

# The Smithfield Herald

VOLUME 36

SMITHFIELD, N. C., FRIDAY, MAY 4, 1917.

Number 17

## BRITISH TROOPS PRESSING ON.

Reach Cheris Penetrating the Hindenburg Line and Press Toward Reincourt. "Fighting Is Terrible." Reuter's Correspondent Says the "Battling is of the Ding-Dong Order. Germans Fighting With Desperate Obstinacy. They Are Mounting Machine Guns in Tops of Trees.

London, May 3.—The British troops have reached Cheris, crossed the Hindenburg line toward Reincourt and are reported to have taken Bullecourt, says Reuter's correspondent at British headquarters.

Fighting of terrible intensity raged throughout the day at the main points of the British attack, says Reuter's correspondent. "The battling," he adds, "has been in many places of ding-dong order, which renders it extremely difficult to define the sun, but I think it may certainly be claimed as a successful day for our gallant troops. The most conspicuous gains have been on the flanks of the long front, while towards the center, up the valley of the Scarpe, we have made less progress owing to the intensity of concealed machine gun fire.

"Despite the opposition of massed German forces, the Canadian troops took Fresnoy. Oppy, however, still proved too strongly held to attempt to carry it by direct frontal attack without courting a heavier casualty list than the enterprise warranted. The wood in front of the ruined village literally was infested with machine guns.

"The Germans are fighting with desperate obstinacy.

"Machine guns were perched in trees at various heights while lines of uncut wire were discovered in gulleys which concealed them from direct observation as well as from the searching effect of our barrage, so that the attack upon this place amounted to little more than a reconnaissance in force and our troops withdrew to enable the gunners to concentrate their fire upon the newly discovered obstacles.

"South of the Sensee, the battle developed into a most successful sweeping movement, our troops reaching Cheris. Converging tactics upon Reincourt carried our advance across the Hindenburg line and threatened to cut off the garrison at Bullecourt. The garrison was reported to have been captured but the report was not confirmed.

"The Germans are fighting with desperate obstinacy. Several new divisions have been identified at different parts of the front, showing that the Germans continue to use their strategic reserves. Counter-attacks, usually on a formidable scale, developed promptly opposite every point where we gained ground. The enemy recaptured some ground at Gavrelle, but the counter-attacks generally were broken up by our artillery fire which was maintained with almost incredible intensity."—Greensboro News.

## READY TO SEND ARMY ACROSS.

Government Has Offered Troops to Allies and They Will Go to France Whenever Ships Carrying Supplies Can Be Spared for Transports.

Washington, May 1.—The United States stands ready to send an army to Europe whenever the Allies deem it wise to divert the necessary shipping from transporting food to transporting men.

It became known definitely today that the Government has offered the Allies troops, but has suggested that the alarming shortage of world shipping may make it impracticable to send them at once. In spite of objections of the General Staff to putting any American force on the firing line before the great war army has been raised and trained, the Administration has determined that the small contingent earnestly desired by France for moral effect shall be sent as soon as possible. The general belief is the way will soon be found.

Whether the force first to carry the Stars and Stripes into battle in France shall be made up of regulars or National Guardsmen, or both, has not been worked out. The subject was not discussed at today's Cabinet meeting, but Secretary Baker remained afterward for a conference with President Wilson.

## UNIVERSITY NEWS NOTES.

More Than One Hundred Students to Go to Fort Oglethorpe for Military Training. Scientists of State Hold Meeting.

Chapel Hill, May 2.—The meeting of the North Carolina Academy of Science at the University of North Carolina the end of last week brought together more than 50 of the leading scientists of the State from the various State departments, colleges and high schools. The North Carolina division of the American Chemical Society also met here at the same time. Among the colleges which sent representatives were The College of Agriculture and Engineering, Wake Forest, Trinity, Elon, The State Normal, Meredith, St. Mary's. The high schools represented were Asheville, Raleigh, Durham and Wilson. The State Department of Agriculture was also represented.

