

Russians Check The Nazis At Strategic Points In Long Line

War Brought Closer Home by Attack on American Boat Early Yesterday

The German drive into Russia is apparently bogging down gradually but surely, late reports from the long and bloody battle front declaring that the invaders had been checked at strategic points and that lines were holding firm in the Leningrad and Kiev areas. The Russian defense was reported holding its own in the two areas despite the addition of masses of fresh German troops to the attacking forces. In other centers, the Russians were continuing successful counter-attacks, and forcing the invaders back from the Dnieper River over a long part of the front.

The siege of Leningrad is being marked by fierce fighting on land and in the air, but S. A. Lozovsky, Russian spokesman, declared that the city's strong anti-aircraft defenses had prevented heavy bombing. "Not only are the Germans stranded at one place and unable to move forward, but they are forced to throw in new forces to remain at the points they have reached," Lozovsky continued.

He branded as "German propaganda in the realm of fantasy" Axis reports that Leningrad was encircled, cut off and on the verge of falling. On the contrary, he said, Leningrad is maintaining regular rail communications with other parts of the Soviet Union by several railways.

The situation around Odessa has improved recently. Lozovsky reported, because constant Soviet counter-attacks have made the siege so costly to the Germans and Rumanians. He said the Germans were using the Rumanians to lead the assault and added that "in no war has Rumania suffered such great losses."

On the front as a whole, Lozovsky said, "there is incessant fierce fighting, day and night, from the Arctic to the Black Sea. Everyone coming from the front is absolutely confident that the German army will be routed."

In the struggle about Kiev on the upper Ukraine, the Russians claimed to be breaking what was begun as a major Nazi offensive. They announced the recapture of several Soviet villages.

Advices from the front said this successive was accompanied by a continued advance for Red counter-offensives in the center. Soviet informants asserted that the Germans were giving up point after point to the Red wave rolling irresistibly through heavy and concentrated fire from Nazi artillery and mortars and over fields sown with mines.

Russian airmen bomber Berlin again last night, inflicting only slight damage, the Nazis claim. England directed a costly attack against Italy yesterday when her airmen sunk six ships, including two destroyers.

Trouble in France is spreading with the Petain regime trying harder than ever to swing into closer collaboration with Hitler and with the people taking a more determined stand against such a move.

Japan following a meeting of her war cabinet today is moving to place the country on a complete war footing.

During the meantime the war sounded a serious note for the United States yesterday when a submarine attacked the U. S. S. Destroyer Greer on this side of the Atlantic. The attack was repeated several times in day light, but according to President Roosevelt it was fortunate that the ship was not hit. Naval forces have been directed to search for the sub and eliminate it. The outcome of the attack and the search is yet to be determined. In some quarters, national leaders recognize in it the threat of Hitlerism, while others associated with the isolationist group voice the opinion that the United States should show its yellow spirit and withdraw to its shell.

County Young Men Joining Air Corps

Two more Martin County young men, James Davenport Walters and Charles Daniel, Jr., recently volunteered their services to the United States Air Corps. Walters, Jamesville young man, left Wednesday for Maxwell Field in Alabama, and Daniel, Williamston young man who has been attending the University, is to report on September 25th at the Alabama field where the two of them will enter as flying cadets. The Army Air Corps is proving quite popular with Martin County boys. No complete record is available, but a fairly large number is in that particular branch of the service now. Wheeler Martin, Jr., is recognized as the dean of the flying group, but there are quite a few others who are following close behind from the standpoint of length of service. Carl Edward Norman, Robersonville youth recently received his commission as second lieutenant in the Air Corps at Maxwell Field, and others are making progress in the service.

In the last war, Martin County had only one or two fliers in the service, including J. W. Watts who was injured in a crash.

Martin Farmers Losing Little Time In Selling Tobacco Crop

Martin County farmers are losing little time in the marketing of their tobacco crop, according to reports coming from the office of the county farm agent. During the first four days of the current season, approximately 3,000 sales were recorded. Miss Mildred Everett, recorded the sales memorandums in the farm agent's office, estimating that the average would range close to 600 pounds. According to that estimate, almost two million pounds of the leaf were sold during the first four selling days. The sales ranged from a low of 28 pounds to right at 6,482 pounds.

