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MONROE, N. C., FRIDAY, JULY 27, 1917.

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Russian Cowards Shot by Their Own Comrades.

The Russian government's policy of "blood and iron" is to be carried out along lines which bodes ill for the seditious troops along the eastern front and those persons within the country who are trying to nullify the good work that has followed in the wake of the revolution.

Capital punishment, abolished with advent of the new government, again has been put into force on the demand of the military commanders at the front, who now will be able to assemble field court martial and put to death summarily traitors in the army. General Korniloff, commander of the forces in Galicia, whose disaffection and desertions have wrought havoc in the Russian morale, was the most insistent of the military chiefs in calling for a free hand to check the refractory troops, declaring that the death penalty was the only means of saving the army.

Prior to the acquiescence of the government, General Korniloff is reported to have taken the drastic step of having a division of fleeing cowards of the eleventh army shot to pieces by their faithful former brothers-in-arms.

Meanwhile, pending the tightening of the reins of repression, the Russian troops everywhere in Galicia from the region around Tarnopol southward to the southwestern Bukovina border are continuing to give way, with relatively little fighting, before the Germans and Austro-Hungarians. The important towns of Buczacz, Tlumacz, Otynia and Delatyn have been captured by the Teutonic allies, and the Russians also have been driven from the Tartar pass in the Carpathians and their positions in the Kirilbaba sector, to the southeast.

Terrific Artillery Duel.

Over a forty mile front from the coast in Flanders to the River Lys, the terrific artillery duel between the British and Germans continues, but as yet no attempt has been made by either side to throw the infantry into the fighting. The Germans are said to be suffering from "nerves" and are raining shells on every point along the British front where movements outside the usual routine are observed. The Lens sector, Armentieres and other places recently have received visitations from large numbers of German projectiles.

German steamers attempting to ply in the North sea are meeting with short shrift from patrolling British torpedo-boat destroyers. Two additional vessels have been sunk by destroyers and two others captured and taken into an English port.

Again the Germans have made a vicious thrust at the French line in the Aisne region of France, and again they have paid dearly in men killed or wounded for a slight gain. The attack was delivered over a front of two miles, from Hurtebis to Labovelle but only to the south of Allies was the Crown Prince's army able to penetrate French first line trenches. In Champagne, the French have captured German trenches.

German Western Line Impregnable; Also Germans Air Supreme in Air, Officers Say.

New York, July 26.—The New York World yesterday morning printed the following Washington dispatch:

"Nine American officers who accompanied General Pershing to France and made a tour along the western front returned to Washington Tuesday prepared to submit a report to the general staff. These officers represented virtually every arm of the service. They were sent with General Pershing to make first-hand observations and to come back immediately to the capital that they might give the war department detailed reports on conditions in the trenches and outline the principal needs of the allies.

"The group went to the war department upon reaching here this morning and then went to the war college, where they started a series of conferences with Brig. Gen. Joseph Kuhn, head of the college, and his assistants.

"Despite the fact that these officers, or at least most of them, have studied every move of the war from long-distance and are supposed to have a fairly clear idea of the situation, they announced at the war department that they had no conception of the situation until they had followed the line of trenches from Switzerland to the sea.

"They admitted they were astounded at conditions and that virtually all of their preconceived notions were faulty.

"According to the observers the German line on the western front is virtually impregnable, as far as the present alignment of forces is concerned. The allies cannot budge this unless they receive tremendous assistance from the United States.

"There is no evidence whatever that the backbone of the German empire is about to be broken because of internal dissensions or of shortage of food.

"The allied officers on the front admit freely that they cannot break the German line with present force.

"Temporarily, at least, Germany is in the ascendancy in the air.

"There are at present approaching

ately 5,000,000 French and British troops in France and they are facing approximately 3,000,000 Germans. Behind this force Germany has 4,200,000 reserves. Of this number 2,000,000 have been called out to meet the anticipated spring drive, beginning March 1. The other 2,200,000 will be called to act as the third line.

