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Saturday, March 24, 1917.

Germany Wages War

A pacifist meeting in New York the other night under the auspices of an organization which is trying to harass the president, under the name of the "Emergency Peace Federation." declared that its members are opposed to the "fallacy of rushing into wan," and its resolutions state in substance that the American people do not want war. In the latter respect the pacifists of this association are quite right; the American people, as s whole, have not wanted war and have earnestly hoped that it might be avoided. Holding in mind the frightful slaughter on European battlefields, and knowing the awful devastation which the great war has caused, this nation has hoped against hope that some way out, some honorable way, might be found.

But it was not to be, for Germany would have it otherwise. The choice of war or peace no longer rests with the American people, nor yet with the president, for Germany is already waging a vigorous war against this country. No longer need we look for or expect the "overt act" whereon President Wilson hinged the declaration of war; each day brings news of such acts, of one outrage after another, involving the loss of American lives and American ships. While the professional pacifists seek to embarrass and humiliate the president, and pray for that which is impossible of attainment, Germany continues to carry out her avowed purpose of nding every ship that her submarines can reach to the bottom of the able things in recent years is the highway proposition in Swain county. seas. Germany knows as well as President Wilson knows that when she takes American lives and sinks American ships she is making war on this country; she knows that a state of war exists and acts accordingly.

Meanwhile our own country proceeds on the theory that we are still at peace with Germany, when, as a matter of fact, Berlin has waged incessant warfare, secretly and openly, against the United States since the beginning of the European conflict.

When he severed diplematic relations with Germany, President Wilson told congress that he refused to believe that it was the intention of the German authorities "to do in fact what they have warned us they would feel at liberty to do." Germany's answer to this has been that which was expected, and we do not imagine that President Wilson can have any doubt of Germany's intentions as to the conduct of her submarine warfare against the United States.

The Coming Battle

While claims from Berlin are frequently to be taken with a grain of effect that the British and French Prance are rapidly approaching the word of the war will be fought to be applied by the county would doubtless readily cooperate with a measure to bond the county for one hundred thousand dollars to be applied by the county and seen it all. when the meeting takes place. It will be recalled that this is the same Hindenberg who conducted a strate-time from Warsaw in the large stages of the war, and then there is to neatly entrap the Russians. It will be remainbered, too, that the same timed to neatly entrap the Russians. Germans employed the same tactics in Galicia last year, when they fell back before the supposedly victorious Russian, Brussioff, to new and thoroughly prepared positions. Yet we scarcely believe that the present re-rest of the Germans in France is a matter of choice; it has every apparance of being a permanent move.

The fact that the German forces are paisoning the wells as they go certainly indicates that they do not extra the highway is now completed in the second of the se

pect to come back. But German strategy is of the deepest character. It is quite possible that by selected retirement the Germans hope to Published Every Morning break up and knock away the carefully laid plans of the allies for their

While we have but little knowledge of the battleground as it lies, we may The Asheville Citizen, 6 days a week assume that the British and French The Sunday Citizen, Every Sunday armies had planted their heavy gun for spring operations on an extensiv scale, and the speed with which the tically impossible to follow at the same speed with artillery of monster type. Naturally, too, Reports Complete German movement should affect range of these guns, which cannot b moved as an army moves when i

So we may look for a certain change of tactics on the part of Von Hindenberg. But one thing is certain whenever he elects to halt and give battle to his pursuers he will find a

QUIS DESIDERIO.

(Thomas Walsh, in Catholic World) Dark and vast are Thine outer walls.

O King of Light!

Weary the desert; the parched wind

Toward the pools of night: over Thy close there is music steal-Ing.
Is it Thy revel, Lord, or the calls
Of my childhood's dreaming? Is the pealing

Of angel spires, the fever blight? Some rose immortal there must bloom By fountains clear

That waves of such ineffable perfume Should reach me here. my brows I feel their sprinkle.

sprinkle,

in the dust of my outer
gloom
the stars themselves seem drops that twinkle In truant spray o'er the sky wastes

Their hyssop melts through my soul, Perchance She scatters there

ome old love-sign, some token—she
whose glance
Makes consecrate and rare dawns and twilight-whose worn hands imploring Are constant raised 'mid all Thy joys'

expanse for me remembered still in her adorthe silvered, even-parted hair!

Voice of the People SWAIN COUNTY'S ROADS.

