

PUBLIC LEDGER



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PREPAREDNESS

HOUSE LEADER AGAINST THE ADMINISTRATION

Talk of a Continental Army of One Million and Five Hundred Thousand—Behind This Line it is Proposed to Have a Battery of 1,000,000 Trained Men.

Kitchen Against Administration

Representative Claude Kitchen, majority leader of the House, who opposes the Administration National defense program, has declared to a constituent his belief that it will succeed by an "overwhelming majority." To Mr. Charles L. Coon, of Wilson, the majority leader says:

"I shall oppose the big Army and Navy program with all the earnestness and power I possess. However, my fear is that the President will push it through by an overwhelming majority. In the first place, practically all the Republicans will vote for it. In the second place, although I know that the convictions of four-fifths of the Democrats are opposed to it, many of them—I fear a large majority—will fling away their convictions on this question to please the President and do his will, as I have seen them do it on two or three occasions before."

Representative Kitchen declares that the program "at one bound, in one year, increases our naval appropriation more than our total increase for the last 14 years; more than the increase by Germany the whole 15 years preceding the European war, and more than the combined increase of all the Nations of the world in any one year of their history."

The Public Ledger respects Mr. Kitchen's convictions, but there is such a thing as an honorable surrender of convictions and we prefer to believe that there are some Democrats strong enough in character to alter their convictions.

The Administration

According to a poll of Congress on the question of support for the Administration's program of adequate navy and army preparedness, President Wilson stands on safe ground. 25 Senators and 123 Representatives have made answer. Out of this number only one Democratic Senator and 10 Representatives take open stand against the President. It is given out that of the Senators who will support the Administration 16 are Republicans, seven are Democrats and one is a Progressive. In the lower house the members for preparedness are made up of 78 Republicans, 32 Democrats and three Progressives. All those who are listed as against preparedness are Democrats. Pomeroy is the Democratic Senator who is opposed to the Administration's plan. Congressman Kitchen, the opposition Democrat from North Carolina, has the company of Witherspoon of Mississippi, who is a member of the Naval Committee, and Keating of Colorado. But it must be remembered that some Congressmen have not yet elected to announce their stand. Neither Senator Simmons nor Senator Overman is included in the list of those who have made reply, but there is no doubt of their support being given to the President at the proper time.

Our Continental Army

The immediate publication of the report of the Army General Staff on the country's military needs, differing materially from the Administration's continental Army scheme, will be urged upon President Wilson by Secretary Garrison. The General Staff's report, it is understood, recommends increasing the regular Army to 250,000 men, permanently with the colors, and with reserves of 300,000 fully trained men to fill gaps in this force. Behind this line it is proposed to have a force of 1,000,000 men with at least a year's training, giving the country an army of about 1,500,000 men, fully equipped and easily mobilized. No synopsis of the report has been given out and details are not available.

The administration plan was prepared by Secretary Garrison and a special board of officers and officials after careful scrutiny of the staff report. It was decided that the staff proposals were so radical that there virtually was no hope of getting Congress to enact them. Various unofficial estimates have placed the cost involved at more than twice that of the continental Army scheme which would reach a total of \$500,000,000 in six years.

The staff estimates, it is reported, that it takes at least a year to make a soldier fit to join the fighting line. The continental Army program contemplates only six months of hard training, distributed through three years. It was adopted to diminish the expense and yet produce a force of citizen soldiers nearly 1,000,000 strong to support the regulars, increased to approximately 142,000 from the 103,000 now in the service. While the Public Ledger believes that war is contagious, we nevertheless believe in preparedness along all lines of human endeavor.

CARE OF FEMALE PRISONERS

The Grand Jury Recommends An Additional Room at the Jail

The report of the Grand Jury of the present term of Granville County Superior Court was one of the best and wisest reports of the kind we have read in many a day. One sentence alone carries a deep significance: "We recommend and insist that the Commissioners add additional cells in the jail in order that the white and colored female prisoners can be kept separate."

The Public Ledger has fought for this very thing, and now that the Grand Jury comes to the rescue we may be thankful. On our first visit to the county jail two or three years ago we recognized the necessity of additional rooms. It is a violation of the law to lock a white man and a negro in the same cell and it is still a greater crime to lock a white woman and a negro woman in the same cell.

Judge Allen noted the importance of the recommendations of the Grand Jury and he ordered that a copy be sent to the County Commissioners and to the next Grand Jury following.

