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for 45 years by the late
Robert C. Rivers, Sr.

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Notice to Subscribers
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R. C. RIVERS, Jr. - Publisher

Cards of Thanks, Resolutions of Respect, Obituaries, etc., are charged for at the regular advertising rates.

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"The basis of our government being the opinion of the people, the very first object should be to keep that right, and were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to choose the latter. But I should mean that every man should receive these papers and be capable of reading them."
—Thomas Jefferson.

THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 1944

Letters To the Editor

WRITES FROM PACIFIC

South Pacific
March 30, 1944.

Dear Mr. Rivers:

I don't know if you remember me or not, but it was well over a year ago when I last wrote to you. I was thanking you for the paper that meant so much to me. I noticed something in the "Democrat" today, dated Feb. 24, 1944, that I do not understand. It was in reference to the Servicemen's Rotation Plan. It read something like this: "More than 200,000 troops, exclusive of sick and wounded, have been sent back to the U. S. A. from overseas. The army's rotation policy provides that those with the longest service overseas will be returned first." Actually, it isn't being done like that at all. Instead of sending the men with four years overseas first, they collect all the names of men with two or more years overseas, along with all the others. It doesn't matter if they have been two or ten years overseas, they all have the same chance at going back home.

For instance, I have been overseas since Sept. 20, 1940. I don't have to remind you of what happened on Dec. 7, 1941. Not so long after that, we were on Guadalcanal, showing them that they could be beat at their own game. We meaning my division, played the major part in either killing the Japs or chasing them off Guadalcanal, as history will show. You also will remember the other islands in the New Georgia group that were taken from the Japanese, up as far as Bougainville. During the action on Guadalcanal, I was an infantryman, and all of the wild stories that have been told from time to time about that campaign, for the most part have been true. I know what it means to feel the very breath of machine gun bullets in the tall grass, along with the concussion of bombs that were entirely too close for comfort.

Going on patrols and having the snipers banging away at you at regular intervals, an occasional artillery shell landing here and there. Mostly, here! Seeing a pal that you have known, and grown to love almost as a brother, laying in pieces, wondering just how many will fall before it comes your number, not exactly caring! Hoping only to see that little slant-eye somewhere up ahead that is setting somewhere up in a thick tree with a light machine gun that is no respecter of persons. Sleeping in a foxhole, or I should say trying to sleep, with at least six inches or more of stagnated water in it, with mosquitoes picking you up by the ears. Every sound you hear can be, and usually is, a Jap. We know better than to go walking around after dark. That was an invitation for sudden death. Either from a Jap, or some trigger-happy pal in the next hole. All of this goes to make up quite a little of my last two years of overseas duty.

Now, there are fellows that have never seen an enemy dive bomber, or heard the scream of artillery, or any of these cute little things that go with actual combat. Yet, they have their names dropped in the hat along with ours to be drawn out for the trip back home! That is the part that I don't understand about the situation. Why do they print things like this in the paper? Is it for our morale, or the people that have boys overseas for three to five years that they know have been through hell that goes to make up war? Is it so they will be expecting their loved ones home on the next boat? We are taught to try and believe that our leaders back in the states say. But can we? This isn't a complaint, it is only an explanation so you won't be misinformed.

Personally, I had just as soon stay out of the states until it is all over, then I can go home and live in peace. I have all the confidence that it won't be long. If you could see some of our boys in action, you would see what I mean!

Sincerely yours,
RALPH E. GREENE.

China's first blood bank has been established on the Yunnan front, where it will be used as a model for other blood banks.

TODAY and TOMORROW

By DON ROBINSON

TALENTS babies

From the time a baby boy becomes old enough to talk most parents begin looking for signs of what he is apt to be when he grows up. If Junior starts marking the wallpaper with crayons his mother is sure to feel that there is a budding artist in the family. If he chews on a monkey-wrench his father will hopefully buy him a set of tools of his own in order to encourage his mechanical leanings, and if he goes after the cat with a knife the parents begin thumbing through medical school catalogs.

A few years later come periods of disillusionment when the budding artist fails in his drawing class in school, the promising young mechanic breaks his tools in a fit of rage over not being able to fix anything, and the born surgeon faints at the sight of blood.

