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THREE BROTHERS OVERSEAS—TWO WOUNDED IN FRANCE



The three sons of Mr. and Mrs. M. G. Warren, of Roper Route 1, are all serving overseas, and two of them have been wounded since the invasion in France. They are, left to right, Sgt. Vernon W. Warren, 25, seriously wounded in France June 14th; Pvt. Lacy M. Warren, 29, slightly wounded in the left arm in France on July 12th; and Sgt. Tim L. Warren, who is in Italy. Sergeant Vernon and Private Lacy have received Purple Heart awards for wounds received in action.

Lt. Jno. G. Getsinger
Seriously Wounded
In France August 1

Letter From Hospital Attache Says He Lost His Right Arm in Battle

Mrs. John G. Getsinger, of Polkton, who is visiting relatives and friends in Plymouth, was advised Monday that her husband, First Lt. John G. Getsinger, formerly of Plymouth, had been seriously wounded August 1st in France. The news was contained in a letter written to Mrs. Getsinger by an Army hospital attache in France. The letter went to her home in Polkton, and her father called Mrs. Getsinger by telephone.

According to the letter, written at the direction of Lieutenant Getsinger, he had lost his right arm and his right leg was seriously injured. He was reported to be getting along as well as could be expected at that time, but it was not indicated how long it would be before he would be returned to the United States. Mrs. Getsinger has not yet received official notification that her husband has been wounded from the War Department.

Lieutenant Getsinger volunteered for service January 24, 1942, and was assigned to an armored force group at Fort Knox, Ky. He went overseas and was in the North African and Sicilian campaigns with a medium tank unit. He was wounded in a foot on July 11, 1943, during the Sicilian campaign, and spent four months in the hospital before rejoining his unit on December 10, last year. Later he was transferred to England and moved on to France with the invasion forces.

Son of the late Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Getsinger, of Dardens, "Jack," as he is well known here, attended the Plymouth schools, graduating in 1936. He then went to State College, at Raleigh, graduating in 1940. At the time he entered the Army, he was employed at the Hans Rees Tannery in Asheville as a chemist. His wife is well remembered here as Miss Ruth Kiker, teacher in the local schools.

Lieutenant Getsinger has a sister and brother living in Plymouth, Mrs. George Barden and S. E. Getsinger. Another brother, Pfc. Duncan Getsinger, is attending an Army Dental College in Richmond, Va. His relatives and many local friends are anxiously awaiting further information about his condition, and it is hoped he will be able to come home in the very near future.

Last of Wednesday Half-Holidays Here Next Week

The last of the Wednesday half-holidays for the current year will be observed by Plymouth stores and business houses next week. Beginning September 1st, stores will observe the regular week-day hours on Wednesday, opening at 9 a. m. and closing at 6 p. m. The mid-week half-day closing has been in effect since the first of April.

Elmo Mayo Is Released From Naval Hospital

Aviation Cadet F. E. Mayo has been released from the U. S. Naval hospital in Bainbridge, Md., after receiving over three months' treatment in Naval hospitals and will be assigned further duty with the Navy.

Cadet Mayo suffered injuries last February while in basic training with the Navy Air Corps at Athens, Ga., which consisted of torn ligaments between his right shoulder and arm. The injury eliminated him from further training in the air corps.

Local Legion Post Festival Next Week

W. C. Kaus Shows Will Furnish Attractions On Midway

The annual post festival of the James E. Jethro Post of the American Legion will be held here next week, with the W. C. Kaus Shows providing the midway and free attractions. The festival will be held at the old Brinkley ball park, with a part of the proceeds going to the charity fund of the local Legion post.

Booked earlier in the year for a fall showing here, local officials were undecided about holding the festival at this time on account of the polo situation. However, state officials were called Monday, and they said there was no ban on this type of entertainment. Since this was the only open date available, Legion officials here decided to go ahead as planned.

The midway attractions are said to be bigger and better than last year, and include a number of rides, shows and concessions. The free-act program features the Albinis, four aerialists formerly with the Ringling circus, who perform on the high wires, bars and trapezes. The midway will be open each night, beginning at 7 p. m., and there will be a band concert each evening.