The Grand Jury further finds that the roof of the court house leaks and recommend that it be repaired or a new roof put on at once. It does one's heart good to read such a straight forward report as was handed in by the Grand Jury. They were moved by a humanitarian and business sense, and when they say that they found the Home for the Aged and Infirm in excellent condition we are prepared to believe them. They were sent on a mission to investigate the conditions of the county and they reported their findings without fear or favor. Hats off to the retiring Grand Jury.

DAN CUPID CUTS CAPERS

A POPULAR OXFORD COUPLE STEAL MARCH

Mr. John W. Hester and Miss Pearl Lakel Were Married Whole Month Before the Union Was Made Public

A genuine surprise was sprung in this community Saturday morning when it was learned that Mr. John W. Hester and Miss Pearl Lakel were married a month ago in Raleigh. The public was aware that Mr. Hester had met his affinity a couple of years or more ago, and while the announcement of the wedding was daily expected, no one for a moment thought that Cupid would cut such awful capers. It would have been such a pleasure to have pounded the couple with old shoes and rice.

The ceremony was performed in Raleigh on October 21 at the home of C. E. McIntosh, chief clerk to State Superintendent of Public Instruction J. Y. Joyner. Rev. L. S. Massey, editor of the Christian Advocate and former pastor of the Oxford Methodist church, officiated. By choice the marriage was to be kept a secret till early spring, but the romantic story leaked out. The bride is the daughter of Samuel Lakel, of Addison, Pa., but has been a resident of Oxford for the past three years. She lived with her sister Mrs. N. N. Cupp. She is a woman of splendid accomplishments, and has endeared herself to Oxford social life. She has demonstrated her ability to keep a secret, just the kind of a wife a lawyer should have.

Mr. Hester is an able member of the Oxford bar, being associated with Hon. D. G. Brummitt. He is a graduate of the University and received his law training in that institution. He was once an instructor in Oak Ridge Institute and his ability as an educator is none the less real than his ability as a lawyer.

The newly wedded couple at this writing is off on a bridal tour.

THE WEEK IN DURHAM

Bargains and Free Tickets Will Draw the Crowd.

The big refunding sale at Durham is on to the full this week. The merchants have planned to give free round trip tickets to all customers who visit Durham during the week and make a purchase sufficient to justify a refund equivalent to miles traveled. Those who intend going to Durham from this section would do well to turn to the third page of this paper and read the ad of Kronheimer. This old reliable firm will treat you all right.

Card of Thanks

To our neighbors and friends in this, and adjoining communities, in Durham, Oxford, Rulocks, Clarksville, Virginia, Richmond and elsewhere, we wish to express our sincere appreciation for their kind manifestations of sympathy in the sudden taking away of our dear brother. Especially would we wish to thank the railroad officials and employees in Atlanta, where I met the remains, and at every station on the line where there was shown such kind consideration for our sorrow. J. H. Gooch.

TOBACCO SALES

ALL GRADES SHOW IMPROVEMENT IN PRICES

The Oxford Market During December Will Handle a Lot of the Better Grades.

Farmers have been marketing tobacco very gradually during this month and none of the markets have had unusually heavy breaks. Prices have stiffened up some recently and are now from \$1 to \$3 better than they were a couple of weeks and more ago. The advance on bright lugs has been greatest, but all grades have shared to some extent in the improvement in prices. Oxford is selling a fair share of the weed and stands high with farmers on prices in comparison with other markets.

The farmers, warehousemen, and buyers tell the Public Ledger that December is to be the banner sales month of the season. Some of those in close touch with conditions estimate that the Oxford market will handle two million pounds during December.

An Inspiration

The recent sales at the Banner Warehouse is nothing short of an inspiration. Turn to the second page of this paper and note some of the names of those picked at random.

No Sales Thanksgiving Day

There will be no sales at any of the Oxford Warehouses on Thanksgiving Day. Farmers desiring to bring tobacco to the market on that day will find the driveway open. The regular Friday sale will, however be held.

Figures Talk

The state of the market was well reflected in the sale at the Johnson Warehouse Monday. There was 40,036 pounds sold at the old reliable, which totaled \$6,311.46. The Johnson will have the third sale Friday.

The Farmers Warehouse

Mr. B. E. Parham, proprietor of the Farmers Warehouse, is having phenomenal sales these days. On Friday last the average of all sold on the floor at the Farmers' was a fraction over \$17.85, and there must have been at least 35,000 or 40,000 pounds on the floor. The two sales so far this week sustains the enviable reputation of Mr. Parham and the Farmers Warehouse.

According to Mr. Parham's statement on the back page of this paper the Farmers Warehouse leads for high averages in this section of the State.

