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War As It Relates To Home Front Is Reviewed for Week

Almost Million Persons Turn To War Production During Month of June

In June, almost a million Americans—men, women, youths—joined the army of production in factories, shipyards, offices and on the farm. In June, the War Production Board said, our output of ships and tanks and planes and guns, of ammunition and campaign equipment was almost three times that of last November.

These reports are good news and we have need of good news just now when Nazi tanks pitch and lumber through the ripe wheat field of the Ukraine in a drive which threatens the great city of Stalingrad on the Volga, a city which means to the Russians about what Kansas City means to us.

The Nazis advance in Russia. The Nazis and their Italian accomplices are held in Egypt but stand only 60 miles from the Great British naval base at Alexandria. In the Far East, Japanese patrols draw steadily closer to the United Nations' air base on New Guinea which is an outpost for the defense of Australia. In the Atlantic, Axis submarines continue to sink our merchant ships.

None of us, at such a time, would be foolish enough to underestimate the strength and the ferocity and determination of our enemies. And none would deny that the times call for whatever measure of sacrifice may be necessary to defeat these enemies. And yet today the outlook in the long view is more encouraging than ever before. Our enemies may gain victory after victory and yet we are building the instruments of their destruction, we shall overwhelm them by sheer weight of weapons and of manpower in the end.

That statement about our output of war material in June was drawn from a report on war production made to the American people last week by the War Production Board.

It was a cautious report. WPB chairman, Donald M. Nelson, said "boasting" about our progress would be "premature" and that there was no excuse for "undue optimism."

Ship Production Mounts

It is true that the biggest part of our job is still ahead of us and yet it is heartening to realize that we made more war planes in the first six months of this year than during all of 1941 and three and a half times as many anti-aircraft guns. That we built more tanks in that period than in the whole of last year and that our output of machine tools and other types of machinery which makes the machines of war was 98 per cent above the figure for the first six months of last year.

Even more encouraging, in view of our losses in the battle of the Atlantic, is the fact that our production of merchant ships—the ships which must carry our weapons to the fighting fronts—was 135 per cent greater than for the whole of 1941.

Still we have to do better than that. We have not only to maintain production on this scale, we must increase it to yet greater heights. This means that we must continue to funnel every available bit of manpower and womanpower into essential war production work that is not needed for the armed services. The number of jobs filled by public employment offices in June was double that of two years ago and yet it must go higher if we are to have the production army we need.

Flowback of Scrap Metal Slows Up

Most definitely, we must redouble our efforts to get scrap metals back into the furnaces. The Office of Price Administration says that the flow of scrap is not increasing enough and shipments lately have been of poorer quality and both OPA and WPB attacked rumors that there was to be a rise in the Maximum Price for iron and steel scrap. WPB further

Operation Of Schools Uncertain In County

Number Of Colored Schools Will Start Term On August 13

Meeting in regular session here yesterday, members of the Martin County Board of Education recognized the uncertainty surrounding the operation of the schools this coming term and rescinded a former resolution requiring certain certification of teachers before they were accepted as members of the various school faculties. Briefly stated, the board, confronted now with the task of filling seventeen positions made vacant by resignations, is lowering its teacher requirements and will apparently consider applications from most any and all sources with certain reservations, of course.

In addition to the teacher shortage, the school authorities are baffled with other problems. The labor shortage is almost certain to disrupt the schedule, and only this week the board was advised that tires for busses will be made available only out of the general county allotment. It is an established fact that the applications for tires already before the board will exhaust the quota for August and possibly for September. It is quite possible that some of the busses will be forced off the road before the coming term is completed, and reductions in route mileages are to be expected.

Anticipating a serious labor shortage at cotton picking time, the board is ordering eleven colored schools, or nearly all of those in the main cotton-producing areas in the county, to start the new term on Thursday, August 13th. The board members reasoned that the tobacco crop will have been harvested by that time and that several weeks of school can be held before cotton picking time when classes will be suspended for an indefinite time. The following colored schools are to start the term on Thursday of next week: Robersonville, Parmele, Gold Point, Everetts, Salsbury, Hamilton, Oak City, Bowers, White Oak Springs, Whichard-James and Jones. It is the first time in years that even a few of the schools in this county were scheduled to start a new term in August.

