



The Bamberg Herald



One Dollar and a Half a Year.

BAMBERG, S. C., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1917.

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OUR COUNTY'S PATRIOTISM

CLEARLY DEMONSTRATED AT ENTHUSIASTIC MEETING.

Byrnes Makes Strong Speech and Tests Sentiment.—Timely Address by A. V. Snell.

A grand patriotic rally was held at the court house here on Tuesday, beginning at 11 o'clock. The rally was in the interest of the Liberty Bond sale and the food conservation movement. Hundreds of people attended from all sections of the county, the court house being taxed to its capacity, and then all the crowd could not gain admittance. It was probably the most representative gathering of Bamberg county citizens held in a long while, and was a tremendous success from every standpoint. A considerable number of negroes attended and the audience was composed of men, women and children, who were aroused to a high pitch of enthusiasm by the eloquence and logic of the speakers. At the conclusion of the rally an executive session of the county council of defense was held, at which definite organization and active plans were perfected for canvassing the entire county in behalf of these two patriotic undertakings. Bamberg county must obtain 2,000 pledges to the food conservation idea and an active house to house campaign will be waged by scores of loyal workers, who will try to reach every hut and shanty.

The meeting Tuesday was presided over by Dr. E. O. Watson, chairman of the county council of defense, who called the assemblage to order with a few appropriate remarks. The exercises were attended by the Carlisle students and faculty in a body. The speeches were made from the judge's stand in the court room, where an immense American flag was displayed. The Rev. J. D. Huggins, of Denmark, offered the opening prayer.

Congressman James F. Byrnes, in his home district, was received with the usual enthusiasm which he always gets, and was roundly applauded time and time again. Upon motion of Hon. S. G. Mayfield Mr. Byrnes was favored with a unanimous vote of approval by those present upon his official acts concerning the war. Near the close of his speech he called for a hand primary as an indication of how those in the audience would have voted on the question of war or no war had they been in Congress, and with the exception of two people the vote was unanimous for war.

Mr. Byrnes spoke as follows: When the President of the United States recently suggested an early adjournment of Congress in order that the members who voted for the War Resolution might return to their districts to inform their constituents of the reasons for their action, and aid in the Liberty Bond campaign, some persons who were opposed to the adoption of the War resolution asserted that it was unnecessary for members of congress to give to their constituents reasons for our entering the war, that it is enough that we are at war and that the war must be prosecuted to a successful conclusion. But this is not enough. Well recognized as true is the statement that "Thrice armed is he who hath his quarrel just." For months these opponents of the war and of the administration have diligently endeavored to convince the people of the country that our war is an unrighteous one. If they have succeeded or can succeed this government can never expect of the boys at the front, or of those who remain at home, that whole hearted, enthusiastic and patriotic cooperation which is essential to the success of the government of the United States in this great conflict.

Not Wilson's War. They have told the people that this is President Wilson's war and that it was forced upon congress—many members voting against their conscientious convictions in order to please the president of the United States and secure patronage from him in the future. The man who can place credence in such charges possesses a mind so dwarfed that it is useless to try to convince him. I have the greatest admiration for the president of the United States, but in a matter of such extreme importance, in discharging the duty vested in me by the Constitution, if I had voted against my conscientious convictions in order to please the President of the United States or any other person, for patronage or for any motive, I would have no respect for

myself and could expect no one else to have any respect for me.

Equally untrue is the statement that President Wilson forced this war upon us. Under the Constitution it is his duty to give to Congress his advice in such matters. If he had desired to force war upon us I could have advised our entering the war as president during the last two years. I believe that if we had had as president during the last three years any man other than Woodrow Wilson we would have been at war long before this time. But with infinite patience, withstanding the taunts and gibes of the militarists, he labored as no mortal man ever before labored, to keep his people out of this war. It was not until the mad monarch of Germany, misconstruing President Wilson's patience for cowardice, announced the determined purpose of Germany to kill our citizens, destroy our property, and abolish our liberties, that the president advised Congress to recognize the fact that Germany was making war upon us.

