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RETIREMENT OF GREEN FROM UNION STARTS LOT OF TALK

Union County Man's Letter Starts New Gossip That Alexander is Playing For Governorship—Union Losing Members Fast.

As The Journal stated in Tuesday's issue, Dr. Alexander received a solar plexus blow by Mr. J. Z. Green's resignation as state lecturer; or at least a story to that effect from Raleigh, written by Tom Bost, appeared in yesterday morning's Greensboro News. Some political revelations are made by the Raleigh correspondent that are surprising, to say the least. Mr. Bost intimates that Alexander is either playing for the governorship or the secretaryship of agriculture. Governor Bickett, he says, "couldn't kick Alexander off the state board of agriculture because it would advance his political aims by placing him in the light of a martyr. The consensus of opinion is that Mr. Green has started something that will have a brilliant ending."

Mr. Bost's story from Raleigh, as it appeared in the Greensboro News, follows:

Raleigh, April 3.—Zeb Green's picturesque exit from place and power in the State Farmers' Union as organizer and lecturer, disseminated widely today, throws incidental light on Governor Bickett's unwillingness to retire Dr. H. Q. Alexander, the standing reproach of the state administration.

For Dr. Alexander is in position to receive the left from a knock and Governor Bickett is adjudged by union men too wise to give him the kick which the Matthews Alexander Hamilton has so long sought. Zeb Green does bestow it and coming from the man whose work succeeded in advancing the union membership to 40,000, it goes about 40,000 times as far as even the governor could send it and the chief executive is in position to tell Dr. Alexander that that North Carolina, officially, hasn't done a thing to him.

The Green letter today brought anew the ambitions of the illustrious descendant of some signers of the myth. It may develop a gubernatorial race between two noted McLenburgers, Capa Morrison and H. Q. Alexander. Announcements are a trifle early as yet but Alexander has more than once asked union men: "Who told you that I want to be governor?" It quite frequently happens that nobody "told you," that nobody ever pretended that anybody had "told you," but the doctor blushes as modestly when he repels the modified impeachment as the school girl struggling with her first flattery.

But whether Dr. Alexander desires to be governor or will compromise on the commissionership of agriculture, his tact agreement to retire from the union presidency prepares him for political activity. Zeb Green hints at something in his letter today. Referring to the manager of the new Union Bulletin, in which the "nominal" manager of that publication, the personal organ of Dr. Alexander, according to Green, advises going in for politics, Mr. Green lets drop a little history known well here. A section of the union is undoubtedly working to put Dr. Alexander in politics.

The union has lost much of its strength. Its last convention in Winston-Salem betrayed the fact that 2000 dropped out annually and have done so since 1912. At that rate the union lost 10,000 in those five years. It must be disintegrating at a rate of 2,000 a month now as the new paper shows only 13,000. The factions have appeared and Dr. Clarence Poe's Progressive Farmer which donated \$20,000 worth of space to union activities during the years that the old union organization made the Poe paper the official organ, is kicked out for a folio which, according to Mr. Green, is under the rigorous eye of the United States government.

The union's repudiation of Clarence Poe, who is a much more powerful farm factor than the entire organization that operates from Aberdeen, was one of the innocent looking things that nobody understood until the convention had been home for weeks. Poe had done his level best to get Alexander in the United States, but even after secret service men had frightened him into acquiescence and Dr. Alexander issued his famous "misquote" telegram following the Salisbury speech, Dr. Alexander was writing letters boasting of the support given him by the masses and expressing his preference for German autocracy if made to choose between that and British plutocracy. The doctor continued to charge that the United States was in the war because English money had bought about 35 per cent of the great dailies of the country.

Poe attacked the preaching without hooking Alexander up with it; persuaded the executive committee to pledge itself to a ringing resolution of loyalty and Dr. Alexander went with the loyalists. Later he concluded that Poe was a dictator, and when one of the signers catches a dictator out over night, it is all up with the gentleman who is the least bit guilty. So Poe was beaten by W. R. Dixon, ancient Populist, Republicans joining in the unhorsing enterprise because they thought too loyal to the Wilson administration. These and kindred evidences that the union as now constituted is engineered by anti-Democratic influences, largely explain

the decadence of the body which appears to have struck the lowest membership figures in years.

