NASHVILLE, North Carolina, December 20th, 1917.

NO. 11

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R. H. BRANTLEY pring Hope, N. C.

nes of The Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat. FITTING GLASSES,

d Medicine and Surgery

TRIAL AT CONCORD LASTED THREE WEEKS AND ATTRACT-ED NATION-WIDE INTEREST.

G. B. MEANS AGAIN FREE MAN

Judge Cline's Order Prevents Any ration Taking Place-Means Spends Day at Father's Home and Visiting Boyhood Scenes.

acquitted of the charge of the murder of Mrs. Maude A. King, for which he had been on trial the last three weeks and been on trial the last three weeks spent Sunday a free man with his tamily at the home of his father, and going about the streets of Concord, his boyhood home, receiving the greetings and congratulations of friends. "Not guilty" was the verdict rendered by the jury Sunday morning at 10:22 o'clock before Judge Cline, members of counsel, the detendant, his wife and father and other relatives, and a considerable number of spectators who had gathered in the Cabarrus county court-room. The jury, having had the case over night, sent a message by Shoriff Caldwell to Judge Cline at the hotel at 9:30 o'clock asking him to come to the courthouse. The judge was enting his breakfast, which he finished, proceeding to the courthouse at 10 o'clock. To the crowd that had gathered, Judge Cline stated that he did not know whether or not a verdict had been

whether or not a verdict had been reached, but in the event that such was the case, rexardless of its nature there must not be any demonstration apon its announcement. He instructed Sheriff Caldwell to arrest any peron violating this instruction. He gave ositive instruction also that the jurymen should not be approached after the verdict was announced before the jury was dismissed. Judge Cline's in-structions evidently were effective, for there was absolutely no demonstra-

relatives and friends proceeded from the courtroom. On the way to the rear door, Mrs. Means encountered a sister of the defendant and the two fell to each other's arms and wept.

the Jurymen whether or not they had interpreted his use of this word as an expression of opinion on his part as to the fact of the time that Mrs. King to the fact of the time that Mrs. King was abot. The jurymen, all in accord, stated that they had not. Clerk of the Court Stonstreet then asked the tormal question as to whether a verdict had been reached, and Foreman J. Frank Goodman answered in the affirmative. Asked by Clerk Stonestreet whether they found the defendant, who had been asked to stand and raise his right hand, guilty or not guilty of the crime charged.

"Not guilty," said Foreman Good-

"Not guilty," said Foreman Good-Defendant Released.
Judge Frank Osborne, of counsel for a defense, then asked Solicitor Cleant if he had any further charge ainst the defendant and the solicitor swared "I have not." Judge Osme than asked that the defendant released from custody, and Judge beautif

"The defendant is released." WAR MISSION IS HOME FROM ITS EUROPEAN TRIP

New York.—What the American mission was sent to accomplish is the inter-alited war conference in Paris "has been successfully and satisfactorily done." was the message brought to the American people by Col. E. M. Honse, head of the mission, who returned to the United State with four of

HOT STATEMENT Y MR. HOOVER AGAINST SPERECKELS

......... nissed From His Post by Bolsheviki



M. Makiskoff, Russian ambassa te France, who was dismissed from his post by the bolsheviki foreign min-ister, Leon Trotzky, for his participa-tion in the interallied conference. Ambassador Maklakoff, who was appointed by the Kerensky government, has often expressed his opposition to the present maximalist government.

STRONG OFFENSIVE IN WEST

AIDS ITALIANS IN HOLDING POSI-TIONS.-REGAIN SOME LOST TERRITORY.

General Atlenby Occupies Jerusalem Bolsheviki Forces Reported to Have Attained Heavy Losses in Fighting With Cossacks.

The Germans, following their heavy All was quiet and orderly until after court had adjourned sine die at the judge's order. Then coursel and friends crowded about Means to congratulate him, he put his arm about Mrs. Means and the two, with other conjugations of the man and the two, with other conjugations and the two only a minor gain.

