



THE ENTERPRISE



VOLUME XLV—NUMBER 35

Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Friday, May 1, 1942.

ESTABLISHED 1899

Judge Robt. Coburn Calls Eleven Cases In Recorder's Court

Five Cases Charged Drunken Auto Driving On Docket Last Monday

Idle last week when the superior tribunal was in session, the Martin County Recorder's Court had a fairly large docket to consider when it resumed activities last Monday following the holiday. More than half of the eleven cases called by Judge Robert L. Coburn charged the defendants with drunken or reckless driving, and most of the others involved alleged infractions of the liquor laws. Briefly stated, "liquor was the cause of it all," almost.

The court, attracting a fairly large crowd, was in session until 1 o'clock, much time having been spent in the trial of two cases. An afternoon session would have been necessary had all the cases on the docket been handled, but by continuing two of them and reporting one defendant short, the court cleared its desk and adjourned before lunch.

Proceedings in the court:

Charged with violating the liquor laws, Mathew Cotton, veteran Oak City liquor dealer, was sentenced to the roads for a term of six months. The road sentence was suspended upon the payment of a \$75 fine and court costs. Judge Coburn placed a conditional judgment over the defendant's head when he warned him not to engage in the liquor business in any way, shape or form during the next two years. If tried and convicted in a liquor case during that period, Cotton is to start serving the six months road sentence.

Judgment was suspended upon payment of the cost in the case charging Harry C. Jones with aiding and abetting drunken driving. Jones pleaded guilty in the case.

Laverne Godard, charged with drunken driving, failed to appear for trial. Constable Clarence Wallace, Bondsman G. P. Hall and C. S. Baldree were in Norfolk Tuesday night looking for the defendant in the case, but they did not find him.

The defendant was granted a continuance until next Monday in the case charging Joseph Edward Boykin with drunken driving.

Charles Francis Geoffrion, pleading not guilty in the case charging him with drunken driving, was adjudged guilty at the close of a long trial. He was fined \$50, taxed with the cost and had his operator's license revoked for one year.

Charged with larceny and receiving, Jake Brannon failed to answer when called for trial and papers were issued calling for his immediate arrest.

Pleading guilty in the case charging him with drunken driving, James Matthews was fined \$50, taxed with the cost and had his operator's license revoked for one year.

(Continued on page six)

Reviews Operation Of Bookmobile For Past Seven Months

Nearly 30,000 Books Are Circulated in District During Period

A report coming from the BHM Regional Library Association after having completed seven round trips in each of the three counties furnishes very interesting figures.

During this period through April 3rd, the Bookmobile has traveled a total of 6666 miles, 3,867 miles in Beaufort, 1411 miles in Hyde, and 1388 miles in Martin. There are now a total of 831 borrowers. This number will be considerably increased when school is out and the children are entered as borrowers. Just now the teachers select the titles and distribute them to the pupils. The borrowers listed by counties are as follows: Beaufort 437; Hyde 166, and 228 in Martin. Books circulated by counties are: Beaufort, 7,888, with an addition through the schools of 4,842. Total 12,730. In Hyde 3,189 plus 1107 in the schools, total 4,296. In Martin 6,137 plus 4799 in the schools, total 10,936. This makes a total circulation of 27,962 for the region. This number of books circulated is an addition to the books that have been circulated through the seven local libraries in the area. All books not circulated by the bookmobile are loaned to the libraries in the counties where it has operated.

The counties have purchased and own the following number of books: Beaufort 601 volumes at a cost of \$693.32; Hyde 329 volumes costing \$333.49; Martin 837 volumes costing \$1,018.43. There have been several splendid gifts to the region of excellent books which have been equally divided among the counties. The book cost has been an average of \$1.23 per volume which is two cents below the average of the Federal Government.

Plans now underway include the purchase of books for Martin County that will run the total number of volumes owned by the county to 1,000 volumes. This will represent an investment in books of more than the \$1200 appropriated by the county.

