

HICKORY DAILY RECORD

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PRICE TWO CENTS

FRANCO-BRITISH FRONT CONTINUES TO HOLD

POSITIONS MAINTAINED BY BRITISH ON SOMME

In Face of Furious Onslaughts Allies Hold Ground and Push Lines Forward—Germans Suffer Heavy Losses—Slight Withdrawal Announced

By the Associated Press.

London, March 29.—On the Somme the British have maintained their positions and gained ground in places by successful counter attacks, the war office announced today.

After holding their lines all day in the face of repeated assaults by numerically superior enemy forces, the British retired a short distance from their advanced positions at some points.

The Germans again suffered exceedingly heavy losses. The British took prisoners and machine guns.

The statement follows:

"Further strong attacks were made by the enemy yesterday afternoon and evening at several points along the battle front. North of the Somme our troops have maintained their positions and gained ground at places by successful counter attacks. A number of prisoners and machine guns were taken."

"The enemy again suffered exceedingly heavy casualties. His frequent attacks which were pressed with great determination throughout the day gained only our outposts and after several hours' hand to hand fighting. His reserves were thrown against our battles position and were everywhere thrown back with heavy loss. Our artillery, machine gun and rifle fire caused terrific losses."

"South of the Somme also heavy and continuous fighting took place until late in the evening. Our troops after maintaining their line all day in the face of superior enemy forces have withdrawn a short distance to prepared lines."

THAT LONG SHOT

Springfield Republican.

A profound mystery still hangs about the monster gun, chiefly because of conflicting evidence as to the facts. If it were certain that the French had correctly located it at St. Gobain the range of conjecture would be greatly narrowed.

It was quite imaginable, for instance, that the Germans may have excavated a deep hole in the rocks which hid that region, lined it with cement, and put in a very long steel tube of large calibre. Then a huge shell might conceivably be fired carrying a smaller shell inside to be discharged on the relay principle which has long been familiar in theory, or more probably a sub-caliber shell of 9 1/2 inches might be discharged from a large tube in the manner suggested by Hudson Maxim, who has made experiments in this field; rings carry the rifling and are split and detached as the shell leaves the gun; supplementary powder chambers along the barrel might accelerate the velocity still further.

A gun built into the solid rock might have a tremendous range but could shoot only in one direction, though the range could be altered at will. But against this plausible theory is the report that the shells have little force, make holes only four feet or so deep; with what force a 9 1/2 inch shell dropping from the bombardment height of 19 miles would strike can be imagined. Some commentators still speculate on the possibility of a secret emplacement near Paris, and there is a conjecture as to what might be done by silent pneumatic gun lobbing shells at low velocity.

Mr. A. M. West returned today from a short business trip to Greensboro.

AMERICANS ARE OFFERED FRENCH

By the Associated Press.

Paris, March 28.—General Pershing called on General Foch at headquarters yesterday, according to L'Information, and placed at his disposal the whole resources of the American army for employment in the present battle.

"I come," L'Information quotes General Pershing as saying, "to say to you that the American people

HICKORY TO DEBATE MORGANTON HERE

The debate between Morganton and Hickory will be held at the high school tonight at 8 o'clock. Paul Deaton and Worland Eaton will represent Hickory and Mr. J. D. Elliott will be judge for Hickory. Morganton will bring a judge also and a third man will be chosen. Willie Shell and Clay Campbell will go to Lenoir. They will be accompanied by Mr. F. A. Henderson, who will act as one of the judges there. Mr. Arthur Moser also will accompany the team.

The question to be debated is the compulsory arbitration of all industrial disputes and Hickory will uphold the affirmative side here and the negative side at Lenoir.

OUR HEROES

Charity and Children.

Charles W. Whitehair writes an article for the American describing the heroism of our boys which makes the heart beat faster. No soldier in all the tide of time ever showed higher and nobler consecration than our American lads in the most horrible of all wars.

Here is a paragraph that thrills: "Across these pictures which are burned into my memory is written, literally in letters of blood, the word—Sacrifice. These boys who have lived their daily lives along side of you, with their faults, their follies and their sins, have climbed to heights you at home cannot realize. It isn't just one or two, here and there. Heroism is as common as the mud they live in."

When these boys come back home as a large number of them will, they will not only have a great story to tell, they will have emerged into a new and higher realm. Sacrifice will have done its blessed work. They will have risen on "stepping stones of their dead selves to higher things."

We have talks with some of these boys, and they have told us that with all the hardships of camp life they are happier than they ever were before in consciousness that they have conquered themselves, and have laid their lives on the altar of service for others.

But the brave fellows who are already in the trenches, who are facing the terrors of German fire—what a transformation they have undergone! Many of them lived lives of ease and comfort. They did not know the meaning of sacrifice. Now, they stand knee deep in mud and face the blazing fire of shot and shell with faces unbalanced and nerves steady as a die.

