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Worked Under Fire Sweeping Out Minefields

J. Lawrence Sprunt, Jr., Gets Commendation And Promotion For Skill And Seamanship

NOW COMMANDER ON "P. C." BOAT

Sweeping A Channel Through Heavily Mined Waters For Assault On Salerno

James L. Sprunt, Jr., son of J. L. and Mrs. James L. Sprunt, of Longwood and Orton Plantation, Brunswick County, was mentioned in a press release last week having received special commendation for duty while engaged in the invasion of Italy. Since the press release reached the papers Lieutenant Sprunt has been promoted to full Lieutenant in the U. S. N. R. He is now in command of a "P. C." boat in an active theatre of war.

Lieutenant Sprunt was awarded several commendations for meritorious and outstanding performance of duty for sweeping a channel off Porto Empedocle, Sicily, and for participation in the amphibious assault on the west coast of Italy.

As commanding officer of a minesweeper he was commended for duty while engaged in sweeping a channel through a large minefield off Porto Empedocle while his ship was under enemy fire from shore batteries, dive bombing and strafing attacks.

The citation accompanying Lieutenant Sprunt's second commendation said he displayed great skill and able seamanship in sweeping a channel through an enemy minefield in the Gulf of Salerno, "thereby permitting the successful approach to the beach of the first assault waves and succeeding craft and transport without damage."

You conducted these operations under the hazardous conditions of darkness, low visibility and often under heavy enemy aerial attack," the citation added.

Mrs. C.C. Cannon To Head Group

Volunteer Service Organization Formed To Help With Local USO Club, Committee Also Chosen

Mrs. C. C. Cannon was elected Saturday by ladies of the Volunteer Service Organization to be chairman of the group. The meeting was held at the U. S. O. Club.

A committee composed of Mrs. Ed. Taylor, Mrs. Annie K. Hill, and Mrs. Edith Robinson has been chosen to help Mrs. Cannon with further planning. The purpose of the Volunteer Service Organization is to help the management of the U. S. O. with various problems, the most immediate being that of providing hostesses for the present at the Club at all times.

Brief News Flashes

- GRADUATES: Miss Josephine Moore is at home with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Moore. Miss Moore recently graduated at the University of North Carolina and she will be here until summer when she will accept a position as counselor at a camp.
- BALL DIAMOND: A baseball diamond has been cleared west of town near the industrial waterway and plans are in making for a schedule of games to be played. There will be a game on Sunday afternoon with the Oak Island Coast Guard Station.
- MASTERS BORN: Master Sergeant and Mrs. W. Harris announce the birth of daughter, Nancy Lee, on the 28th March in St. Joseph's Hospital, Costa Mesa, Calif. Mrs. Harris is the former Miss Daisy Belle Maulsby of Bolivia.
- SERVICE TO BE HELD: There will be a Communion service at Trinity Methodist church at 10 o'clock on Thursday night conducted by the pastor, Rev. R. S. Harrison. This is the only observance of Passion Week in Southport so far as can be determined.

Captain Brinkman Paid Well Deserved Tribute

Lifelong Friend And Fellow Follower Of The Seas Writes Of Man Who Served In Days Of Sailing Boats

(EDITOR'S NOTE: For many years Captain Sam Brinkman was in the Coast Guard, winning honors both for himself and the service in days when the duties of a Coast Guardsman were fraught with many perils. He is now in feeble health but he gets about and always has a smile and an interested greeting for all whom he meets. Seeing Captain Sam on the streets, a few days ago, his life-long friend, Captain J. B. Church was moved to write the following interesting articles.)

Glancing from my window in a mood of reflection I catch a glimpse of Captain Sam Brinkman coming down the street and I am reminded of a fitting tribute on record in the files of the Coast Guard at Washington, D. C. commending him for rescuing the crew of the ship "Savannah" when this vessel grounded on Cape Fear Shoals in a heavy gale.

