

British Service Men Assigned Homes For The Holidays Here

List of Available Men Reduced But More Will Be at Liberty Early Next Month

Twenty-five British service men will spend the holidays in local homes, Rev. John W. Hardy, chairman of the entertainment committee, announced this morning. It was first planned to entertain fifty or more of the service men here during the holidays, but so many towns in this part of the country have opened their homes to the men that the original list assigned here was greatly reduced. It was explained, however, that more men will have leave of absence early next month, and that they would enjoy the hospitality of local homes.

The chairman explained this morning that the amount of money contributed was not sufficient to pay all transportation charges, that other donations would be appreciated. "Quite a few of the men have families back in England, and they find it necessary to send most of their earnings home," Mr. Hardy explained.

The following assignments have been made:

December 21 to 28, arriving 6:20 p. m. Monday: Bill Martin and James Halls with Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Manning, Jr., and Harold (Harry) Wenham with the C. D. Carstarphens.

December 23 to 28: arriving 11:10 p. m.: Bert Poole and Lawrence Jack with Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Harrison; Arnold Darby and Bill Humphries with Mr. and Mrs. N. C. Green; James Kearney and Charles Dixon with Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler Martin; John Rickard and George Harper with Mr. and Mrs. John Gurkin; Bernard Rogers and Dennis Garley with Mrs. A. R. Dunning; Fred Woods and David Page with Mr. and Mrs. F. Earl Wynne, and Sam McKay and Harry Neville with Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Clark.

December 30 to January 4, arriving 11:10 p. m.: John Hughes and Chas. Milne with Mr. and Mrs. Victor Champion and Mr. and Mrs. Dean Speight; George Borer and Jim Hall with Dr. and Mrs. John D. Biggs; Leading Seaman Townley-Jones and Sid Beeching with Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Cunningham, and James Moreton and George Harran with Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Crockett.

In a letter to Mrs. Louise P. Martin this week, the Rev. Mr. Laurence Fleming, chaplain, said, in part:

"I was so delighted and thrilled and grateful to hear of your wonderful invitation to the men from our ship. Thank you a thousand times. I really do feel it is marvelous of you and the kind friends who are offering to give our boys hospitality and they are keenly looking forward to their visits."

"I believed Mrs. Hughes mentioned the fact that these boys are partial to beer and more accustomed to..."

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County Court Made Splendid Financial Record Last Year

Over \$6,000 in Fines and Costs Collected; Less Than \$50 Due Court

Aside from its regularly designated functions, the Martin County Recorder's court made a splendid financial record during the past year under the judgship of R. L. Coburn. Although he recognized the main function of the court was to administer justice, the judge proved beyond all doubt that the court's financial side could be successfully handled, too.

During the eleven months ending last October, the court assessed fines in the amount of \$3,783.00 and collected that sum along with \$2,423.25 in costs. The audit shows that the \$6,206.25 was collected, less than \$50 was due and unpaid, and in the best of businesses a much larger amount is ordinarily reflected in the profit and loss account. The court, after paying its own way, made available several thousand dollars to the school fund.

Long and pathetic excuses were offered to the judge by defendants in support of claims for credit, and occasionally the judge would continue a case under prayer for judgment to give the pleader a few days to get up the amount of a fine. Installment payments were ruled out, and in most cases it was pay up or go to jail. The judge allowed that the rich man held the advantage under such circumstances, but he figured that the poor man as well as the rich man knew what to expect before they wandered down the crime path. There's no doubt but that the defendants' fines and costs are being financed, but one thing is certain and that is the county under Judge Coburn did not finance them at a loss. It is apparent that Judge J. C. Smith will demand cash on the barrel, making it fairly clear that he who dances to the fiddler's tune must pay the fiddler, and in cash.

During Judge Coburn's approxi-

New Yorkers in First Gas Drill



More than a hundred graduates of the Queens County Gas Protection School in New York City demonstrated their ability to identify and combat war gases in a demonstration before officials of the Office of Civilian Defense. Some of the hundred are shown above sterilizing their gas masks after the demonstration. Heading the line is Marcella Schweiger, one of the two women in the group. (Central Press)

CHEER FUND

Without making a direct canvass, the Christmas Cheer Fund Committee has received a loyal and willing cash support in their annual drive to brighten a dark corner here and there in the community. While the extent of the relief will be determined by the size of the contributions, the amount already received slightly exceeds the estimated needs, according to Rev. John W. Hardy, treasurer of the fund.

