

The Smithfield Herald

VOLUME 37.

SMITHFIELD, N. C., TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1918.

Number 15.

SUNDAY'S WAR SUMMARY.

American Troops Making a Record on Three Fronts.

Are Already Veterans and Have Tested All Huns Have to Offer Except Massed Attack.

No Signs of Big German Offensive Yet and Bombardments and Raids Chief Activities.

Russian Armistice Ends. Apparent Threat of Resumption of German Attack.

American troops in France now are in battle on three sectors—on their own line east of St. Mihiel and with the French in the Champagne, and on one of the most famous battlefronts in the world, where ruined villages and the devastated country generally tell the tale of hardfought battles when the Germans pushed forward their line and ultimately were driven back by the French.

And everywhere the Americans are proving themselves fighters of the highest calibre, winning encomiums from high French officers for their business-like methods of warfare and especially their skill in the use of artillery. Already the men are veterans, for nothing the Germans have in stock remains to be shown them except a great mass attack. Thus far everything that has been tried by the enemy against them has been discounted and in some instances doubly discounted.

Stories from the front by The Associated Press tell of the intrepidity of the men in trench reading operations, of their coolness under fire and in returning fire, the accuracy of aim of the gunners and the intense watchfulness at observation posts to see that the enemy obtains no under advantage in a surprise attack.

The only criticism thus far heard regarding the Americans is their desire to be up and at the enemy. Like their brothers of the north—the Canadians—they are hard to hold in restraint. As one distinguished French officer expressed it: "They are too anxious to get at grips with the enemy."

Aside from their daily task of knocking down the German trenches and dugouts with their guns, the latest experience of the Americans, and a thrilling one, was a night patrol, during which the Germans, after the Americans had passed their first line of wire entanglements heavily charged with electricity. Coolly, the Americans lay down until the danger was passed and returned to their trenches, nobody being injured.

There still is no indication of the near approach of the expected big offensive by the Germans along the line in France and Belgium. The operations consist almost entirely of mutual bombardments and minor attacks by raiding parties. The roar of the big guns is greatest in the Champagne region on several sectors, particularly near Tahure, where one unit of the Americans is fighting shoulder to shoulder with the French. Likewise all along the Italian front from Lake Garad to the middle of the Piave river artillery engagements are in progress.

Saturday night's attempted air raid on London proved a failure, only one German airplane of the six that came across the water reaching the capital through the heavy barrage sent up by the British anti-aircraft batteries. One of the enemy planes is reported to have been forced down into the sea with British aviators as a result of the fight in the air.

The armistice between the Germans and the Russians has ended, according to an official communication issued in Berlin. In giving notice of the termination of the agreement to cease hostilities, this communication contains the grave statement that Germany reserves a free hand in every direction. Whether the Germans anticipate an immediate attack on the Russians has not developed, but undoubtedly they sense feeling between the German military officials and the Bolsheviks by reason of the fact that Leon Trotsky, the Bolshevik foreign minister, has not met the desires of Germany to frame a separate peace treaty with that country.

Dispatches from Petrograd indicate that German soldiers have declined to obey their commanders to move to the French front and even have endeavored to brothers in arms who give battle.

FRIDAY PATRIOTIC RALLY.

Many Johnston County Schools to Observe Washington's Birthday With Patriotic Exercises. Thrift and War Savings Stamps To Be Brought Prominently Before the School Children.

Next Friday is Washington's Birthday. The schools of Johnston County, with few exceptions, will give a patriotic program on that day. In many schools the North Carolina Day program which could not be given in December in many places on account of the severe weather will be given next Friday. A Washington Birthday program has been prepared by the State Department of Education, in which thrift is emphasized. This will be given in many schools in connection with the North Carolina Day program. In every school the War Savings Stamp plan is to be made prominent.

