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\$1.50 PER YEAR CASH.

UNION'S PART IN ARMENIAN RELIEF CAMPAIGN IS \$3600

Mrs. J. F. Laney Appointed County Chairman — Thus Far Only One Thousand Dollars Has Been Raised — Drive Ends This Month.

Union county's part in the Armenian and Syrian relief campaign is thirty six hundred dollars, it was made known in a telegram received by Mrs. J. F. Laney from J. Y. Joiner, state chairman. The telegram states that Mrs. Laney has been appointed chairman for Union county and urges that all possible efforts be made to raise the county's quota before the end of this month.

The county had been without a chairman in the drive until the receipt of the telegram. However, the securing of funds had been under way for some time under the efficient direction of Mrs. Oscar Blair. In this manner about one thousand dollars has been raised. This leaves twenty six hundred dollars of Union's quota still uncollected and with only fifteen days in which to do it. Several of the counties have already oversubscribed and it is hoped that the people of Union county will more than subscribe their allotment before the close of the month.

As it is known, the money collected will go to the relief of the hundreds and thousands of Armenians and Syrians who are in destitute circumstances brought about by miracle of the Turks. It will be remembered that several issues ago The Journal carried a story of conditions in Syria as told in letter received by the Syrian merchants here.

POLITICAL GOSSIP

City Primary a Little More Than a Month Off—Mayor Sikes Will Probably Stand for Re-election — Progressiveness Will Be Required of Candidates.

The grass is beginning to grow, the breath of spring is in the air, which calls to mind the fact that the city primary is a little more than a month off yet. The interest is not being manifested in the election that it appeared there would be some time ago.

The creating of the fifth ward out of North Monroe will mean that five aldermen and an alderman at large will be chosen the coming election instead of the four with alderman at large, as formerly. Mr. J. Lee Trull has already announced himself a candidate in this ward. Whether others will offer is not known.

In ward three, which was ward two before the amending of the city charter by the last legislature, Mr. J. Burns Simpson will be a candidate. Mr. T. L. Crowell who had been urged to offer from this ward has decided definitely not to make the race this year. Efforts have been made to induce Roberts C. D. Meacham and C. D. Moss to offer as candidates in their ward. Mr. J. B. Williams is considering becoming a candidate for alderman in his ward.

Little is heard regarding the position the present aldermen will take in the election. However, it is the consensus of opinion that under the present administration Monroe has made more progress than ever before.

It is understood that Mr. G. B. Caldwell, the present alderman at large will stand for re-election. The name of Mr. J. C. M. Vann had been heard mentioned as a possible candidate for this office. Mr. Vann stated a few days ago to a Journal representative that his business required his entire time and therefore he did not consider becoming a candidate.

Mayor J. C. Sikes will probably stand for re-election. When he was declared mayor by the vote of the people at the last election he let it be known that there were three things he was going to lend his influence to securing for Monroe—paved streets, a hospital and a new high school building. The streets have been paved, the hospital is under course of construction, and by a measure passed by the last legislature it is possible to secure a modern high school building, if that is the desire of the people. Mayor Sikes stated some time ago that if the measure passed and met with the approval of the citizens that he would probably offer for re-election.

From talk heard on every hand it is gained that the voters will elect the next board of aldermen and mayor on a platform of progressiveness. The man who declares himself as going to work untiringly for a bigger, better Monroe is the one that is going to meet with approval.

SECRETARY DANIELS SAILED FOR EUROPE SATURDAY

Last Thing He Did Was to Give Member of Crew a Chance to Become an Officer—Many Naval Experts are in the Party.

Secretary Daniels and a party of naval experts sailed for France on the transport Leviathan to study naval and aviation problems. They will visit Great Britain and Italy and also will be absent until about May 12. Secretary Daniels was accompanied by Mrs. Daniels.

An army guard of honor, an army band, Vice Admiral Albert Gleaves, representing the navy; Major General David R. Shanks and Brigadier General George McManus, representing the army and Admiral Groust of the French navy, met the secretary and party when they arrived at the pier.

and a naval guard of honor and navy band "piped" them on board, the ceremonies corresponding with those accorded President Wilson on his first trip to France.

As the transport was being warped away from the pier a sailor appeared at an open port and, grasping a dock rope, swung himself ashore, while his comrades called good byes. It developed the youth, a member of the crew whose assignment to an officers' training school had been disapproved by the bureau of navigation, had taken his case personally before Secretary Daniels aboard the liner. The secretary had approved the transfer, the sailor said, and, having no mind for another passage on the Leviathan he made his dash for shore. He proudly exhibited the document, signed by the secretary.

