

Farm Machinery Rationing Board Named for County

Temporary Program Will Remain in Effect Until November 1st

Announcement of the personnel of the Martin County Rationing committee to handle temporary rationing of new farm machinery until November 1, 1942, was made today by J. F. Crisp, chairman of the County USDA War Board.

Mr. Crisp, who is also chairman of the County AAA committee, will serve as chairman of the rationing body, and other members named by the County USDA War Board are: Mayo Hardison, RFD 3, Williamston, and R. S. Everett, RFD 1, Robersonville. Alternate members are: C. L. Daniel, RFD 1, Williamston, and W. L. Ausborn, RFD 1, Robersonville.

Responsibility for administering the new farm machinery rationing program was delegated to the Agriculture Department by the OPA, he said. Secretary of Agriculture Wickard named Fred S. Wallace, chief of the AAA and special war board assistant, to handle the program nationally, and directed State USDA War Boards to be responsible for rationing on state levels. Secretary Wickard also provided for setting up the county rationing committees.

The order setting up the rationing program provided that the chairman of the County AAA committee should be chairman of the rationing committee, and that two representative farmers should be selected by the County USDA War Board to serve as regular members. Naming of two alternates also was provided in the order.

Chairman Crisp said that no member of the committee may act on his own application to purchase new machinery, an application of a member of his immediate family or other near relative, or that of his landlord, tenant, or other business associate.

No member of the rationing committee may be a person engaged in the business of selling new farm machinery and equipment.

Under the program, Chairman Crisp said, one classification (Group A), including items which are scarce and which are vitally needed in 1942 agricultural production, may be sold only upon approval of the county rationing committee. Equipment in this class includes: combines, corn pickers, disc harrows, feed grinders, fertilizer spreaders, milk coolers, milking machines, pickup balers, potato diggers, shredders, and tractors, including garden tractors.

A second classification (Group B) includes items somewhat less scarce which may be sold upon certification by the farmer to the dealer that it is

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Russians Take The Offensive To Hold City of Stalingrad

Counter-attacks Menace German Flank Northwest of The Important City

Battered by frontal assaults, mass bombings, flankings and an endless pour of fire, death and destruction, the defiant Russians today continue to cling to their battered city of Stalingrad. Even though weary from more than a month of fighting in that immediate area and disappointed because a second front has not materialized, the defenders Wednesday started counterattacking and have made successful but yet small gains. The counter-attacks are said to be threatening the Nazis' flank northwest of the city, the action definitely delaying if not eliminating the possibility of the city's final capture.

Wrecked and burning from one end to the other, the city itself is no longer, and it would appear that both sides are fighting for a principle. The Russians' supreme stand before the city can best be understood in an appeal made on Wednesday to the defenders. The appeal reads:

"Soldier, you are the judge. You must bring judgment into effect. The German is before you—do not waver, kill him."

"Soldier, avenge the mother and sister of your comrade. Soldier, you see the German torturing a Russian child. You have a rifle—avenge it."

"Do not retreat. Judgment advances. Judgment does not retreat."

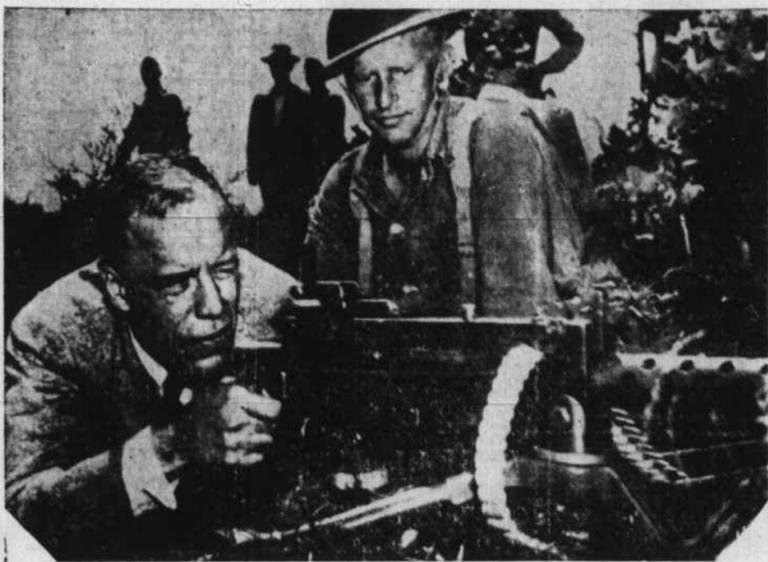
"The Germans came to kill us. They shall not escape. Not a single man. Kill him, kill him quickly."

