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The Farmville Enterprise

WEEK - BUYER BANK - IN FARMVILLE - Not A Small Town Any More!

VOLUME THIRTY-ONE

FARMVILLE, FLETCHER COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1940

NUMBER THIRTY-ONE

Italian Retreat in Africa Extending Far Into Libya

British Fliers Say Italians Now Moving Toward Derna, 150 Miles Away; British Attack Italian Somaliland Garrison

Cairo, Egypt, Dec. 18.—An Italian retreat westward along the Libyan coast toward Derna, 150 miles within the colony, was reported today by Royal Air Force observers while the British army closed in on the Mediterranean port of Bardia, Libya, the easternmost base left to the Fascists in their disastrous Egyptian campaign.

Bardia itself appeared surrounded and doomed to imminent fall to the British, whose dusty armored cars were reported to have cut communications to the west. From the east, thousands of fresh imperial troops brought in from Egyptian desert camps stormed the other end of a closing pincer which imperiled several Fascist divisions.

The British command had but a single sentence in description: "Operation in the Bardia area continue."

The reports of British pilots, however, drew a picture of Fascist flight over a vast area—from Bardia to Tobruk, itself more than 70 miles from the Egyptian frontier and the strongest Italian base in Libya, and on to the west from there toward Derna.

The Italian columns were reported under machine-gun attack by British planes.

While the offensive of the western desert thus proceeded, a British feint into Italian East Africa was reported by general headquarters.

British forces operating from the frontier of the Province of Kenya were declared to have raided the strongly-defended township of El Wak in the Kenya-Italian Somaliland border region, killing 50 of the Italian garrison and capturing 120, along with war material.

Among those declared seized was an Italian lieutenant-colonel.

This frontier sortie was supported by the British South African air force, which reported it had dropped two and a half tons of bombs.

It was observed that heavy rains in northern Kenya had just ceased, enabling the British to resume what is termed "offensive patrolling" over a wide area.

A military informant here asserted that the Italian colonels had fought better than the Italians themselves and that the commander of the garrison fled in a mule cart.

One of his officers was represented as so disgusted at this defection that when the British entered the town, he led them to the Italians' hidden stores, including field guns, machine guns, gasoline stores and food supplies.

List of Christmas Opportunities Here

- The following list of Christmas opportunities has been released by the Town Authorities, who with the assistance of Miss Tabitha DeVisconti is striving to bring some relief and happiness to families who are in dire need of clothing, shoes, underwear, sweaters etc., food, fuel, and bed clothes, with toys and fruits appreciated as a matter of course.
- No. 1—Taken by Opportunity Class of Christian Sunday School.
- No. 2—Taken by Circle No. 4, Methodist Church.
- No. 3—Man and wife, 6 children, all girls; ages 2, 3, 8, 12, 14, 17.
- No. 4—Widow with one son, 15 years old.
- No. 5—Taken by American Legion Auxiliary.
- No. 6—Man, wife, granddaughter, four children, 2 grandchildren, boys 16, 18, 15½ years, girls 2 and 1 year.
- No. 7—Taken by Merry Matrons.
- No. 8—Taken by American Legion.
- No. 9—Taken by Young Women's Class, Methodist Sunday School.
- No. 10—Taken by Young Boys and Girls and Young Men's Classes, Christian Sunday School.
- No. 11—Taken by American Legion Auxiliary.
- No. 12—Taken by Episcopal Church.
- No. 13—Taken by Farmville Chamber of Commerce.

Thursday—A Holiday

At a special meeting of the Board of Directors of the Chamber of Commerce and Merchants Association, pursuant to a petition signed by a large majority of the merchants and business men of Farmville, a resolution adopted (declaring Thursday, Dec. 26th to be a holiday in Farmville) and requesting that all stores and business houses in Farmville close through Thursday, Dec. 26th, 1940.

Bank of Farmville To Change Banking Hours 1st of January

According to an advertisement of The Bank of Farmville appearing in this week's issue of The Enterprise, the banking hours of this financial institution will be changed January 2nd, 1941.

For a number of years the hours of the local bank have been from 9:00 a. m. to 2:00 p. m. However, beginning on January 2nd, the hours will be from 9:00 a. m. to 1:00 p. m.

According to officials of the Bank, this change is made necessary to conform to the new Wage and Hour Law, and to cooperate with other banking institutions in this section of North Carolina.

When athletics become more important than studies, the tail is running away with the dog.

Farmville Makes Ready For "Joyfull'st Feast"

Town In Brilliant Array; Business Section And Homes Give Seasonal Joy To Passersby

Brilliantly illuminated and Christmas-wreathed, Farmville is preparing for the "Joyfull'st Feast" of the entire year. Garlands of mountain laurel, inter-twined with red, green, blue and orange lights form a veritable canopy for the main business section, and every store window presents a lovely picture. Almost every home in the residential section is a gleaming testimonial to the joyous spirit and willing hands of the dwellers therein, who have sought to make glad with Christmas joy the hearts of passersby.

