

THE MONROE JOURNAL

PUBLISHED TWICE EACH WEEK — TUESDAY AND FRIDAY

VOL. 24. No. 22.

MONROE, N. C., FRIDAY, APRIL 19, 1918.

\$1.50 PER YEAR CASH.

NINE MEN IN LAST QUOTA DISCHARGED FOR DISABILITY

They Had the Spirit But Not the Physical Stamina—Others Sent to Replace Them — 14 Other Go in Second Draft.

Twenty-seven white men will entrain for Camp Jackson here the 25th and 26th of April. Thirteen of this number go to take the place of men who were sent and failed to stand the physical tests. The remaining fourteen make up the second contingent in the second draft.

The local exemption board has been notified that nine men in the last contingents of the first draft failed to pass the physical examinations and has been ordered to send others to take their places. One man has already been sent to take the place of another so only eight will be required to fill the last increments of the first draft. According to orders from the War Department these last increments in the first draft must be filled from men in Class 1 regardless of occupation.

The following have been notified to report April 24th at 2 o'clock and from this number will be selected the eight who are to entrain for Camp Jackson the 25th:

John S. Rowell, R1, Indian Trail; James H. Martin, R3, Marshville; Conder W. Price, R2, Monroe; Boyce H. Griffin, Wingate; Ira S. Noles, R26, Matthews; Jesse J. Carnes, R1, Mineral Springs; John S. Funderburk, R1, Monroe; John W. Griffin, R1, Monroe; B. DeWitt Braswell, R3, Waxhaw; Fern Orr, Matthews; Ernest A. Godfrey, R18, Matthews; John L. Williams, Wingate.

In the first increment of the second draft five men failed to pass the tests and the local board has been notified to send men to take their places. The following named have been ordered to report at 2 o'clock on April 24th and from this number five will be selected to entrain for camp the next day:

W. Clyde Gamble, Gastonia; Roy Rogers, R4, Waxhaw; David Helms, R1, Unionville; Jesse B. Traywick, R2, Unionville; Ellis Justice, Monroe; Lloyd O. Garrison, Matthews; Benj. C. Parker, Marshville; Melvin C. Purser, Unionville.

Besides these men going to take places of those who failed to pass the tests the board has been notified to send fourteen men in the second draft. This will be the second increment in the second draft. The following have been notified to appear at 2 o'clock April 25 and from the ones reporting 14 will be entrained for Camp Jackson on the 26th:

Carl Lemmond, Williamsburg, Va.; Oscar Wolfe, R1, Mineral Springs; George Aldridge, Wingate; Jas. M. Birmingham, Indian Trail; Joel S. Braswell, Unionville; Olin McWhirter, R2, Waxhaw; Monroe C. Hartis, R4, Waxhaw; Horace Funderburk, Monroe; Frank Deese, Wingate; John H. McLellan, Monroe; T. V. Smith, R5, Marshville; Dock Stancil, Monroe; Henry C. Helms, Unionville; Jas. S. Hargett, Indian Trail; Amos S. Harrell, Marshville; Robt. E. Griffith, Monroe; Henry C. Newsome, Camden, N. J.; Thos. D. Hamilton, Marshville.

The board has received orders that in making up increments in the second draft men engaged in agricultural pursuits are to be delayed until the last of the quota. This is according to rules made by the War Department.

FRANK LIMERICK MAY BE THE NEXT PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

Political Gossip Has It That Brooks Won't Offer — Announcement of Earnhardt for Sheriff Expected Soon.

The latest political gossip is that Mr. Frank Limerick may be the next prosecuting attorney. Mr. Julian Brooks, member of the Marshville bar, has been slated for this post ever since Mr. R. L. Stevens announced that he would not be a candidate for re-election, but it is now being whispered around that the Marshville gentleman does not care for the office this time, although it was about to be handed to him on a silver platter. Increased legal business, which has been thrown upon his shoulders since he joined the law firm of Maness, Armfield & Yann, is assigned as his reason for staying out of politics this year. Here's where Mr. Limerick comes in; there won't be a fight on his hands. With Brooks out of the way, as the political wiseaces have it, what's to hinder him from picking up the \$60 per month plum, which would come in mighty handy to any of the barristers during these hard times. Mr. Limerick has been in this county only a short while, but he has made hosts of friends during that time. He has given unselfishly much of his time towards organizing War Savings societies all over the county, and he has made several good speeches which, it is said, captivated a number of the rural Democrats. Monroe's junior bar member, however, isn't going to make a fight for the office. If Mr. Brooks doesn't care for it, and the party leaders want him to announce his candidacy, he may do so. Several of the legal and professional men have already urged Mr. Limerick to accept the office if Mr. Brooks doesn't run. Such being the case, he may do so.

