

Former Servicemen Filing Claims For Mustering-Out Pay

Veterans Are Urged to Record Discharges in Register of Deeds Office

Following the passage by Congress just recently of a law providing servicemen honorably discharged from the service with mustering-out pay or a small rehabilitation fund, former Martin County servicemen started filing their claims this week.

The forms are fairly simple, but the applicant is asked to submit his discharge and give a record of his service. Martin County men who have been discharged from the service, and it is estimated that there are about 100 of them, are urged to have their discharge papers filed in the office of the register of deeds at Williamston.

The filed record may prove of great value in the years to come.

Assistance in filing claims for mustering-out pay by any member of the United States armed forces who has been honorably discharged will be provided by the local American Legion Post, it was announced by John A. Ward, Commander of the John W. Hassell Post No. 163 of the American Legion.

Veterans discharged since the recent mustering-out law was approved will receive their pay without filing applications, but those discharged prior to approval of the bill must comply with two orders: (1) Submit a certificate of discharge of service; (2) Submit an informal type of application stating his name and address, service number, serial or file number, showing that he was not discharged to accept employment without service outside the United States, that he is not now on active duty, that he has not made any other application for mustering-out pay, the state in which he lived when inducted, and whether or not he has had foreign service.

The application form will not be printed by the Army or Navy, but the veteran may copy it or may submit a facsimile from its publication. The county post has arranged to have plenty of application blanks mimeographed and now has such application blanks and instructions on hand, ready to assist local veterans of World War II desiring such assistance, in properly filing their claims for such mustering-out pay.

Veterans of this community desiring such assistance in filing their applications for such mustering-out pay, are directed to contact Norman K. Harrison, Harrison and Carstarphen office, Williamston; D. R. Everett or B. L. Stokes, Guaranty bank, Robersonville; Joe H. Ayers, J. H. Ayers & Co. store, Oak City; Chas. Davenport, Davenport and Hamilton, Jamesville.

Those eligible under the mustering-out pay legislation signed by the President recently, are veterans, including women, discharged from military service under honorable conditions and because of physical disability on or after December 7, 1941. Beginning Friday, Feb. 4th, those discharged under these circumstances may file their claims.

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Special Display Of Pulpwood Products

To better acquaint the general public with the part pulpwood is holding in promoting the war effort, the North Carolina Pulp Company has arranged a collection of pulpwood products for special display in schools and before civic organizations. No display has been arranged in this county so far, but high school principals or civic club leaders may have the collection displayed by one of the company's five trained representatives by writing to the Wood and Land Department of the North Carolina Pulp Company, Plymouth, N. C.

Among the articles in the collection are: High altitude paper vest for aviators, paper parachutes for dropping food, medical supplies, ammunition and other equipment, paper helmets for tropical use, paper raincoats, jetson tanks for extra gasoline on airplanes, flare containers, blood plasma containers, water-proof map containers, actual photographs of other various essential products. It is an exhibition of great interest to every American citizen.

Classifications Are Sustained by Board

Appealing to the district board from classifications effected by the Martin County Draft Board, six registrants were denied draft status changes recently, it was learned here today. One of the group, a registrant by the name of Speller, was given a 60-day stay of induction, but he was continued in the 1-A classification.

Claims for reclassification were denied the following by the District Appeal Board: Alton (Dick) Daniel, Millard Lilley, Garland Gray Gardner, Burnard S. Harrison and Mayo Modlin.

Prizes Offered To Pupils For Best Pulpwood-at-War Essay

Valuable prizes are being offered to Martin County high school students who present winning essays in the Victory Pulpwood Campaign, sponsored by the North Carolina Pulp Company, and a special appeal is being directed to all school officials urging them to assist the youngsters in making the contest a large one. A \$25 war bond will be offered to district winners, and in addition to that award, this paper will offer within the county a first prize of \$5 and a second of \$2.50 in war stamps, meaning that it is possible for the county to annex three prizes.

The rules of the contest are very simple. Choose one of three subjects as follows: "Pulpwood's Vital Part in the War Effort"; "Pulpwood Helps Win the War"; or "Pulpwood Goes To War." Write an essay of from 500 to 1,000 words, sign and mail it to the Pulpwood Contest Editor, The Enterprise, Williamston, N. C., so that it will be received by midnight of March 10, 1944, when the contest closes.

Local V. E. P. District Earns Coveted Award

RED CROSS DRIVE

Tentative plans for the annual Red Cross War Fund drive are being advanced in this chapter, and beginning in early March a generous people in the five townships comprising the Martin County chapter will be asked to contribute a record amount. President Roosevelt is issuing an appealing proclamation day after tomorrow, calling upon every citizen to support the drive. Complete plans for the campaign in this chapter will be made public some time next week.

