

# The Roxboro Courier.

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## BRITISH CONTINUE TERRIFIC ATTACKS IN BATTLE OF ARRAS

### SOME OF THE HEAVIEST FIGHTING OF THE WAR

Covers Approximately 8-Mile Front; Germans Throw Full Force Into Their Resistance Bringing Up Strong Reserves; Artillery Preparation Not Good As Formerly

From a Staff Correspondent of the Associated Press with the British Armies in France, via London, April 23.—The battle of Arras, which had been smouldering for a week past, burst into flaming fury again, Tuesday, and is still raging tonight with some of the heaviest fighting of the war in progress.

The sky is alight for miles with the flashes of guns, with star shells that spread a moonlight paleness over the battlefield, and with vari-colored rockets, which flash signals to the opposing artillery. The cold east wind carries the echoes of the reverberating cannonade far back of the British lines.

The fighting Tuesday covered approximately an eight-mile front, from south of Vimy Ridge to a point well below Croisilles. At the north end of the attack the British swept over German fixed positions running almost due south from Lens, and captured long sections of German positions in front of the Hindenburg line and a great number of prisoners.

More than 12,000 prisoners were counted in this sector late today, and others were still coming in. The largest number of prisoners was from the 141st, Pomeranians, who surrendered in hundreds after a very brief resistance. A battery of field guns also was taken.

Between Gavrelle and Croisilles the heaviest fighting occurred along both banks of the Scarpe and around Monchy-Le-Preux where the British Easter advance had projected a sharp salient into the German lines. Monchy was taken in the first phase of the Arras battle after three days' fighting and has been held against desperate counter-assaults.

The Germans always managed to cling to the slopes on either side of the hill on which Monchy-Le-Preux is perched, this being the highest point east of Arras and Vimy, overlooking the great broad eastern plains of Northern France. The Germans Tuesday were undoubtedly throwing their full force into their resistance along the Scarpe. They had brought up strong reserves to oppose a further British advance and had thrown in scores of batteries of artillery.

The fighting about Guemappe, due south of Monchy was extremely bitter. The attacking British waves "went over" in the half gray light of dawn. It was still dark enough to make a fiery spectacle of the barrage which crept ahead of them—a veritable wall of exploding shells. Men who have been over several times under the protection of a barrage are apt to grow a bit overconfident in following the shell and occasionally get hit by bits flying back, although virtually every shell clearing the way for the infantry bursts forward with a great spray of shrapnel bullets. A modern barrage as set up by the British and French gunners is a terrifying thing to face and the Germans involuntarily break before it, many of them seeking any dugouts available.

Today in many parts of the battle fronts there were no more dugouts to serve as shelters, and the Germans had to stand and fight, with the result that their casualties were higher and the prisoners fewer in those sections of the line.

The British advanced in nearly every instance from mere half trenches where they had been lying for past week awaiting the bringing up of artillery and the order to advance. The Germans opposite them had been digging at every possible opportunity but they, too, were unable to construct more than sections of an unconnected trench, with machine guns concealed in every possible nook and corner. In the villages which skirted the battle front, it seemed as if every building contained machine gun crews. Many machine guns were fired on the opposite bank of the river Scarpe, and it was somewhat difficult to deal with them.

The artillery preparation for Tuesday's attacks did not cover the ground and did not equal in intensity that of Easter Monday when the first battles of Arras were launched. There had been what is termed a deliberate bombardment for two days, but nothing like the mass of shells which was

## POWELL-READE

Kinston, April 21.—Wednesday evening, April 18, at 7:30 o'clock in the Presbyterian church at Wallace was solemnized one of the prettiest weddings of the season when John W. Reade, of Mount Tirzah, and Miss Rachel Powers, of Wallace, were married. The church was handsomely decorated for the occasion, a profusion of cut flowers, long leaf pine and potted plants being used to transform the altar and church into a bower of greenery with touches of pink. The altar was lighted by numerous tapers which lent their glow to the occasion.

