Fletcher News Letter

ASHEVILLE AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL AND MOUNTAIN SANITARIUM Vol. VIII, No. 9 Fletcher, North Carolina January

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BEYOND PEARL HARBOR

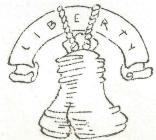
War was not more than begun before the American people, quick to catch a meaningful expression, had taken as our slogan, "Remember Pearl Harbor."

The word that came over the air that fateful December day, as we went happily about our work, blanched our faces and chilled our hearts. We hung over our radios, and we waited for the next edition. We listened to our President's message to Congress the next day and heard the declaration of war.

Invasion awakened a patriotic response that nothing else could have done, and our nation began to gird itself for war. Winston Churchill in his speech to the American Congress warned that a time of great tribultaion is before us. We cannot doubt that he is right. Our young men are being called to training camps. Leaving their college courses unfinished, laying aside, for a time at least, the plans that young men would normally have, they are answering the country's call. We brace their armors with the bright buckles of love and courage and faith, and we pray for strength for them and for us.

"Remember Pearl Harbor". Could we ever forget it? But our stricken souls must have something more. We will remember, when our hearts are almost too heavy to carry on, that "My grace is sufficient for thee," and in that promise of His strength for the needs of every day we shall be able to go.

And let us remember, too, in our world where the forces of evil seem almost to overwhelm us, that good will ultimately triumph; and far beyond Pearl Harbor, the victories of the sword and the spirit won, God Himself will wipe away the tears from our eyes and erase the sorrow from our hearts in a land where righteousness will reign!



--M.M.J.

HOLIDAYS AT SCHOOL

Christmas seems so long ago. When every day brings us experiences of such tremendous import, time hurries fast. And certainly a lot of history has been made since our holiday vacation, one short month ago. With the closing of school, our students went to all parts of the South, and a number to the North, leaving a very few behind. A number of workers also took trips to various places. Miss Spicer w ent to her home in Texas. Miss Strickland went to her home in Maine. Miss Vance visited her sister in Boston. Miss Sype visited her parents at Tampa, Florida. Mrs. Franklin spent the time with her father, who was ill, at Louisville, Kentucky. Mr. Franklin went to Columbia and Graysville. Miss Beck went to her home at Bristol. The Hensley family spent the entire vacation in Florida; the Lowders visited Mr. Lowder's family at Albemarle. The Brownsbergers spent a few days in Washington, Mrs. Brownsberger returning high and lifted up, having laid her eyes upon the mighty -- Winston Churchill. Mrs. Boggs and the girls who visited in the Capitol city returned talking of blackouts with a slightly sophisticated air, we thought.

Four of our boys, Robert Marquis, Doyle Mullinax, Sanford Graves, and David Jasperson, spent their entire vacation at Collegedale in Medical Cadet Corps. The boys liked their taste of army life, and we liked the merit badges they wore home. Doyle even has a corporal's stripe on his uniform.

We seemed very few who were left at home, just enough of us to really have to work to take care of the things that had to be done.

Not even at Christmas time could we forget Pearl Harbor, and it was with a strange sinking in our hearts that we lighted our candles, and trimmed our Christmas trees. But we spent some pleasant evenings together, and the vacation passed quickly.

Mrs. Smith gave us a wonderful Christmas dinner; maybe it was just as well there were not too many here.

The fifth of January found the school bell ringing again; the boys and girls came home (we were so glad to see then) with stories of their good times to tell.

But there's always someone to take all the joy out of one's life and this time somebody went and started talk about somester examinations!

OUR BOYS

This past month we saw for the first time on our campus one of our own boys in uniform. Adrian Wright, who graduated from our high school in 1939, and also spent two years in the school of nursing, is now stationed at Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia. Adrian spent two weeks in this vicinity with the Army Board, examining selectes. We were glad to have him make the school his headquarters. We were glad, too, to see him wearing the badge of a first class private.

During the holidays eards were received on our campus from a number of our boys who are in training, Jack Williams at Camp Lee, Virginia; Glon Nostell at Fort Sill, Oklahoma; and Archie Stanton at the Newfoundland Base Command.

