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THE AMERICAN FORCES ADVANCE UNDER GUNFIRE AND WAVES OF GAS

Artillery of Both Sides Are Still Fighting Duels and The Germans Have Also Continued Small Arm Resistance; French and American Positions Get More and More Secure.

With the American Army on the Aisne-Marne front, Aug. 7—(By The Associated Press.)—Under an inferno of shrapnel and machine gun fire and waves of gas the Americans forced their way over the Vesle river last night and early this morning while rain, varying at times from a drizzle to a downpour, drenched the battlefield.

French troops already have gained positions on the American left and the point movement has strengthened out the line from a point west of Bazoches to Fismes. The Germans lost considerably in casualties and also a few prisoners, whose stories tended to corroborate the expressed opinion of those previously taken that the Germans expect to continue their retreat until the bank of the Aisne is reached.

The attack began between four and five o'clock Tuesday afternoon. By midnight those men on the right had reached their objectives, the main highway east and west extending along the foothills that rise north of the river and become a series of terraces to the Aisne.

The left wing was delayed, but it also reached the line shortly before eight o'clock this morning. Artillery of both sides are still fighting duels over the captured positions and the Germans also have continued small arm resistance. But with every hour the positions of both the French and Americans have been rendered more secure.

Dash Across River.

The attack by the infantry was preceded by artillery preparation. Under cover of a barrage the engineers completed the work of throwing light bridges over the stream, while the officers chosen to lead the dash across the river placed their men in position working them downward toward the points where the bridges were known to be. The challenges were accepted immediately by the German artillery and in a few minutes the intermittent reports of the guns which had been heard all day were merged into one great roar.

The clouds, which had lifted slightly, reappeared just before the attack was launched and therefore the action was conducted without much advantage in observation by aircraft. When the order for their advance was given the men, for the most part, swept forward in open formation, but the Germans were ready with a defence, and even more. They had prepared, although apparently hastily, a counter-attack which they launched without success later in the engagement.

Flounder Through Mud.

The men on the American right fought their way along the chosen routes. Some of them floundered across through the water while others used the bridges that were still standing.

One detachment of Germans somewhat more than a company, moved forward into the open. Here the American machine guns caught them and, sweeping them with bullets, destroyed them almost totally. The Germans also attempted to strike the Americans a disconcerting counter-blow with a considerable force by plunging down a ravine leading to the river. Their path had been cleared by artillery and they might have succeeded in reaching the Americans but the movement had been reported to the artillery stations south of the Vesle and from them there swept into the advancing column such a mass of shells that the formation was quickly broken.

At another point a detachment of Germans stood until the Americans were upon them. Then it became a hand-to-hand conflict, the only one of the kind during the battle. In the mud and in darkness where the combatants were barely able to distinguish each other they fought it out. The Americans won.

The Americans on the left failed to reach their objectives until they had called for a second barrage. Under its cover they rallied and struggled forward to the chosen positions. The Germans, in attempting to re-

MEETING OF COUNTY BOARD

Committee Appointed to Organize County Historical Commission.

The County Board of Commissioners met last Monday, the following members being present: Messrs. E. C. Harris, Chairman; Thos. G. Taylor, R. S. Hart, J. Luther Daniel, W. E. Cannady.

County Roads.

Commissioner Cannady and S. M. Wheeler were appointed a committee to locate the new road from Hester Church to Hebron Church.

Messrs. A. J. Yancey, Commissioners Hart and Tom Pittard were appointed a committee to lay off the new road from Virginia State line to intersect the Buchanan and Cornwall road near the Babe Royster place.

Sheriff Hobgood Commended.

The Sheriff presented his insolvent list, which was accepted and allowed, and the following testimonial of appreciation was adopted: "That we, the Board of County Commissioners of Granville county, desire to thank the Sheriff for his efficient work in collecting the tax, and by so doing he was enabled to present the smallest insolvent list ever presented and allowed in Granville county; he having collected out of \$130,000 all but \$391.70, this including dead and removed from the county."

