

HICKORY DAILY RECORD

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ARTILLERY VERY BUSY ALONG WESTERN FRONT

Minor Raids by British Troops Furnish Only Infantry Activity of Night—Crisis Reached in Lloyd George Government Over Veracity of Premier and Maurice

By the Associated Press.
The battle lines in northern France still await the shock of heavy fighting by the British. Apparently the rainy weather has interfered a great deal with the enemy's transport and he has not been able to perfect his arrangements owing to the difficulty of the weather.

Having gained some advantageous positions in local fighting, the allies are making for the new effort of the Germans, which already had been expected much longer than in previous years, the beginning of the offensive on March 21. Meanwhile fresh troops and supplies are pouring in to strengthen the allied position, and this fact must also hinder the enemy's advance, hampered by the shell torn ground.

The artillery fire continues violent in several sectors. The Germans are attacking heavily the Anglo-French front south of Ypres and near the Somme between Villers-Bretonneux and Hallies. These sectors saw the heavy fighting previous to the German repulse north of the Somme nine days ago.

The fighting in progress was continued by the British last night in the direction of Amiens, between the Ancre and the Somme, the Australians following up their recent successes here. The operation was largely a local one, but it resulted in driving the British line more than a mile on the ridge between Sully-le-Sec and Marincourt and thus putting it into a better position for the expected German drive.

There has been great aerial activity on the American sector north-west of Toul and Capt. James Norman Hall, well known as a flyer is reported missing after a battle in which he and two other Americans shot down four Germans. Two of the enemy planes are believed to have been brought down. Other Americans have been meeting the same fate of St. Mihiel and it is believed the Germans have concentrated their airplanes on this front in an effort to wipe out the American flyers.

There has been no infantry activity on any of the American fronts. Except for fruitless patrol raids by the Americans, and allied artillery fire, there has been no activity on the Italian front. The Austrians still withhold their attack and there has been no further announcement either from Vienna or Berlin.

A political crisis involving the secretary of the Lloyd George government has arisen in Great Britain over the letter written by General Maurice, former chief director of military operations, in which he questioned the veracity of the premier and the chancellor of the exchequer. In the house of commons a parliamentary debate between Andrew Bonar Law and former Premier Asquith resulted in the government accepting a motion to debate the question of veracity of General Maurice.

The motion will be debated in the house Friday and the government will stand or fall by the vote. Friends of the government have summoned their supporters to be on hand.

The social meeting of the Philadelphia Baptist church will be held at the home of Miss Kate Elliott Thursday evening at 8 o'clock.

GERMAN DEPUTY DISCUSSES REFORM

By the Associated Press.
New York, May 8.—"How can you force President Wilson to make peace by military measures?" demanded Deputy Shulze-Gaevernitz, a member of the German Progressive party, during a budget debate recently in the reichstag, says the Berlin Tageblatt.

"On the day on which the general and equal franchise becomes a law in Prussia a large part of the Anglo-Saxon will to war will collapse," the deputy continued.

"The dignified British house of lords, responding to the necessities of war, has adopted the democratic electoral reform of the world," he declared. "It has given the franchise to the youngest soldier and to 6,000,000 women.

"The independence of Alsace-Lorraine is a necessity. We cannot win the hearts of a country, the latest spiritual background of which is the French revolution by applying the methods of East Elbian (Junker) sovereignty. There must be no fourth partition of Poland. We desire to remain the German national state that we are now. The German idea of freedom has been darkened by the East Elbian junkerdom. The German censorship has done more harm than good. Why is the German word being gagged? The conditions prevailing today as a result of the dirty business of censorship are equally disgraceful to the one who is being censored as to the censor. We desire such a heavy taxation of all war profits that nowhere will there be a financial interest in a continuation of the war. England in this respect should serve us as a model.

"It should not be forgotten that about one third of the army consists of socialists. If we have to reduce the bread ration, we must increase the ration of freedom. The recent strikes were a foretaste, and undesirable but an explainable reaction of the blind masses of the people to the postponement of Prussian franchise reform.

