



The Johnstonian-Sun



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U. S.-Built Staff Car First in Benghazi



With the capture of Benghazi, after the whirlwind drive across the deserts of western Egypt into Libya, the United Nations' troops quickly established military control. Here the vanguard hands over the city to officers who arrived in a Chevrolet staff car. Note camouflage netting rolled up on top of the car. Military insignia on the car, kangaroo and boomerang on front fender would indicate that the officers were of the Australian forces.

JAPANESE CONVOY DESTROYED--22 SHIPS SUNK, 15,000 MEN KILLED

Major Disaster Inflicted On the Japs in Bismark Sea; 55 Enemy Planes Shot Down While Allies Lose Only One Bomber and Three Fighters; Entire Convoy Wiped Out By Continued Air Attacks.

General MacArthur's Headquarters, Australia, Thursday, March 4.—Allied planes battering a big Japanese convoy bound for New Guinea have turned the engagement into "a major disaster for the enemy," with a total of 10 enemy warships and 12 transports sunk or sinking, Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced today.

"The battle of Bismark Sea now is decided," the noon communique issued at United Nations headquarters said. "We have achieved a complete victory. The completeness was such as to assume the proportions of a major disaster for the enemy. His entire force was practically destroyed."

Fifteen thousand Japanese ground troops on the vessel were drowned or killed, "almost to a man," the official announcement said, and 55 enemy planes were shot out of action Tuesday and yesterday.

"Merciful providence guided us to this victory," MacArthur commented. The convoy included 10 warships described in the communique as cruisers or destroyers, escorting the 12 transports. The entire fleet represented a total tonnage of approximately 90,000 tons.

"All are sunk or sinking," the communique reported. The big convoy, one of the largest ever sent against New Guinea by the Japanese, was sighted Monday north of New Britain Island. It was advancing behind a weather front that prevented MacArthur's American and Australian planes from attacking.

Tuesday, however, Flying Fortresses and Liberators took off through tropical storms and trapped the convoy north of Cape Gloucester, on the southwestern tip of New Britain and about 150 miles from its destination at Lae, the Japanese base on New Guinea's north coast.

Panicky Nazis

London, March 2.—"The Germans in France are expecting an early Allied landing and are becoming panicky," the escaped French Senator Andre Maroselli said today.

Maroselli has joined the Fighting French national committee of General Charles de Gaulle in London after fleeing from France. "I am sure if a landing could take place before the youth of France have been sent to Germany, there would be an uprising which would surprise the world," Maroselli said.

He also told a press conference that the Petain "myth has collapsed completely and today he (Petain) is only a bust on the mantelpiece." Maroselli said an effort is being made to mobilize 250,000 workers for the Reich by Pierre Laval's police man-hunts in which a factory is surrounded and all workers are arrested and compelled to leave immediately for Germany.

"The people are living mostly on turnips and spinach," he said, describing France as a country of desolation and famine.

MONEY ALLOTTED TO PRESBYTERIES

Increased activity resulting from war conditions impelled the home missions committee of the North Carolina Presbyterian Synod, at a meeting in Greensboro, to prorate among the nine Presbyteries in the state \$10,404.06 special emergency.

The Albemarle, Wilmington and Fayetteville Presbyteries were allotted more than the others because emergency needs were deemed to be greater in these defense areas. The committee also distributed \$39,199 in regular appropriations for various enterprises in the synod.

It decided to hold its annual synod-wide evangelistic campaign beginning April 1, 1943. The fifth annual synod home mission conference will be held in Red Springs the first week in September.

JAMES W. SUBER PROMOTED TO SGT.

Camp Wheeler, Ga., March 1.—The promotion of James W. Suber from corporal to the rank of Sergeant was announced recently at the infantry replacement training center, Camp Wheeler, Ga. Sgt. Suber is the son of Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Suber of Selma. He was a school teacher before entering the Army.

Funeral Services Held For Mrs. H. M. Hocutt

Funeral services for Mrs. H. M. Hocutt, 37, who died in an Asheville hospital, Thursday morning, Feb. 25, were held at the New Bethel Baptist Church near Garner at 3:00 on Saturday afternoon, Feb. 27. The services were conducted by the Rev. I. K. Stafford of Buie's Creek, the Rev. Frank Fisher of Hampton, S. C., and Rev. Garland Hendricks of Knightdale, N. C.

