

Pvt. Howard Tyre Is Among County Boys Now on Enemy Soil

Belgian Lads Asked About Movie Stars and Chicago Gangsters

Writing to his wife under recent date, Pvt. Howard Tyre, young Martin County man, stated he is now somewhere in Germany, but he explained that there was little he could tell about it. "It's just war, and that is enough to say," the letter read.

Pvt. Tyre's letter is the first one seen from a Martin County boy in Germany. However, it is understood that the county is well represented there, one report stating that Reg Griffin and Eli Marion Taylor are there along with others.

Pvt. Tyre's letter follows: "Haven't had much chance to write for the past few weeks. I have seen Paris and it is a very pretty city. Also saw the famous Saint Jacques tower. You have read about it, I am sure.

"The people in both France and Belgium gave us a grand reception. They wave and throw flowers, and fruit at us. They all seem to like to shake hands with an American soldier, and throw kisses at us. I men they do it in a nice way. Even the very small children seem so glad to see us.

"We talked to some boys, I would say 12 or 14 years of age in one Belgium town where we stopped. They asked about Tom Mix, Buck Jones, Gene Autry and Joan Crawford. They also wanted to know about the Chicago gangsters.

"Every one sure has been nice to us including the Red Cross and the U. S. O. I saw several U. S. O. shows while in France and they were O. K.

"We are now in Germany, but I can't say much more, or even tell where we are or what we see. It is just war and that is enough to say.

"I am writing on German stationery. We feel different about people we come in contact with now since we are in our enemy's country. I mean we watch out for ourselves and don't take so many chances as we could in France and Belgium.

"I've seen several things I'd like to take home for souvenirs, but we have enough to keep up with any."

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Enterprise Gets Kiwanis Citation

Highlighting its observance of National Newspaper Week, October 1 to 8, the local Kiwanis Club awarded a certificate of citation to the Enterprise as a testimonial of appreciation for its contribution to the nation's war program last Thursday night.

The certificate was presented to a representative of the Enterprise by Kiwanian Hugh Horton. Mr. Horton pointed out the service this newspaper and all the other newspapers of the United States and Canada have rendered our two nations during these critical years.

"For accurate and comprehensive reporting of the war news, for generous and unremittent support of wartime activities on the home front, for fostering sound morale, for fearless and independent editorial opinion, and for unrelaxed vigilance in safeguarding the basic liberties of free speech, and a free press, we must be thankful to the press," Mr. Horton said.

"Without a free press there is no true democracy. Should we ever experience a time in the history of our nation when we do not have a free press then our citizens will be living under the same circumstances and under the same conditions the Germans are experiencing today," the speaker stated.

One Hurt In River Bridge Accident

One person was hurt and several other narrowly escaped injury when their car went out of control on the farm end of the Roanoke River bridge, near here, early Sunday night. Traveling in an old Chevrolet with a trailer attached, Steven Bill Will James, 57, Pearl Glenn and Nelson Bryant, all of Beaufort, and Bonnie and Minzetta Frazier, both of Harlow, were on their way home from a northern fish factory when a tire blew out and threw the trailer into the bridge guard rails. The car also went out of control and before James could stop it two wheels had been smashed, and the trailer was wrecked.

Minzetta Frazier was badly cut on one hand. The property damage was estimated at \$200 by Patrolman W. E. Saunders who investigated the accident.

Bridgekeeper Hugh Spruill and prisoner of war camp personnel, hearing the noise from the wreck, almost knew some one was killed or badly hurt and they volunteered hurriedly with first aid equipment.

WOUNDED



Pfc. Burrace Franklin Ange, young son of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Ange, RFD 1, Jamesville, was seriously wounded in France on September 10, his parents were advised recently.

William R. Roberson Died Last Saturday At Jamesville Home

Funeral Service for Retired Timberman-Farmer Held Monday Afternoon

William Ransom Roberson, retired logging operator and farmer, died at his home in Jamesville last Saturday afternoon at 4:15 o'clock following a stroke of paralysis suffered about 8 o'clock that morning. Mr. Roberson had been in failing health for some months, but he appeared to be as well as usual when he got up that morning. He was on his way to breakfast when he was stricken.

