

# The Johnstonian-Sun

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## JOHNSTONIAN-SUN TO CONTINUE

Stancil States Policy  
Gaskill Named Editor

Subsequent to the death of M. L. Stancil, who was editor and publisher of this newspaper, Corporal Alton G. Stancil, now of the Army, and one of the present owners, announced this week that Howard V. Gaskill has been named acting editor of The Johnstonian-Sun, effective immediately. Gaskill has been assisting the staff for several weeks and will continue to serve in a part-time capacity. Meanwhile, efforts to secure permanent personnel are being carried on by the publishers and an announcement is expected in the near future.

Cpl. Stancil emphasized that The Johnstonian will continue to be published in Selma every Thursday and the owners wish this fact understood by all readers, advertisers, correspondents and subscription representatives. An editorial in this issue sets forth the governing policy of the paper and attention is called to it.

All printing departments, including that of job-printing, will function under the supervision of Bill Stancil. All present correspondents and subscription representatives will be retained, stated the Corporal. Announcement concerning selection of a temporary advertising manager to serve during the illness of H. H. Lowry is expected within a few days.

Miss Lucy Stancil has returned from Washington, and will be in charge of office work in the position of secretary-treasurer and has already begun work.

The office telephone number is 205.

## RESOLUTIONS

The Selma club of Kiwanis International presents the following resolutions of respect to Mr. M. L. Stancil:

On July 7, 1945 Mr. M. L. Stancil passed to his eternal reward. In the passing of our friend, the Selma club lost its beloved president and loyal member of many years.

Selma has sustained the loss of one of its leading citizens. He was interested in civic and social affairs, and gave himself untrudgingly to the betterment of his community.

Mr. Stancil was looked upon by all as a Christian gentleman. For many years he was a leader in the Presbyterian Church, where he served as elder, Sunday school superintendent and in other capacities.

In business he was diligent. He was successful in establishing and editing The Johnstonian-Sun, a weekly news of his home town and environs. This paper was used as an instrument of civic betterment as well as a conveyance of news.

To the family and near relatives, we express our deepest sympathy. In his passing a great loss is sustained. But in the midst of our sorrow there is joy, because a noble man has lived among us.

Respectfully submitted,  
E. V. Woodard  
Vernon Wiggs  
J. Wade Baker,  
Resolutions Committee.

## More Refrigerators And Washing Machines

Raleigh, July 18.—OPA officials have been informed by the War Production Board that more than one-quarter million priorities have been granted for the manufacture of domestic refrigerators and almost 150,000 for domestic washing machines.

Theodore S. Johnson, District Director, pointed out yesterday this does not mean these long-scarce commodities will be soon released from the priority system, but is indicative of a "general trend toward the alleviation of serious home-front equipment shortages."

The OPA Director added that none of these refrigerators is expected to be available to the general public through normal retail channels before the beginning of 1946.

## JUST A COLUMN

By AITCH VEE GEE

MOST folks are hearing A lot these days about THE food shortage and THE editor can vouch FOR the fact that it is REALLY here as "the Boss" WAS unable to find any THING for our supper one DAY last week so she and OUR boy feasted on hot DOGS and I made out with MOLASSES and hot biscuit AND I am sorry that Barney HENRY and John Wiggs were NOT there to enjoy it with ME as we are "lasses-loving" BOYS and now I thank you.

MANY ITEMS OMITTED THIS WEEK FOR LACK OF SPACE WILL APPEAR LATER.

## POLICE COURT

The weekly session of police court was brief Monday evening. Herbert Brown, charged with drunken-driving, was bound over to Recorder's court. Drunkenness charges cost Dave Crocker \$5 and cost, while Ozie Eason was taxed with court costs. For disorderliness and drunkenness Ed Byrd drew \$5 and costs.

