley, prosperous farmer of Gray Station, thirteen miles north of Johnson City, says a dispatch, on Saturday night cut the throats of his wife, his 9-year-old son and 8-month-old infant daughter, after which he cut his own jugular vein, dying within a few minutes.

The mother and son were hurried to the hospital at Johnson City, where it is said they will recover. The baby died within fifteen minutes after arrival at the hospital. Shipley's act was entirely without warning.

Mrs. R. E. Steele and daughter, Miss Dorothy, returned Saturday from Richmond, where they spent two weeks visiting Mrs. Steele's son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Steele, Jr.

MANY DEAD GERMANS.

American Find 2,000 Bodies In One Pocket on the Marne—Many In River.

With the American Army on the Aisne-Marne Front, July 26.—The American troops advancing along the Marne have discovered hundreds of dead Germans. The victims fell before the heavy machine gun fire of the Americans during the retreat. In one horse shoe area the ground was covered with dead. The Americans buried as many bodies as was possible. It is estimated that 2,000 Germans fell there.

Farmers along the Marne report having seen the bodies of German dead floating down the stream. The military authorities are planning some system by which they can clear the river of bodies.

Three days after the Germans evacuated Chateau-Thierry the Americans found a lone German in Mont-St. Pere, hiding in a cellar. The prisoner said he was tired of the war, and was determined to secrete himself, notwithstanding the fact that he had no food, and later take a chance by surrendering to the Allies. He asserted that the German soldiers were dissatisfied with the way affairs were going on and that the general opinion among them was that the crown prince was unable to bring sufficient reinforcements or food supplies to aid the forces being attacked from the south.

The American soldiers watched with pleasure the prisoner appease his appetite after his three-day fast. The German requested the Americans not to report his desertion, saying that if they did and he ever got back to Germany he would be shot.

THE RECORD OF DEATHS.

Mrs. Arabella McMillan Died Friday After Long Illness—Funeral Saturday.

The funeral of Mrs. Arabella McMillan, relict of the late Dr. Jno D. McMillan, whose death occurred at her home, Pine street, Friday at 12:30 p. m., was conducted from the Presbyterian church Saturday afternoon at 4 o'clock. Rev. Dr. G. E. McCrehouse, pastor of the church, conducted the funeral. A large crowd attended the funeral and accompanied the remains to their last resting place. The grave was completely covered with beautiful flowers. The pallbearers were Messrs. R. E. Lewis, D. D. French, M. Caldwell, A. H. McLeod, Jno. D. McMiller, G. E. Rancke, Jr., and W. K. Bethune.

Mrs. McMillan was 73 years old. She had been in ill health for a number of years and had been an invalid for three years. She had been a loyal member of the Presbyterian church for many years and her friends were numbered by her acquaintances. One daughter, Miss Flora Neill McMillan, survives. She was the step-mother of Mr. Jno. D. McMillan.

In the death of Mrs. McMillan Lumberton loses one of its oldest and most-loved women, who will be sorely missed.

Kaiser Says Hardest Part of War Still Before Him.

The Hague, July 26.—"The hardest part of the job is still before us. The enemy knows the war is about to reach the point of decision and is summoning all his strength for a final defense and counter-offensive."

This was the observation of the German emperor recorded by Karl Rosner in the Berlin Lokal Anzeiger and apparently made on the eve of General Foch's offensive. On the same occasion Field Marshal von Hindenburg gave Rosner the following statement:

"It is to be hoped the people at home are full of confidence. But they are not learned in patience. I hope nothing is so promptly punished, as overhaste is no good."

"Preparation is half the battle and the people must remember we are not working with machines that can be smashed as soon as the job is completed. We are working with the most sacred thing we possess; namely, the blood and life of the German people. Our last reserves must be strong men who will return from the trenches to take up peace tasks. We must not be left at the end like smashed machines but must be strong and unweakened."

Race Riot in Philadelphia.

Philadelphia Dispatch, July 28. One policeman was shot and killed, another so badly wounded that he probably will die and sixty other persons were injured, a score of them seriously today in street fights between whites and negroes in the southern section of the city. More than 50 persons were arrested.

The trouble started over the killing of a white man by a negro shortly after midnight and the wounding of two others. It continued intermittently from 9 o'clock in the morning until 7 o'clock tonight. At one point 200 marines aided in quelling the disturbance.

