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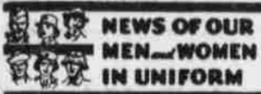
The Hoke County News

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Report Sgt. Hancock Killed In Action

Word was received here Friday by Mrs. Joe Hancock that her husband, Sergeant Joe Hancock, had been killed in action in France. The previous week Mrs. Hancock had been notified by the War Department that her husband was missing in action of January 11th.

Sgt. Hancock was serving with the 45th Infantry Division which is with the 7th Army, and had been in combat since the first of October. He entered the service in February, 1944 and was sent overseas the following July.

Sgt. Hancock was the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Hancock of Greensboro, and the husband of the former Margaret Morris of Raeford. He is also survived by three children: Patricia, Martha Nell and Joseph Cameron Hancock, who are here with their mother at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Morris.

Pvt. Zimmerman Is Prisoner Of Germans

Mrs. Raymond E. Zimmerman, the former Miss Kathleen Benton of Raeford has received four letters from her husband, Pvt. Raymond Zimmerman, who is a prisoner of war in Germany. He had previously been reported missing in action. Pvt. Zimmerman wrote that he looked forward to the boxes of food that he received from the Red Cross every week or so and cooked most of the food given him. He said he was treated well, had books to read and sports equipment.

Overseas Again

Word has been received by Mrs. Ralph D. Parks of Shannon that her husband, Pfc. Parks, has arrived safely in England. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. M. H. Parks of Route 1, Shannon. Pfc. Parks was stationed in Fort Jackson, S. C. and Fort Sill, Okla., before being sent overseas in December, 1944. Prior to this he spent 27 months with the 252nd C. A. in the Caribbean area, returning to the States in April, 1944. Pfc. Parks has a brother-in-law, Lt. Charles C. Moore stationed in England with the 1st Airborne army.

Chaplain McSween Decorated With Legion Of Merit

Chester, S. C., Jan. 22.—Information was received in Chester tonight that Capt. Allen Crews McSween had been awarded the Legion of Merit decoration.

He is the son of Dr. and Mrs. John McSween. Doctor McSween was pastor of Purity Presbyterian church here.

Capt. McSween is with Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark's Fifth army in Italy. His decoration is the fourth highest award that can be bestowed by the United States on a service man.

Also, he has been promoted to regimental chaplain. His father, Dr. McSween is the former president of Presbyterian college, Clinton and Tusculum college, Greenville, Tenn. having lately resigned the latter and gone to Babson Park, Fla., for several months in an effort to regain his health.

Doctor McSween was a chaplain in the First World War in France.

Captain McSween was formerly regimental morale and recreation officer of the 120th Infantry, 30th division, at Fort Jackson. Before that he was pastor at Forest City, N. C.

Captain Allen McSween will be pleasantly remembered in Raeford where he served as pastor's assistant to Dr. W. M. Fairley for two years while a student at Union Theological seminary, Richmond, Va.

Cpl. Huey Long, who has been stationed in the Aleutian Islands for two years, has returned to the States for reassignment. Cpl. Long is the son of Mrs. M. C. Long of Laurinburg, formerly of Hoke County.

Mrs. William Crenshaw received word Saturday that her husband, Pfc. William B. Crenshaw, had been lightly wounded in Belgium on January sixth. He was with the Third Army. Mrs. Crenshaw was the former Miss Mary Ann Currie.

Capt. and Mrs. T. B. Lester arrived Tuesday night from El Paso, Texas, on a fifteen day leave.

C. E. Morrison, U. S. Navy, who recently returned from eighteen months in the Pacific, and Mrs. Morrison, the former Miss Rosa Brown, spent a few days with Mrs. G. W.

Court Of Honor Held Thursday At Laurinburg

Number Of Raeford Boys Awarded Promotions And Merit Badges. Seven To Star Rank.

