

THE STATE PORT PILOT

Most Of The News
All The Time

A Good News paper In A Good Community

The Pilot Covers
Brunswick County

OL. NO. FOURTEEN NO. 36

4-PAGES TODAY

Southport, N. C., Wednesday, December 29, 1943

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY

\$1.50 PER YEAR

Perley T. Vereen Reigel Wood Boss Died Last Thurs.

Popular and Widely Known
Lumberman Succumbs To
Injuries Sustained In Au-
tomobile Accident Last
Week

AS GENERAL SUPT.
OF REIGEL PAPER CO.

Started Lumbering Many
Years Ago With Wacca-
maw Lumber Corpora-
tion, Very Coopera-
tive With Small
Land Owners

Perley T. Vereen, 54, Supt. of the Reigel Paper Corporation at Bolton, died in the Columbus county hospital at Whiteville on Thursday night from injuries received in an automobile accident while working in the company's woods between Lake Waccamaw and Bolton.

Mr. Vereen was probably the best known lumberman in either Brunswick or Brunswick counties. He started with the Waccamaw Lumber Corporation at Bolton many years ago and steadily worked up from a laborer to a boss and other positions of trust and responsibility. When the Reigel Paper Corporation bought more than a hundred thousand acres of the Waccamaw Lumber Corporation lands, Mr. Vereen was made general superintendent of all operations in Brunswick and Columbus.

Devoted to the interests of the company which he represented, Mr. Vereen was wholeheartedly cooperative with adjoining land owners. The small farmers and lumber owners in a wide area surrounding the huge Reigel tract earned long ago that they had a friend in Perley Vereen, who headed the Reigel tract.

Funeral services were held Saturday afternoon at the McKenzie funeral home in Whiteville. Burial was at the cemetery at Lake Waccamaw.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Annie Lee Vereen; his mother, Mrs. Rosa Vereen, of Freeport; one sister, Mrs. C. C. Gore, of Conway, S. C.; six brothers, W. Waldo, Ester, J. B. Irikle, of Freeport; J. I. of Whiteville and one half-brother, Robert Vereen, of Perry, Fla.

All P. O. Folks Had A Big Rush

Various Post Offices In
Brunswick Had Double
The Usual Amount Of
Work; RFD Carriers Al-
so Up Against It

Brunswick postmasters had hard work this Christmas, according to reports that have been received here. The volume of mail was double and in several places many times double that which has had to be dealt with in previous Christmas holidays.

In nearly all cases the officials reported to have handled the extra work without any extra help. It can easily be understood, the work was a busy one for them and they deserve the thanks of their patrons. This goes for the carriers on the rural routes, also.

They were up against things even harder than the post offices. Not only did they have much extra mail, they had to make trips in extremely disagreeable weather and in nearly all cases parts of their routes were over dirt roads that got in bad condition as the result of melting snow and ice.

At Southport Postmaster L. T. Yaskell said that five times as much mail was handled as in any previous years. Mrs. Yaskell went to the rescue of the post master and the two regular clerks. In addition they obtained another high-valued helper in William Anderson. (Continued on page 4)

