Pvt. Bridges Returns On Furlough

Among the 3,500 men from the First Marine Division who have returned to the United States for 30 day furloughs is Private First Class Thomas Kirk Bridges, son of Mr and Mrs. Thomas Bridges. He has been awarded the Purple Heart twice for wounds received in action.

All these men are veterans of 30 months' overseas duty, and most of them took part in the Guadalcanal, Cape Gloucester and Peleliu invasions. They were the first Americans to make an offensive move against the Japs in the Pacific, and their capture of Peleliu in the Palau Islands cleared the last island for the invasion of the Philippines.

They will be reclassified and assigned to stations in the United States for duty, then given furloughs before they report to the new stations.

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Clay Soils Need Good Fall Plowing

The Piedmont farmer's most important job for December is to plow his lands for next spring's crops, says Enos Blair, Extension agronomist at State College.

"Fall plowing is better practice for clay uplands intended for corn, cotton, soybeans, and similar crops than having a winter legume to turn under next spring," Blair explains.

He points out that clay soils, plowed now, will be thoroughly pulverized by freezing and thawing during the winter. If these soils are plowed during the spring months, they are likely to break into large clods and make it very difficult to obtain a good seed bed. "Many a crop of corn or cotton has been lost on this account," Blair says.

Sometimes clay soils get so dry and hard in the spring that they cannot be plowed in preparation for seeding.

"If there is lespedeza, red clover, or sweet clover on the land, it is advisable to get it turned under in the fall so that it will have decayed before planting time," Blair suggests. "In plowing a sod of this kind, the furrow slice should be turned on edge, and not completely over. This type of plowing mixes the organic matter with the soil better, and does not cut off the moisture rising from the subsoil."

Leaving the plowed surface rough helps to conserve moisture and reduces the danger of erosion.

COTTON GINNING REPORT

Census report shows that 48,000 bales of cotton were ginned in Cleveland County, N. C., from tthe crop of 1944 prior to Nov. 14, as compared with 48,310 bales for the crop of 1943.

Predicts Increased Investment By American Farmers During Sixth War Bond Campaign

WASHINGTON, D. C.—A prediction that American farmers will invest more money in bonds during the Sixth War Loan than in any previous drive was made today by the War Finance Division of the U. S. Treasury.

Farmers bought $1,200,000,000 worth of War Bonds during 1943, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. In 1944 it is believed they can and should purchase a total of $2,000,000,000, Ted R. Gamble, national Director of the War Finance Division, said.

Income at Peak

The Sixth War Loan, starting November 20, comes at an ideal time for agriculture, he pointed out.

This is not only the time when farm income is at a seasonal peak, but 1944 marks three years of record breaking farm income, he said.

Based on information obtained from the BAE, the Agricultural Section of the War Finance Division estimates the 1944 cash farm income at $20,600,000,000, compared with $20,000,000,000 in 1943.

Although net farm income, due to higher operating costs, may not be greater than in 1943, most farmers now have reduced their debts and consequently will have more money to put into War Bonds, the division reports.

In the twelve months ending January 1, 1944, farmers reduced real estate mortgages alone by $650,000,000.

Bank Deposits Gain

After paying all operating costs and necessary family expenses, farmers will have left this year for investment and debt reduction over $5,000,000,000, the Agricultural Section also estimates.

Because of the fact that new machinery is not obtainable, farm deposits are piling up in rural banks. Demand deposits held by farmers in these banks are estimated at $4,000,000,000 and time deposits at $2,000,000,000. Since the new method of redeeming Series E Savings Bonds makes them as liquid as a dollar bill, it is no longer necessary for the farmer to maintain a large bank account to meet possible emergencies, Mr. Gamble stated. Therefore, he believes, farmers will convert part of these deposits into War Bonds.

Ted R. Gamble

War Bond purchasers will provide a farm financial reserve to protect against damage by drought, flood and livestock disease, will assure cash to replace and repair buildings and machinery as well as to build back soil fertility depleted by wartime food production, and will provide funds for education, vacations and old age security.

The high farm income this year is the result of the huge increase in farm production to meet wartime food needs rather than a rise in prices, which have been held down by the OPA it was explained.

Give The Dairy Cow A Comfortable Stall

At this season of the year when farmers are busy providing Christmas cheer for their families and friends, that old and ever faithful friend, the dairy cow, should not be overlooked. Her desires are few and she is very appreciative but because of her gentle and long suffering disposition she is often neglected. Some cows are left out in the open on rainy, disagreeable days while others are unduly exposed during cold weather in open sheds tthat are not sufficiently bedded.

"During December and throughout the winter there is nothing that the dairy cow till enjoy more than a comfortable place in which to stay," says John Arey, Extension dairyman at State College. "This comfort can be secured through a clean, well bedded stall or lounging shed, which is free of cold air currents. Such housing need not be expensive. It can be acquired by any dairyman who has a real desire to keep his cows comfortable.

"It is important that a convenient supply of water of a moderate temperature be available. An average size cow producing from two to three gallons of milk needs from 75 to 80 pounds of water daily. If this water is icy cold, or if it is necessary for the cow to unduly expose herself by going through mud and cold rain to a stream for it, she will not drink the quantity needed and, as a result, will drop in her milk production.

"It is more difficult to keep cows clean during the winter when they are kept in the barn than during the summer while they are in the pasture most of the time. Because of this it is important that the long hair be kept clipped from the thighs flanks, and udder. Clipping will not prevent cows from getting dirty, if they are housed in scantily bedded stalls or shed. However, it will make cleaning easier if they wo get dirty.

"Last, but not least, kind treatment is of very great importance in the winter care of the dairy cow. Probably no animal on the farm responds more freely to kind treatment than does she. All other requirements of good milk production may not be met, but if the dairy cow is handled roughly in and around the barn, she will not produce as well as if given kind treatment."

Pvt. Lovelace At Lawson General Hospital

Pvt. Wilbur L. Lovelace of route 3, is now receiving a 16 weeks' course of training at Lawson General Hospital, Atlanta, Ga., which will qualify him to be an x-ray technician in the Army Medical Corps.

After completing the course, which features "on the job" training, Pvt. Lovelace rtturn to his former station, Finney General Hospital, Thomasville, Ga.

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Some farm land in North Carolina are now being sold at about 2 1/2 times their normal value. It takes about 2,500 pounds of tobacco to make a thousand dollars. What about the future?

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