The son of the late Riley B. and Emma Williams Roberson, he was born in Williams Township on February 10, 1886, and spent his early life on the farm there. When a young man he was married to Miss Mae Williams and located in Jamesville, engaging in logging activities on a large scale and continuing his farming interests. He had virtually retired from active business in recent months on account of failing health.

Mr. Roberson was a member of the Methodist church for more than a quarter of a century. Besides his widow he is survived by five children, Mrs. Ross Kelly of New York, Mrs. L. E. Owens of Norfolk, Mrs. Duke Hardison of Portsmouth, and Ransom Roberson, Jr., U. S. Navy, and Alva Roberson, U. S. Army. Both sons are believed to be in foreign service. He is also survived by two sisters, Mrs. George Williams and Mrs. Sam Andrews, both of Williams Township.

Funeral services were conducted at the home Monday afternoon at four o'clock by Rev. B. T. Hurlley, pastor of the Williams Methodist Church, assisted by the Rev. Mr. Wood, Methodist minister of Roper. Burial was in the Williams family cemetery in Williams Township.

Man Attacked When Entering Own Home

Richard Davis, 40-year-old colored man, was badly and possibly seriously hurt about one o'clock Sunday morning when he started to enter his own home in Oak City and was attacked by James Thigpen, young Negro.

Just as Davis started to enter the door, Thigpen crowned him with an empty gallon jug, the glass ripping a neat-inch gash on the victim's lip. One report declared that Davis almost lost his lip, that Dr. E. E. Pittman picked pieces of glass out of the man's mouth and flesh for over two hours.

Arrested by Chief Edmond Early about 9 o'clock Sunday morning, Thigpen declared he remembered nothing about the attack, adding that he had been drinking wine. Bond was fixed at \$300 by Justice J. H. Hopkins, but no date for the trial has been fixed.

ABSENTEE VOTING

Up until early this week, 454 members of the Armed Services from this county, including two young women, had applied for absentee election ballots. It is estimated that the number represents hardly more than one-fourth of the county's eligible voters in the services. Additional applications are being received, but it isn't likely that the number will exceed 500.

Election Board Chairman Sylvester Feal announced this week that only 143 of the ballots had been returned up until that time. Civilians, eligible to participate in the November 7 election, and who will be away from home that day, may now apply for absentee ballots.

Allies Continue To Chalk Up Gains In The Aachen Sector

British Occupy Corinth and Russians Drive Toward East Prussia Line

While there has been no marked change there during the past 24 or 48 hours, Allied forces continue to chalk up slight gains along the West Wall, late reports stating that the American First Army has sealed off Aachen and made advances to the north and south. Bitter fighting is being reported in that area where the approach of winter with heavy rains and deep mud is being felt.

There is no stalemate on the Western Front, but the big and what is hoped to be the final drive is not yet in evidence. It is believed to be in the making, some observers stating that renewed activities all along the front Sunday and yesterday possibly marked the beginning of such a drive. Patton's Third Army to the South is driving to circle Metz, but the main blow is focused in the Cologne-Duisburg area.

A drive of approximately 35-50 miles will take in the Ruhr industrial region and knock the props from under the enemy.

During the meantime, Russian armies are maneuvering for a powerful push from the East. Late reports state that 125,000 or more of the enemy have been cut off in the Baltic area. However, it is estimated that between 25 and 30 German divisions have been moved from that territory for the immediate defense of the homeland. A great battle in the drive on East Prussia is believed imminent.

The Canadians have effected a daring move in Holland to make possible the free use of the important port of Antwerp. All in all, it appears that a coordinated effort is being made to launch the big and final drive some time this month, and observers have not given up hope for a reasonably early end of the European war.

The British invasion of Greece is progressing rapidly, one report early today stating that they had entered.

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County Young Man Missing In Action

James Edward Cromwell, steward 2/c, U. S. Navy, has been reported missing, presumably somewhere in the Pacific theater of operations, according to a telegraphic message received last week-end by his sister, Rosa Cromwell Goss, RFD 3, Williamston.