## IT'S ON US

In a recent issue of The Johnstonian there appeared an ad for Mrs. A. J. Worrels in which the word 'cafe' was used. This was in error. Mrs. Worrels does not serve meals. Response to the ad brought customers whom she had to disappoint. The Johnstonian appreciates the courtesy of this advertiser herein and is more than glad to make correction.

## Employment Service Changes Office Hours

The United States Employment Service of the War Manpower Commission, in compliance with an order from the President of the United States, has gone on a 44-hour work week basis, effective July 1, 1945. Until further notice, the offices will be operating five eight-hour days Monday through Friday, being open from 8:30 a. m. until 5:30 p. m., and 4 hours on Saturday, from 8:30 a. m. until 12:30 p. m.

Please broadcast this to your friends who might be seeking service on Saturday afternoons so that they will not be making a useless trip to the office on these afternoons.

## War Effort Demands Waste Fat Salvage

The farm women of North Carolina have made excellent records in the salvaging of waste fats for the war effort, and they will need to continue their patriotic efforts in this direction until the war against Japan is concluded, according to Mrs. Estelle T. Smith, assistant State home demonstration agent of the State College Extension Service.

According to the report for May, 89,950 pounds of fat were salvaged in North Carolina, but there was a drop in collections for June, Mrs. Smith said. She pointed out that V-E day did not end the critical shortages and that housewives should guard against the waste of any fats until the need for such materials ceases.

The index showing that more fat being salvaged by the rural women than by the town women is not surprising in view of the meat shortage in the towns, Mrs. Smith explained.

Rural women in some areas of the State are collecting the waste fats cooperatively through their community chairman and are disposing of the material accordingly, Mrs. Smith stated. In many instances, these women are using the funds from the sale of the waste fats for community projects which enhance farm life.

Mrs. Smith suggests that women in other communities could render a patriotic service to their government by collecting the fats and could organize their efforts, pool the money made in the sales, and devote the use of the funds to community improvements. "This would be an excellent plan," she declared.

## Floyd W. Eason In West Coast Hospital

Marine Private First Class Floyd W. Eason, son of Mrs. Flora Eason Selma, N. C., has arrived at a West Coast hospital for medical treatment following combat service in the Pacific.

He is a veteran of Guadalcanal, Guam, Okinawa, and was also stationed at Pearl Harbor.

## Union Service At Presbyterian Church

The Union Service of the Selma Churches will be at the Presbyterian Church Sunday night, July 22, at 8 o'clock. The Rev. J. Wade Baker, pastor of the Baptist Church, will do the preaching. The public is invited and urged to attend this service.

The process of distribution of tobacco twine is responsible for ample supplies in some North Carolina counties and shortages in others, according to Tom Scott, chairman of the State AAA Committee at State college.

## PROMINENT MICRO CITIZEN PASSES

James Walter Fitzgerald, 73, well-known citizen of Micro died at his home Tuesday morning at 1:40 following a brief illness. Mr. Fitzgerald, a former mayor of Micro, held mercantile and farming interests in the county and also had served as sheriff's deputy.

Funeral services, conducted by the Rev. J. W. Watson, minister of the Micro Methodist Church were held Wednesday at the residence. Interment followed in the Micro cemetery.

Mr. Fitzgerald was the son of the late Henry and Mary Eliza Fitzgerald of Micro. He married the former Hettie Darden of Linden, who survives with three sons: Aaron of Goldsboro; Earl of Kinston and James of Los Angeles, Calif., and four grandchildren.

He leaves also two brothers and two sisters: C. A. Fitzgerald of Micro; Dr. Paul Fitzgerald of Greenville; Mrs. Emma Owens of Raleigh and Mrs. Florence Tuncil of Kinston; and three half brothers and two half sisters. Henry M. Fitzgerald of Princeton; Frank C. Fitzgerald of Kinston; Clarke Fitzgerald of New Bern; Mrs. Floyd C. Price of Pine Level and Mrs. Harry Everitt of Selma.