ANOTHER STATE PROPOSED IN AUSTRIA

By the Associated Press.
London, May 8.—The latest separatist program in Austria, according to the dispatches to the Daily Mail from the Hague quoting advices from Vienna, is to create a state to be made greater Moravia, which would include Silesia and the Slovene districts of Hungary, with the capital at Olmutz.

Vienna newspapers of Saturday received at the Hague show that the internal situation in Austria-Hungary is growing more acute.

Minor Doings During Night

By the Associated Press.
London, May 8.—Successful minor operations last night resulted in the advance of the British line a short distance on the Amiens sector between the Somme and Ancre rivers. The war office announced today.

Increased activity was developed by the British artillery this morning on the Flanders battle front between Metchen and Kemmel.

HEAVY ARTILLERY

By the Associated Press.
Paris, May 8.—Heavy artillery fighting occurred last night on both sides of the Avre river, the French

OVER TOP CITIES ANNOUNCED TODAY

By the Associated Press.
Washington, May 8.—Cities which have made the highest subscription percentage in their Liberty Loan quotas in respect to their populations were announced by the treasury today as follows:

Above 500,000 population, Boston, 165 per cent; between 250,000 and 500,000, Washington, 197 per cent; between 100,000 and 250,000, Birmingham, 186 per cent; between 50,000 and 100,000, Hartford, Conn., 251 per cent; between 25,000 and 50,000, Topeka, Kans., 202 per cent.

WILLIAM IS FILLED WITH PROUD JOY

By the Associated Press.
Berlin, via Amsterdam, May 8.—Emperor William replied to Chancellor von Hertling's congratulations on the conclusion of peace with Rumania as follows:

"The termination of the state of war in the east fills me also with proud joy and gratitude."

MISS SAUNDERS IS PUTTING 'EM ACROSS

Miss Annie Saunders, postmistress at Sherrill's Ford, destroys the fortifications not only of Postmaster Osborne Brown at Long Island, but also those of Postmaster Turner at Monbo and in addition gasses the War Savings Stamps salesman of Postmaster Connor at Terrell. Miss Saunders, by selling War Savings Stamps in one day of a greater value than the postage stamps sold at her office during the last two and 1-2 years, has outclassed all the postmasters of the county. Her sales on Tuesday amounted to \$1,150 net.

Who was it that said women can't fight during a war? Is there any one who does not now believe in giving the ladies the right to vote? There is not a postmaster in Catawba county who would now have the nerve to oppose Miss Saunders in any fight she might desire to make.

NEW GERMAN INVENTION TO HELP PEOPLE BEAR HUNGER

Amsterdam, May 8.—"To bear hunger without at the same time suffering from headache or other indisposition is very difficult for most people," reads the opening sentence of a significant advertisement inserted in Sunday's Taegliche Rundschau of Berlin by a Berlin chemical firm, praising a newly invented drug "which, though not forming a substitute for the minimum daily sustenance, is an excellent preparation for stilling premature hunger and enabling one to hold out until the next meal time."

SOME FINE BERRIES

Dr. G. E. Flowers today presented the Record with a box of fine strawberries packed in roses and pansies, the sight of which was almost as good as the odor. The doctor accompanied the gift with an invitation to visit his patch. Four berries are an inch in diameter each and all weigh 2 1-2 ounces. All of his berries are not this large, of course, but they hang on the vines so thick that Dr. Flowers says they remind him of a guinea fowl, in which several hens have been doing their bit. Two rows the length of his garden will produce four or five gallons.

HICKORY SCORES WITH HEROES AT TRAIN

The following message was handed the Record yesterday afternoon by Mr. D. L. Miller, telegraph dispatcher at the depot:

"Connelly Springs, May 7.—Town of Hickory scores with us, the men of Pershing's First. We will remember it, each of us, all as the first welcome home.

"THE OVERSEAS MEN." The wounded soldiers who passed through here shortly after noon en route to Wadesville to recover from the effects of gas attacks by the Germans were expressing their appreciation of the welcome Hickory people extended them at the depot. A large crowd had gathered and the veterans were showered with cigars, sandwiches and other things during the short stop here.