Governor Bickett never has allowed anybody to talk to him about kicking Dr. Alexander out. Indeed, it is believed here that Dr. Alexander would welcome that more than he did the terrific skinning that Bickett gave the union president last fall. That sort of castigation could not help him, but martyring him would, Governor Bickett asked him to go to work selling bonds, and the union president replied by cussing out all bonds. Nevertheless, Bickett will not advance his political ambitions, real or imaginary, by kicking him. The knocks have come from without.

But the retirement of Zeb Green from the office held so many years is the knock of the mail. Green matches any of them in friendship to the masses. He was a Pop in the olden days, and a bearcat among them. He is yet a progressive of the highest rank. Even Dr. Alexander hasn't been able to wrest any English money from Zeb's britches. Zeb's weekly paper has not been placed under suspicion. And his right to denounce his president is unquestioned. He does it in approved style.

VANCE FOLKS WANT THE ROAD TO COME BY TRAIL

Advocates of the New Route Are Circulating Petition to This Effect—Claim They Can Raise \$1000.

Sentiment for the Wilmington-Charlotte highway through Vance township is now running high. But this sentiment seems to be in favor of cutting a new route through the heart of the township beginning at Bakers and instead of making the turn there going straight. As they want the road it would pass through Stouts, Indian Trail and Stallingsville. A number of the prominent citizens of the township are in favor of this new route and are now circulating a subscription list in an endeavor to find out how much money they can raise by private subscriptions toward the building of this new road. They are of the opinion that at least \$4000 can be raised by this means.

The advocates of this new route claim that it will shorten the route through the township at least one mile, and going through the heart of the township will serve more of the people than the present road does.

GEORGE HART IS ANOTHER OF THE BIG PIG RAISERS

Young Monroe Man Sold Sixty-Five Last Year and Hopes to Do Still Better.

Mr. George Hart, son of Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Hart, is doing his part of keeping Union county supplied with hogs. On one of his farms about four miles west of here he has a ten acre field devoted to nothing but hog-raising. He now has 22 pigs and 5 hogs. Last year he raised 65 pigs, selling them all while young. These hogs are mostly Duroc Jerseys.

He has the ten acre field divided into two lots and turns them into one and then the other, thus securing a good growth for them all the time. In these lots he plants rye, clover, vetch and so forth. He always makes it a point to plant Abruzzie rye if he can secure the seed and says that Abruzzie rye will produce about six times more feed than the old South rye. He was unable to secure Abruzzie seed for planting both lots this year and so had to use the old seed. There is a noticeable difference in the two stands as they now show up.

New Cotton Gin Will Save Partially Opened Bolls.

Monroe cotton men are interested in a story coming from Cherryville claiming that a new cotton gin, which will save the cotton in partially opened bolls, is being made there. The story follows:

Cherryville, April 2.—The Bollie Cotton Gin recently installed and now operated by the Model Ginning Co., of Cherryville, North Carolina, is undoubtedly the most valuable purely saving institution ever installed in the community. This system hulls, gins and separates the burr or boll, the cotton seed and fiber or lint cotton from each other and turns out marketable cotton from unopened cotton bolls. During all the years in the country the "cracked" or frost-stunned cotton bolls have been left in the fields and wasted to the extent of millions of dollars loss to the South. All this is now changed and thousands of dollars worth of cotton and cotton seed are now saved and converted into money for the farmers of this section of the state.

The Bollie Gin virtually protects all the farmers against material loss hereafter on account of short seasons or early frosts, as the unopened or partially opened bolls containing good cotton can be saved and that no great expense or loss, as one person can gather as many bolls as several hands can pick the cotton from opened bolls—and the Bollie gin does the rest.

Coming as it does when so much stress is placed upon the necessity of saving, the Bollie gin is certainly a great boon to the farmers who had already made and needed to save to do their bit. This gin will mean even more during the coming years as its mission becomes more generally known. During this season there has been an actual conservation in this community alone of more than 150 tons of cotton seed and 400 bales of cotton valued at upward of \$60,000.

