

MARION PROGRESS

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

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PICKED HUNS DEFEATED

Famous Prussian and Bavarian Troops Cut Up By U. S. Forces—Drive Line Northward.

American troops fighting north of the Quecq river in the Soissons-Rheims salient have enlarged their brilliant victory of Monday at Sergy, where they cut to pieces divisions of Germany's picked troops and took and held the village against counter-attacks.

Notwithstanding heavy opposition by guns, machine guns and large numbers of the enemy, soldiers from the middle western and eastern states drove their line northward from Sergy, Tuesday, for a distance of two miles and were resting at night on the slopes approaching the woods beyond the town of Nesle. Where they stood at last accounts, the Americans formed the apex of the long line running across the salient.

While the bitter fighting was in progress between the Americans and Germans, the French troops on both sides of the fighting front also moved forward for goodly gains northeast of Fere-En-Tardenois and east of Sergy. In the Nesles forest, the Germans are holding strong positions from which they are shelling, but thus far ineffectively, the menacing allied line before them.

Prussian Guards and Bavarians were in the thick of the fighting throughout Tuesday, but again they were out-manuevered and out-fought by the Americans and again suffered heavy casualties.

The Germans apparently are on the eye of attempting to end their retreat from the Soissons-Rheims salient and turning and offering frontal battle in force to the entente allied armies.

The day of rear-guard actions seems drawing to a close. Violent counter-offensive measures against their antagonists already are in progress by the Germans over most of the battle front and seemingly, for the present at least, the allied advance has been materially slowed down.

Further gains have been made by the allies, including the Americans, but only after the bitterest kind of fighting. And these gains have been considerably less in extent than those of previous days before the Germans stiffened their retreating armies by rushing numerous fresh divisions to their aid and adding greatly to the aggregate strength of their fighting force within the fast-disappearing pocket between Soissons and Rheims.

As a result of violent counter-attacks, delivered with huge effectives the Germans have been able to force the falling back by the Americans and French on several positions, but nowhere were they able to find a spot weak enough through which they could penetrate the allied line. Standing firmly, and giving ground only under absolute necessity, the allied troops everywhere have exacted a huge toll in men killed, wounded or made prisoners from the Germans in their effort partly to retrieve their losses of ground.

It is the duty of every Democrat in McDowell county to be present at the court house in Marion at 1:30 o'clock on July 10 for the purpose of nominating a county ticket.

Forty-One Men Called for Aug. 5.

The local exemption board for McDowell county has issued a call for a list of men to report for service Monday morning, August 5, at 10 o'clock, for entrainment to Camp Wadsworth, Spartanburg, S. C., Monday afternoon. The list follows:

Edward Sisk, Wyatt McCoy McNairy, Luther Floyd Lytle, John Fletcher Marlow, Arthur Elliott, Abb Morgan Reel, Fred Morris, Mont A. McNeely, Forest Edwin Lawing, Charlie Caldwell Moss, William Horace Ledbetter, William Bruner Seaman, Perry Campbell Ward, Julius Frank Upon, Lee Lavender, Ira Lee Knupp, Roy Lee Curtis, Cage Smith, Burt William Hunter, Clayton Davenport, John West Stroud, Lona Edron Carswell, James Clayton James, Will Ray McCormick, Robert Batty McNeely, Ben Childers, Harvey Morgan, Luster Hollifield Arthur Bledsoe, James Theodore Holland, Marion Hollifield.

NEW CLASS ONE REGISTRANTS.

George Raymond Roland, Arthur Edwin Jordan, Isaac Vilas Giles, Frank Alvin Keefe, Jr., Tate Mosses, Walter Hinton Williams, Ralph Connor, Walter Brown Bradley, Todd McKinley Greene, John Beard Allison.

Alternates: Fred James Lentz, Astor Yelton, Leon Arthur Cannon, Blanton Astry, George Watson Wilson, Charles William Painter, George Washington Laughter.

Americans Find Many German Dead

The American troops advancing along the Marne have discovered hundreds of dead Germans. The victims fell before the heavy machine gun fire of the Americans during the retreat. In one horse-shoe area the ground was covered with dead. The Americans buried as many bodies as was possible. It is estimated that 2,000 Germans fell there.

