

LIST TAKERS WERE NAMED YESTERDAY

County Commissioners Had Busy Day. Appropriated Five Hundred Dollars for Celebration of the Home Coming of the Boys Who Wore the Khaki—Board Accepts Invitation to Attend Road Meeting at Wilson Next Monday—School Elections Ordered.

The County Commissioners met here yesterday in regular session with all members present. Several matters were taken up and disposed of.

An election for schools was ordered to be held in Beulah school district No. 1, at an early date.

An election for roads was also ordered to be held in Bentonsville township. The call for the election will be published later.

An election for revoking the special tax for schools was ordered held in Pleasant Grove public school district No. 6, on May 13. Registration books will open April 11 and close May 3. The registrar is Victor Penny, with B. I. Stephenson and Jett McGee poll-holders.

The Board nominated W. L. Fuller and Andrew J. Fitzgerald to be the Board of Appraisers and Review under the new revaluation act. The County Supervisor will be named by the State Tax Commission.

The following list takers were appointed list takers for this year: Wilson's Mills—John A. Wilson. Clayton—L. H. Champion. Cleveland—F. M. Weeks. Pleasant Grove—Ed. S. Coats. Pleasanton—J. Shep Johnson. Banner—J. G. Smith. Meadow—Walt V. Blackman. Bentonsville—Calvin Lee. Ingrams—John C. Keen. Boon Hill—H. A. Watson. Beulah—A. G. Hooks. Oneals—J. M. Maden. Wilders—Hunter Barnes. Pine Level—L. E. Creech. Smithfield—Robert E. Smith. Micro—Joe D. Creech.

The people of Selma are planning a reception to the boys of Company C, 119th Infantry, when they come home. Not only are they planning to give a celebration for this company, but they want all the boys who wore the khaki to be present in this great meeting. In order to help, in this home-coming celebration Dr. G. D. Vick was present yesterday and asked the Board for an appropriation. The Board granted the request by making an appropriation of \$500. This is to be a county celebration in honor of the returning heroes who answered the call of their country to fight the Hun.

The Board received an invitation from the Board of Commissioners of Wilson county to attend a meeting with the boards of all the adjoining counties at Wilson next Monday afternoon at three o'clock to consider the road question. There is much interest in North Carolina at the present time to improve the roads of the State. The Federal government contributes one-half the expense if the roads are built under government supervision, the State pays one-fourth and the county one-fourth. This meeting at Wilson is to plan for the counties of Johnston, Wilson, Nash, Edgecombe, Pitt and Wayne to work together on the road proposition.

The County Commissioners accepted the invitation and will meet the commissioners from the other counties at Wilson next Monday.

GOVERNMENT OVERTHROWN.

In Hungary and the Foreign Minister Assassinated—Don't Like Soviet Government.

Vienna, April 7.—The Hungarian government at Budapest has been overthrown, according to numerous reports in official circles the newspapers say. Bellakan, the foreign minister, it is reported, has been assassinated. The reports do not say how the attempt was made or whether it was organized by the Socialists or the Bolsheviks.

Nuremberg, Bavaria, April 7.—The Bavarian National Council of Social Revolutionists have by a vote of 42 to 8 decided not to have a Soviet government in Bavaria.

"SLEEPING SICKNESS" IN ROBESON IS REPORTED

Two cases of "sleeping sickness" have been reported from the Rozier section of Robeson county. A colored man and a colored woman have had the disease, according to Dr. R. C. Rozier, who treated them, and are getting better. Each slept for several days, and while they have not finally recovered, they can now control themselves. Both had an attack of influenza before they were overcome by the new disease.

LIVE NEWS TOPICS.

The strike of textile workers in Columbus, Ga., was ended Thursday by a vote of the workers, J. J. Thomas, an organizer of the United Textile Workers, has announced. The workers who went out nearly two months ago, demanding an eight-hour day, will immediately apply for re-employment, Thomas said. There are about 8,000 workers in that section. Since the strike began many have returned to work and mills have hired outside help. The mill owners, it was understood, will re-employ all those for whom they have openings.

Additional credits of \$85,000,000 in favor of France and \$25,000,000 in favor of Italy has been announced by the Treasury Department. These brought France's total to \$2,702,477,800 and Italy's to \$1,521,500,000, and the grand total of the Allies to \$9,008,999,340.75.

