

MARION PROGRESS

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PRESIDENT REJECTS POPE'S PEACE PLANS

Folly to Take the Path of Peace the Pope Proposes—Won't Lead to Goal Sought.

Washington, Aug. 28.—President Wilson has rejected the pope's peace proposals.

In a note dispatched last night and made public here tonight, the president says that while every heart not blinded and hardened by the terrible war must be touched by the moving appeal of His Holiness, it would be folly to take the path of peace he points out if it does not in fact lead to the goal he proposes.

To deal with such a power as the present rulers of Germany upon Pope Benedict's plan, declares the President, would involve a recuperation of the strength and renewal of the world domination policy of that power, now balked but not defeated after sweeping a continent with the blood of innocent women and children and the helpless poor as well as of soldiers.

Permanent peace must be based upon the faith of all the peoples and upon justice and fairness and the common rights of mankind, he adds, and "we cannot take the word of the present rulers of Germany as a guarantee of anything that is to endure, unless explicitly supported by such conclusive evidence of the will and purpose of the German people themselves as the other peoples of the world would be justified in accepting."

No Second Draft Soon.

Drafted men who have not been reached in the first call have the "comfortable hope" that they will not be called before next spring.

Provost Marshal Crowder says the call for the second draft has not been considered and he has no information of any action by the President or Secretary of War. The training facilities already are taxed to make ready for the front men now available and it is regarded as very unlikely that organization of an additional 500,000 men of the national army can begin until the early spring of 1918. Neither quarters nor personnel to train the men are available.

A full statistical report on the operation of the draft law will be prepared by the provost marshal general's office as soon as the mobilization of the first increment of 687,000 men has been completed, some time early in October. Pending the preparation of the report and careful analysis of conditions as disclosed, no step towards calling a second increment to the colors will be taken.

Inequalities of an inevitable nature will be shown in the report. There will be some amended regulations based on actual experiences with the first increment and some amendments of the law will be sought of Congress. It is thought desirable that a change be made so that all the sons of one family will not be taken. Still another is the status of married men.

The British, French, Italians and Russians have captured 167,780 war prisoners since April 9, when the 1917 campaign opened, according to a statement issued by the British War Department.

Tri-County Central Highway Association Formed.

Tourist, Black Mountain.

A good crowd attended the Central Highway celebration at Ridgecrest Tuesday and the meeting was a pronounced success in the way of stimulating interest in this highway and the good roads movement in general.

The most important result of the celebration doubtless was the formation of the Tri-County Central Highway Association, comprising Buncombe, McDowell and Madison counties. Officers chosen were P. H. Mashburn, of Old Fort, president; Senator C. B. Mashburn, of Marshall, vice-president; N. Buckner, of Asheville, secretary-treasurer. Board of Governors, W. E. Johnson, of Asheville, J. L. Nichols, of Marion, and the chairman of the county commissioners of McDowell county, Dr. D. M. McIntosh, of Old Fort, H. B. Craven, of Ridgecrest, Dr. C. V. Reynolds, of Asheville, W. K. M. Gilkey, of Marion, and two others to be selected from Madison county.

Speeches were made by Dr. D. M. McIntosh, Senator C. B. Mashburn, W. E. Johnson, J. L. Nichols, J. D. Eckles, N. Buckner and J. B. Freeman. H. B. Craven acted as toastmaster and introduced the "speakers. The meeting was opened at 10 o'clock by singing "America," followed by prayer by Dr. B. W. Spillman.

A force of convicts who are working on the final stretch of the road at Ridgecrest were allowed the privilege of hearing the afternoon talks.

A meeting of the newly formed organization will be held at Dome, near Bat Cave sometime during the next three weeks.

Patriotic Day.

Pursuant to the proclamation of the Governor of North Carolina, the Council of Defense for McDowell County, aided by the Ladies, will give to our drafted boys a patriotic demonstration at the court house in Marion on next Monday, September 3rd, at 11 o'clock. A program will be arranged including patriotic band music, songs and speaking. Dinner will be served to the drafted men, the whites at the court house and the colored at a place to be selected. We desire to show our boys, who are soon to go into the service of our country, that we are with them, and will follow their career with pride. A great day is at hand when one hundred of our boys will go. We call upon every citizen of McDowell County to come to this celebration and take part in showing them where we stand. We want every Confederate Soldier, who can, to come and mingle with the young soldiers. No greater inspiration can be given to them than that your presence will lend. No greater god-speed can be given our sons in joining the conflict than the heritage of your patriotism, bravery and courage.