War a Necessity. I abhor war. Looking into the future I realized fully the suffering and hardships that war must bring to our people, but notwithstanding this, after most careful deliberation I could not conclude that the imperial government of Germany had made it impossible for us to adopt any course other than that taken by the congress of the United States. In justice to my colleagues I should say, from my intimate knowledge of them, that I am satisfied that each and every one of them voted his conscientious conviction. Fifty members of the House voted against the war resolution and I have only the greatest respect for them because I believe they voted as their consciences dictated. But while I do not question their motives, I do question their judgment, and it is my purpose to convince you that they were wrong and that the 373 members who voted for the resolution were right.

In doing so I shall endeavor to appeal to the intelligence and not to the passions of men. I shall indulge in abuse and denunciation of no man. I am convinced that those citizens of our State who to-day believe our nation should not be engaged in this war have been misled and that once the facts have been submitted to them they will be found as loyal and patriotic as any among us. I go further and say that I disagree with those who in their zeal believe that every man who differs with us should be placed in jail. Treason and sedition as defined by law should be suppressed, but as a member of congress, the war making body, my official acts are properly subject to criticism and a man has the right to criticize any member of congress provided his language is such that it does not constitute a violation of the law. I would a thousand times prefer the patriotic cooperation of our citizens based upon an honest belief in the justice of our cause, to a hypocritical submission to the war based only upon fear of the law.

Our Course is Just. If we cannot convince our own people whose lives and liberties are at stake of the justice of our cause, we cannot convince the neutrals of the world, and cannot convince those who will come after us. My belief in the justice of our cause is so great, and my confidence in the intelligence and patriotism of the people is so great, that I firmly believe if you will carry the truth to the people of South Carolina, they will be convinced of the righteousness of our cause and their views will soon be reflected in the utterances of men in public life.

Never in the history of the world has a nation gone to war for purposes so unselfish. We have given our pledge to the world that we seek no territory, and with us a written pledge is more than a scrap of paper. I am glad that it is so. As an individual I covet the land of no man, and I seek the blood of no man, and I want my nation to covet the land of no nation and seek the blood of no people. Nor do we go to war for mere sentiment. If this were our desire we would have gone to war when Belgium was invaded; when Germany began deporting the civilian population of Belgium from their homes to labor in Germany; when the Lusitania was sunk and women and children as well as men were sent into eternity without a moment's warning. But we remained neutral.

It was not until Germany in violation of its repeated pledges to us and in violation of the rights of humanity, (Continued on page 12, column 1.)

PAUL WIERSE CONVICTED

GETS TWO YEARS, ALSO FINE OF ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS.

Klattenhoff Convicted, Both Tried on Charge of Conspiracy to Sink German Ship Liebenfels

Aiken, Oct. 11.—Paul Wierse, editorial writer on the Charleston American, was today convicted, in the United States Court here, of conspiracy to sink the German steamship Liebenfels in Charleston harbor, and sentenced to serve two years in the federal penitentiary at Atlanta and to pay a fine of \$1,000 and costs.

Johann Klattenhoff, was also found guilty of the same charge and sentenced to six months in the United States prison in Atlanta, and to pay a fine of \$100 and costs. Klattenhoff's sentence is to begin at the expiration, next June, of the term of one year he is now serving in Atlanta for having sunk the Liebenfels in Charleston harbor, February 1 last, to which charge he pleaded guilty. Wierse and Klattenhoff was tried together.

A third defendant, William Muller, former German consul at Atlanta, was absent and is said to be in Ecuador.

Verdict Easily Found. The verdict against Wierse and Klattenhoff came near the close of a brief but interesting, and at times exciting, session of the court. The jury was out fifty minutes, but it is understood that all of this time was not consumed in deliberation and that the jury was practically, if not wholly, unanimous on the first ballot.

About half an hour after the jurors retired, they filed back into the court room, the spectators thinking that they were ready to hand in their verdict, but such proved not to be the case when the foreman, John D. Whisenhunt, one of Orangeburg county's most substantial citizens, asked Judge Smith whether or not a verdict of "guilty" or "not guilty" could be returned against all three defendants. The court stated that the verdict could refer only to Wierse and Klattenhoff, as Muller was not on trial. The jury returned to the room, returning about twenty minutes later, at 1:25, with the verdict as given above.

