

## Twenty-seven White Draftees Accepted By Army This Week

### FBI Notified in Eleven Cases Where Draftees Failed To Report

Calling for well over a half hundred colored soldiers recently from this county, the Army apparently made little progress in bolstering its forces, according to reliable information received here this week. Briefly stated, the late August call netted only 24 additions to the Army. Twenty-seven were rejected. Eleven others failed to report and three were transferred to other boards for induction.

Sixteen of those men rejected were placed in 4-F, meaning that they are hardly fit for any kind of military service. The other eleven rejected and sent back home were placed in 1-A and 1-B classifications, indicating that their defects are remedial and that several if not all of the men will be recalled at some time in the future. Eighteen of the 27 men rejected were refused on account of physical disqualifications, and the other nine were found to have low literacy standards.

The eleven cases where the draftees failed to report are being turned over to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and while it may be weeks or even months before any definite action is taken, something will be done about them. Four of the group, changing their addresses without notifying the draft board, reported lately. They will be called to report possibly the latter part of this month. The names of the delinquents are, as follows: Thomas Ryan, Columbus Blunt Daniel, Willie James Harrison, Elijah Thomas, Charlie Wesley Dixon, Lucious C. Chance, Horace Wilson Duggin, Leahner Bennett, Thurman Williams, Joe Henry Lawrence and Jack Augustus Pitt.

The following men were transferred to the designated boards for induction: Thomas Columbus Jones to Washington, D. C.; Rufus Andrews to Baltimore, and Christ Falk Brown, to Richmond.

The following men were rejected: Felton Keys, Moses Hopkins, William

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## Twenty-seven Negro Draftees Rejected From Martin County

### Reports on Several Examinations Have Not Been Received Thus Far

At least twenty-seven of the approximately 45 Martin County white draftees reporting for service in the United States Army recently were accepted, according to an unofficial report heard here yesterday. It is possible that a few more will be accepted when further physical examinations are completed.

According to information gained from one of the young men returning for his fourteen-day furlough, at least seven of the group were held over for further examination. Included in the group is Mayo Peel, World War I veteran.

The status of the entire group reporting to the authorities at the induction center this week has not been officially announced, and it could not be learned definitely how many had been rejected or for what cause. It was learned that eight of the twenty-seven men accepted were placed in the 1-B classification, meaning that possibly they will be subject only to limited military service.

The following twenty-seven men were accepted immediately after the physical examinations: Augustus E. Moore, Martel Hardy, Asa R. Harris, James E. Stalls, William A. Taylor, Joseph D. Thrower, Jr., Claude L. Green, Jr., Whichard R. Marshall, Leroy Mobley, Joseph A. Peele, Fate Whitfield, Joseph C. Ross, Elmer T. Mizelle, Robert L. Mizelle, James E. Casell, Elton D. Carson, Oscar H. Peelle, Horace L. Rogers, James H. Griffin, John B. Knox, Wheeler M. Harris, William H. Revels, James R. Harrison, Jr., Joseph O. Wiggins, William G. Cowan, and Clyde C. Moore.



Wm. P. Hodges, Williamston young man, was this week appointed State Insurance Commissioner by Governor J. M. Broughton to fill the position made vacant by the death of Mr. Dan C. Boney.

## Local Man Appointed State Insurance Chief

### COMMISSIONER

## William P. Hodges Is Named by Governor To Succeed Boney

### Reaction To First Major Department Appointment in County Very Favorable

William P. Hodges, Williamston young man, was appointed State Insurance Commissioner by Governor J. M. Broughton this week to fill the position made vacant by the death of Dan C. Boney earlier in the week. Marked by the absence of politics, the appointment, based on six years of faithful service as Deputy Insurance Commissioner, was favorably received in official and insurance circles over the State. One news reporter explained the appointment, "In the first place, officials pointed out that he (Hodges) had been deputy commissioner since 1936 and knew the ropes. In the second place, everybody likes Hodges personally, and reaction to the appointment was favorable."