Ten farmers in the county have already used up their cards and have

called for additional ones. Three farmers, according to the agent's records, have already completed the marketing of their crop and returned their cards. Each of the three farmers had very small allotments, it was learned.

While it is apparent that most of the farmers in the county are in an unusually big hurry to get their tobacco to market there were fifteen who had not called for their marketing cards up until late yesterday afternoon.

Apparently well pleased with prevailing prices, farmers are centering their attention on tobacco grading and selling, leaving all other farm work undone except that demanding urgent attention.

Large Number Cases In Recorder's Court



Exemplifying the true American boy, 14-year-old Bryan Haislip, of Oak City, copied unique honors with a winning essay in a recent nation-wide magazine contest.

Greater Number In Commercial Classes

Drawing from the tenth grade and from last year's list of graduates, four of the high schools in this county are reporting sizable gains in their commercial departments, according to a report coming from the office of the county superintendent here this morning. The opening-day enrollment figures were doubled in one or two of the departments and more than doubled in one other one. Tenth grade pupils are entering the department for special work for the first time in most of the schools but they are allowed to take the work only upon the principals' approval. The proportion of graduates to the number of regular pupils taking the courses could not be determined immediately.

Enrollments were reported as follows: Oak City, 25; Robersonville, 50; Jamesville, 35, and Williamston, 40.

Everetts Church Sunday Services

Rev. Wallace O. Andrews, Baptist minister who recently located in this county, will conduct his first service in the church at Everetts on Sunday morning at 11 o'clock, Paul Bailey, clerk, announced this morning.

Coming to this county from Bertie after holding successful pastorates in other centers, Rev. Mr. Andrews has already made many friends in this section.

The entire membership is expected to welcome the new minister and members of other congregations as well as the general public are cordially invited to hear him.

COMEBACK

Deserted for many years, the little ghost town of Dymond City is fighting its way back on the map. School authorities stated yesterday that bus service had been provided for the once thriving little county town and that one pupil—a second grader—was being transported to and from the Farm Life School daily. The trip to the "city" adds only ten miles to the bus routes, and what are ten miles to a big county when a once-thriving town is trying to stage a comeback.

Purchasing the thousands of acres in the old J. and W. tract, Mr. L. A. Thompson is beginning to develop the property and a lone family has already located there.

Most Of Fifty-four Cases Are Entries For Tax Judgments

Ten Regular Cases Heard By Judge W. H. Coburn Last Monday

The number of cases finding their way to the Martin County Recorder's Court judgment docket reached an all-time high last Monday, Clerk L. B. Wynne counting fifty-four entries when the session was completed. Most of the cases—forty-four to be exact—were entered in the judgment docket after mere formality following the disposition of suits brought against the defendants in which they were charged with not listing their properties for taxation in accordance with law. Very few of the defendants were in the court, the cases having been settled by virtual agreement after listings were effected and the taxes and court costs were paid. Pleas of guilty were entered in all the cases. Only in those cases where the non-listers visited the courthouse, listed their property and paid their taxes before the warrants were served were there no judgments entered in the permanent court records.

Judge W. H. Coburn had a fairly busy day Monday handling the "regular" docket which carried ten cases, or about three or four more than the usual number. Small crowds were present, and at one time there was only one lone white spectator in the audience. The session was concluded shortly before noon, but the clerk spent much time making the entries and indexing the cases.

Proceedings in the court: The case charging Joe Frank Mayborn with bastardy was continued until Monday, September 29th.

There was a bit of confusion in the case charging Ed Williams with assaulting a female. In the opinion of the court the case had been heard before a justice of the peace and that no probable cause of guilt was found, and further in the opinion of the court that defendant should not be tried for the same charge under another warrant, the action was dismissed. The private prosecution appealed to the superior court.

The case charging Ernest Lee with hit-and-run and reckless driving was continued until Monday, September 29th.