Ration Pointers

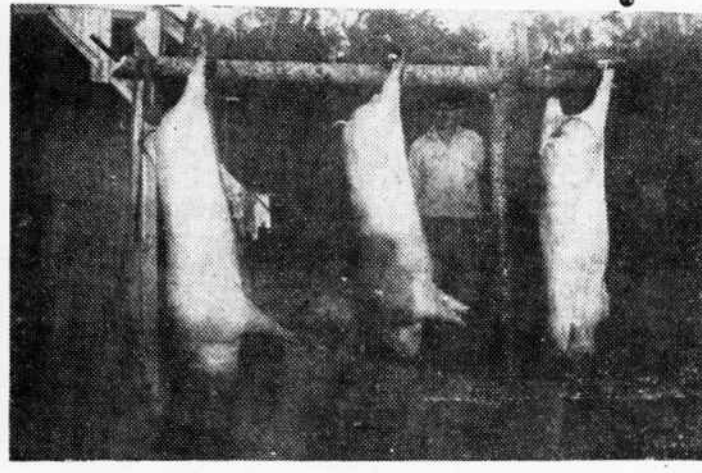
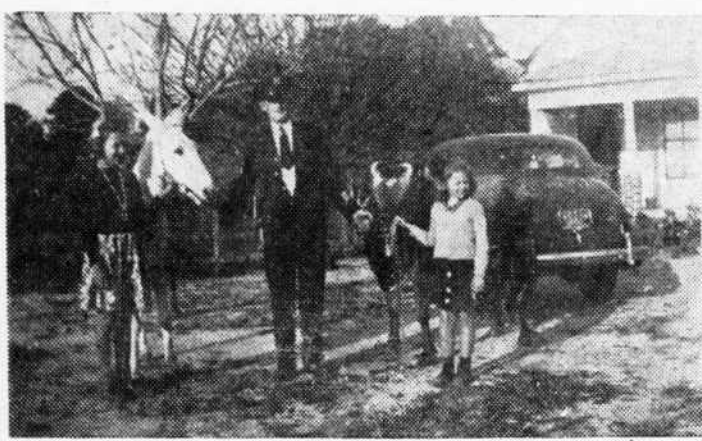
CANNED FOODS
Green "D", "E", "F" (Book 4)
expire January 20, 1944.

GASOLINE
A-S coupons expire February 8, 1944.

MEATS, FATS
Brown Stamps "L", "M", "N", "P", "Q" expire January 1, 1944.

SHOES
No. 18 (Book 1) valid indefinitely. Plane Stamp No. 1 (Book 3) now valid.

SUGAR
No. 29 (Book 4) good for five pounds through January 15, 1944.



22 Years In Service All The Time Near Home

Boatswain Mate Garfield Clemmons Of The Coast Guard
Has Been Lucky In His Assignments For Duty; Long
Service At Caswell And Oak Island, Does
Farming On The Side

Some 22 years ago Garfield Clemmons, a young Brunswick county boy, enlisted in the army. He was lucky as he was assigned to Fort Caswell, just a few scant miles from his home. Fort Caswell was booked for abandonment by the army, however. A young Clemmons had been there only two years when he obtained a transfer to the Coast Guard. Again he was lucky, Oak Island, his new base of operations, was only half a mile from Fort Caswell. He has been an active member of the Guardsmen at Oak Island for the past 20 years, and still is. At the present time he is a Boatswain's Mate, first class.

Several years ago when the activities at Oak Island were not so great as they are now Clemmons bought a farm eight miles out from Southport and on RFD 1 from Bolivia. During his off-duty hours he has devoted himself to this farm, upon which his family lives. He has made no great shakes at becoming an extensive farmer but he has built up his place until he has some very fertile land and he takes a lot of pride in what he and his family produces.

This past year his family, with him assisting when he was on leave, had some fine crops in the way of corn, peanuts, potatoes and cotton. They also raised a lot of meat and still more chickens. The Boatswain Mate and his family all assert that they made more money raising chickens than anything else. They are counting on chickens as one of the main products for the coming year.

Boatswain Mate and Mrs. Clemmons have four daughters, the two younger ones still living at home. One daughter lives in Florida. He considers the raising of the girls as having been of much more importance than all of the crops that he has labored at when not on duty at Oak Island.

Kudzu Is Good Legume For N. C.

Helps To Reclaim Gullied
Lands And Is Used For
Grazing And For Hay

Kudzu is an excellent legume for reclaiming gullied lands, for grazing, for hay or soil improvement in North Carolina, says Enos C. Blair, Extension agronomist at N. C. State College.

Kudzu is usually started by setting two or three year old crowns, or rooted sections of the vines. Seedlings may also be grown in a nursery. The crowns should be set in late winter, before the plants start growing.

