Smallwood Recalls Boyhood Days Here

(Continued from page one)

whence he came and never again did he come to Williamston, or its sheriff, or its jail (when there was a new one) to request Sheriff Hardison to lock Sam up. Sam had learned to operate at least one corner of his brain, and it said to him when on his treks, no-no Sam, not that way, burn Sam up, and Sam's compass switched.

The firm of J. D. Biggs and Company never reopened after the big fire. Mr. Dorse Biggs formed a copartnership with a Mr. Davenport, from down Plymouth way, and they did quite a mercantile business as Biggs and Davenport, in a good size temporary building on the back of the old store lot, facing Smithwick Street, and from which they never moved so long as they did business. Mr. Dennis Simmons formed the Dennis Simmons Lumber Co., with Mr. Dawson Biggs as partner, and which was to grow to a tremendous affair for those and after days.

As already stated, Mr. Biggs had begun the erection of a two-story brick drug store on the front of the lot. The main drug department and sales room in front, followed by a doctor's office and a business office, divided by a narrow passage leading to the ware room in the rear, where groceries and other stocks were kept. The upper floor consisted of a sleeping room, which I occupied at time, and the rest of the floor space was devoted to storage of his burial-casket stock, which he had begun to handle in a substantial way. My little grocery store on the back of the lot had been turned into a storage for paints, oils and other barrel stuffs.

Even in the new building, rats had taken harbor and I possessed myself of a fine cat, to keep them thinned down. He could get under the flooring through the wall ventilators, and I cut a hole in the floor of the warehouse so he could come in and out at his liking, and he certainly kept the rats down.

The cat lived for quite a number of years, even after I had left the state and gone to Birmingham, Ala., always under the protective care of Sister Sallie, who would let no one both Charles' cat.

To little things we tie; to bigger things we grow; little things make big things, that tie us heel and toe.

And thus it was that my love and appreciation for Mr. Biggs and Sister Sallie ever grew bigger and bigger; and I was the last one she talked to before dropping into a comatose condition when the time came for her to leave us.

She knew that Mr. Biggs had gone some years before, and that she had since lived for her boys and girls. She spoke of hating to leave her boys. I told her that her boys were each all right, each doing the right things, and getting along well. It seemed to quiet her thoughts, and I left her dozed off, from which she never fully recovered.

And though the recent years may have grown new hills for some of the boys to climb, I indeed trust I spoke to her the truth, that they were all right, and would do the right things always.

Now back to the days when life continued, and none had left its trail; back to the days when all worked together to keep old Williamston real; back to the days when brick and mortar mingled with hopes that were steel; back to the days when hearts grew stronger the redder the nights grew ablaze.

For with it all, not so long after the courthouse and jail had tumbled, the night was aglow once more.

(To be continued)

Visiting in Norfolk

Miss Lorene Weaver is spending the week-end in Norfolk.

Navy Launches Huge Flying Battleship

Colorful ceremonies marked the launching of the world's largest flying boat, the Navy's $2,500,000, sixty-seven ton, four-engined [illegible] at the Glenn L. Martin plant at Baltimore. The giant craft, which has a wing span of 181 feet, is manned by a crew of 11, can carry a bomb load to Europe and return non-stop. Details of armament are secret.

Charges Of Murder And Manslaughter Before The Court

(Continued from page one)

about the middle of last March.

Shooting and nearly killing Tom Outterbridge, near Williamston last June 1, Alonzo Biggs is booked for trial on a charge of an assault with a shotgun and pistol with intent to kill. Outterbridge, crippled in the attack, is able to be about. Biggs is at liberty under a $500 bond.

Joe Henry Spruill is charged with fatally shooting Cleo Hinton in or on the edge of Everetts on September 20th. There are no witnesses to the attack, and Spruill is said to have an "air-tight defense." Lying at the point of death for a week in a Washington hospital, Hinton was never able to tell about the attack or trouble leading up to it.

Booked for false pretense, Charles H. Ayers is alleged to have obtained a quantity of tobacco from L. T. Harden on or about the 30th day of last September.

Mack Peterson, colored man who has been associated with the illicit liquor business for years, is facing a charge of murder in the court. He is alleged to have stabbed George Purrington to death as a climax to a brief quarrel on Williamston's colored beer garden district. William Owens, since arrested for alleged transportation of liquor and a close associate with Peterson, is charged with accessory after the fact to murder. Owens is alleged to have carried Peterson to a beer joint near Windsor soon after the fatal attack.

Charged with larceny and receiving, Thomas Ryan, Jr., is alleged to have stolen an old model car from Joe Hollis last October. He is at liberty under bond in the sum of $100.

The two manslaughter cases are against John Robert Bryant and Leamon Mizelle. Bryant, a Durham man, ran down and killed Zenious Sneed, Jr., colored, on Highway No. 11 last October 12. He was released under a $500 bond, Mizelle, said to have been driving his old model car in a reckless manner, turned it over and fatally injured Raleigh Rawls at the intersection of the Washington and Bear Grass roads on October 19.

