"THE UNION COUNTY PAPER-EVERYBODY NEEDS IT"

"THE UNION COUNTY PALER-EVERYBODY READS IT" THE MONROE JOURNAL

PUBLISHED TWICE EACH WEEK - TUESDAY AND FRIDAY

VOL. 24-NO. 47.

MONROE, N. C., TUESDAY, JULY 16, 1918.

\$1.50 PER YEAR CASH.

EXPECTED RENEWAL OF GERbeen stopped, but hurled back by American counter-attacks along the MAN OFFENSIVE HAS BEGUN Marne.

Fierce Battles in Progress on Both Sides of the Famous City of Rheims -Americans, Fighting .V. lantly. Are Successful

By the Associated Press- The expected renewal of the German offensive in France has begun. Fierce battles are in progress on both sides of the famous cathedral city of Rheims, which since the first offensive along the marne has stood the apex of a sharp salient into the German line.

troops, the unleashing of which was preceded by a veritable hall of high xplosives and gas shells, have been enabled to cross the Marne at several East of the city, however, places. they have been held for the smallest of gains by the tenacious resistance of the defenders of the line. Altogether the two battlefronts aggregate about 65 miles in length.

AMERICANS SUCCESSFUL

Ame-ican troops are fighting val- ment when the word first came. Bethe advance of the Germans southeast alize their fighting power. of Chateau-Thiery across the Marpe trenches of stragetic value.

Americans in a strong counter attack completely, the blow at this section forced by the enemy to the right bank that had been in careful preparation of the stream. At other points along for more than thirty days. the river they used to the greatest advantage their machine guns against enemy elements which were crossing the river on pontoon bridges, killing or wounding many of them. In the counter-attack near Fossoy between 1,000 and 1,500 Germans were made prisoners by the Americans. The captured contingents included a com-plete brigade staff. The French gencral in command on this sector sent a congratulatory message to the general in command of the American troops

USED NUMEROUS TANKS

The Germans in addition to their tremendous expenditure of explosive and gas shells used numerous tanks against the lines of the defenders and also opened with numerous naval guns bombardments of towns and citles far behind the battle line, droppring upon them shells from 10 to 12-inch pieces.

The details of the stragetic scheme the Germans have in view have not yet been unfolded. It seems appa-

At the White House, the president read the account with interest that Ladies Are Kept Very Busy-Sailor did not wane. At the war depart-

ment Secretary Baker, Gen. March. chief of staff, and other high officers at the department received eagerly the brief glimpses of the battle fiashed across the country in press bul-letin from the battle front. Every

which was promptly relayed to them came evident that the enemy had West of Rheims the Germans with the pressure of large numbers of GENERAL LEGERMON GENERAL LIGGETT'S

CORPS CREDITED

The fact that credit for stopping the heaviest parts of the assault thus far reported belongs to men of the first American army corps added to the feeling of elation officials had Tar Heel State. difficulty in concealing. The prompt and hard-driven coun-

ter-attacks of the American troops at two points sent a flow of enthusiasm through the whole war depart-

iantly on the sectors they have been fore the results were known, the fact holding and at two points have met that the counter-attacks had been with notable success. At Vaux they launched was cheering. It showed not only broke down a violent attack the Americans were meeting their by the enemy, but drove nim back first great test like veterans and that several hundred yards and only 16- the Gorman attempt to overrun them turned to their former positions when had failed to disorganize or demor-Then came word that at Vaux, not

but his advancing infantry had colid-Along the Marne, between town of ed with Americans who first delug-Posoy and the river Surmelin, where ed their opponents with machine gun the Germans crossed the Marne, the fire, then leaped forward to disrupt

ALL DOUBTS AT REST. Meanwhile meager reports from London said the Marne had been crossed by the enemy at several points. Details were awaited with ome apprehension. Hour by hour the story filtered in, but the bulletin that told of the hurling back of the foe in the Conde sector where his first rush had pushed back the Amercans out of the salient they held opposite Jaulgonne, did not come until tonight. Its message set all doubts

at rest. Again the enemy had been out-matched by the Americans. He was driven back to the river rim and many prisoners, trapped prob-ably by the destruction- of their bridges behind them were taken.

