

County Asked to Raise \$2,282 for Relio Fund

Drive On A County- Wide Basis Friday

Appeals To Be Made Through Schools, Clubs and By Direct Mail

Plans are being completed this week by Chairman L. B. Wynne with the assistance of Vice Chairman Mrs. Glenn Norman of Robersonville for advancing the annual drive for the infantile paralysis fund in Martin County. Tentative plans for the drive to raise \$2,282 have already been made and the chairman is visiting various parts of the county, distributing coin collectors and appealing to the schools, club leaders and others for their all-out support of the drive. The county has raised most double the amount raised last year, but it is based on conservative estimates, the authorities explaining that every precaution should be made now in case poliomyelitis strikes in the future.

Chairman Wynne is addressing approximately 300 letters to individuals in the county, explaining the need for replenishing the fund now and urging liberal donations. In addition to the direct appeals, the school children are expected to materially aid the drive with their "mille of dime envelopes." Coin collectors are being placed throughout the county, and the general public is urged to fill 'em up. On Saturday, January 27th, club leaders and others will conduct lapel sales on the streets in the several towns. No dance will be held, and the success of the drive will be determined by individual contributions.

Considerable progress was made in combating the disease last year, and preparations to meet any emergency are now being advanced. During the epidemic that swept sections of North Carolina last year, the national fund contributed \$324,000 to the emergency hospitals for handling the cases in this State. The State Fund contributed \$50,772.92, including \$243.65 raised during the emergency by the Williamston Junior Woman's Club.

There were three cases of the disease reported in this county last year, one in Bear Grass and two in Goose Nest Township. One of them

Insurance Group In Annual Meeting

Completing a most successful year in 1944, the Martin County Branch of the Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Association held its annual meeting in the courthouse recently. Officers and directors were re-elected and the business of the association was reviewed. Mr. Sylvester Peel was chosen to head the organization as president for the new year. Joseph S. Griffin was elected vice president to succeed himself and George C. Griffin again is serving as secretary-treasurer. Messrs. S. T. Everett, W. M. Green, Leroy Taylor, Jos. S. Griffin, W. B. Harrington and Joshua L. Coltrain were re-elected as directors. The association now has 678 members and has \$1,148,275.00 insurance in force. At the present time the association has \$20,406.09 cash on hand. During the year, the association reported losses amounting to \$1,220.50, and the rate was unusually low.

ROUND-UP

Five persons, including a young white woman, were arrested and detained in the county jail during the week-end. Four were charged with being drunk and disorderly and one was jailed for alleged drunken driving. Earlier in the week a young white man whose name was not divulged was detained in the county jail for being absent without leave from the armed service.

The ages of those arrested last week-end ranged from 25 to 34 years. Three of the five were white.

Club Members Hold Annual Meeting In County Courthouse

Progress Made in 1944 Briefly Reviewed and Achievements Recognized

More than two hundred and fifty persons attended the annual Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs and 4-H achievement at the county courthouse recently. The meeting was opened with a song and devotionals led by Mrs. M. C. Liverman, of Oak City. Mrs. Henry Early, Palmyra, gave the welcome address with a response by Mrs. Herbert Roebuck, Cross Roads. The treasurer's report shows that \$25 was given to Jane S. McKimmon loan fund; \$2.10 to Penny for Friendship fund; \$5.00 to Red Cross, and Chinese Relief; \$2.50 to State dues, and \$26 to county home.

Other features of the morning program were: Report of Home Demonstration Work in 1944. Mrs. Arthur Peaks, Sweet Home; Duet, Susie W. Gurganus and Elvin H. Rawls, Everetts 4-H Club; Forecast of Spring Fashions, Mrs. R. L. Leggett, Bear Grass; group singing, 4-H members of 6th grade, Farm Life School; a picnic lunch was served in the curb market building.

The main feature of the afternoon program was the presentation of a \$25 war bond by Mr. D. V. Clayton, representing the Bankers Association of Martin County. This bond was given by the banks as a reward to the 4-H boy or girl who had done the most toward "Feeding a Fighter" in 1944. In awarding this bond to Eldon Coltrain, Farm Life 4-H member, Mr. Clayton presented a real challenge to the boys and girls to do even greater work in 1945. Eldon Coltrain, 11-year-old boy, made \$412 on a two-acre peanut project with \$206 clear after he had divided the profit with his landlady.

Dorothy Brown Manning, Ola Gray Williams, Mary Dean Hardison and Madolin Hudgins modeled dresses which they had worn in the county style review in September at Halifax, N. C. A clothing achievement medal was presented to Mary Dean Hardison and Dorothy Brown Manning.

Certificates of achievement were presented to the following as county winners: Ola Gray Williams, records; Rachel Simpson, food conservation; Edith Roperson, home improvement; Mary Dean Hardison, clothing achievement, and Dorothy Brown Manning, style review.

