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LETTER FROM REV. GEORGE T. TUNSTALL

Hopes to Return to His Churches Here Next Fall—James Turner is Chaplain of the 120th Infantry, Paris, France.

My Dear Home Folks: Little did I dream when I left Oxford that an armistice would be signed on November 11th and that I would eat my Christmas dinner up on the Rhine with the army of occupation. This is as beautiful and as modern a city as you can well find in America. Prices are exorbitant. The people are kind to us. Everything is under very strict military discipline. The army and the "Y" are making plans to be here about six months, but many hope that we shall be able to leave within a shorter period. I cannot make any positive statement as to my return to the States. The "Y" called for some one to be sent up with the divisional director to go up with the army of occupation for not less than four months. I was fortunate enough to get to come, and I think that after from four to six months up here I can get released to return to my work.

I met Jim Turner, an old schoolmate in Paris on the 14th of December. He is the chaplain of the regiment that the Oxford boys are in. He gives a thrilling story of their glorious work. Most of them came through safely. I found the day I left Le Mans to come up here that the North Carolina boys were on a rest leave and were stationed within fifteen miles of the place I was located. I could have gone to see them so easily, and should have been so happy to have done so if I had known this earlier.

We have had a glorious Christmas Day here, but every one of us want to eat our next Christmas dinner with our mothers. I am quite sure that many of us shall get home by early spring, but don't look for us for a few months yet.

With all good wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year and with the seasons greetings, I am,

Your faraway friend,
G. T. TUNSTALL.

N. C. LEGISLATURE AGREES ON PROPERTY VALUATION

The Object Is to Secure An Honest Basis For Taxation.

The joint finance committee of the house and senate this afternoon unanimously agreed upon the revaluation of North Carolina property for taxation will not be undertaken for this year but will be begun at once for listing in May of 1920. In the summer of next year, after the property is listed, a special session of the general assembly will be held to lower the tax rate.

The machinery for getting the property on the tax books has not yet been worked out. The joint committee states that it is actuated by a desire not to increase the state's income so much as to secure an honest basis for taxation. The tax rates in cities and counties will be lowered in the same ratio as the state tax rate is lowered.

PROHIBITION NOT YET A DEAD ISSUE

Distillers Have Billion Dollars Which to Fight.

A Washington special says that there is lots of talk about taking a backward step on prohibition. Some of the metropolitan papers believe that the returning soldiers will demand a return to the grogshop. The distillers are said to have more than a billion dollars to fight the prohibition laws in the courts. They would challenge the constitutionality of the amendment just ratified.

There is not a chance. Prohibition is a fixture. It came steadily along, until it took in the entire nation, John Barleycorn may not be dead, but the traffic is to end a year from now. The soldier boys will not undo what their fathers have done.

THE HUN DEAD ARE SEEN AS A GRUESOME TOLL

Germany paid gruesome toll as a penalty for continuing the war so long. The Allies did not see their casualty lists, but facts seen by the eye speak for themselves. The Huns paid, and it was a terrible price that was exacted from them. This is shown conclusively in the third U. S. official war picture, "Under Four Flags," announced by the Division of Films, Committee on Public Information, which will be exhibited at the Orpheum theatre soon.

The Creedmoor Supply Company announce elsewhere in this paper the arrival of a superior lot of well broken horses and mules. It is said to be the finest lot of horses and mules ever brought to that section.

TWO OXFORD BOYS GETS LICENSE FOR LAW PRACTICE

Roy Hobgood Royster and Clyde Earl Gooch.

Ten of the thirteen applicants who went before the Supreme Court Monday for license to practice law in North Carolina were successful according to the announcement of the court yesterday. The only woman among the applicants, Mrs. Irene Fay Graves, of Chapel Hill, not only passed but in the opinion of the court presented the finest paper submitted. The only negro who took the examination failed.

The successful applicants for license as announced by the court are: Royal Hobgood Royster, Granville Co., Oxford, son of Gen. B. S. Royster.

