

NEWS OF OUR MEN—WOMEN IN UNIFORM

Top Aircraft Armorer

An Eighth Air Force Fighter Station, England.—Cpl. Walter L. Howell, son of Mrs. P. C. Howell of Raeford, N. C., is an aircraft armorer in Lt. Col. Kyle L. Riddle's 479th Fighter Group which for a period of 4 months topped all other P-38 Lightning fighter groups in the Eighth Air Force in the number of rounds of .50 caliber ammunition fired from the machine guns of the planes without a stoppage. Cpl. Howell, during the 4 months period, had charge of the maintenance, repair, and care of the guns of a P-38 Lightning plane whose pilot fired 2,320 rounds more without stoppage than the average of Eighth AF. The average for the 479th Fighter group was 3,746 rounds more fired without stoppage than all other P-38 Lightning fighter planes in the Eighth Air Force.



LT. ROBERT W. GAMMON
Robert W. Gammon Promoted On Field Of Battle

Mrs. Robert W. Gammon of Montrose and Burlington has received word that her husband has been promoted during combat from Tech Sergeant to 2nd Lieutenant, while serving on the Western front. The promotion came during an action on December fifth. No other details have been learned. Lt. Gammon was wounded in July of this year and was awarded the Purple Heart. He soon returned to duty and in October was awarded the Silver Star for courage and gallantry in action. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Gammon of Burlington and the husband of the former Miss Jean McFadyen of Montrose.

Raeford Flight Surgeon Returns From Pacific

Lt. Paul F. Maness, Medical Corps, USN, son of the Rev. and Mrs. W. L. Maness of Raeford, returned home Friday to spend the Christmas holidays with his parents. A few days earlier Lt. Maness reached the West Coast, having returned from the Pacific combat area. For fifteen months he served as Flight Surgeon for an air group which was based upon a carrier of the Essex class. The air group made an outstanding record during its tour of active combat, having been commanded by Comdr. David McCampbell, leading Navy ace who shot down 34 enemy planes in the air during the summer and fall. Lt. Maness and his wife, the former Miss Anne Barrow of Jackson, N. C., are in Raeford until the expiration of his leave at which time Lt. Maness will report to Jacksonville, Fla., for duty.

Presented Driver's Badge

An Italian Depot Of The Air Service Command—Corporal George Earl Dunn, Raeford, N. C., has been awarded the Drivers Badge by his Commanding Officer for his excellent driving record. The army truck driver is one of the unsung heroes of the war. It is through his untiring efforts that vital supplies are kept moving in a theatre of operations. Cpl. Dunn arrived in Italy in January, 1944. The Depot Repair Squadron, he joined at Tinker Army Air Field, Okla., is one of the many similar organizations engaged in the maintenance of combat air forces in the Mediterranean. Prior to entry into the army he was employed as a painter and truck driver in Raeford. Cpl. Dunn is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jason Dunn of Raeford.

Home For Christmas From Chaffee

Boys home on furlough for the holidays from Camp Chaffee, Ark. were: Sgt. Ebb Barrington, Pfc. Webb Blue, Sgt. Hector B. McNeill, Pfc. James T. Blue, Pfc. Harry Thornberg, Sgt. Jack Pope, Sgt. "Baldy" Clark, Pvt. Earl Bouyer, Cpl. Tom Conolly, Sgt. William Lentz, Cpl. John Henry McNeill and Pfc. J. C. McKenzie.

Home from Fort Jackson, S. C. were Sgt. Clarence Willis, Sgt. Harmon Lindsay, Pfc. John Lee Stephens, Sgt. James Holland and Pfc. Herman Crowley.

Pfc. J. T. Yarborough of Camp Chaffee, Ark., visited in Raeford over the holidays.

Seaman I. C. Jephtha Peele of Yellow River Naval Air Station, Jacksonville, Fla., was home for Christmas.

Cpl. Bill Davis of the Columbia, S. C. Air base, spent the holidays with his mother, Mrs. Christian Davis.

Pvt. James Currie of Long Island, N. Y., spent Christmas with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Scott Currie.

Warrant Officer George Bethune is spending the holidays in Raeford with his wife and child.

Sidney Sykes, USN, of Bainbridge, Md., visited in Raeford during Christmas.

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde W. Teal and daughter, Jeanne, of Baltimore, Md., spent Christmas in Raeford and Laurinburg.

Lana Terrell of Route 2, spent Christmas and the past week in Durham with her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Terrell.

A total of 196 farmers keeping demonstration poultry flock records reported 172 eggs per bird last year says Clifton Parrish, Extension poultryman at State college.

Farmers Will Hear Plans For Rural Electric Lines

At Meeting To Be Held In Raeford On Next Wednesday, January 3.

Hoke county farmers now without electricity have a good chance to get this service within the near future, providing they join with their neighbors filing an application for membership with the Carolina Power and Light company or the local REA. All farmers interested in this immediate postwar project will have an opportunity to attend a meeting at the court house in Raeford on Wednesday, January 3, at 10:00 A. M. R. H. Glazier of the REA will be present and discuss plans for making electricity available to all farm families.

