

Forty-Nine County Negroes Report For Pre-induction Exam

Thirty-one Married Men Are Leaving Behind Eighty Children

Virtually depleting the manpower reserve in the lower age brackets, the Martin County Draft Board drew heavily from the older groups yesterday in meeting the current month pre-induction call. Forty-nine colored men were called and of that number, thirty-three are 26 years of age or older. There are several who will be thirty years of age in just a few more weeks, the draft calls at present being limited to men 29 years of age or younger. Thirty-one of the thirty-three "old" men are married and they are leaving behind eighty children. Sixteen of the 49 men called are just eighteen years of age.

The current call for the first time in recent months is not centered in the farm group, a review showing that thirty-nine are non-farmers.

Names and addresses of those called to answer the pre-induction call yesterday:

- William Edward Powell, RFD 1, Robersonville.
- Joe Henry Baker, RFD 1, Oak City.
- James Edward Mobley, RFD 2, Williamston.
- Louis Williams, Jr., Williamston.
- James Edward Thompson, RFD 1, Oak City and Emporia, Va.
- George William Mayo, RFD 2, Williamston, and Trenton, N. J.
- Herious Little, Parmele, and Portsmouth.
- Richard William Moore, RFD 1, Jamesville.
- David Sylvester Lee, RFD 2, Williamston.
- John Thomas Jones, Jr., RFD 1, Williamston.
- William Jesse Mayo, Hamilton and Williamston.
- Yancey Louis Whitley, Williamston.
- R. S. Howel, Hamilton.
- Ralph Bond, Hamilton.
- William Thomas Smallwood, Williamston.
- James Edward Gray, Jamesville.
- Nathaniel Reddick, RFD 3, Williamston.
- Moses Lee Anthony, RFD 1, Williamston.
- James Henry Norfleet, Williamston.
- James Edward Bunch, Oak City.
- Samuel Rodgers, Robersonville and Williamston.
- William Bluford Wilson, RFD 2, Robersonville and Bethel.
- William Thomas Wallace, Williamston.
- Elias Evans, Williamston and Raleigh.
- James Wallace, Jr., Everetts.
- Cosar Gorham, Everetts.
- Joe Henry Andrews, Williamston.
- Booker T. Bridges, Williamston and Richmond.
- Ponce DeLeon Bullock, RFD 2, Williamston.
- William Oscar Andrews, RFD 2, Robersonville.

James S. Roebuck Missing in France

Pvt. James Samuel Roebuck, for years a resident of the Robersonville section, is missing somewhere in France, according to a message received by the young man's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Conner Roebuck, this week. The young man has been missing since September 11, the message stated.

Mrs. Roebuck was in a Robersonville store having a Christmas package wrapped for her son when she was notified.

The young man entered the service on April 10, 1943, and went overseas in July of this year, after training mostly in North Carolina and Arkansas.

In a letter dated September 2, the young man said that he was in good health and "enjoying army life as much as could be expected under the existing conditions."

He has a brother, Ralph E. Roebuck in the Army at San Francisco.

Young Roebuck is the eleventh Martin County man that has been reported missing so far in the current war. Five of the group were later reported dead, one was found after being missing for months and recently returned home, two are now known to be prisoners of war, and no word has been heard officially from three others.

American Legion Will Open Agricultural Fair Next Week

Scheduled to open officially at 9 o'clock on Monday, the American Legion's Martin County Agricultural Fair, operating for the first time since 1942, is offering a varied program this year. Manager W. E. Dunn said last night.

The preparation of exhibits are already underway, the manager stating that the main hall is being elaborately decorated and that several schools, clubs and individuals are bidding for the cash prizes. Departments at Oak City, Jamesville and Farm Life have started their exhibits carrying a total of \$130 in cash prizes. Two live-at-home booths are being prepared, the prizes totaling \$140 in this department. Duplicate premiums are being offered to white and colored exhibitors in the general classifications. Mrs. Maude Harrison and Mrs. Ruth Barnhill are in charge of the main hall, and considerable expense is being incurred to feature the agricultural and general exhibits.