Clyde Earl Gooch, Granville Co., Oxford, son of Mrs. Alice Gooch. Marvin Ewing, Bolton, Richmond county; Joseph Page, Robeson county; Jeter McKinley Scarborough, Charlotte; Louis Carr Allen, Wake; Alsey Fuller Mitchell, Transylvania county; Charles Curtis Anderson, Greensboro.

THE "WILD CATS" PUT UP A GREAT FIGHT

Says Achievement at Cambrai Was Astounding Feature of World War—Losses Heavy.

Senator James W. Wadsworth, of New York, in a speech in the United States Senate Wednesday, told of the great fight made by the Thirtieth division, the "Old Hickory" the "Wild Cat," composed of North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee troops. The fight took place between St. Quentin and Cambrai.

"On September 29 the Twenty-Seventh and Thirtieth divisions of American troops were launched against the Hindenburg line at the place where the canal comes out of the tunnel under the mountain," said Senator Wadsworth. "It required three days for them to overcome it. Their losses were severe. Frankly, Senators, I do not see how men could have gone through such a position and come out alive. The achievement to me is astounding. I think it would be so to any other civilian who sees that maze of trenches and underground passages, acres and acres of barbed wire, and the canal itself emerging from the tunnel on the north, going forward to a tunnel on the south, which had to be crossed. Remember that the men were subjected to a fearful fire from their left flank as they pushed their way into this position."

NUMEROUS FIRES IN OXFORD DURING THE PAST WEEK

Most of Them Were Caused By Absolute Carelessness.

The fire Wednesday at the residence of Dr. Scott Hunt at the junction of Front street and Raleigh road, was caused by a spark falling on the roof. The damage was light. The timely arrival of the firemen averted a conflagration.

There have been five fires in Oxford during the past four or five days. The most of them were caused by the carelessness of some one. The blaze that flared up at the Johnson warehouse a few days ago was caused by a cigarette.

People should be very careful with fire at this time of the year when the wind is usually strong.

WILSON IS SILENT IN MIDST OF RUINS WROUGHT BY ENEMY

"No One Can Put Into Words The Impressions I Have Received," He Declares. (Paris Special.)

President Wilson has made his first trip to the battlefields, visiting Chateau-Thierry and Rheims. At the close of a tour that took him thru a dozen razed villages, ending in the ruins of the historic cathedral at Rheims, the President said:

"No one can put into words the impressions I have received amongst such scenes of desolation and ruin."

That was Mr. Wilson's only expression of his feeling after a trip every Frenchman has hoped he would make before he takes part in deciding what is to be exacted from Germany for the devastation of Northern France.

MERIMAN YOUNG WAS SHOT ON MR. JENKIN'S PLACE

In the write-up of the Meriman Young shooting scrape in the Hurricane last week we stated that the killing was at the home of Ody Jenkins. The fact is, Mr. Ody Jenkins is a highly esteemed gentleman. The shooting took place on his farm a mile from his home and he knew nothing about it until it was all over.

TWO OXFORD SOLDIERS AWARDED THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS

Sergeant William Hill Powell and Sergeant Graham W. Harris Captured Several Prisoners.

The commander in chief of the American Expeditionary Forces, in the name of the President, has awarded the distinguished service cross to the following soldiers: Sergeant William Hill Powell, Machine Gun company, 120th Infantry, 131907.

In the attack on the Hindenburg line near Bellicourt 29th September, 1918, this Sergeant who at that time was a private, with four other soldiers, was lost from their platoon during the smoke and heavy fog. This soldier immediately took charge of the four other soldiers and continued to advance. Under his guidance they destroyed a machine gun nest, captured seven prisoners and a machine gun. This machine gun they immediately put into action and fired two thousand rounds against the enemy. After firing they proceeded on until they reached their objective. It was only by initiative and personal bravery that this was accomplished because of the artillery and machine gun fire to which they were at that time subjected.

