

Local Boy Feasts on Cabbage in Italy

From The Messenger and Intelligencer, Wadesboro, we reprint part of an article which appeared under the heading, "News From Sgt. Wall". The article tells of a harrowing experience in Italy and of an interesting incident with which a local boy was connected. We quote:

"Sgt. Mial Wall, son of Mrs. Rosa Wall, of Lilesville, has recently been a patient in a hospital in Italy, according to messages received in Charlotte by his sisters from members of the 38th Evacuation unit Hospital, made up mostly of Charlotte doctors and nurses. Dr. L. E. Fleming and one of the nurses and Clarence Kuester wrote Sgt. Wall's sisters that Mial entered the hospital on Dec. 29th with a slight back injury and that they attended him personally, but before completing X-ray pictures he had to be removed hurriedly to another hospital. A terrible snow storm occurred on New Year's night and every tent was blown down, pneumonia patients were removed to an old barn and other patients were sent to other hospitals, and doctors and nurses were left standing in the snow and sleet, with no cover, and every blanket soaked. However, they stated when Sgt. Wall left he was feeling better, but it is not known whether or not he is still in the hospital to which he was removed.

"The early part of December he wrote that he and three other boys were sent out on a mission but did not finish the job the first day so they drove into a little town for the night. He said every other person spoke English and were mighty nice with what they had to offer, the mayor taking charge of them for the night. He showed them to the room, with a little pile of straw in one corner and a desk and chair in the other, and which they later thought was their City Hall. He also gave them a fine bottle of wine and the key to the city.

"The next morning two of the boys went to complete the job and he and Joe Matthews (Joe's father is Mayor of Southern Pines) stayed in town to look around to find something to eat as their rations were getting low. On one corner natives were selling hogs and on another they were selling red cabbage, and as they had not had anything green in many months they bought a good mess of cabbage. Then, they went to the chief of police to see about someone preparing them and he arranged with a nice lady, in her home to prepare the meal. She put in a few potatoes and they furnished a can of bacon which they had on the truck, and had a most delightful meal. . . . the wine along with it.

"This lady knew all about the States and said her parents live in Saratoga Springs, N. Y., and that she had not heard from them in a long time. The mayor's brother also lives in Braddock, Penna. Sgt. Wall took their names which he has sent to his relatives here and they have contacted these people back here and they were more than elated to hear that their people in Italy were all right and safe, and said they had not heard from them since the war started."

February Book List

The Southern Pines Library announces the following book list for February:

Fiction—

The Signpost, E. Arnot Robinson; Liána, Martha Gellhorn; The Two Mrs. Abbotts, D. E. Stevenson; Bradshaws of Harnis, Joseph Lincoln; The Lost Weekend, Jackson; Bring Back The Spring, Ruth Wellock; The American House, Virginia Chase; Shade Of Sycamore, Perry Marks; The Ten Commandments, Edited by Armin L. Robinson.

Non Fiction—

Shakespeare's Complete Works, Rockwell Kent; The Journal of Madame Giovanna, Dumas; Germany Will Try Again, Sigrid Schultz; Beethoven's Spiritual Side, J. W. N. Sullivan; With General Chenault, Robert Hotz; Cartoon, Cavalcade, Thomas Craven; To All Hands, John Brown; Good Night Sweet Prince, Gene Fowler; Desert Conquest, Russell Hill; Der Feuer, Konrad Heiden; American Heroes and Hero Worship, J. Johnson.

Children's Books—

Men Of Iron, Howard Pyle; Prester John, Buchan; Handel, Opel Wheeler.

Mysteries—

The Wild Duck Murders, Theodore Du Bois; The Woman In Red, Lucy Mallon; Silver Deals With Death, Patricia Wentworth; Escape In Vain, George Simeon.

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Cpl. Buchan's Group Wins Battle Honors

"As public evidence of deserved honor and distinction", the group of which Cpl. Frank W. Buchan, son of Postmaster and Mrs. P. F. Buchan of Southern Pines, was a member, has been awarded a Presidential citation, and Cpl. Buchan, who returned with his unit from overseas service shortly before Christmas, has a certificate showing that he is entitled to wear the Unit Decoration Badge as a permanent part of his uniform.