Notified of his appointment Wednesday evening, Mr. Hodges took the oath of office before Supreme Court Justice M. V. Barnhill at noon yesterday in the presence of his mother and father, State officials and department employees. Following the popular Mr. Boney as commissioner, the young man is stepping into a difficult assignment with applications pending for rate changes in automobile liability insurance and with other major decisions to be made as a result of the war. A thorough student, and six years of training stand him in good stead, and the job will be well handled. Among the many appointments made by Governor Broughton, the one elevating Mr. Hodges to the high department post stands out as possibly the most logical one. It was the first major department appointment to go to this county, and one of the few of any kind in many years. Clayton Moore was appointed special judge back about 1927, and Elbert S. Peel was appointed to the State School Commission more recently. Mr. Hodges' appointment was preceded by much political talk and speculation, but indications all the while pointed to it as the logical one.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Hodges, of Williamston, the new insurance commissioner completed the local schools, was graduated from the Wake Forest Law School, practiced in Raleigh a few years and entered upon his duties as deputy commissioner in 1936. In his new work, he continued to make friends readily, and insurance men and others over the State who had had occasion to work with him urged his appointment.

The appointment is for the length of Boney's unexpired term, which runs until January 1, 1945.

## Marked Change In Britain's Economy As Result Or War

### Civilian Needs Are Secondary As Conversion To War Moves Steadily Forward

There'll be no starvation, but we'll be limited in this country to bare necessities before this war is over, conservative observers predict as they study the marked change brought about in Britain's economy as a result of the war. The prediction does not take into consideration the privations, starvation and want in other countries, but deals with the changes in Britain.

Two years ago, four million persons were employed in Britain's war effort. This month there are eighteen million persons directly associated with Britain's war effort, or one out of every two men. Unemployment has dropped from over a million to a few thousand, and most of those are out of work only temporarily. British expenditures have been increased more than four times since 1939, and the war bond purchases now average \$319 per person. At the rate Martin County people are buying bonds, it will take a little over thirty-two years for us to catch up with the record in Britain.

Restrictions on civilian supplies are quite meaningful, too, in Britain. The use of typical consumer goods has been reduced to 24 per cent of the normal amount available at the outbreak of the war. Newsprint consumption has been reduced to 19 per cent of the pre-war volume, and the clothing supply has been reduced by one-half. An even dozen foods, including all the basic ones, are under strict rationing and many have been virtually eliminated from the common diet.

In the month before the war, the average British motorist drove around 600 miles a month. There is no driving at all now except for the war effort.

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**UNCLE SAM**  
BATTLING TO UPHOLD  
America's Freedom

### THE 39TH WEEK OF THE WAR

President Roosevelt asked Congress to enact by October 1st legislation under which he would be "specifically authorized to stabilize the cost of living, including the price of all farm commodities." In a special message to the legislators, the President said "inaction on your part by that date will leave me with an inescapable responsibility to the people of this country to see to it that the war effort is no longer imperiled by threat of economic chaos. In the event that the Congress should fail to act, and act adequately, I shall accept the responsibility, and I will do."

Mr. Roosevelt said the purpose of the legislation "should be to hold farm prices at parity, or at levels of a recent date, whichever is higher." He said "at the same time that farm prices are stabilized, wages can and will be stabilized also. This I will do."

The President recalled that two points of his original seven-point anti-inflation program required legislation—"an adequate tax program and a law permitting the fixing of price ceilings on farm products at parity prices." He said delay in enacting this legislation "has now reached the point of danger to our whole economy. We cannot hold the actual cost of food and clothing down to approximately the present level beyond October 1. But no one can give any assurances that the cost of living can be held down after that date." He renewed his request of last April for an individual net income limitation of \$25,000.

