

MARION PROGRESS

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

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FINE WORK OF AMERICANS

With Aid of French They Clean Up St. Mihiel Sector, and Capture More Than 20,000 Prisoners.

Saturday's advance by the French seems to have been in the nature of several local pushes and not a big forward move. The situation is much the same as it was. The enemy has been reacting very violently on the French front. He made several counter-attacks, although he has not recovered any of his lost ground, he is holding up the French somewhat.

The American first army under General Pershing Thursday began an offensive against the Germans and captured entire St. Mihiel salient, reducing the front from 40 miles to a little less than 20 miles. Germans to the number of 13,300 were captured and many guns and machine guns and great quantities of ammunition and other war stores.

In a little more than 24 hours not only had the work been accomplished but General Pershing's men had all the important towns, villages and strategic positions in the sector within their hands and were standing on the banks of the Moselle river at Pagny, looking across the stream into German territory. And the southern outer fortifications of Metz, the great German stronghold in Lorraine, were only four miles distant.

From Hattonville, to the north, across the salient eastward to Pagny, the Americans closed the mouth of the big sack which extended southward to St. Mihiel, trapping within it by their fast advance all the enemy force who failed to take refuge in flight when the great bombardment of Thursday morning heralded the approach of the offensive.

In addition, along the eastern side of the heights north of Hattonville the Americans debouched from the hill region and astride the railroad running from Commercy to Verdun. Likewise the Thiacourt-Metz and Nancy-Metz railroads are in American hands.

Beginning in the northwest and crossing the salient eastward, Fresnes, Les Eparges, Hattonville, Preny and Pagny and all the ground lying between them changed to American hands. The towns of Vigneulles, Montsec, the dominating height in the center of the salient and from which much trouble had been expected, fell without fighting. Among the numerous prisoners taken were Austro-Hungarians.

It required just 27 hours for the American troops and their supporting French divisions to reduce the St. Mihiel salient. This was disclosed by General Pershing's communique received at the War Department. General Pershing said that besides liberating 150 square miles of territory and taking 15,000 prisoners, the Americans captured more than 100 guns of all calibres and "hundreds of machine guns and trench mortars."

A partial examination of the battlefield, the American commander added, shows that great quantities of ammunition, telegraph and railroad materials, rolling stock, clothing and equipment was abandoned by the enemy. This was in

addition to the large stores burned by the Germans during their hasty retreat.

According to Sunday afternoon's news, General Pershing's army is making fine progress, advancing from Saturday to Sunday from two to three miles on a 33-mile front.

Despite the efforts that are being made by the press of Germany to minimize the importance of the American victory in the St. Mihiel salient, it is known that a portion of the truth has reached the German people and the greatest depression is evident in all circles.

It is now believed that the total of German prisoners taken will go well above 20,000. As showing the complete demoralization which seized the German forces when the Americans attacked, it is stated that one entire regiment with commander and officers surrendered to the Americans.

Marshal Foch, pursuing his policy of giving the Germans never a minute's rest, followed up the incisive stroke of the Americans, which wiped out the St. Mihiel salient in two days time by launching an offensive Saturday morning on the French front along the bend in the line around Laon.

The blow took immediate effect on the German lines, pushing them back from one to two miles at points in this important sector, where it is well-nigh vital for the Germans to hold fast if they hope to retain control of any considerable part of Northern France during the coming winter.

British Steamer is Torpedoed and Over 100 Lives Are Lost.

London, Sept. 13.—The British steamer Galway Castle, of 7,955 tons gross, was torpedoed and sunk this morning. She had 989 persons on board, of whom more than 860 were reported saved.

The missing from the torpedoed Galway Castle number 159. They include 120 passengers, thirty-six naval and military officers and men, and thirty-three of the crew.

The passengers included 300 women and children. The bodies of three of the children who had died, were brought ashore. The captain and several of the officers are reported to have been still on board the ship when she was last seen and sinking. Many of the passengers were discharged soldiers returning to their homes.

