



THE ENTERPRISE



VOLUME XLV—NUMBER 71

Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Tuesday, September 8, 1942.

ESTABLISHED 1899

Observation Posts In the County Are Inspected Recently

Importance of Work Is Again Stressed by Representatives of Army

Making a rigid inspection of the airplane observation posts in this county last week, Army representatives were said to have been greatly pleased with the one at Jamesville.

Not only did they find an efficient organization of observers, but they found the post headquarters to be in excellent shape, exceeding military requirements.

The post operating as a community project since August 1st, has had an ever increasing number of volunteers to offer their services. At present, observers report for duty once each week; however, it is hoped that before long sufficient volunteers will be available so that it will not be necessary for any observer to serve more often than once a month.

Chief Observer Charlie Davy and Assistant Chief Observer O. W. Hamilton continue to man the post single-handed during the day from their business establishment, and they also contribute their time at regular intervals to watching at night.

During the first month of community operation, the post reported to the filter center a total of 89 planes, requiring 67 phone calls. Fortunately, none of these calls were more than routine in nature. Had anything unusual developed, however, such prompt transmittal of the circumstances to the proper authorities would have allowed time for any action that might have been deemed necessary.

No detailed report could be had, but the inspectors were said to have visited Hamilton about 2 o'clock in the morning.

A new post is being opened in Ribersonville today, and plans for establishing others are being advanced.

Working a greater part of a 24-hour day, two posts, one manned by Mrs. Claude Jenkins and the other by Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Leggett and son, have done a good job, Director Paul Simpson for the county declares. The Leggett youth out in the Griffins Township possibly has reported more planes than any other observer in the county.

Much has been done to expand and improve the spotter service in the county, and it was apparent that the representatives of the interceptor command were pleased to see the increased interest at all the posts. The representatives stressed the importance of the work, and urged a continued cooperation on the part of everyone in the support of the program.

Number Of Doctors In Martin County Below the Average

State More Than Meets Medical Quota for the Current Year Draft Period

In a recent statement to the press, Dr. Donnell B. Cobb, president of the Medical Society of the State of North Carolina, assured the civilian population that an adequate medical service would be maintained for the folks back home.

Commenting on the situation, Dr. Cobb said, "Each new proposal for our Army places it at a higher figure. We are now told that an army of nine million men will be necessary for victory. To medically staff such an army will require one-third of all physicians in the United States. Approximately 48 per cent of these are under 45 years of age."

"Besides this tremendous task of providing medical services for the armed forces, it is essential that the civil and industrial population be properly cared for."

Reviewing the draft of medical doctors in this State, the doctor said there are 2,734 physicians in North Carolina, that approximately 525 under 45 years of age have been made available to the armed forces while the 1942 quota for the State was only 412.

Dr. Cobb further states that staffs of essential hospitals, teaching institutions and health departments have been held intact, that rural communities have not been deprived of adequate medical care, and that constant effort has been made to maintain the minimum ratio of one effective doctor to 1,500 people.

Authorities of County Order Land Tax Sales

Will Not Issue Any Permit For Sale of Beer in Fairground

M. L. Peel Reappointed County Tax Collector for Another Tax Year

After discussing a varied calendar, the Martin County Commissioners in their regular session here yesterday ordered that all lands upon which 1941 taxes had not been paid be advertised the first Monday in October for sale at auction on the first Monday in November. The sale date is the latest allowed by law, and any other action would not have been possible.

Commenting on the list of unpaid taxes, Collector M. L. Peel stated that he believed the delinquent list in the county this year would be the smallest in many years, that possibly there would be hardly more than 300 names in the unpaid group at advertising time in early October.

No official action was taken at the meeting, but the commissioners discussed the advisability of stepping up the time of sale for next year. It was pointed out that by waiting so late to advertise and sell the delinquent tax list, the county is unable to turn the next tax books over to the regular collector on time. The low requires the collector to settle for all collections of old taxes before he receives the new books. It is possible that the board will meet within the next few days and name a temporary collector to receive the new 1942 books and push the current collections. The new taxes are payable now and arrangements have been made to receive payments. By advertising and selling the delinquent list earlier in the year, the authorities could have turned the tax books over to the collector as soon as they were made ready.

