

Christmas Packages Start Moving Today For Men In Service

Few Gifts Accumulate in Local Office For Opening of Mailing Season

Mr. Saunta Claus, with his first pack of the season, went into action today to handle the task of delivering an estimated forty million packages to the boys in the armed forces all over the world. On his first trip, the ole gentleman carries quite a few packages for Martin County boys several of the boxes having accumulated before the opening of the mailing season. It is estimated that the boys in the service will get twice as many packages this Christmas than they did a year ago, and according to first reports coming from local post offices, Martin County boys will likely get three times as many.

All Christmas packages must be mailed between now and October 15. A few things to remember about overseas mailing are pointed out:

Cards should be sent in sealed envelopes and prepaid at first class mail rates. Every gift parcel should have written on it the words: "Christmas Parcel."

Parcels must not be: More than five pounds in weight; more than 15 inches in length; or more than 36 inches in length and girth combined.

The War and Navy Departments point out that members of the armed forces are amply provided with food and clothing. So why include such matter in parcels meant as Christmas gifts?

All articles should be packed in boxes of metal, wood, solid fiberboard, or strong double-faced corrugated fiberboard reinforced with strong gummed-paper tape or tied with strong twine, or both.

All fiber-board boxes should be wrapped, when possible, in heavy paper. This will prevent the contents from spilling out if the inner package is crushed or split.

Sharp-pointed or sharp-edged instruments—like knives or razors—must have their points or edges protected. This will prevent them from cutting through their package and damaging other mail or injuring handlers.

Perishable matter will not be accepted. It is not a good idea to send fragile articles. Soft candy, whether store-bought or homemade, does not carry well.

You can not mail: Intoxicants, inflammable materials, such as matches of any kind and lighter fluids; poisons or compositions which might kill or injure someone or damage other mail.

Letters or packages containing money or other articles of value will be refused.

If you wish to send money to a member of the armed forces overseas, do it with a postal money order. American postal money orders can be cashed at Army post offices wherever they are located.

No matter addressed to members of the Army or other persons receiving mail through Army post offices overseas will be accepted as insured or C. O. D. mail.

Mail for personnel of the Navy, Marine Corps or Coast Guard may be accepted for registration or insurance if it conforms to requirements as to size, weight and so on.

Christmas mail for members of the Merchant Marine should also be sent between September 15 and October 15. Parcels for Merchant Marines cannot be registered or insured and there is no money-order service available for them.

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New Fixtures Are Installed In Cafe

A sweeping modernization program, calling for the renovation and installation of brand new fixtures, is now in progress at the Central Cafe here. No cost estimates were revealed, but the program will cost possibly \$5,000 or more.

After considering renovation plans for some time, George Sfetos, the popular proprietor, decided to make a complete change. He is removing every old fixture and will replace them with the most modern ones to be had. Plans were drawn to scale by a fixture contracting firm, and the first of the new equipment was installed this week. After the business is closed next Saturday, the contractors will remove the remaining fixtures and immediately install the new ones. "We will have to miss breakfast and lunch Monday, but we plan to be ready for our anniversary celebration that evening," Mr. Sfetos said today.

Between 5:30 and 6:30 that evening favors will be made available to patrons and visitors and proceeds from the evening meal will be contributed to the Red Cross.

The new cafe arrangement, providing 84 seats, includes eleven booths, four tables and fourteen counter seats. The public is cordially invited to visit one of the finest and most modern cafes in the country in any small town in the country and attend the anniversary celebration.

Reduced Attendance Likely in County Schools Opening Day

Today marks the last day of vacation for approximately 6,000 white and colored school children in this county. Few of the little folks can complain because they have enjoyed an extended vacation as a result of poliomyelitis.

After employing every teacher available and then rounding up the substitutes, county school authorities late yesterday stated that every faculty position had been filled except one. Principal Giles declared that they would get along somehow until the position is filled at Bear Grass. The teacher problem is believed to have reached a climax this season, school officials frankly declaring that it could get no worse and keep the schools open.

Prospects are fairly bright for a successful term, but the authorities admit that prospective attendance figures are not encouraging. It is

TEACHERS MEET

Martin County teachers, assembling for the first time in preparation for the opening of the county schools next Monday, successfully discussed yesterday problems vital to the successful operation of the plants during the next term.

Eighty-two of the eighty-nine members of the white school faculties were present for the meeting held in the high school. They were served lunch by the local high school home economics department.