The other colored schools and all the white schools were scheduled by the board to start the new term on Thursday, September 3rd. The schedule of operation even for these schools is uncertain, a member of the board explaining that classes would be suspended if and when the demand for farm labor effected any marked decrease in the attendance figures.

Very little other business was considered at the meeting, and the board adjourned before the noon hour.

County's Board Of Commissioners In Short Meet Monday

Four-fifths of Current Tax Levy Collected, Report To Board Shows

The Martin County commissioners held another one of those uneventful sessions on their regular meeting date here yesterday. No road petitions were submitted to the group, but a few tax adjustments were effected and a review of the current tax collections was examined. Routine business, including the selection of jurors for the next term of Martin County Superior court, reviews of reports and current bills, was handled in record time, the commissioners adjourning before the lunch hour or before lunch, anyway. Commissioners R. L. Perry, of Bear Grass; J. L. Coltraine, of Williams; R. A. Haislip, of Oak City, and C. A. Roberson, of Robersonville, were present.

Submitting his monthly report, Tax Collector M. Luther Peel stated that \$164,799.97 or about four-fifths of the current tax levy, had been collected. However, it is understood that a few less than half of the taxpayers or about 3,500 have not paid their 1941 accounts. Collections this year are well advanced over those for the corresponding period for 1940 taxes. In addition to the income from the 1941 tax accounts, the collector reported \$3,038.02 had been collected from 1940 land sales which totaled \$7,150.46 last fall. And in addition to those amounts, \$3,171.66 of the 1940 "insolvent" list of \$5,923.80 had been collected.

A relief order was granted to W. L. Leggett for \$4.26 taxes listed in error.

A change in the valuation assessed against the woodland of W. R. L. Purvis in Robersonville Township was ordered as follows: ten acres of Staton land reduced in value from \$10, to \$7 an acre, or a total reduction of \$420 in the assessed valuations.

A special request by the health department for \$250 for the purchase of certain supplies and materials to be used in case of a bombing attack in the county was tabled for the present, at least.

Agent Tells About Scarcity Of Labor

By LORA SLEEPER County Home Agent

Scarcity of labor has become a serious problem in the country. It has been impossible to get the children together as all of them are working harder than ever in tobacco. The dry weather has interfered very much with the food preservation project carried by many girls at this season. Four days were spent at White Lake 4-H camp. At the request of Mae Moore, club girl, the home agent assisted in canning corn, showing this girl the use of the steam pressure cooker. Twenty-one quarts of corn were canned in the afternoon.

Miss Mary Ola Lilley, club girl, from Farm Life, reported that her Victory Garden had thus far supplied the family table with 12 vegetables in spite of dry weather. Miss Lurien Hyman, of the Oak City 4-H club, who had signed up for the national dress contest was given suggestions to assist her. Miss Doris Savage and Joyce Quinn, of the Williamson 4-H club, will have parts on the Field Day program, scheduled in August. James Harden and Benjamin Bunting will also have parts.

Renew Drive For Collection Of Scrap Metal In The County

While Martin County possibly leads in the per capita collection of scrap metals, its people are again being called on to renew their efforts and literally overrun the junk yards and keep the salvage flowing to the mills and to the actual scenes of conflict. If the production goal is to be reached in this country, North Carolina will have to collect and ship to the blast furnaces 392,000,000 pounds of scrap iron during the next six months. On that basis, Martin County is expected to collect well over four million pounds of scrap iron.

As a part of a nation-wide movement to get billions of pounds of scrap iron to the furnaces, a county-wide meeting will be held in the county courthouse on Thursday evening of this week promptly at 8:15 o'clock. The general public is cordially invited and urged to attend the meeting. Governor J. M. Broughton will address the meeting by radio, and plans for renewing the drive for salvage materials will be discussed. It is quite possible that individuals will be asked to make surveys in their respective communities and report any scrap material that can be made available. In any case where deliveries have been delayed for one reason or another, the Army may be called to participate in the campaign with its trucks.

All persons who find it impossible to attend the county-wide meeting are urged to hear the governor over the radio at 8:30 Thursday night.

Scrap iron, delivered to recognized dealers, has a fixed price, and the dealers' profits are limited to a very small figure by the government.