If the movement to sell forty-eight million dollars worth of War Savings Stamps in North Carolina in the year 1918 is to be successful the schools will have to have a very prominent part in it. For this reason every school in Johnston County that has a special program next Friday is expected to give War Savings Stamps a big place on that program. At many schools outside speakers will be present to tell the folks about this important subject. Every speaker and every teacher should have both War Savings and Thrift Stamps at every school in the County next Friday.

The County Superintendent of Schools, Prof. Royall, and the County Chairman of the War Savings Committee, Mr. Ragsdale, are both right behind the movement. Let every teacher and every other person remember that next Friday is Patriotic Rally Day for War Savings Stamps and do their best to arouse the people to the great importance of this campaign.

Three Men Die.

We learned yesterday of three deaths which occurred at the end of the week in the southern part of the county.

On Friday evening, Mr. John Austin Phillips, who lived near Benson, died and was buried at Hannah's Creek Sunday. He was between forty and fifty years of age. He was a member of Hannah's Creek Primitive Baptist church.

Early Sunday morning over near the Harnett line Mr. Martin Stancil passed away. He was buried Sunday afternoon in the family burying ground.

Mr. John Alex Wilson, of Dunn, also died the latter part of the week at a Richmond hospital where he had gone for treatment. He was buried in the Shady Grove section of Sampson County. He was one of the first settlers of Dunn.

Court to Adjourn Today.

Johnston County Superior Court convened here yesterday morning for a two weeks term for the trial of civil cases only. Judge H. W. Whedbee, of Greenville, is presiding.

The calendar was taken up and when it was found that Mr. Ed. S. Abell, of the firm of Abell & Ward, who was too sick to appear for his clients, was connected with so many cases on the calendar and that these cases would have to be continued, it was decided to adjourn early in the week. Accordingly the jurymen were excused yesterday afternoon. This morning a few cases of minor importance will be heard and few judgments signed and the session will be over for this term.

Barbour-Lassiter.

News has reached us of the marriage on Sunday, February 10, of Mr. Robert C. Barbour and Miss Eleanor A. Lassiter in Elevation township. The ceremony was performed by Mr. J. S. Johnson, J. P. The ages of the contracting parties are in the neighborhood of three score and ten.

An Amsterdam dispatch says that Rumania intends under certain conditions to enter into peace negotiations with the central powers.—Associated Press Summary.

POLAND TROUBLING GERMANY.

Threatens To Shatter Central Powers' Hope of Peace on East Front. Poles Up in Arms Because Part of Their Territory Was Promised to Ukraine. Germany Probably is Planning to Attack Bolshevik Forces in Northern Russia.

(Associated Press Summary in Sunday's Dailies.)

Germany has suddenly found herself involved in a maze of difficulties on the eastern front and in danger of losing all the large benefits she was clamorously preparing to realize from her peace with the Ukraine and the Bolshevik withdrawal of Russia from the war. Poland, that land which so frequently in the course of history has proved a thorn in the side of military conquerors, is threatening to constitute herself the rock on which the German hope of peace and gainful expansion in the east may be shattered.

Poles Up in Arms.

Embittered by the tearing off of a strip of their territory to be given the Ukraine for breaking away from the Bolsheviks and signing a peace with the central powers the Poles are in what appears to be a virtual state of revolution. Even the very weapon which Germany and Austria were at such pains to forge in the hope of deriving military benefit—the Polish army—bids fair to be turned against them.

Papers Express Alarm.

Reports in the German newspapers which express dismay and alarm over the Polish situation indicate that the Polish legations, now an effective military force, are on the side of the prevalent Polish sentiment of bitterness against the central powers. The situation has grown so serious that the military are patrolling the streets in Warsaw.

Austria Particularly Involved.

Austria-Hungary is particularly involved in the difficulties because of the prominent part which it was expected she would play in the future government of Poland. The Polish elements and those sympathizing with them in the dual monarchy are up in arms over the situation and further internal troubles are threatened.

Turning to the north, it already has been reported that Germany purposes resuming military operations against northern Russia, and this report gains color by the announcement that the commissions representing the central powers at Petrograd have left the Russian capital and passed within the German lines.