The attack, launched between urt and Queant, was similar to that adopted by Crown Prince Rupprecht's troops when they pierced When the jury filed into the courtcom. Judge Cline stated that in his
harge Saturday afternoon he had indvartently referred to the time of
he shooting as "evaning," and asked
had driven toward Cambrai. The General Byng's front southwest of ground, except at one point, where the enemy penetrated a front line position.

As in their previous attempt to wreck the Cambral salient, the Germans lost heavily, the British mowing them down with machine gun and rifle fire in the fighting, which lasted from dawn until 1 o'clock in the afternoon.

Notwithstanding their failure, the Germans are keeping up an intensive bombardment of British and French positions all along the western front and daily are receiving additional reinforcements in men and guns from the eastern theater.

Snow is falling heavily in the mountains along the northern Italian front, and optimism prevails among the Italians that this will aid them definitely in holding the Austro-Germans back from the Italian plain. Amid the first flurries of the storm on Tuesday the enemy resumed his atwarded by the capture of several positions. Later, however, the Italian in a counter attack regained their lost terrain, after which the artillery duels were resumed, but with less strength than had previously been shown.

The Cossacks, under General Kale-fines, and the Bolsheviki forces are rted to have met in at least two fights, with the counter-revolutionists the victors in both. The engagements occurred at Mobelly and at Tamsnovks, and the Bolshoviki losses are leclared to have been heavy.

trol of the Holy City. The populace greeted the British commander cor-faily. In a proclamation, he told the inhabitants that all sacred buildings and holy places would be protected and maintained. Meanwhile, the british army continues its successful operations in Palestine, having captured several additional apositions troop the Turks.

NEARING GOAL DESPITE SOME UNTOWARD CIRCUMSTANCES SAYS LLOYD GEORGE.

DARKEST HOUR IS JUST NOW

London.-That steady progress towards the desired goal is being made by the allies, despite some untoward occurrences, is the firm conviction of Premier Lloyd George, as declared.

It is because of this fact, the preovertures to Prussia at the moment trust of himself and his colleages. The

"It is because I am firmly convinced that despite some untoward events, despite discouraging appearances we are making steady progress toward the goal that I would regard peace overtures to Prussia at the very moment the Prussian military spirit is drunk with boastfulness as a betrayal of the great trust with which my colleagues and myself have been charged."

If Russia persists in her present policy, the premier pointed out, the withdrawal by the enemy from th east of a third of his troops must release hundreds of thousands of men and masses if material to attack Great Britain, France and Intaly.

"If the Russian democracy has decided to abandon the struggle against military autocracy the American democracy is taking it up."

Germany's victories were emblazoned to the world, the premier said, but her troubles did not apepar in bulletins. Something was known of an impression which would tell in the end. He said those who during the past fortnight were organizing a neryous breakdown in the nation were organizing an hysterical shout over the Flanders victories.

not desire to force where none exists.

ma nwho thinks ther eisahalafw-y man who thinks there is a half-way executions had been issued by the house between victory and defeat," southern department headquarters. the premier admonished. "There are the men who think you can end the call peace—by setting up a league of of them sought spiritual council of nations. That is the right policy after army Y. M. C. A. workers. The thirvictory; without victory it would be teenth, whose name hase not been a farce.

Inn Benchers, said:

Is Darkest Hour. America is ready.

WAR RESOLUTION IS

Havana. The senate unanimously state of war between Cuba and Austria-Hungary exists. The resolution was the same as that passed by the in Congress today to obtain fuller in-

Signs Must be Darkened Sunday and Thursday Nights.

uires in offices and stores not open NO TEUTONS WERE

Because Russia Has Quit and Gone Into Revolution and America is Just Coming In.-Every Passing Hour is

mier said, that he would regard peace when her military spirit was drunk premier's words were:

America is in.

them however. The deadly grip of the fires, showed no sign that it was the British navy was having its effect and execution place of thirteen negro solthe valor of the troops was making The negroes, convicted of participat the same as those who recently were lumber for the scaffolds and a com-

to understand that Lord Landsowne's the morning carried the condemned recent letter had been misunderstood negroes and the officers and military and that Lord Lansdowne was in guard to the place of execution. The sympathy with President Wilson.

