

MASS MEETING A PATRIOTIC RALLY

Called by Mayor J. T. Chase Citizens Adopt Unanimously Ringing Resolutions of Loyalty and Plan for Home Guard Force and Efficient Fire Fighting Company. Criticisms of the United States Government No Longer to be Tolerated

PROBABLE INTERNMENT OF HEINRICH MILLER

"That we, the undersigned citizens of the community of Roanoke Rapids and Rosemary, met in the office of the Mayor of the town of Roanoke Rapids, at his request, to consider the things necessary to protect our homes and institutions and to render the fullest possible service to our Government in this hour of its necessity, do hereby declare our full and implicit loyalty to our Government, and resolve that we will tolerate not at all any speech or action in our midst by any person which is disloyal to our Government, and we pledge ourselves individually to report and prosecute any speech or action by any person disloyal to our Government," ran the resolution proposed by W. L. Long and unanimously adopted by those present on last Wednesday afternoon.

Action vitally necessary and effectively performed is the universal verdict on the step of Mayor J. T. Chase in calling together the citizens of the community to discuss means of effective protection for our property and the stamping out of disloyal utterances by persons in our midst. Not called originally for the passage of a patriotic resolution, the meeting could not adjourn without doing so. Alarm at the Norfolk disaster prompted the calling of the meeting and the quick response that followed. The Mayor opened the mass meeting and spoke briefly as follows:

"As Mayor of the town of Roanoke Rapids, I have asked you to meet with me at this time to consider certain questions that have long been important for us to consider. Events occur from time to time that bring to our minds again and again the lack of organization we have in Roanoke Rapids to handle any unforeseen trouble."

"If a fire should start in town in the night, it might be put out, if not by our fire fighting equipment, then by main force and the effort of everyone. If, however, five fires should start in this town in the night in five different parts of the town, can you imagine the results. The town would be swept from end to end."

"I want to call your attention to recommendations I have had long in mind. A fire fighting force should be organized with well regulated signals, in connection with all church bells, and a proper notice to be given from the central phone station to these bell ringers. We should not depend upon one small fire bell alone to call out the entire male population of the town. There are many details for such an organization to work out, and it should be done at once and put into operation."

"I am heartily of the opinion that an organization in the way of a home guard should be formed. I have been informed that such an organization cannot be made under the existing laws of the State government. When I speak of a home guard, I mean a home guard for Roanoke Rapids. We have no means at hand to handle in any way trouble that might occur, that unless stopped,

would cripple all our mills, and in so doing ruin the town. If the formation of such a home guard is dependent upon the Governor of the State, and permission to so form such a home guard is first to be obtained from the Governor, and if it is a fact that this permission has been refused to this town, then I cannot but believe that the matter has not been placed before the Governor in the proper light, or by the proper people. A town such as we, open on all sides to attacks, with no means to protect ourselves, should have a home guard, fully armed ready for service at anytime in this town night or day. I am not here to argue the merits of such an organization, but you know as well as I do that, regardless of other organizations in the State, or counties, that before any of these could get into actual service for duty, untold damage could be done to the homes and mill properties located near by. People outside often discount our importance, and it may be that it would be necessary for the Governor of the State to visit this place so that he could see at first hand our needs."

"In this connection, we should have one, two or three night watchmen with time clocks to keep them on their duty, with someone to keep a careful check on the men. Every night, the trains should be met by one of these men to try to stop any man coming into this town to do damage, in fact we should take every means in our power to protect the town, then in case we fail, we have done our duty."

"We have no idea as to the efforts that may be made from the outside to destroy this place. There may be none. I sincerely trust this is the case but we should prepare to meet as many of such efforts as possible with a firm resistance."

"We can only prepare to meet any efforts from the outside that may be made to destroy the town, but the question comes up at once what are we to do about efforts to destroy the town from the inside. As I said before, the town is wide open, it would take an armed force of 500 or more to protect the property here and this we cannot do, but certain people, should be watched if we think there is any danger from them. No less than five people stopped me this morning going from my house to the post office and asked me what the town was going to do with certain parties. One man offered his services, while he was not at work and his two high powered rifles just what this all means, no one can say, but the fact remains that everyone seem to think that certain parties are dangerous. This matter should be cleared up at once. A committee should be appointed to receive all information from whatever source looking into the cases of any men who make or do or say anything against the United States Government of such character that when placed in the hands of Federal authorities action can be taken by them. Everybody in town should be made to report to such a committee, how much

longer we are permitted to live in blissful ignorance no one knows except perhaps certain members of the spy system of the German Government. To some of you this all may seem as a joke, the funny part of it will disappear whenever we get up against the real event whatever it may be."