FELLOW-PASSENGER WRITES ABOUT CONSUL NEY McNEELY

Man Who Was on Same Boat With Him as Far as England Says Union County Man Was Jovial Companion

Some time ago Mr. E. C. Williams, member of the war trade board with headquarters at Laredo, Texas, became acquainted with John C. Drier, U. S. vice-consul at Neuvo Laredo, Mexico, who was a fellow-passenger with the late Ney McNeely as far as England. For a while they conversed about young Mr. McNeely, and Mr. Drier, after returning to his post, wrote the following letter to Mr. Williams, which gave an account of his association with Mr. McNeely:

"Again referring to our various pleasant talks we have had regarding our late consul, Robert Ney McNeely, with whom I spent so many delightful hours and whose acquaintance I enjoyed so much, I wish to give you a brief sketch of our association because of our mutual interest in him."

"My first meeting with the young consul was in Washington at the State Department. He was in the class of young consuls whom I had the pleasure of addressing in the course of their instruction preparatory to their going out to their first posts. After the close of the class Mr. McNeely came and introduced himself and stated he was soon to proceed to Aden. Having just returned from my trip around the world and having spent some little time in Arabia and India, I was able to give him some suggestions as to clothes to take and the general conditions in the Far East."

"It happened later that I received instructions to proceed to Europe and to my pleasant surprise found that Mr. McNeely was a fellow passenger with me on the S. S. Ryndam. This second meeting soon ripened into a very delightful friendship and during the many evenings on board the ship we spent the time in each others company, and had many nice talks and social bridge games in the music saloon. I recall so well his stories of his home days and the fine work he had done in public life in his home State. He also showed me the photograph of his charming fiancée and how keen he was in anticipation of the time when she would be with him at his future foreign posts."

"As there were several consular officers on board the ship we all took particular interest in Mr. McNeely's trip to his post at Aden. The other consuls were all experienced in travel and several of us conferred with Mr. McNeely on different occasions trying to get him to make certain changes in his route, but he did not feel it necessary to do so in spite of the fact that he was decidedly nervous on board the ship and was constantly prepared to meet any emergency or accident that might occur."

"Our trip of two weeks from New York to Falmouth, England, was uneventful and as some of us separately and there we hoped that McNeely's long trip would continue to be safe and without accident or attack by the enemy as we knew he was to sail from London on an English ship. It was several weeks later, however, that we received the news of the sinking of the Arabic and the reported loss of Consul McNeely. When receiving the news I had already reached my post and was most exceedingly upset for several days after getting the final news which made it appear that the young consul had really been lost. It then occurred to me as to how nervous he had been as though a premonition told him of his coming fate. It is still with much feeling, I assure you, that I recall the friendship and delightful association with this young man for it seemed that he not only had the qualities for a fine man and friend, but and able and most promising character for one day becoming of the country's best and most prominent public men."

"With kind regards and assuring you that he has been a pleasure to retrospect with you on this topic."

North Carolinians to Fight in "Old Hickory" Division.

Selected men from North and South Carolina and Tennessee will fight in the "Old Hickory" division, the war department has just announced. This announcement is highly pleasing to North Carolinians, especially to Union county people, as old Andy was born near Waxhaw. Several men from the section around Jackson's birthplace will be in this division, while a couple of hundred Unionites in all will be right with them.

The rugged nature and sturdy character of President Andrew Jackson were considered in making the choice, but the variable geography as to the home of "Old Andy" was a determining factor. Born in North Carolina, claimed by South Carolina and moved to Tennessee the triple relationship was declared altogether fitting.

A cablegram received by Senator Johnson of California from his son who is with the American Expeditionary forces in France, bears the date line, "Sansorigne, Mar. 25th." Senator Johnson was very curious to know just where his son was so he spent many hours in the Congressional library searching an atlas for the town in France called Sansorigne, finally realizing the censor had been at work and that Sansorigne was merely "without origin."

U. S. TO BUILD GUN THAT WILL SHOOT 105 MILES

Ordnance Experts Oppose Such a Gun On Ground That Use Would Be Brutal, But Daniels Orders One for Moral Stimulus.

