

THE ENTERPRISE

Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Tuesday, May 27, 1941.

VOLUME XLIV—NUMBER 42

Advertisers Will Find Our Columns A Latchkey To Over 1,600 Homes Of Martin County.

ESTABLISHED 1899

Farm Loan Bill Is Made Law of Land By The President

Farmers Now Assured 85 Per Cent of Cost of Producing Basic Commodities

Rated by many as the most beneficial legislation ever passed in behalf of the farmers, the Farm Loan Bill was included in the laws of the land yesterday when President Roosevelt signed the measure. In signing the measure which had passed both houses of Congress by big margins, the President explained that he was looking to Congress to hold farm prices in line, that every precaution should be taken to head off runaway prices.

The bill is designed to raise farmers' cash income to the point where they will have the same purchasing power, in relation to that of industrial workers, that they enjoyed during the 1909-14 base period. It applies to wheat, cotton, corn, rice and tobacco.

Senator Bankhead (D-Ala), terming the price-peggng farm loan bill as the beginning of "a new era in rural life," called on cotton farmers today to keep their cotton in storage.

The Alabaman said in a statement that if farmers continued to sell their equities in loan cotton, they merely aided speculators and others in getting cotton to sell in competition with the new crop.

Bankhead, a Senate farm leader, issue this statement a few hours after President Roosevelt signed legislation establishing mandatory loans at 85 per cent of parity on basic farm commodities.

He and Senator Russell (D-Ga.), another sponsor of the bill, indicated that an effort would be made next year at least to continue the high loan another season. The latter said that although he believed the farmer should be guaranteed 100 per cent of parity, the 85 per cent provision would "give him some idea when he plants his crop what he's going to get for it."

Bankhead said he considered it the most beneficial agricultural legislation that has ever been enacted by the Federal government.

Agricultural experts predicted that approval of the loan bill will have little, if any, immediate effect on prices because its approval by the Chief Executive was anticipated. It was a major factor in recent sharp rises in farm commodity prices.

As of April 15, corn sold for 75 per cent of parity; wheat, 67 per cent; rice, 106 per cent; and beef cattle, hogs and lambs, all sold well above parity prices. Since then prices have continued to rise so that, as of today, actual sale price plus government parity and conservation benefit payments probably would amount to parity or above on most farm commodities.

Four Young Martin County White Boys Enter Army Today

Authorities "Closing In" On Alleged County Tax Dodgers

The drive to round up alleged tax dodgers in this county is progressing rapidly and with semi-starting developments. An unofficial report on the investigation is not available at the moment, but word from the county courthouse following a meeting of representatives of the county with the several township list-takers clearly indicates that the authorities are "closing in" on those who for one reason or another failed to list their earthly possessions or acknowledge their poll tax obligations.

Going into a huddle early yesterday morning, the tax supervisor, S. H. Grimes, Commissioner C. D. Carpenter and nine of the property list-takers started checking the automobile registration against the listings. Quite a few owners did not list their cars, and some did not admit any personal or real property at all. It is possible that some of those who

have automobiles registered in their names did not have them on the first day of last January and will, on that basis, claim they are not subject to the tax. Then there are those cases where the owners sold their cars on or about the last day of December and did not buy or accept delivery on a new car until on or about January 2. Judging from the check made by the list-takers and tax authorities it is believed that there are more than 100 automobiles in the county that are not on the tax books.

It is also estimated that there are between 750 and 1,000 persons in the county who did not list any property or who did not give in their polls. It is also apparent that there are quite a few who participated in past elections and yet did not admit their obligation by listing subject to poll tax.

The War Department announced the award of contracts totaling \$322,500,000 for use in enlarging and speeding the bomber program by building Government-owned plants and increasing the supply of essential materials.

The War Department announced the award of contracts totaling \$322,500,000 for use in enlarging and speeding the bomber program by building Government-owned plants and increasing the supply of essential materials.

The Navy reported its air program "slightly ahead of schedule" with 3,500 planes on hand May 1, as compared with 2,172 ten months before. The department said that by January, 1942, its training program will supply sufficient pilots for 15,000 planes, its goal.

The Maritime Commission announced the delivery of seven new ships, an addition of 50,200 tons, to the American merchant fleet. The Senate and House enacted legislation authorizing the President to requisition foreign shipping immobilized in U. S. ports. Maritime Commission Chairman Land asked newspaper editors, radio stations and other sources of public information to withhold news of merchant ships used to aid Britain and other democracies.