### The War Front

After ten straight raids without a loss, two U. S. flying fortress bombers were reported as missing September 7th following the greatest American aerial attack of the war on Nazi-occupied France. Three squadrons of the big bombers attacked the Airframe factory at Meaulte, near Albert, for the second time, while a fourth squadron bombed the St. Omer Airfield. In the raids the fortresses destroyed five enemy fighters and probably destroyed 13 more, and damaged another 25. The bombers were escorted by 400 allied fighters, three of which were shot down.

Gen. MacArthur's Australian headquarters reported September 7th that heavy allied bombing planes attacked a Japanese cargo ship southeast of New Guinea which was believed to have been attempting to supply the trapped enemy forces in the Milne Bay area. Australians were mopping up the remnants of Japanese forces in this area. U. S. Army Air Forces in China, continuing their offensive, scored a direct hit on Japanese Military headquarters in Nanchang, sank at least seven steamers, blasted a railway station and warehouse and strafed a troop train.

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## Legion To Install Officers Monday

### Defendant Assaults Farmer In Truck and Causes Minor Wreck Wednesday

The John Walton Post of the American Legion is installing its new officers for the coming year at a meeting in the hut on Watts Street here next Monday evening at eight o'clock, and the program, highlighted by a scheduled address by Major Roy S. Wood, is expected to attract a large number of the veterans. Details for the installation service had not been completed yesterday, but it is likely that Department Vice-Commander R. W. Alston, of Scotland Neck, will be in charge.

Major Wood, now stationed at Camp Davis is expected to speak on "The Objectives of the War and the Peace," and his address, no doubt, will be timely, interesting and well worth hearing. Several entertainment numbers are being added to the program, including special singers from the Army, the local high school and Bear Grass.

In an advanced membership appeal, Commander-Elect John D. Biggs points out that, "Your country needs you. You need this country. You can serve better through the American Legion than in any other way."

### MOVE OFFICE

Offices of the State Highway Patrol and Safety Division, located in the court house during the past several years, have been moved to the city hall, second floor, room 201. Patrolman W. E. Saunders will maintain his headquarters there while he is not on patrol duty or special assignment. Safety Examiner McLeod will be in the office each Monday and Thursday afternoon between the hours of 1 and 4:30 o'clock to receive applications for drivers' licenses and learners' permits.

## Sales On Local Tobacco Market Continue Strong With A General Advance In Quality And Prices

### Goodly Number Volunteering For Special Red Cross Work

Responding slowly at first, women of the Martin County Chapter of the American Red Cross have now accepted the challenge to make tens of thousands of surgical dressings for the United States Army. Miss Nell Harrison, director of the important project, announcing this morning that as many as twenty volunteers were reporting for duty in a single group. The response is indeed heartening, Miss Harrison explained, and she is now certain that the quota will be met without trouble or delay.

Reporting on the work handled last Wednesday evening when twenty volunteers appeared, Miss Harrison said that approximately 700 bandages or dressings were made in about two hours. Goodly numbers of volunteers are reporting at various times, and Miss Harrison sincerely hopes that the increased interest in the project and the effective work will be maintained and expanded in the future.

Material for making 9,000 dressings is available now, and other shipments or enough to make 30,000 additional dressings are expected within the next few days or in time to continue the project without interruption.

The Red Cross room, located over the Western Auto Store and offered rent free by the owner, Mr. J. T. Barnhill, is open each week day from Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:30 a. m. to 12:30 p. m., and from 2:00 to 5:00 o'clock in the afternoon, and each Monday, Wednesday and Friday evening between the hours of 8:00 and 10:00 o'clock.

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## Prices Jump To The Sixties For Several Lots Here Thursday

### Market Enjoying an Expanding Patronage from Number of Counties

Sales continue to hold to a high level as better quality tobaccos are being offered to advance the overall price average on the local market this morning. Direct reports from the market this morning stated that prices were holding firm after an advance reported earlier in the week with the better grades reaching into record figures for the season. Medium and common grades, after weakening following the opening-day sales, have regained that loss and are "going good" now, to quite a number of farmers.