FRESHMAN NURSES ARE CAPPED

The class of preliminary student nurses who have been with us since September, were officially accepted into the School of Nursing at a dedication service held Thursday evening, January 15. We are pleased to announce that every member of the class, thirteen young women, was accepted and given the opportunity to continue her preparation for medical missionary nursing. One young man, who is in training for treatment room work, also participated in the exercises. The program was a simple one, but inspirational, for it is always inspirational to witness a group of carnest, sincere youth dedicate themselves to a life of unselfish service in the care of the sick. Doctor Brownsberger gave a brief talk to the class on the subject, "For Such a Time as This". Mrs. Sheldon gave a reading, accompanied by Miss Rutledge and Miss Russ in song, and Miss Audrey Anderson sang, "She is a Nurse".

We listened to the repeating of the Kate Lindsay Pledge; we witnessed the capping by the supervising staff; and our hearts were moved as the class, with lighted candles, sang again that beautiful song, loved by all nurses:

"I pledge myself before my God,
This is my sacred vow,
To pass my life in purity,
No faithlessness allow. . . . "

This class comes to us from eleven states - from South Dakota and Colorado in the Middle West, to Massachusetts in the North, and Florida in the far South. The class roll follows:

Louise Barber, Florida Ada Miller, ' Tennessee Massachusetts Nellie Bodtker,' South Dakota Hazel Morrow, Virginia France, New York Evelyn Peterson, Alabama Pauline Horton, North Carolina Voga Porkins, Tennessee Cora Hudson, Washington, D.C. Joyce Small, Pearl Hester, North Carolina Ostine Whisnant, Colorado North Carolina North Carolina Howard Benson, Michigan Lucy Moore,

"TRAILING CLOUDS OF GLORY"

Campus life like ours is rich in human interest stories; once in a while we uncover one. When Mrs. Odille Johns-Livingston returned from her holiday vacation we admired the very trim, grey suit she wore, decidedly military in style and cut. Then we got the story. Mrs. Livingston is a first cousin of Lieutenant Joseph Harold Moore of Spartanburg, South Carolina, whose name has been in the headlines for bravery in fighting the Japanese in the Philippines. Lieutenant Moore was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for diving his plane into a group of five enemy ships that were attacking his comrade who was descending in a parachute, shooting down two planes and sitracting the others.

But what has that to do with Mrs. Livingston's new suit? Well, clever seamstress that she is, she made the suit from Lieutenant Moore's Clemson College uniform!

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LET'S GO TO CHAPEL

Our chapel programs this month have been just as varied and interesting as the personalities that planned and presented them.

Professor Nestell talked to us one day about America's preparations for war. We must not only provide enough artillery for ourselves but also for the nations now enslaved so that when the hour comes to strike they will have the means they need with which to gain their freedom.

We enjoyed the talk about South America by Dr. Weaver. Anything we can learn about South America now is of great interest to us. He emphasized the strong feeling of nationalism in the South American countries. We also were interested in his experiences in learning to eat new foods.

At another time we had our patriotism aroused by hearing how poor school boys and girls like us can help in national defense. We were told where to put our scrap paper so it can be gathered up and baled by the new baler that has been ordered. We were cautioned to take care of our clothing, especially our woolen garments for fifty percent of the wool supply will be used by the army. We are glad to cooperate so that our boys can have good wool uniforms. Especially we must guard our health, for war brings epidemics; there will be a shortage of doctors and modicines, and the domands made upon our strength will be greater. Chins up, we can win this war if we will.

Mrs. Brownsberger, who is always interesting, reviewed some of the latest current events, local and national, and told a number of delightful human interest stories. When Winston Churchill visited America, he received many gifts, some of them strange, but all appreciated, I am sure. They included a case of eggs, pocans, lima beans, cathip for his cat, a copy of Washington's will, onions, and a carton of skin lotion. The Post Office Department is having a headache, she said, because they are afraid they cannot get tapioca to make the postage stamps stick. It takes small items as well as large to keep the machinery of government running.

"I wish I was in de land ob cotton". We sang this song quite lustily, we thought, but not as well as Mrs. Jasperson thought a crowd of Southern young people should, as a prelude for her talk last week on, "Cotton, The Golden Fleece of Dixie". Perhaps we had not realized before just to what extent cotton has made the South. It was cotton that brought the black faces to our country; that caused one of our greatest and certainly our most tragic wars, that nearly split the Union in two. It is responsible for our wealth and for our poverty, for our depleted soil, for the entire economy upon which the South is built. It provides us with clothing, with food, it furnishes explosives for our army.

The typing class gave a program by television Monday. It was built around the theme of education. Bruce, the successful farmer, pointed out to improvident Kenneth the difference that education makes in farming. Nurses and stenographers showed the difference between good and inadequate training.

"Education! Education! That's what builds success.