Mrs. Hocutt was the wife of the Rev. H. M. Hocutt, who is pastor of the Reed Memorial Baptist Church in Asheville. Mrs. Hocutt has served faithfully and efficiently with her husband in the work of the church. At the time of her death she was superintendent of the Junior Dept. of the Sunday school of the church. She was also leader of the Junior and Intermediate Girls Auxiliaries and of the Y. W. A. In addition to this she worked regularly in the Business Circle, the W. M. S. and took an active part in the Training Union of the church.

Apart from her work in her own church, Mrs. Hocutt was Young People's Leader for the W. M. U. work in the Buncombe Baptist Association. Before going to Asheville about two years ago, she was Young People's Leader for the Bryson City Division of the W. M. U. work in the State.

For the past three summers Mrs. Hocutt has served as director of the G. A. House Party at Ridgecrest for the Western part of North Carolina. There were in attendance at these meetings about 300 to 400 girls.

Mrs. Hocutt was a graduate of Buie's Creek Academy, Buie's Creek, N. C., Western Carolina Teachers College, Cullowhee, N. C., and also attended the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas.

Surviving are her husband; her mother, Mrs. D. H. Stancil of Garner, the Rev. R. T. Stancil, pastor of the Baptist Church at Garner; D. Hadley Stancil of the U. S. Navy, located in Wilmington, and William Shirley Stancil of the Coast Guard in Norfolk, Va.

The deceased was a niece of Editor M. L. Stancil of The Johnstonian-Sun.

Kiwansians Hear Talk On Tuberculosis Control

Mr. Webster, representing the North Carolina Tuberculosis Association, addressed the Selma Kiwanis club on last Thursday night as part of a program now being carried on in an effort to organize an association for Johnston county. Prior to coming to Selma he addressed the Smithfield Kiwanis club on the same subject.

Mr. Webster mentioned the great progress being made by the State Association which has proven an important factor in arresting the spread of this treacherous disease. He said there are at present 127 known active cases of this disease in Johnston, and also mentioned the improvement made in sanitary conditions at the tubercular ward at the County Home where such cases are cared for. He said there were 21 deaths from tuberculosis last year.

Prior to Mr. Webster's address, Program Chairman Howard Gaskill made a short talk on the word, "Kiwanis," and what it stands for.

Miss Naomi Wood spent the week end in Four Oaks, the guest of her sisters.

Local Workers Plan For Red Cross Drive

Slogan Is: "With Every Real American Giving"—How Red Cross Work Is Financed.

Millions of American furnish the funds to carry on the work of the American Red Cross. These funds are received as membership dues resulting from the annual Roll Call or from special drives as in the case of the War Fund. It is a rule of the Red Cross that 100 per cent of the revenue derived from benefits be turned over to the Red Cross with no expenses deducted. All Red Cross accounts are audited by the War Dept. and a report, copies of which are available to the public, is submitted annually to Congress.

Workers for the Red Cross are not paid, all workers for special drives and local work volunteer their time and services. Will you give? If not of your time, give your Money! Your dollars may be responsible for:

- (1) Conducting Blood Donor Service.
- (2) Furnishing emergency medical supplies and equipment.
- (3) Making surgical dressings for military and naval hospitals.
- (4) Training military and naval instructors in Red Cross First Aid.
- (5) Providing recreation and entertainments for the sick and wounded.

And many, many other services the Red Cross is providing through out the nation daily. Beginning Wednesday, March 10th through March 13th Saturday, a War Fund Drive will be put on in Selma Township. Already supplies and tags are on hand and the local chairman, Mrs. Richard Lewis, with the aid of Johnston County Vice President of Red Cross, Mrs. C. E. Kornegay, has made definite plans toward this drive. A full report of all workers, Scouts, teachers and other volunteer workers will be published in next weeks Johnstonian-Sun.

Have your dollars ready and by the end of the War Fund Drive let every Selma Citizen be seen proudly wearing a Red Cross Tag—a symbol that he is helping win the war!

National Red Cross Quota — \$125,000.00
Johnston County Red Cross Quota — \$11,000.00

Selma Township Quota — \$2,000.00
SPECIAL MEETING
A special meeting of all workers is scheduled for Tuesday night, March 9th at 8 o'clock, with the Mayor, the Selma chairman, and others present for discussing and setting up final details of the drive to begin the following day. Be present for your instructions and let Selma go over her quota in a big way!

MRS. RICHARD LEWIS,
Selma Township Chairman.