## Johnston Veterans Returned To States

Miami, Fla., July 19.—Florida looked even better than in travel advertisements to two Johnston County fighting men flown here from far-flung battle fronts in ATC planes, they agreed as they landed at Air Transport Command's Miami Army Air Field.

They were among the first 50,000 returnees ATC is flying to the states from overseas each month under the Army's redeployment plan. From here they will go by rail to Camp Blanding, Fla. Then they will be sent to reception centers nearer home for separation from the service or furloughs prior to reassignment.

Those in hearty agreement included: Benson — S-Sgt. James E. Evans, 29, 104 W. Church St., Field Artillery, 25 months in Europe terminated in Germany, six battle stars.

Selma — Pfc. Harvey F. Strickland, 26, Rt. 1, Engineers, 32 months in Czechoslovakia, six battle stars, invasion arrowhead.

## Cpl. Rudolph Phillips Returns To Camp

Cpl. Rudolph Phillips has returned to duty at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, after spending a fifteen day furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Phillips of Selma, Route 1. Cpl. Phillips spent 22 months in the South Pacific. Since returning to the States he has been stationed at Camp Hood, Texas; and Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

## DALY ADVANCED TO COLONEL

The C. M. Dalys were advised by telegraph last week that their son, Major Owen Daly, USA, had been advanced to the grade of Lieutenant-Colonel upon reporting to Fort Benning following a furlough spent with his parents here.

Colonel Daly entered the Army in 1940 and is a veteran of 32 months service in the Aleutian Islands. His wife is a commissioned officer in the Army Nurse Corps.

A total of 137 farmers sold 14,121 pounds of wool with an advance of \$5,309.23 on the wool in the cooperative pool at Williamston.

## Kiwanis Holds Memorial For Late President

The Selma Kiwanis club devoted its weekly meeting of last Thursday to a memorial service for M. L. Stancil, their late president. Kiwanis President Stancil died Saturday morning, July seventh, following a lengthy illness.

The relay program, presented by chairman Roy Smith, had the Rev. Howard Newman speaking of the late president's devotion to his church and of his many services to the Christian cause; past president Howard Gaskill speaking of Mr. Stancil's activities as a layman and a business man, and Raleigh Griffin with a biographical resume of the life of the former editor and publisher of this community's newspaper.

The report of the committee appointed to draft resolutions commemorating the community service of Mr. Stancil was read by Kiwanis Wade Baker and approved by unanimous voice vote. Members of the committee were Ernest Woodard, Vernon Wiggs and Baker. Copies of the resolution were ordered sent to the Johnstonian-Sun, the Smithfield Herald and the Kiwanis Magazine for immediate publication. A copy will also be tendered the family and one will become a part of the permanent records of the club.

The club meets this Thursday on the lawn of the American Legion building in an open air supper gathering. Norvell Smith will be in charge.

Miss Mary Lou Jeffreys supplied at the piano and the evening meal was served by the Women's club committee composed of Mesdames Gaskill and McClamrock, assisted by Mrs. Willard Johnson of the Junior group.

## Lt. Needham Morris Returning Home

First Lt. Needham D. Morris, of Selma, N. C. is now returning home from Europe with the Eighth Infantry Division, the division which accounted for 21 times its own weight in Germans by taking 316,187 prisoners during ten months of combat. The Eighth (Golden Arrow) Division was in the Normandy breakthrough, the capture of Brest, the bitter fight in the Hurtgen forest. Troops of the Eighth were the first to cross the Roer River, launching the drive that reached the Rhine. The Golden Arrow Division, then cut the Ruhr pocket in two and finished its ETO fighting by crossing the Elbe and linking with the Russians.

Lt. Morris was engaged in farming before he entered service in October, 1940. His decorations include the Silver Star and the French Croix de Guerre.

## Babb Announces Church Homecoming

The public is cordially invited to attend the annual Homecoming of The Church of God in Selma, Sunday, July 22.