OFFICIALS STUDY MAP

the department, studying the map grand and glorious navy of ours, upon which this first great trial of 1 like naval life fine. I have

the American army was taking shape, as more details came. The French but I think I will have an opportuni-back alive into their own positions. rent, however, that the main object- official statement fully confirmed the ty to go again at an early date. I Their efforts failed, and worse than cheering unofficial reports that had am at present stationed at the Naval that, it put more red blood in the come previously. It showed the Ger- Base, Hampton Rhodes, Va. It is a boys' eye for the next day. mans had been virtually held fast beautiful place. We are quartered in 1 got a little scratch on my left arm. along the whole great extent of the large barracks. Sixty men are quarfighting line they had selected . At tored in each barrack. Everything is made just as home-like as it is possithe close of the first day of the batble to do so under such circumstances. tle the enemy was no nearer his objective, apparently, then when he My special rating is musician. I am a solo violinist in the Naval Base Orpoured his masses forward at daychestra. We have a fifty piece Orbreak. Further desperae fighting is ex- chestra here and do our bit by playing pected. It is not conceivable here almost eight hours per day, except, of that the German high command will course, when we are allowed a day be content to abondon a project of off for the purpose of washing our the scope of to-day's enterprise with- clothes and writing letters to our lovout repeated efforts to overcome his ed ones at home. We have a branch While the Germans are making initial failure. The outstanding fact, Y. M. C. A. building on the reservahowever, is that for the first time tion. This is the place we all make since the German thunderbolt was for just as soon as our daily duties Jerman lines with success as regards launched against the British in March are over. Here we are allowed to enthe enougy has failed to make any joy ourselves and write letters to our appreciable advance in 12 hours of home folks. Things are very homefighting, although it has always been like at the "Y," as we sailors call it. tacular drive against the Austrians held that no major offensive proper-And if a fellow is tired or homesick after a long day's work or drilling he ly sheltered under artillery preparalooks forward to the hour that he can tion could be stopped short.

CANTEEN HUT COMPLETED -LETTER OF APPRECIATION

Boy Expresses Through The Journal His Appreciation of the Kindness Shown Him by Monroe Ladies.

The Canteen Hut is almost completd and has been in use for ten days. line of the Associated Press report. The past lew days have been very busy ones with the workers. Mrs. J. the first contingent of U.S. Reserve as the wires brought it in, was stud- D. Warren's team, under the direction officers last September. In a letter to ied with growing delight as it be- of Miss Elizabeth Sikes, served tea, his brother, Mr. J. J. Parker, he gives watermelon and candy to eleven met with a decided check in the first rush of his greatest effort thus far. trains on Saturday, averaging 500 men to the train. Mrs. Chas. Iceman's team gave cakes, tea, watermelon and cigarettes to five trains Parker gives us a splendid character-Sunday. A number of ladles remained at the station until a late hour Sunday night to welcome the first N C. boys from Camp Sevier into the

> In addition to serving troop trains, Mrs. Nan Carlile and several other Red Cross workers meet the regular trains to offer fruit and smokes to the sailors going to and from the naval stations when on furlough. Possibly some think this is useless, but according to a letter received by The Journal from Mr. Matthew Pitts who passed through Monroe some time ago, "it shows that the people on the outside are behind us with their very hearts and souls." Here is a splendid opportunity for the farmers interested in this phase of Red Cross work to help by donating any kind of fruit they may have. The Canteen workers will appreciate any donations of this sort, because the fruit can always be used.

The letter from Mr. Pitt follows:

To the Editor of The Monroe Journal: Dear Editor :- It was my pleasure while on my furlough some time ago to stop for a few hours in your beautiful little city. It is my wish to express my thanks through the columns of your paper for the royal treatment I received while in Monroe. My stop there, though a very short one, was exceedingly enjoyable.

I wish to say on behalf of myself as well as all enlisted men that such treatment as 1 received at the hands of a few good people that I accidentally met at the depot in Monroe, goes greatly to lessen our home-sickness and loneliness. For when we stop over in a place and are treated in the trenches at the time the raid They include a complete brigade as I was in your little city it shows was pulled. This little stunt of the that the people on the outside are enemy didn't do much but raise the day behind us with their very hearts and souls.

