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PLANS MADE FOR NEGRO DRIVE FOR RED CROSS

Plans were made for the Negro Drive for Red Cross which is to start March 1st. J. B. Whitworth, Chairman of the drive for Kent County both white and colored is recuperating at the Kent and Queen Anne's Hospital from an operation, sent the following letter to principal Elmer Hawkins of Garrett School which he read at the opening of the meeting:

Feb. 20, 1945

To the Committee in charge of
American Red Cross Drive,
Negro Division:

It is a source of real regret to me that I cannot be present, tonight when you open your drive for our 1945 Red Cross War Fund.

I am very proud of the small part I had last year in the truly grand job your people did for Red Cross.

From all I have heard, the Negro citizens of Kent County established a record, as a group, that was neither equaled nor excelled, anywhere in the entire country. You people have every reason to be proud of yourselves and we of Red Cross are proud of you.

I have another job for you this year and I know you will not let me down. I have appointed Prof. Elmer Hawkins, Mrs. M. B. Drummond and Miss M. O. Howard, a committee of three to head up the Negro Kent County War Fund Drive. I expect you to raise $1750.00 and I know you will do your full part. Last year, you turned in over $3000, so the much smaller quota this year should be quickly reached.

I am anxious to get our "Drive" underway, as soon as we can. I believe it possible for us to be the first county in the country to get "Over the Top", if each of us does his part promptly.

As soon as I get out of the hospital, I will hold myself available to help your Committee in any way yaur may desire.

With best wishes for a successful Drive, I am

Sinceerly,
J. Burton Whitworth,
Chairman Kent County
Red Cross War Fund Drive."

Mr. Hawkins' account of the meeting is as follows:

Mrs. Margaret Simms, noted Negro Red Cross Worker who recently returned from overseas where she entertained for thousands of servicemen, spoke Tuesday night at Jane's Methodist Church, Chestertown, to launch the opening of the Red Cross Drive for colored people. Mrs. Simms' dynamic personality, attractive appearance, her pleasant manner and expression held the audience in rapt attention from beginning to end. Her vivid, human description of her many varied experiences with our boys overseas touched the hearts of everyone present.

The chorus of Garnett High School under the direction of Miss Mary E. Powell, Music Instructor, sang the opening selection, "The Navy Hymn" which was quite appropriate for the occasion. Their next two numbers were "Hope Carol" by Smith and "It's Me, O Lord", a Negro Spiritual, all of which were enthusiastically received by the audience.

Further music was provided on the program by the Helping Hand Quartet of Chestertown, Md. This group sang four numbers, all of which were thoroughly enjoyed by the audience.

The audience, after listening to such an inspiring address, began immediately to make their pledges for the Red Cross Drive which officially opened, Tuesday night. All of them felt moved to equal or even exceed their quotas of last year.

Listed below are the names of those present who pledged and the amount:

Communities	Amount
Rock Hall	$200.00
Chestertown	550.00
Georgetown	125.00
Still Pond	75.00
Miletota	67.00
Individual	**Amount**
Mrs. Mary Murray	$10.00
Mr. George Scott	15.00
Mrs. Emma Marys	15.00
Mrs. Beatrice Mason	10.00
Mrs. Pricie Brown	17.00
Mrs. Emma Wilmore	15.00
Mrs. Ossie Briscoe	10.00
Mrs. Ella Green	10.00
Mrs. Viola Duckery	10.00
Mrs. Beatrice Johnson	10.00

TALBOT COUNTY CLERK DIES

W. Lester Ball, Clerk of the Circuit Court for Talbot County, died very suddenly last week. He had been in poor health for sometime, and after the February term of court had adjourned Mr. Ball was stricken the next day with a stroke on the right side. One week later he passed away to the great surprise of his many friends.

With the U. S. Armed Forces

Frances T. Needles, Fireman 2-c, of Norfolk, spent a short leave here Sunday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Horace Needles.

Word was received here this week of the promotion of Major Edward A. Hurd to that of Lieut. Colonel, U. S. Army. Lieut. Colonel Hurd has been overseas nearly two years, and has been in service in France and England.

