

## Two Jackson Soldiers Reported Killed In Action With Enemy On Okinawa Island

Parents of Gerald Bumgarner And Pfc. Buddy Bryson Received Death Messages

Mrs. J. R. Bumgarner of Wilnot received a message last Tuesday informing her that her son, Gerald Bumgarner had been killed May 14 in action on Okinawa.

Besides his mother he is survived by his father, J. R. Bumgarner, who served through World War I and volunteered for service in World War II and is now serving as Warrant Officer in the U. S. N. R. Fleet Service; and three brothers, K. C. and William G., both serving in the armed forces and Harry Bumgarner of Wilnot.

Pfc. Maurice E. (Buddy) Bryson, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Bryson was killed in action on Okinawa May 30th according to a message received by his parents, last Thursday from the War Department.

Pfc. Bryson volunteered for duty with the Marine Corps in March 1944. After receiving training at Paris Island he was sent to the Pacific area. He received further training overseas and was attached to the 6th Marine Corp and was participating in the battle of Okinawa when killed.

He is survived by his parents, one brother Carol Bryson, with the U. S. Navy now stationed in Oran, Africa and one sister, Mary Cecil Bryson, student nurse at Erlanger Hospital, Chattanooga, Tenn.

Pfc. Bryson graduated from Sylva High School in the class of 1943 and had been employed in Portland, Ore. prior to entering service.

## Gonther In Two-Hour Fight As Yanks In Italy Took Hill During Final Offensive

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY, ITALY—Private Ambrose G. Gonther of Whittier, North Carolina, a rifleman, participated in a two-hour fire-fight resulting in capture of a 1600-foot hill in Italy during the final offensive on the Fifth Army front.

The attack, made by a rifle platoon in Company K of the 337th "Wolverine" Regiment, 85th "Custer" Division, netted the Yanks 140 prisoners, including a German captain, and all equipment of the enemy force atop the hill.

After first flanking the height, the doughboys climbed to the crest, where they were met by murderous fire from mortars and automatic weapons, operated by a force that had them seriously outnumbered. The Yanks dug in along the crest and fought it out for two hours before finally taking the hill.

Gonther is the son of Mrs. Elizabeth Gonther, Route 2, Whittier.

## Sgt. Frank Sherrill Home On Furlough

Sgt. Frank W. Sherrill, who has served for three years and eight months in the armed forces is spending his first furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Sherrill, of Qualla. Sgt. Sherrill has been overseas for thirty-three months. He was stationed in England with the 8th Air Force, serving as assistant crew chief on a B-24.

He arrived home last Friday, his outfit having flown home on the heavy bombers on which they worked.

After spending thirty days at home he will report to Sioux Falls, S. D., for reassignment.

## William C. Thompson Receives Promotion

Pvt. William C. Thompson of the anti-tank company of the 375th infantry has been promoted to Private First Class. He has also been awarded the Purple Heart and E.T.O. ribbon with two battle stripes.

Pfc. Thompson is the son of Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Thompson, of Sylva.

## Motor Vehicle Stamps On Sale At Postoffice

It has been customary to place new motor vehicle stamps on sale at the postoffice on June 10 of each year. This year, however, the date mentioned falls on Sunday so the stamps went on sale a day earlier.

It is necessary that every vehicle have one of these stamps by July 1st and you may secure one by going to the postoffice.

## Seaman Brown Serving On Veteran Ship That Has Never Been Hit

ABOARD A. U. S. BATTLESHIP IN THE PACIFIC (Delayed)—George W. Brown, seaman, second class, son of Jess Brown, Sylva, N. C., fought at Okinawa aboard this venerable battleship, which, through 33 action-years, has never been hit by enemy shells.

The Okinawa action was her fifth major engagement of World War II and one of the most dramatic in her long career.

For more than a month her main and secondary batteries blasted at pin-point targets on the island. It was not a one-sided battle. At one time she won a duel with a shore battery that was hurling shells precariously close. At another an enemy bomber made a run on the ship, going down with a terrific explosion as the Navy guns found their mark.

The ship saw action in Europe and also took part in the Iwo Jima bombardment.

## PLEMMONS LIBERATED

2-Lt. Howard Plemmons, according to word received by his father, R. H. Plemmons of Hot Springs, has been liberated from a German prison camp, after being a prisoner since February, 1944. Lt. Plemmons is a former Sylva boy having lived here for several years while his father served as district engineer with the N. C. Highway Commission. Lt. Plemmons was serving as pilot on a B-17 with the 8th Air Force when captured.