Official action was taken in very few matters at the regular meeting, the authorities discussing at length the tax situation and spending much time studying requests for tax relief orders.

Tax Collector M. L. Peel was reappointed for another year, and the following tax relief orders were granted:

O. L. Roberson, Cross Roads, paid \$3.06 taxes in Williamston Township. Wright Clark, Williamston, paid \$2 in Bear Grass Township.

Charlie Freeman, Williamston, was found to be too old to pay poll taxes. Fred Simmons, charged with \$2 poll tax, had moved out of the county.

Gus Latham, listed for poll taxes in Williamston, moved out of the county five years ago.

John Walker Vinson, charged with \$16.05 taxes, moved to China some time ago.

Ace Villepique and Jep Grant, each charged with \$2 poll taxes, had been gone several years.

The following were relieved of \$2 tax charges, listed in error, Wm. T. Bland, J. D. Moore, J. R. Moore, Ollie Moore and Nymphus Manning, all of Williamston.

Mack Baker, charged with \$2 poll tax, was found to be too old to be on the list. And so was Tom D. Taylor, of Robersonville.

The 68-cent account of J. A. Taylor, Robersonville, was listed in error, and J. A. Philpot, Williamston, was relieved of the payment of \$2 taxes when it was shown that the account had been paid.

On motion of Commissioner Joshua L. Coltrain, the board ordered that no license for the sale of beer in the fair grounds be issued this year.

Timely Pamphlets On War And Peace

The Office of War Information today issued the first of a series of pamphlets—"Toward New Horizons—The World Beyond the War"—containing statements and speeches which define or illuminate the developing policy of the United Nations.

Speeches of Vice President Henry A. Wallace, Under Secretary of State Sumner Welles, Ambassador John G. Winant, and Milo Perkins, Executive Director of the Board of Economic Warfare, are combined in the first pamphlet.

War As It Relates To Home Front Is Reviewed for Week

Production of Bicycles Drops From 150,000 to About 10,000 Per Month

As the machinery of war production moves at a steadier pace, with fewer starts and stops and less grinding of gears, plans that were only paper a short while ago become realized facts. One question long under discussion was how to combine the productive resources of plants manufacturing similar, competitive articles so that a limited supply of these articles still would be available after most of the plants had turned to making war goods.

The British have had a system of pooling industrial resources for some time. America's first real test of the new method of operating "surviving" plants comes in the bicycle field. Last year's output of these machines averaged about 150,000 per month. This year the figure has been steadily reduced until it is now set at no more than 10,000 bicycles per month, with Army, Navy Maritime Commission, War Shipping Administration and Lend-Lease having first call on those produced.

Ten of the dozen bicycle plants already have been converted strictly to war manufactures. The two remaining plants will continue to make bicycles but only the Victory Model, a light machine that uses a scant amount of critical materials. The two makes will be alike, distinguished merely by the letter "W" or "H" before the serial number.

Lack of Fuel Oil Creates New Problem

War needs are like ten pins, a "strike" from one direction setting in motion a whole series of effects in like or even unlike fields. The drain on our fuel oil supply, for instance, has affected the demand for artificial gas to such an extent as to require restrictions of gas supplied to new industrial and domestic consumers. The natural gas fields of the midcontinent are feeling the pull. At the same time, however, drilling of new wells in Kansas and Oklahoma—except by direct permission—has been halted in order to save materials, compel wells opened but not producing to connect with pipe lines.

(Continued on page six)

Schools Maintaining Enrollment Figures

Complete reports could not be had, but it was the general belief in the office of the superintendent today that the enrollment figures reported by the white schools in this county last Thursday are being maintained without much variation. Two or three of the schools reported that several pupils had dropped out already, but that their places had been filled by new pupils.

A fairly normal attendance was reported in most of the colored schools, but it is now likely that several of those starting the term last month will close within the next few days while the little tots are held at home to help with the cotton picking and other farm duties.

All positions in the white school faculties had not been filled late yesterday, but final appointments were reported pending at that time.

Recruiting Party Is At Post Office

Chief J. C. Bartel, of the U. S. Navy Recruiting Station, New Bern, is receiving applications for both the regular Navy and Naval Reserve at the local post office this week. He will be here through tomorrow. Men registered under Selective Service may enlist up to and including the day prior to the day they are to go to Fort Bragg.