Parents are notoriously over-eager in jumping to conclusions about the talents of their children and many are also over-zealous in trying to interest their offsprings in the things that interest them. We sometimes hear of a doctor's son becoming a good doctor or of a lawyer's son becoming an outstanding lawyer, but these cases are exceptional. In the majority of cases the talents of children differ widely from those of their parents and can only be discovered after a long period of trial and error.

SPECIALISTS doctors

But, although it is probably inadvisable to push children into adopting interests which later prove to be foreign to their make-up, it is also becoming increasingly important to expose them to as many fields of interest as possible so that their true leanings can be discovered at an early age.

For there is no doubt that, when the present young hopefuls grow up, we will have reached an age of specialization undreamed of in the past. To succeed in that age of specialization a young man will need to be an authority on something—even though it may be a thing of minor importance.

There are still plenty of family doctors, for example, who cope with all diseases, and all types of surgery, but in another 20 years, the medical profession agrees, most all young doctors will have a specialty. In the smaller towns it will still be necessary to have some doctors who can cover a multitude of complaints, but even there, with improvements in rapid transportation, the people will be educated to go to city specialists for serious troubles.

FARMERS start

A professor in an agricultural college told me, half humorously, that he could foresee the time when farming would reach the point where one farmer would grow tomatoes to the stage where they were green and would then turn the field over to another who was an expert on turning them red.

Farm specialization may not go quite that far, but it seems highly probable that the general farm which includes cows, chickens, pigs and vegetables, will soon be a thing of the past. For farmers will find it more economical to spend all of their time specializing in the department they know best and like best. The dairyman will devote all of his attention to cows and buy his pork from the farmer who specializes in pigs, his chickens from the man who is strictly a poultry farmer and his vegetables from a truck farmer.

So parents who want to give their children every possible opportunity to make good must probe deeper and deeper into their interests. If Junior actually does prove to be handy with tools and shows promise of being an expert mechanic, it must be determined just what form of mechanical work appeals to him most. If, on the other hand, he performs a successful operation on the cat at an early age, the search must go on to discover into what department of surgery his particular leanings can best be cataloged. And if he wants to be a farmer, it is necessary to find out what kind of a farmer.

The schools will be called upon more and more to cater to specialization and to analyze the special interests of students, but the parents who can actually determine their children's true leanings at an early age will be able to give them a headstart which will be invaluable to them.

The paper shortage is so acute in England that a book publisher, on returning a manuscript to the author, remarked: "We're not interested in your manuscript, but we'd like to make you an offer for the paper."—Punch.

War Bond Dollars Are
DOUBLE DUTY
DOLLARS

35,000 GALLONS GAS USED ILLEGALLY EACH DAY IN WESTERN N. C.

Charlotte, April 17.—The Charlotte OPA office reported today that between 20 and 25 per cent of the gasoline coupons in circulation in this district, embracing 46 western North Carolina counties, were counterfeited.

L. W. Driscoll, director, estimated the diversion is 35,000 gallons per day.

A new drive to enforce the regulations, he said, may force some filling stations out of business.

Want ADS

SPECIAL—Western Supreme House Paint. Guaranteed Quality unsurpassed by any other brand of paint. On sale this week at \$2.89 per gallon. Western Auto Associate Store. 1c

TENDERGREEN BEANS—Idaho grown, 24c per pound. We have 40 pack radio batteries. Western Auto Associate Store. 1c

WANTED TO BUY—3 or 4 horsepower electric motor. W. C. Greene, Laxon, N. C. 4-20-2c

FOR SALE—Carter's Champion White Rock pullets, 75 cents each, 6 weeks old. Yatsa Greene, Rutherford, W. C. Greene, Laxon, N. C. 4-20-2c

NOTICE

This is to state that my wife has left my house and that I am not responsible for any debts she may make. This April 19, 1944.
W. H. JONES.

