

Colored Citizens To Raise \$675 For Red Cross In New Drive

Willing Workers Hold Meeting Friday Evening
Meeting in the county courthouse here last Friday evening, a goodly number of colored citizens agreed to carry the annual Red Cross appeal to their fellowmen in six of the ten county townships.

Community quotas were announced as follows: Dardens, \$70; Jamesville, \$50; Williams, \$40; Biggs, \$40; Woolard's, \$50; Burroughs-Spring Hill, \$40; Corey's, \$20; Poplar Point, \$20; Bear Grass, \$15; Smithwick's, \$30; Williamston, \$300.

Briefly addressing the group, County Chapter Chairman J. C. Manning declared that the colored citizens of this county had a record to be proud of, and he expressed the belief that the quota assigned for the drive beginning in March would be over subscribed.

Discussing the plans for the drive, the group related the methods employed in raising past quotas. John James, representing Dardens, explained that there were 100 families in his school district, that each was assessed \$1 and every one met the challenge.

Collections were made along with direct solicitations in Jamesville, the representative there explained. Corey's assesses each family so much, and in past drives the responses have been 100 percent.

In the Smithwick's district each of the 51 families are solicited and church collections are called for. Captains are named in Woolard's. Notices are sent the parents and the response doesn't measure up to the need, the captains go to work, and then the drive is carried into the churches and finally into the school.

The representatives of the Biggs district mimeograph an appeal and the response has been gratifying in the past. The drive is concluded in the school, "and we ask each child to save on candy purchases or in some other way save a donation," Principal Ormond said.

Poplar Point has been raising its funds through two of the three districts and from parents' meetings. In Williamston the territory is broken down into sections and leaders are named for each district and given an assigned quota. The churches and schools cooperate. Home Agent Cleo Tynes stated that every home club member supported the Red Cross.

Quadruplets Born To Young Colored Girl Here Last Week

Quadruplets—one daughter and three sons—were born to Viola Rogers, 16-year-old colored girl, at her home in Smithwick Street here last Saturday evening. Born prematurely, the babies averaged hardly one and one-half pounds each in weight and lived only a few minutes.

The mother sought medical attention just a short time ago and she was attended at birth by Drs. J. T. Llewellyn and E. T. Walker. Last reports stated she was getting along very well. One report indicated that the babies were born about four and one-half months prematurely, that delivery was effected in less than ninety minutes.

Quadruplet births are recorded in about one out of every 512,000 cases, and as far as it can be learned from available records, the case here is the first ever reported in this county.

When Dr. Llewellyn, just recently returned from the services to resume the practice of medicine here, was called to preside at the special and unusual event last Saturday evening he immediately anticipated the size of the order and Dr. Walker was summoned to assist. The births were quite normal other than that they were premature.

Superintendent Of Orphanage Praises Scouts In Address

Speaks To Lion Club Members In Club Hall Here Last Thursday Evening
Paying tribute to Scouting, Mr. I. G. Grier, general superintendent of the Baptist Orphanage at Thomasville, made a stirring appeal in behalf of all boys and the Scout organization when he spoke to the Lions Club and their guests, members of Troop 29, here last Thursday night.

"There is a spark in every boy, that, if kindled and properly developed, will be the means of a normal, natural growth both physically and spiritually," the speaker said. Mr. Grier pointed out that he did not drive 208 miles just for the trip and for a ride but to pay tribute to Boy Scouts and the men of tomorrow.

The orphanage superintendent made special reference to the security of youth and the security essential and necessary for a group of boys. "They know about our inconsistencies," he said. "They know we teach one thing and do another. We should be a good example to the boys and girls of our nation and make them secure from their birth."

Bob Tarkenton, chairman of the Victory Clothing Drive in Williamston, made a report on the success of the campaign sponsored by the Lions club. Tarkenton stated that a total of 112 packages of old clothing was collected and shipped to Norfolk. The over-all weight of all the packages amounted to 3910 pounds and in the shipment were approximately 100 pairs of shoes.

