

PUBLIC LEDGER

PUBLISHED SEMI-WEEKLY — TOWN AND COUNTY OFFER BRILLIANT OPPORTUNITIES — ALL HOME PRINT

VOLUME XXXII

OXFORD, NORTH CAROLINA, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1917

NUMBER 103

BIG MEN WHO HAVE PASSED AWAY DURING THE PRESENT YEAR.

Some years are noted for one thing and other years for other things.

Thus 1892 was the hottest summer for near a century.

And 101 years ago was the coldest year in American history—the "year without a summer," when there was a frost in every month.

To almost the whole civilized world, 1849 recalls just one thing—the discovery of gold in California. It was the first great body of gold ever found anywhere.

The year 1917 is remarkable for the immense fatality among noted men and women.

America lost its most renowned naval hero since Farragut, Admiral George Dewey, and also the foremost lawyer of the continent, John G. Johnson.

The Zeppelin is a factor in our world war, and its inventor, Count Zeppelin, passed out last March. But his invention didn't match in beneficial results that of John M. Studebaker, maker of wagons used by a continent, and who died the same month.

Among leaders in American politics and public life many have fallen since last New Year's Day.

There were Joseph H. Choate, lawyers, orator and ex-minister to England, and Richard Olney, Secretary of State and Attorney-General in Cleveland's Cabinet, one of the brainiest men of the last generation.

The man who had probably been seen by more different people than any other American was "Buffalo Bill," who died last January.

Another mighty hunter and scout also passed away that month—Captain Frederick C. Selous, who accompanied ex-President Roosevelt through Africa and who had probably slain more lions than any other man, as William F. Cody had killed more buffaloes.

Captain Jack Crawford, poet and scout, soon followed them, as did General Fuston, the man whose dramatic capture of the Filipino chieftain, Aguinaldo, makes one of the thrilling chapters in American war history.

General Maude is still another in the hall of fame, as his capture of Bagdad will ever remain a world incident of mighty import.

Death loves a shinning mark, and in 1917 it struck distinguished figures in all fields.

There was "Bob" Fitzsimmons, the man whose mighty fist planted on Jim Corbett's body put the phrase "solar plexus" in our daily lexicon.

Queen "Lil" of Honolulu; W. H. Kendal and Berrbohm Tree, the famous British actors; Herbert Kelcey, the American, and Auguste Rodin, the French artist, went the way of all human flesh.

For fifty years Wayne MacVeagh was a real figure in political history, as for a briefer period was James McNichol. They went with Earl Cromer, the remaker of Egypt, and General Peter J. Osterhaus, a dashing soldier of the Rebellion.

Tens of thousands laughed with Digby Bell, the comedian, and more than once laughed at Belva Lockwood, woman suffragist and twice candidate for President of the United States, but learned to laugh no more.

Joseph B. Foraker, Ohio's fiery Senator and political foe of William McKinley, once occupied the first pages of newspapers with persistent regularity.

One of the world's most celebrated sports was "Diamond Jim" Brady and one of the world's great ironmasters was Ferdinand W. Roebing, whose Trenton mills built the first Brooklyn bridge.

The dean of all photographers on earth was Frederick Gutkunst who had "taken" more big men than any other camera man.

All gone!

HOGS IN GERMANY

America Will Have to Feed the Huns When the War Ends.

Of course, our first obligation is to the allies, but when the war ends America will also feed the Germans. Therefore it is up to the farmers to lay his plans accordingly.

It is interesting to note in this connection that there are now only 9,000,000 head of hogs in Germany, as compared with 30,000,000 before the war broke out.

During the first year following the war, however, there is every reason to believe that Germany will import hundreds of millions of pounds of hog products from the United States, in order to conserve her breeding stock so far as possible.

At any rate, the farmers have a big job ahead of them and wise is the man who produces his own supplies and to spare.

Mr. R. W. Lassiter arrived from Washington Friday and is spending the holidays with his sons.

SO NEAR AND YET SO FAR.

Allied War Aims. (Premier Lloyd-George) Germany must completely restore all invaded territories and must make full compensation.

Future world peace can be guaranteed only by destruction of Prussian militarism and a democratized German government.

Fate of German colonies must be decided by an international peace congress at which the wishes and interests of colonial inhabitants must be the decisive factor.

