

BRITISH ARE PUSHING GERMANS

THEY DOMINATE ALL HIGHER GROUND ABOUT CAMBRAI AND CONTINUE TO DRENCH THE ENEMY WITH GAS.

British Headquarters, Nov. 28.—The weather is clear and cold at the Cambrai front. Bourlon wood higher ground dominates Bourlon village on the north and Fontaine on the east, neither of which is useful to the enemy, and also dominates all approaches to the town and rail to Cambrai. The situation of Cambrai is like that of Lens, which is allowed to stay in possession of the enemy, dug in its trenches, continually drenched with gas, suffering heavy casualties, rather than being taken by assault at great expense in casualties. In the same way the use of St. Quentin as a base or railway center is allowed the Germans also, and now leaders, all approaches to which are under the guns of Passchendaele ridge. The enemy is compelled to concentrate his system of communications.

"I have learned the Germans are bringing large numbers of men from the Russian front, not as whole units, but making regiments, and coming out the best young men. These bodies, generally of 1,000 or 1,200, are brought to the western front apparently regardless of regiment, to fill gaps in the exhausted divisions. In front of our attack here sweeping recruit depots, even hospitals, were hastily put into action. Among the prisoners is the town major of a captured village. This is of interest because last spring at the village of Liancourt Fosse, whence the Germans had retreated, I told how the chateau roof covered with Red Crosses had been respected by our airmen as hospitals. There is a suspicion the chateau has been used as military headquarters. I mentioned finding on a door inside a notice still stuck up, saying it was the room of the town major. I asked them what business the town major had in a hospital. Here we have taken a town major, fighting. It is evident that the same official cannot be a fighting man one place and under shelter of the Red Cross in another. All this goes to show the systematic disregard of the German authorities for civilized conventions. At several places on the front we have for some days been using German guns against the enemy. Conspicuously useful have been five field guns taken at Bourlon wood. Elsewhere we have captured mines and any quantity of machine guns. There is great abundance of ammunition for all the captured pieces, for besides stores with the batteries, we have taken larger depots, elaborately camouflaged to conceal them from the airmen.

Union Prayer Meeting.

The church women for many sessions has urged that a day of prayer be observed throughout the nation.

The aim of which is to reach "a keener sense of the nation's crisis—a truer loyalty of the national welfare—a stronger conviction of personal obligation to save America and save the world."

The church women of Shelby appointed last Saturday for the prayer service and a Union meeting was held in the Presbyterian church. The program was very inspiring and was arranged as follows:

- Psalm 46.
- Song—All Hail the Power of Jesus Name.
- Prayer—Our Country—Mrs. Wood.
- America's Opportunity—Mrs. W. J. Roberts.
- Music—Miss Bostic.
- The Church's Opportunity—Mrs. Ware.
- Prayer—The Church Kingdom—Mrs. Archer.
- Song—Mrs. E. Y. Webb.
- God's Promise—Mrs. Robert Miller.
- Song—Onward Christian Soldier.
- Disunion—Mrs. Watkins.

Lack of Fuel Shuts Down Industries.

The fuel situation is acute in some places. The Roanoke-Chowan Times says the electric light plant at Rich Square, Northampton county, closed down last week because of inability to secure either coal or wood. A company operating a cotton gin by steam is spending more than the profits made in ginning to buy wood for fuel and the Times says that a corn mill operated by steam will close down because coal can't be secured.

Home For Soldiers' Mother.

Citizens of Evansville, Ind., are reached the \$1,500 mark, the money to be used to build a home for Mrs. Alice Dodd, mother of James Bethel Gresham, the first of three Americans killed while fighting in France. Mrs. Dodd is 52 years old and the widow of a Confederate soldier.

Smith and Wesson pistols, all sizes. Cheaper ones \$5.50 and up. Let us sell you your sporting goods. Farmers Hardware Co.

WAR FUND NEARS \$3,000 MARK

IT IS HOPED THAT AT LEAST \$3,500 CAN BE RAISED IN CLEVELAND—LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS AND THE AMOUNTS.

The Y. M. C. A. war fund is reaching near the \$3,000 mark and the contributors are hoping that when all reports are in the grand total will not only make \$3,000, but also Mountain State for war work. Wednesday night a list of names of the contributors was published and it is expected that a goodly sum is ready to report, while rural sections are still slow to make very gratifying response to the call.