LT. Wray, also of the recruiting service, will interview men for the Sea-Bees, the Naval Reserve Construction Corps, in New Bern on Friday of this week.

All North Carolinians should enlist in North Carolina. North Carolina has been commended for her fine showing in Naval Enlistments, and the Navy Recruiters are working hard to keep North Carolina right up at the top of the list. When a North Carolinian enlists in Norfolk the State of Virginia gets credit for his enlistment. All men in this territory should go to the U. S. Navy Recruiting Station, Post Office Building, New Bern.

INCREASE

The all-time record for Saturday liquor sales established by the liquor store here week before last, fell before the sales reported for last Saturday when the receipts jumped from around \$1,300 to \$1,557.75.

The store here has reported larger sales in a single day during holiday seasons, but the sales on September 5th were the largest ever reported for a single Saturday, it was explained.

Local Tobacco Market Has Its Most Successful Sales Of The Season As Prices Gain Monday

More Than Quarter Million Pounds Are Sold During the Day

Prices for Medium Tips and All Up-Stalk Tobacco Said To Be Much Higher

Selling more than a quarter million pounds, the local tobacco market yesterday had its most successful sale of the season. Prices for the lower and medium tips and most of the other up-stalk tobacco were much stronger, farmers themselves declaring that the sales yesterday were even better than they were on opening day with the possible exception of those greatly inferior or black types. However, the market top remained virtually unchanged with prices seldom going above 47 and 48 cents a pound.

Many tips were offered for sale yesterday, and the quality of the break was possibly some better than it had been for several days. A tobaccoist with nearly forty years of experience in the business, said yesterday that in all that time he had never seen as much inferior quality offered for sale in a single day. But even then the few scattered piles of good quality tobacco commanded the very top prices, and when farmers considered the quality of their offerings they expressed satisfaction with the sales.

To date the market has sold slightly in excess of two million pounds. Even sales have been maintained for the most part, the supervisor, C. Urban Rogers, stating this morning that the block carried over from yesterday had been cleared and that possibly the regular selling schedule would be in effect tomorrow.

Held down by the excessive offerings of poor quality leaf, the price average, while in the thirties, is not up to the price ceiling, but grade for grade, the prices on the local market are reported just as high as they are any where.

If the price ceiling has had any material effect on the markets, it has hardly been noticed. However, it is possible that the prices for the better grades would have advanced but such a procedure would, in the opinion of many, have been at the expense of the prices for the medium and inferior types. Just what effect the plan for proposed stabilization of farm prices will have on the market, no one seems to know. Already there have been many com-

(Continued on page six)

Number Weddings Sets An All-Time Record for August

Marriages Last Month Were Two Greater Than for Any August on Record

Traceable to a combination of reasons rather than to any single one, the number of marriages in this county last month was the largest on record. Totalling sixteen, the issuance of marriage licenses was two greater than for any other August on record.

Eleven licenses were issued by Register of Deeds J. Sam Getsinger to white couples and five went to colored couples.

The issuance follows: **White** William Staton Peele and Frances Coltrain, both of Williamston. Joseph Oscar Wiggins, of RFD 1, Jamesville, and Nellie Faye Lilley, of RFD 1, Williamston. Harry Jordan Smith and Nina Louise Bennett, both of Williamston. Robert Elwood Brown and Mary Louise Carson, both of Jamesville. William Francis Fowler, of Rocky Mount, and Edith Wilson Sumner, of Robersonville. Joseph A. Peele and Louise Fay Coltrain, both of Williamston. David Louise Callaway and Fae-nie Idell Modlin, both of Jamesville. John Ben Hardison, of Williamston, and Eleanor Gray Cherry, of Everetts. Macon D. Barber, of Jamesville, and Elaine Earl Jackson, of Williamston. Alton Earl Alcox, of Norfolk, and Effie Harrison, of Robersonville. James Ernest Wood and Etta Lee Taylor, both of Williamston.

Colored Linwood Turner and Magdalene Slade, both of Robersonville. Ivory Barnes and Hattie Horton, both of Plymouth. Jasper Mayo, Elmira, N. Y., and Magdalene Highsmith, of Robersonville. Roscoe Taylor, of Edgecombe County, and Olivia Worsley, of Martin County. Joseph Harmon, RFD 3, Windsor, and Annie Gland Ambrose, of Aulander.

