

Give Liberally During War Fund Drive Now Underway In County

NEARLY 1000 MARTIN COUNTY SERVICE MEN NOW READING THE ENTERPRISE IN ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD EACH WEEK.

THE ENTERPRISE

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Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Tuesday, October 17, 1944.

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Americans Believed Preparing Invasion Of The Philippines

Strong Counterattack on the West Front Around Aachen Predicted

Increased action of mighty proportion has been reported in the Pacific these past few days, the recent developments there being recognized by some observers as a signal for the invasion of the Philippines, some even hinting that Formosa, that great bastion within the inner defense area of Japan, might be on the Americans' calling list.

The fantastic Jap claims in the recent battle area have been declared unfounded, and instead of the American fleet being wiped out, Admiral Chester Nimitz explains that the enemy after venturing out and seeing what was afloat turned tail and scooted for safety.

Accepting their own Tokyo propaganda, the Jap imperial sea lords paraded their ships out to sea, thinking their increased airpower had whipped out the American fleet. They soon learned how fantastic the claims were and withdrew before a shot was fired. The enemy air attack, according to Admiral Nimitz, struck two medium-sized American ships, possibly light cruisers, making it necessary for them to withdraw from battle formation. Casualties were light.

The score in the eight-day battle centered around the Philippines and Formosa shows that the Japs lost 828 planes, including 35 probables, and 146 surface ships. The land destruction was too great to mention. Our losses were 58 planes.

While these large-scale activities were being reported, the situation for the Chinese in China steadily grows worse.

On the Western Front, those men in the front lines were said not to be very optimistic, but that their morale was high. No marked changes have been reported there during the past few days. An example in destruction is being offered at Aachen and it is still believed that the Allies are working to advance a general and all-out offensive against the enemy "soon." However, the Germans, acting more as mad men than as soldiers, have countered with daring thrusts, apparently trying to find a weak spot for a strong counterattack. The city of Aachen is now completely isolated, and late reports state that 1,300 Fortresses and Liberators today are pounding Cologne, the apparent next objective in the Allied march.

The Canadians are reported to have made much progress in their drive to liberate the approaches to the great Belgian port of Antwerp.

A move to liberate Greece and trap many of the enemy there is progressing. In Hungary turmoil is rampant with the Hungarians fighting the Allies, the Germans, and among themselves.

In Italy, the Americans, after a

First Reports on United War Fund Drive Are Encouraging

First reports reaching here late yesterday clearly indicated that this county would reach and pass its current United War Fund quota. Chairman N. C. Green stated that the preliminary reports were very encouraging, and that while he knew the task would require much work he was certain that the good people of Martin County would remember our boys in the service and support the humane cause in the name of suffering humanity across the world.

No detailed reports could be had as the drive only got underway yesterday morning, but several canvassers were quoted as saying that they had not had the first refusal, that the people were responding liberally and willingly. It isn't likely that the drive will be completed in the county this week, but several communities are working to reach their goals as quickly as possible. Some

sizable contributions have been made but if the challenge is to be met, more individuals will have to share in the great opportunity to do good for and help others.

Martin County is being asked to raise \$9,537.02 for the fund this month. Appeals have been directed to the people from the press, radio, windows, pulpits and schools. It is sincerely hoped that our people will rally in support of the drive and not inconvenience those who are giving of their time and means to the campaign into every community in the county.

Chairman Green stated yesterday that he was much pleased with the response received when he appealed to citizens in the various townships to lead the drive in their respective communities. All of them are busy, and many have contributed freely of their time and means in the past for the war effort.

PARTY MEETING

After hearing some disturbing reports from old party friends, democratic leaders are calling a county-wide meeting of democratic workers and others interested in a big democratic victory for Thursday evening of this week.

The meeting will be held in the county courthouse at eight o'clock, and good democrats are urgently requested to attend. No long speeches are scheduled, but the low-down on the situation will be discussed at that time, it was announced.