The following contributions, added to the \$11.55 previously reported, boosts the total now to \$82.50: Dr. John D. Biggs, \$10; Enterprise, \$5; Junior Woman's Club, \$6.95; N. K. Harrison, \$2; Mrs. A. R. Dunning, \$5; A Friend, \$1; J. L. Hassell, \$2; Kiwanis Club, \$25; Lions Club, \$15, and W. J. Hodges, \$1.

Russians Pushing A Third Offensive Against The Nazis

Observers Predicting Renewed Activity in North Africa Within Short Time

The war picture, as a whole, is looking better on all fronts, but the main news comes from Russia today where the Reds are pushing a meaningful and third offensive against the Nazis in the Don-Stalingrad area. While marked with success, Russia's first two winter offensives were stopped after the Germans made great sacrifices, but the third one now underway is causing much more optimism. Few details of the drive have been released, but the offensive is rolling onward, late reports declare. The Russians are bringing up fresh troops and large quantities of supplies. The Germans, now operating at a decided disadvantage, would like nothing better than to dig in for the winter and hold their lines intact, but no such favors are being granted, and the enemy is finding it difficult and costly to hold himself together.

In North Africa, little news has come through during the past few days, but something big is believed to be brewing in that area. Reports from Gibraltar indicate that the Allies are moving in vast supplies and more men. One report maintains that the sea is literally alive with Allied cargo vessels and warships. The Germans are also moving in more supplies and men, indicating that strong action will follow.

Rommel is still racing toward Tripoli, but there is some doubt if his forces have been whipped as badly as some of the earlier reports indicated. General Wavell is moving into Burma, but the meaning of the action there and whether he is moving in force could not be learned. In New Guinea, General MacArthur is making ready for a big attack. The fighting there has been described as far more important than many believe. The Japs are said to have landed troops north-

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Sale Of Christmas Seals Totals \$187.00

The sale of Christmas seals in the county this year will exceed \$200, according to a preliminary report filed this week by Mrs. Ben D. Courtney, chairman. The total to date stands at \$187.21, and all reports have not been received.

Running well ahead of those for 1941, sales were reported by the various schools in the following amounts: Jamesville, \$12 Bear Grass, \$16; Farm Life, \$10.82; Williamston, \$109.26; Oak City, \$10, and Hassell, \$4.42, making a total of \$187.50 for the schools. Bangle day was observed here last Saturday and the sales were increased to \$187.21. Bobby Clayton, selling \$10.57 worth received first stamp prize, and Sarah Manning, selling \$8.65 worth, received second prize. The total for the day was \$24.71.

War As It Relates To Home Front Is Reviewed for Week

Economic Strategy Designed To Win War As Soon as Possible at Any Cost

Our economic strategy on the Front is designed to advance the war at the least possible cost to civilians in discomforts and dislocations of their normal ways of living, but primarily it is designed to win the war—at whatever cost. In the process of adjustment to a strict wartime economy certain items of news which seem of minor importance become extremely significant when examined in the light of our larger strategy.

For example, between October 13 and November 17 the average family food bill rose by 1.2 per cent. That may appear to be a small rise in retail food cost, but on November 17 every American family was paying \$1.31 for every dollar of average food expenditure for the period 1935-39. During this same month, prices of foods directly under price control rose but one-half of one per cent, chiefly owing to reasonable price adjustments made on the basis of increase costs. But the prices of the uncontrolled foods—mostly fresh fruits, fresh vegetables, and fresh fish—rose by an average of 6.6 per cent, and these foods were 21 per cent higher than in May of this year.

Individual percentages, however, do not begin to tell the whole story in the absence of price control over rents, a great number of services, and a very large number of items of every description, the entire cost of living would spiral rapidly upward, carrying with it wages, war materials, and the cost of all war weapons and war equipment.

