

County Boy Among First Of Forces To Enter Tokyo Bay

W. L. Manning, Jr., Sends Greetings From Jap Homeland

There were no advanced arrangements, but it now develops that Martin County boys were in the race to reach Tokyo first. Pfc. Benjamin Clarence Pate apparently won, but others were close behind, according to the first reports received back home. Young Pate explains in a recent letter that he and his outfit beat the Marines in by about two hours.

Transferring from the Merchant Marine to the Army, Pvt. Pate said in his recent letter, "I'm in the Army now; in fact, I'm in Japan. My outfit was the first division to land in Japan, and from all I can find out I'm the first Martin County boy to put foot on Japanese soil or I should say the Japanese home islands as a member of the occupation forces. We landed at Atsugi Airdrome near Tokyo.

"I was surprised by the way the Japanese acted when we landed. All of the Japanese soldiers salute us and the women bow to us. It seems a little funny to have someone salute me first. The Japs are mighty friendly toward us, and if the soldiers don't start looting over here I think everything will be just fine.

"I was in the Philippines when the Japs were getting ready to give up. We were flown to Okinawa and then moved into Japan. While I was on Okinawa, I saw David Hardison's grave. It was hard for me to take. He was a swell fellow and I guess things won't be the same with him gone."

Pointing out that he was in the occupation forces, Pvt. Hardison explained he wanted The Enterprise, "for I'm almost certain to be here a year. A member of the 11th Airborne Division, the young man declared that they beat the Marines into Japan by two hours.

A member of the USS Gasconade, Seaman W. L. Manning, in a recent letter to his mother, Mrs. W. L. Manning, RFD 1, Williamston, sent greetings from Tokyo. The young man was among the first Martin County boys to move into Japan. His letter follows:

Dear Mother: Greetings from Tokyo! In company with a vast task force composed of transports, cargo ships, and escorts we have just steamed in to participate in the first landing of seaborne U. S. Army forces on the soil of Japan—under the protecting guns of the greatest combat fleet ever assembled. Aboard the U. S. S. Missouri, anchored nearby, the surrender is being signed that brings to an end this greatest of all world wars.

At the time of this ship's commissioning, March 11th at San Pedro, California, most of us didn't expect to be debarking troops on Nipponese shores within six months—and even the most optimistic among us didn't dream that those landings would be unopposed. It's a real thrill to be here on the scene and see world history being written under our very eyes.

It's a great climax to the Gasconade's tour of duty which has already included three trips across the Pacific Ocean beginning May 9th, when we left San Francisco for Samar Island in the Philippines. After brief

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Three Are Injured In Auto Accident

Three persons were hurt, two rather badly, when two cars crashed on a road running from Edwards' filling station to Wilson Chapel in Poplar Point Township last Sunday afternoon at 4:40 o'clock.

Edward Matthews, young white man, was slightly cut on the head, and Lillian Collier, 55, and Laura Manning, 72, both colored, were badly hurt. One of the victims, Laura Collier, suffered a broken nose and cuts on the face, and the other victim was cut on the face and suffered a back injury. They were removed to a hospital for treatment.

Driving a 1937 Ford sedan, Matthews was rounding a curve when he met a 1934 Ford being driven by King Latham. Matthews applied his brakes turning his car sideways and skidding it 35 steps down the road into the Latham car which had almost come to a standstill in the middle of the road. Damage to each machine was estimated at \$100 by Cpl. W. S. Hunt who investigated the accident.

Both drivers were cited to the courts for a hearing on Monday, October 8.

Revival Services To Begin At Everetts Wednesday

Revival services will begin at Everetts Baptist church Wednesday night, Sept. 19, at 8 o'clock.

Dr. Ira D. S. Knight, pastor of the Williamston Baptist church, will do the preaching and will be assisted in the song service by Mr. John D. Lilley. The church is extending a cordial invitation to the public to attend these services.

Jurist Warns Of Bad Times Ahead In Long Charge To Grand Jury

Judge Burney Gives Historical Review Of Law And Juries

Believes the Time Will Come When Dollar Will Look as Big as a Cart Wheel

In a charge lasting one hour and eight minutes, Judge John J. Burney, presiding over a two weeks term of the Martin County Superior Court, warned of bad and trying times ahead, offered the grand jury a historical review of law and jury systems, cited a clear-meaning law designed to control public drunkenness and plainly explained that he was not sure the present monetary stand would not be tolerated.