Many topics of timely interest were taken up, such as "Soy Bean Meal for Human Food," "Chemical Changes Involved in Cooking Cottonseed in the Oil Mill," "The Physics of the Shrapnel Shell," etc. The University entertained the members at luncheon Saturday.

More than a hundred University students, and a large number, especially from the senior class, will leave the University the last of next week to enter upon military training at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., for the Officers' Reserve Corps of the army. Those who are accepted will be given credit for the remainder of the school year upon the basis of what they have done in their classes so far this term. Seniors will be awarded their diplomas. Few will be eligible below the Junior class, so the largest numbers will go from the two upper classes.

## GENERAL NEWS.

During April 19,343 Germans were made prisoner by the British, who also captured 257 guns and howitzers, including 98 heavy guns and howitzers, 227 trench motors and 470 machine guns.

Twenty-three Norwegian ships with a total tonnage of 36,000 were sunk last week by submarines, according to a despatch from Christiana. This is the biggest loss Norway has suffered in any one week.

The Brazilian Government, despite its diplomatic break with Germany, has issued a proclamation announcing that it will not interfere in the war between the United States and Germany, says a despatch from Rio de Janeiro.

The Uruguayan steamship Gorizia has been sunk without warning by a German submarine. The crew was saved. The submarine approached the steamer and after maneuvering into position, shelled it until it sank. The crew took to the boats.

Representatives of the health departments of nearly all States in the Union met in Washington Tuesday with officials of the Federal Public Health Service to perfect a program of co-operation with the Federal health authorities during the war.

On Tuesday in the City of Mexico Venestiano Carranza took the oath of office as the first constitutional president of Mexico since the assassination of Madero on February 23, 1913. The new president was chosen to this high position in the March election.

Secretary Daniels announced Tuesday that the Marine Corps, during the month of April, had increased its strength by 4,677 men, bringing the total to 17,680. A large tract of land at Quantico, Va., near Washington, has been leased as a site for a marine training camp, and temporary barracks will be constructed immediately for the housing of 5,000 marine recruits. The buildings were found necessary because of tent shortage.

Petrograd has again been the scene of disorder, fomented by opponents of the present government, in which bombs were thrown and the troops were compelled to fire on the rioters. The disturbance took place Monday, but apparently it was short lived for a dispatch from Petrograd on Tuesday announced that the Russian capital's first May day parade, in which a million persons participated, passed without disorder.

## SELMA'S LIVE NEWS BUDGET.

Death of Mrs. Laura Cawthorne Wednesday. Mr. Cockerham Joins the Army. Southern Making Extensive Improvement. Many Local Items of Interest.

Selma, May 3.—Mr. A. Jones has bought a lot on Gertrude Avenue and will build on it shortly.

Mr. A. Dughi, of Raleigh, was in town Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Winston spent Saturday night at Fuquay Springs.

Mr. M. C. Winston and Miss Lizzie Winston spent Sunday in Oxford.

Mr. B. C. Phillips, a member of the Selma Company, has received his discharge and will resume work with the Light and Power Company.

Mr. M. C. Winston left for New York Monday night. He expects to return the last of the week.

Mr. J. L. Cockerham has joined the army and will leave for Fort Oglethorpe on May 8th. We wish him all good luck, and trust that before they have to go to France the enemy will see that we mean business and quit.

Messrs. W. E. Jones, C. G. Wiggs, Simon Godwin, Wyatt Brannan and T. C. Henry went to Seelye's Pond fishing last Monday. They had a good time. They did not catch many fish, but had good luck to get back.

Misses Blanche and Mary G. Mitchener, Gladys Whitley and Dora Creech and Mrs. W. H. B. Parker motored to Raleigh Monday afternoon.

Selma Chapter No. 65 R. A. M., will meet in special convention on Friday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock for the purpose of conferring the Royal Arch Degree on the two teams. Lunch will be served at 7 o'clock. The degree will be conferred on the second team at 8 P. M. Companions cordially invited.

