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Allies Advancing In Their Drive Toward Beachhead at Anzio

High Army Officials Declare Reached Peak

Carrying their latest Allied offensive into its eighth day, Italian forces today were tearing into Adolf Hitler's line and are now within about thirty miles of the Anzio beachhead. The drive is a hard one, but the Allies are making splendid progress, Cassino and Frosinone, main anchor points in the German defense line, having been cleared of the enemy defenders.

British and Polish troops stormed the shattered town of Cassino and dominating Monastery Hill behind it early yesterday, capturing 1,000 prisoners and wiping out the cream of the "Green Devils" First Parachute Division which had defended the stronghold fanatically since January. American troops that captured Frosinone—believed to be the coastal anchor of the Adolf Hitler line—plunged westward and seized other important objectives whose identity was concealed by censors. Masses of abandoned Nazi equipment were falling to Lt. General Mark W. Clark's forces.

"The Gustav line now has ceased to exist," declared an Allied announcement. "The enemy has been completely outmaneuvered by the Allied armies in Italy. Troops of the Eighth Army have fought their way forward in the Liri valley and during the last 36 hours developed a decisive pincer movement which cut Highway 6 (leading from Cassino to Rome) and so prevented the withdrawal of the enemy."

The bag of German prisoners mounted to more than 6,000 since the drive to destroy the enemy's forces in Italy began. Mountains of Nazi equipment were strewn across the battlefields in the wake of the swiftly advancing Allied armies. Clark's Fifth Army alone had captured materiel equivalent to two artillery divisions—much of it in perfect condition—in advancing up to 15 miles from its starting points.

French colonials in the center of the 25-mile battle line captured Esperia, a fortified outpost of the Hitler line, and seized Monte Lago, a mile to the west. Just north of Esperia they were engaged in a bitter fight for 2,800-foot Monte D'Orto, and from heights their artillery was shelling the lateral highway between Pico and Itri.

In a broadcast perhaps designed to soften the impact of further retreat, the German radio Thursday declared that the Hitler line was the "mere invention of Anglo-American propaganda—there does not exist any system of positions with this name."

The same enemy broadcast said the Allies "launched constant attacks bringing up many fresh formations and heavy armor in the entire sector between the Tyrrhenian Sea and the area northwest of Cassino."

The noise of steel which fighting men of nearly a dozen nationalities forged around Cassino after painful months of adversity was drawn tight around the beleaguered town.

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Four Cases Heard By Justice Hassell

Four cases were called by Justice J. L. Hassell in his court this week, two of the four going to the county court for trial.

Will Purvis, charged with being drunk and disorderly, was sentenced to the roads for thirty days, the justice suspending the sentence upon the payment of \$8.50 costs.

Sim Bell, charged with operating a log truck and trailer with improper brakes on the trailer, was fined \$10 and taxed with the costs.

Charged with assaulting each other with deadly weapons, Willie Thompson and Bennie Reeves were bound over to the county court for trial next Monday.

Charged with assaulting a female, Eddie Price was bound over to the county court under bond in the amount of \$100.

Two County Youths Together Overseas

Writing in to have the mailing address changed, Pvt. Mack H. Leggett, Martin County man serving somewhere overseas, said in part:

"Maybe the folks at home think I have stopped writing them, but I haven't. There are times when it can't be done. Anyway, tell them all hello for Luther Harris and me.

"So far Luther and I see each other pretty often. It's nice to be together. Some times we are out and all over the country, we have often said that when we were home the thought never came to our minds of coming to a place like this side by side. All the same, we are enjoying the trip, and when we get together we talk about Williamston before we part. Until our return we will continue thinking of the good ole U. S. A."

Last-Minute Interest in Politics Now Expected

CHECKS

Handling 1,488 applications, the Agricultural Adjustment Administration has paid to 3,464 Martin County farmers a total of \$125,698.30 for soil conservation and soil building practices, to date, according to a report released this week by the county agent's office.

The payments are being made slowly at this time, a few checks having come in just a short time ago. The delay is partly traceable to the farmers who were, in quite a number of cases, slow in filing their applications.

There are about 112 applications pending in the Triple A offices at this time from this county.

Last year, the payments approximated \$206,000, it is understood.