Historical Commission.

The recommendation of the Grand Jury as to the organization of a historical commission was heartily approved by the Commissioners, and the Board recommended that Chairman E. C. Harris, and County Attorney A. A. Hicks confer with the chairman of the Board of Education and the attorney to said board of Education with a view of perfecting said organization.

Pauper List.

Susan Parish was admitted to the Home of the Aged and Infirm.

PLENTY BLACK WALNUT.

About One Thousand Trees In Granville At the Disposal of the Government.

It is announced from Washington that the systematic search for black walnut for use in making airplane propellers by the Boy Scouts of America, has located enough to meet the demands of the government for several months.

The Boy Scouts of Stovall, under the direction of their Scout Master, Capt. Luther Wilkerson, found about 1000 trees, which were duly tendered to the Government.

TO ACCEPT NEGROES FOR SPECIAL DUTIES IN NAVY

The Navy Wants a Large Number to Go to Newport News.

The Public Ledger is authorized to state that instructions have been issued to enroll negroes in the navy as firemen for special duties. Negroes enlisted will be used as coal trimmers at Newport News, it was announced. Men enrolled will be directed to return home awaiting orders. The navy is anxious, according to the notice, to receive a large number of negroes for this special service in the navy, and it was announced that full information will be given applicants at the recruiting depots.

THIRD LIBERTY LOAN

The Official Report of Granville County

The report on subscriptions to the third Liberty Loan of 1918 for the fifth federal Reserve District, showing totals of states, counties, cities and towns has been compiled by the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond and mailed to newspapers.

Granville is credited with a population of 27,000; apportionment, \$219,800; amount subscribed, \$225,050; number subscribers, 435; per capita subscription, \$8.33. Oxford population, 5,000; apportionment, \$70,000; subscribed, \$69,000; Creedmoor, population, 500; apportionment, \$24,000; subscribed, \$25,000; Stem, 200 population, apportionment \$6,300; subscribed, \$7,300; Stovall, population, 300; apportionment, \$6,600; subscribed, \$6,250.

pulse the attack, used guns of 77 and 105 calibre and Minnenwerfers. They had them on the higher ground, considerably to the rear of the battle line. The American guns did excellent work not only in covering the advance, but in breaking up formations, especially one large assemblage of infantry.

FOCH PREPARES TO STRIKE THE FINAL BLOW

Getting Ready to Hurl All Power of Entire United Military Strength of France, Great Britain and the United States Against the Germans on Western Front to Bring War to Successful Conclusion in Shortest Possible Time.

Washington, Aug. 8.—Backed by a reservoir of 5,000,000 American troops, Field Marshal Foch, supreme commander of the American and allied armies, is preparing to hurl the entire united military strength of France, Great Britain and the United States against the Germans on the western front in order to bring the war to a victorious conclusion in the shortest possible time.

This was the impression gained Thursday by members of the senate military committee who heard General March, chief of staff, explain in executive session the war department's reasons for asking extension of draft age limits to include all men between 18 and 45 years of age.

CROWN PRINCE'S ARMY.

Nearly Half Million Wiped Out Since July 15.

German casualties since the crown prince started his drive July 15, are estimated at 350,000 to 400,000, including 40,000 prisoners. The allied losses are much smaller.

WILL PROBABLY REGISTER THIRTEEN MILLION MEN ON SEPTEMBER FIFTH

The Man Power Bill Introduced Into Congress Last Monday Includes All Between the Ages of 18 and 45 Years.

That the age limit for drafting men in the military service of the country will be changed in the forthcoming session of the Congress is a certainty. Just what changes will be made is, of course, a matter yet undetermined.

