

HAVE YOU REDEEMED YOUR WAR SAVINGS PLEDGE CARD?

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PRESIDENT WILSON VISITED U. S. HOSPITAL ON SUNDAY

Mr. Wilson Spent Four Hours at Red Cross Hospital at Neuilly and Shook Hands with One Thousand and Two Hundred Americans.

President Wilson to-day visited the Red Cross hospital at Neuilly where he shook hands and talked with one thousand and two hundred badly wounded Americans for the most part survivors of the Chateau-Thierry action," says Saturday's Associated Press dispatch. It further states:

"Speaking of his experiences at the American hospital the President said: 'I went through the American hospital at Neuilly, with the greatest interest and the greatest satisfaction. I found the men admirably taken care of and almost without exception in excellent spirits.

"Only a very few of them looked really ill, and I think that their mothers and their friends would have been entirely pleased by their surroundings and by the alert look in their eyes and the keen interest they took in everything about them. 'I am sure that they will go back to their loved ones at home with a new feeling of joy, alike in their recovery and in the fine service which they have been able to render.'

"Going to the American hospital with the expectation of remaining an hour, the President found four hours all too short, as he felt that he could not leave without speaking with every man, and he expressed regret only of his inability to clasp the hand of every American soldier in France.

PRESIDENT LOOKED SAD.

"The President looked tired, and worn when the ordeal was finished, for notwithstanding the cheerfulness of the men and the care which they were receiving there were many affecting cases in the wards.

"When he came to one very badly wounded the President sat on the edge of the cot for a moment and asked where he was from and where he had been wounded. He admired his war crosses and decorations. Noticing that many of his wounds were in the legs, the President said: 'Why have we here no men wounded in the upper part of the body?'

THEY WHO HAVE 'GONE ON'

"Men who are wounded above the waist are not here; they have gone on," answered the soldier simply.

"One of the men the President came to stood proudly erect with medals on his blouse and one arm outstretched in an appliance for restoring its usefulness. He looked suggestively like a traffic policeman on duty.

"I am glad to see you look so cheerful," said the President.

"You have seen me many times before, Mr. President," responded the soldier. "I used to be a traffic policeman at the Grand Central Station. Don't you think I look natural?'

"The President laughed softly. It probably was the only merry moment he had in the hospital.

PROUD OF A NAMESAKE.

"Another strapping fellow gave his name as Private Wilson.

"I am proud to know I have a namesake like you," said the President.

"It is a very honorable name. I only tried to do it proud," responded the soldier.

"One soldier had lost both legs by a shell. I am thankful they didn't get an arm," he said cheerfully.

Sunday was Wilson day in Ireland. Meetings were held in more than 40 towns and resolutions drafted inviting President Wilson to visit Ireland and pledging him Ireland's support.

CHRISTMAS SURPRISE.

The Associated Press says that the American army has planned a Christmas surprise for the President and Mrs. Wilson. The information given out is as follows:

"Here is a guarded army secret concerning the President of the United States for publication in the United States, but not in France. The story has been passed by the army censor and concerns the welcome that is being arranged for the President at Christmas time.

The army is arranging for President and Mrs. Wilson a Christmas tree as a surprise and also the most gorgeous collection of German souvenirs yet gathered by the American army of occupation.

The souvenirs include officers' gold and steel helmets, anti-tank gun shells, swords, iron crosses and the like.

Passes good throughout the Third army area for President and Mrs. Wilson were issued today by the provost marshal.

How Americans Crossed the Meuse (The Literary Digest.)

The American crossing of the River Meuse, writes an Associated Press correspondent, will go down in history as a great deed of valor, and the troops who accomplished it will rank as heroes. The work, indeed, was a strategic move of unusual daring. It involved the forcing of a way over the one hundred and sixty-foot river, a half-mile-wide stretch of mud, and a sixty-six-foot canal in the face of a tremendous enemy fire. It also involved swimming by those who knew how and the pulling of others over on ropes. The operation is thus described:

The order to cross the canal came at mid-afternoon Monday. The troops received their grim instructions un-

der a sun which was shining for the first time in days. The men knew almost as well as their commanders the difficulty of the task and realized how well-nigh impossible its accomplishment would be. Yet they never doubted or hesitated.