The jurist, expressing pleasure upon his return to Martin County for the first time in five years, minced no words about any topic covered in the long address to the jury and to a packed courtroom.

After explaining why judges address juries, Judge Burney said that county commissioners were charged with the task of preparing jury lists, that men of good character and intelligence were to be chosen, "and you should be proud that you were chosen," he said in addressing the eighteen men.

"Courts are a serious matter," he said, adding, "they protect you before you are born, they stand around you in life, and watch over your rights at and after the grave.

"Many changes have taken place in recent years, and I dare say that those days ahead are more serious than those beginning at Pearl Harbor. It is your task to help preserve the way of American life. We ought to stop and think of the days gone by and measure the future by the things in the past.

"Men have occupied the world for 100,000 years, but history is recorded in only the past 7,000."

Starting with the Greeks, Judge Burney pointed out that they fathered the first democracy, that they gave us architecture and literature. "But they began to love a good time. They became complacent and began to worship things of the world. They failed and were conquered.

"The Roman empire came into its own. They offered the first written law. They built the road Paul walked and over which American armies traveled in the recent war. But they, too, became complacent. They worshipped money and even taxed the bodies of their women to raise money. Across the Rhine were the Germans. They moved into the territory, and guards, charged with the duty of disarming the immigrants, were bribed and allowed the Germans to go armed. Rome failed.

"Across the Channel was England and its people loved democracy more than the Greeks and Romans. The first jury trial was held in England in 820 after God-fearing men had won the right from the King. Twelve men were chosen to form the petit jury because that number was found in the Bible. There were the twelve princes, the twelve tribes of Israel. Moses was directed to the twelve wells of water. Joshua was told to put down twelve stones. Solomon lined his court with twelve lions. Christ was twelve years old when he appeared in the Temple. The first person he raised from the dead was twelve years old," the judge pointed out in explaining why twelve men are chosen for trial juries.

"Prior to the jury trial, accused men were required to pick up red hot irons. If they were burned, they were adjudged guilty, and if they were not burned they were adjudged not guilty. Some were tightly bound and thrown into the water. If they survived, they were considered not guilty," the judge declared in stressing the importance of trial by jury.

He reviewed the struggle for liberty down through the years, referring to the Magna Charta, the establishment of the grand jury system, the Bill of Rights and other milestones.

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ON WAY HOME

After seeing much action in foreign service, quite a few Martin County young men are expected to return home shortly, according to indirect reports received here during the past few days.

Jas. D. Riddick, after a stay of nearly four years in the Pacific, has advised relatives not to write him any more, that he was catching the first boat available.

Francis Peel has advised his people that he is on the way home. It is thought that Jim Rhodes, Jr., will reach the States any day now, and Geo. Mahler is expected home in early October. Julian Roebuck advises that he is leaving for home, too.

Heard Tojo's Shot



WAR CORRESPONDENT Clark Lee of International News Service was present within seconds after former Premier Tojo shot himself at his home in suburban Tokyo. Waiting to witness the arrest of Tojo on MacArthur's orders, Lee heard the shot and burst into the room to find Tojo wounded. (International)

Mrs. J. B. Barnhill's Funeral at Home In Everetts Tomorrow

Well-Known County Woman Died in Roanoke Rapids Hospital Yesterday

Mrs. Joseph Berry Barnhill, well known county citizen and resident of Everetts for a number of years, died in a Roanoke Rapids hospital yesterday following a major operation. She had been in declining health for some time, but her condition was not considered critical until a few days ago when she was removed to the hospital.

Mrs. Barnhill, the former Miss Lucy Jane Riddick, was the daughter of Mrs. Charlie Ann Riddick of Gainesville, Fla., and the late Noah T. Riddick. She was born in Williams Township on August 8, 1886, and spent her early life there. She attended the Williamston schools as a child and moved with her family to Everetts about 1907, marrying Mr. Barnhill a few years later.

A member of the Christian church in Everetts for many years, Mrs. Barnhill was active in its work. Possessed of a Christian-like character, she was devoted to her home and the welfare of her community. In addition to her home duties she found time to serve as her adopted town's treasurer and support worthy undertakings, looking toward a fuller and better life for everyone. She was a devoted wife and mother and a thoughtful neighbor who enjoyed a large circle of friends and the high esteem of all who knew her.

