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CONDENSED WAR NEWS

Progress of the War in Europe from The Latest Dispatches.

Paris, Sept. 7.—It is estimated unofficially that nearly 1,000,000 troops are engaged in the fighting which is proceeding in the east of Paris today.

London, Sept. 7.—A Dieppe dispatch to the Evening Star says that the transportation of 25,000 people from the suburbs of Paris to the south and south east commenced Sunday. These people were ordered to leave their homes by the military authorities so that the houses could be destroyed, leaving a clear range for the guns of the forts.

London, Sep. 8.—The British and French forces north and east of Paris have had further successes against the German invaders, according to the official bulletins issued today, while in Galicia the Russians continue with considerable success their attempt to envelop and defeat the Austrian army of 400,000 men under General Auffenberg. For the moment, at least, interest centers in the campaign in France, for it is felt that the battle proceeding there is the first real crisis of the war and will have a vital effect on the outcome.

The allies, according to a bulletin issued by the French war office, have successfully repulsed another German attempt to penetrate their left center between Fere-Champenoise and Vitry-Le-Francois, where the roads and railways are more suited to the French movements than they would have been further north.

Paris, Sept. 8.—An official communication issued today by the French war office, says:

"The left wing of the German forces, in their movement of retreat, having crossed the Petit Morin river, with a view to protecting their communications, have made violent but unsuccessful attacks against that part of our forces occupying the right bank of the river Ourcy.

"Our English allies are continuing their offensive tactics in the direction of the Marne on the heights of the north of Sezanne.

"Our troops are progressing favorably, though laboriously.

"On our right wing the situation is good before Nancy and in the Vosges.

"A severe engagement has been fought in the center with an alternative advancing and falling back."

Paris, Sept. 8.—The Excelsior publishes a Petrograd report that the Austrian emperor, Francis Joseph, has had a paralytic stroke, and that his condition is dangerous.

Paris, Sept. 8.—Accounts of wounded soldiers who reached Paris late today indicate that the result of the three days fighting in the Champagne country has been more favorable for the allies than at first supposed. They say the German losses in killed were enormous and that a great number of prisoners were taken. One French officer estimated the prisoners at 30,000.

London, Sept. 8.—The British official press bureau issued the following announcement tonight:

"The general position continues satisfactory. The allies are gaining ground on their left all along the line of the Ourcq and

RETURNING REFUGEES DENY ILL TREATMENT.

New York, Sept. 7.—Passengers on the Holland-American liner Rotterdam, all of whom were in Germany during the present hostilities and who arrived today from Rotterdam, signed a statement declaring false the reports that Americans had been ill treated in Germany. The statement closed with the request that a copy be forwarded to President Wilson and Secretary Bryan and was signed by a number of ministers and several hundred others. The statement in part follows: "That reports regarding ill-treatment of Americans by Germans, emanating from English and French sources, are absolutely false.

"Travel through Germany as far as the extraordinary circumstances permitted was safe. Officials and all classes of the people were friendly and helpful.

"No well authenticated atrocities were perpetrated by German troops.

"All German official war bulletins were confirmed.

"In our judgment the distorted reports to America were sent out to create sentiment in favor of the powers arrayed against Germany.

"We ask Americans to suspend judgment until they can make an impartial investigation of the causes of the war.

"It is our conviction that the war has been forced upon Germany by those rations that are jealous of her growing industrial and commercial importance and for this reason are ready and anxious to destroy her as a people.

"We hereby request The Associated Press to forward a copy of this paper to the President of the United States and the secretary of state."

MORE THAN A THOUSAND NEW AUTOMOBILES IN A MONTH.

(News and Observer.)

More than 2,300 new automobiles have been bought and placed in commission in North Carolina since July 1st. On that date license had been issued for something like 11,300 machines and on Thursday a license was issued for a machine bearing the number 13,633. An average of a thousand new automobiles a month in the State is going some, but that is just what has happened in the good old Commonwealth for the past two months, with a surplus to spare.

On machines of 25-horse power and under the State gets a revenue of \$5; 25 to 40-horse power, \$7.50; above 40 horse-power, \$10.

The lowly motor cycle, too, is not to be forgotten, there being 1,197 of these for which license has been issued by the State. The cost of a license for these machines is \$2 per annum.

Petit Morin rivers. The British have driven the enemy back ten miles.

"Fighting has been in progress further to the right along the line which includes Montmirial and Compuls, neither side gaining advantage.

"Pressure against the enemy continues all along the allied fronts. The British force has been engaged all day, but the enemy opposed to it, after stubborn resistance, retired and is now crossing to the north of the Marne."

COUNTY CORRESPONDENTS

Items from our Regular Correspondents and Neighboring County Papers.

HUDSON.

