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# ROANOKE RAPIDS CAROLINA'S FIRST Bloid MEWSpaper TABloid



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**VOLUME TWENTY-SEVEN** 

ROANOKE RAPIDS, N. C.

THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 1942

**NUMBER 31** 

# FAR REACHING AGRICULTURE SURVEY CONDUCTED HERE

### City Taxis **Must Carry** Insurance

Taxi automobiles operating within the city limits of Roanoke Rapids will be required to carry property damage and liability insurance on and after April 1, as a result of an ordinance adopted at the regular meeting of the City Board of Commissioners at their regular meeting held on Tuesday in the municipal building, it was learned here yesterday.

The Commissioners passed and adopted an ordinance requiring companies operating taxi cabs within the city to take out liability insurance in the amounts of \$4,000 and \$8,000 and property damage insurance in the amount

of \$2000. If no insurance policy (Continued on Page 12, Sec. A)

#### **OVERSEAS**



Curtis Britton, above, who has erved 19 years in the Army in served 19 years in the Army i Hawaii. See details on Page 12.

# ONE OF 28 SELECTED

A group of officials of the Department of Agricultural Economics, Washington, have been in Halifax county this week making a survey to determine just how far farmers of the county can go in growing and meeting the expanding production of soybeans and peanuts to be used for their soil content, County Agent W. O. Davis said yesterday.

Davis said that Halifax county had been one of twenty-eight counties in the nation selected for surveys in one or more crops and an effort was made to select one in each case that was typical of the surrounding section. Halifax was chosen for surveys in peanuts and

In the county for the survey are R. T. Melvin, State Representative of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, with headquarters at State College, Raleigh; Kenneth B. Buckman, of the Division of Farm Management and Costs, of Washington; Dr. M. Taylor Matthews, of the Division of Farm Population and Rural Wel-(Continued on Page 12, Sec. A)

#### **ANNOUNCES**



#### **Candidates** Announce For Office

Halifax County's political pot began to simmer this week with the announcement of three new candidates for one or more of the various offices that will be contested in the Democratic primary on May 30th.

Two candidates, both of Roanoke Rapids, announced their candidacies for the office of Sheriff, while one candidacy was announced for Halifax county's only seat in the House of Representatives.

New candidates in the field are: P. C. Luter, Roanoke Rapids policeman, and S. M. Thompson, ice and fuel dealer here, both for the P. C. Luter, local police officer who this week entered the race for Sheriff, and B. B. Ever-Sheriff of Halifax County. (Continued on Page 12, Sec. A)

Work of Fifth Columnists (?)

### FAKED DEATH MESSAGE SENT

**Boy Here To Assure Mother!** 

#### **Trio Of City Wreck Victims**

### REPORTED IMPROVING

Baby Suffers Greatest Injury fare, Atlanta; Douglas Schepnoes,

#### Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Johnson and their daughter, Jacqueline, are resting comfortably in Roanoke Rapids hospital this afternoon from injuries received Sunday afternoon at Vaughn, near Warrenton, when their car was in collision with a bus and another car.

Hospital attaches said that injuries of all three were of a serious nature but that they were expected to recover. Johnson received cuts about the head and legs, a chest injury and possible fracture of the ribs, while Mrs. Johnson suffered multiple lacerations of the forehead and face and numerous bruises on the body. The child, more seriously injured, suffered lacerations and contusions of the face and scalp, and two fractures of the skull.

None of the occupants of the other car, driven by W. P. Curtis of 105 North East Street, Raleigh, or the bus were injured. The bus was driven by J. H. Mayeur of

State Highway Patrolman Park Alexander, who investigated the accident, said that the Johnson car was headed toward Warrenton and that the bus was going toward Littleton. The Johnson car and the bus collided almost headon and Alexander said that the car was pulled almost from under

The Curtis car was headed in the direction of Warrenton and struck the wreckage of the two other vehicles.

## HATS THEY LEFT BEHIND 'EM

- Before Joining Uncle Sam's Armed Forces! first of the week. The Roanoke





In the above picture you see the hats of youths who were formerly employed by E. W. Smith, Inc., city electrical firm, hung there by them when they answered the call to the armed forces of the United States. Corporal Joe Crawford, one of the owners of the hats, is shown at the left in a recent photograph taken at Fresno Field, California, where he was last heard from three-weeks ago. Complete details will be found on Page 7 of this section.

Mrs. Hope Smith of this city was the victim of a fake death message which caused her no little trouble and mental anguish the Rapids woman had been working in a textile mill in Rocky Mount for about a year, and it was in Rocky Mount Sunday that she received a telegram stating:

OUR SON GOT KILLED IN CAR WRECK. SENDING HOME TOMORROW EVE-NING

-BURLEY WARD

The telegram obviously referred to her son, Carl Barnes, stationed with the 20th Engineers at Camp Blanding, Florida. Burley Ward, who signed the wire, was unknown to Mrs. Smith, and there was nothing to indicate his official status with the army. Mrs. Smith wired back to ship the body to Roanoke Rapids and came here to make funeral arrangements.

She contacted a local undertaker, showing him the wire she had received. He became dubious as to the authenticity of the telegramwhen he found it was sent collect. He met the train on which the corpse would logically arrive, however, to find that there had been no shipment of a body from Camp Blanding to this destination.

A series of investigations were then started by Rev. Gordon L. Price, chairman of the local chapter of the Red Cross, to whom the woman had been referred for assistance by friends, terminating in

(Continued on Page 12, Sec. A)