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Allied Armies Push Doggedly Onward in The March on Rome

Devastating Air Attacks On Continent Continued Without Letup

Cracking the little Hitler line in Italy, the joined Allied armies are now pushing on toward the Eternal City, hardly eighteen miles away. The people in Rome can now hear the big guns on the Anzio beachhead front, and unrest and turmoil prevail in the path of the Allied forces. Cisterna, outpost of the Germans' final defense line before Rome, has been captured. The Italian front news has held the spotlight even over the devastating air attacks which are being continued without let-up against Hitler's European fortress. And more big news is believed in the offing.

The Germans are said to be in ragged retreat before the pounding of the Allied forces are unleashing. The American Fifth Army forces joined with the Anzio beachhead patrols early yesterday morning, and immediately consolidated their power to continue the drive, using the greatest concentration of tanks since the Salerno landing back in early September. It is predicted in some quarters that the drive will reach Rome in about two weeks.

More than 100,000 Germans have been taken prisoner during the past few days, and possibly seventeen Hitler divisions have retreated to avoid being trapped.

The recent fighting has been no picnic for the Allies according to individual reports, one of which reads, "U. S. doughboys won a savage hand-to-hand battle with the Germans in the dank underground caverns of a cemetery and church near Terracina. The Germans had removed the dead from their crypts to set up their mortars. When the battle was over Nazi bodies had taken their places."

Pvt. Joseph Lapetino, describing the fight, said: "You couldn't move your head without hearing the zing from a"

Cameron Morrison Candidacy Gaining

According to reliable reports coming from various sections of North Carolina, particularly in the western part, the candidacy of Hon. Cameron Morrison is gaining momentum after an unprecedented scale. During the past few days, the trend in support of Democratic Party's warhorse has been pronounced, the Hoey record apparently sliding back and tumbling down as the people assert their power in the home stretch.

The issues are drawn as between a supporter of President Roosevelt and one who, although honored by the Democrats in the past, did not find it to his liking to mention Roosevelt's name four years ago. Cam Morrison's record speaks for itself from the time he worked in the fields and contributed part of his earnings in support of the Democratic Party, on down through the years in the service rendered the people, all the people of North Carolina. His record as a United States Senator and a member of the House of Representatives rings true to the cause of the common people, and strikingly different to that established by Josiah Bailey, and one might add, strikingly different from what would have been recorded had his present opponent been there.

Possibly not Mr. Hoey, but his followers have tried to count Cam Morrison out, but the party's faithful warhorse maintains his power, declaring he can outdistance his opponent and throw him over his head any day in the week.

Recover Man's Body From The Roanoke

Accidentally drowned at the mouth of Devil's Gut in Roanoke River near Jamesville about 10 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, Curley Biggs' body was recovered about noon yesterday. Biggs, 18 years of age and a resident of the Dardens section, was the third victim claimed by Ole Man River along the Martin County shore during recent weeks.

Quitting work in the logwoods that afternoon, Biggs with Raymond Wynne, also colored, started to swim the gut. Biggs pulled off his boots and gave his pocketbook to one of about ten companions. The two men, hot and tired, were about half way across the stream when Biggs apparently "caught" a cramp and went down. Wynne, nearly exhausted, was rescued by the other men with a boat.

Investigating the drowning coroner S. R. Biggs found no evidence of foul play and no inquest was held. The man's body was removed to the Dardens section for burial. Biggs and the other men were working with the Foreman-Derrickson Lumber Company of Elizabeth City.

Germans Replace Italians In Prisoner Of War Camp Here

Stationed here during the past several months, several hundred Italian prisoners of war were moved reportedly to Camp Butler last Tuesday afternoon. With the camp cleared, several hundred German prisoners of war are replacing the Italians. A train load of Germans were brought in late Tuesday afternoon, and several hundred more reached here about 3 o'clock this morning, according to unofficial reports. It is understood the German prisoners were brought here from Tennessee.

