

Taken from The Albany Herald, dated, 04-11-1946)

ROY DIAL HEADS EXCHANGE CLUB

The first meeting of the newly formed Exchange Club of Albany, which suspended activities during the war, operating under the authority of the National Exchange Club, was held at the New Albany Hotel Wednesday night.

The following officers were elected: Roy Dial, President; William Buntin, Secretary. The Exchange Club, by birth in its philosophy, and in its objectives is an American institution, it was brought out.

Charles A. Berkey and a number of his friends and business associates formed the first local Exchange Club in Detroit, MI., March 27, 1911. Prior to that date, some of these men had been meeting regularly and informally during the luncheon hour for exchange of ideas. These meetings dated as far back as 1896.

From the day of formation of the first club, 35 years ago, Exchange has expanded steadily in the national field, electing to membership in the many cities, towns and communities in which it is established the leaders in business and professional fields.

Exchange is non-political, non-sectarian, non-commercial, and non-legislative.

(Taken from The Albany Herald, dated, 05-25-1946)

James E. Baird, manager of the local sub-regional office of the Veterans Administration, was guest speaker at the Exchange Club luncheon held at Hotel Gordon yesterday.

Roy Dial, club president, who presided at the meeting, announced that members, E. G. Francke and Robert Weir would attend the state convention in Rome, June 7 and 8, as delegates from the local chapter.

Mr. Baird, veteran of both World War I and II, gave what he termed a "bird's-eye view or a worm's-eye view" of the overall setup and services of the Veterans Administration. It was a comprehensive and interesting explanation, well received by his listeners.

Emphasizing the fact that General Omar Bradley, head of the VA, is responsible for the decentralizing process of the organization now in effect, Mr. Baird said "it is General Bradley's purpose to establish regional and sub-regional offices in every state in order to bring our services direct to the veteran. Heretofore, the VA regional offices were geographically located so that it was inconvenient for the majority of the veterans to contact them."

Robert Campbell and Charles R. Strickland, Jr., club members, were awarded "victory pins" symbolizing their success in having named two candidates each for membership who were accepted by the club.

(Taken from The Albany Herald, dated, 06-22-1946)

EXCHANGE CLUB MEMBERS SEE COMBAT MOVIE

An intensely interesting combat movie was shown, courtesy of Turner Field, as the entertainment feature of the Albany Exchange Club's weekly luncheon yesterday in Hotel Gordon. E. G. Francke, President-elect, presided in the absence of the current club president, Roy Dial.

Mr. Francke announced that five members of the newly formed Exchange Club of Valdosta would attend the local club's "charter night" event, which is to be staged here the evening of July 12. The visitors will be: Jack Howell, Valdosta Exchange Club Vice-President, and the following members; Gene Greneker, Jack McCorkle, Omer Franklin, Jr. and Walter Waldron, Jr.

It was also announced that the Valdosta Club has issued a standing invitation to local Exchange Club members, who may be in Valdosta in the future, to either contact Mr. Howell, or the President, J. Lundie Smith.

Lt. S. E. Courtney and Lt. R. W. Hancock, Turner Field Recruiting Officers, showed the film entitled, "Battle Of The Mariana's", a potent reminder of the price paid in lives for the recapture of Saipan, Tinian, and Guam.

Dr. Frank Thomas, a club member, who is a naval veteran of the South Pacific, presently holding the reserve rank of Lt. Commander, was among those present that found many familiar scenes depicted in the film. Dr. Thomas was stationed on Guan, for a period of time, following in the wake of our armed forces.

Jimmy Rowsley, of radio station WALB, was a visitor at the luncheon.

(Taken from The Albany Herald, dated, 07-06-1946)

REV. J.E. FAIN ADDRESSES LOCAL EXCHANGE CLUB

Installation of Officers and a short but humorous talk by the Rev. J. Ed Fain, of Savannah, featured yesterday's luncheon session of the Albany Exchange Club at the Hotel Gordon.