Williamston Boy Is Wounded Third Time in European War

Lt. William W. (Billy) Biggs received his third wound in the current war when fragments from a bursting shell tore into his left arm, breaking the bone between the wrist and elbow, according to a message received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. Rome Biggs, here last Saturday. Wounded somewhere in France, the young man is now in a French hospital but it is likely that he will be transferred to Italy where he is to undergo treatment for another month or more.

Insisting that he was getting along all right, that there was no cause to worry, Lt. Biggs said that the shrapnel tore his wrist watch off.

Following the Sicilian campaign, the young man was hospitalized presumably in North Africa for several weeks the early part of August, 1943.

He received the Presidential Unit Citation Ribbon with one star for his work between August and December. About the early part of June this year he was wounded in Italy, once in the hip and once in the knee. He parachuted behind enemy lines just before ground troops were landed during the invasion of Southern France. A short time before he received his third wound, he was reported to have lived a short time in a French doctor's home, enjoying the comforts of home for the first time under gorgeous surroundings.

Speaking briefly about the hospital, Lt. Biggs said it was not bad. The building was an old one, but he went on to say that it was good to sleep in a bed and between sheets one more time. He is being awarded his second bronze Oak Leaf Cluster to the Purple Heart.

Martin County Boys Report Activities In The Pacific Theater

Group of Eleven Are Handling Vital Supply Work as Fighting Engineers

(The personal account below of a group of eleven Martin County boys over in New Guinea, was forwarded by Sgt. Ben Hopkins, and, no doubt, will be read with much interest. A few words were cut out by the censors in Australia.—Ed.)

Others may boast of bloody battles, and of night-fighting in the jungles, but Martin County's sons—eleven of them—in the Engineers, are just as proud of the vital supply work they are doing in the sometimes dubbed "fighting engineers."

The boys, from Williamston and the vicinity, are: Ben Hopkins, Haywood Wynne, Maurice Pate, Gilbert Ward, Leslie Manning, all from Williamston; Robert E. James and Russell Roebuck, of Robersonville; Morris Stalls, of Everetts; William C. Thomas, of Oak City; Dick Slade, of Hamilton, and John Gurganus, of Bear Grass.

Although the nature of their work falls under the heading of military information, and cannot be detailed here, the boys are by no means bored with New Guinea life, and their doings would furnish a comparison to Pvt. Hargrove's famous work. Together since their induction into the Army on February 4, 1943, at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, the eleven have seen five months of Texas and eight months of the California desert, not to mention incidental time spent en route elsewhere and the six months spent so far in New Guinea.

In New Guinea, where civilized conveniences are few and far between, Privates Pate and Stalls are president and secretary-treasurer, respectively of the Laundry Company (Chinese style). Pvt. Haywood Wynne, of Doodle Hill and old Coastal Plain League ballplayer, says he would rather bat at the ball than the Japs.

Sgt. Ben Hopkins, a former civilian Romeo by his own account, now bemoans the good old days and when working is busy with supply procedure. N. B.—The young ladies of Williamston may be interested to know that Sgt. "Sport" Hopkins is now the proud possessor of a full grown beard, which gives him an unusually fierce appearance. He is mostly noted for his ability in talking. Says Sgt. Hopkins, Belk-Tyler is a much better plate than this.

Cpl. Leslie W. Manning, a former electrician employed at Plymouth, N. C., now does wiring, carpentering, and general repair work in the army. He has recently been put in business as a G. I. shearer, the bowl style.

Pfc. John Gurganus, better known to his buddies as "Sergeant York," is frequently heard to say that he prefers Bear Grass to New Guinea. His present assignment is to open a

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FIGHTING SPIRIT

His left arm almost torn off in an automobile accident near here early last Thursday night, Pfc. C. C. Thompson expressed a strong determination to get into actual combat.

The young Silver Spring (Md.) Marine asked Dr. Brown if an artificial limb could be supplied one that would permit him to hold a gun. Behind an obliging smile, the doctor said, "Possibly so." The Marine replied, "That will be fine. You know that old so-and-so left hand never was much use, anyway."