EARNHARDT'S ANNOUNCEMENT COMING

Mr. W. L. Earnhardt, The Journal man is informed, will probably an-

nounce himself for the Sheriff's office about the first of May. That isn't long off, and political observers are anxiously watching for the day when the ball is set in motion. Mr. Earnhardt's announcement, if made in the next two weeks, will probably be followed by a number of sharp surprises to the voters.

It is common knowledge now that Mr. C. C. Sikes will be a candidate for Sheriff. His announcement, however, is not expected any time soon. Neither is the present incumbent, Sheriff J. V. Griffith, going to make official announcement of his candidacy for a while yet, it is stated.

DOES JUDGE LEMMOND WANT TO BE SENATOR?

A bomb was exploded into the camp when in the last issue of The Journal an article, signed by "Democrats," appeared endorsing Judge W. O. Lemmond for the State Senate. To some that was about as big a surprise as the news some weeks ago that Sikes would run for sheriff. Hon. J. N. Price has donned the Senatorial toga months ago, so everybody thought, by occupying the field miles ahead of any probably opponents.

There is a well-organized campaign in progress to induce Mr. Lemmond to make the race despite the fact that a canvass of four counties, Davidson, Union, Anson and Stanly, would have to be made. So far, it is understood, Judge Lemmond has said nay, but his supporters haven't given up hope of getting him out in the race against Mr. Price.

Nothing definite has come from Hon. R. B. Redwine relative to the attempt of his friends to draft him for the legislature. The leaders are after him good and strong, and one of them stated to the writer that he believed Mr. Redwine would run. Here's the way one man expressed himself: "Bob Redwine been drafting the boys for the army, and now, darn him, we'll just draft him for the legislature!" The humor in this statement may not appeal to Mr. Redwine, as it is thought he loathes the word drafted about as much as most patriotic citizens. Selected is much more preferable. Perhaps the gentleman from whom we are quoting, after he reads this, may change "draft" to "select," which would come nearer, for they are throwing party service at Mr. Redwine.

Here's The Honor Roll.

The following have bought Liberty Bonds up to date:

Wriston Lee, Mrs. Callie Lee, Mrs. E. A. Armfield, Mrs. Leslie Houston Heath, Mrs. Alice Heath, Miss Lura Heath, G. W. Smith, St. Timothy Masonic Lodge, N. D. Saleeby, J. W. Yates, Mrs. J. W. Yates, L. F. Hart, C. E. Houston, Jr., Ed. Roy Houston, Stamps Houston, Miriam Houston, J. W. Chaney, Miss Maud Nixon, Gaston Mears, E. S. Tedder, C. H. Hough, W. J. Rudge Co., B. Gordon, W. I. Hayes, Mrs. J. B. Copple, Monroe Hardware Co., T. P. Dillon, Carson Yates, Ogburn Yates, Clinton Benton, A. G. McNeely, W. C. Helms, Julian McLarty, T. C. Lee, Mrs. Sarah A. McLarty, E. C. Ingram, Frank H. Fairley, Jr., Mrs. Janie Phifer Fairley, Frank H. Fairley, Miss Jessica Vann, Walter J. Pratt, Mark B. Yandle, J. M. Fairley, W. J. Hudson, T. M. Christenbury, Ashcraft Bros., L. R. Helms, Miss Martha Ashcraft, Miss Jean L. Ashcraft, J. W. Lathan, J. M. Belk, Heath-Morrow Co., R. A. Morrow, Mrs. J. W. Fowler, Mrs. B. C. Ashcraft, E. J. Riggins, Icecorner Cotton Mill, Mrs. Ida M. Laney, J. W. Laney, James B. Williams, D. F. Newman, Faddool Nassiff, Clifford Fowler, W. Frank Benton, Mrs. H. E. Copple, Miss Janie Sanders, N. W. Tharp, Mrs. Elizabeth Stewart Bundy, Miss Jennie Summerlin, Walter C. Crowell, Jr., Guy Newby Crowell, Abram Hill Crowell, E. O. Cook, John Beasley, D. P. McLarty, Rev. J. E. Abernethy, G. A. Marsh, W. S. Blakeney, Roy Cadieu, the Camp Fire Girls, P. J. C. Eard, guardian, Miss Cora Lee Montgomery, F. M. Sutton, H. A. Shute, Mrs. Ashe Bennett Sikes, J. F. Stewart, Mrs. J. R. Shute, L. W. Tucker, Mrs. E. J. Wilson, Miss Mary Haynes Crow, J. E. Stack & Co., P. P. W. Plyler, George Nassiff, J. R. Shute, J. W. Fowler, Mrs. W. E. Cason, Mrs. E. J. Goody, Mrs. Lura Evans, Mrs. J. F. Laney, Miss Marion Lee, Miss Margaret Lee, J. L. Everett, Everett Cotton Mills, Mrs. W. S. Lee, Mrs. Chas. Iceaman, Mrs. Warren C. Stack, Mrs. R. B. Gaddy, Robbie Banks Iceaman, Miss Mollie Iceaman, Miss Lillian Iceaman, Miss Margaret Iceaman, Miss Eva Shute, J. T. Shute, Jr., G. D. Davidson, Francis Lee Stack, Charles Iceaman, Jr., Warren C. Stack, John E. Lee, Jr., Margaret Lee, W. S. Lee, 3rd, Miss Maud Shute, Miss Lina Bell Shute, Mrs. J. T. Shute, Gordon Ins. and Inv. Co., W. C. Stewart, Sherwood L. Mullis, M. K. Lee, Mrs. M. K. Lee, M. K. Lee, Jr., Miss Elizabeth Lee, Miss Mary Lee, Miss Jean Lee, Mrs. W. A. Lane, R. F. Beasley, Miss Anna Blair, J. W. Nance, Carl Davis, Mrs. N. C. English, C. D. Roberts, Mrs. C. D. Roberts, S. R. Doster, Miss Mary Blair, Mrs. E. M. Griffin, W. L. Hemby, H. F. McDonald, R. H. Cunningham.

