



Straight from the Shoulder — Right from the Heart of Duplin

VOLUME 13

KENANSVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA FRIDAY, AUGUST 3rd., 1945

No. 31

## Border Belt Opens \$44.50 Ave.

### Details Given Death Funeral Warsaw Bo

Bill Steele Wilson given Military Funeral on Island in the Pacific; Awarded Purple Heart Posthumously.

Mrs. Blanche S. Wilson of Warsaw has received two communications from the armed forces, giving a detailed account of the death and military funeral of her son, Pfc. Willie Steele Wilson.

Bill Steele, as he was more affectionately known around Warsaw, died April 26th in Navy Hospital No. 111, from wounds received while in action on Okinawa on April 21st. Bill Steele served overseas for 38 months. It is said of him by his friends that he was always thoughtful of his family, continually doing many things that many people overlook. He sent his mother and grandmother flowers for Mother's Day and the flowers were still fresh when the family received information that he was dead.

Tuesday morning, his mother received the Purple Heart Medal that was awarded to him posthumously.

A letter dated May 8th was received by his mother from the Chaplain who conducted his funeral services: Mrs. Blanche Wilson, Warsaw, N. C.

Dear Mrs. Wilson: You have undoubtedly already received official notice of the injury and death of your son, PFC Willie Steele Wilson, 34 170 194, Co. L, 3rd Bn, 105th Regt, 27th Division. Realizing your desire to have every detail possible, I bring to you what I have been able to learn.

Your son was injured in the battle of Okinawa on April 21. He was brought by air to this island in the Marianas and admitted to Navy Hospital No. 111. His injury consisted of a penetrating chest wound, which also severed the spinal cord. While it was quite evident from the first that recovery would be impossible, everything humanly possible was done for him. He was placed in a private room, given oxygen and other supportive treatment, but he gradually declined and passed away April 26 at 10:52 P. M. He experienced very little discomfort and was alert and cheerful after arriving at the hospital.

While in the hospital he was visited two or three times a day by Chaplain A. B. Love, whose home address is Clover, S. C. Chaplain Love is a very high type elderly minister of great piety and takes a personal interest in every man. During his conversations with your son, Willie expressed his faith and trust in God and his dependence upon Christ as his Lord and Saviour. He passed away cheerful and unafraid, looking forward to the Resurrection in Christ.

Willie was buried with full military honors, and I am enclosing a copy of the service which I used. I am aware that no words of mine can bring adequate comfort, but may I commend you to the Father in Heaven whose heart is with yours, and who is also the source of all true comfort. May He lift you up in His everlasting arms and give you that comfort which cometh only from above. And may we remember the words of Jesus when he said, "Greater love hath no man than this, that he lay down his life for his friend." Your son has demonstrated this greater love. May we remain so live as to bring into full realization the values for which he died.

Remembering you in my prayers, I am,

### Farmers Well Pleased Low Grades Sell Good

Price Range \$40 to \$48; Opening Day Offerings Not So Heavy; Resume Of Markets.

North Carolina's seven tobacco markets in the Border Belt opened Wednesday for the sale of the 1945 bright leaf crop with a moderate offering. There were no blocks reported anywhere. Some warehouses were filled about to selling capacity.

Opening prices were satisfactory everywhere. A report said the general average was about \$44.50, approximately \$1.00 to \$4.00 higher than last year's prices. Prices ranged \$40 to \$48.

Comparing this year's opening day prices with the ones past shows a definite increase. Prices on opening day last year averaged \$43.12 and in 1943 averaged \$41.25. Ceiling this year is a dollar higher than it was last season.

Prices ranged close together on all markets. Lower grades sold very good while better grades sold only 3 to 4 cents higher than the lower.

CLARKTON — On the Clarkton market, farmers were well pleased. The market sold its day's capacity by about 12 o'clock. Two Duplin warehousemen, Charlie Herring and Ben Rivenbark operate there.

WHITEVILLE — Whiteville, one of the larger markets on the Border has six large warehouses and each are manned by veteran and experienced tobaccoists, most of them farmers.

M. O. Nelson, Sr., is the dean of the Whiteville Market. He and his two sons operate the Nelson's Warehouse.

Brooks Warehouse is operated by Motley Brothers, who are not only veteran tobaccoists but are farmers too.

Crutchfields Warehouse is operated by Raymond and Gaither Crutchfield. This year Raymond is holding forth alone as Gaither is in the Army, stationed at Camp Lee, Va., in the Quartermaster Corps.