The men included in the No. 1-A classification are subject to physical examinations within a comparatively short time. Their final status as far as the army is concerned cannot be determined until after the physical examinations have been made, but as far as the draft board's findings are concerned they are subject to call.

The classifications:

Class 1-A—White

Don Elpherson Johnson, Irvin Clifford Griffin, Noah Henry Gurganus, George Lee Roberson and Albert Leon Cook, of Williamston;

Albert Earl Roberson, Charles Manning Peal, Route 1, Williamston;

Zack Sheppard Cowin, William Herbert Mizell, Henry Luther Harris, Fred Mutt Taylor, Cecil Manning, William Ashley Gurganus and Simon Gardner, Route 2, Williamston;

Charles Gaston Curtis, Marvin Kelly Whitehurst, Burton Gray, Harry Seward Roberson, of Robersonville;

Walter Alexander Rhodes, Seth Augustus Davis, Elmer Gray Modlin, John Henry Cooper, Route 1, Jamesville;

Thurman Harrison Matthews, Dave Wiley Branton, Melvin Augustus Clisson, Route 2, Robersonville;

James Ernest Keel, Ruel Johnson Turner, Route 1, Robersonville;

Dampy Lee Simmons, Raleigh; Billee B. Glisson, Parmele; Henry Alexander Halipil, Hamilton; Richard Earle Hale, Route 1, Palmyra; Dallas Murry Harden, Dardens; Jesse Wilson Griffin, Elizabeth City; Herbert Clinton Brown, Oak City; William Augustus Williams, Bamberg; Craven Baker Roebuck, Washington; James Curtis Nicholson, Lowell; William Robert Crandall, Norfolk; Robert Asa Edmondson, Jr., Hamilton; Grover Alton Wynn, Route 3, Williamston;

Cost of Living

Labor Secretary Perkins announced a 2.2 per cent rise in the cost of living in larger cities above the 1935-1939 average and 3.7 per cent above August, 1939, just prior to the European war. She said food prices were up 5 per cent over last Autumn, rents up 0.3 per cent in the last month, and clothing up 2.2 per cent. The Labor department reported; however, the earnings of workers in the manufacturing industries advanced to new high levels — 5.4 per cent more than March, 1940, with average hourly earnings at 69.7 cents, or \$29.11 a week.

Selective Service

Congress amended the Selective Service Act to exempt from service under the act former regulars and reservists of the Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard. Deputy Director Hershey announced that although the Army has sufficient dental and veterinary officers, dentists and veterinarians and students in these professions should be deferred to avoid a

(Continued on page six)

Ten More White Boys Leave For Fort Bragg from the County Next Tuesday

Making more room in the established camps by sending its seasonal boys into the field for maneuvers, the United States Army is rapidly calling for more men. Four young men, William Ernest Davis, widely known as "Cotton"; Marion Oscar Hyman, Joseph Brake Roberson and Cushing Biggs Bailey left this morning for Fort Bragg in answer to their "Uncle's" call.

Ten men, Franklin Robt. Sawyer, Gilbert Mobley, Garland Edward Warren, James Gussie Rogerson, William Atwood Gurganus, Simon Stalls, Charlie Gilbert Mobley, Elevation Smith Roberson, Euris Rayo Vandendorf and Benjamin Franklin Moye are scheduled to leave for Fort Bragg next Tuesday. Moye and Sawyer are going as volunteers.

Up until today, Martin County has furnished the Army a total of 104 men. The number leaving next Tuesday will boost the total to 114 men, 65 white and 49 colored.

Up until early today no report had been received from the ten colored boys who left for Fort Bragg last Thursday, and it is thought that all of them were accepted. Approximately 18 men have been rejected after they were sent to Fort Bragg from this county.

No quota was assigned this country in the 13th call for men, and if the first annual quota of 147 men is filled, the county will have to send 33 men between June 15 and June 30. It is generally believed that the county will not be called upon to fill the first annual quota in its entirety. It is expected that the total quota for next fiscal year beginning July 1 will be far greater than it was for 1940-41.

Draft board machinery is turning as rapidly as possible throughout the county. Handling 353 cases last Friday night, the Martin County Draft Board has classified 1,190 registrants to date. Another meeting for the classification of more registrants will be held shortly, and just as soon as the proper forms are received, additional questionnaires will be mailed to the approximately 1,600 remaining registrants in the county.

