

A BLACK TOWN

Louisburg Has First Blackout

First Signal Given 9:05 P. M. Tuesday Night; Black At 9:25 and Clear at 9:55; State Guard Assists Civilian Defense; Chief Warden W. B. Barrow Well Pleased With Cooperation; It Was a Practice Blackout

Louisburg experienced its first war time blackout Tuesday night when the Sirene announced the approach of enemy planes, the Civilian Defense mobilized and made their appearance with the aid of the State (Home) Guard, lights begun to go out, traffic stopped and the town apparently was asleep. This alarm was sounded at 9:05, with a long sharp Sirene call, and represented a real blackout call, taking the populace by utter surprise, which without full understanding of just what to do, accounted for the lack of immediate action on the part of some, but Chief Air Raid Warden, W. B. Barrow, considered he had one hundred per cent cooperation and was especially well pleased.

The red or immediate danger sign, several short blasts from Sirene, was sounded at 9:25 and all was black, movements stopped, people took shelter for protection and awaited the final "blow-up." At 9:35 the third signal, another long steady blast from the Sirene, was sounded informing the people that the enemy had passed, but might return. It also informed them they might venture out, drive with dim lights, go back to work, or move about, but not to turn on lights, and to be ready to take safety again on the return of the enemy. The Civilian Defense and its assistants began to check up for possible damage.

At 9:55 the All Clear sign, which was given over radio was sounded and the town came alive again with lights and activity as usual. This being Louisburg's first practice blackout, and entirely unexpected, some errors were made, but were soon corrected. The Civilian Defense organization and its assistants checked on and put out several lights, but as a whole the experience should be considered successful. The next will be more perfect, as the people are daily becoming more convinced that an air raid from the enemy is easily possible in Louisburg.

Chief Warden Barrow was very enthusiastic in his appreciations of the splendid cooperation given him in this blackout both to the general public and the many wardens, the State Guard and all assistants.

This should be repeated that we may perfect the system before we have actual need. There is little doubt, but as the enemy loses more it will become more desperate, and since it has been demonstrated that this country is easily accessible by plane from enemy bases, it is possible they will turn to retaliation by resorting to any and all kinds of destruction possible. Therefore, the air raid is the most feasible and possible method to look forward for.

We have no assurance who will be the victim so all should cooperate fully in the protection for all.

JOINS WAACS

Miss Helen Reynolds, (Teeny) Allen, daughter of Mrs. F. H. Allen, Sr., and the late Mr. Allen, has joined the WAACS and is awaiting call with assignment.

PROGRAM AT THE LOUISBURG THEATRE

The following is the program at the Louisburg Theatre, beginning Saturday, Feb. 27th:

Saturday—Roy Rogers and Gabby Hayes in "Riding Down The Canyon" and Alan Mowbray in "The Devil With Hitler." Also a new chapter of "G Men vs. hTe Black Dragon."

Sunday—Monday—Ginger Rogers and Cary Grant in "Once Upon A Honey Moon."

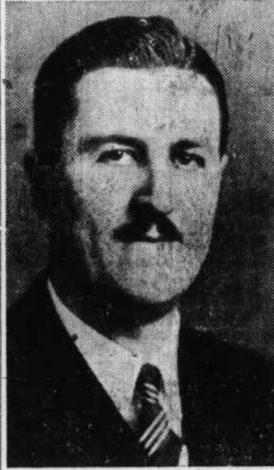
Tuesday—Frank Buc's newest jungle adventure "Jacare," also a new chapter of Bill Elliott in "The Valley of Vanishing Men."

Wednesday—Fredric March and Veronica Lake in "I Married A Witch."

Thursday—Friday—Ida Lupino and Dennis Morgan in "The Hard Way."

—On Pay Day, Buy Bonds—

RETIRED FROM ACTIVE DUTY



Lt. Wilbur A. Raynor arrived home Sunday night from his Coastal Air Patrol base after having received his release to recuperate his health. He was accompanied by his wife, who had been with him since the first of the year.

The following letter from Maj. Frank E. Dawson, his Commander, will be read with interest by his many friends in Franklin County, who will regret to learn of his physical condition.

Office of Civilian Defense
Washington, D. C.
Civil Coastal Patrol Base
February 21, 1943.

Subject: Release from Active duty as Assistant Operations Officer of Civil Coastal Control.

To: Lt. Wilbur A. Raynor.
To Whom It May Concern:
1. Lt. Wilbur A. Raynor, Serial No. 4-4-428, was given at his request his release from active duty from Civil Coastal Patrol Base No. 21, due to a physical condition whereby his physician, after an examination, advised him that it would be necessary for him to return home and rest for a certain number of hours each day in order to regain his health.

2. We are releasing Lt. Raynor with regrets, as his services as Assistant Operations Officer at this base were most satisfactory.