The Jos. J. Kirkwood Shows of New York, including six shows and seven rides, will be on the midway.

Manager Dunn states that the grandstand attractions this year are the best traveling the South this season.

PACKAGES

Over six hundred Christmas packages have been mailed at the local post office for delivery to the boys overseas, according to a count released today by accommodating members of the local postal service who are pulling for at least 1,000 packages for the boys.

It is possible that some Martin County lads will go without packages, but it is fairly certain that efforts are being made to get some little remembrance in the form of a box to them. It is feared that the wrappings will not stand the strain in every case. Saturday of next week is the last day for overseas package mailing, and those who have not yet mailed their presents will do well to carefully prepare their boxes, wrapping them in strong paper.

China Missionary To Speak Tuesday

Miss Pearl Johnson of Apex, Baptist missionary to China who recently returned to this country on the Gripsholm, will speak at the Baptist Church on Tuesday evening, October 10th. She has spent a number of years in China and just before returning experienced a period of internment by the Japanese.

Beginning at 8 o'clock Miss Johnson will teach the book "Dangerous Opportunity," by Earl H. Ballou, to all members of the Baptist Woman's Missionary Society, and others who would like to attend. After supper, beginning at 8:30 the meeting will be open to the general public at which time we are requesting Miss Johnson to relate some of her experiences in China and bring an inspirational missionary address. Miss Johnson is reputed to be a very interesting speaker and it is certain that many will take this opportunity to hear her.

Funeral Wednesday For Attack Victim

Funeral services were conducted in the Riddick's Grove Baptist Church Wednesday afternoon at four o'clock for John Dave Davenport, 24-year-old white man, who was fatally shot by Bryant Cherry over in Williams Township early last Monday evening. Rev. W. B. Harrington, pastor of the church, conducted the last rites and burial followed in the cemetery.

Davenport, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Davenport of Pitt County, had lived in this county only a few years. Besides his parents and widow, the former Miss Almata Oakley of Pitt County, he is survived by six children, three brothers and a sister.

RAISES BOND

Jesse Griffin, the Beaufort County white man charged with reckless and drunken driving and with manslaughter, was released from the county jail here Wednesday afternoon when he raised bond in the sum of \$5,000. The bond, accepted by Sheriff C. B. Roebuck only after an investigation was made, was signed by J. C. Latham, Elmer Ingalls and Robert Bedard, white men of Beaufort County. Griffin, the man who ran down and killed Mary Alice and Minnie Pearl Mendenhall, sisters, on Tuesday of last week, made no comment when he was released. He is scheduled to face trial in the superior court here on December 11.

Sixteen Cases Are Handled in County Court Last Monday

Five Others Are Continued For Defendants Until Next Monday

Holding the first regular session since September 11, Judge J. Calvin Smith cleared sixteen cases from the docket in the county recorder's court last Monday and continued five others for the defendants.

A fairly large crowd was present for the session which lasted until 1:10 that afternoon.

Proceedings: His case coming up for final judgment, Allen Warren, charged with an assault with a deadly weapon, was sentenced to the roads for ninety days. The road term was suspended for one year upon the payment of a \$20 fine and costs, the court ordering the defendant to have no intoxicating liquors in his possession or be in an intoxicated condition during the suspension period.

The case charging Wilson Staton with an assault with a deadly weapon was not proessed.

In the case charging W. Jackson Holliday and Marion Holliday with allowing hogs to run loose, the action was not proessed as to Marion Holliday since he is in the army, and the other defendant was found not guilty.

Pleading guilty in the case charging him with operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license, Jesse J. V. Peel was fined \$15 and taxed with the cost.

The case charging Willie Cherry with operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license, was remanded to the juvenile court since the defendant was under age.

Orange Peel, pleading guilty in the case charging him with operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license, was fined \$15 and required to pay the court costs.

William Wynne, charged with interfering with an officer, pleaded guilty and was sentenced to the roads for six months. The sentence was suspended for one year upon the payment of \$20 fine and cost. The defendant was warned to be of good behavior during the suspension period.