"The officers reported that they had been informed repeatedly that the allies are looking to the United States for the greatest kind of help, and unless this country meets their expectations it is useless to hazard an opinion upon a time when the war will end."

OUTLOOK IS SERIOUS FOR ALLIES OF AMERICA

Russian Collapse Makes It Appear That America's Job Is a Big One—Only Hope Is For Combined Land and Naval Forces on Right Bank of Germans—Americans Not Discouraged.

(Washington Special, 25th.)

No attempt is made here to minimize the seriousness of the situation in the war theaters in Europe. The United States is in the war and will go through with it; but any hope of a short struggle has gone glimmering with the apparent almost complete collapse of the Russian war machine.

The development was not unexpected by many army officers. When the offensive of July 1 was started by the Russian forces, the most frequent comment heard here was that it was probably the dying kick of the old Russian machine.

For the United States, the Russian collapse may have an immediate and direct bearing. It will, if the German general presses its advantage, release additional German forces to bolster up the western front where American troops are to be engaged. The German line in the west has not been seriously impaired at any point, officers believe. They do not claim to know the situation along the battle front, but they are unable to see that the British and French have wrested from the Germans any key position of such importance that it can be used next year to hurl the enemy back. It has been noted, in fact, that the one strategic advantage gained in recent fighting was gained by the Germans. Many officers here believe that when a small sector of the British line in Belgium was overwhelmed and its defenders nearly all captured or killed, the Germans improved the situation on their weakest front materially. That view is based on the opinion that the only hope of decisive attainments for the allies in the west lies in rolling up the German right flank where it reaches the sea in Belgium.

U-Boat Bases.

If that could be done, it is argued that the U-boat bases could be stamped out and the only offensive instrument of the Germans be eliminated entirely or made ineffective.

The big question is whether it could be done. It would require combined army and navy operations on that part of the Belgian coast held by the Germans, for it would be necessary to force a landing behind their line and force the whole right flank back from the sea as a result.

The price of a victory of this nature against the U-boats, and German shore batteries probably would be appalling, and there is nothing to indicate that the effort is being seriously considered at the present. However, many army men, both here and in Great Britain, favor some such desperate attempt to bring the struggle to a conclusion.

Reports received from France give no cheering picture of what must be done. There appears to be no doubt that the allied line can stand against any force Germany can bring against it. Even the Russian disaster does not affect the situation. But to gather the necessary strength for a successful offensive will take time and ample sea transportation facilities, if the United States is to furnish the needed surplus of men, airplanes and munitions and food.

Transportation Problem.

The transportation problems before the United States both on land and sea are constantly increasing in scope. It seems to be certain now that whole railroad systems will have to be set up in France to give the American line the flow of war materials and men that it must have to press home an attack.

There is an old military rule that a fortified position cannot be taken by direct attack, but must be turned or isolated entirely. Some observers here say the allied offensive has consisted only of direct attacks against a line of fortifications stronger than any fort of former days. The maze of trenches, entanglements, armored strong posts and fortified villages extends miles back of the front on both sides, so that in effect a fortified belt stretches from the sea to the Swiss border that is perhaps more than 100 miles wide. Military men here believe that no breach can be made for many months through the German line of sufficient width to permit such operations in the rear as would force a rolling up of the entire German front.

Admitting all these points there is no sign of discouragement among American officials. President Wilson's declaration that the nation, not merely an army, must be made ready for war is being carried out determinedly

WEDS IN UNIFORM, SPENDS HONEYMOON IN PRISON

Philadelphia Man Wanted to Pose as Soldier and Went at it With Too Many Frills.

"I don't want my wife to know I've been arrested. I want her to think I've gone to France to fight." These words were uttered between sobs the other day by Wm. D. Houston, a handsome Philadelphia, who had been arrested for illegally wearing the uniform and insignia of a first lieutenant in the medical corps and for passing bogus checks. He was arrested in New York.