Two Sons of Mr. and Mrs. M. G. Warren Wounded in Action

Both With Invasion Forces In France; Another Son On Italian Front

Two sons of Mr. and Mrs. M. G. Warren, of Roper Route 1, have been awarded the Order of the Purple Heart.

Sgt. Vernon W. Warren was seriously wounded in France on June 14th while in combat with an infantry outfit. Twenty-five years of age, Sergeant Warren enlisted in the Army in December, 1940. The nature or extent of his wounds could not be learned, but it is believed by his parents he will soon be back in the United States.

Pvt. Lacy M. Warren, brother to Vernon, was wounded July 12th, also in France. He is 29 years old and was inducted into the Army on September 21, 1941. According to a recent letter from him, his wound was in the left arm and it is not believed to be serious. In the same letter Private Warren told of having a shell land and burst within eight feet of where he was, throwing dirt all over him, but he escaped without a scratch. He describes the battle front as "hell on earth," and said he had been places "where only God could save me from harm." He said that his wound was slight and that he believed "God intended it that way to get me out of that place." He went on to say that he was now in England and getting along fine, and for his folks not to worry but to pray that the war would soon be over.

Mr. and Mrs. Warren's youngest son, Pfc. Tim L. Warren, is also in the Army and overseas. Now 21 years old, he was inducted October 26, 1942, and trained at Camp White, Ore. At the present time he is in Italy serving as special police, and writes that he is getting along fine. He, too, has seen front-line action, coming through it all unscathed.

Raymond B. Smith Another Local Man In French Invasion

Among Other Things, He Has Learned That Crime Doesn't Pay

Life may not be entirely tranquil and safe in that sector of France where Private Raymond B. Smith, of Plymouth, is located, but at least there's never a dull moment—and, as far as that goes, there never have been many dull moments anywhere with Raymond around. In a letter received last week by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Smith, Raymond makes a few characteristic observations about his manner of living since landing in France with the Allied invasion forces.

Incidentally, men who have been in the service, after reading Private Smith's letter, will decide that he must be in Utopia instead of France, or that the millennium has arrived, because he says that the men in his outfit are so easy to get along with that they even like the first sergeant. This is possibly the first time on record that a private ever had that good a word for a "top kick."

In a previous letter from France, Raymond stated that he liked the French girls all right, but he preferred the English variety, because of differences in language. "Trouble with the French girls," he wrote, "is that when I ask them a question, they won't shake their heads, and I don't know whether they've answered 'yes' or 'no'." Those who know Raymond figure he has gotten this straightened out before now.

Following are some excerpts from his most recent letter, dated "Some-"
(Continued on Page Four)

Tobacco Markets To Open Next Monday; Good Crop in County

Charles Ed Brinn Is in News Again

The New York Times last Sunday placed a quotation from Cpl. Charles Ed Brinn, of Plymouth, now in Italy, in very distinguished company. In its editorial section, under the heading "Quotations," The Times prints remarks made by sundry prominent world figures, including Gen. Ho Ying-Chin, Chinese chief of the general staff; Mohandas K. Gandhi, Indian nationalist leader; Australian Brig. Gen. Kenneth P. Lord; Queen Wilhelmina, of the Netherlands; Lt. Gen. Ben Lear, commander of the Army Ground Forces. It then concludes with the following improvement on Nathan Hale's immortal saying:

"Cpl. Charles Brinn, of Plymouth, N. C., during a hotly resisted attack on a German position in Italy: 'My only regret is that I have but one life to give for my country—which if I had two I'd feel safer.'"

One Creswell Man Missing, Another Wounded Recently

Seaman Will Mitchell Haire Reported Missing After Airplane Crash

One Creswell man was reported missing, following an airplane crash on August 20, and another was reported seriously wounded in France on August 1st, it was learned here yesterday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ashley Haire were notified Monday by the War Department that their son, Seaman First-Class Will Mitchell Haire, was missing, following an airplane crash on August 20, "in the performance of his duty and in the service of his country." No details of the occurrence were announced by the Navy Department, and it is not known where the crash occurred.