The young colored man is the son of the late George and Rosa Clemmons Cromwell. He was born in Williams Township about 28 years ago and entered the service the early part of this year from Richmond where he had worked and made his home for the past several years. He married in Richmond and has a young daughter.

He has two brothers, George and Luther Cromwell, both of Philadelphia, four sisters, Rosa Cromwell Goss, Sarah Cromwell of Suffolk; Ethel Lee Cromwell of Portsmouth, and Mary Cromwell of Tarboro; two half-brothers, William Augustus Cromwell of New Jersey, and Arthur Cromwell, a patient in the county sanatorium, and three half-sisters, Susie Cross of Portsmouth, Mamie Jones of Norfolk, and Essie Cromwell of New York.

He is the twelfth Martin County man to have been reported missing so far, and the first of his race from the county.

County Young Man In Army Hospital

Thomas E. Brown, son of Mrs. Dare Brown, RFD 1, Jamesville, and the late Archie Brown, is in an Army hospital either in France or England, according to a letter received from the young man last week-end. No details were given, the young man stating that he would write more in detail later. He urged his mother not to worry about him.

A brother, Edward S. Brown, was fatally wounded over in Burma on the 21st of last June. He died a few days later. Three other brothers, Jimmy, Elwood and Carroll Brown, are in the armed services, Elwood reporting to Fort Bragg week before last.

Thomas entered foreign service about a year ago.

Firemen Called To The Farmville-Woodward Mill

Apparently starting from sparks, fire threatened the planing mill boiler room at the Farmville-Woodward Lumber Company plant here yesterday afternoon at 5 o'clock. Stopping their machines, workmen, using the plant's fire-fighting equipment, had the fire under control by the time volunteer firemen arrived. No damage resulted and operations were resumed.

Killer Released In \$2,000.00 Bond by Justice J. L. Hassell

Bryant Cherry, young white man charged with fatally attacking John Dave Davenport with a shot gun near Williamston early Monday night of last week, has been released in \$2,000 bond. Justice J. L. Hassell, following a preliminary hearing held on Wednesday evening of last week, reconsidered the case and found probable cause of guilt of murder in the second degree. At the time of the hearing, the justice stated that it was a close case, and intimated that he would reconsider the decision made at that time.

The action taken last week-end does not alter the charge as far as the superior court is concerned. It is possible that the defendant will face a first-degree charge. However, it is claimed that no one actually saw the shooting, and that evidence at that point could change the degree of the crime unless the circumstantial evidence carried greater weight.

Cherry's bond was signed by A. W. Hardison, Williams Township farmer and neighbor of the defendant. Side issues to the case are said to have developed following the hearing held last Wednesday night. Two main state witnesses, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Ward, are believed to have feared violence by some of Cherry's friends and they moved from the community. According to reports reaching here, the young couple moved to Washington County. It was fairly apparent at the hearing that Mrs. Ward was a bit uneasy when she offered her testimony. Her husband, giving a clear-cut account of the trouble leading up to the fatal attack, stated that both the defendant and the attack victim were friends of his. It was declared that threats were made against one or both the witnesses in the court room right after the hearing.

95TH TRANSFUSION

Little Miss Peggy Harrison, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Harrison of Bear Grass, received her 95th blood transfusion in the local hospital last week-end. She seemed very bright and was getting along very well when she left the hospital Sunday.

Other transfusions will be necessary within the next few weeks, and blood donations will be needed. Anyone with a similar type of blood will render a great and noble service if they will make donations. Names of volunteers will be filed either by Mrs. E. S. Peel or by The Enterprise who will notify them when the donations are needed.

Draft Board Has Five Delinquents

The Martin County Draft Board this week announced that it had only five draft delinquents, that the names of the men were being turned over to the Federal Bureau of Investigation and that action would be taken by that agency. So far this county has had very few delinquents, and only one or two have been prosecuted in the courts.

The names of the delinquents, all colored, and their last given addresses follow:

- James Edward Thompson, South Emporia, Va.
- George William Mayo, 17 Beaver St., Trenton, N. J.
- Herious Little, 207 Woolled Ave., Portsmouth, Va.
- Sam Rodgers, 524 E. Main Street, Williamston, N. C.
- William Bluford Wilson, care J. V. Taylor, Bethel.

