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LAND FOR AIRPORT BOUGHT

Man Is Killed

Horribly Mangled Body Discovered On Platform Of A. C. L. In Weldon

The horribly mangled body of Joseph D. Sumrell, 41, well known Jones county farmer, was found on the north end of the Atlantic Coast Line platform in Weldon about 4:30 o'clock last Tuesday morning. Sumrell met his death some time Monday night.

According to information, Sumrell left Wilson Monday night on a fast A. C. L. train en route to Philadelphia on a business trip. He is reported to have been carrying a large sum of money on his person at the time he left and an investigation is now being made by Coroner Rowe, Deputy Sheriff Mountcastle and Chief P. R. Kitchen of Weldon in an effort to determine if there was any foul play connected with Sumrell's death. He was traveling alone, it is said, and whether he fell or was thrown from the train is not known.

The body was taken to his home in Trenton, accompanied by Mr. Sumrell's brother and oldest son, Eldridge.

Surviving are his wife, Ethel Mae Newell Sumrell; five children, Eldridge, 21; Robert Eugene, 12; Louise, 20; Celia Faye, 18; and Linda Lucille, 16, and his mother, Mrs. Nannie Jolly Sumrell.

Twelve More Go Into The Service

Twelve more white men from Halifax County went into the armed forces March 22. Seven joined the Army while five went into the Navy. Following is the list:

Army: Edward Levy Craddock, Charles Hayward Norris, Marion McKinley Turner, Bernie Babson, Grady Courtland Dickens, Jessie Ray Jenkins, Edward Cernilious Griffin.

Navy: John Bynum Reid, Johnnie Thomas Hoggard, David Iton Wall, Robert Fine Johnson, Lee Thomas Nicholson.

Woodruff First Local Soldier To Cross The Rhine

According to information received by Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Woodruff, 107 Monroe Street, their son, Sgt. William H. Woodruff, was the first soldier from Roanoke Rapids to cross the Rhine river over the bridge captured intact by the Americans at Remagen. Woodruff has been in the Army over seven years and is attached to the Ninth Armored Division.

Killed In Action



Pictured above is S/Sgt. Melbourne Jones, USMCR, who was reported last week as killed in action February 21 in the bitter battle on Iwo Jima

Nazi Prisoner



Shown here is Pvt. Rodney Powell, who is a prisoner of the Nazis. Powell had been reported last January as being missing in action.

Pvt. Rodney Powell In Nazi Prison Camp It Is Reported

Reported missing in action in Luxembourg since December 20, Pvt. Rodney Powell, son of Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Powell, 732 Monroe street, is a prisoner of war of the Germans it was made known this week.

The information about young Powell was contained in a letter received by his mother last Saturday and reveals the fact that he was wounded and captured by the Germans.

The letter, written by Rodney

from the Nazi prison, to his mother, reads as follows:

January 25, 1944
Dear Mother:
I am well and all right. I do hope all of you and the children are all right. I was wounded in the neck and across my shoulder by shrapnel. The wound in my neck affected my eyes some. Nothing to get alarmed over, though. It can be fixed up by a doctor. Don't worry too much
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Mayor Issues Proclamation On Drive For Spare Clothes

The campaign which opened last week to gather up all spare clothing, shoes, hats, cloth and other badly needed articles by the peoples of Europe, received impetus this week when Mayor Kelly Jenkins issued a proclamation appealing to the citizens of the city and surrounding communities to "give utmost help in this urgent and humanitarian cause."

If there is anything in the nature of clothing or cloth that is found about the house for which your family has no need, it will be highly appreciated by the committee in charge of this campaign if you will take or send it to one of the collection depots.
For any information about this campaign you may telephone Mrs. Joe Talley, R-593-6 or Mrs. E. D.

Harbour, R-612-6.
Following is Mayor Jenkins' proclamation:

PROCLAMATION
WHEREAS, as many war victims have died from exposure and lack of adequate clothing as have died from starvation, and
WHEREAS of those remaining
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First Donation

Miss Fannie Greenberg, owner of Francis Dress Shop, has made the first donation of clothing to the local committee in the campaign for wearing apparel for the needy and distressed people of Europe. The contribution consisted of several dresses and coats out of stock and is valued at about \$200.