Traveling with a heavy guard complement in eight coaches and deep tourist cars, the first prisoners were carried on the train right to the camp site and unloaded along with a load of personal belongings and effects. It was one of the few times that a passenger train

Names Of Thirty-one Candidates On Ballot

PLASMA FUND

More than \$900-\$910.00 to be exact—was raised in this county for the Army's Blood Plasma Fund, sponsored by the DAR, Mrs. J. E. Smith, chairman of Windsor, and Mrs. J. Paul Simpson, co-chairman for this county, announced yesterday.

In announcing the results of the drive, Mrs. Smith stated that she was well pleased with the response given the plea by the people of this county. The various civic, religious and fraternal organizations were most liberal, and individuals greatly aided the drive.

The names of each donor and amount contributed are in the files of the sponsoring organization and they will be preserved with other Martin County war records.

County Bookmobile Will Make Regular Schedule Next Week

New Books Added To Collection For Distribution In This County

Special attention is called to the changes in time of stops and also to the change in days. The trip usually made on Friday will be made on Wednesday during the summer months.

Many new books are ready for circulation to the children next week, including a special group for the very young reader.

The adults will find choice items in the Baker and Taylor selection of outstanding books for this month.

The summer schedule follows: Monday, May 29—10:00, Sherrod Farm; 11:00, Hamilton Bank; 1:00, Oak City; 2:30, Smith's Store (Palmyra Road).

Tuesday, May 30—9:15, Everetts; 10:15, Cross Roads Church; 11:15, Parmele; 12:00, Edmonson's Service Station (Hassell Highway); 1:00, Hassell; 3:00, Gold Point; 3:00 Robersonville Library.

Wednesday, May 31—9:30, Dardens (Jordan's Store); 10:45, Brownings Store; 11:45, Ange Town; 12:30, Poplar Chapel Church; 2:00, Jamesville (Brown's Store).

Thursday, June 1—9:15, Griffin's Service Station; 9:45, Farm Life (Manning and Gurkin Store); 11:00, Smithwick's Creek; 12:00, Corey's Cross Roads; 1:45, Bear Grass (Terry Bros. Store).

The bookmobile is anticipating an increased patronage during the summer months since many of the youthful readers will not have any texts books to work on.

FARM WAGE

A hearing will be held in the Bethel gymnasium next Monday, beginning at 2 o'clock, in connection with fixing a wage rate for harvesting Irish potatoes by labor secured through the United States Employment Service or otherwise in the potato area including parts of Martin, Pitt and Edgecombe Counties. Potato farmers in this county are invited to attend the hearing, it was announced by the Martin County Wage Board chairman.

At a hearing held in the courthouse here a short time ago a wage rate of 25 cents an hour was fixed for general farm work. The rate is applicable to prison labor and workers certified or furnished by the U. S. Employment Service, and is not applicable to "free" labor or individual contracts.

TOWN - FARM IN WARTIME

From distant observation the German prisoners appear to be very young, and frail, in the opinion of many, to measure up to the standards of Hitler's super race. They seem to be fairly contented, and made friendly gestures to those who gave them an impromptu greeting. Quite a few of the group are said to speak English.

The prisoners are being made available for work similar to that carried on by the Italians, and it is understood they will be handled in about the same way, some reports going so far as to say that the German worker is more efficient than the Italian, that they are doing good work in many areas.

Interest Believed To Center In Race For Governorship

Disgusting Charge by Cherry Forces Is Without Any Foundation

The names of thirty-one candidates—twenty-six on the Democratic ticket and five Republicans—appear on the three ballots to be placed before the voters of this county on Saturday of this week. The county and state senatorial ballot carries the names of nine democratic candidates who form four contests—State Senate, representative, county judge and county commissioner for the Jamesville-Williams District.

On the State democratic ballot there are seventeen names and six contests. The republican ballot carries five names and two contests. The line-up follows: County and State senatorial ballot: For State Senate, second senatorial district: Zeb Vance Norman, W. Roy Hampton and E. A. Daniel. The voters will choose two of the three men.

For State House of Representatives: J. R. Winslow and Clarence W. Griffin. For Judge of the Martin County Recorder's Court: R. L. Coburn and J. C. Smith.