Sincerely yours,
MAJOR FRANK E. DAWSON,
Base Commander.

Lt. Raynor informs the FRANKLIN TIMES that he will resume the management of his Radio and Jewelry shop.

Red Cross War Drive

The Red Cross War Drive for the Louisburg Area begins March 1 in all the districts outside of Louisburg proper. It will begin March 15 in Louisburg. Please take notice of this.

In order to reach our goal, \$3,900.00, it is necessary that great giving be done. There will have to be a number of \$50.00 gifts, and at least one hundred \$25.00 gifts. Those who gave \$1.00 last year should give from \$5.00 to \$10.00 this year.

Our soldiers are fighting for us. The Red Cross is the only organization, which serves them without reserve in every phase of their lives. We must match our soldiers' lives with our money.

Your Red Cross Chairman expects to do his full part. Will you?

A. PAUL BAGBY, Chm'n.
Louisburg Red Cross.

Dr. Bagby To Attend

Buie's Creek, Feb. 23.—Campbell College is to entertain a group of Baptist pastors from eastern Carolina in a Pastor's Conference beginning March 1, at 3 p. m., and continuing through noon, Friday the 5th.

Among the leaders who will be present are Dr. S. L. Blanton, Wilmington; Dr. A. Paul Bagby, Louisburg; Rev. E. Norfleet Gardner, Henderson; and Mr. I. G. Greer, Mills Home, Thomasville. Dr. Bagby will introduce the Sermon on the Mount; E. N. Gardner is to speak on "Furth-erance of the Gospel Through Missions"; and Dr. Blanton will conduct open forum discussions and deliver two or three addresses.

Campbell College and Buie's Creek church are to furnish bed and breakfast to the visitors. Other meals can be obtained in the college dining hall for forty cents each.

—On Pay Day, Buy Bonds—

850 LIVES LOST

In Sinking Of Two Ships

U-Boats Sink Passenger-Cargo Craft In North Atlantic; Officers, Fighting Men and Civilian War Workers Among Victims; Worst Disaster In Battle Of Atlantic

Washington, Feb. 22.—More than 850 persons were lost in the North Atlantic early this month, the Navy announced today, when enemy submarines torpedoed two American passenger-cargo ships taking military personnel and civilian war workers overseas.

This twin blow constituted the worst disaster, measured in loss of life, suffered by the United States in the Battle of the Atlantic.

Most of the 850 casualties were Army and Navy officers and men or members of the Marine Corps and Coast Guard.

They were listed by the Navy as "known dead or missing," but there was little hope that many of the missing could have survived the wintry gales and violent seas of the North Atlantic at this season.

The two ships were sunk in a four-day period. The submarines attacked under cover of night. The torpedoes hit with deadly accuracy and each ship went down within 30 minutes.

Heavy Loss
The condition of the weather at the time was not reported, but storms may have hindered the successful launching of lifeboats; and this, coupled with the swiftness with which the vessels sank, may have accounted, at least in part, for the heavy loss of life.

The first ship attacked had more than 300 persons aboard, including the crew. More than 600 were lost—either killed by the torpedo explosion or otherwise, or considered officially to be missing.

There were about 500 persons aboard the second ship. More than 250 of these also are dead or missing.

The Navy spokesman said he lacked any amplifying details as to the loss of the vessels. He was unable to say whether they were traveling in convoy or alone. The names of the ships were not made public.

Not Official Ships
The spokesman said the vessels were not Navy or Army transports, at least in a technical sense. They were privately-operated passenger-cargo ships not under the direct control of either of the armed services. Thus, it was not possible to say accurately, without further details, how these losses affect the Navy's boast, made particularly with reference to World War I operations, that no troopships had been lost while under the protection of American naval escort.

The British and some other United Nations have suffered heavy casualties from U-boat attacks in the Atlantic, but losses of life aboard American merchant ships have been invariably small in relation to the number of troops and civilian war workers transported by ship. One sinking which American naval officers recall is that of a medium-sized merchant vessel which went down off the east coast last June in which 88 persons were lost. They could not recall the sinking of any American merchantman with a loss of life running into the hundreds.

Recorder's Court

Franklin Recorder's Court held regular session on Tuesday and disposed of cases as follows:
George Thurston Allen plead guilty as to violation of motor vehicle law and was found not guilty as to speeding, to be discharged on payment of costs.

W. B. Privett was found not guilty of public drunkenness, but guilty of allowing minor to operate car without license, was discharged upon payment of costs.

Vance Lee Denton was found guilty of no drivers license, to be discharged on payment of costs.

W. M. Stallings plead guilty to public drunkenness, using profane language, was given 30 days on each count to run concurrently, upon payment of costs, execution to issue at any time within two years, upon request of Solicitor.