Washington, April 1.—The United States is about to build a super-gun that will excel the one the Germans are using to bombard Paris. It was learned from a high source this afternoon that Secretary Daniels had issued orders to navy ordnance officers to begin the construction of such a gun immediately, following reports made to him by ordnance experts that a gun can be made that will shoot 105 miles.

It became known this afternoon that navy ordnance experts are opposed to the building of such a gun on the ground that its use would be brutal, but Secretary Daniels is understood to believe the moral effect of such a gun built by the United States would be great. Ordnance experts told the Secretary that such a gun could be constructed by taking one of the big guns, rechambering it to make the bore smaller and lengthening it to 85 feet. It could be given a velocity of 5,000 feet per second, whereas our big guns now have a velocity of not more than 2,600 feet per second.

ALL ABOARD FOR CLEAN UP AND PAINT UP WEEK

Chamber of Commerce Secretary Is Making Advertising Preparations, And the Mayor's Proclamation Has Been Made.

Mr. T. L. Riddle, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, is now launching his advertising campaign the object of which is to see that during the week of April 15-20 Monroe is cleaned up and painted up as never before. Several of the merchants of the town have agreed to give advertising space in the local papers and these ads start at once. A big sign reading "Clean up and paint up Monroe, 15-20. Help Monroe shine" will be stretched across Main street tomorrow. Placards bearing the same words will also be tacked in various parts of the city.

Major B. W. Brown, of the U. S. States Public Health Service, has been secured to speak in the interest of the campaign at the courthouse April 12 at 8:30. He looks after the sanitary conditions in the zone surrounding Camp Greene. He has been doing this work for 27 years and is a native of Virginia. His subject will be "Public Health and Sanitation". No admission will be charged and as he is an able and fluent speaker no doubt the courthouse will be crowded.

Marshville Stores to Close Early.

Correspondence of The Journal.

Marshville, April 4th.—Beginning next Monday, April 8, the stores here will close at 6:30 p. m. (new time), except Saturdays, until Sept. 1. This is done to give time for war gardening, and to utilize all available labor in tilling the soil.

The above does not apply to the drug stores. Those signing the contract are: Bailey & Davis, Harrell Bros. & Co., Marshville Furniture Co., Griffin & Edwards, McBride & Hallman, T. L. Austin & Bros., Mrs. A. P. Phifer, Ed. M. Marsh & Bros., Marsh-Bowman Co., Marsh-Lee Co., B. F. Black, United Cash Store Co., E. A. Evans, J. T. Garland & Co., E. W. Strawn.

Mr. Walter Sinclair of Brunswick, N. J., spent Sunday night and Monday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Sinclair. Mr. Sinclair's draft number has been transferred to a New Jersey district and the company by which he is employed claims exemption for him.

Mrs. James P. Marsh has returned from a visit to relatives in Greensboro.

Revival services at the Baptist church will begin Saturday, April 20. Evangelist F. J. Harrell of Waco, Texas, will have charge of the services assisted by Singing Evangelist Robt. L. Cooper of Mississippi.

All the people of the town and community are asked to co-operate.

Cedar Grove Items.

Correspondence of The Journal.

Monroe Route 3, April 3.—The farmers of this section are very busy, but Mr. J. G. Tomberlin seems to be in the lead, as he planted corn the first of this week.

Miss Jessie McLendon, our efficient teacher, spent the week-end at her home near Matthews.

Mr. Johnny Bennis of Charlotte spent Easter with Mr. Cicero Braswell.

Mr. and Mrs. Baxter Tarlton of Charlotte are visiting at the home of Mr. Ernest Tomberlin.

Miss Clyde Belk, our efficient primary teacher, visited friends at Pageland Sunday.

Mrs. Pearl Collins of the Faulks community is spending a few days with her mother, Mrs. J. H. Braswell. Lula, the little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Will Harrington, is very sick at this writing.

Mr. Lonnie Braswell and little daughter, Bessie, of Charlotte spent Easter with Mr. Braswell's mother, Mrs. J. G. Tomberlin.

Miss Sadie Bivens, who is attending school at Unionville, spent the week-end at home.

Quite a number of people from here attended the Union meeting Sunday at Mill Creek church.—"Patsy."