Upchurch & Company, of Raleigh, are having the old Waddell Bros. Store remodeled and will open a furniture store soon.

Work has been begun on the side-tracks east of Selma. A great deal of work will be done there during the summer. 'Tis said that the work will cost about \$200,000.

Mrs. Laura Cawthorne, widow of the late Charles Cawthorne, died Wednesday, after an illness of some four years, of cancer. She suffered a great deal and death was a relief to her. She was the mother of ten children, seven having preceded her, leaving three, Mrs. Lilly Liles, of Raleigh, and Messrs. Alonzo and Frank Cawthorne to mourn their loss. She also leaves an aged mother, Mrs. Joseph Jones. Mrs. Jones is in feeble health now. Mrs. Cawthorne was a good woman and has gone to her reward. She was one of the old citizens of Selma. She left a granddaughter, Mrs. Murray Lane. The children of Mrs. Lane have lost three grandmothers since Christmas, Mrs. Pattie Jane Blackman, who died January 12, 1917; Mrs. Mollie Cook, who died April 11, 1917, and Mrs. Laura Cawthorne, who died on the 2nd of May, 1917. Her remains were interred in the Selma Cemetery by the side of her son, Charlie, who was murdered by Tom Smith, colored, in 1899.

George Harvey Ellis, whose father, George H. Ellis, was killed 19 years ago in the naval battle of Santiago while chief yeoman on Commodore Schley's flagship Brooklyn, has enlisted in the navy. He is 19 years old and has been assigned to the radio class at the Navy Yard.

The Peninsular and Oriental Line Steamship Ballarat, of 11,120 gross tons, was sunk recently by a German submarine. All the troops were saved. The ballarat was carrying troops from Australia to England. The soldiers were rescued by British torpedo-boat destroyers and trawlers.

Admiral Lord Beresford, speaking in London Tuesday and complaining of the incompleteness of the official returns of the submarine sinkers, said that the losses were appalling. He declared that he was so keen on the matter that he was inclined to risk the penalties of the Defense of the Realm Act and tell the people himself, because until they were informed, they would not realize the importance of economy.

Germany's intensified submarine campaign apparently is causing considerable uneasiness in England. King George, it is announced, shortly will issue a proclamation asking the people to cut down their consumption of foodstuffs by 25 per cent owing to the gravity of the situation.

## MEN NAMED FOR COMMISSION.

To Have Charge of \$3,000,000 Appropriated for Institutions. Special Lists Are Now at Work. Tax Attention to Be Given Incomes.

(Charlotte Observer.)

Raleigh, May 1.—Governor Bickett announced today the personnel of the State Building Commission of five members to have in hand the expenditure of the \$3,000,000 appropriated by the recent Legislature for permanent improvements for the State institutions, the money to be provided by a series of bond issues distributed through the next five years. The members of the commission are Hugh MacRae, Wilmington; Charles E. Johnson, Raleigh; Frank Dalton, Greensboro, all three Democrats, and Dan Patrick, Snow Hill, and J. M. Privette, Wilksboro.

Mr. MacRae is one of the best known and most esteemed business men of the whole State. Colonel Johnson is a well known banker and business man, who served as chairman of the building commission for the erection of the Raleigh city auditorium and municipal building. Mr. Dalton is president of one of the biggest lumber mill concerns in the State and is much experienced in building matters. Dan Patrick is one of the most extensive business men among the Republicans of the State and the appointment of Mr. Privette was recommended by Republican leaders generally as an especially capable and acceptable man for one of the minority members. He was a member of the recent Legislature. The commission is to organize at once and proceed with the preliminaries for the inauguration of the building operations at the various institutions, there being \$500,000 available for this year.