Though the war is counted over, the English government is still spending five and one half millions a day on war alone—and that figure is in pounds sterling, remember. Great Britain's national debt stands at 7,450,000,000 pounds, or \$37,250,000,000, as against a pre-war debt of 653,000,000 pounds. The interest upon this debt today is from \$50,000,000 to 400,000,000 a year.

Lieutenant Colonel Frederick W. Dickman, commanding officer of Southern Field at Americus, Ga., and Major John W. Butts, executive officer, were killed last week in the fall of an airplane in which they were making a flight. Colonel Dickman was the son of Major General Dickman, commanding the Third American Army of the Expeditionary Forces.

A Proud Record.

While at every session of the North Carolina Legislature attempts are made, and too often succeeded, to increase the causes for divorce and to make easy the legal separation of married people, it is gratifying to learn that statistics for the year 1916 show that the divorce rate in North Carolina was the lowest of any State in the Union. South Carolina, which has no divorce laws, does not figure, and the Districts of Columbia, which has a lower rate but is not a State, leave our State the place of honor in holding sacred the marriage relation. The divorce rate in this State was 31 for each 100,000 population. New York, strange to say, is the next lowest—32 per 100,000. The highest rate is, of course, Nevada, Montana and Oregon, where divorce is easy, and to which States many non-residents go solely to obtain divorce. It is estimated that in the country at large one in every nine marriages is terminated by divorce. The marriage rate in 1916 was 1,050 per 100,000 population, while the divorce rate was 112 per 100,000.—Statesville Landmark.

Nation Wide Day for Prayer Named.

Members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, will on April 16, pray for a church-wide and spirited revival in America. The Methodists are not planning any close communion in the matter, but are asking all churches and church people in America to join them.

Conditions of the times in which we are living and the great need of the world for spiritual rejuvenation are the factors which have suggested this idea of the special day for prayer to the Methodists. Leaders of the denomination hope that the idea will spread rapidly throughout the country so that by the time April 16 arrives every Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian and all other Protestant denominations will be praying for the great spiritual awakening throughout the world.

The Methodists have particularly caught a vision of the need of this revival because of the Centenary Movement of that church, a movement to revivify all of their congregations from one end of Methodism to the other.—Centenary News.

J. Dwight Barbour to Head Loan Campaign.

Mr. J. Dwight Barbour, of Clayton, has been selected as County Chairman in the Fifth Liberty Loan Campaign, which opens the twenty-first of this month. In the selection of Mr. Barbour those in authority made a wise choice, for he is in every way capable of pushing the campaign to a victorious conclusion here in Johnston county. A man of large affairs himself he is willing to give of his time at his country's call and he is enthusiastically behind the movement. To the end that Johnston county shall go over the top with her quota of the loan Mr. Barbour will lend his every effort.—Clayton News.

PROF. R. A. MERRITT DIED FRIDAY

Passed Away at His Home in Greensboro—Lived in Smithfield Several Years Ago—Was First Superintendent of Turlington Graded School, Having Been Elected to That Position in 1903.

The people of Smithfield learn with great regret of the death of Prof. R. A. Merritt, who died at his home in Greensboro yesterday. The following account of his death appeared in Saturday's News and Observer:

Greensboro, N. C., April 4.—Prof. R. A. Merritt, formerly of the faculty of the State Normal and Industrial College, died at his home here this afternoon following an illness of four years. He is survived by his wife, formerly Mabel Coltrane, and two small sons. Deceased was secretary of class, of 1902 at the University of North Carolina and as such published first class bulletin of the institution. He was a member of Phi Kappa. His father, J. Y. Merritt, still lives at Chapel Hill. After his graduation, he was superintendent of the Turlington School at Smithfield. From there he came in 1906 to the State Normal (now North Carolina College for Women.) He taught psychology, held important faculty positions and was highly regarded in the college and city. He was a deacon in the First Avenue Baptist church. The funeral will be held Saturday afternoon.

Prof. Merritt came to Smithfield in the fall of 1902 as a teacher in Turlington Institute. After teaching with Prof. Turlington one year the school became Turlington Graded School. Prof. Harper, who was then at Kenly, was chosen superintendent and Prof. Merritt principal. Soon afterward Professor Harper was elected to a professorship in Elon College and resigned the position. Prof. Merritt was then chosen superintendent and organized the first graded school ever in Johnston county. He was a teacher of no mean ability. As a school man in Smithfield he was very successful and three years later was honored by election to a position in the State Normal College at Greensboro.

