

State Library
March 1968

THE MONROE JOURNAL

PUBLISHED TWICE EACH WEEK — TUESDAY AND FRIDAY

VOL. 24. NO. 104.

MONROE, N. C., TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, 1919.

\$1.50 PER YEAR CASH.

JOHN THINKS ALLIES WON A GREAT MILITARY VICTORY

And Not One Due to Internal and Economic Reasons as the Germans Claim—The People Are Not Starving, and Military Supplies Are Found to Be Unlimited.

"The longer one stays in Germany the more convinced one is that the Allies won a great military victory," begins a letter from Private John Beasley, The Journal's editor, with the American Army of Occupation. The 56th Pioneers are very proud to be a part of that army and to be attached to the 42nd (Rainbow) division. John's letter explaining the statement quoted above is as follows:

Ahweller, Germany, Dec. 29.—The longer one stays in Germany the more convinced one is that the Allies won a great military victory. As the people in the states are doubtless aware the German military leaders attribute their defeat to internal and economic reasons—refusing to admit the breaking of their prized and once considered by them indomitable, military machine. The scope of my observations have been limited, but combining them with the views of others, who have been in touch with conditions in other sections of the empire, are such as to really convince me of the truth of the above assertion.

To begin with, the people are not starving, as many a "Copenhagen dispatch" (purely of German origin) led us to believe. Food is not plentiful by any means, but there seems to be no suffering in this part of the country. Every cellar contains a generous pile of potatoes, and one sees much more poultry strutting in the yards of German homes than in France. Bread is still issued by the government just like it is in France and Belgium; and, if the supply of American wheat was closed to the Allies, Germany would be just as well off in this respect as France. Neither does it take a William Jennings Bryan to comprehend the irony in a situation where people are alleged to be clamoring for bread yet continue to brew the pre-war amount of beer! Beer the German people have in large quantities, and it is sold at a price that would make the eyes of the American beer-hound wax red with envy. Though meat may be a little scarce, one must remember that Germany had access to Holland's supply of dairy products.

The American Army of Occupation (of which I am proud to be a member) in its march to Germany passed through the evacuated sections of France and Belgium. There, instead of the chaos and destruction apparent on all sides in the battle area, we saw growing fields of crops, planted and cultivated with such systematic thoroughness as to reflect credit even on the barbarous Huns. They overlooked no idle acre; every conceivable spot was cultivated to provide sustenance for the army. Unless I am badly mistaken Germany was no nearer the verge of starvation than she was in the third year of the war. It is certain that her surplus supply of foodstuffs lasted no longer than two years. And it is equally certain that she was cultivating as much acreage as she was in the second or even the first year of the war. Enough for the food situation.

On the triumphant march to the Rhine our company halted for a few days to do guard duty at Mont St. Martin, a French town just a few miles from the Belgium line. There we had our second surprising, but gratifying revelation. In the four years they had spent in this town the Germans had erected a half dozen or more immense factories for the manufacture of war materials. And did we find them, like the proverbial "Old Mother Hubbard's" cupboard, bare? We did not. There were tanks in process of construction, parts of aeroplanes, and even a honey and jam factory with quite a store of its products. Plenty of raw materials were also lying around the railroad yards; in fact, the factories presented a scene similar to that noticeable about a big American plant after "quitting" time. Those factories could have continued at work on war materials indefinitely. You must remember that this was in France, and not at Essen, Germany, where the bulk of the enemy's munitions of war were manufactured.

A few days later we moved across the line to Athus, Belgium, where the Germans had built many large warehouses and stationed ammunition dumps. In one of these warehouses I know there were thousands and thousands of machine guns. In the yards were hundreds of big guns. Really, I couldn't begin to enumerate the amount and variety of war materials left behind at Athus by the Huns. The American army confiscated a pile of horse-shoes that we conservatively estimated to be worth, at current market quotations, \$300,000. This, no doubt, will give you an idea of the immense amount of stores the enemy left at this little dump, only one of hundreds.