The January Court of Honor was conducted in the Laurinburg Gym Thursday evening, with good attendance of both scouts and scouters. Raeford, East Laurinburg, Laurinburg, Springfield, Gibson, Laurel Hill and Wagram troops were present with nearly 100 percent attendance. The Maxton and Red Springs troops were not present for the court.

Following a special ceremony, directed by the Laurinburg troops, the troops were lined up for inspection, and all showed up well, registering above 75. The next event was knot tying, and here the scouts were to tie the ropes with square knots so as to form a chain. One knot tied wrong would disqualify the whole troop. The third contest was one of First Aid. All troops had the head bandage on correctly. Most of the troops had the ankle bandage on correctly. Only one troop correctly used the four-man carry. The fourth contest was signaling. From one end the semaphore was being sent, and from the other end the Morse was being sent. Only one troop had the message correct. Some were able to work out one or two words.

The Wagram Troop managed to nose out Laurel Hill for first place. Gibson was running a close third place. Laurinburg was in fourth, East Laurinburg fifth, Raeford sixth and Springfield in 7th place. The slip in the knot tying threw both Springfield and Raeford in the lower places.

The highlight in the Court of Honor came when Billy Butler of Laurinburg, and Billy Peele of Laurel Hill were awarded the ranks of Eagle Scout, and the Eagle Badge was pinned on them by their respective mothers.

J. J. Pence, the new court of honor chairman, presided, and authorized the following awards: Second Class Rank: Troop 20—Murphy Evans, Bobby Lee, Earle Parker, Bobby Inman and Billy Jenette, Troop 52—Harold Smith.

First Class Rank: Troop 20—McNair Evans, Troop 50—Bill Covington, Troop 52—Bob McNeill, Horace Gibson, Jerome McDaniel, Troop 55—Tommy Gibson and Jackie Peele. Star Rank: Troop 1—Joe Gulleger, Jr., Buddy Blue, Milton Mann, Jimmy Sinclair, Paul Johnson, Neil McNeill and Bobby McNeill. Troop 20—Gramling McGill, Jerry Morris. Troop 50—Tommy Watson, Coleman Russell and Neal Nicholson.

Life Rank: Troop 52—Alfred Caulder, and Charles Smith.

Merit Badge Awards for one or more badges was made to the following scouts:

Troop 1—Bobby McNeill, Jimmy Sinclair, Eugene Smith, Milton Mann, Buddy Blue, Joe Gulleger, Jr., Paul Johnson, Lockey McDonald, Neil B. Sinclair, Bobby Murray, Neil McNeill and A. J. Lundy. Troop 20—Gramling McGill, Jerry Morris, James Culp, Thomas Carraway, and Clinton Willis. Troop 39—John C. Hasty, Marshall James, Mack Jernigan and Roland Seals. Troop 50—Neal Nicholson, Tommy Watson, Coleman Russell, Williams Purcell, Bill Covington and Mitchell Rabil. Troop 52—Alfred Caulder, Ernest Meskins, Alex Barber, Harold Smith, Billy Peele, Earl Bradley, and Charles Smith. Troop 54—George Smith, Wallace Ammons, James Barnes, Monroe and Herman Barnes.

Barbecue Supper

A barbecue supper sponsored by the Sandy Grove Methodist church will be held at Mildouson school on Thursday, February 8th. Serving will begin at six o'clock. The public is cordially invited.

Brown.

William Poole, who has just finished training at North Georgia College, arrived Saturday night on furlough. He will report to Fort Bragg on February 12th.

The family of Lt. (jg) A. W. Gillis received a letter from him dated January 18th stating that he is safe and well. Lt. Gillis is somewhere in the South Pacific and this is the first that has been heard from him in quite sometime.

Cpls. Eugene R. Sanford and Joseph M. Pickler returned to Camp Chaffee, Ark., Monday, after several days furlough spent with their parents.

Thomas F. Davis, Jr., S 2-c, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. F. Davis, spent the week end at home.

