

THE HYDE COUNTY HERALD

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LAKE LANDING BOY DESCRIBES FRENCH FARMING

Sgt. Wesley Ballance Among First Assault Troops To Land In France

The French farmers have some nice cows on their little farms, writes Sgt. Wesley Ballance in a letter to his brother, Orville, describing French farming as he has observed it since he went ashore in Normandy with the first assault troops on D-Day. Sgt. Ballance, son of Mr. and Mrs. O. B. Ballance of Lake Landing, is with a field artillery unit.

Said Sgt. Ballance of the farming in France in a letter written July 2: "You should see what nice cattle they have around here both beef and milk type. Some of them weigh 2,000 pounds, but I don't know what breed they are. They are really sleek and fat now but I wonder how they will be this winter. I haven't seen any hay or anything that they save for them. All of the fields are about three acre lots with a big hedge all around. We would starve to death farming like they do."

The letter was written after dinner on Sunday, and here is what the sergeant had to say about worship at the front.

"I have just finished lunch. This morning we had church services. I am glad to say we were able to hold it. We have it every other Sunday over here due to the conditions. There was a great number out this morning as the sun was shining for a change. We have been having a bad spell of weather and it seems good to see the sunshine again."

On June 25, Sgt. Ballance wrote his brother his first descriptive letter following his landing on France. Speaking of the fighting in the assault troops in the invasion. Our artillery was the first of its kind to land and the doughboys were really glad to see us, too. As you might know, the going was pretty tough at the beginning, but now that we are more used to the situation it isn't too bad."

His letter went on:

"The few farm people left around here seem to be friendly. They have big herds of cattle and you can get all the cream and butter you want for a few cigarettes. One old farmer brought us over a nice piece of butter the other day and it was really good. We have a hard time making them understand sometimes, but we get by with the use of our little French book. There is a little boy around here that comes over every day and eats dinner with us. He speaks slowly and we can understand him better than the older ones. He is learning English very fast. He is doing better than we are by a long jump."

"I suppose you are keeping up with the news and know about what is going on. There isn't much that I can tell you as you know. All of us boys (meaning Sam Dudley, Hyatt McKinney and Hugh Gibbs who are in the same outfit) are doing alright, and dishing it out to the Jerries every time we get the chance."

FAIRFIELD MAN NABBED WITH STOLEN AUTOMOBILE

Clifton Watson, young Fairfield man, was arrested at his home last Thursday afternoon by Patrolman C. E. Whitfield for stealing an automobile. Watson stole the car in Elizabeth City and drove it home.

The Fairfield man was placed in jail at Swan Quarter and held for Elizabeth City officers, who came later in the week and took him to Pasquotank county where he will be tried in Superior Court, according to the highway patrolman. The officers also returned the 1937 Buick.

Week end highway violators apprehended by the Hyde patrolman were as follows:

James F. Grimley, Columbia, speeding. Bond was given for appearance in Recorder's Court.

Joseph Gurganus, Washington, speeding with a truck. Bond was given for appearance in Recorder's Court.

TINY OAK HOME CLUB BUYS WAR LOAN BOND

The Tiny Oak Home Demonstration club purchased a \$100 War Bond for the club during the Fifth War Loan drive. The club will hold its annual picnic Wednesday, July 26, at Bell Island at 5 o'clock. P. M. A swimming party and barbecue fish supper is being planned for this year's August entertainment.

STORM WARNINGS EMPTY BEACHES PAST WEEK END

Great Exodus of People From Nags Head As Coast Guard Brings Report of Forthcoming Hurricane

Hundreds fled from the beach at Nags Head Sunday afternoon when Coast Guardsmen acting upon orders from their superiors brought a message that the tropical hurricane in West Indies was expected to arrive late during the night at the rate of 60 to 80 knots per hour. This sounded like something worse than had ever happened before, and although there is no record of anyone having been killed by a hurricane in Dare County, only the brave and the foolhardy dared tarry at the beaches.

Even unto Monday morning the rumor persisted that the gale was still coming, but the weather turned out the most beautiful in several days. Businessmen bewailed the unfortunate circumstances, but anyway, most folks considered it wiser to be safe than sorry and took no chances.

The hotels had a good week end business, and their patronage continues to grow despite the difficulty of travel.