News of the accident was quite a shock to Mrs. Thompson and their two small children. She was said to have broken down and cried over the telephone, the two children joining her.

The young Marine has been transferred to a government hospital, late reports stating that he was getting along remarkably well.

Tells Of Chaplain In Field Service

The following account, centering around Rev. Z. T. Piephoff, former local minister, and taken from the "Howitzer," Camp Howze (Texas) newspaper, tells about the Army chaplain in field service:

"When Battalions of the 140th go out in the field for bivouac, all members of the units live, sleep and eat in the open, including the chaplains.

"The average non-bivouac might wonder just what the chaplain, removed from the chapel, does in the field. A visit to the 140th's Second Battalion, parked out in the open somewhere in Texas' would reveal Chaplain Zachary T. Piephoff's set-up—an open air shelter with candles, a velvet bag drop and golden crucifix arranged beneath perhaps one of the largest oak trees in Texas, near the center of the bivouac area. Beside the altar is the Chaplain's tent, where most of the Chaplain's business is conducted—correspondence, interviews and the like. It's a large tent, complete with field desk, table, book racks full of religious literature and a victrola outfitted with religious, classical and popular records which plays at various times during the day and night when the men are in the area.

"The men do not lack for music, for the portable organ is ready for duty every night with Pfc. Jack Sweat at the keys. The organ sounds off during chow and in the evening men will gather around for varieties of barber shop group songs and solos. Another morale builder supervised by the Chaplains is the Battalion PX, carted out to the field every day, selling anywhere from \$60 to \$70 a day.

"Although each chaplain must return to the 140th Chapel every third day, he carries on his regular duties there, all chaplains must sleep every night out in the field. Night time will find Chaplain Piephoff bearing up under the rigors of open air sleeping, on a cot perched on top of his jeep's trailer."

Soldier To Undergo Another Operation

After undergoing a major operation in an Army hospital somewhere in England the latter part of June or early July, Sgt. Lewis T. Taylor is to undergo another operation soon, his mother, Mrs. C. C. Whitaker, RFD 2, Williamston, was recently advised. The second operation will not be as serious as the first, the 24-year-old soldier stating that the doctors were going to remove a bullet from his chest.

Seriously wounded in France on June 11, five days after D-Day, Sgt. Taylor was removed to a hospital in England where an operation was performed upon his heart by a Seattle (Washington) doctor. He lived to tell the story and describe how he was "knocked" out and later regained consciousness to crawl a short distance to contact members of the Medical Corps.

In his recent letter to his mother, the young man said there was no cause for worry, that possibly he would not be able to write for several weeks following the second operation.

A brother, William Taylor, spent 24 months overseas and is now in a government hospital down in Georgia receiving treatment for stomach trouble and shock.

Pfc. Cecil B. Bonds Is Killed On Saipan

The details of the untimely death of Pfc. Cecil B. Bonds, who was reported killed some time ago, were revealed in a personal letter received by the young man's mother, Mrs. John Bonds, a few days ago from his commanding officer, Captain Donald K. Ellis.

The letter reads:

"Please accept my deepest sympathy in your recent loss of your son, Pfc. Cecil B. Bonds, in action against an enemy of the United States. Your son was in the second platoon of this company and was regarded by Lt. Lockwood, his platoon leader, as a most dependable and intelligent Marine. I have commanded this company for more than a year and know that Pfc. Bonds was well-known and liked by the officers and men of the company, who felt his loss deeply.

"In the first stages of the operation we ran into a heavy enemy artillery barrage immediately after landing. We soon had the men reorganized though and pushed on through it to our first objective; it was while fighting his way forward with the rest of the company that your son was killed.

"Although it will be little consolation to you for the loss of your son, Mrs. Bonds, you will be proud to know that his performance of duty was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Marine Corps."

In a letter to the young man's widow, the former Miss Mildred Bowen, Major C. P. Lancaster stated that Pfc. Bonds was killed on June 15, 1944, at Saipan Island, Marianas Islands, that his body was buried in Grave No. 217, Row No. 3, Plot 2, in a Military Cemetery, Saipan Island, Marianas Islands.