Charlotte Man Says Nice Things About Paper

Mr. Hubert A. Womack, brother of Messrs. Ernest and E. W. Womack of Selma, in writing to his brother, Mr. E. W. Womack, has some nice things to say about The Johnstonian-Sun. We are reproducing a paragraph contained in the letter: "The Johnstonian Sun is well gotten up. It would do justice to any town ten times the size of Selma. I was glad to get it. I notice the subscription is only \$1.50. Suppose you put me down for a subscription and pay for it out of the enclosed check." Mr. Womack handed Editor Stancil a check for a five-year subscription. The Charlotte man is manager of the Southern Fruit Company and was a resident of Selma for many years. We appreciate these kind words and trust he will enjoy reading the news from his old home town.

Miss Whitaker Invited To Speak At Smithfield

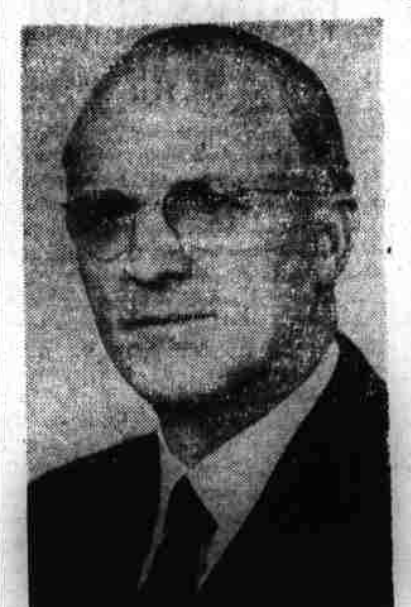
Miss Elizabeth Whitaker of the Selma school faculty has been invited to review the book "Latin American Circuit" Wednesday evening, March 10, at the Methodist church in Smithfield.

The book to be reviewed is the book of the year for Mission study in the church. Latin America is a timely topic in this era of world emergency. Miss Whitaker has made a special study of the countries of Latin America in their varied phases of economic, social, and political life and she should be able to give an interesting synopsis of the book with valuable additions.

Mrs. Page Returns From Hospital

Mrs. Ernest Page, who has been undergoing treatment at Duke Hospital, Durham, for some time, has returned to her home here, much improved, her many friends will be glad to learn. All of her children visited her during her illness. Among those coming from a distance were Ivey Page and Argo Page of Newark, N. J., John Page of New Orleans, and Theo Page, of Camp Moxey, Texas.

Autoists Are Placed Under 'Honor System'



Dr. Robert G. Lee will speak next Sunday morning at 8:30 over WPTF and WBIG, Greensboro.

Dr. Lee is pastor of Bellevue Baptist church in Memphis, Tenn. He is the author of several widely read books; is past president of the Baptist State Convention of Tennessee, and has served in many important places in the Southern Baptist Convention. He will begin a series of three sermons next Sunday. The first: "Gaining God As Ally." Second will be on, "From Death to Life Through Christ." Third, "Paying the Price to Follow Christ."

Larger Consumers Get Cut In Electric Rate

At a meeting of the board of commissioners of the Town of Selma, held on Monday night, March 1st, it was decided to make some changes in the electric power and light rate in the town of Selma, as follows:

LIGHTS — The original rate of 10c per kilowatt will be charged all customers who use 25 K. W. H. or less; 25 to 75 K. W. H., 10 per cent discount, which is also the old rate; 76 K. W. H. and over, 30 per cent discount, which is 10c per K. W. H. less than the old rate. Minimum charge of \$1.00 stands as it was before.

COMMERCIAL POWER — First 1000 K. W. H. 4c per K. W. H. for the number of kilowatts used, whereas it was formerly 5c per kilowatt for the first 500 K.W.H.; second 1000 K.W.H. has been cut from 4c per K. W. H. to 3 1/2c per K. W. H.; all over 2000 K.W.H. will remain at 3c per K.W.H.
DOMESTIC RATES — Combination light and power, must have one major appliance, \$1.50 service charge, whereas this charge was formerly \$2.00; all over 100 K. W. H., 2c per K. W. H.

Selma Kiwanis Club Given Wide Publicity

Due to a quiz contest put on at the Selma Kiwanis club by Program chairman H. H. Lowry a few weeks ago, the matter has been given nationwide publicity through The Publishers' Auxiliary which goes into every newspaper office in the United States as well as in many other places, as will be seen by the following paragraph clipped from that publication in its issue of February 13, 1943:

"M. L. Stancil, editor of the Selma Sun, is noted as a 'Newspaper Man Who Knows His Counties.' At a recent meeting of the Selma Kiwanians each member was asked to write the name of the counties in North Carolina within an allotted time. When time was up Editor Stancil was high scorer by naming 74 of the 100 counties."

