

ACTION OF JAPAN RENEWS TALK OF WAR IN FAR EAST

United States Battleships and Men Are Ordered To Shanghai

With Japanese warships firing on principal cities in China and other aggressive activities increasing hourly, the threat of war in the far east is spreading rapidly. Big powers are rushing battleships and men to the scene to protect their subjects. The entire Asiatic fleet, according to reports, has been ordered from Manila to Shanghai.

The United States, Britain, France and Italy appeared to have taken a firm stand in China to combat the war threat. The four Western powers renewed protests to the Tokyo government in more vigorous terms, demanding that Japanese respect the right of neutrals in Shanghai, the Japanese foreign office answering that Japan saw no need for a change in its policies, that Japan was determined to show China that she would stand for no nonsense.

With American, British and French reinforcements en route to Shanghai, a "showdown" is expected there later this week when the question of Japan's rights to use the international settlement as a base for operations against Chinese may be brought to a head.

Japanese marines held military control over the Hongkong district of the settlement and there were many reports of new violence. A Japanese destroyer fired on the buildings of an American-owned company at the mouth of the Yangtze. The central postoffice in the settlement was invaded by Japanese marines.

Officials of the American-owned Texaco Oil company protested to the American consul general that a Japanese destroyer, steaming down the Whangpo, had spattered machine gun bullets on their plant. An officer of the company said it was a lucky thing none of the bullets ignited oil storage tanks.

Dr. John Hawk, an official of the mission activities carried on by the American Methodist Episcopal church, south, declared that Japanese blue-jackets yesterday tore down an American flag flying from a school for Chinese boys operated by the mission in the Hongkong district.

Several Martin County natives were once residents of Shanghai, but it is understood that they left there some time ago. James Upton, Williams-ton boy on duty with the Asiatic fleet, is now in the war area, it is understood.

BIGGS SCHOOL BURNS MONDAY

Was Four-Teacher School With More Than 100 Colored Pupils

Biggs Schoolhouse, housing more than a hundred negro children and four teachers, was burned on the old Bear Grass road at Black Swamp, near here, early yesterday morning. All the contents were saved, including desks, piano, and books. The cause of the fire is being investigated.

Valued at about \$1,600, the building was insured for \$1,000 in the Farmers Mutual Association.

It was learned yesterday that two teachers and approximately half of the children would be housed in Black Swamp church, a few others in the Rosenwald school near Bear Grass, and the remainder in the Woolard school.

MULE IS KILLED NEAR EVERETTS

Cart Is Struck By Auto Of Edenton Man Last Saturday

Struck by a car driven by Charles Owens, young white man, of Edenton, a mule owned by Thad Newsome, colored farmer of Cross Roads Township, was killed near Everetts last Saturday morning. Newsome's son, driving the mule at the time, was painfully hurt about the back, but not seriously. Mr. Owens and Mrs. C. G. Sutton, occupants of the car, a Chrysler coupe, were not injured.

Newsome was driving into Everetts from his home between that town and Williamston, when Owens drove up behind him. Meeting another car, Owens continued behind the mule and cart and when he started to stop, the brakes on the machine failed to work. The car plowed into the rear of the cart, throwing the mule to the ground and breaking its neck. Newsome fell on the hood of the car.

Mr. Sutton came here from Edenton and investigated the wreck, making arrangements to have the young colored man placed in a hospital. The case was sent to the recorder's court here today by Patrolman Braswell.

Hard Times Force Escaped Convicts To Return To Jail

Unable to successfully battle "hard times" in northern cities, two Martin County negroes found their way back home last week, one reporting at the county jail and the other to the Edgecombe road camps, near Tarboro.

Wiley Roberson, noted liquor dealer of Robersonville Township, appeared at the road camps from New York and begged admittance, according to information received by Sheriff C. B. Roebuck. Wintry winds, hunger, and no chance for a job in the northern city had their effects on Roberson, and he was

happy to claim the 18-months road sentence meted out to him in the Martin courts for bootlegging. Roberson was out under bond and escaped more than a year ago. Several hundred dollars of his bond had been collected, it was learned.