For County Commissioner, Jamesville-Williams District: Joshua L. Coltraine and Charlie G. Gurkin. State Democratic ballot:

For United States Senator: Giles Yeoman Newton, Clyde R. Hoey, Cameron Morrison, Marvin Lee Ritch, and Arthur Simmons.

For Governor: Ralph McDonald, Olla Ray Boyd and R. Gregg Cherry. For Lieutenant Governor: W. I. Halstead, L. Y. Ballentine, and Jamie T. Lyda.

For Secretary of State: Thad Eure and W. N. Crawford. For State Auditor: Geo. Ross Pou and Fred S. Hunter.

For State Treasurer: Chas. M. Johnson and L. J. Phipps.

Republican ticket carries the following two contests: For Lieutenant Governor: Robert L. Lovelace, A. Harold Morgan and George L. Greene.

(Continued on page six)

Soldiers Appreciate Club's Free Smokes

The local Lions Club's program of providing free cigarettes to servicemen overseas is being received enthusiastically, especially by those on the receiving end. Several months ago, or shortly after our soldiers first arrived in England, the local club donated and sent 20,000 Cigarettes to be distributed among our troops there.

To indicate the appreciation of the soldiers who received some of those cigarettes, we are quoting the remarks received by the local club: S. Sgt. Chester J. Petrie writes, "Thanks, with people like you behind us, we're sure to win, thanks again."

Corp. Johnny E. Mize, possibly the ex-major league ball player, said, "Thanks a lot for the cigarettes."

Sgt. Jesse W. Thornton wrote, "Thanks a million for the cigarettes. They have been greatly appreciated by all over here. You have certainly done a great work in this noble gesture."

The local club hopes to send free smokes to servicemen at various battlefronts throughout the world, and they are giving the people of our community an opportunity to contribute through the Lions coin collectors which are placed in business houses throughout this section. Remember, a dime will send two packs to a man on the front line.

Health Services Make Plans For Malaria Control Project

Plans for an extensive program for the control of the malaria mosquito will be determined later.

Ditches will be cleared and drained, and where drainage is next to impossible or in those cases where it is considered impractical, oil will be used as a spray. The Roanoke River swamps on the Bertie side offer a big problem, and there is some doubt if they can be included in the program now under consideration. There was some talk about using an airplane for spraying the extensive swamp areas, but no comment could be had from official sources in that connection.

It is a bit late to launch a program, but it is certain that much can be accomplished even at this late time, that owners could do much to aid the project by clearing their properties of cans, rubbish and other foreign material.

More Martin County Men Called By Navy

Ten Men Report To Navy Station From County on Thursday

Six of the group were taken from farms; eight are married. Ten white men were called this week by the Navy from the Martin County draft pool for final induction. The group, except one who was transferred, left yesterday for an induction station where they will be assigned to training posts.

Eight of the ten men are married and leave six children behind. It is understood that all the men are under twenty-six years of age.

Six of the ten were taken from farms in the county, the other four coming from various types of industry or work.

No call has been received for men by the Army from the draft pool in this county, but one is expected momentarily.

The ten men called this week for final induction received their preliminary physical examinations on April 17. So far six of the approximately 36 farmers reporting for the pre-induction examinations have been called to report for active service.

The Navy and Army are calling for those colored youths who passed the pre-induction or about the first of April. The size of the calls could not be learned, but the men, it was learned, are to leave June 2.

The names of the white men leaving for the Navy yesterday follow: Charlie Bowen, RFD 2, Williamsston.

Elbert Wilmer Barber, RFD 1, Jamesville.

Charlie Gilbert Mobley, RFD 1, Williamsston and RFD 1, Plymouth. James Otis Bullock, RFD 1, Robersonville.

Thomas Redmond Harris, RFD 1, Robersonville.

Alfred Thomas Tice, RFD 1, Williamsston.

John Calvin White, Williamsston. Lester Thompson Harrell, Jr., RFD 1, Palmyra.

Paul Purvis Ward, Robersonville and Monroe.

William Henry Leggett, RFD 1 (Continued on page six)

Closing Exercises In School Here Tonight

The school year at the Williamsston High School will be closed officially tonight when graduation exercises for the Class of 1944 will be held. Twenty-two students, seven boys and fifteen girls, have met the requirements for graduation, and will be awarded diplomas.