A nolle pros was taken in the case of motor vehicle violator against Nora McGowan.

A nolle pros was taken in the case of no drivers license against Elmo McGowan.

RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION \$1.50 per year in Advance

PRICE MEETING

To Be Held in Louisburg March 1st, at 8 P. M.; All Merchants Expected To Be Present

The Office of Price Administration announces an important Price meeting for the merchants of Franklin County to be held in the Court House in Louisburg on Monday night, March 1st, at 8 o'clock. The notices sent out state:

"The Price Division staff of the State Office of Price Administration in Raleigh, made up of Business Specialists for particular lines who have studied and analyzed the various regulations, will discuss such regulations as they apply to your business and answer your questions.

"The meeting will be brief but clear and to the point. The price regulations applicable to your business will be explained fully. YOU should attend if you are a wholesaler or retailer of commodities or if you render a service in connection with a commodity.

"The Office of Price Administration has ruled that this is a meeting on important government business and you are entitled to use your car for the purpose of driving to the meeting."

Your War Price and Rationing Board for Franklin County is composed of Asher Frank Johnson, Chairman, Philip Ray Insoe, F. C. Winston.

Your price Panel for Franklin County is composed of W. B. Barrow, Chairman, P. P. Purnell, Mrs. Ben Holden.

All persons affected by the Price ceiling rules are urged to be present.

State Guard

The 8th Company of the State Guard was mobilized last Tuesday evening for the test blackout. Orders for the mobilization were not issued until late in the afternoon but all except four members of the Company were present and on time at the designated hour. It is believed that the full strength of the Second Platoon, commanded by R. Lee Johnson, was present.

This is the first occasion on which the 8th Company has been mobilized on short notice. In view of the fact that many of the men live long distances from the Armory—about a third of the membership lives from ten to eighteen miles away—it is greatly to the credit of the organization and particularly of the individual members of the Company that the mobilization was so nearly complete, said Capt. Yarborough.

Lt. P. W. Elam and Lt. R. Lee Johnson travelled this week over the area assigned to this Company in order to familiarize themselves with the roads and towns and to prepare for mobilization of the Company in any part of the area.

The territory extends from Franklin County eastward to Bertie County, and it was an extensive trip for the officers. The report of their survey indicates that they made a thorough investigation and preparation, and they are to be highly commended for their efforts.

It is understood that those few men who joined the Company in a temporary burst of patriotic enthusiasm have now been discharged, and that the present membership, with only one or two exceptions is composed of men who are sincere in their efforts to attend all drills and assemblies, are to perform the duties assigned to them conscientiously and ably, and are anxious and desirous of making the 8th Company one of the outstanding companies in the entire First Regiment, stated Capt. Yarborough.

LOUISBURG METHODIST CHURCH

"Week of Dedication" is being observed all over Methodism this week. Sunday morning in the Methodist Church two of the laymen, W. C. Stroud, and V. R. Kilby, and Dr. Walter Patten of the College, will participate in the service.

Special services in observance of this week will be held Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights at 7:45.

Church School convenes at 9:45 a. m., led by Prof. I. D. Moon.

Intermediate and Young People's services meet at 2:30 and 6:45 respectively.

LOUISBURG BAPTIST CHURCH

The subject of the morning service next Sunday will be "The Modern Goliath." In the evening the pastor continues the series of sermons on Old Testament Saints, preaching on Abraham. A warm welcome awaits all those who attend. We should fill the churches of Louisburg each Sunday.

9:45 a. m. Sabbath School.
11:00 a. m. Morning Worship.
7:30 p. m. Evening Worship.



COMMANDER OF ALLIED FORCES IN NORTH AFRICA—Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, promoted to the highest U. S. military rank on February 11, directs the operations of the combined American, British and French armies in ousting the Axis from Africa. He was born in Tyler, Texas, in 1890, graduated from the U. S. Military Academy at West Point in 1915, and during the World War was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal for "his unusual zeal, foresight and marked administrative ability" while commanding officer of the Tank Corps Training Center at Camp Colt, Gettysburg, Pa. He has filled many important posts in the War Department and while serving as Assistant Chief of Staff in charge of the operations division, Office of the Chief of Staff, Washington, D. C., in June, 1942, he was designated as commanding general of the European theater with headquarters in London. He organized and commanded the American forces in landing in North Africa November 8, 1942.

War Book 1

Persons who did not register for War Book 1 before January 15, 1943, may obtain this Book from his local War Price and Rationing Board on or after February 22. The following procedure will be followed:

The regular application Form shall be submitted, and shall be accompanied by a Form on which the applicant shall state:

1. The names of the consumers for whom the application is filed.
2. Their addresses on May 4, 1942, all their addresses since that date, and the date during which they lived at each address.
3. A statement that such persons have not been registered, and a statement of the reasons for such failure to register.