I suppose some of the readers of Tonight Secretary Baker, General your paper will be interested to know March and other officials were late in a little something about life in this

I like naval life fine. I have been

LT. PARKER'S EXPERIENCES IN FIRST AMERICAN ATTACK square heads then came running out

Mr. Parker's Platoon in First Wave He was scared plum to death. His of the Attack-Proud of His Men. Hunting" Yell-Each American the

Equivalent of Ten Germans.

(Note-It will be remembered that an unusually clear description of the first actual drive made solely by Americans against Germany. In addition to the details of the attack Mr. ization of the American soldler-his eagerness to fight, his indomitable courage and happy disposition as contrasted with the heartlessness of the German Brute. On another page of

The Journal a young Raleigh lieutenant pictures his experiences in this same attack but not in such a graphic way as the Monroe boy does.)

"Probably you think I have forgotten you; but you will understand why I have not written in the last few days, if you do not already understand by having guessed it from the newspapers.

"The past two months have been filled with adventure and it ended in a glorious climax-the first attack of the American soldiers in the war. No doubt but you have had quite minute details of the attack in the papers; so I will fight shy of the things that the censor might cut, I will tell you just about my personal experiences.

My platoon was in the first wave of the attack; so I was one of the very first to go "over the top." I had held town for several days, which gave me a splendid opportunity to know what I was to go up against. I knew where machine guns were located and prac tically every point where the enemy held the line with any forces. The day before the attack was to come off I was sent into the sector as an advance officer for my Company to make the necessary arrangements for the 'jumping off.' On this day the Germans pulled a nasty deal, which they paid for on the day following. They made a raid on our sector and killed quite a number of men. I was wrath of the Americans for the day

following. In this scrap I saw some real fighting. Our men put it all over the Boche. After a severe bombardment of the trenches, about 75 of the square-heads attempted to come over. They did not get across

shattered.

through him. About fifteen of the with their hands up. I will never forget the expression of one of them.

hands were just about as near heaven Went Over the Top with a "Rabbit-in English: 'I have a wife and five children.' I took him prisoner. Didn't have the heart to shoot him.

"Many things happened in the advance which were exciting and inter-Lt. Sam Parker sailed for France with the first contingent of U.S. Reserve And those that gave the 'last full measure of devotion' did it without a groan or complaint. I had several to call out to me in a perfectly cheerful voice: 'Lieutenant, they got me.' The men that died, died happy. I have never seen such spirit, and if I live to be a thousand years old and am in a battle every day of it, I never expect to see a better spirit. It couldnot be beat. It was wonderful. We lost men, of course. My platoon was not only in the first wave, but had to do out-post duty while the others dug-in, after the objective was reach The Boche made several countered. attacks,-one day alone they made six, but they did not phase our men

in the least "After the show was over and we were quiet again in billets behind the

line at the first check of my plantoon I found that I had only eleven men left. But I have taken these eleven men and built another platoon. The spirit of my old platoon is still living and it will not be long until the able to participate in the work in organization is at par again. But it army headquarters had spread all seems that no one will ever be able over Germany. German newspapers to take the places of some of those good soldiers that were lost.

"As a point of prsonal pride, 1 want it remembered that I was in the first wave of the first attack that the United States made against Germany a sector immediately in front of the and that the operation was entirely successful,"

AMERICANS HOLD RIVER FRONT

apture Between 1,000 and 1,500 Prisoners on Marne-Famons German Tenth Division Tries All Day to Cross Without One Geiting Over.

With the American Army on the Marne, July 15 .- (By the Associated Press.)-The German prisoners daptured in the counter-attack by the Americans at the bend on the Marne

staff. The fighting continues with fierce ntensity in this district while the battle rages with equal ferority on the light, where the French are reported to have derivered a smashing blow against the enemy. From this section of the battle front is appears that the German offensive, at least

for the time noing has been badly

HINDENBURG REPORTED DEAD OF APOLEPTIC STROKE

Supposed to Have Died Following a Strong Interview with Emperor Wilhelm About a Certain Offensive.

Amsterdam, July 13 .- (By the Associated Press) .- Field Marshal von Hindenburg is dead, according to the newspaper Les Nouvelles. His death s said to have occurred after a stormy interview with the German emperor at great headquarters at Spa. The emperor and the field marshal are declared to have had serious differences of opinion concerning the German offeasive toward Paris. The field marshal died of congestion of the brain.