(Continued on page six)

Tobacco Transplanting Nears Climax In County This Week

Getting underway on a small scale a few days ago despite a long dry season, tobacco transplanting claimed immediate attention on Martin County farms following a rain Wednesday and is now believed nearing a climax. While the work is fairly general, there are a few sections in the county where it will hardly get underway before the middle or latter part of next week. Reports coming from over the county now indicate that a large portion of the crop—possibly 80 per cent—will have been transplanted by next Tuesday, weather conditions permitting. The rain Wednesday, breaking a long dry spell in the county was not very general, breaking a long dry spell in the county was not very general, some sections, including Farm Life and a small area in the Palmyra community, reporting hardly enough

rain to lay the dust. Hardly before the rain stopped falling, numbers of farmers were making ready to continue or start transplanting and before late afternoon numbers of machines were seen in operation. The plants were ready and weather conditions were quite favorable, and the transplanting work was started almost at once. Few transplanters were idle for the borrowers and the demand for new machines exhausted the supply before nightfall.

So far the blue mold, while reported in some beds, has done very little damage and it is generally believed that the plant disease will not affect the transplanting work in the county. Nearly all farmers have sufficient plants and in those cases where the supply is short there will be plenty to spare on nearby farms.

Intensive War Bond Drive Being Planned

REGISTRATION

Not to be confused with draft or rationing programs, the registration of citizens for the coming political primary will get underway in the thirteen precincts in this county tomorrow. All those persons who registered two years ago do not have to register again, but any new comers to the county and those who have moved from one precinct to another within the county and those who recently became of age will have to register if they wish to participate in the May 30th primary.

The books will be open in Williamston in the office of Harrison and Carstarphen in the Geo. Reynolds Hotel Building for Precinct No. 2 and at the Roanoke Chevrolet Company office on Washington Street for Precinct No. 1. The books will be open during the next three Saturdays.

Finals Program In The Local Schools Announced By Hix

Rev. John Hardy To Preach Commencement Sermon Sunday Morning

Formal exercises marking the close of the Williamston High School will begin next Sunday morning at 11 o'clock when Rev. John Hardy, Rector of the Church of the Advent, delivers the commencement sermon in the high school auditorium. High school music groups will render special music at the annual commencement event, which will be a union worship service for the various churches in the community.

The graduating exercises will be held on Wednesday evening, May 6, at 8:30, and will include brief speeches by three members of the graduating class, instead of the usual address by a visiting speaker. The final exercises will be of a patriotic nature and will be marked by special music by the senior class. Forty-one seniors will be awarded their diplomas.

Sunday morning's program follows in detail:

Processional, "God of Our Fathers"; Invocation; Hymn, "America"; Scripture Reading; Prayer; "The Lord's Prayer"; Malotte, by the girls trio; "Lift Thine Eyes," from the Elijah, Mendelssohn, by the girls chorus; "The Cherubim Song," Bortniansky, by the mixed chorus; Commencement Sermon, "Let us lay aside every weight... and let us run with patience the race that is set before us," Hebrew 12:1; Hymn, "Dear Lord and Father of Mankind"; Benediction; Recessional.

Commencement exercises are the order of the day in the county, but they are hardly attracting as much attention this year as they have in years past. Gold Point is leading the procession today, and the last in the series will be held next week.

PARACHUTISTS

Several parachutists, their nationality not determined but believed to be foreign, were said to have floated to earth from an unidentified aircraft in this part of the State about noon today. No details could be had, but it was learned that highway patrolmen moved through here in great haste, reportedly for the area where the men were said to have landed. It is quite possible that a friendly craft met with trouble and the crew bailed out with their parachutes. The report, reading like wildfire, was generally discredited as far as the enemy was involved.

UNCLE SAM
BATTILING TO UPHOLD
America's Freedom

THE 20TH WEEK OF THE WAR

President Roosevelt sent to Congress a seven-point program of wartime economic controls including heavy taxation, general rationing of all scarce commodities and stabilization of wages. He proposed that the net income of any individual be limited to \$25,000 a year, after payment of taxes. The President described the program as one of "equality of privilege" for all Americans in bearing the burdens of total war.

Mr. Roosevelt said two points of the program require legislation, imposing heavy taxation to keep profits at a low level and stabilizing farm prices. The other five points proposed by the President, adequately covered by existing legislation, call for general price ceilings on commodities and rents, wage stabilization at present levels, increased savings through purchase of war bonds, rationing of all essential commodities of which there are scarcities, and further curtailment of credit and installment buying.

Production and Conversion

The President told his press conference the War Production program, launched in January, is working out extremely well. He said the announced goals might even be expanded. The steel plate shortage has retarded the shipbuilding program, he said, but on the whole there is no very great slowdown in ship production.