37 Perish When Vessels Collide.

An Atlantic Port, Apr. 17.—Thirty-seven lives were lost when the American steamship Kar Knight, both laden with naphtha and inflammable oils, collided off the British coast on March 24, according to members of the crew of the O. B. Jennings who arrived here today. All who perished with one exception were on the British vessel. They were burned to death by blazing gas and oil.

Those who survived the flames on the Kar Knight were rescued in the nick of time by destroyers, for soon after, while the blazing hull was being towed toward shallow water it struck a mine and was blown up.

The destroyers went to the rescue through a field of blazing oil and took off also the crew of the Jennings. A number of the crew of the American ship, however, were badly burned and had to be removed to hospitals after being landed.

Who is FI-FI? Find out at the opera house Monday night, April 22nd.

HEART-RENDERING SCENES AROUND FLANDERS BATTLE

Correspondent Writes About the Civilian People, Who Suffer the Most — The Poor Paralytic, and the Woman Hotel Keeper.

With the British Army in France, April 17. (By the Associated Press.)—It is difficult for one in the British war zone to adjust himself to the new conditions here. It all seems like a horrid dream—this spreading German blight across the cultivated plains of Flanders, with their ancient, picturesque villages.

It is but little more than a week since one was free to motor quietly along highways leading through Merville, Bailluel and a score of other nearby places which never lost their charms. Then peaceful farm lands lay freshly turned ready for the spring crops. The battle lines were not far to the eastward, but death and destruction seemed remote with walls of khaki-clad men guarding the land. Little lads stood at attention by the roadside and saluted as the motors passed and old men and women beamed welcome from the doors of their cottages.

Within a few days the plague of war has descended. Now one meets his civilian friends—the little folk and the aged—from many hamlets making their way sadly back along the broad highway leaving behind all they hold dear.

They look back on the rolling fields that separate them from their little world. By day a bank of grim gray smoke from burning hamlets and from myriad belching gun-marks the zone along which are struggling the splendid British soldiers in their efforts to block further inroads of the Hun. By night the skyline is sometimes a lurid blaze as consuming flames leap up from a hundred homes and great cannon vomit volcanic fire. It is a living hell. It is a part of heretofore untouched Flanders going the way of the devastated regions of the Somme. Its awfulness has numbed the brains of the peasant folk.

The correspondent found a little family group crouching beneath huge British howitzers held in reserve. There were no tears and no words, but the expression on their faces was like that of one just condemned to die.