Wanted in connection with the theft of a pistol, Joe Peel, Jr., recently acquitted in the case charging him with killing Hubert Sutton, was facing starvation on the streets of Norfolk, so he returned and asked admittance to the county jail. Peel was two days finding his way back home.

Some Schools Might Lose Extended Term

BASKETBALL

A double-header has been scheduled here tonight at 7:30 in the Planters Warehouse, when the local basketball girls and boys meet Windsor's two teams. A small admission fee will be charged.

The local high school boys won their first county game of the season last Friday evening when they defeated the Robersonville High School boys by a 16 to 11 score at Robersonville. Other games in the series have not been reported.

PLAN TO OPEN SHIRT FACTORY AT EVERETTS

Will Employ 30 Women And Few Men; To Start Work Immediately

A shirt factory, employing about 30 women and a few men, will be opened in Everetts within the next few days, according to information received here this week. Few details in connection with the opening of the plant there have been released at this time, but Mr. Paul Bailey, cashier of the Planters and Merchants Bank, stated yesterday that the bank is receiving applications for the jobs the factory is expected to create. A few more applications will be considered, Mr. Bailey stating that the operators were anxious that at least six of the applicants have experience in the business. All applications filed at the bank will be turned over to the managers, it was stated.

The Planters and Merchants Bank recently contracted the sale of the machinery purchased about two years ago to Messrs. Rice and Rabil, of Rocky Mount. The new operators are planning to install the machinery immediately on the second floor of the Champion Auto Company and start operations as quickly as possible thereafter.

Buying the machinery under mortgage about two years ago, the Everetts bank made plans to start operations at that time, but decided to wait. Recently a sale was made to the Rocky Mount men.

SUGGEST USE OF COTTON DRESSES

Home Agent Says Attractive Graduation Dresses Made From Staple

By MISS L. E. SLEEPER, Agent
At the annual meeting of home demonstration club women held in Raleigh last summer, all the women went on record approving "Wear More Cotton Movement," and insisted that every school principal this year use his or her influence to have girls graduating wear simple cotton dresses for graduation. The women in home demonstration clubs of Martin County approved this action taken by the federation at the annual meeting.

Most attractive graduation dresses can be made from organdies, voiles and lawns, and more dresses can be had for the money spent than for silk.

Many of the girls graduating in Martin County during last year were really unable to have two silk dresses while others demanded this and made graduation a financial worry to many families. It is hoped the parents will carefully consider this resolution made by the women interested in helping rural homes and conditions and that each principal and teacher will exercise his or her influence wherever possible. The home agent is collecting samples from the various North Carolina mills and from merchants in an effort to help solve the graduation dress problem.

TEACHERS MAY BE ASKED TAKE COUNTY NOTES

Sanitary Condition In Williamston Colored School Best in the County

While it is hoped that the county will be able to support its extended school term this year, the members of the board of education, in session here yesterday, said that in case the county can not finance the extended term operation, they would make every effort to have the schools continue during the seventh and eighth months. If necessary, the education board will ask the teachers to continue their work on the county's promise to pay later.

However, conditions are not very favorable for one or two schools located in those districts where tax collections are being made very slowly, and under a recent ruling of the State Equalization Board it might be that those schools in question will close at the end of the six-months period. The county board members are keeping in close touch with developments, and they have pledged themselves to the operation of all the schools during the extended term in the regular eight-months districts.

Mr. John W. Eubanks sat in on the meeting yesterday for the first time following his appointment to the board by the Democratic executive committee a few weeks ago.

Stephen Manning was named committee man on the Farm Life School Board to complete the unexpired term of Mr. Henry Roberson, who died last week.