REAL ESTATE GOES BEGGING

The Ancient and Honorable Gregory Home Place Bid In.

Saturday did not seem to be a good day for an auction sale, judging by the small attendance and the low bids placed on the magnificent old home place of the Gregorays in north Granville. The property, consisting of numerous houses in good repair and three hundred acres of land, was first offered in two separate parts. In this shape no bid was placed. When put up as a whole it was bid in by Mr. Gregory at \$12.50 per acre.

The property lays close to the National Highway some six or seven miles north of Oxford and many regarded it as worth ten thousand dollars, but for some reason the color of the money did not appear. The fact that the property did not bring anything like what it is worth is no sign that real estate in Granville is on the decline. The only way that we can account for the insignificant price offered for the property is that the right man did not appear on the scene at the right time. With so many Northern men finding their way to Granville, the property will some day bring its true worth.

INTERESTING PROGRAM

Preaching, Music, Oysters and Other Refreshments.

The observance of Thanksgiving at Stovall will be as follows:

Wednesday afternoon, November 24, Thanksgiving exercise by the school at the school house.

Thursday, November 25th, Thanksgiving service at the Presbyterian church at 11 o'clock with special music by the Mountain Creek choir.

Thursday afternoon, at 3 o'clock a basket ball game will be played by the girls at the basket ball court.

Thursday evening from 6 to 10 o'clock oysters and other refreshments will be served in the Dickerson building for the benefit of the school.

The public is cordially invited to attend all of the exercises.

SINGING CLASS

The Singing Class of the Oxford Orphanage will give a concert in the auditorium at the Graded School building Friday night beginning at 7:30 o'clock p. m. The Singing Class gives one of the best entertainments that come this way.

MR. RAWLINS LAID TO REST

Sorrowful Friends Pay Last Tribute of Respect.

The funeral and burial services over the remains of Mr. E. T. Rawlins Saturday morning was a sad hour in this community. The Baptist church of which the deceased was a devout member, was filled with sorrowful friends. Dr. G. T. Lumpkin, who preached the funeral, read David's psalm: "The Lord is My Shepherd and I shall not want." In eulogizing the Christian virtues of the deceased, he reminded the congregation that Mr. Rawlins made it a rule of life never to speak evil of any one, and that if he could not speak a good word he preferred to keep his own council.

The Oxford Lodge of Odd Fellows, of which the deceased was an honored past grand, had charge of the remains. The services at the grave, in Elmwood, was solemn and impressive. The floral offerings were profuse and beautiful, testifying to the esteem in which the deceased and the family is held in this community and elsewhere.

The pall bearers, selected from the Odd Fellows, moved to Elmwood Cemetery in the following order:

Active—Messrs. W. H. Hunt, J. J. Medford, Jack Haskins, A. H. Powell, W. A. McFarland, H. G. Cooper.

Flower bearers—Messrs. J. G. Hall, W. T. Long, Cam Easton, W. Z. Mitchell, E. T. White, John Webb, S. H. Cannady, H. T. Roberts, C. D. Ray, J. D. Brooks, N. H. Cannady, J. M. Beard, J. A. Taylor, T. W. Winston, R. L. Brown, Mr. Peebles, of Vance.

Several relations of the deceased from Vance county and Virginia were present.

CHAIN GANG FOR OXFORD

LET THE TOWN EMPLOY THE CONVICTS

Twelve Strong Men Were Convicted Last Week and Sent to Roads Outside of Granville County.

At a former term of Granville Superior court, at which time Judge Allen sent fourteen prisoners to the Person county roads, it was suggested that Granville start a chain-gang and employ the prisoners on the roads of the county. This question was debated at some length and it was finally decided that the county realizes more for the hire of the convicts than if they were employed by the county. It was estimated by some at the time of the discussion that it would require at least twenty or thirty convicts to break even; or, in other words, that it would not require any more guards to watch thirty convicts than it would a dozen or fifteen. It was estimated by some that thirty-five or forty prisoners would be a paying proposition if placed on the roads of Granville.

With the twelve convictions last week, Person county must now have at least forty Granville county prisoners at work on their roads. They are building some fine roads in Person with Granville county convicts. It is reasonable to suppose that what can be done in Person can be done in Granville.