Mrs. Atlas Mullis and children are visiting friends in Morganton this week.

Mr. R. S. Holsclaw spent Sunday here.

Rev. Campbell filled his regular appointment at the M. E. church Sunday.

The Ladies Missionary Society will meet at the Methodist church Sunday evening at 2:30.

Miss Mae Messick visited friends at Setzers Gap last Saturday and Sunday.

Mr. B. B. Hayes and family and Mrs. John Hoke of Granite spent Saturday and Sunday at Trinity with Mr. Hayes brother, Harry Hayes.

READER.

SHULLS MILLS.

Mr. and Mrs. Henderson Gregg and children of Globe, N. C., spent several days with the former parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Gregg of Shulls Mills, R. F. D. No. 1.

Mr. James Lambeth, of Thomasville, N. C., is spending some time with his sister, Miss Ella Lambeth at their camp, near the Grandfather.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Lambeth of Reidsville, and Mr. Charles Lambeth and mother, Mrs. Frank Lambeth of Thomasville, have all returned to their homes after spending some weeks in the mountains.

Mr. and Mrs. McCollum and family, Mr. Howard Yates and Mr. W. F. Longyear all of Mortimer, spent Sunday and Monday, as the guest of Miss Belva A. Gortner who is spending the summer at the W. F. Gregg home, near Grandfather mountain.

Mr. John Gregg spent Friday in Lenoir.

The box supper held Saturday evening at the new school house of the 8th Watauga district was very much of a success. Quite a neat little sum being realized for the painting fund.

Mr. Hiram Crisp, who has spent several weeks with Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Gregg of Shulls Mills, Route 1, has returned home.

"PORTLAND NED" HELD FOR EASTERN CIRCUIT.

(Greensboro News)

"Portland Ned," the notorious cracksmen wanted by the federal authorities in many parts of the United States and who was captured with a kit of burglars tools in his possession in Stokes county over a month ago, was given a hearing before Judge Boyd in the United States courthouse yesterday and was remanded to jail to await an order for removal to the eastern district of North Carolina.

Postoffice Inspector H. T. Gregory identified "Portland Ned" as the man wanted for the robbery of the postoffice at Plymouth, N. C. in 1898. The prisoner is also wanted by the postoffice authorities in Maryland, South Carolina, Delaware and Virginia. He has served terms, or in the lingo of the cracksmen "done stretches," in many prisons as penalties for plying his trade.

NEWS ITEMS OF INTEREST

Interesting Reading Matter of Local and National Affairs in Condensed Form.

Seventy-nine of the 98 applicants for law license, before the State Supreme Court last week, successfully passed the examination. One of the successful applicants is a lady, Miss Julia McGhee Alexander of Mecklenburg. One examination paper was not passed upon because the applicant was not of age. Three negroes passed the examination.

Kansas City, Mo., Sept. 7.—Night fell on Kansas City with many sections under water because of the overflowing of Turkey Creek. Three thousand homes, it is estimated, were flooded and several hundred families driven from their homes. The water was receding but there was much danger from collapsing buildings. The total loss is estimated at about \$1,500,000.

Wilson, Sept. 7.—Fire destroyed the entire plant of the W. L. Russel Shook and Lumber Company and with it nearly 2,000,000 feet of lumber this afternoon. It is estimated that the total loss will be over \$100,000 with insurance of \$40,000. Eight freight cars loaded with lumber were burned before the railway company could move them, and in addition several empty cars, all the property of the Norfolk Southern railway.

Chapel Hill, Sept. 7.—An unusual and inspiring story is that of C. B. Alexander of Mecklenburg, who has entered the university. Though Mr. Alexander is blind and has been so all his life he has entered the university as a special student to advanced standing and is preparing himself to teach school. He intends taking 19 hours of class work, about two hours above the average. He has been in attendance at the school for the blind in Raleigh for ten years.

Gov. Craig and the council of State have decided that it will be impossible for the State to give the company constructing the railroad from North Wilkesboro to Boone, Watauga county, any additional aid in the shape of convict labor. The force of 18 convicts now allotted to this enterprise on a stock compensation basis will be continued. The road is now in operation 18 miles from North Wilkesboro. A delegation of Wilkes and Watauga people were in Raleigh last week to ask for more convicts.

Asheville, Sept. 7.—Thousands of miles away from home and unable to speak a word of the English language is the plight of two young Nicaraguans Jore Monon, Jr. and A. Alvarado, who decided some time ago to learn the language by going to a city at which it is spoken and to remain there until they are able to grasp it. They were accompanied to Asheville by the father of Mr. Monon, who for several years was secretary of the Nicaraguan legation at Washington. He stated today that the three are delighted with this city and the two boys have entered Bingham School where they hope soon to learn to speak the language of this country. Mr. Monon leaves tomorrow for his home, having decided to return to New York by way of Washington.