4. Such other facts or affidavits as the Board may require.

The Board may not grant the application until it has taken the following action:

1. Received satisfactory proof of identity, such as Draft card, driver's license, etc.
2. Received satisfactory proof of his present address, such as a currently dated utilities bill, bank statement, etc.
3. Received satisfactory evidence that there has been no previous registration.

4. Received a statement from all Rationing Boards in areas in which the applicant formerly resided that no books have been issued to the applicant.

Upon issuing the Book, sugar stamps shall be removed, if necessary, on the basis of the sugar inventory as of May 4, 1942. Coffee stamps shall be tailored according to instructions for issuing War Ration Book 2, and bringing their record up to date of issue.

Gets Still

Officer K. E. Joyner reports the destruction of a steel drum still outfit at the head of Mitchell's pond in Franklinton township, Tuesday morning and the turning out of about one hundred gallons of mash. The mash he said contained black molasses. He was assisted by Officer R. E. Neal, Patrolman Bynum and State enforcement officer Greer.

ERROR

The statement in last week's FRANKLIN TIMES that Coffee Coupon No. 15 is valid till March 21, for one pound of Coffee was in error as it should have been No. 25. This error was handed us in the copy and we just naturally failed to catch it. Your Coupon No. 25 is good for a pound of Coffee until March 21st, including children who were 14 years of age when registering.—Editor.

LIBRARY HOURS CURTAILED

The schedule at the Franklin County Library has been cut considerably. This has been due to the withdrawal of all WPA help. The library will be closed on Mondays.

On Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, the library will be opened from one to five in the afternoons, and on Saturdays, from ten to three.

WAR NEWS

Allied Headquarters in North Africa, Feb. 24.—Combined British and American forces threw Field Marshal Rommel's tank columns into full retreat from the outskirts of Thala today, handing them their first defeat in Tunisia, and tonight Allied artillery lobbed tons of explosive steel into German positions in the narrow Kasserine Pass and on the beaten rear-guard columns withdrawing through it.

The big guns were giving the German tank columns twisting through the pass no chance to rest and reform, and hundreds of Allied planes racing overhead left a trail of smoking Axis transport and dying German soldiers all the way from Thala's approaches to Feriana far south of the opposite end of Kasserine Pass.

Planes Pound Germans
Hundreds of Allied planes and Allied ground forces began hitting Marshal Rommel yesterday morning, inflicting the first major setback on the Axis troops since they lashed out on their offensive 11 days ago.

Then the Allied artillery hastened the Axis retreat into the mouth of the pass.

The American-British aerial smash far overwhelmed the initial German Stuka efforts in the recent fight at Faid, and was continuing.

Rommel's retreat—and it was by field accounts a full retreat—began yesterday and by today at least 300 Axis prisoners and large quantities of German material had fallen into Allied hands.

London, Thursday, Feb. 25.—The Red army surging westward over a 300-mile front in a race against spring mud was reported early today to have toppled several more Axis strongholds in the drive toward Poltava and Konotop, Ukraine rail junctions guarding the approaches to the Nazi Dnieper River line.

The regular midnight Moscow communique recorded by the Soviet monitors said another large populated place west of Kharkov had fallen, reported fresh gains in the effort to encircle Orel, king of the southern and central fronts, and told of the trapping of two German battalions (approximately 1,600 men) in the western Caucasus.

Refused To Surrender
The Russians said those two battalions now were being annihilated after refusing surrender.

Intensive German counterattacks with tank and plane support were acknowledged in the Donets Basin. While claiming the repulse of most of these, the Russians admitted German units had driven a wedge into their lines southwest of Ramatorsk. This town is about 50 miles above Stalino whence the Nazi escape railway runs out of the Donets Basin.

Thirteen German tanks were destroyed in the fighting, but the bulletin did not tell of the final outcome.

New Draft Proposal

Washington, Feb. 24.—A House Military Affairs subcommittee today disclosed plans for a complete investigation of selective service operations after Rep. Forest A. Harness, R., Ind., demanded that "desk heroes" and "draft dodgers" deferred for government and war industry jobs be turned out to fight.

In a formal statement after its first executive session at which Harness testified, the subcommittee said the inquiry is intended to force the "privileged deferred" into uniform.

Large Group
"Undoubtedly," it said, "there must be a large group of people eligible for the draft who are evading military service through unjustified deferment."

"The committee intends to replace this group with those not eligible for military service."

Harness, who introduced the resolution proposing the probe, said induction of the "young, able-bodied white collar workers and so-called irreplaceables in government and industry, would add 500,000 men to the armed forces and go a long way in solving the manpower problem.

"It also will put off drafting fathers for at least until after summer he said.

The county will continue to be serviced as usual by a library assistant traveling with Miss Braxton.