

HICKORY DAILY RECORD
TELEPHONE 167

Published by the Clay Printing Co.
Every Evening Except Sunday.

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J. C. Miller Manager
H. M. Miller Adv. Mgr.

Subscribers desiring the address of their paper changed, will please state in their communication both OLD and NEW addresses.

To insure efficient delivery, complaints should be made to the Subscription Department promptly. City subscribers should call 167 regarding complaints.

Subscription Rates
One year \$4.00
Six months 2.00
Three months 1.00
One month .40
One week .10

PUBLICATION OFFICE:
100 ELEVENTH AVENUE

Entered as second class matter September 11, 1916, at the postoffice at Hickory, N. C., under the act of March 3, 1879.

ASSOCIATED PRESS REPORTS
TUESDAY, MAY 22 1917

SIMMONS AND MOREHEAD

We thought it was a little early for santer and sea-serpent stories, but Colonel Bost has dug up an interesting tale for the edification of the readers of the Greensboro News.

Mr. Morehead has done a good many things in order to bring harmony to the Republican party, of which he is a recent convert, but he probably will not care to have the Sampson Fox make a monkey out of him.

As a matter of fact, North Carolinians have no complaint against Mr. Simmons. Though opposed for reelection by a considerable minority in 1912, he has so conducted himself in Washington as to win the plaudits not only of the great majority of Tar Heels, but to wring from the nation at large tributes that would be appreciated by any man.

We do not happen to think of any combination within or without the Democratic party that would have the ghost of a show in a fight with Senator Simmons.

BUSINESS IN BONDS

The duty of Americans to support the government in this war on behalf of democracy does not stop with display of the Stars and Stripes nor with giving the administration vociferous approval.

Hickory has made a start in this direction, but the large corporations and individuals with small means should subscribe for at least \$100,000. The interest is 3 1/2 per cent, but if the government is unable to sell \$2,000,000,000 worth of bonds at this figure, it will call on congress for further legislation and more taxes will be levied.

Business men figure that the liberty bonds are a good investment. One can take a bond worth \$50, \$100 or \$500 to the bank and borrow face value on it. That will enable the corporation or individual to borrow all the money needed.

Patriotism and selfishness dictate the policy of business men able to subscribe for the liberty bonds.

The Western Carolina Power Company goes to Charlotte, and we would not begrudge Charlotte the satisfaction it may obtain out of Colonel Thornton's corporation. If Charlotte will stand by the colonel and put up a reasonable amount of money, he will give them plenty of action.

The election in West Hickory having gone against good schools, it is to be hoped that the friends of education will start another movement as soon as possible. If possible the new building should be ready by the first of the year.

Representative Webb, now that war has been declared, is doing a good part by the administration. Persons who did not like his attitude have no reason to complain at his conduct since the country has entered the scrap.

Persons who complain at the heat—and we admit that there is some ground for it—should remember that the cotton plant, on which the prosperity of the south is based, thrives best on this sort of thing.

If any of the allies have imperial ambitions, the action of the Russian government will make them turn blue, but the rest of us are not interested in expansion except on wholesome and natural lines.

The governors of the several states are in position to render valuable service to the government in this crisis and in none of them, we are sure, is the governor doing more than our own Bickett. He never loses an opportunity to drive a spike in the right place.

The Raleigh management was behind in the game before Governor Bickett made that anti-baseball deliverance, but it furnished a good alibi for the Red Chicks.

The New York World, if it keeps up its investigations, will find that the Roosevelt army was composed of the colonel and his sons-in-law, Nick Longworth excepted.

The Catawba board of registration has made its plans for the registration of young men on June 6, and there will be a rush to see who will be the first on the job.

The American colleges are doing their part in preparing men for hard work all the time, and in emergencies they send forth the boys to serve Uncle Sam.

J. W. Cannon of Concord is not only buying bonds, but has put an ambulance in the field for the American Red Cross forces. His mills will take \$225,000 in the liberty loan.

ARE 402 LAWS INVALID?

There is before the supreme court of North Carolina for its decision a number of cases whose disposition will have to do with the question of the validity of all the local and private legislation enacted by the general assembly of 1917 up to and including the tenth of January.

The question raised before the supreme court is as to the constitutionality of the measure enacted by the general assembly within the dates specified. This is under the contention that immediately the Amendments restricting the power of the general assembly as to local and private legislation were adopted by the people they became a part of the constitution, and not on the tenth of January, as set out in the act under which they were submitted to the people.

