AFTER FIVE YEARS

Soldier's Wife Is Reunited With Sons

MRS. MARIA ROANE AND SONS

By RUTH ROLEN

Separated for four years, Mrs. Maria M. Roane of 5422 Sansom st. and her two sons, Herbert, 12, and Dieter, 10, were reunited, recently, at International airport where the lads landed after a flight from Germany.

Mrs. Roane, a native of Cologne, Germany, is the wife of Sgt. Thomas W. Roane who is believed to be in Japan after a tour of duty in Korea. Widowed by a World War II casualty, she married the sergeant on Nov. 7, 1948.

The 30-year-old West Philadelphia housewife and her sons are scheduled to join Sgt. Roane in Japan. When they leave in March or April, they plan to live in Japan for a year, the length of time the sergeant has to serve before being discharged.

Two Marriage Rituals

The 36-year-old soldier met Maria in Bamberg, Germany in 1946, when she was a civilian secretary for his company, the 571st Ordnance Ammunition. According to German custom, they were first married at the city hall and then went through a second ceremony in church.

She is the daughter of Katherine and Emil Hoetgen, the latter a post office inspector in Cologne. She is one of five sisters and has two brothers.

Sgt. Roane's mother, Mrs. Sarah S. Johnson, lives in Baltimore, Md. He last saw his wife on May 6, 1952. Mrs. Roane remembers dates well. Upon being awakened by an early morning called asked when she had last seen her sons, she replied, "Dec. 21, 1948," as quick as a flash.

Her well-spoken English is attributed to her study of the language while a student at the University of Cologne. Her sons speak no English, but her husband speaks German, most of which he learned from her.

Home Her Castle

Possessing a pleasing singing voice, she is a member of Saint Philip Lutheran church and the Parkside YWCA. Next to her family, her greatest pride is her five-room apartment which she has decorated with the taste of a professional. Her home, she says, is her castle.

With her sergeant, she says, it was a case of "love at first sight."

FAMILY PROBLEMS

By Ann Morris

Dear Ann Morris:

How would you deal with a husband who is inherently stingy?

It seems to actually pain my husband to part with enough money to barely run the house. He contributes nothing to my personal upkeep. This I do not particularly mind, since I am financially able to provide for myself.

Actually it--isn't the lack of money so much as his attitude about money that bothers me.

Mrs. T. T. T.

Dear Mrs T. T. T.:

So far as I have observed there is no cure for a man or woman who places the value of money above all else.

Such an attitude on the part of the head of a house is especially painful to a housewife. The running of a home is the sort of business that cannot be kept on a penny-by-penny basis.

Try talking the matter over with your husband, showing him that his attitude is spoiling the pleasantness of the home. If that doesn't work try to arrange a conference with a certified marriage consultant and see if the three of you cannot work out a fair arrangement.

STARS YOU

DAILY FORECAST

What to do and avoid each day the coming week:

Tuesday — Good for clearing up outstanding jobs in house or garden. The younger folk may be unusually helpful in this. An evening visitor may not be very welcome. Lucky numbers 817, 260, color, grey.

Wednesday—Routine detail can be given a miss. Better to concentrate on major issues and new plans. Good for raising funds for philanthropic causes. A pleasant surprise awaits during evening hours at home. Lucky numbers, 312, 210, color, purple.

Thursday — Moderately good for routine affairs, but don't go beyond this. Time likely to be spent discussing plumbing or water supplies. Ideas for a better arrangement should be held over. Lucky numbers, 716, 650, color, silver.

Friday—Better stick to the normal today and not attempt any changes. A plan to save labor if likely to prove disappointing. A pleasant social evening will compensate for an irritating day. Lucky numbers, 211, 029, color, silver.

Saturday—A day of surprise. Plans for the morning will be upset. Staff difficulties or a breakdown of machinery are likely. An unexpected stroke of luck will end the day on an optimistic note. Lucky numbers, 615, 242, color, white.