Here is another glimpse from this writer who was an eye witness to the things he describes: "Their compassion for their enemy who is suffering is one of the things I have ever witnessed. When this war is over and the German prisoners go home and tell the truth about their treatment at the hands of the British, that story must open the eyes of the nation, for it is a wonderful story of compassion and kindness. There, at the front, with all the horror of war, one comes again and again upon the real thing in Christianity."

Our agony has its compensation. Our boys are being made perfect through suffering. Their bloody work does not harden their hearts. They are willing to share their lost crust with a suffering German. Out of the storm of war they will come clean, and strong, and compassionate. And those of them who die will go to their graves with a smile on their lips!

DRIVE NOW OVER GEN. BELL SAYS

By the Associated Press.

Washington, March 29.—The British withdrawal before the German advance was made according to pre-arranged plans and "is all over now," Major General John Franklin Bell today told the senate military committee. He said the allies had known the German preparations for the present drive soon after they were begun and made preparations to counteract them. General Bell has just returned from the French front.

MILITARY TRAINING FOR BOYS PROPOSED

By the Associated Press.

Washington, March 29.—Preliminary to a final vote today the senate apparently favored an amendment to the draft bill which would provide for compulsory military training of youths between 19 and 21 years of age by defeating, 35 to 32, a motion by Senator Jones of Washington to table it.

FOR HOSPITAL BED

The Daughters of the Confederacy wish to ask all those who have a bundle of their rummage sale kindly to deliver to point requested on phone 51, and it will be sent for. It seems impossible to reach all, but we do need your contributions. Every article can be turned into money and help relieve the suffering of the wounded soldiers. This hospital bed we are trying to place in the French front is much needed. It may be your boy who will occupy it.

PARIS BOMBARDED AGAIN THIS P. M.

By the Associated Press.

Paris, March 29.—The long range bombardment of Paris was resumed shortly after 3 o'clock this afternoon.

CHARLOTTE CAMP TO BE IMPROVED

By the Associated Press.

Washington, March 29.—Apparently the war department has no idea of abandoning Camp Greene at Charlotte, N. C., because contracts were approved today to spend \$140,000 on sewers and \$80,000 on roads. These improvements, it is believed, will overcome the disadvantages of the camp.

TWO MORE KILLED

By the Associated Press.

Fort Worth, March 29.—F. J. Dwyer and J. S. Rowan, both members of the British flying corps, were killed in aviation accidents here today.

TO MEET TONIGHT

The Christian Endeavor social of the Presbyterian church will meet tonight at 8 o'clock with Miss Katherine Shuford.

Mr. Geo. E. Bisanar is taking time by the forelock. Beginning this week, he moved up his clocks at home half an hour so that the shock of rising an hour earlier Sunday would not put him in the hospital. He says the new order is all right and he expects to pass from a half hour to an hour without realizing the change. Many people, however, will take the whole hour at one clip.

ASKS CLEMENCY FOR THOS. MOONEY

By the Associated Press.

Sacramento, Cal., March 29.—President Wilson has telegraphed Gov. William D. Stephens asking executive clemency for Thomas J. Mooney, now under death sentence, it became known here today. Mooney was convicted in connection with a bomb explosion in San Francisco at a preparedness parade in July, 1916, which caused the death of 10 persons and the injury of a number of others.

JEALOUS LOVER SHOTS GIRL AND SELF

Julius Young of Henry route 3, aged 23 years, is in Dr. Menzies' hospital here as the result of a self-inflicted pistol wound yesterday shortly after dinner when, after trying to kill his sweetheart, Miss Claude Lynn, he turned the pistol on himself and made a wound in his forehead that might prove fatal. The tragedy occurred at the home of Mr. William Lynn, father of the girl, near Henry yesterday about 1 o'clock. Young was brought to Hickory this morning and his injuries dressed by Drs. Menzies, Blackburn and Stevenson.

The young man went to his sweetheart's home yesterday about noon and the shooting followed, it is said, her refusal to marry him. At close range he turned a .32 calibre pistol on her and fired a bullet into the back of her head. The closeness of the girl and her heavy hair saved her life, the bullet flattening out and falling almost harmless. It left a place about the size of a nickel, but Dr. Fred Foard, who treated her, said she was practically uninjured. This physician also dressed Young's wounds.

It was found that the bullet he fired into his forehead entered just to the left of the middle of the forehead and came out about two inches farther to the left. The skull was fractured and the physicians this morning removed pieces of bones. His right side appeared to be paralyzed, but he was able to move it later. It didn't seem that there was much chance for his recovery.

According to persons who accompanied Young here, the only motive for his act was jealousy. The girl declined to marry him and in a fit of desperation he tried to kill her. He then left her home and went 200 yards to the woods and shot himself. Liquor was partly responsible it was said.