The violent interview between von Hindenburg and Emperor William occurred on May 16, Les Nouvelles says. it was followed by an apoleptic stroke which ultimately resulted in the field marshal's death.

The newspaper says its information vas obtained from "good sources in the occupied districts of Belgium."

In the last six months there have been several rumors of the death of Field Marshal von Hindenburg, and here have been many reports that he has been in poor health. A dispatch received in London Friday from The Hague quoted a Dutch traveller from Germany as declaring that a report that the field marshal was ill and unarmy headquarters had spread all were not permitted to mention the The traveller added that rumor. General Ludeadorff, the first quartermaster general, had taken over the field marshal's duties as chief of the general staff.

Keeping step with reports of the field marshal's death, have been dispatches from Germany indicating that the field marshal and the emporor had had disagreements concerning the German offensive in the west.

Bonar Law Tells House of Americans' Success,

Loudon, July 15 .- Andrew Bonar Law, chancellor of the exchequer, announced in the house of commons tonight that the Americans had captured a thousand or more prisoners south of the Marne after having drivon back the enemy.

Mr. Bonar Law read the following communication to the house: "The enemy attacked early this

morning on a front of 90 kilometers, prettily evenly divided east and west of Rheims. The city itself was not attacked

"West of Rheims the Germans penetrated on a front of 35 kilometers (22.37 miles) to an average depth of from four to five kilometers."

South of the Marne, by a bril-Hant counter-attack the Americans troops drove the enemy back and took a thousand or more prisoners. "East of Rheims the enemy has been heavily repulsed and has suffered a complete check." Sir Walter Runciman said that the nouse would wish to offer congratulations not only to the French but to the Americans troops, who had justified themselves, not for the first time, on a critical occasion. Before reading the communication Mr. Bonar Law said it had reached him from the front shortly before 11 o'clock. "I may add," he said, "in addition to what I am going to read, that the prime minister has been in telephonic communication with headquarters and the report given him as coming from General Foch is that he is well satisfied with the results of today's fighting."

ive in the first stages of the offensive is the throwing of their lines southward on both sides of Rheims, enveloping that ity and forcing its capitulation. The gaining of the southern bank of the Marne and straightening out eastward of their battle line toward Verdun also may be in the program of the German high command. Success of these movements would be of great stragetic value to the Geroans it it is intended by them ultimately to attempt to drive on to Paris.

ON OTHER FRONTS

their drive in the south the British around Ypres is pecking away at the the gaining of ground and the taking of prisoners; the French and Italians in Albania are keeping up their specand the French and Italians in the mountain region of the Italian theatre daily are harassing the enemy with patrol attacks of considerable violence and bombardments. In the lew instances where the Austrians in this region lately have tried to take of conditions along the great battlestragetic positions they have met with front has come in. There is a firm almost instant repulse. In Palestine, conviction here, however, that the Turkish and German troops penetrated British positions north of Jericho, but almost immediately were ejected with the loss of more than 500 men made prisoner, including 260 Ger-

mans British and American troops are now in control of the entire Murman since the high command sent its forces coast in northern Russia, according forward in March.

to unofficial advices. It is through this territory that it is hoped uitimately to lend ald to Russia by way of the Arctic ocean. In violent fighting with the bolshevik troops in midriver, 43 miles east of Moscow.

GERMANS ARE HURLED BACK. BY THE AMERICAN SOLDIERS

News Received With Much Elation at

Washington-Wilson Much Inter-

ested-All Officials Delighted.

Washington, July 15 .- An air of dation was apparent in government circles tonight as Associated Press dispatches from France unfolded the story of the valiant stand of American troops along the Marne, where they hold the left flank of the great battle front, while the French army, aided near Rheims by Italian divisions, stood fast over the far greater extent of the line they defended

Official advices were slow and no formal report on the German effort to drive the jaws of the great pincer generalled the enemy in this vital movement about Rheims on a 65-1 factor. mile front was available at a late Officials were strongly inclined to-

ENEMY MEASURE TAKEN

ment. What tomorrow may bring forth cannot be told. No detailed statement enemy's measure has been taken definitely and that the line will hold no matter what force he hurls against it. Territory may be surrendered, but decisive military victory is believed to be farther away for the Germans to-

night than it has been at any time

The care with which preparations for this assault were made is sharply brought out by the intensive bombardment of the positions in the rear of the Franco-American-Italian lines dle Russia, Czecho-Slovak forces have with great German naval guns, which captured the important commercial hurled shells into towns more than 20 city of Kazan, which lies on the Volga miles back of the defending lines. Probably much of the 3-day period the Germans have taken to make ready was devoted to moving these weapons into position and setting them in place for high angle fire. The

work had to be done by night to avoid the ceaseless watchfulness of American and French airmen.