Friday — Grand day for getting around after business. Plan calls to get the maximum benefit. Other people will be easy to get on with, both at work and socially. Lucky numbers and color as yesterday.

Monday — Particularly good for male pursuits, robust sports. A supporter may let you down over transport, but the surprise offer will solve the problem. Lucky numbers, 918, 270, color, red.

YOUR OWN HOROSCOPE

Here's how the stars shine for you in the week ahead.

ARIES March 21—April 20)—The balance between your work and home interests may be difficult to maintain. Better co-operation between age and youth will help to adjust this. You will gain unexpectedly through someone you thought a rival.

TAURUS (April 21 — May 21) — Some deceptive talk about you early in the week will cause a misunderstanding. Consultation with a superior will lead to your complete vindication. A short trip will bring a financial gain.

GEMINI (May 22—June 21) — A welcome change of routine will lighten your work. Prudent management, with some forethought, will now show to advantage when you examine your accounts.

CACER (June 22—July 23) — A lucky stroke of business will bring you into the limelight. If employed, now would be a good time to seek promotion. In any case, some change for the better is probable.

LEO (July 24—Aug. 23)—Unexpected delays may cause you financial loss if you have not taken precautions. Shrewd adaptability, however, will bring a quick recover, and you will have gained valuable experience.

VIRGO (Aug. 24—Sept. 23)—Old-fashioned methods will not get you far this week. Go around and talk to people. You will get some badly-needed new idea. Take advantage of social opportunities.

LIBRA (Sept. 24—Oct. 23)—Strong competition will have to be faced, but a bold plan will turn out to be successful. A change from your normal routine will bring you into contact with one who can be very helpful.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24—Nov. 22)—Your best plan is to sit down and think carefully about an unexpected development. Hasty action would be unwise, but a careful working out of the position will show you how and when to move. Some good news in a letter.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23—Dec. 22) —An unfortunate family development will give you extra correspondence and cause some loss of time at work. You will have to make an unpopular decision, which will mean strained relations in the home. It will be possible to talk your way out of this.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23—Jan. 20)—A minor speculation will fail, but you should gain by extra industry and a bolder approach. Later in the week an important new agreement will require your signature. In personal life one of your pet ideas will come to fruition.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21—Feb. 19)—A change in your working arrangement may cause a minor domestic upheaval. This may be unwelcome at first, but an expansion of interests and opportunities will leave no room for regrets. There will also be a chance of social advancement.

PISCES (Feb. 20 — March 20)—Probably you will be asked to take part in a plan where secrecy is essential. A little deception may be necessary, but it will be in the interests of those dear to you. A very advantageous marriage or engagement seems likely.

THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS

Here is 12 months' forecast for your birthday, engagement or wedding anniversary:

Tuesday—Prospects are very fair if you plod along on conservative lines. If you find work tedious later in the year don't try to force matters. Social activities will be somewhat subdued, but you will prefer it.

Wednesday — Removal of an obstruction will allow you to go ahead with new plans. You will gain influential backing and should be able to improve your position. Probably you will develop a scientific hobby.

Thursday—Any increase in income during the next year is doubtful. You will, however, gain satisfaction from a job well done. A new purpose in your life will appear.

Friday—Though associates or employers will disappoint you, if you carry on with your job quietly and efficiently they will see that you are capable of responsibility. Family difficulties may affect your pocket.

Saturday—Your reward for facing difficulties boldly will come late in the year but will be worth waiting for. A gratifying promotion or other financial gain can be looked for during the last quarter.

Sunday—Look forward to a happy and successful 12 months. Once obstruction from an older person is overcome, the way will be clear for advancement. A woman companion or partner will help your plans.

Monday—When disappointed by an influential backer you will take vigorous independent action with excellent results. You may find you have reshaped your life in a surprising way.

A SHORT SHORT STORY

The Cock-Eyed Optimist

By SPENCE DILL

"Why, shucks," declared Aaron Redfield boastfully, "five years after we're married we'll have a camp on Lake Mallory where we can spend our summer vacations."

