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THE PILOT

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Southern Pines, North Carolina, Friday, December 26, 1941.

FIVE CENTS

Major William Fisher To Get Medal For Part In Trans-Pacific Flight

Southern Pines Flyer Cited by War Department for Hawaiian-Philippine Flight

WAS CAPTAIN AT THAT TIME

Captain William P. Fisher, 30, of Southern Pines, is among 75 officers and enlisted men who have been recommended to the President for awards of the Distinguished Flying Cross, the War Department in Washington announced Wednesday, December 24.

The awards are in recognition of a trans-Pacific formation flight September 5 to 12, which "ranks as one of the greatest in aviation history," according to the war Department.

(The Pilot has information that "Captain" Fisher has just recently been promoted to Major Fisher; but he was a captain at the time of the flight from Hawaii to the Philippines.)

The flight, made by a number of four-engined bombardment airplanes, was from Honolulu to the Philippine Islands, where the planes of the formation have been heavily engaged in the defense of the islands against Japanese attacks. The pilot of one of the bombers, Capt. Colin P. Kelly, Jr., successfully attacked the Japanese battleship, Haruna, in an action in which Capt. Kelly was killed. He will receive the award posthumously.

To avoid Japanese patrols, it was necessary to make the flight from Honolulu to the Philippines over an uncharted and circuitous route which took the formation deep into the South Pacific. Most of the long route had never before been flown by either commercial or military aircraft.

Cited for "Heroism"

Each of the officers and men of the formation have been recommended for the Distinguished Flying Cross by the Awards Committee of the Army Air Forces. Each was cited for "heroism and extraordinary achievement."

In each citation it is stated that "Due to the efficient efforts of the crew, the flight from Honolulu to Fort Stotsenburg was completed without accident or injury to any of the crew or passengers. The flight began on September 5, 1941, and was completed on September 12, 1941.

"This difficult trip was completed in excellent time and without mishap. The speed with which each phase of this flight was flown demonstrated superior leadership and ability on the part of its commander. Further, it brought credit to the United States and its Air Forces."

The Southern Pines man was one of three captains to receive the Award, and one of two North Carolinians, the other being Corporal Conrad R. Payne, 23, of Lenoir.

Fisher Tells of Flight

In a letter quoted in The Pilot of December 12, Major Fisher—then Captain—referred to this heroic flight with more or less nonchalance. Here are his words, written from the Philippines, again:

"I was attached to a squadron and began flying the 'Flying Fortress.' All was going quite smoothly (in Hawaii) when suddenly the little brown brothers began to get tough and a squadron was formed and sent over (to the Philippines) with nine bombers. I am second in command and a flight commander. They are wonderful airplanes—all you hear of them is true—and our outfit is well-trained and ready to operate."

Major Fisher lived most of his younger life in Southern Pines, graduating from the Southern Pines High School and later attending State College, where he trained in the R. O. T. C.

Shortly before his graduation in 1934, he received his appointment to the Air Corps, with orders to report at Randolph Field, San Antonio, Texas, two days after he received his degree. He was born in Star and lived most of his younger days in Southern Pines. For many years, his mother, Mrs. Nellie Fisher, was Southern Pines librarian.

The Distinguished Flying Cross, with which Major Fisher will be presented, was authorized by Congress to be awarded by the President "to any person who, while serving in any capacity with the Air Corps of the Army of the United States . . . has distinguished himself by heroism or extraordinary achievement while participating in an aerial flight."

Local Pender Store Gets New Manager

H. L. Hoffman last week became local manager of Pender's store here, succeeding G. A. Smith who was transferred to Charlotte.

Mr. Hoffman has been with Pender's for some time and comes here from a store in Gastonia, N. C. He and Mrs. Hoffman are at present making their home at Cozy Oaks but expect soon to move into an apartment.

MERRITT SUGG PASSES AT 71

Came Here from Chatham County in 1891; Served as Town and County Commissioner

Merritt N. Sugg, one of several Chatham County folks who early migrated to Southern Pines to take a part in its development, was laid to final rest in Mount Hope cemetery Friday afternoon. He was 71 years old.