Mesopotamia, Armenia, Jerusalem, "must never be restored to Turkish rule."

Tueto Terms. (Latest Unofficial Peace Letter) Germany is willing to sell her lost African colonies to England. With the money paid therefor she promises:

To rehabilitate Belgium, Northern France, Serbia, Rumania.

Popular vote by the people of Alsace-Lorraine to decide to which country those provinces are to belong.

An independent Poland under Austria suzerainty.

The Turkish empire to remain as it was before the war.

Russian provinces bordering on Prussia, Baltic and Black Sea, to be made independent states under a scheme to be devised by Germany.

Serbia to have access to the sea.

Serbia, Rumania and Montenegro to be restored to per-war frontiers.

Peace conference to decide questions of disarmament, freedom of the seas and free economic intercourse.

THE NEGRO SOLDIER

Thirty Thousand Constitute the Ninety Second Division.

More than half of the 1,250 negro men who completed the course at the reserve officers' training camp at Fort Des Moines, Iowa, have been commissioned as officers in the army. Nearly 100 negro physicians and surgeons have received commissions as officers in the medical reserve corps. A full fighting force of 30,000 negro soldiers, including representatives in all branches of military service will constitute the ninety-second division, to be detailed for duty in France under General Pershing.

SHERIFF HOBGOOD BUSY

Getting Ready to Settle in January With the State.

One of the very busy men of Greenville at this Christmas tide is Sheriff Hobgood, who will be found in his office every day throughout all this week. The new law compelling the Sheriffs of the several counties to make settlements in January is responsible for the strenuous days which confront Sheriff Hobgood and all the other sheriffs of the State.

Inquiries elicit the information from Sheriff Hobgood that he will make a very creditable showing in January. He says that the tax payers are responding promptly.

ADDRESS OF SOLDIERS WANTED

Please Communicate With Major Will Landis as Soon as Possible. In forwarding Christmas presents to the Granville county soldiers and sailors last week Major Landis ran across a number of names in the list that he could not locate. Those knowing the address of the following will please communicate with Major Landis at once:

Addresses Wanted. George Green Elliot, Elvin Wilkins, Rufus B. Dickerson, Dawson Finley Latta, Cahrlie Morton Tiltonson, Roy B. Dickerson, Victor C. Roberts, Willie Herbert Blackley, Willie Green Cottrell, Lee Aiken, Frank Icord, Quincy B. West, Geo. L. Tilley, William Oscar Culbreth, Arthur G. Meadows, James Earnest Daniel, Joshua Hobgood, Russell Collins, Geo Washington Clark, Nathan C. Turner, Luther M. Vaughan, Berthram T. Strother, A. W. Blanchard, Pender Nance, James, A. Champion, Robert Garland Daniel, Herbert S. Moss, Graham T. Lawrence, V. D. Currin, Thomas E. Moss, Walter H. Thomas, Rufus E. Chandler, E. W. Evans, F. Solomon Clark, W. M. Currin, H. T. Lyon, W. R. Walker, W. H. Moss, A. H. Veasey, Roy Preddy, Roy Walker, Lonnie M. Latta.

The Headquarters.

The Local Chapter of the American Red Cross has rented the ground floor of the new Hall building at the corner of Hillsboro and College streets and will move from the Oxford Library this week.

ENGLAND AND FRANCE WILL FOREGO FOOD IN ORDER TO GET TROOPS.

With Release of Germans in East Allies in West Will Be Out-numbered.

AMERICA IS THE RESERVOIR.

France Cannot Raise More Men; England Must Draw Heavily on Her Large Army at Home; United States to Do the Rest.

(Washington Special)

Decisions of policy that must enable the allies to overcome the detachment of Russia and the helplessness of Italy are in the making. Adjournment of the inter-allied conference at Paris was for the purpose of consulting the governments at home. President Wilson has received from Colonel House, General Bliss and Admiral Benson an outline of how the entente sizes up the situation.

Great Britain and France have learned what America is willing to do. The problem which the allies must decide—and it is matter of days—is how their peoples shall reduce to the minimum their food and supply requirements and release thereby to the United States tonnage sufficient to transport hundreds of thousands of men to France.

Russia is out of the war and that means the release of millions of fighting men as well as German prisoners. Italy can just about hold her own, but cannot aid the allies. France has lost nearly 3,000,000 men. On the western front the French, with about 1,200,000 men are holding in check an equal number of Germans.