The guns probably come from the reserve stock and are handled by detachments of sailors from the fleet. There is no warrant, officials believe. in any sugestion that the German fleet has been stripped of great cannon to provide the means of blasting away from the atlack.

FOCH FULLY FOREWARNED

The fact that stubborn resistance met overy German rush all along the line shows that Geenral Foch Wills fully forewarned of the general terriagainst flerce assaults by the enemy, tory in which the altack was to develop. It appears certain that he had his reserves close up and out- French positions" had been penetra-

hour. Press reports made it clear, night to believe that the present Cer- extent of which is not to be revealed however, that the enemy had not only man effort is intended only as a fore- to the German people.

spend at the "Y" with great enjoy-

There is a very large Aeronautic station connected with the Naval far before the Germans began jump-Base. One can look skyward most ing out of shell holes and beating it any hour between suns and count at H. least five flying machines.' Besides all the different modes and types of flying machines they have dirigible balloons. It is very funny to see a clumsy balloon trying to compete with a speedy monoplane.

Thanking the kind people of Mon-Matthew Pitts, Naval Base, Hamp-

ton Rhodes, Va., care of Band.

Huns Attempt to Shell American Hospitals.

With the American Army on the Marne, July 15, (By the Assiciated Press.-The Germans apparently deliberately attempted to shell several of the American hospitals near the Marne front today. A number of shells fell intermittently a short distance from them. They did no damage beyond disturbing the patients.

unner for a later assault to the north toward the channel ports. If it proves successful in dislodging the Franco-Italian defenders of Rheims by later direct assaults or by pressing their pincer movement, it is argued that the Franco-Brillsh reserves back of Amiens might be drawn into the defease of Paris, weakening the line in the Albert region which is regarded

as the certain prime objective of the whole German plan of campaign.

The German official statement tonight added to the impression that a striking defensive victory had been won on the first day of the battle. Its meager claim that "parts of the ted was in vivid contrast with the extent of the effort made. It was read

In this A fragment of a shell flew past my arm. It cut quite a slit in the sleeves of my coat and shirt, but only grazed the flesh.

On the morning of the attack, of course, everything was all set. The up to 9 o'clo, k tonight. boys were in the trenches, ready to go 'over the top' at Zero hour. This was our first real attack and naturally every one was not chatting as if at a dinner party; however, every one was in good spirits and waited anviously for the minute to hop over the tain to the show to rise, our artiltop' every man sprang out of the trenches. quickly taken up and we began moving off in proper order. Every man sitting position on the bed but he exwas still quiet, not knowing just what

We had not advanced very to expect. for the rear. The boys couldn't stand about 19 years old and served until They, let out a terrible 'rabbithunting' yell and began cutting them ried to Miss Kate Snyder, daughter down with their rifles. It was great of Rev. Solomon Snyder, after sport then, all the seriousness over. You have wondered why I chose-

can have this superb satisfaction. I Griffin, Mrs. Maude Hinson, with 35 men and 1 estimate that my

platoon can easily account for 350 vive him, of the enemy. If they get me now to Prussianism. But they are not go-

opportunity. behind a machine, but when you go at him with a determined bayonet he the county.

is a coward. On one occasion in the scrap I was rushing one of Fritz's Faulks church in Marshville township given the credit for driving back the strong positions. I was doing the Sunday afternon at five o'colck. Rev. Germans who had succeeded in crossoperation with about twelve men- E. C. Snyder, Elder Walter Edwards ing the Marne southwest of Fossoy. one section of my platoon. The and Rev. J. A. Bivens conducted the enemy saw me rushing. One big bur- service. Burial was in the cemetery ley cuss, with whiskers, thought he at that church. A very large crowd would stay us off. He threw a gre- attended the funeral. nade right between my sergeant and

had rushed past. The big brute saw that his grenade did not phase our bunch, that we were coming on after as an admission of initial faliurs, the with his hands up yelling 'Kamerade.' noon according to an Exchange Tele- marine corps at the age of 15. He rad," and shot his bayonet clear tal.

