

Marcel Bradon, machinist's mate 2/c, of the U. S. Coast Guard, who has been serving in the South Pacific, is spending the Christmas holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Owen Bradon, here. Mr. and Mrs. Bradon also received word this week that another son, Master Sgt. Charles Bradon, had arrived safely at a station somewhere in the South Pacific war area.

Staff Sgt. Allen J. Spear, of Creswell, has been admitted to the Moore General Hospital at Swannanoa for treatment, it was announced by the public relations office there this week. Sergeant Moore served with the Infantry in the Southwest Pacific theatre of operations.

H. E. Beam, cashier of the Branch Banking & Trust Company, announces that the bank will remain open from 8 to 9 o'clock Saturday night of this week for the convenience of its patrons. He will be glad to issue last-minute War Bond Christmas presents to purchasers at this time. The bank will be closed Monday and Tuesday of next week.

Preparations are going forward for re-registration of the local Boy Scout troop, Assistant Scoutmaster H. G. Harris said this week. He urges all Scouts to be present at the next meeting, which will be held Monday night, January 1.

Capt. Thomas O. Vall, of Birmingham, Ala., Army Air Base Hospital, spent two weeks in the county recently with his mother, Mrs. Jane Vall, and children at Westover. Captain Vall went into the service in 1919, prior to which he was a student at the Roper High School.

It was announced by the public relations office of Moore General Hospital at Swannanoa this week that Staff Sgt. Hilton Dunbar, of Wenoona, had been admitted to that hospital for treatment. The nature of treatment nor expected length of his stay there was not indicated in the dispatch.

Only three shopping days remain before Christmas, and Plymouth stores will remain open until 9 o'clock each evening for the remainder of the week to accommodate those who are unable to do their buying during the regular hours.

Miss Jessie Jane Chesson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. N. G. Chesson, of Roper; and Miss Helen Elizabeth Darden, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Darden, of Plymouth, will return to their respective homes this week to spend the Christmas holidays. They are attending a business school in Raleigh.

Pfc. Hope Vall, WAC, of Fort George G. Meade, Md., will spend the Christmas holidays at home with her mother, Mrs. Jane Vall, in Westover. Miss Vall worked at the North Carolina Pulp Company here before entering the service in October, 1942.

Lions Club To Skip Meeting This Week

The local Lions Club voted last Thursday night to skip its regular meeting this week, due to the fact that most members are busy getting ready for Christmas. The next meeting of the club will be held on Thursday night of next week, December 28.

Following a review of the committee appointments and a request for reports from the special post-war planning committees at an early date, Melvin Daniels, of Manteo, register of deeds for Dare County, made the principal speech of the occasion, talking on the coming Christmas season and of the things for which our fighting men are sacrificing so much. His talk was well received by the large gathering present.

Dr. Alban Papineau, first vice president of the club, presided in the absence of President T. W. Earle, who was out of town. Lawrence Swain, a Plymouth native now living in Manteo, who accompanied Mr. Daniels to the meeting, won the \$25 War Bond in a drawing.

Business Houses Extend Greeting

As an expression of their appreciation for the friendship and patronage accorded them in the past, Plymouth merchants and other business men pause at this time to extend their sincere greetings to all the people of this section through the column of this paper today.

A new hope and understanding are created at Christmas time, and to enhance the value of these, the business force of this town express, in a most sincere way their wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all.

Read the little messages, without which Christmas would be little more than just another day in the year, and know that these firms are interested in your happiness at all times, and especially at this glad season.



Just a simple Christmas Greeting, but it conveys a heart-felt appreciation for the many kindnesses extended us during the past year. May this Christmas be your merriest and happiest one.

Roanoke Beacon 'Force'

Workers of Section to Get From 1 to 3 Days Holiday for Christmas

Beacon Office To Be Closed 5 Days

The Roanoke Beacon is appearing a day earlier this week, and it will be at least a day late next week, due to repair work underway in the office. Publication is being made Wednesday of this week, while next week the paper will not appear before Friday, December 29.

A new concrete floor is being poured for the office this week, which means that all the machinery and equipment must be moved and time allowed for the concrete to set up before work can be resumed. The office will not be open for business after Wednesday of this week until Wednesday, December 27.

Most members of the Beacon "force" are being given several days' vacation during the Christmas season, but everyone will be back on the job ready for "business as usual" Wednesday morning of next week.