"To do all of these things will take money, service and sacrifice. To my mind all of these things are important and all should be done at once. Let us get together, with a firm determination to so protect this town against all attack, either from within or without."

"This can be done, by us and I have taken this means to call these things to your attention, and called you together to bring the matters to a head."

After a short discussion it was decided to appoint Messrs. S. F. Patterson, W. L. Long, and J. T. Chase a committee of three to take up the work of organizing a home guard to be located in Roanoke Rapids. Efforts will be made by these gentlemen to have the unit organized under the Reserve Militia plan recently formulated by Governor Bickett and the Adjutant General. If this cannot be done the sense of the meeting was that a home guard should be formed, the individual members of which would be sworn in as police officers of the town of Roanoke Rapids. The citizens are aroused and determined to take steps to protect their property. As soon as definite conclusions are reached, a further announcement will be made.

The Mayor was instructed to appoint a committee to get up an organized Fire Department, and to select the men they thought best fitted for membership in this organization. A system of alarms is to be worked out and a regular system of inspection of fire fighting equipment by the Police Department inaugurated.

The resolution of loyalty given above was next adopted by viva voce vote of all those present who were: Job Taylor, W. S. Hancock, H. E. White, A. L. Robertson, J. R. Mohorn, Chas. Webb, Sr., M. Jno. Minchew, R. P. Daughtry, J. W. Lynch, T. W. M. Long, J. T. Thomason, O. D. Fitts, C. J. Massey, Henry Fitts, J. H. Cranwell, B. S. Webb, W. S. Saunders, W. C. Williams, C. G. Hamlet, Jno. C. Smith, C. A. Wryche, A. E. Akers, Jno. L. Patterson, A. M. Proctor, S. F. Patterson, J. W. House, A. L. Clark, J. T. Chase, Mayor, W. F. Horner, W. L. Long, W. F. Joyner, W. E. Critcher, J. T. Stainback, J. M. Jackson, W. E. Byrne, W. D. Tillery.

The case of Heinrich Miller, a native born citizen of Germany, who has been a resident here for many years, unnaturalized, was taken up at the request of Mr. J. C. Smith, and the meeting went on record as favoring his internment for the duration of the war, for his own safety as well as that of the community.

HALIFAX ITEMS

Halifax Items were received too late for publication this week. They will appear next week.

Cotton Today 30 1-8

Federal Inspector Phillips to Recommend Internment of Miller

Following the action of the mass meeting held Wednesday, Inspector Phillips, of Wilmington, arrived here Thursday morning, and after a rigid examination of Miller, stated that he would request the Department of Justice to order his internment for the duration of the war.

Pending the action of the Department, Mr. Miller will be under constant surveillance. Mr. Phillips stated that the order for internment should arrive in two or three days and that he would then send a United States Marshall here to take Mr. Miller to the internment camp at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga.

The internment of Mr. Miller is felt to be best for him as well as for the community. No charges of espionage have been made against him, but knowing that his sympathies were with his mother country practically everyone here favored his internment, including many of his friends who feared for his safety knowing that the occurrence of some calamity here would mean instant suspicion of and possible violence to him.

LOST BOY

Missing from Roanoke Rapids about the third of next month, a tall complexioned young man, about five feet six inches of age, height thirty-seven years. Had on when last seen a pair of swallow tail seal skin trousers with cast iron trimmings, double-barrel frock coat, striped collar and tobacco lining, water tight canvas boots with patent leather tops laced up at the sole. Is deaf and dumb of one eye and hard of hearing in the other, is slightly pocked marked at the back of his head, stoops upright when he walks crooked, a slight impediment in his look and wears a Grecian head on his upper lip, whiskers cut off short inside. Was carrying an empty carpet bag in each hand and a wooden bag in the other containing steamers, railroad tunnels and shoe blacking. Was born after his younger brother, his mother being present at the occasion.

Anyone giving such information to above will leave same with DeRue Bros. Ideal Minstrels at the Peoples Theatre on Monday, January 7, for one night only.

MR. R. M. BROWN

Died at his home near Rosemary, at 6:00 A. M., Thursday, January 3d, Mr. R. M. Brown, well known lumberman and planter, and citizen of this community all his life. Mr. Brown had been ill for nine days with pneumonia and his condition was regarded as critical for several days before the end came. He was forty two years of age and is survived by a wife and five small children.

