

# THE YANCEY RECORD

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## United States at War With Japan, Germany And Italy

Unexpected Attack of Japanese Causes Disastrous Damage to Pearl Harbor

Congress Declares War On Japan Monday

The United States and Japan are at war.

For the past four days the thoughts of all Americans have been turned to the series of events that have taken place in the Pacific—latest battle ground of the mighty world conflict. Some of the developments in brief are:

At dawn on Sunday Japanese fighter and bombing planes attacked Pearl Harbor, the U. S. naval stronghold in the Hawaiian Islands, causing untold damage to the harbor and ships, and some casualties. Hickam Field, the air base near Honolulu, was also attacked with a fearful loss of men and planes. An estimated 350 men were killed and 300 or 400 wounded. Approximately 200 planes were put out of commission and much damage was done to the hangars and field.

The city of Honolulu was also bombed with great destruction and loss of life. Three hours after the first attack, Japan declared war on the United States.

In quick succession attacks were made on the English crown colony of Hong Kong, on British Malaya, the international settlement of Shanghai was seized, and attacks were made on the Philippine Islands.

It is also reported that the small islands of Wake and Guam, stepping stones from the Hawaiian Islands to the Philippines had been seized.

The first word of the initial attack reached the United States about 2:00 o'clock on Sunday afternoon. The president conferred with leaders of congress and in the cabinet and called a session for 12:00 o'clock Monday.

At this session of Congress the president made a brief address, in part as follows:

To the congress of the United States:

Yesterday, December 7, 1941—a date which will live in infamy—the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the empire of Japan.

The United States was at peace with that nation and, at the solicitation of Japan, was still in conversation with its government and its emperor looking toward the maintenance of peace in the Pacific.

Indeed, one hour after Japanese air squadrons had commenced bombing in Oahu, the Japanese ambassador to the United States and his colleague delivered to the secretary of state a formal reply to a recent (Continued on page four)

### BULLETIN

Germany and Italy declared war on the United States today (Thursday). They were "forced into it" by the action of the U. S.

### BALD CREEK LODGE MEETS; ELECTS OFFICERS

Bald Creek Lodge No. 397 A. F. & A. M., had the regular communication at the Lodge hall on Saturday, Dec. 6.

The election of the following officers for the ensuing year was held: Max Proffitt, W. M.; R. E. English, S. W.; Levi Ballard, J. W.; A. P. Hensley, treasurer; W. T. Tomberlin, secretary. Remaining officers will be appointed by the master at a future date.

The lodge was fortunate in having the following honored guests, Thomas J. Harkins, past grand master of the grand lodge of North Carolina and W. C. McConnell, district deputy grand master, both of Mt. Hermon Lodge No. 118, Asheville. Other visitors from John A. Nichols lodge, the W. M. of the West Asheville lodge and W. B. Ferguson, past district deputy grand master of the Blackmer lodge, Weaverville were also present.

A public installation of officers will be held on January 3, 1942 with W. C. McConnell as installing officer.

### NOTICE

Despite many rumors no casualties have been officially reported in the county except that of Weldon Burleson.

### FARM NOTES

YANCEY COUNTY, V. J. Goodman, assistant county agent: Three registered Guernsey bull calves from tested cows were placed in Yancey county this week with the following farmers: C. M. Deyton, Green Mountain; J. Will Higgins, Ramsaytown, and C. C. Honeycutt, Sioux. The calves were brought in from Cabarrus county and will be used in promoting the better dairy cattle program in Yancey county.

### SCHOOL NEWS

A special section for school news has been reserved on page 2 of this issue. Please look there for news from the schools of the county.

Also please note: the time of presentation of the plays at both Burnsville and Bee Log High School have been changed. Instead of dates previously announced they will both be presented on Friday evening, Dec. 12.



## "In Defense of His Country"

WELDON BURLESON

Hickam Field, Hawaii

December 7, 1941

### DEALERS TO OFFER FREEDOM GARDENS'

Collections of seed for "Food for Freedom Gardens in 1942 Gardens" will be offered by seed dealers throughout the State, according to L. P. Watson and H. R. Niswonger, Extension horticulturists of N. C. State College. Seven wholesale seed distributors have been asked to quote prices on the garden seed collection, and county farm agents of the Extension Service have been asked to contact reliable local seed dealers about the same service.