Mable Jensen

CAMPUS NEWS

On December 26th, Miss Martha Hansen, who has been acting as instructor of nurses in our institution for a number of years, underwent a heavy operation at the Washington Sanitarium. We are glad for reports coming to us that she is doing well, and we wish for her complete and rapid recovery.

Providence indeed was guiding when Miss Virginia Audrey Anderson came to visit Elder and Mrs. Sheldon during the holiday. With our instructor of nurses on a hospital bed, our teaching staff was seriously crippled. Miss Anderson, a graduate of the New England Sanitarium and Hospital, kindly consented to remain with us for a few months to aid in our teaching program. She is fitting into her work splendidly, and is carrying a full teaching load. We appreciate the kindness of the New England Sanitarium in releasing her to us.

We are glad to announce that a number of new books have been added to our nurses' library during the past few weeks. Especially are we pleased with nine books, gifts to us from Mrs. Elizabeth Wright and her two sisters, Misses Carrie and Katherine Irwin, of Holly, Michigan. The books are a valued addition to our library, and we appreciate them.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Bean, recently of California, have joined our staff of workers. We welcome them to our work.

We were glad to have a visit during the month from Dr. J. E. Weaver of the Educational Department of the General Conference. With Professor A. D. Kaelin, he came to inspect our grade school. It was a pleasure to see Dr. Weaver again, who for a number of years was with us in Dixic. At an evening chapel period, Dr. Weaver spoke to us, his subject being his visit to South America during the past year.

In the first battle of the war, the attack on Hawaii, our school family was represented. Donald Marquis, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Marquis, who has been in the Navy for many years, is with the Pacific Flect on the U.S.S. Northampton, which was in Pearl Harbor at the time of the attack. Charles Arnold and Robert Melius, students, both had brothers in Hawaii. We are thankful that all three of these young men have been heard from.

Two carloads of people from our campus drove to Glen Alpine last Friday to be present at the funeral of Miss Kate L. Macey, a veteran nurse, who has pioneered medical missionary work at a number of places in the South. Miss Macey was also superintendent of nurses for a number of years at the Orlando Sanitarium. She had, perhaps, trained more nurses than any other person in our denomination. She typified the very best in the nursing profession and wrote her message of consecration and service upon many lives to which she was an unfailing inspiration.

Elder A. J. Clark, of the Asheville Church, spoke at the morning church service last Sabbath, a very forceful message.

A number of our ladies attended the Dorcas Federation meeting at Spartanburg Sunday.

Still more new books have been added to the high school library lately, "Home On The River", by Rutledge; "Hawaii, Restless Rampart," by Barber; "Roaming in Hawaii", by Franck; "Wings at My Window", by Covan, "Our Times: The Twenties", by Mark Sullivan; "World Famous Paintings", by Rockwell Kent; "One Man Against The North", by Irwin; "Men Without Fear", and "Your Daily Paper", by Floherty.

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Campus News-continued

New Glasses that started the second semester are Social Problems, taught by Professor Nestell, and Health, taught by Mrs. Brownsberger.

Our gratitude goes to Paul Pusey for his work on the school building during vacation. We started school in a nice clean building, the floors all freshly waxed, windows washed and everything in order.

Lyle Marie Wallace has as her guests her mother, Mrs. Lew Wallace of Madison and her little sister Lou Ann.

Our Sabbath School got off to a good start for the new year with an entirely new staff. Miss Marie Spicer is our superintendent, having for her assistants Mrs. Boggs, Miss Bodtker and James Shepard. Miss Norma Russ is our secretary with Genella Lowder and Carlton Hunt as assis tants. Mis Florence Strickland has the Junior Division and Miss Minita Belle Sype the Primary Division.

FOUR CADETS

The Christmas vacation proved to be a very unusual one for four of us, Robert Marquis, David Jasperson, Sanford Graves, and me. We spent the entire time at Southern Junior College in a strenuous program of training for medical service in the army, along with a group of young men that totalled ninety-seven, the largest Medical Cadet Corps ever assembled in our denomination.

The course was in charge of Captain Calvin D. Busch, retired, who was in the famous Rainbow Division overseas in 1917. We had our uniforms and were organized into a company of three platoons with our non-commissioned officers. We received intensive drill in learning to take orders and drilling. The first drills were not so good, but before we left, we think we were quite creditable. We had thorough work in litter drill.

At first it seemed like a hard life, but after a few days, time flew by. When our training was over, we found that we had made a number of good friends that we were sorry to leave, but school was calling and the four of us were glad to answer.

Doyle Mullinax