REGISTRANTS ARE CALLED TO CAMPS

By the Associated Press.

Washington, March 29.—With the exception of a few districts in the large eastern cities, where delays have been permitted because of religious ceremonies at Easter time, the mobilization of 95,000 men, comprising the last increment of the first draft, and 7,000 of the second draft, began moving today.

The first 70,000 white men and 25,000 negroes began moving to the national army cantonments.

The first men of the second draft were called despite the fact that congress has not yet passed the second amendment to change the basis of apportionment, as Provost Marshal General Crowder urged. The 95,000 men now called, it is understood, are needed at once to take the places of men transferred from other divisions and to make good deficiencies.

GERMANS ARE NOW 12 MILES OF AMIENS

By the Associated Press.

British Army Headquarters in France, March 29.—The Germans were able to penetrate Marcelcave, 12 miles east of Amiens, in the region south of the Somme only by means of heavy mass attacks late yesterday, which gradually forced the British back.

AT HOLY TRINITY TONIGHT

Services at Holy Trinity tonight at 7:30. Subject, "Fruits of the Passion." In connection with this service preparatory services will be held for the communion.

WEATHER FORECAST

For North Carolina: Fair tonight and Saturday; probably fog tonight in the interior, moderate northeast winds fresh on the coast.

COMPARATIVE WEATHER

March 28,	1918	1917
High	63	46
Low	59	39

TELEPHONE MAN IS KILLED IN FALL

By the Associated Press.

New Bern, N. C., March 29.—F. C. Toppleman of Henderson, N. C., vice-president and general manager of the Home Telephone Company, which operates in eastern North Carolina and Virginia, met instant death here this morning by coming in contact with a live wire. Mr. Toppleman, who came to New Bern several days ago, was on top of a telephone pole. His hand was severely burned and in falling from the pole he sustained a fracture of the skull. He leaves a widow and one son, Lieutenant Toppleman, at Camp Jackson.

AMERICANS KILLED IN FIGHT WITH BANDITS

By the Associated Press.

Marfa, Texas, March 29.—Ten Mexicans and Private Theodor Albert, an American cavalryman, were killed yesterday in a fight between United States cavalry southeast of Valentine, Texas, according to official advices today.

The fight followed pursuit of the Mexicans, who raided the Neville ranch, killing Glen Neville.

LOST AND FOUND

Mr. Floyd Childers was taking a bath at the City Pressing Club today and having his suit pressed at the same time. In securing his change from the manager, he displayed something like \$20, which he laid on the shelf in the bath room. Of course none of the shine boys or pressing club boys took it, but when Chief Lantz came on the scene the \$20 found its way back to the shop. Nobody knew who put it there, but the manager of the pressing club and Mr. Childers are happy.

TO MAKE ATTACK ELSEWHERE ON FRONT

By the Associated Press.

Amsterdam, March 29.—The German supreme command is about to deliver a new and mighty blow on another part of the front which "tear a new hole in the already pierced enemy ring," the Vossische Zeitung declares.

HICKORY'S RESERVES CALLED INTO ACTION

Newton threw in more of her reserves yesterday and put \$150 over on Hickory in the sale of War Savings, making three days this week that the county seat has raided Hickory's lines.

General Homer Bowman and General William Kuhn, however, rushed in their reserves in Hickory today and at noon reported the sale of \$6,000 in stamps. Mr. J. A. Cline purchased a block of \$5,000, one for each member of his family.

Mr. W. H. Barkley of Newton, with the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, has been commanding Postmaster Williams' right wing and to him is due credit for the heavy sales in Newton. The contest is interesting.

Mr. H. Q. Blanton will leave Newton April 1 to take charge of the Hickory Telephone System. Mr. Blanton has been here for ten years and has made good in his line of work. It is not known who will take his place here.—Catawba County News.

AMERICANS TAKE FOUR PRISONERS

By the Associated Press.

With the American Army in France, March 29.—Four prisoners were captured by the Americans on the front northwest of Toul some time during last night or early this morning, according to reports fluttering back from the line. It is not known whether the prisoners were attempting to make a raid or whether they were captured by an American patrol.

The artillery fire was heavier during the night, the Germans putting down a barrage on the American positions.

GERMAN WEDGE STOPPED 57 MILES FROM PARIS

Enemy Held in Pocket Near Montdidier by French—More Fighting South of Somme Expected Momentarily—Other War News Today Summarized

TOO MANY CALVES ARE BEING SHIPPED

Mr. S. W. Gardner of Charlotte noted that eight young calves were at the depot ready to be shipped away yesterday and this struck him as such a waste of meat and money they he called at the Record office to see if there was not some way of preventing it. He was told he should be here in the afternoon and see the number of calves loaded on the eastbound trains.