Far-reaching changes coming The year 1943 will see far-reaching changes in our buying and budgeting habits. Before spring, the "point" method of rationing scarce products will be in full swing, and families then must decide whether to use up more points of Ration Book Two by purchasing scarcer articles, or use less points by buying more plentiful ones.

By next summer there'll be fewer kinds of canned foods in metal tins on store shelves than at present. Tin-can metals are needed for our war machines. The bulk of our canned food products, if they continue to be sold, will come in glass or other metal-substitute containers, many of the "fancy" canned goods and delicacies will be unobtainable, and the housewife will be cooking more products sold in bulk or brought in fresh from the farm without passing through a cannery.

The wartime demand for labor of all kinds will be felt in almost every home in the country, partly in the absence of familiar articles for the manufacture of which neither labor nor materials can be spared. The greatest change, however, will be in the number of members of families at work. It is expected that by the end of 1943 about 70 per cent of all persons in the United States between the ages of 15 and 65 will be employed or in military service, around 20 million of these will be in war industry. To secure millions of new workers and train them for skilled operations in war plants will be a stupendous undertaking—yet it must be done if we are to meet next year's production schedules.

Fuel Situation More Acute The fact that recently 4,000 men enlisted in the Army were released from service to return to the mining industry illustrated the need for the new "Manning Tables" system that will provide for a methodical and orderly replacement of skilled

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Several Teachers Resign In County

Despite uncertain conditions and the offers of better jobs, very few teachers in this county have resigned since the term got underway last September. The number of resignations is far below the average general reported at Christmas time.

Joseph Holliday, answering a call to the U. S. Marine Corps, resigned a short time ago at Bear Grass, and Mrs. Selma Gurganus Bunting, a former teacher, succeeded him there last week.

Miss Mildred Hodges resigned as teacher of the fifth grade and music in the Robersonville school to accept work elsewhere. Her successor, a young lady from Rocky Mount, has been appointed, but her name could not be learned immediately.

Resigning as mathematics teacher in the Oak City school, Mrs. Gladys Mizelle, of Palmyra, is to be succeeded by Mrs. Edith Whichard Andrews, of Bethel, a former teacher. Mrs. Mizelle's appointment was accepted by her with the understanding that it should be temporary.

Miss Florine Edwards will be succeeded as teacher of home economics in Jamesville by Miss Jenkins, a recent graduate of E. C. T. C., Greenville. Miss Jenkins did her practice teaching in Williamston during the fall session of the current school term.

Liquor Sales Reach All-Time High Record Here Last Friday

Hearing that stocks were running low and that sales would possibly be suspended, patrons started a run on the local liquor store here last Friday and boosted sales to an all-time high record. Sales were slightly in excess of \$2,800 in the Williamston store and were about \$400 greater than the previous record established on the day before Christmas, a year ago.

Patrons formed fairly long lines at the store here that afternoon, but few complained about having to wait their turns on the sidewalks.

Associated with the suspension of gas sales about noon Friday, the rumor declaring that the liquor stores would be closed possibly for one, two or three days or even until after Christmas, was declared unfounded by ABC Board authorities

early Friday afternoon. The assurance that the stores would remain open, that the stocks were considered sufficient to meet the demand, was virtually ignored and the line of purchasers continued to grow.

Using up their ration coupons on Friday, the patrons were not so numerous on Saturday and sales dropped to about \$1,900 for the day. Possibly the record established last Friday will remain unbroken since no additional rations will be made available to many until about the first of next month.

Sales were unusually heavy in the other three county stores, but an accurate report could not be had immediately.

Additional stocks were unloaded Monday, and sales will be maintained, according to information coming from ABC board officials.

Big Increase Seen In Food Needs for The Allied Nations

Red Cross Cooperating with U. S. On Plan to Feed War Victims

With the presence of winter, large quantities of food are needed to feed American and allied prisoners of war and victims of invasion in devastated countries, according to a joint statement by the American Red Cross and the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Using supplies procured by the Agricultural Marketing Administration, the Red Cross has provided supplementary food for American and allied prisoners of war in the Far East. The shipment was made on the first trip of the exchange ship "Grisholm," and increased supplies are now loaded on the vessel for her second trip. These shipments included AMA supplies of dry whole milk, butter, and concentrated citrus juice packed in individual parcels to feed captured fighting men and interned civilians. Similar packages are being sent regularly to prisoners of war and civilian internees held by Germany and Italy.