In recognition for helpful service in the war effort, certificates of

Great Strides Made By Allied Forces On Every Major Front

Germany and Toward Ma- nila; Russians Moving

Now that the Belgium bulge has been virtually wiped out and with the Americans driving back into German territory along the Western Front, and with the Russians making great progress in the East, it is fairly apparent that the tide of war has reached an important point in the European theater, that the present struggle has reached a point comparable to that reached in the last war when the Germans had spent their last major force and started retreating, defeat following a few months later. It will be recalled that the enemy offered a stubborn resistance in 1918, and it is certain that much heavy fighting still lies ahead in this war, but it is hard to believe that the Germans can again launch a great offensive. The Kaiser had his back free in 1918, but today Russian armies, numbering over one and one-half million men are on the march from the East. The course of the war now depends on the enemy's fanatical leaders. If they recognize the facts, they will submit to the inevitable. If they choose to have their own nation wiped out the struggle will continue for some time.

After eliminating virtually all the Belgian bulge, American First and Third Armies have joined ranks and are now driving back into German territory. American casualties since December 16 up to about a week ago in that sector, totaled approximately 40,000, a figure considerably below what had been feared. Most of the casualties, or a goodly party of them, were prisoners. The enemy's losses were estimated at more than 80,000 and will possibly run up to 100,000. The enemy's losses in guns and other equipment were enormous and, no doubt, he will find it difficult to equip his battered divisions.

Described as one of the greatest offensives of the war, a drive is in progress by the Russians against the

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Mendenhall Youth Wounded In Foot

Pvt. Earl Taylor Mendenhall, young son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Mendenhall of Bear Grass Township, was painfully but not seriously wounded last Saturday morning when he shot himself in the foot with a rifle at the home of Fate Hodges.

The young man, nearing the end of a furlough at home, was returning the rifle to the owner before he left for his station at Fort Bragg. He removed the bullets from the rifle magazine and apparently overlooked the one in the barrel. He was sitting in the Hodges home handling the gun when it accidentally fired, the bullet entering just above the ankle and tearing through the big bone in his foot. He was given first aid treatment in the local hospital and was removed in an Army ambulance late that evening to an Army hospital at Seymour-Johnson Field at Goldsboro for treatment. Last reports stated he was getting along very well. The young man has been in the service only a few months.

The accident followed two tragedies in the Mendenhall home, a brother, Walter Thomas, having lost an arm while in action on the Italian front early last summer, and two sisters having lost their lives when they were run down by a drunken driver near their home early last fall.

WAR BOARD IDEAS In the wake of drastic changes recently proposed by the War Relief Board, the War Board has been set up in Martin County War Board

It was announced that the War Board had been set up in Martin County. The board is composed of representatives from the War Relocation Authority, the War Relocation Administration, and the War Relocation Service. The board is to be responsible for the administration of the War Relocation Authority in Martin County.

Recent requests for permanent releases from the farm because there was no one left to help with the crops were denied by the board. It has been pointed out that where there is a scarcity of labor on the farm, those left will find it logical to carry on to the best of their ability, reducing their plantings to the point where they can be handled.

Hit-and-Run Driver Damages Lilley Car

Driving after a reckless fashion, an operator of an old model Chevrolet sideswiped an automobile driven by Elmo Lilley on the Washington-Williamston highway near here about 8 o'clock last Saturday evening. No great damage was done and as far as it could be learned no one was hurt, certainly not badly. The fender on the Lilley car were battered and a tire on the hit-and-run driver's car was damaged. Patrolman W. E. Saunders, investigating the wreck, estimating the damage at about \$50. Continuing toward Williamston, the hit-and-run driver soon deserted his car and ran away. The owner's identity could not be determined immediately.

Father Of Local Man Dies Saturday

Jason V. Simmons, father of Mr. Dampy L. Simmons of Williamston, died in a Whiteville hospital last Saturday morning following a long illness. A resident of Freeland, he was 60 years of age. Funeral services were held at the home Sunday afternoon by Rev. Mack Moore, interment following in the family cemetery.

Mr. and Mrs. Simmons attended the services from here. The deceased is survived by his widow and several children besides his son here.

RESIGNATIONS

At least eight operators in the local telephone exchange have resigned during the past few weeks, according to unofficial reports heard here this week. Included in the list were one or two operators who had been with the company for a long number of years. "It was no strike," one of the operators recently quitting the company, declared. She added that it was next to impossible to live on the salary she received.

It was pointed out that some and possibly most of those resigning had accepted jobs or were planning to enter other essential work.

Several operators have been recruited locally and from nearby communities and towns, it was learned.