The ribbon girls were Misses Dorothy Alderman and Mary Wallace McGowan. To the strains of Lohengrin's wedding march, the bridal party entered. The groomsmen, Walter Powers and L. Southerland entered down opposite aisles, and took their stand at each side of the altar. They were followed by the bridesmaids, Misses Sara Hendry and Ruth Williams. Next came the dames of honor, Mrs. W. C. Boney, of Hamlet, and Mrs. Allan MacLean, of Wagram. Miss Jennie Shaw, the maid of honor, entered next. Master John Boney, nephew of the bride, was ringbearer, and little Miss Dorothy Sloan was the flower girl.

The bride in a beautiful blue suit with accessories to match, approaching the altar from the left aisle, on the arm of her brother, J. A. Powers, of Kinston, was met by the groom accompanied by the best man, Will R. Reade, of Durham. Rev. W. P. M. Currie, pastor of the church met them at the altar, where after a short but beautiful and impressive service, he pronounced them man and wife.

Immediately after the ceremony, Mr. and Mrs. Reade left for their future home at Mount Tirzah. Mrs. Reade is the daughter of L. C. Powers and is a favorite in Wallace.

Mr. Reade is a successful young planter of Mt. Tirzah and is equally popular.

Among the out-of-town guests were Dr. B. R. Long, Roxboro; Earl Bradsher, Roxboro; Mrs. R. P. Reade, Durham; Will R. Reade, Durham; J. A. Powers, Kinston; Miss Jennie Shaw, Kinston; Mrs. Allan MacLean, Wagram; Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Boney, Hamlet.

## BETHEL HILL ITEMS

In the sudden death of Mr. G. D. Neal, which occurred last Thursday night, our community lost one of its best men. One whose presence will be missed in many ways for he was not only a joy to his own family but was always ready to lend a helping hand to those who needed help. To be called away so sudden makes his departure harder to bear, but we must all bow to the will of Him who knoweth all things and never makes a mistake.

Mr. Robert Gentry, of Mill Creek, was a visitor on the Hill Saturday. Messrs Thos. B. and Manly Woody, of Roxboro, motored to Bethel Hill Sunday in the former's gas burning distance annihilator.

Mr. G. E. Woody, Jr., of So. Boston, spent the week-end with home folks.

The latest purchaser of a new car in this immediate vicinity is Judge Woody. Farmers are making use of the open weather in preparing their ground for planting.

**Presbyterian Announcements**  
The union services of all the congregations will be held in the Baptist church next Sunday evening at 8 o'clock.

Prayermeeting tonight at 8 o'clock. Sunday school next Sunday at 9:45 a. m. Preaching at 11 o'clock. A congregational meeting will be held just after the service.

**Bethel Hill High School Commencement**

Entertainment next Friday night at 8 o'clock.

Exercises Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock.

Calisthenics Saturday afternoon at 6:30 o'clock.

Entertainment Saturday evening at 7:30.

Two addresses Sunday by Dr. J. E. Micks, of Danville, Va. Dinner on grounds. Everybody cordially invited.

Mr. Cliff Winstead, of Wilson, and Mr. Connor Merritt, of Kinston, spent Sunday in Roxboro visiting relatives and friends.

concentrated to blow the Germans out of their old positions opposite the

## PROCEEDING OF SUPERIOR COURT

Criminal Docket Completed Tuesday Afternoon—Small Crowd Tuesday of Court—Railroad Cases To Be Tried This Court

Person county Superior Court convened Monday morning at 10 o'clock with Judge Kerr presiding.

In an excellent charge to the grand jury, Judge Kerr gave a summary of the new laws enacted by the last legislature. He laid special stress upon the recent laws concerning fines, etc. for carrying concealed weapons and distilling. In his remarks concerning the schools of the county he paid our present superintendent, J. A. Beam, a high compliment, stating that the people of Person county should feel proud of their county superintendent and that he was an able man recognized by the educational leaders of the state.