In substance this letter acknowledges that the rescue was undertaken regardless of the apparent insurmountable dangers and perils of the sea and goes on to state that the annals of the Coast

Guard carry no record that surpasses the superb seamanship, heroism and devotion to duty of Captain Sam in making this rescue.

The Captain kept alive the splendid tradition of the service which is aptly defined by some remarks between two members of a Coast Guard crew that was attempting to launch a life-boat for rescue work in the foul weather of a gale. A young man who had just joined the Service, viewing the forbidding sky and the crashing foaming breakers, remarked to an older man, "If we get out there we will never come back"—the older man replied, "We don't think about getting back 'Bub,' it is our job to get out there."

I venture the thought that Captain Sam, in reverie, often lives over that day and in fancy reviews the drama of action move by move just as though it were portrayed on a canvas in appropriate colors in every detail by an artist of note; the fury and treachery of the seas that filled the lifeboat as quickly as it was

(Continued on page 4)

Red Cross Drive Came To Close Last Friday

Quota Of \$8,800.00 Not Reached But Good Showing Made In County

NOT ALL REPORTS RECEIVED YET

Complete List Of Money Raised And Reported To Chairman Given

Brunswick County failed in its attempt to raise \$8,800.00 in the Red Cross War Fund Drive during the month of March, according to figures supplied by Mrs. J. A. Russ, county chairman. However, the quota this year was more than twice the quota last year so Mrs. Russ and her helpers deserve a great deal of credit for raising the \$6,613.87 which was raised.

The Waccamaw district with Principal Denning as chairman raised \$637.18. He was assisted by Mrs. L. C. Brown and Mrs. Edna Bennett. This money was raised by the school, Friendship Baptist church, Longwood Baptist church, Soldier Bay Baptist church and Mt. Zion Baptist church.

At Shallotte \$1,778.55 was raised. Henry C. Stone was chairman for that area and was assisted by a number of persons. The amount each raised is as follows:

Shallotte school, \$1,464.61; Miss Mae Mastertz, \$44.40; Mrs. M. M. Rosenbaum, \$58.25; Ken Benson, \$75.78; Mrs. Katherine Frink, \$18.01; Mrs. Clara Holden, \$10.00; E. V. Gore, (Jennies Branch Baptist Church), \$5.20; Rev. J. L. Mintz, (Old Shallotte Baptist Church), \$17.28; Prospect Baptist Church, (Miss Evelyn Phelps), \$17.55; Christie Bell (Colored), \$25.79; Clarence Stanley, (Colored) (Pleasant Hill Baptist Church), \$6.70; Mrs. Sam T. Bennett, Hickman's X Road, \$17.00; Sharon Methodist Church, Mrs. Carvin Roache, \$8.00; and A contribution, \$10.00.

The amount raised at Bolivia was \$209.86. Glenn Tucker was chairman and the following reported the amounts raised:

School \$111.59; Mrs. Creola Russ, \$8.59; Mrs. Mercer Cox, \$2.00; Mrs. Ina Mae Mintz, \$35.00; Other contributions, \$6.00; Junior Red Cross, \$6.68; and Mrs. J. D. Johnson and Mrs. Garner, chairman, reported having raised \$266.48 of which the school raised \$112.09 and Miss Sallie Betts Knox, \$154.39.

Big Macedonia and Cedar Grove Baptist churches raised \$21.95. Rev. Willie Pugh is the preacher.

Mrs. Janie Henry at Winnabow raised \$35.00.

Mrs. Russ stresses the point (Continued on Page Four)

Lt. Campbell Honors His Adopted State In Iceland

Son Of Caswell Commanding Officer Tells Of Recent Arrival On Desolate Island In North Atlantic

WIFE NOW LIVING AT CASWELL SECTION BASE

Though Not A Native North Carolinian He Appreciates Good Points Of Old North State

Lt. George T. Campbell, Jr., only son of Commander and Mrs. Campbell of Caswell Section Base, recently arrived in Iceland and proceeded to honor his adopted state by calling his hut "North Carolina-God's Country."

