

FARM FLASHES

By J. C. Powell



Farmers took V-E Day in stride - continued their various planting task with which all were so busy. If anything, they worked just a little harder and with more seriousness of purpose, hoping that soon they would really be able to celebrate a complete "V" Day including the Pacific theatre.

We are very glad to learn that Martin Anderson, reported missing in the March issue of the HFN, is recuperating in a hospital in Germany. Also, very, very sorry to learn that Johnnie Simons was killed in action on Okinawa. Johnnie enlisted with the Marines when 17. Our deepest sympathy to his family and friends. Johnnie was a fine example of young American manhood. Both of these boys belonged to the Conetoe 4-H Club and were active on past crop and livestock judging teams.

Bad stands of both cotton and peanuts reported from all sections of the county. Most unusual season chief factor. March and early April usually warm - Middle of April till mid-May just the opposite - continuous cold with several light frosts. Result, most farm crops off to slow start; tobacco - good stands, uniform growth but hard and unthrifty looking; cotton - many acres plowed up and planted over, stands poor, no chopping at this date, 4/24; peanuts - bad stands and much replanting. Victory gardens another casualty - gardens in worse condition for May in 20 years - decided improvement, however, in last week or two - might eat a few beans or squash yet.

Edgecombe farmers doing their part to help alleviate meat shortage. The following farmers made a cooperative shipment of 193 lambs to Kingan & Co., Richmond, Va.; J. G. Hammond, Rocky Mt.; M. T. Ruffin, Tarboro; Thos. J. Pearsall, Battleboro; Lester Harris, Tarboro, R-1; R. V. Knight, Tarboro, R-1; W. T. Williams, Zebulor, R-2; E. B. Draughon, Whitakers; P. G. & M. G. Smith, Franklinton, R-2; J. M. Cutchin, Whitakers, Henry A. Braswell, Whitakers, H. G. Shelton, Speed; W. T. Brantley, Spring Hope, and East Carolina Training School, Rocky Mount.

Tobacco plant situation serious in Virginia and North Carolina old belt. Many trucks from these points in daily to get surplus plants from Edgecombe farmers, particularly in Crisp, Pinetops and Macclesfield section. Many thousands of plants being supplied.

Gene Cobb, a former South Edgecombe 4-H Club member, stopped by for a brief chat, being on his way from Camp Rucker, Ala., to Ft. Meade, Md. Gene remembered by many as a nice kid and a swell ball player.

Farm labor situation still acute. Imported labor to help with tobacco harvest, some fifty Bahamians assigned to this county to assist with priming tobacco. On committee to hold wage hearing and determine wage rate for these workers are: J. T. Lawrence, Sr., Tarboro, R-2; G. E. Goff, Rocky Mount, R-2; J. H. Little, Pinetops; H. G. Shelton, Speed and J. C. Powell, Tarboro.

The following boys and girls were assisted by H. C. Scott, Asst. Agent, in securing calves to feed out for next years fat stock show: William D. Moore, Jr., Tarboro, R-2; Earl Quincy, Whitakers, R-1; Sally Anderson, Macclesfield, R-1; George Anderson, Macclesfield, R-1; and Douglas Eason, Macclesfield, R-1.

Yates Everette, whose family lives on J. C. Bridgers' farm, back after a 4 months stay in a German prison camp. Lost 28 pounds during the 4 months and feet almost froze - says he is in good condition now, however.