The orders were to send over one brigade first, and if it failed to send another, and others one after the other if this became necessary. It was with dash that the Americans tackled the problem. Theoretically they had the choice of crossing anywhere for five miles. Actually they were limited to one point, where two-thirds of a mile of mud lay between the river itself and canal that roughly parallels the river.

The Germans were too firmly entrenched at all other spots. They had not protected themselves with trenches here only because they never dreamed that the Americans would be daring as to try to negotiate the passage. This was a short distance north of Brielles.

All the swimmers of the first brigade were first singled out and put in the van. It was intended to attack in this way on the theory that the swimmers were not likely to be hit by the Germans owing to the fact that they would be nearly submerged. On the other hand, they could carry with them ropes and other paraphernalia for assisting non-swimmers across. The building of pontoon bridges was put off until at least some American elements had crossed the river.

Notwithstanding some losses and the fact that the swimmers could not defend themselves, many of them reached the east bank of the river with lines which were drawn taut across the stream. Others floated on rafts and collapsible canvas boats. These men had less success than the swimmers, because they were better marks for the enemy's rifles and the boats could easily be sunk by bullets even if their occupants were not hit.

Close to where the swimmers crossed the engineers began to throw over pontoon boats and a tiny foot-bridge. The pontoons were destroyed by the enemy, but the bridge remained intact and added materially to the constantly increasing numbers of men arriving on the west bank of the river. Soon after dark the first brigade was across the first barrier, and more men were ready to make the journey.

The second phase of the perilous undertaking was crossing the kilometer of mud between the river and the canal. The Americans stumbled along through a withering fire by the enemy. Their feet sank into the mud, slowing down the pace to a laborious walk, but they got through with some depletion in their numbers. Then came another gallant achievement.

The next phase constituted the crossing of the narrower but deeper canal, with its sheer sides and the Germans almost at the very top of the eastern edge. The swimmers again got into action and plunged through, notwithstanding the enemy fire, and scrambled to the top. Here the men divided their attention in driving off the enemy and helping non-swimmers across by the same method used at the river. Two bridges finally were laid down by the engineers, greatly facilitating crossings.

These two bridges withstood attempts of the enemy to destroy them and contributed largely to the speed in getting the American troops over.

When the swimmers reached the edge of the canal they could no land without the aid of grappling hooks, which had to be caught onto the top of the wall edging the canal so that the swimmers could pull themselves up by means of ropes. It would have been a hard enough task for men undisturbed by the enemy's guns, but its accomplishment was almost inconceivably difficult under the violent enemy fire.

With two waterways and two-thirds of a mile of mudland successfully passed, the Americans had only the customary fighting and went to it with no delay and in ever increasing numbers.

The Germans, who apparently had assumed that it was impossible to cross the Meuse, gave way without great resistance before men who could brave their fire, swim two streams, and cross a swamp with almost charmed lives and attack them without pausing for even a moment.

Henry M. Nisbet of Waxhaw Dead.

Mr. Henry M. Nisbet died at his home in Waxhaw Saturday morning of pneumonia following influenza. He was the son of the late Capt. T. R. Nisbet, and was born in Lancaster county March 8, 1880, being 38 years old. For a number of years he had been engaged in the hardware business at Waxhaw, first with the A. W. Heath Co., and for the past fifteen years as manager of the hardware department of Niven, Price & Co.

Mr. Nisbet was married on October 31, 1906, to Miss Metta Oates of Rock Hill, who with two children survive him. Mr. G. L. Nisbet, editor of the Waxhaw Enterprise, and Mr. T. R. Nisbet of Waxhaw are half brothers.

The deceased was a good business man and a devout Christian, being an elder in the Presbyterian church and superintendent of the Waxhaw Presbyterian Sunday school.

