

## CANVAS TO BE MADE TOMORROW FOR WOMAN'S SERVICE LEAGUE

### Additional Members will be Sought to Aid in Red Cross Work for the Army--List of Volunteers.

On Thursday morning April 26th, from 9 to 11 o'clock a canvass of the city will be made for the purpose of securing additional members in the Woman's Service League recently organized here. This work is affiliated with the activities of the Red Cross and in time of war supplements the work of that society. About 30 ladies have consented to do the work and the canvassers will report at headquarters established for the day at the old stand of Powe Drug Co., under the Laurens Hotel. Every member secured augments the fund with which bandages, pillow cases, etc., are purchased.

The following are the volunteers who will solicit members:

Mrs. B. L. Parkinson, Miss Willie Jones, Miss Annie Garlington, Mrs. M. L. Copeland, Miss Mayme Ferguson, Mrs. C. M. Miller, Mrs. E. S. Hudgens, Mrs. T. M. Shaw, Mrs. W. L. Gray, Mrs. W. H. Anderson, Miss Avie Mahaffey, Mrs. J. H. Teague, Mrs. Edgar Barksdale, Mrs. Will Thomason, Mrs. Virginia Catne, Miss Esther Fowler, Miss Marie Philpot, Mrs. Will Meng, Mrs. J. H. Boyd, Mrs. B. C. Crisp, Mrs. Robt. Eichelberger, Mrs. Wells Clardy, Mrs. P. A. Simpson, Mrs. Frank Caine, Mrs. E. O. Anderson, Mrs. Robt. Roper, Mrs. Jno. M. Hudgens and others.

## ANNUAL VETERANS' DINNER TO BE SERVED SATURDAY

### Committees have been Appointed to Look After the Pleasure and Comfort of Old Soldiers.

The annual dinner to the Confederate Veterans, given by the J. B. Ker-shaw chapter, U. D. C., will be given Saturday, April 28th in the armory. All the veterans are invited to be present. The dinner will be served at the usual hour and afterwards the veterans will probably gather in a body to discuss incidents of the war. The following committees have been appointed to take charge of the different phases of the entertainment:

Committee on Decoration—Mrs. Warren Bolt, Mrs. W. D. Ferguson, Mrs. W. H. Dial, Mrs. Mayme Ferguson, Mrs. R. B. Babb, Mrs. H. K. Aiken, Mrs. Alec Bramlett, Mrs. J. H. Teague.  
Dinner Committee—Mrs. C. M. Clarke, Mrs. L. G. Balle, Jr., Mrs. W. D. Ball, Mrs. L. M. Boyd, Mrs. W. D. Byrd, Mrs. J. S. Bennett, Miss Ella Bell Copeland, Mrs. J. O. C. Fleming, Mrs. W. H. G. Gilkerson, Mrs. Jonas P. Gray, Mrs. T. D. Darlington, Mrs. Mary Harris, Miss Martha Hellams, Mrs. W. E. Lucas, Mrs. W. R. Richey, Sr., Mrs. J. C. Smith, Mrs. Arrah Sullivan, Mrs. Josephine G. Watts, Mrs. Robt. Eichelberger, Mrs. C. F. Rankin, Miss Bettie Watts, Mrs. J. B. Cooky, Mrs. E. P. Milan, Mrs. Cresswell Fleming, Miss Emma Dial.

Coffee Committee—Mrs. J. G. Sullivan, Mrs. W. R. Richey, Jr., Mrs. R. F. Fleming, Mrs. W. G. Lancaster, Mrs. Brooks Swygert.

Committee on Entertainment—Miss Willie Jones, Miss Bessie Roland, Miss Minnie Babb, Miss Dorothy Angel, Miss Catherine Irby.

