

Salvage Committee Will Meet Tonight In The Courthouse

To Discuss Plans for Speeding Up Collection of Needed Waste Materials

Plans for supplementing the program now in effect and make the collection of waste materials all-inclusive will be discussed at a meeting of the recently appointed county salvage committee in the courthouse here this evening at 8 o'clock.

Chairman Spivey explained that the collection of scrap iron, according to reports, is progressing in the county and that while the work will be supplemented, the program will be continued along the same plan it is now operating under with Roy Ward and W. K. Parker, recognized and licensed dealers, handling the deliveries.

Convinced that the scrap iron program is being successfully advanced, the salvage committee at the meeting tonight is expected to study plans for the collection of scrap paper and other materials and for their delivery to trade channels.

Members of the committee are: Chairman, V. J. Spivey, Williamston; Mayor of city (county seat), J. L. Hassell, mayor, Williamston; chairman Civilian Defense, Hugh G. Horton, Williamston; Fire chief, G. P. Hall, Williamston; Police chief, W. B. Daniel, Williamston; County farm agent, T. B. Brandon, Williamston; Representative Chamber of Commerce, R. H. Smith, Williamston; Representative Rotary Club, W. H. Gray, Robersonville; Representative Grocers and Merchants Association, C. B. Clark, Williamston; Representative Boy Scouts, Marion Cobb, Williamston; Representative Girl Scouts, Mary W. Taylor, Williamston; Representative American Legion, J. R. Winslow, Robersonville; Representative American Legion Auxiliary, Mrs. M. W. Wynn, Robersonville; Representative Community Chest, W. C. Manning; Representative Enterprise Publishing Co.,

Jurymen Are Drawn For Special Court

Thirty-six citizens were drawn recently by the commissioners for jury service during the special term of Martin County Superior Court convening in April. Judge Richard D. Dixon, of Edenton, is scheduled to preside. As far as it could be learned, very few cases are to be scheduled for trial during the two weeks term.

The jury is flavored with a wholesome and religious atmosphere, the commissioners having drawn three ministers for service in the court. One of them, Parson Jim Smith, is gone from the county, leaving only two, Reverends W. B. Harrington and John W. Hardy, to help meet out justice.

Names of the jurymen are: First Week Jamesville: Herbert Gardner, Griffins: W. A. Manning, W. B. Harrington, Elbert Griffin and Coy Griffin.

Second Week Jamesville: J. M. Mizelle and J. E. Waters. Griffins: Perlie Roberson, W. F. Coltrain, James Smithwick and Vester Coltrain. Williamston: Leslie Roberson, Wheeler M. Manning, P. V. Jones. Cross Roads: J. S. Ayers, Sr. Robersonville: Wm. H. Johnson, W. E. Everett and J. C. Martin. Poplar Point: L. G. Leggett. Hamilton: W. E. Purvis. Goose Nest: H. B. Bennett, K. S. Bunting and Johnnie Mobley.

U. S. Navy Nurses Held by Japs



Here are four of the five U. S. Navy nurses who were serving on the Island of Guam in the Pacific when it was captured by the Japs. The Navy Department announced that they are "deemed likely prisoners of the Japanese." Left to right, top, Doris M. Yetter of Philadelphia, Pa.; Marion B. Olds of Chicago, Ill.; bottom, Leona Jackson of Union, O.; and Virginia J. Fogarty of Akron, O.

FIRST VICTIM

An official announcement coming from the United States Army this week stated that Private Archie R. Gurkin, of Pine-town, has been listed as its first victim of the war.

Twenty minutes after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor December 7th, Gurkin was admitted to the Army General Hospital with a .50-caliber bullet in his chest.

He had been driving a Quartermaster Corps vehicle when he was shot, evidently by a strafing Japanese plane.

Gurkin, now back on duty, carries as a souvenir the bullet that struck him.

The War Just Can't Last Much Longer, Local Draftee Says

"Skippy" Cowen Declares He Will Assist Doc Cone in Hurrying the End

In an exclusive and very entertaining interview just before leaving for the Army, Herbert H. Cowen, Jr., "Skippy" to all of us, declared that the war just couldn't last much longer. Meaning, of course, now that he is in the service, the downfall of Germany, Japan and Italy, too, is imminent and that just that can be expected immediately, more or less.

