

This, That & The Other

BY
MRS. THEO. B. DAVIS

It has been interesting to see how flour sacks, and feed sacks have increased in importance with the growing scarcity of white cloth for household use. Most of us know about making tray cloths, pillow cases, mattress covers, quilt linings, everyday sheets, aprons, towels, and other things of them; but until this week I had not known of their being dyed for dresses. When told that the shirtwaist dress of deep violet color worn by a friend had been made from sacks, I was surprised and pleased. We needn't worry about materials for housedresses, not if we have feed sacks on hand.

On Tuesday morning of last week I went to Wakelon School to make a short talk to the Journalism Club, a high school organization. Mention has been made of the work this group is doing in getting out a school paper, but I had not realized their numbers nor their good looks.

Honestly, when I stood before them it was hard to keep from using that old hackneyed phrase, "As I look into your bright faces—" And they paid me the supreme compliment of attention. It did me good to be with them for a few minutes and I am glad of this opportunity to express pride in what they are doing and what they are trying to do in the future.

When I say that funerals are comforting do not think I am a sentimentalist or like to make any show of grief. But the necessity of planning those last rites, the urgency of tasks that cannot wait, the subconscious feeling that it is being done for the dear one mourned, are to be preferred to the dreadful sense of futility known by those who receive telegrams saying that a member of the family has been killed in action overseas. In such cases there seems literally nothing one can do to lessen the intolerable weight of grief's burden.

Last Saturday night, during hours of wakefulness I thought of Charles Whitley's childhood . . . of the first time I ever saw him, when he came with his mother and Mrs. Eliza Stone to call on me. He was two and wore little yellow pants buttoned to a ruffled white dainty waist. He saw something under the porch and thought he wanted it, so tried crawling beneath the floor. I don't know whether the little suit was ever the same again—Later the Whitleys became our next-door neighbors. . . . I saw in my mind Mrs. Whitley, sitting with hands clenched in her lap while out in the grove Charles and my sons climbed trees; I heard her say resolutely, "I will not call him down. I am determined not to confine him to only the things I feel are safe" . . . I remembered Charles playing football with our sons, Ferd and Barrie, and with Earl Antone—all in service now—and of their joy when they acquired a real football instead of the oatmeal boxes they had been using in practice. . . . I saw Charles again as he lamented with me over my tulip bed having been raided of all its blooms, and recalled his anxious look as he asked "Mrs. Davis, do you suppose it could have been Nancy who did it?" Nancy, his sister, was two then, and Charles was deeply relieved when I told him that Nancy had never pulled my flowers, and that if she had, taken the tulips she would have snapped off the flowers only; while the one who did get them had been careful to take as long stems as possible. . . . I remembered the Sunday when Charles had a special part on the Mother's Day program at our Sunday school . . . the night when he won the declaimer's medal at Wakelon with "I AM AN AMERICAN." . . . his smiling greetings when he came home from college or on leave after entering service.

Last of all there came to mind his explaining to me about the Purple Heart awarded soldiers. Looking at the one sent us posthumously for our son he said, "Why, Mrs. Davis, that means a lot. You can be very proud of it." His parents will have one, too. But pride, however well based, is a sorry substitute for a son.

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With The Men In Service

Charles Whitley Reported Killed

First Lieutenant Charles V. Whitley, 22, only son of Mr. and Mrs. C. V. Whitley of Zebulon, has been officially reported killed in action in Belgium, January 3, 1945. He was with the 517th Parachute Infantry, having recently received the promotion to First Lieutenant.

Lt. Whitley was a graduate of Wakelon High School in Zebulon; a graduate of VPI, Blacksburg, Va., class of 1943. While at VPI he was a member of Scabbard and Blade, honorary military fraternity, the Bachelor Club, the Tar Heel Club, the Cotillion Club and was Cadet Captain of his ROTC company during his senior year.