Surviving are Mr. Barnhill and two children, Miss Edna Barnhill of Williamston, and J. B. Barnhill, Jr., of Rocky Mount and Williamston; her mother, two sisters, Mrs. R. H. Brumby of Gainesville, Fla., and Mrs. E. L. Exum of Moultrie, Ga.; three brothers, H. T. Riddick of Cleveland, Ohio, J. F. Riddick and Chas. B. Riddick, both of Gainesville, Fla., a granddaughter, Jane Ann Barnhill, and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be conducted at the home Wednesday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock by her pastor, Rev. James M. Perry, and interment will follow in Woodlawn Cemetery here.

Farm Life Seniors Leave For Schools

Fourteen of the eighteen 1945 Farm Life School graduates are leaving or have already gone to institutions of higher learning or to take special training in various vocations.

Misses Margaret Roberson and Margaret Manning are attending business schools in Raleigh. Misses Dorothy Corey and Hannah Daniel are attending schools of beauty culture in Raleigh. Verlin Griffin will attend Wake Forest. Six, Misses Lena E. Manning, Dorothy Brown Manning, Christine Lilley, Ola Gray Williams and Elgarie Manning and A. E. Manning, Jr., are attending East Carolina Teachers' College, Greenville. Miss Grace Peete will attend Meredith College, Raleigh. Lawrence Eason Lilley left a few days ago to attend Oak Ridge School, and Bobby Manning has gone with the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Washington.

Cites Laws Against Public Drunkenness And All Gambling

Instructions Officers To Take In Slot Machines And Other Gambling Devices

After stressing the importance of the jury system and warning of adverse times ahead, Judge John J. Burney in his address to the grand jury marking the opening of a two weeks term of superior court on this county, briefly outlined the duties of jurymen and plainly cited laws against public drunkenness and all types of gambling.

"I do not know conditions in Martin County, but I guess they are as good as the average," he said, and in turning directly to the jurymen, he added, "If you live up to the oath you have just taken, it will be well, but if you do not have backbone and will not live up to the oath, it would have been better if you had never been drawn for service."

Judge Burney's instructions to the jury were brief, and then he stressed frankly and quite plainly a few common violations of the law. He attacked gambling in all its forms, and instructed the county officers to seize all slot machines. "In these days of plenty much money is being thrown away at carnivals and fairs. Fairs are fine if operated on a high plane, but some should be dynamited. The clean things are all right, but the pin wheels and other devices should be torn down," the judge declared, adding that he could not understand why anyone should play them when they know they'll lose every penny if they play them long enough.

"There has been some misunderstanding about the law governing public drunkenness," the judge said. He took out a law book and read the section declaring public drunkenness a misdemeanor. Judge Burney then instructed the grand jury to investigate how the law enforcement fund created by the Alcoholic Beverage Control board is being administered in the county. "Five per cent is being set aside for enforcement. See if that is being spent in accordance with the law. In addition to that fund, certain amounts of the profits are given the various towns, and they are supposed to help enforce the liquor laws. See if this is being done in accordance with the law," he instructed the jury.

The jurist then stated his stand against perjury. "Every judge possibly has strong objection to a certain crime, and mine is perjury. There was a time when people were talked about and ostracized when they went into court and lied. I warn against the practice," the judge said, adding "If I see a witness is lying I will call for a bill of indictment and I want you to pass on it immediately." He told how perjury cases had been handled, how a drunken driver tried to hire a 16-year-old boy to lie for him, and that a sentence of from seven to nine years was imposed instead of a \$50 fine.

One of the largest crowds seen in the county courtroom in many terms heard the charge which dealt with a series of topics and timely subjects.

Nine new members were added to the grand jury for the next year. They are: J. F. Council, H. A. Sexton, Carroll C. Coltrain, J. Marion Griffin, W. W. Roberson, Linton Roebuck, N. P. Roberson, Norman Turnam and Asa J. Hardison. Gordon G. Bailey of Everetts was named foreman of the body, succeeding Vance L. Roberson who completed one year of service.

Lions Hear Report On Freezer Locker

With attendance literally "overflowing," members and guests of the Lion Club heard various reports and a talk on the proposed freezer locker unit for Martin County at the regular meeting of the club last Thursday evening. Lion Claude Goodman talked on the plans for the freezer locker plant and urged the support of the club members.

A report by Lion Edwards revealed that the club netted \$743.55 from their Victory Fun Festival two weeks ago, this amount going to the Scout Hunt Fund. Lion Lindsley reported on the shortage of ball chewing gum, which make it impossible for the club's committee to keep the various machines supplied at present. Various other reports were given during the evening.