The out-of-town judges had a difficult task before them on Wednesday evening when they started out to make their decisions in connection with the prizes offered in the decorations contest by the Farmville Chamber of Commerce and Merchants Association, but they finally agreed and turned in the list of winners as follows:

- Winners Attached.**
- Best store window: Prize, \$7.50, won by Farmville Furniture Co. Honorable mention, Dr. Charles E. Fitzgerald, J. H. Harris.
 - Best store interior: Prize \$7.50, won by Wholesale Drug Co. Honorable mention, Rouse Printery, Balk-Tyler Co.
 - Best outdoor lighting display (Artistic Arrangement): Prize, \$7.50, won by Mrs. J. W. Parker. Honorable mention, Miss Tabitha DeVisconti.
 - Best outdoor lighting display (Original Arrangement): Prize, \$7.50, Mrs. Sallie K. Horton. Honorable mention, Mrs. Charles E. Fitzgerald.
 - Best interior home decoration: Prize, \$7.50, Mrs. J. W. Holmes. 2nd Prize, \$5.00, Mrs. Lang Davis.
 - Best doorway to home: Prize, \$4.50, Miss Frances Winstead. Honorable mention, Mrs. E. F. Gaynor.
 - Best mantle in home: Prize \$3.50, Mrs. W. Leslie Smith. Honorable mention, Mrs. Sam Joyner.
 - Best outdoor tree: Prize, \$5.00, Mrs. C. C. Bowman. Honorable mention, Mrs. Linwood Joyner.
 - Best indoor tree: Prize, \$3.00, Mrs. E. E. Jones. Honorable mention, Mrs. Sallie K. Horton.
 - Outside city limits—5 miles: Best outdoor lighting display, Prize \$3.00, Mrs. David T. Harris. Honorable mention, Mrs. Jess May.
 - Best interior home decoration: Prize \$5.00, Mrs. Jack Lewis. Honorable mention, Mrs. David T. Harris.

Christmas CHEER



Once more the Christmas carols on mortal lips find up to join the angelic chorus. "Glory to God in the highest..." to sound the joyous message of God's love for humanity... "Hark come and go but the song of the angels is echoed eternally on Christmas morning and there are some in every nation who will hail Him with a new-born song of faith and adoration in their hearts."

When athletics become more important than studies, the tail is running away with the dog.

Use Christmas Seals

"Use Christmas Seals." A last appeal for wide use of the double-barred cross tuberculosis stamp is made this week by the local committee in an effort to obtain cooperation toward a record for the community.

The committee suggests the following ways of using the Seals:

- On cards and packages to foreign countries.
- On Christmas packages and cards mailed to any place in this country.
- On correspondence cards to carry Christmas messages.
- On bridge tallies and place cards at parties this month.
- On church calendars.
- On bills, business letters, bulletins, lodge notices.
- As Christmas tree decorations worked out in special designs.
- As part of a stamp collection.
- On restaurant menus.

Christmas seals make a beautiful decoration. Teamed with millions of others, they are making possible a life-saving campaign that is saving hundreds of thousands of lives.

If you have not purchased Seals or want extra ones for use, buy, at once.

WHAT DOES CHRISTMAS MEAN TO YOU?

"What does Christmas mean to you?" Ask this question of one hundred different answers. The Christmas of snow-drifts, pine trees, reindeer, Santa Claus, holly and mistletoe, his for instance, little significance for the people who live south of the equator, where the Festival may come on the hottest day of the year. True, the calendar will bring longings to the hearts of vast numbers of such immigrants from European countries, who look back with tears in their eyes to the plum puddings and yule logs of their childhood. On the other hand, our friends in the tropics of Capricorn have a conception of the joys of Christmas which must be quite different from ours.

When all is said and done, the Christmas we know today is very remote from the first celebration of the great anniversary. Christmas as a Festival, did not come into being, it is believed, until at least one hundred and fifty years after the birth of Christ. Some time between 180 and 192 A.D. Emperor Diocletian had brought his court at Nicomedia the startling news that a large group of Christians, that strange and revolutionary sect, was meeting to celebrate Christmas. This gathering was of course, purely religious, and could settle that and he did so by having his soldiers set fire to the building where these devout worshippers were assembling, thereby exterminating the Christmas. Diocletian in all his might, is now but a shadow in the dark halls of history, but that was Christmas as a great power of Christianity was spread to the world.

ESTIMATE

The U. S. Department of Agriculture has estimated the 1940 cotton crop at 12,500,000 bales, nearly a million more than the 1939 crop of 11,500,000 bales.

CHANGE

The projected change in the 1941 program, as part of a continuing series of changes, will be announced in the near future.

The King's Birthday Will Be Celebrated in Special Way By Churches Here

Survey Begun On Air, Naval Defense Basis

To Be Established In South And Central America; U. S. Republics To Get Loans

Washington, Dec. 18.—Actual work has started, authoritative sources revealed today, on the selection and surveying of a chain of air and naval bases in South and Central America.