Germans Will Outnumber Allies

The superiority in number of the British over the Germans is less than half a million men. The armistice between Russia and Germany provided that no troops be moved to other fronts after January 14, but the Germans took a chance on the success of the negotiations and here a million men ahead of that date. If the Germans and Austrians can transfer out of the 1,400,000 men which they arrayed against Russia only half that number they will have a total force on the western front outnumbering the British and French. Besides this, Germany can expect gradually to get back some of her hundreds of thousands of prisoners. The central powers also have 2,000,000 men undergoing military training.

Must Hasten Men.

Those are the figures on the Teutonic side. France cannot raise more men. England has a large army at home, and will draw from it heavily to meet the increase which the Germans are bound to make as a result of the separate peace with Russia. The United States, therefore, will have become the reservoir for men hereafter. It had been believed, and the United States acted on the advice of France and Great Britain, that the American army could be slowly prepared for action in 1919. Things have changed. If the entente is not to be beaten by Germany as a result of the Russian and Italian situations, the United States must hasten men to France so as to meet the maximum effort which Germany is planning for next September.

COL. SIDNEY MINOR HERE

Everybody Is Proud of the Big, Fine Soldier.

The right hand and arm of Col. Sidney Minor, who spent Sunday in Oxford with his mother, must ache from the hearty and whole-souled greeting that he received here. Wherever he happened to be and whether at church or on the street, old and young, especially the ladies, pressed forward to shake his hand and ply him with questions as to when he will "go over there."

His answer was positive and brief. Like the true soldier that he is: "In the near future, I hope."

Col. Minor is the picture of health, and his magnificent personality inspires confidence.

Another fine soldier here from Camp Sevier is Lieutenant James A. Taylor, who was recently appointed assistant to the Judge Advocate of his division. The first court martial case heard by Lieutenant Taylor was that of desertion, and the poor fellow was sentenced to the military prison for a period of ten years. The maximum penalty for desertion is death.

Inconsistency

The associated press is responsible for the report that the Krupp Gun Works was last week destroyed by fire. Possibly the report may be true, but a recent issue of the Scientific American stated that all the buildings of the Krupp Works are absolutely fire-proof. It is more likely that Essen, a city of 40,000 inhabitants, was partly destroyed.

AMERICAN DEFENSE SOCIETY WARNING.

Every German or Austrian in the United States, unless known by years of association to be absolutely loyal, should be treated as a potential spy.

Be on the alert. Keep your eyes and ears open. Take nothing for granted. Energy alertness may save the life of your son, your husband or your brother.

The enemy is engaged in making war in this country, in transmitting news to Berlin and in spreading peace propaganda as well as lies about the condition and morale of American military forces.

Whenever any suspicious act or disloyal word comes to your notice communicate at once with the police Department.

THE PUBLIC LEDGER FORCE WILL TAKE A SHORT REST.

The Next Issue Will Make Its Appearance Friday Morning, January 4, 1918.

The Public Ledger force will take a needed rest during the Christmas holidays with a view of returning to our work stronger and better fitted to serve throughout the sternest year before us.

One of the things we contemplate during the coming year is the enlargement of the Public Ledger to a six-column eight-page paper. Newsprint paper is still costly, but we hope and believe that the Government will succeed in securing an equitable rate for the small publishers. As soon as this has been accomplished and the affairs of the world has been so adjusted as to restore confidence, the Public Ledger will make its appearance in an improved form.

We wish to thank our many friends throughout this section for their patronage during the year now drawing to a close. To those who have been successful we wish continued success. We are here to serve, and our ambition is to serve to the best of our ability.

The next issue of the Public Ledger will make its appearance on Friday morning, January 4, 1918.

REPORT TO THE CHAIRMAN.

The Schools Will Take An Active Part in the Campaign.

The State Director of the War-Savings Stamps campaign is desirous of keeping up with the progress of the work and asks each county chairman to report to him every week how many stamps are being sold. He can not keep up with this unless the postmasters and banks keep him posted. Mr. B. K. Lassiter, County Chairman, asks those selling stamps in this county to report to him the number sold every Friday or Saturday. In some places we understand that the people are getting busy and we expect good reports later on.