FOR SALE—Registered 8 months old horned type hereford bull. Also one registered horn type Hereford bull for public service at my barn. D. Bland Wagner, Boone Route 1. 4-20-2p

WANTED—White girl or woman to care for small child and do general house work. \$5.00 per week and board. Reply to Margaret Greene Eubanks, Route No. 1, Box 83, Durham, N. C. 4-20-2p

FOR SALE—6-room house, lights and water, 3 acres land 1 1/2 miles west of Boone on new highway. See Jim H. Brown. 1p

WANTED—DRY CLEANING HELP—Prefer women over 18 years. Experience not necessary. Pay \$15 per week while learning. Wanted, housekeeper with room, laundry, dry cleaning furnished. Write for full details. S. Allen Home, 720 E. Davis St., Burlington, N. C. 4-20-1fc

WANTED—Office girl, high school education, capable of dealing with public. Write for particulars. S. Allen Home, 720 E. Davis St., Burlington, N. C. 1c

FOR SALE—Baby crib, with new mattress. Mrs. Sumner Willis, Phone 213-R, Boone, N. C. 1p

LOST—In Boone Saturday, yellow gold link bracelet with 3 blue stones. Return to Democrat office and receive reward. 1p

GARDEN FOR RENT to reliable party, located at 531 Queen St., Boone, N. C. Write Lloyd Coleman, 11508 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland, Ohio. 4-20-3p

FOR SALE—One Dunbar Piano and one electric sewing machine, desk model. Mrs. Connie Cook, Hotel Watauga, Phone 9118. 4-13-2p

HELP WANTED—Want two cooks and two girl workers in Princess Cafe, North Wilkesboro. Phone 206, North Wilkesboro, N. C. James Piperis. 3-30-4c

FOR SALE—Thoroughly reconditioned electric radios, also battery radios. Dacus Radio Shop, Boone, N. C. 3-30-4p

HELP WANTED—Man with small family to work on small dairy farm. Straight salary, house, garden. This should carry draft deferment. Reply to Box 468, Blountville, Tenn. 3-23-4p

OLD GOLD WANTED—We buy old gold watch cases, rings, dental gold, etc. Highest prices paid. Walker's Jewelry Store. 12-1-1f

DR. C. G. BAUGHMAN, eye, ear, nose and throat specialist of Elizabethton, Tenn., will be at the Hagaman Clinic in Boone the first Monday in each month for the practice of his profession. 12-1-1f

DR. L. E. WELLMAN, optometrist, invites you to come to Mountain City, Tenn., for your next glasses. You will receive a thorough scientific examination and the finest of lenses. The latest styles in frames or rimless mountings at a very moderate cost. Office days, Wednesday Thursday each week.

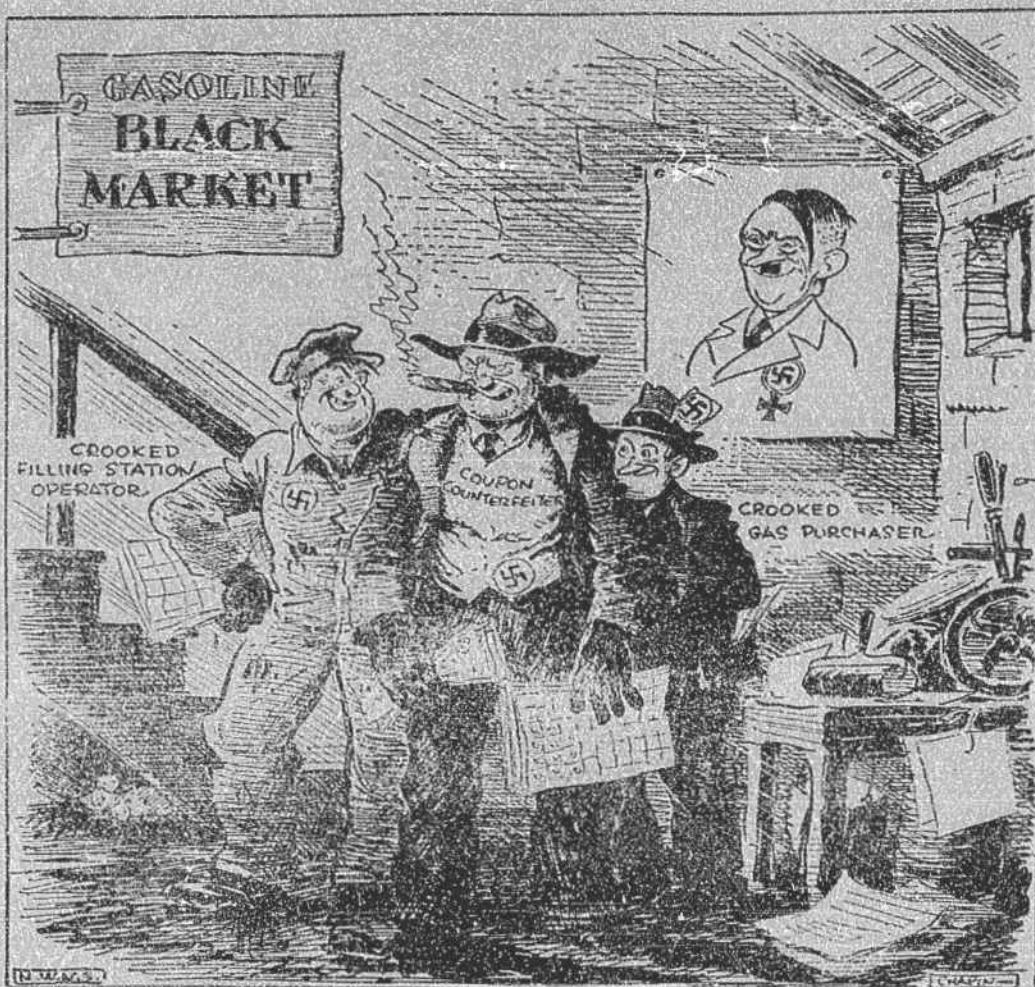
DACUS RADIO SHOP
EXPERT RADIO REPAIRING
ALL MAKES
20 YEARS EXPERIENCE
217 Main St. Phone 119
Boone, N. C. 3-2-8p