Professor Merritt made many friends here. He was a true Christian man, strong and faithful to every task, loved and honored by all who knew him.

Professor Merritt was a brother of Mr. R. P. Merritt, in charge of the county recreation work in this county.

Funeral of Mr. Merritt.

The funeral of Robert A. Merritt was held yesterday afternoon at five o'clock from Forest Avenue Baptist church, of which the deceased was a member, the services being conducted by the pastor, Dr. L. L. Carpenter, assisted by Revs. C. S. Kirkpatrick and R. Murphy Williams. The interment was in Greene Hill cemetery, the pall-bearers being J. A. Matheson, W. C. Jackson, A. H. Johnson, J. S. Moore, O. Joe Howard, C. J. Angle.

German Casualties in War Reaches Total of 4,362,454.

Berlin, Thursday, April 3.—Prussia's huge losses in officers and men during the war are indicated by a staff officer, who writes in the Lokal Anzeiger. He submits figures compiled from the official casualty lists to show that 32,454 active officers at the front were killed, wounded or missing out of a total of 34,350, and that more than 4,330,000 soldiers were killed, wounded or missing out of 10,178,000 who actually fought at the front.

Contents that these figures belie stories that the Prussian officers did not attack with their men and asserts that while their losses were particularly heavy in the first two years they were much less in the later years, because the officers had to be saved for general staff work.

The figures show also that Germany counted little on a long war, for the Prussian mobilization contemplated 3,700,000 soldiers to which approximately 6,500,000 had to be added before the end.

Means Sues for a Million.

Alleging conspiracy to send him to the gallows, Gaston B. Means, who was tried last year at Concord for the murder of Mrs. Maude A. King and acquitted, has filed suit against the Northern Trust Company for \$1,000,000.

The declaration filed by Means alleges that the Northern Trust Company, through the co-defendants sought to secure the conviction of Means for the murder of Mrs. King. It is further alleged the defendant corporation sought trust to control the \$3,000,000 King estate and reap vast profits therefrom.

PRESIDENT ESCAPES INFLUENZA ATTACK

Mr. Wilson's Physician, Rear Admiral Grayson, Says Submission to Orders Saved Him From a Serious Illness—Latest News From Paris Says the President's Condition is Much Improved.

Paris, April 5.—The President has come very near having a serious attack of influenza, but by going to bed at once by my direction he has apparently escaped, but is still necessarily confined to his bed," said a statement issued at 4 o'clock this afternoon by Rear Admiral Grayson, the President's physician.

President Wilson was "slightly better" at noon today, an official bulletin on his condition said. His cold, however, was still pronounced enough to cause a slight temperature.

Colonel House visited him this afternoon. After this call Admiral Grayson again closed the President's door to callers, insisting that the patient must not be disturbed more than was absolutely necessary.

While the afternoon bulletin showed an improvement in President Wilson's condition, all precautions are being taken against anything which might lower his vitality.

The President read a little in the course of the day and chatted with Mrs. Wilson, but contented himself receiving from Colonel House a brief account of the proceedings of the Council of Four.

While callers were not permitted, messages in large numbers were received extending sympathy both personal and official from friends, the various members of the conference, and diplomatic representatives.

Paris, April 6.—President Wilson remained in bed today, although an official bulletin said that he was much improved this morning.

The President slept well during the night, and had a normal temperature when he awoke.

The official statement issued this morning said:

President Wilson had a good night, and his temperature is normal. He is much better, but remains in bed today.

The President was so far on the road to recovery that Admiral Grayson permitted him to receive late today the other American Peace Commissioners.

The cold from which Mr. Wilson has been suffering appears to have been broken, and unless complications ensue, it is probable that he will be able to resume in part his work on Monday. The fever has disappeared, but the President is still weak, and it is not expected that he will leave his room before Tuesday.

TROTZKY ORDER FLEET TO ATTACK THE ALLIES.

London Hears He Has Sent Command to Russian Warships in Baltic. Situation Worse in South.

London, April 5.—Leon Trotzky, the Bolshevik Minister of War and Marine, has ordered the Russian Baltic fleet to put to sea and attack the Allies, threatening to have all the crews shot if they disobey the order, says the Mail.