Sergeant Graham W. Harris, Machine Gun company, 120th Infantry, 1319104. In the attack on the Hindenburg line near Bellicourt 29th September 1918, this Sergeant, with five other men, was lost from his platoon, during the smoke and heavy fog. He kept these men together, however, and continued to advance in the face of a terrific artillery and machine gun fire. He succeeded in reaching his objective, beyond Naurou, and made a personal reconnaissance 600 yards in front of his objective, and remained there until ordered back. He captured several prisoners and assisted in breaking up three machine gun nests. His bravery and initiative was most praiseworthy.

Sergeant Powell is the son of Mr. J. B. Powell, Register of Deeds, and Sergeant Harris, familiarly known in Oxford as Waverly Harris, is the son of the late Thomas Harris. Both of them are fine young men and they will wear their honors with becoming dignity.

200,000 OF TROOPS TO STAY IN FRANCE TO MARRY THE GIRLS

Paris, January 30.—At least 200,000 Americans now in the army will remain in France, according to a statement made by a prominent member of the American Colony in Paris. The majority will remain, it is said, because they wish to marry French women, and the rest because they are charmed with French life.

Lyon-Winston this week received one car of horses and one car of mules. This is an exceptionally fine lot strong, well broken horses and mules. See announcement elsewhere in this paper.

How the United States Army Grew After the Declaration of War

IN TWENTY MONTHS UNCLE SAM'S FIGHTING FORCE MULTIPLIED ITSELF BY FIFTY.

How the United States army grew after the declaration of war against Germany is one of the most interesting pages of the history of the nation. It is a story told in figures.

When America entered the war only one person in each 580 in the nation was in the army. When the war ended more than 25 per cent of the entire male population between the ages of eighteen and thirty-one years was in the army.

On April 1, 1917, America had an army of 190,000. In twenty months it virtually multiplied itself by twenty. In twenty months an army more than ten times as large as America had at the beginning of the war had been enlisted, trained and sent abroad.

How the army was built up and how many were sent abroad, month by month, is told eloquently in figures furnished by the war department, as follows:

In U. S. and Foreign Possessions	In the American Expeditionary forces
1917.	
April 1	190,000
July 1	480,000
August 1	516,000
September 1	646,000
October 1	883,000
November 1	996,000
December 1	1,060,000
1918.	
January 1	1,149,000
February 1	1,257,000
March 1	1,386,000
April 1	1,476,000
May 1	1,529,000
June 1	1,390,000
July 1	1,384,000
August 1	1,365,000
September 1	1,425,000
October 1	1,599,000
November 1	1,672,000

These figures are not final, because more men were landed between November 1 and the signing of the armistice, the total being considerably over two million.

STRANGE THINGS HAPPEN WHEN YOU LEAST EXPECT

There Is a Man In Oxford Too Wealthy to Accept a Fat Government Job.

There is one man in Oxford capable of holding any position in the gift of the Government. The fact that we had never seen him do anything but whittle we were under the impression that he would, sooner or later, whittle himself away.

Our friend was sitting on the bench in front of the court house, whittling as usual, when we approached him and whispered into his ear that we would aid him in procuring a government job that would pay him at least \$4,500 a year.

Still whittling, he asked unconcerningly, but nevertheless courteously:

"What is it?" We expected to see his heart leap out of his mouth when we handed him the following clipping, but it didn't phase him:

"The war is practically ended but war work is not. The ordnance department of the army alone needs 200 senior cost accountants at entrance salaries ranging from \$2,000 to \$4,200 a year; 300 junior accountants at entrance salaries ranging from \$1,200 to \$2,000 a year; and 300 clerks qualified in accounting at entrance salaries ranging from \$1,000 to \$1,800 a year, for service at ordnance establishments throughout the United States and in the headquarters at Washington. The income tax unit of the Bureau of Internal Revenue is in need of a number of traveling auditors and resident auditors at entrance salaries ranging from \$1,800 to \$4,500 a year."