Incidentally Houston admitted that it was with the aid of this uniform that he had won a pretty and wealthy bride. There had been a ceremonious marriage in the home town, and bridegroom in khaki and bride in blushes had hastened to New York, obtaining accommodations at the Waldorf-Astoria.

It was then that a few hitches developed. Being in reality no wealthy lieutenant, as he had represented to the newly made Mrs. Houston, but a ticket seller employed at the Broad street station of the Pennsylvania railroad. In Philadelphia, Houston found himself in great need of funds. To meet this need he proceeded calmly to draw checks for large amounts.

Houston cashed one check with an acquaintance in the office of the Carnegie Steel company and one with the clerk of the Waldorf-Astoria, and then the trouble started.

On Saturday the check given the hotel was returned marked "No funds," and the clerk notified the department of justice. As federal officials happened to be on the lookout for another bogus army man who had been fleeing hotels, they paid a hurried visit to Mr. Houston.

"Why this is a mistake," the young man said. "I must have funds in that bank unless they've run away. I left \$17,000 there when I started on my wedding trip." He then produced a roll of bills which he had raised on another check, and paid the amount of the returned draft, which was \$50. So well did he play his part, and so different was he from the description of the other man for whom the officers were searching that they apologized for their mistake and left him.

Yesterday morning, however, when the Philadelphia bank opened it received a query from the authorities here, and replied that Houston was not on its list of depositors. Then the honeymoon, less than a week old, came to an end with the arrest of the youthful bridegroom.

"May I talk with my wife by telephone?" the young man asked, and when he had received permission went into a booth and said: "I have been called immediately into the service, dear, under secret orders. I'll write you later if the censor permits me to."

Brought to the office of Assistant United States Attorney Knox, he sobbed: "I don't want this to get in the papers. My wife thinks that I'm a real officer, and if I should be sent to jail she'd think I'd gone to war."

After he had been arraigned before Commissioner Hitchcock and held in \$5,000 bail Houston sat down in the office of Marshall McCarthy and penned a missive to his mother, Mrs. William D. Houston, who, he says, lives at 1704 Walnut street, Philadelphia. In it he enclosed a list of the persons to whom he had given checks, with a request that "dad" should make good the amounts.

Still wearing his uniform and handcuffed to another prisoner the prisoner was taken to the Tombs. He is 26 years old. Houston asserts that he tried recently to enlist in the medical corps but was rejected because of his weight. This is doubted by the officials, however, as he is of excellent build. About one thing he refused to talk, and that was the identity of his bride.

Farmers Are Pessimistic.

Stouts, July 25.—Mrs. E. L. Conder of Lowell is spending a few days with her parents-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Conder.

Mr. Harry Conder who has been visiting his parents here, left for Baden Monday.

Well it has quit raining at last after almost a week's constant downpour. The farmers are pessimistic about the crops.

Little Miss Deanie Ritch has been suffering greatly with tonsillitis but is better at this writing.

Mr. Clegg Conder visited in the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Funderburk of South Monroe last week.

Several of the men and boys of this place have left for Charlotte where they will help build the new training camp.

Mr. Harry Hayes of Charlotte visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Hayes, Sunday.

Mr. Mark Gordon is on the sick list this week.

Our school began Monday with Misses Amelia Hawfield and Ola Henny as teachers. We are greatly pleased with our new teachers and hope to have a better school this summer than ever before.—School Girl.

UNION'S VOLUNTEERS WENT AWAY WEDNESDAY MORNING

Seventy-Five Members of the Bickett Battery Have Joined Their Officers at Wadesboro and Are Taken Over By Uncle Sam—Large Crowd Saw Them Off and the Strains of Martial Music Filled the Air—Reminded Old People of Other Serious Days.