The expansion of electric service to rural areas has been rapid in recent years, according to rural electrification authorities. Yet, there are thousands of families in this area alone without the benefit of electricity, says A. S. Knowles, county agent.

The present plans call for an immediate survey of the needs for extending electric service to all farmers. An early drive for membership will be made by leaders interested to every community and neighborhood. The REA is anxious that farmers take full advantage of this opportunity. In the past electric service was made available only to those in thickly settled communities and along lines going from one community to another. According to County Agent Knowles, all farmers now stand equal chance of getting electric service under the area coverage plan.

N. C. Takes Potato Crown From Georgia

RALEIGH, Dec. 27.—North Carolina produced 8,970,000 bushels of sweet potatoes this year to lead the nation, the State Department of Agriculture said today.

Clyde Willis, agriculture department statistician, said the state took over the lead in yam production from Georgia, which last year produced 9,735,000 bushels to North Carolina's 7,566,000 but which produces only 8,272,000 this year.

North Carolina during the past 10 years has averaged 8,362,000 bushels of sweet potatoes produced each year, while Georgia has produced 8,044,000 yearly.

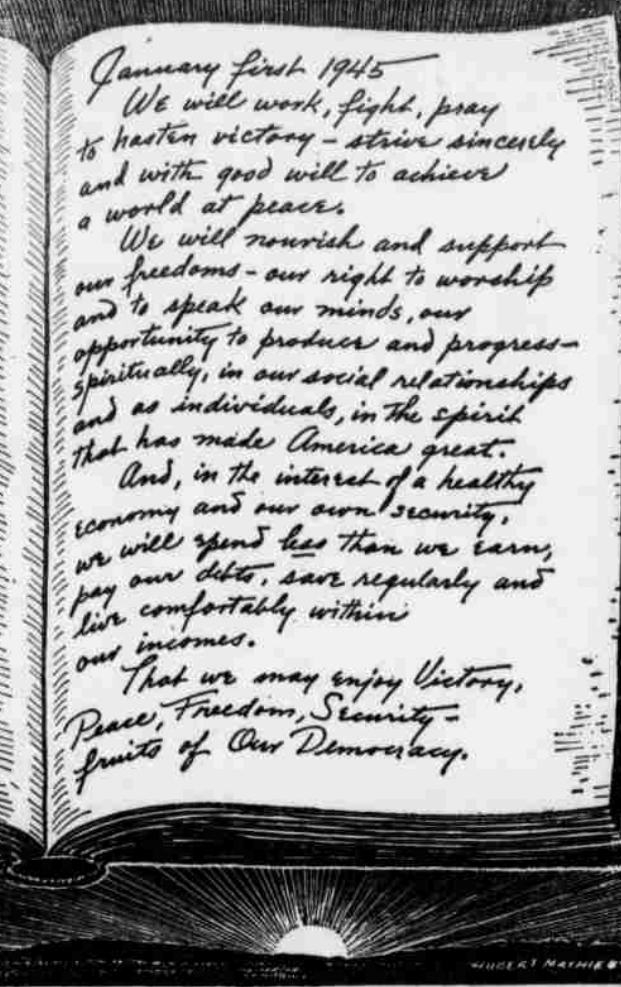
Auto License Plates Good To Feb. 1

RALEIGH, Dec. 27.—The State Department of motor vehicles said today that 1944 automobile license plates would continue good through January 31, 1945, under an act of the 1943 legislature.

Commissioner T. Boddie Ward said an after-Christmas rush to purchase license plates before the old expiration date of January 1, had started "apparently because of the impression that the old expiration date now was in effect."

OUR DEMOCRACY—by Mat

THE NEW PAGE—OURS TO WRITE UPON



Ward's Stores In Seven Cities Facing Seizure

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—Government seizure of Montgomery Ward and company's properties in seven cities where it has failed to comply with War Labor board directives is expected by tomorrow night.

This includes four stores in Detroit where the CIO Retail Employees union has been on strike since Dec. 9 in an effort to force the company to put the directives into effect.

Other properties are in Chicago, Denver, St. Paul, Portland, Ore., San Rafael, Calif., and Jamaica, N. Y. Adding pressure on the government for swift action are a threatened epidemic of strikes at Ward stores, demonstrations at some, and suggestions from CIO leaders that delay might influence a referendum the CIO United Automobile Workers union has scheduled on the question whether to revoke its no-strike pledge.

Some farm lands in North Carolina are now being sold at about 2-1/2 times their normal value. It takes about 2,500 pounds of tobacco to make a thousand dollars now. What about the future?

V-Date Is Set Back By 3 to 6 Months

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—Military strategists are now tentatively adding three to six months to their estimate of a date for victory in Europe.

There is still hope in high places that General Eisenhower will be able to turn the Allied reverse on the western front into an early and decisive victory.

But at the moment it is a gray waning hope, although the battle is still fluid.

Along with this sober estimate of the fighting has come a conviction that at least part of the German success was due to over-optimism throughout the Allied high command.

