

Americans Win Great Naval Battle in Pacific

Outlook In Solomon Islands Much Better After Fierce Battle

Major Clash Between Allies And Germans Imminent In North Africa

Scoring one of the greatest naval victories since the Battle of Jutland in World War I, the United States in a three-day encounter completely routed a large portion of the Japanese fleet in the Solomon Islands over the week-end, the action renewing hopes of the Guadalcanal defenders and adding prestige to plans for future action against the yellow scoundrels in that part of the world.

In the first two days of the battle beginning last Friday, the Americans wiped out twenty-three Japanese ships, including one big battleship, three heavy and two light cruisers, five destroyers, eight troop transports and four cargo transports. It is estimated the battle cost the Japs between thirty and forty thousand men. It is not certain from the reports released by the Navy Department whether any Japanese soldiers ever reached Guadalcanal. Four troop transports were beached about ten miles from American positions on the island. Late reports state that the four beached transports were wrecked Sunday morning and that their human cargoes were torn asunder.

With a complete report on the third day of the battle yet to come, American losses during the first two days were placed at two light cruisers and six destroyers.

While the battle may not be as decisive as the one at Jutland when the German navy was turned back and bottled up for the remainder of World War I, observers say that the Jap losses, including another capital ship and several smaller ones damaged, have given our Navy the balance of power in the South Pacific, that a Jap drive to the New Hebrides, Fiji Islands, New Caledonia and Australia has been completely blocked. But the Japs still have a formidable navy, and it is possible they will reorganize their forces and stage a fourth attack in an effort to regain the strategic positions of Guadalcanal and Tulagi. And they'll get another licking, too.

Reflecting a unified command and perfect harmony between all forces, the battle made Admiral Halsey a hero. He moved for aggressive action during darkness, and pounded the enemy at close range. At one time he had the enemy so confused that Jap ships fired on one another. The battle was preceded by air attacks landed by MacArthur's bombers. When the Jap armada started forming in New Britain and the northwestern Solomons, American scouts declared they could not see from one end to the other. For several days tension was great as the defenders anticipated the arrival of the hordes. The yellow scoundrels never reached their destination, and that part of their battered fleet left afloat turned tail and limped back to shelter.

Commenting in Washington this morning, Navy Secretary Frank Knox said that while the battle was a major one, it was not decisive in its scope, that the Japs can be expected to make another attempt to recapture Guadalcanal. That all is not going well with the Jap navy is evidenced in an order shifting personnel in the fleet command.

The battle in Africa is now entering its second phase. After scoring

Conservation Plans For Seventeen Farms

By H. F. McKnight
The Coastal Plain Soil Conservation district which was formed in the early part of this year and voted on by the farmers of Martin County in March is getting underway.

To date complete conservation plans have been written on 17 farms in the county.

Applications for soil conservation work have been made by a total of 53 farmers to date.

One of the farms on which a complete soil conservation plan has been worked out is owned by Mr. T. B. Slade of Hamilton. Just as soon as the crops are out of the way—Mr. Slade will terrace approximately 20 acres on the steeper slopes. He also intends to plant five acres of kudzu which is a new crop in this section of the state. The kudzu will be used for grazing or hay.

Mr. Slade recently seeded four acres to wild winter peas as an experiment. As far as is known this is the first time this winter soil building crop has been grown in this county. It has been grown with success in Alabama, and if successful may prove a valuable crop in this section as one of its good points is that it produces a yield of around 1000 pounds of seed per acre, and is also a good crop for grazing.

PROHIBITION?

The return of prohibition is now considered a possibility by observers once they were advised of the size of liquor sales in the Williamston store last Saturday. A new high sales record was established that day when the clerks sold \$2,041 worth of the fluid to approximately 1,335 customers. With such records being established, it is quite possible that the consumers are going to drink the country dry.

The supply of several brands was exhausted long before the day was spent, but not a single customer was lost, the manager explaining that another brand was readily accepted. Making a second visit to the store during the day about 50 repeat customers were not allowed to make purchases. The system has a more or less voluntary rationing plan which allows or is supposed to allow a customer to make only one purchase during a single day.