So far as could be observed the defendant Wierse was calm and did not change his expression when the result was announced by Deputy Clerk of Court Murphy. John P. Grace, Esq., counsel for the defense, appeared somewhat disappointed and crestfallen. Capt. Klattenhoff maintained the attitude he bore throughout the trial of absolute indifference, apparently, although this might have been attributable to the fact that he is not familiar with the English language and probably understood very little of the proceedings.

Mr. Grace promptly made a motion for a new trial, which was a promptly refused by Judge Smith, who ordered the prisoners brought to the bar for sentence.

Prisoners Sentenced. When the court asked what the government had to say before sentence was pronounced, District Attorney Francis H. Weston called the judge's attention to the fact that Paul Wierse is an American citizen (naturalized). Counsel for the defense had nothing to say, whereupon Judge Smith proceeded to pronounce sentence, saying that he was not inclined to be severe on Capt. Klattenhoff, whose physical condition had been declared by Warden Zerbst, of the Atlanta federal prison, as still bad, the former ship master having been in the hospital ever since he entered the prison last June.

Notice of appeal was given and Judge Smith was asked to fix bail for the defendant, Wierse, who had been, until his conviction, at liberty under \$6,000 bond. The court stated that the motion for bail would be heard in Charleston tomorrow, but that the amount would be raised to \$10,000.

In the custody of Deputy United States Marshals Lockwood Murphy and W. Barmore Mays, Wierse was taken to Charleston tonight and will be kept under guard until bond is furnished. Klattenhoff was taken back to the prison in Atlanta by Warden Zerbst and two deputies, who also took former chief engineer Jansen and former fourth engineer Neuse to complete service of their sentences of one year each, having been convicted at Florence last March of sinking the Liebenfels. The last two named were witnesses for the government against Wierse and Klattenhoff, although they stated on the stand that they were offered no inducement to testify.

When the court convened this morning the defense announced that it would have one more witness, the defendant Wierse having completed his testimony yesterday afternoon.

The Last Witness. Warden Fred G. Zerbst was put on the stand and testified only regarding Capt. Klattenhoff's physical condition since he had been in the Atlanta prison. This made only two witnesses offered by the defense.

Mr. Grace again endeavored to get in the record the ownership of the Charleston Evening Post, this time adding the News and Courier, claiming that such evidence would show animus and bias in the prosecution of Wierse. Judge Smith ruled such testimony incompetent, counsel for the defense asking that exception be noted.

Mr. Grace also failed to get in evidence the record of the "Liebenfels trial" held in Florence in March, when eight officers of the steamship were acquitted of conspiracy to sink the Liebenfels, but at the same time

Miss Laura C. Woo Enters.

Aiken, Oct. 13.—Cards are out from Mr. and Mrs. Woo S. Hong announcing the birth of a baby girl. The child is the first of the Chinese race to be born in Aiken county. The little one has been named Laura C. Woo. Mr. Hong is a naturalized American citizen and a member of the Presbyterian church, though he is not a member of that church in Aiken as yet. The little girls was born Wednesday.

Woo S. Hong is connected with a laundry establishment here and speaks excellent English. His wife is a native of China and is one of the very few Chinese women in the State.

Say loot to the Germans and it is no sooner said than done.

were convicted of actually sinking her. Capt. Klattenhoff was in a Charleston hospital at the same time and was not tried. He later pleaded guilty to sinking the ship.

The defense then announced its case closed and the government offered no evidence in rebuttal, whereupon Mr. Grace, claiming that the government had not made out its case, asked the court to direct a verdict of acquittal. This the judge refused to do, and preparations were made to begin the arguments. Each side was allowed half an hour to address the jury, with ten minutes for the government to reply.

Assistant District Attorney J. Waite Waring, of Charleston, who conducted the examination of all the witnesses, opened the arguments for the government, going over the testimony, stressing the main points, which strengthened the prosecution's contentions and pointing out the alleged inconsistencies in the statements made on the stand by Wierse.

