

MARION PROGRESS

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

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TO DEMOBILIZE TROOPS

Two Hundred Thousand Men from Camps Will be Coming Home Within Next Two Weeks.

Orders have been issued, General March announced Saturday, for the gradual demobilization of all troops now in this country.

Demobilization will be in the following order. First, development battalions, 71 in number and comprising 98,188 men, second, conscientious objectors not under arrest.

Third, spruce production division; fourth central training schools for officers with some modifications; fifth United States guards, now numbering 135,000 men; sixth, railway units; seventh depot brigades; eighth, replacement units; ninth, combat divisions.

There are now in the United States 1,790,000 men under arms, General March said. Orders which will result in the immediate demobilization of 200,000 men are already issued, and these men will be at their homes in the next two weeks.

When the reduction plan is under full operation, the chief of staff explains, 30,000 men each day will be released from the army.

Regarding the return of the troops in France, General March said the order in which the divisions will be withdrawn is being left to General Pershing. It is the intention of the department, however, so far as is practicable, to return each division to the locality from which the majority of its men came, and to parade the division in adjacent cities so that the people may have a chance to give fitting welcomes.

Orders have been cabled to General Pershing to begin the return at once of all casualties, sick and wounded who can be moved, and convalescents. A steady stream of these men should begin immediately to cross the Atlantic.

Camps at home will be cleared out to prepare for the return of the expeditionary forces, and the general indicated that the process would be expedited. A unit of regular troops will be left at each camp to guard police in preparation for the arrival of the overseas units.

Because of its unusual composition, General March said, and its brilliant record at the front, the 42nd (Rainbow) division will be given special consideration in the demobilization plans. The purpose of the department was not outlined specifically, but the impression was gained that the division will be paraded in Washington before it is mustered out.

Steps already have been taken toward the organization of the permanent army. All men now in the army have been, or will be offered an honorable discharge from the emergency enlistment and an immediate re-enlistment in the new forces. A furlough of one month will be given as an incentive to re-enlistment.

It was announced that congress would be asked to give each man discharged from the army, regardless of whether he re-enlists, a bonus of one month's salary. General March pointed out also that all soldiers are entitled under law, to wear their uniforms for three

months after discharge. This will make less difficult the immediate task of supplying civilian clothing to the demobilized army.

The return of commissioned personnel of the army to civilian life, General March said, will be effected by dividing the present list of officers into three classes, those who desire commissions in the regular army, those who desire honorable discharge from the service.

Instructions have been issued to the army staff corps to carry out reduction in their commissioned and enlisted personnel lists, keeping pace with the reduction of the line forces.

Serious Riot at Winston-Salem.

There was a serious riot in Winston-Salem Sunday night in which several were killed and injured, white and colored. Saturday night, it is alleged, a negro held up J. E. Childress and his wife, white, forced them to give up what money they had, \$2.03, shot Mr. Childress, and at the point of a pistol forced Mrs. Childress into the woods and criminally assaulted her.

The mob first formed Sunday afternoon about 3:30 o'clock, and the jail. Three shots were fired, seriously wounding the negro charged with the crime and also a white prisoner. Town officials succeeded in quieting the mob for the time being but when the report got around that the wrong negro had been shot the mob again became active, going to the jail, which was surrounded by the home guards, about nightfall. Hardware stores were broken open, guns and pistols and ammunition were taken and when the mob reached the jail it numbered several thousand. When the mob broke for the jail the fire companies turned the water on it and the firing began. The home guards returned the fire but the mob soon overpowered it and got in the jail, but failed to find the negro wanted.

After an hour or more the mob left the jail, marched through the business section of the town and finally scattered in groups. Governor Bickett was appealed to for aid and the Greensboro home guards and troops from Camp Polk, Raleigh, and Camp Greene, Charlotte, were ordered to Winston-Salem.

The known dead are Rachael Levi, a young woman bystander, and Robert Young, a fireman.

Order was restored Monday after a night of rioting. Governor Bickett announces that a full investigation will be made of the trouble.

Express Taken Over.

Saturday President Wilson issued a proclamation taking over the consolidated express business now carried on by the American Railway Express Company and assigning the operation to Director General McAdoo. This action serves to clarify the express situation which heretofore has been based on the understanding that the express combination operated privately as the agent of the director general. No radical changes will be made in the methods of the express company, it was said at the railroad administration.

It is expected that the graded school will re-open next Monday.

NEWS FROM THE COUNTY

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

CROOKED CREEK.

Crooked Creek, Nov. 18.—C. L. Lytle spent last Sunday with Lottie Burgin. Allie Y. Lytle is improving after a serious illness of the "flu."

Bethlehem Sunday School re-opened last Sunday with a very large attendance.

W. S. Melton is ill with the influenza. Mr. and Mrs. Grant Davis are seriously ill with the influenza.

The people of Crooked Creek are very busy gathering corn this week.

C. L. Lytle and John Lavender made a business trip to Old Fort Monday.

N. Vess has moved to the Marion Cotton mills.

C. B. Harris and A. E. Wilson went hunting the other night and caught four big opossums.

Baptist State Convention Dec. 3-6.

Raleigh, Nov. 20.—The approaching session of the Baptist State Convention at Greensboro, Dec. 3-6, gives promise of being the most notable one in the long list of its 88 annual sessions. The Convention will face the many and multiform problems growing out of our new relationships to the world, chief among which will be that of training leaders to help shape the civilization of the future. The educational question, therefore, will occupy the center of the stage at this session, one whole day, in the middle of the Convention, being devoted exclusively to a discussion of its various phases.