Let's make this a red letter day in McDowell County. We can do it. Monday is declared a holiday by the Governor. Make it such, and at the same time do homage to our boys. Every body is urged to come.

Yours to serve,
COUNCIL OF DEFENSE,
By J. W. Winborne, Chairman.

NEWS FROM THE COUNTY

Brief Mention of Some of the Happenings in McDowell County—Items About Home People.

DYSARTVILLE

Dysartville, Aug. 27.—Mrs. J. S. Cowan and children of Marion are spending some time here with relatives.

Miss Lela and Florence Dixon of Gastonia visited relatives and friends here last week.

Miss Lizzie Bright of Glen Alpine will return home this week after spending two months with her nephew, Charlie Daves.

Mrs. H. C. Daves and children returned home Friday after spending three weeks with her mother at Henry.

Eugene Upton motored to Statesville one day last week.

Mrs. Judie Clayton of Spartanburg, S. C., is visiting relatives here.

Miss Estelle Logan, principal of Glenwood school, John Goforth and Miss Mamie Goforth spent the week here.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Cook and baby of Salisbury spent the week-end here with relatives and friends.

B. B. Price and Sheriff John Laughridge spent the week-end here with relatives.

W. C. Raburn and son, Tom, of Vein Mountain spent Sunday here.

The revival at the Baptist church closed today. God was with his people and many souls were born into His kingdom. Rev. Mr. Bennett of Charlotte did the preaching and it was splendid.

Miss Addie Daves of Thermal City spent some time here with relatives.

Mrs. Mattie McCurry and daughters, attended the funeral of Mrs. McCurry's daughter, Mrs. L. F. Arrowood, at Vein Mountain last week.

Miss Ethel Morrison of Bridgewater is spending several days with her grandmother, Mrs. Harriet Taylor.

Mrs. C. E. Prestwood of Bloomington, Alabama, is visiting relatives here.

R. H. Cowan had the misfortune today of losing the end of one finger in getting it fastened in a log chain.

Carrie Carswell has been very sick but is better.

NEALSVILLE

Nealsville, Aug. 27.—Glenwood school has been in session five weeks and now has an enrollment of 187. It was necessary to have another teacher in the primary department and Miss Alma McCurry now has the first grade.

A revival has just closed at the Methodist church. There were about thirty conversions. Rev. J. A. Frye, assisted by Rev. Pyatt, held the meeting.

Thomas Upton died at the Rutherford Hospital Wednesday, Aug. 22nd, and the remains were brought here for burial Thursday.

Rev. M. W. Mann of Spruce Pine, a former pastor, was a visitor here the past week.

We are glad to hear that Mrs. Abe Gardin is improving after a short illness.

T. W. Wilson and daughter, Mildred, attended quarterly meeting at Providence church Sunday.

Miss Vina Rayburn has entered the Rutherford Hospital for training.

HARMONY GROVE

Nebo, Aug. 27.—Miss Irene Guess of Raleigh has been visiting her friend, Miss Hattie Simmons, here for the past week.

Ceph Pyatt and family of Altapas are visiting relatives here.

J. L. Lawing and daughters, Sue and Bertie, were in Marion Saturday.

W. J. Snipes made a business trip to Nebo, Saturday.

Mrs. F. W. Bradley spent last week with homefolks here.

Robert Sisk was a visitor here Sunday.

Mrs. J. L. Lawing is visiting her daughter, Mrs. J. N. Pruitt, at Casar.

Miss Lonnie Snipes is at home for a few days.

A large crowd of the young folks enjoyed a singing at the home of Miss Hattie Simmons Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. Dan Anderson is visiting her sister, Mrs. Rosa Daniels, at Raleigh.

Mr. and Mrs. I. C. Crawley and children spent Saturday and Sunday with relatives at Bridgewater.

SEVIER.

Seyler, Aug. 27.—Mrs. J. A. Good and two children, Garland and Mildred, visited relatives in Rutherfordton last week.

Rev. McMahan has closed a successful revival service at Woodlawn. As a result of the services, nine persons will be baptist next Sunday.

Mrs. Charles Huskins was shopping in Marion last Saturday.

Mrs. Higgins of Hankins visited Mrs. C. F. Barnes, Saturday.

M. L. Good was in Marion Monday on business.

HANKINS.

Hankins, Aug. 27.—Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Erwin and family of Erwin, Tenn., are visiting relatives and friends here.

Mrs. J. Y. Finley of Marion is visiting her brother, R. D. Barnes.