There is no way of preventing it. The law to protect calves was never enforced and it has been repealed. There is not enough sentiment for it and to make such a law effective to whole state would have to be included. Mr. Gardner thought with the grazing season at hand, it would mean lots of money to owners to keep the animals a few months.

Many people have taken an interest in conserving calves, but there is nothing that can be done before the next general assembly and a state-wide bill will have small chance of passing.

NO SUMMER BOARDERS

Since we purchased the Patterson Springs Hotel for an orphanage we have had several calls to take a few summer boarders.

They explain that this will help to make money to get the orphanage started. And too they think people of means seeing the work we are starting would be moved to help the institution in a big way.

Some of the friends of this noted place say that they can sleep any where and will not be annoyed by the noise of the children. We would be glad to accommodate such friends, but it does not suit or help; therefore we can not take them.

Then there are some mothers who desire to come for a few weeks with their children. We always like to please the ladies, but in this case we must provide for the child who has no mother, first, so again we have to say no. We are spending every dollar we can get in equipment for the children. Our tables and chairs are for children and not for grown people. So please do not think hard of us for saying no; we can not take any summer boarders. We hope our friends will find a good summer resort where they can get good water and rest.

Patterson Springs is no longer a summer resort, but an orphanage where widowers who have no lady relatives to come into their homes and care for the children can send their children and have them cared for.

This is the only Home of this kind that we know of in North or South Carolina. Therefore we feel sure that it will fill up as fast as we can get it equipped.

Patterson Springs Home School for the Motherless Child, J. H. Spaulding, Gen. Mgr.

Mr. George Marsh and children, Alex, Elizabeth and Virginia, left today for Raleigh to spend Easter.

French Holding on to Villages

By the Associated Press.

Paris, March 29.—Violent fighting continued last evening and last night in the region of Montdidier, the war office announced today. In spite of German counter attacks, the French held on to the villages which they took yesterday in this region. Moncel was taken by French troops.

North of Montdidier French and British troops held up the German thrust. The German losses were exceedingly heavy. The statement follows: "The battle was continued violently yesterday evening and part of the night in the region of Montdidier. Notwithstanding repeated counter attacks, the enemy was not able to eject us from the villages which they captured yesterday. The French troops following up their success, took possession of Moncel after a hard fight. The artillery fire was heavier during the night, the Germans putting down a barrage on the American positions."

By the Associated Press.

The southwesterly thrust of the German wedge into the allied lines has been stopped short of Montdidier. The enemy seems definitely held here, 57 miles from Paris, by the enclosure of the town within a pocket formed by a series of valiantly captured and held by French troops. Despite continuous counter attacks last night the Germans were not able to dislodge Pettain's men from these hamlets and the town.

Between Montdidier and the Somme the Germans seem to have regained some ground since yesterday in their westward push toward Amiens, the great allied supply base, but Paris declares the allied forces are holding the enemy firmly along a well defined line, which at one point is less than 12 miles from Amiens.

The German thrust which has been checked at the southwest apparently is to close in at the angle of the river Avre and Amiens. It is in this triangle that some of the most severe fighting of the battle may be expected.

The Germans continued to sacrifice their men recklessly in their attempts to break the Anglo-French barrier, as the reports from both the British war offices testify.

North of the Somme the British front not only has been strictly maintained, but has advanced in places. Today's statement from the London war office states that the Germans have started a movable line to embarrass the allies. The German reserves were thrown in after the outpost lines were crumbled up in the devastated zone, but were hurled back by Field Marshal Haig's artillery with great losses.

Attention is called to probable action in the Scarpe and the French action in the south is understood to be the prelude to a large offensive. London newspapers say a joint Franco-British command has been decided on the western front. It is declared that General Foch, commander of the allied reserve army, will be given an important role under the new arrangements.

On the other battle fronts there has been no change. Northwest of Toul the Americans continued their violent bombardment of the German lines.

SCARED MOST TO DEATH

Catawba County News.

A citizen informed the News yesterday that some of his neighbors were scared most to death on account of the horrible war news received on Saturday.

We are not in a habit of rejoicing over other people's troubles, but we are truly glad that some of our people are waking up—even if it takes horrible news to do it.

When thousands are dying to protect us at home, it is time to wake up.

German attacks against this village broke before the indomitable resistance of the French troops.

"Statements obtained from prisoners confirm reports that the losses suffered by the Germans without bringing them success are extremely heavy. The number of corpses found in the vicinity of Montdidier and the hamlets bear witness to this fact."

"To the north of Montdidier Franco-British troops continue victoriously to hold the Germans along the line of the Avre and in front of Neuville - Sire - Barnard; Messiers, Marcelcave and Hamel."

"Certain columns of German infantry and convoys reported on the road between Laon and LaFere were brought under the fire of our long range artillery and dispersed. "There has been notable artillery activity along the whole front."