



Sgt. H. L. Pope Writes From Jap Prison

A card has been received from Staff Sergeant Howard L. Pope, a prisoner in the Philippines. Sgt. Pope has been in service since 1935. He spent eighteen months at Fort Bragg and from there was sent to the Philippine Islands. He became a prisoner of the Japanese in May, 1942.

This is the first news that Mrs. Lola Pope, his stepmother, has had from him since January, 1944. The following is the message: "I am interned at Philippine Military prison camp No. 11. My health is excellent. Am praying this card finds all well and happy. Received your package and several letters. I cannot express in words the happiness I derived from your letters. I can send but one card, so please explain to friends and tell them to write."

Bruner Brothers Meet In Germany

Staff Sergeant Lamor Bruner and Corporal Jim Bruner, sons of Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Bruner of Red Springs just bumped into each other in Germany on January 25th, according to a recent message received by the family. This was their first meeting since March, 1944, when they met in California just before going overseas. Sgt. Bruner is with the 195th Quartermaster unit, and is a member of a gasoline supply company. The unit was recently awarded the Distinguished Service Cross and the Meritorious Service Unit plaque.

At Hospital

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla., Feb. 15.—Pvt. Thomas L. Culbuth, formerly of Raeford, N. C., has recently arrived at Welch Convalescent hospital, the army's new reconditioning center in Daytona Beach. The carefully planned reconditioning program here will speed his convalescence and assist his return to the best of health. The son of John Culbuth, entered the army Feb., 1943 and has since served for some time in the Southwest Pacific.

Unit Citation

AN EIGHTH AIR FORCE LIBERATOR STATION, England.—Pvt. Claude K. Jackson, RFD 1, West End, N. C., is a member of the 392nd Bombardment group, a Liberator unit recently cited for "distinguished and exceptionally outstanding performance of duty" on 200 missions.

Promoted

WITH THE 26th INF. DIV.—Pfc. Richard E. Neely, of Raeford, has been promoted to the rank of Tec 5 for excellent qualities of leadership and outstanding performance of duty. He is the husband of Mrs. Jessie Mae Neely of Raeford, and was employed by Great Lakes Steel corporation, Mich.

John Dunc McNeill, chief petty officer, USNR, stationed at Pensacola, Fla., is visiting his mother, Mrs. Nan McNeill.

Capt. Paul Dickson and Capt. Clyde Upchurch have run into each other again "overthere." Capt. Upchurch had recently visited the grave of Sgt. Joe Hancock, who was killed in action in January.

Mrs. Graham Dickson has received word that Major Dickson has been quite sick with pneumonia and is now in a hospital in Paris.

Jack Lee, S 1-c SK, who is stationed at Vernalis, Calif., spent a leave at home visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Lee. Here with him was Eddie Edwards, S 1-c of Asheville, who is also stationed at the Vernalis Naval base.

Sgt. Hallie Haire has written his parents of his safe arrival in France.

William Lester Seals has been promoted to the rank of first lieutenant. His promotion came through on the seventh of February. Hilton Seals who is with the Navy V-12 USNR, graduates this week at Chapel Hill and will go to Duke university where he will receive further training. Both boys are the sons of Mr. and Mrs. Luther Seals of Route 1, Raeford.

Mrs. George L. Caddell arrived in Reno, Nevada, Saturday and will spend some time with her husband who is stationed there with the Medical Air Corps.

Pfc. John Lee Stephens of Fort Jackson, S. C., spent a furlough at home.

Second Farm Loan To Tenant-Buyer Repaid In County

Charlie McDonald of Route 1, Shannon, paid for his tenant-purchase farm in four years and nine months, it was reported by Zeb E. McDaniel, county FSA supervisor. He was the second to pay for his farm through the program in this county.

On March 8, 1940, a loan was made to McDonald and his wife in the amount of \$5828.00 to purchase a 130 acre farm and make necessary improvements. The loan was made at 3 per cent interest, and was to be paid back in not more than 40 annual installments of \$252.12 per year. Had it taken Charlie the full time to pay off his loan, the farm would have cost \$10,084.80. Due to the time required, the farm only cost him \$6,439.75.

