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A SEMI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF WARRENTON AND WARREN COUNTY

3c. A COPY

GERMAN RAID ON FRONT REPULSED

American Soldiers Holding Eight Miles Of Trenches; Few Men To Be Called Before April.

Headquarters of American troops in France, March 6th—American troops on still another place on the French front have been repulsed by the Germans who were repulsed with losses.

This is the first time permission is given to mention this engagement. The American forces entered the battle line in a certain place in Lorraine. The French commander congratulated the Americans on their behavior.

Washington, March 6—American troops are now holding something over eight miles of trenches on the battle front in France, it was learned today, although in an air line their frontage is only about four and a half miles. This frontage is liable to extension at any time to the regular trench allotment for an army corps.

Irregularity of the trench lines is responsible for their eight miles of length. They are laid out so that flanking fire may be obtained along every part of the front. Strong points containing machine guns jut out for this purpose. The trenches also follow closely any protective slope of the country and wander up and down hill.

The American sector is understood to be a divisional frontage, which means that at least three divisions of American troops are there to give the necessary support in depth for the front lines. This fact has aroused speculation here as to who will be selected by General Pershing to command the first corps of his army. Major General Hunter Liggett is known to have acted in that capacity, but as yet the expeditionary commander has not made any recommendation.

Conditions in Russia are still at the worst. The Bolsheviks may not ratify the peace pact, but it looks as if the mailed fist of German is going to force this course. Japan wants to the right to go into Russia and protect vast supplies from the German army. This involves a breach of neutrality and as yet Japan has not received the consent of the Allies for such action, but it is looked upon with favor by many.

ESTIMATED THAT ABOUT 800,000 MEN WILL BE CALLED

Washington, March 6—While a large number of men will be called out during the present year to fill up the army and complete its organization, it was learned tonight that War Department plans do not call for the creation of any additional divisions in 1918. The announcement concerning the second draft expected soon from Provost Marshal General Crowder may outline the manner in which less than 1,000,000 men, probably not much in excess of 800,000, are to be summoned gradually during the year to complete the existing organizations.

As to the date of the second draft, members of Congress from agricultural sections have been practically assured that no withdrawal of men from civil life was contemplated which would embarrass harvesting. It has been indicated, however, that a relatively small number of men must be called to the colors prior to June 1 and the process may start in April, when equipment, clothing and quarters will be available. The men are needed to fill up to full strength divisions slated for early departure to Europe and also for field army and corps troops not attached to divisions. The replacement detachments also must go forward at an accelerating rate since American troops are now actually holding a sector of the French front and men are being killed or wounded each day.

7 NAVAL TRAINING STATIONS

Washington, March 6: Dry zones five miles wide, irrespective of incorporated cities and towns within those limits, are placed around eight permanent naval training posts and the Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md., in a general order announced today by Secretary Daniels.

LA FOLLETTE CENSURED BY WISCONSIN ASSEMBLY.

Madison, Wis., March 6: The lower house of the Wisconsin Legislature to night censured Senator La Follette for his attitude in the war by a vote of 53 to 32. The resolution was passed by the State Senate ten days ago.

Submitting The Facts, The Board Of Education Asks For Special Tax of 30c Plan and Method of Board Receive Hearty Endorsement By A Large Number of Representative School Committeemen.

The report of the Board of Education submitted to the Committeemen and citizens of the County last Monday was full and complete, and was given the hearty endorsement by standing vote of those present. As will be seen from the full report printed below it was shown that the Board has been economical and yet progressive. It shows that the cost of administration of school affairs in this County was much less than the average of the State, and that the teachers received more of the taxpayer's money than the average of the State; that the school business of the County is conducted at less cost than the average of the State and that the school affairs have been wisely and economically administered.

The suggestion that a County Special Tax, not to exceed thirty cents on property, be levied to bear on all property in the County and thereby make a uniform tax rate for school purposes rather than a district tax, was endorsed without a dissenting vote.

The question of the application of the Railroad and Telegraph tax to the school needs of the entire county instead of solely to the districts thru which said property runs, was discussed with much interest, and the Board was gratified at the spirit of harmony and willingness to share that tax shown by the endorsement of the plan by those present now receiving the tax.

It was not denied that a serious condition confronts the children of the County in their search for knowledge

by the very apparent lack of equipped teachers for the coming year, and that a remedy must be found.

