



# THE ENTERPRISE



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## Outline Tentative Plans For First Aid Courses In County

### Those Desiring To Attend the Classes Asked To Notify School Superintendent

Tentative plans for conducting a series of first aid classes in this county were outlined this week by Leo Wilhelm, representative of the American Red Cross which organization will sponsor the special school.

Adhering to a policy of preparedness, the Red Cross is urging everyone who can possibly do so to take the course of instruction and agree to conduct classes themselves if and when they are called into service. Those persons desiring to attend the classes are directed to notify the office of the county superintendent of schools, Williamston, giving name and age. A penny post card will be sufficient to enroll any one in the special classes. The course of instruction is limited to those persons 19 years of age or older, and at least 25 pupils must sign up and agree to teach others. Mr. Wilhelm is quite anxious for the schools, clubs, police and fire departments, industrial plants and others to have representatives in the classes. Membership will necessarily have to be limited, but any person in the county is eligible to apply for instruction provided he or she is over 19 years of age.

The school will be held in Williamston each evening for two weeks, beginning March 23. Each class will last three hours. If the attendance is unusually large, it is possible that the two schools will be held, one in Williamston and one in Robersonville. These and similar details will be considered just as soon as the National Headquarters assigns an instructor representative.

Graduates of the school will be given certificates by the Red Cross and they will be eligible to teach the 15-hour junior course to children between 12 and 17 years of age, the standard course of 20 hours for adults, and the advance course of 10 hours, the latter dealing with special emergency cases.

No prior training is required of anyone desiring to take the course, but each pupil signing for the service will be asked to offer his or her services if necessary in training others.

Hundreds of thousands of persons throughout the nation are enrolling in the special schools in an effort to prepare themselves for meeting expected and almost certain emergencies. The Red Cross First Aid text book is in great demand now, Mr. Wilhelm stating this week that 1,200,000 copies had been sold and delivered in those states east of the Mississippi since Pearl Harbor. Last year a million and three hundred thousand copies of the text were sold in all of the country combined.

American volunteers training for defense had just as well realize that duty on the home front is no lark. "Citizens don't shoot down enemy planes, so they put out fires, bind wounds, unearthen victims and bury bodies," an article by Arthur H. Hudson in the current American Red Cross magazine points out.

Action with the people's army is "chock full of dirty uniforms and motti, bloody wounds and empty stomachs, unendurable fatigue and broken hearts—unpleasant jobs making for mass heroism," the article says. Mr. Hudson recently returned from war experiences in England.

In describing the work of the citizens' corps in London, the article noted that "hospitals were cleared immediately after a raid. British Red Cross girls drove American-made ambulances up to the hospital doors and loaded in all movable patients, taking them to hospitals on the outskirts of the target area where the patients were in less danger. Thus the city hospitals kept free beds for new victims.

"When the night is 'sticky,' the (Continued on page six)

## Alleged Car Thief Taken In Virginia

Charged with the theft of a 1941 model car from O. S. Winborne here last June, J. C. Hendricks, young white man, was arrested a few days ago in Virginia, it was learned today. Details of the case could not be learned immediately, but it is likely that the defendant will face trial in the Federal courts of Virginia. Mr. Winborne is in Norfolk today conferring with FBI agents who, operating under direct orders of J. Edgar Hoover, made the arrest.

Hearing nothing from the stolen car after it had been stolen more than six months, Winborne made a personal visit to the federal bureau a little over a month ago, "and I got some action," he said.

The car is thought to have been sold to some person or dealer in New York.

Posing as an employee of a local garage, Hendricks called for Winborne's car supposedly for the purpose of taking it to the garage for some needed repairs. He disappeared with the car that day, and while the owner spurred officers on and worked on the case himself the arrest did not follow until just a few days ago. Hendricks is from Clinton.

## FIRST VICTIM



Murray Cargile, among the missing following Pearl Harbor and who a few days ago was given up for lost, was, it is now fairly well established, the first young Martin County man to make the supreme sacrifice for his country in World War II. Stationed on the U. S. S. Oklahoma, the young man was the son of Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Cargile, of Parmele.

