

IN PRECARIOUS PLIGHT

THE WEATHER.

Fair Friday. Saturday probably showers.

Editorial Comment

Call 449 if you fail to get the Kentuckian promptly. And if you have a news item, phone it to the same number.

Hopkinsville barbers have increased shaves to 20c and hair cuts to 40c.

The American advance has reached the town of Chambray, where Quentin Roosevelt was killed.

Kentucky is credited with 208,084 illiterates, 5,609 of them in Christian county—more than any other county except Jefferson.

Peay and Roberts for Governor and Shields and Rye for Senator are having hot and doubtful races in the Tennessee primary next Tuesday.

The allied air raids are beginning to affect the nerves of the German workmen. Those in munition factories are in a constant state of terror, caused by the almost daily bombardments.

In a village taken and retaken several times this week, finally remaining in American hands, our boys found several comrades who had been bayoneted and killed by the Huns as they lay wounded.

The bag or bottle at the Marne salient has disappeared by the retirement of the Germans northward towards the mouth of the sack. The salient now resembles not a bottle but a soup-dish with the Hoes in the soup.

The Americans captured the emplacement of two of the big super-guns that had been bombarding Paris. The guns themselves had been taken away but many tons of steel in the foundations were left behind.

Timothy Needham, 75 years old, who at one time served a term as a member of the Kentucky General Assembly, died at his home at Williamstown, Ky., Wednesday morning, following a brief illness. While editor of the Williamstown Courier Mr. Needham was chosen president of the Kentucky Press Association.

The primary election in Tennessee yesterday was not only for State officers, but for county officers as well. In Montgomery county a contest was on for county judge between Judge Chas. W. Tyler, who has been in office 46 years, and John T. Cunningham. Prospects last night were that the old judge had at last met defeat. In Clarksville Austin Peay got 709 out of 742 votes cast. His defeat for nomination for Governor by Judge Roberts was indicated by the early returns throughout the State.

FOLLOWING THE FLAG

FROM PETTUS BAKER.

Somewhere on active service with the American Expeditionary forces, July 4, 1918.

Dear Dad: Your letter received and was awful glad to hear from you. We arrived O. K., and this is certainly a beautiful country. The sun doesn't go down until after 10 p. m.

I hope this war will be over so I can spend Christmas Day at home. We are celebrating the Fourth of July today and are having a fine time. Have been up for trips through the clouds several times. I have been up so high that a camp a mile square looked like a pin head. Believe me, Dad, we are going to lick hell out of Germany. When I come home, I will come home to eat and not to die. We can't get any sweets or American tobacco. Be sure and send me some Pic-nic Twist or mail pouch of home-spun chewing. Tell the kids I will come home soon and bring them a souvenir from Germany.

Must close for this time. Answer real soon. With love to all the kids and sister. Your son, PETTUS.

Clyde Smithson arrived yesterday from Camp Taylor on a two-day leave of absence to visit his sister who is at Jennie Stuart Hospital recovering from an operation of a few days ago.

BIG CROWDS ARE COMING

EVERY SECTION OF COUNTY WILL BE REPRESENTED TODAY AT MASS MEETING

The call sent out Wednesday by prohibition leaders and churchmen for a mass meeting at the courthouse today was met with a hearty response and much jubilation when informed of the purpose of the coming together. Every section of the county has been reached and heard from and indications last night were that crowds are coming in masses.

Leaders last night expressed the firm belief that a thousand outposts will be present when the meeting opens at two o'clock. Telephones were ringing constantly yesterday bringing messages that crowds of men in favor of calling a prohibition election and voting out the liquor traffic will be here to add whatever they can to the movement.

The Women's Temperance Christian Union has already put in organization to work and they announce that they will cooperate in every movement to bring the matter to a vote and help in the campaign in every way possible.

Ladies are requested to be at the meeting today. The meeting is called to meet at the courthouse, if the room is too small preparations have been made to go to the Tabernacle.

FORMER RUSSIAN CZAR COLLAPSED

GIVEN TWO HOURS TO PREPARE, PROPPED AGAINST POST AND SHOT.

(By Associated Press.)