TIME NOW TO START A FALL GARDEN

Some Timing Hints Given By Dean Schaub of State College

Dean I. O. Schaub of State College has issued an appeal, through county and home extension agents, for the planting of summer and fall gardens in all sections of North Carolina.

Exceptionally hot, dry weather has seriously damaged gardens in many sections, but there is still time to produce an abundance of fresh vegetables, if gardeners will take advantage of good soil conditions created by recent rains.

Dean Schaub points out that commercial canning of vegetables especially tomatoes and snapbeans, is running far behind schedule—and the need for home canning is now greater than ever before.

He explains that all vegetables should not be planted at the same time, but that growers should follow a definite schedule. He suggests planting of snapbeans and lima beans as early as possible and the setting of tomato plants. Squash can also be grown in the east, if the squash worm is controlled with cryolite.

Irish potatoes, broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, carrots, collards, and Chinese cabbage can also be planted at this time.

About August 1, beets, leaf lettuce, onions, kale, mustard, radish, spinach, and turnips should be planted.

"Don be discouraged because of the bad weather conditions that we have had thus far this spring and summer," says Dean Schaub to the gardeners. "Just keep planting and working. We yet have time to produce gardens of which we can all be proud. This year it will be excellent fall gardens instead of summer gardens."

ENGELHARD BOY SAYS JAPS NOT SO TOUGH

John Watson, gunner's mate 1/c, U. S. Navy, home with his mother, Mrs. Fannie Watson, at Engelhard, after three and one half years in the South Pacific, said that the Japs are tough only when fighting on their terms. He expressed the opinion that the war would not last long in the Pacific once the Allies put their full weight in that theatre.

SEVERAL LAKE LANDING BOYS FIGHTING IN FRANCE

Several Lake Landing boys are fighting with the American forces in France. Those reported to this newspaper are: Lt. Geo. Watson, Sgt. Wesley Ballance, Sgt. Hyatt McKinney, Cpl. Hugh Gibbs and Cpl. Sam Dudley. It is thought that possibly others are in that theatre since quite a few were stationed in England just prior to the invasion.

NO TRAFFIC DEATHS IN HYDE SINCE JAN. 1

Hyde was one of 18 North Carolina counties that had no traffic fatalities for the first six months of the year, reports T. Boddie Ward, commissioner of motor vehicles. Tyrrell was also listed as having no fatalities on the highway for the same period.

GEORGE WISE GETS ACQUAINTED WITH MARCIA



OF INTEREST along the North Carolina Coast is the above picture of George M. Wise of Stumpy Point getting acquainted with his new great-niece, Marcia Wechter. The young lady is the daughter of (Nell Wise) Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wechter. Mr. Wechter, a native of Wisconsin, is a Chief Pharmacist Mate in the Navy, and met Miss Wise while teaching school at Cape Hatteras. He likes Dare County and has changed his voting residence to Dare. Recently he was transferred to sea-duty, having served 24 years in the Navy. The baby is six months old and weighs 28

Around the Courthouse

FSA HEALTH PROGRAM—Farmdepend on cisterns for their Security families are practicing drinking water, that it is necessary that will keep down di-sary that they be treated to aseases, according to Mrs. Made-sure safe drinking water.

The supervisor reports that most of the FSA families have had the typhoid vaccination, but if a health doctor is available, they plan to take one more shot this year as recommended by the Health Department as a yearly preventative against typhoid.

Balanced diets is stressed by the FSA, it is said, to prevent any sickness caused by diet deficiencies. Gardens are being replanted to help carry out this plan successfully.

ENGELHARD BOY HOME FROM ITALIAN BATTLES

Pvt. P. D. Midgett, III, veteran of North African and Italian campaigns, is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. P. D. Midgett, Jr., at Engelhard. Young Midgett, who suffered a severe attack of pneumonia, was in an Army hospital several months before his return to this country.

HYDE NATIVE DIES AT HOME IN GUM NECK

W. B. Gibbs, 73, of Gum Neck died at his home late Thursday afternoon.

He was a native of Hyde County but had made his home in Gum Neck for the past 20 years. He had been in declining health for the past six months.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Mart Liverman Gibbs; a son, Odie L. Gibbs of Baltimore, and several grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at the graveside in the family cemetery near Engelhard Saturday. The Rev. J. T. Brown of the Engelhard Christian church officiated.