Editor Citizen:

I am a poor writer, but I want you to allow me to talk a little through the columns of The Citizen. I am a combination of Scotch and Irish, and you know that class of people are neither ashamed or afraid to talk, and really I get so full some times I must either talk to relieve myself or bust. Again, I justify my-self on the principle that when talkself on the principle that when talking is in order I have a right to
speak out in the meeting. The people of Swain county (as a rule) are
reticent when it comes to public affairs, and seem to let everything take
its course, and wait one upon another, and have a disposition to follow
in line with the current and accept
whatever comes to them, and as
"the sheep is dumb before the shearer they open not their mouth." not their mout

which (to say the least) is the mogul of all the mistakes made in Swain county since its organization. From its very inciplency, on through to its terminus, it has elicited, and doubt-less deserved the severest criticism. It had failure and devastation depicted in its face in the outset, and the same has grown more prominent ev-ery day in its history. In the outset it was a mandatory act by the legislature, and denied the people the lib-erty of a voice. They could neither dissent nor assent to anything. All people, for the people, and by the people, but this was for the benefit of the few to the destruction of the of the few to the destruction of the many. Swain county was in no condition to think of undertaking a matter of such magnitude. It was then in debt nearly one hundred thousand dollars, and the people could not pay their taxes. And it was the height of foolery to rush unthoughtedly into it as "the unthinking horse into battle." It is needless to say that at least seventy-five per cent of the citizens of Swain county favor good roads, god school houses favor good roads, god school houses and good churches, as there is no clearer index to a prosperous country. But judicial deliberation is the essence of causing them to exist. It is financial suicide to jump at conclusions in great movements like this. Let the first place it was a mistake. Penn in school. There are In the first place it was a mistake to place a hand issue on three town other statues around the building that ships of the county when the inter-ests of the county are identical. Sec- "The other day nuntie, mother and ondly, a bond lasue of one hundred I

To Whom It May Concern

The Citizen has always endeavored to avoid newspaper controversies whenever possible, believing that they are of no interest or concern to the public. But The Citizen can not allow to pass unnoticed an editorial in yesterday afternoon's Times in reference to circulation figures. A statement is made to the effect that The Times has a circulation "as large during the week as any other newspaper circulating in this territory, and on Sunday offers the largest circulation." Neither of these statements conforms to the facts, as The Citizen possesses them.

The Citizen's total average distribution of circulation for its daily issue during the present month (March) is well over 10,000 copies. The total Sunday distribution for the month of March will be over 8,000 copies each Sunday.

The NET PAID CASH Daily circulation of The Citizen for the first twenty-three days of this month was 9,749. From these figures has been deducted a daily average of fifty-one returns. The NET PAID circulation for Friday, March 23 (yesterday), was 9,981. The TOTAL DISTRI-BUTION OF THE CITIZEN yesterday was 10,384.

So that taking The Times' own statement yesterday that it had a distribution of 7,150 copies, The Citizen's daily distribution is 3,000 more than that of The Times, and The Citizen's NET PAID DAILY CIRCULATION was 2,831 greater than the number of papers claimed by The Times.

The Citizen allows only a limited return privilege, with absolutely NO return privilege to the Union News company, the largest distributors of newspapers in this

So confident is The Citizen that it can substantiate its claim that it has the largest Daily and Sunday circulation in Western North Carolina that it will forfeit the sum of FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS to the local Red Cross society, if it (The Citizen) fails to make that claim good. Provided, however, that The Times will post a like sum to substantiate its claim that it has as large a Daily and Sunday circulation as The Citizen.

It is, of course, understood that returns of both papers are to be deducted, particularly those of the Union News company, and that no subscriber more than a year in arrears shall be counted. Should The Times accept this proposition, two local auditors shall be employed, and all paper bills, postoffice receipts, circulation records, cash books, etc., shall be produced.

OLD GLORY'S CALLA

By William Laurie Hill)

We would have peace with all the

world.

Would keep Old Glory still unfurl'd
And have her floating in the breeze

And sail our ships o'er peaceful seas,

But hark! a Despot tells the world,

"You have no right on land or sea, My submarines, they guard the seas, Your ships must sail just where I

"Your ships must stay without my

Our allied foes we would destroy.

Tis ruthless war we wage today, And if you do not like our way

Just try our ready hand to stay, Our submarines will say thee Nav'

Sons of the Sires of Seventy-six, Cld Glory calls! Old Glory calls!

Nor have we ever bent our knees A king or kalser's will to please-

God gave us pathways through the

seas, He bids us use the heavenly breeze

Old Glory calls! the tramp is heard

From Lakes to Golf; from sea to sea. Millions are ready for defense.

We read the news with feelings tense

We seek no scrap, but common sense Bids that we drive invaders hence.

To see our gath'ring hosts arrayed, But Freedom's battle hath begun. 'Tis sadder still to see the sun Bedim'd by Despot victories won

And Freedom slain by Goth and Hum

Nor never flinch from Duty's call. Old Glory's banner is unfurled; We'll sail our ships around the world

To Despots—answer now is hurl'd." "Old Glory still remains unfurl'd."

THIS DATE IN HISTORY.

March 24

1782—Spain acknowledged the inde-pendence of the United States. 1820—Fanny Crosby, famous blind hymn writer, born; died Feb. 12, 1915.

France

occupation.

-William Morris, famous Eng-

lish artist and poet, born; died Oct. 3, 1896.

-Savoy and Nice annexed to

great American poet, died, aged 75 years.

Death of Moses Singer, noted philanthropist.

-Egyptian Nationalists protested against a speech by Col. Roose-

velt at Cairo favoring British

The Mothers' pension bill pass-ed New York assembly.