Judge Calvin Smith Hears Two Cases In The County's Court

Only Three Spectators Are in Courtroom During Short Session Last Monday

With only two cases on its docket, the Martin County Recorder's Court last Monday held one of the shortest sessions in several months. Although the session was opened a few minutes late as a result of the judge being delayed by bad weather, the court ended its work in less than twenty-five minutes and Judge J. Calvin Smith adjourned the tribunal at 12:30 p. m.

Reporting for work, County Prosecutor E. S. Peel had an easy time when the two lone defendants pleaded guilty.

Charged with assaulting his wife and mother-in-law, Muriel Rascoe, Williamston colored man, pleaded guilty and was sentenced to the roads for sixty days. According to the evidence offered, the defendant had accused his wife of being unfaithful to him and that started a fight. The wife claimed she was slapped down, and the mother-in-law entered the fray, receiving a stinging slap to the face.

Pleading guilty in the case charging him with exceeding the 35-mile per hour speed law, Marion Odell Tripp, driver of an Alcoholic Beverage Control truck, was fined \$10 and taxed with the court costs. The defendant was cited to court by Corporal W. S. Hunt of the North Carolina Highway Patrol. Tripp was charged with speeding on the highways near Robersonville last Thursday.

For the first time in many months there was not a single colored spectator in the audience. Three white men, strangers to the court, were in the audience for a short while, but apparently none of the proceedings, they left before the session was ended.

CALL FOR HELP

Two months behind in its work, the local Red Cross Bandage Room is calling for more volunteers, a leader stating last evening that little progress is being made and that unless more workers volunteer it would be late summer before the present quota is handled.

As few as two workers have reported at times, and hardly more than five or six find their way to the room over the Western Auto Store at any one time. A few faithful workers are reporting regularly, and their efforts will be recognized from time to time.

The bandage room is open each afternoon from 2 to 4:30 and evenings from 8 to 10 o'clock.

Bruce Whitley Says He's About Ready To Leave England

Best Impression of Britain Obtained Right After He Landed

Bruce Whitley, former Enterprise employee, in a letter under fairly recent date, frankly admits he is ready to leave "somewhere in England and return home."

His letter follows, in part: "I hardly know how to begin to tell you anything about this place over here, but what I have seen of it, I can't see why people want to pay money to visit the place for unless it is to say they had been to England, for the sooner I can leave here the better I'll like it."

"After I landed here I got the best impression of it I have had at all. It was something I had never seen before, and traveling through the country it looked perfectly beautiful to me then, but that was only a part. What I have seen later doesn't come up to that now. The fields and hills looked like painted pictures or the pictures you see on calendars. The most things that I see they raise over here are wheat and sugar beets and Brussel sprouts. The farmers still till the fields like they did in olden times, and there's very little modern farm machinery used over here. I tell you one thing they do, though, is they take good care of their horses. That is the only kind of team I have seen over here."

"When you visit one town or city, you have seen them all, for they are all alike, including London. There are more little narrow streets and alleys than any place I have ever been before. Everything is built on a miniature scale here, even the roads and everything else. All homes have small rooms with very low pitched ceilings, and the salons (or pubs) you can enter the same one in

Thousand Men Lost In Recent Disaster at Sea

Believed No Martin County Men Were on Ill-fated Troop Ship

Attack Big Jap Base at Truk; Fierce Battles Raging at Two Points in Italy

In one of the greatest troop ship disasters involving this nation, an estimated 1,000 American soldiers lost their lives somewhere in European waters recently. Few details of the sea tragedy have been released by the War Department, and date and place of the sinking could not be learned. It is believed, however, that no Martin County men were lost; at least, no reports as far as it could be learned here today have been received by relatives in the county announcing local casualties.

While the ship could have gone down anywhere in the Mediterranean area, off the west coast, the British Isles, or Norway, it is believed that the tragedy took place somewhere in the North Atlantic. One report stated that the seas were rough and the water was icy cold.

The ship was believed to have been struck by a submarine torpedo and sunk within a few minutes. An estimated 1,000 or about half the number of soldiers aboard were rescued. The tragedy boosts the total number of men lost from troop ships in the war to date to almost 2,000.

On the land fronts in Italy, two fierce battles have been raging during the past twenty-four hours. The city of Cassino where Allied and German troops have been locked for several weeks, underwent an Allied artillery barrage last night from 9 o'clock until 3 o'clock this morning. The city was shattered, one report stating that the fire would be centered on one small area for ten minutes before it was shifted to another.