REPORT OF GRAND JURY.

To W. F. Harding, Judge of the Superior Court:

The grand jury's for the August Term of Superior Court beg leave to submit the following report, viz:

1. We have carefully examined and passed upon all bills of indictment handed us by the solicitor where the witnesses were present before us.

2. We have made presentations of all violations of criminal law of the State that have come to our knowledge.

3. We have examined the offices of the various officers and the records kept by them, and find all in excellent condition. As to the courthouse, we suggest that the court room be plastered and that the northwest room on the second floor be cleaned out, papers therein assorted and filed.

4. We visited the jail and find that repairs are needed as follows: Walls, cells and roof should be painted. There are holes in the first and second floors, all of which should be repaired. The second floor should be equipped with an overhead ventilating system; three electric lights are needed for the second floor; there is needed a transom window on the first floor back of hall for light and ventilation; there are some window lights that should be replaced, and the beds should be fastened to the walls.

5. A committee of our number visited the county home and we find in the home eleven inmates, ten white, one colored; of the whites three are males and seven females. The committee reports that several of the chimneys and hearths need repairs; sanitary conditions, however, are as good as could be expected under existing circumstances. The grand jury, however, strongly recommend a larger and more commodious home, one that is large enough to take care of all the county charges. We recommend that the negro inmate be removed, as his presence is displeasing to the white inmates of the home; and that other arrangements be made for his care.

Respectfully submitted,

W. J. DICKSON,
Foreman of Grand Jury.

Columbia, S. C., Sept. 8.—Richard I. Manning, a planter and banker, was nominated for governor in the second South Carolina Democratic primary today, defeating John G. Richards by a majority estimated at 25,000. A. J. Bethea, for lieutenant governor, and Frank W. Shealey, for railroad commissioner, were nominated by substantially the same majorities. The three nominees were recognized as opponents of the state administration.

Charlotte, Sept. 9.—In a drifting boat on the lake at Lake-wood, the suburban park west of the city, was found today at noon articles of clothing belonging to a man and a woman. There was a dark blue coat lined with changeable silk, and a black hat belonging to a woman, also gloves powder rag and handkerchief. Besides these there was a pin-striped black alpaca coat of fine texture and a straw hat belonging to a man. In the man's pocket was a massive gold watch—such as railroad men carry—\$25 in greenbacks, a pocketbook containing trainmen's passes on the Seaboard, and a note. The latter read: "We are in the lake. C. B. Howell, Lizzie Griffin. All for love."

WILSON CALLS FOR PEACE

President Request All God-Fearing People to Pray for Restoration of Peace.

Washington, Sept. 8.—President Wilson today signed a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to pray for peace in Europe. The proclamation sets aside Sunday, October 4, as a day of prayer.

The President's proclamation follows:

"Whereas, great nations of the world have taken up arms against one another and war now draws millions of men into battle when the counsel of statesmen have not been able to save from the terrible sacrifice; and

"Whereas, in this, as in all things it is our privilege and duty to seek counsel and succor of Almighty God, humbling our selves before Him, confessing our weakness and our lack of any wisdom equal to these things; and

"Whereas, it is the especial wish and longing of the people of the United States, in prayer and counsel and all friendliness, to serve the cause of peace;

"Therefore, I, Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States of America, do designate Sunday, the fourth day of October next, a day of prayer and supplication and do request all God-fearing persons to repair on that day to their places of worship, there to unite their petitions to Almighty God, that everruling the counsel of men, setting straight the things they cannot govern or alter, taking pity on the nations now in the throes of conflict, in His mercy and goodness showing a way where men can see none, He vouchsafe His children healing peace again and restore once more that concord among men and nations without which can be neither happiness nor true friendship, nor any wholesome fruit or toil or thought in the world; praying also to this end that He forgive us our sins, our wilfulness and many errors and lead us in the paths of obedience to places of visions and to thoughts and counsels that purge and make wise.

MESSAGE FROM KAISER TO PRESIDENT WILSON.

London, Sept. 9.—There has been published in Copenhagen a telegram which Emperor William sent to President Wilson under date of September 4," telegraphs the Copenhagen correspondent of the London Daily Telegraph. "In this message Emperor William protests against the use by the English of dudum bullets and against the participation of the Belgian population in the war.

"Emperor William adds in his communication to Mr. Wilson that his generals have in certain cases been compelled to punish the Belgians and he expresses his deep regret at the destruction of Louvain and other interesting places."

"The communication given by the Copenhagen correspondent of the Daily Telegraph undoubtedly is the message referred to by the North German Gazette of Berlin, the official organ of the German government.

"Information that this newspaper had knowledge of the sending of this communication reached London early this morning.