I have not even taken into consideration the unexploited resources of Russia. The amount of supplies Germany obtained from this hapless country is as yet undeterminable, but it must have been large. Granted that Germany was forced to rob her churches of their sacred bells to secure brass, and that she suffered a shortage of copper and tin and cotton, all necessities of war, what was all this in comparison to what we of the South lacked when we put up

such a stubborn but losing fight back in the 60's?

The truth is that German machine, the like of which the world has never seen crumbled before the fierce thrusts of the British, French and Americans! In the test between steel and blood and courage the latter won. Right conquered might, and the free peoples of the world by their victory, won after four years of untold suffering and sacrifices, have proven conclusively that they will not have their cherished institutions and manners tampered with.

Don't be misled by the flimsy excuses of the German war leaders. The Allies won a great victory, one of such sweeping magnitude that the pages of history will fail to reveal a parallel.

By refusing to admit defeat like the immortal Lee did at Appomattox, Germany, the brute when flushed with victory, presents a sorry and despicable spectacle.

POSTMASTER WINCHESTER ASKS THAT W. S. S. BE KEPT

He Has Been Kept Busy the Past Few Weeks Cashing Them—Appeal Issued by Mr. McAdoo Regarding Matter.

Postmaster E. C. Winchester requests that those who have purchased War Savings stamps should not have them cashed unless it is a necessity. The past few weeks Mr. Winchester has been kept busy cashing these stamps, often being forced to obtain the money from a central office. The people of Union county purchased a good per centage of the stamps allotted them for 1918, but at the rate they have been having them cashed the past few weeks most of them will have been cashed before they reach their maturity value in 1922.

Some people bring their stamps to have them cashed, stating that their reason for doing so is because the "war is over." The attention of these people should be directed to the fact that though the fighting has ceased the great expense of the war will continue for many months, and that in possibly for many years, and that in any event the plan to defray these expenses requires that the Government should have the use of the proceeds of the issue of the war savings stamps until their maturity. Every payment of war savings certificates before maturity interferes to that extent with the plan to finance the war.

Hon. W. G. McAdoo, formerly secretary of the treasury, urges that the stamps should be kept in the following words:

"Expenditures for November were greater than in any similar period. These expenditures, growing out of the war, must be met by borrowing from the people, and their magnificent response heretofore to the Government's requirements makes me confident that they will not fail to continue their support to the end that all payments resulting from war necessities will be promptly met. Much remains to be done. Our brave troops must be maintained and paid until their work is fully accomplished and they are returned to their homes. This is not a time to relax our efforts and the Treasury Department is making plans for larger and even more important work during the coming year. Please make every effort to bring this to the attention of the people in your district and to urge upon them the continued holding of their war saving certificates, the fulfillment of their pledges, and additional purchases as their means permit." This statement was issued on December 5, 1918, before Mr. McAdoo had resigned as Secretary of the Treasury.

Red Cross Made American Boys Happy at Christmas.

Private Lee A. Tomberlin, son of J. L. Tomberlin, with the American Expeditionary Forces in France, wrote in a letter to The Journal the following story that tells how the Red Cross made our boys happy at Christmas:

To the Editor of The Journal:—Fifty American men and women, members of the American Red Cross, worked tooth and nail each day and night before Christmas, filling the large gray woolen socks that were given to the boys that brought back the good old Christmas cheer of the U. S. A. to each man in the Vichy hospital center. Just after dinner each day the workers assembled and labored until a late hour of the night, so that every boy would be made happy. Cheerful smiles glowed on the faces of all when the secret came out that the Red Cross was looking after its boys. Our fifteen thousand socks were filled by Christmas morning. The way the Red Cross filled each sock was this: First came boxes of matches and cigarettes; next candy, then figs and nuts (all fresh from "God's country"). A few bars of chocolate, the real sweet creamy kind, were dropped in, followed by some sweet biscuits that pleased all the doughboys; some shaving soap, a tooth brush or some useful article completed the filling of the sock. The workers filled about three thousand socks each night. On Christmas day the Red Cross girls gave the boys cigarettes, chocolate candy, nuts, cakes and hot chocolate. This lasted from early morning until sunset, and the day was one of the happiest and cheeriest for the American boys. Nothing was too good for those who, because of their loyalty to their nation, were obliged to spend the great day so dear to the hearts of the civilized world far away from home.