McDowell's Enrollment 1,697.

Registration day passed off very quietly here and in the county. The report of the local exemption board shows that 1,697 men enrolled in the county for military service, of which 1,467 were white and 230 were negroes. The total registration for Marion was 692, 568 white men and 114 negroes.

Yesterday the local board begun sending out the first questionnaires for the men who registered on September 12. Ten per cent a day will be mailed out to the men from nineteen to thirty-six, inclusive. The men will have seven days to fill out the questionnaires and return them to the board.

J. W. Winborne has resigned as secretary to the local exemption board and J. W. Streetman has been appointed to succeed Mr. Winborne.

NEWS FROM THE COUNTY

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

NEBO

Nebo, Sept. 17.—Rev. J. A. Fry has been engaged in a series of meetings at Bethel for the past week.

Miss Maggie Taylor left Monday for Elon College where she will finish up her course this year.

Miss Mamie Goforth spent Friday here with her sister, Mrs. G. D. Taylor. Mrs. M. C. Sigmon spent today with her daughter, Mrs. M. L. Hildebrand, in Bridgewater.

T. J. Hemphill has returned home from Canton, Ohio, after spending some time with his daughter there.

Miss Pearl Padgett will leave Wednesday for Asheville where she will enter school at the Normal there.

Rev. A. V. Reese, a well known evangelist, and Walter B. Scoldfield, evangelistic singer, will be at Nebo Baptist church on Sept. 23, to begin a series of meetings. Rev. Reese is a strong preacher of The Word. Everybody is cordially invited to attend these services.

HANKINS

Hankins, Sept. 17.—Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Cannon and children spent Sunday in Marion.

Misses Wilson and Ford of Erwin, Tenn., were the guests of Mrs. A. D. Erwin the latter part of the week.

Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph McColloch and children of Greenlee spent the week end with the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. John McNeely.

Mr. David Frazier is very ill with pneumonia.

C. A. Hensley of Nebo was a visitor here one day last week.

Miss Gertrude Barnes is visiting her brother, C. F. Barnes, at Morganton.

Mrs. Thomas Hall was shopping in Marion last week.

Rev. M. W. Mann preached an interesting sermon at Capernum last Sunday.

An Appeal for Spare Clothing.

The American Red Cross has been called upon again to collect clothing for the destitute of Belgium and Northern France. There are ten million imprisoned people in occupied Belgium and France that are facing shame, suffering, disease, and some of the death, for lack of clothing this winter. They must be helped, and the Red Cross will undertake a renewed campaign to obtain this clothing in America. The date set for this campaign is Sept. 23-30.

Every kind of garment, for all ages and both sexes, is urgently needed. In addition, piece goods—light, warm cotton flannel and other kinds of cloth from which to make garments for new born babies, ticking, sheeting and blankets, woolen goods of any kind—and shoes of every size are asked for.

All who have any spare clothing to contribute for this purpose are requested to bring their gifts to the vacant room in the Merchants & Farmers Bank building, where they will be received by members of the Red Cross.

The allotment for the Marion chapter is 1734 pounds. The need is great, and it is certain the people of Marion and McDowell will respond generously to this urgent appeal.

The Catawba County Fair Association has issued a very attractive premium list for the fair to be held at Hickory October 8, 9, 10 and 11. A number of high class amusement features have been contracted for and a splendid program has been arranged for the occasion.

Tate-Griffith Marriage.

The following clipping from The Banner, Nashville, Tenn., will be of interest to Mr. Tate's many friends throughout the county:

"The marriage of Miss Sallie Morrow Griffith and the Rev. Thomas Greenlee Tate was celebrated last evening at 8 o'clock at the Glen Leven Presbyterian church in the presence of a large number of relatives and friends. Dr. W. C. Alexander, pastor of the church, officiated, assisted by the Rev. S. Waters McGill and Dr. John R. Weber, director of the Y. M. C. A. war work at Camp Jackson, Columbia, S. C.