One Killed, Two Hurt In Accident Near Here

Lloyd Cowen Fatally Hurt In Automobile Accident Near Here
Marcellus Newsome of Hertford County Badly Injured; Driver Held
Lloyd Cowen, Hertford County white man, was fatally injured and Marcellus Newsome, also of Hertford County, and Willis Williams, young Martin County colored man, were badly but not critically hurt in an automobile accident at Sweet Water Creek near here on Highway No. 64 last Sunday afternoon at 5:00 o'clock.

Mr. Cowen, riding with Mr. Newsome, suffered a broken neck and a skull fracture. Mr. Newsome's hip was dislocated and the bone shattered. After receiving treatment in the local hospital, Mr. Newsome, 65 years old, was removed to a specialist in Durham yesterday morning. His chin and throat severely cut when he was thrown through the windshield of the Belcher car, Williams was treated in a local doctor's office and removed a short time later to his home near the Garrett farm not far from Williamston. Eighteen stitches were necessary to close his wounds.

Belcher, charged with drunken and reckless driving and manslaughter, was arrested and jailed by Patrolman W. E. Saunders. Bond for Belcher has been tentatively fixed at \$5,000, but no one has offered to raise it. Investigating the accident, Patrolman Saunders stated that Belcher, driving a 1934 model car in the direction of Jamesville, apparently was driving at a fast rate of speed, that he crossed the bridge and drove to the shoulder on his left side of the road and pulled back to his right just in time to crash into the left front of the approaching car driven by Newsome. The Newsome car, a 1939 Chevrolet coupe, was almost turned around in the crash and left standing with its front in the direction of Jamesville. The Belcher car, wrecked beyond repair, was stopped almost in its tracks after the crash. Damage to the Newsome car was estimated at \$400 and that to the Belcher machine at \$300 by Patrolman Saunders.

Advised of the accident, Mrs. Cowen, the former Miss Emma Newsome, came here with relatives to learn after her arrival that her husband had been killed. The body of the accident victim was removed to the Biggs Funeral Home here and later carried to Asheville where funeral services were arranged. Funeral services are being conducted in the Harrellsville Baptist Church this afternoon at 2:30 o'clock by his pastor. The son of Joseph and Eva Chitty Cowen, of Hertford County, Mr. Cowen was born and reared in the Harrellsville community where he was employed by the highway commission and where he served as deputy sheriff of Hertford County. Surviving are his widow, parents, two sisters, Retha and Elsie Cowen, and a brother, Edgar Cowen, of Rocky Mount.

Commissioners Travel Several County Roads

ROUND-UP
Seven persons were rounded up and jailed here last week-end, the number of arrests equalling the round-up reported a week previously. Included in the list was a drunken driver who cost a man his life in an accident near here Sunday afternoon. Reports declare that the man was trailed the far eastern end of Main Street which is alleged to be saturated with liquor dealers.

Three of the seven arrested were charged with public drunkenness, and one each with an assault with a deadly weapon, non-support, drunken driving and disorderly conduct. The ages of the group ranged from 26 to 56 years, and five of the seven were colored.

County Negro Dies In Electric Chair

Ernest Fagan, Martin County colored man, was electrocuted at Richmond's state penitentiary at Richmond last Friday for the murder of a used car dealer in Norfolk last September.

Fagan, a native of Williams Township, had been working in Norfolk for a few years. He was charged with and found guilty of robbing and murdering Horace Gough Cox, 42, on a Norfolk street on the evening of September 4. He was scheduled to have been electrocuted the 18th of last month, but a stay of execution was ordered by the Virginia State Board of Pardons and Prieves that Fagan might have "an opportunity to exhaust all legal claims for leniency." He was pronounced dead within five minutes after the current was turned into his body. Reports reaching here stated that as the first charge of electricity entered his body, Fagan worked his trigger finger rapidly, that the movement only weakened as death overtook him.

The body was brought here Saturday and buried in Poplar Point Township Sunday afternoon. Another colored man, Frank Peterson, was implicated in the murder, and he was sentenced to prison for ninety-nine years and a day.

