

GOVERNOR BICKETT MAKES GREAT SPEECH

TEN MEMBERS OF LIMIT
CLUB ARE ENROLLED.

Great Crowd of Johnston County Farmers and Business Men Heard Great Patriotic Address In Smithfield Saturday. Governor Bickett Introduced By Supt. Moser, of Selma. Chairman Ragsdale of County War Savings Committee Presided At Meeting Held in Center Brick Warehouse.

One of the greatest patriotic addresses ever heard in Smithfield was delivered here Saturday by North Carolina's most eloquent Governor, Thomas Walter Bickett. The Governor came to Smithfield under the auspices of the War Savings Committee, Mr. T. S. Ragsdale, Chairman. Knowing that there would be no building in Smithfield large enough to accommodate the crowds that would be here, except the tobacco warehouses, Mr. Ragsdale secured the Center Brick Warehouse through the courtesy of Messrs. Pool & Lassiter. The Smithfield Chamber of Commerce took the matter up and had a speaker's stand built and secured some lumber and arranged seats for about 1,500 people. The ladies of the Woman's Club decorated the stand and building with the National colors.

The crowd that heard the Governor was estimated at two thousand people. They were here from every section of the county. The several towns of the county were not so largely represented, but quite a number of the townspeople were here showing their great interest in the War Savings Stamps. The teachers from many of the public schools were here and a large number of ladies from the several sections of the county graced the occasion with their presence.

The meeting was called to order a few minutes after eleven o'clock by Chairman Ragsdale who presided. The crowd stood and Rev. A. S. Anderson of the Presbyterian church of Smithfield, led in prayer. Mr. Ragsdale then gave something of the plans of the War Savings Campaign, how he was asked to serve as chairman, and how he pledged to Col. Fries and the State meeting held in Raleigh that Johnston would do her part in the great cause. He told of the wealth of the county, in cotton, tobacco and other crops, and said that Johnston county was eminently able to raise every dollar of the loan of \$910,000 the Government was asking for through the War Savings Stamp plan. He gave the people a hearty welcome to the meeting and thanked the business men of Smithfield for closing their doors from eleven until one o'clock for the patriotic meeting. Closing his short talk, Mr. Ragsdale presented Supt. Moser, of the Selma Schools, who introduced Governor Bickett.

Supt. Moser, who is a good speaker himself, made an eloquent talk, explaining the War Savings Stamps and told what the schools and school children of the county are doing in this cause, but said that the school children could not do it all. In a very few words he made a strong appeal for the Government and urged the people to wake up, and then presented Governor Bickett as the great Governor of the Great State of North Carolina.

Governor Bickett began by speaking of the seriousness of the situation in the world today and reminded his great audience that this was a time when everybody should pull together, that there should be no snarling among ourselves over petty matters when the future of the civilization of the world was at stake. He said that this was no time to quarrel over partisan politics, that we were now crossing over the river and that if we had any differences we should not fuss over them in mid-stream but wait until we crossed over to settle them.

The Governor warned up as he went along telling about how we tried to keep out of the war as long as we could, but there came a time when we had to fight. He reminded us of the debt we owed France for the great help she gave us in the Revolutionary War. Common gratitude demanded that we should go to the rescue of our sister republic when the Hun was at her throat. But more than that we

had to fight for our own life, that had we not entered the war when we did, Germany would have conquered France and England and then would have turned to America.

The Governor told us about the intrigues of Germany, how she tried to get Mexico to join in with her. And when the hour came she was to strike and strike us hard. We are in the fight to a finish and there is no turning back. The Governor told of his visit to the Camps and how he found that the boys were being fed well and well taken care of. Another fine point made was that the boys are learning to obey orders and not to ask the reason why. He even suggested that such a course of procedure would be beneficial to us back home.

But it is useless to try to give a synopsis of this great speech. Every person we have talked with who heard it said it was one of the greatest ever heard here. Some said it was not only a great speech but a great sermon.

Toward the close Governor Bickett appealed to his auditors to stand by the Government and buy the War Savings Stamps. He told us that these Stamps were absolutely good and a fine investment. His appeal was a strong one and many who heard him were greatly impressed.

When Governor Bickett concluded Judge Brooks, for the War Savings Committee, made an appeal for subscribers to the Stamps. The first call was made for the thousand dollar members and ten men present agreed to take one thousand dollars each in War Savings Stamps this year. Others took smaller amounts and quite a nice sum was pledged. Before they left town many farmers called at the postoffice and bought Stamps.

The great speech of Governor Bickett brought the matter to the attention of many people in a new light. They understood the situation better and showed a greater interest in the War Savings Plan.

EARL NEVILLE MAINTAINS INNOCENCE TO THE LAST.

