

NEWS OF OUR MEN—WOMEN IN UNIFORM

S/SGT. WILLIAM HAWFIELD TAKEN PRISONER

S/SGT. William Hawfield of Wesley Chapel, Union County, is now a prisoner of war, according to a message received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Hawfield, who formerly lived in Raeford.

They had been notified about a month ago that their son was missing from an aerial action over Germany. He was chief engineer of a B-24 Liberator bomber.

Clyde Upchurch, who is recuperating at Camp Lejeune after a tour of duty in the South Pacific, spent Easter here with his sister.

Sgt. George Caddell of Reno, Nev. is on leave and visiting his mother, Mrs. E. G. Wickline, at Arabia.

Capt. Neill James Blue and Lt. Hartman Yarborough, of Fort Jackson, spent last week with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bonnie Blue and Mr. and Mrs. Dave Yarborough.

Sgt. and Mrs. Dempsey Herring and son of Charleston, S. C., and Sgt. and Mrs. Thomas Saccia of Wilmington and Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Blackman of Dunn were weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. John Bouyer.

W. T. THE THIRD

Lt. and Mrs. W. T. Covington, Jr., announce the birth of a son, William Thomas, III, on April 7th at Hendersonville. Lt. Covington of the Navy is now stationed in Porto Rico.

Seaman Arthur Parks of the NATS at Norfolk, Va., spent last weekend here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Parks.

S/SGT. and Mrs. Jack Bethune of Fort Jackson spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Lacy McFadyen.

Pvt. Kenneth McNeill is spending a ten-day furlough at home with his parents Mr. and Mrs. John K. McNeill.

S/SGT. Elmer Gordan is spending a leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Gordan. Sgt. Gordan is stationed at Northway, Alaska.

Pvt. Julian McKeithan, who has been stationed in Australia or some time is now in New Guinea, according to a letter received recently by his mother, Mrs. John McKeithan.

Pvt. Fred M. Cox, who is stationed at Fort Bliss, Texas, is spending a 8-day furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Cox.

Coleman Fans 21; McGee Hits Homer

Raeford And Red Springs Opened High School Ball Season Monday.

The first baseball game of the season for Red Springs and Raeford opened at the Red Robin's park Monday afternoon at 4:00, April 10, with a final score of 8-3 in Red Springs' favor.

The batteries for Red Springs were Hamp Coleman, and L. D. Boahn. Coleman with a fast ball that curved plenty, fanned 21 out of a possible 27. The batteries for Raeford were Jimmie Warner, Elbert Dees, Joe Upchurch, Herbert McKeithan, Jr. In the first of the 9th the Raeford boys scored when Allan McGee hit for four bases to deep center bringing in one man with another score tallied before the game ended.

LIBRARY NEWS

"A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," by Betty Smith, continues to head the list of best selling books, with "The Robe," by Lloyd C. Douglas, in second place.

The following new books have been received in Hoke County library: O River, Remember, by Ostensio; Grand Parade, Lancaster; Three Times I Bow, Glick; The Curtain Rises, Reynolds; War's End and After, Chevalier; Far on the Ringing Plains, Roger; Lend-Lease, Stettinius; Made in China, Spencer; Matthew Fontaine Maury, Hawthorne; The Story of George Gershwin, Ewen; O'Herry; The Story of William Sydney Porter, Nolan; America's Fighting Planes, Kenert; Free China's New Deal, Freyn; American Heroes and Hero-Worship, Gerald W. Johnson; D Day, Gunther; Tarawa, Sherrod; Marriage is a Serious Business, Dr. Randolph Ray, rector of the Little Church Around the Corner.

The library is open from 10:30 to 6:00, Monday through Saturday. Closed from 12 to 1:00 for lunch.

North Carolina Man Last To Leave Ship

Dewitt McIver Lauded For Heroism When Torpedo Strikes U. S. Heavy Cruiser In Battle Off Solomons.

A front page article in the New York Times Magazine of March 12, entitled "One Thousand Men and a Ship," gives a full and graphic account of the heroic part of the U. S. heavy cruiser, Minneapolis, played in the battle off the Solomon Islands Nov. 30, 1942.