The total of the list below is approximately:

J. P. Schenck	100.00
Cleveland Mill and P. Co.	100.00
J. C. Smith	100.00
Shelby Public Schools	100.00
Shelby Cotton Mills	100.00
Lily Mill and P. Co.	100.00
C. C. Blanton	100.00
First National Bank	100.00
Edla of the Mill	100.00
Paul Webb	50.00
R. L. Ryburn	50.00
E. Y. Webb	50.00
J. H. Hull	50.00
Cecilia Music Club	50.00
J. H. Ramsour	50.00
Will J. Roberts	50.00
H. F. Young	50.00
J. J. McMurry	50.00
E. E. McBrayer	50.00
George A. Hoyle	50.00
J. L. Webb	50.00
George Blanton	50.00
Dr. S. S. Royster	50.00
E. A. Wellmon	50.00
Z. J. Thompson	50.00
20th Century Club	50.00
R. T. LeGrand	50.00
Will Lineberger	50.00
C. R. Hoey	50.00
A. C. Miller	50.00
A. B. Blanton	50.00
C. A. Wood	50.00
Forrest Eskridge	50.00
J. F. Roberts	50.00
Clarence Humphries	50.00
B. E. Blanton	50.00
A. W. McMurry	50.00
S. A. McMurry	50.00
W. H. Blanton	50.00
Miss Edith Cranor	50.00
W. C. Whisnant	50.00
C. R. Webb	50.00
Miss Lucy Oates	50.00
P. L. Hennessy	50.00
J. L. Suttle	50.00
Baraca Class M. E. Church	50.00
L. A. Givens	50.00
S. A. Parker	50.00
W. H. Jennings	50.00
J. D. Linchberry	50.00
Shelby Grocery Co.	50.00
D. Z. Newton	50.00
Jack Palmer	50.00
Mrs. T. W. Ehrhart	50.00
D. D. Watkins	50.00
C. R. Dagrest	50.00
A. V. Ward	50.00
Initiative Club 92 D	50.00
E. S. Young	50.00
J. E. Webb	50.00
W. R. Hartman	50.00
M. M. DeWitt	50.00
L. P. Hill	50.00
Dr. R. E. Ware	50.00
Junior Guild Club	50.00
J. L. Smith	50.00
R. C. Campbell	50.00
P. D. Withrow	50.00
J. L. Thomas	50.00
W. F. Davis	50.00
Boyce Dellinger	50.00
Terry Moore	50.00
W. B. Nix	50.00
M. N. Hamrick	50.00
J. M. Black	50.00
Grover Beam	50.00
Miss Fay Moore	50.00
O. M. Mull	50.00
A. C. Irvin	50.00
J. H. Quinn	50.00
Junior Chicaora Club	50.00
J. F. Jenkins	50.00
J. C. Beam	50.00
Zeb Mauney	50.00
T. J. Bashington	50.00
M. M. O'Shields	50.00
M. N. Hawkins	50.00
G. V. Deninger	50.00
J. N. Penleton	50.00
W. A. Reviere	50.00
R. Z. Reviere	50.00
A. S. Nix	50.00
T. W. Hamrick Company	50.00
Jap Suttle	50.00
L. A. Blanton	50.00
W. C. Lutz	50.00
C. E. Porter	50.00
L. A. Jarvis	50.00
Dr. J. R. Osborne	50.00
W. R. Newton	50.00
Frank L. Hoyle	50.00
J. M. Shannonhouse	50.00
B. H. Kendall	50.00
W. H. Baber	50.00
T. P. Eskridge	50.00
R. G. Laughridge	50.00
S. A. Washburn	50.00
J. W. Mauney	50.00
J. B. Barron	50.00
Miss Eunice Roberts	50.00
P. M. Washburn	50.00
J. A. Anthony	50.00
Miss Mary Moore	50.00
G. P. Webb	50.00
A. B. Suttle	50.00
R. E. Carpenter	50.00
Mrs. A. H. Sims	50.00
Miss Elizabeth Roberts	50.00
Mrs. J. R. Osborne	50.00
A. M. Hamrick	50.00
Mrs. Frank Elam	50.00
L. F. McBrayer	50.00
Mrs. Zeb Mauney	50.00
Fred Green	50.00
George Dover	50.00
A. A. Sain	50.00
E. B. Hopper	50.00
M. A. Spangler	50.00
Max Hamrick	50.00
C. C. Lackey	50.00

Only 21 More Shopping Days Till CHRISTMAS

Do Your Buying before the Rush is On.

SOCIETY NEWS

Mrs. L. McB. White Entertains Chicaora Club.

Mrs. Lee McB. White is the charming hostess this afternoon of the Chicaora club. This being a Red Cross meeting the ladies will gather at 2 o'clock and spend the afternoon sewing.

IShpening Club With Miss Ebeltoft.

The IShpening club will meet Friday evening at 7:30 o'clock with Miss Elizabeth Ebeltoft as the attractive hostess.

Licenses to Explosive Users.

A federal license is now required in the United States for the legal possession of explosives, any person having explosives and not holding a license therefor being subject to a fine of \$5,000 and imprisonment for one year.

Only citizens of the United States and friendly countries may obtain licenses. The purchaser of dynamite must state definitely what the explosive is to be used for when obtaining his license, and will be held accountable for its use as stated and the return of any that may be left.