Dies in Chair at State Prison. Saved From Mob By Governor Bickett.

Raleigh, March 15.—Declaring his innocence to the last, Earl Neville a negro, was executed at the state prison here this morning, having been convicted on a charge of criminally assaulting the wife of a street car conductor in this city last October. Neville was tried at a special term of Wake superior court last October and on appeal the supreme court rendered a decision of no error.

The crime for which Neville paid the extreme penalty was committed at the home of the woman on the outskirts of Raleigh while she was alone with her two young children. Neville was arrested and identified as the man who had attacked her. Soon after his arrest two unsuccessful attempts were made to lynch the negro and on one of these occasions Governor Bickett left his bed at a late hour at night and rushed to Wake county jail and succeeded in persuading the mob to disperse, promising a speedy trial.

SOUTHERN FARMERS ARE WARNED TO RAISE FOOD.

Chief of Agricultural Extension Work in South Hints Section Might Go Hungry.

Washington, D. C., March 15.—Bradford Kapp, chief of the office of extension work in the south. United States department of agriculture, issued a warning today to Dixie farmers. He urged them to pursue safe farming and produce the food of the south upon the farms of the south. He asked the co-operation of every patriotic man and woman in the south to see that the message, urging the increase of southern food production, is heeded.

"It is folly," he said, "to imperil our safety, especially when the exchange value of cotton shows that the prosperity of the south is not founded upon cotton alone."

Captain Archibald Roosevelt, son of Theodore Roosevelt, has been wounded in action with the American forces in France. He was wounded by shrapnel slightly in the leg, and an arm broken but not badly.

What Sculpture is to the block of marble, that education is to be the human soul.—Addison.

RUSSIAN CAPITAL MOVED TO MOSCOW

GERMAN ARMY RAIDING
RICH RUSSIAN SECTION.

Soviet Congress Adjourns After Ratifying Peace Treaty With Central Powers. Japan Undecided About Siberia. Increased Fighting on the Western Front. American Forces Near Toul Doing Their Part to Keep the Enemy Forces Busy.

With the ratification of the treaty of peace with Germany the soviet congress in Moscow has dissolved. But the Germans have not yet ceased their inroads into Russia's richest territory in the south. Nikolayev, the great navy yard city northeast of Odessa and headquarters of the high command of the Russian Black Sea fleet, is the latest prize that has been wrested from the Russians. Situated at the mouth of the Bug river, the capture of the town gives the Germans a water route of great value through the richest agricultural country from Volhynia to the Black Sea.

Up to the last some of the chief members of the soviet congress opposed the hard terms of the Germans, but to no avail. Warning was sounded by several of them of a further German attack and of the necessity for amalgamating for resistance. Before adjournment the congress approved the removal of the capital from Petrograd to Moscow and late dispatches say that the evacuation of Petrograd has been completed.

No change in the situation in Siberia has been noted. As late as Saturday the Japanese, according to Premier Terauchi, had not decided what should be done by Japan with regard to the menace of the Bolsheviks and the German elements who are aiding them in their rain of terror in Siberia. While the opposition party in Japan continues its efforts to prevent the sending of troops to Siberia, almost the entire press of the country favors Japanese intervention.

With the approach of spring each day witnesses an increase in the fighting activity. In every theatre, except Russia, the infantry and artillery are hard at work. From the North Sea to the Swiss frontier no day passes without numerous "patrol" encounters, which at times reach the intensity almost of battles and artillery duels of violence but little short of the great exchanges of shells which in the past year reached the high water mark in intensity.

Probably the most ambitious of all the attempts by the belligerents to pierce an opposing line has been made by the French troops, over a wide front in the Verdun sector. The attack was delivered after preparatory artillery fire lasting ten hours, according to the British war office, but was checked. That the fighting was of a sanguinary character is indicated by the statement that the troops came into hand to hand encounter. It is claimed by Berlin that at another point in this region the Germans penetrated French positions and captured 200 prisoners including the staff of one battalion.

At numerous points along the British front Field Marshal Haig's men are under heavy bombardments from the Germans. Particularly violent has been the pounding of the shells along the Bapaume-Cambrai road, in the Serape Valley and around Lens. Only one enemy infantry attack was attempted.

On the American front near Toul the Americans are ever on the alert and frequently open up with their guns against German positions and compel the enemy to evacuate the sectors under fire. Posts occupied by snipers and listeners and nests of machine gunners recently have been effectively taken care of by the American gunners. The Germans, however, are not permitting the men from overseas to do all the shooting, for they themselves are at times putting the Americans under an extraordinarily heavy artillery fire in which explosive shells of large calibre and gas missiles are used. The Toul sector apparently has been picked by the Germans as a favorite spot upon which to expend their noxious gases, although Luneville has not been forgotten by them in this respect.