Every North Carolina farm family has been requested to grow a home garden as a part of their contribution to the nationwide "Food for Freedom" campaign. To make it easier for rural people to achieve this patriotic goal, the two Extension horticulturists have compiled a list of vegetable seed, together with varieties and quantities of each, necessary to feed a family of five.

The dealers have been asked to wrap the seed in labeled packages and deliver all the seed at the same time. The collection includes approximately 26 pounds of seed, and is a sufficient quantity to furnish both fresh vegetables and a supply for canning.

The seed, and the amount needed for a garden to feed a family of five, are of the following vegetables: Bush Lima beans, 2½ pounds; pole Lima beans, 2½ pounds; tush snap beans, 5 pounds; pole snap beans, 2½ pounds; beets, 2½ ounces; cabbage, 1 ounce; carrots, 2½ ounces; collards, 1 ounce.

Cucumbers (slicing), 2½ ounces; lettuce, 1 ounce; okra, 2½ ounces; field peas, 2½ pounds; garden peas, 2½ pounds; peppers, 1 ounce; onions (sets), 5 pints; kale, 2½ ounces; spinach, 2½ ounces; squash, 2½ ounces; sweet corn, 14

### LACK OF FARM GARDENS COSTS COUNTY \$34,047.

Farm people of Yancey County rob their pocket-books, as well as their health, when they fail to grow a garden, says L. P. Watson, Extension horticulturist of N. C. State College. To prove his point, the agricultural leader presents the following facts and figures:

The 1940 census showed that 2593 farms in this county had a garden, but 291 farms in the county did not have a garden. The value of all the farm gardens in the county, as estimated to the census-takers by the farm people themselves, totaled \$302,805. That is an average value per garden of \$117.

By multiplying the average value per garden by the number of farms without a garden, it can be seen that the loss to the county due to the failure of every farm family to have a garden totaled \$34,047.

Watson reported that the State totals show that \$1,868,940 was lost by North Carolina farm people because of a lack of gardens. The census report shows that 247,127 of the 278,276 farms in the State had a garden, leaving 31,149 without a garden. The total value of all gardens in the State was \$14,773,625, or an average value of \$60 per garden.

The Extension horticulturist says that the vegetables which can be grown in a half-acre garden would cost the farm household \$225 if bought at retail prices. One-tenth of an acre will produce an abundance of vegetables for one person. A family of five, therefore, would need an acre for garden crops.

pounds; mustard, 5 ounces; tomatoes, ½ ounce; and turnips, 5 ounces.

## WELDON BURLESON IS FIRST WAR CASUALTY

Killed at Hickam Field, Hawaii

The death of Weldon Burleson of Banks Creek in the Japanese attack on Hickam field in Hawaii on Sunday was announced Wednesday in a message from the United States War department to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry W. Burleson.

Mr. Burleson was born and reared in Yancey county. He attended Clearmont high school and Maryville College, Maryville, Tenn.

Mr. Burleson served in the U. S. Marine Corps for 4 years, during which time he saw duty in many foreign countries. Shortly after his discharge from service in the Marine Corps, he enlisted in the Army Air Corps. For the past two years he has been stationed at Hickam Field.

In addition to his parents a brother and two sisters also survive: George L. Burleson of Banks Creek, and Mrs. Ethel Ledford and Mrs. Faye Grism, both of Gastonia.

This was the first Western North Carolina casualty reported in the war.

## U. S. NAVY

Raleigh, Dec. 9.—"The United States is at war and the need for men in America's fighting Navy is urgent," today asserted Lt. Comdr. McFarland W. Wood, officer-in-charge of Navy recruiting in the Carolinas.

"Carolínians have always been foremost in defending this country in time of war and I am sure the people of these two Southern states will not fail to respond now," he declared.

"During all the wars in America's history, the men in North Carolina and South Carolina have joined the colors to fight off attackers, and a quick, large muster of recruits is expected from the Carolínians to help defend the nation in this time of crisis.

"The Navy is relaxing its physical standards to enlist men between 17 and 49 years of age in the regular Navy or Naval Reserve. Men with physical defects will be accepted if the defects can be corrected after entrance into service. Applicants who have been previously physical rejections or who think they might be rejected are asked to contact their nearest recruiting station.