Mrs. White is an unusually gifted woman and exceptionally generous with her talent. Her recitals are always greatly enjoyed. The proceeds of the one Thursday night being given to the Cecilia Music club for the Y. M. C. A. fund. The club realized \$27.00.

Entertains.

One of the most charming parties of the season was that given Tuesday afternoon by Mrs. Nelson Lattimore at her hospitable home on N. Lafayette St., entertaining the Tongues and Needles club and a number of other friends.

Mrs. Lattimore welcomed the guests into the spacious living room where a most pleasant afternoon was spent with flying needles and merry chatter.

Miss Pat Walsler added much to the afternoons pleasure with several delightful musical selections.

During the afternoon Mrs. Lattimore assisted by her mother Mrs. C. R. Doggett and Miss Walsler served an elegant fruit salad, with sandwiches and chocolate.

Among the specially invited guests were Mesdames, Fred Morgan, Everett Lattimore, Lee White, W. B. Nix, Tom Lattimore, J. J. Lattimore and Miss Pat Walsler.

JAMES D. JUSTICE OF RUTHERFORDTON DEAD.

Well Known Citizen, Nephew of Judge Justice, Passes Away.

On Saturday Jas. D. Justice of Rutherfordton died. He had been sick with pneumonia since Friday morning. Mr. Justice was about 57 years of age and had lived in Rutherfordton all his life. He married Julia Dickerson, who died about 23 years ago, and the living issue of that marriage are Mrs. Fannie Hill, wife of County Superintendent of Schools W. R. Hill, Deputy United States Marshal, M. D. Justice, and Baylus Justice; his second marriage was to Mrs. Ernestine Erwin who died several years ago and the issue of that marriage is Miss Julia Justice and James D. Justice, Jr. In 1895 deceased was deputy collector of internal revenue for that district. At one time he was assistant postmaster of Rutherfordton, and for several years he occupied the position of town marshal and chief of police. He was the son of Rev. C. B. Justice, deceased, a nephew of Judge M. H. Justice, and a brother of Messrs. M. L. and Charles N. Justice of Rutherfordton. The deceased had a very large number of friends at home and wherever he was known his death has caused sincere sorrow and grief.

COTTON GINNED.

Cotton ginned prior to November 14 amounted to 8,559,390 bales, including 152,527 round bales, counted as half bales, and 68,161 bales of Sea Island. Last year to November 14 ginnings amounted to 9,615,003 bales, including 168,575 round bales and 92,909 bales of Sea Island, and two years ago, 8,771,275 bales, including 82,312 round bales and 68,941 bales of Sea Island.

For North Carolina the amount this year is 378,541.

WAR NEWS DIGEST

D. A. R.'s Renew French Towns

The Daughters of the American Revolution have "adopted" a French town. The members of this organization, who have already given more than \$2,500,000 for war work, are raising money to build houses and buy furniture, live stock, and farming implements for the village of Tilloley, on the Aisne, which has suffered heavily during the war.

War-time Cotton in Demand.

Investigations in the use of cotton in war show:

A 12-inch gun disposes of a half a bale of cotton with every shot fired; a machine gun in a cration will use a bale in three minutes; in a naval battle like the one off Julland over 5,000 pounds a minute are consumed by each active warship; more than 20,000 bales a year are needed to provide absorbent cotton for the wounds of the injured; one change of apparel for all the troops now engaged in the war represents more than a million bales.

Percentage of Sick in Camps Small.

Returning from inspection trips to 10 army and aviation camps, Col. Weston P. Chamberlain, of the Surgeon general's office, reports that the per cent of sick ranges from below 1 per cent to slightly below 2 per cent.

Among the conditions leading to treatment in hospital are severe colds, tonsillitis, slight injuries and other comparatively slight ailments. About the only serious disease found at any camp was pneumonia.

Each national army camp has a thousand-bed hospital equipped in accordance with most approved modern practice.

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Mrs. Lee McB. White gave a most pleasing organ recital last Thursday at the First Baptist church. She was assisted by Mrs. Brevard Goode whose readings were very much appreciated and Miss Stark of Abbeville, S. C., who possesses a splendid contralto voice. Her rendition of Totsti's "Good-bye" was excellent.

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Thirty-four different races of persons bought bonds of the second Liberty loan issue.

Young Men's Christian Association plans for work in France include the establishment of 78 libraries.

Express companies are concentrating their efforts to insure prompt and safe handling of all food products of a perishable nature.

In the United States armies, November 7, there were 7,915,000 men in the navy 271,571. Of the total of 2,687,391, approximately 1,400,000 voluntarily enlisted.

Furloughs for Yuletide week will be granted all men at army cantonments whose absence can be permitted in the opinions of the division commanders, to enable them to spend Christmas at their homes.

