

# MARION PROGRESS

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER DEVOTED TO THE BEST INTEREST OF THE PEOPLE OF McDOWELL COUNTY.

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## GERMAN RAIDS REPULSED

**Americans Eject The Enemy From Position After Heavy Attack—Americans Fought Desperately.**

With the American Army in France, Sunday, April 21.—Two low flying German airplanes were brought down Saturday by American machine gunners in and about Sierchprechy, northwest of Toul. The gunners had been ordered to retire, but they remained in their positions and fought effectively against the enemy aviators.

### ATTACK ON AMERICANS.

The German high command, having been unsuccessful in piercing the British front in Flanders and separating the British and French armies, has essayed a stroke against the Americans and the French northwest of Toul—and here also Teuton strategy seemingly has failed utterly to bring its plans to fruition.

Although the Germans attacked in waves with greatly superior numbers of men, the French and Americans have held their positions and inflicted heavy losses on the enemy. What gains were made in the initial onslaught have been entirely retrieved and Sunday night saw the American and French lines restored.

The latest Berlin official communication asserts that in the drive 183 American prisoners and 25 machine guns were captured by the Germans, who cut their way for about a mile and a quarter into the American lines at Seicheprey. There has been no confirmation of this statement, or of the added claim that the Americans sustained heavy casualties.

It seems evident, however, that the fight was a bitter one and that it was the ambition of the specially trained Germans to crush the Americans. Everything the enemy had in stock was brought into play in the fighting which lasted from Saturday well into Sunday. Shells of all calibres, including gas missiles, were used prodigiously, but the Americans, notwithstanding this cannonading and the greatly superior infantry forces arrayed against them, fought tenaciously and gave ground by inches, and then only when they had exacted payment for it in German killed or wounded.

Although the enemy was able to reach the shell torn village of Seicheprey, the Americans rallied and in bloody hand to hand fighting reversed the situation and regained the town.

## Allies Needing Men, Guns, Ammunition and Ships.

The great battles in France and the reverses that our Allies have recently met are a direct call to every man, woman and child in America. The Allies need more men, more ammunition, more supplies, more ships. It is only by our doing without things here in America—things that we thought we needed—that will enable the Allies to get these things. The man, woman and child who avoids waste and unnecessary consumption and invests his money in Liberty Bonds or War-Savings Stamps will not only help to hold the Western line but will help to regain the territory our Allies have lost.

## Liberty Loan Addresses.

On last Sunday night at the Methodist church Mr. R. D. W. Connor, president of the North Carolina Historical Commission, spoke to one of the largest audiences ever assembled in Marion, his address being in the interest of the third Liberty Loan. Mr. Connor is a writer and speaker of no mean ability. In his address on last Sunday night he reviewed the history of the incidents leading up to the declaration of the war against Germany and showed very clearly why this country had no course left open to it but that of war. Mr. Connor held the rapt attention of his audience for an hour and a half, and his speech has been commented upon as being one of the most illuminating delivered in this section on the war.

On Monday night Hon. Zebulon Weaver, congressman from the Tenth North Carolina district, spoke to a large and enthusiastic audience in the court house, in the interest of the Liberty Loan. Mr. Weaver spoke for over an hour, telling the audience of the work that is being done by congress in the prosecution of the war and the great expense involved. He told how Uncle Sam is caring for our boys who are doing the fighting, by providing every comfort and every protection, regardless of cost. Mr. Weaver mentioned the great amount of money that has been loaned to England, France and Belgium, saying that so far as he is concerned that he should not regret it if France should never repay her part, since we are under a great debt of gratitude to her for the aid rendered to this country during the dark days of the revolution. Mr. Weaver recited in a very vivid manner the horrible atrocities perpetrated by the Huns upon the Belgians and French who have fallen into their hands in this war. The speaker told of the great resources of the United States and showed conclusively that the expense of carrying on the war would be small as compared with our total wealth. He urged upon everyone that it is a patriotic duty which everyone owes to purchase Liberty Bonds to the utmost of his ability.