Amsterdam, Aug. 1.—Given two hours in which to prepare for the end, Nicholas Romanoff, former Russian Emperor, was taken out to his execution in such a state of collapse that it was necessary to prop him against a post, says the Lokal Anzeiger of Berlin, which claims to have received from a high Russian personage an account of the Emperor's last hours.

Nicholas was awoken at 5 o'clock on the morning of the day of his execution by a patrol of a non-commissioned officer and six men. He was told to dress and was taken to a room where the decision of the Soviet Council was communicated to him. He was informed the execution would be carried out in two hours.

The former Emperor received the announcement of the sentence of death with great calmness. He returned to his bedroom and collapsed in a chair. After a few minutes he asked for a priest, with whom he was allowed to remain unattended. Subsequently he wrote several letters. When the escort arrived to take him to the place of execution, Nicholas attempted to rise from his chair, but was not able. The priest and a soldier were obliged to help him get to his feet. The condemned man descended the stairs with difficulty and once he fell down.

As he was unable to stand without support when the place of execution was reached he was propped against a post. He raised his hands and seemed to be trying to speak, but the rifle spoke and he fell.

CASUALTY LIST.

Washington, July 31.—The army as the press reports themselves might casualty list today shows:

Killed in action, 36; died of wounds, 40; died of disease, 6; died of airplane accident, 1; died of accident and other causes, 5; wounded severely, 67; wounded, degree undetermined, 15; missing in action, 24. Total, 194.

The marine corps casualty list shows: Killed in action, 4; died of wounds received in action, 2; wounded in action severely, 12. Total, 18.

New South Wales has 16 cotton-tionary factories with 798 employes.

INCREASE OF DRAFT AGES AGREED ON

(By Associated Press.)

Washington, Aug. 1.—The War Department recommendations for enlarging the army and for the extension of the draft age limitations to provide new reservoirs of man power to back up the forces of the front will be laid before Congress next week.

The members of the military committees have been recalled to Washington to expedite the bill. In many quarters there is a belief that an extension of the draft ages from 19 to 35 will be recommended, though Secretary Baker would not say what limits had been settled on, nor indicate in any way the size of the army he is planning. He said, however, that he thinks an extension of the age limit will be above 31 and below 21. Secretary Baker did state, however, that the limits of 19 to 40 had been suggested and rejected.

SEN. JAMES TO VOTERS

My dear sir and friend:—You doubtless are aware that I have an opponent for the nomination for United States Senator in the coming primary, Saturday, August 3.—Over-confidence on the part of my friends may result in many voters failing to participate in the primary. Such a result may not only be to my great advantage, but the reflex action of a light primary vote in the November election is to be avoided in the interest of our splendid administration, which so justly deserves the endorsement always implied from enthusiastic party support. I wish you would be good enough to see to it that all of my friends are gotten to the polls. I feel that the people of Kentucky are for me, and if they know I have an opponent they will be very eager to express their will. My recent illness will prevent my returning to the state before the primary much to my disappointment and regret.

I know you and the people of your county are quite familiar with my record, and few would be willing to see me defeated simply because of an illness that I could not prevent. My record as a Democrat and a public servant is one in which I take pride. It has been for the people, and I know the President will say so if he were asked, that no man has supported him more loyally than I, and besides this I have had fifteen years' experience, which will be of inestimable value to our state and people in the days of reconstruction that will come.

Assuring you of my warmest friendship, I am, very truly your friend, —OLLIE M. JAMES.

THE REMODELED PRINCESS.

Good headway is now being made on the rebuilding of the Princess Theatre, or rather in changing the front. The new entrance will be on the east side of the front the little store room there having been torn out. The store room on the west side will remain and a stairway will also be in front. The house has been under roof for some time and the repairs are nearing completion.

OVERLAND MOVING.

A big motor van or truck passed through the city yesterday morning at 3 o'clock enroute to Lock E. to move a lot of household goods to a point 30 miles beyond Nashville. Last night a 10 o'clock van, in charge of two men, again passed the city with a big load of furniture and a little of everything from a cooking stove to a piano.

ALLIED GAINS HAVE THROWN THE HUNS INTO AN ACUTE ANGLE AND GUNS CAN RAKE THEM ON TWO SIDES

WAR SUMMARY.

(By Associated Press.)

