

The News - Journal

THE HOKE COUNTY NEWS

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GEN. BREECE OUTLINES NATION'S DEFENSES

Fort Bragg Commandant Explains Military Organization for Defense—Says Army Belongs to People—Praises National Guard—Adequate Defense Is Best Means of Preventing War—Makes Good Impression.

In one of the most interesting talks ever made before the Raeford Kiwanis Club, the Commandant of Fort Bragg, General Breece, outlined the system of military defense which this country has in peace times last Thursday evening. This was the first visit the General has made to Raeford and the second visit to any town within the state since he was recently assigned to the command of Fort Bragg. He is an elderly person, of attractive personality and very democratic in his views. He referred to the Army as belonging to the people and not to the professional soldier. He stressed the fact that any soldier who had been through one war was loath to see another. He also stressed the fact that Congress alone could declare war, but reminded his hearers that the surest way to avoid war was to be prepared for it.

According to General Breece, the National Defense Act, under which all things military come, embraces the regular army of a little over one hundred thousand men and about fourteen thousand officers. These are scattered at the various possessions of the United States and in camps over the county such as Fort Bragg. The second, and in cases of war the first to see any great amount of active service, is the National Guard, which consists of about three hundred thousand men. General Breece said that his hat was always off to this unit and he considered it our bulwark of strength in time of trouble. He stressed service these men are rendering in devoting a part of their time in training and in being ready in case of need.

Among the other units in the Defense Act are the Reserve Officers who stand ready to take commands at any time. These men are made up largely of ex-officers and those who have taken training in the R. O. T. C., mostly at the colleges of the country. He stated that a well-trained group of Reserve Officers is one of the most important factors in our military plans and that in case of war valuable time would be saved by having these trained men ready for active service, rather than try to train an officer personnel from green material in a short time.

General Breece also spoke of the C. M. T. C. camps for the youth of the country, which are held each summer. He stated that increasing interest is being shown in this branch of the service and said that it is being appreciated more and more by those eligible for the camps. An interesting fact stated by the General is that five pounds in weight and one half inch in height was the average gain for this group in one month's training. The youths who enter these camps for a month, are given daily instruction in citizenship and many other valuable lessons in things besides the strictly military phase of the camp life. He stated that he had seen numbers of stoop-shouldered, unkempt youths enter these camps and before the training period was over, a bunch of erect, neat and forward-looking men was the result. Eligibility for training in these camps is limited to a certain number from each county and the quota is usually filled long before the camp starts. The General made a fine impression on all who heard him and expressed a desire to come again.

Mr. A. A. Conoly, of Red Springs, was a visitor in the metropolis of Raeford Tuesday.

HOKE COUNTY FIRES ARE OLD MENACE

Fire Warden Asserts That Heedlessness May Force Bad Conditions On County Citizens—Too Many Fires In County—Flames Sweep Five Hundred Acres Sunday Night—

Too many forest fires are the sign of heedlessness and neglect in Hoke county, according to a statement made this week by the County Game and Fire Warden, Mr. Raymond McLean. During the fire season, that is the year when dead leaves and dry undergrowth present an unusually susceptible field for forest fires, Hoke county suffers heavily in losses from the ever present menace.

Late Sunday night and early Monday morning a forest fire raged north of Raeford on Rock Creek and laid waste more than five hundred acres before it could be checked. Men were at work all night and several hours Monday morning fighting to stay the progress of the fire. Other fires, while many were not so large, have caused damage all over the county. Fire kills young trees, destroys seed and injures permanently trees which the casual observer considers to have weathered the burning. Injuries visited on large trees from wounds in the trunk where destroying growths may take hold and rot-producing fungi destroy permanently the value of the timber.

During this week, National and State Forestry Associations are observing Forest Week and are taking this opportunity of impressing upon the citizens the need of a realization of the danger in forest fires, which in so many cases are useless and preventable, thereby increasing the tragedy of the waste. Under the sponsorship of the Fire Warden Mildouson and Antioch schools have ordered trees from the state Department of Forestry and have planted them on and near their school grounds. This is a good example which other schools and homes should follow. Anyone may obtain trees free from this department on application.

The fire warden wishes to especially stress to the people of the county the necessity of consistent and prompt reporting of forest fires to him. On the people rests the responsibility because it is absolutely impossible for the warden to cover all the county every day. With prompt reporting of the fires to the warden, the number of fires can be greatly reduced.

TAKES A THOUSAND BIRDS FOR A RIDE

The third poultry car was shipped from Raeford Wednesday. Of a total of 6531 pounds shipped, colored hens were far the most popular ladies in the car, there being 6052 pounds of this variety. Leghorns were insufficient to make a decent color scheme, there being only forty pounds of these in the car. Roosters, however, thought better of the trip and there were 431 pounds of them.

This shipment netted the sellers the enviable sum of \$1,075.23.

