

James D. McRacken Honored In France

Name Of Hoke Boy Who Lost Life Saving Bridge Given The Structure In Commemorative Service.

The memory of James Douglas McRacken, who lost his life protecting a bridge vital to American forces, will be perpetuated by the bridge which he saved, according to a letter received by the hero's wife, Mrs. Maggie Mae McRacken of Red Springs.

Douglas McRacken was born in Anson Township, Hoke County, and was a son of the late J. B. and Mrs. McRacken. His father passed away at his home at Dundarrach since the beginning of the war.

In a celebration held in Mayenne, France, on August 5th, a military record of McRacken's exploit was presented and the Mayor of Mayenne and his grateful fellowmen dedicated the bridge to the memory of the Hoke County boy.

The account of McRacken's heroic act and action taken by the people of Mayenne follows:

Mayenne, on the 2nd of September, 1945.

Dear Madam: Perhaps you will be surprised having this letter. I am an unknown woman for you, but you are not for me, because of your husband. Everyone here, knows soldier James McRacken; he died to save the liberty of the world; he died to save fellows of Patton's army; he died to save our city; he died because he was a hero.

I suppose USA administration wrote and explained to you how he was the victim to his courage. I shall try to tell you what I know about his death. It seems to me it is good for you to know these things.

Our little town of 18,000 inhabitants named Mayenne, is divided into two parts by a river, "La Mayenne." Houses are built on two hills on each side of the river. Across the river, there were three bridges in the town and several other bridges above and down. During the night between 4th and 5th of August, 1944, Germans put out two of our bridges. All other bridges across the river were cut. Also they had the third to get German soldiers across the



SECOND GENERATION DAVIDSONSONIANS—The Davidson habit is traditional in many Southern families. Frequently the second and third generations, and in several instances even the fourth, have been

(Front Row): Z. N. Haller, Jr., Greensboro; H. R. McCombs, Gauley, Kings Mountain.

river, flying from Normandy. You see the importance of our third bridge. Germans had put into it a big quantity of dynamite to blow it up when they had to go away. American soldiers swiftly came into our town on the 5th of August in the afternoon, swifter than the Germans thought. So the bridge was not cut when they arrived. Mr. McRacken was one of the first American soldiers going down to the river, behind a "tank." When they went near the river, he was the most courageous among them, he left the tank behind him to run to the bridge and cut the line to stop the explosion. He cut the line, but Germans, from the other hill, made him dead, with a discharge of grape-shot.

Madam, everybody in Mayenne has known the self-sacrifice of Mr. McRacken; everybody is sure his courage delivered the town from the hateful Germans, from total destruction. Everybody is grateful for his courage; everybody is sad with you because of his death, and keeps the remembrance of the soldier James McRacken in his own heart.

represented. Pictured above are sons of Davidson College alumni, among the freshmen. From left to right, they are (top row): W. H. Lawrence, Jr., Anderson, S. C.; J. L. Chouteau, III, Charlotte; J. C. McDonald, Jr.,

(Front Row): Z. N. Haller, Jr., Greensboro; H. R. McCombs, Gauley, Kings Mountain.

My husband will send you his speech with an enlargement of Mr. McRacken's photo. In it you will see the line cut near him. I send you post-cards of McRacken Bridge. I shall send you photos taken during the manifestation on the 5th of August, 1945. So you will know how we honour him and perhaps you will less suffer for his death. If you have children, you must tell them how their father was brave, how he saved a whole town and the lives of many American soldiers.

If you have a photo of Mr. McRacken, will you be so kind as to send me one, to make an enlargement for our town hall and museum.

Madam, please excuse me for my poor language. I learned English when I was a pupil, long ago. I cannot write everything I think because I do not find words to express my feelings; I should like to console you. It is very difficult for me, but I can say you Mr. McRacken's name is written for ever in my memory. I hope you will understand you are a friend for me and if, one day, you come into Mayenne, my house will be yours, because if I have a home now, it is because of our hero James McRacken.

I am sincerely yours,
Drou.
Madame Drou
26 Place Cheverny
Mayenne (Sarthe) France.

