

Mount Airy News.

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Bringing Germany To Terms.

The Allies are holding conferences with Germany these days at a city called Spa and in the conferences they are trying to settle questions that have not up to this time been adjusted. Germany agreed to the disbanding of her army to 100,000 men, but they yet have as many as 200,000. The Allies demand that the soldiers be sent home at once, and many other things are being demanded.

One interesting fact is coming to light as the result of these conferences. When Germany gave up the fight the men went home but carried their guns and ammunition with them. By every rule of modern war the guns should have been left with the army headquarters and not to the private homes of the citizens. But confusion was so great in the land that two millions of these guns were never turned in to the government, and there are also large numbers of machine guns and other weapons of war yet out among the people. The Allies figure that there are now in the possession of the people of Germany sufficient weapons to equip an army of several million men. They demand that all this war material be surrendered and destroyed. German officials say that they are afraid to demand these guns from the people for fear of riots, but the Allies plainly tell them that unless this war material is surrendered they will occupy more Germany territory and hold it until the demand is met.

German officials are showing a spirit of willingness to not cause further trouble than they have ever shown before since the treaty was signed.

A Notable Suffrage Meeting

A few days ago there was held in the city of London a meeting of women who favor giving the right to vote to women. Delegates from all over the world attended the meeting. Some will recall the great struggle the women of England put up to gain the ballot during the few years preceding the war. At that time there were only five or six countries where women could vote and none of these were nations of importance. It was brought out at this recent meeting that as many as sixteen nations are now in line with suffrage and others are in a way to follow. Among the great nations that have given women the right to vote are Great Britain, Russia, Germany and a large part of the United States. The speeches made at this meeting indicate that it is only a short time ahead until women in all the nations of the earth will share equally with the men the right of the ballot.

Road Location Settled In Carroll

After much conferring the location of the road to be made in Carroll county was finally settled on Wednesday morning as Hillsville when the Highway Commission of the state of Virginia and the Carroll officials decided to build the road from Jackson Ferry, in the north of Carroll county, to the North Carolina line by way of Hillsville and Fancy Gap. There was an effort to make this road in other parts of the county. There were those who tried to get it to start from Galax and go through the county from west to east. Others wanted the road to go from Galax to Hillsville and on to Jackson Ferry, making a horse shoe in the county, serving only one corner of the county. If either of these ideas had won the part of Carroll that is south of the mountain would have received no benefit from the road, and about one-fifth of the county is this side of the mountain. The new road as it now will be built will be a hard surface road and will mean more to this city than any other road that could be made, for it will bring the trade from much of Carroll to this city and will mean that northern travel on its way to the South from the North will come through this county.

Much credit is due the citizens of this city who have put in no little time and money in the effort to get this latest ruling made that assures us that the road will serve the people on this side of the mountain.

Crops Damaged by Hail.

Bad hail storm in the Rockford section Friday afternoon did considerable damage to the tobacco crops, the following farmers sustained losses: M. G. Moser, G. V. Moser, N. L. Marlon, Chat Flynn, H. L. Parker, Dillard Parker, C. C. Briggs and I. L. Moser. It is understood that all of these were covered by insurance.

Labor Troubles Here

This town has been peculiarly fortunate in all the years past because of the few labor troubles, and we suppose that labor unions here are as strong as they are in any town in the country. For many years the Stone Cutters have maintained a union that has been so wisely conducted and so well lived up to that it has been largely above the criticism of any man. Of course the union has not always been able to agree with the managers of the quarry, but their differences have always been adjusted in a spirit of fairness, and not a shadow of suspicion has ever been cast on either party to the disagreement as to the honesty of purpose of the men who were parties to the difference. The Stone Cutters have always conducted themselves as gentlemen during the time when they were on strike or while the difference was being adjusted. And the same could be said of the furniture workers.

There has never been occasion for this newspaper to speak its mind on any of these questions, for we have always thought of them as private matters and have supposed that in due time agreements would be reached and the difference adjusted.

We have always recognized the right of labor to organize and the right of capital to employ union labor or not employ it at its choice. The men here who operate the various industries—the Granite Cutting plants and the furniture factories, have agreed to work union labor and make agreements with the men on conditions worked out in conference.