The citation reads as follows:

"The 480th Antisubmarine Group, Army Air Forces, is cited for outstanding performance of duty in action with the enemy during the period 10 November 1942 to 28 October 1943 in the European and North African theatres of operation. It was the pioneer organization in the establishment of Army Air Forces offensive antisubmarine operations in the Eastern Hemisphere. From the beginning of the existence of the Army Air Forces Antisubmarine Command (activated 15 October 1942) this Group led Army Air Forces in the fight against the U-boat, carrying the offensive to the home waters of the enemy. Thereby it contributed significantly to the success of United Nations operations in North Africa and to the invasion of Europe. The Group participated in all phases of the Battle of the Atlantic and defeated the enemy above, on, and below the surface of the sea. Its activities reached a climax in the second week of July, 1943, when the enemy made every effort to thwart the supply and reinforcement of our forces then undertaking the invasion of Sicily. In the 9 days between 7 and 14 July (inclusive) airplanes of this organization made 12 attacks on enemy submarines, 8 of which resulted in the destruction of, or probable damage to, the enemy. The authorized airplane strength of the Group was 24 B-24 type bombers. Over a period of 12 months this small force sent its airplanes out over the convoy and shipping lanes leading to Europe and North Africa on missions extending as far as 1,250 miles from base and lasting as long as 17 hours. Flying alone and often heavily outnumbered, the 480th Antisubmarine Group's airplanes encountered prowling Ju 88's and FW 200's and attacked and defeated them in air battles over convoys and when on patrol. Although outnumbered in these battles in the average ratio of 1 to 3 they destroyed 2 enemy airplanes for each 1 of their own aircraft lost. Its killed and missing personnel number 101 officers and men, nearly 50 percent of its authorized strength (240). The 480th Antisubmarine Group has contributed with heroism and superior efficiency to the winning of the Battle of the Atlantic. Its record is inspiring and worthy of emulation."

RESERVED FOR HUMANS

No longer may a dog or other animal or any fowl be awarded any of the authorized War Department decorations for bravery or unusual service to the nation or its soldiers. But they will not go unrewarded, as a War Department order received from Washington permits the publishing of citations for them in the general orders of the unit to which they belong. Under the order, all War Department decorations are reserved specifically for human beings.

U. S. O. NOTES

WILD LIFE PICTURES

Through the kindness of Major Byck of Camp Mackall, a big game hunter and lover of nature, gave the many soldiers and friends a real treat by showing his motion pictures taken in Jasper Park, Canada. Included in the pictures of all wild life were some extraordinarily good ones of mountain sheep and goats that most sportsmen feel are unobtainable with a camera.

DANCES

The dances at the club for the past two Saturday evenings have been huge social successes. February 6th, we had a formal dance, and the hostesses looked as lovely as they are, in their best bib and tucker. Last Saturday, February 11th, we had our usual informal dance and a good time was had by all. The music was by the Station Complement Band of Camp Mackall, which we believe earned a vote of thanks.

CONCERT

Mr. Thomas G. McCarthy, of the 513th Parachute Infantry, 13th Airborne Division, rendered a concert at the Southern Pines Public Library. Many of Mr. McCarthy's admirers of his music over the Columbia and National Broadcasting Stations were here to hear him in person. Through the kindness and efforts of Mr. Yeomans, a small stage was arranged for the artist.

GOOD NEWS

It will undoubtedly be good news to our tennis playing armed forces, their wives and members of their families, to learn Mrs. Stevens has procured six pairs of tennis shoes for the USO. For those who aren't in the know, we'd like to advise that tennis racquets, balls and shoes are available at the club, gratis.

GOLF

Through the courtesy of the Pinehurst management, arrangements have been made for the armed forces to play golf on the courses, world known, where many of the major tournaments are played and which were laid out under the supervision of the great Scotch architect, Donald Ross.