The Purple Heart was awarded posthumously just a short time ago to the widow who lives on RFD 3, Williamston.

Young Bonds had been married only eight days when he left home for service. He never returned.

CHRISTMAS RUSH

The Christmas mail rush for the boys overseas hit the local post office in full force last week-end when several hundred packages were mailed by relatives and friends. Up until last Friday morning the count stood at 1,076. By nightfall, 176 packages had been mailed. Last Saturday, the big day, 204 packages were handled by the local office. Yesterday, the last day for receiving Christmas packages, 194 parcels were received.

Packages may now be mailed only upon the written request by Army men overseas. Packages may be mailed each week to Navy and Marine personnel without a written request.

Christmas cards are to be mailed only when sealed and at the regular 3-cent postage rate. More than three times as many packages were mailed this year than were handled by the local post office for boys overseas a year ago.

To Reopen Markets Tomorrow Morning

Following a two-day emergency holiday, the local tobacco market will resume sales tomorrow morning with an estimated million pounds of the leaf on the floors ready for the buyers. While the sales are being limited to three days this week, the market will resume a four-day selling schedule next week, beginning on Tuesday. The extra one-day holiday this week has thrown the marketing schedule slightly out of gear, but sales will be maintained in accordance with the regular sales card. Tomorrow, October 18, the Roanoke-Dixie has first sale. On Thursday of this week, the Carolina has first sale, and the Farmers is first on Friday. Next week, the Roanoke-Dixie has first sale on Tuesday, the 24th, Planters on Wednesday, October 25th, Farmers on Thursday, October 26, and the New Carolina on Friday, October 27.

Sales on the local market to date total 6,744,490 pounds. A total of \$2,862,960.86 has been paid the growers, the sales averaging \$42.45.

Thomas E. Brown Improving Rapidly

Thomas E. Brown, 31, is improving rapidly in a base hospital either in France or England, according to the latest information received by relatives in the county.

The son of Mrs. Dare Brown of RFD 1, Jamesville, was wounded somewhere on the western front the latter part of September. In a letter received just a short time ago, he stated that a shell fell near him that he could not "duck" quick enough and that fragments hit him in the chest. After spending ten days in a field hospital he was flown to a base hospital for an operation. He is now expecting to return to duty shortly.

It could not be learned, but the young man was possibly wounded while fighting in Germany.

A brother, Edward S. Brown, was fatally injured in the North Burma area on June 21.

The young man has three other brothers in the service, the youngest having left just a short time ago for camp.

No Session Of Court Is Held In County Monday

No session of the Martin County Recorder's Court was held Monday, Judge J. C. Smith explaining that he and possibly some members of the bar had planned a hunting or fishing trip. The next session of the court will be held next Monday.

Sgt. Dennis Ward Wounded In Italy

Sgt. Dennis Ward, young son of Mr. W. J. Ward of Robersonville and the late Mrs. Ward, was slightly wounded on the Italian front presumably some time in late August or September, according to a report received by relatives a short time ago.

In a letter to his father, the young man stated that he was getting along all right and expected to be able to rejoin his outfit "soon."

Sgt. Ward is the fortieth Martin County young man reported to have been wounded in the war so far.

His brother, Reuben Thomas Ward, was seriously wounded in Tunisia on April 9, 1943. He is now getting along all right. The two brothers met in Italy a few months ago. Thomas Ward was the third man from this county reported to have been wounded in the war.

Officers Capture Still And Two Men

Raiding in the Free Union section of Jamesville Township last Saturday morning, Officers J. H. Roebuck and Roy Peel and a special assistant captured a liquor still and arrested two men, Newsom Boston, 37, and Michael Boston, 22.

The plant was equipped with a 50-gallon capacity copper kettle, one of the few made of copper these days. The officers poured out twelve barrels of sugar beer and almost ten gallons of liquor.

Michael Boston, aiding in firing the still, tried to escape and actually ran out of his boots, but the officers' assistant bagged him.