The speakers on both occasions were introduced in appropriate words by Mr. Hugh F. Little, County Chairman. Mr. Little at the conclusion of Monday night's speaking was the recipient of prolonged applause when he mentioned the fact that the Liberty Loan in McDowell County was already subscribed to the amount of 60% of the County's allotment. He said that the people of McDowell have responded in a very admirable manner to the Third Liberty Loan, and told his hearers that if there was anyone in McDowell County who did not like the Liberty Loan that they ought to leave the county.

## British Casualties Were 12,368.

London, April 20.—British casualties reported for the past week totaled 12,368, divided as follows:

Killed or died of wounds—Officers, 575; men, 1,636. Wounded or missing—Officers, 2,173; men, 7,891.

Pay your poll tax before May 1 if you desire to vote in the June primary and fall election.

## NEWS FROM THE COUNTY

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

### DYSARTSVILLE

Dysartsville, April 22.—The Dysartsville school closed last Thursday and Friday with one of the best entertainments we have ever had.

B. H. Laughridge of Spencer visited homefolks here last week.

Prof. Warlick of Union Mills attended the commencement last week.

Jas. C. Goforth took the civil service examination in Marion on the 18th.

James Laughridge of Marion attended the closing exercises of our school last week.

Miles P. Flack of Vein Mountain, was a visitor here last week.

There were several good speakers from Marion here last Thursday who made fine talks on better schools and higher education in this community.

We hope very soon to build a more modern school building. A good school is a great blessing to any community.

Miss Mamie Cowan of Marion visited homefolks recently.

Miss Lona Goforth, who has been teaching at Chapel Hill, is home for the summer.

J. Sam Upton of Spencer was a pleasant visitor here a few days ago.

### Dysartsville High School Closes.

The Dysartsville High school held its closing exercises on last Thursday and Friday. The program was the best in the history of the school. The exercises began on Thursday morning with addresses by Mr. L. C. Brogden, State supervisor of rural schools, who made a very strong appeal in behalf of consolidating several schools in Dysartsville township, and Mr. D. E. Hudgins, who urged upon the large audience present the importance of increasing the funds for school purposes. After the addresses dinner was served on the grounds.

Thursday night was given to the program by the primary grades. The children had been under the care of Miss Cora Miller for the past year. They showed by the excellent manner in which each selection was rendered that the training had been of a very high order.

On Friday night the intermediate and high school grades gave a very entertaining program. The teachers, Mr. Grady Nanney, principal, and Miss Dora Gibbs, had taken great pains in training the children who were the recipients of much applause from those attending the exercises.

Dysartsville school is one of the most progressive districts in the county. The people take great interest in everything pertaining to the cause of education. They have been paying a special tax for the support of the school for a number of years, and are now making an effort to increase the tax rate for schools that their children may continue to have superior educational advantages.

### Nebo Commencement May 7-8.

The Nebo High School commencement exercises will be held on May 7 and 8. Rev. G. A. Martin will preach the annual sermon at the school auditorium Sunday morning, May 5, at 11 o'clock. Exercises by the primary grades will be held on the evening of May 7th, and the graduating exercises will be given Wednesday morning, beginning at 10:30. Mr. D. F. Giles of Raleigh will deliver the commencement address Wednesday. A play, "Claim Allowed," will be given Wednesday evening at which time there will be a reunion of all Nebo High School students.

## France Has Paid Heavy Toll of Men During War.

New York, April 19.—France, in four years of conflict to preserve her own liberty and that of the world, according to Andre Tardieu, French high commissioner to the United States, has lost 1,300,000 men killed, and almost as many wounded or prisoners. The high toll exacted by the war was made public by the French envoy today, in an address at a meeting of the "Fatherless Children of France association."

Praising the work of the organization, which already has raised more than \$2,000,000 in behalf of 50,000 French war orphans, and stating that the French government has adopted one million chief bereft of fathers, M. Tardieu declared that German propaganda could not counteract the fact well known in America, that "all our hearts are united in a common affection."

### Old Fort Goes Over The Top.

Chairman Hugh F. Little and Supt. N. F. Steppie spent Tuesday afternoon assisting the local organization at Old Fort in securing Old Fort's quota of the third Liberty loan. It was quick work for the people at that place for after about two hour's canvass the committee totaled up the subscriptions and found that the town had over-subscribed its allotment to the amount of about \$2,000. Old Fort is the first community in McDowell to go over the top in the last Liberty loan. Chairman Little is proud of the way the people at that place do business and is anxiously waiting to hear who will be second on the honor roll.