The Schools will soon take the matter up and push it along. This cannot be done to a great extent until after the schools open the spring session after the Christmas holidays.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN'S NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION

TO endeavor to speak the truth in every instance, to give nobody expectations that are not likely to be answered, but aim at sincerity in every word and action; the most amiable excellence in a rational being.

TO apply myself industriously to whatever business I take in hand, and not divert my mind from my business by any foolish project of growing suddenly rich; for industry and patience are the surest means of plenty.

I resolve to speak ill of no man whatever, not even in a matter of truth; but rather by some means excuse the fault I hear charged upon others, and upon proper occasions, speak all the good I know of everybody.

Community Christmas Tree. Oxford's Community Christmas Tree was brilliantly illuminated soon after the sun went down Sunday evening, and the exercises that followed were most impressive. The Star of Bethlehem, at the top of the tree, and the appearance of the wise men, the angel and the shepherds brought the Scripture lesson near to us.

The Very Worst Weather.

Some one said that Col. O. H. Gregory said that he has been around here for something more than 60 or 70 years and that last week was the coldest spell he has ever seen; it lasted longer and was fiercer.

WARNING AGAINST USE OF CANDLES.

Red Cross Society Withdraws Suggestion About Placing Them Behind Flags.

Realizing that enormous fire hazard involved in the placing of candles behind the Red Cross flags in windows at Christmas eve at first suggested by the Red Cross Society at Washington has sent instructions to all district chiefs and Red Cross chapters withdrawing the suggestion.

The Red Cross national headquarters has also requested the notice to be displayed in all motion picture theatres:

"Do not put a lighted candle behind the Red Cross service flag in your window upon Christmas eve. To do so might cause fire. Your flag will be sufficiently displayed if you merely raise the shade or draw the curtains and have the room illuminated."

A WORD TO REGISTRANTS.

The Legal Advisory Board Overworked.

During the past week the lawyers of Oxford have been overwhelmed by registrants seeking aid in answering the questionnaire now being sent out. Some of them have given practically the whole of their time to the work. It develops that practically none of the men have attempted to fill out the questions themselves. In fact it seems that very few of them have even read it over.

In consequence the lawyers, with the approval of the local Exemption Board, have adopted a new plan. In the future they will not fill out the questionnaire for any one at their offices. Instead half of them will each day attend upstairs in the Court House for the purpose of rendering assistance. By this plan each lawyer will give half of his time to the work and have the other half for his practice. The work cannot be done, however, without other assistance. The Board, therefore, urges men in town or county who can answer questions intelligently and with a fair hand to volunteer their assistance in this work.

The Legal Advisory Board has also determined that the registrants who can read and write must read over the questionnaire before they are given assistance.

THE LADIES WORKING HARD

The Men Are a Total

These Red Cross women are at it today with sleeves rolled up, figuratively speaking. Hundreds of people are responding and the dollars roll in. No better campaign was ever on, and the hope is that the membership campaign will secure the 700 members allotted to Granville county.

It has been demonstrated time and time again that man is no good in more ways than one, and in this campaign his ability to secure members is woefully lacking.

We saw the thing tested to our satisfaction the other day. One of the campaign committeemen approached a well-to-do farmer and told him that it was his duty to join the Red Cross Society.

"I will see about it and let you know later," said the farmer. Five minutes later a pretty girl met the same old gentleman and told him that he "must join the Red Cross Society." And believes me, he joined without further argument, and was proud of it.

A YOUNG MAN IN TROUBLE.

"Was Fond of Giving the Girls a Good Time."

The daily papers on Friday last carried the story of how a Granville county boy got in serious trouble in Richmond by check flashing. The police say "that the young man had been going at a rapid pace in recent months; that he owned a Chandler car and was fond of giving the girls a good time; that he had inherited considerable property, but had already run through with it."

The Public Ledger withholds the name of the young man on account of the prominence of the family, but no newspaper can escape the responsibility of warning young men against straying from the "straight and narrow path."

PERSHING WANTS 750 MEN; 40,000 VOLUNTEERS TO GO.

Camp Sherman, Dec. 23.—Wanted—750 volunteers to join General Pershing's forces in France. Willing to Go—40,000 of the national army now in camp here. Not a man held back.

That tells the story. As all of them cannot go—just now at least—750 will be chosen by the camp commander and they have the assurance that they will be in the fighting zone soon.