



# THE ENTERPRISE



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## Rationing Board In County Allots More Tires To Motorists

### Large Number Applications Carried Over For Future Consideration

After allotting certificates for the purchase of eleven tires and fourteen tubes, the Martin County Rationing Board carried over current applications requesting allotments for the purchase of nineteen tires and nine tubes. Briefly stated, the board is filling hardly more than two-thirds of the demands. It is now estimated that the accumulated applications will total well over 100 units. And reports from reliable sources state that the rubber situation is rapidly becoming more acute, that it is now "perilous".

With the sugar registration just completed and a number of late comers seeking rationing cards for the tooth sweetening, and with the gasoline rationing program getting underway, the rationing board members were as busy as one-legged shortstops on a ball team. Those who failed to get their names in the sugar registration bowl were advised to return later, the board centering its attention on tire rationing in the early part of the day and to gas rationing that afternoon. It is now apparent that the rationing board of activity ere long.

Certificates of purchase were granted to the following: For Trucks, J. T. Gurganus, Williamston, two tires and tubes for fuel deliveries. Daylite Bakery, Williamston, tire and tube for wholesale bread deliveries.

Martin County Transfer Company, Robersonville, two tires and tubes for common carrier.

Biggs Funeral Home, Williamston, two tires and tubes for ambulance.

S. B. Lilley, Williamston R.F.D. 1, two tires and tubes for hauling lumber.

Auto tires and tubes were allotted to the following: John W. Hardy, Williamston, one car tire tube for ministerial work.

Kelly L. Rawls, Robersonville, two tubes for mail delivery.

R. H. Salsbury, Hassell, two obsolete tires and tubes for farming. Current applications were filed by the following and carried over for future consideration:

Minnie M. Motley, Williamston, four recapped tires for use as assistant WPA supervisor.

Ira Jones, Williamston, two recapped car tires for farming.

Alvin Lowe Thompson, Williamston, two recapped tires for use in lumber business.

Jack Everett, Parmele, two tires and tubes for use in selling.

W. H. Britton, Williamston RFD 3, two tires and tubes for farm work.

C. M. Hurst, Robersonville, two tires and tubes for ice and fuel deliveries.

Daylite Bakery, Williamston, one tire and tube for bread deliveries.

Carolina Telephone Company, Williamston, two truck tires and tubes for maintenance work.

Rogerson Brothers, Robersonville, two tires and tubes for gas, oil and meal deliveries.

## Will Draft No Men From Old Group

No men will be drafted from the third group of registrants to fill the white quota in early June, according to information coming from the office of the county draft board this week. Clerk Marion Cobb explained that it was necessary to call only two men from that registration pool and that those places had already been filled by volunteers. Chas. Lee Stanley, of Dardens and Dobson, and Jesse Vernon Edmondson, of R.F.D. No. 2, Robersonville, offered their services some time ago. They have been examined and are all set for the call. At least two dozen or more men will be drafted from the first and second registration groups to round out the county's white quota for June, it is understood.

It was unofficially learned that a call for colored selectees had been received, that a fairly large number can expect to get orders to report the latter part of next month. During the meantime, the personnel of the May call is to be announced, possibly by the latter part of this week. Their "sailing" date was not disclosed. No call for white selectees was received for the month of May.

Apparently anticipating larger calls later on, the county draft board will meet Thursday night of this week to classify more men in the third registration group.

## Mule Killed On Highway 125 Near Here Yesterday

A young mule, belonging to Agriculturist W. Harrell Everett, was killed on the Hamilton Highway yesterday afternoon. Breaking away from his driver, the mule dashed down the road and started to cross the road when he slipped and fell down. A large Smith-Douglass fertilizer truck driven by Edgar Paramore, of Washington, struck and killed the animal instantly. The mule was valued at \$800.

## Commercial Fishermen Close Successful Season On Roanoke

Commercial fishing on the Roanoke at Camp Point and Jamesville was completed for the season last week, the owner-operator, Mr. C. C. Fleming, stating yesterday that the operations were unusually successful in every way. The catches were up to expectation and the demand for the breakfast delicacy was far greater than usual. Very few shad were taken during the season just ended, but large numbers of rock were caught. The disappearance of the shad is just about accepted as a certainty in the Roanoke. No one can venture a plausible explanation for the marked decrease in the number of shad in the river.

No authentic count was kept of the catches from day to day, but Mr. Fleming estimated that more than a million and a half herring were taken from the Roanoke at the two

plants during the season just ended. Record sales were made direct from the battery and the last of the 1942 catch was delivered to waiting customers a day or two ago with prices ranging from \$5 per 1,000 for the fish just as they were taken out of the water to \$18 per 1,000 for those prepared and packed.