An additional case was docketed today when Haywood Spruill, charged with failing or refusing to pay his 1939 dog tax, appealed from a justice of the peace court judgment to the superior court. Justice J. H. Hopkins had suspended judgment on condition that the defendant pay the case cost and the taxes, but Spruill appealed.

To Dedicate Legion Hut Monday Night

Next Monday night, the John W. Hassell Post of the American Legion will delicate the Legion Hall, and the portrait of John W. Hassell will be presented to the Legion Post bearing his name. The Williamston high school band will render most of the music. Mrs. J. H. Smith will sing.

John W. Hassell was the first Martin County boy to fall in the first World War and when the veterans of Martin County decided to form a post of the American Legion, they named the post after John W. Hassell in his honor. Miss Clyde V. Hassell, a sister of John, has had his portrait painted and will present it to the post at that meeting. The portrait will be accepted on behalf of the post by the post commander, J. R. Winslow. Hon. Elbert S. Peel, a boyhood friend and associate of John W. Hassell, will make a short address on his life. After his address, Mrs. J. H. Smith will sing, "There is no death."

The hall, which was built in 1936, will be presented to the Post and will be accepted by Commander Winslow. The main dedicatory address will be made by some outstanding orator and nationally known speaker.

The public is cordially invited to attend.

Juniors Present Play Last Night

The Junior Class of Williamston High School presented "For Pete's Sake," a three-act farce, to an appreciative audience in the school auditorium on December 4th. All members of the cast were applauded for their appearance.

Comments were especially favorable for Lenora Melson in her characterization of a May Robson role. She carried the role with the dignity of a stern and stately old lady. Billy Waters, in the lead, moved with ease on the stage. Richard Margolis furnished the audience with many laughs by his impersonation of a girl.

Bernard York and Reg Griffin, in comic roles, appeared to have a special, almost personal, appeal to the audience.

J. D. Woolard, Jr., as a college football player, was outstanding for his naturalness on the stage. Della Jane Mobley, Julia Clyde Waters, Nancy Mercer, Bill Peele, and Alice Belle Jenkins were equally good in their respective roles.

Proceeds from the play will be added by the class to the Junior-Senior banquet fund.

Japan Stalling For More Time In Her Aggression Move

(Continued from page one)

of an onslaught along a broad front, then struck back so strongly that the Germans lost a number of villages behind their original lines.

The offensive was believed to represent a German effort to divert Marshal Semyon Timoshenko's pursuit of Axis troops reported in disorderly retreat along the Sea of Azov. A Tass agency dispatch from Moscow said the westward stampede continued, with the Germans and Italians ousted from "several dozen" villages.

In Libya, the fighting has shifted from land to the air with the Royal Air Force bombing and machine-gunning Axis troops and tanks in repeated relays in preparation for a third round of tank attacks in the desert. The British forces after sweeping to victory across the desert met with reverses, but they are optimistic as they reorganize their lines and make ready for the third battle.

In this country, the House of Representatives is voting on an eight-billion dollar bill to supplement the defense effort.

Serious Shortage In Farm Labor Likely

"The most dangerous labor shortage in the years ahead may not be in defense industries but in agriculture," said C. W. E. Pittman, Farm Placement Supervisor, who attended a conference of Federal Farm Placement Supervisors in Washington last week. The conference studied present facilities and discussed proposals for extending services to the agricultural areas in view of the belief that the farm program will be one of the most important of the near future. Defense plans call for increased agricultural production. The Federal Security Agency anticipates a heavy demand upon its facilities arising out of agricultural labor problems and is taking steps to strengthen the Farm Placement Service.

Charles Daniel Earns His Second Promotion In Army

Entering the Army Air Corps at Stamford Field, Texas, the latter part of last September, Charles Daniel, Jr., recent earned his second promotion. He was a corporal only a short time before he was promoted to the rank of sergeant.

Mother Of Local Woman Dies Today

Mrs. D. W. Wood, mother of Mrs. Leman Barnhill of this place, died at her home in LaGrange at 3:30 o'clock this morning following a long period of declining health. She was 79 years old. Funeral services will be held tomorrow afternoon at her late home in LaGrange.

Besides her daughter here she is survived by one son, Styron Wood, of LaGrange, and three daughters, Mrs. Guy Dawson, of Clinton; Mrs. Kate Isler and Mrs. Ray Adams, of LaGrange.

Mrs. Wood, visiting her daughter here often, had made many friendships in Williamston.

Expect Release Of Men From Army

According to unofficial information received here, a few Martin County men will likely be released from the Army within the next few days, one report stating that the honorable discharges will be placed in their hands about the middle of next week.

The number and names of the men to be discharged could not be learned here, but it has been reported that Wheeler Martin Ward and Woodrow Ray are keenly anticipating their honorable discharges. Ward and Ray entered the army on last March 22.

It is understood that approximately 1,500 men 28 years of age or over will be released shortly, and that nearly 1,700 will be released between now and next March on account of dependency.

A few Martin County armymen have filed dependency claims, but so far only two have been given honorable discharges.