Bill Darden Advised Close Friend Killed In Pacific This Year

Hears From Pal's Sister After Sending Him Christmas Greeting

William R. (Bill) Darden received a shock last week when he was advised that one of the closest friends he had while in the service was killed in action in the Central Pacific early this year. Bill had addressed a Christmas card to his pal, Anthony Damato, at Shenandoah, Pa. It was answered by his friend's sister, who wrote that "Tony" was killed in action on the Marshall Islands February 19, 1944, and that another brother had been reported missing.

Mr. Darden, then in the U. S. Navy, and Damato, member of the Marine Corps, received British Commando training together in Scotland in 1942, preparatory to the invasion of North Africa in November of that year. Bill was severely wounded in the attack on Oran, when the corvette which crashed the chain boom at the mouth of the harbor was destroyed, and he was taken prisoner by the French-Italian-German defending forces.

Mr. Darden said that Damato was the man who freed him from his captors. Suffering from numerous shrapnel and seven machine-gun bullet wounds, Bill was miraculously discharged from the Navy about the middle of last year, after receiving a Navy citation and two promotions for "meritorious conduct under fire," and he last saw his friend at the dock when he was invalided back to the United States.

Commenting rather bitterly about folks back home who complain about "sacrificing" to buy War Bonds, Mr. Darden offers the following letter from his pal's sister as a testimonial to the real sacrifices being made by men in the service and the families:

"No doubt you will be surprised to hear from me. Please don't think I'm being too forward in writing to you; but, first of all, let me introduce myself: I'm Anthony's Damato's sister and am 24 years old, married and the mother of a little boy, whom my dear brother, Tony, has never seen—and never will see, because half of my heart went with him when he was 'killed in action' February 19, 1944, on the Marshall Islands in the Southwest Pacific. My other brother is 'missing in action' since November 5, 1943, but Tony never knew. I'm writing all this to you, because I feel that whoever was a friend of Tony's is a friend of mine. Tony died the death of a

(See PAL KILLED, Page 4)

Stores and Business Houses Here Closed Monday - Tuesday

Employees of Most Local Plants Also To Get Extra Time Off This Year

Employees of the various industrial plants and business establishments in and around Plymouth will have rest and recreational periods during the Christmas season ranging from one to three days and more. Most workers will get one extra day due to the fact that Christmas falls on Monday. Practically every establishment is closed Sunday anyway, and some of them are closing Monday and Tuesday in addition.

The plant of the North Carolina Pulp Company is being closed down Sunday for about a week, during which machinery and equipment will be overhauled and repaired. However, most of the employees there will be required for this work, and although production will be at a standstill, practically all workmen will return to their jobs during the week, following Christmas Day. Only a very few will be required to be on duty Christmas Day.

The Plymouth Box & Panel Company will close down its plant at noon Saturday and reopen Tuesday morning, according to officials there.

The local unit of the American Fork & Hoe Company does not operate on Saturdays, so its employees will be off from Friday afternoon until Wednesday morning, the plant being closed for Christmas both Monday and Tuesday.

It had not been definitely decided Tuesday how long the courthouse offices would be closed, but it is the usual custom to allow county employees the same holiday that the State does. This would be from Friday afternoon until Wednesday morning.

All of the local stores and business houses, with the possible exception of drug stores and filling stations, will be closed Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. The Branch Banking & Trust Company will also observe both Monday and Tuesday as holidays, the governor having issued a proclamation last week declaring them banking holidays. Post offices in the county will be closed Monday, and there will be no rural or city delivery service.

County schools are already in recess, having closed Wednesday afternoon, and they will not reopen until Tuesday, January 2; giving school children very nearly a full two-weeks holiday period. Most of the out-of-county teachers are leaving for their respective homes today and tomorrow.

Dance at Country Club December 30

The annual New Year dance for members of the Country Club of Plymouth will be held at the club house Saturday night of next week, December 30, starting at 9 o'clock. It was announced this week by Z. V. Norman, president of the club. Invitations and admission cards have been mailed to all members of the club and their out-of-town guests, and a large crowd is expected. An orchestra has been engaged for the event.

Several new members have been received into the club during the past few days; and it is announced by the membership committee that all who join and pay their dues for the first quarter of 1945 will be eligible to attend the dance next week.