## County Authorities Hold An Uneventful And Brief Meeting

### Vaccination of All Dogs in the County Ordered by Board In Session Monday

Holding one of their shortest and possibly the least eventful meetings in many months, the Martin County Commissioners heard the various departmental reports, received requests for road improvements, drew a jury list for the special term of Martin County Superior Court convening next month and ordered the vaccination of all dogs in the county. For the most part the commissioners found a satisfied constituency, the few appearing before the board asking little and complaining less. The authorities completed the routine business and handled a few other matters in time to adjourn the meeting about noon.

Proceedings of the board. W. R. Cherry was relieved of the payment of a peddler's license, the action being based on the applicant's physical disability.

At the request of representatives, the commissioners are directing an appeal to the North Carolina State Highway and Public Works commission urging that body improve the road in Bear Grass Township running by Dalmus Rogers', Mrs. Alice Salsbury's, James Bailey's, Haywood Rogers' to Garland Harris', a distance of 2.6 miles, and also the road in Hamilton Township running from Dave Etheridge's, F. M. Johnson's heirs, John Eubanks', John Cherry's and others to the Edgecombe County line, a distance of about 1.4 miles. The latter petitioners pointed out that the road was used by school buses and by the rural free delivery carriers.

The vaccination of all dogs in the county was ordered in accordance with state law, the annual canine (Continued on page six)

## Injured In Wreck Yesterday Morning

Mrs. Mildred Gurganus was painfully cut and bruised when the car she was driving crashed into the rear end of a truck driven by R. L. Hester on North Houghton Street here yesterday morning. Several stitches were necessary to close a bad cut on her chin. The front of the car was smashed and the engine was pushed back to the dash board, but no estimate of the damage could be had immediately. Both the truck and car were traveling into town.

Thade Gardner and Elmer Modlin escaped injury when their car crashed into the abutment on the eastern end of the river bridge last Saturday night. Gardner, driving the car, was approaching the bridge when another car, meeting him and traveling at a fast speed, pushed him into the bridge. The right side of the car was smashed.

## NEW CARS

Martin County, according to unofficial information received by the board this week, has been given what can be termed a liberal new car allotment under the rationing system. Twelve cars can be sold in the county under the rationing system, but no truck quota has been assigned.

The sale of new cars is now at a complete standstill in this county, the board stating Monday that no contracts were submitted for consideration, and that no instructions had been received for rationing of cars. No applications for certificates of purchase were filed.

## Serious Conditions Call For Increased Production of Food

### Farm and Home Agents Urging Everyone To Support War Program

Speaking before a handful of loyal citizens in the agricultural building in this county last Friday evening, farm and home agents again appealed to farmers and gardeners to line up a strong support of the war production program. Opening the meeting, Charles L. Daniel, county Farm Bureau president, said that hundreds had been notified to attend the meeting, but the session was not being called for fun and that this war "Possibly the many don't know the war is going on, or maybe they are all sick," Mr. Daniel said, after scanning the many empty seats.

Farm Agent Brandon, still urging the farmers and others to deliver and sell their scrap iron, stated that well over 130,000 pounds of the scrap had been handled in this county so far, and that it had been estimated that 80 per cent of the farm machinery and been repaired and made ready for spring and summer use.

Declaring that the serious conditions, not only those existing in Europe but also those looking us squarely in the face demand an increase in war production, the agent said, "If you raise your food, you may eat it; if you don't raise food you may not eat."

