VOLUME XLVIII—NUMBER 3

Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Tuesday, January 9, 1945.

ESTABLISHED 1899

Draft Board in County Rruce Whitley Tells INCOME TAX Of Raids and Flying Deputy Collector John D. Lilley of the U. S. Department of Revenue will be us the William on Wednesday. On Wednesday.

BLOOD "BANK"

Local volunteer firemen have

volunteered to create a blood reserve for little Miss Peggy

Harrison who has already been

given over 100 transfusions and

who will need many more be-

fore she outgrows a serious ill-

ness. Every last member of the

department volunteered to give

their blood to the little girl, and

last night they went out in two

groups to have their blood typ-

in order as they are needed. The

little girl, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Harrison of Bear

Grass, will likely report for another transfusion within the next

Enemy Fleeing His

Advance Position in

Landed on Luzon in the

Lingayen Bay Area

After absorbing a powerful punch

delivered by the enemy on Decem-

ing for another counterattack some-

Late reports from the front state

that the Germans are fleeing the tip

four miles from the border after fail-

have been cut off for the Germans.

where along the line.

hreat to Strasbourg.

land have yet been reported.

voy was moving northward.

Died Saturday Evening

Mattie Clemmons Reeves, aged

there last Saturday evening at 7:00

colored woman and respected citi-

in the church cemetery.

In the Pacific theater, the Ameri-

The volunteers will be called

Their Jon Status Changed, Four Men Are Reclassified

4-F's in Non-Essential Jobs Subject To Recall in The Near Future

While no far-reaching instructions have been received so far, the Martin County Draft Board along with all others in the country was just recently instructed to call up all men in the 4-F classification who are not in essential work and those who have changed jobs without the proper authority. The directive is centered on those men whose ages range from 18 to 37 years, inclusive. It is fairly certain that the new ruling will not apply to those 4-F men who are farming and those who are engaged in one of the list of 35 job classifications. But those 4-F men who have taken their classifications to mean that they possessed a free ticket to idleness and indifference, are now The Belgian Sector facing recall.

All the details for handling the Americans Are Said To Have 4-F men have not been worked out, and only meager instructions have been received by the draft authorities. Reliable but yet unofficial reports maintain that physical standards are being lowered, meaning that quite a few of the 4-F men will ber 16, American forces aided by the French in the south and British and be called into the services. It is also understood that other jobs will Canadians in the north apparently now have the situation on the West-

be created for some The registrant who changes his ern Front pretty well in hand. Howjob without permission is subject to ever, fierce fighting continues along reclassification. Meeting in special several sectors of the front, and then session last Friday night, the counthere is the possibility that Field ty draft board placed the following Marshal Von Rundstedt is preparmen in 1-A: William Sherrod Smith, c, RFD 1, Jamesville, and Washington, D. C.; Haywood John Brown, w, RFD 1, Oak City; Archie Willie Teel, c, of Robersonville; and Ernest Phillips, c, RFD 1, Palmyra.

An order just received instructs the draft authorities to call all farmers between the ages of 18 and 25, inclusive. National draft authorities explained that "It has been found men now deferred in the 18 through 25 age group because of agricultural occupation is not as essential to that older men and possibly some 4-F's who are now idling away their time will have to take over the farm

duties or face the consequences. The order calling for all farm workers in the lower age group was first issued the early part of last year, and with some few exceptions most of them have been called in North Carolina. Now the instructions would make the call virtually complete, according to the way the new rulings are interpreted.

It is fairly apparent that the government authorities, including the draft officials, have depended upon the willing cooperation of the people, that now a final show-down is to be expected shortly. If the late rulings do not solve the problem facing the nation, a definite work or fight order is to be expected.

It could not be learned when the work on the 4-F files, but the clerks en Bay where a big American conare already studying the records. And it is honestly believed that those 4-F's in the 18-25 age group who do not settle down and get into essential work immediately, they will be subject to recall.