The man-power bill introduced into Congress last Monday proposes to change the age limit in the draft law to include all between the ages of 18 and 45 years. The measure is urged by Provost Marshal General Crowder. September 5 has been suggested as a probable registration day and it is believed that a total of thirteen million registrants would be enrolled. General Crowder urges that the bill which was introduced in both House and Senate at the same time be passed without delay.

It is understood that Secretary Baker and President Wilson are behind the measure. There will develop quite a lot of opposition to making the age limit as low as 18. Many believe that 21 is low enough and that 20 should be the limit.

The Public Ledger believes that the maximum age should not be lower than forty, but in spite of the report emanating from Washington that opposition to the inclusion of boys under twenty one is disappearing, we still feel that it is necessary and an injustice to put the bulk of the burden on the boys and decimate them. The time may come when all age limits will have to be thrown to the winds and every man who can carry a gun and approach to any degree the physical fitness required, will be called, but until that time and until the men from 31 to 40 are called upon, the Public Ledger believes that the age limit of 21 is low enough.

MORE BOOKS ARE NEEDED FOR THE SOLDIERS

The Camp Athletic Committee of the Granville County Chapter American Red Cross, will send another box of books to the soldiers at Camp Greene the last of this month and those who have books to donate for this purpose will please leave them at the Red Cross work room before that time.

MRS. A. H. POWELL,
Chm. Com. Camp Athletics.

Special Service Men.

The Granville County Exemption Board on Monday last sent James M. Thomasson and A. D. Walford to Syracuse, N. Y., to fill Granville's quota of special service men.

GRANVILLE WOMEN RESPOND TO COUNTRY'S CALL

Five Oxford Young Women Enroll.

The committee in charge of the enrollment of young women for the Student Nurse Reserve Training Schools feel much encouraged and from the interest shown, now feels assured that Granville as usual will prove no slacker county, but will furnish its full quota to the call for young women to take training in the Student Nurse Reserve Training Schools.

Those who have enrolled for service are:

MISS ESTHER MITCHELL.
MISS MARIE BURWELL.
MISS HELEN SALLS.
MISS HELEN ROYSTER.
MISS ETHEL HANCOCK.

These young women have seriously considered the question, and fully realizing the duties which this service will demand of them, have nobly expressed a desire to go whenever the call may come, thus releasing a graduate nurse for service at the front. There are also two girls from the county who expect to enroll, but who are only waiting to reach an understanding fully the requirements for enlistment in this service.

Several others have expressed an interest in the call, and we feel that many more will visit the Recruiting Station and enroll before the 11th, which is the date to close.

There is no more valuable nor womanly service than to serve the country in this capacity now and each recruit may feel that when she enrolls, she is releasing a graduate nurse to go into the war zone to save the life of some soldier dear to the heart of some one—perhaps her own brother or sweetheart who otherwise might have died on the battlefield for lack of attention.

The young women who releases a graduate nurse, is going to hasten the end of the war, just as surely as the soldier who fights.

If you are considering enrolling, don't put it off until too late. The opportunity will only last a few days longer.

COMMITTEE.

THE INSOLVENT LIST.

The Smallest In the History of Granville County.

Sheriff Hobgood will soon relinquish the office of sheriff with an enviable reputation. The insolvent list this year is the smallest in the history of the county, and is doubtless the lowest of any in the State.

The tax list of the county is \$130,000. The sheriff collected out of this amount all but \$391.70, which is three-tenths of one per cent.

Townships.

The insolvent list of the townships is as follows:

Fishing Creek	\$ 28.34
Brashfield	82.50
Dutchville	84.62
Tally Ho	33.42
Walnut Grove	8.63
Oak Hill	29.24
Sassafras Fork	8.63
Salem	23.17
Oxford	93.15
Total	\$ 391.70

Happy Coincidence.

Every white man in Walnut Grove paid his tax, and every colored man in Sassafras Fork paid his tax. The insolvent list in these two townships is exactly the same—\$8.63.

OFF TO BUY GOODS.

Fall Millinery Will Soon Be In Evidence Here.