The board passed resolutions of respect for Javan Rogers, late member of the county educational body.

Reviewing a sanitary survey made of all the school buildings in the county, the board found that the local colored school building was the most sanitary, cleanest, and better kept than any other in the county, including the buildings for white children. Negligence and laziness on the part of janitors or those in charge were reflected in the report made by Inspector Flora, but stimuli were applied and conditions have been remedied in many cases, it was learned yesterday.

ANNUAL HEALTH CONTESTS HELD

Representative From Each Selected To Compete in County Contest

By MISS L. E. SLEEPER, Agent
Annual health contests have been held in all junior 4-H club meetings this month, and the following girls were selected to represent their clubs as the healthiest members:
Miss Arline Wynne, of Everetts; Elsie Bullock, of Parmele; Naomia Harrell, of Oak City; Doris Thomas, of Robersonville; Katherine Griffin, of Farm Life; Dether Daniels, of Williamston; Margaret Cannon, of Hamilton Janet Hardison, of Jamesville; Maverine Davis, of Jamesville, and Mattie L. Roberson, of Bear Grass. These girls will be examined this spring to determine the County Girl Health Champion. Following an examination by the county health doctor, the county champion will go to Washington to represent Martin at the district health contest.

The one boys' club at Everetts is represented by F. P. Raynor, who was selected as the healthiest member at a meeting held recently.
The young folks representing the county enter the district contest and the winner from the district enters the State contest. This is a stimulus among the girls' and boys' 4-H clubs to have healthy bodies. It has helped very much in the past year in increasing the interest in improving health habits.

FARMERS NEAR JAMESVILLE MAY GROW TOMATOES

To Discuss Marketing Plan At Meeting There Thursday Night

Jamesville Township farmers will meet in the schoolhouse there Thursday evening of this week at 7 o'clock to discuss tomato growing there this spring and summer. Professor W. T. Overby, teacher in the Jamesville schools, stated yesterday. Several plans for handling the crop will be placed before the meeting. Mr. Overby stated, but it is not known that any of them will be accepted by the farmers.

According to Mr. Overby, arrangements are now virtually complete for the delivery and handling of green tomatoes at Jamesville this season. If this plan is approved by the meeting this week, it is believed that the farmers in that section of the county will plant two or three hundred acres to the crop.

Much interest has been shown in the establishment of a shipping center at Jamesville for tomatoes, and it is believed that the farmers will give the matter serious consideration when they meet Thursday evening. A large attendance upon the meeting is urged. Mr. Overby stating that the decisions made that night would be of much importance in establishing a shipping center during the early growing period of the tomato crop.

Many farmers in the lower part of the county have grown tomatoes for the past several years, and they are of the opinion that they can succeed with a shipping point of their own.

EVERETTS MAN SUES FOR \$20,000

Andrew Clark Files Suit In Court Here Against Two Smithfield Women

A suit for \$20,000 damages was filed in the superior court here recently by Andrew H. Clark, Everetts man, against Mrs. Mary Moore and Mrs. Margaret Bonner, of Smithfield. The suit originated last fall when Mr. Clark was run down and injured by the Smithfield car, as he walked along the highway in Everetts. Mr. Clark was critically injured and remained in a hospital several weeks.

The case is scheduled for trial at the next term of superior court here, according to information received yesterday from Mr. Clark's attorney, A. R. Dunning.

It could not be officially learned here, but it is understood that the owner of the car striking Mr. Clark carried liability insurance.

HAND BRAKES ON LONG TRAILERS

Trucks Operating Through Here Now Carrying Special Brakemen

Heavy truck traffic on the highways in this part of the State took after the pattern of the railroads this week when truck trailers bearing long pine piling carried their own brakemen. Probably some who perchance saw the man sitting on the trailer, 50 feet or more behind the truck, reached the conclusion that he was just "beating a ride."