Funeral services were conducted Sunday morning by Rev. W.W. Boyce, Rev. R. J. McIlwaine and Rev. Mr. Myers.

Lanes Creek Camp W. O. W. will meet in regular session next Saturday night, Dec. 28. All members must pay their dues the first of each month.—D. H. Parker.

PRES. WILSON TO VISIT ENGLAND ON THURSDAY

Great Gathering Will Meet the President — American Army Plans Christmas Surprise for President and Mrs. Wilson—Passes Issued Throughout Third Army Area.

President Wilson will arrive in London on Thursday, a public holiday, and this fact makes it certain that a great gathering will await the President's arrival.

The only handicap to would-be observers is the fact that the distance from the station to the palace is so short that it is likely there will be many persons who will be unable to get places from which they can witness the passage of the royal and presidential parties.

A better opportunity to see the President will be offered the public when the American executive goes to the Guild hall Saturday to receive an address from the lord mayor of London. President Wilson then will traverse the route the king usually follows when he visits the city for public functions—through the Strand and Fleet street and past St. Paul's cathedral, and returning along the Thames embankment.

CAMP GREENE TROUBLES.

If It Is Abandoned It Threatens Financial Disaster to Charlotte Chamber of Commerce—Committee Has Been to Washington to Confer with Officials.

If Camp Greene is abandoned by the War Department it will mean financial disaster to the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce, so states the Washington correspondent of the Raleigh News and Observer in Sunday's paper. We can hardly believe this as neither the Charlotte Observer or Charlotte News have had a word about it in their news columns or anywhere else.

The News and Observer correspondence is as follows:

The adage that troubles come not singly is peculiarly applicable to Camp Greene in its relation to Charlotte. The abandonment of the camp does not wipe the slate clean; entanglements have bobbed up. The Charlotte Chamber of Commerce is threatened with bankruptcy unless the War Department can take care of the camp site for another twelve months.

The land was furnished the Government, rent free, by the city of Charlotte, the respective owners of the property obtaining the rentals through the Chamber of Commerce as taken by popular subscriptions.

The leases have been so worded that if the camp occupies the land for a week in 1919 a year's rent will have to be paid. Senator Lee S. Overman to-day wired P. C. Whitlock, president of the Chamber of Commerce: "Your camp site lease proposition referred by General Jervey with his favorable endorsement to the real estate, storage and traffic division of the War Department under General Goethals with the recommendation that the matter be taken up by that division with the chamber of Commerce with the view of arranging details."

Corresponding to the contents of that telegram, the belief was expressed this afternoon by Hubert Martin, secretary to Senator Overman, that the War Department would pay the camp site lease for another year. The amount will be approximately twenty thousand dollars. "If this is not done, I am frank to say that disaster will most certainly overtake the Chamber of Commerce," writes President P. C. Whitlock. He states further:

"Sometime ago, I went with a committee from the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce to see General Jervey, and took up with him the proposition of the Government taking over the leases of the Camp Greene site for the next year, which are now held by the Chamber of Commerce.

GETS SITE RENT FREE.

"The land on which Camp Greene is located is furnished the Government rent free, by the city of Charlotte. We pay the rent to the various land owners, and the leases are so drawn that if the camp is occupied for any part of 1919, we will have to pay rent for the whole year.

"The amount is in the neighborhood of twenty thousand dollars. The Chamber of Commerce is dependent upon subscriptions to pay this, and if the soldiers are to be removed soon, which they will be, in the nature of things, it will be impossible for us to collect the subscriptions for the year 1919.

"The troubles of Camp Greene were due to no fault of ours, as we complied with all the promises made to the War Department, but were due to circumstances over which we had no control. This was succeeded in effect by Secretary Baker some time ago. This being so, it has seemed to us that the Government could very well afford to take over the leases for next year, and pay the rent. If this is not done, I am frank to say that disaster will most certainly overtake the Chamber of Commerce."

He Was Convinced.

An orthodox churchman objected to wiping the dishes after each meal. He insisted that it was not a man's job.