Farm Bureau Starts Membership Drive

Plans for the annual Farm Bureau membership drive in this county were formulated at a meeting of the officers and other interested farmers and citizens in the agricultural building here last Friday evening. Reporting 1,000 members in the last campaign, the organization is out to get 1,200 members for the year, 1942-43.

At the meeting it was pointed out that the need for a strong farm organization was greater now than ever before, and the small group present pledged its efforts in maintaining a strong membership in this county for the coming year. The membership solicitors are working without remuneration, but the canvasser who signs up fifty members or more will be given a hat, and it was also planned to pay part of the expenses of the four most successful solicitors. The progress of the membership drive will be reviewed at a supper meeting to be held at a date to be announced.

Sanitarian Quits Post In County

Walter Lackey, Martin County Health Department sanitarian for about a year, resigned last week and is now associated with a district department with headquarters in Winston. It is understood that the new job carries a small increase in salary, but since Mr. Lackey is expected to be called into the service within a short time it was hardly likely that he made the change just for the salary consideration. It is possible that he wanted to line up a job for the post-war period.

No successor has been named, and it is understood that there are no applicants in sight. As many as nineteen openings are said to exist in the various sanitarian departments throughout the State.

Mr. Chas. A. Leonard, formerly connected with the department in this county, is now associated with the one in Bertie County.

Commissioners Meet In Regular Session Here Last Evening

Final Plans for Enlarging the Local Cemetery Announced; Tax Sales Ordered

Meeting in regular session here last evening, the town commissioners heard a review of the final plans for enlarging the local cemetery and discussed preliminary arrangements for placing an all-time keeper there. Approximately two acres are being added on the northwestern edge of the cemetery. Mayor Hassell explained that the owners were paid \$2,000 for the new property and that the owners are to either move or tear down the buildings not later than the first of next month. Plans for enlarging the cemetery have been pending for several years, but not until a short time ago were titles to the property exchanged. The commissioners will have the new property surveyed and marked off into lots and drives. The improvement program can hardly be completed until an iron fence is made available, but the authorities plan to employ an all-time keeper and place him in a house on the edge or near the cemetery.

Suspending operations a few days ago, the municipal swimming pool had a very successful season, the commissioners were told. The revenue amounted to \$1,109 this year as compared with \$490 last season. Most of the income was reported in June and July, the receipts dropping to \$165 during August when rains fell nearly every other day and the mercury dropped to unseasonable levels.

In accordance with the law, the board ordered the delinquent tax list advertised the second Monday in October for sale on the first Monday in November. The delinquent list is already the smallest it has been in a number of years.

The need for an extra member of the night police force was discussed, but action was postponed until a later meeting.

Social Security Card Addresses

It has come to the attention of the Rocky Mount field office of the Social Security board that many persons who have social security account numbers have changed their names through marriage or for other reasons and have never notified the Social Security Board. It was stated today by Marshall H. Barney, manager of the Rocky Mount field office of the Social Security board, "It is advisable to notify the board of any corrections that should be made in data on application blanks, such as date of birth, mother's and father's name, etc., and of all changes in name."

Residents of Martin County who wish to make such changes may secure suitable forms or blanks from the Social Security Board office, in Rocky Mount. Mr. Barney added that those applying for a change in name should bring their account number cards. If the card has been lost, a duplicate may be requested at the same time. A record of the number should be kept until a new account number card bearing the corrected name is received by the wage earner from the central office of the board. The employer should also be informed of the change so that the name reported by him will be the same as that shown on the corrected account number card.

The reporting of such corrections and changes is necessary in order that the Social Security board may maintain accurate records at all times, Mr. Barney said. He added that it would not be necessary to report any changes in address.

RAINFALL

More rain fell here last month than in any month since August, 1940, but even the 6.24 inches of rain recorded in the period hardly more than dented the dry season that had gripped this section for nearly two years. On the surface, the dry season has been fairly well eliminated, but farmers state that in some communities water in the wells is about as long as they have ever seen.

Last month, the weather station on Roanoke River here recorded sixteen rains, all of them being small except three and the largest in that group was only 1.84 inches.