Mr. Sugg, although recently in declining health, had insisted upon remaining at his farm, about 12 miles north of Sanford, and it was there that death took place last Thursday.

Funeral services were conducted at Powell Funeral Home Chapel at 3 o'clock Friday with the Rev. Voigt O. Taylor, pastor of the Church of Wide Fellowship, officiating.

Surviving are his widow, the former Miss Minnie Smith, who he married January 30, 1900; two daughters, Mrs. L. H. Cherry, Jr. of Charlotte, and Maurine Sugg of Southern Pines; and three sons, Richard of Southern Pines, Merritt of Amisville, Va., and Russell of Baden.

Came Here in 1891

Mr. Sugg was born in March, 1870, in Chatham County, the son of the late Robert Russell and Lavinia Ann Brown Sugg. He came to Southern Pines in 1891 at the age of 21 as a carpenter and builder. Among the first buildings he erected is the Montesanti Building on West Pennsylvania avenue, which has, in its years, housed many of the town's businesses.

Active in a variety of business and community affairs, Mr. Sugg operated a livery service at one time, his horse-drawn livery of the early 1900's being a forerunner of the modern station wagons. In this livery, for many years, Mr. Sugg met trains at Southern Pines depot and carried passengers to their destinations. He took part in promoting and the actual building of the first road to connect Southern Pines and Pinehurst, now approximately the same bed as the "old road" to Pinehurst.

Elected a town commissioner in 1905, he served several times in that capacity and was the only county commissioner that Southern Pines ever had.

In recent years he has been engaged with his son, Richard, in the dairy business, being operator of the Osco Dairy. Mr. Sugg was in charge of the farm management and was at his farm, just South of Deep River, at the time of his death.

Pallbearers were P. Frank Buchan, Scott Newton, James Schwartz, Yates Poe, A. M. Swinnerton and George Colton.

CHAIRMEN NAMED TO RAISE \$10,000

Paul Dana Heads County Effort to Meet Quota in Red Cross War Emergency Fund

The campaign of the Moore County Red Cross to raise its war quota of \$10,000 got under full swing this week with the appointment of special chairmen in various communities to conduct the campaign. Paul Dana of Pinehurst is chairman of the county Emergency War Fund.

The campaign is well underway in Pinehurst under the chairmanship of Francis T. Keating and at Knollwood with Mrs. E. C. Keating as chairman, Dana said.

Chairman for other towns were announced as follows: Aberdeen, Mrs. J. B. Edwards; Carthage, Mrs. Charles T. Grier; Hemp, W. P. Saunders; Pinebluff, Mrs. Malcolm D. Kemp; Southern Pines, Carl G. Thompson; West End, W. A. Johnson.

"The Moore County Chapter of the American Red Cross has always faithfully fulfilled its responsibilities and we know that our friends will not fail us at this important and urgent time, Mr. Dana said. "Everyone is invited to contribute and can send their contributions in to their local chairman, to Mrs. Alice Burt Hunt, county chairman, in Southern Pines, or to me, Paul Dana, in Pinehurst. It is important that the funds be raised promptly, and we know that the people of the county will consider it a privilege to donate as generously as possible."

The \$10,000 quota is the Moore County share of the Fifty Million Dollar Emergency War Fund being raised by the Red Cross at this time.



Christmas Bureau Low in Funds For Filling Baskets For Needy

Contributions Lagging This Year, Despite Help from School Children and Others

Unless there is a sudden last minute response to the Christmas Bureau's appeal for funds, there's going to be a slim Christmas for many needy families in this section, whose full observance of Christmas is made possible with the help of more fortunate.

Local school pupils swelled the food contributions last week by bringing to school cans of food wrapped in Christmas wrappings. These were turned over to the Christmas fund.

E. H. Lorenson, treasurer of the Christmas Bureau, which is being conducted this year by the Rotary Club, said that while food contributions were fairly high, few toys or cash had been turned in for the Christmas fund. Distribution of the Christmas baskets will be made Wednesday evening, Lorenson said, making it possible for last minute contributions to be made to his office at Professional court on East Pennsylvania avenue.