President Edwards presided over the meeting and Lion Ben Courtney offered the invocation. Miss Alberta Swain, pianist, was presented a gift from the club, by Lion Edwards. Lion Sullivan won the \$25.00 War Bond.

A new member, R. T. Johnson, was accepted into the club. Guests, totaling nine, included two members of Scout Troop No. 29 and the two local State Patrolmen. Forty-four members of the club were present.

40,000 FARM BUILDINGS BURN

Farms aren't all fields and vegetables, as witnessed by the 40,000 farm buildings that were destroyed by fire last year! Sparks on worn, wood-shingled roofs were responsible for a large per cent of those fires.

Murderer Draws Long Term In Prison; Bigamist Given Seven To Ten Years By Judge Burney

Propose Three New Wells To Improve Town's Water Supply

Unable to take any action on account of war conditions existing during the past several years, Williamston's officials in a special meeting yesterday made preliminary plans to improve the town's water supply. No developments have been reported, but the authorities are convinced that something must be done to reduce the salt content in the existing water supply. There is no shortage, but about 390 parts out of one million are salt, and the foreign substance is playing havoc with water lines, tanks and fixtures. No estimate on the damage is to be had, and while it may not be very great, it is not relieved within the near future, the damage will mount.

Calling in well experts, the commissioners were advised yesterday that about the only solution will be found in three wells sunk to a medium depth. The last well, installed at a cost of about \$8,000, is about 500 feet deep and offers a plentiful supply of water. The three old wells, installed about a quarter of a century ago, are just about dry and will not meet the demand. While the authorities plan to take steps to remedy the situation, no cost estimates have been prepared and a site for the new wells has not been selected. It is fairly certain that tests will be made on the edge of town and possibly outside of the town limits. The fairly new plant, located near the town, is being used in emergency. Its limited use will not affect the salt content, or certainly not enough to cause water fixtures and tanks to rust.

Court Expected To Complete Criminal Docket on Thursday

Sentence Delayed in Illegal Operation Case Until December Term

Opening a two weeks term for the trial of criminal and civil cases, Judge John J. Burney of Wilmington yesterday cleared quite a few cases from the docket and continued several, but Solicitor George Fountain, making his second appearance here since his appointment early in the summer, expressed the belief that work on the criminal docket would be completed, possibly, until Thursday.

The handling of a murder case and a charge of bigamy featured the first day sessions. Charged with first degree murder, Lee Goss, through his attorney, E. S. Peel, entered a plea of guilty of second degree murder, and the plea was accepted. Goss did not take the stand, but Eleanor Everett, main witness for the State, said that Perlie Coffield, young colored woman, lived with her, that Goss came to her house on the night of July 1 and the two fussed over some clothes. At the request of the Coffield woman, she started with the couple to get the clothes. They had gone only a short distance from the home on Hill Street in Williamston when Goss grabbed the Coffield woman around the neck and declared that he was going to kill her. He used a pocket knife and stabbed her fatally. She was pronounced dead when she arrived at a doctor's office. The second witness, Officer Chas. Moore said that Goss submitted at the police station and explained that he (Goss) had cut the Coffield woman. The defendant was sentenced to State's prison for not less than 25 and not more than 30 years.

Freezer Locker Plant Assured This County

Over One Hundred Farmers Apply For Lockers Last Night

Only Short Time Left To File Applications For Space In Proposed Plant

A freezer locker plant for this county was virtually assured last night when more than one hundred farmers and other interested citizens met in the high school auditorium and applied for space after J. E. Coad explained the proposed project. Reports state that other applications had been received prior to that time, and more farmers and quite a few townspeople are applying for lockers today. While no definite date for handling the applications has been set, it is fairly apparent now that the approximately 500 lockers will have been rented within a matter of a few days.

It was explained at the meeting last night that applications filed by farmers for space in the plant will be given first consideration, that any lockers they do not rent will be made available to others. "We feel as if it is primarily a farmers' undertaking, that they should be given first consideration with the understanding that any excess space will be made available to townspeople," Mr. Coad explained.

Mr. D. V. Clayton, local banker, was named trustee for the project, and applications are being accompanied by the rental fee ranging from \$13.50 to \$16.00 annually. The meeting last night voted to have all rental checks converted into cash and held in trust by Mr. Clayton until the plant is placed in operation and locker keys are delivered to the patrons. It was explained that should there be any unforeseen delay in promoting the project that the rental fees would be returned to the applicants, that the rent does not become effective until the plant is placed in operation.