The only drawback experienced by the operator developed when the fish ran in vast numbers during a few days. The plant was forced to hold its nets out of the waters at times when the run of herring became so large that the catches could not be cared for properly. Mr. Stewart Ange, rounding out his forty-sixth season as manager of the Jamesville plant, said yesterday that the year had been a very favorable one despite the trying rush during short periods.

## Reduced Activity On Illicit Whiskey Front

### IN AUSTRALIA

There's little doubt but what Martin County is well represented, certainly in quality if not in big numbers, in various parts of the world, but the first official information that one of its sons is gunning for country and loved ones was received here last week-end. Walter Cooke advised his mother, Mrs. John S. Cooke, in a Mother's Day message, that he was well and doing nicely in Australia.

Young Cooke is a gunner on a big bomber. Several other Martin County boys have not been heard from in recent weeks and it is believed they are now in foreign service.

## Demonstration Club Federation To Hold Session Here Friday

### Several Hundred Members From Seven Counties Expected to Attend Meet

Several hundred women from the counties of Hyde, Tyrrell, Pitt, Bertie, Beaufort, Washington and Martin are expected to attend the annual sessions of the Fifteenth District Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs in the high school auditorium here on Friday of this week, Miss Lora E. Sleeper, Martin home agent, announced today.

The first session of the day will open at 10:30 that morning with Mrs. T. G. Wheedbee presiding and with Mrs. J. Eason Lilley in the secretary's chair. The visitors will be welcomed by Mayor John L. Hassell and by Mrs. H. A. Early, president of the Martin County Federation Home Demonstration Clubs. Mrs. Charles W. Seawell, administrative director of the Associated Women of the American Farm Bureau, Chicago, will deliver the main address. She will be introduced by Mrs. Estelle T. Smith, assistant State home demonstration agent.

Luncheon will be served at one o'clock, and several numbers by the local high school band will be offered as an added feature on the entertainment program.

Following the lunch recess, the federation representatives will participate in a song program and hear various reports. Among the features scheduled for the afternoon session is an address by Miss Vera Pearl Williams, Martin County young girl and a student at East Carolina Teachers' College, Greenville. She will talk about "What the Jane S. McKimmon Loan Fund Means to Me."

While the gasoline rationing program will go into effect that day, officers of the federation are expected to be present.

## NO PRESERVING!

Preserving of early fruits and berries is almost out of the question in this county, according to a report coming from the county rationing board. Arrangements for issuing rationing cards for preserving fruits, berries and vegetables are being delayed pending the receipt of proper application forms, Sugar Rationing Chairman Herbert L. Roebuck said.

Only five pounds of sugar for preserving are allowed each person applying for an extra allotment, and no great amount of food conserving is possible with that limited amount. The preserving schedule will have to be advanced without sugar or minute quantities, apparently. The public will be notified when the proper forms, No. R-315, are received.

## Manufacturing Now Is Apparently On Its Way Out In County

### Copper Scarcity and Shortage In Sugar Forcing Operators Out of Business

It has not been mentioned in the war rationing program one way or another, but illicit liquor manufacturing is now believed on its way out in this county, according to ABC Enforcement Officer J. H. Roebuck. There has been a marked decrease in activities on the illicit liquor front during recent months, the business shifting to the legal stores where all types of rationing have had little or no apparent effect to date.

Threatened and hounded with almost clock-like regularity by the strong arm of the law, the illicit manufacturers in this county long ago were convinced that the business was too great a gamble and that it was false economy to invest a sizable amount of money in anything that was subject to be wrecked and torn up the next day. To aggravate the uncertainty, priorities on copper and sugar rationing came along and are, more or less, in full effect now. Possibly a few copper stills are still in operation, but they are mighty few. And then there are a few persons who won't or can't do anything else, so they are setting up poison-sputting plants by using gas drums and sneaking around for sugar. But gas drums are now about as difficult to get as copper is, and it would appear that while illicit liquor manufacturing was not mentioned as a worthless business to be done away with it was hit a meaningful blow by priorities and rationing.

Filing his monthly report a few days ago with the County ABC Board, Officer J. H. Roebuck explained that most of the work was handed during the early part of April, that there had been a marked decrease in the business since that time. During the period, the officer and his co-workers wrecked eight stills, having a combined value of about \$200. Eight partial distillers were destroyed, the equipment having a combined value of about \$80. The officers poured out 2,900 gallons of beer or about \$725 worth. Sixty-eight gallons of liquor, having a potential tax value of \$272, went down the streams and gutters at the hands of the raiders. Three persons were arrested and convicted in the courts, the fines alone amounting to \$200.