"On gullied land, growers dig holes about 20 feet apart, 18 inches square, and 15 inches deep. These holes are filled with a mixture of soil, manure, and one pound of superphosphate or complete fertilizer. Two plants are set in each hole," Blair says.

On cultivated land, he recommends that furrows be run about 15 feet apart, and that manure or fertilizer be applied in the furrow. The land is then ridged as for cotton and the plants set 5 to 6 feet apart, with about 500 plants per acre.

Row crops are grown between the rows of kudzu for two or three years. (Continued on page 4)

Fuel Shortage Last Week In Southport

With Some Of The Companies Having Failed To
Make Deliveries In Three
Weeks Situation Was
Acute

The day before Christmas found Southport experiencing a serious kerosene and fuel oil shortage. The Standard Oil company, which supplies the major part of the local needs, had not made a delivery in three weeks. During that time the Texas Company had sent several loads of 600 gallons each. So had the Richfield people. However rationing regulations prevent these and other oil companies from delivering to any save their old customers.

The Texas and Richfield people supplied the general public so long as their supplies held out, which was mostly for just a few hours after delivery was made.

The major part of the consuming public had not been able to get either fuel oil or kerosene in nearly two weeks and with the severe weather the situation was acute.

The Standard Oil Company does not personally make deliveries here. The local dealers are supplied by an agent, in Wilmington. With his not having made any deliveries in three weeks and with the situation acute on Friday several local agencies made direct demands to the oil companies.

The Standard Oil Company went over the head of their dealer who was not making local deliveries. When he was appealed to, Morrison Divine, district manager for the company, rushed in a trailer tank car with 3,200 gallons, R. D. White, Standard dealer at Shalotte also sent a load. The Richfield and Texas Companies, which had previously been doing what they could, each sent in a tank load. Late Friday afternoon the public was advised that fuel oil and kerosene was available at their stores and filling stations.

Received at the Southport Ice and Fuel Company's plant, the stuff was delivered to retail points just as rapidly as possible. Among those instrumental in getting the much needed commodity here were Wiley Wells, Mayor John D. Erikson, the Southport ice and fuel company and others. The Standard acted quickly. (Continued on Page Four)

Workroom Will Reopen Monday

Slight Change Made In
Hours; Women Urged To
Cooperate In This Red
Cross Volunteer Work

Having been forced to remain closed the week following Christmas because of bursted water pipes, the Red Cross Surgical Dressings Workroom will reopen on Monday, January 3.

The original schedule of Monday, Wednesday, and Friday will be continued but the hours have been slightly changed.

Starting Monday, the room will open at 2:30 o'clock instead of 2:00 o'clock as formerly, and will remain open until 5:00 o'clock. The evening hours will remain the same, from 7:30 o'clock to 10:00 o'clock.

It is hoped that a good number will respond to the urgent request that the dressings be made without delay. Poor attendance throughout the summer and fall have put the local workroom behind schedule.