County Bookmobile Will Make Regular Schedule Next Week

New books this month include quite a variety of titles. They range from the pre-primers for the little tots to the latest invasion reports for the war readers. Much good reading is to be found in these two extremes.

One of the most readable and entertaining books this time is "Papa Was a Preacher" by Alyene Porter, one of "Papa's" eight kids who were full of unpredictable delight.

This is another personal picture of life within a parsonage where things never cease to happen in unexpected order.

"Green Dolphin Street" by Elizabeth Goudge (a former Pulitzer Prize winner) promises to be a much discussed book. Reviewers have differed greatly in their criticisms. It is the MGM prize book and will be screened by that company. The story has its setting on the Channel Islands about 1830. The plot involves several families but revolves chiefly around young William and the two sisters who are in love with him.

Edgar Snow, another war correspondent with keen observation and deep interest in historical perspective, has written a timely account in "People On Our Side". After nearly 60,000 miles of travel in Russia, India, and China, he gives a revealing picture of forces at work with the future destinies of these countries.

"By Valour and Arms" by James Street, is another historical novel. This setting is in Mississippi where

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B. A. Critcher, Jr. Is Awarded Air Medal

A fighter pilot in the Pacific War Theater, Ensign Burras A. Critcher, Jr., local young man, accomplished a daring feat recently and earned the coveted award, M. A. Mitscher, Vice Admiral, U. S. Navy, said:

"In the name of the President of the United States, The Commander, Fast Carrier Task Forces, United States Pacific Fleet, presents the Air Medal to Ensign Burras Allen Critcher, Jr., United States Naval Reserve, for service as set forth in the following citation:

"For distinguishing himself by meritorious achievement while participating in an aerial flight as pilot in a carrier based fighter aircraft assigned to strike against enemy installations on an island of the Kazan Group on August 4, 1944. When one of our submarines was attacked by an enemy fighter aircraft, he attacked, firing several bursts into the enemy aircraft and so damaging it that it spun down, crashing into the sea. By his alertness and aggressive attack, he prevented damage being done to our submarine, and this enabled it to carry out its mission. His skill and courage were at all times in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service."

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Church Modlin Sailing At Camp Peary, Virginia

Advising his address had been changed, Apprentice Seaman Church E. Modlin, young Jamesville boy, recently wrote from Camp Peary, Va., that he thoroughly enjoyed The Enterprise for it really is a good little paper. I get all the news from back home and it surely does make me feel close to home.

"I wish to thank the Red Cross and its volunteers at Williamston for the gift they gave me the day I left for induction center. It has come in handy many times.

"Say hello to all my friends in Martin County. Here's hoping I get a leave before the tobacco market closes."

Announce Revival Meeting At Vernon Methodist Church

Rev. T. H. House, the pastor, will conduct a series of revival services in the Vernon Methodist Church, near here, beginning Sunday afternoon, September 17, and continuing through the 24th. The Sunday services will be held at the usual hour and the week-day worship will be held at 8 o'clock each evening.

The theme for the meeting will be "Doubting Thomases Convinced in 1944."

Place Eleven Cases On Civil Calendar In Superior Court

No Big Amounts Involved but Principle Is Big Factor In Several Suits

Scheduled to complete the trial of the nine cases on the criminal docket Monday and a speedy run of the divorce mill Tuesday, the superior court, Judge Leo Carr presiding, plans to start the trial of eleven civil cases next week and complete its task early the following week.

No big time cases have been calendared, and it is fairly apparent that principle is a big factor in several of the suits. Most of them are of a minor nature and involve motions and court orders before certain transactions can be legally closed.

In the case of G. R. Haislip against D. W. Etheridge, a boundary line is involved.

Mrs. Cletie Griffin is suing J. Eason Lilley and others for \$500, alleged damages resulting from the removal of timber from the plaintiff's land.

Mrs. Susie White Nelson is suing Robert B. Nelson for support and the custody of their child.

Another church case is scheduled to be aired next week. The Primitive Baptist Corresponding Association of Eastern North Carolina is suing Julian Collie and others to block the defendants from using the name. The association was formed some time ago by seventeen churches. Four churches, Wilson Chapel, Zion Grove, St. John and St. Paul, withdrew from the association. The plaintiffs are said to voice no opposition to the withdrawal, but they deny the defendants the right to use the name of the association.

