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THE ENTERPRISE

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Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Friday, March 2, 1945.

ESTABLISHED 1829

Judge Calvin Smith Calls Twelve Cases In County's Court

State Appeals To Superior Court from 'Contemplated' Judgment Last Monday

Calling an even dozen cases, Judge J. Calvin Smith held the Martin County Recorder's Court in session a full two hours last Monday clearing the docket. A fair-sized crowd was present, but the docket, as a whole, attracted very little attention from the general public.

For the first time in years, and possibly the first time in the history of the court, the State filed exceptions in a case and appealed to the higher courts. Berry Wynn, charged with cruelty to animals, entered a plea of not guilty. It was declared by the prosecution that the defendant had poisoned his collards with arsenic of lead and that a steer, cow and calf had eaten the poison and died. After hearing the evidence, Judge Smith intimated he would find a verdict of "not guilty" and at that point the prosecution noted its appeal to the superior court.

Charged with violating the motor vehicle laws, Arthur Lee Teel and Erie Lee Anderson pleaded not guilty and their pleas were sustained by the evidence. The case grew out of a truck accident near Parmelee week before last. The vehicles driven by the two defendants sideswiped each other, and each of the defendants swore that the other was on the wrong side of the road.

Walter Knight, charged with speeding, was fined \$10 and taxed with the costs.

The case charging Robert L. Roberson with non-support was nol prossed with leave.

Floyd Lanier, charged with assaulting his wife with a deadly weapon, was sentenced to the roads for six months. The sentence was suspended upon the payment of a \$50 fine and the court costs and \$25 to Tom Hardison for advancing the prosecuting witness' doctor's bill. It was also stipulated by the court that Lanier, a Williams Township man, is not to mistreat his wife again. It was pointed out during the trial that Lanier's wife left home Saturday afternoon and did not return until Sunday. The husband attacked her with a knife, making a wound on her thigh that required thirty-one stitches to close.

Alex Rawls pleaded guilty in the case charging him with assaulting a female, and the court suspended judgment upon the payment of the court costs.

Charged with drunken driving, Cecil Edgar Williams pleaded guilty and was fined \$50. He was required to pay the court costs and had his driver's license revoked for one year.

The case charging Prince White with disposing of mortgaged property was continued until March 12.

Appearing in court for the second time for alleged drunken driving, Herman William Daniel pleaded not guilty. Adjudged guilty, he was fined \$100, required to pay the cost and had his driver's license revoked for one year.

Crosby A. Breeze, said to have (Continued on page four)

County Young Man Wounded on Luzon

Pfc. Franklin V. Modlin, county young man, was slightly wounded in action on Luzon, presumably in the Manila area, on February 2, his brother, Galen B. Modlin, was advised by the War Department here this week.

A paratrooper, Pvt. Modlin entered the service in August, 1942, and had never returned home for a visit. At the time he volunteered for service, the young man stated that he did not want to return home until the fight was over. He had been overseas since April, 1943, and is believed to have participated in the invasion of several islands in the Pacific, including Luzon in the Philippines.

He is a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Modlin, residents of Jamesville Township for many years, and later of Williamston. Besides his brother who received the message, he has a brother, Willie Modlin, of Williamston.

Minor Accident Reported On The Everetts Highway

No one was hurt in a very little damage resulted in a minor truck-auto accident on the Everetts Highway near here last Wednesday afternoon.

Operating a truck loaded with fertilizer, Guy Forbes, Jr., started to turn off the highway just as Dennis Whitaker started to pass him in his Ford coupe. The damage to the car was estimated at \$25 by Cpl. W. S. Hunt who investigated the accident.

KILLED IN ACTION



Pfc. Alton Earl Alcox, a resident of this county for several years, was killed in action on the Western Front on February 3, his wife, the former Miss Effie V. Harrison, of near Gold Point, was advised a few days ago.

Average Number of Marriage Licenses Issued Last Month

Six Licenses Go to White and Ten to Colored Couples In This County

About an average number of marriage licenses was issued in this county last month by Register of Deeds J. Sam Getsinger, six of the licenses going to white and ten to colored couples. While the issuance is slightly below the pre-war normal, it is the second largest since the war started in late 1941.

Members of the armed forces figure, as a rule, to a fairly sizable extent in the number of marriages among the white population, but comparatively few colored men in the service have been married in this county.

Licenses were issued last month to the following:

White
George Robert Graham, of Red Springs, and Marion Franklin Hurley, of Williamston.

Kenneth W. Loudon, of Bell Gardens, Calif., and U. S. Marine Corps and Cherry Point, N. C., and Nina Mae Bunch, of Williamston.

Wesley Chesson, of Williamston, and Doris Gilmore, of Robersonville. William Daniel Leggett and Charles Frances Leggett, both of Williamston.