When Lt. Campbell arrived on the bleak, desolate island where U. S. troops are stationed he found that it was his privilege to name his quarters. Immediately he dubbed the hut for the state in which his wife and his parents are now living.

Lt. Campbell is in the Coast Artillery Corps and was until his transfer overseas stationed at Camp Davis. He is a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point.

Recently Mrs. Campbell, Senior, received an English magazine, "Illustrated," which featured a story on the island of Iceland. In this magazine were mentioned several places where her son has been. Among them was the recreation hall which has been named "Kwitzerbelliakinn" by the boys.

Lt. Campbell reports that there are no trees on the island and (Continued on page two)

Nine Defendants Faced Recorder

Weekly Grind In Recorder's Court Handled In Short Order This Week By Judge Ward And Solicitor J. W. Ruark

Monday morning found a county court docket of nine cases awaiting trial. In one of these the defendant failed to appear and a capias was issued for his arrest, his case being continued. The minutes of the court show the following cases handled by Judge John B. Ward and Solicitor J. W. Ruark, before noon:

Eugene Smith, possession; three months on roads, judgment suspended on payment of fine of \$25.00 and costs. Sugar confiscated and given to county home.

Mrs. Ruby Bennett, assault with deadly weapon; taxed with costs.

Hugh L. Grayson, drunken driving; six months on roads, judgment suspended on payment of fine of \$75.00 and costs.

Katherine Shaw, possession; thirty days on county farm, judgment suspended on payment of costs.

William Shaw, possession; six months on roads, judgment suspended on payment of fine of \$50.00 and costs. Defendant also placed on good behavior for two years.

Johnnie Roberts, assault with deadly weapon; four months on (Continued on Page 4)

Court Opens Here Tuesday Morning

Clerk of Court Sam T. Bennett was advised Monday that Governor J. M. Broughton had consented to an exchange of courts between Judge W. C. Harris, of Raleigh, and Judge Henry L. Stevens, of Warsaw.

The change brings Judge Stevens here to preside at the one week term of civil court scheduled to begin next Tuesday.

Previous to the exchange of courts Judge Harris had decided to open court on Tuesday, April 11, owing to the fact that Monday, April 10, was a holiday and it is optional with judges whether or not they hold court on such days. Jurors, witnesses and litigants had been notified to appear Tuesday, instead of Monday, before advices were received regarding the exchange in judges.

Leland Robbery Case Now Ended

Total Of Seventy Three Years In Federal Prison Divided Among Negroes Who Robbed Post Office At Leland

The robbery of the Leland post office which took place several months ago, turned out to be a project of only temporary profit to three negroes, James Johnson, Richard Fringle and George Brown, all of Wilmington.

They made a fair sized haul of money, stamps, bonds and merchandise at Leland and other places which they robbed. The FBI recovered much of this when it gathered in the gang. Tried in Federal Court in Fayetteville recently, Johnson got 47 years, Fringle 14 and Brown 12. This time they will spend in Federal prisons.

Mrs. U. L. Rourk is postmistress at Leland and with her husband owns and operates a store in the same building in which the post office is located. The safe in the store was robbed as well as (Continued on Page 4)

Farmers Pushed With Their Work

Rapid Development Of Tobacco Plants Is Forcing Plowing While Ground Is Still Wet From Continued Rains

Rapid development of tobacco plants is pushing farmers to plow their lands while it is still too wet, in the opinion of many farmers. The situation is that the plants are large and growing rapidly. They will soon be too long and leggy to be regarded as choice, unless they are transplanted from the beds to the open fields. Continuous rains have (Continued on Page 2)