SCRANTON CLUB MAKES MONEY SELLING BARBECUE

The Scranton Home Demonstration club sponsored a barbecue supper at the Club House Thursday afternoon, July 13, at 8 P. M. The supper was a big success and profits boosted the funds of the organization to purchase a \$100 War Bond.

The club held a short meeting prior to the supper. In the absence of the president, Mrs. Joe Bishop, vice president, presided.

After the business session, Miss Iberia Roach, home agent, gave a short talk on "It's good business to keep well." Mrs. Joe Bishop served refreshing drinks.

PONZER BOY TOOK PART IN INVASION

Ernest J. Owens, S1/c, was with the Navy in the invasion of Normandy. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Addie Owens of Ponzer and attended the Belhaven high school. He was employed in Norfolk, Va., as a pipefitter before entering the service.

About 700,000 full-time workers must be recruited for the canning of millions of tons of fruits and vegetables this summer.

DEATH OF MRS. GODFREY RULED TO BE MURDER

Cartaret Coroner's Jury Finds Ocracoke Woman Died By "Foul Means"

A Cartaret county coroner's jury inquiring into the death of Mrs. L. C. (Fannie) Godfrey, Ocracoke cafe operator, who mysteriously disappeared following her arrival at Horehead City, Thursday, July 6, and who was found dead in her car near the city of asphyxiation, Monday, July 10, found Sunday that she came to her death by foul means.

The jury recommended that all witnesses in the case be retained within calling distance for further questioning, but not be required to put up bond.

The witnesses are Ila Riggs of Atlantic, L. C. Godfrey, husband of the dead woman, and Richard Matthew Coster, a Marine of Toledo, Ohio.

Costner testified that he drove to the outskirts of the town with Mrs. Godfrey Thursday night and that when the car got stuck in the sand she refused to call a wrecker after he had tried to get the car in motion.

He said he later left her, walked to the nearby New Bern highway and boarded a bus for a furlough. He admitted he and Mrs. Godfrey had had a number of drinks.

An autopsy performed earlier in the week revealed death due to asphyxiation and placed the time as Friday night and not Thursday night, as officers at first supposed.

HYDE NATIVE TAKES LIFE WITH SHOTGUN

Funeral Held Sunday Afternoon For Leechville Man, Suicide Victim

William Clarence Williams, 52, took his own life Saturday afternoon by shooting his head off with a shotgun in his home at Leechville. He had been in a despondent mood for some time and was reported to have made several previous attempts to take his life.

Mr. Williams was a native of Fairfield. He had resided at Leechville for the past nine months, moving there from Pantego.

Surviving are his wife, four sons and three daughters.

Funeral services were conducted Sunday afternoon at Mt. Olive church, Ponzer. The Rev. A. J. Mackie of Belhaven officiated. Interment was made in the church cemetery.

A furloughed paratrooper when asked how many jumps he had made, replied: "None. But I've been pushed 17 times."—Time.

HYDE GOES OVER TOP 5TH WAR LOAN; SALES NEAR THE \$90,000 MARK

E Bond Sales Lagging More Than \$10,000 Behind Quota, But Drive Continues Through Next Saturday, July 29th; County Chairman Matthews Praises Splendid Work of Women

Hyde county has gone over the top in the Fifth War Loan drive announces M. A. Matthews of Engelhard, county chairman. Sales through Monday had reached \$89,284.75, topping the quota of \$78,000 by more than \$13,000.

Sales of E bonds were lagging, however, and this blemished the county's splendid record. Sales of these bonds amounted to \$28,510.75 according to reports in Monday. This was \$10,489.25 under the quota of \$39,000.

Chairman Matthews points out, however, that the E bond drive does not close until July 29th. He is hopeful that the quota may be met by that time. Those who have not bought bonds during the first phase of the drive and desire to do so now can still have their purchases counted in the county's quota.

The splendid work of the Women's Division was praised by Mr. Matthews who credits a great part of the success of the drive to their efforts. Mrs. W. W. Watson of Lake Landing is chairman of the Women's Division and Miss Iberia Roach of Swan Quarter is vice chairman.

"The work of Miss Roach and the Home Demonstration clubs is gratifying," said Mr. Matthews. "They have done a splendid job."