County Young Men Vacations In Nice

Nice, France.—(Special To The Enterprise Delayed)—Private Carroll W. Mobley, Williamston, North Carolina, with Battery 'B' 927th Field Artillery Battalion, while on recent furlough in this exclusive resort, took advantage of a scenic tour via motorcoach along the Mediterranean coast to the playground city of Monte Carlo.

Entrance into the principality of Monaco and the famous gambling casino is denied to uniformed troops, but USRR motorcoaches take the soldier-tourists over historic roads to a cliffside above the little country. There they can look down on the almost legendary town and the pale green roof of the forbidden casino, where millions have been won and lost.

Reste's commentary is that the bus ride, over roads that Roman soldiers once marched and through medieval villages perched on hilltops like eagles' nests, would make an ideal Sunday drive at home. "This country has been in the hands of eight months, two of which he spent overseas. He is now stationed in Bayreuth, Germany. A student at Atlantic Christian College before his induction, he lives with his parents at Williamston, N. C.

Road Commissioner Admits Very Little Progress Expected

Main Highway Program Will Have to Wait Until Equipment Can Be Purchased
Following an inspection of secondary roads in several of the county townships Monday, District Highway Commissioner Merrill Evans admitted to the Martin County Commissioners that little progress can be expected on the proposed highway expansion program in the county this year.

Mr. Evans, coming here with the district engineer, T. J. McKim, of Ashe, explained that it is very doubtful if new equipment can be made available in time this year to launch the work on any appreciable scale before early spring, 1947. The highway commissioner was quoted as saying that it is possible that the commission, using its present badly worn equipment, will survey a few miles of road here and there in the county. While the "spot" program was not definitely outlined, it is likely that about a mile or so of the Jamesville-Washington road will be surfaced on the Jamesville end, and about a mile or two on the Hilton will get attention. Other short stretches of road will be surfaced where it is convenient for the commission to operate its limited equipment and where the condition of the roads is such that very little grading or widening will be necessary. Possibly eight or ten miles of road will be surfaced in various parts of the county this year, one of the highway authorities was quoted as saying.

It had been pointed out that equipment and material shortages were delaying the program, but it is now fairly certain that very little of the proposed highway building program will be handled in the county this year. Both Commissioner Evans and Engineer McKim showed much interest in doing all possible to improve roads in this county, but they explained that more time than was anticipated will be needed before any great relief is to be expected.

Leaving Williamston early Monday morning, the commissioners, including Messrs. C. Abram Roberson, Joshua L. Coltrain, R. L. Perry, J. H. Edwards and R. A. Haislip, and the highway commission representatives traveled the Butler's Bridge-Hassell Road on to the Edgecombe line. Turning around there, they

Three Hurt In Two County Car Wrecks

Three persons were hurt, none badly, in two automobile accidents in this county last Friday evening and early Sunday morning. Some property damage resulted. Driving Rufus Lynch's Chevrolet and accompanied by Alphonza Lynch, Thelma Louise Brown, 17 years old, failed to negotiate the main corner on Highway 125 in Hamilton at 8 o'clock last Sunday morning and crashed into the Guaranty Bank building. She was hurt on the knees and her boy friend's legs were bruised. They were treated in Brown's Community hospital and released a short time later. Patrolman W. E. Saunders, investigating the accident, estimated that about \$350 damage was done to the car and about \$50 damage to the building. Early last Friday evening a taxi driven by Ed Latham and a car driven by a Marine from Cherry Point crashed at the intersection of Main and Houghton streets. Latham's knee was hurt but not badly, the Marine escaping without injury. Damage to both cars was estimated at \$150 by Officer Chas. R. Moore. Latham was driving down the main street and the Marine was going north on Houghton.