FIVE CASES AGAINST HOUSTON HEARD BY RECORDER

Found Guilty in All Cases—Court Withholds Judgment in One Case and Houston Receives Sentences in Other Cases Totalling 360 Days on Roads.

Because of the absence in Washington of Mayor J. C. Sikes, aiding Mr. R. L. Stevens in the prosecution, the eleven cases against Bob Houston, colored, were not heard Saturday but continued until Monday. In court it was agreed to try only the cases in which the Recorder had jurisdiction at that time and to continue the preliminaries in the other cases, over which the Superior court has jurisdiction, until Monday, February 3rd. The cases heard Monday were: larceny of the key to a cell in the common jail of Union county, larceny of an ax, the property of Mr. R. E. Carnes, larceny of a watch belonging to Mr. M. C. Howie, larceny of a wrist watch, cameo pin and shirt belonging to Addie Walker, a colored woman, and larceny of a quantity of goods from the store of Mr. H. L. McManus. Houston was found guilty in all these cases. Recorder Lemmond withheld judgment in the case of the larceny of the ax belonging to Mr. Carnes. The defendant drew a ninety day sentence upon the roads in each of the other cases, totalling 360 days.

The first case disposed of was the larceny of the jail key. Deputy Sheriff Clifford Fowler, Constable M. L. Threatt and Mr. W. T. Stewart related how that the key seemingly took wings and flew off a table on which it had been placed, and how upon search it was found between the bed clothes on Houston's bunk.

Following this case the case of the larceny of an ax belonging to Mr. R. E. Carnes was taken up. Mr. Carnes said that he had missed his ax some time in December, and that a few days before it had disappeared Houston had been doing some work for him and remarked about the ax looking like a good one. Mr. Carnes, from two axes handed him, selected one which he said was his. He identified it by a place on the handle which he said he had cut down with a drawing knife. Officers testified that they had found the ax on Houston's back porch behind a pile of straw, seemingly hidden.

After this the case of the larceny of a watch belonging to Mr. M. C. Howie was taken up. Testifying, Mr. Howie said that on or about the night of August 16 he had placed his watch on the dresser before retiring. The next morning it was gone, he said. He identified a watch handed him as the one which had been stolen.

The State then placed Wallace Lawson on the stand and asked him if he had not seen Houston with the watch in question upon several occasions. He replied that he had. On cross examination Mr. J. J. Parker wanted to know if Lawson if one of these occasions was not when he was at Houston's house attempting to pawn the shot gun for which Houston was now charged with stealing. Lawson replied that he had not pawned or attempted to pawn a gun to Houston. Hamp Barber, colored, was introduced by the State to corroborate the testimony of Lawson. On cross examination Mr. Parker asked the witness if he had not sold the property identified as having been stolen from the store of Mr. H. L. McManus to Houston. The negro denied having sold anything to Houston.

In the case of the larceny of a wrist watch, cameo pin and shirt belonging to Addie Walker, colored, the Walker woman failed to positively identify the pin handed her as the one which had disappeared from her home, but she said it resembled it. Neither did she swear a shirt secured from Houston by the officers was the one taken from her home, but said it was one of the same pattern, color and size. She had purchased the shirt from Mr. Roscoe Phifer and Mr. Phifer, on the stand, said that the shirt secured from Houston was the same size, color and pattern of shirt sold to the Walker woman but he would not swear positively that it was the one. He also said on the stand that several days after he had sold the shirt that a negro, he thought it was Houston, but would not give his oath to that effect, brought the shirt back and wanted to exchange it for a smaller one. He refused to make the exchange because the shirt had been soiled.

The last case heard was for the larceny of a quantity of meat, sugar and flour, a box of cigars, a watch and several knives from Mr. H. L. McManus' store about a mile west of town. Mr. McManus identified several of the articles as ones taken from his store. Deputy Sheriff Clifford Fowler testified that Houston had told him that he had purchased the articles named above from Hamp Barber, colored. Barber, on the stand, denied this and no other evidence was introduced to prove it.