As the Leviathan passed the Narrows at 5:30 p. m., the U. S. S. Amphitrite fired a salute of 19 guns in honor of Secretary Daniels. Several seaplanes and a dirigible balloon accompanied the liner a short distance out at sea.

Commander Adolphus Stator of Tarboro, N. C., is executive officer of the Leviathan and Commander Percy Foote, who goes as the secretary's aid, is from Wilkes county.

GERMANS IN BELGIUM

Cities of Belgium Still See Huns Despite Law Expelling Them From the Country—Difficult to Drive Out Certain Classes.

Despite the passing of a law providing for the expulsion of enemy subjects from Belgium, numerous German civilians are often seen walking the streets of Brussels and other large cities in Belgium at the present time, says an Associated Press dispatch. While the law went into effect more than a month ago, the Belgian government is experiencing as much difficulty in getting the enemy civilians out of the country as the allied soldiers had in expelling the enemy army from the trenches.

The minister of justice has found the undertaking a greater one than he had expected. In the Belgian chamber yesterday, Deputy Lemonnier, who acted as Burgomaster of Brussels during the enforced absence of Burgomaster Max in Prussian jail and until he was removed himself to Germany, asked Minister of Justice Vandervele what measures he intended taking to expedite the undesirable brought the Rhine. Deputy Lemonnier brought the minister's attention to the fact that several Germans were walking the streets of Brussels with impunity and that some of them had been recognized as being paid agents of the Kommandantur during the occupation.

Vandervele replied: "The Ministry of Justice is doing its utmost to rid the country of German civilians but the difficulties encountered are formidable. In times of peace undesirable are escorted to their frontier but since the signing of the armistice the allied general staff had refused absolutely to allow Germans to pass through the zone of occupation. Holland permits them to go through the country but not singly. Groups only are allowed to transit. At the present time one train of undesirable is leaving daily. Beginning February 23, two trains will leave for Holland daily carrying an average of twelve hundred Germans every day from Belgium."

An idea of the number of Germans in Belgium before the war and the still greater number who have elected to make it during the occupation what they thought would be their permanent living place, may be gathered from the fact that trains are expected to leave for weeks and perhaps for months.

The case of German subjects who have resided in Belgium for long years, have married Belgian women and whose sons have fought against the Germans is particularly sad. Under the terms of the law they should be expelled along with the others as they have remained enemy subjects. Vandervele said however: "It is impossible for me to send that class of Germans out of the country."

A. E. F. Fittingly Celebrates Kaiser's Birthday.

(Stars and Stripes.) It took the 2nd Division to celebrate fittingly the ex-Kaiser's birthday, January 27. The French helped. Unfortunately, the Kaiser himself was unable to be present, owing to a previous engagement. He is reported to have sent a wire saying, "Am in Dutch."

For on January 27, on the heights above Vallendar, overlooking the Rhine and Coblenz, 234 members of the 2nd were decorated with Croix de Guerre.

The ceremony was held in a heavy pro-German snowstorm. The medals were awarded for heroic conduct and gallantry in action while the division was operating with the 21st French Corps under General Naulin, in General Gouraud's Army, in the Champagne between October 1 and 10, 1918. Maj. Gen. John A. Lejeune, commanding the 2nd division, made the presentations.

In this operation the 2nd Division pierced the enemy trenches to a depth of 13 kilometers, capturing Blanc Mont stronghold, Madeah Farm and St. Ptienne, the action being considered by the French one of the chief factors in hastening the retreat of the Germans from the Reims salient.

All elements of the division were represented at the presentation and passed in review before General Lejeune following the ceremony.

DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED GETTING TROOPS TO SIBERIA

Japanese Learned By Bitter Experience in the War With Russia of the Troubles of the Siberian Campaign—Lack of Railroads the Most Striking Feature Today.

People have talked lightly of sending an army of half a million men or more to western Siberia to battle with bolshevism or for any other reason connected with this stupendous Russian problem. The Japanese learned by bitter experience in the war with Russia of the difficulties of a Siberian campaign and would ponder long before dispatching a mighty army to the far far mountains. The Associated Press correspondent, as a passenger on a special British military train bound from Omsk, the seat of the All-Russian government, is having a close opportunity to study the difficulties of transporting a great army.