Mrs. Abbitt Dies In Virginia Hospital

who died in a Norfolk hospital Wed- (A Berlin broadcast declared that That was the first flying bomb I had ly heavy fog almost blanketed the nesday night at 10:30 o'clock follow- the French front had been "cracked ever heard, but a short time later highway and reduced the visibility, ing a short illness. Rev. Kenneth E. wide open" by a new bridgehead they came over fairly regular, and but the officer saw the car in time Burke, pastor of Burrows Memorial south of Strasbourg from which Ger-Baptist Church, of which she was a man forces overran six Rhine valley they never came close enough to do ding into the Buick. No one was hurt member, conducted the service held in the funeral chapel of James V. miles south of the city. The report in the funeral chapel of James V.

Lawn Cemetery. tive of Petersburg, she had been a of the Maas River at Wanssum, 26 They really do move. I have seen ersident of Norfolk for 40 years and miles east of the Allied base at several in daylight and some pretty had resided at 119 West Tenth Street. Eindhoven. Surviving her are two sons, Willard | More than 700 United States heavy O. Abbitt, of Williamston, and Jas. bombers joined the battle in the Ar-Raymond Abbitt, of Norfolk; four dennes, plastering road and rail sisters, Miss Love Phillips and Miss junctions inside the Belgian bulge Lillian Phillips, of Norfolk; Mrs. and the same sort of targets far back Marshall Overman, of Smithfield, into the Reich. and Mrs. James T. Shepherd, of Suffolk; a brother, Melvin Phillips, Aged Everetts Citizen of Norfolk; a grandchild, Virginia Abbitt, of Norfolk.

Firemen Called To Roof Fire Early Last Saturday zen of Everetts, died at her home

Answering a wailing alarm at 2 o'clock. She had been in feeble o'clock last Saturday morning, local health for several years, spending volunteer firemen went to a roof the last three in bed as an invalid.

Man Sends Greetings From Belgium

Bruce Whitley, for twenty years make-up man on The Enterprise force, tells of his experiences in England during air raids. In his let-ter written in Belgium December 13, he explains that he had not been allowed to tell of his early experiences in and around London. His letter reads:

"When I first came to England more than a year ago, the Germans had quit their day-light bombing of the island, thanks to the anti-aircraft guns and the fighter plane defense that was then available. There was hardly a night, however, that the air raid warning did not sound, and the sirens were weird sounding things. They just gave you the creeps. At first I did not pay much attention to them because I did not hear any planes, but after I had been in England about a month some came over our camp. We were alerted and it flares dropped and heard the guns. Annie L. Roberson, 500 Williams St.

never came very close. "About a month later, I had a pass formance of duty." to go to town. We traveled in a convoy of one or two trucks from each company. Well, for some reason, the ord, was written by Captain Harold convoy officer was late that night R. Loftus (Annapolis, Md.), a Musand it was a good thing, too, for we missed being hit by just about that enemy plane in aerial combat in admuch time. The road that we were dition to destroying a great amount on ran close to a railroad bridge and of German military equipment and that was what the planes were after, supplies by strafing. It reads, "Durbut they missed and hit the highway ing the months of my association and several homes instead. We got with you as pilot of your aircraft I to town that night by being rerouted and getting there much later, but we didn't mind that after missing the