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Mrs. Annie Green Dies Early Monday In Local Hospital

Funeral Services at Home in Williams Township This Afternoon

Mrs. Annie Hopkins Green, highly respected Williams Township citizen, died in a local hospital yesterday morning at 1:45 o'clock following an illness of more than two months' duration. Experiencing declining health about the middle of last May, Mrs. Green entered the hospital in early June. Her condition reflected some improvement and she was able to return home for two brief periods during the ensuing weeks. Last Saturday noon she underwent an operation, a weakened heart failing to stand the extra strain. She lost consciousness early Sunday afternoon, the end coming peacefully during the night.

The daughter of the late J. Will and James Etta Griffin Hopkins, Mrs. Green was born in Williams Township 45 years ago. On February 12, 1916, she was married to Mr. O. S. Green and continued to live in the neighborhood of her birth. She was a devoted wife and mother and was held in the highest esteem by all who knew her. She was a faithful member of the Riddick's Grove Baptist Church for a number of years, attending the services there without fail as long as she was able to do so.

Besides her husband she leaves two children, Mrs. Woodrow Jones, of Williamston, and Jack Green, of the home. She also leaves three sisters, Mrs. E. W. Davis, of Norfolk; Miss Eloise Hopkins, of Williams, Ohio, and five brothers, Joe and Clarence Hopkins, of Williams, and Harry, Herbert and Delma Hopkins, of Norfolk.

Funeral services are being conducted from the home this afternoon at 5 o'clock by her pastor, Rev. W. B. Harrington. Burial will follow in a cemetery near the home.

Call More County Men For Service In Army

Group Leaving Soon Largest To Be Sent From Martin County

"Uncle Sam" is digging deep into the Martin County draft list to augment his fighting manpower, a report coming from the draft board today stating that one of the largest groups of men called so far during the present war will be leaving "soon" for service. Numbers and dates were not officially announced, but it was reliably learned that the list of white draftees is the largest and that the men are to answer the August call. They will be followed later in the month by an even greater number of colored selectees.

Working with a 40 per cent margin to spare, the draft board came up short in filling the current quota, but it is possible that two men will be added to the induction list at the last minute late today. It was learned that a goodly number of men had been rejected on account of physical disabilities, and the number of last-minute appeals for occupational reasons had exhausted the list of available men before the quota could be filled in its entirety. The large number of rejections and the unexpectedly large number of occupational appeals forced the draft board to dig into the third registration for about twenty men. They are the first to answer a draft call from the third registration.

The names of the men scheduled to answer the current call at an "early" date follow:

Eugene Betha Ange, of Jamesville; John Hutton Gurganus, of Williamston; Benjamin Barber, RFD 2, Williamston; John Ben Hardison, RFD 1, Williamston; Henry Joe Peel, RFD 2, Williamston; Heber John Coltraine, RFD 1, Williamston; Edmond Davis Harrison, RFD 2, Williamston; Lester Franklin Bailey, RFD 2, Williamston; William Albert Harrison, Robersonville; Donie Harold Folsom, Oak City; Geo. Wallace Cowan, RFD 1, Robersonville; Willie Whitfield, RF D1, Hobgood; Howard Edwin Whitehurst, Parmele; Ira Marvin Coltraine, RFD 1, Williamston, and Norfolk; Grady Hoyle Davenport, Dardens; Clyde Hugh Hines, Williamston; Dennis Mayo Harrison, RFD 2, Williamston, and Norfolk.

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Peanut Prices Are At Highest Point

During the past few days peanut buyers in North Carolina and Virginia have been active in purchasing the few remaining lots of unsold farmers goods at prices higher than those prevailing a week ago, according to the U. S. and North Carolina Departments of Agriculture in the Weekly Market News Service Review.

At present best Jumbos now bring 7.65 cents and occasionally 7.3-4 cents per pound delivered at the mills in contrast to around 7.1-2 cents last week. The market for shelled goods also strengthened during the week.

Hog prices worked lower during the week in Chicago but fed steers and yearlings and native and western spring lambs closed higher. On the Carolina and Virginia swine outlets top hogs were unchanged at \$14 in Fayetteville and Florence; 10 cents off at \$13.90 in Clinton, Lumberton and Rocky Mount and 20 cents lower in Windsor and down a quarter at \$14 in Richmond.

The season's first Tar Heel new crop Porto Rican and golden variety sweet potatoes featured this week's fruit and vegetable trade. Opening prices in New York stood at \$4.50 to \$5 per bushel in contrast to initial sales of \$2 to \$2.50 last year. Value of Carolina peaches, watermelons and peppers decreased but okra prices were up slightly.

