

Reich Is Shrinking Fast Before Allied Drive In East-West

Americans Another Island In Pacific Off East Coast of Okinawa

Hitler's Reich, scheduled to rule the world for one thousand years, is shrinking fast these days as Allied armies continue their drives from east and west. There is no continuous front left in the west, but fanatical Germans, including Hitler youth, are fighting stubbornly, inviting death and destruction that otherwise could be avoided. While the Western Front is disintegrating rapidly, the enemy continues to hold fast in the east, but the line there is expected to crumble when the Red Army clear Vienna and push for junctions with the Americans and British on the seacoast in the north, and possibly behind the Elbe in central Germany and somewhere along the Czechoslovakian border to the south. But no abrupt surrender by the Nazis is now expected, reports from General Eisenhower's headquarters stating that the end of the struggle in Germany will be marked by Allied proclamation. Even after that comes, isolated opposition is to be expected.

The battle rolls on and toward Berlin, late reports stating that General Patton's Third Army advanced nine miles on a 25-mile front last night to approach within a little over 100 miles from Berlin. The Holland trap has been announced closed with an estimated 80,000 of the enemy bottled up in the several large Dutch cities. The Ruhr trap is being contracted gradually with a desperate attempt by the enemy to break out expected at any time. Estimates of the German strength there range from forty to two hundred thousand men. Essen, the great war munitions center, has been entered. In the drive east, the American-British forces have only one strong natural barrier, the Elbe River, between them and Berlin. Despite the great progress made and the favorable position held in the war by the Allies, the enemy is now expected to drag out the fight for some weeks.

On the Eastern Front, the Russians have just about mopped up Vienna and are now driving on up the Danube in the general direction of Linz and Nuremberg farther to the west.

Over in the Pacific, the Japs are offering the Americans a terrible opposition in the fight for Okinawa. The enemy is employing artillery fire on the largest scale yet reported in the Pacific war, but the Americans are shooting back in superior strength. Thousands of tons of shells were fired into Jap positions before the Okinawa capital yesterday by American warships, but even then (Continued on page six)

Former County Boy Victim Of Accident

Funeral services were conducted at a South Norfolk funeral home last Tuesday afternoon at 4 o'clock for Bobby Davis, twelve years old, who was killed in an automobile accident near his home in the Virginia city the Sunday before. Rev. D. W. Davis, Martin County minister, conducted the last rites and interment followed in a South Norfolk cemetery.

The son of Edgar and Louvenia Hopkins Davis, the youth was born in Hopewell, and moved to this county a short time later with his parents. He attended the Williamston schools until his parents settled in Norfolk about four years ago. Besides his parents, he is survived by two brothers. The lad was unusually smart in school and leaves many friends in his adopted communities.

According to reports reaching here the boy was riding with his older brother, Edgar W. Davis, Jr., and was pinned down by the running board in shallow water when the car went out of control and ran into a ditch. It is believed he drowned before help could reach there and release him.

Leslie T. Fowden's Condition Worse

Suffering a stroke about ten days ago, Mr. Leslie T. Fowden was reported gravely ill at his home on Church Street shortly before 10 o'clock this morning. Over the weekend his condition possibly was slightly improved but he had a relapse early this morning and little hope for his recovery was held at that time. Members of the family were summoned to his bedside about 3:30 o'clock this morning, and the end was expected almost momentarily from that time.

Mr. Fowden's condition was recognized as critical soon after he suffered the stroke on Sunday, April 1, but after being in an unconscious condition for about two days, he showed much improvement and was getting along very well until hicoughs sets in over the week-end. Since that time his condition has grown steadily worse.

Tentative Plans For Canning Sugar-Registration in County

Tentative plans for handling the normally low...

It is expected by members of the War Price and Rationing Board and representatives of the several schools last week. Certain to be surrounded by strict qualifications, the registration will be held in the schools — both white and colored, on Tuesday and Wednesday of next week, the hours to be announced later.

It is apparent that the government is anxious to distribute sugar to those applicants who will use it strictly for canning and after a conservative fashion. The government explains that sugar is scarce, that military needs are greater, that ships which otherwise might be bringing sugar to this country are hauling supplies to the battlefield, and that beet sugar production last year was 500,000 tons short. The government also points out that many people over-applied for canning sugar last year, and that stocks continue ab-

Illicit Whiskey Traffic Receives Jolt Recently

ANNUAL MEET

The Martin County Farm Bureau will hold its annual meeting and barbecue dinner at the Williamston High School on Friday, April 27, it was announced this week by Secretary T. B. Brandon. A speaker has not been named, but the meeting is expected to climax all Farm Bureau activities in this county. Direct invitations during the next few days will be extended to every one of the nearly 1,600 members.