In addition to paying for their farm in less than five years the family has bought much furniture and farm equipment. Their equipment and livestock today is valued at approximately \$1850. In 1944, they canned 579 quarts of meats, fruit and vegetables with the use of their pressure cooker.

They have seventy-five hens, two milk cows, two brood sows, a home orchard consisting of peach, apple, pear, cherry, and pecan trees, and grapes. For the past year or so, they have been doing a good job of living at home.

Chairman Gatlin Names Workers For Raeford

War Fund Drive To Be Conducted From March 1 Through 10th; Quota \$5,400.

Plans are being completed this week for the annual Red Cross War Fund Drive which will open next Thursday, March 1, and will continue for ten days, it was stated yesterday by H. L. Gatlin, Jr., county chairman.

Mr. Gatlin announced the area chairman for Raeford yesterday also. Leaders in the rural areas were named last week by Mrs. H. A. Cameron, rural chairman.

Dr. M. R. Smith is chairman of the special gifts committee, and he and J. L. McNeill and Marion Gatlin will have charge of the general solicitation of the business district of the town. D. H. Hodgins is to make the solicitation at the courthouse; J. C. Hutchinson was assigned to the county building; M. T. Poovey is to direct the campaign at Edinburgh Mills; Archie Howard was assigned the Hoke Oil and Fertilizer and the Hoke Concrete plants; and Carson Clippard was assigned the Raeford Lumber company.

For the residential sections: Northeast section—Mrs. Israel Mann; Northwest section—Mrs. C. L. Thomas; Southeast section—Miss Agnes Mae Johnson; Southwest section—Mrs. Tommie Upchurch.

Mrs. A. D. Gore is chairman for Hoke High and Mrs. Larry Walter is chairman for Raeford Graded school.

Mr. Gatlin stated that for areas where assistance is needed in making the canvass the area chairman is to secure such workers as are needed.

Leonard Tufts Funeral Held

Funeral services for Leonard Tufts, 74, one of the builders of Pinehurst, were held Wednesday in the Community church at Pinehurst. The Rev. Rose Prince, assisted by the Rev. Dr. T. A. Cheatham, conducted the rites.

Mr. Tufts died at Moore County hospital Monday following an illness from virus pneumonia. He was the son of James Walker Tufts, founder of the famous midsouth resort. He had retired from the active management of the resort in 1930 and his son, Richard S. Tufts, has had charge of it since.

Mr. Tufts was the owner of one of the outstanding herds of Ayrshire dairy cattle and had become internationally known as a breeder of this breed of cattle. His farm also was well-known for its excellent breed of Berkshire hogs.

Miss Wilcox Will Speak Tomorrow

On Friday February 23, at 8:00 P. M., Miss Marian Wilcox, a returned missionary to China, will speak to the young people at the Presbyterian church. All young people are cordially invited.

Give Generously To The Red Cross.

Round-Robin Play Of Class Teams In Progress At HHS

On Thursday evening, February 22, the first round of the intramural basketball tournament will get off to a big start with the following games scheduled: eighth grade girls versus the ninth grade girls, eleventh versus twelfth grade girls, and tenth grade boys versus twelfth grade boys. On the following Wednesday, the tenth grade girls will play the winner of the eighth and ninth game. The eighth grade boys will play the winner of the eighth and ninth game. The and the ninth grade boys will play the eleventh grade boys. The finals will be played on Wednesday, March 7th, beginning at 10:05 A. M.

FMC Indebtedness Fully Paid, Reports Liquidation Ass'n

Trustees Acknowledge Receipt Grantham Memorial and Linda Vardell Scholarship Funds.

Highlighting the mid-winter meeting of the Board of Trustees of Flora Macdonald college on Tuesday, February 13, was the presentation by Dr. C. T. Johnson, treasurer of the college debt liquidation association of a check for \$30,000, which cancels the bonded indebtedness of the college. The trustees adopted resolutions of appreciation for the efficient work done by Edwin Morgan, chairman, and Dr. Johnson, treasurer, and for the friends who had contributed to this fund.

President H. G. Bedinger presented the Grantham Memorial fund, which was given in honor of the late Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Grantham, by their children, Hiram Grantham, Jr., Sgt. Reid Grantham, and Lt. Emma Brown Grantham Willis. Mr. Grantham was for many years a valued and Mrs. Grantham was an alumna, and a former member of the music faculty. Resolutions of appreciation to Mr. and Mrs. Grantham's children were adopted by the board.