In accordance with a state law, recently put into effect, owners of trailers must equip the vehicles with brakes. Operators hauling the long pine logs from this section to the river here found it impossible to equip their trailers with brakes that could be controlled by the truck driver, and to comply with the law hand brakes were installed. The trailer brakemen rides straddle the logs with a lever in arms-reach, ready to slow or stop the outfit when necessary.

Another Prohibition Poll Started In This Country

This now another poll is underway. This time a national magazine is out to determine if the country favors prohibition or favors repeal. No substitutes are included in the questionnaire.

Mrs. Patty King, of Pelham, N. C. is visiting her son, Mr. Jim King, and Mrs. King, here.

NULL AND VOID

Franklin, Texas, Feb. 1.—The Texas law curtailing the planting of cotton was held unconstitutional, null and void by District Judge W. C. Davis today.
The opinion was based on a fight by County Attorney T. L. Tyson, of Roberson, restraining F. L. Smith from using his land for more cotton than was allowed by the measure.

Welfare Workers Designate Thursday As "Bundle Day"

TOWN BOARD IN REGULAR MEET HERE LAST NIGHT

Orders Chickens Shut Up And Hog Pens Moved Outside Town Limits

Poverty and tax relief featured the meeting of the county commissioners here yesterday, and dancing was one of the main topics at the regular meeting of the local town commissioners last night, the latter body upholding its rules and regulations governing public dances. Bob Taylor was granted permission to hold a square dance each Wednesday night, provided he turn over a specified percentage to charity.

Believing that many town residents are planning gardens this spring, the board pointed out that ordinance requiring owners to keep their chickens shut up or out of the yards and gardens of their neighbors. Several complaints have already been noted, Chief Daniel stated before the meeting last night, and it is hoped that every gardener will be given a "break" in cultivating his plot this year.

Hog pens, located within the town limits, must go, the board declared, Chief of Police Daniel having been instructed to make a pig survey of the town during the next few weeks.

MR. J. R. WHITE DIES SUDDENLY

Found Dead in Bed at Bear Grass Early This Morning

J. R. White, about 60 years old, was found dead in bed at a Bear Grass filling station early this morning, death believed to have resulted from a sudden heart attack. Several days ago Mr. White had an attack of pneumonia but it is not known whether the effects of that disease hastened his death.

When called this morning he failed to answer, and his son, Henry, was summoned. He forced an entrance to the station and found his father dead. Mr. White farmed for many years, but during the past several he worked as an agent for a nursery, later taking over the operation of a filling station in Bear Grass.

Funeral arrangements had not been announced at noon today, but it is understood that the funeral will be held tomorrow afternoon and burial will be in the burial ground near the old Lassiter farm in Bear Grass Town ship.

Four sons, Henry, Albert, John Robert, and Lonnie White, and three daughters, Mrs. Annie Ayers, Mrs. Henry Wabblenton, and Mrs. Roberson, of Danville, Va., survive. His wife died a number of years ago.

COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEET

Few Names Are Added To County Aid Fund List Here Yesterday

Many called, but few received answers when they went before the Martin County commissioners in regular session here yesterday, the board adding four names to the aid fund list and admitting one applicant, Eb Hopkins, to the county home. Of course, there were a few tax adjustments made, only one meeting in years having been held when there were no errors pointed out.

Increasing the amount paid from the aid fund each month by \$8.50, the board made one or two alterations in check deliveries and then selected jurors for the next term of Martin County Superior Court.

John R. Coltraine, of Griffins Township, was relieved of payment of tax on \$500 solvent credits listed by error.

W. A. White was relieved of payment of \$11.01 special school tax listed by error in Hamilton Township.

John W. Eubanks Takes Place As Board Member

Recently appointed as a member of the Martin County Board of Education by the Martin County Democratic Executive Committee, Mr. John W. Eubanks, young Hassell merchant, took the oath of office yesterday morning administered by Clerk of the Court R. J. Peel before the board. Mr. Eubanks was appointed to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Javan Rogers, late member of the board. The term expires in April of next year, placing the position open for the voters next June.

