

**REMEMBER** Vernon Edgar Whitley, Marvin William Scott, William H. Camp, Jr., Robert E. May, R. H. McCommons, James W. Whitley, Grover Woodruff, Winfield Hasty, Daniel E. Faison, Robert Lee Moore, Curtis E. West, Edgar H. King, Robert Lee Ingram, Thomas A. Cooper, Marvin F. Matkins, James G. Whitley, Thos. H. Cook, Jr., Elmer E. Chambliss, Randall White, Robert L. Harris, Joseph A. Crouch.



# THE ROANOKE RAPIDS HERALD

CAROLINA'S FIRST  
TABloid NEWSpaper



VOLUME XXX

ROANOKE RAPIDS, N. C., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1944

NUMBER 19

## Santa Claus Visits Poor

Santa Claus visited the poor of Roanoke Rapids this Christmas in a generous manner. The Lions Club gave a Christmas party last Friday night at the First Baptist Church, playing hosts to about 75 with a delicious dinner and gifts.

The Rotary Club members distributed 32 baskets filled with all kinds of "goodies" and food last Friday.

The Kiwanis Club gave clothing, food and fuel to five large families.

A Boy Scout troop gave toys and food to a family with nine children.

A Girl Scout troop also cared for a needy family, while other charitable cases were taken care of by private individuals.

All in all it was a happy Christmas for the poor of the city and once again emphasizes the true spirit of the season.

## SMITH RITES ON TUESDAY

Mrs. Nettie J. Smith, 60 years old, died at the Roanoke Rapids Hospital last Sunday after an illness of several months. Funeral services were conducted at the Williams Funeral Home, Tuesday, December 26, at 4:00 p. m. by Rev. B. Marshall White-Hurst and Rev. Gordon Price. Interment was in the Roanoke Rapids Cemetery.

Mrs. Smith is survived by her husband, Charlie B. Smith; four daughters, Mrs. Mamie Rose and Mrs. Ruth Smith of Roanoke Rapids, and Mrs. Charlotte Daniel and Mrs. Betty Daniel of Pleasant Hill. Three sisters, Mrs. Cecil Pulley and Mrs. Selma Davis of Roanoke Rapids, and Mrs. R. L. Myles of Boykins, Va. Two brothers, Charlie Johnson, of Boykins, Va., and Joe Johnson of Roanoke Rapids, and several grandchildren.

## Radcliffe Here With His Parents

Charles Lewis Radcliffe, S 2/c, is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence E. Radcliffe, 819 Franklin Street, for five days. Seaman Radcliffe received his boot training at Jacksonville and has since been stationed there. He entered service June 8, immediately after graduating from high school.

## Completes His Basic Training

Private Clarence I. Medlin, 18, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Medlin, of 119 Jefferson Street, is home on furlough after completing his basic training at Camp Blanding, Fla. Pvt. Medlin will report to Fort Meade, Md., Sunday. Before his going into service he worked at the Blue Front Lunch. Clarence graduated from Roanoke Rapids High School with the class of '44.

## Auto Licenses

"All 1944 motor vehicle license plates are good through January 31," T. Boddie Ward, Commissioner of the State Department of Motor Vehicles, said yesterday in a reminder to North Carolina motorists.

"This extension of time was provided for by a special act of the 1943 General Assembly, Ward said."

Commissioner Ward issued the reminder in answer to a number of inquiries received in his office recently in regard to the expiration date of 1944 license plates.

## Pruden Winner Silver Wings

Lieut. William Howard Pruden, Jr., 19-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Pruden, 901 Monroe street, this city, was awarded the silver wings of a pilot and commissioned a second lieutenant in the Army Air Corps, December 23, at Spence Field, Moultrie, Ga. Young Pruden, a graduate of Roanoke Rapids High School in 1943, is at home for a short leave with his parents.

## William Price Is Visiting Here

William G. Price, SP(G)3/c, is here visiting friends. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Price, formerly of this city. Price is now stationed at Jacksonville, Fla., where he is instructing gunnery. Since his entrance in the Navy in June, he has been stationed in Jacksonville except for the three months he was studying gunnery in Pensacola. William graduated from Roanoke Rapids High School this year. His address is William G. Price, SP(G) 3/c, V B 4, OTU No. 2, USNAAS, Jax Municipal No. 1, Jacksonville, Fla.

## Cpl. Edwin Webb Finishes Course

Cpl. Edwin Hull Webb, son of Mr. and Mrs. B. S. Webb of 400 Roanoke Avenue, is here visiting his parents for 15 days, after completing a course in Asheville for weather radio operator. Hull is to report to Greenville after his leave expires. He has been in service for two years and before entering service he was employed by the Halifax Paper Company in the chemical laboratory. He is a graduate of the Roanoke Rapids High School.

Mr. and Mrs. Webb have two other sons in service, Lt. James W. Webb and Flight Officer Richard Webb.

## 1 Point On Milk

In the advertisement of the local A & P stores the point value on Whitehouse Milk is 1½ point. This is an error and should read only 1 point.

## Housewives Caught By OPA Ruling

The ruling last Monday by the Office of Price Administration placing practically all processed foods and meats back on the ration list and voiding all surplus stamps, certainly "caught housewives napping," according to comment heard about town this week.

For instance: In the post office lobby yesterday one woman, when greeted by a friend, said: "I'm so mad with myself I don't know what to do."

"What's the trouble?" questioned her friend.