That this remedy was in a Special Tax for the whole county, falling upon that property not now paying special tax and not falling upon any property now paying thirty cents special tax was the only just remedy. It was conceded that it would be unfair to increase the school fund by increasing the General Tax and cause those already paying General Tax and Special Tax to pay more General Tax to be divided among all the schools of the County, but rather that the property not paying any special tax be placed on an equality as to rate of taxation with that now bearing its full share.

The adoption of this fair and uniform method will provide funds to take care of increase in salaries of teachers and will enable the Board to administer the school affairs of the County with an eye solely to the needs of each community, with the purpose to increase the efficiency of each school, and to give to each community the best equipped teacher in the best equipped building possible.

By the hearty endorsement of this method by Committeemen and citizens the Board felt justified in calling an election in order that the entire citizenship of the County may "take the case and return its verdict in accordance with the evidence"—and with justice to their children, and in step with the progress of education in other counties.

The Board is speaking solely of salaries paid from the general Fund raised by a General tax of 27 cents. In Special Tax districts these salaries are supplemented by the local tax, and as an illustration of the salaries paid in some of these districts we will mention Norlina, \$50.00; Macon, \$45.00; Warrenton, \$50.00; Embro, \$65; Vaughan, principal \$87.50; Epworth, lady principal \$65.00; Vicksboro, lady principal, \$70.00; Afton, \$50.00; Oakville, \$75.00; Churchill, \$65.00; Wise, \$50. This by way of illustration of the fact that only in these Special Tax Districts can salaries be paid which will appeal to our brightest teachers, and they can command more in other counties and will do so, unless Warren meets the situation in a spirit of justice. It is only justice that is being asked by the teachers.

How Does the Administration of the School Fund of Warren Compare With Other Counties.

A letter from State Superintendent J. Y. Joyner to the editor of the News Reporter, a newspaper published in the town of Littleton shows the following facts:

1. That the average paid by the State for Supervision of schools is \$3.00 in every \$100.00; but that in Warren County it is only \$2.60.

2. That the average paid for administration (Board of Education, census committeemen and cet) is \$4.50 per \$100; but in Warren county it is only \$4.00.

3. That the average paid for fuel, janitors and insurance for the state is \$3.30, and the average paid for these purposes by Warren County is \$4.70. This excess above the average for the State can be accounted for in two ways: the effort of the Board to keep your children comfortable in the school room by providing liberally for fuel, and the further fact that the Board keeps the school houses insured. Fortunately we have had only two to burn; but for these the Board received \$1150.00 insurance.

4. The average school funds invested in new buildings, repairs, etc. by the counties of the State is \$14.50 in each \$100; but the average for the County of Warren is \$12.40.

5. The average Loan Fund repaid the State is \$2.70; for Warren county it is \$2.40.

6. The average of the counties of the State paid to teachers for salaries is \$71.00 in each \$100. The teachers of Warren get \$69.00. This is explained by Superintendent Joyner by the fact that \$37,500 of the School fund is Bonded indebtedness of Norlina, Macon and Littleton and that the sinking fund and interest on this indebtedness makes the School fund larger and the per centage of whole amt paid teachers necessarily less; but says in explanation "though it does not decrease the amount paid teachers one cent, it does decrease the percentage." To recapitulate for Warren county: Supervision \$2.60; Administration \$4.00; Fuel, Insurance and etc \$4.70; Building \$12.40; Loan Fund \$2.40—a total of \$26.10. The average for the State for these same items is \$28.00.

Therefore, eliminating the amount paid for interest on bonds in Warren county as well as the other counties of the State, it shows that our teachers actually get \$73.90 out of each \$100, and the other counties of the State \$72.00. Interest and sinking fund for bond issues is not a proper charge against the General Tax Fund of any county when the proceeds are applied to special districts; hence it was not taken in consideration in determining the actual dollars and cents in each \$100 paid out of the General Fund.

Therefore the Board can with confidence appeal to the citizens of this county in approval of its Stewardship. It has shown: 1st, the total receipts from General Tax, and 2nd, where this General Tax was spent, and 3rd, that this tax was spent at less cost to the taxpayer than the average of the State, and 4th, that our teachers now get \$73.90 out of each \$100.00, and 5th

that this is \$1.90 on each hundred dollars more than the average of the State.

But the facts are that the teachers of Warren county receive much less money in monthly salaries than the average of the State. They get more out of each \$100 of taxpayers money than the average of the State; but the taxpayers of the County pay less to the school fund than the average of the State, and hence the aggregate of the \$73.90 divided by the teachers employed gives each teacher less money per month than her sisters are getting throughout the State. How can this be remedied? The only answer is to provide more sums of \$73.90

It is for the purpose of agreeing on a plan that causes the Board to lay bare its work, and to get an expression of opinion from its co-workers—the committeemen of the County, and through them the taxpayers of the County.