Plan Another Big Scrap Harvest In The County Soon

Martin Farmers Asked To Equal and Better School Children's Record

The war is still going on; in fact, the heavy fighting is still ahead, and as long as the war continues there'll be an ever-increasing need for scrap iron and old metals. After recognizing the splendid record this county has made in the collection and shipment of scrap iron, salvage authorities are coming right back with a renewed appeal for more scrap.

This time, the salvage authorities are looking to the farmers of the county to put the campaign across, and plans are being made by County Salvage Chairman V. J. Spivey in cooperation with the Farm Bureau for a county-wide collection that will be carried into every nook and corner. The plans are not quite complete, but it is proposed to reach every farmer in the county with a direct appeal, urging them to throw their full weight into the scrap battle. Township or district captains are to be named and they will appoint lieutenants who will carry the appeal to every nook and corner in the county. The farmer will be asked if he has sold any scrap and how much. He will be asked if he will cooperate in the renewed campaign and how much scrap he thinks it will be possible for him to gather up and deliver to the dealers for sale. Salvage authorities hope to get a complete survey of the scrap metal supply in the county through the new plan, and everyone is urged to cooperate with the movement in every way possible.

Details will be announced as soon as possible, and it is hoped that the drive can be launched just as soon as possible after the peanut harvesting season is ended and the farmers have a breathing spell.

The farmers are not being asked to contribute their scrap metal. They are being asked to gather it up and deliver it to their dealers for cash

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Legion Auxiliary In Regular Meet

The regular monthly meeting of the American Legion Auxiliary of the John Walton Hassell Post No. 163 was held on Saturday afternoon in the home of Mrs. W. H. Gray, in Robersonville.

Mrs. W. O. Griffin, the president, presided, and Mrs. R. H. Goodmon acted as secretary.

The treasurer reported that two sweaters had been purchased for patients at Oteen, and read letters of thanks from these patients. She also read a letter from Mrs. Claverie, the Auxiliary case worker in the hospital, who reported that there were now 900 patients at this facility, and of these 100 were boys of 18 and 19 who were T.B. victims and veterans of World War II.

The child welfare committee reported that Defense Stamps and comic books had been carried to the son of one of our members. This little boy has been ill for several months.

The Auxiliary was privileged to have Mrs. E. G. Hudnell, of Chokewinity, N. C., the First Area Chairman, in a very informal manner discussed transportation conditions with the unit and told of her recent visit to a meeting of the executive committee. She told of the work outlined for the auxiliary for the coming year, and asked the support of each and every unit in her area.

Mrs. Gray served delicious sandwiches, tea and nuts.

Tunis, Where U.S. Troops May Cross



This is a view of Tunis, capital of Tunisia, the North African province that divides French Algeria from Italian Libya. In the foreground is the minaret of the Grand Mosque. It was disclosed that President Roosevelt has sent a letter to the Bey of Tunisia requesting permission for the passage of American troops through his country "to enable them to accomplish their mission—the elimination of the forces of evil from North Africa." Allied headquarters announced that there has been no attack on Tunisia. (Central Press)

More Than 5,000 Register In County For Kerosene Quotas

Approximately 5,000 persons registered at the various school houses in this county last week for kerosene and agricultural fuel oil allotments. The exact number signing up for the quotas could not be determined, a report from the rationing board stating that more than 6,000 registration blanks were distributed to the schools and that a few were unused in some places while in other centers especially in the towns the supply was exhausted before the registration was completed.

According to rationing schedules, the board is to review each one of

Peanut Market Sags Under Heavy Sales The Past Few Days

Price Still Holds To Around Seven Cents with Few at Seven and a Quarter

Burdened by record sales and night-and-day deliveries, the peanut market showed some signs of weakness here this morning. However, the outlook continues encouraging and no radical change in the price situation is anticipated, certainly not as far as some of the buyers are concerned.