Charged with operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license, (Continued on page six)

Williamston Youth Dies in Southwest Pacific October 2

Few Details Could Be Had About Cpl. Arthur T. Brown's Death

Cpl. Arthur T. Brown, young son of Elijah Brown, well-known colored citizen and merchant, and his wife, the late Eulalie Wiggins Brown, died in the Southwest Pacific Area, presumably New Guinea, on Monday, October 2, according to a message received from the War Department by his father on Washington Street here yesterday. The message, one of the quickest and shortest of the thirty-one of its kind received in this country so far, offered no details whatever other than the date of his death, the general location and added that a letter would follow. It is not known whether the young man was killed in action or whether he died of natural causes.

After entering A. and T. College in the fall of 1942, the young man volunteered for service early the following spring, reporting for service at Fort Benning, Ga., on April 2, 1943, after spending a short time on a visit with his father here.

He left for duty overseas a year ago next month, and was stationed in New Guinea most if not all the time he was in foreign service. He did not write very often, and in his last letter received here in August he stated he was getting along all right, but that he had never seen so much rain in all his life as was falling in New Guinea at the time.

Young Brown, the 31st Martin County man known to have made the supreme sacrifice in the war to date, is the fourth member of his race to have died or been killed in the service of their country.

Besides his father, he leaves two sisters, Eulalie Brown, Sarah Bell Edmondson and four brothers, William and Walter Brown, all of Williamston, Elijah Brown, Jr., of Philadelphia who last June was given an honorable discharge after about six months in the service, and Pfc. Luther Brown who has been overseas since last April.

Young Brown, possessed of a good character, was a promising future citizen and was highly regarded and respected by members of both races.

One-Day Marketing Holiday Is Ordered For Tobacco Belt

Beginning next Monday, the tobacco markets will observe a one-day holiday each week until the congestion and glut in the redrying plants is alleviated, it has been officially announced. The curtailment was ordered by the Tobacco Association of the United States, reports declaring that the congestion had become so acute that a decline in prices was to be expected unless some relief could be had.

While they are not indifferent, company representatives were said not to be as anxious to buy as they were earlier in the season. However, prices have held to about the average that has prevailed since the markets were opened.

The rush is still on, and while it is not as pronounced as it was a short time ago, sales have not fallen under the maximum on a single day in recent weeks.

Despite the one-day holiday each week, the four warehouses here will observe the schedule on the sales cards, meaning that one firm will miss a sale. It was announced that the proprietors of the Planters and Carolina houses will switch their sale from the Planters to the Carolina next Wednesday since much tobacco had already been placed on the floor there for sale before the holiday was ordered.

Hardly before the one-day holiday was officially announced, rumors are being circulated that a shut-down of several days is being considered.

Deny Murderer Bond At Hearing This Week

Evidence Indicates Attack Last Monday Was Pre-meditated

Bryant Cherry Pleads Not Guilty to First Charge but Admits Fatal Assault

Bryant Cherry, charged with the murder of John Dave Davenport, was denied the privilege of bond at a formal hearing held before Justice J. L. Hassell in the county courthouse here last Wednesday evening when, in the opinion of the court the evidence indicated the fatal assault was pre-meditated. The defendant, young white man of Williams Township, was returned to the county jail to await trial during the next term of superior court convening here December 11. When Attorney Hugh G. Horton, defense counsel, suggested that the first-degree charge could hardly be supported, Justice Hassell answered that probable cause was there, but that he would give his decision further consideration. It is possible that he will reconsider and allow the defendant bond.

A fairly large number of spectators gathered for the preliminary hearing, and it was rumored that sides in the case had already formed, that threats had been made. Officers are said to be investigating the reports, and it is possible that arrests will be made and that the case will be further complicated.

The state maintains that Cherry "did unlawfully, wilfully, feloniously and premeditatedly and with malice aforethought with force and arms and with intent to kill, shoot and kill John Dave Davenport." Defense counsel pleaded his client not guilty, but it was admitted that Cherry did fatally assault Davenport. The counsel also admitted that the facts would support a second-degree murder charge, but suggested that there was no premeditation.