Critical Shortage Rooms And Houses

The housing and rooming shortage continues critical, and young men, just back from the services, are being forced to give up their jobs because when assigned to work here they are unable to find living quarters and when they find them the rents are prohibitive. Room rents are said to have gone up to \$10 and \$11 per week for single rooms with only limited conveniences offered. Several engineers for the highway department just back from overseas have been assigned to this territory and they are walking the town over in search of rooms. A special call is being issued to all home owners who have an extra room to open it to these young men. Receiving on an average about \$115 a month, they aren't able to pay such prices for rooms as some are charging, but they are willing to share their meager earnings for a place to lay their heads. The housing shortage is really disturbing. A veteran just back home is rushing the construction of a garage which he plans to occupy with his family until he can build a home.

Jas. S. Whitehurst Reviews Record Of Carrier Shangri-La

Martin County Young Man Was On Famous Ship During Pacific Campaign
(This installment marks the end of the story of the Shangri-La submitted by Seaman James S. Whitehurst. Appearing from time to time during the course of the past several weeks, the story has been read with interest. While this installment marks the end of the main story, Seaman Whitehurst is submitting a postscript which is to appear later.—ed.)

Suddenly the air cracked with an order over the inter-ship radio channel: "Cancel all remaining strikes for the day." A few minutes later: "Recall all planes from the present strike." This was it. The war was over.

It hadn't come any too soon, either, because one of our pilot, Lt. (j.g.) Jack Dunn failed to come back. However, he was seen alive and in good condition in one of Japan's inland lakes. The Japs got him, however, before we could, and he didn't return for several weeks.

Surprisingly there was little celebration on board. While the people in the states went wild, we smiled and laughed, but in the main we were so tired, strained, fatigued and relieved all at once that there was little energy left with which to celebrate.

We were thankful more than anything. Thankful that the end had come without the ship being hit... that with the exception of the air group, there had been no casualties from enemy action since we had entered the war zone... that all were alive, safe and that someday we would head back to the United States.

We had been at sea for 46 consecutive days and had struck Japan on 22 of them. We had lost much sleep and we were worn out by the constant air operations. But nearly as great was the strain of the last five days of waiting and hoping for peace.

With the war ending on the 11th month anniversary of the Shangri-La it was almost as good as a birthday present. However, there still was a job left to do before our first year could draw to a close.

We flew regular patrols in assigned sectors of Japan to make sure the Japs would carry out their part of the peace agreement. Our Marines helped take over the Yokosuka naval base. All planes were used for what the pilots called their happiest job of the war. Seabags full of food, candy, toilet articles and medical supplies were dropped on prisoner of war camps throughout Japan and airmen returned with tales of how the prisoners had laughed, waved and pointed to "thank you" and "home!" signs they had painted on rooftops.

On August 28 a plane from the Shangri-La was the first Navy aircraft to land peacefully on Japan since the war started. Several communications specialists and public relations officials were sent ashore to work with the Army in the first phases of the occupation.

But all this was leading up to the big event. Finally on September 2 came the day for which the world was waiting. The formal signing of the peace treaty took place aboard the battleship Missouri, anchored in Tokyo bay. Planes from the Shangri-La rendezvoused with those from all Task Force 28, flew in mass formation over the Emperor's palace and out past the Missouri during the actual signing.

CLOTHING

Approximately 4,000 pounds—3,910, to be exact—of used clothing were collected in this and several other townships during the recent Victory Clothing Drive for the destitute across the seas.

Handled by the Lions Club, Bob Tarkenton, chairman, the drive netted right at 5,000 garments, 500 pairs of shoes and about 200 pieces of headgear. While the poundage fell below that collected a year ago, the quality was far superior. It was pointed out. The collection has been boxed and shipped to Raleigh where it will be forwarded to ports of embarkation.

A preliminary report from the other collection center stated that the Robersonville area, Marvin Everett, chairman, gathered in about 2,000 pounds of used clothing.

State Represented By Large Number of Ships In Last War

At Least Twenty-Four Were Named After Counties In North Carolina
Led by a hard-hitting, modern battleship, 41 naval vessels represented the state of North Carolina with honor in World War II.

The group of ships—all named for North Carolina landmarks—was composed of a battleship, three escort carriers, and 37 transports, gunboats, tankers, and miscellaneous vessels. Most famous of the lot was the powerful battleship North Carolina, of the state, served long and anonymously. They hauled troops, munitions, food, and supplies all over the vast Pacific as American troops leapt from island to island, finally overhauling the Japanese empire itself.