Former Draft Board Clerk Writes Home

Writing to Mrs. Edwin W. Holding, Martin County War Board clerk, Monk Cobb, former draft board clerk in this county and who is expected home soon from his "boot" training at Camp Peary, Va., said, in part: "I intended writing the War Board and request an investigation of my farming activities. They have really been working us hard. This was a Seabee camp and while they were completing the switchover, the Seabees started training us. I'm not misrepresenting the truth when I tell you they had us chopping down trees about eight to ten inches in diameter with bush axes. The first day of duty at this I could have sworn the war had been lost, but I finally got toughened a little and have been making the grade O. K.

"I eat more for breakfast at this place than I ate in a whole day when home; so you can see I'm not loafing. You ordinarily would think by eating that much that you would be bound to gain weight, but after eating they work it all out of me, leaving nothing for my personal use at all. And another thing, they have given me so many shots that I'd rather a man point a gun at me than a needle. They line you up about five hundred at the time and you march by the man with the needle. If you are slow he'll stick you twice, sure. You guess right—I was a fast man. I got all the way out the door one time before I was caught. You may think I'm just sitting here trying to make up things to tell, but this is the gospel truth.

"How is that big husband of yours? I would like to have him here with me for a while anyhow. I know he would simply love it. You know he's the out-door type.

"Tell the others at the office that I won't be surprised if I don't win the war right here at Camp Peary. Tell Mac he better go back on the blood pressure pill diet. We haven't enough men yet."

In conclusion, Seaman Cobb asked to be kept informed of the board activities, and added the postscript: "Hitler has his concentration camp. The U. S. has Camp Peary. There ain't no difference."

Wants Papers Sent To New Guinea Post

Pvt. Thomas Hawkins wrote in from New Guinea a few days ago asking that his papers be sent to him at the far-removed post. He wrote a very nice letter, but, between the lines, it could be told that he is quite lonely. He said, in part:

"When I was stationed in North Carolina I got the Enterprise twice a week. I miss getting it now and I do wish you would fix it so the paper will reach me here. It makes me feel good to read it and know what's going on back home when I am such a long way from there.

"I am getting along fine. Nothing to worry about and plenty to eat. The only thing bad is that it is hot here. I surely would like to be home with the other people. I am doing what I can to help get it over with. Every three months I get a \$50 war bond to help win victory. I hope all the people back home will do all they can, for if they do it won't be long before the war will come to an end."

Services Sunday In Gold Point Church

The regular monthly services will be held in the Gold Point Christian Church, both, morning and evening, at the usual hours by the pastor, Rev. A. E. Purvis.

Louise Brown will sing "In The Temple" at the evening service.

Bible School meets every Sunday. All members are urged to attend.

The public is cordially invited to attend all services.

Ralph McDonald and Cam Morrison Hold Edge In This County

No Great Activity Reported On Home Front in Several Other Contests

While it is admitted that politics are holding a secondary place in the world of events, interest in the approaching primary on May 27 is increasing and fairly hot contests are fairly certain. On the home front, some of the candidates have done very little politicking, while others have been fairly busy. For the most part, if not altogether, the local campaigns have been free of mudslinging, and possibly on account of the nature of the tolerable methods, the strictly county contests have not attracted any great attention to date.

The figures in the county contests are well known, generally liked and without enemies, making it difficult to predict a trend in the progress of the individual's campaign.

The three county contests will attract the friends of the several candidates, and interest in the outcome of the races is possibly greater than many will admit.

In the State Senatorial contest, many of the electorate are still undecided which two candidates they will support.

The Republican activities will be quite limited, few of the three candidates for the lieutenant governor's nomination and the two men for State Treasurer on that ticket being known to the general public in this section.

On the Democratic State ticket, the race for the gubernatorial nomination possibly holds the spotlight. Reports from neutral observers indicate that Cherry after showing a flurry of strength just a short time ago over the State, is now losing ground rapidly. The masses are getting stirred up and McDonald stock is said to be going up day by day in the State, as a whole. In this county, the Cherry forces, paced by foreigners sent here by the so-called machine group, have toured the county, scouring the by-ways and hedges. The activity has brought forth a response from the McDonald followers, and although there is no organized leadership, a wave of support is believed certain for McDonald. These reports come from farmers and others who ordinarily take little or no interest in politics other than to exercise the right of the ballot. The name of the third candidate for governor is hardly known, and it isn't likely that many votes will be cast for him in this county.

In the United States Senatorial race, Cameron Morrison is believed to hold the edge by a wide margin. Clyde R. Hoey will share the remaining votes with Giles Yeoman Newton, Marvin Lee Ritch and Arthur Simmons. Candidate Ritch was in the county Wednesday in the interest of the campaign, and he is predicting that he will be in the second primary. So, one can never tell about politics.