The commencement finals are scheduled to get underway at 8:30 in the high school auditorium. The program follows: "Star Spangled Banner."

"When I Was a Lad," from H. M. S. Pinafore, by Gilbert and Sullivan, Billy Myers, baritone, as Sir Joseph Porter, K.C.B.

"The Wind in the South," by John Brindle Scott, Alberta Swain, soprano soloist.

"I Hear the Soft Note of the Echoing Voice," from "Patience" by Gilbert and Sullivan, sextet: Louise Griffin, Angela McLawhorn, Frances Jarman, Al Ward, J. D. Lilley and Billy Myers with the mixed chorus.

Invocation, Frances Jarman. Welcome, David Roberson, Salutatorian.

Thoughts for Today: What It Means to Be Great, Jane Coffit. Science and the Future, Maurice Moore. The Freedom We Defend, Joseph Wynne, valedictorian.

Presentation of Diplomas. Presentation of Awards. Recessional.

Graded School Had First Finals Program Here May 25th 1944

By John H. Small At End Of First Session

The following is an account of the first graded school commencement in Williamsston on May 25, 1944: Wednesday morning marked the closing of the first session of the Williamsston Graded School. The patient and painstaking labors of the efficient corps of teachers manifested itself in every way. The excellent beginning, however, is but an earnest example of what is to be done in the future, which bids fair to make the Williamsston Graded School one of the leading educational factors in this section of the State.

At 11 o'clock Wednesday morning Hon. John H. Small delivered the literary address to the school. He discussed education in a general way pointing out some of North Carolina's deficiencies in this line and urging more and better schools as the remedy. He showed by statistics that about 20 percent of North Carolina's population is unable to read and write. Mr. Small closed his speech by a brief reference to the Negro as the chief obstacle in the way of more extensive education by taxation. And he suggested as a remedy for this that instead of giving the negro a literary education, training schools and work shops should be established to teach them the trades in order that they might make the most useful citizens possible in their sphere.

Mr. Small gave us an able, learned and instructive address which was highly enjoyed by all whose privilege it was to hear him.

At 8 o'clock the commencement exercises properly given by the schools was most excellently disseminated.

(Continued on page six)

Ten Men Report To Navy Station From County on Thursday

Six of the Group Were Taken From Farms; Eight Are Married

Meeting in the hotel here Sunday, financiers and other volunteers will map plans for the Fifth War Loan Drive scheduled to get underway throughout the nation on June 12. Representatives from about sixteen counties in eastern North Carolina are being called into the meeting by Mr. Billie Woolard, regional director for the bond drive.

The nation is being called upon to raise even more money than it did during the last drive. Martin County's quota has not yet been announced, but it was learned that Herman A. Bowen and S. L. Roberson will head the drive in the county with the assistance of other volunteers.

At 8 o'clock the commencement exercises properly given by the schools was most excellently disseminated.

(Continued on page six)

Local Boy Is Hurt In Jump from Airplane

Joe Thigpen, young son of Dr. and Mrs. J. F. Thigpen of Williamsston, was painfully but not seriously hurt in a low altitude jump from a training plane at Fort Benning, Ga., this week, according to information just received here. He suffered no broken bones, but his body was blue and black as a result of the fall, it was learned. Placed in the hospital there, he was reported to be getting along very well and apparently is expected to be out soon.

According to unofficial reports reaching here, several other boys were hurt in the jump, some suffering fractures of both legs.

A note from the young man reads: "When I was home about ten days ago, a lot of friends asked me questions about the 'chute' troops. Besides the old relatives, 'How was your first jump?' and 'Were you not afraid?' questions, almost everyone wanted to know how it felt to land in a tree. I didn't know what to tell them because I had never landed in one. But I know now!"

"However, I'm still at a loss to explain it except to say it's pretty doggone rugged! It is about like being in a washing machine with a couple of octopuses and they with a stick in each tenacle."

"Eight of the twelve-man 'stick' were hospitalized, all going in the woods. I was unlucky enough to get a couple of bruises, so they sent me on to the hospital with the others."