Grocery stores are displaying barrels into which canned food contributions may be dropped for distribution, Lorenson said. At Pender's store, the workers started off the barrel by each contributing a supply of groceries, it was reported.

The Young Fellowship League of the Church of Wide Fellowship is collecting old toys, repairing them, and making them available for distribution through the Bureau. Boy Scouts are helping to collect the toys, and the girls of the League are making dolls for the Christmas baskets. The Junior Chamber of Commerce will assist in distributing the Christmas baskets.

Elderly Woman Hurt by Hit-Run Driver

Miss Eva Hammond, elderly Southern Pines resident, is in Moore County Hospital, suffering broken leg and shoulder and severe lacerations, received last Friday night when she was struck by a hit-and-run driver near Manly, while she was walking toward Southern Pines.

Although the driver of the car sped on, Patrolman W. L. McKenzie of Aberdeen radioed to Sanford where Highway patrolmen stopped the car and driver, who gave his name as Henry P. Morris of Rocky Mount. He was held in county jail overnight and gave bond for appearance.

Proff Says Sandhills Example Of What Marley's Ghost Said

"Proff" Koch settled back in an easy chair, packed his ever-faithful pipe a little tighter with Planter's Pride, his favorite tobacco, applied a match and relaxed with a sip of steaming hot chocolate.

"That was a fine audience," he said. "You know, you can feel whether an audience is with you or not. And this one really seemed to be with me."

Prof. Frederick H. Koch had just finished his 225th reading of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol," given in the High School auditorium here, and had quite apparently pleased the goodly number of Sandhills folks which turned out to hear the program, sponsored by the newly-organized Junior Civic Club.

"You know, Proff," said the newspaperman, "I've heard you do the Carol a good many times, but there's

Rotary Club to Give Presents to Soldiers

Christmas Tree to be Placed at Camp of 57th Signal Corps; Presents Requested

The Rotary Club of Southern Pines will place a Christmas tree at the camp of the 57th Signal Corps, just to the right of U. S. Highway No. 1 between Southern Pines and Aberdeen, and presents will be distributed at 6:30 p. m., Christmas eve, December 24.

Realizing that many residents of the Sandhills welcome an opportunity to participate in adding to the Christmas spirit and enjoyment of those who will remain in camp over the holidays, the Rotary committee in charge invites contribution of presents or money to purchase them. Those desiring to make such contributions were requested to give them to Virgil Clark, June Phillips, Arthur Newcomb or any other Rotarian. Cakes, candy, fruit, nuts and cigarettes will be especially appropriate, the committee said.

The public is invited to attend the distribution of gifts at the camp Christmas eve.

Local School Pupils Give White Christmas

Gifts Presented During Program Turned Over for Distribution to Needy

Southern Pines School observed a White Christmas last Friday, with all grades participating. Gifts all wrapped in white were carried in a single file procession and placed on a white platform at the front of the auditorium. These gifts were turned over to the Rotary Club committee in charge of distributing gifts to the needy.

The Glee Club presented a Christmas program under the direction of Miss Selma Stegall. Members of the Glee Club entered in a candle-light procession singing "O Come All Ye Faithful," and marched to the huge Christmas tree on the stage. Carols were sung, after which Philip Weaver read "The Night Before Christmas."

The program was impressive and greatly enjoyed by the student body and teachers.

Holidays

Banks to Be Closed Two Days;
Post Office Will Put Up
No Mail on Christmas

Usual store and public office holidays will be taken this Christmas. The Citizens Bank and Trust Company in Southern Pines and the Bank of Pinehurst, and its branches, will be closed Thursday and Friday, December 25 and 26. The banks will also be closed on New Year's Day. Most of the local stores will remain open late Christmas eve and will be closed all day Christmas.

The Southern Pines post office will make no distribution of mail on Christmas Day, except for special delivery and perishables. Dispatch of mail will be as usual, however. On Wednesday, the parcel post window will remain open until 10:30 p. m. to deliver packages too large for boxes. All evening mail will be put up Christmas eve, if arrivals are on time.