His wife quoted the following Scripture: "I will wipe Jerusalem as a man wipeth a dish, wiping it and turning it upside down." The man is still wiping dishes.

THE POLICY OF THE AMERICAN ARMY OF OCCUPATION

They Amaze the Boche by the Total Lack of Pomp and Austerity—U. S. Army is Kept Kept up to the Usual Strength and Has Adopted a Policy in Keeping With American Ideals.

H. Noble Hall in a special wireless from the London Times to The Charlotte Observer says:

The American infantry and the artillery and the cavalry have taken up the positions assigned to them, and, although everyone realizes that the war is over as far as actual fighting is concerned, the American Army is being kept kept up to the same high pitch as when hostilities were in progress.

The effect upon the civilian population of the great display of forces which the Americans have made has been most noticeable. As regiment after regiment crossed the Rhine and hundreds and hundreds of pieces of artillery rumbled in an element of respect entered into the attitude of the people which hitherto had been almost entirely lacking. They were impressed by the youth, the splendid physique, the lavish equipment of the United States forces; by the enormous quantity of supplies, the abundance of rubber-tired lorries and motor cars; and by the business like manner in which the American occupation is being carried out. The impression created upon a military people such as the Germans is all the more extraordinary, as not even the most rabid foe of militarism could accuse the American Army of bowing down before the god of war. Here we have the spectacle of democracy in arms occupying an enemy territory with as much regard for their democratic ideals as they would display if they were called out to occupy one of their own towns in a time of industrial unrest.

MARTIAL LAW NOT RIGID.

Indeed, I have seen martial law more strictly enforced in the United States than it is to-day in Germany. Beyond the fact that the inhabitants are requested to register with the American military authorities and must not change their abode without permission; that drinking places can only be open at stated hours, much the same as in London in wartime, and that the press is subject to censorship by American instead of German authorities, there is no change in the life of the people.

German civilians are not required to salute American officers, the American flag or the American national anthem. Indeed, I have yet to hear "The Star-Spangled Banner" played in Germany. In everything the American Army does there is a close adherence to the old common law maxim that a soldier is merely a civilian garbed in a particular manner for carrying out specific duties.

Impressed as they undoubtedly are by the display of "force without stint or limit," the Germans are perhaps even more amazed by the total lack of pomp and circumstance in the military establishment. The cold contempt with which the British in their sector have stretched forth an iron hand of unbending authority finds no counterpart here, any more than the glory and glamor with which the French have surrounded their return to the Rhine. It is easy to misinterpret the attitude of the American Army, but no one who has spent many years in America and seen that arm created, any other attitude would appear unnatural.

GENEROSITY UTTERLY LOST.

The tragic feature of it that this very genuine generosity, which is inspired by a lofty idealism, is utterly lost upon the Boche, who, cannot reconcile the possession of overwhelming force with an attitude of sympathetic toleration. But facts are facts, and such as one must regret that the unity of command which achieved such magnificent results in winning the war has not resulted in the establishment of identical regulations throughout the entire occupied area, the bearing of the American army is in accord with both American tradition and American sentiment.

The Americans, as a Nation, have been taught to do their own thinking, and the whole American Army, from the commanding general down to the last private, is made up of men who are conscious of what they hoped to achieve for man-kind—the men to whom democracy has been and now is an active principle of conduct. They fought the Germans at the Marne, the Vesle, St. Mihiel and the Argonne forest with a valor to which both friend and foe have paid the highest tribute and, as fighters, the "doughboys" have proved themselves the equal of any soldiers in the world. For months in the shell-shattered districts of desolated France they slept on manure piles and amid ruins. Of the real France they saw almost nothing; only the scars of ravaged lands. They cheerfully endured all the hardships of war that has deprived hell of half its terrors, and now that the enemy has sued for peace and accepted the terms of an armistice which makes the resumption of hostilities almost impossible soldiers suddenly find themselves transferred to the banks of the fair "Rhine" to live among scenes of which Byron and Victor Hugo have sung, believing in their hearts that the war is over and confident that Germany will be made to pay for the damages done in France and Belgium.