## PLANTING MORE CORN.

### Laurens County Farmers are Extending Acreage in Corn Production.

Reports from many sections of the county indicate that at least some of the farmers are going in for food-stuffs this year heavier than they have ever done so before. While it is commonly reported that the farmers as a whole have not yet awakened to the serious shortage of food supplies, others have realized the situation and have set about to make themselves independent of outside sources. Some farmers are planting large acreages with the view of profiting by sales at the high prices now prevailing and predicted to prevail as the shortage becomes more acute.

Mr. Geo. F. Bolt, who lives in the Trinity Ridge section, is one among those who have planted extensively in corn. Mr. Bolt had about sixty acres in grain before the freeze and all except fifteen acres were killed at that time. Instead of putting this in cotton, as many others have done who were similarly affected, he has planted the entire acreage, except that which was not killed, in corn. In addition to this he has planted enough corn elsewhere to bring his total acreage up to about 120 acres. He runs about eight plows. Mr. Bolt says he seldom buys corn in ordinary years and more often he has corn to sell.

Mr. Senn, who lives beyond the Watts Mill, planned during the winter to plant about thirty acres in corn. As the shortage in food products became impressed upon him and the price of corn began to soar he revised his original plans and doubled his acreage. Mr. Senn runs about four or five plows.

## CHAUTAQUA STARTS TWO WEEKS FROM TODAY

### Tickets Already Being Disposed of at Rapid Rate. Programs Now Being Given Out.

Laurens' second Chautauqua will begin Wednesday, May 9th, just two weeks from today. Kris Massner, advance representative of the Redpath General offices, has been in the city for several days putting up banners and looking after other advertising specialties. Mr. Messner is pleasantly remembered as being in charge of the tent last year, having received a promotion since that time as a recognition of his services.

The guarantors met in the rooms of the chamber of commerce Friday night and went over the plans for the ticket selling campaign. It was decided to sell the tickets as they were sold last year, by placing some in the drug stores and placing others with the guarantors to sell. About a hundred tickets have already been sold. Messrs C. H. Hicks and W. R. McCuen having sold most of those already disposed of.

The Chautauqua committee purchased 1,000 tickets, which will be disposed of at \$2.50 each, children pro rata. After these are sold out the price will go to \$3.00. The advanced price will go into effect on the 8th whether the full number has been sold or not.

## YOUNG PEOPLES UNION OF A. R. P. CHURCH

### To Hold District Conference in the A. R. P. Church Here Tomorrow Afternoon and Night.

The Young Peoples Christian Union of the Laurens A. R. P. church will entertain a conference on Young Peoples Work on Thursday afternoon, April 26th. The afternoon service will begin at 4 o'clock and close at 6. From 6 to 8 the conference will stand adjourned for a social on the grounds. Picnic lunch will be served.

The evening session will be held from 8 to 10. The program will consist of addresses on Young Peoples Work and general discussion of their various problems.

All young people and those interested in young people's work are cordially invited to attend:

The program will be as follows:  
Watchword: Faithfulness.  
Motto: All things through Christ.  
Devotional service. The true spirit of service. Rev. I. N. Kennedy.  
Enrollment of delegates.

Address of welcome. Mrs. J. R. Ellis.  
Response. Mr. P. W. Wilson.  
The Y. P. C. U. as a church builder:  
1 Building the social life of the church. Rev. L. T. Pressly.  
2 Encouraging intellectual development. Rev. J. W. Carson.  
3 Strengthening the spiritual life of the church. Miss Bessie Byrd

Intermission.  
Evening Service, 8 o'clock.  
Devotional exercises.  
Report from Unions. Delegates.  
Question box, conducted by Rev. J. W. Carson.  
The Y. P. C. U. as a home missionary agent. Mrs. S. A. Leslie.  
The Y. P. C. U. and World Evangelization. Rev. W. A. McAulay.  
What use should be made of our standard of excellence. Rev. Henry Pressly.  
Adjournment.

## CONSCRIPTION PLAN PROBABLY ADOPTED

### Supporters of Selective Draft Confident.

## DEBATED MONDAY IN BOTH HOUSES

### House Expected to Vote Thursday—Discussion in Senate, Where Success of the Measure is Assured, May Continue Until Saturday, Nichols for Volunteers.