The Pilot, being printed early this week, will close its offices Wednesday and Thursday, and will be open again Friday.

ABOUT 300 OFFER VOLUNTEER WORK

Registration of Civilian Workers at Stevens' Office to Continue

Nearly three hundred volunteers responded last week in Southern Pines to an appeal for volunteer defense workers to register with the newly-formed Defense Council.

Over the four-day registration period, plumbers, electricians, writers, nurses, and almost every other occupational type registered at the office of E. C. Stevens on West Broad street.

Because there may have been many who did not notice the appeal in the forms of handbills and articles in The Pilot, registration will continue in Stevens' office during regular business hours.

List of Registrations

Following are names of those who registered during last week:

William B. Alexander, Vernon Arthur Allan, Natalie Allen, Jasper D. Arey, J. D. Arey, Jr., Mrs. James W. Atkinson, J. W. Atkinson, Sr., Stanley Austin, Jeanette S. Backer, Max G. Backer, D. Ernest Bailey, Agnes F. Baker, Laura Baker, Newton Baker, Eleanor Barron, John Conner Barron, Jesse Bass, Alice Baxter, C. L. Baxter, Hugh J. Betterley, Mrs. Julian F. Bishop, Charles Block, Morris H. Bowden, Flora Bowers, Mrs. Mary Broom, Virginia Broom, Mrs. Jackson H. Boyd, Jackson H. Boyd, F. Craighill Brown, Mrs. F. Craighill Brown, Gordon C. Brown, Walter Burton Brown, Mrs. R. E. Buchanan, Howard F. Burns, Kathryn S. Burns, Dr. E. W. Bush, William Edward Bushby, Alexander Busick, Emily L. Busick, Alice Butler, Mrs. Paul C. Butler, Paul C. Butler, Mrs. Prudence Giles Blue.

Annette M. Callan, D. Duncan Cameron, Estelle Cameron, Gussie Cameron, Hugh Cameron, J. Bruce Cameron, Thos. W. Cameron, Elizabeth K. Campbell, R. L. Chandler, George R. Chatfield, Sr., Virgil Page Clark, Eugene Clarke, Mrs. Lee Clarke, George C. Colton, O. R. Conrad, Barbara Corbett, Clyde Council, Mrs. C. G. Council, Jean Council, Wm. Edward Cox, Mrs. W. E. Cox, Violet Rhea Creasey, Charles Cullingford, Herbert G. Cutter, Leland Daniels, Mrs. David C. Davies, E. J. Davis, Selma S. Day, Norman E. Day, Jimmie de Berry, Mrs. Cora L. Donaldson, Elmer M. Donaldson, Luella Donaldson, Robert Dunn, C. L. Dunn, C. L. Dutton, Mrs. C. L. Dutton, Eloise Church, Irene C. Dille.

Mrs. Clarence H. Edson, Ida E. Elsenbust, Kenneth M. Eops, Doris Ferguson, Mrs. John A. Ferguson, J. A. Ferguson, Alex Fields, Leon Fields, Erma Fisher, Paul Fitanides, Victor Fitanides, Helen Gadawski, Mrs. H. W. Gage, C. E. Gale, Clarence Gargis, Florence Garvin, Mrs. Sarah E. Garvin Joe Garzick, Mrs. Wm. C. Gedeeke, Mary S. Glassman, Sally Grinnell, Florence Gross, Elizabeth Grover, Lucille Grover.

Daniel H. Hackney, W. D. Hackney, Jr., Lansing H. Hall, Norma Harbort, Walter F. Harper, Mrs. Barrett Harris, J. Barrett Harris, Jr., Edith P. Hassell, Richard N. Hassell, Joe R. Hatch, P. V. Hatch, Emilie Dell Hayes, Louise M. Haynes, Mrs. Jeanette Reid Healy, Dr. George G. Herr, Malcolm I. Hill, Mary A. Hodgkins, Morris L. Hodgkins, Jr., William B. Holliday, Alice May Holmes, E. O. Howard, John M. Howarth, Celia A. Hughes, Alan Innes-Taylor, Lloyd Innes-Taylor, Mrs. Ernest L. Ives, Ernest L. Ives, Walter T. Ives, Almet Jenks, Mrs. Almet Jenks, Cliff Johnson, Myra Lee Johnson, Gertrude H. Jay.