"Every stamp that I have been saving for future use just in case I needed it has been cancelled by the OPA. And believe me, from now on I intend to use every one of mine whether I need the foods or not. I had four perfectly good sugar stamps. And now I hardly have enough sugar in the house to get along."

Then up town, we heard two women on the street talking the situation over. Their conversation ran like this:

"Mary. Can you beat that? I have always tried to do my very best in conserving everything and save, not using one single stamp more than I had to in order to help others in getting their honest share of things. But look. Now what have I got? Nothing, absolutely nothing."

"I think it is ridiculous," replied Mary. "But that's the way it goes. Try and do the best you can and be honest about it, and see what happens. That Ration order is simply a violation of word and faith with the people."

"It's the truth," the other replied. "And believe me, from now on, with many things our soldiers need being stolen, I intend to get what I need and wherever I can find it, stamp or no stamp."

"Same here. I don't blame you."

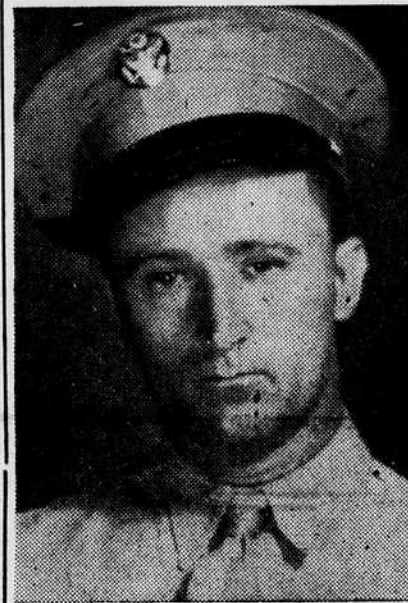
And with that they parted. But it left this reporter wondering. Just what will be the outcome of OPA's ruling in voiding all the surplus stamps? Will it cause housewives to continue their co-operation with the Office of Price Administration? Or will it become a boomerang?

## Thortis Is Home For Thirty Days

William Irvin Thortis, AMM 3/c, now stationed at Jacksonville, Fla., is home visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Thortis, 313 Jefferson Street, for a 30-day rehabilitation leave after returning from overseas duty. Thortis has another brother, Sgt. Luther Thortis, serving with the Marines.

## BROADCAST BRINGS MANY MESSAGES TO MRS. BERTHA GRAY

### Participated Guam Invasion



Pfc. Laster Smith of the U. S. Army Combat Engineers was in the invading force that took Guam from the Japanese. Previous to his induction in June, 1942, he was employed by the J. D. Betts Service Station of Roanoke Rapids. His mother, Mrs. Minnie Smith, resides at Route No. 1, Box 12-A. His wife and infant daughter live in Pritchard, Ala. Smith was wounded in action during an engagement in this sector in August, 1944.

Pfc. Allie Ward, also a member of the U. S. combat engineers, whose wife resides at 751-A Charlotte street, this city, was also in the invasion forces that wrested Guam from Japan.

### Woodruff Wins Combat Badge

With the 80th Infantry Division—Corporal Arthur L. Woodruff has been awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge for exemplary conduct in action against the enemy, by his commanding officer.

Cpl. Woodruff's mother, Mrs. Lisa C. Woodruff, resides at Star Route Emporia, Greensville, Va. His wife, Mrs. Nancy B. Woodruff, lives at 77 Hamilton street, Roanoke Rapids. He has been in the service two years.

### Her Husband Had Been Reported As Missing Dec. 8th.

After Pfc. Edward Gray, whose wife resides at 221 Madison street, Roanoke Rapids, finished an appeal over shortwave radio last Friday night, Mrs. Gray received a long distance telephone call from a woman in New Jersey. There being no telephone in the Gray residence, the operator in Weldon cooperated by getting the phone of Dick Smith to answer. Mr. Smith made efforts to get Mrs. Gray to the phone but she was not at home, being on a visit to her mother in Virginia.

Miss Margie Collins, however, came to the rescue, and got in touch with Mrs. Seaborn Rook, sister-in-law of Mrs. Gray, who lives across the river. Mrs. Rook called the woman in New Jersey and was told of the good news she heard over the radio.

Pfc. Gray's wife learned of the message when she came home Saturday afternoon. Needless to say she was overjoyed. Since that time she has received almost 100 letters and telegrams and cards from points over the United States telling of hearing the broadcast.

Gray's message was one of 13 allowed by the Nazis and was as follows:

"I am Edward Gray. My wife lives at 221 Madison street, Roanoke Rapids, N. C. I am a German prisoner. If anyone in the United States hears this message please call or wire my wife."

Gray had previously been reported missing in action on December 8, in France.

### Neal Brothers Visiting Here

Pvt. Bynum Neal of the Infantry Headquarters Company is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. S. Neal, 417 Roanoke Avenue, for eight days. Bynum entered service on August 25 immediately after graduating from high school, and recently completed his basic training at Camp Blanding, Fla. He will report to Fort Meade, Md., for further instructions after his furlough expires.

Another son of Mr. and Mrs. Neal, Lieutenant William K. "Billy" Neal, is also at home for 15 days. Billy is stationed at Spence Field, Ga., where he is an instructor in the Army Air Corps.

### Davis Visiting Parents Here

Pvt. Everett Davis is home visiting his parents for seven days after completing his basic training at Camp Blanding, Fla. Pvt. Davis entered service in August, and was inducted in the infantry. Before entering service he worked for his father at the Davis Live Stock Company.