Word was received by friends here this week that Staff Sergt. Fred Egner, U. S. A., is in a serious condition in a hospital in England from wounds received in action on Jan. 25. Sergeant Egner is well known throughout the Maryland-Delaware Peninsula, where he was a salesman. A fine baritone singer, Sergeant Egner has sung in local musical events.

Private Charles S. Jacquette, Jr., U.S.N., son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles S. Jacquette of Rock Hall, who was among the first Kent County soldiers to enter military service, has been awarded the Purple Heart Medal for wounds sustained in action. He was a member of the crew of the U. S. S. Reuben James, which was torpedoed and sunk in North Atlantic waters by a German submarine shortly after the beginning of the war.

Staff Sergeant William Ershler, Waterbury, Conn., who entered service from his studies in Washington College in 1943, has been decorated with the Air Medal for his work in a bombing squadron on the European front. Shot down recently in enemy territory, he was picked up by the partisan, sheltered, and returned safely to his base. Sgt. Ershler was a member of the Class of 1945 at the College. His decoration raises the number of decorations and citations to Washington College men to a total of 64, not including about a dozen Purple Hearts for wounds.

Muroc, Calif.—Harold A. Burgard, son of Dr. and Mrs. Albert Burgard of Rock Hall, has recently been promoted to the rank of corporal at Muroc army airfield near here.

Formerly stationed at San Diego, California, the 20-year-old corporal reported to this Fourth air force base in March of last year. He is an engine mechanic in the maintenance section here.

Sergt. Noah Walker, who was wounded in Germany last October, and who is now in the 7th General Hospital in England, was heard over the radio recently from the hospital in England. The young soldier was interviewed by Miss Bebe Daniels, former movie actress, from the Purple Heart ward. Questioned as to what he was doing when he was wounded, he replied that he was a reconnaissance patrol scout in Germany when he was hit.

Sergt Walker is a relative of Mrs. David B. Ford of Chestertown.

For the third time since arriving overseas last July, S-Sergt. Ernest E. Beck of the U. S. Army Infantry, has been wounded in action, according to a letter received Tuesday by his wife, who lives in Rock Hall.

The letter, written by a nurse from an Army hospital in France, stated that Sgt. Beck had received shrapnel wounds in his legs.

Sgt. Beck is the son of Mr. and Mrs. James W. Beck of Chestertown and received the Purple Heart last November for wounds received in other engagements.

Sgt. and Mrs. Beck became the parents of a fine baby boy, born Tuesday night.

An Eighth Air Force Liberator Station: England—Corporal Godfrey L. Gosman, of RFD No. 3 Chestertown, Md., munitions worker, is a member of the 392nd Bombardment Group, a Liberator unit recently cited for "distinguished and exceptionally outstanding performance of duty" on 200 missions.

Commanded by Col. Lorin L. Johnson of Payson, Utah, the group has been overseas for more than a year. The 200th mission was made on Armistice Day, the 100th on D-Day. The citation, issued by Major-General William E. Kepner of Second Bombardment Division, read:

"During this period of 200 missions, the 392nd attacked 120 targets in Germany and 80 in enemy occupied territory despite adverse conditions and inclement weather at times . . . overcoming fierce enemy fighter opposition on many occasions in order to reach assigned objectives."

Targets attacked by 392nd Liberators include Berlin, Gotha, Politz, Bremer, Hamburg and other objectives in Germany, France, Norway, Holland, Belguim and Poland.

Sergt. Howard W. Taylor, who has been serving with the U.S.A. Coastal Artillery in Panama for the past 28 months is enjoying a 30-day furlough with his parents here, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Taylor.

Sergt. Taylor's work consisted of keeping Army trucks on the move, carrying supplies and ammunition to and from the big guns, reportedly the largest in use today in the world, which guard the Panama Canal, one of our most important military bases. A brother, Eben P. Taylor is overseas with the Military Police in France.

Prior to his induction he was employed at the John Deere Farm Implement here on High Street, Ext.

After his furlough, Sergt. Taylor will report to a camp in Louisiana for advanced training.

Mrs. Helen D. Spry, of Galena, Md. mother of Cpl. Irving W. Spry, Jr., who is somewhere in Belgium with 3705th Quartermaster Truck Regt., writes that her son had received on Feb. 2, the issue of THE TRANSCRIPT dated Dec. 15, and how much he enjoyed getting the news from Kent Co. even it was nearly two months past, and wished to thank us.

