

KEEP ON
Backing the Attack!
WITH
WAR BONDS

THE PILOT

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VOLUME 24, NO. 3.

Southern Pines, North Carolina Friday, December 17, 1943.

TEN CENTS

Commanding Officer at Army Post Urges Return of 'Chutes

These and Other Articles Left Behind in Maneuvers Are Needed

Following the great Airborne maneuvers in the Sandhill section last week, military authorities at Camp Mackall report a number of parachutes and other articles missing, and have found it necessary to issue a second notice that all such property belongs to the United States government and should be returned to military authorities. Previously there had been an erroneous impression that articles found by residents on their property or nearby belonged to the finder and could be sold for salvage or kept as souvenirs.

The nature of the maneuvers made it impossible for the participating forces always to carry all equipment with them, especially the paratroopers who, after landing, often had to leave their 'chutes behind in order to immediately simulate an attack on an objective. In some cases, the nylon chutes were found to be cut from their harness, the 'chutes taken away and the harness left.

Military authorities again point out that these items are vital to training and future battle and by the very nature of their construction and content scarce. Replacing them is difficult and delay in training might conceivably cost the life of some American soldier.

The commanding officer at Camp Mackall urges anyone finding or in possession of such articles to turn them in immediately to the nearest community store or gasoline station, where State Highway Patrolmen, representatives of the Sheriff's office and constables will make periodic stops to recover them for the government.

Rockingham Suffers Heavy Loss by Fire

Four Groups of Firemen in Freezing Weather Battle Flames in Business District

Rockingham's business district was swept by a \$200,000 fire early Tuesday morning that for four hours stubbornly resisted the efforts of fire companies from four towns.

Business firms estimate insurance of approximately \$150,000 on the burned property and merchandise.

The fire started at 11:15 Monday night in the rear of the Q & Q grocery and firemen thought they had the small blaze extinguished when about 12:30 it burst forth on the second floor, and spread rapidly. Calls were made to Hamlet, Wadesboro and Camp Mackall for additional fire trucks.

Among the stores and offices destroyed or damaged were the two Watson buildings at an estimated loss of \$80,000. The Hub, the Q & Q grocery, Wood's 5 and 10 warehouse, Dr. Boyce Henry's office (including his entire medical and surgical equipment, accounts and records, with not a dime of insurance), the Binder's Beauty Nook, Phillips Barber Shop and the law offices of McLeod and Webb. The Merchants association lost its entire equipment, with credit files of 16 years, and only \$500 insurance.

The firemen worked in freezing weather for hours and did a fine job in saving the town from losing many other buildings.

GLEE CHOIR

A new musical organization, a Glee Choir, with 22 mixed voices, has just been organized at Camp Mackall, by Lt. Raymond Gouldin, manager and director, with both military and civilian personnel eligible for membership.

The name was chosen because it will sing both secular and religious music, and will be built to 40 voices before Christmas, when a special program will be presented.

Practices are held each Tuesday evening at the Red Cross auditorium and on Thursday in the Officers and Nurses Day Room at the Station Hospital.

SPECIAL SERVICE OF CAROLS AND LIGHT

At the Church of Wide Fellowship on Sunday evening December the 19th at 8 p. m., a service of carols and light will be observed to which the public is invited.

This perhaps is the most beautiful service of the year. In a candle lighted church the congregation will sing all of the old and familiar carols of this glorious season.

Special Christmas music will be rendered by the choir of the church of Wide Fellowship under the direction of Mrs. L. D. McDonald, and Reverend Tucker G. Humphries, the Pastor, will bring the Christmas message.

This notice is a very personal invitation to the public and a warm welcome awaits all who will accept it.

Maneuver Blackouts Are Highly Praised

Relative to the blackouts staged last week in connection with the big Army Air maneuvers held in this area, James W. Tufts of Pinehurst, chairman Moore County Civilian Defense, has sent THE PILOT a letter containing a message of appreciation to the people of Moore County. We quote:

"The blackouts were a success from every standpoint. I wish to personally thank the people of Moore County in the blackout zone, for their hearty cooperation in making this a success. It was only possible to accomplish this through the hard work of a number of the people in the county and I would like to compliment the newspapers, schools, the various town governments, County Agent's Office and the members of the Civilian Defense, for the splendid work that they gave in connection with these blackouts."

"I have received a letter of appreciation from the War Department through the Headquarters District Two, Fourth Service Command at Fort Bragg, which I quote herewith: "The blackout, which you, your group, and others similarly situated, put on for the Army December 7-9 was probably the most effective ever put on in this country. It was complete and well nigh perfect. "Please accept personally and convey to each member of your group, and the citizens of your community the thanks and appreciation of the Army for the splendid job done. Without the help of all concerned, the result achieved would have been impossible. Everyone participating has materially aided the Army in training and testing the capabilities of highly trained special troops."

Sincerely yours
James W. Tufts
Chairman Moore County Civilian Defense"

Christmas Baskets Still Need Gifts

Warm Clothing or Cash With Which to Purchase Same Will Be Welcomed

The Christmas Basket Committee of the Southern Pines Council of Social Agencies, which met Tuesday, is appealing for donations of clothing or money to fill out the baskets which will be distributed to needy persons next week.