The sugar used for making candy in the United States, according to the food administration, is sufficient to meet all the sugar requirements of England under the rationing system adopted there.

Newton D. Baker, secretary of war, estimates the losses up to June 1 on the British expeditionary forces in deaths in action and from wounds at 7 per cent of the total of all men sent to France since the beginning of the war. He adds that the ratio of losses of this character today, because of improved tactics and swiftly mounting allied superiority in artillery is less than 7 to every 100 men.

PAY YOUR TOWN TAXES NOW.

At a recent meeting of the Board of Aldermen, Mr. B. O. Hamrick was elected Tax Collector and Chief of Police of the Town of Shelby.

A resolution was adopted ordering that all Town Taxes be collected before January 1st next. All property on which taxes are not paid by January 1st will be advertised for sale. By order of the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Shelby. Adv.

Play at Piedmont.

The expression class of Piedmont high school will give "Valley Farm" on Saturday night December 15th in the auditorium. The band will help to enliven the occasion with some good music.

Rev. Caleb Hoyle will preach Thanksgiving sermons to the Junior Order in the Methodist church at Casar on the First Sunday in December at 11 o'clock and at Pleasant Hill at 3 p. m.

WHY DO AMERICAN BABIES DIE

Father's Income and Mother's Work Largely responsible—Bathtubs Paved Streets Factors.

State Board of Health: Why do American babies die? has been the question that Miss Julia C. Lathrop, chief of the children bureau at Washington, has been trying to answer for the last five years. That she has discovered some of the fundamental causes and conditions largely responsible for America's unenviable baby death record, which is worse than England's, Scotland's, Denmark's or France's, is not more guess work, but is based on a number of exhaustive studies of typical American groups or communities.

One of the principal groups studied was the industrial city of Johnstown, Pa., where men for the most part were employed in steel manufacture. Another was Montclair, New Jersey, rich and prosperous suburban city, and the other was Manchester, N. H., a textile manufacturing center where many mothers were employed. The baby death rate in Johnstown, which has a foreign population, the women of which do not work in the industrial plants was 134 per 1,000. That of Montclair, a prosperous residential city, was 84, while the baby death-rate for Manchester, where mothers worked in the cotton mills, was 198.

One of the conditions found affecting the baby's life no little was the bathtub. Houses with bathtubs had a baby death rate of 72, whereas those without them had a rate of 164. The same thing was true of houses into which water was piped and those into which it had to be carried by hand. Room-crowding was another factor. Babies died much oftener when sleeping in a room with more persons than their parents than when with them only, while the same things is true of their sleeping in their own separate beds. But by far the greatest factors found were hard work for mothers, and illiteracy of mothers. It was found that the extent to which mothers increased the family revenue, just to that extent their babies died, and that babies of illiterate mothers have higher death rates than those mothers can read and write.

CONDITIONS OF CLEVELAND SPRINGS DEAL BY MR. DARWIN

Owner Tells Why the Proposition Was Not Accepted When Made By Board of Trade.

Referring to your editorial heading, "Cleveland Springs" in the last issue of the Star. You are in error as to my wanting to reserve a small tract of land in "the heart of the springs." When the board of trade made me the offer, I agreed to accept it, provided they would allow me to retain the old house and two acres of land. The location of the two acres to be agreed upon by the board and myself. They would not consent to my reserving any part. I then offered to buy two acres (location to be agreed upon) and the old house and pay \$250 for same with water privilege for my family only.

I did not accept the offer the day it was made, as Mr. Griffin and myself were corresponding and discussed the deal upon the day before I left Shelby for Athens. He said they would not do any more than they had offered, but would do that. I did not accept the proposition then, but on my arrival in Athens next day I wired the committee and followed it up by letter accepting the proposition. The reason I did not accept the proposition while there, I wanted the papers to come here to be examined by my attorney.

I had a number of inquiries from parties in North and South Carolina wanting to know if I had sold Cleveland Springs, and as the "Observer" has the largest circulation in the two Carolinas and Mr. Harris had always been a friend to Cleveland Springs in season and out of season, I knew that was the best medium by which to inform the public of the sale.

I have been to a number of the most famous springs in America and there is none of them that have water that is so beneficial to my health as Cleveland Springs water. And I feel that if I had an attractive home, one that would be a credit to the property, I would have another inducement to go there. My family also is benefited by the water.

You will kindly give this letter the same prominence you did your articles as I feel that the public should be informed as to the conditions of the deal. Hence, it is up to the Board of Trade. JOHN A. DARWIN. Athens, Ga., Nov. 26, '17.

When you want service and goods at the right price, don't fail to call on us. You will get both. Farmers Hardware Co. Ad.

Winchester repeating rifles, shot guns, ammunition. All fresh and new. Farmers Hardware Co.