If the young man had any objections against entering the service, he kept them to himself, but it was apparent that he did not relish the new assignment, and it is quite possible that he is fighting mad and because he is fighting mad he allows the war can't last long after he goes into action. Reminded that Doc Howard Cone had predicted the war would be over within about three months after he entered the Army, young Cowen explained that Doc was about right, that by working together the two of them could accomplish much during the next six weeks and make his partner out a truthful boy. "I wouldn't discredit Doc a bit, but give me three months' training and you really can expect results," the new recruit declared.

The tone of the interview rapidly approached a serious note when "Skippy" declared he would cancel all outstanding debts just as soon as he received his first pay check. Reminded that the pay ranges around \$21 a month for the first month, the

MORE CHECKS

The last of the soil conservation checks to be distributed from the farm agent's office were received yesterday, Miss Mary Carstarphen, clerk, stating that all other checks dated on and after March 5th would be mailed direct to the owners from Washington. The change in the method of distribution will save thousands of farmers from making special trips to the agricultural centers for the checks. Yesterday 60 checks representing 33 applications and amounting to \$5,034.15, were received. To date, 744 checks representing 415 applications or about one-third for the county, have been received for distribution.

Get Instructions For Rationing Of 1942 Automobiles

Trucks Will Be Rationed By Two Offices Only in North Carolina

Instructions, covering many pages of fine print, have been received for the rationing of new automobiles in this county. Rationing of trucks, far more rigid than that for new cars, will be handled for this area by a special office in the post office at Raleigh Applications for the purchase of a new truck, truck-trailer or trailer, are to be sent to the Raleigh office of Defense Transportation. If the application is approved there it will be sent to the Washington office of Defense Transportation and if it is approved there the application is sent to the office of the War Production Board for final approval and action. Certificates of purchase are issued in close relation to the war effort and the maintenance of law, health, safety and the carrying on of such operations that are vitally necessary to the general welfare of all the people. In short, the regulations governing the sale of new trucks are quite similar to those governing the sale of tires and cars.

Martin County has been allotted twelve automobiles for rationing during the months of March, April and May. Certificates may be issued when the following classifications are established and then under certain specified conditions:

- 1. Physicians, surgeons, visiting nurses, or farm veterinaries who will use the automobile principally for professional services.
2. Regularly practicing ministers of a religious faith when the automobile will be used principally for, and is essential to, the performance of religious duties in meeting the religious needs of the congregation served.
3. Persons requiring ambulances. A certificate may be issued for any new passenger automobile used principally as an ambulance, even though such automobile is used also but not primarily as a hearse or for other purposes.
4. Persons engaged in fire-fighting services. The Board may grant a certificate to a person so engaged only if it is assured that the automobile will be used exclusively for the performance of such services.

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Local Boy Publicist For Naval Program

Bob Levin, young son of Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Levin, has been assigned the task of "covering" the Naval cadet training program by the "Daily Tar Heel," University of North Carolina student publication. A sophomore at Chapel Hill, young Levin was recently promoted as a member of the paper's staff and is now its assistant news editor.

Announcing the establishment of a Naval training program at Chapel Hill by the Navy Department, Levin said: "Events have been coming off up here with the speed of a new Springfield as latest bombshell on the campus has been the announcement of the Naval cadet program beginning this May 1st. Over 1,000 boys will have to be moved next year and at least 600 this May when the vanguard of the eaglets arrive for their preparedness program."

UNCLE SAM BATTLING TO UPHOLD America's Freedom

THE 12TH WEEK OF THE WAR

The War Production Board said conversion of peacetime industrial plants to war production will be "over the hump" by late Fall. Complete conversion of the automobile industry is expected by September 1st. The Board said its industry branch heads are determining amounts of each product needed for the war effort, preparatory to the converting of each industry to war production.

Rationing

Price Administrator Henderson stated National Registration for sugar rationing books will be held over a four-day period, probably during the last week in March. Approximately 1,400,000 school teachers will serve as registrars, and 245,000 schools will be used. One adult may register for each "family unit."

