

Sylvan Valley News

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE

One Year \$1.00 Six Months 50c
Three Months 25c

NOAH M. HOLLOWELL - Editor and Owner

Money Payable by Check, Stamps or Money Orders

Friday, June 9, 1916

Fight ignorance with higher education.

Should Brevard be able to provide teachers and school rooms for its children or let them grope in ignorance?

Why and how long should Brevard rob its bright boys and girls of the best possible educational advantages to be offered by a public school?

Coming along with the Maxton Scottish Chief this week is the "Robeson County Supplement," a thing of beauty and a most creditable exposition of that county. Editor Harker is now in his 68th year, being one of the six white men survivors of the first citizenship of Maxton.

The Mountaineer congratulates Waynesville on having secured 870 acres of watershed by condemnation for \$6,000. This shows foresight which every town should exercise. Brevard authorities a year or so ago secured additional watershed and like Waynesville, can entertain summer visitors with it for many, many years.

Congratulations to the county of Polk. It is to have a farm demonstrator. Mrs. Fannie Ricks has agreed to pay \$20 monthly on his salary, the county paying an equal amount. We don't know that Pennsylvania would have one if the government would pay the whole salary since only \$360 dollars were required from the county to secure an agent.

A number of weekly papers are putting up the pitiful cry about newspaper materials increasing 50 per cent in price, and begging delinquent subscribers to make settlement. We have no patience with this kind of hard-luck tales, for the only way to run a newspaper is to send it to those who think enough of it to pay in advance, even if but for three months. A non-paying subscriber is no good to the publisher, no good to himself and no good to the advertiser. Why carry the deadbeats?

Preparing for Editors.

Sylvia meant business when it instructed Editor Tompkins to invite the newspaper men there for the July meeting for free entertainment. The Sylvia Board of Trade has appointed reception and entertainment committees to look after the scribes, who will need utmost protection when the gallant fellows are turned loose at Cullowhee amongst those 200 charming lady teachers Tompkins spoke so eloquently about. And to think that there are only three wifeless editors in the membership so far. Help us to get right for July 14 and 15.

Racial Trouble in Hendersonville.

At last the racial trouble comes nearer home, this time being in Hendersonville, where D. H. Counts of Laurens, S. C., has encountered serious trouble. He undertook to build a summer home in Hendersonville with colored laborers from his Palmetto plantation, but as the work progressed a disorderly element of Hendersonville forced six negroes working on the building to leave town. Tool chests were broken open and building materials destroyed at night. Mr. Counts stated that he was not a contractor, but undertook to erect his home with negroes from his plantation who were indebted to him. The French Broad Hustler airs the situation thoroughly and appropriately adds that regardless of threats it will continue to stand up for the right, holding that Mr. Counts has been greatly wronged.

Brevard's Inadequate School Facilities.

Our schools are our strongest bulwark against ignorance, superstition, crime and decay, therefore the statistics on the front page of the News with reference to the needs of the public school of Brevard district provide food for serious and deserved study.

Considering handicaps, the school has been doing a good work but increasing demands seriously cripple the school's present efficiency.

There is nothing in which a community should take greater pride than its public educational facilities and for this reason Brevard district should wake to the situation, which, to say the least, has become embarrassing.

These conditions are the outcome of a situation created by a rapidly growing community—circumstances with which the school committee has endeavored to cope and this at the serious protest of a community ever ready to yell "high taxes." These committeemen have been in close touch with conditions, have given their time unselfishly and ungrudgingly to make the best of the situation, one which all growing communities have to face sooner or later.

A community can find no compliment in its educational status when it has not sufficient quarters and adequate faculty to instruct the children of school age, as is the case with the city's public school. A public school finds no cause to congratulate itself when out of a total school census of 570 there is an enrollment of only 384 and an average attendance of only 280.56, with 162 of public school age attending no school whatever.

When we stop to consider that the majority of people do not go further than complete the high school course, the graded and high school pupils of such community should have the very best of advantages. Deprivation of these, as is the case in this district where compulsory attendance cannot be urged because of lack of school accommodations, results in a serious economic loss.

Upon finishing high school the average pupil should be worth at least \$300 per year. Presuming that he will be delayed in the completion of this high school course for at least one year, possibly more, as will necessarily result under present conditions, the aggregate economic loss to the community will in the course of one year total thousands of dollars.

It is high time that the public recognize the serious situation, arouse itself from its supine indifference and provide for the issuance of bonds at the coming session of the General Assembly and take immediate steps for the improvement of sadly neglected educational conditions in this community.

THE WEEK'S EVENTS

Important News of the State, Nation and World Told in a Few Lines for Your Convenience

ROUND ABOUT THE WORLD

A Condensed Record of Happenings of Interest From All Points of the World.

Mexican News

Approximately 15,000 men, women and children marched through the streets of Monterrey, Mexico as a demonstration in protest against possible intervention by the United States in Mexican affairs. The parade was organized in response to a circular letter calling the attention of Mexicans to the possibility of "Americans trespassing the sovereignty of Mexico," and urging the rank and file of the citizenry to show the number upon which the government might call.