Lt. Whitley continued his military training at Fort Benning, Ga., where he received his commission on July 26, 1943. After volunteering for the Paratroopers, he received his boots and wings Sept. 3, 1943. He was stationed at Ft. Benning and Camp Mackall before going overseas in May, 1944. He was in front-line action in Italy and for three months in Southern France before going to Belgium.

Lt. Whitley is survived by his parents and one sister, Miss Nancy Whitley, all of Zebulon.

15th AAF IN ITALY—M-Sgt. Neil P. Chamblee, of Zebulon, N. C., has served overseas more than 30 months with his P-38 Lightning fighter group.

He is armanent section chief in one of the group's squadrons. Sgt. Chamblee has been with the group since before it came overseas in June, 1942, and has been through the Algerian-Moroccan, Tunisian, Sicilian and Italian campaigns, the Air Battle Over Europe, landings in Southern France, and operations over the Balkans and Greece.

For outstanding missions during these operations, his group has been cited three times receiving Distinguished Unit Citations for missions over Foggia and Aversa in Italy, and Ploesti, Rumania.

His group has flown more than 1,200 missions, the most recent of them in support of 15th AAF strate operations over the Balkans, Northern Italy, Austria, France and Germany. The fighter planes have operated primarily as escort for the heavy bombers, and also have flown long-range, low-level bombing and strafing missions.

His group has a great many "firsts" to its credit, among them the first enemy plane shot down over the North Atlantic by an American pilot, the first ship sunk by an American fighter plane, and the first fighter group to fly 1,000 missions in the theater. It is the oldest fighter group in the AAF and its commanding officer, Col. Arthur C. Agan, was among the first American officers to go overseas after Pearl Harbor.

Sgt. Chamblee is the son of Mr. and Mrs. P. B. Chamblee of Zebulon, N. C.

C. Wayne Collier, husband of the former Mary Iva Gay of Zebulon, is with a night patrol which recently underwent an unusual experience in Northern Italy. They have two small daughters. Mrs. Collier with the children is with her parents, the B. E. Gays, for the duration. Before entering service eight months ago Collier, a graduate of Wake Forest College, taught school at Stokes and Polkville.

The account of action was furnished by Public Relations.

The patrol, from the 338th Regiment, 85th (Custer) Division of the Fifth Army, was sent to raid a house occupied by Nazis.

When the Yanks neared the house, a machinegun opened up without sign or warning. Soon, another machinegun started firing from their left and the Doughboys were caught in crossfire in a bare field.

The nearest cover was behind a cliff 150 yards away.

"I was a member of the advance detail and we had proceed-

ed to within 15 yards of the house when the machinegun opened up," Collier said. "There was rifle fire, too, because I could hear them slamming their bolts."

The patrol then decided to make a run for it and headed for the cliff, which was a 75-foot drop. The Yanks reached the cliff and travelled hand over hand behind its protective cover as they watched tracer bullets go over their heads and heard mortar shells explode in the draw below.

They travelled 200 yards in this manner, found a path through a minefield and finally reached the trail which led them to their company command post.

15th AAF IN ITALY—It is rapidly becoming the prime ambition of 2nd Lt. James C. Gregory, Zebulon, North Carolina, to go over Belchhammer, Germany just one time with all four engines turning over.

Lt. Gregory, 15th Air Force pilot, has been over this tough target twice and each trip was made with engines out. Gregory was just turning for his first run on the important oil refinery center when two engines quit cold and he went over a poor last in the formation. The flak was heavy but it didn't get that all-important third engine. It did hit the fuel lines and gasoline was gushing from the bomb bay as the Liberator staggered off the target for home. For three hours the crew alternately sweated out the two engines and the swiftly vanishing fuel supply until Gregory sighted a friendly fighter field and brought the crippled bomber down for a tricky landing on a short runway.