The Southern Pines Club, which is a ten minute walk from the USO has extended playing privileges to the men. The same privileges have been extended by the Pine Needles course, which is located between Southern Pines and Pinehurst. The management of these courses have kindly made a reduced rate for officers and men.

THANKS

We wish to express our thanks to Miss L. Williams of Southern Pines, for so generously donating victrola records. The boys have derived great pleasure from them.

GAMES

Our athletes and sports fans will be interested to learn, badminton, deck tennis, and horse shoes equipment have been ordered for use in the park opposite the club. Need we add this equipment will be loaned gratis.

FREE SHOWERS

Boys, if you are tired or a bit messed up, we have showers and towels for your use. Free, of course.

WEEKLY PROGRAM

The weekly activities of the USO Club are as follows:
Saturday: 4:00-6:00, Drop in for coffee and doughnuts; 8:30-11:30,

Week-end Dance.

Sunday: 9:30-12:00, Sunday Breakfast Club; 12:00-11:00, Open House with an hour for music from four to five followed by refreshments.

Monday: 8:00-11:00, Informal games.

Tuesday: 10:30-12:00, Army Wives Breakfast Club; 4:00-5:00, Army Wives Tea and Knitting Class; 8:00-11:00, Program of Classical Music.
Wednesday: 8:00-9:00, Dancing Class 9:00-11:00, Informal dancing, recorded music.

Thursday: 12:30-2:00, Army Wives meet for Luncheon and Special Program; 8:00-11:00, Army couples give a party.

Friday: 2:30-4:00, Army Wives Kitchen Brigade; 8:00-11:00, Bridge and Card Party.

CITATIONS

The following clipping was noted by the director, George B. Ferry, who thought it would be nice to pass along. Anyone desiring copies may obtain them at the Club.

"At his general headquarters in the Southwest Pacific war zone, the office of Father August F. Gearhard, senior chaplain of the Fifth Air Force, is located just across a street from Gen. Douglas MacArthur. Father Gearhard said on one occasion he complimented the General on his frequent mention of God and Divine Providence in his orders.

"General MacArthur replied that it was the duty of a commander to give credit to those responsible for victory. 'Our greatest help has come from God,' said the General, 'and He deserves more credit than anyone. That's why I give Him citations.' 'Father Gearhard said that Gen-

eral MacArthur's one, big ambition is to get back to the Philippines."

WELCOME

Military personnel, their wives, and their families are welcome at the USO.

"Your Home Away From Home".

TO HONOR HOSTESSES

A Washington's Birthday Party will be given in honor of the junior and senior hostesses who have been so loyal in their efforts to make the Club a success. Mrs. J. L. Brown has consented to be chairman and will appreciate any suggestions.

LT COL. WADE RESUMES DUTIES AT FORT BRAGG

Lt. Col. W. Wallace Wade, widely known artillery officer and football coach, has resumed command of the 272nd Field Artillery Battalion at Fort Bragg after recovering from a jeep accident which injured his ankle last November.

Col Wade was injured when the jeep in which he was riding overturned during a blackout march at

Camp Butner. Since the accident, he has been at Oliver General Hospital in Georgia and at his home in Durham.

Colonel Wade formerly coached football at Duke University and the University of Alabama, and while at these schools took five teams to the Rose Bowl.

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'Yuh mean there's a WAR on!'

• Not long ago, the papers carried a story of two hermit brothers who wandered into town and found to their great surprise that America was at war.

Probably the prices they had to pay for food and supplies gave them the first sharp, shocking realization that something was happening.

At least, in the unlikely event that their cave is wired for electricity, you can be sure that they never noticed the war in their electric bills!

Even though almost everything else costs more in war, the price of household electricity has stayed at the low pre-war level. Moreover, every war industry has had ample electric power, and all essential civilian needs have been satisfied.

We're proud of the big war job our industry has done — by careful planning, hard work, and good business management. We're proud to have a part in that job — and hope that you'll never know there's a war on — by looking at your electric bill!

• Hear "Report to the Nation," outstanding news program of the week, every Tuesday evening, 9:30, E.W.T., Columbia Broadcasting System.

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