The criminal docket was immediately taken up and the following cases were disposed of by yesterday afternoon, closing the docket for this term:

State vs. John R. Jones—Indictment, retailing. Defendant was found not guilty. The defendant was tried at last court, resulting in a mistrial.

State vs. Roy Wrenn—Indictment, carrying concealed weapons. Found not guilty.

State vs. Robt. Cates—Indictment, carrying concealed weapons. Guilty. Judgement suspended upon payment of cost.

State vs. Henderson Stanfield, Geo. Bullock, Masten Barnett, Eddie Chism and John Ragland. Defendants, Geo. Bullock and Masten Bullock were not found. Other defendants were found guilty of gambling. Judgement suspended upon payment of cost.

State vs. John Wylie—Indictment, larceny. Guilty. Sentenced to six months on county roads.

State vs. A. S. Hassan—Indictment, carrying concealed weapon. Guilty. Fined \$50 and costs.

Hassan is charged with bigamy in another case which will be tried at the next term of court. A true bill was found against him by the grand jury yesterday afternoon and when the officers went to arrest him, he had left for other points. But was arrested late yesterday at Wooddale by Deputy Melvin Clayton. When arrested a pistol was found concealed upon his person. In the case of bigamy he was bound over to the next term of court under \$250 bond, which he gave.

This completed the criminal docket or rather, cases that were ready for trial, and the civil docket was taken up late Tuesday.

Two railroad cases, Lottie Blackwell vs. Norfolk & Western railroad, and Mose Blackwell vs. Norfolk & Western railroad, will be tried today. The case of Slaughter vs. Yarbrough will be tried Thursday. The divorce case of Jones vs. Jones will probably be tried Friday. These are the only important cases on the civil docket at this term.

## NOTICE

A mass meeting will be held in the court house next Friday night at 8 o'clock for the purpose of nominating candidates for town alderman and mayor. All citizens are urged to attend.—J. M. O'Brian.

## Bushy Fork High School

Below is the honor roll for the 6th month:

1st Grade—Flem Whitfield, Earnest Oliver, May Carver;

2nd Grade—Wallace Painter, Charley Wilkerson, Odell Allen, Ralph Oliver;

4th Grade—Jack Hester;

5th Grade—Andrew Allen;

7th Grade—Mary Hester, Etta Hester;

9th Grade—Rena Allen, Linwood Bradsher, Sam Newton

10th Grade—Inez Boyd.

Altho school is out later and the farmers are behind with their work, the attendance has been very satisfactory for the past month. The elementary grades have made very good averages in attendance and the High School Department made an average of 33.3.

Bushy Fork High School will close Friday, May 11th. Work has been assigned for commencement exercises and we expect a good commencement this year.

Will Observe Plover Day—

High Point—"Plover Day" is to be observed here soon, according to plans made at a meeting of farmers of the county.

## MR. J. L. CRUMPTON WINS PRIZE IN PEACE CONTEST

Seven Colleges Compete; Albert Coates of the University Wins First Prize

The following is a clipping from the Greensboro News of Saturday, April 21st, which will no doubt be interesting to the people of Person county, as one of the prizes was awarded to a Person county young man, Mr. J. L. Crumpton, of Elon College.



Mr. J. Laymond Crumpton of the Inter-Collegiate Peace Oratorical, contest, of which Dr. F. S. Blair, of Guilford college, is organizer and manager, held its sixth annual meeting. Their program is educational, and their orations were for most part plans for an international peace after the present war. There were two prizes offered, \$75 and \$50. The winner of the first prize enters a contest of a group of states, which is to be held at an early date. The final contest of which the prizes are \$100, \$80, and down, will be held at the meeting of the twenty-second annual peace conference at Lake Mohonk, N. Y., on May 16.

Albert Coates of the University of North Carolina won the first prize. His subject was "America's Contribution to Peace."

J. L. Crumpton, of Elon College, had an interesting plan for a world court after the war, which won the second prize of \$50.