The plant was well hidden, but there was one flaw in the camouflage. A small trail led to a ditch and apparently ended there, the still operators using fresh bushes driven into the ground to block a search. They forgot and threw aside some of the dead brush used days before. When the officers saw that they knew something was wrong and then pulled up the newly planted bushes. The two men were placed under bond in the sum of \$100 each and are to appear before Judge J. C. Smith in the county court next Monday.

Seventy-two Tires Allotted By Board

Seventy-two tires—sixty-three for cars and nine for trucks—were allotted by the Martin County War Price and Rationing Board last Friday evening.

Grade I tires were issued to the following:

C. T. Gaines, Ada I. Price, C. B. Allen, J. R. Coltrain, Joseph James, Henderson Norfleet, V. G. Taylor Dairy, American Fork and Hoe Co., H. U. Peele, John H. Wynn, Frank Bell, Mae Krider Hargrove, Dillon Leggett, Vernon Hardison, H. L. Hopkins, M. B. Barefoot, Z. H. Bedford, Russell Williams, Oris Eli Rodgers, Orange Peel, Ben Whitehurst, Mrs. Harmon Rogerson, Roland Griffin, John H. Rogers, J. O. Manning, Fenner Reppass, S. W. Casper, C. C. Taylor, J. S. Williams, S. T. Wynne, E. B. VanNortwick, P. A. Harrison, J. L. Bunch, F. F. Pollard, H. M. Peel, Harvey Williams, Viola Waters, Mrs. W. S. Mallory, W. E. Rawls, W. D. Gurganus, George Hopkins, R. O. Purvis, Allen Williams, Lonnie C. Gardner, G. B. Ange, G. R. Taylor, C. C. Fleming, H. F. Williams, J. D. Beach, John Stalls, Herbert Lilley, E. E. Brown, H. L. Manning, Charlie Raynor, Dr. V. E. Brown, Mrs. O. S. Winborne, W. I. Skinner and Co., Williamson Package Co., C. L. Wilson, R. J. Hardison, Mrs. J. W. Peell.

Truck tires were issued to the following: Farmville Trucks: Farmville-Woodward Lumber Co., Edgar Davis, John Gurkin, Standard Fertilizer Co., John James.

180,000 Cigarettes For Men In Service

Through the generosity of Martin County citizens, the local Lions Club has been able to send another shipment of 20,000 cigarettes to be distributed free to our service men and women on the front lines. This latest shipment makes a total of 180,000 smokes that the club has been able to send overseas since it began its project in June, and the club wishes to thank everyone who makes a contribution to this worthwhile cause by dropping their donations in one of the Lions cigarette fund jars.

In a recent talk with a local soldier home from two years of service overseas, a member of the club's cigarette committee finds that the boys "over there" really do appreciate what this club, and other clubs, are doing to make their tasks on the battlefield easier, by sending them these comforts from home. According to this soldier, it makes it much easier for overseas servicemen to do a better job when they know that the folks at home are supporting them, and have not forgotten them.

The club's committee has just completed another round of collections and it wishes to recognize the following firms where the largest donations were made. In first place and with an all-time high to date was the jar located at Pender's Grocery, where Lion Ronald Nichols and other employees really emphasized this fine work, and as a result, a total of \$15.15 was raised. Second place honors went to the jar at Terry Brothers store at Bear Grass, where an outstanding job is always done, largely through the efforts of Mrs. Irvin Terry. \$7.31 was raised there. Rounding out the "big three" was another jar that usually ranks high, this one being the Clark's Pharmacy jar, where \$4.71 was realized, thanks to the boys and girls at the fountain.

Side Of Car Ripped Off On Main Street

Driving down the main street here last Friday afternoon at 4:50 o'clock Alton Raynor, 20-year-old Plymouth man, tore into the rear of M. M. Levin's car and ripped the left side off his own car, causing damage estimated at more than \$100. Very little damage was done to the Levin car.

Raynor, booked on a drunken driving charge, swerved to the left to miss a car backing from the curb on his right.