We have on board a company of splendid British troops recently arrived from India—men of the famous Hampshire regiment—the territorials or militia of England who offered to go to India to replace the regulars and who served there for two years. Now the fortunes of war find them riding across the barren lands of Manchuria on their way to the hearts of the Siberian steppes where the temperature is forty degrees below zero. Anxious as they are to return to their homes in England they fulfill this new task gladly and light-heartedly. They are traveling in plain rude box cars, discomfited about stoves with all the group comforts that a journey of two or three weeks, and perhaps more, involves.

For the officers commanding the contingent, there is a third class Russian sleeping car with bare wooden shelves to hold their sleeping bags and blankets. In another British military train which precedes us there is no sleeping car and the officers are camping with their men in the box cars. We are fortunate in one respect. Lack of Russian equipment and facilities for cooking oblige the officers to eat the same rations as the men which, if plain, is wholesome and nourishing.

Lack of railroad cars is the most striking feature of life in Siberia today. There is deplorable disorganization. There is urgent need of central management and people who have the welfare of Siberia at heart earnestly hope that John F. Stevens, the American railroad expert, who is now here, will be given a chance to bring order from chaos.

It was a picturesque spectacle as the train stopped at station on the way from Vladivostok to Harbin. Tall Russians, Chinese and Koreans in bulky, tattered, filthy garments swarmed around the train offering doubtful looking eatables for sale. Hungry, long-haired dogs, wolfish in appearance, prowled about the cars, snapping and growling, gulping down anything that will stay death. In a band in a lonely area they would be formidable to any man. The weather was keen and cold, the wind biting. Long delays occurred at almost every station. Many freight cars were seen but few in movement. Disorganization reigned master.

The two lessons taught early in the journey were, first, the great material obstacles to be encountered in sending a big army into Siberia and the imperative need of central management of the Siberian railroads. The comfort and perhaps the lives of the people of Russia depend upon a prompt central control of the railroads.

FINAL ARMISTICE NEED NOT BE RATIFIED BY SENATE

May Be a Preliminary Treaty Between Big Powers and Germany—Council Will Incorporate League of Nations in Treaty.

Joseph P. Tumulty, secretary to President Wilson, announced Saturday that he was in receipt of a telegram from the President stating that the plenary council has positively decided that the league of nations is to be part of the peace treaty.

This cablegram was sent in response to one sent by Mr. Tumulty inquiring whether there was any truth in certain newspaper stories that the league was not to be incorporated in the peace treaty.

"I cabled direct to the President at Paris asking if there was any truth in these reports," said Mr. Tumulty, "and I am this morning in receipt of a cablegram from the President stating that the plenary council has positively decided that the league of nations is to be part of the peace treaty; that there is absolutely no truth in any report to the contrary."

Although it will be included in the final treaty of peace, the league of nations may not be in the preliminary treaty, it was said in official circles in Washington after Secretary Tumulty had announced in New York he had been informed by President Wilson by cable the plenary council at Paris had decided the league plan was to be a part of the treaty.

Officials explained the preliminary treaty would be between the victorious associated powers and Germany only; that it might be characterized as the "final armistice" and as such need not be submitted to the Senate for ratification. They said that the preliminary document in every particular would be incorporated in the final treaty which would present the terms which must be agreed to by all the warring nations.

Among other details which will be incorporated in the final treaty and which some officials do not think will be in the preliminary draft will be those of boundaries.

A SOLDIER'S VIEW OF THE LEAGUE OF THE NATIONS

Sergt. Battle Writing to Senators Simmons and Overman Says All Through the War the Soldiers Have Felt They were Fighting Upon War and They Almost Unanimously Approve the League.

Letters to North Carolina congressmen indicate plainly that Tar Heels are for the League of nations. Among the communications received are some from soldiers who support the President against the republicans and a handful of disgruntled democrats of Congress. Sergeant Battle Williams, writing Senator Simmons from Camp Gordon, said:

"As a soldier from North Carolina, I am prompted to write you, and Senator Overman as well, with regards the league of nations issue now confronting us, and I shall write from the viewpoint of the average soldier."

"All through this war there has been the feeling and conviction that we were fighting and warring upon war, and this attitude has been a powerful incentive in the prosecution of the war. Soldiers practically to a man, both in the home service and from overseas with whom I have discussed the question express them-

selves as thinking it a good thing. One everas soldier, a Tennessee boy now on the St. Quentin front and now convalescing in the reconstruction center, this camp, writes the following in an essay prepared for the educational service: 'I am for the league of nations because I believe that it is for the welfare of all Christian people, and all right thinking nations.'