William Whitaker and Chloe Louise Taylor, both of RFD 2, Williamston.

Robert Gurganus, RFD 1, Washington, and Doris Mobley, Jamesville.

Colored
Bernice Williams, of Robersonville, and Effie Mae Boyd, of Pitt County.

James Robert Brown and Mary Bell Knight, both of RFD 1, Williamston.

(Continued on page four)

Pfc. Joe J. Moore Wounded in Action

Pfc. Joe J. Moore, Jr., Williams Township colored man, was slightly wounded in action over in Italy on February 10, his wife was notified yesterday by the War Department. A letter, reaching his wife yesterday, stated that he was wounded on the hand, that the injury was only a slight one. The soldier added that he expected to return to actual combat within a few days.

A native of Williams Township, Pvt. Moore volunteered for service about three years ago. He waived all dependency claims because married men with children were not being called into the service at that time. He was in the quartermaster corps for about two years, and then volunteered for service in the infantry, going overseas about five months ago. He and his wife have three small children.

KEROSENE RATIONS

Upon the expiration of their present rations, users of kerosene for lighting and cooking and for general farm uses will apply directly to the War Price and Rationing Board in the agricultural building, Williamston, for new allotments, it was announced this week by the ration board office.

Those who do not find it possible to call for the proper application forms may write for one, prepare and return it to the office and the rations will be returned by mail.

Joshua L. Williams Tells Exactly What He Is Fighting For

Jamesville Youth Declares He Is Ready To Fight To The Bitter End

In a letter written recently in France to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Williams of Jamesville, Pfc. Joshua L. Williams, told how happy he was to get mail from home after a long delay. At the time the letter was written he had not received any packages. While it is apparent the young man was disappointed, he was not complaining. Pvt. Williams went on to tell about the hardships of war, and then he effectively explained exactly what he was fighting for.

Scratching out some paper in an abandoned French home, the soldier declared that he had little time to write, but asked others to write often to him. As for the war and what he is fighting for, Pvt. Williams tells it in his own words, as follows:

"I'm up on the front line today freezing myself nearly to death. This weather is terrible, what time it isn't snowing, it is raining, and it is nearly impossible to get through the mud and snow. Right now it is snowing and raining. I am in a dugout trying to write. We have some straw and brush over the top and that keeps out some of the water, but not much. My feet stay wet just about all the time, and gee, do they get awful cold. Well, Mom, I've been at it long enough to get used to it, and it doesn't seem to bother me as much now as it did at first. I am getting so I don't dread it at all now. I just expect the worst and if anything comes good, I let it be a surprise to me.

"When I go back to civilian life I won't even know how to live. I'm so used to living out on the cold ground that a house to live in would look like something out of heaven to me. Whenever we get a chance to get a little sleep, we are so cold that it is impossible to sleep. We just find a little corner somewhere and cuddle up and try to stay warm for a few minutes. I guess I will be just like a new-born kid when I come home. You will have to teach me to live like a human again.

"Any way, you might look at it, Mom, it's tough and it's tougher at times. But I am doing now what I have been in the service. Yes, I am getting a chance to get even with the supermen that started this war. And they will start another one in 15 or 20 years if we don't do the job good this time. Mom, I'm thinking of kids like Larry, Billy and all the rest of the young generation coming up. I'm (Continued on page four)

Two County Men Denied New Trial

Their appeal for a new trial denied by the State Supreme Court this week, Herman Manning and Joe Martin are expected to start serving sentences on charges of aiding and abetting in an illegal operation. The two men were sentenced in the Martin County Superior Court last September to serve two years. It is expected that the sentences will be invoked at the next term of the superior court convening here on the 19th of this month.

The opinion handed down by the court stated, "The only question presented by the appeal is the sufficiency of the evidence to carry the case to the jury as against Manning. We join with the trial court in believing the case to be one for the twelve."

In another case on appeal from this county, the court granted a new trial. The defense in the case charging Lucille Bowen Brown, Washington County colored woman, with alleging violating the transportation laws, took exceptions to the judge's charge, and was sustained.

Distinguished Service Award For Local Firm

The Williamston Parts and Metal Company, W. K. Parker, owner-manager, was recently presented the Distinguished Service Award by the War Production Board for meritorious service in maintaining a sufficient flow of ferrous scrap to meet production schedules required in the prosecution of the general war effort.

Divorce Actions Started In The Superior Court

Based on two years of separation, two divorce actions were filed in the Martin County Superior Court recently, one by Maude Ward against Turner Ward, and the other by Nora Harris against Charles Harris. One of the couples had been married nearly thirty years and the other about 27 years.