Why they stopped beside the great guns was unexplained. Possibly it was because it gave them a sense of protection. Many of the refugees know only in a general way whither they go; they are following the lead of military guides like sheep fleeing from a storm. A few cherished belongings are all they carry with them.

Hundreds of Flemish homes have been shorn of their protectors who have been called to the French colors, and for these this has been a time of double terror. Some of the peasants, indeed, clung to their cottages amidst the crashing of shells until British soldiers led them away. There were many pitiful cases of bed-ridden invalids, whose friends had to remove with help from the soldiers.

It was only yesterday that a British official photographer discovered a helpless paralytic lying in a house already partly wrecked by shells. The invalid had no relatives, and his friends, who had looked after him, were dead or cut off from him. So, the photographer and the soldier carried the man to safety though their road lay through what might have been a horrible death at any moment. This is one instance among many.

Sometimes there is no way of saving valuables of bulk in towns which come first under the fire of the German troops. Relics and treasures of years have been abandoned. Many things have been destroyed by their owners in order that the Germans might not get them.

The correspondent spent a night recently at a small hotel in a hamlet, whose doom seemed to be sealed. The gray-haired matron of the inn was getting ready to leave. Her husband is an officer in the French army, and she was left alone with her three children. It was a touching sight to see her going sadly from room to room of the place which had been her home since the day she was married.

"Have you a knife?" she asked suddenly, as she reached up and removed from the wall a priceless piece of Oriental embroidery.

The knife was produced. She stood the frame before the correspondent and said: "Cut it, please. I will not leave this for the Boche."

As the matron passed into another room, she was murmuring softly to herself: "Oh, my home! My home!"

BRITISH IN THE YPRES SECTION GIVE GROUND

Reports More Encouraging From the Lys Battle, But the News From Ypres Section Is Bad—Battle Getting Fiercer—Thursday's Summary

Out of the chaos of the tremendous battle along the Lys river, south and southwest of Ypres, the thunder of which may be heard 40 or 50 miles away, there have come during the past day reports which are more encouraging to the allied powers. The British not only have held all the ground which they were defending on Tuesday, but have struck back so powerfully that Meieren and part of Wytshacte were retaken and held for a time. Only after heavy attacks did the British retire again from the villages.

The most disturbing news has been a report from Berlin that Poelcappelle and Langemark, north of Ypres, have been taken by the Germans and the admission from London that the British have retired from certain of their lines in the Ypres salient. The retirement here was expected, for the advance of the Germans at Neuve Eglise and Bailluel left the position in front of Ypres open to a flank attack. It is officially stated that the retirement was orderly and it is probable that it will have more of a sentimental than a strategic effect. Just how far the British lines have been withdrawn is not known. It may be, however, that the German claim of taking Poelcappelle and Langemark was the result of British retirement.

The battle, now in its ninth day, has deepened in intensity at many points along the curved front from Messines ridge to Meieren. There have been reports that the Germans have occupied the village of St. Eloi, which lies more than ten miles south of Ypres, but they have not been confirmed. It also was said that they have taken positions on the south slope of Mount Kemmel, which is about two and a half miles north of Wulverghem. This, also, has not been confirmed.

On all the rest of the front from Mesines ridge southwestward the Germans have flung themselves against the granite wall of the British defense. Official and semi-official dispatches have told of the frightful losses inflicted on the attacking masses of troops by the British rifle and machine gun fire.

On the southern side of the salient there have been engagements of some magnitude, especially east of Robecq, five miles northward of Bethune, where the Germans were caught by the British artillery fire and scattered.

The line in front of Arras has again been the scene of fighting, but here the British took the offensive and drove the Germans out of British trenches which had been carried by the enemy.

In the Picardy sector there has been lively artillery engagements between the Somme and Oise rivers, but only patrol encounters are reported officially.

Further south only raiding operations have been going on.

The Turks announce that they have taken the city of Batum, on the eastern shore of the Black sea. They report strenuous fighting before the Russian defenders of the city were driven out.

Baron Stephen Burian von Bajacs has succeeded Count Czernin as foreign minister of Austria-Hungary, coming back to the office he relinquished December 23, 1916.

BAKER BELIEVES LINE WILL HOLD UNDER GENERAL FOCH

War Secretary Returns Full of Pride and Confidence—May Have Direct Information to Give President Wilson.

Washington, April 16.—Steeled to the work ahead of him by personal knowledge of conditions at the battle fronts in Europe, Secretary Baker returned tonight from his trip abroad, prepared to concentrate every energy on expediting the movement of American fighting men to France.