"This paragraph seems typical of the attitude taken by a majority of the foreign service soldiers. Yesterday, on the street car in Atlanta, I overheard a civilian asking an overseas man with 5th Division, trained at Camp Greene, North Carolina, what the soldiers thought about this league of nations plan. The soldier replied that there were some few opposed to it, but that the vast majority believe it was an experiment well worth trying.

"So as a whole I am of the opinion that the large number of soldiers, in training camps here, and from overseas, sanction the league of nations plan, and I hear constantly the expression of regret that 30-odd senators have apparently voiced themselves as opposed to the proposed league.

C. J. Cheek, a Tar Heel at Fullerton, Cal., said: "Foremost in the reconstruction demand to meet present day problems is an endorsement of the league of nations looking toward a just and permanent peace."

Ray N. Moses, of Ellijay, writes: "The papers tell us that there is some danger that the league of nations will be defeated in the United States senate. We believe that the league of nations will make wars less likely to occur. We hope you will use your influence to make the league a success.

"We do not think that the United States are endangering themselves by any surrenders of authority they may make, so long as the other great powers make equal surrenders. The more letters soldiers write to their congressmen, in support of the league of nations, the better it will be.

Scrub Under Fire.

Baseball at the front has been an important mental and physical tonic for our soldiers while preparing to enter the trenches or while resting after days of hard fighting. It has helped greatly to preserve their morale unimpaired. A dispatch from Paris describing the last days of fighting pictures a group of our artillerymen, busy with their guns, harassing the retreating Germans. Others, not actively engaged, were sitting or lying round, too tired and excited after their advance even to sleep. A Young Men's Christian Association automobile came along, and one of the men in it called out to ask whether an indoor baseball could be used there.

With one voice the artillerymen answered, "Yes!" The "Y" man threw out a new ball, and one of the soldiers caught it.

"First hitter!" he cried.

"Second hitter!" yelled another.

"Pitcher!" shouted a third—and so on until some man had claimed every desirable place. They found a plek handle that answered for a bat. In a minute the game was on. The batter stood between two guns, and the fielders were spread out in front, so that they got the full force of the blast when the guns were fired. They paid no more attention to the ear-splitting crack of the guns than to the buzzing of the flies round the mess tent. They forgot the war, and they were American boys at play instead of men engaged in the business of slaying.

An officer saw the game and smiled. He knew that the morale of that battery would go far beyond par as a result of the play. The game was just the thing they needed. But he feared that some of the men in the field might suffer harm from having the guns fired directly over their heads, and ordered the ball field to be shifted across the road, where everyone would be behind the long rifles.

A Noted Landmark Removed.

Joseph McLaughlin erected the first house in the town of Monroe. It was in the town of Monroe, about 1845. It was a small store house on Jefferson street, just north of the court house, and was used for a grocery business by Joseph McLaughlin and Lloyd K. Rone. This old building was torn down last week.

Clean-Up Week.

The week beginning March 24th has been designated by the Insurance Commissioner of North Carolina as "Clean-Up Week". This suggests the idea of doing some things necessary along this line among the schools as well as the homes. Therefore I want to ask that the teachers and patrons of the various school districts turn their attention to the school houses and find out what the conditions are around their respective school buildings. One object is to see that the school house is not in danger of being destroyed by fire on account of an accumulation of trash around the building. This would also be a good time to come together and talk about needed improvements. The children should be urged during this week to take pride in making their building and grounds equal to the best in the community.

Very Respectfully,
R. N. NISBET,
County Superintendent.

Hub: "What did you do with those unpaid bills, Alice?"

Wife: "I saw they were beginning to worry you, dear, so I destroyed them."

PERMANENT SOUVENIRS TO BE PRESENTED BY UNCLE SAM.

Victory Medals Being Made From Melted German Cannons For Liberty Loan Workers Who Do Conspicuous Work.

Victory medals to be awarded to workers who participate actively in the Victory Liberty Loan Campaign are now being made from melted German cannon. The big guns were captured from the Huns by the American troops in their history-making drive at Chateau Thierry. They have been melted, the metal rolled into sheets and the medals are being stamped. Every member of local Victory Liberty Loan committees throughout the United States who does conspicuous work, such as serving on volunteer soliciting organizations, will receive one of these trophies.