There are three methods by which the necessary funds can be raised, viz: A State Tax, a Special County Tax and a County-wide Special Tax.

The objection to a State Tax to extend the school term six months, as you will be asked to do by the State at the November election, is that the result can be attained in the County under a better plan in the opinion of the Board.

The objection to the increase in the County tax is that the burden will also fall upon those citizens who are now paying the maximum of taxation, and will compel them to help educate the children of those communities who have not voted upon themselves a special tax. Therefore, in the opinion of the Board, the only method to be pursued is "a County-wide Special Tax."

This method gives to each race (after the five months now given by State and County) the funds of its respective race. The colored race will get its special taxes to pay its teachers better salaries and get better teachers, and the white race will get its funds to pay its teachers better salaries and to get good teachers.

As an illustration we give the taxables of several Special districts: Wise lists \$442,292.00 at 30 cents Special tax for white race, and receives therefrom, including 90 polls, \$1407.88; Wise for colored race lists \$50,018.00 at 30 cents, including 104 polls, and gets \$243.66.

Oakville pays 30 cents Special tax. It brings \$406.10 for white schools, and \$112.57 for colored schools.

Norlina lists \$436,656 white property, and \$35,523.00 colored; their respective taxes for schools is white \$1408.97, and colored \$177.67.

These facts are given by way of illustration as being the fairest method under which the taxes can be levied. There are 18 districts in the County now paying the 27 cents General tax, and in addition, Special taxes for schools. In all of these districts the schools are making fine progress and would not return to the old days of no special school tax. Take Norlina, for illustration: She pays 27 cents General School tax to help all the County; and then pays in addition 30 cents for Special school tax for her own children, and then pays 30 cents more for a suitable building in which to educate them.

There is 6,990,580.00 in real and personal property in this County. \$5,135,410.00 is paying 27 cents General Fund and Special School funds in addition. To levy additional taxes on the five million in order to supply salaries of teachers to the \$1,855,170.00 would be an injustice. Any form of taxation except the Special School tax will do this. Unless the citizens of this county will endorse a County wide Special tax to cover all the county, then it will become necessary for the 5,135,410.00 dollars to have an increase in its tax levy to provide better teachers at better salaries for the \$1,855,170 of property which now bears no special tax. This is an injustice which the Board does not believe (Continued On Fourth Page)

SHOW MAKES HIT IN WARRENTON.

Churchill Local Talent Produce Good Play in "Diamonds and Hearts" Wednesday.

"Diamonds and Hearts", a comedy drama in three acts, presented by the Churchill community under the direction of Miss Jessie Eubanks at the Opera House Wednesday night merited a full house. It won the admiration of the audience as the cleverest local talent show staged here in the last two years.

The plot was easily followed; the characters were all good; and the general tone of the entertainment was high.

Simon Gardner in the role of a New England farmer—plain, out-spoken and with a bandanna always at hand won the plaudits of his audience by drollness and stage bearing; Miss Maud Halthcock as Hannah Mary Barnes or "Sis" supplemented his acting in creditable style; "Sammy", erst-while Herbert Gardner, played well the prying colored boy around the house, and frequently brought a titter from those out in front; Miss Cora Shaw, as the leading lady, carried her role well. The cast of character and a brief synopsis of the play follows: Bernice Halstead.....Cora Shaw Amy Halstead.....Alma Shearin Inez Gray.....Stella Currin Mrs. Halstead.....Ruth Hunter Widow and Stepmother of the girls Hannah Mary Barnes.Maud Halthcock Dwight Bradley.....Hawkins Gilliland Mrs. Halstead's son by former marriage Dr. Burton.....Jasper Shearin Sammy.....Herbert Gardner Abraham Barnes.....Simon Gardner Attorney.....Claud Halthcock Sheriff.....Frank Burrows

The scenes were a pleasant parlor in the city home of the Halsteads and a kitchen in the Old Barnes Farm house. Bernice and Amy Halstead and Inez Gray, learning that a young Doctor has moved to town make plans to see who shall win the Doctor's heart. In the meantime Dwight Bradley, learning that his stepfather had left all of his property to Bernice, makes plans to marry; becoming aware of this, she leaves home to teach a country school. To carry out his plan Dwight Bradley hides his mother's diamonds in Bernice's trunk, of which she is accused of stealing. Through the help of Abraham Barnes, Dwight Bradley is proven guilty and all ends well.