Biscoe-Hoke Game Friday Is Second Meeting For Teams

Hoke county high school gym will be the scene of an exciting basketball double-header here Friday evening, February 2, at 7:30 when Raeford meets Biscoe. The Raeford boys topped the Biscoe quintet in a game there early in January, but the Raeford girls were defeated. Both Raeford teams are working hard to come out first in the forthcoming game.

County Nears Goal In Polio Drive

Hoke county contributions to the March of Dimes had reached a total of \$657.34 at noon Wednesday, according to Miss Jesse Bright Ferguson, who is acting as treasurer of the drive. This locks but \$33.66 of equaling the quota of \$691 assigned the county.

Mayor Neill McFadyen, county chairman, reports that there is every indication that the county will greatly exceed its goal. The county-wide square dance to be held last night was yet to be reported, of course, and well over a hundred dollars was expected to be raised by this event. Two dances given at the Blue Springs Community House netted a total of \$112.50 for the fund, according to Mrs. J. W. McBryde, and dances in several other communities have contributed goodly sums to the infantile paralysis fund.

With the children of all schools and a committee of nearly one hundred fifty adults working in each community of the county probably the largest collection ever raised for the fund is expected to be reported by the end of this week. While some communities are asking for extension of time beyond the 1st of February in order to raise their quotas and the drive nationally has been extended to February 15th, the drive here is expected to close with final reports to be made to the treasury by all workers not later than Saturday of this week.

Clinic Friday

An orthopedic clinic will be held Friday February 2 in the basement of the agriculture building. This clinic is free to all indigent children under 21 years of age. Dr. O. L. Miller of Charlotte will be the surgeon in charge. Please register at the desk between 9 and 11 o'clock in order to see the doctor early.

Name Of Raeford's First Victim Of Last War Again At Battlefront

Lt. Col. Ellis Williamson of 30th Division Is Nephew Of Man For Whom Raeford Legion Post Is Named.

The name of Ellis W. Williamson is again in the news from the battlefront, where Lt. Col. Williamson is in command of a unit of the famed 30th Division. In the last war, the first Ellis W. Williamson was a member of a medical corp unit, which was assigned to the 30th division. He had been at the front but a few days in 1918 when a German bullet took his life, and he became the first soldier from Hoke County to make the supreme sacrifice in that war. In his honor the post of the American Legion here is named.

The first Ellis Williamson was a native of Troy who came here with his father, who operated the town's first soda parlor. The Ellis Williamson of this war is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Williamson of Raleigh, formerly of Raeford. He is 27 years old and is married to the former Margaret McNeill of Charlotte. He was a member of the National Guard and has been in service since 1940. He wears the Silver Star, the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart. A recent account of some of the actions in which his outfit has participated, written from the battlefront in Belgium by Hal Boyle, follows:

THIRIFONT, Belgium.—There are one hundred homes in this small village between Malmédy and St. Vith—and it took almost a hundred battles to drive out teen-age Nazi paratroopers defending the approaches to the key road network at St. Vith.

After one American company had been trapped in the village it finally was taken by 27-year-old Lt. Col. Ellis W. Williamson of 708 Boylan Drive, Raleigh, N. C., whose men for twelve hours had to pack in all their food and ammunition on their backs through knee-deep snow and fight off enemy tanks with small arms and bazookas.

"During the two days of house-to-house fighting, we took 150 prison-

Cotton Contest To Offer \$3,000 In Prizes To Growers

Increased Yields And Lower Production Costs Per Acre Seen In New Methods.

High production per acre at lower cost per unit is the goal of a cotton production contest announced this week for farmers of North Carolina, by the State College extension service and the state Seed-crushers association.

The farmers and the extension service are asked to work out new methods of increasing yields during the five-acre contest this year and a special emphasis will also be placed on production of quality staple. Both tenants and landlords are asked to enter the contests through their county agents, with whom they are required to register before June first to be eligible for prizes.

There will be county-wide contests, district and state-wide prizes. There will be a top state-wide prize of \$750; and \$750 in prizes for each of three districts of the state.