Sales extended well into the twenty thousand of bags yesterday, and deliveries were unofficially estimated at 9,000 bags for the day, including several hundred bags delivered to the government warehouses for oil. During the past several days the market has held firm at 7 cents with some of the buyers paying a quarter. Seven cents was fairly general this morning, but when the Williamston Peanut Company withdrew its buyers late yesterday its price was ranging right up to seven and a quarter cents and holding firm. In a direct statement this morning, the Williamston Company management explained that it would take a week or ten days to catch up with their sales. Unloading operations have been underway at the plant night and day, and yet the plant is running far behind despite the fact that it is operating two shifts in the plant and continuing receiving operations

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Wilson Property Is Resold At Auction

TOO OLD!

Hears Game Broadcast Three Miles In The Air

The \$17,500 bid having been raised, the Marshall D. Wilson home-place and farm here were re-sold at public auction by the commissioners, Messrs. B. A. Critcher and Vance Bunting, in front of the courthouse here yesterday noon. The property was sold to Roy T. Griffin for an announced sum of \$21,075. The sale was made subject to dower rights.

Bids are also said to have been raised on other property offered at a first sale a little over two weeks ago, and other sales will be held soon.

The re-sale yesterday was started at about \$18,375 and several interested bidders pushed the purchase price up in spurts, two of them dropping out when the price went beyond \$20,000.

Men forty-five years old or older are too old for active military service and will not be subject to service in the armed services, according to telegraphic instructions received by the county draft board last Saturday. If a registrant reaches his 45th birthday before he is ordered to report for induction he is exempt from military service, according to the special instructions received by the draft board.

Two or three Martin County men 45 years old or older have already been inducted into the Army. It isn't likely that they will be discharged immediately.

War As It Relates To Home Front Is Reviewed For Week

Campaign in Africa Calls For Greater Sacrifices on The Home Front

The world-shaking events taking place along the southern shores of the Mediterranean already have seriously affected Axis strategy, now on the defensive. At home, they call for greater sacrifices, speeding up of salvage drives, tire and fuel savings, tightening of all our efforts to provide our fighting men in Africa and elsewhere with whatever they need to defeat the enemy.

The crushing defeat of Nazi General Rommel's army by the British Eighth Army, strengthened by U. S. air fighters and other Allied forces, was made possible in part by the great volume of lend-lease shipments of war materials and equipment to Egypt during the past nine months. During this period we shipped to Egypt more than 1,000 planes, many hundreds of tanks, of which more than 500 were mediums, 20,000 trucks and hundreds of pieces of artillery.

The American landing in force on the French North African coast, to forestall Hitler's intention to make use of French possessions as military bases, called also for transporting huge quantities of war materials from this country to the Mediterranean, and much more must be sent to maintain our strategic actions.

"Says 'Petrol Necessary as Blood'"
At a critical moment in the last war, Premier Clemenceau of France said, "Petrol is as necessary as blood in the battles of tomorrow." At that time we sent all the gasoline that France asked for, and now we must send fuel oil and gasoline to our men battling for freedom in French colonial soil. To do this means that more than ever we'll have to be sparing in our use of fuel oil, drive as little as possible to save gasoline and rubber. Motorists who need more mileage than their basic ration will have to give good reasons for requesting an extra allowance of gasoline, and supplemental gasoline rations in most cases will not be granted unless the applicant belongs to a bona fide car sharing group of at least four members. Ration books will not be issued until December 1 because of unavoidable delays in distribution.

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Man Jailed Here For Attempting to Break Into Country Home

Walter Chamblee Had Served Terms for Peeping into Ahooskie Homes

Walter Chamblee, 42-year-old Hertford County Negro, was jailed here late last Saturday afternoon for allegedly attempting to break into the home of Mrs. Essie Beacham with the intent to commit a felony.