E. G. Francke, popular WALB advertising manager, succeeded Roy Dial as President for the ensuing six months term, and F. E. (Bubber) Joiner, and G. W. Chapman were installed as Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer, respectively. Chapman replaced Bill Buntin, newly elected Secretary-Treasurer, who recently resigned his office due to the press of private business.

The Rev. Mr. Fain, former pastor of the First Methodist Church here, now pastor of Wesley Monumental Church in Savannah, praised the members of the Exchange Club and complimented them for the service their organization is rendering Albany. The assembled Exchange Club members enthusiastically received his brief sketch of several lively anecdotes, which marked his life in Albany.

John Duke, chairman of the Charter Night Committee discussed briefly the formulated plans for Friday night's meeting at the Masonic Temple, when the charter for the local club will be presented by Henry M. Powell, of Atlanta, an official of the National Exchange Club.

Mr. Duke said members of Exchange Clubs in Valdosta, Athens, and Macon plan to attend the charter program and urged all members of the Albany Club to be present. He stated that officials and leaders of other Albany Civic organizations have also been invited.

Due to the charter presentation Friday night, there will not be a luncheon next Friday at the Hotel Gordon.

(Taken from The Albany Herald, dated, 07-11-1946)

NATIONAL OFFICER TO ADDRESS LOCAL EXCHANGE CLUB

Henry M. Powell, of the National Exchange Club, will deliver the "Charter" to the Albany Exchange Club Friday night at the Masonic Temple.

Exchange Club members from Columbus, Macon, Valdosta, and other Georgia cities, as well as many prominent Albany civic and public officials will attend.

E. G. Francke, President of the newly formed Exchange Club, has announced that a varied program of entertainment has been arranged and today urged all members to be present.

The Ladies of the Eastern Star will serve the dinner.

(Taken from The Albany Herald, dated, 07-12-1946)

EXCHANGE CLUB TO OBSERVE 'CHARTER NIGHT'

Approximately 130 guests, including delegations from Atlanta, Macon, Valdosta, Waycross, and Columbus, are expected to attend the "Charter Night" ceremonies of the Albany Exchange Club tonight at the Masonic Temple.

Henry M. Powell of the Exchange Club of Atlanta will officiate at the presentation of Charter to the Albany affiliate of National Exchange Clubs.

Many civic and public officials of the state have been invited to the session, which begins at 8 p.m. and John Duke, Chairman of the Charter Night Committee, has arranged a program of entertainment, which includes singing waiters and magic.

F. G. Francke, President, has asked all members of the local chapter of the Exchange Club to be present for this the most important session of the organization this year.

(Taken from The Albany Herald, dated, 07-13-1946)

LOCAL CLUB RECEIVES NEW CHARTER

Henry M. Powell, past president of the Atlanta Exchange Club, and prominent in the affairs of the National Exchange Club, last night delivered a new charter to the Albany Exchange Club during ceremonies attended by approximately seventy-five guests at the Masonic Temple.

Roy Dial, immediate former head of the local affiliate, and E. G. Francke, newly elected President and advertising manager of Radio Station WALB, received the charter, and promised faithful cooperation to the national chapter and to the other, civic organizations in Albany.

In private life a former President of the Life Insurance Underwriters Association, Mr. Powell, in tracing the growth of Exchange Clubs in Georgia, revealed that at the beginning of 1946, there were only nine clubs in the state. He said that so far this year, however, nine new clubs had been formed doubling the previous total.

Mr. Powell told the assembled Exchangites and guests of the manner in which the first Exchange Club was organized. He stated that as an aftermath of ten years of meeting together since 1896, Charles Berkey, formed the first Exchange Club in Detroit. Subsequently in 1911, the first National Exchange Club was organized, and Mr. Berkey named president.

Since that time, the clubs have become national civic leaders, and are now taking part in many worthwhile social and community activities.

Jack Lofton delighted the assembly with his vocal renditions of light opera and semi-classical music, and George and Gene Rosser entertained with feats of magic. The Ladies of The Eastern

Star served the dinner.