These medals, the first of the kind to be distributed in this country, will be about the size of a half-dollar. One side will be a reproduction of the United States Treasury Building with the inscription, "Victory Liberty Loan." On the other side will appear the certification of participation in the bond campaign. A space will be left blank for the owner's name.

Treasury Department officials decided to offer the medals after a widespread demand for a permanent souvenir. The medals will be, in fact, more than a reminder of the loan campaign. It will represent victory which the American boys won against the best troops of the Prussian Guard and the glory of the sacrifice of those who by laying down their lives made that victory possible.

SHIPS FOR FOOD

Germans Turn Over Nine Big Passenger Liners to U. S. and in Return Will Receive 370,000 Tons of Edibles a Month and Promise to Keep Armistice.

The German delegates to the conference in Brussels regarding the taking over by the allies of the German mercantile fleet and the provisioning of Germany today definitely accepted the conditions imposed by the allies.

A board of control for German exports will be established under the terms of the agreement. This board probably will have its headquarters at Rotterdam.

The Germans will be permitted to buy fish from Norway and resume their own fishing in the North Sea.

The German representatives asked for a modification of the blockade, and while no promises were given them in this connection, steps in that direction, as a matter of fact, have already been taken.

A monthly ration for Germany of 370,000 tons of foodstuffs was fixed. The Germans observed that this ration was smaller than they had requested and were pessimistic as to the arrangement of satisfactory financial terms.

Vice Admiral Sir Rosslyn Wemyss, of Great Britain, chairman of the allied delegation, began by reading a statement prepared for him by the civilian members, calling on the Germans to say categorically whether they abided by the terms of the armistice. Under Secretary of State von Braun replied curtly: "Yes."

Admiral Wemyss then read one page of typewritten memorandum, giving in crisp sentences the terms of the allies for granting food to Germany—the German merchant fleet to be handed over at once, financial provisions to be made at once, food to be delivered at once and to be continued until the next harvest, or as long as Germany abided by the terms of the agreement.

The subcommittee on food was under the chairmanship of Herbert Hoover, director general of the interallied relief organization; Thomas W. Lamont represented the United States on the subcommittee on finance and J. R. Robinson of the United States shipping board, on the committee on shipping.

In this meeting there were no appeals or references to humanity and civilization or to women and children, the only statement in this connection being that infant mortality had doubled in the last three months, and this was simply mentioned as a cold declaration of fact in connection with the request of the Germans for more condensed milk.

The German delegates were anxious to enlarge the proposed monthly imports of certain commodities, only to be met with the statement: "I regret that the world's shipping does not make this possible."

Reference on some points was reserved by the Germans for discussion with the government at Berlin.

The State Equalizing School Fund.

According to information received, there will be practically fifteen days from the State Equalizing School Fund. The number of days, however, is determined upon the basis of the salary fixed by the State, \$40.00 for first grades, \$30.00 for second, and \$20.00 for third grade. Therefore in cases where the teacher's salary is more than the amount fixed by the State, it will be necessary for the district to provide for the excess paid the teacher in that district. In cases where the schools have closed on account of influenza, I presume the amount due such schools from this fund will be available later. The money from this fund can be used only after four months have been taught.

R. N. NISBET,
County Superintendent.

How You Can Help Make Monroe a Better Town.

Following their yearly custom, the State Board of Health and the State Insurance Department have designated March 24th-29th as State-wide "CLEAN-UP" week.

Desiring to co-operate with the above mentioned departments, in their "CLEAN-UP" campaign, the Monroe Chamber of Commerce, with the assistance of the Mayor, the Board of Aldermen, and the Woman's Clubs, will undertake to put on a "CLEAN-UP" campaign in Monroe during the week mentioned above.

We urgently appeal to every citizen of Monroe to give their premises a thorough spring cleaning as the good housewife does the interior of her home. This is an opportunity for every citizen to show, not only his personal pride, but also his civic pride. Monroe has been appropriately called the "City of Beautiful Homes" and we should all endeavor to make it such. No city is attractive if it is littered up. All should be willing to co-operate in cleaning up, not only their own premises, but in helping to clean up the premises of others where help is necessary.

Let us all work together to clean up Monroe during the next week, and then keep it that way throughout the entire year and for many years to come. Plant grass, flowers, and shrubbery. Make Monroe not only clean, but beautiful. The result of our united efforts will be a cleaner, healthier, happier, and more attractive city.

MONROE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
T. L. Riddle, Secretary.