W. I. Halstead and L. Y. Ballentine have been mentioned for lieutenant governor on the Democratic ticket, but the name of Jamie T. Lyda, a third candidate, has not been mentioned as far as it could be learned. And the general public has taken little interest or rather it has not expressed much interest in the contests for secretary of state, state auditor and state treasurer on the Democratic ticket.

Girl Painfully Hurt In Fall From Truck

Mildred Wobbleton, young daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Wobbleton, was dangerously hurt last Wednesday afternoon when she fell from a Woolard Furniture Company truck on North Houghton Street. It could not be learned just how the accident happened, one report stating that the 14-year-old girl fell from the truck, her head striking the concrete. In addition to a skull fracture she received an injury of the hip.

The truck was being driven by Kelly Davenport and the child was on her way home from school.

Given first aid treatment here, she was removed to a Washington hospital. She was said to be suffering right much, but this morning she was conscious and talked to members of her family.

Big Percentage Of Men Accepted For Service

According to unofficial reports reaching here, between fifty and seventy-five percent of the county colored men reporting to an Army center last week passed the pre-induction examinations. No official audit has been received, but preliminary reports indicated that possibly 70 or more of the approximately 105 men making the trip were accepted.

Fewer Pupils Are Finishing School In Martin County

White Schools To End Term Of Next Week

A marked reduction in the number of white pupils being graduated in the several high schools was reported today by the office of the county board of education. The reduction is traceable to some extent to war calls and others quit to enter war industries or work on the farms. The reduction is possibly more pronounced in the local schools because it follows a record-size graduating class last year.

While the number of graduates was being reduced from 161 in the white schools last year to 129 this year, the two colored high schools are sending out ten more graduates than they graduated in 1943.

The number of graduates in 1943 and 1944 follows, with the 1943 figure appearing first: Jamesville, 16 and 16; Farm Life, 7 and 9; Bear Grass, 7 and 9; Williamston, 46 and 26; Robersonville, 52 and 41, and Oak City, 33 and 28. Williamston colored school, 16 and 20, and Parrale, 26 and 32.

The white schools at Robersonville, Oak City, Hassell, Hamilton, Everetts and Gold Point close the term on Thursday of next week. Williamston, Farm Life, Bear Grass and Jamesville are closing the term next Friday.

Closed last fall during cotton picking time and the session further interrupted by bad weather, some of the colored schools in the county have not yet completed the eighth month, and it is possible that they will not operate the full nine months. No official announcement has been released in this connection, however, and while the board will provide for the completion of the term, it is quite likely that attendance figures will drop to such a low point that operation could not be justified. Attendance figures are beginning to drop in some schools, while in others they are holding up unusually well.

No elaborate finals programs are being planned by the schools this year. In most of the plants, the pupils are planning and preparing their own exercises. Commencement sermons are being preached in several of the schools this Sunday, followed by public programs next week and the distribution of diplomas and certificates on Thursday and Friday evenings.

Finals Program In The Local Schools

The final exercises of the Williamston High School will get underway next Sunday morning when Rev. Gower Crosswell of the Williamston Presbyterian Church delivers the annual commencement sermon in the local high school auditorium. As in past years, the special program will take the place of morning worship in the local churches, and will begin at 11:00.

Special music will be rendered by the high school mixed chorus and combined sextets from the junior chorus.

On Tuesday evening, May 23 at 8:30, the elementary school will present Berta El Smith's adaptation of Humperdinck's operetta, "Hansel and Gretel." Pupils from grades one through eight will take part in the production of the famous operetta.

Graduation exercises will be held Friday evening, May 26th at 8:30. As has been the custom for the past several years, the final exercises will be held by the seniors without the aid of a visiting speaker. The student program will feature speeches by four class leaders, and special music by high school groups.

Presentation of diplomas and special awards will conclude the program.

Many Farmers Complete Tobacco Transplanting

Borrowing from their neighbors, hauling from the border and crawling from their own beds, many farmers in this county have completed their tobacco transplanting. However, the task, as a whole, will hardly be completed before some time next week.

APPROVED

An appropriation for conditioning the Legion Hut and its maintenance as a United Service Organizations center has been approved by national headquarters, it was announced this morning by Rev. John L. Goff, local chairman of the project.

Supervisors are expected here within the next few days to handle the conversion work and make the hut ready for use as a USO center. Furniture is to be shipped within the next few days, and the center is expected to meet a growing need among servicemen, especially those stationed in this community.