THESE AMERICANS WERE HELD PRISONER BY THE JAPS



THE GHASTLY EFFECTS of life in the Santo Tomas Jap prison camp in Manila are evident in this photo of a group of prisoners liberated when our forces drove out the enemy. The men are (l. to r.): Hugo G. Winkler, 30, a proofreader on a Manila newspaper. He entered the camp weighing 135 pounds and now weighs 87. Thomas B. Loft, traffic manager, General Foods, who came in at 160 and is now 102. Arthur Williamson, 45, exporter; came in weighing 145, is now 103. Harold B. Loney, 31, accountant; came in at 185, is now 105. David Norvell, 38, employee of Soriano Brothers; entered at 135, and is now 95 pounds. (International)

Red Cross Drive Is Off To A Good Start In This Chapter

Although only a few canvassers' reports were submitted complete up until late yesterday, it is apparent the annual Red Cross War Fund Drive made splendid progress the first day. Fund Chairman V. J. Spivey announced last night. In several instances the contributions were willingly increased over the individual allotments, three canvassers reporting an excess of about \$25 of the actual budget.

While only three canvassers, Dr. W. R. Burrell, Mary W. Taylor and Mrs. T. S. Critcher, filed their complete reports, it is understood that they are canvassing with success. The three canvassers, calling on a comparatively small number of contributors, turned in \$376.35. Using these reports as a basis, Chairman Spivey predicts that the Martin County chapter will reach and pass its goal.

RAINFALL

Although it was short on days, February was long on rainfall, the weather station on Roanoke River here reporting 4.57 inches of rain during the month.

While much rain has fallen in this area so far this year, the total to date is considerably below that reported in January and February of last year when nearly ten inches of rain fell as compared with 6.67 inches in the first two months of 1945.

Call Several Cases In Justice's Court

Following a period of little activity, Justice J. L. Hassell reports an increase in business during recent days. The following cases were handled by the trial justice.

Alfred Jones was required to pay \$8.50 costs in the case charging him with being drunk and disorderly.

Buck Godley, facing a similar charge, was fined \$1.50 and taxed with \$8.50 costs.

Charged with operating a motor vehicle with improper licenses, D. V. Purvis was fined \$10 and required to pay \$6 costs.

John Bryant was fined \$1.50 and required to pay \$8.50 costs in the case charging him with being drunk and disorderly.

A fine of \$10 was imposed plus \$6 costs in the case charging C. D. Pittman with operating a motor vehicle with improper licenses.

Lazrus Williams was fined \$1.50 and required to pay \$8.50 costs in the case charging him with being drunk and disorderly.

PRISONER?

Reported missing in action on the Western Front since February 6th, Pvt. William Jennings Etheridge is now believed to have fallen into the hands of the Germans. Writing to his wife, the former Miss Vivian Stand of Hassell, Pvt. Dewey Stalls, a county boy, stated that he was with Pvt. Etheridge when the young man was taken prisoner. Pvt. Stalls did not explain how his companion was captured or how he (Stalls) managed to escape capture. He instructed his wife to tell Pvt. Etheridge's father, Mr. Dave W. Etheridge of near Hassell, not to worry.

Car Wrecked Beyond Repair In Wednesday Night Accident

Crashing into the rear of a 1937 model Chevrolet during the rain last Wednesday night about 9:15 o'clock, Carroll Coltrain, local filling station operator, wrecked his 1941 Plymouth sedan beyond repair. The Chevrolet belonging to Richard Allen Reese was only slightly damaged and no one was hurt.

Coltrain stated that he did not see the Reese car until he was right on it or too late to avoid a crash. Damage to the Coltrain car was estimated at about \$700 by Patrolman W. E. Saunders who investigated the accident.

Six County Colored Men Answer Call for Induction Thursday

Unusually Small Calls Continue Despite Reported Increased Demand for Men

Six Martin County colored men reported for final induction at an Army center yesterday, a seventh man having been transferred to another board for induction. The call for colored men is one of the smallest answered in this county in some time.

Three of those reporting are in their teens and the ages of the others range from 26 to 29 years of age. Two of the seven men answering the call yesterday were in the 4-F classification and had made at least one trip to the induction center during the past year. Three of those leaving were farmers.

James Andrew Moses, registering in Williamston, was transferred to Brooklyn for final induction. Moses has moved nine times since he registered back in October, 1940.

The names and addresses of the men answering the call here yesterday follow:

Randolph Hudge Ormond, Williamston.

Alonza Teel, Robersonville. Teel is the only married man in the group. Elsie Bryant, RFD 2, Williamston. Thad Harris, Jr., RFD 2, Williamston.

Arthur Brown, RFD 3, Williamston.

William Jasper Keel, Everetts.

Other March calls for pre-induction and final induction have not been announced, but it is believed that they will continue unusually small.

