

## War Entering New Phase With Race On Toward Syria

### Momentous Question Now Being Debated by Weygand and Other Leaders

Mopping up in their march to and in the Mediterranean, the German hordes are now believed making preparations for an invasion of Syria with the British working feverishly to beat them there. The next battle arenas, the observers say, will be in the French possession, and the trend of the events is causing great worry for General Weygand and Marshal Petain and other French leaders. Reports state that Germany has already pushed armored forces into Syria.

The problem facing the French, described in some quarters as the most perplexing since the German imposed armistice, is whether the French will openly aid the Germans or indirectly aid the British in the struggle for domination in the Near East.

Hitler and Mussolini, meeting at Brenner Pass this week, are said to have made arrangements for giving Syria "protection," and they are expected to move the battle scene there.

The island of Crete is now another lost cause for the British. While no details of the fighting there have been made public, it is understood that England lost many men but that ten or more thousand were evacuated.

Germany claims 756,000 tons of British shipping for the month of May including a staggering blow to the British naval forces.

All has been quiet for the most part in the air over England, but Berlin was raided severely last night the Germans themselves admitting heavy losses.

Japan is speaking again. This time she says the United States will get a black mark if American pilots are allowed to fly for China.

President Roosevelt is to get a report from Ambassador Winnant shortly, and if the report is pessimistic abrupt action can be expected.

Following the successful but costly invasion of Crete, Reich Marshal Goering hinted that no island (possibly meaning the British Isles) is unconquerable. He also intimated that "concrete results" could be expected following the Hitler-Mussolini conference at Brenner Pass.

The President has been granted new powers in the present emergency, and he is now conferring with Congressional leaders in connection with the proposals to draft property at his own price where such action is deemed necessary. Coupled with the President's new powers, action by the Federal Mediation Board is expected to clarify the strike situation, reports indicating that defense delays will be reduced to a minimum.

In this country, the saboteurs are apparently doing an effective work for Hitler. Even in the Congress of the United States, political leaders have met and agreed to double their efforts against aid to Britain. Literature, voicing opposition to the aid program, is being distributed free under congressional franking privileges. Fires, running into the tens of millions of dollars, have been reported in New Jersey. Norfolk has had costly fires, and it is apparent that the peace-loving people in this land have not recognized the Nazi forces because they were not wearing German uniforms or waving the swastika.

The sinking of the Hood at America's front door is waking up a few sleeping persons, and defense work there is now progressing rapidly. Martinique, controlled by yellow French leaders in close collaboration with the German barbarians, continues unmolested.

## Several New Cases of Tuberculosis Found

Conducting several clinics in three centers last week, examining physicians from the State Sanatorium, working in cooperation with the State and County Health departments, found seven new cases of tuberculosis among adults and eight cases of the childhood type. In addition to those cases, the specialist found eight old cases needing treatment and eight inactive cases.

Nearly 250—158 white and 82 colored—persons were examined during the five days the clinics were open at Williamston, Robersonville and Oak City.

A statistical review of the clinic examinations follows by races:

	White	Col.
New Cases	3	4
Old Cases	8	0
Childhood type	5	3
Inactive	7	1
Negative	135	74

While the clinics were open to all county citizens, most of the subjects examined came from those families where there is or had been a T.B. victim or where the subjects had come in contact with the disease.

The county is caring for several T. B. patients in an especially prepared ward in the county home.

## Board of Education Receives Delegations; Budget Adopted

Meeting in regular session here yesterday, the Martin County Board of Education received several delegations and adopted the 1941-42 budget, reports from the office of the superintendent indicating that a slight reduction in the tax rate is in the offing.

Delegations from Farm Life and Bear Grass appeared before the board and asked that vocational departments, presumably agriculture, be established in their schools. The superintendent was directed to contact District Supervisor Meekins of the State Vocational Department and arrange for a meeting that the requests could be discussed with the view of creating the departments. The delegations also appealed for the construction of gymnasiums. Patrons of the two schools have already donated the lumber for the buildings, but delayed schedules in the WPA program caused by defense work

does not provide for immediate construction. It is possible that work on the buildings will be started just as soon as two projects—a school in Parmele and a vocational building in Oak City—are completed some time in late fall.

A delegation of Everetts citizens asked for a new colored building there. It is an admitted fact that the Everetts school building is one of the poorest in the county. A four-room building is being proposed, but plans are being held in abeyance.