One thousand five hundred tax lists in the various precincts of the counties throughout the State have just begun their work of listing the taxables for 1917, this work to be completed during May and the tax lists completed and ready for the county commissioners by July 1. The State Tax Commission has issued its special instructions to these lists as a preliminary to their taking up their work. The instructions are much the same as heretofore, a special difference, however, being that special stress is laid on a new procedure as to listing incomes. It is pointed out that under a special provision of the revenue bill all corporations doing business in the State, including non-resident corporations that have salaried representatives, are required to report to the State Tax Commission their employees whose salaries or commissions amount to \$1,200 or more, giving the exact incomes. These will be classified as to counties and reported to the county authorities for the collection of the taxes. The State Tax Commission hopes that this exacting provision for employees of corporations will stimulate other citizens generally to give in their incomes fairly so that there will be no inequalities. The special effort this year will be the fullest possible listing of the incomes liable to tax.

## GENERAL NEWS NOTES.

Paris newspapers gave further evidence Tuesday of the famine in news print paper. All penny papers announced a cut in size to two pages on four days of the week. Higher priced papers announced a reduction to this size at least twice a week, effective May 5th.

Secretary McAdoo announced Wednesday night that the first offering of bonds authorized under the war finance law would be a \$2,000,000,000 "Liberty loan" issue, open to popular subscription at par, and that subscriptions would be received till June 15 next. The bonds will be dated July 1 and will be ready for delivery on that date.

One million, three hundred thousand Germans have perished in the war, according to a statement made by Joseph Friedrich Naumann, formerly a Conservative member of the reichstag, says an Amsterdam dispatch. Herr Naumann lecturing on the "influence of the war on population" said in part: "Until now the war has caused a loss of 1,300,000 dead. This, together with the decrease in births gives a reduction of 3,800,000. The surplus of females has increased from 800,000 to far more than 2,000,000. The nation has bled as never since the Thirty Years War."

## KENLY HIGH SCHOOL TO CLOSE.

Literary Address to Be Delivered By Dr. J. F. Abernathy. The Several Grades to Give Entertainments.

Kenly, May 3.—The plans for the commencement exercises of the Kenly State High School, which begin next Sunday morning and close the following Tuesday night, indicate that the commencement exercises this year will be among the best that have ever been given by the school. Doctor J. E. Abernathy, of Monroe, one of the sanest and most eloquent speakers of our State, has consented to deliver the literary address at 10:30 o'clock next Tuesday morning.

The exercises by the grades and by the music class will be of high order. The students of the first three grades will dramatize "Snow-White," a very beautiful literary production. The students of the elementary school will devote an entire afternoon to May poll dances, woodland dramatizations, and other interesting activities. The students of the high school and of the music and expression classes will give a number of readings, selections of special music; also, the high school will present "The Pennant," one of the most beautiful and artistic high school dramatizations on the stage to-day.

Monday afternoon the Kenly baseball team will play the team of Fremont on the Kenly diamond.

The school has done splendid work this year and for the first time in its history has a graduating class of students who are prepared to enter any college of North Carolina without standing examination on a single subject. The class is composed of six students, two girls and four boys.

At a meeting of the Betterment Association Tuesday afternoon the members decided to sell ice cream on the school campus during commencement, for the benefit of the Association. A great work has been done by the Betterment Association this year in improving the school campus, and money is needed to defray the expenses of this work.

## THE A. & E. COMMENCEMENT.

Hon. James W. Gerard, Former Ambassador to Germany, Principal Speaker. Class of 91 Will Graduate.

West Raleigh, N. C., May 2.—Plans for the twenty-eighth annual commencement of North Carolina State College of Agriculture and Engineering have taken definite shape, and the usual form of ceremony will take place on the 27th, 28th and 29 of May.

The College has been especially fortunate in securing speakers of great distinction for the occasion, which will draw many alumni and visitors. Hon. James W. Gerard, recent ambassador to Germany, will be the principal speaker, and in view of his international prominence and knowledge of the present great world war, no doubt large numbers of people will take advantage of the opportunity to hear him speak. Mr. Gerard's address will come on Monday evening of commencement. The exercises will begin on Sunday with the baccalaureate sermon, which will be delivered by Dr. Edward Mack, president of the Union Theological Seminary, of Richmond, Va. Mr. Junius S. Cates, agriculturalist in the Office of Farm Management of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, has been chosen to make the alumni address, which will also come on Monday evening.