A late report states that 25,000 Germans have been killed in the past eight days, 3,000 of that number falling in the last 48 hours. It is admitted, however, that the Russian losses are great, that neither side has had time to bury its dead. Wendell Willkie, visiting the Russian battlefield in one sector yesterday, stepped over dead bodies waiting to be buried.

That allied convoy the Germans claimed to have wiped out almost in its entirety, has reached Russia. Most of the ships reached port after an eight-day running battle, and it would seem that the Germans lost heavily. One report declares that

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Under-Secretary of War Tries Machine Gun



A machine gun is a familiar weapon of war to Under-Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson. He won the Distinguished Service Cross in World War I. He is shown on the firing range at Fort Jackson, S. C., as he tries out his trigger finger. He's firing a 30 caliber light machine gun at a moving target. This is an official U. S. Army photograph.

Number Of Schools To Close In This County

All Negro Schools And Several White Schools May Close

Board Passes Order Empowering Committees To Close White Schools

The uncertain operating schedule predicted for the schools in this county a few weeks ago is now facing all the colored schools with the possibility that it will include several of the white plants, according to information coming from the office of county superintendent following a meeting of the Martin Board of Education yesterday morning.

Reviewing the attendance figures in the colored schools now operating, the board passed an order definitely suspending classes in those schools at the close of the daily session next Wednesday. Twelve of the colored schools closed some days ago to make available children for cotton picking. All of them are scheduled to reopen on Monday, October 12th, in accordance with the order passed by the county board yesterday.

Reporting attendance figures below normal in the colored schools and will a serious labor shortage existing on the farms, the board took definite action calling for the closing of the colored schools, but the closing of the white schools was made optional with the local committees and principals. Four communities, Jamesville, Bear Grass, Hamilton and Oak City, had entered formal requests for the closing of the schools in those areas. It is possible that requests will come from patrons in other school districts, while in still others the patrons have virtually agreed to work just so much harder themselves in an effort to keep their children in school.

The board considered passing an order calling for the suspension of classes in the four schools, but after finding that the attendance figures in all of them are far above normal—ranging as high as 98 per cent of the total enrollment at Jamesville—the authorities decided it would possibly be advisable for each committee to make a study of its own situation and act accordingly. Heretofore, operating schedules have been maintained as long as the attendance figures held to about 75 per cent of the enrollment. Should the figures drop below that point, it is understood that the county board would recommend

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BLACKOUT

A state-wide blackout has been ordered and will be in effect for about 45 minutes between the hours of 7 o'clock p. m. and midnight next Tuesday, September 29th.

It was stated a short time ago that the last scheduled blackout had been held, that future blackouts would not be announced. However, the authorities, including state civilian defense heads and Army representatives, considered it advisable to hold another test and make it state-wide.

Local wardens and civilian defense workers are urged to report to their posts immediately upon hearing the five-blast alarm next Tuesday night. One long blast of the siren will be the all-clear signal.

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Review Observation Post Activities For Past Two Months

Two Hundred Planes Reported by Local Observers During That Period

Reviewing the activities at the local observation post for the past two months, Chief Observer W. H. Carstarphen reports "many interesting highlights relating to the work of the observers and cooperation on the part of the general public. For instance, 200 planes were reported during the period, and 140 volunteers reported for service at one or more times in helping to maintain a 24-hour watch seven days each week from July 20 to the 20th of this month.