The war secretary, it is understood, is not inclined to underestimate the peril that German success in the present onslaughts against the allied line might involve. There is no doubt, however, that he believes adequate measures to checkmate the German effort will come out of the pooling of all allied and American resources under command of General Foch, the impressive French commander-in-chief.

On his arrival today at an Atlantic port, Mr. Baker authorized this statement:

"I return with a sense of pride and confidence at the achievements of the United States and allied troops abroad that would justify many trips across the water."

Whatever direct information the war secretary may have as to the plans of General Foch will be for the ear of President Wilson alone.

There have been many reports that Mr. Baker went to Europe for the purpose of urging unification of all allied armies under a single commander. He had no comment to make on this point.

The prompt action of General Pershing in placing his men at General Foch's disposal is known to have met with Mr. Baker's hearty approval.

During the trip Mr. Baker visited England, France and Italy and saw the battle fronts all along the line. He has been in the American front line trenches under fire; once a Ger-

man shell exploded close to his automobile, and on another occasion he stood in the window of a battered building behind the allied line to watch high power missiles come howling to tear great craters in a field less than a hundred yards away.

When he reached France, the war secretary placed himself in the position of an American soldier just arrived at the goal of his ambition, "over there." He wanted to know exactly what preparation had been made for the care of the men from the time they arrived. He knew what the government was preparing to do on this side, but of the great matters across the water he had only cold official reports or the inadequate description of officers.

Beginning at the debarkation ports, Mr. Baker and his party under the guidance of General Pershing's officers followed the life of an American soldier in France step by step, until they arrived in an advanced listening post in front of the American lines.

The whole vast project of American operations was mapped out before the secretary. It represents one of the greatest undertakings any nation has ever engaged in, and even to the man under whose hands have passed all the plans, it was amazing because of its briskness and the thorough, workmanlike way in which General Pershing and his officers are doing their great job.

Mr. Baker returned more than ever confident of the capacity and judgment of General Pershing for the great burden of responsibility he is bearing. The American commander is said to be developing and broadening even as the army he is building is expanding.

No doubt was left in the visitors' minds of the stimulus given French spirit by the arrival of American fighting forces in France. Mr. Baker was given repeated proof of the amazing degree of comradeship that has sprung up between the American and French soldiers and the Americans and civil population among whom they move daily.

When he left for Europe, Mr. Baker put the war department routine from mind. It will take him some days to catch step fully with what has gone forward in his absence. He is expected, however, to face his problems with a new perspective, and officials here anticipate that the result will be shown in the nature of his decisions, for to a man filled with the spirit of the army in France there is no room for petty obstacles on the job ahead.

CLAUDE KITCHIN MAY BE NEXT SPEAKER OF HOUSE

Clark May Run For the Senate to Succeed the Late Senator Stone, And There's Where the North Carolina Man Would Step Up.

According to Parker R. Anderson, Washington correspondent of the Greensboro News, there is more than an even chance that Majority Leader Claude Kitchin will be elected speaker of the house of representatives within the next 10 days.

The death of Senator Stone of Missouri has created an embarrassing situation for the Democratic party in that state because the unsettled political conditions are such that it is claimed Speaker Champ Clark is the only man in the state who can bring harmony to the party and be elected to the senate at the fall elections. Hence the speaker's friends are urging him to accept the temporary appointment to the senate and make the race for election this fall.

Close personal friends of the speaker in Washington told the Greensboro Daily News correspondent tonight that the speaker would very probably accept the appointment and make the race provided he would not have to fight a member of his own party for the nomination. Mr. Clark as speaker of the house draws a salary of \$12,000 a year, while the senatorial toga is only worth \$7,500. But the latter position holds good for seven years while the house members must fight for re-election every two years. There is a strong probability, too, that the house will not be Democratic after March 4, and in that eventuality Mr. Clark would be just a plain member of congress drawing the same salary as a United States senator or any other member of the house.

ALLIED LINE IS HOLDING HARD AGAINST GERMANS

French Reinforcements Helped Throw Back the Huns, Who Struck Hard at Several Points.

Reinforced by French troops, the allied line is holding hard against further incursions by the Germans from the region of La Bassee to the north of Ypres.

Everywhere the Germans have struck the line in an endeavor to press back the defenders they have been repulsed with heavy losses and have been successful nowhere in gaining further ground.