The Germans, fighting back at intervals, were said to be holding to a portion of the city, but they were no match for the heavy and concentrated artillery fire.

Fierce fighting followed another German attack on the Anzio beach-head just south of Rome, but it was

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Officers Take Two Liquor Distilleries

Raiding in the Flat Swamp section of Robersonville Township last Wednesday, Officer J. H. Roebuck assisted by Deputy Roy Peel and ABC Officers Ward and Taylor of Beaufort County, wrecked a crude liquor distillery. The plant was equipped with an oil drum for a still and an old keg. The other equipment was shoddy and no beer was found.

Continuing their activities, the officers raided along the Martin-Edgecombe boundary not far from Hassell and wrecked a plant, including three fermenters. They poured out about 100 gallons of inferior mash there.

Charged with forcible trespass, attempted larceny and "peeping," John B. Lowry, 45-year-old Elizabeth City white man, is being held in the county jail here in default of a \$300 bond.

Lowry was arrested by Officers C. R. Moore and John Gurganus at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Herman A. Bowen shortly after midnight Tuesday. He was seen trying to steal the Bowen car.

According to unofficial reports coming from the local police department, Lowry has a long jail record. He was said to have been sentenced to 20 years for larceny, and more recently was ordered by the court to remain out of Elizabeth City for two years. While serving the long sentence he was reported to have escaped several times, the law overtaking him one time in Texas.

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Williamston Youth Tells About Exciting Times He Had During Months In Pacific

(After briefly telling of his trip to Guadalcanal, Bill Holloman, petty officer 2-c, recalls his early work on the jungle island in this, the third installment of his experiences in the Pacific.—Ed.)

Other than a small platform and a few stakes to tie to, the hard-won island had no docking facilities, Holloman stating that he and his companions, after loading their equipment on lighters for transfer to shore were ready and willing to improve the facilities ashore. "We brought into use about twenty old trucks deserted by the Japs, and they stood up under heavy duty and rough treatment," the young man explained, adding that the vehicles saved the men much hard work and hastened the completion of the docks. Some of the spare parts found there were of American manufacture, and the trucks, while made after a crude fashion, were built along the same lines as the standard makes in this country. The trucks were also used advantageously in enlarging Henderson Field and in the construction of other fields and projects.

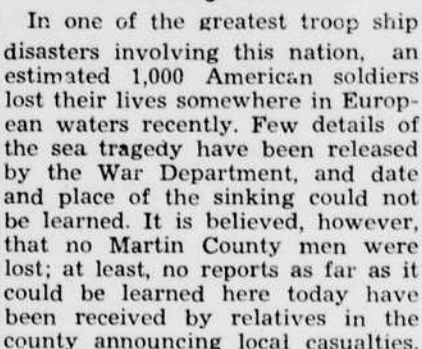
The hardships were many and most disheartening at first and the dangers were great during the first few weeks on the island, but the men knew they had a job to do and soon they accepted their lot after a matter of fact way and without complaining, the young man said. Continuing his story, Holloman told how bad the mosquitoes were and ex-

Three More County Townships Over the Top In Bond Drive

Total for County Well Over \$801,000 Or \$75,000 in Excess of Quota

WOUNDED

Wounded while in action over Germany last month, St. Sgt. Edgar M. Taylor, son of Mr. and Mrs. Monroe Taylor of RFD 3, Williamston, is now believed to be getting along very well.



Following the lead established by Jamesville, Griffins, Bear Cross, Cross Roads, Robersonville and Poplar Point, the townships of Williamston, Hamilton and Goose Nest went over the top this week in the Fourth War Bond Drive to boost the total for the county to more than \$801,526.50. The tenth township, Williams, was about \$2,000 short of its goal late yesterday.

What many people regarded as something next to the impossible has been accomplished, and considering the "off" financial season, the drive is recognized as the most successful of the current war period to date. While the total is about \$200,000 below the Third War Bond figure, the sale of "E" bonds in the current campaign is about \$79,000 greater than it was last September and October.

According to a fairly complete report filed late yesterday afternoon by County Chairman Herman A. Bowen, the county has sold in the current drive to date \$374,245.00 in "E" bonds and \$427,281.50 in negotiables.

Williamston, one of the last townships in the county to reach its quota, yesterday reported total sales in the sum of \$310,970.00, or just about \$2,000 in excess of its quota. Of the total, \$102,187.50 was in "E" bonds.

Hamilton has exceeded its quota by nearly \$1,800, the district reporting \$46,762.00 total sales with a greater portion of that amount or \$39,107.50 represented in "E" bond purchases.

Goose Nest went over the top with more than \$2,000 to spare, the district investing \$20,231.25 in "E" bonds.