On the same day, Isaac, Spear, sr., also of Creswell, was notified by the War Department that his son, Cpl. Isaac J. Spear, was seriously wounded in France on August 1st. Mr. Spear had received a letter from his son the day before, stating that he had been wounded in the left arm and was in a hospital, but anxious to rejoin his buddies and get back into action.

Scrap Paper Drive Now on in Creswell

Creswell.—The scrap paper drive in Creswell, being sponsored jointly by the Episcopal, Baptist and Methodist churches, is meeting with excellent success, according to reports this week. A large amount of waste paper is on hand, and an appeal is being made to everyone in the community to gather up all they have on hand and turn it in for the final round-up during the coming two weeks.

A special appeal is being directed to those who live in the country around Creswell to join in the campaign and bring any scrap paper they have on hand to swell the total amount. It is urgently needed.

Rev. Jenkins Returns To Methodist Pulpit Sunday

Rev. T. R. Jenkins will preach at the Plymouth Methodist Church next Sunday at 11 a. m. filling his pulpit for the first time in several weeks.

Sunday school will be held at 10 a. m., and Youths' Fellowship will be held at 7 p. m.

County Farmers Must Call for Their Tobacco Marketing Cards This Year

Comparatively few of the nearly 300 tobacco farmers of Washington County have called for their 1944 marketing cards so far, according to Miss Miriam Ausbon, chief clerk at the AAA office in the agriculture building here. The cards have all been made out and will be delivered to the farmers if they call, but none will be mailed out this year it is stated.

Only seven farmers overplanted their allotments, and they have indicated that they would pay in advance the penalty on their excess poundage, so that

Farmers Pleased At Price Outlook

Few Have Had Time To Prepare Tobacco for Opening Sales

Tobacco will hold the center of the stage next week, when sales get under way on the Eastern Carolina auction markets. A casual review this week indicated that less Washington County tobacco than usual will be placed on the opening sales next Monday, as the farmers are still busy with the curing and grading task. However, the county has a larger acreage this year, with a fairly good yield indicated, and farmers generally are optimistic over prospects.

The tobacco selling season opened on the Georgia markets about a month ago and in the border belt two weeks ago. The price averages, making allowance for the 3½ cents differential allowed for graded and tied tobacco, is considered very satisfactory by most growers in this section. The OPA has fixed a ceiling of 43½ cents per pound for the type of tobacco raised in this section, which is more than 2 cents a pound higher than last year's average.

The Washington County crop this season, in general, is considered as one of the best in recent years. For a time, about a month ago, it looked as if the crop would be a failure, due to lack of rain. However, most sections have since received enough moisture, although there are a few exceptions. Quality is generally reported to be good, and a fair yield is indicated, although some farmers say the crop will be lighter than most people expect.

There are upwards of 300 tobacco farmers in this county, and many of them will take Monday off to visit the opening sales. Gasoline and tire rationing will serve to hold down the number attending, but many farmers will pool their transportation and visit the near-by markets. Williams, Washington and Robersonville are the nearest markets, but some county farmers go as far away as Greenville, Wilson and Rocky Mount to sell their tobacco.

No Survey Yet for Extension of Mains

However, Mayor Says Favorable Report on Project Expected Next Week

Up to yesterday no further action had been taken by the town toward surveying the proposed extension of water and sewer lines, as ordered by the council at a special meeting Tuesday night of last week. The special committee, Mayor B. G. Campbell, Councilman H. E. Harrison, and Chief of Police P. W. Brown, had not been able to up to that time to secure anyone to make the survey, a necessary prerequisite to estimating the cost of the proposed improvements.

However, Mayor Campbell said yesterday that he hoped something definite could be determined by next week as to the cost of the undertaking. The Mayor indicated he believed a favorable report would be made on the project, which calls for extending water and sewer mains to the housing development on East Third Street Extended, as well as out East Main Street Extended possibly as far as the Conkey Creek bridge. Erection of the 25 houses on East Third Street Extended depends on extension of the water and sewer lines, since they are to be financed under FHA regulations, which require that these facilities be available. Extension of the mains out East Main Street will serve some 60 or more houses in that region, besides making possible further development of a residential neighborhood in that direction.