It is possible that some of these men forgot to give the board their forwarding addresses. Relatives or friends knowing their whereabouts will save them possible prosecution in the courts by advising them to report to the draft board at once.

Macedonia Bandage Room Gets Support

A complete report on the progress made could not be had immediately, but the bandage room at Macedonia is being ably supported by the people of the community, it was learned here yesterday. Last Friday night, twenty persons found time to volunteer their services, as follows:

- Mr. and Mrs. R. Lee Perry and Mesdames Albert Gurkin, Clarence Gurkin, Ralph Lee, Raleigh Lilley, Oscar Peele, Wayne Byrd, Simon Lilley, Heman Peele, Annie Peele, Elbert Ward, Coy Griffin, Joe Shep Holliday, and Janice Holliday, Polie Peele, Ella Fay Rodgers, Melba Peele, Sibbie Peele and Alton Fay Peele.

Sheriff C. B. Roebuck Enters Hospital Monday

After suffering several kidney colic attacks over the week-end, Sheriff C. B. Roebuck entered a Washington hospital yesterday afternoon for treatment and possibly an operation.

TOBACCO SALES

Reopening today on a four-day selling week, the local tobacco market is almost certain to reach and possibly pass the six million-pound mark by early this afternoon, according to an unofficial report just released. Up until this morning, the market had sold 5,787,022 pounds for \$2,454,456.14 or an average of \$42.41 per hundred pounds. Three of the four houses here were just about full this morning and leaf is being delivered in volume to the fourth house. It is now quite likely that deliveries will start late this afternoon or early tomorrow for the first sale next Tuesday.

ROUND-UP

Little activity was reported in local crime circles last week-end, the jail book showing that only six persons were arrested and jailed during the period.

Two drunks were temporarily detained along with two charged with operating motor vehicles without drivers' licenses. A fifth person was booked for allegedly violating the health laws and another was jailed for speeding.

Three of the group were white, their ages ranging from 20 to 44 years.

Atwood Gurganus Setting Stay-Away-From-Home Record

Hasn't Been Home in Forty Months; Thirty-six Are Spent Overseas

Cpl. Wm. Atwood Gurganus, son of Mr. and Mrs. Billy Gurganus of Williams Township, is, with the help of the Army, establishing a real stay-away-from-home record. The young man, in a recent letter to The Enterprise, stated he had not been home in forty months, thirty-six of which were spent overseas. His letter follows:

"Thought I'd drop a few lines to still all my friends know that I'm left in the best of health, even if I have been away from home forty months. In fact, today makes me three years overseas. I'm sure that I'm the only boy from Martin County that has been overseas that long without a furlough, and I don't see any chance in the near future of getting one either. And if staying over here will end the war any sooner, guess I can stick it out. So, if any of the boys think they've been overseas so long that they've been forgotten, well, they'll know that they are not by themselves. And there isn't anything I'd like any better than to see old Williamston one more time.

"I can say that I'm now stationed on the island of Oahu in the Hawaiian Islands. I have been swimming at Waikiki Beach quite a few times, but it's not as good as the old 'Mill Pond' back home.

"I really enjoy The Enterprise and the letters that the boys write in from all over the world. If any of the boys ever come through here from home, look me up as I would like to see anyone from home. I've seen T. F. Davenport, Simon Perry, Jr., George Bunch and 'Duck' Hardison. It really is good to see some boy from home.

"In closing, I hope the people at home keep up the war work, for this war isn't over yet. It still looks like a long war over this way, for the Japs don't know when to stop. Well, they will wise up one of these days."

Man Badly Hurt In Hunting Accident

Porter Cotton, young colored man, was dangerously but not critically shot while hunting near Oak City last week. The accident was the first reported in this county during the current hunting season.

On his way home following a squirrel hunt, the man started to take his gun from a cart. He grabbed the gun by the barrel and apparently he struck the trigger over the rail, causing the gun to fire. The load of shot plowed a deep furrow from a point just above the right wrist to a point above the elbow.

Removed to a Tarboro hospital, the man will not lose his arm, but skin will have to be grafted to the limb, it was learned here yesterday.