Services will begin at 10:00 o'clock and last until 4:30, states the Rev. E. H. Babb, pastor.

The regular fourth Sunday singing convention will be held as usual and all singers are invited to be with us for this service.

## Southern Trained Soldiers In Railroading

The Southern Railway System has provided a "school" and a "faculty" for the teaching of more than 6,000 American soldiers in the art of railroading, according to a recent report by Ernest E. Norris, president of the railway.

"This extra war job," Mr. Norris explained, "was taken on early in 1943 when the Transportation Corps of the War Department asked the railway to teach railroading to American soldiers who would some day have the job of operating military railroads in a distant theater of operations." And although the Southern's rails were already beginning to hum with a record volume of wartime traffic, a "school" was made available for the soldier-railroaders, without charge, on the 200-mile main-line of the Southern between New Orleans and Meridian, Miss.

Instruction cars and other special facilities were provided, and veteran Southern officers and employees volunteered to serve as "teachers."

"On March 18, 1942, the training was begun. From that day to the end of January, 1945, soldier-railroaders worked alongside Southern officers and employees throughout this 200-mile long 'school' — on trains, in shops and roundhouses, on tracks, and in offices and yards. They learned to railroad — by railroading."

The Southern has been privileged to train, not only its own famous Southern-sponsored 727th Railway Operating Battalion, Mr. Norris continued but also three other battalions and the personnel of a replacement school.

"And now that this 'extra' war job of the Southern can be told," he added, "the record shows that when these soldier-railroaders graduated from our 'school' and went overseas they added brilliant new chapters to the history of military railroading on the battlefronts of World War II."

## Newsman Improving

Latest available reports indicate that H. H. Lowry is somewhat improved. Mr. Lowry was returned to Smithfield hospital Saturday.

## SELMA TOWN HALL COLLAPSES WEDNESDAY

Wins Medal



LT. WILBUR S. BRANNAN, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Brannan, Sr., of Clayton, has been awarded the Bronze Star medal for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States in the European theatre of operations from October 1, 1944 to April 30, 1945. Lt. Brannan entered the Army in April 1941 and was sent overseas in August 1944. He served with the Third and Seventh armies and saw action in France, Germany and Austria. In addition to the Bronze Star Medal, he is entitled to wear three Bronze Service Stars. His wife is the former Miss Hazel Lane of Selma.

## Tire Dealers Warned Of Bad Certificates

Raleigh, July 10.—Tire dealers in Eastern North Carolina were cautioned this week about acceptance of new tire certificates presumably issued by War Price and Rationing Boards in other states.

Many tire dealers have been victimized by crooks who have tendered stolen or counterfeit tire certificates, drawn on distant boards, he said.

All tire certificates are now being sent to OPA verification center in Atlanta after being turned in by dealers, OPA explained. All counterfeits are charged against the dealer's inventory account, he added, which means his stock of new tires will be reduced by that number.

In case of any doubt regarding certificates, OPA suggested that tire dealers call their own local War Price and Rationing Board for advice on how to proceed.

## Tobacco Barn Fires Cause Heavy Losses

A considerable loss of money is sustained annually by North Carolina tobacco farmers when barns filled with tobacco burn, but a few precautions against fires would prevent a tremendous amount of worry and money, says David S. Weaver, Extension agricultural engineer of State College.

A survey made of some tobacco barn fires in 1944 reveals that the replacement cost would be about \$400 each with an average loss of \$300 worth of tobacco, or a total loss of \$700 for each fire, Professor Weaver points out. The three important causes of fires in tobacco barns are: 1. Tobacco leaves falling on the flues and furnace. 2. Defective flues and furnaces. 3. Inadequate and unsafe foundations.

Professor Weaver suggests the following methods of fire prevention: Careful selection of sticks of proper length and sufficient strength, together with the correct looping and hanging of the tobacco on the sticks. The placing of poultry wire netting directly over the furnace and flues might be of considerable value in reducing fires.