Mr. Miller was as proud as anybody to get the message over the wires and those Hickory people who responded so generously will be happiest of all to read this.

BETTER SCHOOLS WHAT RESULT MEANS

West Hickory citizens yesterday expressed themselves in positive terms in favor of better schools when they turned down for office candidates whose activities in the past had been against better facilities for the children in that town. The election was for mayor, aldermen and school trustees, and in each instance school men were put over.

All the candidates defeated, however, were not against schools, and it was pointed out that Mayor Huff, who was retired in favor of Dr. F. D. Hicks, was an excellent officer, and the change was made in order to place a younger and more active man in the place. Dr. Hicks is a pronounced school man and it will be his endeavor to help his neighbors build a model school for the benefit of West Hickory and Longview. It is said a consolidated school will have no opposition this year.

Y. M. Setzer and H. H. Abee, on the ticket with Mayor-elect Hicks, were defeated by Chas. O. Deal and L. C. Pearce, who ran as independents.

The ticket named yesterday follows:

Mayor—Forrest B. Hicks.
Aldermen—Fletcher Hicks, W. E. Austin and Thomas Price.
School trustees—Dr. J. J. Hicks, Lester Miller, Chas. O. Deal and L. C. Pearce.

ANOTHER CRISIS REACHED IN PRUSSIA

By the Associated Press.
Berne, Switz., May 8.—(British Admiralty per Wireless Press)—Emperor William has returned to Potsdam owing to the political crisis resulting from rejection of election reform by the Prussian diet. Count Hertling, the imperial chancellor, has been summoned.

NEWTON CARRIERS DOING FINE WORK

The Newton mail carriers are rendering Postmaster Williams great assistance in his active and successful campaign for the sale of War Savings Stamps. The rural carrier who wins that Christmas suit of clothes over Mr. J. M. Bost, carrier on route No. 2 from Newton, will be compelled to visit his neighbors and patrons on more than one holiday. Captain J. M. Bost, at the close of business on April 30, had sold War Savings Stamps with a maturity value of \$4,170, just \$285 less than the sales of Captain "Dock Frye" of Hickory. Newton and Hickory have each five rural carriers and the race between the two teams is very close, really too close to enable the boys to sleep soundly at night. The sales by the Newton carriers at the close of business on April 30 were as follows:

Rural carriers:		
J. M. Bost, route 2	.....	\$4,170.00
D. C. Bost, route 5	.....	2,585.00
S. A. Bost, route 4	.....	1,390.00
W. T. Hoyle, route 1	.....	420.00
J. Mack Ballard, R-3	.....	270.00
City Carrier W. T. McRee of Newton	has sold	\$3,056.

Mrs. J. G. Garth and daughter, Miss Charlotte, left on No. 11 today to visit friends in Union City, Tenn. They will be away for several weeks.

NEW YORK COTTON

By the Associated Press.
New York, May 8.—The cotton market opened steady today at a decline of 10 to 25 points in response to lower cables and the favorable weather map. There was some trade buying on the call, but the demand was readily supplied with July and October selling off shortly after the opening 29 to 32 points net lower. At this level, however, there was a good deal of covering which, with some further buying from trade sources, caused rallies of some 18 or 20 points before the government's weather map was issued.

The close was steady.	Open	Close
May	.....	25.98
July	.....	25.50
October	.....	24.56
December	.....	24.43
January	.....	24.33

HICKORY MARKETS

Cotton	.....	27c
Wheat	.....	\$2.40

WEATHER FORECAST

For North Carolina: Fair in west probably thundershowers this afternoon or tonight in east portion.

For North Carolina: Fair in west winds.

TWO TAR HEELS WOUNDED IN FRANCE

By the Associated Press.
Washington, May 8.—The casualty list today contains 75 names, divided as follows:

Killed in action, 13; died of accident, 2; died of disease, 3; wounded severely, 13; wounded slightly, 41; missing in action, 3. Included in the list are the following:

Included in today's list were Private James K. Rosser, Broadway, N. E., wounded severely, and Private William Mason of Forney, N. C., wounded slightly.