Second Generations

Charlotte; Arthur S. Jenkins, Fayetteville; Alexander Sprunt, IV, Charleston, S. C.; J. W. Mann, Jr., Red Springs; David E. Hipp, Jr., Charlotte; Robert H. Poole, Jr., Elizabethtown; W. W. Calhoun, Clinton; W. Va.; Richards Todd, Lexington; Flynn V. Long, Jr., Austin, Texas;

Tommy Clark, Elizabethtown; M. J. Murray, Jr., Wallace; William A. Gamble, III, Charlotte; Sidney Bruce, Jr., Greenville, S. C.; Robert B. Lacey, Richmond, Va.; and T. B. Moore, Winston-Salem. C. C. Turner, Winstboro, S. C.; J. S. Lafferty, Concord; and C. A. Neis-

Allowances Given Families Of Men Enlisting In Army

Family allowances are being authorized for dependents of all men now enlisting or being inducted into the army, it was announced today by Brig. Gen. Leonard H. Simms, USA, director of the War Department office of Dependency Benefits. That activity of the Office of the Fiscal director, headquarters, Army Service Forces, located in Newark, N. J., administers soldiers' benefits for the entire army.

"The Servicemen's Dependents Allowance, Act of 1942, as amended is still in effect," General Sims stated. "Under this law, wives, children, dependent parents and other dependents of all enlisted men and women and aviation cadets are entitled to family allowances."

"This applies of course to men and women now entering the army as well as to those who were inducted before the war ended," he explained.

The wife and children of enlisted men are eligible to receive family allowance payments as his Class A dependents, the ODB director said. Parents, also brothers and sisters

(under certain conditions) are eligible only if they rely on the soldier for chief or substantial support.

The ODB administers Class E allotments as well as family allowances, he pointed out. These allotments are voluntary assignments from soldiers' pay; nothing is added by the government.

Library News

Please note change of schedule of Hoke County Library: Monday through Saturday, 10:00 to 5:30; closed 12:00 to 1:00 for lunch.

The following are a list of new titles received in the library: "A Job for Jenny," by Baldwin; Storm Tide, Ogilvie; Shadows Under the Stars, Black; Heartwood, Downes; Enrico Caruso; His Life and Death, Caruso; Silversides, Trumbull; Pattern of Soviet Power, Snow; Slow Train to Yesterday, Robertson; Art Through the Ages, Gardner; How to Live Beyond Your Means, Wilson; Three O'clock Dinner, Pinkney; The Peacock Sheds His Tail, Hobart; Last Leaves, Leacock; They Found the Church There, Van Dusen; The Case of the Half-Wakened Wife, Gardner.

Before you start fires this fall, have the furnace, chimney, and flues cleaned and repaired. Burning them out with a hot fire has destroyed many homes. Never use kerosene or gasoline to start a fire.

Three Cases Muscular Distrophy Reported In Robeson County

Health clinics sponsored by the Robeson County Health and Public Welfare departments have discovered three cases of muscular dystrophy in the county in recent weeks. It was reported here this week by Miss Polly Brown, case worker of the welfare department.

James Cox, 13, has suffered from the disease since 1939, and is in an advanced stage of the disease. His muscles have shrunk and he is unable to walk. However, his mind is clear and he attends school in a rolling chair provided him by members of the Red Springs Rotary club, which his little sister pushes, or pulls with her little tricycle. He is the son of a negro saw mill worker and lives near Midway, between Maxton and Rowland.

Both the other cases are in the same family, Johnny, 16, and Marshall, 10, the sons of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Fowler of East Lumberton. There are ten children in the family. Johnny has been ill for eight years and is unable to move about, walk or stand. Marshall, who is in the early stages of the disease, can walk some, but loses balance and falls frequently. Neither of these boys have been to school and they are unable to read, but enjoy pictures and toys. Both parents work in Lumberton mills. Persons wishing to aid these boys should see Miss Brown as to their needs.

Ingathering Oct. 25 At Lumber Bridge

The Lumber Bridge Presbyterian church is holding its annual ingathering on Thursday, October 25. Barbecue and chicken salad dinners will be served, followed by an auction sale. The public is cordially invited to attend.

GALATIA INGATHERING

The Galatia Ingathering will be held Thursday, October 25th. The sale of farm produce will begin at 3 o'clock. Barbecue and chicken salad suppers will be served beginning at 5:30 o'clock and the sale of handmade articles after supper. The public is cordially invited.

Good lighting in every room—meaning light adequate for the activity going on—cannot be too strongly recommended. To avoid shock and fire hazards, your electrical equipment must be kept in repair—no frayed cords, broken plugs, and faulty appliances.

Mr. Tobacco Farmer . . .