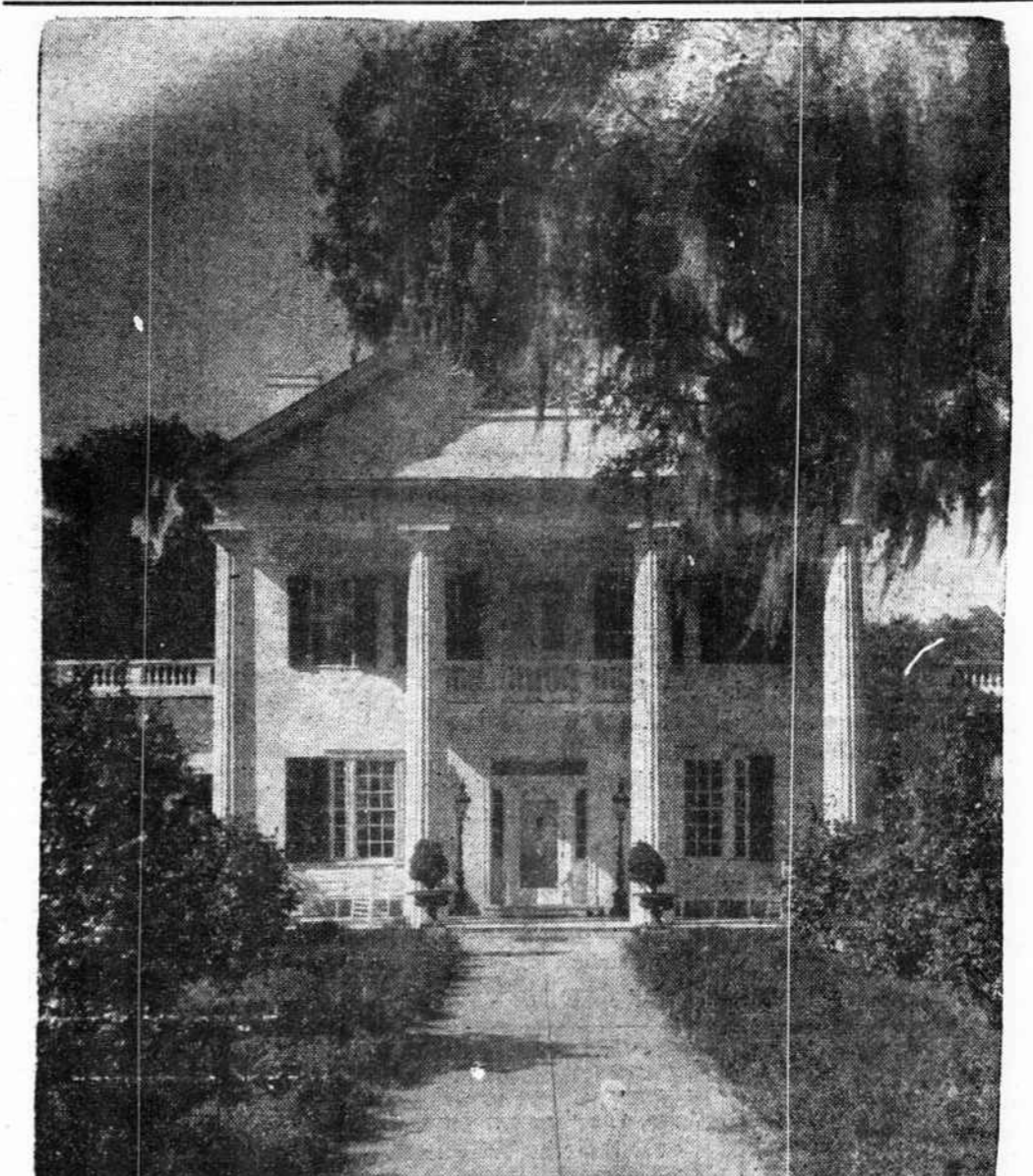
Mrs. Atkinson Died Last Friday

Well Known And Esteemed Town Creek Township Woman Passes At Her Home After A Long Illness, Mother Of Local Man

Mrs. Sarah Jane Atkinson, 68, died at her home in Town Creek township on Friday morning following a long illness.