The inter-American bases—which will be made available to the air and naval forces of all 21 American republics—were described as outposts in the establishment of an impenetrable defense system to insure the Western hemisphere against aggression from either Europe or Asia.

The defense sites will be provided it was said, by the South and Central American republics and will remain their property without leases or any change in sovereignty.

The United States by loans to the various nations, will finance improvements where required, including the reconstruction of existing facilities for servicing and repairing ships and planes and the fortification of the bases, these sources reported.

While most of the bases and sites already have been selected, these locations and other details were classified as "military secrets." In each instance the decision on the bases was reached by the military and naval authorities of the countries involved, working in collaboration with United States officials.

The United States has advanced no funds for the proposed bases as yet, informed sources said, but money will be made available, probably through the export-import bank immediately upon formal conclusion of negotiations now underway.

INCREASE

Indications are that there is a stable increase in the wheat average planted in Baden County this year for home use, reports E. B. Williams, extension farm agent.

FINIS

John Thompson of Columbia, the first 4-H Club member of Fletcher County to receive a citizenship award, has just finished a course of study at the University of North Carolina, where he received a Bachelor's degree in Agriculture.

SYMBOLS OF CHRISTMAS

The world has been passing through what future generations are likely to call "the dark decades." The strains upon mankind have been cruel and calamitous. Only the strongest have been able to keep their faith in the best, unshaken before such hurricanes of inexplicable disaster. Only the most far-seeing have been able to realize that despite the procession of catastrophes throughout the world, mankind is inevitably progressing inevitably toward better and finer things. It is these upward looking men and women who now see the coming of great light—the nativity of newer and finer ideals. Without the glorious Christmas spirit and the sublime art of music, millions could not have had the courage to survive. The Christmas of 1940 calls for more and more music to fortify our faith in tomorrow.

The spirit of giving, which is so emblematical of the life of Christ, has also become a part of the celebration; and today music and giving come nearer to the ideals of the Master than any other symbols of Christmas. If Christmas means to you gratitude for the blessing that Christ brought to humanity, if it means Christmas giving, if it means Christmas music, you have not lost the real spiritual portend of this glorious day of days.

—The Etude.

Memory is a matter of intention.

Would Provide England With At Least \$2,500,000,000 Worth Tanks, Airplanes And Other Munitions

Washington, Dec. 18.—An unprecedented plan for backing Britain to the limit without considering the dollar signs on the bill went to the nation today with President Roosevelt's pronouncement that the best immediate defense of the United States was the success of Great Britain in defending herself.

Should a "short-of-war" program of this broad character be adopted, an authoritative source predicted, the United States would buy and send to England at least \$2,500,000,000 worth of tanks, airplanes and other munitions before the end of the war.

After the war, arrangements would be made for repayment of this help "in kind" under a gentleman's agreement between the two countries.

President Roosevelt devoted most of a 50-minute press conference yesterday to describing the plan—a brand new idea, he termed it—and made it clear that it was one of several now being explored.

The chief executive, in response to questions, said the plan would not carry the country closer to war from a legalistic viewpoint. He pointed out that the United States was doing all it could at present and asserted that the new method merely would facilitate making aid available.

In brief, the idea calls for leasing or lending Britain all the material and supplies she would need in the future and postponing the accounts' settlement until peace came.

Mr. Roosevelt said he intended to ask the new Congress for legislation and appropriations to put this tentative program or a similar one into effect.

Details would have to be worked out with London, he said. The understanding was that any such plan probably would apply only to such equipment and munitions as the British might need over and above the \$2,000,000,000 worth of "cash and carry" orders that have placed here.

Congressional comment on the revolutionary proposal was slow and for the most part, guarded. Some ardent aid-to-Britain advocates endorsed it at once, but many legislators preferred to withhold opinions until they had studied the idea.

CORN

From a summary of 42 4-H Club projects in Greene County, the average club member made 62.6 bushels of corn to the acre, reports J. W. Grant, assistant farm agent of the State College Extension Service.

Mayfair Club To Hold Formal Dance During Holidays

Mayfair Club members and their friends are looking forward with great pleasure to the formal Christmas dance on Thursday evening, December 26, to be given by this organization as one of the main social features of the holidays.

Jack Horton, president, and George Allen, secretary and treasurer of the club, have announced that Jimmie Byrty's orchestra of eleven musicians and a splendid girl singer, have been secured for this occasion, and that a large repertoire of the best dance music is assured.

The various committees have met and plans are underway to make this the gala event of the entire winter season.

WHO KNOWS?

1. What Italian general opposed Italy's entrance into the war?
2. How do British shipping losses compare with those of 1917?
3. Is the balloon barrage a success?
4. When did American soldiers attack the Mexican Military College at Mexico City?
5. What is the proper naval salute to a Vice Admiral?