GROUNDHOG

If the groundhog ventured from his hole today, it is certain that he was rained upon, and if there is anything to this shadow business we are in line for a return to fair weather during the next 40 days.

If, according to many prophets, the groundhog sees his shadow on February 2, he returns to his hole and bad weather follows during the next forty days.

HONOR ROLL OF LOCAL SCHOOLS FOURTH MONTH

List of Honor Pupils Holds Up Despite the Many Failures Reported

Although there were many failures reported in the local high school at the end of the first semester, the size of the honor students was maintained in number, it was learned from the honor roll submitted by Principal William R. Watson yesterday. Night activities, aside and apart from the general school program are, believed to have been responsible for many of the failures reported.

Studios boys and girls continued at their posts, and many of those who did had their names to appear on the fourth month honor roll, as follows:

Grade 1-A: Jim Critcher, Joseph Dixon, Joseph Gurganus, Robert Jones Jimmie Manning, Benny Weaver, Virginia Corey, Milly Biggs, Evelyn Griffin, Betty Gurganus, Patsy King, Mary Pope, Mary Warren, Dorothy Watson.

Grade 1-B: Bill Beacham, Sam Moore, Nannie Manning, Rachel McClaren, Thelma Lowe.

Grade 2-A: Reg Griffin, S. C. Griffin, Haywood Rogers, William Lilley, Anne Powden, Mary C. Godwin, Dolly Godard, Susie Griffin, Betty Hoard, Bina Jackson, Mary Manning, Elizabeth Parker, Sybil Roberson.

Grade 2-B: None.

Grade 3-A: Nancy Biggs, Eleanor Brown, Marjorie Dunn, Dorothy Harrison, Catherine Manning, Madelyn Pope, Sarah Taylor, Frances White, Martin Anderson, Arthur Anderson, Stuart Critcher, R. J. Hardison, Jerry Manning, Emory McCabe, Joseph Thigpen.

Grade 3-B: Kathleen Andrews, Dare Perry, Beatrice Helm, Beatrice Helm, Faye Gurganus.

Grade 4-A: Rachel Keel, Bernice Cowen, Nettie Gurganus, Sallie Gurkin, Margaret Jones, Louise Melson, Doris Moore, Pearl Roberson, Eleanor Taylor, Susie Whitely, Reid White, Bill Ballard, Jerry Clark, Dick Dunn, Jack Edmondson, Julian Edwards, Elbert Peel, Jr., Gordon Manning, James W. Ward.

Grade 4-B: Dixie Daniels, Delsie Godard.

Grade 5-A: Elva Barnhill, Thelma Lilley, Nora Grimes, Ruth Shepard, Gottie M. Wynne, Reg Manning.

Grade 5-B: James Mendenhall.

Grade 6-A: Velma Bennett, Melrose Bonds, Wyoma Jackson, Addie L. Meador, Hazel Price, Nellie Rogerson, Lois Taylor, Whit Purvis, E. G. Wynne.

Grade 6-B: None.

Grade 7-A: Milton James, Brinkley Lilley, Ben Manning, Clayton Moore, Alec Nicholson, Densel Simpson, Joe Thrower, Edna Ballard, Bolton Cowen, Frances Cox, Ellis Wynne, Ella W. Critcher, Marie Griffin, Allie Harrison, Ruby Harrison, Evelyn Lilley, Marjorie Lindsley, Kathleen Price, Myrtle B. Swain, Doris Teel, Gwen Watts, Jean Watts.

Grade 7-B: Mamie C. Taylor, Lorene Weaver, Carrie Williams.

Grade 8-A: None.

Grade 8-B: Grace Manning, Alice Harrison, Eula Green, Mary Edmondson, Annie Wynn, Billie Griffin, Lawrence Lindsley.