Genevieve Kaufman, F. H. Kaylor, Helena L. Kelley, Jane Kelley, Winifred Kelley, Robert B. Kellis, Laura Kelsey, Preston T. Kelsey, Philip E.

PRECAUTIONARY AIR-RAID STEPS ARE TAKEN HERE

Defense Council Zones Town and Vicinity; Says "Anything Might Happen in War"

FIRST AID STATIONS SET UP

Precautionary measures for protection of civilian population were rushed to completion by the Southern Pines defense council this week, with the town organized for any eventuality.

For such an eventuality as an air raid, a warning signal from the fire siren will blast out four times. All clear will be sounded with a two-minute single blast.

"It is not beyond the realm of possibility that, as World War II goes on, Southern Pines and neighboring towns may be attacked from the air," local defense officials said. "The Seaboard railway, an important carrier between the north and south Atlantic Seaboard, run through the center of Southern Pines and Aberdeen. Aberdeen is a railway junction and is important as a shipping point to Fort Bragg, one of the largest army posts in the United States. And Fort Bragg lies only some 25 miles from Southern Pines."

It is up to the civilian population, in our case the people of Southern Pines and of towns nearby, to make every preparation against the threat of air raids and in event of such raids, to take care of themselves and their fellow citizens, it was pointed out.

"It's not the army's job to look after us, to order and enforce blackouts, to fight fires, to police, to evacuate the wounded, to guard public works and utilities. The army may be far away at the time, actually engaged with the enemy or guarding vital points of defense. Enemy air raids, in so far as they affect the lives and property of civilians, are a job for the civilians themselves," it was said. "They must clearly recognize the chance of such attacks, take every precaution against them and endure them coolly and with the least possible loss."

The Defense Council, announced last week, has divided the town of Southern Pines and its environs into seven zones for the purpose of establishing first aid stations. A map showing these zones is in the Southern Pines Police station and may be consulted there.

Following is a list of the zones and the houses where the First Aid Station will be located, followed by the name of the first aid person in charge:

Zone one, L. T. Avery house, East Indiana avenue, Miss Helena Kelly.
Zone two, Harry M. Vale house, Valley road, Miss Katherine Wiley.
Zone three, George C. Moore house, East Massachusetts avenue, Miss Irma Fisher.

Zone four, Southland Hotel, New Hampshire avenue, Miss Elizabeth Grover.

Zone five, Mrs. Florence Thrower house, Bennett street, W. B. Holliday.
Zone six, Jerry Thompson house, Pinedene, South Bennett street, Miss Gladys Hussey and Miss Barbara Backer.

Zone seven, Almet Jenks house, Young's road, Mrs. Reid Healy.

Those in charge of first aid at these homes will also have four assistants. The posts in these zones will be manned only in case of emergencies. It was emphasized that in cases of emergencies all communication lines, especially telephones, be kept clear.

Member of the local Defense Council and their jobs are: Mayor W. Duncan Matthews, chairman; John Howarth, coordinator, Eugene C. Stevens, director of registration; L. V. O'Callaghan, fire fighting services; Mrs. Lee Clarke medical services; Howard F. Burns, public works, streets, water; Almet Jenks, public relations and education; Joe N. Steed, utilities; and A. B. Patterson, air raid warden.

County Welfare Head Appreciative of Help

At this Christmas season Mrs. Leslie Brown, County welfare superintendent, asked The Pilot to express her "sincere thanks to individuals, including doctors, nurses, teachers and others, and to organizations which have cooperated with the department in such a wonderful way by reporting the needs from all sections of the county, thus enabling the department to meet the emergencies which have arisen more effectively than could have been done otherwise with the small staff provided."

Teachers have been especially helpful in getting children equipped for school and in bringing crippled children and those with defective sight to the attention of the welfare workers, she said.

This department is trying to see that there are no empty stockings or hungry families at Christmas.