"I warn the nation to watch the

Premier Lloyd George, who was speaking at the dinner at the Grey's SIX MESS HALLS AT

"If this is the worst moment, it is

UNANIMOUSLY PASSED

TWO LIGHTLESS NIGHT FOR EVERY WEEK ORDERED City White Ways and Advertising

ABOARD THE IMO

liffax. There were no Germans

Commander of Engineers Who Fought at Cambral

Col. C. H. McKinstry, who commands New York engineers in France. many of whom participated in the with boastfulness as a betrayal of the Cambrul battle, fighting side by side with the advancing British. Some of Germans flanked. They escaped by lying in shell holes, and when the British drove back the enemy they borrowed rifles and fought vallantly. They were highly commended by the British com manding general.

EXECUTED FOR "SHOOTING UP" HOUSTON, TEXAS, DURING LAST AUGUST.

Had Paid Death Penalty Before Ver dict Was Made Public-Forty-One Are Given Life Terms in Prison-Faced Death Stoically.

San Antonio, Texas.-A trampled clearing in a lonely mesquite thicket on the government reservation here. exceptsfor the ashes of two huge boning in the riots at Houston, Texas August 23, last, were hanged at one minute before sunrise.

After dark motor trucks carried the pany of engineers to the clearing. The scaffolds were built by firelight. Mo Mr. Lloyd George said he was glad tor trucks shortly after 5 o'clock in trucks later carried the bodies to a "I also," the premier declared, place as indistinguishable as the exe "agree with President Wilson and do cution site where the burial took place Then they hauled back to Fort Sam Houston every piece of lumber used in the scaffold so that the site was clear before formal announcement of the

Faced Death Stoically. The condemned negroes had known disclosed, gave no inkling that he knew. Outwardly all were stoical.

CAMP SEVIER DESTROYED

Greenville, S. C.-Six mess halls of because Russia has stepped out and the Thirtieth division, national guard, America is only preparing to come at Camp Sevier, were destroyed by in. Every hour that passes will see the fire. The fire started from a kitchen gap formed by the retirement of the flue in one of the halls and swept by a Russians filled by the valiant sons brisk wind, the flames spread rapidly of the great Republic. Germany A heavy rain two hours later helped to knows it and Austria knows it, hence quench the fire. Valuable aid was the desperate efforts that they are rendered by the soldiers. The fire ocmaking to force the issue before curred in the infantry regiment that is composed for the most part of outfits from North Carolina.

INQUIRY ORDERED INTO

WORK OF WAR DEPARTMENT

dopted a resolution declaring that a Ordered by Senate Committee on Milltary Affairs. Washington.-Steps were initiated formation about and establish close: connections with the government's

war activities, past and future. A general inquiry into the work of the war department, especially in arming and equipping the nation's man power, was ordered by the senate military committee. Capitol leaders Washington-Two "lightless orghts" said it was the forerunner of simiweek were ordered by the fuel ad- lar investigations of all phases of ninistration. Next Sunday night will executive conduct of the war, which be the first and thereafter Sunday and would in a measure accomplish the Thursday of every week will see the purpose of the proposed joint com-city white ways and advertising signs mittee for "the conduct of the war." darkened, only necessary street lights The Joint committee idea was abansed and only such lights as the law doned at the last session because of President Wilson's opposition.

> FIGURES PUBLISHED ON GERMANY'S AIR STRENGTH

Austrians aboard the Imo when it What are considered approximately collided with the Mont Blanc. Aiex B.