The Red Cross is assisting in the feeding of Polish, Greek, and many other refugee groups in Egypt and the Middle East, including war orphans and evacuee children. Commodities sent to the Middle East included beans, canned tomatoes, grapefruit juice, cane syrup and molasses, oatmeal, enriched flour, rice, dehydrated soup, powdered milk and oleomargarine.

Children in unoccupied France received a shipment of Red Cross supplies which included 274,000 cases of evaporated milk from AMA stocks. These supplies were already widely distributed before the complete occupation of France by Germany.

Other commodities obtained for the Red Cross by AMA for distribution in the various war areas include: rolled oats, enriched wheat flour, evaporated and dry milk, canned pork sausage, lard, syrup, canned and concentrated citrus juice, canned tomatoes, and vitamin C tablets.

The volume and variety of foods needed to feed prisoners, refugees, and other war victims may be expected to increase sharply this winter and next spring, the joint statement pointed out.

The Agricultural Marketing Administration is now procuring all the food requirements for American Red Cross shipments. The Agriculture Agency acts as purchasing agent or sells directly to Red Cross from its stocks held in various parts of the country to supply the needs of the allied nations, the U. S. territories, and for other war purposes.

The foodstuffs are delivered to shipside for Red Cross, which arranges for the overseas shipping, often with safe-conduct through battle zones, and delivers the food when it reaches its destination. Every container is conspicuously marked as a "gift of the American people through the American Red Cross."

Government Seeks Women For Jobs

The Federal Government is seeking alert women between the ages of 18 and 50 to take jobs of a confidential nature with the War Department near Washington, D. C. These positions offer not only an opportunity for personal advancement, but give all women a chance to help with the war effort by taking over men's jobs and releasing the men for active duty.

Applicants must have had at least a high school education and must pass a mental test which will be given by Mr. Samuel Kavruck, Civil Service Representative, on Tuesday, December 29, 1942, at the courthouse, Windsor, N. C. Those who pass the mental test will be offered an immediate appointment.

Entrance salaries range from \$1440 to \$1800 per year, depending upon the applicant's training and experience. Those with college training may start at \$1620 to \$1800 and need not take the mental test.

Prisoners Will Not Go Hungry in North Carolina Next Year

Every Foot of Land Owned by Prison Department Will Be Utilized

Despite prospects of wholesale food rationing by January and already increased difficulty of obtaining certain food, North Carolina's 8,000 prisoners will not go hungry next year.

Prison director Oscar Pitts is already mapping out plans by which every foot of land owned by the prison department at its 78 prison camps, two prison farms, and even Central Prison and Woman's Prison in Raleigh will be utilized in an intensified farming and livestock program.

In a recent meeting with prison supervisors and livestock and farm experts of the prison department, Pitts urged that careful study be made of land available and that it be turned into that crop to which it is most suited.

Including the 6,500 acres now under pasture and crops at Caledonia prison farm in Halifax County, there is a grand total of 7700 acres under cultivation and 4,164 devoted to pasture of prison owned land. In addition to this, Pitts hopes to rent land near the camps so that additional acreage may be built up.

At the present time, the prison department is better than fifty per cent self sufficient. Pitts hopes that this will be raised to nearer 95 per cent during the coming year.

The state division of purchase and contract is now unable to buy enough cooking oils, lard and fat back for the prison population. The answer to this is the raising of more hogs and livestock.

Another problem faced by the prison department is the increased cost of foods. Despite a reduction of more than 2,000 prisoners in this year's population as compared with last year, increase in the cost of foodstuffs has more than compensated for the reduction.

Still another spectre which faces prison officials is a decreased income. The prison department is a division of the State Highway Commission and derives much of its income from that body. Revenues from sale of license tags and gasoline have dropped almost fifty per cent and that means a cut has to be made all along the line.

Too, the prison department has found it almost impossible to secure guards and other man power at the present wage levels established by the state budget bureau.

With a large proportion of highway work now being maintenance, prisoners are being used more and more to replace a great shortage of free labor heretofore available for working the roads.