THE WAR:
Russians begin terrific battle in the Carpathians, capturing heights at Lucknow Pass and making 5,700 prisoners. Brit-

ish aviators raid German sub-marine station at Antwerp, destroying two submarines. Ger-

mans sink steamer Media without warning in English chan-

-Fourth German war loan sub-

scribed to the amount of \$2.-650,000,000, making total of all four \$9.975,000,000. The parti-

Entente Powers to accept Secretary Lansing's plan for the regulation of submarine attacks against merchantmen

1882-Henry Wadsworth Lonfellow.

Sons of America, be true

Amid the din of battle cry-hear the call; our country's call.

Swain county at a cost of about \$350,000, and the bonds were sold at ninety-one per cent, giving the pur-chaser \$9,000 and five per cent in-terest to buy them, on each one hun-dred thousand dollars, and the interest must be paid on the discount the same as on the amount real-ized. Then the three townships of \$\frac{1}{2}\text{Swain county must pay the first year \$\frac{9}{2}\text{,000}\text{ discount and \$\frac{1}{2}\text{,500}\text{ In five years this amount judiciously applied would place all the most important roads in the county on good grade, and build steel bridges wherever readed. After virtually wasting this needed. After virtually wastin this enormous amount of money what has Swain county got? It has (in the main) an impassable line of mud from the Macon county line on the west, to the Jackson county line on the east, with slides or rock, trees, and debris of all kinds piled into the highway until in many places people cannot pass on horseback, and it cannot pass on horseback, and !! will cost thousands of dollars and require another bond issue to repair it. The whole proposition has been a succession of mistakes as all can The legislature appointed nine

men highway commissioners, when three would have been amply sufficient, and less expensive. P. P. McLEAN. Whittier, N. C.

Children's Stories

GRACE WRITES TO HELEN.

Once upon a time Grace went with er mother to visit her aunt in Phila-clphia. She had promised her friend delphia. She had promised her friend Helen that she would write to her and one day when her mother and aunt were busy she sat down and wrote this letter to her little friend. "Dear Friend Helen:

"I wish you were here, too. I am having a nice time and we go nearly every day down town to see the sights of the city. Yesterday we went to the city hall. Uncle met us and took us all through it. He told me it was the higgest one in all of the United the biggest one in all of the United States and takes up a whole square. It has a great hig statue of William Penn on top of it and you can see it uber we studied all about William Penn in school.

I went to Independence bail. You know we saw a picture of it and it thousand dollars judiciously appro-priated would have given better sot-infaction and been more beneficial to the first thing you see is the Liberty front will have their tasks set out for them within the next few weeks, are well worth consideration. It appears at the present time that the silies in legislature, and at the same time days of the signers and the works. There we were swall as a pending in the legislature, and at the same time days of the signers and the works swall's representative that the life in the life

sick not a little bit.
"We took a long ride around Fair

mont park, it is a big place, and auntie said too, that it was the biggest park in the United tSates. I saw one of the buildings that they had at the Centennial. You know that was before we were born, mother says. I like here very much, but I will be glad to get home and play with you, and see father and brother, so I guess we will

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NOTABLE BIRTHDAYS TODAY.

March 24-

Frank W. Benson, famous Boston portrait painter, is 55 years old today. Mr. Benson was the painter who per-formed the remarkable "stunt" of formed the remarkable "stunt" of painting in a day the portrait of Norman Prince, the young American avaiator recently killed on the French front, and received \$10,000 for his day's work. The avaiator was in America on a brief furiough last eyar, and in New York on the last day of it, when his mother in Rossan david. d in New York on the last day of when his mother in Boston decided she wanted a portrait of him painted before his departure and of-fered Mr. Benson \$10,000 if he would perform this artistic miracle. The artist "held up" the young aviator in his hotel in New York, even refusing him the permission to stop posing long enough to eat his meals but finished a remarkable picture of Prince in his uniform, a work which new with the young American sol-dier's war record and gallant death has become priceless. Benson was born in Saiem. Mass., and studied art in Boston and Paris. He has been wide-recognized and honored as a painter, in America and abroad, and has been the winner of gold medals at the Chicago, Paris and St. Louis Expositions. Hobart Chatfield-Taylor, well-

known Chicago author, 52 years old today. Congressman Claude Kitchin, of

ish steamer Sussex was struck by a mine or torpedoed in Eng-lish channel, over 50 of the passengers being killed. The state department at Washing-ton received the refusal of the Entents. Powers to accept North Carolina, democratic majority leader in the house, 40 years old today.

Edward 'Twichell Ware, president of Atlanta University, 42 years old to-

day.
His Excellency Don Juan Rianoy
Consin's ambassador to attacks against merchantment and the prevention of the arming of merchant vessels. Dominion liner Englishman sunk by German submarine, which fired on the crew while it was escapting on the life boats.

His Excellency Don Juan Riango Gayangos, Spain's ambassador to Washington, 5? years old today.

William J. Pike, U. S. Consul General at Coburg, Germany, till the break, one of Uncle Sam's envoys returning in Ambassador Gerard's wake, 53 years old today.

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