Thrive by thrift. Buy War Savings Stamps.

Third Campaign Starts With Two Big Sales.

The third Liberty Loan campaign took a big start a day ahead of the opening when the Icemore Cotton Mills informed Mrs. J. E. Ashcraft, chairman of the woman's Union county Liberty Loan committee, this morning that it would take \$25,000 worth of bonds. Following right on the heels of this inspiring announcement came the news that the Everett Mills would take \$9,000 worth of the bonds, making a total of \$34,000.

Mrs. Ashcraft is highly pleased with the start the women have made, and states the action of the directors of the Icemore and Everett mills gives great impetus to the campaign. The coming of Mrs. T. W. Bickett to address the ladies on Liberty Bonds is also an important feature of the drive the women are going to make.

Why Addresses of Dead and Injured Are Withheld.

An official statement of the War Department's reasons for announcing only the names of American troops killed or wounded in France, has been submitted to the Senate by Major General March, acting chief of staff, with a statement that the department considers it of best advantage from all points of view.

General March said the old system of giving addresses and other details, gave information to the enemy and brought swarms of claim agents to harass the relatives of the men.

The policy of the War Department, General March told the Senate, is "to put in the hands of the nearest relative or the last friend given by the soldier in his emergency address, prompt and accurate information concerning the casualty before anything is given to the press and to prevent any information appearing in the papers which will be of possible assistance to the German cause."

"The old system," General March added, "which gave the date of the casualty, enabled the Germans to get exactly what effect was produced upon our troops in a raid of that date and would be interested to know that the publication of the emergency addresses brought down upon the relatives a swarm of claim agents who guaranteed they would get from the government the war risk insurance, which is guaranteed by law to the proper inheritor."

"In spite of the fact that the department has in each case advised the nearest relative that their claims will be adjusted by the government and that they will be furnished the money that is due them without the interposition of claim agents, numbers of poor people have yielded to the importunities of these agents and are thereby deprived of a portion of what is justly their due."

Busy Tilling the Soil.

Correspondence of The Journal.

Waxhaw Rt. No. 4, April 4.—Farmers are tilling the soil and getting everything in readiness for planting a big crop in 1918.

Mrs. A. H. Pollock of Blacksburg, S. C., is visiting her sister, Mrs. W. P. Redwine.

Mrs. Kate Huncutt is on a visit to her sister, Mrs. H. F. Sims of Charlotte.

The school at this place taught by Mrs. R. B. Cuthbertson will close with an entertainment by the pupils Friday night, April 12th.

Mrs. J. M. Pollock of Spartanburg, S. C., spent last Thursday at Mrs. W. P. Redwine's.

Mrs. V. C. Redwine of Monroe visited relatives here last week.

Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Sutton of Marvin spent last Sunday in the village.

Miss Lois Robinson of Weddington spent Saturday and Sunday with her sister, Mrs. R. B. Cuthbertson.

The church improvement clerks of Union church have just finished putting down a new carpet.

Miss Ruth Redwine of Monroe visited Miss Virginia Redwine last week.

Mr. Mack Clark made a flying trip to Monroe last Monday.—Mayflower.

Mt. Prospect W. S. Society.

The citizens of Mt. Prospect have organized a War Savings Stamp society with the following officers and members: S. A. Lathan, president; Rev. M. A. Osborne, vice-president; W. L. Moten, secretary and treasurer; W. F. Starnes, R. P. Yarborough, Carl Belk, Clyde Lathan, Mrs. M. A. Osborne, R. L. Starnes, L. F. Lathan, M. D. Starnes, Misses Addie Mae Abernethy, Edna Helms, Myrtle Yarborough, Florence Yarborough and Nancy Yarborough, Stella Richardson, Loula Lathan, Verla Richardson, Ethel Lathan, Lennie Plyler, and Thomas Starnes and Frank Broom.

How the Baptist and the Methodist Could Compromise.

(From the Marshville Home.)