The Minneapolis led the column of eleven ships taking part in the encounter, and was the first to be struck by enemy torpedoes. The author says, "The shock of torpedo explosions against a vessel of more than 10,000 tons doing 20 knots an hour is like an earth-quake, like a ship running at full speed against an iceberg, as did the Titanic, and she stopped as if she had been slapped in the bow by the Empire State Building." The author calls the story of why she did not sink, of how she got back to the fleet, "the story of 1,000 unsinkable guys who refused to accept the inevitable, who fought, and strained and almost by sheer will power saved their ship. It is already a saga of the Pacific Fleet."

One of the heroes of this battle who received special mention was Lieut. Commander (now Commander), D. C. McIver, son of Mrs. D. C. McIver, Sr. of Chadbourn, and the late Dr. D. C. McIver of Maxton. He is the nephew of Mrs. J. A. Brown of Chadbourn.

"In no less dangerous place than the 'black gang' as the engineering division was called in the old coal days, were the damage-control people in Central Station under Lieut. Comdr. D. C. McIver (Scotty) and those in the plotting room adjoining under the command of Lieut. E. W. (Gil) Dobie. Entry to their stations, deep in the bowels of the ship, was through a three-deck-high tube, which was barely large enough to admit a full-size man.

Everyone had thought of Scotty as a sort of Nervous Nellie. He'd dress up for routine general quarters in more gear than Mrs. Astor ever hung on her horse—cane, bowie knife, pistol, chlorine bag for sharks, extra clips of ammunition.

"Where you headed, Commando?" we used to call after him when he'd pass through the wardroom on the way to Central Station.

Scotty had no nerves when torpedoes struck.

"It was just like damage-control drill," one of the men with him reported to his division officer. "Mr. McIver climbed up off the deck and went ahead checking damage just like it was a drill."

Every man that went down there in that constricted sweat box with Scotty voluntarily lauded his coolness and courage.

The water creeping aft as the ship lost buoyancy forward finally threatened to cover their escape hatch and they were ordered topside. Last man up the narrow tube was Scotty."

A Victory Garden For Better Health

The health-giving benefits of the Victory Garden should be given full consideration in counting the values of producing fresh vegetables and small fruits for the table this summer, says F. H. Smith, nutritionist of the animal industry department of the Agricultural Experiment Station at State College.

"The Victory Garden furnishes the people who work indoors with the out-doors exercise they need. The pleasure of growing things and the feel of the soil takes them from the daily grind of the office to a period of relaxation, that is so important to general health," Smith points out.

Foods that are gathered fresh from the garden and prepared immediately for the table not only taste better but also contain more vitamins.

"With more food going to the Armed Forces than ever before and with a probable decrease of locally-grown vegetables because of the labor shortage, the number of Victory Gardens must be increased this year," Smith says.

In making this appeal for more gardens, he points to the recent statement of President Roosevelt, who said: "Because of the greatly increased demands in 1944, we will need all the food we can grow. Food still remains a first essential in winning the war. Victory Gardens are of direct benefit in helping relieve manpower, transportation and living costs as well as the food problem. Increased food requirements for our Armed Forces and our Allies give every citizen an opportunity to do something toward backing up the boys at the front."

Raeford Stores Will Start Wednesday Closing Next Week

The stores of Raeford will begin their summer holiday closing on next Wednesday afternoon, April 19, closing at 12:30 each Wednesday through August 16.

This has been an annual practice for a number of years, and during the past winter, due to scarcity of labor and of merchandise, many of the stores here continued the holiday throughout the year.

Democratic Party Meetings Set For April 22-92

Precinct Officers and Delegations To County Conventions To Be Named On April 22

Notice of the meetings of the members of the Democratic party of the county has been made by Walter P. Baker, chairman of the county executive committee.

The precinct meetings will be held on Saturday afternoon, April 22, at 2:30 o'clock, with all meetings being held at the regular voting places of the precincts. Precinct officers will be elected at this meeting and then delegates to the county convention are to be elected.