Jasper and Leon Williams were in the court for alleged disorderly conduct and both pleaded not guilty. At the conclusion of the state's evidence, Leon Williams made a motion for a judgment as of not guilty. The motion was allowed. Adjudged guilty, Defendant Jasper Williams was sentenced to the roads for sixty days, the court suspending the sentence upon the payment of a \$15 fine and the costs of the action. Bond in the

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Legion To Install Officers Monday

The John Walton Hassell Post of the American Legion will install its officers at a regular meeting of the membership next Monday evening at 8 o'clock in the hut on Watts Street. Several high officials in the state organization will address the meeting and handle the installation ceremonies.

J. R. Winslow will again head the county post as commander. He will be assisted by Vice Commanders R. H. Goodmon, J. H. Ayers and W. C. Wallace. Other officers to be installed are, W. E. Dunn, adjutant and finance officer; H. G. Horton, service officer, chairman sons of the legion, and publicity chairman; H. Y. Peel, guardsmanship; Arthur Roberson, sergeant-at-arms; W. A. Brown, chaplain; P. M. Holliday, historian; W. H. Gray, athletic officer; Bob Taylor, child welfare officer; H. L. Swain, Americanism; J. Sam Getsinger, graves registration; J. A. Ward, employment officer and Mack Wynne, membership chairman.

This Week In Defense

The President announced a military mission will go to China to study the need of China for equipment and materials and expedite lend-lease aid. State Secretary Hull stated the U. S. will maintain the policy of freedom of the seas in shipping supplies to Russia via the Pacific. The President told his press conference an organized campaign of rumors, distortions, half-truth and falsehood regarding misuses of lend-lease funds had been launched to sabotage the program of aid to opponents of the Axis.

Agriculture
OPM gave priority to deliveries of materials necessary for the production of parts for the repair and maintenance of existing farm equipment and manufacture of new farm equipment. The President vetoed a bill to withhold from the normal channels of trade Government-owned cotton and wheat, because "in times such as these no one can foresee how soon these stocks may be needed."

Army
The War Department announced creation of a third parachute battalion and a fifth armored division. The Army also amended its regulations to permit discharge of enlisted men to accept Navy commissions when the Navy so desires.

Civilian Defense
The Army announced it will test the air defense and air warning system of the northeastern U. S. in maneuvers October 9 to 16. Approximately 43,000 volunteer civilians in the system will participate. A preliminary report of the mission sent to England by the Office of Civilian Defense recommended fingerprinting of every U. S. citizen for identification of casualties and that necessary civilian defense personnel, including police and firemen, be exempt from military service.

OCD Director LaGuardia reported incomplete returns on the aluminum collection campaign showed 14,000,000 pounds of scrap, yielding 10,500,000 pounds of aluminum or enough for 2,800 fighting planes, had been collected.

Prices
Associate Price Administrator Elliott suggested women can help check price rises by writing the Price Administration's consumer division in Washington of unreasonable advances in costs of living; by consulting city and county officials to see whether increases are justified; buying this winter's coal now; reporting rapid rises in rents to state and local housing agencies; buying defense bonds instead of new cars, refrigerators, washing machines or other household appliances. The Office of Price Administration set ceiling prices on animal hair used in mattresses, rayon grey goods, dummies, voile and combed broadcloth.

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Charles H. Jenkins Addresses Kiwanis

Speaking before the Kiwanis club here last night Mr. Charles H. Jenkins, member of the State Board of Conservation and Development, extolled the natural resources and the wonderful possibilities of the state as a national recreation center. The speaker enumerated many facts and figures which gave evidence to the accepted fact, especially among us natives, that North Carolina is the outstanding state in the Union.

"Around \$300,000 was appropriated by the last legislature for the Department of Conservation and Development. The board, consisting of 15 conscientious and capable men, is making every effort to spend this money wisely and where it will be used to the greatest advantage by all the citizens of the state," the speaker said.

"Seventeen new industries have already located in the state this year and many additions to existing plants will run into several millions of dollars."

Mr. Jenkins spoke of his individual interest in forest protection and the establishing of recreation centers along or near the coast of North Carolina. "The loss of timber from forest fires will amount to more than all the lumber used in our national defense program this year," he stated.