The quality, while much improved, is still spotted and far below that of a year ago.

While the better quality grades are still selling at prices in the high forties, as a general rule, some exceptional offerings have brought as much as 62 cents a pound on the local market. One farmer reported several sales ranging from fifty to sixty-two cents here yesterday.

Sales, including those today, will approximate a little more than two and one-half million pounds, according to Supervisor C. U. Rogers, and grade for grade, the price average will stand up against any in the entire belt.

Block sales are being carried over today, but selling advantages here equal those on any market. Farmers, by planning in advance, are getting quick sales and satisfactory prices.

## Large Number Tires Allotted In County By Rationing Board

### Applications Received During Week for Eighty-three Car and Truck Tires

Meeting in regular session here yesterday, the Martin County Tire Rationing Board allotted thirty-five tires of all classifications but carried over applications received during the past week for eighty-three other tires. In other words, the board this week was able to meet the demands of only one out of every four applicants.

Even though the applications are piling up in numbers, the tire shortage apparently is not as serious in this county as it is in some others. Reliable reports state that the mail service in some areas has actually been curtailed because the operators were not able to get tires for their vehicles.

The applications carried over for later consideration call for thirty-six new car tires, twelve car tire recaps and twenty tubes; fifteen new truck tires, twenty retread truck tires and twenty-seven truck tire tubes.

Two new automobile tires and two tubes were allotted to J. R. Leggett, Williamston, for carrying the mails. Two new car tire tubes were issued Mrs. A. E. Downs, RFD 1, Oak City, for farming.

### New Truck Tires

New truck tires and tubes were issued to the following: cattle, cart wheels, wagons and farm commodities.

Harrison Oil Co., Williamston, two P. C. Edmondson, Hassell, one tire and tube for hauling logs and lumber.

Slade-Rhodes and Co., Hamilton, (Continued on page six)

## Marriages Headed For The Rocks In County

### Eighteen Divorce Cases Are Pending In Superior Court

### Number, Suggesting a "Little Reno" in County, Is the Largest on Record

Martin County will have a "Little Reno" all its own on Tuesday, September 22nd, when Judge Clawson Williams, of Sanford, is scheduled to call eighteen divorce cases for trial. It is apparent that quite a few marriages have "gone on the rocks" during the past two years in this county. Clerk of Court L. B. Wynne explaining that anywhere from four to eight absolute divorces had already been granted at each of the regular and special terms of the Martin County Superior Court during recent sessions.

While every one of the eighteen divorce actions is based on two years of separation, possibly there is a different underlying cause for each of them. The details are not set out in the complaints, but it is understood that at least one or two of the divorce action were started by young men who have been called into the Army and who are determined, more or less, to see that their estranged

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## Fourteen Cases In Justice Hassell's Court During Week

### Defendant Assaults Farmer In Truck and Causes Minor Wreck Wednesday

Working at odd times and overtime, Justice J. L. Hassell handled thirteen cases in his court here during the week. Most of the work was of a routine nature, having to do with clearing out the jail following the usual weekly round-up of drunks. All but two of the cases charged the defendants with public drunkenness or disorderly conduct.

Proceedings in the court follow: Charged with assaulting Farmer John Daniel Biggs, George Wynne was adjudged guilty, the court suspending a 30-day road sentence upon the payment of the cost and guaranteed good behavior in the future. Mr. Biggs and his tenant were preparing to haul tobacco to market late Wednesday evening, and when Mr. Biggs suggested that Wynne continue placing tobacco on the sticks while he hauled the first load to market, Wynne was quoted as saying that he was going with his tobacco. The two started and while on the way to town, trouble broke out. Mr. Biggs' face was scratched and bruised by Wynne who also caused him to lose control and ditch the truck. Wynne, last night, swore out a warrant against Mr. Biggs, but the case was continued under prayer for judgment.