On both the central and western sections of Soissons-Rheims salient the allied forces have achieved notable gains, which seemingly place the German army in a precarious position. Northwest of Fere En Tardenois the entire elbow of the line where it turned eastward towards the Ourcq river has been blotted out, making a straight line from Fere to Hartennes, and giving the allies much better ground on which to work

toward out flanking Soissons. An advance of two miles was made and 600 Germans were captured.

The most important gain, however, was southeast of Fere where the village of Clerges and Meuniere wood were taken, which placed the Germans at the bottom of a "V" salient in a precarious plight, for from the wood and village the allied guns will be able to rake the Germans, if they should endeavor to make northward.

Since the battle of the Marne began, July 16, the allied troops have taken more than 34,000 prisoners.

PORTUGUESE BARK SUNK

(By Associated Press.)

Washington, Aug. 1.—The Portuguese Bark Porto was sunk by a German submarine 50 miles off the Atlantic coast, the Navy Department announced tonight. The crew of 15 were landed at an American post.

HUNTING U-BOATS BY AIRSHIP PROVES A GREAT SEA SPORT.

(By Associated Press.)

London, July 30.—(British Wire-Service) A sea sport which has arisen out of the war—hunting German submarines by airship—is described in The Times. The writer's story concludes with telling how the crew of the U-boat apparently preferred death to being captured.

One of the crew of an airship spotted a submarine lying on the bed of the ocean, in fairly shallow water.

"The wireless sparkled," reads the account in The Times, "and soon away on the horizon there appeared a little destroyer, followed far astern by four squat trawlers, all racing toward the spot above which the airship cruised around.

"The destroyer came up first, of course, and it was not long before, guided by wireless instructions, her guns were trained in readiness to greet the unsuspecting U-boat should it bob to the surface. It seemed ages to the impatient crew before the trawlers arrived, but things moved rapidly once they were at the scene of action, for they knew their job of old.

"Working in pairs they approached their victim from opposite directions, steaming toward each other. Between each pair a strong 'sweep' was stretched and allowed to hang in a huge loop that it might traverse the seabed. The vessels met and crossed each other's tracks immediately above the doomed craft. The 'sweeps' of either pair engaged the U-boat fore and aft simultaneously and held her in a gigantic cradle.

"Thus far the German boat had shown no signs of alarm although those with her must have heard the churning of the trawlers' screws. Now she suddenly seemed to awake to the menace that threatened her." The article goes on to describe the fate of the submarine. "She wriggled and squirmed about in a frantic endeavor to escape but it was useless. Not a loophole was there to be found, and at length, realizing the helplessness of her plight, she ceased to struggle. This fact was duly witnessed by those on board the airship to the destroyer below. Trapped securely, the enemy vessel could still rise to the surface did she so desire, and to give her an opportunity to do so, at a flagged signal from the destroyer, the starboard foremost trawler and the port aft one attached a tin of high explosives to each of the 'cradle wires' and allowed it to slide

INCREASED TAX TOBACCO IS AGREED UPON

LUXURIES AND AMUSEMENTS TO PAY DOUBLE TAX IF BILL PASSES.

(By Associated Press.)

Washington, Aug. 1.—Doubling of special taxes on manufacturers of tobacco, cigars, cigarettes, and increase of taxation on brokers, theatres and other amusements, billiard parlors, bowling alleys, an decapitalization of corporations was agreed on today by the House Ways and Means Committee in framing the big revenue bill. A tax of one per cent on retail sales and mail-order houses doing over a hundred thousand dollar business a year was adopted. Pullman seats, booths and passenger rates will be subject to the uniform tax of eight per cent.

REDS HAND OVER RUSSIA TO HUNS

BOLSHEVIKI CONSENTS TO ANNEXATION OF GREAT WESTERN PROVINCES.

(By Associated Press.)

Washington, July 31.—Complete submission of the Bolshevik Government to the ambitious aims of Germany and consent to the practical German annexation of the great Western provinces of Russia appears to have been the outcome of the conference which has just been held between Russian and German delegates for the ostensible purpose of construing the peace treaty of Brest-Litovsk. Cable dispatches recently announced a complete agreement between these delegates, without indicating its nature.

From Zurich to-day came the statement that the result of the conference was a formal renunciation by the Soviet Government of any claims to the great province of Esthonia and Livonia. It consequently, Courland would be detached from the military administration of Oberost and united to Livonia and Esthonia in order to form a general government, which would be a stepping stone for the ultimate incorporation of the Baltic provinces with Germany.