Farmers along the Marne front report having seen the bodies of German dead floating down the stream. The military authorities are planning some system by which they can clear the river of bodies.

Three days after the Germans evacuated Chateau-Thierry, the Americans found a lone German in Mont-St. Pere, hiding in a cellar. The prisoner said he was tired of the war and was determined to secrete himself, notwithstanding the fact that he had no food, and later take a chance by surrendering to the allies.

Sugar Ration Reduced.

The American public is asked by the food administration to go on a sugar ration of two pounds per capita monthly beginning August 1, to meet a world shortage in this commodity and to care for immediate demands of the allies and American military forces. The American public at present is on a three pounds per capita ration monthly, under a request issued by the food administration a month ago. Household rationing will be voluntary at present, but public eating places will be required to observe new regulations effective August 1, permitting the use of two pounds of sugar for every 90 meals instead of three pounds under existing regulations.

NEWS FROM THE COUNTY

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

NEBO

Nebo, July 30.—Rev. J. A. Frye is conducting a series of meetings at Greenwood this week.

Mrs. S. L. Ruff of Wacrosse, Ga., is spending a while here with her mother, Mrs. J. E. Stacy.

Mrs. J. E. Outhbertson and children have returned after spending two months with relatives in Blue Ridge, Ga.

Miss Tracy Sigmon has returned from the summer school at the State Normal College at Greensboro.

W. J. Bowman has moved his family from Hickory back to Nebo.

Mrs. E. E. Wade of Gibsonville, is visiting her parents Mr and Mrs. M. C. Sigmon.

Watson Wilson spent a few days this week with his sister in Asheville.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Sigmon and daughter, Georgia, returned home Monday after spending a week with relatives in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Mr. and Mrs. R. V. Wilson and children and Mrs. J. F. Wilson spent the week-end with relatives on Linville.

HANKINS

Hankins, July 29.—Fred Barnes of Blacksburg, Va., is visiting homefolks here.

Mrs. Henry Johnson of Marion has returned home after spending several weeks with Mrs. C. McNeely.

Mrs. Willard McNeely of Marion visited her daughter, Mrs. Ed. Cannon, last week.

Joe Hall and Virgil Morgan have returned home from Canton.

Miss Dollie Burnett of Marion spent the latter part of the week with her brother, John C. Burnett.

J. R. McNeely made a business trip to Marion Saturday.

George Hall left for Camp Hancock, Thursday.

Virgil Morgan is visiting his sister, Mrs. Minnie Burnett, at Chesnee, S. C. Marion Edwards of Carlyle, was a visitor here Sunday.

Mrs. C. R. Whetstile and Mrs. Will Morgan were shopping in Marion one day last week.

Hankins school opened Monday morning with Miss Jessie Conley as teacher.

Fifty Per Cent Expected to Pass.

Provost Marshal General Crowder has informed state draft executives that more than fifty per cent of the 744,500 registrants in the 1918 class are expected to be placed in Class one as physically qualified for general military service and instructed them to give special scrutiny to the report of any local board which fails to classify this percentage.

This estimate, General Crowder said, is based upon a study of the operation of the draft and the only exceptions which will be recognized are in the case of communities having a large alien population or which have released large numbers of the 1918 class to the navy, marine corps, or emergency fleet.

"The national average should be much higher than fifty per cent because industrial, agricultural and dependency deformants and physical rejections should be much lower," General Crowder's message said.

Dr. W. L. Potat, president of Wake Forest College and one of the very foremost thinkers and finest orators in the State, will speak at the First Baptist church next Sunday morning and evening. At the same services his son, Dr. Hubert M. Potat will sing to the delight of all music-lovers present. All who can should hear these distinguished gentlemen.

Effort Being Made to Build Railroad from Hayesville to Andrews.

Washington, July 29.—Repeated efforts by Representative Zebulon Weaver and S. A. Jones, of Waynesville to have the railroad administration and the war department complete and operate the railroad from Hayesville, Clay county, to Andrews, or Murphy, Cherokee county, are seemingly productive of results. Representative Weaver today expressed hope of the railway extension. The status of abrasive deposits to the government emphasize the mineral advantages of Western North Carolina. The deposits consisting chiefly of corundum, rhodolite and red garnet are found in Jackson, Clay and Macon counties. Representative Weaver told the Washington officials that these natural abrasives are the finest in the world.