The operation of the post has offered its problems, and while the volunteers have cooperated splendidly, the number is not quite large enough to effect a fair distribution of hours and watches. "We need at least fifty or seventy-five more volunteers to help man the post," Chief Carstarphen pointed out. Pointing out that quite a few observers have been lost to the colleges, schools and defense centers, the chief said he was particularly missing J. B. Taylor, Jr., since he left for State College. The young man had served a total

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H. Marriott Britt Dies In Hospital

Henry Marriott Britt, former local resident, died in a veterans' hospital at Kecoughtan, Va., last night at 10 o'clock following a long period of declining health. He had been in the hospital for an operation and treatment for nearly three months.

The son of the late J. H. and Linda Braswell Britt, he was born in Edgecombe County, near Tarboro, 47 years ago. He moved to this county with his family in 1915 and a year later located in Williamston where his father operated the old Britt hotel for a number of years. During the World War he served two years in the Navy at the hospital base in Portsmouth. Following the war he returned home and lived here until a few years ago when he moved to Plymouth to continue his work as a salesman. He was a member of the Episcopal church.

He is survived by one brother, Lyman Britt, of the U. S. Army in Mississippi, and four sisters, Mrs. C. B. Sicehoff, of Williamston; Mrs. Mark Ruffin, of Tarboro, and Mrs. J. D. Thrower and Mrs. Ethel Anderson, both of Williamston.

Funeral services had not been completed early this afternoon, but the body is being brought here for burial. Final arrangements are being delayed pending the receipt of more information from his brother in Mississippi.

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Plan For Extensive County Scrap Drive

Preliminary plans for an extensive county-wide drive for scrap metals have been completed, and every man, woman and child is earnestly urged to do his part in building up an ample supply of the precious metals. Reliable reports state that there isn't enough scrap iron available to keep the steel mills running two weeks, that something must be done if the war is not to be lost right here on the home front.

The following organization has been named to boost the scrap collection in this county: V. J. Spivey, chairman; James C. Manning, chairman of the junior drive; Oak City, John Hassell, N. W. Johnson and E. V. Smith; Hassell, J. W. Eubanks, Geo. Haislip and Mrs. Beatrice Edmondson; Gold Point, Charlie Forbes and Mrs. Pitt Roberson; Robersonville, W. H. Gray, L. W. Anderson and M. M. Everett; Everetts, D. W. Gaskill, Rev. Dennis W. Davis and Bill Bullock; Parmele, John H. Roebuck; Jamesville, V. B. Hair, Charlie Davenport and Charlie Hough; Farm Life, Tommie Gaylord, Raymond Gurkin and P. E. Getsinger; Bear Grass, T. O. Hickman, Mrs. J. R. Rogers and LeRoy Harrison; Hamilton, LeRoy Everett, J. H. Bunn and W. J. Beach; Williamston, D. N. Hix, W. K. Parker and Roy Ward.

Exhausting its current supply of material, the Martin County Red Cross chapter is suspending operations temporarily or until another shipment of material is received. Mrs. Tom Barnhill announced yesterday. Approximately 9,000 surgical dressings have been made in the Red Cross room over the Western Auto Store, leaving more than 40,000 to be made before the quota assigned the local chapter is met.

The arrival of the extra material will be announced within a short time. Mrs. Barnhill believes, and the volunteers will be urged to continue the work at that time.

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CAUGHT UP

Eleven cases heard by Justice Hassell

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Gen. MacArthur's headquarters reported September 21st that Australian troops have cleaned out the entire Milne Bay area at the southeastern tip of New Guinea, thus consolidating the biggest Japanese defeat of the war in the Australian zone. Despite heavy fighting in the Owen Stanley mountains pass where the Japanese have thrust forward to within 32 air miles of the Allied base at Port Moresby. Gen. MacArthur's bombers and fighters have made heavy raids on Japanese troops and on key enemy bases in the northeast Australian zone in a continuing offensive.