County Agent T. B. Brandon and his assistant, C. J. Goodman, and Mr. G. H. Harrison briefly addressed the meeting and Mr. Coad then went into detail about the workings of the plant. He reviewed the early history of the freezer locker and explained that over 6,000 plants are now in operation, mainly in the mid-west with as many as 600 in the state of Nebraska.

"The plant we propose to build here will be a model one, the initial cost to run to about \$50,000," Mr. Coad said, explaining that additional units for handling eggs may be provided later. Plans for the structure

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Mrs. Annie Glenn Died Last Saturday

Funeral services were conducted at the Biggs Funeral Home here yesterday afternoon at 4:00 o'clock for Mrs. Annie Glenn who died at her home here on South Smithwick Street last Saturday noon following a lingering illness. Her pastor, Dr. Ira Knight, conducted the last rites and interment was in Woodlawn Cemetery.

The daughter of the late Robert and Sallie Whitley Roberson, she was born in Williamston 69 years ago. She was a diligent worker and a faithful member of the local Baptist church for many years. Her humble walk through life made many friends for her and gained the admiration of all who knew her. She was married to R. A. Glenn who died some years ago. She is survived by five children, Lee and Lena Mae Glenn of Williamston, George Glenn of Norfolk, Mrs. Harry Russell of Suffolk, and James Glenn of Florida; two half-brothers, George Harris, Sr., and William Baker, both of Williamston.

Freezer Locker Plant Assured This County

ROUND-UP

Law enforcement officers had a fairly quiet time last week-end when only five alleged disturbers of the peace were rounded up and jailed. Drinking and fighting continue to feature the crime front week in and week out. Three of those arrested were jailed for public drunkenness and two were booked for assaults with deadly weapon. Two of the five were white and the ages of the group ranged from 19 to 39 years.

Julian A. Roebuck Is Returning Home

Pfc. Julian A. Roebuck, Williams young man and son of Mr. Joseph H. Roebuck, is on his way home to be discharged under the Army's point system. He is a veteran of the Gilbert and Marshall Islands and was stationed last at an advanced base in the Palau Islands.

In civilian days Pfc. Roebuck worked for Dr. James S. Rhodes of Williamston, until he joined the Army in May 1941. He received basic training at Fort Monroe, Va., and was assigned to his organization's medical detachment. In December 1942 he was transferred to his present unit's medical detachment, then also stationed on the East Coast. In November 1943 the outfit went overseas and Pfc. Roebuck saw service on Makin Atoll in the Gilbert Islands and later at Ennylabegan Island, Kwajalein Atoll, in the Marshalls. After completing this tour of duty he returned to Hawaii from where he left early this year for his last overseas station in the Palau Islands, Western Carolines. He wears the Good Conduct Medal and the Asiatic-Pacific Theater Ribbon with two campaign stars.

A brother, Warren B. Roebuck, is with the U. S. Navy. Pvt. Roebuck has written home much to tell about his experiences, but indirect reports declare he has mingled wit the "big shots" and spent much time driving high-ranking officers around on the various islands in the Pacific.

Mrs. Will Coltrain Passes in Griffins

Mrs. Will F. Coltrain died at her home in Griffins Township yesterday afternoon following an illness of several weeks' duration. She suffered a stroke of paralysis about a month ago and her condition became gradually worse. The daughter of the late Kinchen and Sallie Ann Corey, Mrs. Coltrain was born in Griffins Township 66 years ago and lived there all her life. She was the former Miss Mary Frances Corey and in early womanhood was married to Mr. Coltrain who survives with the following children, Hugh, Carl, Mrs. Mae Corey, Mrs. Myrtle Hodges, Mrs. Glendora Corey, Mrs. Mary Ann Hardison, Mrs. Armilla Bowen, Mrs. Fannie Bowen and Miss Selma Coltrain, and two sisters, Mrs. Mamie E. Roberson and Mrs. Pennie V. Lilley, all of this county.

Funeral services are being conducted at the late home this afternoon at 3:30 o'clock by Rev. W. B. Harrington, county Baptist minister. Interment will follow in the Tree Cemetery in Griffins Township.

TOBACCO SALES

Sales on the local tobacco market today will boost the total for the season to date to more than four and three-quarter million pounds, according to official figures released through last Friday and a reliable estimate offered early this morning.

Last Friday, the market sold 319,684 pounds for \$138,686.18, an average of almost \$43.50 per 100 pounds. Sales through last Friday totaled 4,411,206 pounds. Nothing has been said about a change in the selling schedule, but reports state that redrying plants are still overflowing with the leaf.