The board adopted the 1941-42 budget which carries a 53-cent rate as compared with a 55 1/2-cent rate for the past year. The decrease is made possible by an increase in valuations, one report stating that the budget figures are slightly larger than they were last year. The increase is traceable to a greater debt service and additions to the current expense fund to care for retirement of teachers.

## County-Wide Library Service Is Approved

### DIRECTOR



Professor Jack Butler, directing a concert last Sunday evening, closed a very successful year's work as head of the local high school band. The band members and school patrons as well as the general public look forward to his return next fall.

## Starting Campaign To Eliminate Bangs Disease In County

### Dr. Allen Heflin to Conduct Drive During the Next Three Months

An extensive drive to eliminate bangs disease among cattle in this county was started today. Farm Agent T. B. Brandon and other farm leaders and cattlemen stating that the movement was worthy of an able cooperation on the part of every farmer and cattle raiser.

Dr. Allen Heflin, of Missouri, is being sent to the county by the United States Bureau of Animal Industry and will work in cooperation with the State and county agriculture departments. The cost to the county is negligible, and the work will be advanced without cost to the farmer. However, the cooperation of the farmers is cordially solicited. They can greatly aid Dr. Heflin and his assistant, Paul Ballard, by herding their cattle and by helping when round-ups are necessary.

The tests are very simple and the animal is not injured. In those cases where the tests are positive, the farmer or dairyman will be asked to kill the animal which can be sold for beef. The beef price received by the farmer is supplemented up to \$25 by the Federal and State governments.

Bangs disease is contagious among cattle and men. It is the chief cause for undulant fever, and the drive to eliminate it in this county is part of a nation-wide campaign. Dr. Heflin has completed the work in two counties, Randolph and Wilson, during recent months. He will be in this county during the next three months.

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### HALF HOLIDAYS

Beginning tomorrow, June 4, all Williamston stores and business houses will observe each Wednesday afternoon as a holiday. Business will be suspended promptly each Wednesday afternoon at 1 o'clock during the months of June, July and August.

Patrons are cordially urged to cooperate with the merchants in making the half-day holiday schedule a success. Do your shopping now and don't let the half holiday catch you with an empty larder.

## This Week In Defense

President Roosevelt, stating the European War is "coming very close to home," proclaimed an unlimited national emergency. The President called upon "all loyal citizens to place the nation's need first in mind and in action" and said "the nation will expect all individuals and all groups to play their full parts, without stint and without selfishness."

Speaking over the radio, the President said it is the U. S. policy to give "every possible assistance" to Britain and her allies by whatever measures are necessary. He also said U. S. will not accept a Nazi-dominated world and will resist any German attempt to gain control of the seas or bases which could be used for an attack on the Western Hemisphere.

**Production**  
OPM Director of Purchases Nelson, speaking at Baltimore, said Germany is producing war materials at a rate of \$50,000,000,000 a year. British production is at the rate of \$15,000,000,000 a year "and the least we can do is see to it that British and American production together will top \$50,000,000,000."

Mr. Nelson said "by throwing himself and his business into the defense program a business man risks everything—not merely his business but the framework in which it is conducted, the set of economic and political arrangements which make the very existence of his business possible."

**Labor Disputes**  
Labor Secretary Perkins appointed a three-man committee, including the chairman of the Mediation Board and the Chief of the U. S. Conciliation Service, to select disputes to be referred to the Board. The U. S. Conciliation Service reported settlement of 23 additional strikes.

**Selective Service**  
President Roosevelt proclaimed July 1 as Selective Service registration day for all men who have become 21 since the first registration on October 16, 1940. Selective Service Deputy Director Hershey asked local boards to give serious consideration to individual claims for deferment of men engaged in agriculture. Gen. Hershey notified local boards that Agriculture Secretary Wickard reported the defense program has drawn heavily upon the supply of farm labor and an adequate supply is becoming a serious problem, particularly along the Atlantic Seaboard, in Ohio and Michigan, and parts of Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Arizona.

**Army**  
Army Chief of Staff Marshall announced that training maneuvers this summer and fall are designed to create an "all-purpose" force capable of operating in the Arctic, the tropics, in deserts or mountains. He said every man must be given basic infantry training before he can "pull his weight" as a specialist.

Undersecretary of War Patterson, speaking in New York, denied charges that the Army is devoting too much time to basic training. He said "ours is not a mass Army, staking its success on sheer weight of men and machines." He said the ratio of infantry to air service—nine to one in 1917-18—is now almost one to one and "our plans call for a higher proportion of armored and motorized units than German has today."