A Christmas party was given at the club house Wednesday afternoon at 4 o'clock for the children of club members. Santa Claus was present and distributed gifts to the young folks, and a number of games were enjoyed.

Coupons Issued To 88 Needy Families By Christmas Fund

About 150 Persons Will Be Taken Care of; Plan Is Same as Last Year

The Rev. William B. Daniels, jr., chairman of the Washington County Empty Stocking Fund committee, said yesterday that coupons valued at 50 cents each have been issued this week to needy families in the county. The number of coupons issued varied according to the number of persons in each family and the degree of need.

Mr. Daniels said that approximately \$400 worth of the coupons had been distributed to 88 families, representing about 150 people. Each coupon has a face value of 50 cents, and may be used for the purchase of food, clothing, fuel, and drug supplies, as well as a reasonable amount of fruit, candy and small toys for children.

The coupons have no cash value and they may not be used for the purchase of any alcoholic beverage. Merchants throughout the county have been requested to honor the coupons when presented recipients. The coupons will be redeemed for cash when presented to the Branch Banking & Trust Company by any county merchant.

Difficulties imposed by rationing, and the general shortage of foods made it impossible to deliver baskets as in former years. By issuing the coupons, it is thought that each family will be able to make its purchases on the basis of actual needs.

Money for the Empty Stocking Fund was raised through the United War Fund during the latter part of October. It is understood that a little more than \$400 was available. All cases to whom coupons were sent were investigated and certified by the county welfare department.

The Empty Stocking Fund Committee is composed of four Plymouth ministers, Rev. Wm B. Daniels, jr., chairman; Rev. E. B. Quick, Rev. T. R. Jenkins, and the Rev. Lee A. Phillips.

Draft Board Sends Its 'Greetings', Calls Five for Induction

Colored Group Leaves January 2; Two Pre-Induction Calls Next Month

The office of the Washington County Selective Service Board this week sent out some "greetings," but they were not the kind with holly borders or talking so much about "peace on earth." As a matter of fact, they constituted a summons for the recipients to report for induction into the military forces of the United States, which at the moment are engaged—necessarily, of course—in spreading more than a little "hell on earth" among our enemies.

Five colored men are on the receiving end of the "greetings" sent out this week, and they were ordered to report to the draft board office on Tuesday, January 2, for induction. Two of the names are from Plymouth, two from Roper, and one from Mackeys. They are as follows: William Daniel Gee and Edward White, of Plymouth; John Ben Sawyer and Henry Tom Allen, of Roper; and Earl Linwood Midgett, of Mackeys.

It was also learned at the office of the board that three white men were inducted from the contingent which left here on December 13th. They were Edison William Patrick, of Wenoona; Clinton Respass, of Plymouth; and Marvin Leslie Davenport, of Creswell. Induction of these three men leaves only two other white men in the county available for immediate induction, it was stated.

The local board has received instructions to be prepared to fill larger calls during the early part of next year, but board members are at a loss as to how they will proceed, as practically the entire pool of available men has been exhausted. Pre-induction calls have already been received for a medium sized number of colored men to leave on January 4 and a smaller number of white men to leave on January 30.

Lawyers of County Set January Court Calendar

Members of the Washington County Bar Association held a meeting in the office of the clerk of the court last week to arrange a calendar for the civil term of superior court to be held here in January. The term will begin January 8 and continue for two weeks, with the first part of the session to be devoted to the trial of criminal cases.

It was stated at the courthouse that there were comparatively few criminal cases to be heard at the coming term, which is to be presided over by Judge Q. K. Nimocks, of Fayetteville. The docket has not yet been arranged. The lawyers recently agreed on the calendar for civil cases, and the complete schedule will be announced in the next few days.

County Still About \$30,000 Short of Its "E" Bond Quota

Rev. Lee A. Phillips Resigns as Pastor of Baptist Church Here

Has Two Calls Under Consideration; Church Calls Former Pastor

After serving as pastor of the Ludford Memorial Baptist church here for about a year and a half, the Rev. Lee A. Phillips tendered his resignation at a church conference following the service last Sunday morning. It is understood that Mr. Phillips has two calls under consideration, one from the Baptist State Mission Board and the other from a church near Elizabeth City, but that he has not yet decided which he will accept. It is understood that his resignation is to become effective about February 1.