The situation in southern Russia has become distinctly worse from an Allied viewpoint, mainly owing to a shortage of food, according to dispatches to the Press Association. It is not feared that military reasons will compel the Allies to evacuate Odessa, but here is a possibility, it is said, that the city will become so short of food that it will be unable to support an occupying force.

20,478 LIBERTY MOTORS MADE.

Contracts Amounting to \$266,961,771 For Engines Cancelled.

Washington, April 5.—Production of Liberty-12 airplane engines for the army reached a total of 20,478, final deliveries having been made by the manufacturers during the week ending March 21. A statement issued today by the War Department shows deliveries by the manufacturers on war contracts as follows:

Packard Motor Car Company, 6,500 engines; Lincoln Motor Company, 6,500; Ford Motor Company, 3,950; General Motors Company, 2,528; Nordyke-Marmor Company, 1,000.

The statement says contracts for additional airplanes, engines, and engine spare parts to a value of \$266,961,771 had been cancelled. The total value of air service material contracts cancelled up to March 22 was \$500,000,000.

War Motion Picture.

"The Price of Peace," a wonderful motion picture which is being used throughout the country during the Victory Loan campaign, will be seen in a number of North Carolina cities. Lieutenant Burgess, of the 113th Field Artillery, of Raleigh, has consented to serve as State film chairman for this war loan.

Woman's Missionary Council M. E. Church.

Approximately 250 visiting delegates are attending the sessions of the annual conference of the Woman's Missionary Council of the M. E. Church, South, now in session at Memphis, Tenn.

PLEASANT CHAPEL ITEMS.

Miss Rose Bryan left Wednesday en route for her mountain home at Marshall.

Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Hatcher are all smiles. It's a girl.

Misses Hester Smith and Annie Smith, of Goldsboro, spent the week end with Mrs. Alice Eason and attended the commencement exercises at Pleasant Chapel.

Little Mary Catherine Eason is a welcome guest in our midst after having spent the winter with her grandmother, Mrs. Mary Smith, of Goldsboro, while her mother has been teaching at Pleasant Chapel.

We are sorry to note that Mrs. Willie Gordon is quite sick. We hope for her a speedy recovery.

The flu is in our midst again. Mr. James Batten's people are in with the flu.

Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Price spent the week-end with Mr. J. Pittman near Lowell Mill.

Quite a number of our people attended the union meeting at Micro and Beulah.

Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Eason spent Sunday with relatives in Live Oak section.

The children of Pleasant Chapel school were treated to chocolate candy last Thursday by their teachers, Mrs. Alice Eason and Miss Rose Bryan, for promptness. Just think of an enrollment of 95 pupils and not a tardy—what other rural school can go ahead of the new school along that line that hasn't stringent rules.

Prof. L. T. Royall was a welcome visitor to our school March 28.

We have had the motion pictures twice at our school. We as a section are grateful to our teachers, who helped to get the motion pictures at our school. The community highly appreciates the pictures. Our district was organized to look after community work in connection with the pictures. The following persons were elected: Mr. T. H. Helm, chairman; Mr. Isham Hatcher, M. G. H. Edwards, Mrs. Alice Eason, Committee.

The Pleasant Chapel basket ball team wishes to call Brown School correspondent's attention to the error in announcing their score. It was 7 to 4 and not 7 to 3 as printed. Also that no other match game has been played. Brown team came on Saturday after Chapel's ball game Friday, but no match game played as reported.

Miss Graham Smith returned to her home last Saturday, having spent the winter with her sister, Mrs. Alice Eason.

CORRESPONDENT.

Selma, Route 3.

Mr. Lawrence Barbour Dead.

Mr. Lawrence Barbour, son of Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Barbour, died at his home a few miles from Clayton, last Saturday night, of influenza-pneumonia, having been sick for about a week.

Mr. Barbour, who lived near Oakland church, was about thirty years old, and one of the most promising young men of his neighborhood, and was a man who was generally liked and respected by those who knew him. He is survived by his wife and several children, a father and mother and several brothers.

The funeral services were conducted Sunday afternoon by Rev. J. E. Lanier, interment being made in the cemetery at Baptist Center.—Clayton News, 3rd.

Raleigh to Have "Flying Circus."