Sent to the prison camp here as a peeping tom from Ahooskie, Chamblee only a few days before had completed his third road sentence, and it is believed that while he was an inmate of the prison he had learned that Mrs. Beacham lived alone with her children in the home near the prison camp. Going to the home about 11 o'clock, Chamblee raised a window, placed his hands on the head of a bed and had one foot inside a room where a member of the family was sleeping. Darrell Simpson, a State Highway employee at the camp and a visitor in the home at the time, heard the intruder and rushed out to catch him. Chamblee ran and as he crossed the yard he caught a clothes wire under his neck and was thrown to the ground. Simpson struck him over the head several times with a stick, but the intruder got up and escaped. Calling for help, Simpson overtook the man further down the country road, but was unable to hold him.

Chamblee is believed to have tried to break into another home in the neighborhood earlier that night. Some one tried to enter the home,

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Deserter Returned To Camp Saturday

Orphanage Superintendent To Make Radio Address

C. K. Proctor, superintendent of the Oxford Orphanage, will deliver his annual Thanksgiving message to North Carolina Masons and the general public over Radio Station WPTF next Sunday afternoon at 1:45 o'clock.

Secretary Ben Courtney of the Skewerky Lodge, is urging all Masons to hear the orphanage head as he delivers an appeal in the name of humanity.

More County Men Are Called For Induction

ROUND-UP

A marked decrease in the number of drunks rounded up by local and county officers last week-end is noted in the jail records for the period. Only eight persons were arrested and jailed, and four of them were jailed for other causes, one for deserting the Army, one for drunken driving, one for larceny and receiving and one for housebreaking.

Three of the eight were young white men.

New State License Tags One-tenth As Large As Old Ones

The 1943 Tags Will Cost Just As Much and Will Be Harder To Buy

Raleigh—Although Tar Heel auto owners will get only one tiny slip of precious metal for an auto tag—instead of the formidable two large tags of previous years—they will go to twice as much trouble and spend three times as much time in getting them. And they'll cost just as much.

Consequently, it is anticipated that tens of thousands of last-minute applicants may be careless as well as gassed January 1st, according to the N. C. Motor Vehicle Department, which is rather frantically trying to warn motorists to start buying their tags on Dec. 1st, first day of sales.

Must Have Old Card

In the first place, no 1943 tabs will be issued until the motorist has turned in his 1942 registration card. If the motorist has lost his 1942 card, there is only one way to get it replaced—via the Motor Vehicle office in Raleigh. Branch offices of the Carolina Motor Club, which is handling sales in about 60 cities, are forbidden to issue replacements for lost 1942 cards. This is the first year the autoist has had to turn in his last year's card, and officials estimate that some thousands of Tar Heels will suddenly discover that they do not have one. They recommend that motorists check now to see if they have such a card, and, if not, to make application for replacement immediately.

Their concern over this comes from the experience they had during the OPA gasoline registration. At that time, some 40,000 North Carolinians discovered they had lost their 1942 registration cards, and the Raleigh Motor Vehicle office was flooded for weeks with applications for replacements. At one time, around 1,000 letters and telegrams were being received each day, said Boddie Ward, chief of the bureau.

Must List Occupation

In the second place, each applicant's occupation must be written on the second of the four cards of the new registration strip—also a new step to save time when the 1943 cards are received, applicants are asked to write their occupation right above the line "Alphabetical file" which appears on the bottom of the second card. This is a requirement of the War Department this year.

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Man's Clothes Are Found Near River

Deserter Returned To Camp Saturday

The discovery of a body in Roanoke River at Jamesville a short time ago is being followed by a series of mysterious circumstances which may or may not be connected with the discovery. Officers, baffled by recent developments, believe the incidents are to be directly or indirectly associated with the drowning or murder of Sam Jones, colored man, several weeks ago.

Recovering the body from the river, officers were unable to identify it or have it identified. Internment was in Potter's Field at the old county home. Last week it was reported that Sam Jones, an employee of Foreman-Blades Lumber Company, had disappeared without calling for his pay check. He was working when last seen at the company's camp on Devil's Gut, a few miles up the river from Jamesville. Officers have been unable to learn Jones' address, but his social security card has been turned over to the authorities who are trying to check his records.