Taking the stand the first witness, Stanley Ward, stated that he lived about two miles from Williamston, that both Cherry and Davenport were his friends. Asked to tell about the tragedy in his own words, Ward said, "When we got to Sam Pate's, Pate and I got out of the car and were talking about taking our wives to the fair next week. Mrs. Davenport and the late J. W. Davis, who went into the house and when I returned to the car Cherry and Davenport were in the house."

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County Colored Men Reported For Final Induction Tuesday

Twenty-one of Thirty-eight Called Are Farmers; All Are Single

Thirty-eight Martin County colored boys were called last Tuesday for final induction in the armed forces. With one exception all were in their teens and all of them are single. Twenty-one of the thirty-eight came from the farms.

For the first time in recent months every one of the men scheduled to report last Tuesday answered the roll call. Five were transferred to other boards.

Names of the inductees and their registration and last-given addresses follow:

- William Henry Jones, Robersonville and Detroit.
- Columbus Williams, Williamston.
- Jim Junior Outerbridge, RFD 3, Williamston.
- Charles H. Williams, RFD 3, Williamston and Baltimore.
- Willie Ray Davis, RFD 2, Robersonville.
- William David Brown, Williamston.
- Palmyra.
- Leo Whitfield, RFD 1, Robersonville.
- Robert Andrews, Jr., RFD 3, Williamston.

DELAYED

The consolidation of the Gold Point school with the one at Robersonville was ordered delayed by a committee representing the Board of Education late Wednesday night following a meeting with about fifty of the small school's patrons at Gold Point.

Appealing to the board representatives, Messrs. H. C. Norman and J. W. Eubanks, the patrons, including several pupils, said that time had been short for establishing the attendance minimum, that a number of children had found it necessary to remain out of school to help with urgent work at home and in the fields.

The board held up the consolidation order until the 20th of this month. If the attendance does not hold to 45 or higher during that period, it is expected that the consolidation will be effected in accordance with action taken by the board at a meeting last Monday.

Local Young Man Is Made a Captain

Thomas W. Crockett, young son of Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Crockett of Williamston, was signaled out and highly honored recently by his commanding officer, presumably in France, according to a message just recently received here.

Announcing the young man's promotion to the rank of captain, D. A. Stroh, Major General, U. S. Army, Commanding, said:

"This advancement is known as a 'battlefield promotion' and is based on merit displayed in battle. In the case of this young man, his battalion commander states that his recommendation for promotion was based on his performance of the duties of Battery Commander in an excellent manner."

General Stroh expressed his pride and gratification in the young man's achievement.

Youth Does Quite A Bit Of Traveling

Delbert Davis, 17, young son of Mrs. Bessie Davis of near Williamston, and the late J. W. Davis, has done quite a bit of traveling since he entered the service last year.

Completing his "boot" training at Bainbridge, Md., the young man was transferred to Norfolk, going overseas a short time later. He was then returned to this country, spending a short time in New York before going to England. He participated in the French invasion, but during the meantime he was in Africa for a short stay. The young man is now at Pearl Harbor.

In a recent letter to his mother he stated that he was getting along well and urged her not to worry about him, that he expected to be back soon.

Ten In Court For Disorderly Conduct

Ten persons were carried into Justice J. L. Hassell's court during the past few days and were booked for disorderly conduct. Most of the group were boisterously drunk.

The cases: Herbert Wynne and Thurman Welborn were taxed with \$7.50 costs each.

W. C. Powell was required to pay \$8.50 each.

Clarence Pate got off with \$6.50 costs.

The violations cost Clyde Silverthorne, a habitual offender, and L. J. Modlin, \$9.50 each.

John McCormick was fined \$1.50 with \$8.50 costs added.

Alex Bunch was sentenced to the roads for 30 days, the court suspending the sentence upon the payment of \$9.50 costs.

Sam Roberson was directed to pay \$10.50 costs.

Albert Turner Peel was fined \$2.50 and taxed with \$8.50 costs.