Mrs. Spry continues, that Corporal Spry had recently sent her a box of seventy-five or more pieces of silverware, but not to ask from where for he could not tell her in a letter. (She thinks they were found in an abandoned home.) Some are initialed. Taking a punch ladel to a jeweler in Wilmington, she was told it had value as well as the dozen knives and soup spoons.

Somewhere In The Philippines—Pfc. Preston Slagle, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles P. Slagle, 116 Queen St., Chestertown, Md., has been awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge for action against the Japs in the Philippines. He also is entitled to wear the Asiatic-Pacific and Philippine Liberation ribbons, the Export Infantryman Badge and the Good Conduct Medal.

Pvt. Slagle entered the Army in January 1943 and has been overseas with an infantry rifle company for more than a year, serving in Hawaii and New Guinea before arriving in the Philippines. He is an automatic rifle ammunition carrier.

Before entering the Army, Pvt. Slagle was employed by the Eliason Motor Inc., Chestertown, as an auto mechanic. His brother, Charles W. Slagle, is a motor machinist's mate second class in the Navy at Kodiak, Alaska.

An Eighth Air Force Liberator Station: England—Major James A. McGregor, of Andelot Stock Farms, Worton, Md., group gunnery officer, is serving with the 392nd Bombardment Group, a Liberator unit recently cited for "distinguished and exceptionally outstanding performance of duty" on 200 missions.

Commanded by Col. Lorin L. Johnson of Payson, Utah, the group has been overseas from more than a year. The 200th mission was made on Armistice Day, the 100th on D-Day. The citation, issued by Major-General William E. Kepner of Second Bombardment Division read:

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Sets Record In Church Work

Mrs. Thomas D. Bowers, wife of the superintendent of Christ Methodist Sunday School, is believed to have set a record in the Peninsula Methodist Conference for long service as superintendent of the beginners' department. Mrs. Bowers has been re-elected superintendent of the department for the 57th consecutive year. Her mother-in-law, the late Mrs. A. M. Bowers, held the position for many years. Mrs. Bowers quietly observed her birthday on Wednesday.

All County Taxes To Be Paid By April 1

County Treasurer Robert E. Lee has notified all county taxpayers that 1945 taxes will be due and payable on April 1. The Board of County Commissioners recently declared an annual tax rate of $1 per $100 for this year's budget, while the state tax rate is 12 cents on the $100. The treasurer began issuing 1945 automobile licenses on Thursday.

Mrs. Leroy Nickerson was installed as postmistress for Lynch on February 8.

SCHOOL BUDGET IS INCREASED BY GOVERNOR

Annapolis, February 20—Governor Herbert R. O'Conor will provide an all-time record total of $22,491,210 for the Public School System of the State in the 1946-47 State Budget, it was announced at the State House today.

This newest "hikh" in the overall school budget will be necessitated, Governor O'Conor announced, by the State's participation, to the extent of an additional $2,314,130 per year, in financing to implement the new school betterment program of 12-years' free education for every student in the State, smaller classes and increased pay for teachers, to which the Governor gave his full approval several months ago.

As against the State's contribution of $2,314,130 to make the new program effective, the 23 counties and Baltimore City will be required to supply the remaining $1,779,079 annually, Governor O'Conor made known.

The budget now before the Legislature contains recommendations by the Governor for an appropriation of $17,862,850 of State funds for the Public Schools in the next two years, itself the largest amount ever allotted for this purpose.

With the additional amount for the school betterment program included, the total budget for the two years will show an increase of $6,741,472 over the 1944-45 appropriation of $15,749,738.

The greatest part of the additional funds to be appropriated, $3,843,210 each year, would be for the purpose of increasing the teachers' salary schedule, Governor O'Conor emphasized. Legislative proposals to effectuate the new program will provide for a continuation of bonus payments teachers are receiving from local political subdivisions, as a requirement if the counties are to receive this additional State aid.