Mrs. J. B. Higgins spent last Sunday at Sevier with her daughter, Mrs. C. F. Barnes.

J. W. Biddix of Marion visited R. D. Barnes last week.

Miss Donnie Browning was shopping in Marion last Saturday.

There will be a box supper at Hankins school house next Saturday night for the benefit of the Sunday school. Everybody cordially invited.

A Proclamation by The Governor.

North Carolina is about to send twenty-five thousand men into battle. These men are making the supreme sacrifice that forever hereafter the wisdom of the many shall determine the decrees of nations. They go to make war on war. They go to destroy with the sword the government that maintains that the sword is, and of right ought to be, the final arbiter of a nation's rights.

When the government that defies war shall perish in war then war will come no more upon the earth.

It is fit that these guarantors of the world's peace should be sustained by the love and prayers of all good men:

Nor, Therefore, I, Thomas Walter Bickett, Governor of North Carolina, do request the people of the State:

First, to assemble on Saturday, the first day of September, in township and school district meetings, and hold patriotic exercises in honor of the men we are sending to the front;

Second, on Sunday, September 2nd, let special religious services be held in all the churches in the State, and let all good men pray for the safety and success of the men who are going into battle that lasting peace may come upon the land;

Third, That on Labor Day, September 3rd, appropriate patriotic exercises be held in every county seat in the State and let the men who have been drafted into the public service be the guests of honor at these exercises.

Done at our city of Raleigh this the twenty-fifth day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and seventeen, and in the one hundred and forty-second year of our American Independence.

T. W. BICKETT, Governor.

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SOME NEW RULINGS ON DRAFT MEASURE

Orders for Mobilization of First Increment Changed—Experienced Men Will Be Taken First.

Washington.—At the direct suggestion of President Wilson, Provost Marshal General Crowder telephoned to all governors a supplemental explanation of regulations governing the status of married men under the draft law. No change in regulation is made, and the purpose of the statement is to clear up misunderstandings.

In a letter to Secretary Baker, quoted by General Crowder, President Wilson states his opinion that the regulation directing local boards "to establish the fact of dependents in addition to the fact of marriage ought not to be abrogated." This leaves the regulations as they are and the supplementary statement is designed merely to make the application of the rules uniform.

While the statement regarding married men was in preparation orders were issued changing entirely the mobilization arrangements previously made. Congestion of rail traffic and the necessity of making better provision for receiving the men at the cantonments dictated the changes.

Under the new orders, five per cent of the white men, preferably those with military experience, from each local area, will be started forward to the camps September 5 instead of thirty per cent. They will go in five daily detachments of equal size and form skeleton company organization and set up a going concern into which the remainder of the total quota can be absorbed without confusion as they reach the cantonments.

The next forty per cent of the quota will go forward September 19, when the second thirty per cent originally was scheduled to go; a second forty per cent will go forward October 3 instead of the third thirty per cent and the remaining fifteen per cent will be called up as soon thereafter as practicable.

Local boards are directed to disregard order of liability numbers to some extent in selecting the first five per cent as men of experience such as cooks and former soldiers are desired at that time. Warning is given against getting into this levy by reason of his experience, any man who might get otherwise have been included in the first increment of the district at all.

GREAT VICTORY CROWNS ITALY'S NEW OFFENSIVE

With Austrian Line Broken Italians Pursue Enemy.

The battle along the Isonzo has developed further brilliant successes for the Italians, who it is now plain are making one of their greatest efforts of the war thus far.

General Cadorna's men, who at the beginning of the offensive effected a new crossing of the river north of Gorizia, at a point where the Austrians believed such a feat was impossible, have won another spectacular victory by scaling Monte Sano, 2,245 feet high and placing their flag there.

Farther south, on the Carso, fighting continues violently and incessantly. Austrian efforts to win back lost positions were defeated.

New gains have been made by the French in the Verdun front, rounding out the victory won in the offensive begun on Monday. The French advanced last night north of Hill 304, Paris announces, and captured three fortified forts near Bethincourt, the official German statement however, says French attacks between Malancourt and Bethincourt, as well as near Hill 304, east of the Meuse, were repulsed.

COULDN'T LOCATE LAND PEARY SAYS HE FOUND

Sydney, N. S.—Donald B. MacMillan's Arctic expedition arrived here after four years spent in the polar regions. MacMillan, who was one of Rear Admiral Peary's lieutenants on his successful dash for the North pole, confirmed dispatches that there was no Crockerland such as has been reported by Peary. Peary's mistake was due to a mirage so real that the MacMillan party had been deceived by it for four days.