Former Local Man Critically Injured

Ned Laughinghouse, former local man, was critically injured as a passenger on the neutral ship, Zamzam, by a German raider in the South Atlantic on April 17, according to information received here Sunday afternoon. His brain pierced by a shell splinter, Mr. Laughinghouse was operated on by a German doctor on the raider, and the last word received from him on April 26th stated that he had a 50-50 chance to recover. Nothing has been heard from him since that time. The victim of another of Germany's atrocious crimes was on his way to South Africa to work on the tobacco market in Salisbury, Rhodesia.

Stories of ill treatment at the hands of the Germans are being told by other American survivors who are now making ready to leave German occupied territory for Portugal and eventually for the trip home.

Local Youth Transferred To Georgia Military Camp

Volunteering a few weeks ago for service in the United States armed forces, Thomas W. Crockett, young son of Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Crockett, of Williamston, has been transferred from Fort Bragg to the 252nd Coast Artillery, Fort Screven, Ga.

During the course of the past few weeks, Martin County young men have been transferred in fairly large numbers to military posts in nearly every one of the Eastern and Southern States.

Employed as technician in a Wilson hospital, Miss Getsinger was riding with one of the hospital nurses when the car went out of control and turned over.

County Girl Badly Hurt In Car Wreck

Badly injured in an automobile accident near Wilson last Wednesday night, Miss Sarah Getsinger, young daughter of Mr. and Mrs. P. E. Getsinger, of this county, was reported to be improving in a Wilson hospital today. Suffering a concussion and an arm fracture, Miss Getsinger will continue in the hospital several weeks.

Employed as technician in a Wilson hospital, Miss Getsinger was riding with one of the hospital nurses when the car went out of control and turned over.

Break-Down

Work on the dirt fill across the Roanoke lowgrounds at this point is moving forward rapidly again after a short interruption caused by a break-down of two machines on the job over the week-end. The mechanical shovel was placed back in operation yesterday, and repairs were completed to the loading grader this morning. Eleven trucks were running this morning, but the number has been more than doubled since the grader was repaired.

More Registrants Are Classified By Board

More registrants are being classified by the draft board.

Eighty-Five Youths Are Now Subject To Physical Check-ups

Eighty-five youths are now subject to physical check-ups.

TO ORGANIZE

An organization to throw Martin County support to the United Service Organizations will be perfected at a meeting of civic and other community leaders to be held in the American Legion Hut next Monday evening at 8 o'clock.

By R. H. Goodman, chairman of the movement in this county.

The planned work of the service organizations has been declared vitally necessary to the nation's defense program, and all interested citizens are urged to attend the meeting and take part in the program in this country.

New Registration Of Nation's Youth Is Set For July 1st

More than million expected to register for possible military service.

Young men who have become 21 years of age since last October and those who will have attained that age within the next five weeks are being called upon to register for possible military service on July 1. It is estimated that the new registration will add one million men to the list of approximately 16,500,000 already registered.

Those registering July 1 will be subject to call only after the present registration list is exhausted, but in some cases the new registrants can expect to be called into service within a few months following the registration.

In a proclamation fixing the registration date, the President said the action was "required in the interests of the national defense" and defined those who must register as all unregistered male citizens and aliens in the United States, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and Alaska, who have attained their 21st birthday on or before July 1.

The July 1 date was chosen, it was understood, in order that men registering would have time to find out before Fall whether or not they might expect to be called for duty. This would permit them to plan ahead for their Fall and Winter work or educational schedules.

The manner of integrating these new men with the first group of draftees in each local area has been under consideration for several months. Two principal methods were studied. One called for sandwiching them among the original registrants by lottery; the other, for adding them to the end of the lists. Officials said today that the latter method probably would be used.

It would work this way: Each man will get a registration number when he signs up. Each of the 6,500 areas thus will have a No. 1, No. 2, etc. One set of corresponding numbers then will be drawn in the national lottery. If "50" was the first number drawn, that would be "Order No. 1" and men holding the number 50 would be the first of the new registrants called to service if there was no reason to defer their training.

The expectation is that thousands of the men registered July 1 will be called for service within a few months even though they are put at the end of their local draft lists.