The American soldier now thinks mostly of home. They know little and care less about European politics or international prestige. Here when thru the streets and brightly lighted towns or in charming old world villages, they go to their billets and they sleep in good beds and between real sheets—for the Boche has lied about his linen as he has lied about his church bells and his food—a haughty attends to their wants, and all unconscious of the contemptuous hatred of the junker, the youthful soldiers of the great republic cannot but feel a certain allurements.

In their hearts they have no hatred for the German people, and as the Boche is anxious to make his own lot easier, the Americans find here much to remind of the peaceful, music-loving, beer-drinking Germans they knew in their own country.

So the American army did entirely in accord with the wishes of those in authority over it—has adopted a policy of occupation entirely its own.

Where is North Carolina? (The Raleigh News and Observer.)

It is a good practice to look an unpleasant fact in the face once in a while. Two men were discussing North Carolina a day or two ago on a train passing down the road and one remarked that the State was like a pile of brick—it had the making of something, but until it was cemented together it needed a chart to tell just where it is. He argued that Western North Carolina is partly in Tennessee. "Anything made up there goes out that way," he said. "Johnson City and Knoxville get you in the west, Spartanburg in the south, Lynchburg, Richmond and Norfolk on the other end, and where is North Carolina? Your cheese goes out over the mountains to the west, and you eat cheese that comes from Virginia. Your apples rot on the ground and your grocer sells you apples from Vermont. Your peanuts go out to Norfolk and come back to you in oil with sardines from Maine. All your railroads are built to get away from home on and to get your stuff out to the other States, and to bring stuff back from them instead of to bring stuff to you from home. Where is North Carolina any way? If it isn't scattered around over Tennessee and Virginia everything it makes seems to be."

Possibly there is too much truth in that criticism to object to it. Possibly the conditions are all right, and possibly they are not, but they are not such that they sound good. There is no possible doubt that North Carolina is too far away from itself. The State boasts the greatest possible range of agricultural products, for instance. Yet a cantaloupe or a watermelon at Asheville costs as much as diamonds, and who in New Bern ever saw Watauga county cheese? Damask cotton weaves made in Kings Mountain may be sold in Wilmington, but it is after the goods have been freighted to New York and then freighted back again to this State. No line of railroad that touches the east end of the State touches west end. Raleigh and Charlotte and Greensboro are on lines that run trains over two hundred miles. Most of the other centers never see a car that travels much farther back and forth than to entitle it to any name than a shuttle train. How do you go from Wilson to Durham? Go to the station agent and have him either it out for you. How do you go from New York to Jacksonville? Take the Seaboard or the Southern or the Coast Line train straight thru. Simple as falling off a log. But it takes a first lieutenant of intelligence to work his way with a detachment of troops from Camp Bragg at Fayetteville to the new wireless station at Monroe. Ask your station agent how to get a barrel of oil from Baltimore and he answers you without looking up from his work. Ask him about a sack of buckwheat flour from Wilkesboro and he says to come in to-morrow and he will have it looked up.

Can't the Legislature get North Carolina gathered up in some way?

German Propaganda Didn't Effect Negroes.

(The Statesville Landmark.)

Early after the entrance of the United States into the war there were stories of pro-German attempts to incite an uprising of the negroes in the South. The alleged attempts aroused little interest, as they were not generally believed.

A Bruce Bielaski, chief of the government bureau of investigation, who has been telling a congressional committee an interesting and detailed story of German propaganda work in this country, prior to and after our entrance into the war, for which the German government paid more than seven hundred and fifty million dollars, says that efforts of the Germans to create pro-German feeling among the negroes of the South proved entirely unsuccessful. Stories were circulated to the effect that the negroes were descendants of the Indians and that they were rightful owners of the land instead of the white people. Another story designed to create feeling against the English, was a perverted account of the aid given the South during the civil war.

That the negroes were loyal we all know. In some instances they put to shame their white neighbors. But it is worth while to print this testimony from a man whose business it was to find the facts about the German propaganda.