The WPB announced a rationing program beginning March 9th for 196,000 new truck and truck trailers which will be available for rationing during the next 22 months. The rationing will be administered jointly by the WPB and the Office of Defense Transportation. Mr. Henderson said state quotas provide 120,000 new 1942 passenger automobiles for eligible buyers during March, April and May. Total number of cars earmarked for civilian purchase during the next twelve months is 340,000. No-passenger car retreads tires will be available in March, he said.

The War Front

The Navy reported U. S. Naval forces sank 53 enemy ships between December 10, 1941, and February 24, 1942, probably sank seven more and damaged five additional. The Army announced from December 7 to February 27, it probably sank at least 19 Japanese ships, seriously damaged 31 others, and shot down 245 enemy planes—not including 165 Japanese planes shot down by the American Volunteer Group serving in the Chinese Army. The Navy said in the first two months of this year 116 ships of United Nations registry were attacked in the Western half of the Atlantic, and 56 attacks were made by the Navy on enemy submarines. Three U-boats are believed sunk and four are believed damaged.

Army

Congress completed action on the new \$2 billion dollar appropriation bill, providing more than 23 billion for the Army, five billion dollars for lend-lease, and the remainder for expansion of the Merchant Marine.

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Series Of Minor Wrecks Reported

No one was badly hurt and no sizable property loss resulted in a series of minor automobile accidents reported here and in other parts of the county on Tuesday and Wednesday of this week.

Mrs. Katie Williams, driving her mother's Mercury roadster, was slightly bruised when she lost control of the machine on a slippery road in Griffins Township Wednesday morning and ditched it. A fender was smashed and the hood and body were battered, estimates placing the damage at about \$150.

Haywood Rogers, Jr., was slightly skinned on the leg when he crashed into Thomas Blount's car at the Central Filling Station here late Tuesday afternoon. The car was not damaged and \$220 repaired the wheel.

Harvey Lassiter, Rich Square white man, ran his pick-up truck into Herbert Clark's Pontiac while it was parked on the main street Wednesday afternoon. The property damage was very slight. Lassiter was arrested by Patrolman Whit Saunders and jailed on a drunken driving charge.

More Martin Men In The Army Now

The number of Martin County men in the armed services continues to grow, and as more and more men report for duty a far more serious atmosphere surrounds their departure than was evident when young men were called to the service under the old one-year draft law.

The war business is striking close home when fathers find it difficult to hold back a tear as they stand helplessly by and see their sons board a bus for service in the armed forces.

Numbers and destinations were not revealed, but it is reliably understood that the following young men are now soldiering for Uncle Sam: Dalbrugh Riddick, Nathaniel Coltrain, Julius Edward Gurganus, Cecil Manning, Albert Leon Cooke, Kaper Gardner, Clinton Brown, Seth Augustus Davis, Joe Mack Bullock, John Henry Cooper, H. H. Cowen, Jr., John Robert Coltrain, Harry Seward Roberson, Harry Martin, William Warren Taylor, Jr., and Thurman Harrison Matthews.

Registration For Sugar Cards Tentatively Set For March 24

Although definite and complete instructions are still being awaited, the registration for sugar rationing cards or stamps has been tentatively set in this county for the last week in this month. Rationing cards and other forms to be used in connection with the rationing system have been placed in the mails but they have not yet reached the county. That the sugar rationing program is getting off to a slow start is indicated in a communication received by the county draft board this week. "We are still waiting for more detailed instructions," the State office communication said.

Preliminary plans for holding the registration have been made with the school authorities in this county. Teachers in all the elementary schools, white and colored, will handle the task between the hours of 4 and 6 p. m. and between 7 and 9 p. m.

during four evenings beginning on or about March 24th. Those who fail to register during that period will be required to wait about two weeks before applying for their coupons.

While no definite allotment has been fixed, it is generally believed that each person will be allowed only eight ounces of the short sweetening each week. Each member of the family will be given a book, but the head of a household may register for all members of the family. The family head will not be allowed to register for other members of the group residing elsewhere at the time or for relatives, servants and others.

Registrants will be required under oath to tell the amount of sugar on hand, and coupons will be deducted from the allotment. Those who give false information will be subject to a \$10,000 fine or ten years' imprisonment or both.