The meeting is scheduled to follow the second annual fat livestock show here on Thursday and Friday of that week. Very little has been said about the stock show, but quite a few 4-H club members and other exhibitors are diligently preparing their entries for the show.

County Price Panel In Session Thursday

The price panel of the Martin County War Price and Rationing Board held a short session here last Thursday afternoon and reviewed several cases. The members ran in to several baffling cases and referred most of them to the State office.

It was reported that Thurston Spruill sold a car to Ernest Lynch at a price \$100 in excess of the ceiling. Spruill declared that he received \$275, the ceiling price, and Lynch declares he paid \$375 for the car. The case was sent to Raleigh.

Mrs. Mildred L. Bonds bought a car belonging to Thos. VanLandingham for \$900, or \$300 in excess of the ceiling. The case was referred to the Raleigh office.

C. D. Pittman donated \$25 to the U. S. Treasury and made a \$3.10 recharge to adjust an error in prices charged for radio tubes.

Sam Williams and Barnhill Supply Company were asked to post price ceilings in the stores.

An advisory committee composed of Garland Woolard, Ben Courtney, H. S. Johnson, Jr., and Irving Smith, was named to fix price schedules for certain furniture items.

New Assistant County Agent Reports For Duty

Mr. Chas. Goodman, newly appointed assistant county agent, reported for duty here last week, and is rapidly lining up his work activities. He has already contacted quite a few of the 4-H club members who are planning to exhibit fat livestock here on April 26 and 27.

A graduate of State College and Clemson, Agent Goodman recently resigned his post in Caldwell County to come to Martin. He was accompanied here from Lenoir by Mrs. Goodman and they are making their home at the Rodgersons on West Main Street until they can find an apartment.

WAR BOARD

Meeting last Friday the Martin County War Board started reviewing more than 500 farm registrants' draft classifications. Approximately fifty were reviewed at the first session this month, and it was unofficially learned that forty-seven of the number were declared essential to the farm and the war effort. The names of those ruled unessential could not be learned immediately.

Deferments run out this month for 523 farmers, but most of them will be continued after a routine fashion, it is understood.

County Native Dies At Daughter's Home In Washington City

Funeral For John Bailey To Be Held Near Jamesville Wednesday Afternoon

John Bailey, retired farmer and highly respected citizen of Martin County, died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Wesley Jones, in Washington City, last Sunday night at 11:25 o'clock following a long period of declining health. Following the death of his wife, Mr. Bailey had spent most of the last two years with relatives in the nation's capital, returning to his old home for short visits.

Mr. Bailey, 85 years old on last January 18, was born in Jamesville where he farmed most of his life or until he was forced to retire on account of his advanced age. He was a member of the Baptist church for many years, and was held in high esteem as a neighbor and citizen. He enjoyed a large circle of friends, and few men were more willing to help his fellowman than he was at any and all times. He appreciated the finer things in life, and contributed his bit for all that was noble and good.

The body is expected to reach the county some time late today and funeral services will be conducted at the old home near Jamesville on Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Interment will follow in the family cemetery near the old home.

Three Men Arrested And Several Liquor Plants Are Wrecked

Supply of Scarce Copper and Rationed Fuel Oil Are Confiscated

The illicit liquor business received a fairly heavy jolt in this county during the past few days when ABC Officer J. H. Roebuck and assistants confiscated a small quantity of scarce copper and rationed fuel oil and wrecked several manufacturing plants and arrested three men. While the ABC enforcement officers were busy, other officers were busy rounding up victims of the legal brands. And to climax the rampage over the week-end, an estimated dozen drunks went their way unmolested.

Two sheets of new copper weighing nearly fifty pounds were found in an abandoned house in the Free Union section of Jamesville Township last Friday. No markings were on the copper, but officers are of the opinion that it was smuggled out of war plants by friends of the illicit operators. The scarce material is being held in the county jail and officers are patiently waiting for the owner to call for it. Copper kettles are rare things in this county, Officer Roebuck explaining that the find was the nearest approach to a liquor still he had run across in months.