## Sgt. Carl Williams Veteran Of Sicilian, Italian and French Campaigns



Sgt. Carl M. Williams, son of Mrs. Ada Williams and the late R. W. Williams, of Sylva was inducted at Fort Jackson, S. C., July 27, 1942, and received his basic training at Camp Croft, S. C. He was later sent to Camp Rice, N. Y., where he joined the 45th Thunderbird Infantry Division as a machine gunner.

He sailed for the European theater June 8, 1943, and made the invasion of Sicily, July 10, 1943. After fighting through this campaign he later landed at Salerno, fighting his way up the Italian Boot and spent five months in the bloody battlefields of Anzio without being wounded. Then fighting his way with his division, to the north of Rome, where his division was withdrawn, to later make the invasion of Southern France, Aug. 15, 1944.

Being a sergeant in command of a machine gun section at this time, he fought with his company up through the Rhone Valley, into the Alp Mts. to the border town of Strasburg, Germany.

When suffering from a nervous condition caused from his many invasion and long service as a front line soldier, he was transferred back to Italy and is now serving as a convoy commander sergeant with the 3653 GM Trk Co., which is doing a great job, commanded by Capt. Trinkle of Fillmore, Idaho.

Sergeant Williams, who will have seen three years army service July 27, two years of this being overseas duty, states that he is ready and willing to move to the Pacific area and throw his fighting skill at the Japs. But better then anything else would like to come back to the U. S. A.

## Gen. And Mrs. Hodges Vacationing In High Hampton

General Courtney Hodges, commander of the First Army, who has recently returned from the European Theater of Operation and Mrs. Hodges, are spending a vacation at High Hampton Inn at Cashiers before Gen. Hodges and his unit leave for the Pacific area.

General Hodges has recently come from Atlanta where huge crowds turned out to welcome him in parades and celebrations.

## MISS WISE ARRIVES AS FULL TIME COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE

Jackson county has succeeded in securing a full-time public nurse. Miss Ethel Wise of Asheville arrived June 1st to begin her work. She is a graduate of the General Hospital in Greenville, S. C., and has recently been discharged from the army, having spent eighteen months in Fort Sibert, Ala., and six months at Fort Bragg. She succeeds Mrs. Earl Padgett.

Miss Wise will be in her office at the county courthouse Saturday mornings from 9 until 12 o'clock and all day on Thursdays. On other days she will be in the field.

Miss Wise states that much of her work will be devoted to preventive hygiene. At a later date there will be a program of immunization clinics set up.

Jackson county is to have a tonsil clinic at the Sylva High school June 26-27.

In September Miss Wise will go to Chapel Hill for a course in Public Nursing, which the state of North Carolina requires.

## Roosevelt Memorial Series

A special series of four United States postage stamps has been authorized as a tribute to the late President, Franklin Delano Roosevelt. The series will include stamps of the 1-cent, 2-cent, 3-cent and 5-cent denominations and will be inaugurated by the placing on sale of the 3-cent stamp on June 27, 1945, at Washington, D. C. Dates and places for the first day sales of the remaining stamps will be announced later.

## Bumgarner Advanced To Watertender 2-c

Joseph William Bumgarner, 20, of Sylva, N. C., has advanced to watertender, second class, USNR, aboard a destroyer of the Atlantic Fleet. He wears the American theater ribbon and the European-African-Middle Eastern ribbon with one bronze star. The son of Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Bumgarner of Sylva, he has a brother, Leonard Allen Bumgarner, who is an apprentice seaman, in the Navy.

## Jack Skene, C.E.C., Reports To West Coast For Reassignment

Corp. Jack Skene, C.E.C., who has been spending a thirty-day furlough with his wife, left Tuesday night for the west coast where he will report for further assignment. Skene had served in the Pacific area before coming to the States last month.

## Tommy and Sis, They Can't Miss

Through his profits as a junior street salesman of a Kansas newspaper, nine-year-old Tommy Novalis is the proud possessor of a \$100 and a \$25 War Bond. But he doesn't own them alone. He asked the man at the post office to make them out in his name with his two-year-old sister, Frances, as co-owner. He presented them to her on their joint birthday last month.