But there has arisen a condition here during the past few days that is something new to our people. A few days ago a man claiming to be from the north, came here and got busy forming an organization of laborers who work at the quarry doing the work of getting out stone for the cutters. The situation is such that it would not be understood without an explanation of some length. The quarry here covers as much as 75 acres of ground and the men who get out the stone must necessarily work in the open—without shelter over them. This makes it a dry weather job. This work of getting out stone is largely done by farmers who live about in the neighborhood and work at the quarry when it is convenient. As many as 1400 men get work of this nature during the year at the Quarry, and not over 40 or 50 men work regularly at this business. The nature of the quarrying is such that large amounts of stone can be worked out while the weather is open and conditions such that the work can be done. The quarrying of stone is not practical here in severe cold weather. For these reasons it has not been considered a regular job at the quarry by a large number of the men who are employed.

Knowing these facts when the labor organizer came here Mr. J. D. Sargent Superintendent of the Quarry, told the men plainly that it was not practical to form a union of the men who get out the stone, and asked them not to join a union of this kind. His advice was ignored and six men were discharged as the result. Later several other men quit because of their sympathy for the ones discharged. If this was all of the story we would not be writing about it. The ugly feature is that some of the men who have quit get credit for making threats against the men who are willing to work. These threats have become so prominent that men are known to be afraid to go to their jobs at the Quarry. Men have been warned to not go there to work and are afraid to not heed the warning.

It is not our business to bring into question the right or the wisdom of the Quarry in its action of refusing to work union men at this job of getting out stone—that is their business. Neither are we disposed to raise the question of whether or not the men had the right to join the union—that, too, is their business.

But we are slow to think that our people about here would resort to threats of violence on their own initiative. If this is part of the work of the organizer—if he proposes to carry his plans to perfection by putting thoughts of violence into the heads of the men he is organizing, and is doing this for the little sum that he gets for each man who joins the union under his advice, if he is doing all this it is high time the strong arm of the law lets him know that this is a civilized section of the country and will not stand for Bolshevik ideas.

We doubt if there is a man about here who would not condemn methods that must resort to threats of violence in order to succeed.

Let the men organize if they want to, and let the Quarry get out its stone in any way it can, but let the dignity of the law and the safety of the lives of our people be upheld if the state militia must come here to protect the liberties and lives of the men who want work and are willing to work. If the Mayor of this town and the Sheriff of this county and the law abiding citizens of this section do their duty they will lend their influence to see that no rough Russian methods be allowed to be brought here by foreign agitators.

Great Peach Crop

Not in recent years has this section been so blessed with an abundant peach crop as we have this year. They tell us that practically every peach tree in this section is full as it can be. They are now coming to this market daily and are selling at reasonable prices, about 25c the basket retail from the wagons.

The Sparger Orchard company, the largest growers about here, will have as many as 8,000 bushels and the Granite City Orchard company a very large number. Out in the Little Mountains a number of citizens have developed small orchards in recent years and this year they are striking it rich. While the larger producers will ship to northern markets these small growers will depend largely on the local market. Several farmers have already sold their fruit to be delivered in the orchard and to be picked by the man who buys it, at least he is supposed to come to the orchard after the fruit. Much of this will be hauled across the Blue Ridge in trucks and the price the grower receives is \$1.50 for all that grows on a tree, or \$2. where the fruit is sorted.

In the Little Mountain section J. A. Blue has as many as 1,000 bushels, George Blue 800 bushels, T. N. Atkins and W. H. Woods as many as 1,000 bushels, W. H. Atkins as many as 800 bushels and many other citizens will have smaller amounts but enough to make the totals for that section run up high into the hundreds of bushels.

The Negro Woman Was Skillful With A Razor

Bess Gwyn, a young negro woman of this city proved her skill in the use of a razor beyond question last Saturday night when she went after a negro man named Uhus Adams. Just why Bess tried to carve up the gentleman in so thorough a manner we have not been able to learn, but it is very evident that she intended to do a good job and had the will even if she did not make mince meat of her man. Bess has a bad wound on her head as part of the fight and the indications are that this wound was made with a bottle. Uhus was in such condition that it was necessary to have a doctor to see him, and for more than an hour the doctor did his best to repair the damage. Bess had aimed well with her blows, and time and time again, she got in licks about the head and neck of her man that laid the flesh open for many inches. Some licks were worse than others, some making long smooth gashes of two inches in length while others were as much as five inches long. The police locked Bess up and will carry her to Dobson to have a hearing at some future term of court. When the man in the case is well enough, if he lives over his trouble, he will answer for his part.