Raleigh is one of the cities selected over which Victory Loan air flight has been scheduled.

The "battles" in the sky will consist of two stages. Slow flying American planes will be driven by a fleet of capital German fockers, which in turn will be attacked by speedy American planes piloted by American, French and British "aces." Battle formations will be duplicated, a sharp skirmish will ensue, and a guaranteed allied victory will wind up each performance. Victory Loan literature will be scattered over every city visited by the "flying circuses."

War Motion Picture.

"The Price of Peace," a wonderful motion picture which is being used throughout the country during the Victory Loan campaign, will be seen in a number of North Carolina cities. Lieutenant Burgess, of the 113th Field Artillery, of Raleigh, has consented to serve as State film chairman for this war loan.

Woman's Missionary Council M. E. Church.

Approximately 250 visiting delegates are attending the sessions of the annual conference of the Woman's Missionary Council of the M. E. Church, South, now in session at Memphis, Tenn.

PEACE TREATY TO BE READY SOON

London is Very Optimistic on Peace Program—The Great Powers Are Agreed on the Leading Issues—Italy and the Jugo-Slav Question Still Open.

London, April 5.—I learn on the highest authority that there is every prospect that the peace treaty will be ready by next Wednesday or Thursday. The statements, current in certain quarters, that there is disagreement between France and England on essential points may be dismissed as without foundation. On all the leading issues there is complete agreement, which will be embodied in the document which is now receiving final consideration by the Council of Four.

There is agreement with regard to the status of the Saar coal fields and reparation to France for destruction in the invaded territory. A basis for a solution of this later problem on equitable terms, acceptable to all concerned, has been arrived at and only remains to be incorporated in the final treaty.

There is still outstanding the question of the Adriatic coast, where Italy has been at odds with the Jugo-Slavs. There are, however, no unsettled questions that present very serious difficulties. That of Danzig has been settled. The Allies' right to use the port for the landing of the Polish divisions has been formally maintained, but to hasten the arrival of the troops it has been decided to use the land routes as proposed by Germany. The use of Danzig is, however, still open should the necessity arise.

I understand that Lloyd George, after the peace terms are agreed upon and before their final signature, will return to London and make a statement to the House of Commons and then return to Paris for the final formal stages of the treaty. It will be found that the Premier and Mr. Balfour have insisted on the fullest recognition of the rights of Great Britain in regard to indemnification.

Have a Real Home on Your Farm.

A farm with an unpainted house standing in an open field in the glaring sunshine, with cotton rows running up near to it, no green grass, no trees, nor shrubbery, and not a flower blooming around it, is a place the boys and girls of the family will embrace the first opportunity to escape from.

Especially will this be the case with the girls if the interior of the house corresponds with the exterior, for much of the beauty and comfort of the home depends on the women having a chance to beautify the interior. The farmer in such a place as I have described may by the most rigid economy accumulate money, and may get a reputation among his neighbors as a good farmer, simply because he has made some money.

But he has missed life, real life, and has simply been grubbing after filthy lucre. He has failed to make a home, and from the old house that was simply a shelter, the boys and girls will leave him to himself after a while, and would not be many boys nor womanly women if they did not. For the boys and girls are catching the spirit that is abroad in the South, and will leave the old shelter and be making real homes for themselves.

Painting the house is not only adding to its appearance, but is important in adding durability to the woodwork. A dwelling should be painted every three years at least.

Then make a pretty grass lawn about the house, especially a good sweep of grass showing from the front windows. While trees and shrubbery are important and desirable, do not smother the whole front with trees, but keep some open lawn there and plant tree and shrubbery as a framework for the lawn. In our Southern homes we use the porches more for shade than the trees, and we do not want the breeze smothered out by too thick planting of trees.

Flowering shrubbery along the base of the house greatly helps the appearance of the house itself, and with a variety that bloom in succession from early spring till late summer the shrubbery can be made very attractive and interesting. Then to the sides of the dwelling have some flower beds largely of the hardy herbaceous plants that come up and bloom every year, with some of the summer flowering bulbs like the old Madonna lily and gladiolus, and on the shady side of the house a bed of the lily of the valley.—The Progressive Farmer.

To give happiness and to do good, there is our only law, our anchor of salvation, our beacon light, our reason for existing; our religions may crumble away; so long as this survives, we have still an ideal, and life is worth living.—Amiel.