Thomas R. Phelps Dies At Freeland

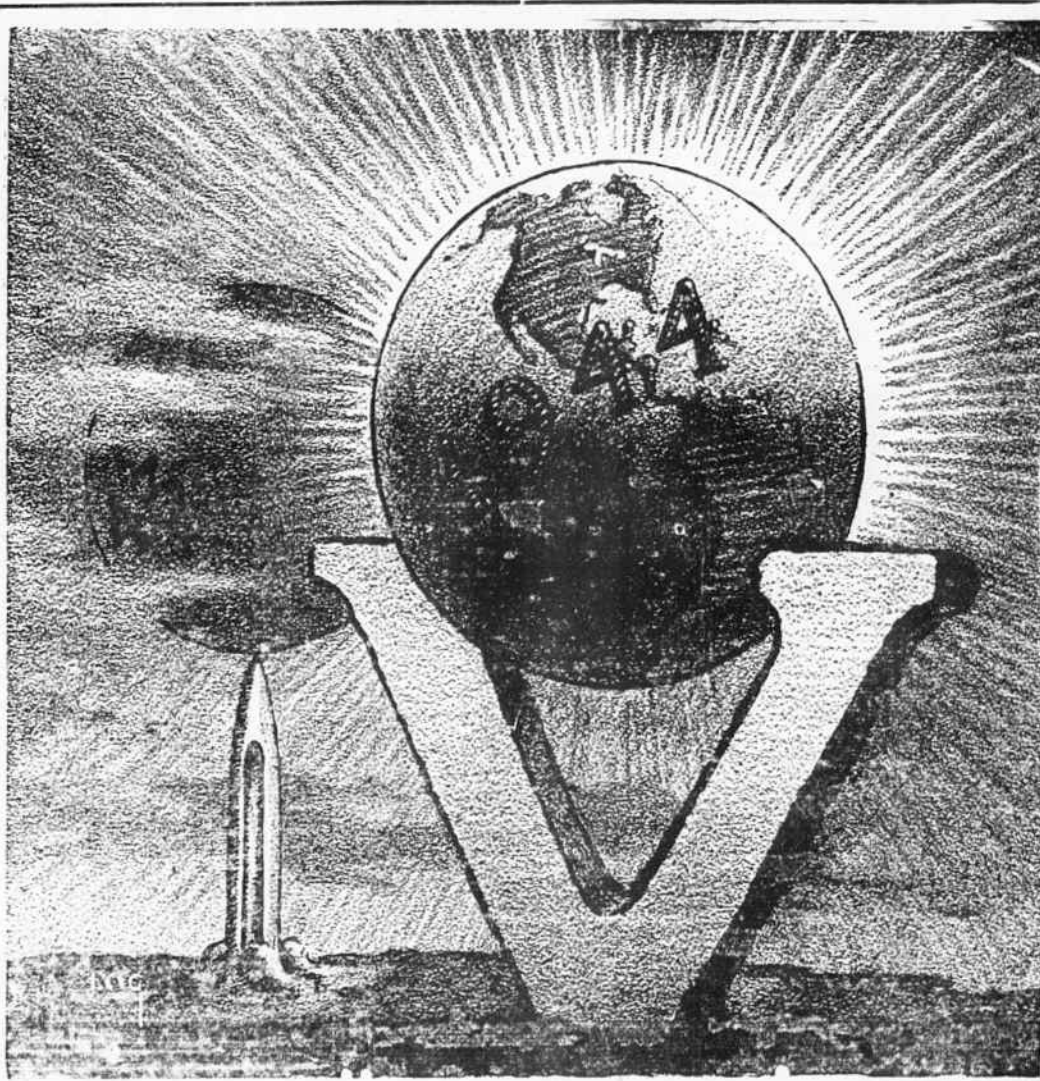
Well Known Citizen Of
Waccamaw Town Ship
Passed Sunday After An
Extended Illness, Burial
At New Life Church

T. R. Phelps, sixty-five year old resident of Freeland, died at his home there Sunday morning after an extended illness. Burial was in the cemetery of New Life Church Monday afternoon. The services were held by Rev. Woodrow Robins and Rev. M. L. Mintz.

Mr. Phelps was a splendid citizen, active in the public life of his community and county. His passing brought sorrow to many in Brunswick.

Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Core Simmons Phelps; five children, Mrs. Dovie Bowen, of Wilmington, Mrs. W. E. Jacobs, of Nakina, W. Austin Phelps, of Freeland, Mrs. Lester Edwards, of Bolivia and Mrs. John Bredimus of Freeland; four brothers, J. F. Phelps, of Lake Wales, Fla., C. A. Phelps, of Port St. Joe, Fla., W. W. and R. C. Phelps, of Ash; two sisters, Mrs. W. C. Burney, of Wananish and Miss P. I. Phelps, of Ash; and seven grandchildren. (Continued on page 2)

HAPPY NEW YEAR



War This Week

The major occurrence of the week in the Atlantic was the sinking of the great German battle wagon, Scharnhorst, by British warships protecting a convoy on the Murmansk route. The British suffered only minor damage to two of their warships and the convoy suffered no damage. In the Scharnhorst other German warships are reported to have sustained heavy damage. 1,400 German sailors and officers were lost in the sinking of the Scharnhorst. The engagement occurred Sunday night.