The county convention will be held on Saturday, April 29th at 2:30 o'clock at the courthouse in Raeford. General party business will be attended to and delegates to the state convention will be named at this meeting.

Services Demanded By Tax Payers Swell Expenditures

Manteo, Apr. 8.—The rise of North Carolina state government expenditures from \$3,500,000 in 1944, to a current spending of \$60,000,000 per year does not indicate that there has been any wasteful use of money in that span of 30 years Gregg Cherry, candidate for Governor, said here, addressing the Manteo Rotary club and invited guests.

What is indicated in that expansion of the budget is the extent to which the state has developed its services to its citizens and taken over new services and functions, the speaker declared.

"Citizens and taxpayers have demanded over increasing and over expanding services from the state," he continued. "The state now renders services to its people that in 1944 are regarded as essential. But 20 years ago they would have been classed as luxuries, or were never dreamed of at that time."

The biggest expansions in state spending came with the state taking over the financing and operation of the North Carolina system of highways and the schools of North Carolina, it was pointed out.

"In ten years the state's educational system has in itself grown from a spending of \$18,000,000 to \$38,000,000 per year. The school term was extended, teachers are paid better, text books are supplied students, and other improvements have been made. Still more improvement along these lines, and other, needs to be made. We have laid the foundation, but the foundation only, for the finest school system in the United States."

Mr. Cherry said he strongly recommends that the schools be kept localized as far as possible in their operation because, as in the instances of churches, there is no community institution quite so surrounded by sentiment, or quite the center of community life, and patriotism for home and country as the school.

"Around the schools of our communities are clustered the fine things that make good citizens of excellent character out of our boys and girls," the candidate declared. "The citizens of a school community, large or small, must continue to be interested in the operation of that school. That is true democracy."

Mr. Cherry also re-stated his program for a sympathetic handling of the service men and women who will return to their homes at the close of the war; warned against any "pipe dreams" about easy and tax-free living off a state surplus in tax money; and said that North Carolina must continue to operate on a sound basis.

With regard to the surplus, "a \$70,000,000 general fund at the end of the second year, by the highest estimate," the speaker said it should not be dissipated but should be used to pay the state's debts and help to arrive at a goal where North Carolina will be "a debt-free state." Much of the surplus about which there is so much talk can be touched-off because it is earmarked for specific uses he said.

Saturday Final Day For Filing For Offices

Only Six Candidates Have Paid Fees To Board Of Elections

With the final date for filing for candidacies for county offices only six would-be office holders had paid the prescribed filing fees to Chairman Crawford Thomas and the Board of Elections yesterday afternoon.

Saturday is the last day for filing. Those who have paid their fees are McNair Smith, for Solicitor; Dr. Geo. W. Brown for the House; Ryan McBrude for the Senate; Henry McDiarmid for Recorder and W. W. Roberts for Register of Deeds, and F. A. Monroe for commissioner.

It is expected that Knox Watson will announce for a membership on the board of commissioners, and local backers are asking T. D. Potter to seek another of the seats on the board, with indications that one or more of the present board will not seek re-election.

ODT Reveals Much Waste Of Gasoline

Wilmington, April 12.—Immediate action to end all wasteful and unnecessary use of gasoline by all operators of commercial motor vehicles is being taken by the Wilmington district office of defense transportation, it was announced here today by George T. Musselman, district manager.

Many commercial vehicles, which embrace trucks, buses, taxicabs, hearses and ambulances are being used for pleasure driving in the Wilmington area, he said, pointing out that quite a large number of these vehicles have been noticed while in use for pleasure driving both on week-days and holidays.

"The gasoline allotted these vehicles is to be used for the specific purpose as specified on the Certificate of War Necessity," the ODT district manager at Wilmington declared.

The use of the gasoline for any other purpose, particularly for pleasure driving, is in defiance of the conditions of the Certificate of War Necessity under which all commercial vehicles are permitted to operate. "Because of the many abuses," Mr. Musselman announced, "ODT will inaugurate regular road checks of all operators to determine compliance with outstanding ODT general orders."