Only a few peanut mills are operating at the present time, and the demand for shelled goods is far in excess of milling capacity.

Files Application For Service In The Army

Rev. Z. T. Piephoff, local Presbyterian minister, has filed an application for a place in the United States Army. If he is accepted, he will go into the service as a chaplain.

Local Police and County Officers, Too, Were Kept Running Almost Continuously In This Immediate Community Last Saturday and Sunday Night

Nine of the twelve were charged with public drunkenness, a tenth one was booked and later freed on a larceny and receiving charge, another was jailed for an alleged assault and a twelfth one was placed in the "cooler" for bastardy.

Those arrested were, John Bunting, Bunn Godard, Winford Cain Weslie Baker, J. C. Whitford, Claude Whitaker, all white and charged with being drunk; Robert Brown, Willie Smith, Sam Roberson, Alton Jones, J. T. Briley, all colored. Brown was charged with larceny and receiving, and Briley with an assault. The others were charged with public drunkenness. A twelfth person, James Dixon, white, was booked for bastardy.

Fire Destroys Farm Buildings Sunday

Fire of undetermined origin destroyed several barns and outhouses on the farm of Mrs. Buck Bailey in Bear Grass Township early last Sunday morning. The several work animals were loose in the lot and were not burned, but tobacco from seven and one-half acres was burned and there wasn't a penny of insurance on the leaf and according to reports reaching here very little insurance was carried on the buildings.

Starting in the two-story stock-barn, the fire was discovered about three o'clock. Neighbors, rushing there, could possibly have confined the fire to the one building had as much as a barrel of water been available. The dry weather had about dried up the water supply, and the volunteer fire fighters had to stand almost idle while the fire moved from the stockhouse to a two-story packhouse, then to a one-story barn and then to the chicken coop.

Several Factors Aggravating Already Acute Tire Situation

Regardless of a great deal of talk and confusing promises for relief, the tire situation, already acute in this county, is being aggravated by a series of new factors. And the situation is gradually becoming worse despite a slightly larger allotment for the current month.

Eight new automobile tires have been allotted for distribution in the county this month as compared with seven for July. The new or recapped tires has been increased from 29 to 35, and twenty-six new tubes as against 19 for July have been made available during the current month for this county. No second-grade tires were allotted for August, meaning that the number of new tires is unchanged and that only six extra recaps are available to care for growing needs.

The truck tire allotment was increased from 37 in July to 50 for this month. Recaps for truck tires were jumped from 43 to 67 and the number of tubes was increased from 41 to 63. But, in reality, the truck tire allotment is not as encouraging as it would seem to be on the surface. The rationing board was advised that it is expected to care for the needs of the 34 school busses going into operation the early part of next month. The need for tires for school busses could not be learned immediately, but with the added load in that quarter and with the hot weather exacting a greater toll of tires, the situation is really worse than it was in July. Four trucks, operated by a single farm, went out of operation this week when a tire on each one gave way.

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Russia Stiffening Its Defenses Along The Eastern Front

Situation Along Lower Don Is Still Critical, Late Reports Declare

Although the Russians are stiffening their defenses on the lower reaches of the Eastern Front, the gravity of the situation for the Soviets is again being stressed. On the Don River from Voronezh to Rostov, the German drive, aided by reserves, has apparently bogged down, but the invaders are apparently advancing their greatest effort around Kusevka, about fifty miles to the south of Rostov, where the lines are swaying back and forth.

Apparently realizing that the situation in Russia is critical and that a second front is needed in the west to help relieve the pressure, the Germans are said to be giving much attention to their defenses in the coastal countries. But the matter of a second front is having to wait. Apparently some observers see the fall of the Caucasus to the Germans, giving rise to the question what Russia will do when she has lost all of her European territory. Some say it is possible that Russia will be forced to sue for a separate peace, but others maintain that Russia will fight to the bitter end. It is fairly certain now that Hitler will gain no great advantage in materials and oil because the Russians will confront him with a scorched earth policy. However, the German gains will be great if the materials and oils are made useless to the Russians.

The Russians know very well they have come to their crisis, and soldiers are writing to soldiers explaining that the time has come when they can no longer give up another foot of their native land.