A strong Japanese naval force, including battleships and cruisers, was attacked by army bombers northeast of Tulagi, with possible hits on two battleships. The Navy reported September 19. After the attack, the Jap fleet turned and fled northward. U. S. Marines continued to hold their positions in the Solomons despite constant air attacks from the enemy and successful landings of small numbers of enemy troops and supplies. U. S. planes destroyed 41 more enemy planes in the Solomons fighting. Army planes in several raids on Japanese-held Kiska in the Aleutians destroyed many installations and inflicted the following damage—two minesweepers sunk, six ships damaged, 500 troops killed, seven large and small planes destroyed. Two U. S. planes were lost in a collision. Army headquarters in London announced a force of American parachute troops have been in Britain some time undergoing intensive training. Commander in Chief of the Pacific Fleet, Nimitz, said the December 7th damage to Pearl Harbor has been repaired "far beyond expectations." The Navy announced the aircraft carrier Yorktown was sunk June 7th after it climaxed 104 days of continuous battle cruising by locating the last of the four Japanese carriers which attacked Midway. News of the Yorktown's sinking was withheld, the Navy said, because the enemy possibly was not aware of it.

"Three-fourths of the nation faces the prospect of uncomfortably cold homes this winter," Price Administrator Henderson said in announcing coupon rationing of fuel oil which will reduce consumption by 25 per cent. Machinery for the program will be set up by October 15th. The area affected includes the 17 eastern states and the District of Columbia, where gasoline rationing is already in effect, as well as Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Missouri, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota and Kentucky.

The Office of Price Administration said apartment houses and commercial, industrial and institutional establishments able to convert oil burning furnaces to coal, but which refuse to do so, will be denied fuel oil rations. Only hospitals, where such a move would present serious health hazards, will be exempted. Special provisions will be made in the rationing program for sections of the country with "unusual" climate. The OPA said consumers in the rationed area may fill their tanks up to 275 gallons between now and September 30, but oil purchased during this time will be deducted from their allotments for the entire heating season.

Agriculture Secretary Wickard, acting on authority from Mr. Henderson, issued a temporary order to ration new farm machinery and equipment, appointing Fred S. Wallace, AAA administrator, to administer the program at the national level.

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Ration Law Violations And Complaints Heard

MISSING



L. Dan Roebuck, Jr., young Martin County man and popular son of Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Roebuck of near Hamilton, was reported missing in the service of his country following action in the Pacific war arena a few days ago. He is the sixth Martin County young man reported missing or lost in action in the current war.

Grant Ten Divorces In Superior Court Tuesday Afternoon

Trial of Criminal Docket Is Completed But Many Cases Are Continued

Completing the trial of criminal cases early Tuesday afternoon, the Martin County Superior Court cranked up its divorce mill and in rapid order crushed the bonds of matrimony in ten cases. Plaintiffs in several other divorce cases failed to appear in court and in a few other cases action was continued when it was learned that the two years of separation upon which the suits were brought, had not expired.

The criminal docket before the court this week was almost a flop, but "hefty" sentences were imposed in some of the cases, and most of the defendants well realized they had been before the bar of justice when Judge Clawson Williams, presiding jurist, had finished with them.

The trial of civil cases got underway this morning, but the proceedings are attracting very little attention from the public.

After its continuance had been recorded on the trial docket, the case charging Bessie Smith and Sam Mabry with arson was not pressed or thrown out of court for a lack of evidence. The disposition of the case does not explain the accumulation of certain surplus commodities; dished out under the old relief system.

Chester Terry, charged with aiding and abetting in larceny, failed to answer when called and papers were issued for his arrest. Efforts to get the case into the court for trial were said to have been blocked.

After pleading not guilty in the case charging Homer Gee with disorderly conduct, the defendant through his attorney at the conclusion of the evidence pleaded guilty of assaulting another with a deadly weapon. He was sentenced to the roads for twelve months and fined \$75. The sentence was suspended on condition that he pay the fine and the case costs immediately and on further condition that he is not to have any intoxicants in his possession or take any intoxicants or violate any law for a period of three years. Sentence is to be invoked in the case upon the violation of the provisions.