Prior to the war this material was imported in as ballast from Spain and South America. This is no longer the case. The deposits found in Western North Carolina are used in polishing all guns and machinery.

"And if these mines are developed they will be of great benefit to that section as well as the whole country," said the Tenth district congressman.

This railroad will open up a great deal of virgin territory rich in wood products, mineral resources and agricultural possibilities. The road has already been graded and cross ties laid along the right of way. The only expense to the government will be the cost of iron and rolling stock.

Rev. Mr. Moore Presented With Auto.

The following from the Greenville Daily News will be of interest to friends here:

"Rev. W. H. Moore, the popular pastor of the Memorial Baptist Church is celebrating his forty-sixth natal day and is the recipient of numerous congratulations and best wishes from not only his parishioners, but others as well.

"On last evening the members of his church, through the official body, presented him with a \$1585 Lexington automobile, the presentation being made by D. J. Whichard, chairman of the Board of Deacons. The gift was a token of the high and exalted esteem in which Mr. Moore is held by the members of his congregation and also for the most excellent work he has performed during his sixteen months pastorate.

"Mr. Moore came to Greenville in response to a call from the Memorial Baptist church from Marion, N. C., 16 months ago and since that time he has added sixty-one members to the church roster. This work exceeds that of several years previous to his coming and goes to show that he is a worthy ambassador of his Lord and ever about his Father's business. He is a strong, convincing gospel preacher and as a pastor Greenville never had a better. The Daily News joins his many friends in wishing him many happy and joyous returns of this day."

The Y. M. C. A. has established two huts for the soldiers in Italy above the clouds and on the snow line.

STATE NEWS OF THE WEEK

Items Concerning Events of Interest and Importance Throughout the State.

The county agent of Wilkes informs the Patriot that not a single car of corn has been shipped into the county during the present year.

D. M. Moore, a switchman in the Southern railway yards in Asheville, was run over by a train and both legs cut off. He died in a short time.

The regular conductor on a passenger train from Pink Hill to Kinston failed to show up a few days ago and Mrs. Belle Jones, who had had some experience in a railroad office, volunteered and conducted the train for the trip.

Richard Joshua Reynolds, head of the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, after a year's illness, died at his country home at Winston-Salem, Monday, aged 68. He was one of the south's leading business men. His estate is estimated at \$10,000,000 or more. He is survived by his wife and four children, four brothers and one sister.

Dr. Riddick, president of the State College, West Raleigh, announces that he has not filled up the college quota for Plattsburg. Under a recent order the college can send fifty-five of its students and two teachers. Men who go receive all expenses and army pay for the time. Students of the college who wish to go should write or telegraph the college at once. The final date for reporting at camp is Aug. 10th.

Casualty List Grows.

Washington, July 28.—Heavy fighting along the Aisne and Marne in which American troops have participated, has begun to show in the casualty lists issued by the war department. Today's list of 225 names is the longest to be given out since American units made their appearance on the battlefield. The list, however, it was believed, gives casualties resulting from the present German offensive operations rather than from the allied counter stroke.

Total casualties in the army and marine corps overseas increased 1,050 during the week compared with 983 the previous week, an aggregate 13,766 with inclusion of today's army list of 225 and the marine corps list of two. The week's increase also was the largest yet recorded.

In the 13,766 casualties, total deaths, including 291 men lost at sea, men killed in action, dead of wounds, disease, accident and other causes, numbered 5,493—army men, 4,783; marines, 710. The wounded aggregate 7,532—army men, 6,340; marines, 1,192. Those missing, including prisoners, total 741—army men, 657; marines, 84.

30,000 Prisoners Taken by Allies.

Paris, July 27.—The number of German prisoners captured by the allies since the beginning of the counter offensive is placed at 30,000 by the Havas Agency.

American troops have discovered at Brecy, north of Chateau Thierry, emplacements of German super-cannon, which bombarded towns behind the front and perhaps Paris.