Eight Young County White Boys Report For Final Induction

Eighteen Years Old; One 4-F Is Included

Called in the service of their country, eight young county white men left today for final induction at Fort Bragg. All of those answering the current call had just reached their eighteenth birthdays during recent months except one and he is only twenty years of age. All of the boys are single. Three come from the farm, four from industry or non-farm jobs and one explained that he was unemployed at the time he registered. The group includes a young man who had previously made a trip to the induction center and was rejected on account of physical defects. The young man, apparently willing to serve his country, had the defects remedied and recently passed the induction tests.

The names and addresses of the young men answering the current call are, as follows:

Benjamin Franklin Lilley, RFD 1, Williamston.

William Gray Waters, Williamston.

Russell Bailey Wynne, Everetts.

Luther William Respass, RFD 1, Jamesville.

George Tilghman Lilley, RFD 1, Williamston.

Marvin Richard Knox, RFD 2, Robersonville.

Ramon Otis Farmer, RFD 1, Robersonville.

Willie Lilley, Jr., RFD 1, Williamston.

A fairly sizable group of white men will likely be called the latter part of this month for their pre-induction examinations. The exact date they are to leave could not be learned.

According to unofficial but reliable reports heard during recent weeks, the size of the draft calls is almost certain to be larger in the months to follow. However, as far as it could be learned no calls have been made for February.

During the meantime, draft authorities, it is understood, are studying the list of 4-F's and other registrants who have switched jobs without board permission, and it is possible that some out of those groups will be made subject to call.

Wounded Soldiers Appreciate Gifts

In sending gifts to a number of Martin County servicemen in American hospitals convalescing from wounds received overseas, pupils of the Bear Grass school learned the meaning of the great saying, "Give and it shall be given unto you," reports stating that most of the boys had expressed their great and sincere appreciation. The youth anxious to do their bit worked earnestly under the direction of their teacher, Mrs. Borel, and prepared useful gift boxes for every returned wounded soldier whose address they could get. It was a happy experience for the pupils, and, no doubt, their thoughtfulness brought happiness to others.

The gifts included, cigarette cases, books, decks of cards, checker sets, stationery, wallets, bath robes, pajamas and shaving sets.

Addresses were furnished by Mrs. S. H. Grimes, home service director for the Red Cross in this chapter, and others were taken from The Enterprise mailing lists.

There were a few other Martin County servicemen recuperating in hospitals in this country, but their addresses were not available.

Bond Sales in County Nearly Double Quota

FARM GOALS?

Meeting in the county courthouse tomorrow, farm leaders, including community and county AAA committeemen and representatives of the several agricultural agencies will discuss farm goals and plans for the 1945 season. Mr. A. P. Hassell, district representative of the Triple A, and other leaders will address the meeting opening at 9:30 a. m. and scheduled to last during a greater part of the day.

In the light of recent developments on the war fronts, it is believed that increased goals of food and feed crops will be asked.

Four Presidential Citations Received By Fighter Groups

Young County Man Member of Outfit Given Special Recognition

A 12th AAF Fighter-Bomber Base in Italy—Corporal Paul G. Swinson, Armorer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul G. Swinson, Williamston, N. C., can now wear the third Oak Leaf Cluster to the Distinguished Unit Badge, now that his unit, the 27th Fighter Group, a veteran P-47 Thunderbolt air support outfit, has become the first AAF Unit in the Mediterranean Theatre to be cited four times in War Department General Orders.

When word of the latest citation arrived on December 12th, it was cause for a triple celebration for the 227th, which is now commanded by Lt. Col. William R. Nevitt, 1502 S. Hull St., Montgomery, Ala., for that was the date of the Group's second anniversary in the Mediterranean Theatre of Operations and it was also the eve of its 2,500th combat mission against the Nazis.

The citation covers the day of the Salerno invasion, Sept. 10, 1943. On that day, the 27th, then flying A-36 Invaders and commanded by Col. Dorr E. Newton, Jr., Fox Hollow Farms, Malvern, Pa., in the words of the citation, "set itself above and apart from other similar units . . . in the same engagement," when it "completely neutralized the combat effectiveness of three Axis Panzer divisions."

In a "grueling, daylong assault," the General Orders read, "the 27th Fighter Group, coordinated with attacks of other units of the Allied Air Forces, prevented the transfer of overwhelmingly powerful reinforcements and contributed in great measure to the successful establishment of the Salerno beachhead."

The citation particularly lauds the "skill and devotion . . . of the ground personnel." The invaders were based at that time on Sicily. Over half the ground personnel were on landing craft and on the beachhead, under severe artillery fire and aerial attack, waiting to establish a new air base on the European mainland. The rest remained in Sicily, laboring night and day to keep all aircraft flying despite heavy damage from enemy anti-aircraft fire. The highest tribute is paid to these ground officers, crew chiefs, armorers and engineering, communications, ordnance and administrative personnel for "the great credit they reflect upon the military service of the United States."