General Dwight D. Eisenhower, Commander-in-Chief of the Allied Second Front armies, predicted Monday that 1944 would see the complete defeat of Germany. To a group of newspaper correspondents he said, "We will win the European war in 1944. The only thing needed," he added, "is for every man and woman, all the way from the front lines to the remotest hamlets in our two countries, to do his or her full duty."

In accordance with the orders of President Roosevelt, who was seeking to avoid the general railroad strike that has been threatening, the Army took over the railroads of the United States Monday night. The measure was taken when it appeared that a strike which was being called by railway brotherhoods was threatening to stop the flow of weapons and equipment to the armed forces. The experience is not a new one for the railroads, they were taken over by the government in the first world war. (Continued on Page Four)

Gas Rationing Has Cut Consumption Nearly 40 pc.

Harder To Get New Automobiles

Because of the reduced supply of new (1942) automobiles, eligibility requirements for these cars have been tightened by OPA to reduce the number of applicants. Under the new rule an applicant's present car must have been driven 60,000 miles (previously 40,000) before it can be considered un-serviceable by local boards, salesmen are ineligible for new cars, and local boards are requested to issue a purchase permit only to an applicant showing an immediate need.

Civilians Need Not Expect To Drive "As Usual" As Long As War Lasts Says OPA Officials

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the final article in the OPA summary of the gasoline situation.

Rationing of gasoline, OPA reports, has already reduced gasoline consumption 39 percent over the nation (where rationing was primarily to save rubber) and 62 percent in the critical eastern area where the program is intended to save both rubber and gasoline. OPA's rationing task in the face of growing military needs and dwindling supplies has been especially difficult. OPA was called upon to safeguard a minimum of gasoline for everyone, so that America's geared-to-the-automobile transportation system would not break down.

To do that, it became necessary for OPA to set certain standards for deciding what groups of motorists needed the larger shares, and to complicate that, OPA has been obliged to make curtailments without being able to disclose the military reasons which made such curtailments necessary. While most rationing boards have been careful in issuing gasoline coupons, OPA realizes that in numbers of cases pressure has been exerted on rationing boards for one reason or another and too many B and C coupons have been issued. Much of the over-issuing, it is well-known, has come from erroneous declarations of amounts needed by applicants.

Theft of coupons is another problem, OPA admits. For example, in the 15-month period since coupon rationing began, books representing more than 126,000,000 gallons of gasoline have been stolen from rationing boards. However, large numbers of them have been recovered. All of the factors have produced a series of situations in which the assigned quotas of gasoline for (Continued on page 4)

Veterans Wear Service Buttons

Buttons Will Be Distributed
To Veterans Of World
War II To Indicate
Service With The Armed
Forces

Veterans of World War II may obtain lapel buttons indicating service with the Armed forces by applying to the nearest Army installation in the Fourth Service Command, except ports of embarkation. It is preferred that application be made through mail to the Commanding Officer of the nearest post, camp or station. Enlisted men must send their discharge certificate, not a copy, with their request for a button, and the letter should be sent by registered mail as maintaining the certificate is important to every discharged man. Officers must mail two true copies of their orders separating them from active duty. Notations will be made on the certificate or orders by the issuing officer, stating that the request for a lapel button has been filled. Applicants may also apply in person to the Commanding Officer of the nearest Army installation. Honorably discharged officers, enlisted men, WACS, and members of the Women's Army (Continued on page 4)