Figures revealed by Governor O'Conor show that there are 9,194 teachers at present engaged in teaching in the State's Public School System. One of the important aims of the new O'Conor program will be to increase the number of such teachers, so that the average attendance at classes in the elementary grades may be kept at not more than 35 pupils. The sum of $250,000, all of which is to be contributed by the State, will be provided as the initial cost of this effort to reduce classroom population, as well as for the equalization of the salaries of colored school supervisors.

Under the financing plan drawn up by a committee of education officials, State fiscal officers, representatives of the County Commissioners' groups of the Eastern and Western Shores and members of the Senate and House of Delegates, counties now sharing the equalization fund would be required to raise their levies for school purposes from 51c to 56c per $100. Under the equalization plan, counties which levy this 56c and fail to realize enough revenue to carry the State's minimum school program are privileged to draw the amount needed from the equalization fund.

The additional allocations of funds for educational purposes by Governor O'Conor will place Maryland among the very first States of the nation, it was said at the State House, in the proportion of general fund monies devoted to the Public School System. Furthermore, it is asserted, the total outlay for the Public School System in the next two years under Governor O'Conor will be nearly double the highest amount provided for this purpose in any biennial State Budget prior to the O'Conor administration.

Young Adults To Meet In Chestertown

The Methodist Young Adult Fellowship of Kent County will meet in Christ Methodist Church, Tuesday, February 27 at 8 P. M.

A helpful program is being planned. The president Mr. Stanley Sutton, will tell of his recent trip to the School of Recreation held in New York City. Rev. Melvin Kay of St. James will give a talk. Rev. W. P. Roberts will lead the devotional.

After the meeting there will be the usual recreation period of fun and fellowship. A good attendance is anticipated.

Announcement is made that Mr. Norman P. Foster, Manager of the Salisbury Field Office of the Social Security Board, will be in Chestertown, Md., on Monday next, February 26.

He will be available for interview on that day at the Post Office at 1 P. M.

Washington College Will Hold Regular "June Week" This Year

Washington College examinations are completed for the first half year, and the final semester has begun. For the first time since the war, the college will return to a full week of June commencement activities, which will include the observance of Alumni Day, June 2, with the annual meeting of the Board of Visitors and Governors, the baccalaureate services June 3, and the commencement exercises in William Smith Hall June 4.

Heretofore graduation exercises had been held in January and in May, but because of the return to the established custom, these functions will give place to the regular annual program.

The Easter recess will be observed from March 28 to April 3, with the final semester examinations on May 26-31.

Six new students have entered college. The feature of Washington's Birthday observance on Thursday was the annual convocation in Washington College at which President Gilbert W. Mead was the speaker.

An exhibit of engravings of pictures of the important events in the life of George Washington has been arranged on the Washington College library. There are 22 engravings in the exhibit. These were obtained from a French collection by Dr. Gilbert W. Mead, president of the college.

Other college activities include sixteen new pledges accepted by Theta Chi and Lambda Chi Alpha, the two active fraternities at Washington College. They are:

Theta Chi—William Gale, Cambridge; John Malone, Prince Frederick; William Greenly, Denton; Edward Bray, Easton; Gilbert Meekins, Cambridge; Marvin Foxwell, Cambridge; Herbert Ward, Chestertown.

Lambda Chi—James Rook, Oakland; George Hauver, Street; Richard Smith, Cumberland; William Cooper, Chestertown; Leonard Herr, Clinton; Fred Livingood, Chestertown; Charles France, Baltimore; John Sutton, Princess Anne; Douglas Hall, Princess Anne; Ralph Gies, Crownsville; Raymond Simpkins, Bridgeton, N. J.

BUDDY BAGS APPRECIATED BY SOLDIERS

The Old Kent Chapter of the D.A.R. has received the following letters:

Jan. 29, 1945

"Dear Mrs. Baldwin:

"Such wonderful Buddy Bags, and I was so glad to have the extra jig saw puzzles to put in them when I was working with the Buddy Bags all day Sunday! Please thank each member of Old Kent Chapter for their thought of our men in the Service. I know each man who receives one of your bags will be very grateful.

"These bags are part of a shipment which will go off this week, about 500, I think. All bags coming in to me at present are going to our men in the far Southwest Pacific—hospital and regular size—and will be distributetd through the Military Morale Division of the Coast Guards. The men out there are desperately lonely and homesick, and need every bit of cheer we can send them, sick and well, alike."