The day before the copper find, Officer Roebuck and Deputy Roy Peel raided in the Tyner town section of Williamston Township and wrecked a well-equipped plant and poured out 200 gallons of molasses beer. In addition to a crude oil drum used for a kettle, the plant had modern equipment including an oil burner. Approximately ten gallons of oil were confiscated.

Last Wednesday, the ABC officer assisted by Deputy Roy Peel and Constable Edmond Early wrecked a 50-gallon still and equipment in Goose Nest Township.

Last Saturday was an unusually busy day when the officer and his assistants arrested Orlander Purvis for having two and one-half gallons of white lightning in his home and ten gallons of molasses in his mule (Continued on page six)

Mack Simpson Gets Jap General On Iwo

According to unofficial reports reaching here a short time ago, Mack Simpson, Williamston young man, recently accounted for a Jap general on Iwo Jima.

Maintaining a watch right up to the Jap lines late one night, the Williamston Marine and his faithful war dog were patiently waiting for relief when the dog began growling. The Marine opened fire and settled back in the fox hole. Next morning he saw a full Jap general lying dead a short distance away.

Carl Brown, another county boy who has been fighting right along side of Simpson, recently sent a picture home, explaining that it was taken from his first Jap.

Schedule Revival In The Bethany Holiness Church

Beginning next Monday evening, April 16, Miss Elma Boykins of Tarboro, will conduct a series of revival services in the Bethany Pentecostal Holiness Church near Williamston. She will be accompanied by Miss Grace Harris of South Creek. The public is invited to attend the services which will be held each evening at 8 o'clock.

County Native Dies At Daughter's Home In Washington City

Funeral For John Bailey To Be Held Near Jamesville Wednesday Afternoon

John Bailey, retired farmer and highly respected citizen of Martin County, died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Wesley Jones, in Washington City, last Sunday night at 11:25 o'clock following a long period of declining health. Following the death of his wife, Mr. Bailey had spent most of the last two years with relatives in the nation's capital, returning to his old home for short visits.

Mr. Bailey, 85 years old on last January 18, was born in Jamesville where he farmed most of his life or until he was forced to retire on account of his advanced age. He was a member of the Baptist church for many years, and was held in high esteem as a neighbor and citizen. He enjoyed a large circle of friends, and few men were more willing to help his fellowman than he was at any and all times. He appreciated the finer things in life, and contributed his bit for all that was noble and good.

The body is expected to reach the county some time late today and funeral services will be conducted at the old home near Jamesville on Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Interment will follow in the family cemetery near the old home.

Victim Of Suicide Attempt Critically Ill In the Hospital

Mavis Lee Allen Shoots Self Through Chest; Ill Health Prompts Drastic Act

Miss Mavis Lee Allen, thirty years of age, is in a critical condition in the local hospital, the victim of a self-inflicted bullet wound. Reports from the hospital intimated that pneumonia was about to develop or had developed, and little hope is held for her recovery.

Using a .32 calibre pistol, Miss Allen, said to have been despondent over the poor condition of her health, shot herself in the right chest, the bullet puncturing the lung and tearing its way through her back just below the shoulder blade. Investigating the tragic suicide attempt, Patrolman W. E. Saunders stated that apparently Miss Allen pulled the pistol trigger twice before the weapon fired, that the spring was possibly too weak to fire the caps in the first two bullets.

Miss Allen, daughter of Mrs. Stella Allen and the late Alonzo Allen of Cross Roads Township, prepared a note but its contents were not disclosed. She had been in declining health for some time and only returned last week from Duke hospital where she underwent treatment. When the attempt to end her life failed, Miss Allen was quoted as saying that she would not have shot herself if she had known she would make "such a mess of it."

The young woman spent last Friday working in the house, scrubbing floors and cleaning up in general. She prepared the note during the day and that evening about 7:30 o'clock repaired to the kitchen where she attempted to end her life. Hearing the shot, her mother ran to the kitchen and found her lying on the floor.

Her work and acts during the day did not attract any special attention, but following the shooting, members of the family recalled that some of her actions during the day were a bit unusual.

Vaccinate Hundreds Of Dogs In County

While victims of dog bites are being given the painful Pasteur treatment in some counties, Martin County authorities are treating the dogs against the disease.

So far five clinics have been held and reported in this county in the 1945 drive to hold rabies to a minimum. A total of 512 dogs has been vaccinated, or about 50 in excess of the number vaccinated in the same districts, a year ago.

The first dogs vaccinated during the first week of the drive were reported by districts: Dardens-Angelton, 107; Jamesville, 179; No. 90 Station, 90; Farm Life, 136.