Mr. Grace followed for the defense and made a clear and comprehensive argument in behalf of his client until near the close, when the "blow-up" came. After exceeding the time limit set by the court, Mr. Grace suddenly became very much excited. Tears were coming from his eyes and his voice was husky, with emotion, apparently. He wanted to know why Paul Wierse and not former German Consul E. H. Jahz, or the consul's son, of Charleston, had been singled out for prosecution, answering his own question by saying that it was "because Wierse is connected with the Charleston American." Mr. Waring was promptly on his feet protesting to the court against such declaration by Mr. Grace. Judge Smith quickly told Wierse's attorney to "stop!"

"Well, that's my opinion," retorted Grace.

"You have no right to express such opinion, your time is up," said the court, emphatically.

"May I have a word more, your honor?" pleaded the attorney, still weeping.

"Not one word, sir." And Mr. Grace sat down.

Weston Alone Responsible. District Attorney Weston in beginning his argument said he wanted it distinctly understood that he alone was responsible for the prosecution of Paul Wierse; that he would not be true to the trust reposed in him if he did not use every means in his power to bring to justice violators of the laws of the United States. He emphatically declared that he assumed all responsibility for the charges against the defendants and had no apologies to make to the court, jury, counsel or anybody else. At this point Mr. Grace protested, but the court stated that the district attorney could reply to insinuations of counsel for the defense. Grace asked if he would be given an opportunity to reply.

"No, sir," said the court. Mr. Weston asked the interruptions cease, Judge Smith assuring him that they would at the same time again admonishing Mr. Grace.

Mr. Weston made a forceful argument during the short time at his disposal, closing with the reminder to the jury that a person does not send a telegram of congratulation, especially "collect," to a friend upon his engagement, as "there's many a slip 'twixt cup and lip," and it would be like sending flowers "before the man is dead," this reference being to Wierse's testimony yesterday that the telegram he sent Consul Muller in Atlanta, containing the one word, "congratulations," was the result of a message in a letter from the consul that "the young lady has consented at last." The government contended that this telegram was to congratulate the German consul in Atlanta on the successful culmination of the alleged conspiracy between Wierse, Klattenhoff and Muller to sink the ship.

Court Delivers Charge. Judge Smith took great pains with his charge to the jury, explaining in detail the law and carefully reciting the major portion of the testimony. Several lawyers in the court room were heard to remark that they had never heard a clearer or more comprehensive charge.

The jury was composed of eleven white men and one negro, with a personal record of exceptional intelligence. They received the case at 12:35 p. m. and in less than an hour the verdict was announced.

All business of the term being completed, court was adjourned early this afternoon and the officials and attaches left Aiken for their respective homes on the afternoon trains.

The next session of the United States Court for the Eastern District of South Carolina will convene at Columbia on Tuesday, November 6. At this session it is likely that Albert Orth, publisher of the Deutsche Zeitung, at Charleston, will be tried under one or more of the five indictments found against him here this week.

COUNTRY NEWS LETTERS

SOME INTERESTING HAPPENINGS IN VARIOUS SECTIONS.

News Items Gathered All Around the County and Elsewhere. Ehrhardt Etchings.

Ehrhardt, October 16.—"Plenty of cotton, plenty of money," and no liquor to drink—the first such experience our county has ever had. The farmers thought to go to the gin without a "bottle to sip from to knock off the coolness of the morning and to kill the dust from the cotton—it was impossible—but so far they have had but very little and all seem to be better off without it. Heretofore when cotton was sold was "booze;" now it is to pay their accounts, deposit the balance in the bank, buy wife and children new clothing, new furniture for the home—the families are all happier. The father is usually on time getting home from town, and all the family runs out to meet him. Heretofore, what? He was late at night in getting home; all the money spent or lost, no clothing or anything to make the home happier—all the family afraid of him for he was "drunk."