Among the Albany civic leaders present were R. S. Yarbrough, President of the Chamber of Commerce; Matt Vansant, President of The Albany Salesmen's Club; Harold Weatherbee, President of the Rotary Club; Walter Brown, Secretary-Manager of the Chamber of Commerce; Paul Jones, Vice-President of the Kiwanis Club, and Charles Allen, President of the Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Out of town guests were Major Robert S. Pendleton, U.S.M.C., retired of Atlanta; George Adams, President of the Macon Exchange Club; Joe Pruett, Editor of the state Exchange Bulletin; Hugh Hill, Bill Denson, Charlie Rice, Bill Fleming and Ralph Brantley, all of Macon and B. C. Cullens, E. M. Everett, P. V. Pridgeon, A. O. Johnson, and James Suggs, Secretary-Treasurer of the Waycross Exchange Club, all of Waycross.

(Taken from The Albany Herald, dated, 07-27-1946)

MANGET TELLS CLUB OF SOCIAL SECURITY PROGRAM

Exchange Club members meeting at their weekly luncheon at Hotel Gordon yesterday had as their guest speaker, Victor Manget, manager of the Albany Social Security Office, E. G. Francke, club President, presided.

Four visitors were present at the luncheon. They were H. B. Hurley, Moultrie; Jack Cheney, Fitzgerald; and Woody Gause and A. R. Williams.

Mr. Manget delivered an interesting and informative talk on old age and survivors insurance as set up under the Social Security Act.

"It is wise to check on your account once a year," Mr. Manget told his listeners. "Write Social Security Board, Baltimore, Maryland." He explained that errors sometimes occur, as for example, when an employer does not have an employee's correct social security number or name.

Advising that the Social Security Board has more than 400 field offices throughout the country, Mr. Manget stated that anyone having questions regarding old age and survivors insurance should contact his local office.

(Taken from The Albany Herald, dated, 08-03-1946)

EXCHANGE CLUB HEARS TALK ON BELGIAN CONGO

Members of the Albany Exchange Club who met for the regular weekly luncheon Friday at Hotel Gordon were keenly interested in a talk delivered by their guest speaker, the Rev. James W. Bell, a native of Colquitt, who has spent the last 29 years in the Belgian Congo.

Back on his third trip to the United States in that time, Mr. Bell emphasized the fact that Africa is vitally connected with this country in an economic sense and advised that Americans familiarize themselves with this little known country.

Speaking specifically about the Belgian Congo, Mr. Bell compared its size to the total area of Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, California, Nevada, Oregon and Montana. An estimated 12 million natives and an approximate total of 40,000 whites inhabit this province.

Three and one-half million ounces of silver, 60,000 ounces of gold, 60 per-cent of the world's

supply of cobalt and 32,000 tons of coffee were but a few of the export products the Congo shipped last year. Mr. Bell stated, copper, radium, and 90 per-cent of the uranium used in the atomic bomb project was also imported by the United States from the Congo during the war years.

Industrial and commercial diamonds were produced in the estimated amount of 11 million karats during 1945, he said.

Cotton and rubber are also produced in great quantities. The African missionary stated that on his first trip back to the United States years ago, it took him six months. The travel time had been shortened to two months on the second trip. His recent trip to American involved 48 hours flying time from the western coast of Africa to Miami.

"It won't be long until some of you will be vacationing in the Belgian Congo. You will find the comfort you are accustomed to here in the United States," he stated.

(Taken from The Albany Herald, dated, 08-10-1946)

EXCHANGE SPEAKER COMPARES TWO POSTWAR PERIODS

Various members of the Albany Exchange Club, who attended the weekly luncheon meeting yesterday at Hotel Gordon, expressed enthusiastic appreciation for the thought provoking talk delivered by the guest speaker, James Gray, editorial writer of the Albany Herald.

At the brief business session, which preceded the introduction of the speaker, E. G. Francke, club President announced that the United States Navy Band of Annapolis is scheduled for a matinee and evening performance here at the Municipal Auditorium on October 22. The band is to be presented under the sponsorship of the Exchange Club and proceeds received by the sponsor will be given to the local high school band.