Tommy has been "in business" since last July. Every afternoon after school, he plies his wares—up and down Kansas Avenue in Topeka. "It was his own idea to save his money," according to his father. "As soon as he started, he began bringing his money home to his mother, and asked her to save it for him. He wanted to put it into War Bonds. He wanted to do something for his America."

Asked what he intended to use the bonds for, Tommy replied, "Some day I want to go to college, and I want Frances to go, too."

Water-proof packaging of many military supplies is needed because they must be floated ashore and kept in the open, exposed to tropical storms.

## Pfc. George Richard Ensley Killed In Germany



Pfc. George Richard Ensley, son of Mrs. Mamie Ensley, of Dillsboro was wounded March 7, 1945, and died of these wounds March 8.

Pfc. Ensley entered service Feb. 13, 1941, and received his basic training at Fort Jackson, S. C. In service four years he spent thirteen months of this time in the European Theater. He was with the Medical Dept. of the 60th Infantry.

Surviving are the mother, three brothers, Pvt. Ray Ensley, now overseas; Pvt. Robert Ensley, who is home on furlough, and Junior Ensley of Dillsboro and one sister, Mrs. Glenn Bowman, of West Virginia.

## FAIRFIELD INN PLANS TO BEGIN SEASON JUNE 16

Recently Announced Purchase By Wheeler, Bird Not Consummated

Fairfield inn, the famed 100-room resort hotel on the 6,000-acre E. H. Jennings estate in Jackson county, will be opened June 16 by Walter J. Reid, well-known hotel man, who will be lessee-manager, it was learned today.

The recently announced purchase of Fairfield inn and the Jennings estate by Albert C. Wheeler of Asheville and F. M. Bird of Miami, Fla., was not consummated, the deal having been abandoned, it was announced by representatives of the estate here. The original announcement of the purchase was made here by Mr. Wheeler.

It was announced however, that the resort house will be opened for the summer under the new management of Mr. Reid. The new manager said he is prepared to send descriptive booklets and rates, as well as to book reservations for the summer months.

The inn has been well known for many years as one of Western North Carolina's most attractive vacation spots. It is situated on Fairfield lake, Sapphires, on U. S. highway No. 64, midway between Brevard and Highlands. The inn stands at an elevation of approximately 3,000 feet and is in the heart of one of the most beautiful spots of the Western North Carolina mountains.

Mr. Reid has been in the hotel business for many years and has operated in various parts of the country. He is a native of Jackson county.

## Daily Vacation Bible School At Baptist Church Has Enrollment of 198

The daily vacation Bible school held at the Sylva Baptist church Monday morning with an enrollment of 198. It will continue through June 23rd. All children are invited to attend.

## Revival Services At Sylva Baptist Church

Revival services started at the Sylva Baptist church Sunday and will continue through June 24. Much interest is being shown. The public is invited to attend each evening at 8 o'clock.

## Sgt. Alvin Cabe Given Bronze Star

Sgt. Alvin W. Cabe, son of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Cabe of Dillsboro, serving in the Philippines, has been awarded the Bronze Star medal for gallantry in action against the Japanese, according to a dispatch received here. Sgt. Cabe is serving with the 11th corps troops on Luzon.

## 7th War Loan Bond Premiere To Be Held At Ritz Theater Friday Night

Cpl. Henry Walker Twice Wounded On Okinawa Island

Mrs. Lee Walker has been notified that her husband, Cpl. Henry Lee Walker, has been wounded on Okinawa.

He received shrapnel wounds on April 23 and after a few days returned to combat, and then in May he received other wounds. He is now recovering in a hospital.

Cpl. Walker entered service in the Marine Corps in December, 1943, and received his basic training at Paris Island, S. C. He was then sent to Camp LeJune for further training. He was sent overseas in May, 1944, as a replacement in the first Marines, fighting in the South Pacific and has seen combat in several tough campaigns.

His wife, the former Miss Helen Ensley and small son, Henry Lee, live in Sylva.

## FARMERS FEDERATION DECLARES SEMI-ANNUAL DIVIDEND

Directors of the Farmers Federation have just declared the 26th consecutive semi-annual dividend to stockholders, announced. This dividend will be payable July 1 to stockholders of record June 15, 1945.

The regular semi-annual dividend on common stock is 3%, he said. This will be paid in cash at the warehouses after July 1, and members of the Farmers Federation should call for their money there. The regular semi-annual dividend on preferred stock was declared, and checks covering the payment of this dividend will be mailed to stockholders.