This county was first asked to buy "E" bonds in the sum of \$398,000.00. At the present time, the county is short only about \$3,750 in meeting that quota. The drive has closed as far as negotiable bonds are concerned, but "E" bond purchases will be credited through the 29th of this month, and it is believed that sales between now and that date will boost the total to or beyond the original quota.

County Chairman Bowen said yesterday that quite a few sales had been reported throughout the county since last Thursday, that even in those districts where the goals had been reached and passed, sales were still going forward. It is now believed that the total will approximate \$825,000.00 by the end of the month.

Drastic Changes In "C" Classifications

Drastic changes in farm draft classifications have been ordered by National Selective Service, and, according to a hurried review of the new instructions received here just before noon today, many farmers heretofore exempt from service are now facing induction. Briefly stated, production requirements have been increased to a minimum of sixteen units. Detailed instructions are expected over the week-end, and the County Draft and War Boards are scheduled to discuss the new regulations at a joint meeting here next Monday night.

It is fairly apparent that the new regulations will aggravate the farm labor problem, that part-time farming will be a thing of the past. Under the new rules, 3-C classifications are being reclassified, and draft and war board authorities have little jurisdiction when it comes to deterring farmers who are not maintaining by their own direct efforts sixteen or more war production units. It is understood that past deferments in this county were based on twelve production units. It is not certain, but the new rules apparently eliminate a breakdown of production units by crops. In other words, it is believed the farm registrant may base his units entirely on tobacco or any combination of crops of his own choosing.

Junior Club Elects New Term Officers

The Junior Woman's Club had its monthly meeting Tuesday evening Feb. 15th, at the Woman's Club. The following officers were elected for next year:

President, Miss Edna Barnhill; first vice president, Miss Mary Elizabeth Keel; second vice president, Mrs. Asa Crawford; recording secretary, Mrs. Reg Simpson; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Tilton Coltrain; treasurer, Mrs. C. G. Crockett, Jr.

Miss Edna Barnhill had charge of a very delightful musical program. Several vocal selections were rendered by a trio composed of Miss Kathryn Mewborn, Frances Jarman and Alberta Swain. Ave Maria was sung by Miss Ann Golden, who was accompanied at the piano by Miss Grace Talton. Miss Talton played two Frankie Carle arrangements on the piano.

Stores May Get Red And Blue Tokens At Banks Next Monday

Simplified Rationing Plan Will Go Into Effect February 27th

Martin County retail merchants will begin getting their blue and red ration tokens from their banks on February 21, it was announced this week by the local rationing board.

In applying for the tokens, retailers are advised to enclose the stamps which they wish to trade for tokens in envelopes, just as they do when buying from wholesalers. Tokens will be issued only in amounts of 250 and multiples of 250; and 250 is the minimum amount issued.

It is emphasized that retailers may secure tokens only from their banks, and none will be issued at the office of the rationing board.

Ration tokens will come into use by consumers on February 27, and a number of changes are to be made in the present method which makes it absolutely necessary that retailers have a supply of tokens on hand when the changes become effective.

For one thing, each red and blue stamp in ration books will be worth 10 points under the new system. The numbers printed on the ration stamps will no longer mean anything, so far as value is concerned, as a 1-point stamp and an 8-point stamp will be worth the same, 10 points each.

Another change, just as pennies are used in making change where money is concerned.

A consumer who buys items worth 23 blue points, for example, will give his retailer 2 blue stamps, and 3 blue tokens. If he has no tokens, he will give the merchant 3 blue stamps and get 7 blue tokens in change.

The number of points available for each buying period will remain the same as at present, it is stated, although fewer coupons will be used.

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Prowler Is Held In County Jail Here

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Three Cases Heard By Justice Hassell

Three cases were heard by Justice J. L. Hassell in his court here this week. R. B. Spruill, charged with operating a motor vehicle with improper lights, was required to pay the costs amounting to \$7.00.

In a second case charging Pugh with assaulting Percy Tyner with a deadly weapon on Washington Street here on January 22, the defendant was bound over to the county court for trial next Monday.

\$197.80 PER TON?

Going before representatives of the Commodity Credit Corporation and War Food Administration, approximately 300 peanut growers and their spokesmen demanded a fixed price of \$197.80 per ton for 1944 peanuts. As far as it could be learned here, no definite decision was reached at the meeting, and since it is possible the CCC will be killed along with subsidies some observers believe that any commitment on the part of the corporation could be meaningless.

In addition to the price boost from \$150, the price now proposed in the 1944 tentative program, to \$197.80, growers in this section are asking a price differential be established to cover bagging and ginning.