Candidates for Commissioner



In one of the three strictly county political contests, Messrs. Joshua L. Coltrain, left, and C. G. Gurkin, are candidates for county commissioner for the Jamesville-Williams district. The nomination is subject to the wishes of the Democratic primary on May 27 when their candidacies are passed upon by the voters in all thirteen precincts. Mr. Coltrain, seeking renomination, is from Williams Township, and Mr. Gurkin is from Jamesville.

Judge Calvin Smith Calls Eight Cases in The County Court

Small Crowd Attends Short Session of the Tribunal Monday Morning

Before a small crowd, Judge J. Calvin Smith called eight cases in the Martin County Recorder's Court last Monday, the session lasting hardly an hour. It was first thought that a quarrel following the court adjournment would create some excitement in the courtroom, but one of the parties to the argument was dragged away, and peace reigned. No satisfactory division of personal property was effected, however, and that was apparently causing more concern than broken family ties, around which the argument centered.

Proceedings: The case charging H. Jake Terry with speeding was not prosecuted with leave, meaning that the case might be reopened.

Pleading guilty in the case charging him with drunken driving, Lollie Williams was sentenced to the roads for six months, Judge Smith suspending the term upon the payment of a \$50 fine and the case cost. His license to operate a motor vehicle was revoked for one year. The defendant was required to execute bond in the sum of \$100 for his appearance before the court on the first Monday in November of this year when he is to show that the fine and cost were paid.

Judge Bunch, charged with assaulting another with a deadly weapon, was sentenced to the roads for thirty days. The term was suspended upon the payment of the case costs and \$10 to Dr. E. E. Pittman for medical services. The defendant is to remain regularly employed during the one-year suspension period.

Charged with operating a motor vehicle without driver's license, Bubber Jackson was fined \$10 and taxed with the cost. The court recommended that no license be issued the defendant within the next six months.

Grover Peel was sentenced to the roads for sixty days for alleged operation of a motor vehicle without a driver's license. The sentence was suspended upon the payment of a \$10 fine, and on the further condition that the defendant refrain from driving a motor vehicle on the highways for one year.

Pleading guilty of operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license, Wheeler Smith was fined \$15 and taxed with the case costs.

Pleading not guilty in the case charging him with assaulting a female, William Dempsey was adjudged guilty, and a continuance under prayer for judgment until the first Monday in August upon the condition that the defendant pay the costs.

In the case of Maude Joyner Ward against Turner Ward, it appeared to the court that the controversy had been settled by agreement and the case was ordered off the docket, the judge taxing the defendant with the costs.

Town Plans Sale Of Delinquent Taxes

Preparatory to sale at public auction in front of the courthouse door on Monday, June 12, the town tax collector, Mrs. L. U. James, today is advertising the delinquent tax list. Considerably smaller than it was last year, the list carries sixty-nine parcels of real estate, eighteen owned by white and fifty-one by colored citizens.

Taxes due and unpaid amount to \$1,676.29, about three-fourths of \$1,208.13 being owed by white property owners. Last year there were 104 delinquent accounts—31 white and 73 colored. The unpaid amount at advertising time a year ago was \$3,390.00 or which amount \$2,733.32 was owed by white property owners.

No report could be had immediately on the amount of unpaid personal property taxes, but the collections were said to be considerably ahead of those of last year.

The 1943-44 levy amounted to \$53,664.51 and was based on a \$2.20 rate on a valuation of \$2,439,308.

More Men Report For Pre-Induction Exams

Thirty-Four Drawn From Among Young Farmers In County

Thirty-seven of About Fifty Are Married and Leave Thirty Children

Approximately fifty-three white men left this county this morning for an Army induction center where they will undergo pre-induction examinations, possibly tomorrow or Sunday.

Thirty-four of the group were drawn from among young farm registrants, the others coming from istrants, the others coming from school teachers and war workers. All but two of the group are under 26 years of age. One young man missed being 26 years old only by a few days. Although he had a deferment rating signed by the Delaware Selective Service Director, Jas. Curtis Nicholson, of RFD 3, Williamston, but who more recently has been in Delaware, waived the deferment claim and volunteered. Volunteers have been few and far between in this county during recent months.

One man answering the call was said to have been in the Army at one time, but was discharged on account of dependency. That is no longer a basis for deferment, and the registrant is being recalled. One of the two men over 26 was said not to be in "essential" employment.