SMITHFIELD CITIZEN PASSES OVER RIVER

DEATH OF MR. WALTER M.
IVES SUNDAY EVENING.

The End Came After an Illness of Ten Days. Had Been a Citizen of this Town and Community All His Life. Had Served as Mayor of the Town and at the Time of His Death Was City Clerk and Tax Collector. Funeral Yesterday Afternoon.

Smithfield has again been called upon to mourn the death of one of its best citizens, Mr. Walter M. Ives, who passed away at his home on Second Street Sunday evening at six o'clock. Mr. Ives had been in declining health for about a year and this decline had been noted more and more for the past few months. On Friday evening, March 8, he had a chill. Saturday he was not feeling at all well, and by Sunday evening it was seen that he was a very sick man. He had a complication of diseases and his weakened condition was against him and he gradually grew weaker until the end came Sunday evening.

The funeral was held yesterday evening from the home and the interment made in the City Cemetery in the presence of a large crowd of sympathizing friends and relatives. The funeral service was conducted by his pastor, Rev. H. F. Brinson, assisted by Rev. S. A. Cotton, of the Methodist church. Mr. Brinson paid a most beautiful and fitting tribute to the deceased, voicing the sentiments of those who knew Mr. Ives best. The service was conducted at the grave with a prayer by Rev. J. E. Lanier, a former pastor of the deceased.

After the short service at the home the remains were conveyed to the cemetery and laid to rest and the mound covered with many beautiful flowers sent as a token of love and sympathy from many friends. There were wreaths from the Deacons of the Baptist church, from the Town Commissioners, from the pupils of some of the grades of Turlington Graded School and others. The pall-bearers were F. H. Brooks, N. B. Grantham, S. C. Turnage, L. T. Royall, Polie Gardner and T. J. Lassiter.

Walter M. Ives was born in the town of Smithfield in November, 1852, and was thus in his sixty-sixth year. He was the son of Thomas Ives and Susan Ives. He had spent his entire life here and in this community. He has been in business in some way or another here all his life since he reached his majority. He has served the town in different capacities, as mayor, as town commissioner and was serving as city clerk and tax collector at the time of his death. In each of these capacities he gave to the town his best service. In all his dealings with his fellow-man he was square and honest. He never tried to be other than he was, a sincere and upright Christian gentleman, and his impress on the life of the community and the county has been felt for good. He was well known with a great many people of the county who had met him in their business dealings and all knew him as a man of upright character.

The deceased was a faithful member of the Smithfield Baptist church of which he had served for many years as a member of the Board of Deacons. In his church relations he was ever true and faithful. He loved the church and his Lord and was ready for the summons when it came.

He married Miss Cora McCullers in his young manhood and to them were born eight children, six of whom survive—Mrs. E. O. Edgerton and Mr. Walter Ives, of Raleigh, and Miss Cora Belle, John White, Helene and Hettie Davis who lived with their father, their mother having preceded him to the grave many years ago. He leaves an only brother, Mr. John Ives, who has been his faithful comrade all these years. Their great love for each other has been often remarked upon, and now that the younger brother has crossed over the river, the tenderest sympathy of all is with the one left behind.

He loved his children and to them he gave himself unreservedly. He was an indulgent father, a good neighbor and friend and a man whose presence will be greatly missed.

PATRIOTIC MEETING AT KENLY

Mayor Eaton, of Winston-Salem to Speak Next Saturday. Patriotic Play Given by the School. Pupils Present Flag to School.

Kenly, March 16.—Friday night, in the auditorium of the Kenly State High School, decidedly the most successful entertainment of the year was given under the auspices of the Junior Red Cross Society of the school, which is directed by Mrs. H. P. Johnson, the seventh grade teacher. The program consisted of a licensed patriotic play called "The Claim Allowed." Several hundred people were present to enjoy the program, and more than sixty of the school children took part in this play. James Kirby, of the ninth grade, acted as the hero of the story. He was the son of a wealthy American manufacturer who was blind to the real spirit of American patriotism at the beginning of the war. He volunteered his services and after much painful effort influenced his father to see the real glory of fighting for freedom and liberty. Every character in the play acted his part well, and the people of the community are proud of the effort that the school children are putting forth to arouse the people of this section to the needs of the hour. The proceeds of the play will be used by the local chapter of the Red Cross.