Last Wednesday morning when the seventy-five young men of this county who have volunteered to fight for Uncle Sam in France assembled on the courthouse square and the Monroe band began to play "The Star Spangled Banner," "America," and "Dixie," there were not a few people round about whose thoughts traveled back to other days when every able bodied man and boy in the upper teens was mustered and marched and bidden farewell and sent away to fight for what their country told them was a worthy cause. There are few left now of the men who then shouldered their guns and went to the front, but they know how the boys of this day feel now and how they will act when the days of peril come. And those who are wont to say that men are no longer brave and true and ready to stand by their duty will have an object lesson to prove the utter falsity of their fears, for the boys who march away now will be as brave and true and tireless as their fathers were, and no greater praise can be bestowed upon them.

When the men assembled Lieutenant Frank Ashcraft asked Maj. W. C. Heath to form them in line and give them the first command that they had ever received as a body. Maj. Heath marched them to the train and saw them safely aboard. Those Union county boys knew no more about military drills and commands than they knew about the mental processes of the Kaiser who forced this thing upon us. But they knew that they wanted to go, and they had subscribed their names and given their oaths, to support their country in all the duty imposed upon them, and every one who saw them march away at the first word of military command they had ever heard, knew that they would soon lose their awkwardness, soon learn all the commands and how to execute them—knew that these untrained boys would soon be trained soldiers who would face cannon with less embarrassment than they now heard Maj. Heath's first mild command.

A large crowd assembled at the depot and there were eyes which were not dry as they marched into the coach and the train pulled out.

At Wadesboro the men joined their new comrades who were recruited from Anson, and will be mustered in as soon as they have passed their final medical examinations and inspection by army officers. They were taken up town at Wadesboro in automobiles and registered and then excused for the balance of the day. They have quarters in a large hall and are taking their meals at the National Hotel. From Wadesboro they will be ordered to proceed to the concentration camp at Greenville, S. C., to begin training.

The names of the Union county men are as follows:

Charlotte Gets the Camp; No More Doubt About It

Official word from Major General Wood, removing any possibility that Camp Greene would be lost to Charlotte, and ordering the work of construction to be expedited in every way possible, was received early Thursday by Lieut. Col. W. N. Ladue, engineering officer, in charge of preparing the camp. The Observer this morning says:

The formal acceptance by Major General Wood of the enlarged camp site at Charlotte had been anticipated by the city and the contractors, and found actual work on the cantonment well under way, with some buildings completed, others halfway finished and others started, while the city had progressed materially with its contract for laying water mains, the telegraph and telephone companies meantime having strung their wires and put in an equipment of instruments. Camp Greene was coming merrily into existence at the time General Wood gave his formal approval of the site selected.

THE FOOD BILL PASSED

Fixed Minimum Price of Wheat at \$2—Bill in Conference.

The food bill was passed by the Senate Saturday, 81 to 6. The measure was virtually re-written during the five weeks it was under consideration in the senate, and house and senate conference committees now have it under consideration. On account of the many changes made by the senate, the conference will doubtless be protracted.

As revamped, the bill gives the President broad authority over foods, feeds and fuels, the latter including kerosene and gasoline; provides administration by a food board of three members instead of an individual; authorizes Federal fixing of coal prices, requisitioning and operation of mines, and authorizes a minimum guaranteed price of not less than \$2 per bushel for wheat, at primary markets. The senate prohibition sections, prohibiting manufacture of distilled beverages during the war and directing the President to buy all distilled spirits in bond, was substituted for the house "bone dry" provision and will be one subject of difficulty in conference.

The wheat price guarantee fixes the minimum price at \$2 per bushel at all primary markets until July 1, 1919. The coal provision directs the President, through the Federal Trade Commission, or other agency, to fix coal prices, wholesale and retail, regulate the entire industry and, if necessary, take over and operate coal mines and fix prices of labor.

Miss Horne Teaching in Appalachian Training School.

Correspondence of The Journal.

Monroe, Rt. 6, July 26.—The farmers were all delighted to see the recent rains, and now they would be glad to see some fair weather for it looks as if "Gen. Green" might yet get the upper hand if we don't soon have some fair weather.

Mrs. S. W. Preslar and children of Concord recently visited at Mr. L. C. Polk's.

Miss Connie Horne left last week for Boone where she will teach in the Appalachian Training School. Miss Horne will be away for a month.