LAND TRANSFERS

Real estate sales, constituting or at least approaching a record number, involved between a quarter and a third of a million dollars in this county during the first three months of 1945, according to a conservative estimate just released for the period by Register of Deeds J. Sam Getsinger. Timber sales ran into the hundreds the latter part of 1944, but during the past three months there was a marked shift to real estate, including farms and houses and lots.

There were 167 land transfers recorded in the county during the past quarter, the 65 in Williamston involving right close to \$175,000. Transfers were recorded in the various townships, as follows: Jamesville, 12; Williams, 1; Griffins, 7; Bear Grass, 3; Cross Roads, 1; Robertsonville, 38; Poplar Point, 2; Hamilton, 10; and Goose Nest, 28.

Col. Wheeler Martin Missing Over Japan Since March 10

Lieutenant Colonel Wheeler Martin is reported missing over Japan since March 10, his father was notified here last Saturday morning.

The terse message offered no details, but every hope is advanced that the young officer and members of his B-29 bomber crew parachuted to safety and will return in the course of time.

Colonel Martin volunteered for service in the Army Air Corps on March 1, 1939, following his graduation from Wake Forest College. Completing his training in Texas he was transferred to the Canal Zone where he served with distinction for several years. While there he met and married Miss Joanna Corey of Lafayette, Indiana, and she and their daughter, Caroline, are visiting relatives at Daytona Beach. Colonel Martin's able service record in the Canal Zone and other stations in South America earned for him rapid promotions and he now holds the highest rank ever attained by a Martin County man in the U. S. Army Air Corps.

Expressing an earnest desire to get into actual combat, the young man was returned to the States and early last February completed a difficult training program and left a short time later for service in the Pacific theater. It is believed he was stationed in the Marianas, and that possibly he participated in several raids over enemy territory.

The young man's mother, the former Miss Louie Poteat of Wake Forest, was visiting her sister in Yanceyville when the message reached here and Mr. Martin left immediately to join her there. They will spend a few days in Yanceyville before returning home.

ROUND-UP

Following the recent release of liquor ration tickets, crime broke loose in a big way in this county last week-end. Officers rounded up and jailed an even dozen alleged law violators, and several others managed to arrange bond before the jail doors were opened to them.

Two were booked for larceny and receiving, one for disorderly conduct, one for an assault with a deadly weapon, three for violation of the liquor laws, two for fighting and two for public drunkenness.

The ages of the group ranged from a low of 16 to 54 years, and three of the twelve were white, including the 16-year-old lad.

Mrs. Martha Hoell Dies Late Saturday

Mrs. Martha A. Hoell, respected county citizen, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Effie Shaw, in Bear Grass Township late Saturday night. She had been in feeble health for some time and her condition had been critical following a stroke several weeks ago.

The daughter of the late John and Sallie Britton Terry, Mrs. Hoell was born in this county on December 15, 1868, and spent her entire life in the Bear Grass Community. She was married in early womanhood to G. A. Hoell who died some years ago.

She is survived by six children, three sons, James Henry, Geo. W. and Chas. Hoell, and three daughters, Mrs. Effie Shaw and Mrs. Ella Whitchard, all of this county, and Mrs. Roxie Leggett of Stokes. She also leaves a brother, J. E. Terry, and a sister, Mrs. Greely Oulley, both of this county, thirty-eight grandchildren and thirty-two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by Rev. H. M. Pope, local minister, at Rehoboth Church yesterday afternoon at 3 o'clock. Interment followed in the family cemetery near the home.

Fire Destroys Property On Farm In County Friday

Its origin unknown, fire destroyed the smokehouse, wood house, wash shelter, chicken coop and three cords of wood on the farm of Mrs. Bessie Ball in this county last Friday. Several farm implements were also burned. Neighbors and other friends answered a call for help and helped confine the fire to the out-buildings.

Few details could be learned here this morning, but one report stated that the loss would exceed more than \$500.