Washington, April 23.—With both houses of congress debating the war army bill today it became more than ever apparent that there is no fight over whether a great army shall be raised, the only question being what strength can be mustered by opponents of the administration's selective draft plan.

In the senate passage of the general staff bill virtually without change is regarded as certain; on the house side the president's supporters are also confident of success though the contest there will be bitter. Discussion in the senate may continue until Saturday, but the house, under a tentative agreement for eighteen hours of general debate, probably will be ready to vote by Thursday.

Most of the speeches in the house were in favor of the administration plans after Representative Dent, chairman of the military committee, had made an opening statement earnestly supporting the bill as amended by his committee, to authorize calls for volunteers, with provision for applying the draft only if the volunteer system fails. Representative Kahn of California, ranking republican of the committee, appeared in the unique position of spokesman for president and leader of the administration forces.

Representatives McKensie, Illinois; Crago, Pennsylvania; Olney, Massachusetts; Lunn, New York; Greene, Vermont; Adamson, Georgia; Aswell of Louisiana and others spoke for the draft as the only effective method of raising the army needed. Representative Nichols of South Carolina joined Chairman Dent in championing the volunteer plan. Senator Wadsworth and Senator Weeks vigorously advocating the draft, and Senator Thomas, as strongly opposing it, made the principal addresses in the senate. Chairman Chamberlain of the senate committee said tonight that he might ask unanimous consent Wednesday for a vote that day or Thursday. He said he did not expect to endeavor to use the new cloture rule, both because he was not certain he could get the two-thirds necessary to invoke it and because it might result in more talk than would follow in the normal course.

## U. S. SHIP CHASED BY GERMAN RAIDER

### Seeadler Attempt to Overtake American Steamship but is Not Speedy Enough.

New York, April 23.—An American steamship was chased for five miles by the German sea raider Seeadler, off the coast of Brazil, on April 22th, according to the captain of the vessel, which reached this port today. The Seeadler, previously reported by the victims of her raids on their arrival at Rio Janeiro was formerly the American bark, Pass of Palmaha, into which the Germans had fitted gasoline motors.

The captain of the steamship, which is engaged in the South American trade, said the raider was sighted at 6 o'clock in the morning, bearing down on him at a point 39 miles north of the equator and between 200 and 300 miles off the coast. The pursuer, he said, put on all speed, making 13 knots an hour. As this was lightly less than his own vessel's speed, he was able to throw her off after a desperate chase. Although within range, the raider did not attempt to fire on him. She had Norwegian flags painted on her sides, he said, and mounted two guns apparently of eight-inch calibre.

This is the first report of the operations of the Seeadler since crews from ships she sank reaching Rio Janeiro March 31.

Tom Owings, attending Furman university, spent the week-end in the city with homefolks.

## BRITISH FORCES BEGIN NEW OFFENSIVE

### Intensive Fighting Around Lens.

## TWELVE HUNDRED PRISONERS TAKEN

### French Advance Line Northeast of Soissons Between the Aisne and the Chemin des Dames, British Suffer Heavy Losses in the Air.

New York, April 23.—Again the British have begun a period of intensive fighting from the region of Lens southward to the Havrincourt wood and, according to the London war office, have been successful at various points in capturing important German positions. In addition, more than 1,200 Germans were made prisoners in the first day's fighting in the new offensive.

Both north and south of the Scarpe River the British have materially advanced at several points toward Douai, north of the river the village of Cavrelle and positions two and a half miles long south of the village were captured, while south of the stream they took the line of the Germans on a wide front south and east of Monch-Le-Freux and captured the villages of Gavrelle and Guemappe.

Farther to the south the entire village of Trescault and the greater part of the Havrincourt wood now is in the hands of General Haig's forces. On the northern end of the battle line additional progress has been made southwest of Lens, seemingly placing that important town in great jeopardy.