It is estimated that the reported labor shortage on the farms can and very likely will be relieved by the voluntary or forced transfer of illicit still operators and workers to the fields.

Officers are continuing their vigilance, but have met with little success during recent raids.

## Band Is Planning A Number of Concerts

At the request of several high officials in the Home Demonstration department of the 4-H organization the Williamston High School band will give a marching and playing demonstration on the local high school grounds Friday, May 15th, at 1:00 o'clock. The band will perform its repertoire of intricate drills before this group in its first appearance since the successful trip to Raleigh recently. In addition to this performance, the band will appear in parade on the local streets sometime in the near future and also a concert will be given the latter part of the month.

All band members are asked to report to the high school Friday at 12:30 in order to prepare for the day's program.

## War As It Relates To Home Front Is Reviewed For Week

### WPB Takes Steps To Remove Steel From Civilian Life Soon

Steel is the raw material of victory, steel is perhaps the most important single material in modern warfare. All the tanks and the howitzers and the machine guns that will drive the Axis from Europe and Asia are epitomized in that one word—steel.

Most Americans know this well and probably weren't surprised when the War Production Board last week took steps to remove steel from civilian life and divert it almost entirely to war production. But the order which halts the use of iron and steel in the manufacture of more than 400 major commodities contains some real surprises for the Home Front, at that.

One of these surprises is to discover the vast amounts of vital steel which went into the manufacture of very little things—of such things, for instance, as toilet articles—manicure scissors and nail files and nippers and cuticle pushers, hair pins and bobby pins and tweezers and gadgets for squeezing blackheads.

Altogether the items on the above list consumed 1,815 tons of steel in 1941, enough to have made more 600 pounds of steel which went into blackhead squeezers alone would have made four such big guns.

### Many Items To Disappear

WPB's steel order is so drastic and far-reaching that as time passes it will work major changes in our way of life. Scores of things we had come to accept as essential to our standard of living no longer will be made after a 90-day tapering off period and gradually will disappear from dealers' shelves.

The business man will find his surroundings changed by the choking off of office machinery of all kinds, advertising novelties, letter shutes, openers and trays, lockers and telephone booths. The housewife will be unable to buy new book-ends.

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## Recent Regulations Call For Change In Deferral Policies

### Dependency Is Almost Ruled Out As Claim To Deferral From Army

In a special bulletin received by the Martin County Draft Board a few days ago, the Selective Service pointed out that the induction of men into the armed services will soon exhaust the supply of physically fit men for military service and that changes in the deferral policies are to be expected. However, the change will hardly affect the classifications in this county immediately for the supply of available 1-A men is still fairly large. In some counties married men and married men with dependents are subject to call soon.

The following paragraphs are taken from the recent rules and regulations released by the Selective Service:

### Men with Dependents Will Be Needed

The Nation realizes sufficient men must be provided for the armed forces. The Nation also realizes the need for persons to maintain war production and other essential activities. Induction of men into the armed forces may soon use up the supply of physically fit men available for military service under current policies. Already there are shortages of trained, qualified, or skilled persons for essential war activities. To fill the needs of the armed forces and essential activities, we must look in a large part to those

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## PERILOUS

Most notable quote of the week was this, by Senate Military Affairs committee member after hearing several high-ranking government officials, in closed session, spell out the rubber situation. "Actually perilous from a military standpoint" . . . These, the strongest words yet uttered on the subject, were given firm backing by the action of officials in urging the Senate committee to recommend the most drastic step that has been proposed in the U. S. toward commandeering private physical property and hurling it into the war drive, namely the legislation authorizing requisitioning of autos and tires. . . . Admittedly it's the need for saving rubber that lies behind the car-requisitioning proposals. Some members said they expected "nothing drastic" in the way of requisitioning in the near future, but you can paste it in your hat that the threat of drastic measures is definitely here "from now on."

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## Gas Rationing Off To Slow Start In County

### Registration Going Forward In Several Schools Three Days

### Early Reports Point To Marked Inequalities in the Rationing Plan

Registrations for gasoline rationing cards were off to a slow start in the county according to scattered reports reaching here from the seven registration centers at Jamesville, Farm Life, Bear Grass, Williamsston, Robersonville, Oak City and Parmele. Registrations for colored car owners in Jamesville, Williamsston and Parmele are being handled under the direction of the colored school principals. In other centers all car owners will be registered in the white high schools. Most of the registration places are opening at 9 a. m. and closing at 5 p. m. The registration places will receive applicants during today, tomorrow and Thursday.