Legion Auxiliary Will Meet Here On Saturday

The first fall meeting of the American Legion Auxiliary will be held this Saturday afternoon, October 14, at 3 o'clock in the auxiliary room of the Legion Hut. The installation of officers will be held. Every member is urgently requested to be present.

HIGH WATER

The Roanoke River, going on its second rampage in two weeks' time, reached a crest at this point last Saturday night and started falling rapidly Sunday. However, the stream, after showing a marked drop Sunday from the high level of 12.5 feet reached the night before, is holding to flood stage here today. It was stated, however, that no recurrence of high water is expected right away.

It is now fairly certain that the four bridges built into the fill following the all-time high flood in 1938, are affecting the rise and fall of the river at this point, the stream last week falling to reach a predicted crest of 14 feet or more.

Pvt. Melvin Bennett A Bit Disappointed In South Sea Islands

Finds Unshapely Natives and Battered Trees But No Hula-Hula Girls

Writing from New Guinea, Pvt. Melvin D. Bennett tells how his dreams of beautiful girls, swaying cocoanut pals in an ocean breeze, guitar music and all that were shattered when he landed there some time ago. He sent a picture of one of the natives just to prove how he was really "let down."

The young man, son of Mrs. Fannie Bennett, of near Williamston, and the late Frank C. Bennett, was hurt while serving on a detail last May, but apparently he is getting along all right now.

His letter, under fairly recent date, follows:

"I received my first copy of The Enterprise today, and words cannot express how much I appreciated hearing from the best little town in the State. I remember an old saying that went something like this, 'You don't miss anything until you can't get it.' That's the way I felt when I couldn't get the news from home.

"There are several fellows from our State here with me but none of them are from around Martin County.

"I saw pictures in the June 27 issue of some of the fellows over here in the same place where I am, but as yet I haven't had the pleasure of meeting them.

"I had a very nice trip coming across until we reached the equator. For five days and nights the heat was almost unbearable, and to make matters worse, which I thought was impossible, the captain informed us that the Army personnel would undergo the well-known initiation given to all that had never crossed the equator before.

"The initiation took place on the top deck with no clothes on at all. The initiation consisted of a number of unpleasant beatings by a belt and electric shocks that would make you jump five feet in the air. But after it was all over we had a big laugh, because the officers had to take the same as we regardless of their rank.

"When they informed us that we were going to a South Sea Island, (Continued on page six)

Homecoming Held In Hassell Church

Attracting more than 150 persons, including quite a few who had moved to other communities and states, the annual home-coming day program in the Hassell Christian Church was a great and enjoyable event in the history of the church.

Marked by a deep reverence, the program dealt with the affairs of the progressive community church for the coming year, the event being featured by a timely and sincere message by the pastor, Rev. J. M. Perry, and a picnic dinner. No finer spirit of fellowship and greater appreciation of things spiritual could have been advanced than that expressed by the thoughtful people of the community, including some from other denominations.

Despite the fact that the little church displays sixteen stars, including a gold one, the remaining members are ably carrying on in their absence. It was reported that other young men of the church had recently gone into the service, the assembled group last Sunday extending special prayers for all in the service of their country.

In another part of the county the spirit of good fellowship prevailed at about the same hour at Piney Grove where several hundred gathered for special services.

Two Persons Injured On County Highway

Two persons were hurt but not very badly when they were hit on the Jamesville Highway near Jamesville early last Saturday night by a car driven by Luther Hardison, Williamston man. Eva Bryant, 25-year-old colored woman, suffered bruises on her left leg and hip and her nine-months-old baby, Kay Frances, was slightly hurt about the head. Another child, Jane Bryant, two years old, was not hurt.

The mother was pushing her two children in a carriage down the highway when she crossed from the left to the right to miss two cars meeting her. She reached the right side of the road just in time to get almost in the path of the Hardison car. A witness, Edith Hooper, yelled to the woman to get off the concrete but the warning was too late to avoid a strike. Mr. Hardison was not driving fast, it was reported.

The driver picked up the victims and brought them to the local hospital for treatment. They were treated and were able to return home a short time later.