"It is our duty to make every individual feel and realize that he is a part of the commonwealth. If this is done we'll have to provide recreation centers and give each citizen the privilege and opportunity to participate in the pleasures, as well as work in our great state."

FINALS

Ousting Oak City and Everetts a few days ago, the Bear Grass and Farm Life amateur baseball teams will open their finals series in the Williamston park Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock.

Playing for the sport itself, the members of the teams state that no admission fee will be charged, that an offering will be accepted to help defray expenses.

Tobacco Prices Climb To New High Level For Better Types On Williamston Market Today

Comparison of Enrollment

A downward trend in enrollment figures in the several white schools was reported yesterday by the office of the superintendent here, the decrease being the second recorded following a peak reached in 1939. While the decrease is rather limited, it clearly indicates that a saturation point has been reached in the school enrollments and reflects a declining birth rate recorded during the depression period. Term before last there were 3286 pupils enrolled, 2378 in the elementary and 908 in the high schools.

The figures below, while subject to official check, give a comparison of enrollments in the several white schools for the last term and the one now underway:

	1941-42			1940-41		
	Ele.	H.S.	Tot.	Ele.	H.S.	Tot.
Jamesville	336	111	447	310	110	420
Farm Life	155	67	222	158	58	216
Bear Grass	236	68	304	243	58	301
Williamston	562	197	759	595	207	802
Everetts	208		208	233		233
Robersonville	303	291	594	308	288	596
Gold Point	62		62	57		57
Hassell	60		60	54		54
Hamilton	178		178	166		166
Oak City	225	185	410	237	177	414
TOTALS	2325	919	3244	2361	898	3259

County Schools Open New Term Yesterday

Enrollment Figures Do Not Come Up To First Expectations

Decrease Is Fairly General in Low Grades But Gains Are Noted in High Schools

With informal programs prevailing for the most part, the 33 white and colored schools in this county opened their doors to between 6,500 and 7,000 youngsters yesterday morning, unofficial reports indicating a downward trend in the enrollment for the white and a slight increase in the colored schools. Unlike those in the troubled and war-stricken nations across the seas, the little folks assembled in peace, some few crying a little bit in their new surroundings and a few others in the higher grades grumbling about the weather and things in general. Despite the weather and the fact that vacation days were ended abruptly, there was a high spirit among most of the youths as they made ready to meet the questions that are certain to come during the year in which their little minds will be trained after a certain educational pattern.

There were no high spots in the preliminary reports coming from the various school principals, but taken as a whole, the preliminary enrollment figures did not come up to first expectations. Only last Monday most of the school men predicted fairly substantial gains, indicating that the downward trend in the enrollment figures of a year ago would be checked if not counteracted in its entirety. It is possible that the enrollment figures will grow, that the school heads did not take into consideration the unprecedented rush to get tobacco to the markets and that the little folks would have to help in that task. However, it is fairly certain that the saturation point has been almost reached if not reached, that only a shift in population can materially boost the enrollment figures during this term and the years to come. Educators, collaborating with the statisticians and recalling the low birth rates recorded during the depression, estimate that enrollment figures for the nation will fall short by a quarter of a million little

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Paving Contractor Resumes Operation

Delayed by a break down earlier in the week, the paving contractor resumed operations on the river fill yesterday afternoon, late reports from the project stating that the work was proceeding smoothly despite a shortage in common labor. Five men in the cement car were unable to keep the trucks moving, and a call was recorded in the employment office for more workers. It was learned that the project could handle twenty-five more men.

With favorable weather and barring possible delays, the big paver should reach the river bridge about the middle of next week. The workers were at the first bridge this side of Conine Creek this morning. Despite the recent interruptions, it is now believed the contractor can complete the project on or about the 27th of this month and make it possible for traffic to move over the route on or about October 11 without delay.

ROUND-UP

Following a round-up of delinquent tax listers by the county in recent weeks, the Town of Williamston tomorrow will start its drive to get the names of its careless property owners on the books. It is estimated that there are between 150 and 200 persons in the town who did not list their property or subject themselves to poll taxes.

In accordance with the terms of a letter being dispatched by Mayor J. L. Hassell, the non-listers can pay up between now and October 6th or suffer the consequences — prosecution in the courts.