Houston did not take the stand in any of the six cases and no evidence was introduced by the defense. Six cases against the negro, over which the Recorder has no jurisdiction, being breaking and entering, and attempted highway robbery, will be heard Monday before Recorder Lemmond to determine if there is probable cause. If probable cause is found Houston will be bound over to Superior court on these charges.

—Triplets, one boy and two girls, were born to Liza Colts, colored, wife of Lewis Colts, who lives on Mr. C. E. Houston's farm north of town.

CORP. SAM LEE TELLS OF HIS TRIP INTO GERMANY.

The Scenery Through the Mountains of Germany Unusually Beautiful, But No Easy Job to Drive 5 1/2 Ton Trucks Through Them.

"Imagine us moving 200 loaded 5 1/2 ton trucks over the mountains known as 'German Switzerland,' says Corporal Sam Lee in a letter to his mother, Mrs. T. C. Lee. His letter is interesting as he tells something of his Christmas Day spent in Germany. Motor Supply Train No. 413, A. P. O. 775, Mayen, Germany, Christmas Day.—My Dear Mother:—I suppose you've decided long before now that the Germans had my number after all, but this is not the case and I am as well and as happy as can be. The only trouble is that it has been impossible for me to write before now. We have been on the move continually and such a move I've never seen. Imagine us moving 200 loaded 5 1/2 ton trucks over the mountains known as "German Switzerland." This is just what we were up against and you can not imagine the work it took over those roads. The whole of the German army had just moved over the roads, followed closely by our doughboys and artillery. Now if the mountains of Switzerland have anything on the ones we crossed, I for one, do not care to see them. Then, too, when it was raining and sleeting every day, you can possibly imagine what we were up against with those loaded trucks when a skid may mean a drop of a mere thousand feet. The scenery was beautiful but owing to the weather conditions and the work we had to do I could not naturally enjoy it so much as if I'd been free. I had one little advantage over most of the fellows of being able to ride in a closed car with the officers. We had "beauceup Frances" for the payroll and since I had it in our small field desk and had to keep a rather close eye upon it I put the desk in the car and had a good trip. I'd like to write you a book and tell you all about where I've been in France and Germany, but it would take a book, so I'm going to wait until I come home to tell you all about it. Just this, I've been over the whole of the front from Luneville, which you will find just to the East of Naney, to Verdun. I had my first excitement at Luneville, staying there for three days, and from there to a military camp just North of Toul. From there we went to Flirey. This is where we were on the 11th. On our way up we went by way of Verdun, Aumetz (Lorraine) Bettembourg, Luxembourg and from there over on the Moselle to Trier, Berncastell, over to the Rhine through Castellau, Boppard, Coblenz and are now in Mayen.

This is a nice little city of 2500, and the people treat us all as kings. They can't ever do enough for us. I have a room with gas light, stove and a large leather bed. Think I deserve it though, after all we've had to go through with for the last month, and a half. I have been able to get two or three letters and a paper or so and was sure glad to get them. You ask if I know anything about what our organization expects to do. Well, of course no one knows anything definite but we all know this much. We are attached to the Fourth Army Corps, which is composed of the First, Third, Fourth, Forty-second (the Rainbow) divisions. Now these are the oldest and best known divisions over here and if things go as they should they should be among the early arrivals. But anyway, when you see of these divisions coming home I'll be with them and I don't care much how soon it happens. We have been with these divisions ever since we came to the front and you know from their "rep" that we've seen 'em. I want to stay until the thing is fixed for once and all but when that is done they can't take me home too quick. I feel that I've done my best and have tried not to complain but I think God on this Xmas day that from the looks of things now we will never have to do many things that we have willingly done. I feel that I've profited by my experiences in many ways but I've been through, seen and heard many things I hope I'll never have to again.