The WPB ordered the cotton textile industry to convert specified percentages of its looms to war production within 60 days, in order to increase output of materials for sand bags, camouflage cloth, agricultural bags, etc. The Board said the automobile industry during February produced almost 27 per cent as much war materials as it did during all of 1941. A total of 800 plants in 32 states reported formation of voluntary labor-management committees.

Rationing

The Office of Price Administration issued instructions for the sugar rationing program, calling for registration of consumers at elementary schools May 4th through May 7th. Retail sugar sales banned throughout the nation for a week, will be resumed May 5th when rationing goes into effect. Consumers may purchase one pound of sugar with each of the first four stamps in the ration book. These stamps cover approximately two-week periods from May 5th to June 27th.

Registration for gasoline ration cards will be held in elementary schools in 17 Atlantic-Coast states and the District of Columbia May 12, 13 and 14. Gasoline rationing will go into effect in these states May 15, OPA said. The amount of the ration will be determined by the petroleum supply situation at the time of registration.

War Bonds and Finances

The Treasury reported its drive for war bond purchases with at least 10 per cent of the total national income will begin today. The drive will have quotas of \$600 million for May, \$800 million for June, and \$1 billion for July. It will be conducted through State and County campaigns, the payroll savings plan and volunteer minute men. Bureau of the Budget Director Smith announced increases in proposed war expenditures for fiscal 1943 from \$56 billion to \$70 billion. He estimated war expenditures would reach a rate of \$5 billion a month by September.

The War Front

The President told his press conference he had been advised officially of the internment of an American plane and its crew in Siberian Russia—apparently one of the planes (Continued on page six)

Commercial Trade

Completing the commercial trade sugar registration last Tuesday and Wednesday, rationing authorities in the county are now making arrangements for registering individual consumers the first four days of next week. Material is being delivered to all the grammar schools, both white and colored, in the county today.

This week 139 retailers and 43 wholesalers, cafe and boarding house operators, heads of institutions, processors and a few others signed up for sugar allotments in the six high schools. A preliminary survey shows that quite a few retailers were denied books because of excessive inventories, and reports state that in some sections unusually heavy sales were made to individuals just before sales were suspended.

Registrations were recorded in the six high schools as follows:

Retailers	Others
Jamesville 18	4
Farm Life 3	0
Bear Grass 9	0
Williamston 46	31
Robersonville 36	8
Oak City 27	0
Total	139

Local Stores Will Observe Half-Day Holiday Schedule

Beginning next May 6 most local stores and business houses will observe Wednesday afternoon as a holiday, the schedule to continue in effect during the months of May, June, July and a part of August. Action, calling for the half holiday schedule, was taken at a meeting of the chamber of commerce a few days ago and becomes effective about a month earlier than usual.

It has been pointed out that patrons are limiting their shopping to fewer days in the week on account of rationing programs, and that employees and many business men too will have more time to devote to their victory gardens.

The cooperation on the part of patrons is earnestly solicited, the promoters explaining that a slight revision of shopping plans will inconvenience no one but will aid others.

Cosumers to Register For Sugar Next Week

First Registrations Will Be Held In County on Monday

Applicants Will Be Asked To Answer Few Very Simple Questions

Applicants for sugar rationing books today were cautioned by H. L. Roebuck, chairman of the Martin County rationing board, to come prepared with full information when they register at elementary schools or other designated places in their vicinity May 4, 5, 6, and 7. Registrations in Williamston will be handled at the high school gymnasium between the hours of 10 a. m. and 8 p. m. except on Monday when the registration will continue until 8 p. m.

Institutional and industrial users of sugar registered April 28 and 29th at high schools in their communities.

Only one member of each family may register for the family unit, but he or she must have with them data regarding the other members of the family. Ration books will not be issued until all the data are furnished, it was made clear. The registrant must be 18 years old or older.

Here is the information which should be furnished at the time of registration:

1. A list of the members of the family and their exact names.
2. An exact description of each member of the family unit—height, weight, color of eyes, color of hair, age and sex.
3. The exact relationship of each member of the family unit to the person who is registering for the family unit.
4. It is necessary to know to the pound just how much sugar is in possession of the household. The amount of sugar will be divided by the number of people in the family unit and stamps will be torn out by the register for all sugar in excess of two pounds per person. If more than four stamps have to be removed, issuance of the book will be withheld until later.