Bond rallies in the various communities were helpful in boosting sales. Sales at the Swan Quarter rally, held June 23rd were the largest amounting to \$10,500. Bonds sold at the Engelhard rally, June 22nd, totaling \$6,300. Nebraska's sales, June 28th, were \$1,575; Sladesville's, June 29th, were \$2,050; Fairfield's, July 6, were \$4,300; and Ponzer's, July 7, were \$2,183.

Hyde county has gone over the top in each of the five loan drives held to date, although each time the quota has been upped considerably. It has also gone over the top in the sale of E bonds in every loan drive to date, except the current one.

Here is what C. T. Leinback, state chairman, wrote when he learned Hyde had gone over the top:

"I am very happy to observe that according to the Federal Reserve Bank's report of July 13 Hyde county has officially exceeded its overall quota. I congratulate you most heartily upon reaching this goal.

"There are now 88 counties that have exceeded their overall county quota. However, only nine counties have reached their E bond quota, and I hope that you will continue to work on that class of security until the end of the month."

ENGELHARD BOY IS CHAPLAIN'S ASST.



CORPORAL NORWOOD B. MARSHALL, Engelhard, North Carolina, has been in England for seven months. He is stationed at a strategic air depot of Brigadier General Donald R. Goodrich's VIII Air Force Service Command, where battle-damaged Eighth Air Force combat planes are repaired. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. B. C. Marshall, Engelhard.

A graduate of Engelhard high school and Norfolk Business College, Norfolk, Virginia, Corporal Marshall entered service in May, 1942. He is detailed as the chaplain's assistant at this base, acting as clerk, organist, chapel custodian and driver.

ROTARY PRESIDENT NAMES COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

J. M. Long, president of the Engelhard Rotary Club, announced the appointment for four committee groups to assist him with the activities of the club during his term which began July 1st. They are as follows:

Classification, Membership and Attendance—P. D. Midgett, chairman, Leland Dudley, and Tony Spencer.

Program and Fellowship—Dr. J. W. Miller, chairman, Dan Berry, and Carl Whitfield.

Public Relations, Publicity, Rotary Information—Tom Spencer, chairman, Frank Gibbs, and Asbie Silverthorne.

Community Service and War Effort—Nollie Shelton, chairman, J. H. Jarvis, and Dallas Cuthrell.

Rotarian Tom Davis of Whiteville made up his weekly meeting with the Engelhard Club last Thursday evening. He made a short talk saying he enjoyed the fin fellowship of the Hyde group.

MORE SWEET POTATOES THAN IRISH IN 1944

The Crop Reporting Service of the State Department of Agriculture estimates that the sweet potato yield in North Carolina this year will be larger than the commercial Irish potato crop. The forecast for sweet potatoes was set at 6,800,000 bushels as against 6,177,000 bushels for Irish potatoes.

If prospects hold, North Carolina will rank second in 1944 in the production of sweet potatoes. Georgia is put in first place with 7,540,000 bushels.

FAIRFIELD YOUTHS ENJOY SWIMMING PARTY FRIDAY

Fairfield young people and many parents enjoyed a delightful swimming party on the Lake Road Friday afternoon, July 14, at 5 o'clock. The swim was followed by a delicious picnic supper and ice cold bottle drinks. About 70 people attended the event.

The committee in charge was Mrs. Franklin Midyette, Mrs. Henr Jones, Mrs. Guy Cuthrell and Miss Iberia Roach.

BERRY AND WATSON ATTEND LAY MEETING IN PAMLICO

Messrs. D. L. Berry of Swan Quarter and J. C. Watson of Fairfield, attended a meeting of Methodist Layman in Oriental, Pamlico county, Tuesday and Wednesday.

HYDE BOY IN INVASION BACK HOME ON LEAVE

Gerald Midgett, machinist mate 1/c, U. S. Navy, is visiting his father, Ben Midgett, at his home at Lake Landing. Midgett was on one of the naval craft that took part in the invasion of France.

Yanks Prepare to Take Farmhouse



Two American soldiers make a farmhouse their objective as they push their way into Northern France with the invasion army. The rifle of the soldier on the left apparently is still draped with the waterproof covering used on rifles during amphibious operations and warfare in very damp climates where rust sets in quickly.