Postpone Auto License Date

Owners of Vehicles will be allowed until January 31 to purchase State Tags. By virtue of a bill enacted into law by the North Carolina General Assembly at the 1943 session, owners of motor vehicles are allowed until January 31, 1944, to purchase their license plates. Representing an extension of time to the tune of 30 days by comparison with the previous statute, which made the use of old license plates unlawful after December 31, the state-wide measure is expected to prove very helpful to motorists in North Carolina. (Continued on page 2)

Want To Use Idle Acres For Grapes

Soil In Eastern North Carolina Well-Suited For
Growing Grapes On A
Large Scale

If a project now being planned by officials of the State Department of Agriculture, materializes, thousands of acres of idle, cut-over land in Eastern North Carolina will within the next few years be reclaimed in the production of grapes for commercial use. Fred E. Miller, director of the test farms division of the State Department of Agriculture, said recently that the muscadine grape experimental work being carried on at the Coastal Plains Experiment Station. (Continued On Page Four)

Southport Was Well Dressed For Christmas

Only A Comparative Few
Participated But The
Quality Was Well Up To
Standard

MUNICIPAL LIGHTS WERE EFFECTIVE

Prizes Were Offered By
Woman's Club And Re-
warded The Efforts Of
Those Who Decorat-
ed

With only a fraction of the usual outdoor decorations, the contest sponsored by the Woman's Club for living Christmas trees and outdoor decorations was judged Christmas night. First prize for Christmas tree went to Mrs. H. W. Hood. Her tree was exceptionally large and well decorated. Mrs. C. G. Ruark won second prize with her all blue tree and Mrs. S. B. Frink's tree won third prize.

In the house decorations, Pfc. Edward Taylor won first prize with a blue and red wreath which encircled the doorway. Mrs. Merie Hood won second prize. The windows at the front of her house were surrounded with blue lights and they formed a lovely frame for the picture of Christmas joy inside. Mrs. Hulian Watts was third prize winner in this category with her doorway which was lined with lights.

Mamie Frink won the prize among the colored people for her tree. Prizes for the contest were donated by Orton Nursery, Leggett's, Watson's, Ruark's Store, and Lancaster's.

The most spectacular decorations in Southport during the holiday season were the ones put up by city and county officials. The community tree in front of the court house, so ably decorated by electrician Harry Aldridge and his helpers was a joy to the whole town. Mr. Aldridge also decorated the fire house very attractively with lights around the doorway and a star in the arch. The window display made by workers in the county tax office were exceptionally effective and beautiful. Each window had in it a huge "V" made of colored lights. Although there were not so many individual displays this year, Southport citizens had a taste of the beauty of Christmas lights. Those who did participate spent a great deal of time to have their homes express their holiday happiness.

NEWS BRIEFS

HOME FROM COLLEGE
Among the young Southporters who have been at home from college for the holidays are: Joel Moore, Citadel, Charleston, S. C., Misses Marion Frink and Josephine Moore, University of N. C., at Chapel Hill; Marie Moore, W. C. U. N. C., Greensboro. Miss Bess Miller Plaxco, Fassifern at Hendersonville.

CONTEST CLOSES
The knitting contest between service wives and Southport ladies will close on New Year's Eve, announces Mrs. C. Ed Taylor, Red Cross Production chairman.

WATCH NIGHT SERVICE
There will be a watch night service at Trinity Methodist church on New Year's Eve starting at 10:30 o'clock. A special worship service has been arranged by the pastor, Rev. E. S. Harrison, and refreshments will be served.

BEGIN TAX LISTING MONDAY
County Tax Collector William Jorgensen has been placing the tax listing books and other supplies with the tax listers of the various townships this week. The work of tax listing begins next week and continues through the month of January.

SCHOOLS REOPENED
The White and colored schools of the county reopened today after being suspended since the 22nd for the Christmas holidays. Miss Annie Mae Woodside, Supt. of Schools, stated yesterday that so far as she knew all teachers were back at work. There are no reports of illness that may interfere with the work in any of the schools.