The latest Berlin official communication dealing with the fighting of Monday, says the new British offensive on the Arras front broke down with heavy casualties. Berlin admits the penetration of German trenches on a front of five hundred yards northwest of Lens, but says the British later were expelled from them in a counter-attack.

Northeast of Soissons, between the Aisne and the Chemin des Dames, the French have further advanced their line, but elsewhere on the front held by the French artillery duels have predominated. Sunday night the Germans tried, but without success, to penetrate French positions, notably east of Cranonne, in the Champagne, near St. Mihiel, and in the Vosges Mountains.

A British airship is believed to have been destroyed over the Straits of Dover by a hostile airplane with the loss of its entire crew. Sunday French airmen in aerial engagements shot down six enemy airplanes. A similar number fell prey to British aviators, while fifteen others were driven down out of control. Anti-aircraft guns disposed of another German airplane and seven kite balloons.

Berlin reports that German airmen forced down eleven Entente machines and destroyed four captive balloons. The British war office admit that seven British airplanes failed to return to their base after forays.

Heavy artillery duels are taking place in the region of Lake Doiran and in the Cerna River bend sector of the Macedonian front. Paris reports the repulse of Teutonic allied reinforcements between Tsrvena Stena and Sokol in this theater.

The Germans evidently are preparing for the drive on Petrograd that has been expected in the Russian capital. Warships conveying transports are reported unofficially to have left Libau on the Baltic Sea for an unknown destination, and meanwhile the Germans have renewed their activity on the northern part of the Russian front in the Aa River region.

The British troops now are fighting against the Turks six miles from Samara, on the right bank of the Tigris River in Mesopotamia.

## Cotton Mill Employees Get Ten Per Cent Bonus.

Lumberton, N. C., April 22.—All employees of the Lumberton, Dresden and Jennings Cotton Mills yesterday received a bonus of 10 per cent of the amount earned by each employe for the three months ending April 1.

Mr. Walter H. Powell has returned to Whiteville, N. C., after spending several days here with his wife, who is visiting her mother, Mrs. Rosa I. Caine.

## WARM WELCOME IS EXTENDED BALFOUR AND HIS ASSOCIATES

### Party in this Country to Discuss Best Methods of Overturning German Autocracy--French Have Arrived.

Washington, April 22.—The American capital today extended a simple but heartfelt welcome to the British minister of foreign affairs, Arthur J. Balfour, and the other members of the British mission which has come to Washington, as Mr. Balfour himself expressed it, "to make co-operation easy and effective between those who are striving—with all their power—to bring about a lasting peace by the only means that can secure it—namely, a successful war."

The weather was perfect and Washington in the bright spring sunshine, clad in the light green foliage of the season, never looked more beautiful than this afternoon when the special train which had brought the distinguished visitors, with their official escorts, from the North, drew into the union station. Everywhere bunting flew in the light breeze, mainly the American national colors. The British Union Jack and the French Tricolor were in evidence in many places, but the local flag makers had been unable to meet the public demand for them.

There were no other decorations and even at the union station the only touch of color was lent by the three large flags, the American, British and French, which were hoisted on three great masts adorning the plaza. Nor was there any music to greet the visitors, the original plan, including the presence of the marine band, having been amended to conform to the view expressed by President Wilson and Secretary Lansing that this was a grave and serious event in American history and not to be lightly treated or regarded as a social and festive affair.

## ONLY MEDICINAL LIQUOR LAWFUL

### Assistant Attorney General Furnishes Opinion to Mayor of Fort Mill.

Columbia, April 23.—Tuesday will be the last day on which deliveries of liquor may be made in South Carolina under the "gallon-a-month" law. The "quart-a-month" act becomes effective Wednesday. The express offices have been thronged with expectant consignees each day for the last week.