It can be seen that the matter is one of vast interest in the state, as there were 402 laws enacted within the date specified. If the amendments became a part of the constitution when they were voted on by the people then the laws enacted having been taken from the jurisdiction of the general assembly are invalid. Clearly this was not the intent of the people, for that the amendments were to go into effect on January ten was stated in the law and this matter was clearly explained in the pamphlet sent out, and in the newspapers of the state.

There has been submitted to the supreme court a brief in this matter by Winston and Biggs of Raleigh in which the argument is that the amendments did not become effective till January 10. We fully agree with the position taken in the brief.

ALSACE FOR BAVARIA?

The discussion in Germany of the rumored division of Alsace-Lorraine between Prussia and Bavaria after the war—a discussion which the German censor is now suppressing—is a clear indication of the progress of political demoralization and disorganization in Germany. The proposition itself is commercial enough.

The Germans are going to have a hard time to hold on to Alsace-Lorraine in any shape, France will not make peace until she gets her lost provinces back, and certainly all the allied world believes that she will get them and proposes that she shall. Strasborough, as a future appanage of the Bavarian crown, is in any case but a gleaming castle in Spain. The real interest of the discussion in Germany lies in the evidence which it affords that the other states of Germany are getting tired of fighting and dying for Prussia, and are beginning to demand territorial or other valuable compensation.

The Saxons are particularly wroth at the suggestion of rewarding Bavaria with Alsace, and they may well be, for they would suffer in the future by any aggrandizement of Bavaria. The division of Alsace-Lorraine between that country and Prussia would relegate the lesser state of the empire to a relatively weaker position, and their position is weak enough already. The Saxons, through one of their members of parliament, have already threatened an anti-monarchical movement if this plan goes through.

Alsace and Lorraine, it should be explained, do not touch Bavaria at any point. Wurtemberg and Baden lie between. But such a separation does not matter seriously in Germany, which is largely a patchwork of detached territories. But Alsace is Catholic, like Bavaria, and it is conceivable that the kaiser, who is full of gratitude for Catholic support in and out of Germany, should be willing to aggrandize the Catholic German state which has shed so much of its blood for his personal cause. Naturally this is another point in the opposition of Saxony, which is almost purely Lutheran. The Saxons are already poorly affected toward the Prussian cause. This will not improve their loyalty in the least.

We have been fearing the break-up of Russia, and such a break-up may indeed come, but there are really much better reasons for a break-up of Germany. Nothing but the political docility of the German race could have held the various states firmly under the Prussian rule for so long a time. We see now that even the Bavarians are requiring to be paid for their support, and that the mere suggestion of something like rebellion in the other states, like the rebellion in the Prussian cause. And though the press discussion of this yeasty proposition seems now to be prohibited, we may depend upon it that it will be talked about just the same. In the meantime, the Alsations and Lorrainers themselves have but one idea in the world and that is to be reunited to France.

IVEY DOTS

West Hickory, May 22.—The people seem to be putting in all their spare time at present cultivating their gardens, and while the cool dry weather has been a little unfavorable, yet the vegetables in a lot of the gardens are looking fine.

Mr. L. V. Costner, who has been down with rheumatism for several days, is able to work again. A number of persons went to Catawba river fishing Thursday, but their luck must have been poor for we noticed on their return Thursday evening, they were all minus any fish.

Miss Junie Wright of Lenoir spent Saturday and Sunday here with her sister, Mrs. Thomas Cook. Mr. Green Mthearly has his new dwelling house about completed. Miss Margaret Milton spent Saturday and Sunday with her parents at Brookford.

Brookford.

Mr. Will Carswell and wife of Valdese spent Sunday here with the family of Squire T. J. Leonard. Mr. and Mrs. Malcom McKenzie spent Sunday with friends in East Hickory.

Mrs. Sallie Brittain of Atlanta, Ga., is here at present visiting her parents, Dr. and Mrs. J. J. Hicks. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Cook visited relatives at Brookford Sunday. The funeral service of Mr. A. M. Yount was held at Bethany Lutheran church here Sunday evening at 8:30. The service was conducted by his pastor, Rev. W. A. Deaton, D. D., assisted by Rev. Mr. Yount. The deceased was nearly 75 years of age. There was a large crowd present at the service.

T. J. L.

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