**Navy**  
President Roosevelt approved legislation authorizing the purchase or construction of 58 additional naval auxiliary ships. The Maritime Commission began immediate acquisition of the vessels, including the 27,000 ton "America," largest liner ever built in the United States. The

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## Nine Young Men Leave For Army

Nine young Martin County white men answered the call of the country this morning when they boarded a bus for the Army's induction center at Fort Bragg. A tenth young man, volunteering his services, was excused on account of serious illness in his family.

The names of the young men reporting for services: Edward Lee Martin, Gilbert Mobley, Garland Edward Warren, James Gussie Rogerson, William Atwood Gurganus, Simon Stalls, Charlie Gilbert Mobley, Elever Smith Roberson and Eurus Rayo Vanderford.

Thirty-six draftees from other counties joined the group here and moved on to the fort in two special buses. For the first time since the first volunteers left last December, there was a minor disturbance at the local bus station. Several boys, said to have been from Elizabeth City and Hertford, almost staggering drunk, spilled profane language from their lips in rapid fire. Town and county police were called and two of them after attempting to tear a badge from an officer were quieted only after they were placed in a police car for delivery to the common jail. The Martin County men looked with disgust upon the antics, and thought very little of the display of liquor in public.

## United Service Organizations Are Pledged Strong Support By County Citizens Last Evening

### Showers Relieve Serious Dry Condition In This Section

While there continues a serious rainfall shortage, light showers falling during the past week-end and early today have greatly relieved the dry conditions and renewed hope among farmers. Farmers are not agreed on the condition of their crops, some saying that they have been greatly damaged by the dry weather and others declare that they have been only retarded, that growth can be expected with a little rain. It is generally admitted however, that the Irish potato crop has been materially damaged. It is now estimated that there will not be half a crop, and some farmers declared they will not get enough for seed.

Despite the dry weather, crops are looking better in this county than they are in many other sections.

Last night was one of the driest on record, the weather station on the Roanoke River recording only 1.01 inches of rain. The showers last week-end were the first to fall here in several weeks, the station having recorded nearly half an inch of rain on June 7th. Last Saturday, almost a quarter of an inch of rain fell here, followed by 0.02 of an inch on June 1 and .07 of an inch early today. Threatening weather continues, and while farmers and others are eagerly awaiting a downpour, it is possible that there will be some complaint about wet weather before many days pass.

Lower temperatures accompanied the showers, and relief from the heat has been fairly general.

## Town Officers Start New Term Last Night

### No Change Is Made In Organization Of Board for New Term

Re-elected without opposition in the May 8th municipal election, Williamston's mayor and five commissioners started a new term last night without much pomp or ceremony. The commissioners subscribed to the oath of office in a group before Mayor J. L. Hassell, who took the oath earlier in the day before Clerk of Court, L. B. Wynne.

The new organization remains unchanged with Commissioner V. D. Godwin as mayor pro-tem; G. H. Harrison, clerk; N. C. Green, treasurer; R. E. Manning, superintendent of street and water departments. Receiving applications from only the present members of the police force, the board upon motion of Commissioner Luther Peel unanimously re-elected W. B. Daniel, chief; J. H. Ailsbrooks, J. S. Gurganus and John Roebuck, officers.

Most of the commissioners have long terms of service on the board. Clerk G. H. Harrison is beginning his 23rd year as a member of the board. L. P. Lindsley started his 17th year, Luther M. Peel, his eleventh year, N. C. Green, his eleventh, and V. D. Godwin, his ninth year. Mayor J. L. Hassell, after serving one fifth in 1923-25, is now starting his third consecutive term as the provisional head of the village.

Appearing before the board with a \$75 reconditioning of the town's laws and ordinances, Town Attorney Robert Coburn, who in the rush of reorganization, was not re-elected to that position, reviewed the neatly prepared book. Its final acceptance was delayed, the commissioners calling for more time to study the proposed changes in the town's basic laws.

Reviewing briefly the modernized version of the town laws, Attorney Coburn strongly favored the passage of additional ordinances for town zoning and certain parking provisions. He also cited the need for blinker lights for certain places on the main streets. It was definitely stated, however, that he did not favor the stop light. The attorney cited especially a newly proposed ordinance making it unlawful for motorists to make unnecessary noise

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## Wife Jailed For Beating Husband

That a new order in marital relations is being developed was evidenced here last week-end when Mrs. Charles Parrisher effectively attacked her husband in a main street rooming house. Using a shoe the wife brought blood from the man's head. She was arrested and jailed by town and county officers about 11 o'clock Saturday night, her release following the next morning. Police were called to the home early that evening and restored peace and quiet, but the added consumption of wine upset the peace equilibrium and the attack followed, it was stated by one of the arresting officers.