W. H. Neal, of Davidson, received a recognition from the audience of Normal girls, which he probably valued almost as much he would have the prize. It was necessary to demand a cessation of the applause for him.

Other institutions represented were Lenoir, Atlantic Christian college, Trinity and Wake Forest.

## Meeting Sons of Confederate Veterans

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Sons of Confederate Veterans will be held on Saturday, May 6th, 1917 in the court house at 11 a. m. The purpose of the meeting being to organize a Sons of Confederate Camp for Person county. Done by order of the Daughters of Confederate Veterans. All sons of confederate veterans are requested to be present.—R. A. BURCH.

## Death of Mr. G. D. Neal

Mr. G. D. Neal died suddenly at his home near Bethel Hill on last Thursday evening at half past five o'clock. He had been complaining a little during the day but was apparently in his usual good health. He had walked out to his smokehouse in the yard and dropped dead out in the yard.

Mr. Neal was well known throughout the County and was acknowledged one of the best men in the County having many friends and few, if any enemies. He was a large and successful farmer and had accumulated a good estate. He was a faithful and consistent member of the Baptist church at Bethel Hill, and will be greatly missed in his work for the church. He was 62 years of age, and leaves a wife and four children, three daughters and one son. His body was laid to rest in the family burying grounds on Friday, the services being attended by a large number of friends.

## Notice Auction Sale of Bank Stock

Notice is hereby given that I will sell at auction in front of the court door at 12 o'clock noon Monday April 30th, twelve shares of the Bank of Roxboro stock to the highest bidder. I. G. STEPHENS.

## Presbytery Holds Session

Winston—The annual convention of the Albemarle Presbytery is being held here this week with more than 100 delegates in attendance.

## REPORT OF THE GRAND JURY

We are publishing below the report of the Grand Jury in full. This report was highly commended by Judge Kerr. The members of the Grand Jury were:

Messrs J. W. Willburn, W. T. James, T. W. Wright, C. C. Cunningham, C. W. Allison, G. C. Barrett, Luther Satterfield, I. G. Stephens, J. B. James, A. M. Denny, C. H. Dunkley, W. W. Harris, Z. V. Barnett, W. R. Hayes, John Lunsford, J. L. Bowling and R. D. Long.

The report follows:

We, the Grand Jury of the April term of the Superior Court of Person county in the year 1917, beg to submit the following report to Hon. J. H. Kerr, presiding judge:

(1) We have visited the County Home and find that the premises are well cared for, that the sanitary conditions are good, and that the management is efficient. We desire to recommend that the following repairs be made to buildings: that the floor of the cook room for inmates be repaired; that the cook room of the Superintendent's house be recovered and that a new floor be laid, and that the roof of this house be repainted. Also that new sills and new flooring be laid in the front piazza. We find that dining room facilities are insufficient, that both races are forced to use the same dining room. We recommend that such arrangements be made so that a separate dining room for each race be provided.

(2) We visited the camp of the convict force and, while it has just been moved and an accurate report as to its physical condition could not be obtained, inquiries were made and from information submitted, we find that the convicts are well provided for and treated with humane consideration.

(3) The county jail was visited and found to be in good condition. No recommendations are made.

(4) We find the offices of the County officials are well kept and that the records are carefully and diligently looked after.

(5) A statement of the condition of school system was submitted by our Supt., Rev. J. A. Beam. We find that an excellent year's work has been accomplished under the administration of our efficient and able Superintendent, and that the interest in the education of our boys and girls is expressing itself in material and substantial progress.

(6) We recommend that the people of Person county give their individual attention and put forth every effort to produce more food supplies and thus express their patriotism in meeting a National exigency.

Respectfully submitted,  
I. G. STEPHENS,  
Foreman Grand Jury.

## FROM CALTOLINA

Our community is now favored with good preaching 3 times a month. Rev. Mr. White, pastor of the Roxboro Presbyterian church, preached a good sermon last Sunday at the schoolhouse and has consented to hold services regularly the fourth Sunday afternoon.