Well, Mother, this is Christmas Day and naturally my thoughts lead me to my home. I wonder what all of you are doing today. It is very beautiful here today for the first time in a month I suppose. It snowed until about 5 o'clock this morning and about 7 the sun came out and it makes a beautiful sight. The snow is about a foot deep and the kids are all having the time of their lives. In a way I feel sorry for them. The lady I am staying with has three children, about 14, 11 and 9 years of age. Their father was killed or wounded and thrown into the field before his wounds healed, causing his death. The mother is compelled to work to support them and it is pitiful. About all they live on is real dark bread and hardly enough at that. They have a good comfortable home and that is about all they do have. I did not have any money for Xmas but I borrowed a little from the Lieutenant and bought them some small toys. I took the car and went out for a small Christmas tree and fixed it up for them. I think they were just about the happiest kids in the world this morning. They nearly ran me crazy. Their mother was allowed a little extra bread and a little meat for Xmas and when dinner time came they came after me and would make me share their Xmas dinner. They had two or three English walnuts and a

cookie or two on my plate just as on theirs.

Oh, yes! I forgot to tell you that my box came yesterday and I thank you a thousand times for the good cake. It came through in fine shape and is just about the best I ever ate. I gave the kids and the mother a small piece and they nearly went crazy. At our kitchen we had apple dumplings, cake and cookies, mashed potatoes and roast beef for dinner, so you see I have had a happy Christmas. Hope all of you have had as happy.

This is certainly a beautiful country and especially the Rhine valley. Coblenz is a large city and has many interesting buildings and things of note. With lots of love and good wishes to all, I am, your son, Sam.

SECRETARY DANIELS WANTS RADIO STATION ERECTED

So Does Senator Simmons—Senate Committee Scheduled to Decide Yesterday Whether It Will Allow Money—Daniels Advises That Crops Be Planted.

Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels, believing that it is a peace time necessity, wants the radio station at Baker's built, and if the Senate appropriations committee will allow the money it will be done, state the members of the delegation who returned from Washington on Sunday. The delegation was composed of Messrs. R. A. Morrow, F. G. Henderson, T. L. Riddle and Mayor Sikes. The delegation held conferences with Secretary Daniels and Senators Overman and Simmons. At the conference with Mr. Daniels the latter explained that the appropriation committee of the house had recently voted that the money which had been appropriated for the use of the Navy Department as it saw fit be turned back to the treasury. The appropriations committee of the Senate, members of the delegation say he informed them, would meet Monday to vote on the same question. If they are convinced that the radio station is a necessity they will allow the Navy Department the money with which to build it. Senator Overman is chairman of this committee.

Secretary Daniels is of the opinion that construction of the station should proceed, members of the delegation state. The Monroe men state that he gave as his reason for this opinion that within the course of eighteen months more ship tonnage will be sailing the seven seas than ever before. The present radio facilities will be inadequate to keep in close enough touch with the ships as they wander up and down the sides of the ocean. Because of this it is said that Mr. Daniels wishes the station built at once. It is understood that Senators Simmons and Overman concur in this opinion, and argument along this line would be presented to the Senate committee when it met yesterday. However, Secretary Daniels advises that the property owners of the site at Baker's proceed to plant their crops because it might be some time before the money is available for the construction of the station, if allowed by the committee. He informed the Monroe delegation that if after crops have been planted the money is secured with which to erect the station that the planters of the crops would not suffer any loss; that the government would see to that.

The favorable report of the land committee was received in Washington last week, and if the appropriations committee will allow the money the station will soon be towering toward the skies.

If You Had Wealth Would it Tire You?

If you had a million of dollars and occupied a high social station would you tire of it all and return to the simple life? Would your weariness compel you to don gypsy garb and live in a caravan like a nomad of the desert? These questions are answered by the heroine in "Under the Greenwood Tree," Elsie Ferguson's new Arctcraft picture which will be shown at the Strand Theatre Wednesday.

Miss Ferguson has a delightful role in this captivating photoplay. She is seen as Mary Hamilton, a rich young woman living in England who tires of the frumperies of fashion and vanities of society and longs for a simple life. She buys a gypsy's caravan and with a woman associate, she goes into the woods and finds complete happiness in forgetting the duties enforced upon by society. But Mary finds there is a void in her heart until she meets the man sent by fate to be her mate. Jack Hutton is a clever chap and he is in every sense an ideal man. The road to love is open to both and it is no wonder that Cupid's darts flew thick and fast. They have some delightful adventures and all ends happily. Miss Ferguson's leading man is Eugene O'Brien.

Filled With Action.