Grade 9: Olive McCabe, Jessie M. Anderson, Roger Critcher, Mattie Gurganus.

Grade 10: Jennie Green Taylor, Russell Roebuck.

Grade 11: Pearl Griffin.

W. G. Peel Promoted by Virginia Insurance Firm
Mr. W. G. Peel, local insurance man, noted for his success in the life insurance field throughout this part of the United States, won additional honors this week when he was appointed associate general agent for eastern North Carolina, Mr. Walter Turnbull, general agent, of Lawrenceville, Va., making the appointment here today. Mr. Peel will continue his headquarters here, it was stated.

SCOUTS TO CALL FOR DONATIONS; NEED IS URGENT

Supply of Old Clothing Is Exhausted and Calls for Aid Are Increasing

With the supply completely exhausted and pitiful calls for aid increasing almost daily, local welfare workers are asking for old clothes. A bundle day has been arranged for Thursday afternoon, when the Boy Scouts under the direction of Scoutmaster Wheeler Martin will canvass the town. Rural children are being asked to bring whatever articles their homes can spare with them to school that morning.

Conditions in this community have taxed the welfare organization to the utmost, but, as a whole, the situation has been very well handled. In two or three districts, however, welfare work has been all but neglected, according to reports. As a result, the unfortunate—or many of them—have called here for aid. In several other districts welfare work is being capably handled. In those districts the attendance upon the schools is holding up well and there is a noticeable progress. Personal investigations are being made in several sections, and it is hoped that all welfare units that have not been functioning will share in the task of caring for the unfortunate in their respective communities during the remainder of the winter season.

Local people are urged to prepare their bundles and place them on their front porches for the Scouts, who will start their canvass soon after dinner. Many garments are needed, and a ready response to the bundle day call will be of great value just at this time.

MRS. A. J. MOYE DIED SATURDAY

Was Mother of Mrs. Jas. C. Manning; Burial In Pitt County Last Sunday

Greenville, Jan. 31.—The funeral of Mrs. A. J. Moye, 73, who died at her home near Farmville yesterday, following an attack of bronchial pneumonia, was conducted by Rev. C. B. Mashburn, pastor of the Farmville Christian church, at her home this afternoon.

Mrs. Moye, a member of one of the prominent families of the county, was, before her marriage, Miss Cora Edwards, of Lenoir County, and was the only surviving member of her immediate family. She was a member of the Christian church and exemplified the highest type of Christian womanhood.

Besides her husband, she is survived by three daughters, Mrs. Mary Moye Patterson, of Farmville; Mrs. M. C. Williamson, of Washington, D. C.; Mrs. J. C. Manning, of Williamston; three sons, Joel W. and Chilton, Farmville, and Moses T., of Stantonburg.

FILE ANSWERS IN BANK SUIT

Owners of 501 Shares Stock Plan to Contest Suit In Court Here

Ninety-four stockholders, representing over 500 shares of stock in the old Farmers and Merchants Bank here had filed answers up until late yesterday afternoon in the suit brought against them and others by the Branch Banking and Trust Company for and on behalf of the Farmers and Merchants Bank.

Nine law firms, B. A. Critcher, H. O. Peel, Hugh G. Horton, Wheeler Martin, and Coburn and Coburn, all of Williamston; and Ward and Grimes and Harry Mullan, of Washington; and Myrick, Stanley and Dreher, of Goldsboro and David W. Isea, of Wilson, have been employed by the defendants filing answers in the case so far. Messrs. Dunning and Peel represent the plaintiffs.

The time for filing answers ends this week, and it is believed that a number of additional answers will be filed between now and next Friday.

Winter Weather Arrives During Past Week-End

The first weather to be associated with real winter reached here over the past week-end, when the mercury dropped several degrees, bringing the first noticeable freeze of the season. The cold spell added to the woes of the unfortunate, but those farmers killing and storing meat were made glad.