Surviving is the husband, D. G. Atkinson; two daughters, Mrs. T. B. Johnson, of Leland and Mrs. Charlie Walton, of Bolivia; a son, J. L. Robbins, of Southport; five grand children; two sisters, Mrs. Ava Gore, of Winnabow, and Mrs. Ada Ganey, of Mill Sound; (Continued on Page 2)

COLONIAL ORTON



ORTON MANSION—The beautiful home of Mr. and Mrs. J. Lawrence Sprunt is the focal point of the widely famed Orton Gardens, show place of North Carolina. Despite travel restrictions and the bad weather that prevailed, Mr. Sprunt stated yesterday that fifteen hundred people visited the gardens last Sunday. Hundreds are now visiting the gardens daily and, with good weather, next Sunday should bring out a record crowd.

"T" Operators Must Apply In Person For Gas

New Procedure Went Into Effect March 31; Designed To Give Closer Check On Issuance Of "T" Rations

RALEIGH, April 5.—Operators of commercial motor vehicles, including trucks, buses, taxicabs and rental cabs, must apply in person to their local war price and rationing boards for second quarter "T" motor fuel rations under a new procedure announced jointly by the Office of Price Administration and the Office of Defense Transportation.

The new procedure, which went into effect March 31, is designed to provide a closer check on the issuance of "T" rations.

Heretofore, many local boards have mailed "T" coupons to non-fleet operators, while fleet operators had to apply in person. Now all must apply in person.

Second quarter "T" rations will be issued in accordance with latest ODT certifications.

Orton Is Beautiful Now With Gardens In Bloom

State's Brunswick Mansion Now At Its Best With Azaleas Blooming

VISITORS ARE ARRIVING DAILY

In Spite Of Unusually Cold Weather The Gardens Are Presenting A Spectacle Of Color

According to reports from Mr. and Mrs. J. Lawrence Sprunt and from Jim Fenger, manager of Orton Plantation, the early blooming azaleas at the beautiful Orton Gardens are now at their full peak of loveliness. Easter will see the flowers showing all that flower lovers could ask for in the way of beauty.

Injured by the cold spells, the late blooming azaleas will not be so good this year. The early plants, those now showing, seem to have been in no way effected by the cold. "They are just as good as ever, and will continue that way through Easter and perhaps for some time longer," said the Plantation manager when he was here a few days ago.

The State Highway Commission has been doing everything possible to keep the River Road, between Southport and the Brunswick River Bridge and through Orton Plantation, in first-class condition.

Despite war time travelling restrictions and the bad weather great numbers of visitors have already been to the gardens this year. The guest registration book in the Chapel is already showing names from all sections of the United States. This coming Sunday is expected to bring visitors by the hundreds.

Annual Banquet American Legion

District Commander J. A. Maulsby With Local Post At Celebration Of 25th Anniversary

The Brunswick County Post of the American Legion celebrated the 25th anniversary of the organization with a banquet at Martha's Tea Room on Thursday night. District Commander J. A. Maulsby of Whiteville was present and made an interesting talk, speaking of the first world war in which he served.

About thirty members of the Post were in attendance. The banquet is an annual affair with the Legion members and those who were able to attend the event this year were especially interested in the date marking the first quarter of a century since the Legion was organized.

Clean-Up Efforts Progressing Well

Clean-Up Campaign Going Well In Some Sections Of Town Thanks To Public Spirited Residents

Although Southport's clean-up week got off to a bad start, owing to rains on Monday, residents are now making up for lost time and the campaign inaugurated by the city officials is bidding fair to be successful. Already the town is presenting an altered appearance, due to the activities of many of the more public spirited residents.

Under his home at intervals of about a week apart. Both were killed. Mrs. Wessell, of the Leland community was bitten by a mad fox several days ago. She has been receiving treatment.