Much has been said about changes in draft rules and regulations, but it is fairly apparent that future calls (Continued on page four)

Funeral Today For Alonza T. Roberson

Funeral services are being conducted at the home near Robersonville this afternoon for Alonza T. Roberson, prominent county farmer who died early Wednesday afternoon following an appendicitis operation performed in a Greenville hospital ten days previously. Elder B. S. Cowin is conducting the last rites and burial will follow in the Robersonville Cemetery.

Mr. Roberson was born in Robersonville on August 31, 1895, the son of Mr. T. W. Roberson and his late wife. Mr. Roberson was a veteran of World War I and with the exception of the few months he was in the service back in 1918 he had made his home with his father who survives at the age of 90 years. He also leaves three brothers, M. E. Roberson of the home, and Henry and Eli Roberson, both of Robersonville.

ANSWER CALL

For the second time since December, 1940, Selective Service issued a call for two white selectees in this county, Annpus Llewellyn Knox, RFD 2, Williamston, and John Lawron House, of Hassell and RFD 2, Robersonville, answered the call on Wednesday of this week.

One of the two was married, one was a non-farmer, and the other, 25 years of age, quit the farm and was called.

The call was the smallest answered in this county since "Doc" Cone left all by himself about three years ago.

Germans Retreating Across Rhine River; Many Surrendering

Fall of Great Industrial City of Cologne in the Ruhr Expected Shortly

In their week-old offensive starting at the Roer River, the American First and Ninth Armies are pushing steadily toward the Rhine River on the Western Front today, having captured Muenchen Gladbach and pushed to the outskirts of the great industrial city of Cologne in the Ruhr. The fall of Cologne is expected shortly by some observers. The Germans were reported today to be retreating across the Rhine in vast numbers, while others were surrendering by the thousands. The retreat across the Rhine is being ferociously attacked by Allied air power, and the crossing is proving costly to the enemy. It is fairly apparent that Germany is reeling and rocking on its last legs. However, late dispatches declare that the Nazis are fighting every step taken by the Americans, and that another defense stand will be made across the Rhine.

At Muenchen Gladbach, less than 20,000 of the more than 100,000 normal population remained when the Americans took over, and many of them were slave laborers. The retreating Germans by-passed the city and its capture was effected without great cost.

As the First Army continues its drive on Cologne, the Ninth is knocking at the doors of Dusseldorf farther to the north. To the south of Cologne, General Patton's Third Army has captured Trier, Germany's oldest city, and still farther to the south, the Seventh Army is about ready to move again. At the same time the Canadians to the extreme northern end of the line is sweeping everything west of the Rhine in a move to connect with General Simpson's Ninth Army, and it is expected that the British Second Army now poised along the Maas River, will strike soon.

On the Eastern Front, the Red Army moved into position yesterday for a grand assault on Germany's 170-mile long Oder-Neisse line, sending out flank thrusts toward Stettin and Dresden, while others in the center inched forward on their springboards to Berlin in raging battles.

Russians driving through Pomerania were reported within 11 miles of an American prison-of-war camp at Gross-Tychow. Another American war prison camp is at Kolberg, on the Baltic coast 33 miles north-east of Gross-Tychow. Whether the Germans have moved the Americans from the two war camps is not known.

The First and Second White Russian armies joined forces for the drive on Stettin, and Berlin said they were fighting within 22 miles of Berlin's big port.

A German DNB broadcast reported that the Russians had launched heavy new attacks on a 20-mile Oder front in the Frankfurt-Kustrin sector where the First White Russian Army was within 31 miles of Berlin.

In the Pacific, the fight still goes on for Iwo Jima, but the end is believed in sight. The Japs have been (Continued on page four)

Purple Heart And Memorial Received

The Purple Heart, awarded posthumously to Lt. James Willis Ward, and a memorial from the President of the United States were received here just recently by the young man's parents, Mr. and Mrs. John A. Ward. The Purple Heart was awarded over the signature of Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson.

The memorial, carrying the signature of President Roosevelt, is a fitting work of art and reads, as follows: "In grateful memory of Second Lieutenant James Willis Ward who died in the service of his country in the European Area, July 12, 1944. He stands in the unbroken line of patriots who have dared to die that freedom might live, and grow, and increase its blessings. Freedom lives, and through it, he lives—in a way that humbles the undertaking of most men."

Funeral Held Yesterday For Infant Daughter Here

Brenda Faye Tobin, six months old daughter of Seaman Albert W. Tobin and Odell Harris Tobin, died in a Norfolk hospital last Tuesday morning. She was taken ill only the night before with pneumonia.

Funeral services were conducted in the home of the child's great-grandmother, Mrs. W. R. Ingram, on Elm Street here yesterday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Dr. W. R. Burrell conducted the last rites, and interment was in the family plot in Woodlawn Cemetery here.