Attending a special school here yesterday afternoon, the approximately 25 registrars could hardly agree on the methods for handling the registration. With no definite rationing quota to determine their action, the registrars finally agreed to let each rationing card applicant declare his needs under oath and issue the type of card that fits the case. No rationing cards are necessary for trucks and farm power machinery, and especial consideration will be given those persons who operate cars with trailers attached.

Unofficial reports coming from some of the registration centers early today indicated that the rationing system has the earmarks of a gasoline survey, that a few are having their consumption threatened while others are being subjected to nothing more than a series of questions as to how much gas they will need and what they use it for. The present program, advanced as a temporary measure for trial purposes, was designed to eliminate useless and excessive pleasure riding. Its accomplishments, if any under the present rules and regulations, are to be determined beginning on Friday of this week when purchases may be made only with rationing cards plus the necessary cash, of course.

Based on a unit of three gallons, the A, B-1, B-2, and B-3 cards permit the purchase of from twenty-one to fifty-seven gallons of gasoline between next Friday and June 30; the definite allowance being as follows by types of cards, A, 21 gallons; B-1, 33 gallons; B-2, 45 gallons, and B-3, 57 gallons. Then there is an X card permitting the purchase of unlimited amounts, but in those cases the gasoline must be used for designated purposes. The joy rider without any use whatever for his car in business will be given an "A" card. The types of business and amount of necessary travel will determine the distribution of the other types of card. Certain classifications are set up to care for doctors, ambulances, taxis, public conveyances, ministers, nurses, government employees, and a few others. But the regulations point out that the consumption of gas in those cases must be "all or substantially all" used for the designated purposes.

Section 35 (A) of the United States Criminal Code makes it a criminal offense, punishable by a maximum of ten years' imprisonment, \$10,000 fine, or both, to make a false statement or representation in applying for a gasoline rationing card. In addition to citing the penalty, the rationing book of rules and regulations issued the following warning: "Please note that any offer to transfer gasoline in violation of the Gasoline Rationing Regulations will be considered a violation of the regulations. If there is any question about the legality of any transaction, the matter should be referred to the rationing board."

It is understood that a person with an "X" card allowing unlimited purchases will be subjected to ten years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

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## No One Injured In Two Car Accidents

No one was injured and no great property damage resulted in two automobile accidents near here over the week-end. Detailed reports on the accidents could not be had immediately, Patrolman Whit Saunders stating that investigations had not been completed.

Driving near the fair grounds late last Saturday night, Albert Peel, of Bear Grass, apparently lost control of his car and crashed into an electric light pole. Damage to the car was estimated at about \$50.

Joe Moore's car went out of control and landed in the Sweet Water Creek swamp late Sunday afternoon. As far as it could be learned no one was hurt and little damage was done to the car.

## Sun Breaks Through War Clouds On Far-Flung Battle Fronts

### Naval Battle in the Coral Sea Rates As Greatest in History of United States

Heartening news pierced the clouds hovering over the far-flung battle areas of the world during recent days, and while they offer a renewed hope, the encouraging reports are not to be taken to mean that the war is nearing an end or that a decisive turning point has been reached. There's a lot of fighting yet to be done, and we ain't seen nothing yet when it comes to sacrificing and altering our ways.

Routing the yellow Japs off Australia last week, American forces, supported by their Allies, scored what has been described as the greatest naval battle in American history. No official report on Allied losses has been released, but it is now well established that the Japs lost at least 21 ships and thousands of soldiers in the week-long scrap. Driving as an advance unit toward Australia for an invasion attempt, the Japs are believed to have had their plans upset. Future courses of action will be revealed by time alone. To think that the war is nearing a close is mere wishful thinking when some observers point out that an attack on American territory in the north is imminent. More and far-reaching developments are to be expected both in the Pacific and Russian areas. Observers are fearful about Alaska, and Hitler can be expected to strike again before many more weeks pass.

Following closely the favorable reports on action in the Coral Sea, comes news telling of other sinkings by American submarines. Another warship and two more cargo vessels have been sent to the bottom for the Japs by the subs operating in Far Eastern waters. The Chinese, under the direction of their American leader, routed Jap forces and sent them reeling back out of China into Burma. The fighting in Burma, however, is not at all encouraging for the Allies, but the fighting Chinese along their own border are apparently making life miserable for the invaders. India, despite its announced policy of non-resistance, is said to be ready to aggravate the Japs in their far-flung march.