Just now one of our greatest needs is better and larger Sunday schools with the get-there-on-time spirit imbedded in our people. I dislike to be bothered with peddlers, but I believe a good, honest clock peddler ought to come around. Mother taught me to go in church service on time and go in the house and not be out talking during services and this is timely advice for some folks now.

The Community Club will hold its regular meeting on Friday night, May 4th, and a good attendance is desired. We especially invite those in the community who have not attended so they can see what it means to be organized for community work. Our school closed last Wednesday and Miss Mamie Lou Adcock, the teacher went home Sunday afternoon.

Our people have heard the cry for more food production and as they have been in the habit of raising hog and hominy they are going to do their part.

It is hard to tell what the future will bring forth but National prohibition is near at hand and the next evil to be handled is the use of tobacco especially cigarette. My advice to young people is to let tobacco alone—quit using it and quit growing it too. I am practicing this and feel free to give advice.—Reporter.

## ASSURANCES GIVEN THAT RUSSIA WILL NOT MAKE PEACE

### OFFICIAL REPORT DENYS ALL PEACE RUMORS

State Department Has Report From the Russian Capitol; Says That Peace Was Nearer With the Czar on the Throne

Washington, April 23.—An official dispatch from Petrograd received by the state department late today stated that there can be no separate peace between Russia and Germany.

Reports that the overthrow of the Russian czar would result in Russia forsaking the entente were denied in the dispatch, the author of which was not given.

"The charge that the imperial administration was planning a separate peace caused its overthrow and hastened the revolution which was brief and bloodless," the dispatch said.

The official announcement of the state department follows:

"The department of state has received a telegraphic report on conditions in Russia. Concern is shown over reports of the possibility of a 'separate peace' which have appeared in the press, evidently inspired by Germany. The telegram says that Russia is no more likely to abandon the war without achieving her object than is the United States. It is pointed out that the charge that the imperial administration was planning a separate peace caused its overthrow and hastened the revolution which was brief and bloodless.

"It is stated that the revolution will expedite the defeat of Germany and establishment of a general peace, permanent and universal.

The prompt recognition accorded Russia by the United States, the dispatch says, could not have come at a more opportune moment and gave encouragement and help to the council of ministers and their supporters.

"President Wilson's thrilling allusion to the Russian revolution in his address to congress has made a deep and lasting impression on the Russian people. It has been translated together with other of the president's utterances concerning American participation, into Russian, and they are being given the broadest circulation in pamphlet form for free distribution.

"No people, it is stated, so circumstanced, have ever made greater sacrifices for freedom than the Russians and they fully realize that a separate peace would jeopardize all they have gained."

## ROOSEVELT ENTERPRISE MAY RECEIVE SUPPORT

Presence of British Commission Gives Encouragement to Friends of the Colonel

Washington, April 22.—There is a feeling among the friends of Colonel Roosevelt that his plan to lead a volunteer division to France will receive a big uplift through the presence here of the British commission. It would not be at all surprising if the military men in the Balfour mission should advocate the immediate dispatch to France of the Roosevelt forces.

Unless support of this character should develop there is very little prospect of the administration accepting the colonel's offer of his volunteer division.

The discouragement of the Roosevelt plan is in accordance with the policy and advice of officers of the war department, who do not wish to have their plans disturbed in anywise. Although Secretary of War Baker is non-committal, it is known that Colonel Roosevelt has been informed that his plans to raise a division do not meet with the approval of the department, although there is an expression of appreciation of his intentions.

Notwithstanding the present setback for Roosevelt, belief persists that the colonel is by no means thru and that he will not relinquish his idea. He is believed to be banking on help from the Balfour party.

Developments of the past few days emphasize the fact that the entente is exceedingly anxious to see a force of Americans on the field of Europe even tho it is numerically small. This idea may be impressed upon the American government officials, together with the reasons therefor. Arguments of this kind may change the administration's attitude toward the Roosevelt expedition.