In addition to the police more than 100 members of the home guard patrolled the streets tonight.

—Mr. W. B. Drewrey of Halifax spent the week-end here visiting the home of his son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Page. Mr. Drewrey brought Mr. Page a melon that weighed 48 pounds.

TO REPORT AUGUST 2ND.

Colored Registrants to Report at Red Springs to Be Entrained for Camp Greene.

List of colored registrants called for military duty to report to the local board for Robeson county No. 2, at Red Springs on Friday, August 2nd, at 3 p. m., for entrainment to Camp Greene, Charlotte, N. C.:

Tom McMillan, Buie; David Jasper McNeill, St. Pauls, R. 2; Rowland Roberson, Red Springs; Arch J. Rowland, Parkton; Isham H. Roberson, Lumberton; Alonzo Maynor, Maxton; William McLaughlin, Maxton; Paul McEachern, Maxton; William McMillan, Shannon; Willie Haywood Eastman, Red Springs; Mack McQueen, Maxton; Charlie J. Buie, Buie; John Cromartie, St. Pauls, R. 2; John W. McLeod, Lumber Bridge; Isaac McKay, Maxton; Sandy McKinnon, Red Springs; Armstrong Webb, St. Pauls; Lacy H. McCallum, Maxton; Hayes L. White, Shannon; Willie McBryde, Red Springs; James Thompson, Alma; Sam McIver, Red Springs; Albert McQueen, Maxton; Leo Malloy, Newport News, Va.; Dan Pride, Goldsboro; Alexander Baker, Maxton; Willie Scott, Maxton; John W. Presley, Rowland; Anderson Massey, Parkton; Ira Houston, Rowland, R. 2; French Brown, St. Pauls, R. 2.

BIGGER ARMY PROGRAM.

Secretary Baker Will Recommend Change in Draft Ages When Congress Reconvenes.

Washington Dispatch, July 25.

With the reconvening of Congress late in August, Secretary Baker expects to have ready for presentation the "bigger army" program discussed when he recently advised the senate military committee not to attempt a change in the draft age limits prior to the Congress recess.

Belief is growing that the secretary of war will make one bite of the cherry and submit plans for an army of approximately 5,000,000 men, together with recommendations for a change in the draft ages making readily available a body of that size.

Within the past 24 hours Secretary Baker has promised his recommendations concerning amendment to the draft law, would be specific. However, he explained, no decision has yet been reached concerning the draft ages.

Despite preliminary opposition manifested in Congress when a change was discussed several weeks ago, the military advisors of Secretary Baker are understood to favor a reduction of the draft age minimum to 19 years. The maximum age, according to present indications, will range somewhere between 37 to 40. There has been some discussion of raising the age limit to 45 years, but the returns from the group of older men and the economic disturbance which would be caused by exceeding the 40-year limit probably will militate against the 45-year plan. Comparatively few good fighters, it is argued, would be drawn from the classes above 40. Secretary Baker's formal announcement on this particular point at least indicates his intention to be specific. The secretary says:

"When Congress reconvenes I shall present a plan which will involve increased appropriations, modifications of the draft age, and somewhat larger mobilization of our military forces. The question as to the draft age limits is being studied to determine how we can get the necessary number of men with the least interference with the industry of the country. I will recommend definite age limits."

DR. McPHAUl RESIGNS.

Will Give Up Work as County Health Officer September 1st—Has Done Good Work.

Dr. W. A. McPhaul has sent in his resignation as county health officer, effective September 1. He will take up his regular practice here after that time. Dr. McPhaul took charge of the health work in Robeson the first of last September and his work has been worth much to the public generally. It is not known who will succeed him.

British Airmen Bring Down Twenty-Five German Planes.

London, July 26.—British airmen brought down 25 German airplanes and forced down six others out of control in air fighting yesterday. Fifteen of the British machines failed to return.

This announcement was made in the official communication on aerial operations issued tonight.

Community Fair Meeting.

Special to The Robesonian. Centenary, (Rowland, R. F. D.), July 27.—Miss Lulu M. Cassidy, county home demonstration agent, will speak at Centenary school house Wednesday evening, July 31 at 8:30. At this meeting the matter of holding a community fair will be discussed, and it is desired that all those living in the community attend.

ST. PAULS NEWS PACKAGE.