A small but enthusiastic delegation from this community went to Smithfield Saturday morning to hear the address by the Governor of North Carolina. They report a most excellent meeting. A meeting of similar purpose will be held in the auditorium of the High School next Saturday, March 23, possibly at eleven o'clock in the morning. Special music will be provided, and the address of the occasion will be delivered by the Honorable O. B. Eaton, Mayor of the city of Winston-Salem. It is the purpose of the local War Savings Committee to request the merchants of Kenly to close their places of business in order that everybody may hear the message to be delivered by Mr. Eaton.

Last Thursday morning, the students of the eighth grade presented to the school a beautiful specimen of "Old Glory," measuring eight by four and a half feet. The flag will be raised over the school building and will there wave until the close of the present school year.

PASS DAYLIGHT SAVING BILL.

Clocks to be Turned Forward an Hour Last Sunday in March and Backward Again in October.

Washington, March 15.—The daylight saving bill, under which the nation's clocks would be turned forward an hour every spring and backward again in the fall, was passed today by the house. It passed the senate last June, but as the house added two months to the period involved further action by the senate will be necessary before the measure goes to the President.

Under the senate bill the clocks would be changed the last Sunday in April and the last Sunday in September. The house made it the last Sunday in March and the last Sunday in October.

The vote was 252 to 40.

The plan was adopted last year in England, France, Germany, Italy, Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Portugal and this year in Australia and Iceland. The Canadian government is considering it, but has withheld action until the United States decided what to do.

The bill has had the support of practically all the large industries in the country, and its proponents have argued that it will result in a great saving of fuel and benefit wage-earners in that they will have more time for recreation during daylight hours.

Col. J. C. L. Harris Dead.

After an active life of three score years and ten, Col. J. C. L. Harris, dean of the Raleigh Bar and one of the leading Republicans of the State, died at his home in Raleigh, Sunday morning.

Col. Harris was, during his life, one of the leading attorneys of the capital city. In politics, he was a staunch Republican. He was one of the principal factors in the birth and organization of the Republican party in North Carolina.

RUSSIA YIELDS TO CENTRAL EMPIRES

RUSSIAN CONGRESS AT
MOSCOW SIGNS TREATY.

One Faction of Bolshevik Delegates Registered Its Disapproval. President Wilson's Message Read to the Congress and Received With Marked Enthusiasm. Lenine Appealed to His Followers Saying That This Action Was the Only Way Out.

Russia has bowed to the central empires. The hard terms of the peace treaty submitted by the Germans at Brest-Litovsk have been agreed to by the all-Russian congress of soviets, in session at Moscow, in spite of the opposition of an important element of the Russian people.

The result of the vote was forecast in the announcement from Moscow on Friday that the Bolshevik delegates to the Moscow congress had, at a party caucus, voted in favor of ratification. There was a faction, however, that registered its disapproval of the treaty, but the presence of Nikola Lenine, the Bolshevik premier, probably united his followers and enabled them to roll up a large majority in favor of accepting the provisions of the peace treaty.

The message sent by President Wilson to the congress, in which he expressed his sympathy with the Russian people, was read at the opening session on Thursday night. It was received with marked enthusiasm and a reply embodying a resolution of appreciation was sent to the American people.

That there was spirited opposition to the ratification of the treaty is evidenced by reports that trouble broke out on Friday between the Bolsheviks and social revolutionaries of the left, who have been representing the council of peoples' emissaries.

Social Revolutionary Party to Quit the Government

Moscow, March 16.—The all-Russian congress of soviets has ratified the peace agreement with Germany by a large majority.

A Bolshevik resolution approving the acts of the government of the workmen's and soldiers' delegates and of the peace delegation and calling for organization of the defense of the country by the creation of a national army of both sexes was passed after Lenine's restoration of peace among the warring factions and his statement that this action was the only way out, intimating that the treaty might be broken under changed circumstances.

The opposition, notably the social revolutionaries of the left made, a valiant but futile effort to prevent the acceptance of the treaty, which was characterized by the minister of justice as being "anti-revolutionary and anti-socialistic." He stated that the social revolutionary party repudiated the responsibility for the acceptance of the peace treaty, would resign from the government and devote all its power and influence to the organization of armed resistance to German imperialism.

President May Speak on the Russian Situation.

Washington, March 16.—First intimations from official sources that President Wilson possibly might soon make a statement bearing on the Russian debacle came today.

Heretofore statements that the President was preparing to address congress on the subject have been pure guess work. Today brought the first official intimations that the president, in his close study of the situation, had gotten to the point where he was thinking of such a course.

There is no official indication of the medium the president will choose or when he will choose it, but it is generally believed that, as usual, he will direct his statement to the world through an address to a joint session of congress.

Secretary McAdoo will make a speaking tour of the South, Middle West, and East on behalf of the Third Liberty Loan beginning in Philadelphia, April 6. He will be at Raleigh on April the ninth.