Other cases heard in the court this week: John Arthur Rice, charged with being drunk, was fined \$5 and taxed with the cost.

Oscar Speller, drunk, was fined \$5 and taxed with the cost.

John Luce, drunk and disorderly, was fined \$5 and taxed with the cost.

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### DRAFT ORDER

The Martin County Draft Board was officially instructed this morning to reclassify all men in the 1-B group between now and the latter part of December, meaning that those men who were placed in that classification either by the board's examining doctor or by Army doctors are subject to military duty within the next few months. The 1-B classification is being eliminated, the registrant holding that classification either going into the 1-A or the 4-F group in the future.

Meeting next week, the draft board will reclassify one-fourth of the 1-B group with instructions to complete the task by the latter part of December. It is estimated that there are between 300 and 400 men in the 1-B group in this county.

## Principal D. N. Hix Reports Progress In School During Week

### All Faculty Positions Filled And Attendance Figures Are Above Average

Marked by excellent attendance in all grades, classroom activities in the local schools were in progress on regular schedules this week as pupils and teachers launched the work of the 1942-43 school term. All teaching positions were filled, and interest and enthusiasm on the part of both pupils and teachers point to a successful year for the Williamston schools.

In the elementary school 96 per cent of the six hundred pupils enrolled were in attendance during the first week, making an excellent attendance record. The first grade with 118 little folk enrolled, the largest grade enrollment in the school, averaged 115 in daily attendance.

Attendance in the high school department was slightly better with 98 per cent of the hundred and nine pupils enrolled in regular attendance.

Enrollment and attendance figures by departments follow:

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## Sale Of War Bonds Drops To Low Figure During August

The sale of war bonds dropped to a mighty low figure during the month of August, a fairly complete review showing that the sales averaged hardly 65 cents per capita during the period. The sales were nearly \$10,000 less than they were in July when the purchases averaged slightly more than \$1 per person but fell \$64,125 short of expectations.

Urged to buy \$57,300 worth of war bonds during August, Martin County people, according to a virtually complete report from the several banks and most of the post offices, bought bonds valued at \$17,212.25, the figures being based on the purchase price rather than the maturity figures. No detailed review of the purchase could be had, but it is understood that very few farmers purchased bonds during August. However, it was learned this week that farmers, including quite a few tenants, were investing in the bonds. It is now believed that the \$37,500 quota for September will be subscribed in its entirety and possibly will be exceeded. Heretofore, most of the purchases were made by a comparatively few investors, but there is a fairly definite trend toward smaller purchases by a greater number of people.

Bond sales were reported as follows: Robersonville: post office, \$918.75, and Guaranty Bank, \$975; Williamston: post office, \$1,900.00; Guaranty Bank, \$7,756, and Branch Banking and Trust Co., \$5,062.50.

## Not A Single Case Is Tried In County Court On Monday

Following a little but ineffective crime wave that swept over parts of the county during the first few days of the current marketing season, the county court last Monday virtually closed up for the want of business. Not a single case was tried during the ten minutes the court was in session. Only one case was booked for trial, and that one was continued when the defendant failed to answer when called. Reaching the court 30 minutes late, the defendant explained to Clerk L. B. Wynne that he had had a flat tire and was delayed.

The little gathering in the court room included a lone spectator, and it is possible that he was a witness in the case that was scheduled to have been tried. Not a single colored

person was there, court attendants stating that it was the first time in their memory that there wasn't a single colored person there either as a litigant, a witness or as a spectator in some criminal action.

There have been times in the middle of the summer when there were only one or two cases booked for trial, but last Monday was the first time in the history of the court that only one case was scheduled in a full month.

All the court officers, including Judge R. L. Coburn, Prosecuting Attorney Paul D. Roberson, Clerk L. B. Wynne and the sheriff, were present along with several attorneys. No large docket is anticipated next Monday, but several cases have already been scheduled for trial at that time.