Mr. Brown is the only son of Mr. R. W. Brown, of Roanoke Rapids. He has two sisters living Mrs. Fields, of West Point, Va., and Mrs. A. L. Robertson, of Roanoke Rapids.

The deceased was affiliated with the Presbyterian Church, and a member of the Woodmen of the World, which order conducts the funeral services at three o'clock this afternoon, assisted, in the absence of Rev. Stanley White, by Rev. Lewis N. Taylor of the Episcopal Church.

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ROANOKE RAPIDS PERSONAL AND LOCAL ITEMS

Mrs. G. C. Lamb returned to her home in Rocky Mount Saturday, after spending the week here with Mrs. G. D. Shell.

Miss Mattie Coburn, of Rocky Mount, spent the holidays here with her brother, F. M. Coburn. Mrs. Powell and two children, of Tarboro, are visiting Mrs. Will Allsbrook.

Walter Key spent Monday and Tuesday in Norfolk.

Mr. Fred Peck left Monday night for Chicago where he will spend several weeks on business.

Miss Josephine Tillery of Scotland Neck is visiting in the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Tillery.

R. S. Hyman left Friday night for New London, Conn., where he has accepted a position.

Mrs. Burnette and little daughter, of Hopewell, left Tuesday, after visiting friends and relatives here for several days.

Mr. J. R. Webster, of Williamsburg, has accepted a position at Patterson Mills.

Mrs. J. W. Smoot has returned from Richmond, after spending sometime there.

Conrad O'Briant spent last week here with Mrs. L. A. Faison.

Mr. and Mrs. George Savage and little son, Graham, have returned to their home in Norfolk, after spending the holidays here with relatives.

Miss Bessie Ezell spent the holidays here with her parents. Mrs. W. H. Jones and little son, Homer, are visiting relatives in Washington and Aurora.

Miss Mertie Faison spent last week in Pleasant Hill with friends and relatives.

Rev. E. C. Few is visiting relatives in Greer, S. C.

Miss Sarah Daughtry is visiting relatives in Wilson.

Robert Ivey has returned to his home in Enfield, after spending a few days here with relatives.

Richard Savage returned Sunday from Fairmont, where he spent Christmas with relatives.

Mrs. Charlie Miller and her two sons, John and Charlie, have returned to Wilson after visiting relatives here.

Mrs. H. M. Hudson spent last week in Norfolk with relatives.

Miss Ada Collins is spending this week in Scotland Neck with friends.

Miss Mary Daughtry left Sunday for Norfolk to visit relatives and friends.

Mrs. R. E. Elmore spent several days last week in Greenville with her husband.

Miss Alice Hockaday returned to Durham Wednesday after spending the holidays here with her parents.

Miss Estella Ivey visited her sister, Louise, at Vulture at the home of Mrs. Jake Vinson last week.

Talton O'Briant, of the U. S. S. Virginia, spent a few days in town this week with T. M. Faison.

Mr. S. S. Spivey and two sons George and Leonard have returned home after spending Christmas with Mr. Spivey's sister, Mrs. T. Draper, of Jackson.

Rally Day Exercises at Christian Church

Next Sunday is Rally Day in the Sunday School of the First Christian Church and every Sunday in January for attendance and offering. We are trying to make it the big month. The attendance and offering will be reported through the Herald each week. On Second Sunday Morning it is hoped that we shall be able to render a special Rally Day programme. Pins, cards, tags, etc will be freely used and we hope that every one will get his shoulder to the wheel and push.

INCOME TAX ADVISER HERE

Will be at Postoffice in Roanoke Rapids February 4 to 6 to aid in Filling Out Income Tax Returns

It will take a small army of men to take the income tax returns of persons subject to the new law. Collector of Internal Revenue, J. W. Bailey announced today that 21 officers will start from his headquarters on January 1st and on January 2nd every one of them will be on the job in the county assigned to him, to meet the people and help them make out their income tax returns. The officer assigned to this county is due to arrive here on February 4th and to remain until February 6th, 1918, both dates inclusive. He will have his office in ROANOKE RAPIDS in the POST OFFICE where he may be found every day of the dates stated.

"It will be well for every unmarried person whose net income for 1917 is \$1,000.00 or over, and every married person living with wife or husband whose net income for 1917 is \$2,000.00 or over, to call on the income tax man and learn whether or not they have any tax to pay." Collector Bailey said today. "The person subject to tax who doesn't make return in the time prescribed is going to regret it. The Government will get after all income tax slackers."