The second trip wasn't much better. This time an engine quit well before target time and Gregory had a good view, through the heavy flak, of the damage others had done as he dropped his bombs. The flak accomplished only minor damage but an hour later another engine gave up and once more Gregory fought to keep altitude with only two engines. This time the gas supply was ample and the Carolina pilot brought the heavy bomber all the way home where he made a perfect landing with two dead engines.

Lt. Gregory, the son of Mrs. Helen S. Gregory, Zebulon, entered the Air Force after his second year at North Carolina State. He won his pilot's wings at Turner Field, Georgia, and several months ago came to Italy to fly combat with Co. John P. Tomhave's Liberator Group. He has flown nine missions, and wears the Air Medal.

Capt. Dwite Debnam has reported at Yorktown, Va., after leave spent with relatives here. His wife, the former Gloria Massey, went to Yorktown with him.

Sgt. Charles Winstead arrived last week on furlough after a period of service with the XV Air Force in Italy. His friend, Sgt. Marvin Post of Florence, S. C., stopped over a night and day in Zebulon.

Pvt. B. Aaron Lucas spent a furlough at home en route from Camp Blanding, Fla., to Ft. Meade, Md. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. D. R. Lucas.

Eldred Rountree, USN, came Sunday for a few days stay with his wife and baby daughter at the Oren Massey home.

PROMOTION

Howard K. McDevitt, formerly of Walnut, has been promoted to captain in the Alaskan Division, ATC, AAF. He entered service as a private in 1941, leaving his studies at WCTC, Cullowhee. He was assigned to the ATC, Jan. 1, 1944 and served in Montana until transferred to Alaska. The chief work of the Alaskan Division is ferrying U. S. lend-lease combat aircraft to the Russian Air Force via the Yukon in Canada and Alaska. Capt. McDevitt is with the Administration Dept. of this force.

Capt. McDevitt's wife, the former Gertrude Carter, and their baby son, Steven Jeffreys are here with Mrs. McDevitt's mother, Mrs. Urtrice Carter.

Basketball

Last Friday night Wakelon played its first games on the home court in about three years, meeting the Bunn teams in a double header return game. It was evident from the beginning that the Bunn girls were winning since 13 out of their 18 points were scored in the first half of the game. They showed unusual skill on free throw-shots, making 8 points that way. However, their coach said the score here, (18-4) was their lowest this year. They had defeated another opponent last week 33-30.

In the boys' game the scoring was more uniform throughout, but the Wakelon quint was unable to do as well in the second half on the game as in the first. The final score was 34-16.

The Wakelon line up in these games is similar to that in games played previously at Bunn and Middlesex.

Girls
C-F Massey
F Winstead Lewis
F Driver
C-G Eddins
G Horton

Boys
C-F Fowler
F Richards
F Greene
M-G Duke
G Hopkins

Substitutes: Gill for Winstead, Winstead for Massey.

Bobby Duke for Finch; Hinton for Bunn; Croom for Massey.

In games played at Bunn on December 20 and Middlesex Jan. 12 the scores were also in favor of our opponents as follows:

Girls	Score
Wakelon	5
Bunn	23
Wakelon	5
Middlesex	23
Boys	Score
Wakelon	21
Bunn 36	11
Wakelon	20
Middlesex	20

Baptist Hour Speaker

Dr. Louie D. Newton, Baptist Hour speaker for next Sunday, February 4th, will have Dr. J. H. Rushbrooke of London, England as his guest in the broadcast, as announced by the Radio Committee S. B. C., S. F. Lowe, Director, Atlanta, Georgia.

Dr. Rushbrooke is President of the Baptist World Alliance, and his five minute message comes from London, England, via short wave.

This broadcast is heard in NORTH CAROLINA over Radio Stations WBIG, Greensboro; WP-TF, Raleigh; WJSJ, Winston-Salem, and WWNC, Asheville, 8:30 A. M. EWT, Sundays.

CHURCH NEWS

BAPTIST CHURCH

10:00 Sunday School
11:00 Morning Worship. Sermon: "Is It Up To Us?"
6:45 Training Union
7:30 Evening Worship. Sermon: "The Pure In Heart."