## Pvt. Wilson Wounded



Pvt. Kermit L. Wilson, above, of Newton was wounded in action on Okinawa on May 14, according to a letter received from him by his wife the former Lela White.

Pvt. Wilson is serving with the Infantry. He entered service July 10, 1944, took his basic training at Camp Walters, Texas. He has been on one of the Marianas Islands before going to Okinawa and has been overseas four months. His wife and two daughters are making their home with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. L. White at the Sylva Hotel.

## Mrs. Davidson Given Degree In Science At University of Kentucky

Mrs. Will Nell Heath, a Davidson of Sylva, was among the 274 students who received a degree at the 73rd annual commencement exercises June 1 at the University of Kentucky. Mrs. Davidson received her degree of Master in Science in Home Economics.

## Whittier Crew Chief And Unit Cited

T. Sgt. William G. Baumgartner, son of Mrs. J. R. Baumgartner of Whittier, serving with a 12th Air Force B-25 group in the Mediterranean theater, helped his unit contribute importantly to the tremendous aerial offensive that sped victory in North-Italy, according to a dispatch received here. He is an airplane crew chief. He holds the Purple Heart.

## JACKSON COUNTY FAR FROM OVER TOP IN 7TH WAR LOAN DRIVE

On Friday, night, June 15, the Ritz Theater, in cooperation with the theater industry and the 7th War Loan Drive, will admit customers by the purchase of a bond of some denomination, only. The picture, "Belle of the Yukon", will be shown.

There will be an authorized person in the lobby of the theater for the sale of these bonds. Only bonds that are bought that night will count toward admittance. Attend this important premiere and help make this vitally important drive a success. Jackson county has yet a long way to go before their quota is reached.

## JACKSON SOLDIERS HELP BREAK GERMAN ARMIES IN ITALY, FRANCE AND GERMANY.

SIXTH ARMY GROUP, GERMAN—First 36th "Texas" Division troops on German soil were doughboys of the 141st Infantry Regiment who, in 10 days, battered the Wehrmacht from strong positions along the Moder River through the Siegfried Line.

Engaged in bitter nose-to-nose fighting in the town of Hagenau, these U. S. Seventh Army infantrymen broke out from a small bridgehead across the Moder, clashed with German rearwards and finally knocked out 35 pillboxes and forts in cutting through the Siegfried Line.

The doughboys, commanded by Col. Charles H. Owens, of Wallace, Idaho, have left landmarks to a defeated Reich from Salerno, Italy, to the Rhine in Germany in 353 days of conflict with the enemy. Among the most veteran infantrymen in General Jacob L. Devers' 6th Army Group, they captured more than 6,000 Germans in France alone. Several Nazi leaders have been added to their bag in Austria.

They were the first Americans to assault now-crumbled Fortress Europe with the Salerno landings and later fought in the Rapido River's "Battle of Guts" below Cassino. The mountain city of Velletri fell to them when they took part in the spectacular 36th Division infiltration maneuver that opened the gates to Rome.

Spearheading a beach landing in Southern France, they struck north to aid in the destruction of the German 19th Army near Montelimar. Other battles included rugged warfare in the Vesges Mountains, the defense of Colmar passes, and combat against Germans employed in Maginot Line fortresses near Bitcher.

Members of the regiment include: Pfc. Charlie L. Hoyle of Balsam; Pfc. Tom Kelly, Sr., grandson of Mrs. T. H. Hastings, of Sylva and Pfc. William R. Conner.

## CAPT. MALCOLM BROWN NOW AT MIAMI RE-DISTRIBUTION CENTER

MIAMI BEACH, Fla., June 1—Capt. Malcolm E. Brown, 28, Sylva, N. C., has arrived at Army Air Forces Redistribution Station No. 2 in Miami Beach for reassignment processing after completing a tour of duty outside the continental United States.

Medical examinations and classification interviews at this post, pioneer of several redistribution stations operated by the AAF Personnel Distribution Command for AAF returnee officers and enlisted men, will determine his new assignment. He will remain at the redistribution station about two weeks, much of which will be devoted to rest and recreation.

He flew 50 missions as a heavy bomber pilot during 23 months in the European theater and holds the DFC, the Air Medal with three clusters, and a Distinguished Unit Citation. He is a graduate of Carson-Newman college, Jefferson City, Tenn., and worked as a teacher and athletic director before joining the AAF Jan. 5, 1942. His mother, Mrs. E. E. Brown, makes her home in Sylva.