Hubert L. Cox, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Cox, of Plymouth, now in San Pedro, California, has recently been promoted from Chief Petty Officer to Chief Warrant Officer. His father advised that he is now awaiting assignment to return to the South Pacific.

A. L. Alexander, one of Plymouth's leading insurance men, has secured the agency for the Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Company, of Greensboro, for both Washington and Tyrrell Counties. Negotiations for the new agency were concluded the first of this week.

The number of applications for general election absentee ballots for men in the military service is showing an increase, according to W. W. White, of Skippersville, chairman of the county board of elections. Up to Thursday of last week, 118 ballots had been mailed, as compared with about 75 issued for the primary in May. An application blank for the ballots is published in this issue of The Beacon.

Lt. (jg) and Mrs. James A. Chesson, Jr., spent several days last week with Lieutenant Chesson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. James A. Chesson, sr., near Roper. Lieutenant Chesson is a Naval aviator attached to a converted carrier recently engaged in convoy duty in the Atlantic. He has made several crossings since he was assigned to this duty some months ago.

The price panel of the local rationing board is planning to check ceiling-price compliance by dry-goods merchants and restaurants throughout the country in the near future. Owners of such establishments have been called on to furnish certain information in order to establish their ceiling prices, after which the compliance check will be instituted.

The Rev. and Mrs. E. B. Quick have gone to Lake Phelps to spend a 10-day vacation. Mr. Quick will be back to fill his pulpit at the Christian church here Sunday morning, August 27, returning to Lake Phelps Monday. Anyone desiring to get in touch with him concerning church matters may do so by addressing his mail in care of the Rev. T. F. Davenport, Creswell.

J. D. Bowen, storekeeper second-class, of the U. S. Navy, is spending this week with his father, Jesse E. Bowen, near here. Br. Bowen volunteered for service in the Navy in April, 1942, and has been practically all over the world since that time as member of the armed guard on a merchant vessel. His sea duty carried him to India, Africa, and various ports in the Atlantic and South Pacific areas. He now has a shore station at Quonset Point, R. I.

Southern Albemarle Meeting Called Off

Polio Situation Causes Indefinite Postponement, Whitley Announces

The annual meeting of the Southern Albemarle Association, originally scheduled to be held at Manteo Thursday of next week, August 31, has been indefinitely postponed on account of the infantile paralysis situation, it was announced early this week by W. L. Whitley, of Plymouth, president of the organization.

Mr. Whitley said he had canvassed the opinion of all officials of the association, and that it was decided best to call off the gathering in view of the circumstances. Plans for the meeting will be taken up at a later date, it is stated.

Mr. Whitley said that at an early date he would call a meeting of the executive committee of the association to be held at Columbia to discuss matters of interest to the member counties of the organization, Tyrrell, Dare, Hyde and Washington. It is understood that the road program will be brought up to date at the time.

The annual meeting of the Southern Albemarle Association was called off last year on account of the severe storm which made travel to Manteo impossible at the time the gathering was scheduled. The last regular meeting was held in 1942.

John W. Darden, of Plymouth, is the Washington County vice president of the association.

May Lose AAA Benefits If Dealer To Handle Grant-of-Aid Seed Not Found

Farmers of Washington County may lose a portion of their soil-building program benefits this season unless a dealer can be secured to handle materials offered as grants-of-aid, it was learned at the AAA office here yesterday. Lime, super-phosphate and Austrian winter peas are available to a number of farmers not eligible for cash benefit payments; but so far the county AAA committee has not been able to get a dealer to handle the Australian winter peas at the fee allowed, 30 cents per 100 pound bag.

Teachers, Principals To Meet Here Week Before Schools Open

Rationing Board Asks Cooperation

Due to the fact that many people are waiting until Thursday to file their applications for gasoline and tires, the Rationing Board announces adoption of the following rule, and strict adherence to it:

"All applications received in the office of the Board or postmarked as late as Wednesday night preceding each Thursday, will not be given consideration before Thursday of the following week. This is being done from the fact that the office force cannot receive the bulk of a week's applications and get them ready for the Board to review the same day. This should be kept in mind as no case will be made an exception, and all will be treated alike."