Aside from the action at the front, there's serious talk about gas warfare. Preparations are well advanced for attack Russia with the poisonous and horrible death-dealing material. Prime Minister Churchill has warned Germany that if a gas war is started, England will scatter it over every nook and corner in Germany. Small amounts are said to have been released on the Russians in the south. It is known that extensive preparations for gas warfare have been and are being made by all the warring nations, and those who have studied the problem from every angle predict that the poison will be used before the war is brought to an end.

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## Taking Steps To Check Inflation

Definite steps have been and are still being taken to check inflation in this country, some observers stating that within the next six or eight months conditions similar to those in the early thirties will obtain throughout the land.

Huddled under the wing of General Maximum Price Regulations, civilian business activities will absolutely be made secondary to the war effort. While the business front as we know it will be bogged down in inactivity, the war production front will have reached a record stride. The regulation is a war measure issued to stop further increases in the cost of living and in virtually all other prices. War will cause vast numbers of business enterprise to suspend operations for the general public. The action, if uncontrolled, will cause inflation, and the regulation has fixed price levels as of March, this year. The new regulation, going into effect next Tuesday, lists about 100 groups of items with the prices posted by the retailer.

It is a big undertaking, but government officials have agreed to try to head off inflation and profiteering. In other words, it is better to control prices and the cost of living now even if such action hurts than it would be to permit inflation now and dive into a depression later on.

## Parmele School Closes Very Successful Term

The Parmele colored school closed a very successful term last week, Principal Chance stating that the commencement programs were well attended. Dr. L. R. Meadows, president of the East Carolina Teachers College, Greenville, delivered the main address. Dr. A. Elder, dean of State College, Durham, and Former Congressman John Small also appeared on the finals program.

## PACKING

Enjoying what some think will be their last Sunday outing in an automobile, for a while at least, motorists, greatly increased the flow of traffic in this section over the week-end. In some of the communities, filling stations sold out their gas at an early hour Sunday morning. The motorists literally packed the fluid in their gas tanks, one old and apparently rich coddler stepping on the bumper of his long and costly car in an effort to shake the fluid down and make room for more. He then reached in the rear compartment, produced a can and had that filled. Quite a few individuals filled their gas tanks to overflowing and then put a surplus in other containers.

## Sugar Registration Virtually Complete For Martin County

### More Than 25,000 Persons Apply For Quotas; 805 Refused Ration Books

That Martin County volunteer registrars did an able job in receiving applications for sugar rationing books is reflected in the unofficial but virtually complete reports coming from all of the thirty-three registration places. The reports show that 25,023 persons—12,802 white and 12,221 colored—registered for sugar quotas in this county during the four registration days last week.

Comparing the registration with the 1940 census figures, it is estimated that about 1,000 persons in the county do not have their names in the sugar bowl at the present time. Their applications will be received by rationing board clerks in the county courthouse on most any day now except Monday, between the hours of 8:30 a. m. and 5:30 p. m. A few of those who failed to register last week for individual consumer allotments or who did not apply for trade quotas the week before have reported already to the county rationing board for rationing books.

According to the preliminary report released by Board Secretary Mrs. Irene Blount, 805 applicants—784 white and 21 colored—had their rationing books withheld when they pointed out that excessive amounts of the sweetener were on hand. Unofficial reports state that several applicants will not qualify for rationing books during the next two or three years, that the present sugar supply held by them will last that long. One applicant was told that he could not expect a book until the war was over. It was claimed that the applicant had enough sugar to last even if the war lasted years. Those persons with excess amounts of sugar on hand may return it to the retailer or keep it. If they keep it, the amount amount declared will be charged against them at the rate of one-half pound per week. If a family of four has 100 pounds of sugar on hand no book will be given for almost a year. The family may use the sugar as they please, but if they use it all in a month or two they will not be eligible to buy more until the quota has been fully credited which at the present is based on one-half pound each week per person.

Stamps are making their appearance in fairly large quantities at the stores. Some of the owners are fussing a bit about the extra trouble they experience in handling them, but the merchants are not complaining as a rule. The first four stamps in the books have a fixed value of one pound each, meaning that the owner is entitled to buy one pound of sugar when he presents his book. In a family of two or more pound purchases may be made with each No. 1 stamp on or before Saturday.

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## CONVENTION

Apparently skipping the precinct meetings, the Democratic leadership in Martin will attempt to organize its forces after a routine fashion at a county convention to be held in the courthouse Saturday of this week at 12 o'clock, noon. "In every precinct where no meeting was held last Saturday, all duly qualified democrats will be recognized as delegates to the county convention," Elbert S. Peel, chairman of the party executive committee, announced today.

The convention will name delegates to the State convention which convenes in Raleigh on Friday, May 22, and to name committees and to transact other business that may come before the meeting.