At this meeting, also, a sum amounting to \$2500 was presented by Mrs. Walter Bullock, through Miss Mary McEachern, trustee, for the establishment of the Linda Vardell Music Scholarship, in honor of Mrs. Linda Rumpel Vardell, who founded the conservatory of music, was its dean for 25 years, and is now Dean Emerita. This scholarship was sponsored by friends of Mrs. Vardell and of the college, and resolutions of appreciation were adopted by the board. The sponsors who contributed to the fund, to Egon Petri, pianist, who contributed a part of his fee in a benefit concert, and to Mrs. Walter Bullock, through whose efforts the fund was raised.

President Bedinger reported as the most significant item in the progress of the college, it's increasingly satisfactory financial condition, and the boarding, enrollment for '44-45 which is the largest in the history of the college. Dr. Bedinger also stated that the general spirit of the school and the work of the students, is unusually good. He called the attention of the board to the large number of alumnae now in church work, and said that in the past ten years, the Assembly's Training School in Richmond had enrolled more Flora Macdonald graduates than from any other college. Dr. Bedinger briefly outlined the history and progress of the college during the 49 years since it was founded, and stated that definite plans would be submitted to the board at the spring meeting, for the celebration of the semicentennial in 1946.

Dr. C. T. Johnson, recently elected to the board of trustees, was appointed a member of the executive committee, replacing the late Mr. Grantham.

President Emeritus C. G. Vardell, made a report on the progress of his work with the alumnae and the Presbyterians, for increasing the endowment. He reported contributions to his campaign endowment fund to date, bonds in the amount of \$12,000 maturity value.

Two Groups To Go To Bragg For Examinations

Two groups of white and Indian men will go to Fort Bragg within the next week for pre-induction examinations, it was stated yesterday by Mrs. Peggy Behrman, clerk of the county draft board.

Those reporting tomorrow, February 23, are Eddie Lawrence Walden, Jr., James Eli Shankle, Eddie Lee Patton, George Maynor, David A. Vaughan Chason, Fred Grey McFadyen, Clarence Dial and Joe Thomas.

Those reporting next Wednesday, February 28, are John Blue McLeod, Rudolph Angus Love, Willie C. Locklear and William Fred McVicker.

Cherry And NCEA Heads Agree On Teacher Pay Plan

Base Salary Of \$125 Per Month Recommended, With Additional Payments From Money Available.

RALEIGH, Feb. 20.—Governor Cherry last night announced that following a series of conferences with representatives of the North Carolina Education association, an agreement satisfactory to spokesmen for the organization and to himself on a plan for teacher salary increases for the coming biennium had been reached.

At the same time, a joint statement was issued by Dr. Ralph McDonald, president of the North Carolina Education association, and Alger B. Wilkins, chairman of the legislative committee for the NCEA, in which they expressed their gratitude to the Governor for his "fine spirit" in working out a solution to the salary problem.

Governor's Statement.

In his statement, the Governor said:

"Under this agreement I am now ready to recommend to the General Assembly that the contingent emergency salary shall be paid monthly during the fiscal year 1945-46 if the unapportioned surplus in the State's general fund on June 30, 1945, is sufficient to pay the full amount. If funds are not on hand to pay the full amount of the emergency salary, then payment will be made in multiples of \$2.50 as the funds do permit. Any part of the emergency salary unpaid June 30, 1946, shall be paid at that time if the unapportioned surplus is sufficient. If on June 30, 1946, there is an additional unapportioned surplus above the amount necessary to pay the full bonus for the fiscal year, 1945-46, the emergency salary shall be paid monthly during the fiscal year 1946-47 in full or in multiples of \$2.50 and pay any part of the bonus unpaid for the fiscal year 1946-47 shall be paid June 30, 1947, if the unapportioned surplus at that time is sufficient.

"If the legislative acts favorably on this recommendation it will give the teachers of North Carolina the largest monthly increase in salary of any Legislature in the history of North Carolina.