"All active men between the ages of 17 and 49 may now take a definite step toward defending America by applying at Navy recruiting stations in North Carolina at Raleigh, Charlotte, Greensboro, Salisbury. (Continued on back page)

Mrs. R. E. Powell and Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Powell of Spenser are visiting relatives and friends here.

## Many Boys From Yancey County In Pacific Area

### JUNIOR RED CROSS

The Junior Red Cross is 100 percent in Burnsville School.

### ATTENTION EX-SERVICE MEN

Provisions have now been made whereby World War Veterans who served any time from October 6, 1917, to July 2, 1921, in the military or naval forces of the United States, and who applied or were eligible to apply for a yearly renewal term "war time" insurance or United States Government life "converted" insurance may now make application for reinstatement. I will be glad to assist any World War Veteran in applying for this insurance.

Dover R. Fouts, Service Officer, American Legion.

## RED CROSS CALL FOR WAR RELIEF FUNDS

Western Union Telegram

Washington, D. C.

Dec. 8, 1941

H. Grady Bailey, Chm. Yancey County American Red Cross, Burnsville, N. C.

Again the American Red Cross is called upon to serve our nation in war. Both nationally and locally we face vast and definite responsibilities for service to our armed forces and for relief to distressed civilians. To provide essential funds Red Cross today is launching a campaign for war fund of minimum of fifty million dollars. The President will issue on Friday a proclamation supporting this appeal. Your chapter quota is \$1000. Chapters may retain fifteen percent of their collections for local war relief expenditures. Chapters should at once devote full efforts to raising their quotas in shortest possible time. Please report action taken. We must not and shall not fail in this crisis.

Norman H. Davis.

(Washington, D. C., Dec. 7)—American Red Cross chapters in Manila and in Honolulu were prepared to meet first aid, evacuation and other problems of the civilian population following today's air raids by the Japanese, Chairman Norman H. Davis announced today.

Twelve medical stations, fully equipped and with doctor, nurse and first aid personnel, were ready in the Philippine Islands, and similar medical stations were on hand in Hawaii, he announced.

Charles M. Forster, manager of the Philippine Red Cross, had begun preparations for Red Cross relief

Many Yancey County boys are now on duty in the far east. The following list is not complete but is as nearly complete as this paper could learn since hostilities began. Their location of course, is a matter of conjecture but at last reports they were stationed as follows:

Weldon Burleson, Air corps, Hickam Field, Hawaii. Killed in action, December 7.

James Powell, Navy. Pearl Harbor.

Fleet Hamby, Navy. Pearl Harbor.

Pearson Riddle, Clyde Ray, Wake Island.

Hershel and Clay Haney, Ralph Fender, Pearl Harbor.

Fred Peterson, Honolulu.

Pershing Williams, with Pacific fleet.

Fletcher McCurry, Wheeler Field, Hawaii.

Ray C. McCurry, Bellos Field or Hickam Field, Hawaii.

Vick Peterson, Wheeler Field.

Burgess Fox, Wheeler Field.

Leslie Peterson, in Philippines.

Howard Williams, with Pacific fleet.

I. B. Hensley, with Pacific fleet.

Arthur Peterson, with Pacific fleet.

### NOTICE

A very important meeting of the Yancey County Defense Council will be held at the Farm Agent's Office at four o'clock P. M., December 12, 1941. Every member of the Council is urged to be present. Dover R. Fouts, Chairman.

In the event of enemy attack, with full cooperation of Philippine Government officials some months ago. Chairman Davis stated, and the national Red Cross had sent him supplies, including material for 50,000 garments for children. Evacuation schemes were complete and had undergone rehearsal, Forster cabled two days ago. One plan included establishment of a children's evacuation hospital, in addition to the medical first aid stations. Seven national staff members of the American Red Cross were sent from Washington to the Philippine Islands to aid Forster, and six national staff members were sent to strengthen the Hawaii Red Cross. Both chapters had been as fully equipped and with sured full cash grants to meet any needs for shelter, medical aid, clothing and food for evacuated or homeless populations. A cable received from Forster two days ago stated the chapter there had set up three medical stations in Manila, including the port area.

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