"I casually told a couple of home folks when I was there that I would try to find out about tree landings for them. Unintentionally, I did, even if it did put me in the hospital. I'll be out in about a week and I wanted the folks to know that I did not let 'em down."

Report Heavy Rains In Parts Of County

The backbone of the planting season drought was battered and broken in several parts of the county last Wednesday afternoon when heavy rains fell, leveling crop rows and covering acres of farm land. The rain, accompanied by an electrical hail storm, was described as one of the largest, if not a record one, in the Oak City area. "It was the largest rain I ever recalled seeing in my life," Mr. Roger Critcher, who is over 80 years old, and who was trapped in the storm there, was quoted as saying.

Some damage was done by the rain and hail, but it is understood that most of the hail damage was centered on the farms of Francis Worsley, Dennis Bunting, L. J. Davenport, Herman Manning and a few others in that area. In some instances a few farmers will have to reset their tobacco and possibly replant a few corn crops.

A small hail storm was reported in the Fairview section of Williams Township, and a heavy rain was reported in one or two other sections of the county. There are still sections in the county, however, that have had little or no rain in recent weeks.

Father Of Teacher Dies In Seaboard

Mr. James Bradley, father of Miss Edith Bradley, a member of the local school faculty, died at his home in Seaboard Wednesday night. He had been in declining health for months, but his condition was not regarded serious until just a short time before the end.

Funeral services will be conducted at Seaboard Sunday afternoon.

POOR RESPONSE

The response to the call for volunteer workers in the Red Cross bandage room here has been most disappointing since the room was reopened a little over a week ago. During that period only fourteen women have visited the room to aid in the urgent tasks.

Material shipments were delayed and the chapter is running behind in its quota, it was pointed out. Volunteers are earnestly asked to make every possible effort to visit the room each afternoon and evening.

TO PLAN BOND DRIVE

Meeting in the hotel here Sunday, financiers and other volunteers will map plans for the Fifth War Loan Drive scheduled to get underway throughout the nation on June 12. Representatives from about sixteen counties in eastern North Carolina are being called into the meeting by Mr. Billie Woolard, regional director for the bond drive.

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(Continued on page six)

Forty-one Colored Men Accepted from County by Services

Acceptance Percentage About The Largest Reported Recently

Reporting for their pre-induction examinations on May 11, forty-one out of approximately 106 colored men answering the call were accepted either by the Army or the Navy, it was learned from an official audit just returned to this county. The acceptance percentage was believed to be about the highest reported for any recent group of men, white or colored, leaving the county.

Twenty-four men were accepted by the Army for general service, and seventeen by the Navy. One examination is still pending. Sixty-four were said to have been rejected. Nine failed to report and seven were transferred to other boards for the pre-induction examinations.

No report is yet available on the group of about fifty white men who left the county for their pre-induction exams on Friday of last week.

The following were accepted for general army service: Stephen Griffin, Jr., Larry Thomas Ruffin, Chester Peel, John Wesley Dunn, Nathaniel Broaden, Thurston Spruill, Alvin Darphy Windley, Walter Edison Cordon, Spurgin Lambson, John Henry Shepard, Tarleton Davis, Julius Cherry, Russell Armstrong, S. T. Jackson, James Ed Andrews, Elijah Fields, Jr., Calvin Coolidge Duggins, Roman Lock, Robert Louis Davis, Oscar Jones, James Glin Williams, James Hardison Reid and David Hopkins.

The following men were accepted by the Navy: William T. Williams, Eddie Sanders Clemmons, Wheeler Ben La-

(Continued on page six)

ELECTION RETURNS

In keeping with its general service policy, The Enterprise is making plans to post the primary election returns as soon as possible after the polls close tomorrow evening. The public is invited, and the cooperation of the election officials is earnestly solicited. Martin County is usually among the very first to tabulate and report the returns in the entire State, and it is believed election officials will help better the record tomorrow.

It is impossible to get additional phones installed to expedite the handling of the returns, and the general public will help relieve the load on the present facilities by waiting until the peak is past before making individual inquiries, giving the election officials right of way in reporting the returns for their respective precincts.