Last Saturday, company employees found in the swamps near the camp, a shirt with four \$1 bills in the pocket, a pair of overalls, a jumper, gloves, double-barrel shotgun, flashlight and a pair of boots. But the owner has not been found. Officers say it might be the clothes were those of the drowned man, but when the body was found it was fully clothed except for the feet. The recovery of the body, Jones' disappearance and the discovery of the abandoned clothes form a mystery that officers have not yet been able to solve.

Next White Group To Leave Includes Number of I-B Men

Deferments Expire for Several Draftees Leaving the County "Soon"

One of the largest number of young county white men to be summoned to an Army induction center for final examination and subsequent acceptance or rejection will move out within the next few days. The young men have already been instructed to report, but it is fairly certain that their seven-day furlough will permit them to eat Thanksgiving Day dinner at home.

No complete check could be had, but possibly half of the group instructed to report "soon" have already reported for induction at one time or another during the past two years. Rated as unfit for military service, they were placed in I-B and I-A remedial classifications. Since that time, rules have been changed and the men although rejected previously are now subject to military service, possibly that of a limited nature. Quite a few of those young men to answer the current call had been deferred for one reason or another but mainly on account of farming operations. Their deferments are expiring and they are now taking their places in regular order. It is understood that the December call, and it is understood to be a large one, will be filled by those young men whose deferments expire the first of next month.

The names and addresses of the men to report "soon" for a visit to the induction center are, as follows:

Lance Dutton Hardy, RFD 2, Williamston. Hardy was the first white man drafted in this county. Reporting to the induction center, Hardy underwent the Army physical examination and was rejected on March 14, 1941.

Jesse Daniel Baker, RFD 1, Oak City.

William Ernest (Cotton) Davis, Williamston and Tarboro. Young Mr. Davis was rejected in May of last year.

Cushing Biggs Bailey, RFD 2, Williamston.

Hugh Burras Bailey, RFD 2, Williamston.

Charlie Rogers, RFD 1, Robersonville.

Dalton Rogerson, RFD 2, Williamston.

Kelly Warren, RFD 2, Robersonville.

George Hyman Harrison, Jr., Williamston.

Don Elphonsa Johnson, Williamston. Mr. Johnson, former county solicitor, recently enlisted in the Navy, but his name is in the list of those instructed to report for induction.

Lloyd Ayers, RFD 1, Robersonville.

Leman Fouch Keel, Williamston and Georgetown, S. C.

Joe Thomas Thompson, Jr., RFD 1, Robersonville.

Charlie Thomas Edmondson, RFD 3, Williamston.

Robert Asa Edmondson, Jr., Hamilton.

Leon Wilson Wynne, RFD 1, Robersonville.

William Cecil Roberson, RFD 1, Robersonville.

Cyril Harrison Respass, RFD 1, Robersonville.

Lloyd Monroe Hassell, Jamesville.

Ernest Daniel Ward, RFD 1, Robersonville.

George Washington Taylor, Everetts and Albemarle.

Thomas Frederick Grimes, RFD 3, Williamston. Young Mr. Grimes is

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Motorist Is Badly Hurt In Accident

William Alexander Rogers, young Bear Grass Township colored man, was hurt, possibly seriously, when his car crashed into a wagon load of wood on the Fones' bridge road in Griffins Township late last Saturday afternoon. Suffering a broken collar bone and possible internal injuries, the man is in a Washington hospital for treatment. According to reports Rogers continues in a half-dazed condition after having shown signs of marked improvement the day following the accident.

Apparently driving at a rapid speed, Rogers rounded a curve in the dirt road just as Charles Butler, a negro colored, started to drive the wagon into his yard. The car struck the left rear wheel of the wagon and scattered wood all over the place, one piece flying through the windshield and striking him on the collar bone. Another piece flew through the hood and tore partly through the dash board.

The wreck damage was estimated in excess of \$100.