Proud of The Spirit of Our Boys—Protracted Meetings—Personal.

Correspondence of The Robesonian.

St. Pauls, July 27.—Miss Bess Nash will return home this morning after a very pleasant visit among us.

Mrs. Flora McGeachy expects to visit her daughter, Mrs. Harry Fisher of Tar Heel shortly. Amie Louise, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fisher, is planning to come up to her aunt's, some time.

We were sorry to learn of the death of Mrs. Belle McMillan of Lumberton yesterday. Several from here hope to attend the funeral, which takes place this afternoon.

Little Misses Helen Mabrey McGeachy and Sarah and Elizabeth McGeachy were to spend this week in Fayetteville with their aunt, Mrs. Archie McEachern.

Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Johnson are and Mrs. Will Johnson on Armfield street have a new son also; another to help "kick" the Germans some day, maybe.

We are proud of the spirit our boys are "going to it," "over yonder"; may all war clouds close ere long. We are always glad to see letters from the boys in the best of all paper, The Robesonian.

Mrs. Maggie McEachern is spending this week with Mrs. Barbara McCormac. Mrs. "Bate" McCormac and kids of the "Land of flowers" is also visiting over there and around around among relatives in and around St. Pauls.

Murray's noble sermons were attended and enjoyed by good crowds last week. His son Rev. J. J. Murray our former pastor, came over for one night, before leaving for camp Jackson, where he has volunteered as chaplain. Although we miss him, we wish him every success.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Lindsay and little daughter, Mary, are home after a pleasant visit to Mrs. Lindsay's parents at Ruby, S. C. They motored over to Columbia and saw Lieutenant Murray.

Mrs. Harris is home. She and Mrs. Berlin are planning a trip to Wilmington. Mrs. Harris wishes to see her sister, Miss Ruby Melvin while down there.

Miss Bess Johnson is planning a picnic for the little "Light Bearers" ere long. The tots are in great gear over it.

Mr. Leek McDuffie, another of our brave lads, left last Tuesday for Newport, R. I., where he volunteered for the navy. He was sent to the same place where Mr. Hally Johnson is. Don't you know they will be glad to greet one another? Mr. Johnson likes it fine, but says unless he is transferred nearer is afraid he will not get home, until war clouds blow over. He is taking the engineers course and likes it fine.

Misses Mary Janet McNeill and Clyde Fisher returned Thursday from Chapel Hill summer school.

Miss Mary Willis spent 2 weeks with her sister Mrs. Willis, out near town.

Meeting is going on at Great Marsh church this week and we think one begins at the Baptist church in town the following week. The Methodist are also expecting to have one ere long, so you see there is preaching all around even if the Presbyterian church is left vacant for a while.

Mrs. Maggie McEachern is expected to spend next week with Mrs. A. R. McEachern, while Mr. McEachern is away on a business trip.

Mr. John McArthur has been in Washington for several days.

Miss Maude McLean of Raeford has been visiting at the home of Misses Lilly Belle and Sarah McDuffie.

Mrs. D. A. McQueen and little son, D. A. Jr., expect to visit relatives in South Carolina shortly.

WHEAT SOWING DATES.

To Avoid Hessian Fly, to Avoid Winter Killing, to Secure Highest Yield.

North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service. Raleigh, July 27.—A comprehensive scheme for determining the best time to sow wheat to avoid Hessian fly, and to secure highest yield, has been published from Washington, the plan having been worked out in the Bureau of Entomology, and having the approval of the Bureau of Plant Industry, including the office of farm management.

Mr. Franklin Sherman, chief in Entomology for North Carolina, has calculated these best dates for nearly a thousand localities in North Carolina, and the dates thus ascertained are in agreement with numerous sowing tests made by the Division of Agronomy of which Mr. C. B. Williams is chief.

It is intended, at the series of farmers institutes soon to be conducted, that the speakers shall advise farmers as to these standard dates, and advise adherence to them. Any farmer may obtain the dates for his neighborhood by application to Mr. Sherman, Entomologist. It is proposed to issue this summer a circular from the Agricultural Extension Service, listing the recommended periods for all parts of the State.

Mrs. E. K. Proctor and daughter, Miss Lillian, left Friday for New York where they will spend a few days.

BRIEF ITEMS OF LOCAL NEWS

—Miss Mamie Boney has accepted a position in Mr. K. M. Biggs' department store.