A crop of an accepted variety of five acres will be necessary for each entrant, and full and accurate records of preparation, cultivation, fertilization and harvesting must be kept according to requirements which may be obtained from the county agent. Fiber and spinning tests of some of the cotton is planned.

North Carolina is leading in the one-variety improvement program, and it is hoped that the contest will further emphasize the need for quality seed, better fertilizer, better cultivation, and improved harvesting and ginning practices that lead to greater money yields per acre from the higher grade and improved quality of staple grown in one-variety areas.

A number of important points should be taken into consideration by those farmers who enroll in the state five-acre cotton contest and attempt to produce from 12 to 15 bales of cotton on 5 acres, say Extension agronomists at State college.

The very best land should be selected,—land that is well drained, has a high moisture holding capacity, and is capable of using a relatively large amount of fertilizer to advantage. The agronomists suggest that the area be carefully examined to see that it has no weak spots in it, as this will pull down the total yields. Land that has

Continued on Page Four

12 More Pay Rent For Year's Use Of Freezer Lockers

Twelve more persons paid their \$15 for the first year's rental for freezer lockers in the proposed locker storage plant for Hoke county, it was stated yesterday by Mrs. Belton Wright of the office of D. J. Dalton, chairman of the locker sign-up committee.

This brings the total payments for lockers to 120, or about one fourth of the 500 sought by the committee. Those renting lockers were: Mrs. Laura Crowley, Mrs. Maggie B. Newton, J. B. McIntyre, J. F. Jordan, Miss Carrie Liles, Miss Lettie McMillan, C. H. Boahn, John Alec Wilkes, Mrs. E. L. Cameron, G. C. Lytle, E. B. Campbell, J. B. Mason and E. E. Smith.

CP & LC Cooperates With WPB "Brown-Out" Order Today

Commercial Outdoor Lighting, Outdoor Signs, Showwindows And Marquee Lights Go Brown Tonight To Save Coal.

The Carolina Power & Light company, although it makes most of its power from water, will cooperate fully with the War Production Board "Brown-Out" Order, which becomes effective February 1, said Reuben Dubose, district manager of the company.

The order has been issued to help stretch the nation's coal supply, which had reached such a low point that on December 1 there was only a 39-day supply on hand. Because of the severe winter weather in the north the supply is now probably shorter than that.

"The Carolina Power and Light company maintains coal generating plants to assure its customers of uninterrupted service in event of a dry period, but makes most of its powers from water," Mr. Dubose said. "At present most of our electricity is being made by water, so little coal will be saved there. However," he explained, "the company's lines are connected with other electric companies that make a large portion of their electricity with coal. Our excess water power is sent over these lines to help other companies to save coal. Thus, even though we may not save much coal in the Carolinas, we are helping others save, and in that way contributing to the effort."

The "brown-out" order will remain in effect as long as manpower in coal mines remains tight and there is insufficient coal to meet consumer needs.

The WPB lists seven types of electric illumination which must be extinguished, as follows:

Outdoor advertising and outdoor promotional lighting.

Show window lighting, except where it is necessary for interior illumination.

Marquee lighting in excess of 60 watts for each marquee.

White way street lighting in excess of that "determined by local public authority to be necessary for public safety."

Outside sign lighting of most types. Exceptions are signs needed for fire and police protection, traffic control, transporting terminals or hospitals, or other directional or identification signs providing "essential public services." Also exempt are lights, not exceeding 60 watts, serving to identify doctors, hotels and public lodgings.

The order does not apply to electricity used strictly for residential purposes.

Willful failure to comply with the ruling may result in the discontinuance of all electric service, or jail or fines, the order states.

R. H. Baxley Killed Accidentally

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Baxley received word last week that their son, Reuben H. Baxley, of Los Angeles, Calif., had been accidentally killed. The deceased was 38 years of age and was a former resident of Raeford. He had spent a year in Hawaii engaged in defense work and later worked on the Aleian highway in Alaska. Prior to his death he was a driver on a truck run from Albuquerque, New Mexico to Los Angeles.