Austria Standing Aloof.

The probable German purpose to attack the Bolsheviks is also indicated in a Vienna dispatch declaring that if Germany decided to resume military operations against Russia "the attitude of Austria" would not be influenced thereby. This would seem to mean that Austria intends to leave Germany to fight the battle alone in north Russia. Whether she hopes to keep up connections with the Petrograd government meanwhile is not clear, but a Sofia dispatch declares that Bulgaria is doing that very thing, having "resumed diplomatic relations with Russia." However, all the central powers are in agreement over the situation, it is declared.

MAILS LATE AND IRREGULAR.

Occasionally we have letters from our subscribers complaining about the failure of The Herald to reach them on time. We cannot help this. The Herald has been, with very few exceptions, put in the post office at Smithfield on schedule time. The post office here has been prompt at all times in mailing The Herald. So the fault is not in The Herald office nor in the Smithfield post office. The irregularities of the trains and rural routes is the chief cause of the delays. The weather has been bad, the roads have been in bad condition and the trains passing Smithfield have been all the way from two to six hours late, and these things account for the failure of our subscribers to receive their papers on time.

When the weather gets warmer and the roads improve, and the trains run on time, our subscribers will receive their papers on time.

Whitsett Institute, located near Greensboro, was burned early Sunday morning, entailing a loss of \$15,000 to \$20,000. The school, of which Prof. W. T. Whitsett was President, was established about 30 years ago and had about 100 students this year.

AT THE CAPITAL OF BEULAH.

Kenly State High School Activities. Each High School Student to Buy Five Dollars in War Savings Stamps During Month. Officers of M. E. Church and Societies. Priscilla Club Entertained by Mrs. H. F. Edgerton.

Kenly, February 16.—Each of the literary societies of the school rendered an excellent program Friday afternoon. The girls debated the question providing for compulsory arbitration of industrial disputes, while the boys discussed the question stating that athletics sports should form a part of every educational system. The affirmative in each society won.

The classes of the high school are manifesting a good deal of interest in school activities. Each class has become organized during the present week, and each class has adopted certain resolutions for the advancement of the interests of the school. From now on, the high school will render two chapel programs each week; the classes have determined to co-operate in beautifying the school grounds; and each student has resolved to buy at least \$5.00 worth of War Savings Stamps during the month.

The officers for the different grades are as follows: The tenth grade elected Floyd Wellons as president, Viron Edgerton as vice-president, and Myrtle Watson as secretary and Treasurer. The ninth grade elected Edgar Bailey as president; Alice Grice as vice-president, and Lester Godwin as secretary and treasurer. The eighth grade elected Alma Kirby as president, Harrie Stancil as vice-president, and Inez Watson as secretary and treasurer.

Mrs. H. P. Johnson, seventh grade teacher and director of the Junior Red Cross society, is planning to give a play in the school auditorium at night on the first of March. A large number of students of the school have been selected as the characters in the play. Proceeds will be for the benefit of the Red Cross society. Another shipment of clothing has been sent to our Southern headquarters at Atlanta, and the Red Cross work of the community is making satisfactory progress.

The people of the community are much pleased that the Reverend C. P. Jerome, pastor of the Methodist church, has very nearly recovered from his recent illness. He has filled his regular appointments since the first of the week, and last Sunday he inaugurated the officers of the various organizations of the church. Mr. J. C. Bowman was made chairman of the Board of Stewards; Mr. L. Z. Woodward succeeded Mr. J. R. Sauls as Superintendent of the Sunday school; and Professor M. B. Andrews succeeded himself as Lay Leader for the Circuit. Mrs. R. A. Turlington was made president of the Woman's Missionary Society; Miss Mae Wilkinson became president of the Junior Auxiliary; and Mrs. A. J. Broughton became Superintendent of the little folks society.

Mrs. J. V. Bowman was hostess to the business meeting of the Annie Benson Wesley class of the Methodist Sunday school Monday evening from seven-thirty to nine.