Board Commissioners Make Appropriation At Monday's Meeting; 280 Acres Bought

Halifax County Man Questioned Woman's Death

Harry C. Harrison, 20-year old former Marine, and son of a prominent Scotland Neck and Enfield family, is being questioned by Raleigh police in connection with the death of Mrs. May Davis Higham, 71, who was found bludgeoned and burned to death in her Raleigh home on Easter Monday morning.

Harrison, a relative of Mrs. Higham, was arrested yesterday near Enfield as he was said to be speeding toward the Virginia line. His arrest was made on a warrant charging larceny of a \$70 wrist watch from a friend.

In Harrison's automobile, Raleigh officers say, they found several pieces of expensive jewelry that have been identified as belonging to the dead woman. No formal charge of murder, however, has been made against him. Harrison is the son of Mrs. M. Spooner Harrison of Scotland Neck and the late Mr. Harrison.

The Halifax County Board of Commissioners at its meeting held last Monday unanimously voted to appropriate \$30,000 for the purchase of 280 acres of land on which the Halifax County Airport will be laid out and built.

For several months the board had been considering the purchase of the land, and while nothing definite had been done along that line, plans for the air field were made by the Airport Committee, headed by Dr. M. C. Maddrey. The site of the proposed port was selected, options were taken on the land, and a topographical map made. Even with these definite moves, the commissioners kept the question of appropriating the money, under study.

But the committee never relinquished the idea of Halifax County having an airport. Facts and figures were gathered together and placed before the commissioners last month, and assurance was indicated that the money would be forthcoming.

Land for the field is situated just off the Littleton highway about four miles from Roanoke Rapids and approximately six miles from Weldon. It is an ideal location and can be conveniently reached from any section of the county.

There is a bill now pending in Congress which seems certain to pass, appropriating a large amount of money for the expansion of air travel and shipping. Of this amount North Carolina will get about \$19,500,000. From this sum Halifax County will get a substantial amount to construct the airport, the total cost of which is placed at \$130,000.

As soon as this bill becomes law, the Airport Committee will put in its bid for the money that will be available for building the field and actual construction will begin as soon as possible.

"And," said Dr. Maddrey, "we are certainly going to have an airport in Halifax County."

Kiwanis Show On Thursday-Friday

The 15th annual Kiwanis Club Minstrel Revue will be held next Thursday and Friday nights, April 12 and 13, in the High School auditorium. Rehearsals are now in progress and the cast is all home talent. The show "Now And Then" is a John B. Rogers production and is said to be unusually good. Advanced seat sales are now on and tickets may be obtained from any member of the local Kiwanis club.

Pvt. Buffaloe Is In Hospital

Pvt. W. H. Buffaloe, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Buffaloe of Jackson, and a brother of Mrs. W. E. Murphrey of this city, is in a hospital "somewhere" in France.

Pvt. Buffaloe was reported last week in a War Department message as "missing in action" since March 11. It was later determined that he had been wounded and placed in a hospital.

Bronze Star Is Given Hoggard

Sergeant Nollie E. Hoggard, of 1010 Rapids Street, Roanoke Rapids, has been awarded the Bronze Star for heroic achievement while serving with the 105th Medical battalion on the Western Front. The award was presented by Major General L. S. Hobbs, Commander of the 30th Infantry Division.

Pvt. Davis Is In Hospital; Been Missing

Parents of Pvt. Cornelius Everette Davis, who was reported as missing in action since February 23, received a V-mail letter today (Thursday) from Everette himself saying that he was all right and in a hospital. From the letter he apparently does not know of the message his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Davis, 1229 Jefferson street, received from the War Department stating that he was missing, and he stated he had not received any mail in some time and wanted his family and friends to write him. Although he is in hospital, Everette did not mention the fact that he was sick or had been wounded.