"There was nothing eventful for the following few months. Then I of the bulge drive into Belgium, that they are retreating to a point about happened to be in town on Sunday night on a week-end pass. I had just left the picture show and was on my ing in their main objective. The enemy wedge, driven almost as far as way to a pub when an air raid warn-50 miles in some areas, has been nar- ing was sounded. I didn't pay any rowed to less than ten miles, and virthat the further deferment of all the main supply routes my way. Then all at once it felt as if the world was being torn from its While the situation in the Belgian moorings. A bomb was dropped and I thought it was right next to me. area was greatly improved, the Amthe best interest of our war effort ericans aided by the French have reas is the urgent and more essential need of the Army and Navy for young men." It was also explained by the French nave reversed the enemy's offensive in northeast France. The Seventh Army has seized the initiative there, blunting the enemy drive and reducing the a deafening sound. That is as close as I ever want to be to one of those On the Eastern Front the Russians babies when it goes off. The flak have absorbed the drive advanced fell like rain and I was advised to by the Germans for the relief of the go inside as I did not have my helbesieged garrisons at Budapest, and met. The search lights were workare now driving on toward Vienna ing and they had a plane in there along the Danube. The fierceness of and all at once there was a big exthe fight for the relief of Budapest plosion in the air and that was the is evidenced by the report stating end of that raider. I saw three shot that the Russians knocked out 90 down that night by anti-aircraft

tanks and killed over 2,000 Germans guns. "From that time it was fairly in a single day. No developments on the anticipated drive through Powhere we were located until we had almost finished building the airfield. cans, according to enemy reports, We were visited by Jerry every have landed in the Lingayen Bay night for about three weeks. Although they never hit the field they area, on Luzon Island, about 100 miles north of Manila. The action has came pretty close sometimes, and we tion has been in progress in Lingay- to have to get up and dress and go On the home front, plans for a The raids stopped suddenly. I guess work or fight order are still being our bombers were beginning to do considered. The latest move is di- an effective work, and I didn't hear rected principally at 4-Fers who have any more planes until the robot or turned their backs on the war ef- flying bomb started visiting the

American counterattacks wrested back part of the German bridgehead ed several times and we had just wife and mother escaped with slight on the Rhine eight miles north of completed the construction of an- injuries in a minor automobile acci-Strasbourg, the French stemmed the other field. I had to get up one morn-dent on the Washington Highway enemy push 16 miles south of the ing before light and I heard a plane yesterday afternoon about 4 o'clock. Funeral services were conducted Doughboys recaptured Wingen, had ever heard before. Then all at officer skidded into the rear end of Sentember His kin injuries did not last Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock for where the Nazi push had driven 15 once it cut off and in a few seconds Mr. Alec Williams' Buick which had Star as an American Red Cross work-Derry. Interment was in Forest was without Allied confirmation.) seven miles away. I did not see one British troops in eastern Holland, in the day time while I was in Engriding Canadian tanks, wiped out a land, but saw several at night with W. and Mrs. Virginia Phillips. A na- German bridgehead on the west bank the fire pouring out the tail end. Fortunately for us they kept going. "When were were finishing one field, a formation of our bombers

> you could see a number of little (Continued on page six)

> started over just as we were lining

up for chow. All at once one of the

big bombers broke formation, and

Land Prices Not So High After All In the County

Contrary to a report released last week, stating that land prices in the county had exceeded levels reached in World War I, comes a reliable refire at a home on Riddick Street and | Funeral services will be conduct- port stating that land prices are not returned to the station a few min-utes later after spilling a small quan-o'clock in the Everetts church by A farm that was sold last week for tity of water. Very little damage was Rev. Callier, and burial will follow \$6,000 was sold for \$15,000 in 1919, it

farmers in filing their federal income tax returns.

Nearly every farmer is required to file a return, and while it will be impossible for Mr. Lilley to assist everyone he will render every service possible. Quite a few farmers, calling on lawyers and accountants and others, have already filed their returns in this county.

Local Young Man Is Commended for Duty Performance time

S.-Sgt. George Lee Roberson Cited for Unflagging **Devotion to Duty**

15th AAF in Italy-Staff Sergeant was then for the first time that I saw George L. Roberson, 26, son of Mrs. The planes, however, were a safe dis- Williamston, N. C., as airplane mechtance from us, but you could hear anic i nthe ground crew of a 15th Shortage Of Tires Is bombs go off and it made me feel a AAF P-51 Mustang fighter group little scared, but after a while I did- has been commended by the pilot of n't think much about them for they the plane on which he serves as **Becoming Acute As** 'crew chief" for his "outstanding per-

The commendation, now a permanent part of Roberson's military rectang pilot who has destroyed one have had occasion to observe the motor vehicle tires is said to be quality of your work and have found acute, one report stating that it is your performance of duty to be outstanding.