CLIMATE NOT GOOD FOR COUNT LUXBURG

By the Associated Press.
Buenos Aires, May 8.—Count von Luxburg, former German minister to Argentina, who was dismissed by the Argentine government last fall is finally about to sail for home.

Ill health claimed for him and various complications regarding arrangements for his voyage had caused his departure to be postponed for several times. It is announced that Count von Luxburg, under allied safe conduct, will sail tomorrow for Sweden.

Dr. Perl, former German minister to Peru, who was handed his passports by the Peruvian government when it severed relations with Germany last autumn, will sail on the same steamer.

REFORMED CLASSIS MEETS AT STARTOWN

The classis of the Reformed church will convene in St. Paul's Reformed church at Startown tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock and the opening sermon will be delivered by Rev. D. C. Cox of Thomasville. The sessions will continue over Sunday and the program contains a number of especially fine events. Among the prominent visitors from a distance are Dr. J. G. Rupp, Allentown, Pa., Rev. Jas. N. Mullan, Philadelphia, Rev. F. A. Ruple, York, Pa., and Dr. Conrad Houser, Philadelphia. The public is invited to attend.

ENTERTAIN SOCIETY

The Christian Endeavor Society of Corinth Reformed church was delightfully entertained last night by Misses Mary Bumgarner and Sadie Whitener at the home of the latter.

There was a large attendance present and a most enjoyable evening was spent. Miss Pearl Boyd, president, presided over the business meeting, which was brief owing to the absence of several chairmen. Three new members were added to the roll.

The social hour was spent in guessing contests and conversation while Misses Elizabeth Holbrook and Constance Bost rendered a number of piano solos. Ice cream, cake and candies were served by the hostesses assisted by Misses Hilda Whitener and Louise Rowe. The next meeting will be Tuesday evening, June 11, with Miss Pearl Boyd.

SEDITION BILL PASSED AND GOES TO WILSON

Washington, May 8.—Final legislative action was taken yesterday on the sedition bill, giving the government broad new powers to punish disloyal acts and utterances. Adopted by a conference report already approved by the senate, the house sent to the president for his signature the measure which has been before congress for weeks, assailed as a menace to free speech and championed as essential to order at home during the war.

FIVE STEAMERS READY THIS WEEK

By the Associated Press.
New Orleans, May 8.—The Southern Pine Association announced today that it has been notified that five large wooden steamers for the government merchant fleet will be launched from ship yards along the gulf coast within the next few days.

These include one at Tampa today and other new vessels at Beloxi, Miss., Orange and Beaumont, Texas, within the next three days.

Three additional vessels it was stated, will be launched at Moss Point, Miss., Orange, Texas, and Madisonville, La.

METHODIST DELEGATES STAND AND CHEER TODAY

Presentation of Minister With Five Sons in Army Brings Vast Throng to Feet—Four Year Limit Debate Is Resumed in General Conference

OTHER OFFICERS ELECTED BY COUNCIL

By the Associated Press.
Atlanta, May 8.—Debate over the four-year time limit on ministers and presiding elders was continued when the general conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, South, resumed its sessions today.

Bishop Collins Demmy of Richmond, Va., acted as presiding officer. The devotional exercises were led by Rev. A. N. Ainsworth of Savannah, Ga.

The delegates rose and cheered when the Rev. T. R. Handy of Holston conference was presented as one of the members who had five sons in the United States army, one of whom had been decorated for bravery.

At the meeting of the committee on missions, the proposed union of the home mission board and the board of church extension was discussed, but no recommendation to the conference was made. According to a leading member of the committee, the measure is not meeting with favor.

A committee has been appointed to review the episcopal address on the board of missions.

City council last night completed the election of officers for the year. Mr. John W. Ballew was reelected city manager without opposition. Mr. B. B. Blackwelder was elected recorder without a contest and Mr. L. H. Warlick retained his position as city treasurer, also without an opponent.