In Jail In Wilkesboro.

A letter from Wm. A. Stroud, clerk of the superior court of Wilkes county in reply to our inquiry about the fake newspaper agent arrested in Wilkesboro, tells us that they have a man in jail there whom the sheriff and jailer say fits the description exactly, given by men who came in contact with the man who gave his name as J. K. Johnson in this county, except that he has no mustache and says his name is Robert Cook.

Crops Fine in This Section

While there is too much rain here to suit some people and it is what might be called a wet season just at this time crops have been worked well and are growing to perfection as fast as they can. Of course it is too early yet to predict what kind of a crop this section will produce, for we may yet have a drouth that would play havoc with all kinds of growing vegetation.

At this time snap beans are abundant in this section and the produce dealers are just beginning to make shipments to the towns in the state where there is a demand for them. Farmers are getting \$1. a bushel for what they are bringing to market. New apples are bringing from \$1. to \$1.25 per bushel and cabbage crated \$2.50 per bushel.

Cassell—Hines

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Will Cassell on Flat Rock road was the scene of a pretty marriage last Wednesday morning when their daughter Miss Ima Lee Cassell became the bride of Frank Hines of this city, Rev. G. W. Williams officiating. Both young people were in the employ of the Merritt Hardware company and Cupid won his victory through propinquity, indeed he played into the hands of the lovers in a way to quite surprise a large number of their friends. The marriage was over and the happy couple had boarded the train for Asheville and other points before even their intimate friends and relatives knew that Cupid was on the job. Both are most estimable young people and their many friends wish for them a long and happy life.

F. H. Dixon and family left Wednesday for the tobacco market at Nashville, Ga. Frank Graves will leave Friday for the same market.

Meeting Of Distinguished Masons

Masons of this city and community are this week being honored with the presence of the grand officers and lecturers of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina. It is the custom of these officers to hold a session every summer in some part of the state and through the efforts of Worshipful Master T. H. King they were induced to hold their session in our city this week. The local lodge on Tuesday night put on the third degree for the benefit of the visitors and received many compliments for their proficiency in the work. The degree work was followed by a banquet in honor of the visitors prepared by ladies of the Eastern Star. These distinguished Masons will be here the greater part of the week in connection with their work.

Those attending from a distance are J. E. Cameron, Kinston, and Leon Cash, Winston, members of the Board of Custodians; Deputy Grand Master J. Baily Owen, of Henderson; Grand Lecturer R. F. Edwards, of Crumpler, and Assistant Grand Lecturer J. W. Alford, Kenly, J. E. Nelson, Morganton, and W. W. Holland, Statesville.

Dr. H. B. Rowe Resumes Practice

Dr. H. B. Rowe is back in the city and will open his office again for the practice of his profession. For a few years past Dr. Rowe was a successful general practitioner here, but last spring he gave up his work to spend a few months preparing for the special line he will follow. He will confine his practice to the eye, ear, nose and throat, and fitting glasses. Dr. Rowe spent his time since being away in Chicago, Rochester and Philadelphia. His card announcing his business appears in this issue of this newspaper. Dr. Rowe will open his office August the first.

Rev. T. H. King Resigns

To the surprise of his congregation Rev. T. H. King read his resignation as pastor of the First Baptist church in this city last Sunday morning, the resignation to take effect the first of September. Mr. King has served the church for ten years and no man has made a more faithful or satisfactory pastor. His services have been of a high order and under his leadership the church has grown rapidly in strength and membership.

Mr. King will accept the call to the Baptist church at East Gastonia and it is currently reported that he is to have a salary of \$3,000 a year, which is mentioned only for the fact that it is a very good indication as to the strength of the congregation he goes to serve.

Mrs. G. G. Harrison has returned to this city after visiting Miss Elizabeth Lovell on Route 3.

DR. H. B. ROWE

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