In this transport group were the Chatham, Stokes, Caswell, New Hanover, Lenoir, Alamance, Tyrrol, Duplin, Yancey Union Clay Warren, Wayne, Bladen, Carteret Guilford, Edgecombe, Granville, Hyde, Pitt, Rockingham, Mecklenburg, Harnett, and Iredell.

Three seaplane tenders took their names from North Carolina sounds and bays: the Albemarle, Currituck, and Onslow. Another aviation supply ship, the veteran Kitty Hawk, was christened for the site of the Wright Brothers successful flight in 1903.

Four other ships were in the tanker fleet, members of Service Squadron 10, the so-called "secret" weapons which fueled and replenished the fleet at sea, permitting it to remain in battle for protracted periods of time. Named for North Carolina rivers, the tanker group was composed of the Nantahala, Pasquotank, Watauga, and Hiwassee. The Colington, a Navy harbor launched in 1941 before the war began.

The aircraft carriers were the Bogue, Core and Croatan, named for sounds which finger into the Atlantic from North Carolina's shores. All of these vessels have long and illustrious war careers. They were among the first of the "escort" carriers, and as such were instrumental in succumbing the menace of Nazi submarines in the Atlantic, at a time when the U-boats were sinking a tremendous shipping tonnage and causing grave concern to the Navy. Later they fought in the Pacific.

The transports, named for counties, were named for an island in Albemarle Sound. But the ship best known is the big North Carolina, sometimes dubbed the "Showboat" of the fleet. She participated in almost 50 naval engagements, from the beginning of the war until the end.

Building Material Priority For Vets

The Veterans Service Office of Martin County has been advised of the method to be followed by veterans who wish obtain priorities on building materials. If a veteran is seeking material to build new buildings he should contact Mr. Jack H. Brown, State Director of Federal Housing Administration, Greensboro, N. C. If the veteran is interested in material for repairing and renovating he should contact Civilian Production Administration, Washington, D. C. In both cases it will be necessary to send a certified copy of the veteran's discharge along with his request for priority. A list of firms will in return send application blanks to be filled out by the veteran and then certificates may be issued. These certificates may be taken to the local building supply dealer and priority will be given the veterans.

Officers Take Large Still In Robersonville District

A rare gem in the illicit liquor manufacturing business—a 100-gallon capacity copper still—was captured in the Great Swamp section of Robersonville across the Cross Roads boundary last Friday by ABC Officer J. H. Ruebeck and Deputy Roy Peal and Julian Boebuck. The plant was a well-jiggered affair. The rig was found except the cap. The officers poured out about 300 gallons of beer. The capture climaxes a concerted drive against the illicit liquor business in the county in the past several weeks.

Former Local Man Dies In California

Funeral services were conducted at the home of a sister in Columbia, South Carolina, last Sunday for Joseph Robert Griffin, former local man who died at Long Beach, California, on Friday, February 8. Burial was in Columbia. He was 50 years old. A native of South Carolina, he came to Williamston following his discharge from the Army near the close of World War I and was employed in construction work for several years before returning to South Carolina. He was married to Miss Lilla Belle Baker. Surviving are his former wife and two children, Bill Griffin of Williamston and Mrs. Robert Herring of Norfolk; two sisters, Mrs. Lucy Sharpe and Mrs. Besse Stratton, both of Columbia.

Local Man Able To Be Out Following Long Illness

Confined to hospitals and to his home on Halifax Street here for several months following a heart attack, Mr. Walter Martin, local business man, was able to be on the streets here last week for the first time since he was taken ill. Mrs. Iva Knight, 44 years old, who has been confined to bed for several months following a long illness, was able to be out for the first time last week for the first time since she was taken ill.

Woman's Club Meeting

Mrs. Iva Knight will address the regular meeting of the local Woman's Club this evening at 8:00 o'clock in the club room. The American Home group is sponsoring the program.