Large offerings of tips and much of that inferior tobacco that ripened so rapidly in the fields during the summer are holding the general average down, but Sales Supervisor Johnson said this morning that the price figure to date is standing between 27 and 28 cents. Prices are pleasing to the farmers and that uncertainty over the market has all but disappeared. The general opinion being that the price trend will continue to at least hold up and probably increase. Heavy sales are general throughout the belt and while no official report has been released by the companies it is possible that the machine deliveries will have a slightly depressing effect on the markets.

An old observer on the market today pointed out that numbers of farmers who had been lured to foreign markets by fancy promises that were hard to keep, were back on the Williamston market and that they were well satisfied to "be back home again." Considerable new territory is being represented on the market as the season progresses, and while there is still one set of buyers, the farmers are apparently ready and willing to wait for a sale when it is necessary. The sales so far have been unusually smooth and the selling organizations have held the blocks to a minimum.

Government graders, releasing their report today for Thursday's

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Condemnation proceedings were tried in the Martin County Superior Court here yesterday by the Virginia Electric and Power Company against J. G. Stator and wife, Fannie C. Stator. The action was taken to gain a right-of-way for the company's pole line on the Washington Highway.

It is pointed out in the proceedings that the road is being widened in accordance with the national defense program, that the company had been instructed to move its pole line out of the highway right-of-way which has been widened to include fifty feet on either side of the middle line down the hard surface.

CALLING
Martin County is calling upon its property owners this week on no uncertain terms. It is time to pay up all taxes or accept the consequences, the county is saying in so many words.

Approximately 4,000 post cards are being placed in the mails this week, advising owners that their property will be advertised for sale the first Monday in October if the taxes are not paid.

At the same time, special collectors are sending out nearly 2,000 statements to delinquent personal property owners, advising them that action will be taken if the accounts are not paid immediately.

While waiting for his school to open in Alamance County, Professor Tommie Gaylord is handling the subject of science in the Bear Grass school. His successor is expected to report before next Tuesday when Mr. Gaylord leaves.

Mrs. Wheeler Manning is substituting in the local high school until a contract now pending with a young lady in Maryland can be executed.

W. D. Brackett, a graduate of Appalachian State, has accepted a position in the Oak City School and is expected to report very shortly. He is from Ellenboro, N. C., and will be accompanied to Oak City by his young son. Professor Woodrow Suggs was filling the position when the term opened yesterday morning.

Sales Pass The Two-Million-Pound Mark Here This Morning

Bona Fide Sales Between Forty and Fifty Cents Reported Early Today

While there has been no material change in prices for the unusually large offering of tips on the local market this week, there has been an appreciable upward trend in averages reported for the better quality grades during the past few days. As a whole, the market is more than holding its own in poundage and price, with new customers coming in from foreign territory and with former customers returning in large numbers.

Some few sales have been reported in the high forties, but considerable strength was noticed this morning when the Imperial and Export bought in a number of piles with the price ranging up to \$45 a hundred pounds. Averages were reported as high as \$42 for sizable lots, but such sales were limited in number partly because there is a preponderance of tips being offered. There have been few times in the history of the market when farmers offered their tips in such large quantities. Filling up the first sale early today, farmers immediately began spreading their tips and some good tobacco, too, in the other houses, and a block is now considered certain. Heavy deliveries are virtually assured for the early part of next week, and the selling season is now believed entering a peak for the season.

Total sales for the season on the market here passed the two-million-pound mark this morning when it was estimated there were more than 400,000 pounds on the market. Farmers are packing more tobacco in their grades, and sales are certain to reflect a large volume as compared to those on opening day last week when the baskets averaged less than a hundred pounds, as a rule.

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Faculty Election Not Yet Completed

Competing with draft calls sent out more or less regularly by Uncle Sam and finding one or two cancelled contracts on their hands at the last minute, school authorities were unable to complete their faculty elections in time for the opening of the new term yesterday. Able substitutes were brought in, and reports from the office of the county superintendent today stated that appointments of a more or less permanent nature could be expected within the next few days.

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