"I wis hto commend very highly the diligence and skill you have revealed in caring for your aircraft. months behind, and orders, in some Your efforts have been largely responsible for the exceptional manner in which your plane has functioned throughout its many missions this month, but it is almost certain against the enemy, and the conscien- that the supply will not be sufficient tious interest and unflagging devo- to meet the quotas. In December, 309 tion to duty you have constantly dis- tires for autos and 42 for small trucks played have inspired in me utmost were allotted the county, and accordconfidence in your ability. Through ing to one report quite a few of those your personal efforts and efficiency certificates are still being held by inyou have established an excellent dividuals. maintenance record and have thus Last Friday night, the Martin it immeasurably."

son has held for 18 months, he is in and four for small trucks. charge of the work of four men, who, Mustang fighter plane in tip-top flying condition.

He is responsible for all increase Williams Willia including himself, comprise the following:

tions, engine changes, repairs, and Bertha Phillips Moore, Henry Bell, Holland, he was born in Greensboro modifications of equipment on his Tom Sessoms, James A. Daniel, Mrs. plane. His "pre-flight" inspection, John C. Jones, Lula W. Coburn, Jas. when he was quite young, and he west Pacific 27 menths and who is when he was quite young, and he an inspection made before the plane W. Bowen, George T. Bailey, Geo. can be flown on a mission, is made C. James, Jesse L. Hale, Dan W. in order to check oil pressure, the Jones, S. A. Robertson, R. C. Gurcontrols, the magnitos, for coolant or ganus, John H. Roberson, Roy Clark, oil leaks, and for general engine per- S. C. Bailey, George P. Roberson, formance. This Roberson does while James A. Chance, H. S. Williams, the plane is on the ground by run- John Stalls, S. R. Jackson, E. A. Rognot been confirmed. It was also were made to hunt cover a lot of ning the plane's engine to speeds erson, J. L. Mobley, Joe Ward, J. T. not been confirmed. It was also were made to nunt cover a lot of claimed by the enemy that much action has been in progress in Lingay- to have to get up and dress and go if the test meets all flying standards, Henry Lee, George W. Revels, Slade, he then O.K.'s the plane as being Rhodes Co., Robert L. Stevenson, A. R. White, Robert L. Ward, Frank

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Sheriff And Others Escape Uninjured In Minor Wreck Former Local Girl

THE RECORD SPEAKS . . .

Martin County motorists traveled through the first week of the New Year without a reported accident. It is a record well worth maintaining during the

remainder of the year. In the first week of last year one person was killed and a property damage of \$500 was

The following tabulations offer a comparison of the accident trend: first, by corresponding Hunters taking squirrel and deer weeks in this year and last and now are subject to the prosecution for each year to the present time. 1st Week Comparison Accidents Inj'd Killed Dam'ge

ended January 1. Comparison To Date not close until February 10.

County Over The Past Week end. ronowing necess octinan Attack

More Colored Men Are Called Lloyd Hassell, 25, Is From County for the Services

Five Martin County colored men | Benjamin Franklin Bynum, Parwere ordered to report this week for mele and Norfolk. final induction into the Armed Services. Judging from the size of the Jamesville. call, the allegedly urgent need for more men is not yet being felt in this county. It is believed, however, that larger calls will be received in due

Four of the five men called to report for service today are married and they are leaving behind eleven county white men have been directchildren. For the first time in recent ed to report for final induction next ty last week-end. While the mesmonths no tender-age registrants Tuesday, according to unofficial inwere called and none of the men formation heard here today. A preomes from the farm.