From the inability of Government to secure food for their people grows revolution and chaos.

A NUMBER MAKE SUGGESTIONS REGARDING LEGISLATION

To Messrs. Redwine and Griffin — Want State High School Law Changed—One Man Wanted Heavy Tax On Bird Dogs—Give Recorder's Court Jurisdiction in Civil Cases.

A number of the citizens of the county appeared before Messrs. R. B. Redwine and B. H. Griffin, elected to represent this county at the next legislature in the recent election, Thursday, Friday and Saturday of last week to suggest legislation that they would like to have passed. Sometime ago Mr. Redwine extended to the people of the county through the local papers an invitation to call on these days and make suggestions.

Probably the suggestion most worthy of comment was one relative to the State high school law. As the law now exists high schools in towns of more than 1200 population are not entitled to state aid. It was suggested that this law be changed or so amended that towns of more than this population could secure state aid where it was needed.

All who called to make suggestions favored some kind of a dog law that would tend to decrease the number of worthless dogs in the state. One man wanted an exceedingly high tax placed upon bird dogs. It was his opinion that this would be one of the wisest pieces of legislation possible.

Several suggestions were made regarding the Recorder's court. It was proposed that a piece of legislation which would be welcomed would be one giving the Recorder jurisdiction in civil cases where the amount in question does not exceed \$2,500. It was suggested that if this was passed that the salary of the Recorder be increased.

Another man who appeared before the legislators-elect suggested that the legislature should pass a resolution expressing itself in favor of government ownership of railroads. All who called were in favor of good roads. It seemed to be the prevailing opinion that the chain gang should be done away with. The reason advanced for this was that it is being run at a considerable expense and that with the workings of the quart law, and other whiskey laws, the number of those serving on the roads had materially decreased.

The legislature convenes in Raleigh on January 7th. Messrs. Griffin and Redwine will leave to attend it about the 6th. Mr. J. N. Price will represent the county in the Senate. All the suggestions made last week will be carefully considered.

SAVED ITALIAN ART WORKS.

Army Let None of Real Value Fall Into the Invader's Hands. (New York World.)

How Italy saved her art treasures was explained yesterday by the Italian Bureau of Information in this city.

In Italy, the boast of the Germans that they had on exhibition in Berlin a valuable collection of paintings and sculpture, captured in the drive into Northern Italy last fall, has afforded great amusement to the people. It is quite possible that the materialistic Prussians may really believe that the few pieces of art which the Italians allowed to fall into their hands were of real value, but the facts, according to the article, are that only a very limited and mediocre collection was left to be plundered.

As soon as it became evident that the Italian line was wavering, Arduno Colasanti, at the request of the Director General of the Finance, was placed in charge of the work of saving the art treasures. The supreme commander of the army placed at Colasanti's disposal trucks, necessary timber, and men to carry on the work.

There was not much time for deliberation. The instructions were to keep in contact with the enemy and to remove art objects only when it became evident that a town was to fall. Colasanti was therefore obliged to watch 400 miles of front and rush his trucks and men to a yielding point at a moment's notice.

To be ready for an emergency the citizens had in the meantime prepared for shipment all the works of art in the threatened towns. Frequently it happened that these were departing on trucks from one side of a town just as the Austrians were entering from the other.

In Beluno the citizens had boxed up all the collections in the Museum, but there was no means of transportation. The high command at once supplied army trucks despite the pressure of the moment.

In the meantime another party went up further into the mountains and saved paintings by Bunello and memoirs in the original manuscript of Pietro Lotto. This was accomplished while the Austrians were actually in the villages of Quinto al Sile and Piave di Cadore.

In many places while the bombardment was going on, the soldiers would try to save frescos from destruction. Often their efforts were unavailing, but they did not give up, and during their rest periods would prowl among the ruins collecting colored plaster, which might be put together again.

—Mr. H. M. McCain of Jackson township has purchased a registered Jersey bull and intends to raise some high grade cattle.