### Brackett-Pyatt.

Beautiful in every detail was the ceremony that on Monday, April 15, united in marriage Miss Ethel Tulane Pyatt of Glenwood and Mr. James Brackett of Lepanto, Ark. The ceremony was performed by Rev. G. A. Martin of Marion, at the home of the bride's mother, Mrs. Alice Pyatt. The home was beautifully decorated with rhododendron and spring flowers of the forest. Misses Mary Sue Pyatt and Bertha England, cousins of the bride, acted as bridesmaids. The bride looked lovely in a blue going-away suit with accessories to match.

Following the ceremony Mr. and Mrs. Brackett left on train No. 36 for a short honeymoon. They will make their home in Lepanto, Ark., where the groom is a highly respected lumberman.

Their many friends wish for them great success through life.

### Convicts at Bridgewater.

Thirty-three state convicts have been sent to Bridgewater to do some special work on a highway at that place. The men arrived at the work during the past week and will be there for sometime, it is thought.

The total amount of foodstuffs shipped during March from the United States and Canada to the allies, according to the Food Administration, was about 1,100,000 tons, compared with 750,000 tons in February.

## STATE NEWS OF THE WEEK

**Items Concerning Events of Interest and Importance Throughout the State.**

The Republicans of the eighth Congressional district met in Statesville Friday and nominated Frank A. Linney as their candidate for Congress.

Eagles Nest, the widely known hotel on the summit of Junaluska mountain, near Waynesville, was destroyed by fire Monday. The buildings were unoccupied. The loss is placed at about \$50,000, with approximately \$20,000 insurance.

The Toe River Tie and Lumber company and the Tide Water Lumber company, which have been operating extensively in the timber and tie business near Altapass, have disposed of their holdings to the Kingsport Extract company of Kingsport, Tenn., consideration \$4,000.

The Bureau of Animal Industry of the United States Department of Agriculture has named Miss Annie L. Rankin, Assistant State home-demonstration agent, of Charlotte, to encourage in North Carolina the production of cottage cheese on farm and also to stimulate its use in homes. Cottage cheese can be made from skim milk or buttermilk, now largely wasted or fed to animals, and its extended use is expected to save a large amount of meat which can be used by the armies and allies of America.

### Graded School Honor Roll.

Following is the honor roll of the Marion Graded School for the school month ending April 12:

First grade A: James Henley, Edgar McCall, Philip Tate, Kenneth Whitener, Kate Cowan, Thelma Henson, Grace Douglas Reid, Blanch Hutto.

First grade B: Alice Holmes, Effie Hall, Albert Hensley, Mary Hutto, Edith Black, Claudia Epley.

Second grade: Earl Howell, Fred Mathis, Philip Ruth, John Ray Ellis, Jeannette Gilkey, Edith Laughridge.

Third grade: Margaret Craig, Ermine Neal, Doris Troutman, Benson Davis, Rufus Turner, Guyon Whitten.

Fourth grade: Francis Bush, Lola Holcombe, Helen Franklin, Mary Buckley, Floyd Glenn, Mary Tate, Edwin Finley, Paul Ruth, Sudie Houck, Nelle Murphy.

Sixth grade: William Neal, William Story, Edward Hudgins, Edward Whitener, Harry McCall, Francis Gilkey, Elizabeth Reid, Margaret Justice, Lucile Conley.

Seventh grade: Irene Franklin, Josephine Bush, Walker Blanton.

Eighth grade: Ruth Cowan, Kate Mae Ellis, Robert Holmes, Viola Giles.

Ninth grade: Leona Bush, Sara Margaret Neal, Pauline Hawkins, Mayo Laughridge, Marguerite Laidlaw, Paul Story.

Eleventh grade: Gladys Corpening, Nelle Corpening, Ida McGuire, Ernest F. Corpening, Robert Burgin, Mattie Gladden, Sam Story.

Tomorrow (Friday) the Grand Theatre will present Roy Stewart in a five reel feature entitled "Keith of the Border." The management states that this picture comes highly recommended and is sure to please all. Prices 10 and 15c.