It was explained that there are approximately 250 farm families in this county without gardens, that this county is actually importing large quantities of vegetables, meats and other food. The small group was urged to carry the gospel back home and urge all the people to work and strive for increased food supplies that increased shipments could be made to the Allies from those sources from which this county has been drawing much of its food. Farmers and gardeners are urged to save their seeds, Miss Lora Sleeper, home agent, stating that the price trend was upward, that some seed selling at one time for 10 cents were bringing 30 cents now. "The family garden of one-half acre is worth \$255.28 to a family of five," she said. She pointed out that at least 32 quarts of vegetables and 24 quarts of fruits were needed for each member of the family during that period when the year-round garden was virtually out of production. She also said that while some sugar will be made available for canning, "we can can without sugar, if necessary." Concluding, she said that we must look ahead, buy equipment now and make ready to feed ourselves.

An encouraging report was heard at the meeting when the superintendent of public welfare stated that 66 gardens had already been planned among the needy families in the county.

Taking a leading part in the victory garden program, the Farm Security Administration has already made available seed for over 100 gardens among its clients.

Receiving such a poor and disappointing response to the call last Friday night, farm leaders are now contemplating carrying the urgent appeal for more victory gardens direct to the people in the various communities. Plans for the community meetings have not been arranged, however.

A complete report on the war production program as it relates to increased acreages to peanuts for oil is not yet available. Several of the committee-men are still running after some farmers, pleading with them to increase their acreages and offer an increased support to the war effort, in general. Agricultural leaders, reserving detailed comment on the preliminary report, did say they were disappointed. The report on the survey should be made ready within a very short time.

## Attendance Figures Low In The Schools

Incomplete but reliable reports state that attendance figures in several of the county schools are still holding to a low level, that operations are barely dragging in a number of the lower grades where more than half of the children are absent.

The Jamesville school yesterday reported 76 children were absent, 65 of them being members of the first three grades. Williamston yesterday had an attendance of barely 75 per cent of normal. Some improvement was reported in most of the other schools, but no attendance figures for today could be had.

Mumps are appearing in some schools to aggravate the situation caused by a sweeping measles epidemic.

As far as it could be learned today authorities are not contemplating calling another holiday for any of the schools. Four schools, Jamesville, Bear Grass, Everetts and Williamston, suspended activities for three days last week.

It is quite possible several of the schools would have been closed this week had it not been for labor shortages, one report stating that it was considered advisable to free the children as soon as possible in the spring for farm work.

## Rationing Board Is Again Flooded With Requests For Tires

### Thirty-seven Applications for Car and Truck Tires Pile Up in Board Office

With more than enough applications already on hand to take up the automobile tire allotment and with more applications coming in, the Martin County Rationing Board is thoroughly convinced that there is a demand for tires. The county has been allotted sixteen passenger car tires and thirteen tubes, but no retreads for cars, and thirty-nine new truck tires, seventeen retreaded tires and forty-four tubes. While it is considered to be fairly liberal, the allotment will not be sufficient to meet the demands, especially for car tires.

At its regular meeting Monday, the board received eight new requests for tires and nine applications for tubes. Requests for eighteen car tires and seventeen car tire tubes, twelve truck tires and fifteen truck tire tubes, and seven trailer tires and five trailer tire tubes were carried over.

Unable to establish a classification, William Louis Ausbon, AAA committee-man, production credit corporation representative and member of the county war board, had his request for a passenger car tire and tube rejected.

Certificates of purchase were issued to the following:

Dr. V. E. Brown, one car tire and two tubes.

Rogerson Brothers, truck tire and tube for meal truck.

J. Linwood Knowles, Dardens, one truck tire and tube for hauling farm produce to market and supplies to his farm.

Martin County Transfer Company, four truck tires and tubes for general hauling.

Among the new applications were those filed by the following: Jessa Harrell, two trailer tires and one tube; J. W. Bedwell, one truck tire and tube; H. W. Barber, two truck tires and two tubes; P. E. Gelsinger, two car tires and two tubes, and Willie Hopkins, one truck tire and two tubes.

It was thought at one time that no quota would be allotted this county for March, but the release came in over the week-end. Warnings have been issued to the effect, however, that the rubber shortage is far more serious than many believe it to be, and that shorter rations are to be expected in the future, meaning that stern measures will have to be taken to effect a fair and equal distribution of the rapidly diminishing stocks now on hand.