Lt. J. L. Pittman Home On Furlough

Mr. J. M. Pittman was in town Wednesday and told the editor of the Johnstonian-Sun that he had just received a telegram from his son, Lt. J. L. Pittman, who is stationed at Camp Stewart, Ga., stating that he would arrive Wednesday night to spend about a week at home. Lieutenant Pittman's last visit to see his parents was on last Thanksgiving.

Glee Club To Sing At Methodist Church

The Selma High School Glee Club will give a musical program at the Methodist church Sunday morning at the eleven o'clock worship hour, as a climax to the Week of Dedication. If you have heard these young people sing, you will try to be there. If you have not heard them you have missed something. Public invited.

OPA Chief Orders End to Police Enforcement of Ban On Pleasure-Driving.

Washington, March 3.—OPA Administrator Prentiss Brown today ordered an end to police enforcement of the East's ban on pleasure driving, said future compliance will depend upon an "honor system," and added there is "a fair probability" the ban can be entirely eliminated by March 22, when new gasoline coupons go into effect.

Brown said he didn't mean nobody will be questioned about whether his driving is for pleasure or duty, but "it's one of those irritating things we want to avoid."

"The time has now come to stop all unnecessary inconvenience of the public," Brown told a press conference. "I believe in light of the widespread understanding of the situation which exists we can henceforth rely on what might be termed the 'honor' system of compliance instead of police enforcement. I am instructing all OPA regional, state, and branch offices to put this policy into effect immediately."

"This action is in line with my general ideas on enforcement of all OPA regulations. Positive enforcement measures must be used with criminals but they are not necessary with the general public. Instead I expect to secure voluntary compliance by the public through understanding of the need for regulation."

As for lifting the East's ban on non-essential driving, Brown said the decision rests largely upon whether Petroleum Administrator Ickes finds that the gasoline supply will permit it.

Three Negroes In Jail On Cutting Charges

Three Selma Negroes, two men and one woman, named Godwin, were bound over to Johnston County Recorder's Court Tuesday night by Mayor Henry. The woman is charged with stabbing Joe Hopkins in the stomach with a knife, inflicting a bad wound. The men are charged with cutting Charlie Hopkins about the face and head. Failing to give the required \$500 bonds, they were remanded to the county jail.

The affair occurred Saturday night in front of the Hopkins cafe here.

Seen and Heard Along THE MAINDRAG

By H. H. L.

MAYOR BARNIE HENRY sporting a new Spring Hat — MONROE PITTMAN a few days ago bought twelve hens which cost him \$21.34—he paid 23 cents per pound—so you can figure what the 12 weighed—we saw one in his coop that weighed 10 1/2 pounds, sold for \$2.48—some chickens—it is rumored on the Maindrag that we will have four candidates for Mayor in the approaching municipal election—DAVID BALL, HARRY EVERITT, LUTHER ETHEREEDGE and the present incumbent—haven't heard any new names mentioned for commissioners—"Why Doesn't Jesus Do More For Us In Our Troubles?" was the subject discussed before the Baraca Class at the Baptist Church in Pine Level by their teacher, C. HUB BROWN, on last Sunday—a large number was on hand to hear this subject expounded—the editor of the Smithfield Herald, TOM LASSITER, spent a couple of hours in our sanctuary yesterday—glad to have him drop around—come again, TOM—painters have been busy this week on the interior of CLEVE HINTON'S store—CLEVE has just moved his stock of goods to the building recently vacated by DICK LEWIS—it is one of the most attractive store rooms in Johnston County—glad to see some of the vacant lots in the town being ploughed up for Victory Gardens—if you have a vacant lot, why not plant something on it—don't let weeds grow on it this spring—CHIEF J. H. GRIFFIN on last Monday celebrated his 85th birthday—you wouldn't think he was that old as he is spry as a chicken—here's hoping you will celebrate many more, CHIEF—another old citizen, the REV. J. H. WORLEY, can be seen on the Maindrag almost every day—he will be 90 his next birthday—these two gentlemen are beloved by every citizen in Selma—news was received by MISS LOIS WARREN announcing the death of MRS. HARRIET YODER, of Newton, who passed away at the age of 102—MISS WARREN boarded in her home when she attended Catawba College in Newton—the writer of this column lost his mother on the 19th of February—she was nearing her 90th birthday—the Presbyterian church is being replastered this week, and other improvements on the interior of the church are anticipated soon.