

FLIER ENVISIONS CHRISTMAS DAY

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because they know their equipment but because they take a personal pride in everything they do to keep PUNCHIN' JUDY coming out of her Saipan corner ready for every new round.

"Of course, Boss Raynes and his ground crew make all this possible by their daily sweating over the PUNCHER's engines and other complicated equipment. And do not think they are forgotten—not when the cigars are distributed. All these men and many others who drove the Nips from this island and built runways are helping to make the new year victorious and its next Christmas a happier one for all of us.

"You can picture us running around out here on Christmas Day in the usual khaki shirt and shorts combination, boning turkey for Christmas dinner and getting a big surprise out of the packages you have filled to the last official ounce. Undoubtedly there will be a version of eggnog in circulation—for those who bring their own. And, most surely, a spontaneous Christmas carol or two. The chapel tents will be more than filled—the attendance increases with each passing Sunday.

"Though I won't be sharing Judy's first Christmas with you, I will be happy with this and little thoughts—you swinging mistletoe over the unsuspecting in the doorway; you reaching high to put the Star of Peace atop an evergreen and you digging Judy out from under a pile of bright Christmas wrappings.

"So many a Merry Christmas to you and Judy, darlings, and the proud grandmas and grandpas whom you will be hosting at Christmas dinner.

Love,

Don"

Thompson's crew includes: Co-Pilot, Second Lt. Raymond J. Rood, Mobile, Ala.; Flight Engineer, First Lt. Philip N. "Plumber" French, Portsmouth, N. H.; Bombardier, Second Lt. Charles H. McKinney, Spencer, Tenn.; Navigator, Second Lt. Randall C. Maydew, Salinas, Calif.; Radio Operator, Sgt. Robert J. Strong, Harrison, N. Y.; Gunners, Sgts. Edwin Burkhardt, Washington, Ind.; Merrill W. Staller, Twelve Mile, Ind.; Dan Bartok, Mt. Olive, Ill.; William Cloud, Galena Park, Tex.; Corp. Waterman J. Davis, Sumter, S. C.; and Crew Chief, Tech. Sgt. Walter Raynes, of Winfield, West Va.

BYRNES STOPS HORSE RACING

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needed 300,000 more workers than they have.

The "crackdown" on businesses which disregard manpower regulations was taken in two steps.

First, Byrnes asked the War Manpower Commission to intensify its drive to establish employment ceilings in areas of labor shortages. Under such ceilings, the WMC tells a business—manufacturing plant, laundry or tavern, for instance—the total number of workers it may employ.

Then, Byrnes asked the War Production Board to put "teeth" into the manpower regulations since the Manpower Commission has no authority itself to enforce its ceilings. The WPB did this by invoking for the first time in the war its broad priority powers.

These permit it to withhold from a business materials, transportation and any other product subject to priority control.

As invoked, the WPB can use the power whenever it "makes a finding that materials or facilities are not being used most effectively for the prosecution of the war as a result of failure to comply with

Medal Is Given To Local Hero's Widow



The posthumous award of a Distinguished Service Cross, second highest Army honor, to Capt. John R. Garrabrant, of Wilmington, is pictured here in the recent presentation of the medal to his widow, Mrs. Emily Reckling Garrabrant, by Brig. Gen. John T. Kennedy, Fort Bragg commander. Present at the ceremony in the First Presbyterian church were (left to right, background) Norwood Westbrook, the Rev. Dr. William Crowe, Jr., Robert Strange, M. R. and Mrs. E. C. Garrabrant, the captain's parents, and his younger brother Billy, and Mrs. R. C. Cantwell, his sister. (Army Signal Corps photo)

an employment ceiling or hiring regulation of the War Manpower Commission.

The WPB announced these controlling policies:

Before action against an employer, the Manpower Commission must certify that he has refused to comply with a ceiling or hiring regulation "within reasonable time after he has been notified of his failure to do so."

After such certification, hearings will be ordered before a compliance commissioner to determine whether there is proof of failure to comply.

Only in event the commissioner found such proof would the WPB's priority sanctions be applied.

In creating this machinery, Byrnes noted in a statement that the purpose of the ceilings is to assure that war plants get sufficient manpower.

"The vast majority of establishments and employes throughout the nation are cooperating wholeheartedly with the War Manpower Commission in accepting employment ceilings as essential to war production," he said.

"I am sure that we can continue to establish these ceilings in most instances through negotiations with the establishments and services concerned and with their employes on a voluntary basis.

"However, I am unwilling to ask for the voluntary acceptance of ceilings by the many without being prepared to take positive measures to enforce ceilings on the very few who are unwilling to thus contribute to our war effort. I am sure that our people want and expect our war plants to be fully manned."

GUARANTEED WATCH REPAIRING Quick Service We Teach Watches To Tell The Truth The Jewel Box 109 N. Front

CITY PUBLISHES YEARLY REVIEW

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figures, presented in percentages, the booklet contains a brief but definitive account of the city finance department's accomplishments during the fiscal year. Wilmington is shown to be safely in the black, with an operating surplus of \$96,198 and a cash balance, including special funds, of \$312,396.

The city's sinking fund, building toward the retirement of \$1,000,000 in bonds due to mature in 1948 and 1955, has grown fourfold in three years and stands now at \$813,509. The bonded debt has been raised \$600,000 by the issuance of low interest waterworks bonds and lowered by the calling in of old bonds.