Perfect Organization For Civilian Defense

Plans For Handling Varied Emergencies Are Well Advanced

Chairmen Are Named For Several Agencies To Head Up Special Work

The organization of a strong civilian defense system for this county was perfected at a meeting of representative citizens in the courthouse Tuesday afternoon when chairmen were named for various agencies charged with performing certain duties and tasks during emergencies. Calling the meeting, Hugh G. Horton, county Civilian Defense chairman, told the members of the group that they would be expected to act and work at home in the defense of the nation, that the duties would be outlined from time to time as new problems present themselves. The organization is virtually complete in this county with several of the departments already functioning, including the airplane spotting and air raid systems, Mr. Horton points out. A salvage committee has been named, and courses in first aid are underway and others are being planned.

The civilian defense set-up, headed by Mr. Horton, is centered around seven or more agencies as follows: Fire Fighting, Police, Medical, Public Works, Utilities, Maintenance, and Public Relations. Several of the services, including fire fighting, police and utilities, will be handled by regular organized personnel assisted by volunteers. Dr. John W. Williams was named to head the medical services, including the establishment of first-aid posts, ambulance service, evacuation, public health, sanitary control, communicable disease control, and immunization. W. H. Gray, of Robersonville, will be in charge of public works and he is expected to direct repairs to streets, roads, water and sewer lines and other properties damaged by bombs. K. P. Lindsley, of Williamston, will direct rescue work and be in charge of any emergency equipment necessary in handling emergencies. From time to time the people will be called upon to assist the civilian defense organization chairmen and reports and information will be released to them by a designated agency headed by a representative of the county newspapers.

Those attending the meeting Tuesday afternoon in the county commissioners' room were, Mrs. C. L. Wilson and Mrs. W. M. Wynne, of Robersonville; Mrs. E. P. Cunningham of Williamston; G. P. Hall, K. P. Lindsley, D. N. Hix, H. G. Horton, J. C. Manning, Dr. J. W. Williams and Miss Marjorie Fleming, of Williamston; W. H. Gray, of Robersonville; C. L. Daniel, of Williams Township; and Mrs. Irene Blount, of Jamesville.

Number Registrants Cards Next Monday

Meeting here next Monday, members of the Martin County Draft Board will shuffle the approximately 1,300 registration cards of the third draft registration and make ready for the national lottery to be held on March 17th. No other business is on the board calendar for that evening, it was learned.

Approximately 1,280 men registered in this county on February 16th. Thirty-five of the registrants were residents of other counties, but fifty or more cards were received from Martin County residents who were traveling or temporarily employed in other counties or states on that date.

The serial number to be placed on the cards next Monday is used only for determining the order number and can well be forgotten after the lottery.

PREPAREDNESS

An official order was issued here yesterday by Mayor John L. Hassell instructing all merchants and others to be prepared to blackout all advertising signs and all-night or pilot lights on instant notice. No blackout order is being issued and while none is expected immediately, the authorities advise that merchants and others in all towns within 300 miles of the coast should be prepared to turn out the signs and all-night lights within a minute or two after an air raid warning is sounded. The lights may be left burning until a raid warning is sounded, but to black them out on short notice, outside switches or other arrangements may be necessary. All people are urged to be on the alert and to turn out their lights when the fire siren is sounded five times in succession.

Judge R. L. Coburn Calls Six Cases In The County Court

Two Defendants Sentenced To The Roads For Alleged Drunken Driving

The half dozen cases called by Judge Robert L. Coburn attracted an unusually large number of spectators to the courthouse for the regular session of the Martin County Recorder's Court last Monday. That some of the spectators were disappointed was fairly evident when rumors and hear-say reports were virtually deflated and the proceedings failed to produce anything approaching the sensational. The court was in session three hours, clearing the six cases from the docket.

Two defendants, charged with drunken driving, were found guilty and sentenced to the roads for varying terms. The road sentence was made conditional upon compliance with certain terms specified in the judgments, and it is understood that both defendants will make arrangements to satisfy the court without serving the road terms.

