

GATES COUNTY INDEX

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(One Week Nearer Victory)

12 Pages This Week



OF FARMS AND FORTITUDE—"Between you and me, it was like this" . . . Five-year-old Betty Jean Garland was happily playing on her parents' farm in Patton, Missouri, when the Crippler struck her down. Brought to the St. Louis Children's Hospital with both legs paralyzed, small Betty Jean is now making steady progress on the road to recovery under the expert care and treatment provided by the Bollinger County Chapter of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

This youngster is just one of hundreds of farm children, victims of last summer's epidemic, who are being helped back to health by March of Dimes funds. Join the March of Dimes, January 14-31. Send your dimes and dollars to President Roosevelt at the White House.

Alton E. Parker, Roduco Boy, Wins Bronze Star; Troop Carrier Job In Europe Needs Multitude Of Talents

A U. S. Troop Carrier Base, European Theatre of Operations. —At a recent presentation ceremony, Master Sergeant Alton E. Parker was awarded the Bronze Star for meritorious achievement. Maj. Gen. Paul L. Williams, commanding general of the U. S. Troop Carrier Forces, did the honors.

Sgt. Parker is the son of Mrs. India Parker, of Roduco, now living in Norfolk, and the late Charlie E. Parker of Roduco. His wife, Mrs. Lois Parker, also lives in Norfolk.

Parker won the award through his outstanding success as maintenance chief, an air corps ground duty calling for expert knowledge of airplanes coupled with a way about handling men.

Major repairs, regular maintenance work and routine inspections of all his squadron's aircraft come within the scope of his responsibilities. In Sicily almost a year ago his ground crews established somewhat of a local record in changing an engine on one of his unit's planes in twelve hours. This is good time considering the work was done under strict field conditions where personal resourcefulness is taxed to the maximum.

During the early part of his nineteen months overseas, Parker served as crew chief on a paratroop-hauling C47 plane. In that capacity he flew from North Africa on the invasion of Sicily, and after the occupation of Sicily he flew from that point on a com-

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Birthday Ball On January 26

The President's Birthday ball for the benefit of the Infantile Paralysis fund will be held at the courthouse in Gatesville on Friday, January 26, at 9 o'clock, Mrs. C. C. Parker, chairman for the drive in Gates county, announced today.

Sunbury Flyer, Lt. Blanchard On Missing List

Second Lieut. Willard J. Blanchard, son of Mrs. Kate Blanchard Savage of Whalleyville, Va., and the late S. J. Blanchard of Sunbury, has been reported missing in action over enemy occupied Europe since November 26.

Navigator on an Eighth Air Force B-17 Flying Fortress, Lieut. Blanchard has been awarded the Air Medal for meritorious achievement while participating in heavy bombardment missions in the offensive against the enemy.

Lieut. Blanchard graduated at Wake Forest College in 1941 and was teaching at Pineland College, Salemburg, when he entered the armed forces. He won his wings at Hondo Field, Texas, in July, 1944. He married Cratia B. Warren, secretary-treasurer at Pineland College on July 28, 1944. Lieut. Blanchard went overseas in September.

Bonner Will Help Widows of Vets Claim Pensions

In December Congress passed an act granting pensions to widows and minor children of deceased World War I veterans. Congressman Herbert C. Bonner has advised this newspaper that he will be glad to furnish widows or guardians the proper form on which to make application.

"When the application is completed, if they will return it to me," Congressman Bonner said, "I shall be glad to file the claim, see that it is properly considered by the Veterans Administration and lend such other aid as I can, if they desire my assistance and will write me."

As a World War veteran himself, the congressman in the past has given a great deal of attention to veterans' claims.

The law provides payment to a widow with no children in the amount of \$35 per month; widow and one child, \$45 (with \$5 for each additional child); no widow but one child, \$18; no widow but two children, \$27 (equally divided); no widow but three children, \$36 (equally divided) with \$4 for each additional child (the total amount to be equally divided).

Congressman Bonner may be reached by addressing a letter to the House of Representatives U. S., Washington, D. C.

In Philippines, Pvt. Curl Would Like Some Mail

"Will you put my address in the Gates County Index and see if I can get any of my friends to write me so I can write to them?"

The above is taken from a letter to the Index written by Pvt. Ralph R. Curl of Gates county who is now in the Philippines.

"I would like to write to many of my friends in Gates county," Pvt. Curl's letter said, "but I don't know how to get their addresses unless they write to me."

"Mail would mean everything here in the Philippines, his letter said. "So, Friends, if you can drop the kid a line of news from Gates county, it would mean a lot to me."

For the convenience of those who would write to Pvt. Ralph R. Curl, here is his address: ANS 34311759, Service Co., 511th Infantry Regt. APO 468, care Postmaster, San Francisco, Calif.

OPA To Contact Farmers in Series Of Meetings Slated for R-C Area

Warning that many problems will arise in each county involving materials necessary for maximum production in 1945, the Raleigh district OPA office has announced that a series of county farm meetings will be held in the Roanoke-Chowan area between January 16 and January 20.

The meetings scheduled are viewed as an opportunity for OPA to contact large groups of farmers and farm leaders with OPA's program as well as an explanation of OPA's actions. The meetings are defined as production goal meetings and representatives of each county War

Price and Rationing board are asked to be present as well as the chairman and community service member of each board.