The civic minded resident will swell with pride to read (on page 11) that his city's real and personal property, in toto, is valued at \$41,943,724. The tax-rate on this, incidentally has been lowered from \$1.40 to \$1.35 per hundred dollars, despite increased operating costs. Partially responsible for this was the collection of \$144,151 in back-taxes this year.

Handling the swollen war-time population of the city has brought in its train new municipal moves varying from the employment of a full time juvenile court case-worker to the letting of the largest single engineering contract in Wilmington's history, the order to lay the King's Bluff pipeline over 15 miles of troublesome terrain in search of a new supply of salt-free water. The estimate on this was \$1,325,000.

Rivalling this was another water and sewerage project, the construction, completed recently, of the John H. Sweeney filtration plant and pumping station, for which the Federal government put up half the \$640,000 cost and which met and mastered its first emergency in a matter of days thereafter—a December freshet whose 6,200,000 gallons of water in a single day would have swamped the old 5,000,000-gallon plant.

In the report, described by author Rippy as an attempt to give Wilmington citizens a fair, accurate and comprehensible account

of city department functions and the disposition of taxpayers' money, provocative details of the workings of the engineering, recreation, protective inspection and city-planning departments, as well as those mentioned.

There is also a complete roster of boards and administrative workers and more than a hint of what the municipality intends to do in the postwar era.

The booklet was produced by Jackson and Bell, Wilmington printers.

Michael Arlen the English novelist, was born Dikran Kuyumjian, at Rustchuk, Bulgaria, of Armenian parents.

'Too Bloody Obstinate' To Give An Inch, Yank Troup Defies Nazi Push

WITH AMERICAN ARMIES ON THE WESTERN FRONT, Dec. 23. —(AP)—"Too bloody obstinate" to give an inch, embattled American Doughboys held a solid line on the northern flank of the German penetration into Belgium this morning despite powerful and repeated attacks.

On the southern flank, the situation was more fluid, with another town reported in enemy hands and Field Marshal von Rundstedt increasing his tank pressure at this point of the slowing drive.

do you WORRY? about RUPTURE

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Deep in our hearts, each of us has a secret Christmas hope. What more can we wish you, than that your hope come true? And for the coming year we'd like to see the fulfillment of every desire you hold dear.

THE SEASON'S GREETINGS TO ALL!

SAUNDERS

108 North Front

Obituaries

MRS. CAMMIE WELLS

Funeral services for Mrs. Cammie Wells, 49, of Rocky Point, who died at 7:30 p. m. Thursday in James Walker Memorial hospital, will be held today at 3:30 p. m. in the home of her daughter, Mrs. E. M. Westbrook, of Castle Hayne.

The Rev. C. C. Myers and the Rev. C. R. Taylor will officiate. Interment will follow at the Guyton family cemetery in Rocky Point.

JOSEPH HALL MCGOWEN

Joseph Hall McGowen, 78, died yesterday morning in his home in Watha after a long illness.

He is survived by two daughters, Mrs. M. B. Daniels, of Wilson, and Mrs. H. C. Payer, of Fayetteville; one son, Joseph H. McGowen, of Watha, one sister, Mrs. J. O. Bryan of Chattanooga, Tenn., and one brother, W. B. McGowen, of Turkey, as well as by eight grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held today at 3 p. m. in his home. Interment will be at the Mt. Holly cemetery near Watha.

Service on 134 miles of rail lines in the Dominican Republic was suspended in 1941 and the roadbeds were converted into highways.

RUSSIANS GAIN IN WEST DRIVE

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tacks of large formations of enemy tanks and inflicted heavy losses in manpower and equipment."

Among the Hungarian towns which the Russians listed as captured along the Ipoly river was Tolges, 100 miles southeast of Vienna and but 72 from Bratislava, capital of the German puppet state of Slovakia.

Southwest of Budapest, on the front between the Danube and Lake Balaton, the Russians announced they again had gone on the offensive in the area of the city of Szekesfehervar and now were engaged in heavy fighting with large enemy tank and infantry formations.

The Germans acknowledged Friday that the Russians were only two miles from Szekesfehervar. Saturday night they said these attacks had "increased to unparalleled strength" and estimated that on that front and in the Ipoly Sag sector the Red Army was using 18 infantry divisions and three mechanized corps.

BUY WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

Old Santa Couldn't Do More!



If we could turn old Santa loose, with instructions to be particularly good to each of those who have been so thoughtful of us, we believe the jolly old gentleman would have a difficult time in getting around this year.

That's why we are so anxious to extend our sincere good wishes to all, and to wish for you and yours all the joys and happiness that you so richly deserve.

TAUBMAN'S

16 S. Front St.

Saunders HOLIDAY STORE HOURS:

Sunday, Dec. 24th
9 A. M. to 1 P. M.

★ ★ ★

Monday, December 25th

CLOSED ALL DAY

★ ★ ★

Tuesday, Dec. 26th

Open 8 A. M. — Usual Hours

SAUNDERS

108 N. FRONT ST.

Christmas

Greetings to all our friends

MANY are the times through the year, when we'd like to be able to stop and chat in a friendly way with all of you—but busy-ness prevents our taking the time to exchange pleasantries.

With the Christmas season at hand however, we take the opportunity to say in print, to one and all, how much we value your patronage and friendships—how much we look forward to being better able to serve you. And may your future be as bright as the holly in your windows—the flickering flames in your fireplace—and the shine in Santa's eye!

Wahl's

214 NORTH FRONT STREET