"The church was artistically decorated with stands of palms, ferns, simalax and white cut flowers. Before the ceremony a group of love lyrics was sung by Mrs. Matthew Benson of Atlanta and Miss Ella D. Hogan, with Mrs. George Parish accompanist.

"The bridal party was led by the groomsmen, Messrs. C. W. Beasley and John T. Holt, Charles Griffith and Thomas C. McCormick, who came in at opposite entrance. They were followed by the maid of honor, Miss Juliet Alexander, and bridesmaid, Miss Mattie Tate, of Old Fort, N. C. The matron of honor, Mrs. Thomas C. McCormick, of Columbia entered alone, followed by the ring-bearer, little Margaret Martin Griffin, who carried the ring concealed in the heart of a lily. The flower girls, little Elizabeth Holt and Margaret Beasley, preceded the bride, who was joined at the chancel by the groom and best man, Mr. Robert Greenlee, of Marion, N. C.

"The bride was beautiful in her wedding gown of white georgette crepe, combined with crepe-de-chine and trimmed with duchess lace from her mother's wedding gown. Her veil was adjusted with a spray of orange blossoms, and her shower bouquet was of bride's roses and lilies of the valley. She is the daughter of Mrs. Charles E. Griffith, and by a charming disposition has endeared herself to a large circle of friends, who will regret her departure to another city to live.

"The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Tate of Old Fort, N. C., and is engaged in Y. M. C. A. war work at Camp Jackson, Columbia, S. C.

"Immediately after the ceremony the bride and groom left for a bridal trip to the mountains of North Carolina, and will visit his parents at Old Fort, N. C., while en route to Columbia, S. C., where they will be located."

The United States has unconditionally rejected Germany's peace feeler. In doing so, the government has spoken for all the cobelligerents.

STATE NEWS OF THE WEEK

Items Concerning Events of Interest and Importance Throughout the State.

Ten sons of Mr. and Mrs. Z. T. Payne of Bessemer City, Gaston county, have registered under the selective service act. Five registered under the first call and five Thursday.

The seven-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Parley Hendrix of Biltmore was run over and killed by an automobile driven by a negro chauffeur Friday. The negro was committed to jail.

The State Board of Health during the month of August caused the indictment and prosecution of fifteen North Carolina physicians because of violations of the State laws. Fines were imposed ranging from a penny and costs to \$30.

A dispatch from Washington says fifteen hundred lumber workers from Arizona have been allotted Jonathan Kerr for cutting cross ties in North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia. Mr. Kerr recently acquired large tracts of forest land in these states. The greater part is in western North Carolina. The men will be brought to North Carolina on two special trains.

Weaver Introduces Bill for Fish Hatchery.

Washington, Sept. 13.—An appropriation of \$50,000 for the establishment of a fish hatchery in North Carolina is authorized by a bill introduced today by Representative Weaver of North Carolina, which was referred to the fisheries committee. Mr. Weaver said the bill was approved by the commissioner of fisheries. It is planned he said, to locate the hatchery in the western part of the state and stock mountain streams with trout and other fish. The site would be selected by the commissioner after the state legislature had granted authority to him to conduct the station without regard to state law limitations.

There has been some inquiry relative to the date when the timepieces of the United States will be turned back one hour to normal time. The event will take place at midnight the last Sunday in October, that is October 27. The impression seems to prevail in some quarters that the clocks are to be turned back on the first Sunday in October, but this is a mistake.

Eugene V. Debs of Cleveland, Ohio, convicted of violation of the espionage act on three counts, was sentenced to serve 10 years on each count in Moundsville, W. Va., penitentiary. He appealed and gave \$10,000 bond.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS NEWSPAPER SUBSCRIPTIONS TO BE PAID IN ADVANCE.

According to a recent government order all subscription to this newspaper, not paid in advance, must be discontinued on October 1st, 1918.

The order cannot be evaded. We must obey it or the Government will put us out of business.

Not a few of our good friends and subscribers have already complied with the Government's order. It is hoped and expected the rest will do likewise in the near future.