Charged with larceny, Johnnie Gray Mayo was sentenced to the roads for a term of two years. In a second case charging Mayo and Ernest Godard with larceny, Godard was sentenced to the roads for a term of two years. Sentence is to be invoked in the case upon the violation of the provisions.

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STERN WARNING

A stern warning is being issued to all county motorists by Rationing Board Chairman C. C. Martin following the receipt of special instructions from the state rationing office. All motorists caught driving in excess of forty miles an hour or abusing the use of their tires in any way by sudden braking, turning or skidding will have their ration books recalled, and no new rationing books of any kind will be issued the guilty parties in the future, it was explained.

Six cases have already been filed in this county, and before further rations are issued the records will be checked for violations. The order is applicable to all motorists regardless of their priority claims.

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County Board Asked To Duplicate Large Number Of Coupons

Wife Tells How Husband Uses "C" Coupons to Haul Other Women Around

Direct violations of the gasoline rationing laws and flagrant abuses of the system are being reported on a fairly extensive scale in this county, according to unofficial but yet reliable information reaching the rationing board during the past few days. Action is pending in at least one case, and the system is almost certain to have its serious repercussions other than in the business economy, according to the expressed belief of one of the rationing board members in this county.

Books, reported lost, are said to have been sold after duplicates had been issued, and minor violations of a similar nature have been reported. No wholesale thefts of coupons have been reported within the county, however. The Martin rationing board was directed a few days ago to issue a filling station operator in the county coupons for 1,414 gallons of gasoline, but few details could be learned here. It is understood that a wholesale distributor from outside the county delivered that amount of gasoline to the station and received 41 stamps of the 100-gallon denomination and 41 stamps good for one gallon each. The stamps were stolen from the distributor's truck in or near Smithfield. A colored man was arrested and the stamps were recovered. The district rationing board authorities in Atlanta, ordering duplicate stamps be issued, explained that the original stamps would be returned to this county after they had been used as evidence against the alleged thief. The man's trial is to be held within the near future, it was learned, but the exact time and place were not disclosed.

A direct complaint received by one of the board members this week told how a faithless husband was abusing the use of his "C" rationing coupons. The wife, according to reliable information, explained that the husband was driving all over the county, hauling men and strange women, that the surplus gasoline was not being used for the purpose designated in the application.

Then there are those reports telling how some motorists are drawing

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Tire Allotments For Month of September Exhausted By Board

One New Car Allotted; Five Other Applications for Cars Are Rejected

The Martin County Rationing Board was in session quite a while here yesterday, studying the ever-increasing number of requests for bicycles, tires, new automobiles and gasoline. Seven new bicycles were allotted, a certificate for the purchase of a new car was issued and five applications were rejected, and the tire and tube allotment for the month of September was exhausted down to the last ounce.

Mr. N. W. Worsley, RFD carrier at Oak City, was issued a certificate for the purchase of a new car. Applications for cars were rejected in the following cases:

Tommie Harrell, Oak City, mechanic; Harrell D. Copeland, Williamston, radio station operator;

Mack M. Bowen, RFD 2, Williamston, farmer;

Mrs. Alice Blanch Tyson, RFD 1, Hobgood, for farm work, and Jos. R. Winslow, RFD 1, Robersonville, farmer and for use in FSA, AAA and American Legion.

New automobile tires were issued in two cases, as follows:

Dr. J. S. Rhodes, Williamston, two tires and two tubes, and Dr. V. A. Ward, Robersonville, one tire and two tubes.

Retread automobile tires were allotted as follows:

F. S. Scott, Oak City, four tires, for farm work;

C. S. Vanlandingham, Williamston, two tires for use in carrying mail on star route.

New truck tires were allotted to the following:

Robert James Hardison, RFD 1, Williamston, three tires and two tubes for hauling logs;

Roberson Slaughter House, Williamston, two tires and four tubes for delivery of wholesale meats;

Farmville-Woodward Lumber Co., Williamston, four tires and four tubes for hauling lumber.

Retread Truck Tires

Retread truck tires were issued to the following:

Leslie W. Hardison, Jamesville, for fuel deliveries and farm work.

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