A family unit has been defined by the Office of Price Administration as "a group of two or more individuals consisting of all persons who are living together in the same household who are related by blood or marriage."

The individual may have two pounds of sugar on hand and the amount will not be charged against his rationing book. If he has more than two pounds but not over six pounds, four stamps will be removed from his book. If he has more than six pounds on hand, he will not receive a rationing book. Right there is the serious part of the rationing program for the person who hoards sugar. If he receives no book, it is possible he will not be able to buy other necessities if and when the rationing program is extended. Only the first four stamps in the rationing program have a definite value for a definite article. It is quite possible that the fifth stamp will be designated as a coffee or tea stamp or one calling for the purchase of almost any item. The first four stamps may be used during designated periods for sugar as follows: the first stamp will be valid for the purchase of one pound of sugar between May 5 and 16 and not thereafter; the second stamp between May 17 and 30; stamp No. 3 between May 31 and June 13, and stamp No. 4 will cover the period from June 14 to 27th. The stamps must be used during the designated periods or else they will be rendered useless.

Family units do not include cooks, maids or others who are not blood related.

(Continued on page six)

Officers Arrest Alleged Robber

Harry Wilson, young colored man, was arrested last Tuesday evening and formally charged with the robbery of the Gulf Filling Station on Washington Street some time during the early hours of last Sunday morning when the alleged theft of a \$39 radio from the home of his cousin, Fannie Wilson, on South Elm Street Sunday night.

A lead in the case was established when Wilson allegedly gave Linwood Speight, deaf mute, a check stolen from the filling station cash register and asked him to get it cashed. Wilson was also reported to have exchanged a number of half dollars, quarters, dimes and nickels for paper money at Paul Jones' filling station about 4 o'clock Sunday morning. The stolen radio was found hid in the attic of the Wilson home by Officer J. H. Alisbrooks who made the arrest and brought the charges against Wilson.

A hearing in the case has been tentatively planned for tonight before Justice J. L. Hassell.

CHAIRMAN



Recently appointed chairman of the War Bond and Savings Stamps drive, C. D. Carstarphen last night mapped plans with a number of his assistants to direct an intensive campaign for support of the war effort.

Chinese Will Fight To Finish Despite Reverses In Burma

Fifty-eight Jap Planes Shot Down In New Guinea; RAF Idle

China's leaders this morning assured the other United Nations that she would continue to fight to a finish despite serious reverses suffered by the Allies in the loss of Lashio, a strategic point in the Burma Road. Employing modern blitzkrieg methods, the Japs swept over 175 miles during the past five days to capture the important point, virtually winning the battle of Burma and endangering the British defenders. The situation is regarded as critical in that part of the world where the British forces have withdrawn another 80 miles in an effort to reform their lines about 25 miles from Mandalay. The sizable city was found in flames, the defenders having destroyed large stores of war materials destined for use in China against the Japs. It was another case where the advance work of fifth columnists had paved the way for an invasion, and apparently the important victory was won without a great loss of life to either side.

There are those who still maintain that supplies will continue to China, but how, it was not explained.

About the only bright spots in the war developments during the past two days are found in Russia and in the Pacific area. In Russia a tank brigade fighting on the Kalinin front has destroyed 168 Axis tanks and annihilated more than 14,000 officers and men in fierce fighting, it was officially reported early today by the Moscow radio.

The radio, broadcasting a supplement to the regular midnight communique reported no substantial changes on the long battle line, said the single tank brigade also destroyed 29 planes, many trucks, machine guns, mortars and armored cars.

It declared that 13,000 officers and men were annihilated in the earlier fighting and that in the last few days tanks broke through to the German rear and killed about 1,000 more troops.

The Kalinin front, scene of some of the bloodiest fighting of the entire war, with the Russians reporting German casualties in the thousands at frequent intervals, is northwest of Moscow.

Earlier the Moscow radio broadcast reports that the Red Army fighting on an unspecified sector of the central front, just below the Kalinin area, had sent German troops reeling back to the west after many hours of hard-to-hand fighting.