Bitter Tank Battle Is Still Raging On The Plain Near Cologne

Russians Reported To Have Started New Push On Eastern Prussia

Ripping a seven-mile gap in the Siegfried Line just north of Aachen, the American First Army today is locked in a deadly tank battle with the Germans on the Cologne plain. Described as the greatest armored battle of the war in the West, the struggle reached a climax last night. And while its fury had subsided somewhat early today, the score has not been officially announced. However, late reports state that the Americans were still scoring additional gains.

Capturing Beggendorf only 31 miles from Cologne at the apex of their salient beyond the Westwall, the Yanks also broadened their breach to nearly six miles of rain and blood-soaked soil between Aachen and Geilenkirchen, and were storming both those cities.

Thick banks of fog shrouded the grim battlefield, denying the Americans air support but at the same time blinding German gunners so that our tanks were almost on top of their positions before they saw them.

The last of the Siegfried Line's concrete emplacements had been hurled in the breakthrough area, but Lt. Gen. Courtney Hodges' tanks now were plowing through a deep series of earthworks which the rains had turned into spongy defenses more difficult to blast through than stone and steel, front dispatches said.

Perhaps the heaviest artillery duel since D-Day thundered an accompaniment to the battle as the Germans poured 105-millimeter salvos with almost machine-gun frequency into the gap and the Yanks replied with steady fire from scores of eight-inch cannon.

Their last prepared defenses in the area shattered, the Germans threw their crack panzer reserves head-on into the battle. The puzzling feature about the latest major development is that both sides described it as a prelude of what was expected to come and come soon. The enemy declared that the Allies were really pulling up supplies, ammunition and men apparently in preparation for a "big" push.

A little to the north, the British Second Army is pushing on toward Arnhem and the Allied hold on Holland is being tightened. In the Metz-Nancy sector, General Patton's men are storming Fort Driant, important strong point in the defense of Metz.

The Westwall fight is being supported by huge formations of planes attacking communications and objectives back of the enemy lines.

An enemy report today stated that the Russians are starting a big drive in Lithuania and aiming at East Prussia. During the meantime, (Continued on page six)

Bandage Room Has Large Task Ahead

After making a few over 2,000 dressings since last Monday night, the local Red Cross Bandage Room still has a large task to handle. Approximately 7,200 four-by-fours and 300 four-by-eights are yet to be made before the September quota is completed. More volunteers are asked to lend a helping hand.

Names of those reporting to the room on the third floor of the town hall since Monday night:

Tuesday afternoon: Mesdames W. E. Warren, G. W. Lewis, A. E. Browder, Joe Roebuck, D. R. Davis and H. D. Carter.

Tuesday night: Mesdames Bill Howell, S. W. Manning, Samuel Zemon, Misses Dorothy Manning, Dorothy Simpson, Bolton Cowen, Edna Barnhill, Shamma Ramey, Mrs. Morris Stalls and Mrs. R. J. Richardson, Warren, G. W. Carrow, Jerry Allsbrooks, Wance Warren, Rev. Joseph S. Huske, Jr., William Lindbergh Jackson, Richard Levin, Bill Gurganus, Tom Williams and J. D. Hines.

Wednesday afternoon: Mesdames T. B. Brandon, Herbert Taylor, M. M. Levin, J. D. Woolard and J. W. Watts.

Wednesday night: Mesdames Mary E. Keel, B. S. Courtney, Neda P. Stalls, John Peel, Anna Harrison and Misses Mary E. Keel and Ethel Guest.

Thursday afternoon: Mesdames J. B. Taylor, Elbert Sherman and J. F. Weaver.

Thursday night: Mesdames B. S. Courtney, H. D. Carter, G. P. Hall, and W. E. Old and Scouts Billy and Jerry Allsbrooks.

Officers Capture Still And Honey Beer Wednesday

Raiding in Williams Township on Wednesday, ABC Officer J. H. Roebuck and Deputy Roy Peel captured a liquor plant equipped with a 50-gallon capacity gas drum and four fermenters. The officers poured out 200 gallons of honey beer and confiscated several gallons of honey.