## Town Board Holds Regular Meeting

With little business on the calendar, the local town commissioners last night soon turned their regular meeting into an informal forum and a sociable discussion of the situation of the world and all the people in it followed, not that they could or even would do anything about it. Devoting about fifteen minutes to the minor items on their regular calendar, the commissioners then remained in informal session until almost 11 o'clock. What did they talk about? The labor situation was the main topic, several in the group agreeing that it was indeed difficult to do anything for anyone who did not try to help himself.

Before quitting the meeting, Mayor John L. Hassell led a movement to have speed warning signs placed at the northern approach of the town. Not quite certain what the speed law is, the authorities instructed the superintendent of streets to check up on the speed regulations and plant some wooden signs. It is possible that the police will be asked to ask the speeders to slow down enough to read and respect the signs.

The cemetery project long ignored, unintentionally, of course, has definitely taken on new life, and even though it is now struggling to fight its way out of a minor relapse just at the present time, the board was advised that the enlargement program had just about been effected and that improvements are pending.

## CHECKS DIRECT

Acting to help farmers save their tires and time, the Agricultural Adjustment Administration has announced that it will deliver future soil conservation checks direct to the owners. Heretofore, owners have been directed to call for their checks at the agricultural building. Farmers who have changed their addresses since they applied for the payments will find it advisable to report forwarding addresses to their former post offices. All checks that cannot be delivered immediately are to be returned to Washington.

Before the order was issued, the agent's office had received for distribution 684 checks representing 382 applications and totaling \$54,619.03. It is estimated that a few more than one-fourth of the payments have been made in this county.

## Large Quantity Sugar Used at One Liquor Plant In County

Martin County citizens are ready and willing to do their part in the war effort with some few exceptions but when reports coming from the office of the ABC enforcement bureau and telling of how more than a thousand pounds of sugar were used at a single liquor still in the county recently they can be expected to rise up in indignation and ask why such a practice is allowed. They are a bit complacent about the dissipation of the sugar supply now, but indirect if not direct action is to be expected when the sugar business bumps into a sour rationing system about the middle or latter part of this month. Some say that illicit traders have stored sugar and will continue to sell to the liquor traffic at a fancy profit.

Raiding in the Free Union section of Jamesville Township last Friday Officers J. H. Roebuck and Roy Peel

wrecked a 100-gallon capacity liquor still and poured out twenty-one barrels of beer. "It required just about 1,050 pounds of sugar to make that much beer," Officer Roebuck said, adding that that was about as much sugar as will be allowed all the people in the county in a day. Asked where the sugar was coming from, the officers declared they could not learn.

Expertly camouflaged in a pock, the officers had failed to find the still on two previous occasions, but knowing that one was in that area they doubled their efforts and broke up the sugar robbers' nest. The operators had used old log roads and a loading rock and walked logs to throw the officers off their tracks. That they had succeeded for a long time was admitted by the officers who allow they did a good job in finding the plant at all.

## County's Rationing Board Commended For Unselfish Work

### Alleged Violations of Rules in Other Parts of County Are Cited

Working without remuneration and having to furnish their own transportation, the members of the Martin County Rationing Board, Messrs. C. C. Martin, of Jamesville, chairman; J. A. Everett, of Palmyra, and H. L. Roebuck, of Cross Roads, have been and are being commended for their unselfish work and for the fair and just way they are handling that work.

Meeting as often as twice a week, in some weeks, the board, it appears now, is believed facing an increased and strenuous task. No details have been made public, but sugar rationing will be handled directly from the rationing board office. Anticipating an increase in the board activities, the chairman at the direction of the authorities has employed a full-time clerk, Mrs. Irene Blount, of Jamesville, will be in the office each morning at 8:30 o'clock, and Miss Marjorie Fleming, temporary clerk for the board, will be transferred to the office of the County Civilian Defense Chairman, Attorney Hugh G. Horton.