Farmers Warehouse is operated by Bert Moore and L. R. Jackson whose slogan is "Sell With Moore and Jackson for More Jack".

Lee's Warehouse is operated by Hunter and Townes Lee. Townes, like Gaither Crutchfield, is serving in the armed forces this year.

Tuggles Warehouse is operated by Dial Gray and Jack Neal, veteran tobaccoists.

The efficient supervisor of sales there is M. B. Kibler, Jr., who has been in Whiteville for several years as sales supervisor and secretary of the Merchants Association. Kibler's pet project just now is to secure a municipal airport for the town.

TABOR CITY — Moving on down to Tabor City one finds a thriving town that not only boasts of a good tobacco market but a strawberry and potato market as well.

Leaders among the tobaccoists there are Buck Peay and Geo. Walden, both of whom are old enough in experience to get you the high dollar for your tobacco, yet young enough to render the best possible service. They operate the well known Carolina Warehouse.

CHADBOURN — Over in Chadbourn one finds a wide awake group of tobaccoists. Last year Chadbourn sold more than 8 million pounds of the weed.

Three warehouses there will serve the farmers. They are the Myers, New Brick and Carters. D. M. Carter, a Chadbourn merchant, is supervisor of sales. At New

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### PHEW! AINT IT HOT?

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BEN RIVENBARK

Two Duplin County farmers and warehousemen, Charlie Herring and Ben Rivenbark, are again operating the Farmer's Warehouse in Clarkton. Many Duplin farmers sold with them last year with



CHARLIE HERRING

satisfaction. They say they are expecting to sell more Duplin weed this season than last. Herring hails from the Northern end of the county and Rivenbark lives in the Southern section.

### Grady-Outlaw Reunion Set For Friday Aug. 31st

#### FAISON SOLDIER IS HONORED AT FT. BRAGG

Ft. Bragg, July 29.—The Bronze Star, awarded posthumously to Sgt. Clifton F. Edgerton of Faison, was presented Friday afternoon to his mother, Mrs. Eva C. Edgerton, by Brig. Gen. John T. Kennedy, commanding general of Ft. Bragg, in ceremonies held at Post Headquarters.

The Tar Heel soldier, a forward observer with a field artillery unit was decorated for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from June 8, 1944 to September 19, 1944 in France and Belgium. Previously he had been awarded the Purple Heart and two French decorations, the Croix de Guerre and the Bronze Star. The French citations were signed by General Charles de Gaulle.

Accompanying Mrs. Edgerton to Fort Bragg were two of her daughters, Ruth Edgerton and Mrs. Gordon W. Rumbley, Jr., both of Faison, and Mr. and Mrs. Charles S. Baddour of Clinton and their daughter, Charlene. Present at the ceremony also were members of Gen. Kennedy's staff.

"Sergeant Edgerton, through his fearless performance of duty as a forward observer," the citation stated, "made possible the delivery of accurate fire on enemy targets. On numerous occasions, with no thought of his personal safety, he exposed himself to extreme danger so that the assigned missions would be accomplished successfully. In one instance, during a heavy enemy counter-attack, Sgt. Edgerton, at great risk of his life remained at his observation post, thereby saving his equipment and keeping the observation post in operation. This devotion to duty, fearlessness and constant courage displayed by this enlisted man deserves the highest praise."

Following the ceremony Mrs. Edgerton and her party were conducted on a tour of Fort Bragg.

Reunion Postponed last year account of the Polio epidemic; Committees Appointed.

Judge Henry A. Grady of New Bern, president of the Grady-Outlaw Literary and Historical Association, announced this week that the annual Grady-Outlaw Reunion will be held at the B. F. Grady School on Friday, August 31st. The reunion was called off last year on account of the Polio epidemic.

Judge Grady said that appropriate committees have been placed in charge of several activities of the Reunion and that a large attendance is expected.

### Chats Of Interest

I had a very interesting "Chat" with a sailor last week. He has just returned from serving eighteen months on a destroyer escort in the Southwest Pacific. He was telling me how glad he was that he had a wife to return to. But, he continued, the rest of the fellows on my ship were not so fortunate. He went on to tell how a large number of the fellows had received letters from their parents stating that their wives were "running around" with other men.

Much publicity has been given to the fact that some of our Boys have been fraternizing with the German girls. Much more publicity should be given to these American girls who have proved unfaithful to their fighting husbands. It would be unfair to say "most" girls are unfaithful, but the situation has grown to alarming proportions.