Mr. Josh King, buyer for the dry goods department of the Long Company, is on the northern markets, and Mr. Frank Blalock, buyer for the men's department of the Long Company will leave for Baltimore and other northern cities next week.

Mr. Oscar Breedlove, buyer for the Perkinson-Green Company, will go north next week, and Major Will Landis buyer for Landis & Easton will leave for the north within the next ten days.

This trip to the northern markets include the purchase of millinery, and along about the 1st week in September we may expect to see the fall styles displayed by the Oxford milliners.

Mrs. Carroll, of New Bern; Mr. Nick Carroll, of Washington, and Capt. Carroll, of Clinton, are the guests of Mrs. John Gooch.

TOBACCO FORECAST FOR THE EASTERN CAROLINA MARKET

The Kinston Free Press says that tobaccoists in that section are advising the planters to market the leaf slowly during the approaching season. There will be no need to hurry, they say, because of a certain falling off in the world's supply. They are expecting no material increase in production. South Carolina's crop is reported to be slightly less than last year's. Around 375,000,000 pounds should be marketed in the Carolinas and Virginia this season, tobacco men state. The East Carolina belt will probably furnish 140,000,000 or 150,000,000 pounds.

Warehousemen and others are expecting an average price of at least 40 cents a pound throughout Eastern Carolina. They assert that farmers can easily keep the average at that price, if not higher, by marketing "reasonably." They would have the season prolonged until the end of January or later. "This season will be the best local farmers have ever known," in the opinion of practically all tobaccoists in Eastern Carolina. Interest is manifested in the announcement that Chinese interests will buy heavily in this belt this fall. China as a market is developing rapidly. After the war, experts predict, many more foreigners will buy in the East Carolina belt than heretofore.

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION

Auxiliary To Flat River Association Will Meet At Enon September 5th and 6th.

The Woman's Missionary Union Auxiliary to Flat River Association will meet at Enon Baptist church September 5th and 6th, beginning on Thursday, September 5 at 2:30 p.m., and continuing through Friday.

Mrs. Wesley N. Jones, state W. M. U. President, will be present. Rev. J. D. Harte and other good speakers will make addresses during the meeting. A full attendance is earnestly hoped for, because of the importance of mission work at this critical period of the world's history. The Christian women of our Association need to be more earnest in prayer, and more active in service than ever before. As Superintendent of Flat River W. M. U. I call upon the women and young people of our churches to come together for a day and a half to consider this our greatest work; that we may pray together and plan together our mission work for the coming year. Every church whether it has a society or not is requested to send delegates to the meeting.

Miss Cora Phipps Route 1, Oxford is chairman of Hospitality. All those expecting to attend, notify her by August 20, and those coming on train notify her when they will reach Oxford where they will be met by committee.

MRS. JOHN WEBB, Supt.

OXFORD-HENDERSON HIGHWAY

The Money for a High-Class Road Is Now Available.

The Henderson, Daily Dispatch says that unless there is a later decision to cancel their agreement, the federal road aid for maintenance work in the county in the sum of \$14,300. A contract for this amount was signed by the Commissioners Monday, and forwarded to the State Highway Commission. The county will match this amount by appropriating a similar amount for the same purpose, the sum to be realized from the road maintenance fund.

The Commissioners of Granville having agreed to match \$23,000 of the federal road aid, work on the Oxford-Henderson highway is expected to be under way at an early date. Federal and State road men hope to make this road equal to the best in the State.

Open Air Prayer Meeting.

The weather being extremely warm Thursday night, the prayer service at the Oxford Methodist church was held on the church lawn. Dr. Willis told the congregation that he hoped everybody would make themselves as comfortable as possible and suggested that the men pull off their coats.

Carolina Lodge for Rent.

Elsewhere in this paper the Granville Real Estate & Trust Company offers the attractive home of Mr. B. M. Caldwell for rent.