Install McDonald As Master Local Masonic Body

Work of Pastmaster Edwin Smith Highly Praised By Edgar Hall, Presiding At Ceremony

Neill A. McDonald was installed as worshipful master of Raeford Lodge No. 306, A. F. & A. M., on Tuesday evening at the annual installation of officers. Other officers, elected at the meeting held on December 12th, and installed with Mr. McDonald, were J. E. Gullidge, senior warden; M. C. Dew, junior warden; D. H. Hojgin, treasurer; and Lacy F. Clark, secretary.

The appointive officers: D. B. Gillis, senior deacon; B. B. Cole, junior deacon; W. J. Coates and Lacy D. McFadyen, stewards; W. L. Alexander, tiler, and W. D. McLeod, marshal, were also installed.

The installation ceremony was presided over by Past Master Edgar Hall, who took occasion to praise the work of Past Master Edward E. Smith, whom Mr. McDonald succeeds as master. Mr. Hall pointed out that the local Masonic body has ended what will probably be known in its history as one of its best years, and said that chief credit for this fine showing should go to Mr. Smith, who now becomes the youngest Past master of the Lodge.

Following the installation ceremony Past Master Smith presented the new master and wardens with gavels, which, he explained, were made by him from some of the same wood that went into the original furniture of the lodge.

Fuel oil rations will remain the same. "Our best estimate is that supplies will be more than enough to meet military needs, plus civilian requirements on the present ration basis," the PAW says.

Cow Holds 10-Point Buck At Bay Until Killed By Tapps

Arch And Luther Tapp Kill Big Deer Which Had Attacked Cow

Arch Tapp of Timberland has a fine cow that did not come to the barn the night of December 19. The cow was expecting to find a calf any day, so no one thought anything of that. The next morning before day they heard the cows making a lot of noise and because of the expected calf no one thought anything of it.

After it got light, Mrs. Tapp looked toward the barn and saw a big deer out there with the cow. She gave the alarm and Arch and Luther Tapp slipped out with their guns, got the barn between them and the deer until they got in good shooting distance. War was on. With seven shots they killed a very large 10-point buck. The buck ran about 250 yards and fell. On investigation it was found that Luther had put three shots in his head. There were several other shots found in the buck but it is not known which one shot them.

After the buck was killed and the excitement was partly over, Arch and Luther got to looking around and found that the cow had carried the calf 500 yards to the hog barn and had put it in a hog shelter unharmed. Further investigation found that this cow had been cut and stabbed all most all over, some cuts being 4 inches long. She was hurt so badly that she would not pay any attention to the calf or eat anything for two days. They found out that in pushing and nudging the calf to the barn from the pasture, that the deer attacked the cow and fought her all the way to the barn.

Of the 10 points on the buck there were six of them freshly broken off in the attack.

Census Information To Be Widely Used Says Dean Schaub

The information on crops and livestock to be gathered by the 1945 Agricultural Census in January will be used in many ways by farmers and by varied groups from Federal agencies to manufacturers and advertising organizations.

Dean I. O. Schaub of State college, who heads an advisory council of all agricultural agencies cooperating with the Census Bureau, urges that farmers give just as complete information as possible. He points out that the information collected from growers is strictly confidential and will not be used for taxation or regulation.

When all of the information is classified and published, it will present an invaluable digest of agricultural facts. Cooperative farm associations can use it as a guide to intelligent credit and as a basis for marketing plans. Individual farmers will know better how to make acreage changes in crops and regulate the number of their livestock.

The agricultural census will provide basic information for dealers in agricultural products, railroads, insurance companies, manufacturers, advertising agencies, marketing organizations, experiment station and extension workers, and such agencies as the Farm Credit Administration and Soil Conservation.

In times of disaster, the agricultural census will provide much of the information needed for drought relief, seed loans, and other rural relief agencies.

"Agriculture will be able to make much greater progress in the future, if we have full information at hand on which to make our plans," Dean Schaub said. "We especially need all the facts in the case as we face changing conditions after the war."

Raeford Baptist Church

J. D. Whisnant, Minister

9:45 A. M.—Sunday school, 11:00 A. M.—Preaching on 2nd and 4th Sunday mornings.

6:30 P. M.—B. T. U. Mrs. C. J. Benner, general director.

7:30 P. M. Wednesday—Prayer meeting each Wednesday evening. The Primary department leaders of the Sunday school will be in charge of the prayer meeting Wednesday evening, January 3rd.

Regular Deacons' meeting Tuesday evening before 2nd Sunday in January.

Landlords selling fertilizers to tenant farmers cannot charge more than the applicable retail ceiling price for these products, according to the OPA.



WELCOME JEEP-RIDING SANTA—Two wide-eyed youngsters gape as Santa drives a glider-laden jeep from the nose of a CC-13 glider at Laurinburg-Maxton Army Air base. A glider pilot training at the Troop Carrier Command base guards Santa. The older boy is Jimmy McRacken, 5, son of J. A. McRacken, of Red Springs, an employee of the Post Engineer's office. Holding his hand is Fred Anthony... way, Jr., 2-1-2, son of F. A. Broadway of Cheraw, S. C., an employee of Rail Trans...