There's hardly a business man, merchant or professional man who won't have to make return of income. Farmers, as a class, will have to pay the tax. The safe thing to do is for every person who had a total income of \$1,000.00 or \$2,000.00, as the case may be, and who is not sure about what deductions the law allows him, to play it safe by calling on the income tax man.

The man in the field will have forms for everybody and persons who expect to call on him need not trouble themselves to write to my office for forms."

Camp Fire Girls Notes

At the last meeting of the Camp Fire Girls it was decided to divide the girls into three committees, one for welfare work, one to help the Red Cross and the other to make trench torches.

The first committee is to help any mother in town that needs aid in sewing or anything that the girls can help. The second are to obey orders from the President of the Red Cross of Roanoke Rapids to sew, knit or help in any way desired by the President. The third are to be taught how to make trench torches and are to make as many as they can to help light the trenches. All this has been done in obedience to orders from headquarters that demand that all Camps in the United States be organized in this orderly manner.

The Camp Fire Girls and the Boy Scouts wish to thank Mr. S. F. Patterson for the candies and fruits given them Christmas and also thank Mr. and Mrs. L. S. Mosher for the delightful party given them by their much loved Guardian and Scout Master.

Baird-Shell

Cupid's arrow not only pierces the hearts of the young but sometimes finds those who are old in years to be affected. Such was the consumation of Dan Cupid's prank last Sunday when Mrs. Molly E. Baird became the wife of Mr. Henry T. Shell. The marriage vows were performed by R. L. Topping, minister of the First Christian Church in the home of Mr. Will Ivey, who lives in South Rosemary. The bride and groom are well known in and around the community. Their friends are numbered by scores who wish for them a long and happy life. Mr. and Mrs. Shell will live at the former home of the groom.

ROSEMARY PERSONAL AND LOCAL ITEMS

Miss Gertrude Cash who has been here the past week visiting Miss Pattie Byrd returned to her home in Emporia Sunday.

Wiley Matthews, of Brinkleyville, spent Sunday in town as the guest of his son, W. E. Matthews.

Miss Maude Thompson after spending the holidays here with friends and relatives returned to Petersburg Sunday.

M. C. Bailey and family left the past week for Edgecombe County, near Tarboro, where he expects to farm this year.

J. B. Gee, of Henderson spent several days in town this week on business.

Frank Fisher, of Baltimore is here visiting relatives.

G. E. Rose, of Henderson, spent Sunday in town with friends.

Robert Y. Whittemore after spending the Christmas holidays with relatives in Burlington returned Sunday.

S. W. Buchanan returned Monday from Jonesboro after a weeks visit to friends and relatives.

Joe Scull returned Saturday from Northampton County where he spent the holidays with his mother.

C. T. Johnson spent a few days the past week in Norfolk on business.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Kinker after visiting friends in La Crosse, during the past week, returned home Saturday.

C. W. Medlin returned Monday from near Charleston, S. C. where he has been on a week's visit to relatives.

G. M. Pressley after a week's visit to his family in Asheville returned Monday.

Mrs. Lon Daughtry of Norfolk is here visiting her mother Mrs. Addie Speight.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Harrison spent a few days the past week in Brinkleyville with relatives.

Eugene Lehman left the past week for Winston-Salem for a few days visit to friends and relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. McGee after spending the holidays in Mount Olive with relatives, returned here Saturday.

Capt. T. E. Davis returned Friday from Walnut Cove where he spent the holidays with his family.

B. D. Hamill, of Thelma spent a few days in town the past week on business.

J. J. Wade visited friends in Halifax a few hours Sunday.

John B. Jenkins after spending the holidays here with relatives and friends returned Monday to Newport News.

Pendleton Grizzard left Tuesday for Brooklyn New York after a few days visit here to his mother, Mrs. J. M. Grizzard.

Wade Dickens after a few days visit here to his brother, R. L. Dickens, left this week for Enfield to visit his parents, before returning to Trinity College, where he has been for the past year.

Mrs. W. E. Matthews spent the Christmas holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Horace Robinson near Littleton.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Owens returned Friday from Statesville where they spent the holidays with friends.

R. G. Brown spent Sunday in Enfield with his family.

J. E. Browning, of Hopewell, spent a few days here the past week with his family.

Gay-Birdsong

At three o'clock last Sunday afternoon R. L. Topping, minister of the Christian Church united in marriage Lizzie Gay and Jesse W. Birdsong of this community. Their friends wish for them a long and happy life together.