The meeting was opened with prayer by the president Mrs. A. J. Broughton. Reports from the different committees showed that the class did splendid work last year. The following officers were elected: Teacher, Mrs. C. P. Jerome; assistant teacher, Miss Emma Matthews; president, Mrs. A. J. Broughton; vice-president, Mrs. C. F. Darden; secretary, Mrs. R. T. Fulghum; treasurer, Mrs. J. C. Bowman. After the election of officers a salad course was served by the hostess assisted by Mrs. R. A. Turlington.

The Woman's Missionary Society of the Methodist church held its monthly meeting at the parsonage Monday afternoon, February 11. The devotional exercises were led by Mrs. H. M. Grizzard, after which the business was transacted by the president, Mrs. R. A. Turlington. All the 1918 pledge being raised, and two new members received, the Mission Study class was then conducted by Mrs. C. P. Jerome using the book "The South To-Day."

The Priscilla club was entertained on Thursday afternoon by Mrs. H. F. Edgerton at her home on Maxwellton Heights. The guests were met at the door by the hostess, and were then ushered into the parlor. As usual, fancy work, laughter and chatter

CARTER'S SCHOOL BOX PARTY.

War Savings and Patriotic Rally with Address by Professor M. B. Andrews. Several People Pledge to Buy War Savings Stamps.

Kenly, Feb. 16.—A War Savings Patriotic Rally was held at Carter's school Friday night. Professor M. B. Andrews, Superintendent of the Kenly schools, was the chief speaker on the program. Mr. Herbert Young, Principal, opened the exercises by stating the purpose of the meeting. The Reverend J. G. Johnson, of Smithfield, offered prayer and introduced Professor Andrews. The songs were of a patriotic nature, and the flag drill, in which the upper-class students waved flags of the various allied nations, was especially impressive.

Professor Andrews spoke on "Patriotism: A Duty and a Privilege." Several of the citizens responded to the address by signing the War Savings Stamp pledge card agreeing to buy a specified number of stamps during the present year. Immediately after the patriotic rally, Mr. Albert Holland conducted a box party for the benefit of the school library, realizing something more than forty-seven dollars.

M. E. Baracas Meet.

The M. E. Baracas held a special meeting Thursday night at Woodall's store and the following officers were elected:

M. B. Strickland, President.
H. C. Woodall, Vice-President.
Dixon Wallace, Secretary and Treasurer.

G. T. Whitley, Teacher.
S. A. Cotton, Assistant Teacher.
J. E. Lasley, Reporter.

It was a very enthusiastic meeting, and a vote of thanks was given their retiring President and Teacher, Messrs. W. C. Ward and E. J. Wellons for their faithful services.

After discussing War News and class matters they adjourned, everyone promising to co-operate with the President in the upbuilding of the class.—Reporter.

Patriotic Program at Princeton.

Princeton, N. C., Feb. 18.—On Friday, February 22nd, at 1:30 p. m., a patriotic program will be given by the Princeton Graded School. Supt. Royall will address the school. The parents are cordially invited to come. Also on Friday night at 8:00 o'clock a pie party and musical program will be given.

Seaboard Clerks Win.

The railway clerks on the Seaboard Air Line Railroad have won in their fight for an eight-hour day and an increase of 20 per cent in wages. The agreement is made effective from October 15, 1917.

In Memory of a Friend.

It is with a sad heart that we chronicle the death of Mrs. Willie E. Blackman, which occurred at her home February 7th, 1918, at 12 o'clock P. M. She was born June 24th, 1888, making her stay on earth 30 years, eight months and eight days. There was never a more devoted wife and mother; always ready to lend a helping hand to any one that needed her assistance. Mrs. Blackman had been a great sufferer for several months with chronic rheumatism and other diseases.

Sister Mary was married to Willie R. Blackman in February, 1904. To this union was born four children, three surviving her. She was a consistent member of the Baptist church at Hood's Grove.