Mrs. M. E. Chinnis of the Phoenix section of Northwest township was recently attacked by a mad fox, which she killed without the animal biting her. Another mad fox was recently found under the home of Mrs. A. M. Chinnis of the same community. It was in the last stages of rabies (Continued on page 2)

Largest Grower Says Weed Crop Will Be Good

Brunswick's Largest Tobacco Planter Will Begin Setting Out Plants This Week, He Says

OPTIMISTIC ABOUT GENERAL CONDITIONS

Thinks Tobacco Plants Are Fine And He Has Already Planted Part Of His Cotton and Corn Crops

Indismayed by the continued wet weather, Rice Gwynn of Longwood, Brunswick's largest tobacco grower, stated yesterday that everything was going well.

"Tobacco plants are fine," he said. "I am starting to transplant mine to the fields this week. Have already planted much of my cotton and corn and I don't see anything to make us discouraged."

Mr. Gwynn, who operates a sales warehouse on the Fairmont market during the tobacco selling season, grows some 70 acres of tobacco on his farm between Longwood and Thomasboro. His experience with the weed runs from the time of planting the seed in the beds until the stalks are removed from the field. His frankly expressed opinion that everything is O. K. with the tobacco crop, and general farming, is greatly encouraging.

With planting his tobacco this week, Mr. Gwynn will probably be the first Brunswick planter to engage in such work this season. Many other growers, however, have stated that their plants are ready and are unusually good. The one fault they find has been the fact that the continued rain have prevented them from preparing the fields.

Commissioners Order Closing For Observance Of Easter Holiday; Other Matters At Monday's Session

With all members present for their first of the month meeting the Board of Commissioners had little to attend to, outside of routine tax matters, Monday.

Among the routine tax matters, where valuation was changed on lands for various reasons, J. W. Lancaster, of Lockwoods, Folly; J. C. Nelson, of Town Creek; J. F. Robinson, of Lockwoods Folly; Alice Smith, of Town Creek and James Holmes, of Shallotte, were allowed to list certain lands at 1932 valuation.

The current Fund report of receipts and disbursements was ordered accepted and filed, as was a report from the Welfare Office on the county home.

The report of Sam T. Bennett, clerk of the Superior Court, for the month of February, was accepted and ordered filed.

It was ordered that all county offices be closed for the day, next Monday, the same being Easter Monday.

Ration Pointers

PROCESSED FOODS
Blue A3 through K3 now valid at 10 points each, for use with tokens. Good indefinitely.

MEATS AND FATS
Red A3, B3, C3, D3, E3, F3, G3, H3, and J3 (Book Four) now valid at 10 points each, for use with tokens. Good indefinitely. Red K3, L3, and M3 become valid April 9.

SUGAR
Sugar stamps No. 30 and 31 (Book Four) good for five pounds indefinitely.

CANNING SUGAR
Sugar stamps No. 40 good for five pounds of canning sugar until February 28, 1945. Apply to local board for rations.

SHOES
Stamp No. 18 (Book One) expires April 30. Airplane Stamp No. 1 (Book 3) valid indefinitely. Another shoe stamp, as yet not designated, will become valid May 1.

TIRE INSPECTION
"A" coupon holders, deadline September 30.
"B" coupon holders, deadline June 30.
"C" coupon holders, deadline May 31.

GASOLINE
A-9 coupons now valid. Expire May 8.



W. B. KEZIAH

Our ROVING Reporter

A dead fox with heavily swollen tongue and other indications that it had died of rabies, was found on the lot of Dr. L. C. Fergus, just back of his residence on Friday morning. It had evidently died there the night before. This makes the sixth rabid fox killed in Southport during the past month. The other five passed out via the shotgun or club route.

H. T. Lewis, who operates a store at Navassa and live in Leland, reported this past week that two mad foxes have been found (Continued on page 2)