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COZIER DENIES ANY DELAY IN EQUIPING

SUPPLIED WITH FRENCH MA-CHINE GUNS.

Responsibility Rests on Secretary Baker. Training of New Army Will Not Be Seriously Retarded on Account of Equipment.

Washington.-Leaders of the senate military committee subjected Major General Crozier, chief of ordnance, to three hours of sharp cross-examina Planters Nation'l Bank three hours of sharp cross-examination, seeking explanation of delays in providing the war army with weapons. At the executive session they will gress questions which the general objected to answering in the open hear ing.

Throughout the examinations Gen eral Crozier insisted that there had been and would be no delay in equipping soldiers sent abroad. He admitted that because of a shortage of machine guns the American troops in France were supplied with weapons of French make, and that there was a lack of both machine guns and rifles in the training cantonments, but declared that the training of troops

would not be seriously retarded. Responsibility for the machine gun situation was placed by the general squarely upon Secretary Baker, who he said, had taken a personal interest in the matter and ordered an investigation which resulted in the adoption in June of a new gun known as the Browning type. This statement came when Chairman Chamberlain said he was not satisfied with the explanation that the delay had been caused by in

vestigation. "Neither am I satisfied," responded the witness, "but I am not personally responsible." Nearly every member of the committee joined in the examination and questions were fired across the table as rapidly as the general could answer.

Chairman Chamberlain took exceptions to the conclusions drawn from General Crozier's testimony that congress, by failing to make prompt appropriations, and labor troubles, were largely responsible for the delay. Gen eral Crozier said he had not intended such an interpretation, and that millions of dollars appropriated had not been expended.

UNITED STATES GUARD IS NAME SELECTED

Auxiliary Force of Troops Will Num ber 25,000.

Washington.-The United States guard will be the name of the 25,000 auxiliary force of troops, authorized VISITORS From Nashville by the war department, to supplement state and other forces now guarding war now by some sort of what they of their fate since Sunday. Twelve war supplies, war industries and doing police duty essential to the conduct of the war, including patrol of

water fronts. President Wilson has signed the order for organization of the force and further orders were going out from

the war department. Forty battalions will be organized to relieve regular troops, national guard or other purely military units of this guard duty.

The order prescribes that the force be raised by voluntary enlistment or draft. It is the purpose of the government to make it up of men not available for war pervice at the front Volunteers will be accepted only be tween the ages of 21 and 45. If re sort to draft is necessary men placed in the special classes under the new draft system as being fit for limited military service only, will be used to

fill up the ranks. The guards will be clothed in regular army blue uniforms for which there is no need in the army during

war times. They will be armed with Krage Jorgensen rifles, and other equipment not suitable for modern warfare.

AMERICAN ENGINEERS

With the American Army in France. -A number of American railway engineers have been killed by German aerial bombs in a town somewhere behind the British front. Details are not yet known. It is now permitted to announce that a German bomb fell in a street in a town through which American troops were passing. Pieces of the bomb shattered the windows of a house in which there were offi-

ARE NOT EXPECTED TO RESIST TAX IMPOSITION

cers, showering them with glass.

Louisville, Ky.-Collection by the State of Kentucky, without a contest, of approximately \$2,000,000 in inheritance taxes on the estate of the late Mrs. Robert Worth Bingham was indicated by announcement that an inventory of the entite estate would be alled with the state taxing authorities.
The announcement was made by officers of a Louiseville trust company,
administrators of the state of the state.

BECOMING AN INVESTOR

The "big" opportunity that comes to practically every individual at ADMITS THAT TROOPS HAD BEEN one time or another a'most invaria bly requires some money.

> The wise plan is to begin saving today-now. With the start and a determination to succeed financial progress is sure.

It only requires \$1.00 to make the start by opening an account in this Institution.

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Farmers & Merchants Bank.

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Complete Banking Equipment. T. THORNE, President. M. O. PLOUNT. Vice P-A. AVERY.

W. W AVERY.

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