Attacks of an extraordinary violent nature are being thrown by the Germans on the 10-mile front between Givenchy and Robecq, where an endeavor is being made to cross the La Bassee canal and bend southward the salient which now outflanks the important railroad town of Bethune. A division of troops to each mile is being used by the Germans in this sector, but the British at last accounts were holding well and inflicting heavy losses on the enemy.

NO CLASSES OF GERMANY ARE WANTING PEACE NOW

Russian Withdrawal So Strengthened Hun's Morale That Now They Figure On Collecting Indemnity—But That Was Before the Drive.

(By SAVOYARD in the Raleigh News and Observer.)

No longer do we hear of any suggestion of peace from anybody in Germany. A year ago it was quite different. Then Germany, all classes, longed for a conference of diplomats representing all the belligerents to discuss terms of peace, and the status quo ante appeared to be acceptable to most of Germany's public men. Since then Russia has collapsed and is at the feet of the conqueror; Rumania is conquered; Italy has been beaten in a great German offensive, and now all Germany, Socialist as well as Junker, insists on annexations and indemnities.

And yet Germany hungers and thirsts for peace because peace is more necessary to her than it is to England, or France, or America, or Italy. It was this inexorable necessity that made the present offensive at the Western front imperative. Gathering together the most powerful military force the world ever saw she hurled those millions against the British and for a week the Germans advanced, but nowhere did they "break" the English and the loss in life to the assailants must have been enormous. The drive is not yet over, but it is checked and Germany's enemies claim that it is a futile as the drive against Verdun and the cost in blood frightfully greater.

All we laymen know of it is that Paris was the objective, and everybody knows that Paris cannot be taken till all the fight is whipped out of the British and the French. Before they take Paris the Germans must "break through" the enemy's lines, double up and overwhelm the opposing armies and capture the survivors and their equipment. That was the promise to the German people, and that was the fond hope of all Germany from the General Staff down to the humblest cottager in the empire.

Not the least of Germany's perils is her currency system. Practically she is on the greenback basis. Her printing presses have usurped the offices of her mints. Of her currency there is more than five marks of paper to one mark of coin. Nor is that all. Though cruelly cut off from trade by the British blockade she does get goods from abroad and has to pay gold for them. Thus while her paper currency constantly augments the coin behind it constantly decreases. And unless Germany can levy and collect enormous indemnities upon her enemies she will be hopelessly bankrupt when peace comes, as it must come sometime.

It was Germany's implicit trust in the sword that caused her to rush on to bankruptcy. England is "paying as she goes." Her increase of taxation is enormous. Of course she is not paying 100 per cent of the cost of the war, but she is paying more than half, and we are doing nearly as well. At this time the Entente Allies are on the gold basis, and when peace comes they will be ready for business at the old stand. Germany will not be ready for business unless she wins a knockout and levies and collects indemnities to the tune of tens of billions of dollars.

Even German Socialists are counting their chickens ere the eggs to produce them are laid. They are calculating that German arms are bound to conquer a German peace. They expect that England will be as feeble as Belgium now is, and that America will be as helpless as Russia now is, and it is proposed by some of the Socialists that Germany will be gracious and magnanimous enough to allow England and America to pay a big part of the indemnity in raw materials—wool, cotton, jute, rubber, copper, and what not. Germany's expectation when the drive began was exaltation. The hope was higher than it was in 1914 when Belgium was overrun and von Kluck was at the gates of Paris. Had not Russia been put out of the fight? Rumania and Serbia were as helpless as Belgium. Italy was hurled back and thoroughly beaten in one of the greatest German offensives of the war. Thus Germany would concentrate all her forces at the western front, strike when she pleased and where she pleased. The thing was elaborately and minutely rehearsed. Boasts were made by soldiers and people. Hindenburg was quoted as saying that Bismarck's birthday, April 1, would see him and his legions in Paris. There was no military strategy in that movement. It was a matter of brute strength. The most men, the heaviest guns and the deadliest gases were to do the work.

And so the drive was made, and more men were killed and crippled in France than two weeks than fell in battle in all Napoleon's wars. If it succeeds and the British and French are destroyed, Paris and Calais taken, then Germany will be victor in the war.

But if it shall fail, as they failed at the Marne and at Verdun! What then? Germany will be in a bad fix. The morale of the German people will be frightfully impaired—possibly utterly demoralized. Then will come the opportunity of the Entente. Meanwhile, America is getting ready as no other people ever did before, and when America shall be fully equipped, she will make short work of the job, big as it is.

"FI-FI of the Toy Shop," opera house Monday night, April 22nd.