The furnace and flues, says Professor Weaver should be carefully checked for any defects before the first firing of the year and between each cure. Furnaces should be at least two feet longer than the length of the wood used, so that the fire is well up from the mouth of the furnace.

Furnaces and flues should be well protected by masonry, such as brick work, from parts of the wooden structure. At least twelve inches should be the distance between any part of the furnace and a wooden piece. The stacks should always extend higher than the roof of the barn.

Upper Part of Building Gives Way

Mayor Issues Statement

Selma's town hall was badly damaged about 6 o'clock yesterday morning when the supporting structure overhead in the second floor auditorium collapsed.

Failure of the beams running across the large room, formerly used as an opera house, caused the tie-rods and ceiling to give way. A portion of some of the beams could be seen protruding from the windows here this morning. No great damage to the outside walls has been noted as yet, but some few window panes were broken. It is thought that heavy leaks over a period of time may have gradually rotted the massive beams, placed several years ago.

Immediately on being apprised of the calamity town officials had the driveways and streets adjacent to the property barricaded to prevent their use by unauthorized persons and resultant possible injury.

All town personnel were promptly evacuated and temporary quarters have been arranged for town Clerk Matt Wall's staff in the rear of the Person-Vick building on the corner of Raiford and Anderson streets. The police department is expected to share in these offices. Prisoners will be lodged in the Smithfield jail.

Shortly after the accident Building Commissioner J. C. Avery reported his findings to Mayor Henry and a consultation was then held with Myles Hildebrand, architect with the J. P. Rogers Construction Company of Smithfield, who declared the building unsafe. Condemnation was recommended. It is understood here today that a representative of the insurance company has also advised condemnation. Mr. Rogers was out of town and no estimate was available from him as to costs of repairs and when such work could be started. The mayor has authorized Commissioner Avery to make all necessary advance arrangements.

According to Mayor Henry, the present contemplated plans are to raze the structure down to the auditorium, removing all superstructure, re-inforcing the outer walls and then placing an entire new roof.

Following erection of the building about 1913-14 it was used first as an opera house and market in order to bring in revenue for the town, with the town officials using the small room now assigned to the police department. About the time of occupancy by The Johnstonian-Sun the town decided upon use of the entire space for its own use.

Heavy leaks were experienced in portions of the building about a year ago, but were repaired, said the mayor. Parts of either side of the roof were brought down with the falling of the auditorium ceiling.

Mayor Henry also advanced the opinion that the blast resulting from the explosion of a large truck-load of ammunition near here about two years ago greatly contributed to the cause of the failure, since the force of this explosion tore large crevices in the walls. Local residents well remember that experience.

Although no formal meeting of the board of commissioners has yet been held in connection with the pressing matter work is progressing towards the completion of plans to rebuild at the earliest possible date. Town officials explained that considerable difficulty is being experienced in securing a competent contractor's services just now. Further information regarding same will be forthcoming in the very near future.

The building was erected at an estimated cost to Selma citizens of fifty thousand dollars.

## New Shoe Stamp Identified By OPA

Raleigh, July 18.—OPA District Director Theodore S. Johnson announced yesterday that Airplane Stamp No. 4 in War Ration Book No. 3 would become valid as a shoe stamp on August 1. Airplane Stamps Nos. 1, 2 and 3 are valid indefinitely, he added.

It was pointed out that the intervals between validation of stamps depends on the available supply of shoes. The last stamp OPA validated was on November 1, 1944.

To increase the serviceability of non-rationed shoes for men and juveniles, OPA further announced that in the future, manufacturers will be permitted to use leather welts and lightweight leather insoles. Straight or short shield tips and backstays of pigskin leather will also be allowed on these shoes, Johnson said.

The rate of accidents on school grounds in May, 1944, doubled the rate for April, 1944.