Kate's eyes glistened. Most any one else would have regarded Aaron skeptically, amusedly. He wasn't a very bright youth or very handsome. He had made boasts before and fulfilled none of them. But Kate loved him. And love is blind

They were married in September. After a week's honeymoon they began housekeeping in a two-room apartment on Hyde street. "This is nothing to what we're going to have," Aaron boasted. "In a couple of years we'll own our own place in the suburbs."

Aaron worked for the Mid-Week National magazine. He had charge of 50 schoolboys who peddled the publication from house to house. It wasn't much of a job, but it paid him pretty well.

He didn't have to work very hard. He had plenty of leisure to dream of what a great man he was going to be when he got his break.

Times Were Bad

Times got bad. The schoolboys began selling fewer and fewer magazines. Aaron had difficulty in keeping some of them on their routes. His own income was reduced 10, 15 and finally 25 per cent.

Every now and then Kate mentioned the camp on Lake Mallory. This bothered him a little. One day he woke up to the fact she had believed him when he made that boast. She had faith in him.

Needed More Income

In order to save money enough to buy the camp he'd not only have to restore his original income, but double it.

This made him discouraged. He decided to confess to Kate that there wasn't much chance of getting the camp. With this in mind he went home. Kate greeted him at the door. She looked at him closely. And suddenly her eyes began to gleam.

She had, she said, spent an hour in the furniture department of a downtown store that afternoon looking at camp furniture. She knew just what she wanted.

Still Aaron knew it was pretty hopeless. He wished that Kate would forget about the camp. But she didn't. She made things worse by telling all her friends about it.

Longer Hours

He tried to think of new methods of inspiring ambition in his boys. He advertised for more. That spring he took on an additional 25.

This meant more work for himself, longer hours. But it meant, also, a bigger income. Each week he began laying away a bit more in their savings account. Kate was jubilant. She actually began cutting out curtains for the camp windows.

Sweated Himself Ragged

Aaron sweated and sacrificed and wore himself ragged saving that $500. But he succeeded. In July of the fifth year they went up Lake Mallory and bought the camp they had their eye on. They paid for it spot cash.

The next week they went back to their apartment. There was a letter there for Aaron. It was from Mid-Week, offering him a district managership at a figure that was twice his present salary.

Kate's eyes glistened. She knew, she said, he'd be successful.

"Shucks," he declared. "That's nothing! Five years more and I'll be making twice as much."

A Tour Of Tappahannock, Va.

Half of Tappahannock's 1,200 population is colored, although the local Chamber of Commerce says "its high-characterred citizenship is made up of the purest Anglo-Saxon blood."

While mistaken about color, at least the Chamber is correct on high character. The citizens of the town and surrounding Essex County and here, too, half of the inhabitants are colored (the county has about 7,500 people) are frugal land-owning people.

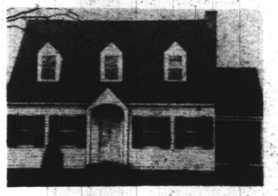
The town's character falls down on only one score, that of voting. The town and county political machinery is controlled by one group.

Tappahannock is located on U.S. Route 17 and U.S. Route 360 on the Rappahannock River and 45 miles from Chesapeake Bay. The town is 100 miles from Washington; 125 miles from Baltimore; 45 miles from Richmond and the same distance from Fredericksburg.

The town is the commercial and trading center of this entire section of Tidewater Virginia. It is the "neck of the bottle" for about 50,000 people of the Northern Neck: and is the inlet and outlet of this section.

The area has been called a veritable "garden of Eden" with its beautiful flowers, shade trees and song birds. In the river, estuaries and fresh water ponds there is fishing, boating, and bathing. The hunter will find such wild life as deer, quail, ducks, and geese.