No Salary Schedule

"The General Assembly will not fix a salary schedule for teachers but will appropriate a lump sum from which the salaries will be paid. In the matter of salaries for more experienced teachers, it is left to the State Board of Education to work out a fair schedule for teachers who will get a base salary of \$125 per month under the recommendation.

Complete List Of Taxlisters For Hoke

Listtakers for the several townships of the county have been named by the Board of Commissioners and all have been supplied with books and list-forms, according to John A. McGoogan, tax supervisor.

Listing, usually completed in January, must be done by March 1. The delay this year was caused by delay in securing listtakers. Farm census figures must be listed at the time property is listed, Mr. McGoogan stated.

Carolina Men Honor Colonel Robert Scott

MACON, Ga., Feb. 21.—A father and his sergeant son came here today from Spartanburg, S. C., "just to shake the hand of Col. Robert Lee Scott."

Alexander Elias told Scott "I have dreamed of meeting the man who wrote me the kind letter you did when my son, who was with your outfit, was killed."

Lieut. Henry Elias, a fighter pilot with the Flying Tigers in China, was shot by the Japanese as he bailed out of his plane. Colonel Scott saw his friend and comrade go down.

When he met Elias and another son, Sgt. Victor Elias of the Greenville, S. C. army air base, Scott said: "It is your son and those others who won't be back that I represent here today. They did their jobs. We who are left are only carrying on."

The Elias remained by the side of Colonel Scott today and shared honors with him at a Kiwanis luncheon. Later, they took their places with the Hollywood stars here for the premiere of the movie version of Scott's book, "God Is My Co-Pilot." The premiere will take place tomorrow night.

Attends Board Meet

K. A. MacDonald county superintendent of schools was at Davidson College yesterday where he attended the annual meeting of the trustees of that institution.

Buyers Of Oil Curers Warned By OPA Panel Concerning Fuel

Tobacco growers installing oil-burning curer-units in their barns this season, for the first time, advised by the Hoke County Fuel panel that they are making their installation at their own risk.

In a statement issued yesterday, the panel stated that it "wished to tobacco growers that anyone installing oil burners for the first time do so at their own risk. So far as the panel knows now, such burners will be eligible for oil. But the members of the panel wish to warn that, owing to the scarcity of oil, the present regulations might be changed at any time, and a new OPA order might come out prohibiting the issuance of fuel oil to new users."

Hoke Polio Fund Doubles Quota

The amount of the Hoke County polio fund reached a total of \$14.86 more than double the quota, according to the final report of N. L. McFadyen, county chairman.

Mr. McFadyen made his final report this week. A total of \$1,384.61 was collected for the fund during the drive which was brought to a close last Saturday. There were total expenses for the drive of \$12.25. A check for \$692.31 was sent to state headquarters in Chapel Hill, and \$92.30 retained by the Hoke County Chapter of the Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. The quota for the county was \$691.

Mr. McFadyen made his final report happy over the fine showing made by the workers in their collection of this excellent amount for the paralysis fund, and was very appreciative of the ready and hearty response of the people of the county to the call for money for this worthy cause.

Help Prevent Woods Fires This Spring

Forests are valuable property. They benefit everyone by conserving our drinking water, regulating streamflow, keeping the soil from washing away, sheltering wild life, and providing us with fuelwood, building material and other useful products.

Each of us has a personal stake in the forest resources of our locality, whether we own any timber or not. The income from the sale of forest products creates employment, both in the country and in towns and villages. The more forest products we can produce, the greater will be our local market for eggs, milk, poultry, livestock and other farm produce. Never in the history of our country has there been such a great demand for forest products as that at the present time. Most of these are going directly into the war program.

Fires in the forest kill little trees and kill or injure larger trees and retard their growth. Forest fires destroy game animals and young birds and their food. They kill the fish in the streams and ponds, reduce the fertility of the forest soil, destroy the natural beauty of the countryside and create idle land that is a tax burden.

Forest fires are practically all man-caused. They are therefore preventable. If all of us will try to be double-careful with fire, ourselves, and will do our best to persuade our friends and relatives to be careful, the fires in our county can be reduced to a negligible amount. If we will all take a personal interest in reporting and suppressing fires that do start, we can confine their damage to a very small total acreage.