The interludes were featured by the clog dancing of "Sammy" Gardner and "Long Tom" Shearin who "shook a foot" to the music of Messrs. A. T., John W., R. B., and Malvern Connor who from a violin, mandolin, banjo, and guitar fung dance music into the air. This was a decidedly popular feature of the entertainment, and the boys were "cloggers" what one reads about. Around a hundred and forty people were in attendance, and about \$22.00 was cleared for the piano fund of Churchill school. The cast and the community showed a fine spirit in donating \$5.00 of the receipts to the Red Cross.

The tone of the play was such as would improve any community in which presented, was a tribute to the talent of the Churchill community, and was a credit to its directress, the school, and the people of that progressive section.

GIRLS KNITTING CLUB MET WITH MISS PELLATIER.

The Girls Knitting Club was entertained Tuesday night by Miss Ursula Pellatier at the home of Mrs. Hal T. Macon.

Of the Club members the following were present: Misses Alice Rooker, Byrd Jones, Sarah Moore, Louise Dowtin, Fair Polk, Nan Rodwell, Sue and Annie Palmer, and Miss Hope Powell as the guest of the club.

Following a course in knitting, apples, cake and lemonade were served. The Club will meet next Monday night with Miss Louise Dowtin in South Warrenton.

Had Similar Failing
Misses—It's only fair to warn you, Bridget, that my husband swears a little sometimes.
Bridget—That's all right, mum. So do I.—Life.

Total value of real and personal property in County.....	\$6,990,580.00
Present rate of taxation for schools—27c on each.....	100.00
Present Rate on Polls.....	1.68
The number of white polls is.....	1,242
The number of colored polls is.....	1,972
The estimated General Fund from 27 cents property tax and \$1.68 Poll tax is.....	24,274.10
The real and personal property of the Colored race which is included in above is.....	1,135,863.00
The real and personal property of the white race is.....	5,854,717.00
The school tax paid by the white race is.....	17,894.31
The school tax paid by the colored race is.....	6,379.79
That is to say:—for each dollar paid by the colored race for conducting a fur months school term the white race pays, \$2.80.	

What Becomes of This Money and How Is It Applied.

Per diem and travelling expenses County Board.....	\$ 310.00
Building and repairs.....	2,400.00
Salaries white teachers.....	10,830.00
Salaries colored teachers.....	6,520.00
Incidental expenses, white schools.....	715.00
Incidental expenses, colored schools.....	500.00
Taking Census.....	450.00
Rural libraries and book cases.....	100.00
Expenses County Superintendent.....	125.00
Stationery and fuel, County Superintendent's office.....	50.00
Committeemen.....	336.00
County Commencement—which we will not have this year.....	100.00
Attendance officers.....	50.00
Wise High School, \$325; Macon, \$300; Warrenton, \$300; Norlina, Wise High School, \$300.—a total for High Schools.....	1,225.00
Desk, blackboards.....	1,008.00
Mileage paid teachers.....	256.80
Loan due State for School building not in Special tax.....	157.20
Expense of County Board.....	134.25
To the above disbursement is to be added the salary of Co. Supt. which is offset by the per capita appropriation from the State of \$1,803.26 and in addition Fines and Forfeitures which last school year was \$779.17, but this year will hardly reach that amount, say \$500. So that our total four months school term from State and County, Fines and Forfeitures is.....	\$ 26,577.36
Our total disbursements for four months term and for all other General Fund disbursements for the year commencing July 1, '17 and ending June 30, 1918 is.....	26,567.25
Leaving an estimator balance of.....	10.10

The question naturally arises: are the expenditures of the school fund extravagantly made? Is the Board of Education conservative in its appropriations to the different departments? Is there any item which can be stricken out with justice to the public schools, as a whole, without damage to the particular object for which the expenditure is made?

The average salary paid white teachers of the County is.....	\$37.42
The average salary paid colored teachers of the County is.....	25.46
The average paid white and colored is.....	31.44
The average paid teachers in Districts in which no special school tax is levied—white race.....	34.44
The average paid teachers in Districts in which no special school tax is levied—colored race.....	25.00
The average paid white teachers in Special Tax Districts from General Fund.....	39.16
Average paid Colored teachers in Special Tax districts from General Fund is.....	27.16