HEPHZIBAH W. M. S.

The W. M. S. of Hephzibah Church met Jan. 19th at Community Center with 40 members present.

An unusually good program was given by Mrs. Henry K. Baker on "A Century of W. M. U. Work." Rev. Caudle urged that we do our best this Centennial year. Mrs. Caudle gave many Scriptures with explanations of a good year's work for Christ in W. M. U. Mrs. Oris E. Horton presided over the business meeting, and appointed all committees for the year. Mrs. Theron Martin was elected vice president and Mrs. Theodric Martin was elected secretary and treasurer.

Hot doughnuts, nuts and coffee were served by Mesdames Amos Dean, Theodric Martin, Buck Todd, Charlie Scarboro, Berry Horton and Irvin Privette

Union Hope

Most people in this community are busy sowing tobacco beds, while a few have already done so.

We have had quite a few people moving out of our section for the past month, while new neighbors are moving in.

On the sick list this week: Mrs. Sarah Strickland, Mrs. Pollie Price, and Mr. Peter Brantley. They are under the doctor's care. There are others with bad colds due to unchanging weather conditions.

Pvt. Floyd Strickland of Fort Bragg spent last week end at home.

Pvt. Charles Cone, who was stationed at Camp Blanding, Fla., was home for five days last week. He was to return to Fort Meade, Md., for further training.

Pvt. Hermon Williams from Camp Blanding, Fla., was also at home last week on a short furlough.

Misses Nell Thorne and Clarice Brantley of Bailey were visitors of Miss Marion Cleo Brantley last Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Trevathern were visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Strickland last Saturday night.

Miss Pauline Whitley had a birthday last Sunday. She was 28 years old.

Messrs. Daniel and Alvin Brantley, sons of Mr. E. D. Brantley, are on a religious tour in the western part of the state.

Pilot News

There was a large attendance at church Sunday. Mr. Pegram brought a splendid message.

Those on our sick list are: Mrs. J. D. Stallings, who has been ill with a cold, and Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Glover. Mrs. Glover just returned from a Wilson hospital.

Seaman 2-c Malcolm (Bill) Jones of Norfolk, Va., is spending a few days at home with his wife and son. His wife is the former Alice Ray Bunn of this community.

Lt. and Mrs. William Brooks announce the birth of a son, Michael Orien, on Jan. 6, at Rex Hospital. Mrs. Brooks is the former Merle Lewis of Pilot. Lt. Brooks is now stationed in Colorado.

Mrs. Dwight Tant and young son, Steve, visited Mrs. Wannie Carroll in Wakefield Sunday.

Cpl. Edward Driver is spending a thirteen day furlough at home. Cpl. Driver is stationed in California.

Mr. and Mrs. Clifton Ray announce the birth of a son January 15th.

Mrs. O. D. Stallings and Mrs. O. D. Stallings, Jr., visited the B. W. Nevils Sunday.

Wayne Ray of this community was inducted into the Army on January 20. Before entering the service he was employed at the H. E. Stallings store. His wife, the former Hazel Oakley, and two children live here.

More Basketball

The climax of the home basketball schedule will come Friday night when the Wakelon High School teams meet Wendell in the local gymnasium. In a previous game the Wendell girls defeated the Wakelon girls, while the Wakelon boys edged out the Wendell boys in a tight game. The girls' game begins at 7:30.

Probable starting line-ups:

Girls	Boys
F Lewis	F Greene
F Winstead	F Richards
CF Massey	C Fowler
G Horton	G Finch
G Eddins	G Hopkins
G Driver	

Tobacco plant beds that received chemical treatment to control weeds should not be reworked before seeding. Rake the seed into the bed gently and do not otherwise disturb it.

Cull laying flocks closely and sell all poor layers to increase the meat supply now, is a suggestion from the Extension poultry specialists at State College.