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Every Township In This County Meets Its War Bond Goal

Robersonville Leads in "E" Bonds; Williamston in Negotiables

An all-time buying record was established by Martin County people in late November and in December when they purchased war bonds in the Sixth War Loan Drive to the tune of \$1,333,392.75, an amount almost double the assigned quota. Sales of war bonds have exceeded the million-dollar mark in the county during past drives, but never did so soar to such big figures until pleas were issued for support of the recent drive.

Making his final report just a few days ago, County Chairman Herman A. Bowen stated that every township in the county either met or exceeded its quotas, both in "E" and negotiable bonds. It was a regular buying spree, tens of hundreds of people having been convinced that the purchase of bonds holds a high priority rating in our present economy.

It was pointed out, however, and in strong terms, that the war is not yet over, that the home front can't afford to stop buying bonds until some time after the last shot is fired. The chairman went on to explain that quite a few thousand dollars had been invested in bonds since the drive closed last month. We will have not done our best and our duty until we invest every possible cent in war bonds, and it isn't asking too much to actually cut down on the necessities of life in order to do it.

Chairman Bowen and his assistant county chairman, S. L. Roberson, express their great appreciation for the support given the undertaking by the people and especially by those who served as township chairmen and all others who got out and worked in behalf of the drive.

Several agencies and corporations bought bonds and credited their purchases against the county quota. The State bought and credited the county with approximately \$270,000 negotiables and the county bought \$19,980 to help boost the to-

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William H. Taylor Dies Last Friday

William Hyman Taylor, aged and respected citizen of Everetts, died at his home there last Friday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock following a long period of declining health.

The son of the late Henry and Louisa Peel Taylor, he was born in Cross Roads Township 76 years ago. When a young man he started working for the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company and a short time later in 1891 transferred to Georgia where he was married to Miss Ida Ganann 53 years ago. They moved to Sanford, Florida, not so long after their marriage and lived there until 1936 when he retired and moved to Everetts, his old home, to spend the remainder of his days. Mr. Taylor was a Mason for many years, and was the last member of his immediate family. He is survived by his widow.

Funeral services were conducted at the home Sunday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock by Elder B. S. Cowin, interment following in the Clark Cemetery in Everetts.

County Men Wounded, Missing Or Killed In Or Just Prior To Recent German Drive Into Belgium



Sgt. Francis W. Peel, son of Mrs. Sadie Peel of Williamston and the late R. J. Peel, clerk of the Martin County Superior Court for many years, was slightly wounded in the left hand in action along the Western Front in Belgium on December 24. The young man is now in an Army hospital somewhere in England, a recent letter received by his mother stating that he was getting along all right.



Benjamin Daniel, son of Mr. and Mrs. Noah Daniel of the Farm Life Community, was slightly wounded on the Western Front previously to the time his brother, Thomas, was painfully wounded on the Western Front on December 6. Few details have been received relative to the young man's condition. A cousin, Joseph N. Daniel, was wounded December 17 in Germany.



Henry Thomas Daniel, young son of Mr. and Mrs. Noah Daniel of Farm Life, was slightly wounded somewhere along the Western Front on December 6, one report stating that he was painfully but not badly hurt in his left shoulder, presumably by shrapnel. A letter, dictated by the young man, was received by his parents a short time ago, and it stated he was getting along very well.



Pfc. Lloyd M. Hassell, promising young son of Mr. Charles A. Hassell of Jamesville and the late Maude Dillon Hassell of Washington County, was killed in action on the Western Front on the first day the Germans launched their powerful drive into Luxembourg and Belgium. Twenty-six years old, Pfc. Hassell entered the service in December, 1942, and was overseas about three months.



A member of the Medical Corps, Pfc. Onward L. Gardner, son of Mrs. Emma Gardner and the late L. D. Gardner of Jamesville, was reported missing in action in Belgium on December 17. He is a brother of "Slim" Gardner who virtually reared him, the two of them spending just about all their time together until the young man entered the service and went overseas in October.



Pfc. Joseph N. Daniel, son of Mr. and Mrs. Nick Daniel of Farm Life, was slightly wounded in Germany on December 17, the second day of the big push toward Belgium and Luxembourg. The young man was slightly wounded the latter part of July and had returned to actual combat about the first of December. Pfc. Daniel was awarded the Purple Heart recently.



T/Sgt. Jesse Fulford, son of Mrs. Pattie Fulford Alexander and the late Jesse Speight Fulford, was slightly wounded by mortar shell in his right leg in Germany on December 3. A native of Cross Roads Township, the young man is now in an Army hospital somewhere in England. He entered the service in 1939, spent two years at Pearl Harbor and went to Europe over a year ago.