Year Expected To Set A Dry Record

Unless the clouds burst wide open during the remainder of this month, 1941 will go down in the books as the driest year on record here. Up until yesterday 28.52 inches of rain had been recorded since last January 1st by Hugh Spruill on Roanoke River here. This amount compares with a 10-year average of 47.79 inches and with 37.89 inches recorded in 1940.

Starting last August, the unusually dry season has held forth in an aggravated condition right up until now despite the two inches of rain recorded in October. The .54 of an inch of rain last month did not alter the seriousness of the situation, but hope was renewed yesterday afternoon when a heavy rain started falling. The downpour, however, measured only .39 of an inch, but it was followed last night by another heavy rain which boosted the total for the 48-hour period ending this morning at 8 o'clock to 1.21 inches, or nearly half as much rain as was recorded during all of September, October and November.

Large numbers of farmers have hauled water, some from neighboring deep wells and some from the town's water system here, for several months. Forest fires although well controlled under the existing dry conditions, have filled the heavens with smoke during short intervals for weeks.

Alonza L. Raynor Killed in Highway Accident Tuesday

(Continued from page one)

gan to worry about what might happen to Raynor on the foggy highway in view of the fact that he had been drinking. So he picked up W. Robert Worsley, Tarboro chief of police, and started back out the Bethel road to pick up the man.

In the meanwhile, Raynor had been killed. His crushed body was lying about 200 yards from the spot where Morris had put him out of the car.

Knowing Mr. Raynor as they did, some people in this county are of the opinion that he possibly met with some foul play. It was pointed out that he was not the type of man to get mad and resort to drastic action. "I have known him for many years, and it is hard to believe that he would ever consider harming anyone," Sheriff Roebuck said, adding that the victim of the accident was honest as the day was long and could be depended on for anything.

Mr. Raynor was born near Williamston 63 years ago, the son of the late Frank and Alice Cherry Raynor. He was an expert tobacco farmer and had many friends throughout the county. In early manhood he was married to Miss Fannie Wynne who survives him. No children were born to the union, but an adopted son also survives him. He also leaves two brothers, Pete Raynor, of Williamston, and John Raynor, of Oxford.

Several years ago he moved from this section and located near Oak City where the last rites were conducted yesterday afternoon by Rev. J. H. Smith, local Baptist minister. Interment was in the Oak City cemetery.

Supervisor Delays Naming Of County Tav List-takers

Finding few or no applicants in some of the townships, County Tax Supervisor C. D. Carstarphen said this morning that the naming of list-takers for 1942 had been delayed. He plans to have his appointments complete within the next few days, however. The tax authorities will meet here on December 15th to establish a schedule of values for personal property and handle other details in connection with the tax program which is scheduled to get underway on January 1st.

Best

Farmers are bringing to a close their best year since 1929 with production, prices and income at high levels, reports the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

Fish

Should a wartime emergency arise, the annual supply of fish for food could be increased "almost immediately" by 185,000,000 pounds, says the Federal Fish and Wildlife Service.

Present Conditions Make Cotton Quotas Necessary For 1942

(Continued from page one)

eraged greater than in any period in the available series, extending back to 1925.

The law provides that no loan program can be offered to farmers during any marketing year for which quotas have been voted down in a grower referendum. To make loans on an uncontrolled surplus would be an unwise expenditure of public funds.

During 1940 the wars abroad cut off many of our foreign cotton customers. The number of countries able to import American cotton is even smaller now than a year ago. While increased industrial activity in this country due in part to the defense program, has tended to increase greatly our own use of cotton, the loss of exports is far greater than the increase in domestic consumption. Thus, the present war situation is not, in itself, proving a benefit to the American cotton farmer.

Although cotton producers today are facing serious difficulties, they are in a much stronger position to absorb the shock of war than they were in 1914-15. There is in the AAA farm program the machinery for dealing with many important domestic and foreign problems affecting the national welfare. Through a democratic procedure, more than two million cotton farmers are cooperating in an effort to bring the supply in line with effective demand. The cotton loan prevents collapse of the price structure. Concerted efforts of recent years to make an improvement in the domestic market are now bearing fruit. Export payments have been used in the past, and are being used again on a limited scale, to make it possible for American cotton to compete in prices with foreign cotton in foreign countries. All the while, the American cotton farmer is conserving the land for the long-time welfare of his family and his nation. Through the use of marketing quotas and allotments, more land is made available for the production of food and feed crops for home use.

GIVE FURNITURE FOR CHRISTmas. A gift of furniture will make the whole family happy. Woolard Furniture Company, Williamston, N. C. d2-2t

Production Unit Is Preparing Shipment Red Cross Articles

(Continued from page one)

gram for foreign war relief Red Cross chapters are nearing completion of 400,000,000 surgical dressings for the United States Army and Navy. The Red Cross also has undertaken a project to knit 500,000 sweaters for the armed forces.

WANTS

LOST: WIDE-BAND GOLD BRACElet. Saturday afternoon in Williamston. Reward. Bring to Enterprise. d2-2t

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FOUND — SUM OF MONEY ON streets of Williamston. Finder may have same by identifying amount. Mrs. Robert Harrell. Modern Beauty Shop, Williamston.

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