It is expected that the Million-Dollar Campaign for the Baptist schools in the State, which was projected a year ago at its session in Durham, will be brought to a successful conclusion at this time. However, on account of the continued distressing conditions in some sections of the State brought about by the influenza epidemic, it may be necessary to extend the time limit for a short period until the churches can resume their regular work. However, from the mountains to the sea most encouraging reports are daily coming to the central office. In every case where any thing like a thorough canvass has been made, the churches have "gone over the top" with an increase of from 50 to 100 per cent over their allotment.

President Will Go to Europe.

Washington, Nov. 19—President Wilson will go to France early in December to take part in the discussion and settlement of the main features of the treaty of peace. His decision to accept the invitation of the allied premiers was made known last night in a formal statement from the white house.

The president plans to sail immediately after the opening of the regular session of congress on December 2. How long he will remain abroad is not known.

President Wilson's purpose in going to France in advance of the meeting of the peace congress is understood to be to discuss with the allied premiers at Versailles the program to be laid down for the guidance of the peace delegates when they meet.

Charlie Chapman and Fatty Arbuckle in the same picture at the Grand Theatre on Monday. Don't miss the chance to see these two great film stars.

War Stamp Workers Plan for Drive in Marion District.

A meeting of workers in the war savings stamp campaign was held at the court house in Marion last Thursday. Representatives from the counties of Avery, Burke, McDowell, Mitchell, Rutherford and Yancey met with Judge Gilbert T. Stephenson, State director of the service of the war savings committee; Miss Kate Herring, director of publicity, and John L. Gilmer, State chairman of the retail merchants' division.

Plans for putting the six counties comprising the Marion district over the top were outlined and figures showing the present standing of the various counties were furnished, showing McDowell has sold 39.81 per cent of her allotment, leaving 60.19 per cent yet to be sold. McDowell has subscribed 63.55 per cent of its allotment, leaving 36.47 per cent to be subscribed. McDowell stands 67 among the counties of the state in subscriptions, and 26 in sales.

No county in the Marion district has yet sold anything like its allotment, and it was brought out in the discussion that some very hard work would have to be done throughout the entire district between now and the end of the year to maintain the State's reputation of 100 per cent on war work activities.

The Victory drive to secure the balance of North Carolina's war savings allotment begins November 27 and ends December 6. Every effort will be made to put North Carolina across but it is clearly understood that some very hard work is ahead of the solicitors.

Men Over 37 Not to Be Classified; Stop Examinations.

The local exemption board has received instructions to discontinue the classification of men above thirty-seven years old and the work of filling out questionnaires for men in that class is stopped. Men of eighteen will fill out their papers and file them with the board, according to the original instructions. All registrants who have received questionnaires and are above 37 years old are asked to return them to the exemption board blank.

The provost marshal general has ordered the physical examination of all draft registrants discontinued. Therefore registrants who have received notice to appear for physical examination need not report.

Time Limit Extended.

The chairman of the Red Cross chapter has received information from headquarters that the time for mailing Christmas packages to soldiers overseas has been extended to November 30th. Arrangements have also been made whereby relatives who have not received overseas labels by Thursday, the 21st, may secure labels by calling on the committee in charge of the packing and mailing of Christmas boxes, at the store room in the Marianna hotel building which is open every day from 9:30 to 12 o'clock a. m. and from 2 to 5 p. m.

B. A. Klutz, of Hickory, was here during the week in the interest of Brame's Vapoments Salve.

STATE NEWS OF THE WEEK

Items Concerning Events of Interest and Importance Throughout the State.

W. A. Gibson, postmaster at Bryson City, hanged himself Saturday afternoon. Ill health is given as the cause of suicide.

The administration building of Yancey Collegiate institute at Burnsville was destroyed by fire Monday night, Nov. 11. The structure was a large one and the loss is about \$20,000, with small insurance.

Theodore F. Klutz, aged 68, a leading citizen and lawyer of Salisbury, died at his home in Salisbury Tuesday afternoon, having succumbed to paralysis after a long illness from Bright's disease.

David B. Garrison, a prominent citizen of Glen Alpine, was struck Monday night by a helper engine at Glen Alpine and instantly killed. Mr. Garrison was walking up the track on his way home when the accident occurred. A large family survives.

John R. Early, leper, of Tryon, is now in the lepers' home at Indian Bayou, La. Early escaped two months ago from the District of Columbia and returned to his home at Tryon. After spending a time there he journeyed on to Louisiana and was taken in there.

Failed to Return Questionnaires.

The following men between the ages of 18 and 36 have failed to return questionnaires to the local exemption board. Friends and relatives of these men will be doing them a great favor to notify them that the provost marshal general directs that all questionnaires of men between these ages must be made out and filed with their local boards, or severe measures will have to be used. Those failing to return questionnaires are:

Abner Clifford Davis, Charles Winfield Thomason, Roy Brownlow Byrd, Benjamin McFalls, Allen Carl Haney, Ralph Ray Simmons, Eck Lail, Adrant Clyde Corpening (colored), Buler Alexander Smith (colored), Marion Dewey Smith, George Winfield Lamb, Ned Osborne Jacquins, Eugene Myers (col), Fred Hicks, Haney, Claud Franklin Curtis, John Levi Bing, John Knox Stacy, Robert Lee Jimmerson, Ralph Andrew Atkins, Walter Fred Williams and Geo. Demey Sprouse.

War Notes.

The allied armies have begun their march towards Germany. The Belgian forces have already occupied Antwerp, which was evacuated by the enemy on Friday and immediately taken over. Brussels was expected to be free of German soldiers Sunday.

The American third army has been designated as "the army of occupation." It will be under the immediate direction of General Pershing, the commander-in-chief, who will be in command of the American positions in occupied territories.

There are about 270,000 women working on the farms in Great Britain and 13,000 as volunteer workers in the food production department.