The meetings are arranged by the AAA and the Extension Service. G. T. Scott, chairman of the State AAA committee, has notified county AAA chairmen and secretaries, with the request that they invite representatives of the War Price and Rationing boards.

Scheduled as follows in this area, the meetings convene at 9:30 a. m.: in Bertie county, January 16; in Hertford county, January 17; in Northampton county, January 18; in Gates county, January 20.

Ready To Launch Polio Drive For Funds In County

John M. Glenn Commissioned As Air Force Lieut.

Hondo Army Air Field, Hondo, Tex.—The first class of 1945, one of the largest ever to be graduated from this huge AAF Training Command airbase, won silver navigator's wings and AAF commissions this week during impressive wing - awarding ceremonies at the Hondo Army Air Field post theater.

The graduates, representing almost every state in the Union, have just completed 16 weeks of strenuous air and ground training at Hondo Field, first United States airbase built exclusively for training navigators. Among them were Second Lieut. John M. Glenn, son of Mrs. John M. Glenn of Gatesville.

The curriculum at Hondo Field embraces many aspects of combat flying learned earlier in the War by American airmen and their Allies in various theaters of combat. A newly-commissioned officer at the big training installation is thoroughly skilled in guiding a 'bombers' crew to enemy targets by day or by night, in fair or inclement weather. He has flown more than 15,000 practice miles in twin-engined training ships.

County Boy Among Engineers Often In Line Fighting

Sixth Army Group, France—A battling group of engineers, including S. Sgt. Rufus T. Eason of Sunbury and Pfc. Rudolph White of Aulander, who would rather trade shots with the Germans from slit trenches on the battle line than build bridges in the rear areas, has built up a reputation for itself as a "bunch of daredevils who can really fight."

These soldiers, veterans of North Africa and Italy before they came to France, got their first taste of infantry fighting at Salerno when they spent 12 days in the line. Then they returned to engineer work. But when the Fifth Army hit Anzio, the engineers went back to the front lines.

They hit Anzio on D-day and stayed in the line for 45 days with the British divisions on the left flank of the beachhead. They were given a short rest, but were back in the lines when the all-out push to break out of the beachhead started. Men of this group were among the first to establish contact with the fifth Army fighting its way northward to end the fierce battles of Anzio.

Eure Accidentally Killed, Hopewell

Worth Eure of Hopewell, Va., formerly of Gates, was accidentally killed in Hopewell Sunday. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Freeman Eure of Gates. Details of the accident were not available when the Index went to press.

Miss Ethel Parker of Gatesville, chairman of the Gates county chapter of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, has suggested the following appointments in connection with the drive in Gates county, and they have been approved by the proper authorities:

Mrs. C. C. Parker, campaign chairman for the President's Birthday celebration for 1945; Miss Ona Patterson, chairman of the home demonstration clubs of Gates county in the fight against Infantile Paralysis; and Mrs. Elizabeth H. Crouse, chairman of the Women's Division of Gates county.

As chairman of the Birthday celebration, Mrs. Parker has on her committee: Blackwell Powell; Woodrow White, Miss Clarine Gatling and Mrs. Mildred Woodside. The President's Ball will be held at the courthouse in Gatesville on Friday night, January 26.

Community Chairmen

Mrs. Crouse has called upon the following to act as community chairmen: Mrs. J. Walton Nixon, Sunbury; Mrs. Theron Lawrence, Eure; Mrs. Mildred Woodside, Gatesville; Mrs. Everett Pittman, Gates; Mrs. Charles Eure, Roduco; Mrs. Carrie Collins, Hobbsville; Mrs. Homer Eure, Corapeake; Mrs. J. B. Whitehurst, Drum Hill and Hazelton; Mrs. Darlie Bunch, Zion; Mrs. Otha Riddick, Trotville; Mrs. T. J. Stallings, Sandy Cross; Mrs. Herbert A. Brown, Middle Swamp; Mrs. Charles Herman Carter and Mrs. Felt Hinton, Carter's.

Howard Mitchell is serving as chairman for the colored people of this county and will appoint his assistants.

The quota for Gates county for the year is \$800.00 and it is sincerely hoped that all people of the county will contribute liberally, Mrs. Crouse said. Any of the above named will be glad to receive contributions. "Look for the 'March of Dimes' deposit banks in public places throughout the county; your dimes and dollars supporting the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, made it possible to render expert care and treatment to all polio victims, regardless of age, race, creed or color," she said.

"Many of these thousands of new victims will need care for months, years, some perhaps for a lifetime. Next summer America must be prepared to meet whatever epidemic emergencies may arise. Support the fund-raising appeal in your locality and send your dimes and dollars to President Roosevelt at the White House", she added.

Kelleys Assigned To Overseas Duty

Merrill S. Kelley, seaman 1/c, son of Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Kelley of Hobbsville, is now somewhere in Italy. A recent letter to his parents also reveals that he is getting along fine.

Kelley was inducted by the Navy on June 19, 1944, and had his basic training at Camp Peary, Va. A brother, Addis Melford Kelley, seaman 1/c, is somewhere in the South Pacific.