The Office of Price Administration went to the courts recently in two cases, Chairman Martin said in pointing out the facts, as follows:

A temporary order restraining the unauthorized delivery of passenger car and truck tires by a dealer was issued recently by Federal District Judge Luther B. Way in Norfolk, in the first civil action brought by the Office of Price Administration under its tire rationing regulations, Leon Henderson, Administrator, announced.

The Norfolk order followed by less than 24 hours the indictment of an Indiana tire dealer by a Federal grand jury in Indianapolis in the first criminal action charging violation of OPA's rationing regulations.

The case arose when Smith-Douglass Company, Inc., filed a suit in the Norfolk County Court of Law and Chancery to compel the Yoynes Tire Company, a tire dealer, to deliver \$1,427 worth of passenger car and truck tires alleged to have been purchased last August. All tire deliveries were "frozen" by the government on December 11, and, subsequently, rationing regulations were put into effect prohibiting transfers of tires without eligibility certificates issued by local rationing boards.

The Indianapolis criminal indictment was returned on Friday by a special Federal Grand Jury less than a month after investigation of the case began by inspectors of the Office of Price Administration. The indictment contained eight counts and (Continued on page six)

## Home Destroyed By Fire Early Monday

Fire, believed to have been of incendiary origin or certainly under mysterious circumstances, destroyed the home and all furnishings belonging to Bessie Mabry, colored woman, corner of Church and Sycamore Streets here shortly after 12 o'clock yesterday morning. No official report could be had, but the loss was placed at \$500 on the home and \$300 on the furniture. Fire Chief G. P. Hall stating that it was unofficially reported to him that the property was partly covered by insurance.

The family left Sunday morning for Norfolk, and as far as it could be learned no one was at home. When discovered by a passerby, the fire was burning rapidly in nearly every part of the house. The front door was open at that time, leading some to believe that a prowler had entered the home and fired it. Nothing was saved from the home.

Firemen laid two lines of hose and while they kept the fire from spreading, only the charred timbers of the home were left standing.

The fire was the third at or near the Church and Sycamore Street corner in recent years.

## Fierce Battle For The Rich Island of Java Is Now Raging

### Dutch Have Withdrawn from Batavia; Gen. Wavell Goes To India

A fierce battle continues to rage on the rich little island of Java as Allied forces struggle to hold one of the few remaining strong and strategic bases in the Southwest Pacific. Reports from the fighting are not quite clear, one stating that the defenders had successfully counter-attacked and were exacting a heavy toll of life among the invaders' ranks. Still another report, coming from Dutch headquarters in London, stated today that the Dutch had withdrawn from Batavia, the capital, and were now stationed at Bandung where a more effective defense could be maintained.

With the outcome of the situation in Java in doubt, General Sir Archibald Wavell, United Nations commander in the Indies, has been relieved of his command there and he has gone to India to resume his duties as commander-in-chief of India. Far-reaching developments are expected there shortly, some observers believing that India's independence will be recognized shortly and that possibly a turning point in the Pacific war will be reached there.

In the first phase of the battle for Java, the Japs effected three landings following a costly encounter with Allied naval forces. Official figures are awaited, but unconfirmed reports state that the Japs lost as many as forty ships in the battle, including several cruisers and a number of destroyers.

It is estimated that 100,000 Japs landed on the island. Using cars, trucks, taxi-cabs and other vehicles, the defenders rushed to meet them. Bitter fighting followed, and the Japs paid dearly as they gradually pushed to within 30 miles of the capital.

While recognized authorities declared that Java could not hold out indefinitely, late reports from the island declare that the Allied forces now have the invasion push well in hand, that on one front the Japs had been pushed back seven miles. The Japanese are now moving to land reinforcements on a big scale, a late communique stating that an armada of 80 ships were nearing the island. Despite the new and serious threat, the defenders are displaying a stronger determination than that at Singapore, and they are possessed of a spirit similar to that displayed by General MacArthur and his men on Bataan.

On the Burma front an apparently reinforced British and American air force is fighting to keep the Japs from encircling the evacuated city of Rangoon.