Trees which burn will never do us any good; but trees that are protected and allowed to grow to maturity, can bring a great flood of new money into our county each year to add to our farm income and help us to enjoy a higher standard of living and a greater future prosperity.

Now that the season is approaching when woods fires are most apt to occur, let us all resolve to do all we can to prevent and suppress fires, both individually and collectively, that we can make our country a better place in which to live, both for ourselves and for those who follow after us. Let's conserve our timber resources for those buildings we will need so badly after the war!

Two Mules Killed By Gas Vehicles

Mayor Neill L. McFadyen had the misfortune to lose two mules this week, and operators of a car and a truck suffered considerable damage to their vehicles when they struck the mules. Mr. McFadyen had the mules at his farm on trial, it was said, and they broke out of the stable yard. Shortly afterwards they ran across the Fayetteville highway and were struck and killed.

County Chapter Of Red Cross Reviews Work

Several Thousand Aided Locally By Home-Service Department; Many Articles Produced.

The report of activities of the Hoke County Chapter of the Red Cross for the past year provides some interesting reading and will show that contrary to the general idea that a dollar given this organization goes to help out somebody on the battle front or in far off China, much of its money and a great deal of its activity is devoted to serving the people right here in Hoke county. The Home Service committee which has to deal with cases of need, or with securing information for the people right here, reports that 301 telegrams were sent from Raeford for service men and their families; 168 of these were for white people; 108 were for negroes and 25 were for Indians. The total cost of this service was \$244.55.

Investigations made as the result of telegrams received from servicemen, their families or military administrative officers totaled 385. 161 of these were of white people; 194 of negroes; and 30 of Indians.

523 persons were assisted with allowance papers, letter writing, and preparing dependency papers. Of this number 200 were white, 251 negroes and 72 Indians.

Eleven loans and one grant were made to service men or their families at a total cost of \$304.

Assistance was given to the families of four service men who had been killed in action. This included the filling out of forms for gratuity pay, service insurance and pension applications.

Aided Six Families

The Disaster committee made grants to six negro families who had been burned out by fire. These grants totaled \$289.69. This committee also paid hospital bills amounting to \$100, and made a loan of \$25; expending a total of \$414.69.

Camps And Hospitals.

One of the most active committees was the Camp and Hospitals group which made and distributed 1963 articles in the following manner: 282 articles sent to Fort Bragg hospitals; 64 to Camp Mackall hospitals; 9 to Red Cross at Maxton airbase; 238 Kitt Bags to Hampton Roads; 288 to P.O.E. at New Orleans; and 432 on hand ready for shipment. These articles were furnished at a total cost to the chapter of \$1,392.95.

This committee supplied 100 flower arrangements to chapels at Camp Mackall at no cost to the chapter. 195 Christmas packages were furnished by the people of Hoke County through the local chapter to patients at hospitals at Fort Bragg and Camp Mackall. 85 favors and Christmas lights and decorations for hospitals at Fort Bragg and Camp Mackall were furnished through the chapter at no cost to the chapter.

3,410 Hours.

3,410 hours were required to knit the 186 knitted articles which have been made in the past year by members of the Knitting committee. The articles included 25 turkie-neck sweaters; 66 sleeveless sweaters; 41 helmets; 39 mufflers and 15 pair army gloves.

Among various other services in which detailed records have not been kept included the singing of Christmas carols at the hospitals at Fort Bragg and the aiding of stranded transients.

Gum, Chum?

One of the most familiar greetings heard in shattered behind-the-lines towns is "Any gum, chum?", Red Cross workers report. The ARC field men meet the weary fighters on invasion roads and beachheads with hot coffee, fruit juices, cigarettes, gum and candy.

CULBRETHS TO CELEBRATE GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

On Wednesday, February 28, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Flavius Culbreth will celebrate their fiftieth wedding anniversary at open house at their home here from 5:00 to 8:00 P. M. No invitations have been issued, and the couple wish through this medium to extend to all their friends a cordial invitation.

Mrs. D. Scott Poole Badly Burned

Mrs. D. Scott Poole had a quite serious accident Monday when she turned over a kettle of boiling water badly scalding her feet. Quick application of sulfa drug has kept the burns from being as serious as it was first feared. She is unable to get around.