mond the AIDS dver front at the benu. At the left of the bend, the famous German 10th divisions has made repeated attempts all day to closs, but all assults have been smashed by the splendidly ofrected firs of the American gunners, and not a such German had succeeded in getting over at this point

Confederate Veteran Answers Last Roll Call,

Mr. Asa Collins, a Contederate veteran and one of the best known citizens of the county, died at his home in Buford township Sunday morning parapet. For an hour before the cur- about 2 o'clock. Death came sudden ly and without warning. At 10:20 lery hammered the enemy positions: Saturday night Mr. Collins was in then came down our barrage. Every Monroe in fine spirits and seemingly one was on his toes and when the good health. He reached home and second came around to go 'over the retired about 11:30. About two o'clock his wife was awakened by his Attack formation was straggles and called to her son-in-law for assistance. They raised him to a

> pired a few minutes later. The deceased was born in Lanes Creek township in 1846. He joined the Confederate army when he was the close of the war. He was mar-

twelve children survive: Mesars, T. the infantry to all other branches of Gilbert Collins of Marshville townthe service. Now you know. I want- ship, L. W. Collins of Monroe, H. G. roe again for the kind treatment I ed the satisfaction of meeting the Collins of Albemarle, J. S. Collins of received while in your city, I remain Boche face to face, and this is the Monroe township, and Clayton D. Colonly branch of the service where one lins of Camp Jackson; Mrs. W. B. Mrs. know now that I am a better man Fannie Presson, Mrs. Blake Whitley than he is, and that the average and Mrs. Dessle Knight, all of Buford American soldier is far superior to township, Mrs. Vergie Preson of Monthe best German in a hand to hand roe township, and Mrs. Effie Crook of encounter. My men can count on an Goose Creek township. His wife and average of ten of the enemy per man. two sisters, Miss Sophie Collins, who In other words, I started the scrap made her home with her brother, and Mrs. Liza Broom of Wingate, also sur-

Mr. Collins was a brave soldier and can 'turn in' with the satisfaction a good man. He joined the Baptist of knowing that I have done as much church in his boyhood and remained as the average officer to put an end a consistent member until the time of his death. Although 72 years old at the time of his death he was very acmuch more grief when I have another five and was directing the work on The Boche is a heart- two farms. He had always enjoyed ess, bloody brute as long as he is fine helath and his sudden death came as a shock to his many felends over

Funeral services were conducted at

Again.

London, July 15 .- The bombardment of Paris with the German long him; so he jumped out of the trench range guns began again this after- is reported as missing, enlisted in the Sergeant said, 'Yes, a hell of a Kam- graph dispatch from the French capi-

Battle Gave No Sign at Night of Diminishing.

With the American Army on the Marne, July 15 .- (By the Associated Press)-Along the front as far as the eve can see the big guns were still flashing and roaring tonight and the battle gave no signs of diminish-American staff officers, nevering. theless, expect that the positions will return from the war. To this union be even more improved by morning. Along one extended sector of the Marne front, the Americans were in the open ground, making use as best they might of whatever shelter offered. The Germans were on hills on

the oppsite side of the river, show ering high explosives and gas shells upon them. But the boys from the United States went forward nevertheless, with gas masks adjusted, and crawling at times for considerable distances on all-fours.

In this way they advanced bit by bit, and when they came within range close enough to come to grips with the Germans, they drove the enemy back in quick order.

In a measure they repeated today the heroic deeds of those who defended the road to Paris in the second battle of the Marne.

French Officials Give Credit to the Americans,

Paris, July 15 .- In the desperate fighting which is reported in the official communication from the war office tonight the American troops are In the long sector between Dormans and Rheims, France-Italian troops are reported to be resisting the German assault valiantly and east of Rheims the enemy attack has met me, but it did not explode until we Bombardment of Paris Has Started what is characterized as "an irreducible defense."

> Raymond Joyner of Norfolk, who was a member of the first contingent to sail for France.

ing to get me. I hope to cause them