The Wingate correspondent to the Monroe Journal says it is a rather strange thing for a Baptist and a Methodist to be partners in a water plant, but that Rev. E. C. Snyder and Mr. Y. M. Boggan, the former a Baptist and the latter a Methodist, are putting in a water plant together. It may be rather unusual, but it appears to the writer that such an arrangement will work all right. Water is water and it is just as necessary for the comfort and welfare of one as the other and if they can't agree as to the manner in which the water is used the Methodist brother can provide a shower bath while the Baptist minister may use the bath tub.

GERMANS STRENGTHEN LINE AND RENEW THE BIG ATTACK

Over 100,000 Huns Were in Offensive Launched Against the French Yesterday—Little Ground Lost.

After a lull on the west front, German troops numbering well over a hundred thousand delivered a terrific attack Thursday against the French along a front of nearly nine miles. They met with a storm fire from the French guns, and although the assaults were repeated time after time, they succeeded in gaining only a small section of ground.

A dispatch from Washington says that this latest attack indicated a renewal of the German assaults against the British and French lines. Some military observers think that the Germans, having gathered strength during the lull of the past few days, might now be ready to launch their greatest effort.

WAR SUMMARY.

Bitter Fighting Has Often Resumed on Western Front.

After several days of comparative inactivity along the battle front in Picardy, bitter fighting has been resumed along the western sector of the salient in the lines of the entente allies. Attacks by the Germans against the British and French are admitted to have yielded some gains to the invaders in the critical sectors just to the east of the city of Amiens.

The fighting, according to the latest reports, has been heaviest in the neighborhood of Hamel, where the British were forced back slightly, and in the triangle formed by the Rivers Luce and Avre, farther to the south, where the French were forced to give ground.

Nothing is known as to the details of the battles in these sectors, but the fact that the Germans have been in a degree successful would seem to indicate that they have succeeded in bringing up some of their heaviest cannon and new divisions with which to continue their attempts to capture Amiens.

Reports from the French and British fronts have mentioned heavy rains, which would mean that the Germans have been working under a severe handicap in bringing up guns, ammunition and supplies to the front. The battlefield over which the allies have retreated was left in a devastated condition, the roads and bridges being mined by the retreating forces. The lull in the battle for the last few days probably was caused by the inability of the Teutons to move their heavy supply trains over these roads, together with the necessity of reorganizing the shattered divisions which bore the brunt of the fighting after they had passed the first field of fire of their heavier guns.

The British, since retaking Arette, south of Arras, have not resumed their offensive operations, so far as reported by London, but the German official statement says that four attacks by the entente forces against the heights southwest of Moreuil were repulsed with heavy losses. There are no reports of fighting except outpost encounters along the French lines on the Oise river.

There have been heavy artillery bombardments of British positions on the Menin road and at Passchendaele, east and northeast of Ypres, according to London. As yet, however, there is nothing to foreshadow an effort by the Germans to attack there. Confronting them are well fortified lines and high ground held by the British and it is improbable that a serious attempt to break through will be made in that sector.

On the French front before Rheims and Verdun raiding operations have been carried out by the French, which have been successful. The French report heavy artillery engagements north Montdidier, a sector which has witnessed savage fighting and where the Germans have been foiled in their efforts to advance toward the Paris-Amiens railroad.

Nothing has been reported from the Italian front and it is not likely that an attack has been launched there by the Austrians, who have gathered an enormous army for a possible drive southward into the plains of northern Italy.

Driven to take measures for their defense, the Armenians have organized an army and have recaptured Erzerum from the Turks, as well as other points in the neighborhood of that city.

The landing of German troops in Finland is apparently going forward, reports stating that 40,000 men have arrived at Hango, a fortified port on the extreme western tip of the Finnish peninsula.

There has so far been no official reply to the "peace kite" sent up by Count Czernin, the Austro-Hungarian foreign minister. Newspaper comment, which may be considered as showing the trend of opinion in entente allied chancelleries, is unanimous in rejecting the idea of peace under the conditions and it is probable that they forecast the replies which will be enunciated by government spokesmen in allied countries.

Charlie Chaplin, the popular movie actor will speak in North Carolina for the third liberty loan, April 12 and 13. It is not definitely known in what towns Chaplin will speak but it is supposed he will speak in Greensboro, High Point, Winston-Salem and Charlotte.