A few white men, passing their pre-induction examinations several weeks ago, have been notified to report for actual induction on Thursday of next week, and it is believed that those colored men who passed their pre-induction tests last month can expect to be called during the first two or three days of June.

The names of the men reporting today for the pre-induction exams, their registration addresses and last-known address, follow:

George Washington Wynne, RFD 3, Williamston.

Lee Burton Jenkins, RFD 3, Williamston.

Ernest Hyman Johnson, RFD 1, Palmyra.

Charlie Edward Flanagan, RFD 1, Hobgood.

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Native Of County Dies In Hospital

Mrs. Emma Roberson Stubbs, a native of this county, died in the Harnett County Hospital, Dunn, last Tuesday afternoon, following a short illness.

The daughter of the late James Roberson and wife, Harriett Ann Roberson, she was born in Jamesville Township 70 years ago. When a young woman she was married to W. Ed. Stubbs and later located in Belhaven where they lived for a long number of years. During the past ten or twelve years she had lived in Dunn.

Besides her husband she leaves two daughters, Mrs. J. W. Odell of Dunn and Mrs. Lewis Omer of Richmond; a son, Lt. W. E. Stubbs, Jr., of Richmond; two sisters, Mrs. C. A. Bailey of Washington and Mrs. Dare Brown of Jamesville, and three grandchildren.

Funeral services were held in the Hood Memorial Christian Church in Dunn Wednesday afternoon by her pastor, Rev. F. W. Wiegmann. Interment was in Greenwood Cemetery there.

BOARD TO MEET.

Members of the Martin County Board of Education will meet in called session here next Monday morning, it was announced today. Very little business is on the special calendar other than the sale of a small piece of land in Bear Grass Township and a study of the 1944-45 budget.

No advanced information could be had relative to the budget figures, but it is believed that at least a small reduction in the school tax rate will be possible.

Servicemen To Get Smokes From Lions

The local Lions Club is giving the citizens of Williamston and Martin County an opportunity to aid and comfort the American servicemen serving overseas by sending them free cigarettes. The club is placing coin collectors in various business establishments throughout the county, where patriotic and public-spirited people may contribute to a very worthy cause.

The leading cigarette manufacturers will supply and ship to servicemen anywhere in the world, outside of the United States, all the popular brands, at only five cents per pack.

According to information here at home, our servicemen have to pay anywhere from two to three dollars per pack for cigarettes in some areas, so the average fighter in those places can hardly afford more than two or three packs per month.

General Douglas McArthur has been quoted as saying—"American cigarettes—of all personal comforts, are the most difficult to obtain."

Every package of cigarettes that the local club sends will bear a label reading "Good Luck" from Williamston Lions Club and Citizens of Martin County, N. C.

Whenever you see one of these collection jars, drop in some money, because in this way you can furnish a comfort to our fighters on the front lines, where a good smoke is really appreciated. All of us have relatives and friends serving thousands of miles away from home who will certainly thank us in a big way for something we all can do in such a small way, by contributing regularly.

County Boys Meet Somewhere in Italy

Writing to his father, Mr. W. D. Gurganus, of Williams Township, a short time ago, Pfc. Julius E. Gurganus said, "I had quite a surprise today. I was eating dinner at a certain place and a bunch of guys were speaking about where they lived in the States, and, of course, I got into the gang. And who was there but Jule Carr Wynn. He has been in the Army 21 years. He said tell his friends hello. He still looks young and plenty healthy."

Still writing from somewhere in Italy, the young man said in a later letter to his mother, that he saw Wynn nearly every day, that he saw Wynn was a master sergeant now, "and a pretty good fella."

Continuing, Young Gurganus said, "Guess the boys are working pretty hard now. Well, the war will be over soon and then they can take it easy. I hope to be back next year in this time myself."

In his letters, the county boy said he was getting along as fine as possible.

Brown Farm Bought By Principal Heir

The approximately 100-acre Brown estate farm in Hamilton Township near Hassell was purchased a few days ago by P. H. Brown, the principal heir, it was learned here.

Offered for sale under a deed of trust some time ago, the farm brought \$9,500. James Purvis, former county Negro, came down from Norfolk with about \$20,000 in cash and raised the bid. When the farm was offered for resale, the principal heir bought it for \$10,000. Purvis, the man who got drunk and was later convicted on a drunken driving charge, declared he would pay \$10,000 but not one cent more for the farm, and it isn't likely that the bid will be raised again.