We spoke of the incident to a banker friend, and to our astonishment he chuckled all over when he said:

"Why, that man don't have to work; he has an income ranging anywhere from \$4,000 to \$6,000."

USUAL CHURCH SERVICES WILL BE RESUMED NEXT SUNDAY

Note the Hours of Service and Be Present On Time.

The Sunday school and regular church services will be resumed in Oxford next Sunday at the usual hours appointed before the quarantine regulations caused them to be closed.

It is to be hoped that the moral and religious people and the backsliders, too, will be in attendance.

Sunday school at 9:45; preaching at 11 o'clock; evening service at 7:30.

NEW EPIDEMIC IN GRANVILLE

One That Soon Exhausts the Energies of the Victim.

There is an epidemic of hiccoughs in Oxford and the county. Some of the patients suffer for twenty-four hours and become completely exhausted.

One of the old time remedies is one-half teaspoon of sulphur dissolved in water. The Public Ledger will not recommend the sulphur treatment. Better consult a doctor.

THIRTIETH DIVISION WILL LAND AT CHARLESTON AND DEMOBILIZE AT COLUMBIA

Landing At Charleston, War Department Says, Depends Upon Ability to Accommodate So Many Men There.

(Washington Special.) The Thirtieth Division which now is under orders to prepare for embarkation to return home, will be landed at Charleston, S. C., if the War Department can prepare facilities there to handle so large a body of men. The Division will be sent to Camp Jackson, Columbia, S. C., for demobilization.

The boys will be loaded on nine transports and will land at New York or Charleston. If any large ships are used they will have to go to New York.

While no definite plans for parading this unit have been fixed, officials thought it probable either the entire division or some large portion of it will be paraded at Charleston and Columbia.

THE LAW AND THE GOSPEL

A Happy Combination of the International Sunday School Lesson.

After a close down for three or four weeks on account of the influenza epidemic, the people of Oxford will have an opportunity to attend Sunday school next Sunday.

Judge Devin is at home this week and he will expound the International Lesson to the Baptist Baraca class next Sunday morning, and we know of no happier combination than the Law and the Gospel when thus brought together.

A large number of the members of the class are telling the other members that Judge Devin will be present, and the indications are that the entire class will hear him with great interest.

THE HIGH SCHOOL DEBATE

Let Us Hear From The Oxford Boys and Girls.

One hundred and fifty high schools have enrolled in the High School debating Union of North Carolina for the seventh annual State-wide contest.

The query is: Resolved That the Government of the United States should adopt a policy of requiring a year of military training for all able-bodied men before they reach the age of 21.

Bulletin No. 31, entitled "Compulsory Military Training," has just been issued by the Bureau of Extension of the University, and will be used as a handbook of material by the debaters. This bulletin, 100 pages in length contains briefs, outlines, and selected articles bearing on both sides of the query.

The indications are that this year's contest of the Union will be a very successful one. The Wilson High School won the Aycock Memorial Cup in last year's contest.

THE PEOPLE ARE NOT BUYING CHEAP ANTITOXIN

Only Twenty-Two Out of Fifty-Seven Cases Investigated Bought 25-Cent Doses.

The way North Carolinians continue to buy diptheria antitoxin at from \$3.00 to \$5.00 per dose when they can get it for 25c per dose, is not altogether understood by the State Board of Health. A recent investigation of fifty-seven cases of diptheria in the State shows that antitoxin was secured for twenty-two of the patients at twenty-five cents a dose, while for thirty-five it cost from \$3.00 to \$5.00 per dose. The bill paid by one man for diptheria antitoxin of a private brand was \$46.65, whereas if he had bought the antitoxin provided by the State Board of Health he would have saved over \$40.00.