There was a "quad" was little about three-fourths empty, and the man was jailed. Bonds was arranged and he was released that night.

Raynor, not so long out of the court for the alleged theft of cigarettes, escaped unhurt. Miss Ethel Edmondson of Hamilton was a passenger in the car and she also escaped unhurt.

THE RECORD SPEAKS

Thirty-one Martin County men have given their lives in war since Pearl Harbor. So far this year, five lives have been snuffed out on the highways of this county and thirty-six persons have been injured, several permanently. The danger lurking on the highways is to be preferred to that existing in the war zones, but the record at home is not to be dismissed after a casual fashion; that is, if we value human life and have any regard for property.

The 1944 accident record in this county offers a gloomy picture, especially when repeated pleas have been made for curtailed travel and reduced speeds.

The following tabulations offer a comparison of the accident trend: first, by corresponding weeks in this year and last and for each year to the present time.

Year	Accidents	Inj'd	Killed	Dam'g
1944	2	8	1	\$ 800
1943	1	3	0	250
1944	57	36	5	10,000
1943	44	24	5	7325

42nd Week Comparison

Few Register In County Saturday

Incomplete reports from the first day of registration for the November 7th general election point to a more-than-usual interest in politics locally, at least.

Registrar John Henry Edwards, reporting for Williamston's No. 1 precinct, stated that eight new names were placed on the books last Saturday. O. S. Anderson, registrar for the No. 2 precinct here, reported the addition of ten new names that day.

The registration books will be open during the next two Saturdays. Anyone who has not voted in this county since the new registration back in 1940 will have to get their names on the books if they wish to vote in the general election. Those whose names are already on the books will not find it necessary to register again.

Workers Report At Bear Grass Project

Volunteers reporting to the Red Cross bandage room in Bear Grass during recent days have handled the last surgical dressings, it was reported this week by the chairman, Mrs. G. A. Peel.

Names of the volunteers: Mrs. Sam Mobley, Mrs. Wheeler Rogerson, Mrs. Hildreth Rogerson, Mrs. Henry White, Jr., Mrs. Irving Terry, Mrs. G. A. Peele, Mrs. Kneez-er Harrison, Mrs. Ruth Hazel Harris, Mrs. Martha Harris, Miss Velma Bailey, Mrs. Grace Knox, Mrs. Alonzo Revels, Miss Elizabeth Bailey, Mrs. Lester Terry, Miss Mamie Clyde Moore, Mrs. Effie Rogers, Mrs. John Jackson, Mrs. Willie Gurganus, Mrs. N. R. Rogerson, Mrs. G. A. Peel.

ROUND-UP

Last week-end was a comparatively quiet period despite the fair and the larger-than-usual crowds that poured into town. Only five arrests were made by cooperating officers. Two persons were jailed for drunken driving, two for public drunkenness, and one for allegedly assaulting another with a deadly weapon.

Four of the group were white, and their ages ranged from 22 to 51 years.

Sheriff's Condition Slightly Improved

A patient in a Washington hospital Monday of last week, Sheriff C. B. Roebuck this morning was reported some better, but he continues quite ill. He was quite restless until about two o'clock this morning, but since that time he seemed much brighter. He was to have received a blood transfusion yesterday, but he rallied and it was not considered necessary at the time.

FIRST MEETING

The local Parent-Teacher Association will hold its first meeting of the current term in the high school auditorium tomorrow afternoon at 3:30 o'clock, it was announced today by Mrs. R. L. Coburn, president.

The Cub Scouts, their organization sponsored by the P. T. A., will show an interesting picture relative to their activities. Important business will be placed before the group, and a social period arranged by Miss Vera Lowery's home economics class, will be enjoyed.

It is earnestly hoped that a goodly number of parents and other patrons of the school will attend.

Baptism Service In The Local Church Tomorrow

Immediately following the regular prayer meeting at the Baptist Church Wednesday night, a baptism service will be held with Rev. W. B. Harrington officiating. The candidates are all from Jamesville. The public is invited.