The following articles are especially needed: Boys' suits, sweaters, underclothes, pants, socks, coats of any kind and overcoats.

Those wishing to help in this worthy cause may contact any member of the committee for information as to where packages may be left.

The Basket Committee is composed of the following: Mrs. James B. Sweet, J. H. Towne, Miss Laura Kelsey, Morris Johnson, W. T. Ives, Mrs. Howard Butler, James D. Hobbs and P. R. Brown.

They will be assisted in packing the baskets by the following young people, members of the Young People's Service League: Elizabeth Kennedy, Louis and George Hodgkins, John Hughes, Ann Perkinson, Jean Schaeffer and Jack Ruggles.

Many Holiday Guests Are Expected Here

As a Result, Numerous Sports Events Are Being Planned by Committee

The local hotels are already entertaining many guests and large numbers of friends and relatives of men at nearby Camp Mackall are expected over the Christmas holidays. As a result of this influx of guests, the sports committee has arranged a series of feature entertainments to be given in benefit of the various war efforts.

At the horse show grounds at the Southern Pines Country Club on Sunday, the 26th, will be hunter trials and an equestrian gymkhana. Already a large entry of hunters has been received, according to announcement by Louis Scheipers, chairman of the equestrian committee.

Golf is also attracting large numbers of visitors to the Pine Needles, where several informal tournaments have been arranged for the holidays, and to the Southern Pines Country Club, where the Sandpipers Club is opening its season Sunday with a match play against par tournament.

County Board Lists Superior Court Jury

Meeting in recessed session Monday with all members present, the Moore County Board of Commissioners transacted routine business and had the jury list for the January 24 term of Superior Court for the trial of criminal cases drawn. The jurors, by townships, are:

Carthage—C. P. Jenkins, B. P. Gilledge, R. G. Hicks, A. D. Davis, H. J. Denny, David Ginsburg, C. M. Stutts, M. E. Shields, R. L. Comer.

Bensalem—Shelton Freeman, Frank M. Bost, L. R. Marley, Roy Martin.

Sheffield—Dee Bray, James B. Lawhon.

Ritter—Y. G. Caviness, Curtis Garner, R. S. Phillips, G. C. Cockman, N. R. Hussey.

Deep River—John E. Gordon, E. H. Willcox.

Greenwood—James Thomas, A. L. Hall, J. L. Marion.

McNeill—Frank Viell, Thurlow C. Evans, Frank H. Wilson, Herbert Cameron, T. A. Ring, W. L. Baker, H. J. Betterley, W. M. Johnson, W. M. McLeod.

Sandhill—M. C. McFarland, J. T. Land, E. G. Adams.

Mineral Springs—A. P. Thompson, David Wilson, Cary McDonald, Dan C. Horner, T. C. Auman, C. F. Scott, Fred Thomas, J. D. Welch, Talmage J. Shaw, O. S. Richardson, L. J. Thomas.

LOCAL WOMAN ON AIR

Mrs. Page Choate, member of the choir of the Church of Wide Fellowship, appeared Wednesday evening on the Airborne on the Air broadcast from Camp Mackall, in a vocal number. Mrs. Choate is employed at Camp Mackall as a stenographer in the Military Intelligence Branch.

HOME FROM AFRICA



CPL. FRANK W. BUCHAN

This Christmas bids fair to be a happy one in the Buchan home, for Cpl. Frank W. Buchan, only son of the P. F. Buchans, who had been in foreign service for the past eleven months, arrived Saturday to be with the family through the holidays. Also, this will be the first Christmas of the first grandchild, Jimmie Buchan Whitlock.

Cpl. Buchan is a member of the 1st Squadron of the 480th Anti-Submarine Group, Army Air Forces, which returned to the States last week. His work is in the photo laboratory of the Intelligence Department. This Group has made a splendid record overseas.

Arriving in England early in January of this year, Cpl. Buchan was there for about two months before being sent to North Africa. His outfit is now on travel orders, scheduled to meet at a western field on January 4th.

Tax Supervisor and List Takers Chosen

Miss Maida Jenkins, county auditor, has been appointed tax supervisor for 1944 and the following list takers have been named with listing scheduled to begin the first of January:

Carthage township—R. W. Pleasants.

Bensalem township—Sam Deaton.

Sheffield township—Mrs. Bessie H. Brooks.

Ritter township—Miss Alice Ritter.

Deep River township—George W. Willcox.

Greenwood township—J. A. Shaw.

McNeill township—Mrs. Don J. Blue.

Sandhill township—John D. McLeod.

Mineral Springs township—Donald Currie.

Miss Jenkins attended a meeting of tax supervisors in Chapel Hill last week, where changes made by the General Assembly were discussed. She stated this week that she would call the list takers together on December 20th, at which meeting plans will be formulated and dates fixed for listing at the various points. Posters announcing the schedule will be put up in public places shortly thereafter. Listing is supposed to be completed during January.