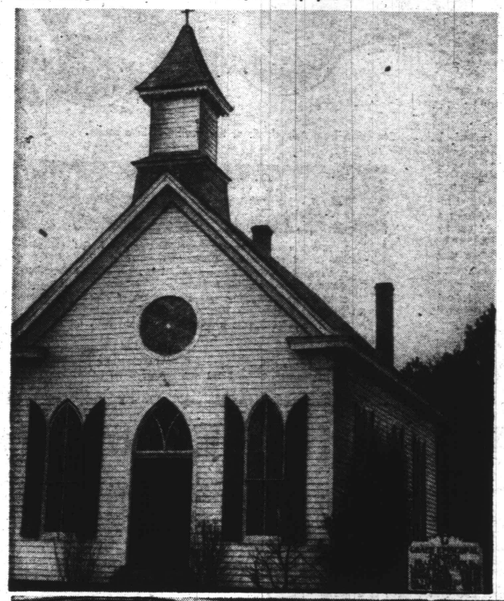
Prince Street in Tappahannock ends at the Rappahannock River. Standin g in the center of the street is a confederate monument, a familiar landmark in Virginia cities and towns.

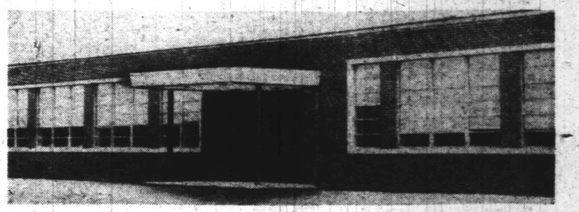


The home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Jackson is located in the heart of town. He is a drug store employee, Mrs. Jackson teaches.

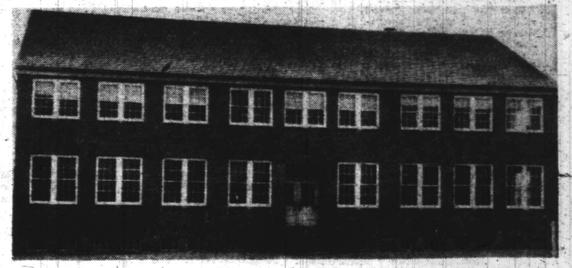
Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Markham live just outside of town. He owns popular Mark-Haven Beach on the Rappahannock, near Tappahannock.

Distinguished by awnings, this is the home of Dr. and Mrs. E. G. Stewart. Dr. Stewart is the town physician.



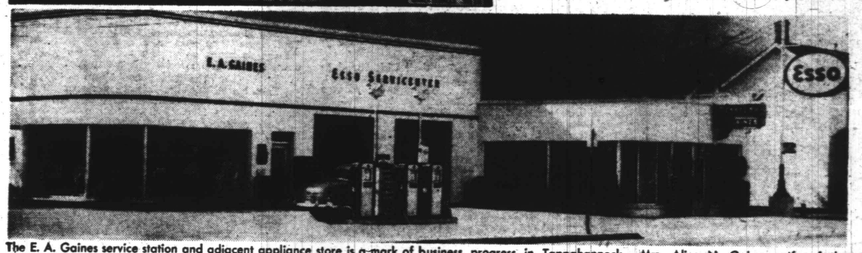


This is the new Essex County elementary school built last year at a cost of $200,000. It has 10 classrooms, cafeteria and library. It is part of the Essex County training school.



At left is Grace Episcopal church, at Millers Tavern in Essex County. The church is near Moncure School. The Rev. S. R. Wilson is pastor.

Some 257 pupils attend John Moncue elementary school also a part of the training school program at Millers Tavern. P. B. Parks is serving his first year as principal of the training school and supervises 10 primary teachers and six high school instructors.



The E. A. Gaines service station and adjacent appliance store is a mark of business progress in Tappahannock. Mrs. Alice N. Gaines, wife of the owner, is manager of the store. Mr. Gaines is a World War II veteran.

WEEK NEXT

The AFRO roving photographer, Scott Henderson, visits Fredericksburg, Va., and Henderson, N.C. Don't miss these two full-pages of pictures and comment on two growing communities. In the near future, picture stories on Bowling Green, Va., and Roanoke Rapids, N. C., will appear in the AFRO Magazine.