Officials said that local boards will be inclined to go quickly through their older registrants in order to reach men who have neither dependents nor essential employment and are at an age which the Army wants.

Slightly Injured In Car Accident

Ralph Taylor, young local white man, was slightly injured when the car in which he was riding went out of control, tore down several panels of a farmer's fence and turned over near Macedonia on the Washington Road late Sunday night. Edwin Holding, driver of the car, escaped unhurt. Taylor was slightly cut on the arms and scratched and bruised a bit, but was able to be up yesterday.

According to a statement made by Taylor to Patrolman Whit Saunders who investigated the wreck at the suggestion of a passing motorist, the lights of an approaching car blinded the driver and caused him to lose control of the car which swerved to the left side of the road and ripped the fence from the posts. Damage to the car was unofficially estimated at \$250.

Regular Communication Skearkey Masons Tonight

A regular communication of Skearkey Masons will be held in the lodge hall here this evening at eight o'clock, it was announced this morning. All members are urged to be present.

Naval Engagements Holding Spotlight In Current War News

German battleship Bismarck sunk by British at 5 o'clock today.

Burdened last weekend with one of the greatest sea losses in recent years, the British fleet roared his vengeance at 5 o'clock this morning when the proud German battleship, "Bismarck," was sent to the bottom of the North Atlantic. The attack on the German ship was started last night about 9 o'clock several hours after an American-made plane had sighted it and radioed its location to the British sea forces. A mighty force, seeking vengeance for the sinking of the British battleship, "Hood," off Greenland last Friday and the loss of 1,300 officers and men, started pushing for the German battleship. Two plane torpedoes caused the mighty warship to list, and it began to limp in its feverish rush for a Norwegian port. A group of destroyers moved in on her and fired upon her. Other units pulled up and went into action, and at five o'clock this morning the mighty sea raider was no more. No details of the sinking could be had, but a big threat to the North Atlantic has been removed.

The sinking of the Hood was due, reports declare, to a lucky shot that tore into the ship's magazine, causing a terrific explosion and sending the ship to its fate.

Germany is making notorious claims in the Mediterranean in the vicinity of Crete, but the claims are apparently exaggerated. Twenty or more ships were said to have been sunk by the Nazis there, but no such losses are mentioned in British reports.

The battle of Crete is still raging with the outcome in doubt. There, too, the Germans are making exaggerated claims, but British forces declare that the invaders are meeting with a stubborn resistance, and that the invaders while scoring local successes were not making great progress after nearly a week of fighting.

The Germans are said to have ferried heavy tanks across the 35-mile stretch of sea from Greece, but late reports stated that the machines had not been placed in operation.

In Iraq, the British are pushing into Baghdad, but the Germans are holding the Mosul oil fields, meaning that the capture of the city would not end the fighting there. In nearby Syria, the Germans are displacing the French and taking over there.

Late reports state that the Germans declare that the late sea battle is not over, that they are sending air bombers against the three British battleships, airplane carrier and several cruisers and destroyers taking part in the attack on the Bismarck. The British are said to be still pursuing the Tirpitz, companion ship of the Bismarck.

The British today admitted the loss of two cruisers and four destroyers in the battle of Crete, but announced that five German transports had been shot down in early morning fighting, and that few or no troops had been ferried across the sea to Crete.

A momentous occasion in this nation is being anticipated tonight at 9:30 o'clock when President Roosevelt addresses the nation. He is expected to end all uncertainty as to the nation's foreign policy. Warnings from Germany have struck a defiant note in this country, and the nation anxiously awaits a firm declaration for greater aid to Britain.

Stolen Car Badly Damaged In Wreck

Stolen from Academy Street last Saturday night, the Ford sedan belonging to Mrs. J. A. Eason, was wrecked beyond repair at Mill Branch on the Hamilton Road near here a few hours later. The driver, his identity yet unknown by officers, fled from the wreck, making it appear that if he was hurt his injuries were not serious.

Viewing the smashed car, officers and travelers were puzzled to understand how anyone could have gone through the wreck without being killed. There was no blood in the car, and several persons searched the nearby woods thinking the driver was dazed and had wandered off. The tracks of a man were found, their course indicating that the driver after stealing and wrecking the car had left the wreck in a roundabout way to escape arrest. No one was treated here for injuries, and while officers are still working on the case no clues have been established that would warrant an arrest.

Traveling apparently at a high rate of speed toward Williamston,