Feb. 1, 1945

"Dear Mrs. Baldwin:

"Your letter containing a money order for $19.00 from Old Kent Chapter came yesterday afternoon, I have always said that the Lord tempers the wind to the shorn lamb, and yesterday morning I was really a 'shorn lamb' without a penny in my Buddy Bag 'bank'. On the floor in my living room were 231 filled bags, ready to go out on Saturday, and a stack of over 250 empty ones, which were, to keep my promise, to the Coast Gueard of 500 bags by Saturday. I just did not know which way to turn—and then, when I came back from the Hall in the afternoon, here was your wonderful money order waiting for me and enough other checks to make up $143.00!

"So thanks to the generous hearts of the members of Old Kent Chapter and other Daughters, these bags will be filled and on their way to New Guinea by Saturday—to men who think we have forgotten them, men desperately lonely and homesick, men who wait hungrily for any bit of cheer from home. To me this urgent request from the Coast Guard for our Buddy Bags has given us a wonderful opportunity of expressing to those men our deep appreciation of what they are doing for us, and I know your members will feel as I do".

(Signed) Ruth Bowie Houghton

Laymans' Day At Christ Methodist

"Laymen's Day" will be observed at Christ Methodist Church Methodist Church, Chestertown, on Sunday February 25, at the four o'clock vesper hour.

The entire program will be in charge of the laymen of the church and three laymen, Mr. C. C. Jones, Mr. T. D. Bowers, and Mr. Rollison Baxter, will discuss the three topics assigned by The General Board of Lay Activities of The Methodist Church to be considered in connection with the general program of the church and the interests of the laymen therein.

Special music will be rendered by the men's chorus under the direction of Mrs. Iola H. Bucher.

All members and friends of Christ Church are urged to attend.

KENT COUNTIAN BADLY BURNED IN UPPER DARBY

A father and his 2-year-old daughter were seriously burned when fire swept their five-room home at 7045 Guildford rd., Stonehurst Hills, Upper Darby, Pa.

Both victims are in Delaware County Hospital with first and second degree burns. They are David B. Ford, 34, an employee of the Container Corporation of America, and his daughter, Joyce. Mr. Ford is the son of Mr. and Mrs. David B. Ford of Chestertown. Mr. Ford was unable to see until Monday of this week.

Ford's wife, Dorothy, 30, and another daughter, Patricia, escaped unhurt. They were asleep in upstairs bedrooms when the fire started.

The blaze was caused by smouldering ashes from a cigarette which lodged in the crevices of an overstuffed armchair in the living room, Ford said.

Unable to sleep, he had gone downstairs to smoke, he told firemen.

"I dropped some ash from my cigarette on the chair in the living room and took the cushion out on the porch to shake it off," he said. "When I turned back to the room, the place was in flames."

He then roused his wife and children. By this time, the stairway was afire and their escape was cutoff. The family had to leave by the front bedroom window, escaping to a second-story roof.

Climbing across the roof to the adjoining home 7047 Guilford rd., in their night clothing, they awakened the family, who let them in.

The Upper Darby Fire Co. and the Cardington Fire Co. fought the fire for nearly an hour.

ARMY SERVICES FORCES WILL RECRUIT HERE

Captain H. R. Wilson and his team of civilian recruiters will be in Chestertown from March 1 to 3, incusive. The team is going to estabish its headquarters in the United States Employment Service Office at 111 Court Street, Chestertown.

Captain Wilson is interested in recruiting clerks, typists and stenographers to work in Washington for the Army Services Forces. Applicants may be as young as 17½ years of age and still qualify to work in the Nation's Capital.

If you feel that you are not doing your part to expedite the return of our service men and women from overseas, you should be more than anxious to become a "Civilian Soldier" and attack Washington with patriotism and a desire to do your part.

Regardless of experience, if you feel you can qualify, be certain that you are present for an interview with Captain Wilson and his team on one of the first three days in March.

War Department appointees are guaranteed free transportation to the Nation's Capital, they will be met at the Station upon arrival in Washington, D. C., established in reasonably priced and suitable living quarters and assigned to duty.

All appointments are subject to WMC regulations policies, priorities and employment stabilization plans.