In keeping with the policy of the State Board of Health to investigate all deaths from diptheria to know where to place the responsibility for the deaths, the State Board of Health has arranged to furnish the people of the State diptheria antitoxin practically free only twenty-five cents per package. The people are advised to request the chairman of their county board of health, who is also the chairman of the county board of commissioners to keep a sufficient supply of this preventative on hand to meet the demands of the people.

BILLY SUNDAY WILL BE THE MAIN ATTRACTION

Visitors to Raleigh Can Also See The Free Tank Show.

Billy Sunday is scheduled to preach a sermon in the auditorium in Raleigh next Monday.

A free tank show for the edification of the visitors will be staged at 2:30 o'clock Monday.

AUSTRALIAN SOLDIER-POET THRILLS OXFORD AUDIENCE

The Story of the Terrific Losses of the Landing Party At Gallipoli Signaller Tom Skeyhill, poet soldier, who lectured to the faculty and student body at the Oxford College Tuesday night and to a select audience at the Orpheum Wednesday night, gave a thrilling, vivid account of the storming of the Turkish defenses in the Gallipoli campaign in 1915, and of how the Anglo-French attempt to strangle Turkey and put her out of the war resulted in failure by a mere combination of circumstances. He confirmed the old report that had the Allies persevered one day longer the mighty defenses of the Dardanelles would have tottered and the Turkish forces there would have been compelled to surrender for lack of ammunition.

Skeyhill opened with a tribute to the poets, who he said had not only fought with their pens but with the sword, and many of them had given their all for the freedom of the world. After naming a number of the leading romanticists both early and late in the great struggle, the soldier poet took his audience away to the campaign on the Gallipoli peninsula. He touched upon the training in Australia of his own unit, then followed it to France, thence to the Near East when the Gallipoli campaign was launched.

The story of the terrific losses of the landing party at Gallipoli, of how they stormed the Turkish defenses, were mowed down as grain before a scythe, and how, in the face of it all, they carried on, and finally won. It was a combination of adverse circumstances, over which the soldiers, the bravest who ever faced the enemy until then had no control, Skeyhill said.

He paid a glowing tribute to the work of the women, and said it was they who had really won the war, that they gave the cheer and the comfort to the soldier in the field and hospital, and it was they who had held the second, or home defense. The war's horrors and its sacrifices on the field of battle, he said, might be forgotten, but the work of the women will live on and on forever as long as history is recorded and read.

Skeyhill closed with a brief reference to reconstruction problems, and called upon his audience to receive the returning soldier with open arms and see to it that he found employment. He said that capital and labor must get together, and that many other things must be adjusted when the peace treaty is finally settled. He drew great applause from the crowd when he said that wherever in Belgium Germany had battered down a house Germany must be made to put back a better one and to pay to the uttermost farthing for her wrong doing.

OXFORD SCHOOLS RESUME

Every Precaution Will Be Taken to Safeguard the Pupils

At a meeting of the school Board Tuesday night it was decided best to open the schools on Friday, January 31, so that no time would be lost in starting off Monday. The health officer had reported it safe and wise to reopen the schools.

The public is asked to bear in mind the fact that every precaution will be taken to keep the pupils safe. They are asked to cooperate in every way to make this effective. Wise supervision has been effective in many places. It should be here. The graded school building can be kept warm under normal conditions and will be. At the high school building it is a hard matter to do this but all that can be done will be for the comfort of pupils and teachers. Parents are urgently requested to visit this building during the spring and thus be in a position to say what could be done about the building for another year. One visit will be sufficient to convince any parent or friend of the need for a new modern high school at once. What will you do about it? G. B. PHILLIPS.

PRESIDENT WILSON WILL MAKE SECOND TRIP TO FRANCE

He Has Been Hoping Another Trip Would Be Unnecessary. (Paris Special.)

Much as President Wilson hopes to avoid a second trip to Europe, it begins to look as if the trend of the peace conference affairs would cause him to feel compelled to recross the Atlantic in the early spring.

Recent statements purporting to announce that the President had planned to return to Paris after going to Washington in February were founded, it may be said, on no definite information.