Mr. Phillips is a native of Plant City, Fla. After completing his high school education, he attended Palmto Preparatory School, Palmto, Fla.; Boiling Springs Junior College, near Shelby in this State; and Wake Forest College. He has been in the ministry for about 10 years, serving churches in Fayetteville, White Oak and Kelly before coming to the local church in August of last year.

He has been very much interested in evangelistic work, holding a number of meetings in various parts of the state since assuming the local pastorate. He has also served as Scoutmaster of the local troop of Boy Scouts for a little more than a year.

It is understood the local Baptist congregation has extended a call to the Rev. Paul B. Nickens, a former pastor, who recently received a medical discharge from the Army, where he was serving as chaplain. Mr. Nickens was pastor of the local church for three and a half years, leaving in August, 1941. It goes to a church at Murfreesboro. He could not be reached today whether or not he had accepted the invitation to return to the pastorate here.

CAA Recommends \$140,000 Airport for Plymouth After War

Proposal Contained in Report Submitted to Congress This Month

Plymouth is one of the 3,000 towns in the United States for which airport construction is recommended after the war. The recommendation was made by the Civil Aeronautics Commission in a report submitted to Congress early this month.

Estimating that the nation will have 400,000 civilian aircraft within the next 10 years, as compared with 25,000 at present, the CAA laid before Congress a proposal for a billion dollar post-war plan for airport construction and improvement. The 3,000 projects are divided into classes from 1 to 4. The type recommended for Plymouth is a class 1 airport, calling for an expenditure of \$140,000. Similar recommendations are made for airports at Williamston, Edenton, Hertford; and for \$110,000 projects at Columbia and Belhaven in this section.

The CAA recommends the building of 3,000 new airports and improvements for over 1,600 existing fields, at an estimated cost of \$1,021,567,945, which would provide for clearing, grading, paving, lighting and radio facilities. An additional \$230,000,000 would be needed for acquisition of land for the buildings which then hangars.

The CAA plans a 10-year program, and recommends that the undertaking be financed by the Federal and State governments by matching appropriations.

An appropriation of \$3,000,000 was asked immediately for surveys and other preliminary work.

The Airport committee of the Plymouth Lions Club now has the plans of the CAA under consideration, and is writing for additional information about the ambitious program submitted to the Congress. This committee is composed of E. F. Still, chairman; L. V. Landing, John L. Phelps and L. N. Womble.

Two Clerks at Winslow's Sell \$10,900 Worth Bonds

Although it's the busiest season of the year for clerks in the store of W. F. Winslow, two of them nevertheless have managed to sell nearly \$11,000 worth of War Bonds since the start of the Sixth War Loan Campaign in November. Mrs. J. B. Willoughby had sold \$9,800 worth up to Tuesday and was trying hard to make it \$10,000 worth, while Mrs. Jerry Hayes had sold \$1,100 worth. The figures quoted are maturity value of the bonds.

MISSING IN ACTION



Pvt. Elbert Lee Woodley, 23, has been missing in action in France since November 14, his wife, Mrs. Sybil Spruill Woodley, of Creswell, was informed last week. He is the 23rd Washington County man to be reported killed or missing in line of duty since the start of the war.

Lt. J. G. Getsinger Visited by Relatives At Army Hospital

Said To Be in 'Good Spirits' Despite Loss of Arm and Foot

Recently returned from overseas, where he was twice wounded in battle, 1st Lt. John Goodman Getsinger, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. John Getsinger, of Dardens, is now undergoing treatment in an Army hospital at Atlantic City, N. J. A graduate of the Plymouth High School, he has a sister, Mrs. George Barden, and brother, Eddie Getsinger, now living here. They visited him at the New Jersey hospital week before last, finding him able to be up and in "good spirits," despite his numerous and terrible wounds.

Lieutenant Getsinger was first wounded, in the foot, during the Sicilian campaign in July of last year. He was sent to a hospital in North Africa, where he remained for some time, returning to duty this year in time to get in on the invasion of France in June. This marked the third invasion in which he had taken part in the North African and Sicilian landings. He was with an armored force.

The young man about 25 years of age, was seriously wounded some where in France last August 1. He lost his right arm, a portion of his right leg was shot away, and a nerve was severed in his left leg that limits his use of it. In addition, he received numerous sharp wounds from his shoulders down, including a serious one to his right side. It has been necessary to give him numerous blood transfusions, one report indicated the total amount was approximately 10 gallons.

He was returned to this country the early part of this month, moving to his home in Plymouth.