The names and addresses of those called for final induction today fol- and it is likely to be some larger

Quotas Are Reduced

Sixty-four Auto Tires, Release

ed, Only 4 Small Ones

Available Last Friday

Although allotments have been re

duced only slightly, the shortage of

automobile and a few other types of

becoming more difficult to get en

purchase certificates. Shipments are

running from six weeks to two

cases, are not more than half filled.

The county was allotted 304 auto-

mobile tires and 34 for small trucks

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Wins Bronze Star

tation said that Miss Gould "display-

the morale and welfare of the pa-

The citation added that she was

severely injured near the end of the

Tunisian campaign but refused

transfer to a base hospital and re-

sumed her work of caring for sick

and wounded service men prior to

Miss Gould at that time was as

signed to the 77th Evacuation Hospi-

tal. Later she was transferred to

England and subsequently she par-

ticipated in the invasion of France.

She is now somewhere in France

For Deer And Squirrel

Hunting Season Is Closed

her complete recovery.

with a clubmobile unit.

ough tires to supply the holders of

Frank Scott, Williamston. James Elbert Brooks, RFD 1.

R. S. Howell, Hamilton. Davie Leonard James, Jamesville and Richmond.

Bynum was transferred to Norfolk for induction, and James was transferred to Richmond for induction. induction call for white men is expected the latter part of this month, than those recently received.

ROUND-UP

County and local law enforcement officers had a comparatively quiet period during the first week of the new year. Only five persons were arrested and jailed, four for public drunkenness and one for indecent ex-

Four of the five were white men, and the ages of the group ranged from 27 to 43 years.

Several persons were returned to jail yesterday following their trials in the county court.

Bennie F. Holland Dies of Injuries in

County Youth Had Just Recently Returned from European War Fronts

eral Hospital at Swannanoa, near man developed promising qualities facilitated the operations of your un- County War Price and Rationing Asheville, last Saturday morning at Board issued certificates for the pur-share of 64 Crade Landamorbile time 9 o'clock of head injuries received considerate of others. He entered the As "crew chief," a position Rober- chase of 64 Grade I automobile tires the night before in Asheville. Details of the young man's injuries and liamston in December, 1942, for Fort resulting death could not be learned Bragg. After a short stay there he Grade I tires were allotted the here immediately, but one report was transferred to VanDorn, Miss.,

He is responsible for all inspec- Peel, Lorie Williams, Willie Spruill, of Martin County, and Lillie Holly another went to live with the James ter, Mrs. Mildred Mae Snell, of Askews in Plymouth. The brother Washington County. made his home with an aunt, Mrs. In his last letters home, he said, in Jesse Cherry, and Bennie was left part: "Dear Daddy, It is snowing ovin the care of Mrs. Emma Riddick er here again and it is about a foot while the father sought a permanent deep. There isn't much going on here home for him. A few days later the now (December 8). I was out in father was found dead in Roanoke front of our lines this morning but Rapids and the youngster found a didn't see any Krauts. I think they welcome i nthe Riddick home, later are snowed under." In a second and moving with the family to Williams- his last letter, the young man said ton where he lived until he entered under date of December 12, that he

went overseas in November, 1943. preciation for letters received from Miss Natalie Gould, former resi- He was wounded last April in the his father. The young man went on dent of Williamston and a sister of knee and following his recovery he to say that he was sending all his Driving towards Williamston, the Mrs. Dewey Hayman, of Williams- was sent to France where he was September. His hip injuries did not September. His hip injuries did not keep him out of service but a short Prominent Farmer front he suffered shell shock in Ocous service in North Africa. The citober and was returned to the States in November and was undergoing treatment in the government hospiing the extensive recreational program which contributed greatly to at home and had been back in the Asheville area only a short time when he met his untimely end.