From the standpoint of rapid action, Elsie Ferguson's latest Arctcraft picture, "Under the Greenwood Tree," which will be shown at the Strand Theatre Wednesday, is one of the best seen at Manager Spencer's popular playhouse this season. It is a delightful photoplay and may be seen again and again with profit. The support is highly adequate.

Mr. S. R. Helms spent Sunday and Monday in Atlanta.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS TO BE A PART OF TREATY OF PEACE

Slight Cloud in Peace Conference When Smaller Nations Protested Against Various Committees Being Restricted to Great Powers.

A press dispatch reports Saturday's session of the Peace Conference as follows: The peace conference on Saturday weathered its first storm and under the inspiration of a speech by President Wilson and skilled guidance by M. Clemenceau, the chairman, unanimously adopted resolutions declaring for a league of nations. The conference also went on record in favor of incorporating the league as an integral part of the general treaty of peace and admitting to the league "every nation which can be relied on to promote its objects." Belgium, Serbia, Rumania, Brazil, Siam, China and Czechoslovakia protested against the various committees being largely restricted to the great powers and asked for proportional representation privileges, particularly on bodies dealing with the league of nations, labor and reparation for war damages.

Although this was a cloud no bigger than a man's hand, it threatened at one time to grow into a general alignment of the small powers against the five great powers. This, however, was averted by M. Clemenceau's good tempered and skillful direction. The session had the same impressive dignity as the opening session, with a picturesque setting of Arabs and Indians in their turbans and tunics, as well as a distinguished array of prime ministers and other world figures. President Wilson, for the first time was accompanied by the entire American delegation, Colonel House having recovered sufficiently from his illness to be present.

Although it had been expected that Premier Lloyd George would open the discussion on the league of nations, President Wilson had this honor. The President was followed by Mr. Lloyd George in a brief address, and the resolution favoring the league was adopted without dissent after the proposal had been seconded by Premier Orlando for Italy, Paul Hymans for Belgium and Mr. Lu for China.

When the other resolutions were brought up and the protests of the representatives of the small powers were made, M. Clemenceau made a plea for harmony and on his assurance that the supreme council would give attention to the viewpoint of the small nations all the proposed amendments were withdrawn and the resolutions were adopted unanimously.

NUMBER BOYS IN OVERSEAS HOSPITALS IS DECREASING

Pershing's Report Says They Number 105,753, of Whom 72,542 are Suffering From Disease—Casualty Lists Now Complete.

An official report from General Pershing, made public Sunday night by the war department, shows that on January 9 there were 105,753 men of the American army in hospitals in France and England of whom 72,642 were suffering from wounds or other injuries.

The report said that the number of hospital cases is steadily decreasing, there having been a reduction of more than 15,000 since the previous week. Deaths during the week preceding that covered by the report numbered 561 of whom 280 died of disease and 281 of wounds received before the armistice was signed. The department also announced that cable advices from General Pershing indicated that the "long and tedious task of battle casualty reports has at length been completed by the central records office in France.

"Individual additions resulting from the identification of missing men," said the statement, "or from the triple check of all organization and hospital records, instituted by the direction of the secretary of war, may of course be expected, and will be promptly reported—as will deaths from illness or accident. In general, however, the lists of those who died in action or received serious injuries, as reported to the families of officers and soldiers, and to the press, stands complete."

"I'm Not a Boy."

"I'm not a boy, I'm a girl!" exclaimed a child when the missionary who was trying to reclothe a large band of refugees handed her a set of boy's clothing. He laughingly apologized and handed her some girls' clothes instead. But she did look like a boy with her shaved head and nondescript rags. She was wearing the same clothes she had on when driven from her home three years before, and they had been outgrown and reduced to little more than holes and dirt. And her hair!—well, these kind people had just had to shave it. She was given a hot bath, her old garments burned and in the new clean ones she looked like a new creature though so white and emaciated after months and months of semi-starvation.

Just try to imagine your own little girl in such a plight. There are many thousands in Armenia and Syria. We know of a father who tried to keep his baby alive by feeding it grass chewed to a pulp.

The English Drug Co. will receive contributions. Give, to save a little one's life.