

News and Comment From Raleigh

CAPITAL LETTERS . . .

By

THOMPSON GREENWOOD

WEST—If nothing goes astray, you may expect a man from one of the mountain counties to succeed Oscar Pitts. There is a good chance, however, that his place will be filled by two men—one from the west and the other from the central area.

HARDEN—John Harden, Gregg Cherry's secretary, did not work hard to get the place. In fact, he would have kept his position with the Greensboro Daily News if the Cherry folks hadn't pleaded with him in various ways.

John will make Gregg a good man. He has a way of talking that makes you think he is telling you the truth straight from the sky. Harden is smart and has 22 years' experience working with newspapers. Although a solid sort of fellow, he has his other fine qualities, too, as the following episode will show:

Last summer at the press convention at High Point Harden proved himself a good sport and a man of great constitution. After working until 2 o'clock in the morning on his paper, he caught the mailman to High Point, had a steak and a session of hot air with the boys, and then caught the delivery truck back to Greensboro at 5 o'clock so that he could catch a nap before interviewing some important guy at 10:30.

BILL—Even though the State passed an amendment giving the Legislature authority to set up a salary for the Lieutenant Governor, this will not apply to L. Y. Ballentine if he is sworn in before the salary is raised. There is a law to the effect that his salary can't be changed—either decreased or increased—after he takes office.

So, the Legislature will convene on January 3 and pass a bill creating a salary of around \$3,000 per year for the Lieutenant Governor. Ballentine will be sworn in before the day and everything will be all right.

If you remember, the last thing Governor Hoey did before moving out in 1941 was to recommend



WHAT'S ahead?
That is the unspoken question in the mind of every thoughtful person.

We hope for a much brighter future... look forward to it eagerly. The handwriting is in the sky.

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ROGER W. BABSON
will write on the
Business and Financial
Outlook for 1945

Mr. Babson has been forecasting business and financial events since 1898. He was 91% correct in his prediction of conditions in 1944!

Watch for his 1945 Outlook Story and base your activities on what he says.

The MOUNTAINEER
—The Feature Will Appear On—
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28TH

ROGER W. BABSON
Pioneer in the field of business
and financial matters

Lucile Medford
Hostess At AG&SF
Center, Asheville

"Good morning, everybody, this is your Army hostess speaking to you from the lobby of the George Vanderbilt Hotel." The soft voice of Miss Lucile Medford, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Claude Medford, of Lake Junaluska, cheerily greets the returnees just going into breakfast or leaving for a new post.

"To you boys standing beside packed bags at the front door ready to leave," continues Miss Medford, crisp in her smart Army blue uniform with its rainbow insignia representing all branches of the service, "we want to wish you a Merry Christmas and happy landings. Be sure to write and tell us about your new assignment. And for those who are remaining here a little longer, here is the program of activities for the day: tour for this morning—Coca Cola plant—starts at 10 a. m. from the Battery Park Hotel; the afternoon tour of Radio Station WWNC will leave from this hotel at 12:45 p. m. At two o'clock while husbands are meeting their orientation appointment, returnees wives are invited to a bingo game; and tonight there will be an all-soldier show at the auditorium at 8 p. m."

The five Army hostesses to the Army Ground and Service Forces Distribution Section, Asheville, will keep no set hours; they are on duty day and night. "We are here to render any service within our power to any man who makes a request," says Mrs. Rebecca Gill, chief hostess, "and sometimes we really get some odd requests," she reminisced. "One man whose right hand was still stiff from a recent injury asked us to cut his fingernails from him. Were those nails long!" she reminisced.

We help plan marriages. We even meet the bride-to-be at the station, find her a nice room in the city, arrange for the minister and the wedding cake, and—of course—attend the ceremony. We handle emergency illnesses and render first aid. In short, we are the liaison between the soldier and the Army. We must know where to send him for the answer to his problem and if we do not know, we take his name and room number and put a note in his box when we find out."

Umstead, who estimates that \$7,500 was wasted through petty political appointments, is very conservative.