—Special meeting St. Alban's Lodge No. 114 A. F. & A. M. tomorrow evening at 8:30. Third degree work.

—License has been issued for the marriage of Neill C. Blue and Carolyn Watson; Daniel J. Watson and Flora Morrison.

—The Lumberton chapter of U. D. C. will meet in the directors' room of the National Bank of Lumberton Thursday afternoon at 5 o'clock.

—Mr. J. E. Tyner, who lives near town, sold one barn of tobacco on the Lumberton market last week for \$582.60. The tobacco was grown on Mr. J. D. McMillan's farm.

—Master E. C. Graham, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Graham of R. 7 from Lumberton, underwent an operation for enlarged adenoids and tonsils at the Thompson hospital this morning.

—Mr. G. Plin Higley was relieved of several pounds of tobacco Friday night. Robbers entered his tobacco barn three miles northeast of town and took the tobacco off the sticks. It was like stealing money.

—Mr. Robert Proctor returned home Thursday night from Bingham Heights, Asheville, where he took a six-weeks' course in military training under a Canadian captain, who spent some time fighting at the front in France.

—Mr. Foster Flowers was elected president of the Baraca class of the First Baptist Sunday school yesterday to succeed Mr. R. M. Sander-son, who has been called into government service. Mr. W. F. Edwards was elected vice-president.

—Mr. C. M. Fuller and daughter, Miss Anna Neal, Miss Lucy Allen and little Miss Mary Louise, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John C. Fuller, returned home Saturday from Hendersonville, where they spent more than six weeks. Miss Espie Fuller, another daughter of Mr. Fuller, will spend some time at Hendersonville before returning home.

—Mr. Andrew Bullard was seriously hurt Saturday afternoon when he was struck by a Ford automobile. Mr. Bullard was working on the back of his car in front of the People's garage, Second street, when Will Wortham, a colored boy about 16 years old, cranked a Ford and the car started down hill and struck Mr. Bullard on the back breaking several ribs.

—Mr. Vance Skipper resigned Saturday his position as town letter carrier. He had held this position for more than four years, being one of the two first carriers appointed when delivery service was established in Lumberton. Mr. Skipper has accepted a position as local representative of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. of New York. Mr. Carlyle Bethea is succeeding Mr. Skipper temporarily.

—Miss Josephine Breece, Skarp and Mrs. J. A. Sharpe and Mrs. Sharpe's sister, Miss Edith Courtney, returned yesterday from an auto trip to Asheville. They left last Tuesday morning to attend the annual meeting of the North Carolina Press association but were victims of unavoidable delays and did not reach Asheville until Thursday afternoon, when the last session of the convention was being held.

—Prof. R. E. Sentelle returned Saturday night from Raleigh, where he was engaged for several weeks as a member of the faculty of the summer school at the State college. As has been stated in The Robesonian, Prof. Sentelle resigned recently as superintendent of the Lumberton graded school, which position he had filled satisfactorily for some ten years, to accept the position of superintendent of schools of Edgecombe county. He will go to Edgecombe soon to take up his new work.

—Mr. R. D. Caldwell underwent a serious operation at John Hopkins hospital, Baltimore, Md., Wednesday of last week. His condition is reported as favorable. Mr. Caldwell has been at John Hopkins for three months. Mrs. Caldwell has been with him. Mr. S. F. Caldwell and Miss Annie Ruth Caldwell, son and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Caldwell left Thursday night for Baltimore in response to a wire message advising them of the operation. Mr. Simeon Caldwell returned this morning, while Miss Annie Ruth remained in Baltimore with her parents.

A CALL TO DUTY.

From the battle fields in France there comes an unspoken call that should find an answer in every American's heart. The recent great events in Europe, the successes of American arms on the fields of France should spur every American to greater effort.

Our people at home should not rest on the laurels of our soldiers in France. Every death on the field of honor in the line of duty and for our country's cause should be a call to us for every sacrifice and every exertion to aid the cause for which our soldiers are fighting, for which our soldiers have died.

Increase production, decrease consumption, save, and lend to the Government. Every cent lent to the United States is used to support, strengthen, and aid our soldiers in France.

DR. WILLIAM W. PARKER
Optometrist
Glasses Fitted by Superior Methods
Expert Knowledge of Eye Diseases
LUMBERTON, N. C.