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GASOLINE COUPONS STOLEN

Boy Scouts Will Collect Old Clothes

In efforts to boost the old clothes campaign, city trucks will be used by the Boy Scouts on Sunday, April 22, to collect all articles of wearing apparel that the people of the city wish to give to the needy of Europe.

The campaign for these articles has been going on for several days, but there is a vast need for clothing for the people of devastated European countries, and Miss Minnie Johnson, chairman of the campaign, is very anxious to have everything given that can possibly be spared.

There is no need to have clothes cleaned. They are packed and shipped to a centralized cleaning plant and then repacked for shipment to various foreign lands.

The collection by the Scouts will begin at 2 p. m., and continue as long as is needed in order to get all the wearing apparel offered. Make plans now to give what you can.

New Officers Rotary Club Are Elected

Election of officers was the important part of the Tuesday meeting of the local Rotary Club. W. A. China, vice-president for the past year, was elevated to the presidency. Dr. W. E. Murphrey was chosen as vice-president, and Ben Lancaster was named secretary and treasurer. The outgoing officers are: William White, president; Mack Savage, secretary and treasurer, and of course, Mr. China who was vice-president for the past year. All these officers have made splendid records in Rotary Club work and activities.

Two new directors were elected as members of the board, Marvin Collier and "Major" Newsome. Other directors are: William White, Joe Suiter, William A. China, Matthew C. Savage.

Guests at the meeting were "Shorty" Longest of the Rocky Mount club and Dr. W. A. McDowell, Halifax District Health Officer, who is a member of the Tarboro club.

Kiwanis Club Show Tonight

The minstrel revue, "Now and Then," sponsored by the Roanoke Rapids Kiwanis Club, will be given again tonight, after a successful and largely attended performance last night.

The cast is made up of local performers entirely and much credit is due them for the splendid show. The performance tonight will start promptly at 8:15 in the School auditorium.

Bronze Star



Sgt. Calvin M. Dickens, above, son of Calvin A. Dickens, of Littleton, has been awarded the Bronze Star for bravery and meritorious service in connection with operations against the enemy in the European theatre. He entered the service in March, 1943, and has been overseas since the early fall of that year. Sgt. Dickens is connected with the ordnance department and is attached to Gen. Eisenhower's headquarters. A younger brother, Pvt. Henry E. Dickens, is "somewhere" in Belgium, having been overseas since October, 1943. Sgt. Dickens' wife, the former Miss Ollie Sowler, and little son, reside in Washington, D. C.

Wins Citation



The certificate of merit has been awarded to Pfc. Herman Spragins, of 910 Madison St., in recognition of conspicuously meritorious and outstanding performance of military duty. The citation was given for heroic achievement in connection with military operations in Germany from December third to fifth, 1944. Pfc. Spragins was an employee of Rosemary Manufacturing Co., before entering service in November, 1942, and went overseas August, 1944. He has received the Expert Infantryman's Badge and Combat Infantryman's Badge. He is with the First Army, 104th Timberwolf Division, and has seen action in Belgium, Holland, and Germany.

Jesse Mercer, Negro, Jailed Charged With Theft; Trial Is Set For Tuesday In Halifax

Now In France



Pvt. Wille F. Walker, pictured above, has notified his wife, the former Miss Hazel Shearin, of his arrival in France. Walker entered service in July, 1944, and was sent to Fort Jackson, S. C., for three weeks training course and from there to Camp Croft for his basic. Pvt. Walker has another brother in service, Pvt. Elwood Walker. They are sons of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Walker of Littleton.

Alleged theft of a number of gasoline ration coupons over a period of three weeks from the D. R. Pepper Service Station in "uptown" Roanoke Rapids, resulted in the arrest last Friday of Jesse Mercer, negro employe of the filling station. Mercer is now in Halifax County jail at Halifax awaiting a hearing next Tuesday in Halifax Recorder's Court.