Escaped Prisoner Is Captured Here

Turned Over to Virginia Authorities After Trial in County Court

Talking too much has cost Ben Woods, alias Jack Harris, colored employee of the pulp mill here, several years of freedom. Woods got drunk last Saturday night and slapped Pete Nichols and his wife, also colored, and they had him arrested for assault.

Placed in jail here by local police, Woods showed a little too much anxiety to get out Sunday, when he was questioned by Sheriff J. K. Reid. The sheriff kept after him and finally learned that Woods was an escaped Virginia convict. It was later learned that the Negro was sent up from Norfolk a year or two ago, and had served only 7 months of a 5-year sentence for armed robbery when he escaped from authorities in Richmond.

In recorder's court Tuesday, it was learned that Woods had the draft registration cards and identification of a dead Negro, Jack Harris, and he could have gotten away with the masquerade if he hadn't talked too much. As it was, he was fined \$5 and costs on two counts of simple assault in the court here and then turned over to Virginia authorities to serve out the remainder of his five-year sentence and such other penalties as may have accrued by reason of his escape.

All Sales During Remainder Month Will Be Counted

However, Reports Must Be Made About Middle of Next Week

"E" bond sales are still lagging behind the county quota, but the margin is slowly being closed, it was learned Tuesday from W. Ronald Gaylord, chairman of the Sixth War Loan Drive, and H. E. Beam, chairman of the county War Finance Committee. Mr. Beam said Tuesday that sales this week showed a healthy increase, giving rise to the hope that the county would reach its goal before the drive is closed on December 30.

Sales of "E" bonds up to Tuesday totaled about \$86,000, Mr. Beam said. This included reports from all selling agencies in the county received by the Federal Reserve Bank in Richmond up to last Saturday, plus sales at the bank through Monday. It did not include any credit for sales made to members of the armed forces, as this credit will not be announced until the close of the Sixth War Loan.

Neither Mr. Beam nor Mr. Gaylord is worried about the overall quota of \$219,000 for the county, as it is believed this will be reached. However, there is still a considerable element of doubt that the county quota of \$113,000 worth of "E" bonds will be realized. Sales of this class of bonds are about \$33,000 short of the goal at this time, with only a little more than a week to go.

Final appeals are being directed to Washington County people to buy every bond they possibly can between now and the middle of next week. No sales will be counted that are not reported to the Federal Reserve Bank at the close of business on Saturday, December 30, which means that reports sent to the bank after the middle of next week will hardly be in time.

The Branch Banking & Trust Company here will be open from 8 to 9 o'clock Saturday night for the convenience of those who wait until the last minute to buy bonds for Christmas gifts. See one of the issuing agencies between now and the middle of next week and buy that extra bond. The investment is the safest obtainable, and it would not do for the county to fall down on its obligation to back its fighting men at this time. Get that bond now!

'Remark' Published By Reader's Digest

Cpl. Charles Ed Brinn's improved version of Nathan Hale's immortal last words is getting around. It appears in this month's Reader's Digest, after being published a month or so ago in the New York Times' column of "Quotations," along with sundry remarks made by such noted people as Madame Ching Kai-Shek, Queen Wilhelmina, and others.

The remark, "My only regret is that I have but one life to give for my country—if I had two, I'd feel safer," was uttered by the irrepressible Charles Ed during some rather heavy fighting in Italy last summer. Corporal Brinn is a native of Creswell and lived in Plymouth at the time he entered the service several months ago.

After the quotation was published in the Times, it was sent to The Reader's Digest by Corporal Brinn's father, H. H. Brinn, of Creswell. The latter recently wrote the Beacon that the Digest had mailed him a \$35 check for the saying and that he was holding it for his son, who is still with General Mark Clark's Fifth Army in Italy.

Holiday Schedule For Mail Outlined

The Plymouth post office will provide a large measure of service throughout the holiday period, although it means that employees will have but little time off for themselves, it was stated yesterday by J. Corbett Swain, postmaster.

There will be no rural or city carrier service next Monday, Christmas Day, but all special delivery packages and parcels containing perishable products will be delivered in town. Mail will be dispatched as usual over the week-end, including Christmas Day, and incoming mail will be put up for those who have lock boxes at the post office.

There will be no window service after 1 o'clock Saturday afternoon until next Tuesday morning. After Monday, the regular schedule will be resumed.