The annual meeting of the General Alumni Association is scheduled for ten o'clock in the College Y. M. C. A. auditorium the morning of Monday, the 28th. The alumni dinner in the Dining Hall will follow the meeting. The graduating exercises will take place on Tuesday morning, the 29th, at which time a class of 91 will receive diplomas. The graduates are divided as follows: Agricultural, thirty-five; civil engineering, fifteen; electrical engineering, ten; mechanical engineering, nine; textile industry, thirteen; and master's degrees will go to nine.

General business conditions throughout the country, the Federal Reserve Board announced Wednesday night in its monthly review, have not been materially affected by the entrance of the United States into the war, although in every district there is going on a process of readjustment which is reflected in many lines.

## SUBMARINE MENACE GROWING.

German U-Boats Recognized as Her Most Powerful Weapon in War. Plans to Combat Campaign Under Way. Deadlock Persists on Battle Fronts, With Big Guns Still Roaring Their Messages of Death.

The following is the Associated Press war summary for Wednesday published in yesterday's papers:

That Germany's submarine arm, not her military arm, is the menace which for the moment is greatest for the future welfare of the United States and the entente allies is recognized by the governments of all the powers which are at war with Germany.

The last days of April saw the underwater boats send to the bottom hundreds of thousands of tons of shipping, which means that huge quantities of ammunition and foodstuffs, the receipt of which would have greatly heartened Great Britain and France, have been irretrievably lost to them and made the pinch of want to those countries, their soldiers and their people more acute.

The unseen monsters of the under-seas from April 20 to 27 had their share with mines in sending beneath the waves, some of them unwarmed and with tolls of death, 38 British vessels of over 1,600 tons and 13 others of less than 1,600 tons—the aggregate in each category being only two vessels less than the British admiralty reported the previous week, when the high point in the sinking of British merchantmen since the reports have been issued was reached.

Impetus is being given to the plans to combat the menace by all the countries at war with Germany, and hopes are expressed that shortly a check may be put to the inroads of the submarine into commerce.

The military activities on all fronts in France and Belgium are still in a stage of apparent deadlock, but the big guns everywhere continue roaring in violent duels and doubtless new phases of infantry actions are developing. On none of the other fronts have there been engagements of great importance, although the British in Mesopotamia have driven forward their lines against the Turks and made captures of men, guns and stores, while the Turks have forced out the Russians from Mush, in Turkish Armenia.

The anticipated proffer of peace by the imperial German chancellor will not be given to the reichstag Thursday, but will be withheld for a "more fitting occasion," according to advices reaching Copenhagen. That peace is not uppermost in the minds of all German officials apparently is indicated by the address before the reichstag at its reopening session of Dr. Johannes Kaempf, president of the chamber, who asserted that the German people adhered to the "firm belief in Germany's star and in a peace which will secure for all time the fatherland's happy development."

## NEW YORK SHIP ARRIVALS.

Fifty-One Greater During April Than in March. Departures Gained Thirteen.

New York, May 1.—Fifty-one more vessels entered the port of New York last month than in March, notwithstanding the German submarine menace. The increased tonnage was 96,468, of which 32,470 was represented by seven more ships flying the American flag than during March.

Departures in April were decreased by 13 vessels, or 37,562 tons, as compared with March. Eighteen fewer American ships sailed from here. These represented 49,651 tons.

The total number of vessels of all nationalities arriving here last month was 449, of which 121 were American. The total tonnage was 1,149,740; American, 317,202.

The Government got its first official news of the sinking of the American steamship Vacuum Tuesday in a cablegram to the State Department. Official announcement from the department said: "A telegram to the Department of State from the American Consul-General at London says that the American vessel Vacuum was destroyed by a submarine. The mate and seventeen of the crew, including three gunners, were rescued and landed. These were all in one boat. Other boats with the master, naval lieutenant and the remainder of the crew are still missing."