"Violators will face reduction of their gasoline allotments or complete revocation of their Certificates of War Necessity, without which the vehicles cannot be operated. "With the entire southeast faced with a critical gasoline shortage, conservation of available gasoline is absolutely essential," Mr. Musselman pointed out.

Call Group For Examination

The following negroes were given their pre-induction examination at Fort Bragg last week, having been called to report on April 8 by the Hoke county board.

Roosevelt Gilchrist, Noah Lee Hobson, Daniel Milton Roper, Benjamin Frank McLeod, Alvester Malloy, Isalah Rainey, Garvester Walton, Sammie James, Henry McNeill, John Edmond Shaw, Lanzo Otes McCrimmon, Levie Goins, Zack Frank Flowers.

James Dockery, Johnson James Hall, Lester Leach (transfer), Lacy Tommie Hollingsworth (transfer).

State's 4-H Cooks To Help In War Effort By Preparing Food Right

Equally important in the 1944 wartime program of increased food production is the proper preparation for a well-balanced diet.

Thousands of rural girls will learn how to plan, prepare and serve nutritious meals and thereby contribute to the "Food Fights for Freedom" program through enrolling in the National 4-H Food Preparation Activity.

Recognition of meritorious records provided by Serval home economics department, comprise silver medals for county winners, a trip to the National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago next December for the state's champion, and a \$200 college scholarship for each of six national winners.

This is the tenth year of the activity, which is conducted by the extension service.

Annie B. Johnson of Kinston was North Carolina's 1943 state and national winner.

Harry Greene Named Manager For Cherry

Harry Greene, fertilizer salesman extraordinary, Raeford fire chief, sportsman, master-of-the-skillet of the fish-fry club and semi-pro politician, was named this week to manage the campaign in Hoke County for the Hon. R. Gregg Cherry, candidate for Governor.

Harry states that despite the fact that Major Cherry appears to be he will conduct an active campaign the 10 to 1 choice of Hoke Countians, in behalf of his candidate. When queried about office-holding ambitions of his own, Mr. Greene stated that he is not a candidate for any office, nor would he be at least "until I can get folks of Raeford, who call in to report a fire, to also report where the fire is before they hang up their telephones." He declared "when I have taught folks that, I will feel that I have accomplished something which will qualify me to hold a public office."

\$150 Raised For Building Roll Of Honor Here

Plans To Raise Approximately \$500 To Erect Memorial On Courthouse Lawn

One hundred and fifty dollars has been received or pledged for the erection of a memorial plaque to the men and women in the armed forces from Hoke county, it was announced yesterday afternoon by Mrs. Paul Dezerne, treasurer of the joint committee sponsoring the memorial.

Donations from Wayside and Pine Forest Home Demonstration Clubs of \$5 each and pledges of \$50 from the Town Board, \$25 each from the UDC, the Eastern Star and Upchurch Milling and Storage company and \$15 from the Boy Scouts were acknowledged by the treasurer.

Without making any direct appeal or canvass for funds it is hoped by the committee that approximately \$500 can be raised through voluntary donations by individuals, and business firms for the construction of the memorial. It is estimated that there are between 700 and 800 men and women from the county now in the armed services, and it is planned to list each of the persons upon the board and to give a special place of honor to the two National Guard companies which went from the county long before the country entered the war.

Donations may be sent to Mrs. Paul Dezerne, Raeford, or to Mrs. W. D. McLaughlin, chairman of the joint committee.

In Again-Out Again It's Dew Again

On First Monday Milton Campbell was appointed to a vacancy on the Raeford board of school trustees. He accepted only to find out that he was holding two elective offices in that he was also a member of the Town Board.

So, Mr. Campbell resigned and now Cecil Dew is a member of the school board, having been appointed to succeed Mr. Campbell, resigned, who was appointed to succeed H. C. McLaughlin, resigned.

Rockfish School News

Perfect attendance for the 7th month are as follows:

Grade 2, Lucretia King, Treva Barefoot, and Grady Hardin.

Grade 3, Sidney Lovette and Lexie Koonce.