She leaves an aged father and mother, three sisters, three brothers and a host of friends to mourn after her, but we cannot weep as those that have no hope; for our loss is her eternal gain.

"Safe in the arms of Jesus,
Safe on His gentle breast,
There by His love o'er shaded,
Sweetly her soul shall rest."

A Friend.

were indulged in. The hostess, assisted by Mrs. C. F. Darden, served delicious hot chocolate and sandwiches, after which a course of Jelatin and wafers was served. The invited guests were Mrs. C. P. Jerome, Mrs. C. E. Clark, Mrs. M. B. Andrews, Miss Gladys Barnes Wallace, Miss Lena Marley and Miss Augusta McKeithen.

SAVE THE HENS AND HELP WIN.

Order About Trading in Live and Freshly Dressed Pullets and Hens Applies Only to Licensed Dealers, Principally Cold Storage Concerns. Every Poultry Owner Urged To Refrain From Selling or Slaughtering Hens or Pullets.

Raleigh, Feb. 16.—There has been considerable confusion throughout North Carolina as a result of the published order of the Food Administration affecting the trade in live and freshly dressed hens and pullets. According to State Food Administrator, Henry A. Page this order does not affect local trade in North Carolina, since it applies only to licensed dealers, principally the cold storage concerns.

Every owner of a flock of poultry is being urged as a patriotic duty to refrain from selling for slaughter any hens or pullets. Every hen that is sold before the first of May will represent a food loss to the nation of not less than 30 eggs. If the average number of hens and pullets usually sold from February 1st to May 1st is sold this year it will cause an aggregate loss of 150,000,000 eggs. The value of these eggs is 80 per cent to 100 per cent of the actual value of the hens. The program being urged by the Food Administration and the Department of Agriculture will not entail a loss to the farmer but an actual gain.

The co-operation of all consumers of poultry products is also requested. They are asked to forego the use of fowls on their table during the next few weeks except male stock.

Rehoboth School.

There will be a box party at Rehoboth School (Elevation No. 7) Thursday night, February 21st. A cake will be given to the prettiest girl, and the boy who votes most will help eat the cake. There will also be a guessing contest and a prize given. Will try to arrange to have a speaker. Proceeds will go to lengthen term of school.

VIDA MUNDEN,
PEARLE PARRISH,
Teachers.

Remembering the Soldiers.

The Woman's Club of Smithfield sent on Friday of last week a case of fifty-five glasses of jelly to the convalescent soldiers at the Base Hospital at Camp Sevier. They sent also a box of magazines to Camp Green on which the express was prepaid by Messrs. Hubert and Edward Woodall.

POLENTA SCHOOL NOTES.

North Carolina Day will be observed at Polento Friday, February 22. The public is cordially invited to attend. The program for the day is as follows:

Flag Drill—By twelve little girls.
Song: Columbia, the Gem of the Ocean—By the school.
Invocation—By Mary Ellington.
Reading: Your Flag and My Flag—By Allen Coates.
Pageant: Liberty and her Allies—By girls.
Reading: Thrift Month—By Ethel Barbour.
Song: Old North State.
Reading: Conservation and Thrift—By Mary Booker.
Declaration: Why We are Fighting Germany—By Joe Ellington.
Piano Solo: The School Flag, Spaulding—By Mary Booker.
Declaration: Makers of the Flag—By Joe Young.
Declaration: Our Country Accepts the Challenge—By Kenneth Barbour.
Reading: The Old Flag Forever—By Millard Coates.
Patriotic Address—By Rev. S. A. Cotton.
Song: America.

House Burned Sunday.

Last Sunday afternoon the house of Mr. Albert Youngblood who lives about four miles west of Smithfield was totally destroyed by fire, not any of the contents being saved. The family was away from home when the fire occurred and were unable to save any clothing except what they had on. It is supposed that the fire was caused by the careless handling of matches by some children. The loss falls heavily on the family. A small amount of insurance was carried on the building.