To solve the high cost of meat and to get something wild to feast upon, as well as the sport of it, Messrs. J. F. Chassereau and J. B. Ehrhardt boarded their gas burner last Thursday morning and motored down to the hunting reserves below Green Pond. They had good luck with the "feet-footed,"—bagging two deer for the day's hunt. After snugly packing the spoil, guns, etc., they left on their return trip about dark, with each thinking of the "tale" he would tell upon his home arrival. All at once there appeared in the road ahead of them an object that was moving and as they drew nearer and making the light stronger it was found to be an opossum. Mr. Chassereau jumped out of the car and gave pursuit while Mr. Ehrhardt managed the car and kept the light turned in the direction the chase was going on. Mr. Chassereau, however, won the race and brought Bre'er Pos' in. They did not kill the opossum, but after dressing him up in Mr. Ehrhardt's hunting coat and placing him in the front part of the car, they started for home again. Bre'er Pos', not liking his quarters, undressed himself of the coat and, presumably, taking Mr. Ehrhardt's pants leg for a hollow limb with a small vine growing in it, he made a dive for safety; thus, scratching, clawing and biting on his leg upset the owner, but he managed to stop the car and when he found himself he and Bre'er Pos' were on the back part of the car jumping from top to bottom, each scratching and clawing at the other. Mr. Chassereau finally caught hold by the tail and pulled the 'possum out of his would-be hollow. This time they broke his neck—for safety. Mr. Chassereau says that in the scuffle each was making use of some language. He could not understand what the 'possum was saying, but knows exactly what Mr. Ehrhardt said and asks that it be left out of print. They are planning for another hunt and Mr. Ehrhardt says no more live opossums in the car he rides in.

The Baptists held a revival meeting at the church all of last week. Rev. D. H. Owings, pastor in charge, was assisted by Dr. Brunson. The meeting was successful and much good was accomplished. Dr. Brunson is an authority on the Bible and he drew large congregations each day. Work began Monday, October 8th, on the new brick building for the Ehrhardt high school. It will be completed in time for the 1918-19 scholastic term, and will be modern in every respect. JEF.

Colston Clippings. Colston, October 17.—Mr. and Mrs. Frank Beard, Mrs. A. E. Barnes and Miss Lina Barnes were the Sunday visitors of Mrs. Sudie Barnes.

Messrs. John G. Clayton and Isaac Probuskey, of Walterboro, spent Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Clayton.

Messrs. J. F. Kearse and G. A. McMillan visited Mr. Reuben Kearse at Camp Jackson Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Padgett and family spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. George Bessinger.

Miss Ethel McMillan, of Bamberg, was at home Saturday night and Sunday.

Mrs. J. M. Clayton spent Saturday night with Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Clayton.

Miss Evelyn Kirkland is staying at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Kirkland, near Olar, at present.

Miss Annie Lou Hutson spent last week-end at her home in Springfield.

Mr. Claude Kirkland was the Saturday night guest of Mr. Elgin McMillan.

Mr. and Mrs. J. F. McMillan, Master Ernest Clayton and Miss Inez Clayton visited relatives at Denmark Sunday.

Messrs. Copeland Zeisler and Errol McMillan spent Saturday night with Mr. Frank Kirkland, Jr.

ONCE FERTILE: NOW A DESERT.

Region East of Ypres Transformed into a Desolate Waste.

A prosperous farming country before the war, the region east of Ypres is now a desolate waste of large and deep shell craters. It has been the scene of much bitter and sanguinary fighting and the artillery fire has done its work.

Few sectors of the western front have been laid waste as has this one. Farm buildings and villages have been swept away by the shells. Only a few pieces of wall mark where buildings once stood. Grass and other green things have disappeared in the turning up of the earth by the innumerable exploding shells.

Like the Somme. From Ypres out across the Westhoek bridge and over the site of what once was Zonnebeke from which the Germans were pushed recently, the scene of demolition recalls the days of the battle of the Somme. The unprecedented havoc wrought on the Somme front hardly surpassed that which exists along the Ypres front.

More striking than all the rest were the scenes of death on every hand. Germans lay in great numbers over this ground which had not yet been cleared. At many places groups of Germans had been killed as they fought together and they rested as they fell. Shell holes at some places were choked with bodies.