The Rev. G. A. Cooper, pastor of the Byne Memorial Baptist Church pronounced the invocation. Speaking on the parallel between the postwar periods of World War I and World War II, Mr. Gray stated, "The mood of the American people today is vastly different. The fervent idealism inspired by Woodrow Wilson is missing. The sharp conflict between those who believed in world organization and those who did not is absent. The overwhelming confidence of the American people in their own security and self sufficiency has been rudely shaken."

The speaker pointed out that whereas a year ago men were dying for a cause and sacrifice after sacrifice was being made, today the whole world seems to have been transformed.

"The surrender to materialism seems to be universal. Governments as well as individuals seem to have succumbed," he said. Labor controversies are sweeping the world. Producers and sellers are resisting controls and whether it be under the aegis of capitalism or communism, the waves of unrest are spreading."

"Touching on the subject of national security in conjunction with the immensity and complexity of world problems, Russia, the atom bomb, the united nations, the national debt, the world fund and bank, the British loan, etc. Mr. Gray stated that reflective people of the country fear and have doubt about the ability of America to solve its own problems."

"It is an astonishing fact," he declared, "but after an unprecedented war in which our enemies on the field of battle were utterly defeated, we seem to feel less secure than we did before we were attacked or even before the tide was running strongest against us.

In concluding his speech, the Herald editorial writer stated, "self-preservation is the motivation

of American diplomacy characterized by Secretary of State Byrnes' offensive for peace. That may have been the case in 1919 too, but the prime difference today is that the American people know it."

(Taken from The Albany Herald, dated, 08-24-1946)

EXCHANGE CLUB WILL BRING NAVY BAND TO ALBANY

Discussion of plans for the October 22 appearance here of the U.S. Navy Band, of Washington, D.C. highlighted Friday's luncheon of the Albany Exchange Club at the Hotel Gordon. E. G. Francke, President, presided at the business session which saw a three-man committee composed of Mr. Francke, Joe Hughes and H. T. McCall named to meet with the city commission, Tuesday night to secure the facilities of the municipal auditorium for the fall charity concert of the famed band.

Also drawing the attention of the group was the summer membership drive. All members were urged by President Francke to submit names of proposed members to the secretary as soon as possible in order that the club's board of control can take action.

(Taken from The Albany Herald, dated, 10-23-1946)

SCORERS BIG HIT IN TWO CONCERTS

Hailed by many as the greatest piece of entertainment ever to come to Albany and heralded by a storm of applause, the United States Navy Band, under the direction of Lt. Charles Brendler, presented two concerts yesterday in the Municipal Auditorium as part of their first tour since 1941. The concerts were sponsored by the Albany Exchange Club and proceeds go to the Albany High School Band.

During the afternoon concert, four students from Albany High School and a student each from Tifton and Thomasville sat in with the famed group of Navy Musicians. Sonny Hawkins, from Tifton, played his trumpet and Jack Watkins, from Thomasville, played his trombone. Those from Albany were: Whaley Hughes, trumpet; Sonny Bryan, tenor saxophone; Eddie Ort, clarinet; and Billy Hughes, drum.

Albansians attending the concert were impressed with the versatility of the Navy Musicians as they played music ranging from George's "Enescu's Romanian Rhapsody" and the introduction and "mondo capriccioso" by Saint Saens, to Charles Hill's "At the Gremlin Ball," "Deep Purple" by Peter De Rose, and radio hits of 1946.

One lady, was heard to remark at this versatility when moving from a crashing, stirring march such as "Stars And Stripes Forever", the Navy men would begin a lightly moving, very delicate selection such as the "Dance Of The Flutes" from Tchaikovsky's "Nut Cracker Suite."

The group seemed to be able to change mood and type of music instantly, for instance, going from heavy-footed marches and recent radio hits to the introduction from Act III of "Lohengrin," by Richard Wagner, which the group performed superbly.

The Navy arranger has learned to use the woodwinds as violins in scoring the music and the conductor, Lt. Brendler, brings them in so subtly that the violins usually necessary in any group playing symphonic arrangements are not missed at all.

The band played its last concert in Albany last night and left this morning to continue its tour of the southeast.