OLD STUFF—This thing of giving ex-legislators, nieces, nephews, and girl friends jobs during the Legislature is nothing new. Incidentally, in 1923 seven newspapermen were clerks to committees, if memory serves correctly the old timer who reports it, and at one time a newspaper fellow was clerk to two committees.

BONUS—State employees are now receiving a bonus, but the last one came with the December payroll.

So—unless the Legislature gives new life to the bonus or makes it part of the basic salary, as is likely, the white collar workers will have it hard in the future.

Pfc. Ray G. West
Completes Training

Private First Class Ray G. West, son of Mr. and Mrs. F. D. West of Clyde, has recently been graduated from the Army Air Forces Flexible Gunnery School at Tyndall Field, Fla., which is one of the largest schools of its kind in the Army Air Forces Training Command, according to information from headquarters of the field.

Pfc. West upon his graduation received a pair of silver wings signifying that now he is ready to take his place as a member of the combat crew on an AAF Bomber. At the gunnery school, he was trained in the operation of .30 and .50 caliber machine guns, first on the ground ranges and later in the air, learning by simulated aerial battle conditions how to blast enemy fighter planes from the sky.

Buy War Bonds and Stamps.

In U. S. Navy



KENNETH DILLARD, Seaman Second Class, son of Mrs. W. E. Dillard, has returned to Bainbridge, Md., after spending a nine-day leave with his mother. Before entering the service Seaman Dillard was employed by the Inland Woods Product Company, Lake Junaluska.

Pvt. Chas. W. Ross
Home On Furlough

Private Charles W. Ross, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Ross of Crabtree, who is now stationed at Camp Crowder, Mo., is home for a ten-days furlough.

Pvt. Rogers entered the service on February 19, 1943 and was inducted at Fort Bragg. From the latter he was sent to California on desert maneuvers. Later he was sent to Camp Cooke. He has also taken training at Oregon State College, and at Leland Stanford University. Upon completion of work at the latter he was sent to Camp Kahler, Calif., and then to his present post.

At the time he entered the service he was employed at the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company.

WAVE Carol Youngbird
Graduates From School

WAVE Carol Youngbird, daughter of R. A. Youngbird, of Cherokee, recently graduated from yeoman school at the United States Naval Training School, Stillwater, Okla. She was given the rating of seaman second class, and has been assigned to active duty at the Naval Air Training Base, Pensacola, Fla.

ATTENTION!
TOBACCO GROWERS

Our warehouse will remain open all during the holidays to receive tobacco for first sale after Christmas. Below is a few of the many good sales made at Big 5 Warehouse.

Morrow and Bryson, Cove Creek, sold 2,466 pounds of tobacco for \$1,454.02 and each basket sold for \$62-\$62-\$62-\$58-\$57-\$52-\$51.

Medford and Borrow sold 1,434 pounds for \$789.14 with each basket bringing \$58-\$57-\$57-\$52-\$40.

Ed Sprinkle, Marshall, sold 2,018 pounds for \$1,073.28 with each basket bringing \$60-\$60-\$57-\$57-\$56-\$56-\$46-\$33.

A. Franklin and Lunce sold for \$60-\$60-\$58-\$60-\$53-\$46.

Glenn Fincher sold 2,884 pounds for \$1,565.24 with each basket bringing \$60-\$58-\$57-\$56-\$52-\$46-\$33.

J. T. Flynn sold 2,294 pounds for \$1,295.00 with each basket going for \$60-\$60-\$58-\$57-\$57-\$57-\$53-\$53.

J. G. Tate and Son sold 2,238 pounds for \$1,168.90.

Isaac Ramsey, Indian Ridge, sold 4,656 pounds for \$2,349.62 and in that crop one basket weighing 1,000 pounds sold for \$52 per hundred.

Bring us the remainder of your crop. The trip will make you extra money. Keep in touch with Mr. Glenn Tate, Waynesville, N. C., R-2, he will get you in the warehouse, put you on the floor, see that you get sold, and you will get highest market prices.

Your Friends,

FAGG BROS. & BOBLITT, Props.
DIXIE WAREHOUSE & BIG 5 WAREHOUSE

Morristown, Tenn.