Grade 4, Bobby Bostic, W. R. King and Margaret Fields.

Grade 4, Hermon Gillis, Betty Jean Wood and Raye King.

Grade 6, Marion Wood, Wilton Wilkes, Martha Koonce, and Margaret Neal Ritter.

Grade 7, Davis Parker, Wade McDougald and Marcellus Boahn.

Dowd Reports On Vocational Work

At a meeting of vocational teachers of this district, held at Laurel Hill this week, J. W. Dowd, teacher at Hoke High, reported that the students had completed work on the county cannery, and were now assisting in the operation of the plant each Friday afternoon. Meat canning is the principal work of the cannery at the present time, he said.

Other activities of the Ag students included the trimming and care of the shrubbery which the students planted on the campus of the High school, and the thinning and trimming of trees in the school's reforestation project.

Army Issues Call For More Wacs To Fill Vacancies

Women Enlisting Now May Virtually Choose Jobs And Locations In South.

The Army sent out a hurry call for women to fill vacancies at and camps in various southern states, including posts, fields and hospitals in North Carolina and said that an enlist in the Wacs now can ally pick their own job and their location.

Major James A. Wheless, Commanding Officer, U. S. Army Recruiting Station, Charlotte 2, N. C., said the call was extremely urgent. The Army has depended on all women of the nation to supply the forces to relieve general service men now at camps, fields, and posts, and has already started moving those general service men out.

"Frankly the women have not responded to the extent needed, principally because, I think, they have not realized the real need of the Army," said Major Wheless. "It is very real."

As an indication of how real this need is, Major Wheless said that in four posts in the South, including one in North Carolina there are 131 specific jobs vacant—awaiting assignment of Wacs to take the place of general service men who have gone, or soon will go overseas. "If women in general know this, I feel sure, WAC enlistments would pick up at a high rate."

Jobs open include various clerical jobs, including those requiring knowledge of typing and stenography, cook and baker, statistical and financial clerks, drivers of light automotive equipment, photographers, drafting, radio operations and repair, telephone operators, business machine operators, instrument repairers, medical and hospital technicians, typewriter operators, gasoline motor and light machinery operators—in fact there are 239 different jobs that women can do as WACs, and relieve a man to go overseas or to more important areas.

CAN SELECT WORK: To make it easy for women to find their place in the Army, as Wacs, a recruit can select the type of work she will do, and select the place of service for her assignment.

Just now the Army needs WACs at Camp Davis, Seymour Johnson Field, near Goldboro, Fort Bragg, Sedge Field at Greensboro, Wilmington, at the Moore General Hospital, near Asheville, Camp Butler, Camp Sutton and Morris Field.

Dozens of other camps, posts and fields in other Southern States are calling for women to fill vacancies.

"I can't make the call too strong, because the vacancies exist now and the WACs want volunteers for these jobs," said Major Wheless.

For more information, interested applicants should contact WAC recruiters stationed nearest you, or write to the U. S. Army Recruiting Station, 406 Liberty Life Building, Charlotte 2, N. C.

Keep Beef Cattle Perform Records

Performance records of breeding animals in beef cattle herds is of great importance in developing a profitable enterprise, says Dr. R. E. Comstock of the Animal Industry Department of the Agricultural Experiment Station at State College.

The selection of breeding animals on the basis of performance as well as type will bring about a decided improvement in the herd.

Dr. Comstock advises the taking of three separate weights on each animal; one at birth, one at weaning, and another when the animal weighs between 900 and 1,000 pounds. These should be recorded along with the dates at which they were taken.

From this information, daily gains from birth to weaning, and from weaning to market weight, can be calculated. The conformation of each animal should also be scored when the weights are taken, and the number, the sex, and the sire and dam of each animal should also be recorded.

If such records are kept, calves can be retained in the herd that are selected on the basis of their growth rate and the past record of their dams, as well as on their conformation. The performance of full and half brothers and sisters should also be considered.

Cows can be culled from the herd on the basis of both the type of their calves and the weight of the calves when weaned. The worth of bulls can be determined on the basis of the rate, gain, and conformation of all their calves.