#### CAPTAIN MORRISON ARRIVES HOME

Captain J. G. Morrison, pastor of the Grove, Hallsville and Beaulieu Presbyterian Churches arrived home Monday night for a 45 day furlough.

Captain Morrison, a Chaplain in the Army, sailed from Okinawa on June 26th after serving 41 months in overseas duty. His Company was in practically every major encounter in the Pacific except Guadalcanal.

### Farmers Well Pleased Low Grades Sell Good

### National Red Cross Calls More Sweater Knitting

Mr. Stevens reports figures of materials made by the Duplin Chapter during the past 12 months.

Duplin Red Cross officials have been advised by Headquarters that the stock of sweaters is getting low. Mrs. Henry L. Stevens, Jr., of Warsaw, below gives a report of what the Duplin Chapter did between May 1944 and July 1945. Mrs. Stevens writes the Editor as follows:

I have completed a report of the knitted garments made by the Duplin County Red Cross Chapter from May 1, 1944 through June 30, 1945, for the Southeastern Headquarters, and it occurred to me that a knowledge of what a few women in the county are doing might inspire others to help in this cause. Before I give the figures I would like to quote a

short paragraph from a recent letter from Headquarters:

"Our stock of sweaters is low. Large shipments were made during the winter to our field directors in Italy and France, and recently there has been a heavy demand for this item for issuance to convalescent service men in hospitals here and abroad. If your chapter has quotas of these, please schedule them for early production."

This chapter has seventy-five (75) pounds of wool that has not been opened.

But here are the figures of what has been done:

Sleeveless sweaters 387, Helms 154, Mufflers 115, Socks 12 pairs.

Any publicity you can give me will be greatly appreciated. Mildred Beasley Stevens (Mrs. H. L. Stevens, Jr.) Production Chairman.

### U.S. Tobacco Crop Is Largest Since Year '39

Raleigh, July 31.—By devoting an estimated 1,822,000 acres to tobacco this year, leaf producers of the nation have the largest acreage since 1939, the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service of the N. C. Department of Agriculture reports.

In 1944, 1,746,000 acres were put in tobacco and in 1939 the acreage was 2,000,000.

The acreage planted in burley tobacco this year is 530,000 acres, the largest on record, 6 per cent above last year's acreage and 5 per cent above the former record of 1931.

The acreage in flue-cured tobacco is estimated at 1,056,000 acres, 4 per cent above last year but 17 per cent below the record acreage of 1939. "An interesting trend through the years has been the steady shift toward acreages of the cigarette-type tobaccos. The total acreage in flue-cured and burley tobaccos accounts for 87 per cent of the total tobacco acreage. This equals last year's record which was 2 per cent above any other year and compares with 67 per cent, the average for the 10-year (1919-28) average," commented Frank Parker, head of the department's Statistics division.

The total quantity of tobacco to be produced in 1945 is forecast at 1,890 million pounds, only 3 per cent above the 10-year (1934-43) average.

The forecast of production of flue-cured tobacco is 1,091 million pounds, practically the same as last year and about 38 per cent above the 10-year (1934-43) average.

Monday for induction into the armed forces:

Sidney Van Hubbard, James Jordan Blanton, James Carlton Batts, Roe James, Durwood James Hall, Edward Bruce Holland, Delmus Basden, Jennings Fisher, Needham Carl Sutton, and Roscoe Landon Daniels.

Decreasing military demands for the war-developed powerful insecticide, DDT, have made possible its release in limited quantities for civilian use, according to WFB.

#### 10 White Men From Local Board To Bragg

The local Draft Board sent the following white men to Ft. Bragg:

### Army Motorcade Here Tomorrow Night

An Army "Wood for War" motorcade is now making a 1,500 mile tour of North Carolina's principal wood producing areas. With six battle tested veterans, and one of the War's greatest combat pictures, "San Pietro", the unit is presenting a strong plea for increased production of wood

and lumber for the war program.

The motorcade will visit 50 communities, contact workers of 90 pulpwood and lumber operators and hold 33 night community rallies. Sponsored by the War Production Board and the Timber Production War Project of the U.

S. Forest Service, The motorcade brings to remote communities of North Carolina an opportunity to hear and see distinguished fighting men returned from Europe and the Southwest Pacific.

The motorcade left Raleigh on July 23, and will be here Saturday, August 4.