TO THE VOTERS OF BRUSHY FORK AND NEW RIVER TOWNSHIPS

This is to give notice that we have established a voting place in Brushy Fork Township at the old store building of T. L. Mast. In New River Township the voting place will be at the Harrison Baker place at Perkinsville.

This April 11, 1944.
R. T. GREER, Chairman,
C. F. THOMPSON,
R. D. HODGES,
Watauga County Board of Elections

HITLER'S PALS



GARDENS

Canners have been asked to set aside about 40 per cent of this year's pack for war uses as compared with 25 per cent last year. More and better Victory gardens are needed this year.

JAP LOSSES TOTAL 26,000

Washington—More than 26,000 Japanese have been killed in fighting in the Southwest and Central Pacific during recent months. Secretary of War Stimson said last week.

A customer entered a liquor store, put a Bible on the counter, told the clerk to place his hand on it, and said: "Now swear you haven't any whiskey." P. S.—He got a quart.—Reader's Digest.

Can You Picture
NORTH CAROLINA
without its War Activities?



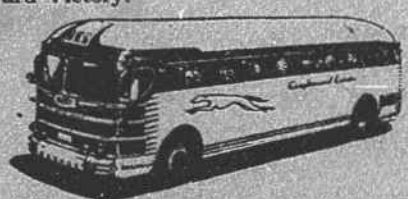
War is a long way from North Carolina—but in so many ways it's mighty close to us. Our men are fighting all over the world—our factories and farms are producing an endless stream of supplies our troops depend upon. But even that isn't all—it wouldn't be enough!

We have so much more to do right here in North Carolina—jobs that are up to all of us, jobs that must be well done. In the 4th War Bond Drive, for instance, North Carolinians bought \$172,000,000 worth—37% above our quota—but we're keeping right on buying more and more! We've gladly given our money to the Red Cross—and hundreds of thousands of hours of our time to making surgical dressings and kits for our men overseas.

We've supported and worked for the U.S.O. and various war relief groups. We've built and maintained an efficient Civilian Defense organization. We've

collected scrap and rubber, tin and fats. Whatever has been asked, North Carolina has done—and then some!

The men and women of the Greyhound Lines, like their fellow-citizens of North Carolina, have shared in all of these activities. They've also shared in the vital job of moving wartime manpower—in uniform or in work clothes. On special occasions they've transported U.S.O. Camp Shows and brought partners to camp dances. Greyhound buses—by making near neighbors and good neighbors of all the communities they serve in this State—by linking cities, war plants, farm centers, and military camps and bases—are helping to keep North Carolina's war efforts rolling toward Victory!



UNION BUS TERMINAL
TELEPHONE 50 BOONE, N. C.

GREYHOUND
LINES