According to Mr. Pepper the loss of gasoline coupons was discovered a short time ago, but he was unable to trace it. However, he suspected Mercer, and asked a regular patron of his place of business to approach the negro and attempt to "buy some coupons." This the customer did, said Mr. Pepper, and Mercer is said to have offered to get some for him. The negro, however, denies this.

But, say police, others who are alleged to have purchased coupons from the negro, have been found and arrests made. Three of these are known to be a negro woman school teacher, a white man by the name of Boone, and a white boy, "Pee-Wee" Moseley. Moseley, it is said, has admitted buying gas coupons from Mercer. The other two, however, have denied any such transactions.

Another negro, Charley Dowtin, an employe of the Bus Station, also is involved in the case, it being alleged that he accompanied Mercer on his "delivery and sales trips." Dowtin is out under bond of \$100 awaiting a hearing in his case. The others are also at liberty under bail with the exception of Mercer.

Pepper places his loss in gallons of gasoline due to the thefts at about 160. The negro is alleged to have offered the coupons at \$1 and \$1.25 each.

Theft of gasoline ration coupons is a federal offense, but what action, if any, the government will take in the case has not been determined.

City Election Is Set For May 8

Mayor And Two Commissioners To Be Elected

The city election for mayor and two city commissioners of Roanoke Rapids will be held on Tuesday, May 8, according to an announcement made today. So far J. F. Welch is the only candidate who has filed for the office of Mayor. The present incumbent, Mayor Kelly Jenkins, has made no commitment as to whether he intends to run for re-election.

The terms of office of two city commissioners, Frank C. Williams of the North Ward, and Virgil McDowell of the South ward, will expire on the first Monday in June. However, there have been no candidates thus far to file for these "jobs," and it is not known whether Mr. Williams or Mr. McDowell will seek re-election.

The polls will open at 6:30 a. m., and close at 6:30 p. m. The books for the registration of voters not heretofore registered, are now open at the following polling places, each week day: North Ward, Boy Scout Cabin, Second

street, J. B. Browning, registrar; South Ward, Rosemary graded school, Hamilton street, R. L. Topping, registrar.

Further information on the election is given in the "Notice of Election" published elsewhere in this issue of the Herald.

Pittman Is Wounded On March 14th

Pvt. Irving Ashley Pittman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alice S. Pittman, of Halifax, was wounded in Germany on March 14, according to a message received last Tuesday by his mother. Pittman entered the service in September, 1944, and was sent overseas in January of this year. He received his basic training at Camp Blanding, Fla., and Fort Meade, Md. He is believed to be serving with Gen. Patton's Third United States Army. Mrs. Pittman has another son, James A. Pittman, M3/c, stationed in Norfolk.

"The Circus" Is Coming Saturday

Children will be happy next Saturday, why? Because Clyde Beatty's Circus is coming to town, featuring a big three-ring performance of wild animals, horses, clowns, acrobats and many other entertainers.

The performance will be held both afternoon and night starting at 2:30 and 8 p. m. The big tent will be raised on the show grounds at Tenth Street and Radio Tower. Reserved seat tickets will be on sale at Rosemary Drug Store Saturday morning from 10 a. m. until 4 p. m.

Recovering From Effects Cat Bite

Beaman Helms is recovering at his home from the effects of being bitten on the hand by a "stray" cat at the gutter station about three weeks ago.

FLASH!

President Franklin D. Delano Roosevelt died this afternoon (Thursday) at his Warm Springs (Ga.) home at 3:30 o'clock.

Jenkins Dies Wednesday

Lewis Jenkins, 47, died Wednesday morning at the local hospital after a few days illness. Funeral services were held yesterday from his home, 213 Monroe street at 10 a. m., conducted by Rev. Lester A. Jones, pastor of the Methodist Church. Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Undine Herring Jenkins; two sons, George, overseas, James and Wilson Jenkins; his daughter, Mrs. L. D. Jenkins; a sister, Mrs. Lewis Council; six brothers, John, Willie, Ernest and Willie Jenkins, all of this city; and one Jenkins of Halifax, and one Jenkins of Texas. Mr. Jenkins was 27 years of age when he was born in Roanoke Mills Co.