Proceedings in the court: Maintaining his innocence, Lin Williams, a frequent defendant in the court, was adjudged guilty in the case charging him with trespassing and destroying personal property. He was sentenced to the roads for a term of six months, the court suspending the sentence upon the payment of the cost and \$8 to Mrs. Lizzie Hardison, prosecuting witness.

Charged with operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license, Walter Wallace Bailey failed to answer when called and papers were issued for his arrest.

Pleading guilty in the case charging him with drunken driving, Gaston Rodgers was sentenced to the roads for a term of sixty days, the

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TOBACCO

One of the largest tobacco shipments to ever move out of Williamston in a single day was reported this week when the W. I. Skinner Tobacco Company shipped 21 carloads of the golden weed to an Atlantic port for export. Shipping dates and destination were not disclosed, Mr. Iverson Skinner of the company stating that the tobacco was being moved under the lease-lend program.

The tobacco was purchased under the government's commodity program on the local market. Some over half million pounds were in the shipment.

Japs Continue To Make Gains in the Southwest Pacific

Apparent Confusion Marks Allied Effort To Stem Onward March of Invaders

Despite their heavy losses exacted by General Douglas MacArthur and his scrappy men in the Philippines, the yellow peril continues its southwestward march, tightening its claws gradually now on the last Allied stronghold in the Indies. Paying a high and dear price for their gains, the Japs, according to late reports, are rapidly taking over Java, but there is a general belief that the brave defenders, deficient in air power, weapons, men and munitions, will withdraw to the Bandung area and attempt a second MacArthur stand.

Dutch authorities in a report today stated that Batavia had been abandoned and that Java had virtually been cut in two. The situation was described as serious but not hopeless, that the small band of Allies was resisting bravely.

While the yellow drive expands its operations, confusion apparently marks the Allied effort to check the invaders. Generals have been shifted either as a result of the poor showing made against the invaders or as a part of a strategic plan to form a strong defense at some other points, possibly in Australia or in India. The loss of Burma is admitted, but delayed fighting continues in and around Rangoon. Little importance is attached to action at that point now that the Burma Road, China's life line, has been cut. The big problem now rests with England. If the dynamic leadership can chunk over board its old conservative group and tackle the Indian problem with success, the Jap excursion will soon be nearing an end. India offers a complex problem, for its approximately two hundred million Hindus and the nearly 100 million Mohammedans must be reconciled to the ways of the defenders before favorable developments can be expected in that corner of the world. Plans to grant more independence to India and in return get a closer cooperation from the millions there have been blocked because conservatives consider the proposal too sweeping in its scope. However, it is possible that India will move to aid China and her war-torn and suffering millions.

A devastating raid on Nazi-controlled war industry in the Paris area earlier this week is reverberating in diplomatic circles throughout the world. Between one and two thousand Frenchmen were killed, the Royal Air Force command declaring that a heavy blow had been dealt the German controlled industry. The bombing has been described by diplomats as a legitimate act of war. The reaction is awaited, some observers believing that a declaration

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Value of American Citizenship Shown

Hundreds of thousands of Americans are rapidly recognizing the value of their citizenship in these times of stress and uncertainty. Proof of citizenship is being required of all who apply for work in war plants and other industries and offices connected with the war effort.

In less than a year, well over 125 natives of this county have called or written for birth certificates. A loosely handled vital statistics system back in its early years makes the task of determining dates a difficult one, but through diligent search Register of Deeds J. Sam Getsinger has managed to offer proof substantiating the contention of the applicants that they were actually born.

In a single day recently, requests were received from Virginia, New York, Pennsylvania, California and Idaho for birth certificates. For instance there was the request of Dencie Bennett Rawls, of R.F.D. 1, Thornton, Idaho. Mr. Rawls is the son of the late John Henry and Mary Ann Taylor Rawls. The vital statistics system was not instituted in this State until 1914, and naturally Mr. Rawls' birth was not recorded. Affidavits were obtained, school records were dug up and among other things it was found that Mr. Rawls had joined the Mormon church on a certain date, all of the facts being used to determine that he was born in Martin County in May, 1887.

Family Bible recordings are generally accepted as proof of birth, but when there is no such record, affidavits, marriage records, baptismal dates, and more recently draft registration cards are used in establishing citizenship and in determining as closely as possible one's birth date and citizenship.