Writing just recently a Russian soldier poet said, "Comrades, listen to your heart beating, listen to your heart asking if you have repaid Germans for the tortures of Rostov, for the ruins of Kiev, and for the tears of our wives and mothers and children. Comrades, we must so fight that when this war is over and our sons ask those of us who are left, 'Father, where were you in the Great War?' we can say to them with pride, 'We held the Germans on the Don.'"

While the opening of a second front may be months removed, there are many indications that a large-scale air offensive will be launched against the heart of Germany soon.

The extreme, continuing gravity of the Russian position was pointed up by Pravda, Communist Party newspaper, which declared "The danger in the south is more acute." The Germans were throwing hordes of fresh reserves of machines and men—6,400 were killed overnight, the Russian communique said—with characteristic disregard for death. The drive into the Caucasus was Hitler's supreme gamble to knock Russia from the war and seize the oil he desperately needs.

A report early this afternoon indicated that the Germans had pierced Russian defenses and had traveled to the Kuban River, more than 100 miles southeast of Rostov, and were now in proximity of Russia's lesser oil fields.

In further preparation of an invasion attempt, Hitler is said to have withdrawn three million persons from the coastal areas or nearly everyone he thinks would offer aid to the Allies.

Reports from New Guinea tell of a Jap drive toward Port Moresby similar to the drive in Malaya. Nearly 20,000 Japs have been landed within about forty miles of the port and are inching forward. They are meeting with some resistance from the air.

News from other fronts is meager. The Indian situation continues critical, but American airmen are said to have done an effective work there in

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Sixteen Marriages In County During The Month Of July

Number Considerably Above The Average For Past Four Years

Sixteen marriage licenses were issued in this county last month, the number ranging considerably above the average for the past four years but slightly below the average for the past ten.

Seven of the sixteen licenses were issued to white couples as follows:

White

Joel Lafayette Gibson, Jr., and Carrie Godard Jones, both of Williamston; William Bruce Whitehurst and Geraldine Hollis, both of RFD 2, Williamston; William Albert Biggs and Lela Elizabeth Harris, both of Robersonville; W. Barclay Daniel, of Williamston, and Mrs. Carolyn Blount Stalls, of Bethel; John Robert Coltraine, Jr., of RFD 1, Williamston, and Elizabeth Holliday, of Jamesville; James Clyde Holland, of Newport News, and Dimple Lucille Brady, of Elizabeth City; McClellan Roberson, of Spring Hope, and Bessie Ruth Smith, of Robersonville.

Colored

Linwood Whitley and Hazel Spruill, both of Williamston; Lee Cain Williams and Bessie Simmons, both of Williamston; Marcellus House, Jr., and Sarah Battle, both of Robersonville; Simon Robert Howell and Shirley Reid, both of Williamston; Robert Lloyd, of Washington City, and LuLine Council, of Robersonville; Rhoden Purvis and Thelma Biggs, both of Williamston; Noah Wiggins and Ozia Wright, both of Williamston; Lee Wiggins and Beatrice Purvis, both of Williamston; Milton Slade and Vivian Williams, both of Williamston.

Border Markets Open Thursday

Based on encouraging reports coming out of Georgia and Florida, tobacco farmers along the North and South Carolina border are anticipating "good" prices when the sixteen auction markets open the 1942 season on Thursday of this week. The Georgia markets reported an upward trend in prices last week, the average climbing as high as 35 cents a pound the last day of the period.

Tar Heel farmers on the border belt estimate their 1942 production at 59,160,000 pounds, 16 per cent above 1941 on an acreage of 58,000, nine per cent above last season.

Producers' sales on the North Carolina border markets last season totaled \$6,810,371 pounds which brought \$17,302,362, or an average of \$25.90 per hundred pounds compared with a 1941 state average of \$29.83.

Opening sales, covering the first 30 days of operation, averaged \$26.93 a hundred pounds on the border belt last season. Farmers on all 75 flue-cured tobacco markets have reason to expect good prices for their 1942 crop in view of increased farm labor costs, higher costs of living and demands of leaf that will possibly exceed supplies.

Former County Man Is To Be Chaplain In Army

Rev. J. Leon Malone, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ellis T. Malone, of this county, has volunteered for service in the Army. Following a visit with relatives near here, the young Episcopal minister who has been located at Southport, left yesterday for Cambridge, Massachusetts, where he will study at Harvard for three months before entering upon his new duties.

Mrs. Malone is returning to Tennessee where she will continue her education preparatory to a teaching assignment.