Ernest Capps is suing Sanford Roberson and Garland Roberson for \$129, wages allegedly due him.

J. H. Hopkins, administrator, is

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Americans Invading Palau In The Drive To The Philippines

Fourth Spearhead Driven Into Germany; Resistance Is Stiffening

Following up the great aerial attack on Jap shipping in the Philippines last week-end, American land forces, including Marines and Armymen, the latter led by General Douglas MacArthur, yesterday invaded the Palau and Halmahera Islands in the slow but steady drive toward the Philippines. Few details of the latest and most powerful drive in the Pacific could be had immediately. The Palau landing, handled by the Marines, was made in force and a stubborn and costly resistance was encountered. No great opposition was reported in the Halmahera landings where General MacArthur led his men. Once in possession of the Palau group, the Americans will be only about 500 miles from the southern Philippines.

The Pacific drive shares the spotlight in the war news today and points to a drive on the Philippines, possibly within the near future.

On the Western Front, the Allies have driven a fourth spearhead into that holy German soil. But the late reports clearly pointed out that resistance was growing in several sectors. In other areas, the German defenses were buckling under the increasing attacks, especially in the Aachen sector. To the south, the Americans are closing in on Belfort Gap, but the fight there is fierce.

Down in Italy, a general offensive has been directed against the Gothic Line, but the military warns that the fight there will be slow and difficult.

The Russians are now in their final drive to clean out Warsaw, while thirty-five other divisions have renewed a powerful drive in Latvia, aimed at Riga on the Baltic Sea.

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HURRICANE

Sweeping along the Atlantic Coast, a hurricane yesterday and last night caused damage estimated at more than thirty million dollars. Few lives were reported lost and no large number of persons were injured.

Lindsay Ice Company's shelter blew down and a few trees and limbs fell in this section, but damage here was negligible. The Elizabeth City area bore the brunt of the storm in this State, but the damage there was limited in the main to communication and power lines.

Virginia Beach residents moved out. Leroy "Foots" Long, chauffeur for Mrs. Carrie B. Morrison, said, "We were not long in moving out when the house started rocking yesterday. They came to Williamston. A wind velocity of 100 miles was reported in New York last night and the steel pier at Atlantic City was ripped in two."

County's Pre-Inductee List About Exhausted

Few Boys Available For September Call Received In County

Teen-Age Lads and Men in the Non-Essential Jobs Will Bear Brunt of Draft

The favorable progress of the war apparently is reflected in recent rules and regulations governing the drafting of men for the armed services. No official announcement has been made as far as it could be learned here, but it is now understood that all men 26 years of age or older holding a job included in the list of critical or essential occupations, including farming, will not be called either for pre-induction or final induction, not for the present, anyway.

A man holding a job listed under one of the thirty-five occupations will not be called if he reaches his 26th birthday on or before the day he would ordinarily answer a final induction call.

It was pointed out, however, that men in non-essential industry or business are subject to call up to thirty-eight years of age. Farmers who have a bona-fide status and who are certified as such by the County War Board will not be called for pre-induction or final induction if they are 26 years of age or older. It is now apparent that those lads becoming eighteen years of age and those holding non-essential jobs will be called upon to meet the draft demands unless the regulations are altered.

It is understood that nearly half hundred white men were called for pre-induction from the county this month. The recent rules eliminated men 26 and over and when the list was made ready there were hardly an even dozen left to answer the call. The board, it was explained, has not had time to review all the cases, but it isn't believed that many men 26 and over will be found in non-essential jobs.

Of the twelve white men called to report for pre-induction examinations yesterday all but one were in their teens. Six of the group reached their eighteenth birthday in August, one as late as the thirtieth of the month. All the others were eighteen except one and he is only 21.

Ten of the young men reporting yesterday come from the farm.

The names and addresses of the men called for pre-induction follow:

Julian Robert Rawls, Oak City and New Bern.

Alton Thomas Johnson, RFD 1, Robersonville.

Melvin Gogard, RFD 1, Williams-

Jasper Bullock, RFD 1, Palmyra.

James Clifton Manning, RFD 3, Williams-

Ransome Nathaniel Davenport, of RFD 1, Williams-

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Home Economics Girls Serve Meal To Teachers

A group of home economics girls of the Williamston High School under the supervision of the home economics teacher, Miss Verna Belle Lowery, served luncheon to the teachers of Martin County and their guests in the gym here yesterday. The center of each table was attractively decorated with fall flowers. The menu included: Cold boiled ham, potato salad, snap beans, pickled beets, pepper rings, rolls, Bavarian nut cake, tea.