TWO MEN KILLED NEAR WILMINGTON

Officers Mistake Mail Truck For Rum Runner—Pistol Battle In Dark

Mistaking a United States mail truck for a rum runner car, Wilmington officers engaged in a shooting affray with the operators of the mail truck which resulted in two deaths, near Wilmington Sunday night. Five Wilmington officers were stationed at the Smith's creek bridge on the Wilmington - Goldsboro highway, watching for developments from a tip which they had received that a rum runner would enter Wilmington by that road. When the mail truck approached the officers waved their flashlights and made preparations to stop the truck. One officer W. P. Starling, ran toward the truck but as he did so, Leopold Roberts, the driver of the mail truck leaped out on the running board and started firing, as a girl, who had taken the wheel a few miles back, brought the car to a stop.

Starling was fatally injured, but fired several times himself before he fell and wounded Roberts fatally also. The occupants of the car stated that they did not recognize the men as officers when they halted them. The investigation revealed however that Davis was in uniform. In the mail truck, in addition to the driver were three girls. Four other officers were present with Davis but none were injured. The body of Starling was pierced by two bullets and that of Roberts by four. Later investigation increased the tragedy of the affair in revealing that Roberts and Davis were good friends and connected by marriage. This made the impulsive shootings in the dim light all the more tragic.

Officers Banquet Plans Go Forward

More than sixty invitations have been issued to the brilliant banquet and ball which will be given on March 28, by the local Officers Association of the National Guard units, and all things point to a festive occasion when the parties are given. Acceptances have already been received from many of the guests bidden, and among those who have accepted is Lieutenant Colonel Gordon Smith, U. S. P. and D. O., with headquarters at Raleigh.

The banquet which will be given at the Hotel Bluemont, will be one of the most colorful events of the season. A splendid program is developing from the work of the committee, McNair Smith, Herbert McKeithan and Dr. R. A. Matheson, and will include an address and features of entertaining nature. Captain Poole will be toastmaster. The details of the Military Ball to be held in the Armory are being worked out by Younger Snead.

Friends of Alan McGee will be interested to know that he has been transferred from Norfolk to Portsmouth.

Obstinate Prisoners Cause Commissioners To Act

Something new since the Hoke County road camp and prison force was formed, came to a climax Thursday when a called meeting of the county commissioners was held to consider ways and means of handling prisoners who were unruly or refused to work. On Monday Supt. Smith brought one prisoner back to jail because he refused to work and upon hearing of the trouble, Mr. F. F. McPhaul, chairman of the board, immediately called a special meeting of the commissioners which was held Thursday morning. It seems that a minor spirit of

CRIMINAL CASES IN RECORDERS COURT

Apprehension of Store Breakers Leads to Discovery of Cache of Stolen Goods

In Recorder's Court Tuesday, Will Turnage, John Turnage, John W. Graham and Jim Graham, all colored and from Scotland County, were given a preliminary hearing on charges of breaking and entering the store of Alex McCormick, colored, of Duffie's on last Saturday night and carrying away to the home of Jim Graham, the oldest of the four, beyond Laurinburg, goods to about the sum of one hundred dollars. The first three of the above entered pleas of guilty. Jim Graham entered a plea of not guilty and was given a preliminary hearing.

Deputy Sheriff W. R. Barrington was called by McCormick Sunday morning and notified of the robbery. He went to McCormick's store and picked up the tracks of a car which he followed in to Robeson County on the Highway from Red Springs to Maxton. Getting its course, he followed a distance to the intersection of a road where he again picked it up as it had left the highway. After following it for some distance, he came upon the car with two of the defendants in it and a quantity of the stolen property. John W. Graham offered to show him where the rest was and taking one of the Turnages to Red Springs, he had the officers there arrest the other Turnage. He then proceeded to the home of Jim Graham, an elderly and "preacher-looking" man, accompanied by officers from Scotland County, Graham's home being about two miles beyond Laurinburg. There they found goods of almost every description hidden in different parts of the house, with a good quantity hidden in the loft of one room. Most of the property missing from McCormick's store was found and identified and in addition, a lot of other merchandise which Scotland County officers had been trying to identify from a robbery in their county.

All four of the defendants were bound over to the April term of Hoke Superior Court, under bond of \$500.00 each, which they were unable to raise. In addition, they will have to face warrants for another robbery when they are thru with the charges pending against them here.

Ed Long, a young colored man, was tried on a charge of violating the prohibition laws and received a sentence of four months on the county roads, from which he appealed to Superior Court. Evidence against him tended to show that last Saturday afternoon he sold a pint of whiskey to a colored boy named Sylvester Smith. Smith was arrested that afternoon for drunkenness and while being carried to jail, told where he had bought the whiskey. He stuck to his same story from the first that he had told the officers until he was cross-examined and left the witness chair. Fuller made a blanket denial of having even seen Smith last Saturday but his only material witness failed to

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MASS MEETING TO BE HELD IN FAYETTEVILLE

Five Thousand Expected at Meeting in Fayetteville Tuesday—Will Embrace Taxpayers of All Eastern Carolina—Tax Situation to Be Discussed and Union on Problem Sought.