ROY C. MITCHELL HERD LEADS IN D.H.I.A. REPORT

A summary of Dairy Herd Improvement records for the past year show that about 20% of the cows on test in Maryland were replaced. All but 3.8% of the cows that left home went to slaughter. About 29% of the cows sold were low producers, 15% were sold because of udder trouble; T. B. and Bangs reactors accounted for 9%; all cows replaced were not old. 21% were under four years old. 72% were seven years of age.

D.H.I.A. records have proven of great value to Kent members as a basis for culling, better feeding and management and more economical production.

The Kent D.H.I.A. summary for December was as follows:

Five High Herds

First—Roy C. Mitchells Glencoe Farm with an average of 39.1 lbs. fat and 980 lbs. milk, from 17 grade Holsteins all of which were in milk.

Second—Olin S. Davis with an average of 35.3 lbs. fat and 980 lbs. milk from 24 pure bred Holsteins, four of which were dry.

Third—James Alexander, Jr., with an average of 34.3 lbs. fat and 904 lbs. milk from 17 grade and pure bred Holsteins two of which were dry.

Fourth—Wilbur H. Morris, Jr., with an average of 29.6 lbs. fat and 695 lbs. milk from 20 grade and pure bred Ayrshires, three of which were dry.

Fifth—Albert T. Nicholson with an average of 29.5 lbs. fat and 771 lbs. milk from 23 grade and pure bred Holsteins, three of which were dry.

The Ten High Cows Were

First—James Alexander Jr's Tiddlywinks, a registered Holstein, produced 86.4 lbs. fat from 1662 lbs. milk in 29 days.

Second — W. Robert Newnam's Roberta, a registered Holstein, produced 80.0 lbs. fat from 1776 lbs. milk.

Third — Roy C. Mitchells' No. 8138, a grade Holstein produced 72.7 lbs. fat from 1454 lbs. milk.

Fourth—Wilbur H. Morris Jr's Lady, a registered Ayrshire, produced 71.2 lbs. fat from 1395 lbs. milk.

Fifth—Olin S. Davis' Colantha, a registered Holstein produced 68.2 lbs. fat from 1748 lbs. milk.

Sixth—W. Robert Newnam's Jean, a registered Holstein produced 64.6 lbs. fat from 1745 lbs. milk.

Seventh — W. Robert Newnam's Minnie, a grade Guernsey produced 63.6 lbs. fat from 1299 lbs. milk.

Eighth—Roy C. Mitchell's Biggy, a grade Holstein produced 60.4 lbs. fat from 1885 lbs. milk.

Nineth—Roy C. Mitchell's 18701, a grade Holstein produced 58.4 lbs. fat from 1668 lbs. milk.

Tenth—Roy C. Mitchell's Snow, a grade Holstein produced 57.8 lbs. fat from 1314 lbs. milk.

The American Legion has offered their Home for the regular monthly meetings of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Kent and Queen Anne's Hospital which meets the third Tuesday of each month at 2:30 P. M.

11 INDUCTEES LEAVE FOR INDUCTION

Eleven Kent County inductees left Chestertown early Wednesday morning for the Fifth Regiment Armory in Baltimore for their induction into some branch of our armed forces. Previously they have all passed their examinations.

There were 4 white and 7 colored in the group. The white were:

Elwood David Starkey, Jr., Massey
Harry Devoid Mench, Jr., Rock Hall
Maurice Edward Crouch, Chestertown.
James Noah Nelson, Rock Hall.

The colored:

Roland Joseph Miller, Chestertown
Clarence Lycurgus Sisco, Rock Hall.
Arnold Wilmore Wilson, Betterton
Elmer Toulson, Kennedyville.
Clarence Oliver Ashley, Millington
Carroll Gibbs, Jr., Chestertown.
Louis Junior Barroll, Chestertown

FISH HAUL SHOWS WHISKEY NETTED, TOO

Milford, Del.—When fishing off Big Stone Beach on Saturday a crew of fishermen from Harrington made a haul, and in the seine they found besides a basket of perch and many rock-fish, a quart of whiskey on which the seal had never been broken.

It is said that as soon as weather will permit there will be an exodus of fishermen to this beach.

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