The Public Ledger is of the opinion that it would be a good and wise plan to start a chain-gang and employ the convicts of the county on the roads. This proposition is met with the assertion that there will be fewer sentences in the future. But let us see about that. From the large number of prisoners sent to the roads by Judge Allen, it might occur to some that His Honor is a severe judge, but such is not the case—he is one of the most lenient judges in the State and there is not a single instance in Granville county where he administered the full extent of the law. A Judge who is known to inflict the fullest extent of the law will follow Judge Allen at the next term of court; therefore, the number of convicts is not likely to decrease.

If the county cannot see its way clear to handle the convicts on the public roads of the county, it would not be a bad plan to pick out a dozen good strong fellows and put them to work on the streets of Oxford. Some of the Town Commissioners are in favor of such a plan. Street Foreman Hobgood states that he could handle a dozen convicts to advantage. We heartily approve of any plan that will keep the convicts of the county at home. Their presence, with chain hanging from their legs, would have a tendency to teach others to respect the law. At the same time we believe they would better serve the interests of the county from a financial standpoint.

Do Your Eyes Trouble You?

If you have eye trouble or headaches, don't fail to consult Dr. N. Rosenstein, the Optometrist of Durham, next Tuesday, November 23rd, stopping at the Exchange Hotel in Oxford for the purpose of examining eyes and fitting glasses. adv

THE CRUEL WAR

A COLD WINTER FACES THE ARMIES OF EUROPE

Military Writers Assert That the German Army is Better Clothed and Fed Than That of the Allies—Very Little Authentic News Comes Through the Sieve.

With the German fighting machine sweeping the earth in every direction the world has begun to ask what will become of the King of Great Britain, Defender of the Faith and Emperor of India?

All that we are permitted to know at this distance is that Germany is holding England and France with one hand and threshing Russia with the other. As the crowning event of a summer campaign, Germany has brought Bulgaria over to her side and set the splendid Bulgarian army in motion, which seems to preclude all hopes of the Allies reaching Constantinople. These great achievements are due to the collective organization of the German Empire and its National team work.

It is given out in London that the Germans are suffering for food, but this is vigorously denied at Berlin. With the snows of winter approaching it would seem that there will be little fighting.

Military writers say that the German army is better fed and better clothed than is the allied army. On top of all this the same writers assert that the Allies will win in the end. They state that the death rate of the German army, through sickness and exposure, during the winter will almost put her out of the fighting.

As stated above, if the Associated Press reports can be relied upon, the German Empire is spreading in all directions, and it is strange to say that the vast population caught in the drag net are easily converted to the Teutonic way of thinking.

Is it possible that the Washington administration sees the Kaisers' triumphal march through the ruins of Europe?

COOKING AND SEWING

Four Gifted Granville Girls Will Enter Contest.

By reference to Miss Mary Shotwell's letter on the third page of this issue of the Public Ledger we see that four bright young ladies have been selected to represent Granville at the Teachers' Assembly in Raleigh. Misses Bettie Hobgood and Mary Belle Knott, of Enon, will enter the sewing contest, and Misses Julia Burwell and Ella Lewis, of Stovall, will enter the cooking contest.

The Public Ledger regards the demonstration work in which these young ladies are engaged as one of the noblest and far reaching features of education. The whole county should feel proud of these young ladies. There will be a bevy of other bright girls there to contest for first honors, but our girls will return victorious.

SOME FINE CORN

Great is the Soil of Old Granville. Others Can do as Well

Mr. Bill Williams, who owns the Drezzel farm near Grassy Creek church, last week measured up 501½ barrels of corn. Mr. Williams has demonstrated that something besides tobacco will grow in Granville. Those who have seen his corn pronounce it to be of superior quality. Some how or other we regard a Granville man who produces five hundred barrels of corn as a public benefactor.

SUPERIOR COURT

The Criminal Docket Finished Last Friday.

The criminal docket of Granville Superior court was completed Friday afternoon and Judge Allen left for his home in Kinston to spend the week end. The civil docket of the term is holding the attention of the court this week.

"THE GILDED FOOL"

The President's Niece Will Be Seen at Orpheum Thanksgiving Day

"The Gilded Fool," a powerful dramatic photoplay, in which Margaret Vale, a niece of President Wilson, will be seen at the Orpheum Theatre Thanksgiving Day—morning, afternoon and night.

TAX BOOKS OPENED

The tax books are opened for collection now. There will be no ground this year and all taxes not settled at office will go out for collection after Christmas. Please make settlement promptly.

Yours very truly,
S. C. HOBGOOD, Sheriff.

LOST—SUNDAY NIGHT BETWEEN

Baptist church and my home on Broad street an old fashioned solid gold half moon shape pin. Reward if returned to Mrs. Hubert Turner.