The temporary occupation by German troops of Esthonia and Livonia thus would be made permanent, though those provinces are east of the new German frontier as defined in the Brest-Litovsk treaty.

What may result in aggravating the already serious situation between the Germans and the Ukrainians is the assassination of Field Marshal von Eichhorn, the German dictator in the Ukraine and his Adjutant. They were killed by the explosion of a bomb thrown by a native in Kiev.

NOTICE PUBLIC

WOMAN'S COMMITTEE COUNCIL OF NATIONAL DEFENSE—FOOD ADMINISTRATION

The women of Hopkinsville and the county will be privileged to hear on Saturday afternoon at 4 o'clock, Miss Annie Anderson, of Louisville, who comes direct from the State Food Administration with a message of interest to every patriotic woman. The meeting will be held at Carnegie Library and the room should be filled. The local Food Administration of the W. C. N. D. deserves a hearing for the speakers they bring here as they have spared no pains to obtain the best.

We may expect many new regulations from time to time and we must know the reasons, not only for our own guidance but that we may be able to tell others who have not the privilege of explicit directions from headquarters.

Meager returns from the Tennessee primary last night, indicated the nomination of Judge Roberts for Governor and the renomination of Senator Shields.

TOBACCO IS STILL HIGHER

SEASON'S RECEIPTS NOW WELL BEYOND THE 25,000,000 MARK.

(By Associated Press.)

The tobacco receipts this week carried the loose floor total receipts well beyond the 25,000,000 mark and the sales averaged \$1.33 above the average for the season. The season is finishing with increasing strength and fully 60 per cent ahead of last year. Inspector's weekly report follows: Week ending Aug. 1, 1918.

LOOSE FLOORS. Sales for week 354,870 lb Sales for season 25,168,920 lb Sales this date 1917 16,326,115 lb Average for this week \$15.55 Average for this season \$14.22

QUOTATIONS. Trash \$13.00 to \$14.00 Com. lugs \$14.00 to \$14.50 Med. lugs \$14.50 to \$15.00 Good lugs \$15.00 to \$16.00 Fine lugs \$16.00 to \$17.00 Low leaf \$15.00 to \$16.00 Com. leaf \$16.00 to \$17.50 Med. leaf \$17.50 to \$19.00 Good leaf \$19.00 to \$22.00 Fine leaf \$22.00 to \$25.00 L. B. CORNETTE, President Tobacco Board of Trade.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE HOPKINSVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY AT END OF FISCAL YEAR.

To the Commissioners of the City of Hopkinsville: The board of directors of the Hopkinsville Public Library herewith submit their annual report for the year ending June 30, 1918.

We respectfully report that since our last report made to your honorable body, of date of June 30, 1917, that the library has been kept continually open and in operation two hours and a half in the morning and three hours and a half in the afternoon.

We now have in the library the following: Number of volumes on hand as per last report 4,486 Number of volumes added since last report 389

Making total of 4,875 Number of volumes worn out and discarded 45

Leaving total No. of volumes 4,830 Number of borrowers cards issued 1,986

We have subscribed for and have on the tables for the use of the reading public: Newspapers, 4. Magazines, 28. Number of volumes circulated, 28,942.

FINANCES. Amount on hand July 1, 1917. \$15.27 Cash from city 1,500.00 Fines, etc., collected 119.29 Balance in hands of Librarian July 1, 1917 33.99 \$1,668.55

Expended as follows: Salaries \$781.25 Light and water 40.97 Coal 82.62 Books and periodicals 396.12 Supplies 6.44 Building furnishings and supplies 82.24 Freight and express 85c Sewerage 15.00 Incidentals paid by Librarian 18.13 Insurance 154.00 Printing 7.25 Balance in hands of Librarian 24.89 Balance in Bank 36.69 \$1,668.55

Respectfully submitted, IRA L. SMITH, President. HELEN ROPER, Secretary.

MAY BE TWO CIRCUSES. Ringling's Circus wants to come to Hopkinsville Sept. 20 and Robinson's has already claimed the date of Aug. 30, during the county fair. Whether both or only one of them will come is still a question of doubt.