Compliance Check Is Made in County

30 Out of First 71 Grocery Firms Checked Get Rating of "Perfect"

The price panel of the Washington County War Price and Rationing Board is completing a check of every grocery establishment in the county. The check is being made as to compliance with ceiling prices and posting of ceiling prices, as required by OPA regulations. There are 82 stores in the county, and approximately 70 have been checked so far.

Miss Mary Elizabeth Bray, price clerk of the board, said yesterday that in checking the reports made to date, 30 had been found to have perfect records of compliance. The check also disclosed about 30 per cent of the remainder were within close range of receiving a rating of "perfect," leaving less than half of those checked in error.

The check is being made in order that any who may not be complying with OPA regulations may be given more explicit information. Miss Bray said that no willful violations had been found, but that ignorance is not always acceptable as an excuse before the law; and the main purpose of the survey is assist all merchants to keep within the regulations. Very few were found to be selling goods at prices above the established OPA ceiling, while many were found to be selling them below the ceiling prices. Merchants are requested to examine their price lists and keep them posted, as required by the law.

May Lose AAA Benefits If Dealer To Handle Grant-of-Aid Seed Not Found

While figures are not now available as to the amount of benefits that will be lost if no dealer is secured, it doubtless will be a considerable sum in the aggregate. Those who are eligible for the grants-of-aid in materials, especially those who want to order seed Austrian winter peas, are requested to use their influence in helping the county committee secure someone to handle the seed in this county. While it is not necessary that a seed dealer be secured, it is stated that whoever handles the peas would have to secure a state seed license.

September 18 Date Set by State Board

Polio Situation Causes Postponement; Teachers To Meet 14th and 15th

Washington County schools, white and colored, will begin the 1944-45 term on Monday, September 18, it was announced yesterday by H. H. McLean, county superintendent of public instruction. Mr. McLean said this was in compliance with instructions issued by the State Board of Education, which met in Raleigh last Thursday and decided on a uniform postponement of school opening dates throughout North Carolina. This action was taken on account of the infantile paralysis situation in the state.

Although there have been no cases of polio reported in this county, it is believed bringing teachers from areas which are infected would constitute a possible source of infection. Based on the experience of past years, it is believed the danger of an epidemic is past by the middle of September. Schools in this county were originally scheduled to open on August 30, next Wednesday.

Mr. McLean said yesterday that county principals would meet here on Wednesday September 13, before the schools open the following Monday. Teachers also are being notified to meet here on Thursday and Friday, September 14 and 15, in order to have everything ready for the formal opening of the schools on the 18th. It is hoped, by holding these meetings of the principals and teachers before the schools open, that some of the lost time can be made up by entering immediately upon classroom work on the 18th.

Dr. J. Henry Highsmith, director of instructional service for the State Board, will be here for the principals' meeting on the 13th. The meeting will be held in the Plymouth High School Building, Mr. McLean said.

School Heat Plant May Be Repaired

First Ray of Hope Is Seen For Improvement in Conditions Here

A glimmer of hope for better heating of the high school building here next winter was aroused this week, when advice was received from the manufacturer of the heating plant that an effort would be made to do something about the equipment. Just what kind of efforts would be made could not be learned, but the fact that some interest was shown is considered more hopeful than anything else that has occurred in this respect in the past two or three years.

Last winter, conditions reached an intolerable stage during the really cold weather. There were several rooms in the building where the temperature did not reach the 50-degree mark at any time during the school day. Teachers and pupils alike were forced to keep on their overcoats or any other heavy wraps they had available.

Up to this week, school officials had been unable to get anyone with heating equipment experience to even check over the local plant.

Fire Department Called By Grass Fire Tuesday

The Plymouth Fire Department was called out Tuesday afternoon about 2 o'clock to extinguish a grass fire close to the pickle plant. The fire was soon put out without any damage.