The following girls served: Elizabeth Manning, Jeanette Myers, Doris Hart, Louise Hines, Jean Stinnette, Dorothy Leggett and Peggy Ann Baldrice.

Justice John L. Hassell Handles Several Cases

Justice J. L. Hassell handled several cases in his court here during the past few days.

Robert Patterson, drunk, was taxed with \$9.50 costs.

Rome Lee, Jr., drunk and disorderly, was required to pay \$8.50 costs.

Charles Little, drunk and disorderly, was required to pay \$8.50 costs.

Fran Little was taxed \$7.50 for being drunk.

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Few Criminal Cases Booked For Trial In Superior Court

Judge Leo Carr To Continue Trial Monday for Two Weeks Term

With only nine cases on the docket, the Martin County Superior Court opening a two weeks mixed term here next Monday, is expected to attract very little attention from the general public. There are no murder cases on the docket, but one or two of the charges are expected to attract more than casual interest.

Judge Leo Carr of Burlington will preside over the term called for the trial of both criminal and civil cases. Nine new members will be drawn for grand jury service, that number retiring after serving for one year.

Scheduled to clear the criminal docket the first day, the court plans to crank up the divorce mill Tuesday. Fourteen suits for divorce, all based on two years of separation, are on the trial calendar. The civil docket carries several varied and interesting cases, and the proceedings are expected to attract a good crowd.

The divorce cases on the calendar include the following:

Geo. Shannon of Plymouth against Esther Shannon of New York.

Maggie Davis against Harry Davis. Linwood Rhodes against Cora Rhodes.

Maude Ward against Turner Ward. Gladys Taylor against Jeffrey Taylor.

Jasper Weaver against Myrtle Perry Weaver.

Dr. John W. Smith of Aoshkie against Harriett Smith.

Lonn Langley against Arzella Langley.

John T. Bunting against Aleen Bunting.

Lewis Bond against Pecolia Bond. Claude Jenkins against Nina Jenkins.

Minnie Bullock against Charlie Mac Bullock.

Lucille Hardison against James Hardison.

Kelly Teel against Alice N. Teel.

James Douglas, charged with robbing the Jamesville liquor store last January 27, is being called a second time for trial. His \$500 bond was ordered forfeited when the case was called last June.

Presented to the court by the grand jury, Joe Martin and Herman Manning are scheduled to answer in the case charging them with aiding and abetting in an illegal operation. It is claimed that the operation resulted in the death of Beulah Brown, young county white woman, some months ago. The defendants are now at liberty under \$500 bonds.

Appealing from a judgment handed down in the county court, George Moore will carry the case charging him with drunken driving to the higher tribunal Monday.

Leamon James, sentenced by the county court to thirty days on the roads for alleged vagrancy, will carry his case to the jury Monday.

Gadys Peele, colored man who struck and knocked one of his wife's eyes out, appealed from a six months road sentence meted out by the county court.

Appealing from a county court judgment, Lucile Bowen Brown is being called to answer in the case charging her with resisting arrest, refusing a bus driver's order, using indecent language. She was adjudged guilty in the lower court and was fined \$25 with the costs added.

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Noted Personages To Speak Monday

Two noted personages are to make public addresses in Washington, N. C., on Monday, September 18, in behalf of the United War Fund of North Carolina, it was announced today by James T. Little, district chairman of the United War Fund.

Mrs. Mark W. Clark, wife of the commanding general of the victorious American Fifth Army, and Dr. Y. C. Yang, president of Soochow University, China, will make public addresses in the auditorium of the John Small School at 3:15 P. M. on that day.

Seldom have the people of this section had greater opportunities to hear such noted personages. Martin County people are being extended a cordial invitation to hear them.

Working for a great humanitarian cause, the two speakers are in a position to release interesting facts and discuss timely subjects. Mrs. Clark is expected to quote from the letters of her famous general husband, telling of heroic deeds and conditions in various war areas. Dr. Yang, president of Soochow University of China, could talk hour after hour, relating interesting facts about his country. However, both talks will be short, and Mr. N. C. Green, chairman of the United War Fund in this county, hopes Martin will be well represented at the meeting next Monday.

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