Two of the Sunday school classes of Shiloh composed of the younger boys and girls are planning to picnic at Lee's Mill next Saturday. They will be chaperoned by their teachers, Misses Mary Hamilton and Lona Polk.

Messrs. Andrew Craig, Beman Secrest and Lloyd Garrison are three of our young men who heard the call to the colors last Friday.

Mrs. McLamb of Wilmington is visiting her sister, Mrs. Andrew Craig.

Come Wild Rose and Farm Boy, write us another letter before you launch out on the matrimonial sea and then when you shall have launched out and your ship is sailing smoothly write us another. Here's wishing you; in advance, much happiness.

Busy Bee has been suffering with a real bad sore throat for the last day and night, so if you don't find my letter interesting just remember that I am hardly able to sit up and write at all.

Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Williams and children spent last night in Wingate with relatives.

Mrs. I. A. Hunnicutt of Monroe visited her brother, Mr. B. H. Benton, last week.

Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Polk are visiting at Mr. Lee Helms' in Goose Creek.

Misses Mary Secrest, Mary Griffith and Caroline Biggers were pleasant callers at Mr. J. T. Hamilton's yesterday afternoon.—Busy Bee.

Marshville News.

Correspondence of The Journal.

Marshville, July 26.—Mr. Barry B. Allen has returned from a ten days' vacation, during which he visited Washington, Wilmington and his home folks at Benson, N. C.

Rev. G. P. Stevens delivered an interesting lecture on China at the Presbyterian church here last night. The large crowd, regardless of the heat, was witness to the place Rev. Mr. Stevens occupies in our esteem, and we were glad to have him with us again.

Revel services will begin at the Presbyterian church next Sunday night. Dr. H. E. Gurney of Monroe will assist Rev. Mr. Whittington with the preaching. Miss Ruth Gill and Mr. Alexander of Charlotte will have charge of the music. Everybody is invited to attend.

Mrs. S. Taylor and Master Willard spent today in Wingate.

Dr. R. Armfield spent the day in Monroe, where he was called to see his daughter, Mrs. Young.

Mr. W. M. Davis is placing material on his lot in the southern part of town preparatory to the building of a modern residence.

There was quite a little excitement to know who was first of our boys in the drafting process, but business is normal and everybody seems content to meet conditions as they come, yet ever hoping for the end of the

- 69—William P. Hinson
- 70—Samuel Ray
- 71—Darling J. Melton
- 72—Lonnie M. Starnes
- 73—William C. Helms
- 74—Walter Blakburn
- 75—Horace McManus

MISS HORNE TEACHING IN APPALACHIAN TRAINING SCHOOL.

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North Monroe Items.

Correspondence of The Journal.

North Monroe, July 26.—Rev. J. R. Warren preached an excellent sermon at the Methodist church last Sunday night, but we never expect anything from him except something excellent for he is a good preacher.

Our Sunday school is in a flourishing condition. Glad to see so many interested in the work.

Miss Drucilla Broom was canning fruit last Wednesday and while tightening a cap the top of the jar broke causing her to cut an ugly gash in her hand. Three stitches were necessary to close up the gash.

Several of our young men have left for training camps at different points during the last few days. They are brave, noble young men, and we are sure they will make good wherever they go.

Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Yandle, who have been visiting Mr. Yandle's parents, returned home Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Medlin visited in the Marshville neighborhood Saturday and Sunday.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. John Williams of Charlotte are visiting here.

Mrs. Ford is visiting her daughter, Mrs. Paul Furr.

Mr. Paul Curlee has been entertaining company for the past few days which we don't suppose he appreciates—chills.

While the family of Mr. Hurley Helms were away from home Wednesday night some unknown parties went into Mr. Helms' orchard and stole a lot of peaches.

Mr. Lex Presley and Miss Lola Rowell surprised their friends Wednesday evening by slipping over to Esq. Sam Helms' and having the knot tied. Their many friends wish them a prosperous and happy journey through life.