Besides his parents, he is survived by his wife, the former Miss Selma Goff of Johnson City, Tenn., and a twelve-year-old son, Jackie Lee; three brothers, J. Renee and Thomas E. of Raeford and Jimmie of the navy; two sisters, Mrs. Mabel McKay of Norfolk, Va., and Mildred of the home; and his grandmother, Mrs. Mary Turner.

For the latest on military information.

First Farm Sold In Hoke By FSA Is Now Paid For

Duncan L. Thomas of Antioch Section Paid \$40-Year Loan In Five Months

Duncan L. Thomas of Route 1 Shannon was the tenant purchase borrower of the Administration for his farm in Hoke county, which he started this week by Zeb E. M. supervisor, Raleigh, N. C.

"Dunk," as he is known in the Antioch section, came in the long way since he bought his farm in 1940. When he made application to purchase a farm his total chattels were valued at \$755. Prior to 1940, Dunk farmed on shares, and in spite of tending large crops did not accumulate any real estate and only a fair amount of personal property.

On August 2, 1939, a loan was made to Dunk and his wife in the amount of \$6790.00 to purchase a 114 acre farm and make necessary improvements. The loan was made at 3% interest to be repaid in not more than 40 annual installments of \$293.74. But in spite of the maximum time allowed, he repaid the entire loan, both interest and principal in five years. He and his family today not only have a good farm and home, free of indebtedness, but have saved \$3972.91 in interest, had it taken him the maximum time of 40 years to pay for his farm. In other words, if he had paid one payment each year the farm in 40 years would have cost him \$11,749.60 principal and interest but instead it only cost him \$777.69.

After paying for the farm, Dunk states he has enough capital to run him in 1945 and would have been in much better shape had he not lost a barn of tobacco by fire last year.

His personal property has been increased considerably, too. Today Dunk owns about \$2000 worth of livestock and equipment. He has plenty of feed to run on this year, and has his flour at the mill for 1945 use. Not long ago, he killed a beef that dressed about 600 pounds, and he has 1400 pounds of dressed pork. In late years, it has become his policy to kill his meat at home, can vegetables and meat for family use. With their pressure cooker they canned over 800 quarts in 1944.

Dunk says, "the only thing I don't like is that I waited until my old days to get started living. The supervisors of the FSA have helped us a great deal by working out our plans early each year. Tell the other people, if they have any questions about FSA, they may write or come to see me."

Kerr Scott Advocates High Farm Prices

Richmond, Va., Jan. 31.—Speaking recently to the 500 delegates here attending the annual convention of Ruritan National, W. Kerr Scott, North Carolina Commissioner of Agriculture, pleaded for a continuation of "farm prices in line with production costs."

"National prosperity does not follow low prices," declared Scott, adding that he regretted that "it took a war, international murder, to bring on decent prices for farm commodities."

Scott expressed the opinion that "soldiers returning from the war should not attempt to find work on the farm, since farmers have shown their ability to meet ever-increasing crop goals with their sons away in battle."

"The only way we can hope to find agriculture work for our farm boys after the war is to locate new markets for our commodities throughout the world," asserted Commissioner Scott.

Other speakers at the convention included Wade Marr, of Elizabeth City, who spoke at the annual banquet, and Brig. Gen. J. Van Netts, of Raleigh, head of Selective Service in North Carolina.

Four Hoke Students At Wake Forest

Wake Forest, Jan. 31.—Four Raeford students were among the 555 enrolled at Wake Forest College for the season ending this week. They are: Arthur D. Gore, Jr., William McGee Harmon, Benjamin James Kinlaw, and Edith Pearl Sanders. Gore, who was taking pre-law, is now in the army at Camp Croft, S. C.; Harmon and Miss Sanders are pre-medical, and Kinlaw is enrolled in the ministerial course.

Ration Note

Families of boys going into service should turn in their ration books within five days after they are inducted.