Pitts indicated that every prison camp will have its own truck garden. Also, more attention will be laid on diversification of crops. Stress will be placed on growing crops in a section most suited for it. Thus potatoes and cabbage will be grown in the western part of the state, where the land is more adaptable, while beans and tomatoes and the like will be leading crops in the east.

New crop for the prison department will be soy beans, already ex-

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Mrs. Jos. Hardison Dies at Home Early Monday Morning

Funeral Tuesday Afternoon For Highly Respected Citizen of County

Mrs. Joseph Hardison, member of one of the county's oldest families and highly respected citizen of Griffins Township, died at her home there at 1:30 o'clock Monday morning following a long period of declining health. She had received treatment in a Washington hospital, but during the past several weeks she was confined to her bed at home.

The daughter of the late William Harmon and Hannah Daniel, Mrs. Hardison was born in Griffins Township about 60 years ago. In early womanhood she was married to Joseph Hardison who died several years ago. She is survived by five sons, Robert, Roy, Stanton, Noah and Simon, all of the home, and William Hardison, of Plymouth, and two daughters, Mrs. Hugh Colman, of Griffins Township, and Mrs. Marvin Roberson, of Plymouth. She also leaves three brothers, Messrs. Dave, N. R. and Noah T. Daniel, and three sisters, Miss Mary Ann Daniel, Mrs. W. G. Hardison and Mrs. P. E. Getzinger, all of the home community.

Mrs. Hardison joined the Baptist church at Piney Grove about ten years ago, and was active in its service and support. Her pastor, Rev. W. B. Harrington, will conduct the last rites Tuesday afternoon at the home. Interment will follow in the family cemetery, near the home.

Held in high esteem by all who knew her, Mrs. Hardison enjoyed a large circle of friends.

ROUND-UP

The severe cold weather during the period reduced the number of arrests made by county and local officers to a low point during the last week-end round-up. Only six persons were jailed. Five of them were charged with being drunk and disorderly and one was jailed for alleged non-support.

Three of the six were young white boys, the ages of the group ranging from 18 to 27 years.

Law Limiting Hours For Wine Stores Is Asked by Grand Jury

Jury Would Have All Dogs That Have Not Been Vaccinated Killed in County

The value of a permanent grand jury was demonstrated in the county last Monday when the group headed by H. S. Johnson, Jr., of Hamilton, handled all its duties and adjourned for the term before the first day of the superior court term was ended. And the jury submitted a rather meaningful report when it called for a law regulating wine store hours and recommended that all stray dogs and those that had not been vaccinated be killed.

The report reads, in detail, as follows:

We have passed upon all bills of indictment present to us.

We inspected the jail, sheriff's office and county home and find them to be in good condition and all records in good order.

We visited the clerk's office and in checking over the guardian and administrator accounts found same to be in good standing.

We inspected the county sanitarium and found same in good condition.

We checked all county school buses except those at Farm Life and two at Bear Grass school and all buses checked were found in good condition except minor repairs which we recommend to be fixed. The county superintendent and the principals of the Farm Life and Bear Grass schools reported those not checked by us to be in excellent condition as they are mostly new trucks. We find some few trucks without emergency brakes and lights and recommend same to be fixed at once.

We wish to recommend that Sheriff Roebuck have killed all dogs in the county that are not tagged or vaccinated and having no lawful

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Red Cross To Make War Call In March

To avoid conflicts with community chest drives and the sale of Christmas Seals, the American Red Cross postponed its annual roll call this season, but an earnest appeal in the form of an all-out war call will be made next March. Some few donations have already been offered for the maintenance of the humane organization, and such donations will be gladly received by the treasurers of the two chapters in this county at any time. The all-out drive will get underway in this county about March 1, and it can be expected in the face of record demands on the organization that quotas will be large.

It has been pointed out that large contributors to the organization may make their donations before January 1 and get credit on their income tax. This deduction will not be allowed if the donation is made after the first of next month.

Those who are planning to accept a liberal share of the expense in supporting the Red Cross in its worldwide operations may forward or leave their donations with Treasurer Herman Bowen at the Branch Bank in Williamston for the Martin County chapter or with Treasurer B. L. Stokes at the Guaranty Bank in Robersonville for the Robersonville chapter.