RAINFALL

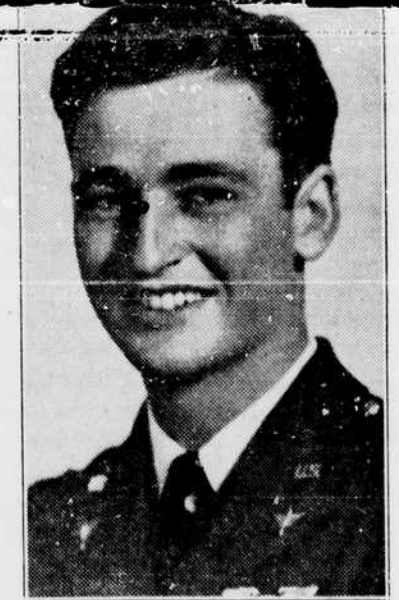
Besides being one of the warmest on record, the month of March was the driest on record, the gauge on Roanoke River recording only 1.7 inches of rain during the period. And to aggravate the dry situation, the first April shower hasn't yet fallen. No rain has fallen here since March 21 when a little over one-half inch was recorded. Seven years ago there were only 2.04 inches of rain recorded in March, but at no time has the precipitation for the month fallen below that figure until this year. In March, a year ago, nearly seven inches of rain fell at this point.

Hundred Dollars Raised For The Crippled

Approximately \$738 has been contributed to the Crippled Children's Fund in this county, according to an incomplete report released by the welfare department office early yesterday.

Extends Thanks To Those Entertaining British During 1942

Disabled Warship, Writes From England



LT. COL. WHEELER MARTIN, JR.

The hospitality extended British seamen who were "stranded" in Norfolk more than two years ago by people in this community is still remembered. The crew of the big British warship is now scattered all over the world, quite a few of the men having made the supreme sacrifice since they were here. Remembering the reception given his men, Rev. Launclet Fleming, ship's Padre, recently wrote to Mrs. John W. Hardy, whose husband, Rev. John Hardy, now serving in England as a chaplain-captain with the U. S. forces, headed the reception committee, expressing his appreciation for the hospitality.

Padre Fleming's letter follows: "It is now over eighteen months since the British battleship of which I was the Padre left the Norfolk Navy Yard, and I wanted to write to those who had entertained our sailors during the happy months we spent in the United States, if only to tell you that we have not forgotten you or the wonderful welcome and hospitality which you gave us."

"I left the ship as soon as we returned to England. It was a horrid wrench, mitigated at the time by a glorious leave in my home in Scotland and at Cambridge. I don't think I have ever been so popular in my life, for I brought back with me all sorts of good American presents to wear and to eat and drink! Since then I have been ashore in this country in a large naval training establishment. From time to time former shipmates have turned up, and I have had letters from any number of others. Almost invariably they say that they or their families have heard from their American homes, or they recall some of the grand days you gave them, which evidently will never be forgotten. As you know, it is rather difficult for us to return hospitality to your service men in the way we would like; but I have been encouraged to find that many Americans have been made to feel at home in England (and in Scotland, too)."

"A few days ago I left the Navy to take up a job concerned with the care and future vocation of the several thousand men in our Navy, Army and Air Force who are considering ordination in the Ministry of the Church of England when the war is over. This will mean working mainly from London, where American uniforms are always in evidence, and I hope to spend week-ends in term time in Cambridge, at Trinity Hall, beginning once more, as time allows, to pick up the threads of University life."

"Meanwhile the ship's company (Continued on page six)

Clean-Up Week Off To Slow Start Here

Clean-up week, proclaimed by his honor, the Mayor, announced from the pulpit and supported by civic organizations, was off to a mighty slow start here yesterday. A few explained they could not get help to handle the task, the explainers forgetting that a little raking won't hurt anyone.

One or two rakes were seen in motion during the day, but the beginning of a nasty main street was in the making early yesterday morning when several janitors planted loose paper and garbage in the back-lots. Long before noon, waste paper was floating around in the streets. No one was detected near a vacant lot with a determination to root out mosquitoes and remove unsightly objects and weeds.

The week is just getting underway and a great clean-up effort is expected to burst forth during the next few days.

A general inspection will follow during next week-end.

Posthumous Award Of Purple Heart

At the request of the President, Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson just recently informed Mrs. Lucy P. Perry, RFD 1, Jamesville, that the Purple Heart had been awarded posthumously to her son, Private First Class Clifton B. Moore, who sacrificed his life in defense of his country.

Secretary Stimson in his personal letter to Mrs. Moore, said, in part: "Little that we can do or say will console you for the death of your loved one. We profoundly appreciate the greatness of your loss, for in a very real sense the loss suffered by any of us in this battle for our country, is a loss shared by all of us. When the medal, which you will shortly receive, reaches you, I want you to know that with it goes my sincerest sympathy, and the hope that time and the victory of our cause will finally lighten the burden of your grief."