Claude N. Sapp, the assistant attorney general, has answered as follows an inquiry concerning the situation from B. E. Patterson, mayor of Fort Mill:

"Your letter to the attorney general in reference to the quart-a-month act, has been handed me for attention. You ask to be advised when the quart-a-month act goes into effect, and further, whether or not liquors in possession of common carriers, consigned to any individual and remaining undelivered at the expiration of the time in which the gallon-a-month act is effective, would be subject to seizure by State or municipal authorities.

"I beg to advise that the quart-a-month act, passed at the recent session of the general assembly, is effective April 25, 1917, after which time it will be unlawful for any person to receive more than one quart of liquor or other alcoholic beverages in any calendar month, which amount must be for medicinal purposes.

"In regard to the right of State or municipal authorities to seize liquors which have not been delivered to the consignee prior to April 25, I beg to advise that section 1 of the act provides, among other things, that it shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation or company to receive, store, keep, or have in possession, or to ship, transport or convey any alcoholic liquors from any point without the State into this State, or from one point to another in this State, or to deliver the same to any person, firm, corporation or company within this State except as hereinafter provided, the proviso thereafter providing that only one quart may be received or transported and that for medicinal purposes.

"The common carriers are required under the law to keep in their possession any liquors which are legally consigned to persons in this State and hold the same for delivery in case the consignee should apply at the office of the common carrier in compliance

On the plaza and overlapping the great building at either wing were gathered some 5,000 people waiting patiently for a glimpse of the nation's guests, restrained at a proper distance by hundreds of blue coated policemen and by two troops of the Second cavalry commanded by Col. Fenton, part of the garrison at nearby Fort Myer.

Within the station lines had been drawn separating the traveling public from the space at the eastern end of the concourse across which the visiting party was to pass on the way from the train shed to the president's room. All the police captains of the district had been ranged here in double line as a guard of honor and to keep back intruders. Two score newspaper men standing to the east of the concourse were the only unofficial persons permitted in this section of the station.

Washington, April 24.—The French commission has safely landed in the United States.

This official statement was made early today by the government:

"The department of state is advised of the safe arrival of the French commission."

The commission, which includes Marshal Joffre and former Premier Viviani, arrived early this morning on board a speedy steamship of the French line, which was convoyed across the Atlantic.

The vessels were met off the coast by American torpedo boat destroyers and escorted to a port. The distinguished commission was welcomed with salutes as the French vessels dropped anchor.

with the law and request delivery to be made until the expiration of the time during which the gallon-a-month act is effective.

"I am of the opinion, in view of the fact that the common carriers are required to hold these liquors until midnight of the night of April 24, that they should be allowed a reasonable time thereafter to return any liquors, remaining in their possession and undelivered, to the consignee and that such liquors would not be subject for a reasonable time thereafter to seizure by State, county or municipal officers. If, however, the liquors are not returned to the consignee within a reasonable time by the common carrier, they would then be subject to seizure as constituting an illegal storing under the law."

## BELGIUM IS ALMOST WITHOUT FOOD

### Situation There Described by Acting Chairman of Relief Committee as Very Grave, Aid From United States is Implored.

New York, April 23.—The commission for relief in Belgium made public tonight a cablegram received from Emile Franquet, acting chairman of the Belgian national committee, in which the situation in Belgium was described as "very grave."

"Native foods are scarce," the message asserted, "potatoes fetching two francs fifty centimes per kilo, rutabagas one franc forty centimes, meat sixteen francs, and under these conditions 99 per cent of the population are reduced to the ration of imported food which is absolutely insufficient. So I implore you to help us and to increase the importation of general foods.

"In view of the extremely grave situation of the 100,000 French refugees in Belgium, which number is daily increasing, the French minister at The Hague asks me to advise you of the fact that he has wired his government to aid you in any way that you demand in increasing the imports into Belgium."

## Chamber of Commerce Meeting.

The monthly meeting of the Chamber of Commerce will be held next Tuesday night, at 8 o'clock. As this is the only regular meeting of the month and interesting matters are to come up, it is desired that a full attendance be had.