Claiming that the words and protests of the United States have been entirely contradictory of their acts, and that in spite of protests not to intervene in the affairs of Mexico, soldiers of the United States are in Mexico without the consent of the Mexican government and in violation of Mexico's sovereignty, the Mexican government now asks for the immediate withdrawal of those troops. Request is made in a 12,000-word note made public at the foreign office in Mexico City.

The Mexican note is interpreted by many in Washington to mean "that the United States troops will have to get out of Mexico or fight."

The Mexican note was presented to the department of state by Eliseo Arreola, the Mexican ambassador designate.

It is stated in Washington that the president will personally prepare the answer to Carranza's note.

Ten machine guns, 380 rifles and a quantity of ammunition discovered in Villa cache near Naniquipa, Mexico, were taken to American headquarters.

American army intelligence officers are centering their efforts on seeking further hiding places of weapons and ammunition, realizing that the cleaning of northern Chihuahua of such caches is vital should Villa or any of his adherents reorganize and attempt to operate in that region.

European War

Great Britain still holds undisputed supremacy of the seas, in the judgment of Winston Spencer Churchill, recently first lord of the admiralty, and whose opinions on naval matters are still eagerly sought in England.

The British admiral issued a statement saying there was the strongest grounds for the belief that the British navy in the battle with the Germans off Jutland had accounted for a total of eighteen German men-of-war and that there was nothing to add to or subtract from the original announcement of the British losses.

Around famous Hill 60 and Sanctuary wood in France, the Canadians have been doing the stiffest fighting of their experience. They have held the entire front attack, and unless the fighting spreads, this is entirely their battle.

MEMPHIS

Picking its way from its base in the Kiel canal, the German fleet struck an English fleet in the North sea, off the coast of Jutland. It was apparently the biggest naval clash in the history of the world from the standpoint of tonnage. News reports are to the effect that Germany had the best of the clash and that the British losses were very heavy.

The French troops northwest of Verdun, in the region of Le Mort Homme, have turned on the offensive against the Germans, and have captured a very strongly organized position on the slopes southwest of Le Mort Homme. Seven machine guns and 225 prisoners were taken in the attack.

The British casualties in the month of May are reported to have been 1,767 officers and 28,470 men.

French positions on a front of approximately two miles, extending from the southern ridge of Le Mort Homme to the Camieres village, northwest of Verdun, have been captured by the Germans. In addition the Teutons have again pressed forward in the Thiaumont wood, northeast of Verdun, and added their line in the eastern part of it.

Around Le Mort Homme and Camieres a violent bombardment is still in progress, but there has been a diminution in the intensity of the fire of the big guns northwest of Verdun.

Minor successes have been obtained by the Russians over the Turks in the Rivandouza region of the Caucasus front.

Except for a report from Petrograd that the Germans have repeatedly bombarded the railway line to the east of Riga, no operation of moment has taken place on the Russian front.

In the German reichstag Gustave Joske, Socialist, protested against the speech of Herr Hirsch, National Liberal of Essen, which, he declared, was calculated to prevent the neutral powers from mediating in behalf of peace. He said: "There is no disposition among the German people to hazard the lives of further hundreds of thousands for fantastic plans of conquest."

The vote of Avocourt and Hill 304 in the Verdun vicinity are under a heavy bombardment and shells of large caliber are being made. Bombardments are in progress north of Verdun.

A dispatch from Copenhagen says rumors are current in Hamburg that two additional German warships than those announced in the German communication—the battleship Westfalen, and the battle cruiser Lutnow—were sunk in the battle. A wireless dispatch received from Berlin said the German admiralty admitted the loss of the Westfalen.

A dispatch from Saloniki says the proclamation by General Sarrail of martial law in the entire zone occupied by the entente allies, a step taken as a result of the occupation of Fort Ripet by Bulgarian and German troops, has been favorably received by the population. The crowds manifested their friendly sentiments by shouting "Long live the allies."

Domestic

At least five persons lost their lives, a score or more were injured, and fifteen are missing, in the wreck of a Rock Island train, which plunged through a bridge at Packard, Iowa. The wreck was due to a storm which swept the northeastern section of the state of Iowa.

Twenty-six persons were injured when the Wabash night mail train No. 17, bound from Chicago to St. Louis, was blown from the tracks by a tornado near Saunemin, Ill. The coaches were of steel, and this is said to have prevented loss of life.

The lower house of the Louisiana legislature passed a bill which would make Columbus Day—October 12—a legal holiday in that state.

A pocket knife was thrown at Colonel Roosevelt in Kansas City, Mo., which struck the arm of John W. McGrath, the former president's secretary, and fell to the running board of the car. Colonel Roosevelt says it was a trivial incident, and that he had a "bally" time.

Four persons were killed and a score injured at Dallas, Texas, when a wooden awning, suspended by chains in front of a store in the business district, collapsed under the weight of spectators viewing a demonstration for preparedness.