Mr. Blackwelder succeeds Mr. D. L. Russell, resigned, and will make a good judge. He is well qualified for the position by training and disposition.

A committee from the Community Club appeared before council and urged the retention of the domestic science department of the high school, as well as the teacher, Miss Jones. The club supported the department the past year, proved its worth, and council decided to retain it in the curriculum. The committee waiting on the board was composed of Mrs. K. C. Menzies, Mrs. W. L. Mitchell, Mrs. T. C. Blackburn and Mrs. W. L. Abernethy. The club will spend its money this year in war work.

Mr. J. W. Blackwelder has been appointed list taker for the city of Hickory and he may be found at the Builders Supply Company, where Messrs. James W. Espey and J. E. Abee are in charge for the county.

Bumper Crop Winter Wheat

By the Associated Press.
Washington, May 8.—Winter wheat crop of 572,535,000 bushels was forecast today by the department of agriculture basing its estimate on conditions existing May 1 and on a canvass of the winter wheat districts.

With continued favorable conditions, the crop will be one of the

three greatest in history. With an increase spring acreage, which preliminary reports indicate, and good growing conditions, it is not improbable that the government's plan for a billion wheat crop in 1918.

An official report on the spring wheat acreage will not be made before June 1.

Author of "Simple Life" Warns American People to Beware of German Peace

By the Associated Press.
New York, May 8.—German lust for world-domination has evoked from Pastor Charles Wagner of Paris, author and one of the world's leading exponents of "the simple life," a message to the American people in which he warns against a German peace and declares that "to go on leading a quiet life when iniquity is flooding the earth is to become an accomplice of iniquity." The message makes a special appeal to pacifists.

Dr. Wagner, writer of "The Simple Life," was invited recently to make a tour of the United States for the purpose of inspiring church-goers to more effective patriotic efforts. His health prevented him from accepting the invitation and he sent his "Message to Americans," instead.

"All religious and moral motives unite to make us the defenders of right," the message reads. "There is neither excuse nor escape; the man of violence must be overthrown if we would again lead a quiet and free life. If we offer peace, he will be our master. The world will bow before Goliath if he does not encounter his David. But that shall not be. The spirit of David is making steady progress; it is winning the nations. They understand the only way to save the Liberty of the world is to say to violence, 'Halt!'"

"It appears more clearly every day that we are our enemies, that they are endeavoring to achieve a world-wide domination. They cover the falseness of their designs with the cloak of piety. It is in the name of God that they want to impose their tyranny and make everything give up by usurping divine power itself. When they have covered the earth with blood and ruins, and contrived a wholesale corruption of consciences,

they show us in one hand a glittering sword, and in the other an olive branch, the symbol of peace.

"Who are they, those who are proferring peace? They are the men who let loose war, believing they would treaties they themselves had signed, who ransacked unoffending countries who pillaged and burned towns, who dealt ruthlessly with the civilians of the invaded countries, including aged people, women and children. They need peace in order to profit by their booty. Those who are offering us peace are a highly organized gang of high-way robbers who have secured enormous plunder and want to keep it under the cover of treaties.

"You men of peace, are you the men of peace? Is it the peace of brave hearts, of honor and justice, of truth of brotherhood? No! It is the shameful peace of surrender under duress, a peace which means the enslavement of the oppressed, crimes unperformed and the triumph of the low or instincts.

"It is against such a peace that we ought to make war. Never has a more sacred duty rested with the men of any age. Iron fetters are ready to enchain Liberty in body and spirit. Peace, under these conditions, means acceptance of the Prussian military system in trade, industry, education, in the language we speak and the prayers we utter. Look at Poland, look at Alsace and Lorraine. Is it for this that the Pilgrim Fathers left everything? Is it for this that Washington and Lincoln fought the good fight? Is it for this future the American mothers wish to rear their sons? No, a thousand times no! With such a possibility hanging over us like a threatening cloud, no peace, is possible. Every upright man ought to say: "Here I stand, I cannot do otherwise, God help me!"