In the Pacific area, MacArthur's American and Canadian fighters (Continued on page six)

SIZABLE GAIN

Reliable estimates based on a fairly complete review, point to a gain of slightly more than three-quarters of a million dollars in assessed property values in the county this year over the listings for 1941. Gains, varying from a few thousand dollars in some townships to about \$400,000 in others, have been reported in nine of the ten districts. The listings in Jamesville will be checked tomorrow and the 1942 list for the county will be made complete at that time, Tax Supervisor C. D. Carstarphen said today. Most of the gain was traceable to personal property holdings, it was learned.

J. Latham Thrower Dies Late Thursday At His Home Here

Funeral Services This Afternoon at 4 o'Clock from Home of Daughter

Jesse Latham Thrower, well-known citizen and a retired building contractor, died at his home on Watts Street here yesterday afternoon at 5:30 o'clock following a short illness. Mr. Thrower underwent a major operation about eighteen months ago and while he was able to be up and about he had been in feeble health since that time. Suffering an attack of pneumonia the early part of this week, he grew worse rapidly and the end was not unexpected.

The son of the late John Walton and Caroline Powell Thrower, he was born in Halifax County 81 years ago the 7th of last January. When a little fellow he moved to this county with his parents and located in Williamston. When a mere youth he joined his father in the contracting business, and engaged in that trade until forced into virtual retirement by advanced years and failing health. Numerous homes and business houses stand in the town today as a monument to his handiwork and honest toil. Mr. Thrower was a member of the old school, valuing frankness and recognizing and respecting the meaning of one's word.

About fifty years ago he was married to Miss Matilda Gibson, member of a prominent Martin County family. They observed their golden wedding anniversary only a few months ago in the quietness of their home in the presence of their children and grandchildren and a few friends. Besides his wife he leaves two sons, Messrs. John Henry Thrower, of Littleton, and Joe David Thrower, of Williamston and two daughters, Mrs. Maurice S. Moore and Mrs. J. Robert Leggett, both of Williamston, and the following grandchildren, Mr. S. Moore Jr., Dorothy and Mary Carolyn Leggett, J. H. Thrower, Jr., W. L. Thrower, J. W. Thrower, Bertha Robbins Thrower and Joe David Thrower, Jr., and a niece, Miss Clyde Hassell, of Williamston.

Funeral services are being conducted at the home of his daughter, Mrs. M. S. Moore, on Simmons Avenue this afternoon at 4 o'clock by Rev. B. T. Hurley, Methodist minister, assisted by Rev. John W. Hardy, rector of the Church of the Advent. Interment will follow in the local cemetery.

Army Rejects Large Percentage County Draftees Recently

Nine White and Three Colored Young Men Physically Unfit For Service

Nine white and three colored young men from this county were classed as physically unfit for military service by the United States Army examining board at an induction center recently, according to an official notice received by the county draft board a few days ago. Nine of twenty-three white men and three of thirteen colored men reporting for service at the induction center recently were rejected, the three colored draftees having been rejected after they had been examined by an Army board at a medical center about two months prior to their scheduled induction. Nearly 40 per cent of the white selectees were rejected, and the 23 per cent rejected among the colored selectees possibly would have been far greater had there been no previous examination. The white selectees had previously been subjected to minor physical examination.

Three main causes were given for the rejections, hernia, vision and illiteracy. Five of the young white men had hernia, clearly indicating that they had been over-laxed in their work. Several of the group were from the farms of the county. Three of the group of twelve rejectees had poor vision, and three others were illiterate. One of the smaller group had contracted a certain disease between the time he was first examined and his scheduled induction. The case has been reported to health authorities.

Most of the ailments can be corrected, but there is some doubt if correction will be effected in time to fit all the young men for military service in this war. There is doubt in most of the cases if the victims will be able to finance proper treatment.

The names of those recently rejected for military service are, white—William Dawson Raynor, Grover Alton Wynne, Herbert Roger White, of Williamston RFD 3; John Edwin Manning, Willie Mayo Ange and Delwood Eugene Jackson, of Jamesville RFD 1; Jim Scott, of Hamilton; Claude Bryant Cherry, of Williamston RFD 1; and Hugh John Hollingsworth, of Williamston and Fort Mills, S. C.; colored—William Hooker, Robersonville; Walter Pierce, Jamesville, and Walter Frank Daniel, of Williamston RFD 2.