Five hundred thousand rabbits for consumption by the British army in France comprises part of the cargo of the British steamer Cumberland, which put in at Norfolk, Va., for coal.

Seaboard train No. 5 ran into an automobile containing six persons and killed four and injured two, two miles south of Statham, Ga. The party tried to cross the track in an automobile in front of the train, when the automobile engine stuck on the track.

James J. Hill, railroad builder, capitalist and most widely known figure of the Northwest, died at his home in St. Paul, Minn. He was unconscious for nearly twelve hours before he died. He was probably worth in the neighborhood of \$250,000,000.

Washington

President Wilson attended the memorial exercises held in the Confederate section of Arlington National cemetery, but did not speak. The exercises were impressive in their simplicity. Senator Vardaman, orator of the occasion, paid tribute to the Confederate soldier and the self-sacrificing women of the south. Denying the right of the southern states to secede, he declared the answer to the question, "Is it well that the confederacy failed?" rested with the future and the way the general government used its power.

Several hundred marines, about 125 from New Orleans, were ordered to Santo Domingo to reinforce Rear Admiral Caperton's command, which is protecting foreign lives and property and aiding the island government in overthrowing the Arias revolution. The marines were taken from New Orleans by the transport Hancock, and numbered five or six hundred. The Mars Island and San Diego, Cal., stations and the Bremerton navy yard will furnish enough men.

WAR

The second of the big preparedness measures, a naval appropriation bill larger by many millions than any ever before considered in congress, has passed the house, action being almost unanimous.

A dispatch announces that Lieut. Sir Ernest Shackleton, the English Antarctic explorer, has arrived safely at Port Stanley, Falkland Islands. The whole party were in very good health, but in a condition which demanded quick relief.

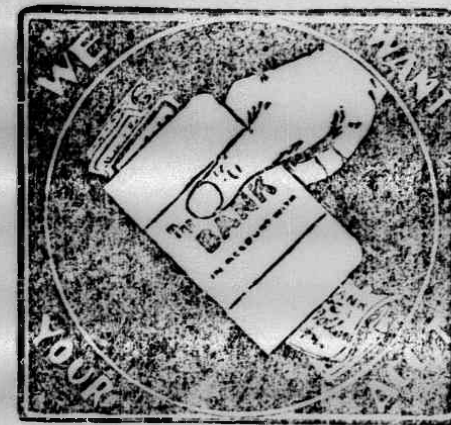
Amendments to the naval appropriation bill to provide for a \$11,000,000 government armor plate plant for \$3,500,000 instead of \$2,000,000 worth of aeroplanes, for 2,720 additional sailors and for a bonus system to encourage the speedy private construction of warships were adopted by the house sitting as a committee of the whole. Party lines were broken down on every vote.

President Wilson, in his Memorial Day address, said: "I shall never myself consent to an entangling alliance, but would gladly assent to a disentangling alliance, an alliance which would disentangle the peoples of the world from those combinations in which they seek their own separate and private interests."

News from Corinto, Nicaragua, says that a member of American citizens and British subjects have been killed at Talca, Peru, by striking employees of the London-Pacific Petroleum company.

President Wilson delivered the Memorial Day address at Arlington National cemetery in which he defined the spirit of America, warning citizens of foreign birth not to set themselves against the purposes of the nation and calling upon the young men to perform military service. He defended his recent suggestion for an alliance of nations to preserve peace.

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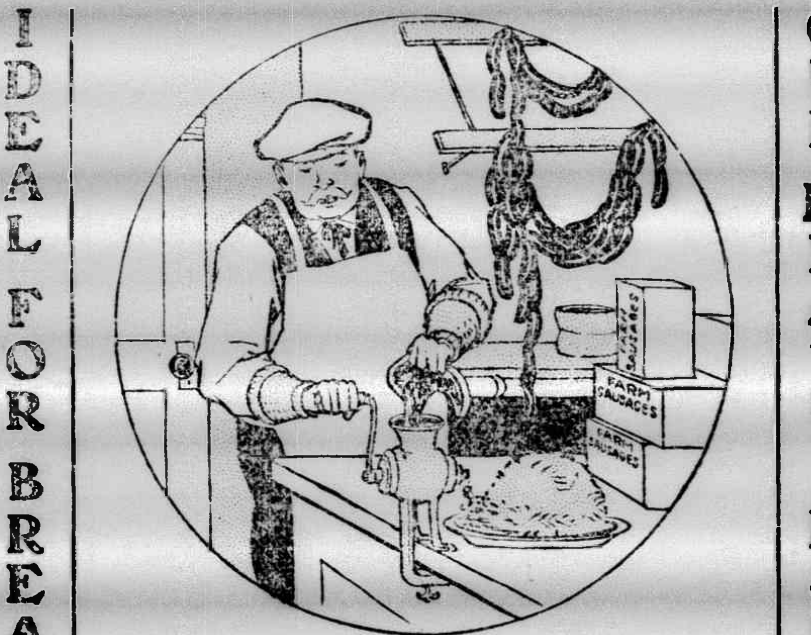
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