Tobacco is too costly a crop to waste it after it has been grown. Many farmers have lost a large part of their crop this year because of barn room and failure to install Modern Curing Equipment.

Plan Now For Your 1946 Crop!

The "Cure-All" oil-burning tobacco curer is the most efficient curing unit on the market today, and is giving highly satisfactory service to the many farmers who were fortunate in securing "Cure-All" units in the past several years.

If you want a money-saving and money-making curing unit for your barns next season, Investigate Now!

We are booking orders for delivery next season and will be glad to have you place your order with us anytime between August 15 and September 29.

Live-At-Home Feed Store

Phone 38 Lumberton, N. C.

or the

Upchurch Milling Company

Phone 211-1 Raeford, N. C.

Investigate before buying Land

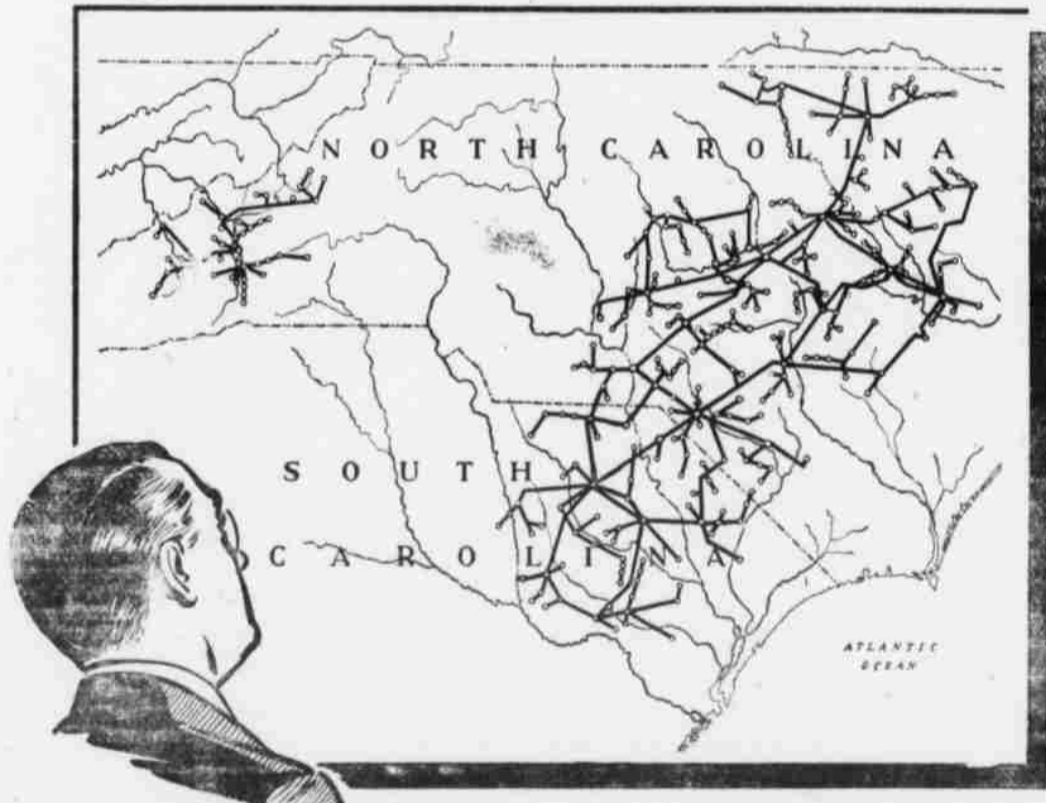
Some people are entirely too careless when it comes to buying real estate. They buy without having the title investigated to see that it is clear of mortgages, judgments and taxes. In most cases it is money well spent to hire a good lawyer and have him make a thorough examination of the records and see that your title is good before you make the purchase. Records should be traced back and see that no taxes, judgments and mortgages are on record against a prior owner as they are frequently the ones that cause trouble.

As far as taxes are concerned, I will be glad to investigate and give the purchaser a certificate that all taxes are paid or a statement of the amount due.

J. A. McGOOGAN—County Auditor



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25% OF THEM IN THE CAROLINAS

They're spots where you can locate with profit on the lines of the Carolina Power & Light Company. Spots where plenty of dependable electric power is available from a tax-paying, business-managed company. Spots where living conditions are good—where raw materials and native labor are plentiful—and all of this within easy reach of the Nation's major markets.

Our Industrial Development Department will cooperate with you in finding the right spot for your plant.

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