It was one of the few times that a wife was arrested and jailed in this county for an alleged attack on a husband.

## Increase County's Quota To \$700 In National Program

### Organization Is Perfecting To Carry Drive To All Parts Of the County

Showing real, honest-to-goodness American patriotism, leading citizens from seven of the ten townships in the county in a special meeting here last evening in the Legion Post Hut perfected an organization and launched a campaign in support of the United Service Organizations. Realizing the urgent need for the service, the group doubled the quota assigned the county, and the drive is now on for \$700.

Created in the interest of the welfare of members of the armed forces while off the military reserves, the United Service Organizations are facing a huge task. Unless immediate action is taken, young men in the Army, including several hundred from Martin County, will have to spend his spare time within the camp grounds for reliable reports

declare that there are not ample facilities available to take care of the needs or to entertain those who have been called to the defense of the country. Martin County's share in that program has been fixed at \$350. In addition to that, the meeting recognized an urgent need for aiding the \$21-a-month men while traveling to and from the camps. Anxious to visit back home, numbers of the youthful soldiers are unable to finance the trips. They turn to the open highway, soliciting rides. Often they are stranded in this and other towns. Youthful soldiers, seeking places to sleep, have been given lodging in the common jail because there was no other place for them. It is planned to use the \$350 to provide sleeping quarters for the boys traveling to and from their homes on furlough. This type of traffic is certain to undergo a marked increase within the next few weeks.

## Alcohol Tax Unit To Locate Agents Here On Thursday

### E. E. Webster To Maintain His Headquarters in County Courthouse

The drive against the illicit liquor traffic is almost certain to be intensified on Thursday of this week when the Federal Alcohol Tax Unit locates one of its agents here. According to reliable information received a few days ago, the federal officer, E. E. Webster, will locate and maintain his headquarters here on Thursday of this week. Other than announcing the transfer of the agent to this county, T. E. Patten, investigator in charge, offered no comment on the new set-up for enforcing the federal laws controlling the illicit liquor traffic.

While it is possible that the agent will later be located in the postoffice building, arrangements are being made for him to establish an office in the courthouse and work in close cooperation with County A.B.C. officer J. H. Roebuck and other county officers. Plans of operation will be formulated after Mr. Webster's arrival. It is believed, however, that the agent will center most of his time and work in this immediate section, exchanging work with officers in other counties and sections from time to time. No extensive equipment for carrying on the work will likely be employed by the new agent, but he is expected to coordinate certain schedules for an effective work in cooperation with other federal agents and the A.B.C. officer in this county.

The drive against the illicit liquor trade has been progressing very well but the addition of a federal agent will help relieve the burden carried by the one A.B.C. officer in enforcing the liquor laws.

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## Thos. Outterbridge Is Dangerously Shot

Thomas Outterbridge, colored county farmer living near Williamston, was dangerously shot by Alonza Biggs, also colored, at the edge of town near the Washington Road late last Sunday night. Outterbridge, with a large hole shot in his left thigh, is expected to recover if no complications develop.

Outterbridge had little to say about the shooting other than tell who shot him, and Biggs did not tarry long enough to explain. Rumors have it that Outterbridge was found in the Biggs home after he had been warned to stay away. Other reports state that there was a drinking party in the Biggs home, that Outterbridge remained after other members of the party had left, that Biggs returning home late suspected something was going on in his home, went to Claude Tyner's store and borrowed a gun. When he went home, Outterbridge broke through the back door and rounded the house in the direction of the highway when Biggs came out the front door and opened fire. The entire load with the exception of a few shot entered the man's thigh. Outterbridge was hauled to the police station where he lay on the concrete sidewalk during the greater part of an hour before medical attention could be arranged. After receiving treatment he was removed to his home near here.

Latest reports declare that Biggs got mad with Outterbridge because he (Outterbridge) stole a gallon of liquor from him.

### TO OPEN POOL

Although running a few days behind the weather schedule, the local municipal swimming pool will open for business tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock. Water was pumped into the pool from the town's water mains during certain hours yesterday and today.

Mrs. Edwin Holding is managing the pool and she will be assisted by Miss Helen Lindsley and Edgar Gurganus. The following hours will be observed: Daily, 9 a. m. to 12 m.; 2 to 6 p. m. and 7:30 to 9:30 p. m. Sundays: 2 to 7 p. m.