Wednesday morning, the Sandhills were blanketed in white, the evergreen shrubbery appearing as if decorated for Christmas. The pretty little white cottages with red trimmings, of which there are several in Southern Pines, were especially attractive and Christmas-looking with their real snow decorations.

By noon the streets were coated with ice and as slippery as glass. By nightfall when workers were returning to their homes driving was hazardous and numerous cars skidded off the pavement, but no injuries have been reported.

Last year's snowstorm was said by experts to have been the first December snowstorm since December 16, 1930, a dozen years before. Since the spell is broken those who believe in "what happens twice will the third time" will be prepared next year.

Kiwanians "Socialized Medicine" Discussed by Medical Society Officer Wednesday at Pinehurst Country Club

Speaker Terms Bill Now Before United States Congress as "Vicious"

By Howard F. Burns

Ira Roscoe McMillan, secretary of the North Carolina State Medical Society, speaking to the Sandhills Kiwanis Club at its luncheon Wednesday at the Pinehurst Country Club, Pinehurst, on the subject of "Socialized Medicine," declared that the present bill before the United States Congress is the most vicious bill ever to be presented to our lawmakers.

Monday's Court Is Spiced With Variety

Henry Sutton, colored, of Southern Pines entered a plea of guilty in Recorder's Court Monday to charges of careless and reckless driving, colliding with the motorcycle of a military police without stopping after the accident, and speeding. Given a six months' road sentence, to be suspended upon payment of a fine of \$50 and the costs, he paid the fine and was allowed additional time in which to pay the costs.

Will McLeod, 53, his wife, 44, Willie Mae McLeod, 21, and Pete, 19, a colored family of Southern Pines, were charged with breaking and entering the premises of Ethel Cassidy and taking household and kitchen furniture. However, it was brought out that the prosecuting witness had given them the key and they were just removing the furniture in order to move into the house, so the Court found no probable cause of guilt and dismissed the case.

Geneva Canady, colored, of Aberdeen, was charged with the larceny of \$10 from a pocketbook left by Johnie Emma Causey on the dresser in her room, a charge to which she entered a plea of not guilty. Upon the request of the prosecuting witness the Court ordered a nol pro with leave upon condition that the costs be paid.

Annie Mae Fisher Moss, 19-year colored girl of Southern Pines, paid the costs to have a 30-day sentence suspended in a beer bottle assault case.

Clay Clegg, Carthage colored man, was charged with assaulting Russell Goins with a stick, but the action was dismissed and the prosecuting witness was taxed with the costs.

Lt. John E. Strnisti of Camp Mackall, James Harvey Jones of Ashboro, Dan Harris, colored, of Maxton, and Russell Jones Johnson, colored, paid fines and costs in speeding cases, the first three, \$10 fines, and the last, a \$25 fine.

Bob Harris, Pinehurst colored man, entered a plea of guilty of using vile and profane language and carrying a concealed weapon, a dagger. Upon payment of a \$50 fine and the costs his three months sentence was suspended and the Sheriff was ordered to destroy the dagger.

Jettie Lee Kelly, colored, of Pinehurst, was given a 30-day jail sentence for violating the health laws, the sentence to be suspended upon condition that she be examined and take the treatment recommended.

Fred Arnette of Pinehurst was fined \$25 and the costs for driving after revocation of his driver's license and given a 30-day suspended road sentence.

Roosevelt Hockaday and James Hockaday were charged with violating the prohibition law, but the case was continued to Dec. 27.

B. F. WHITLOCK OF CARTHAGE PASSES

B. F. Whitlock, Carthage jeweler, died in the Moore County Hospital Wednesday night of last week following several heart attacks. He became ill Monday night. Funeral services were held at 3 p. m. Friday in the Carthage Methodist Church, of which he was an officer, with the Board of Stewards serving as pallbearers. Interment was in Cross Hill Cemetery.

Surviving are his wife, three daughters and one son.

PURPLE HEART

Mrs. Francis (Council McOmber) last Friday received by mail the Purple Heart, which was awarded posthumously to her husband, First Lieutenant Marshall C. McOmber, who lost his life July 10 in the Sicilian Invasion.

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MRS. DURANT IS HURT IN CAR-TRAIN CRASH

According to news reaching Southern Pines, Mrs. Robert Durant, a former resident who now lives in Tryon, was badly injured there in an automobile-train accident Tuesday night and is now in a hospital in Tryon.

The car, in which Mrs. Durant, her daughter, Mrs. Ralph Chandler, Jr., and baby Judy Chandler were riding, with Mrs. Chandler driving, was struck by a train. Mrs. Durant was thrown from the car and was hit by the train. She sustained head cuts, chest injuries and a broken leg. Mrs. Chandler was bruised, but the baby was not injured.

The Central Carolina Telephone Company's new directory made its appearance this week, and the company, calling attention to the fact that many numbers have been changed, advised that the new book be referred to before making calls. Due to the paper shortage, care should be taken of these directories as the supply is limited and it may be longer than usual before another issue is printed.

If old directories are sent to the Telephone Office, they will be donated to the paper salvage campaign.