The village of Zonnebeke is only a memory. Some shattered walls remain of the big church and in very few places there are marks of other public buildings, but the village as a whole has disappeared. The railway station, of the Ypres-Roulers line, where for days the British and Germans battled fiercely at close quarters, is gone and there remains only a small concrete redoubt, about which the Germans made their last stand.

No Longer a Railway. The Ypres-Roulers Railway, which for so long was under British gunfire and is now being hammered by the Germans, is nothing but a broken mound of earth. The rails have been twisted into knots and hurled here and there.

All the highways here and on other parts of the battlefield have been damaged severely. They are pitted here and there with shell holes. A thousand yards in front of Zonnebeke was Broodseinde ridge and the village was its famous cross roads, where many Germans were killed recently by the British artillery fire. The British line is over the crest of this ridge on the eastern side. Broodseinde has gone the same way as Zonnebeke, Gravenstafel, Passchendaele and many other hamlets.

Smashed by Shells. The German redoubts and pill boxes in the Zonnebeke region mostly had been smashed by shell fire, although many of them put up a stout resistance. There was one great concrete and steel redoubt which had withstood the terrific fire to which it had been subjected. Its defenders had been driven out by the infantry in a pitched battle. The redoubt was eighty yards long and about forty yards wide. The walls, which were of concrete reinforced with steel rails were about five feet thick. The building contained six large rooms which would hold several hundred men. The whole country hereabout was covered with similarly built defenses of varying sizes.

Elizabeth Kirkland and Cleo Kearse, of Carlisle school, spent the past week-end at home.

Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Neeley, Mr. G. M. Neeley, Mrs. Eugene Milhous and little daughter Adelaide, and Miss Ruth Shuler spent last Sunday in Denmark with Mr. Edward Neeley and family. Their mother returned with them and will spend her time with her for several weeks.

Mr. S. E. Neeley went to Charlotte last Monday on business. Miss Evelyn Kirkland, of Colston, is visiting Mrs. J. H. Kirkland.

Miss Forest, of Virginia, is visiting her cousin, Mrs. J. W. Smith.

Rev. A. Sassard filled his appointment at Mizpah last Sunday for the first time since August. BOAGUS.

Branchville Brevities. Branchville, Oct. 13.—Miss Ruth Byrd is visiting relatives in Augusta, Ga.

Mrs. Mamie Dukes is spending some time with relatives in Charleston.

Mrs. Sue Johnson, of Fort Motte, is visiting her mother, Mrs. Charles Bruce.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Weiss are visiting relatives in Ehrhardt.

Mrs. E. F. Cabell has returned home after spending some time with friends in Martinsville, Va.

Mrs. Leroy Peters, of Ehrhardt, visited relatives here last week.

Denmark Doings. Denmark, Oct. 13.—Mrs. St. Clair Guess and son are visiting Mrs. Terriott in Sumter.

Mrs. T. Stokes, of Orangeburg, spent this week here with Mrs. W. L. Riley.

W. D. Mayfield and W. L. Riley attended the marriage of the latter's brother, J. A. Riley, in Chester this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Milhous, of Union, spent several days recently with his mother, Mrs. Hattie Milhous.

Mrs. J. P. Minc and daughter are visiting relatives in Atlanta.

Mrs. Walter Latta, of Orangeburg, spent a short while here the past week.

Miss Mary Collson, of Virginia, is the guest of Miss Ruth Guess.

Dr. Walter Gilliam, from Camp Jackson, Columbia, spent Sunday with his parents here.

G. L. Toole, of Aiken, was among the visitors here the past week.

Buford Bridge, October 16.—Miss Sarah Nealey spent last week very pleasantly in Allendale.

Among the visitors at Mr. J. B. Kearse's last week-end were: Mr. R. L. Kearse and family; Mr. Henry Kearse and Miss Clara McMillan, of Bamberg, and Miss Lena Kearse and little niece Gladys Brabham, of Olar.

Mr. Fletcher Kirkland and Misses