In the Philippines the Japs are landing more troops, but MacArthur and his men are still holding their guns as land activities go forward on a small scale in the Bataan Peninsula. The General was given reinforcements this week when 10,000 tribesmen pledged their loyalty to the United States, and sought permission to attack the Japs with knives and other native weapons.

The light is being carried to territory close to Australia and to Australia itself. Air attacks have been directed during the past 24 hours on New Guinea and Australia. In the latter place all men and women have been conscripted for the war effort at wages commensurate with those received by the armed forces. Troubled with drunkenness among its soldiers in several centers, the Australian government has banned all liquor sales and is making ready at this late moment for any eventuality.

Originating in Sweden, a report this afternoon stated that Russia is preparing to launch one of the greatest attacks of the war. During the meantime, the Russians are still driving a wedge deeper and deeper in (Continued on page six)

## Oral Hygiene Show In County Schools

Proving unusually valuable in teaching oral hygiene and maintained by the State Board of Health, the dental puppet show is playing a full schedule in the schools of the county this week. Starting in the lower part of the county yesterday, the players will appear in nearly all the white schools and many of the larger colored schools during the week.

Miss Catherine Mallory and Mr. John Morgan, who pull the puppet strings, invite the general public to witness the performances. Similar shows have been held in the county, but the one this year is different.

The schedule for the show for the last three days of the school week, follows:

Wednesday, March 4th: Williamston white school, 9:30 a. m.; Everetts white school, 11:30 a. m., and Salsbury colored school, 2 p. m.

Thursday, March 5th: Oak City white school, 9:30 a. m.; Oak City colored school, 11:30 a. m., and Jones, colored, 2 p. m.

Friday, March 6th: Robersonville, white school, 9:30 a. m., and colored school, 11:30 a. m., and Parmele colored school, 2 p. m.

There's no admission charge.

## COMMISSIONED



Volunteering his services more than a year ago, Marvin Roberson, young son of Mrs. Theodore Roberson, of Williamston, is one of the first young men from this county to earn a commission in the regular army. The county has several commissioned officers in the Air Corps, but Roberson came up from the regular army ranks and is now a second lieutenant.

## Population Survey Completed for the Rationing of Sugar

### No Detailed Instructions Have Been Received For Distributing Sugar

Preliminary arrangements for rationing sugar in this county were advanced yesterday with the completion of a population survey by school districts, both white and colored. Similar surveys are being completed throughout the State, and it is expected that sugar rationing stamps will be made ready for distribution soon after the 15th of this month.

Representatives of families and other individuals will register at the grammar schools in their respective districts, the office of the superintendent explaining that the registrations will be handled in both the white and colored grammar schools.

No detailed instructions for handling the registration and the distribution of the rationing stamps have been received, and about the only thing known about the plan is that each person will be allowed about eight ounces of the sweetening each week.

The population survey in this county calls for rationing cards or stamps for 26,954 persons. The survey is broken down in districts, as follows: White: Bear Grass, 1,310; Everetts, 1,520; Farm Life, 825; Gold Point, 408; Hamilton, 640; Hassell, 325; Jamesville, 1,965; Oak City, 1,375; Robersonville, 1,980; and Williamston, 3,295—a total of 13,642; colored: Bear Grass, 280; Bowers', 224; Burroughs-Spring Hill, 490; Biggs, 460; Cross Roads, 252; Corey's, 100; Dardens, 510; Everetts, 560; (Continued on page six)

## GAINS

The trend of property values in this county is decidedly upward, Tax Supervisor C. D. Carstarphen pointed out this week as additional list-takers made their preliminary reports on the 1942 assessed valuations. Coming despite the elimination of a number of farm items from the taxable lists, the gains are far greater than were anticipated. To date, four townships, including the smaller ones, have reported gains approximating \$150,000. Cross Roads leading the list with an increase of \$58,343.

Griffins, the fourth township in its current listings over those for 1941.