L. J. DELLINGER DIES HERE TUESDAY

Popular Hotel Manager Is Victim of Pleurisy—Had Been Dangerously Ill for Several Weeks—Was Faithful Churchman and Loyal Citizen—Buried at Mt Holly

The town of Raeford and many people throughout the state were shocked to hear early Tuesday morning of the death of L. J. Dellinger, popular manager of the Bluemont hotel at Raeford. Mr. Dellinger was in his sixty-sixth year and had been manager of the Bluemont hotel for about a year. He was highly respected by all the citizens of the community and by traveling people from all over the country who had felt the warmth of his hospitality when stopping in Raeford. His friendliness and courtesy endeared him to both old and casual acquaintances alike and association with him was a tonic that cheered and strengthened. The entire community mourned his passing with sincerity and will long remember his fine qualities.

Mr. Dellinger was born in Lincoln county on February 28, 1865. Much of his business life was spent in Wilmington and in Red Springs, in the mercantile and hotel business. From Red Springs he came to Raeford to take charge of the Bluemont hotel and was the efficient and popular manager of this hotel up until the time of his death. He had been in failing health for several weeks previous to his death and dangerously sick for the last several days preceding Tuesday. On Monday however he was thought to have rallied and hopes were entertained that he was on the way to recovery. About midnight Monday, however, he was taken by a serious turn for the worse and never improved before his death early Tuesday morning. Heart trouble, complicated in his last hour by pleurisy, was the cause of his death.

Mr. Dellinger was a man of the finest qualities. He was a member of the Presbyterian church and for many years performed without reproach the duties of ruling elder. Friendliness and tolerance were foremost in his character; his honesty and integrity were absolute.

Mr. Dellinger is survived by a large family, afflicted by his death. Those who survive him in his immediate family are, his widow, Mrs. Lola R. Dellinger, three sons, R. C. Dellinger of Wilmington, E. T. Dellinger of Harrel's Store, and Keith Dellinger of Raeford; six daughters, Mrs. C. V. Tilson and Mrs. V. N. Fair of Lincolnton, Mrs. J. D. Lawrence of New Orleans, Mrs. R. D. Orrell of Wilmington, Mrs. F. G. Beach of Florence, S. C., Miss Ruth Dellinger of Raeford. He is also survived by the following brothers and sisters: J. W. Dellinger of Newton, S. M. Dellinger of Charlotte, W. C. Dellinger of Hickory, Miss Bernice Dellinger of Denver, and Mrs. John J. Joy of Charlotte.

The funeral was held in Mount Holly cemetery Wednesday afternoon.

Siage and pasture cut the grain feed bill of Oldham Brothers, dairy men of Catham county, by 60 percent during the past winter. The cows are in better condition than usual, say the owners.

Fayetteville, N. C., March 17.—At a meeting of taxpayers from a number of counties here tonight it was decided to call a mass meeting at which opportunity will be given to the people of Eastern Carolina to express their views regarding the efforts being made to nullify or repeal the McLean school bill.

It was decided that the meeting should be held next Tuesday afternoon beginning at 2 o'clock at the court house here. It was predicted that five thousand people would be present, so intense is the interest in tax relief in Eastern North Carolina.

Henry A. Page of Aberdeen, Solicitor Tom McNeill of Lumberton and others will be on the speakers program. Means will be sought to bring pressure on the legislature to cause that body to find the money for the state supported six months school by going to the source where it has been demonstrated it can be found and thus making an end of the suspense in which the tax burdened farmers and other landowners have been living since the McLean bill declaring the educational policy of the legislature was adopted six weeks ago.

At the preliminary meeting held here tonight there were representatives from the following counties: Harnett, Bladen, Hoke, Lee, Scotland, Johnston, Sampson, Columbus, Robeson, Moore, and Cumberland.

Vigorous efforts for widespread heralding of the approaching meeting will be made.

The above notice is of deep interest to the citizens of Hoke county. Much interest has been manifested all over the county in this, probably the greatest question which has come up for the legislature's consideration. It is highly probable that a goodly number of interested citizens will make the trip to Fayetteville to voice their opinion and to hear that of their neighbors in sympathy with their problems.

LOSES BROODER HOUSES IN FIRE THURSDAY MORNING

Fire, the origin of which is unknown, destroyed a brooder house belonging to Alfred Cole, early Thursday morning. The siren sounded about one o'clock in the morning and the fire company answered the call but were unable to save the house. The house, equipment and about two hundred baby chicks were lost in the blaze.

Combat Train Is Dressed Up

The local Combat Train, is distinctly dressed up since the arrival of the new collar and cap ornaments which arrived recently. These ornaments not only serve to identify the organization to which the men belong but also add a distinct touch to the uniforms which the men wear. On the one collar ornament are seen the letters "U. S." in gold with the superimposed letters "N. C.", identifying the state and national connections of the train. On the other collar are the symbols of the coast artillery with the number of the regiment, "1". On the caps is the Eagle, symbol of the United States army.