

BOND AND STAMP CHAIN LETTERS CALLED ILLEGAL

Local Postal Officials Warn Of Their Use

The endless chain letter scheme of soliciting defense savings stamps and bonds, a number of which letters have made their appearance in Roanoke Rapids, is illegal and a violation of postal regulations, was pointed out yesterday by Postmaster L. G. Shell, who said that a number of persons throughout the country had been cited by postal authorities for sending the letters through the mails.

The rails in all parts of the country are still being flooded with letters relating to so-called endless chain schemes for soliciting defense savings stamps and bonds and postal authorities are cracking down on anyone caught either sending or carrying such letters, Mr. Shell said.

According to a recent issue of the Postal Bulletin, in which the chain letter scheme was cited to all postal officials, the use of the mails for soliciting defense bonds and stamps was a violation of the postal fraud and lottery statutes, and upon conviction carries a heavy federal prison sentence.

The local postmaster stated that there was no legal defense bond and stamp chain letter, although some of the letters received here were marked "legal by government approval". Any such letters received and marked with such inscriptions are violations of the postal laws, the postmaster stated.

Uncle Sam Benefits In This Case

Postmaster L. G. Shell is a firm believer in the old adage that "a good deed today returns two-fold tomorrow". At least, that adage has been playing upon his mind for the past few days following receipt of a letter from one of Uncle Sam's Negro messmen.

It all started sometime early last year.

Wright Hockaday was a little Negro orphan who roamed the streets of Roanoke Rapids as a vagrant for several years. One day he appeared at the local postoffice and attempted to join the Navy. He wasn't successful, being classified as too young. He went to New York and was arrested there as a vagrant. The New York City welfare authorities got in touch with Postmaster Shell, who had the boy brought back and placed him in school at John Armstrong Chaloner. At school Principal D. P. Lewis also took an interest in the youth and succeeded in getting him on an N.Y.A. unit, where he was able to make a little money and at the same time learn a trade.

But it wasn't long before the youth appeared at the postoffice again in an effort to join the Navy. However, being still under the age limit and without parental approval, it looked for a while as if the second attempt would fail. But one avenue was open; a guardian, legally appointed, would serve just as well as parental approval. But the youth had no guardian, nor had he money with which to pay the fee for appointing and registering one.

Here, again, Postmaster Shell came to his rescue. He loaned the youth enough money to

properly execute the guardianship.

And so the youth joined the Navy.

It wasn't until the other day that the little Negro was heard from again. Postmaster Shell received a letter from him. In part it read:

"I have broke training and am now "walking the waters" (at sea.) I am going strong and can't think of anything I would rather do than visit home. I am cruising the seas aboard the hospital ship, the U.S.S. "Relief". I would have been able to get leave Christmas but guess I will have to wait until the conflict is over. Yes, Sir! We must have revenge and we will get it by wiping the Japs and their gangster friends off the seas. Now, Mr. Shell, I am happy to say here is your money . . . I appreciate very much your help . . . Goodby, Good Health, and Good Luck"

The efforts of the local postmaster and the colored school principal placed into Uncle Sam's hands a youth that will serve him well, and one who will ever be grateful for the help rendered him by his "white friend" here in Roanoke Rapids.

ENFIELD

Miss Nellie Bryan Newton entertained a number of friends with an enjoyable party in her home at "Oak Bend" Wednesday evening. Valentine tallies were used for bridge scores and the motif was repeated in refreshments served after the game.

Miss Anne Boyd Whitaker was awarded the high score prize, and Mrs. Tommie Morris the consolation. Mrs. John Parker, a recent bride, was presented a gift, and she won the bingo hand prize.

Other guests present were Miss Blanche Moss, Mrs. Myra Mann, Miss Annie Mae Sherrod, Mrs. Leonard Matthews, Mrs. Evelina Fleming, Mrs. Hugh Sherrod, Mrs. Theodore Harrison, Mrs. John Newton, Mrs. H. L. Kendall, Miss Delia Batchelor, Mrs. George Randolph, Mrs. Sidney Randolph, Miss Susan Whitaker, Miss Mary Collins, Miss Christine Huddle, Miss Constance Price, Miss Josie Loughhead, Miss Mary Gladys Womble, Miss Hazel McKeel, Mrs. Fred Wiggins, Miss Annie Pope, Miss Marjorie Dickens, Miss Catherine Parker, Miss Kiki Andleton, and Mrs. A. C. Nichols, Jr.

Mrs. J. R. Matthews entertained at a bridge luncheon in her home Wednesday. Guests enjoyed a buffet luncheon at one o'clock, after which progressive contract was played. Mrs. Robert Whitaker won the high score prize and Mrs. S. W. Dickens the bingo hand prize.

Guests were Mrs. Sam Arrington Dunn, Mrs. A. S. Harrison, Mrs. Hugh Sherrod, Mrs. J. B. Britt, Mrs. R. F. Shaw, Mrs. R. Hunter Pope, Mrs. D. Mac Johnson, Mrs. Ivey Watson, Mrs. Charles Etweller, Mrs. Eugene Wood, Mrs. Robert Whitaker, Mrs. S. W. Dickens, Mrs. Holt Evans, Mrs. Joe Edwards, and Mrs. A. C. Nichols, Jr.

STALLINGS-BRANCH

On Monday afternoon, February 2nd, at 1:30 o'clock, Miss Wilhelmina Branch and Ernest Harrison Stallings were married in the Thomas Memorial Baptist Church in Bennettsville, S. C., with Dr. Edwin C. Colvin officiating.

Mrs. G. L. Crump, of Enfield, rendered the nuptial music, using the traditional wedding marches. "To A Wild Rose", by McDowell, was played during the ceremony.

The bride and bride-groom entered the church together. The

bride wore a spring suit of navy blue with matching accessories. Her shoulder corsage was of orchids.

Mrs. Stallings is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Branch, of Enfield. She received her formal education at Blackstone College and the State Teachers College at Fredericksburg, Va.

The bride-groom is the son of Mayor E. E. Stallings and Mrs.

Stallings, of Enfield. He attended the University of North Carolina.

Following the ceremony Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Crump entertained the bridal party and guests at a luncheon at the Powers Hotel, after which Mr. and Mrs. Stallings left for a wedding trip to Florida.

The following announcements were issued:
Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Lynn

Branch announce the marriage of their daughter, Wilhelmina, to Mr. Ernest Harrison Stallings Monday, the second of February, on thousand nine hundred and forty two, First Baptist Church, Bennettsville, South Carolina.

Mrs. W. E. Murphrey and daughter, Ann Harper, spent several days last week in Raleigh and Chapel Hill.



THOMAS EDISON--MAN OF A MILLION MONUMENTS

HE WAS born ninety-five years ago this month. Perhaps you've seen his likeness in bronze, his features chiseled in stone, his figure perpetuated in marble.

But one of the most commonplace things of today's living is his most fitting memorial—a monument multiplied by millions—the taken-for-granted electric light bulb!

For it was he who made the first decisive step in electric lighting when he invented the incandescent electric lamp in 1879.

Sixty-three years ago.

Today, we have only to think for a moment of this fact to realize how much Thomas Alva Edison has had to do with the building of The American Way. Home life, community life, farm life, business and industry owe a debt to this man who would wish no greater reward than a continuation of The American Way which he helped to make.



YOUR ELECTRICAL DEALER OR VIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER CO.