Before entering the service, worked at various jobs here, including one with P. P. Peel. He later worked a short time in Newport

The body was shipped from Asheville yesterday afternoon and is due to reach here early tomorrow morning. Rev. W. B. Harrington will conduct the funeral services in the Riddick's Grove Baptist Church Thursday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock and interment will follow in the church cemetery.

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Wants To Contact Martin

Stationed at the Third Station Hosof the courts, County Game Warden pital, APO 298, New York, N. Y., Mount, Mrs. W. E. Gardner of Suf-W. O. Abbitt explaining that the sea- Captain Chaplain Z. B. T. Cox, for- folk, and Mrs. L. D. Martin of Jackson for shooting squirrel and deer mer Martin County man, says he is sonville, Fla.; five sons, Bony Fa-The season is stll open for taking boys over in England. Given their Fort Myers, Fla., Bruce Fagan of birds, turkeys and rabbits, and will addresses, the chaplain will look Louisville, Ky., Julian and Dan Fa-

Killed; Others Are **Wounded or Missing**

Jamesville Young Man Losses His Life on First Day of Big Drive, December 16

The cost in human life and sufferng just before and during the big German drive into Luxembourg and Belgium about the middle of last A comparatively small number of month was revealed in 7 casualty messages that poured into the counsages were the first to reach here following the big drive that was iaunched on December 16th, it is possible that they cover most of this county's casualties for that period since reports declare that casualties during the latter part of the push were considerably smaller.

Jesse S. Fulford was wounded in Germany on December 3.

Roy Gray Manning was slightly wounded four days before the big offensive was launched by the en-

Lloyd M. Hassell was killed in action on December 16, the first day of the drive

Onward Gardner, in the same outfit with Young Hassell, was reported missing on December 17, and Joseph Daniel and Earl Caudill were slighty wounded on the same date, and Francis W. Peel was slightly wounded in Belgium on December 23.

Few details were offered in the nessages, but more information is expected within the next few weeks. Pfc. Lloyd M. Hassell, son of Mr. Charles A. Hassell, of Jamesville, and the late Mrs. Maude Dillon Hassell, was born in Creswell, Washington County, on September 30, 1918. About five years ago he moved with Asheville Hospital About five years ago he moved with his father, three brothers and sister to Jamesville where he was employed by Foreman-Blades Lumber Company and the Wood Towing Company. His mother died when he was a lad of only eight years, but the father held the family together in Benjamin F. Holland, young Mar- a happy group. Although he was tin County man, died in Moore Gen- without a mother's care, the young

by three brothers, Charles Edwin on March 29, 1922. His mother died Hassell, who has been in the Southwas brought to this county with a now in the Netherlands East Indies; brother and two sisters. One of the Kenneth R. Hassell, stationed at girls was adopted by Mrs. Louis Hol- Camp Gruber, Okla., and James Lesliday and the late Mr. Holliday and lie Hassell, of the home, and a sis-

was getting along right good and ex-After training at Fort Bragg and pressed the hope that all were well at home. He also expressed his ap-

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Dies In Dardens

Montford Stokes Fagan, prominent itizen and retired farmer of the Dardens community, died at his home there last Friday evening at 6:45 o'clock. He had been in declining health for several years.

A son of the late N. B. and Mary Ann Fagan, he was born in this community 79 years ago, living and farming all his life in the Dardens community. In 1888 he was married to Miss Beulah Inez Smith, also of this county. She died several years

A member of the Free Will Baptist Church for many years, Mr. Fagan was highly regarded as a neighbor and citizen of the county.

Rev. P. B. Nickens, pastor of the Plymouth Baptist Church, conducted the funeral services at the home Sunday afternoon, interment following in the family plot in the Meth-County Men In England odist Church cemetery in Dardens. Mr. Fagan is survived by three

daughters, Mrs. E. T. Coley of Rocky anxious to meet some of the county gan of Wilmington, Harry Fagan of gan of Dardens.