

County's Delinquent Tax List Is Smallest In Number Of Years

About 300 Unpaid Accounts Out of 8,000, Representing \$4,430.92 Due

Martin County's delinquent tax list, appearing today for the tax year of 1941, reached a new low point in amount and numbers, the \$18 past due accounts amounting to \$4,430.92 being recognized as the smallest in a quarter of a century. Favored by a good harvest and fair prices, the property owners recognized their tax obligations and moved to clear their accounts from the books before the delinquent list was released.

Starting out just twelve months ago with a levy in excess of \$200,000, Tax Collector M. L. Peel has reason to be pleased with the record to date. That record reflects a steady drive for the settlement of the accounts on his part, and, too, it reflects an improved condition on the financial front for hundreds of property owners.

The size of the list can better be appreciated when compared with the one of about ten years ago. Back during the depression there were about 1,000 delinquent accounts representing unpaid tax accounts of nearly \$50,000.

Tax conditions started showing some improvement in 1933 and 1934, and last year the number of delinquent tax accounts dropped to 491 from 696 the year before, the reduction in unpaid accounts being about \$5,000.

The delinquent accounts being advertised today will be offered for sale at public auction on the first Monday in next month. The county commissioners have already announced that publication and sale next year will not be delayed but will be handled about May. Quite a few farmers are looking ahead and are paying their 1942 accounts now, the collector stating that payments are far greater this year than they were during the corresponding period in 1941.

A comparison of the delinquent lists for 1941 and 1942 and the unpaid amounts for the two years follows:

	Number Advertised	
	1941	1942
Jamesville	90	56
Williams	27	13
Griffins	7	6
Bear Grass	5	5
Williamston	133	75
Cross Roads	24	10
Robersonville	103	83
Poplar Point	0	1
Hamilton	33	32
Goose Nest	69	37
	491	318

	Amounts Uncollected	
	1941	1942
Jamesville	\$ 856.19	\$ 535.72
Williams	265.84	55.74
Griffins	39.99	70.93
Bear Grass	79.60	11.95
Williamston	2,335.88	1,439.23
Cross Roads	376.27	96.18
Robersonville	1,508.10	836.43
Poplar Point	0.00	2.56
Hamilton	1,139.05	713.84
Goose Nest	2,073.33	667.74
	\$8,683.25	\$4,430.92

Large Number Cases On Recorders Court Docket Last Monday

Cases Accumulate During the Two Weeks Superior Court Was in Session

Idle for two weeks while the superior tribunal was scheduled to have been in session, the Martin County Recorder's Court had an accumulation of cases on its docket for trial last Monday. Seventeen cases were called by Judge R. L. Coburn, and the court was in session until almost 1 o'clock that afternoon. A comparatively small number of spectators was present for the following proceedings:

The case charging Harry Lanier with bastardy was continued until next Monday.

Pleading guilty in the case charging him with drunken driving, Geo. T. Gardner was fined \$50, taxed with the cost and had his driver's license revoked for one year.

Luther Casper and Cecil B. Keel, charged with being drunk and disorderly and drunken driving, entered no plea. Casper was adjudged guilty of being drunk and disorderly, the court suspending judgment in his case upon the payment of the court costs and on condition that he remain away from "Shade" Edmondson's home. Keel, adjudged guilty of drunken driving, was fined \$50, taxed with the cost and had his license revoked for one year.

The case charging Jesse James Outerbridge with non-support was continued until next Monday.

Charged with bastardy, Henry Bussey was sentenced to the roads for three months. The sentence was suspended on condition that the defendant pay \$8 a month, beginning November 1 and each month thereafter for a period of one year for the support of his child. The defend-

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No Liquor Cases in Court For First Time in Number of Years

For the first time in years—at least fifteen—there were no alleged liquor law violators to appear before Judge I. M. Meekins when he convened the regular October term of federal court in Washington this week. Regularly in years passed, Enforcement Officer J. H. Roebuck would pack his brief case with evidence and appear regularly before the court as prosecuting witness in as many as thirty or forty cases when the violations apparently had reached a peak. This week, the officer remained at his post in this county doing his own knitting.

Judge Meekins was quoted as saying that the sugar rationing system had had a marked effect in reducing the illegal manufacture. No report could be had for all the other counties in the eastern division, but apparently there were very few li-

quor cases before the court this week.

Only one case from this county was on the docket. John Williams, 43-year-old Goose Nest colored man, was carried before the court for allegedly refusing to register for possible military service. Judge Meekins studied the case and while it carried serious implications and a possible long prison term and a heavy fine, he reasoned that it was more through ignorance than anything else that the man had not registered. After passing by several opportunities to register, Williams signed up with-out delay at the draft board office here yesterday afternoon in the presence of U. S. Marshal Ford Worthy. Williams had a mad look on his face as he left the draft board office a free man after being confined to jail since last August.

Two Lose Lives This Week In This County

CONTROL BOARD

While anxious to do their bit on the home front to insure victory on the war front, Messrs. W. R. Burrell and J. C. Manning, both of Williamston, and H. S. Everett, of Robersonville, were a bit reluctant in accepting appointments as members of the Martin County Price Control Board. Their duties have not been definitely determined, but the three men, it is understood, will serve as policemen over illegitimate prices and black market activities. It is likely they will hear complaints from any consumer, and take drastic action in checking inflationary price trends on the home markets.

Number of Highway Fatalities Pushed To Four For This Year

Little Girl Fatally Injured in Fall from Cart; Man Killed Riding Motorcycle

Two untimely accidents claimed the lives of two more persons in Martin County this week, boosting the highway death toll list for the year to date to four and the number of fatal accidents to more than one-half dozen. Vehicles were involved in most of the fatal accidents reported in the county so far this year, but only four of them were on the highways.

Minnie Frances Leggett, eleven years old, died in a Greenville hospital last night at 7:50 o'clock from injuries when she fell from a horse-drawn cart near her home last Tuesday afternoon about 5 o'clock. Riding with several other children, the little girl, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Stator Leggett, of near Hassell, was pushed out of the cart when the handles of a pair of hole diggers got caught in the wheel, causing the diggers to fly up and strike her. It is not known if the blow from the diggers fractured her skull, or whether she was hurt in the fall or run over by the cart wheel. She was said to have spoken a few words, but never fully regained consciousness. Receiving first aid treatment in the Robersonville clinic, she was carried on to the hospital in Greenville.

Besides her parents, she is survived by three brothers and three sisters.

Funeral arrangements were not completed immediately, but interment will follow in the Mobley cemetery in Bear Grass Township.

Bonnie Latham, 27-year-old Bethel man, was fatally injured and Alton Carson, also of Bethel, was badly shocked when their motorcycle crashed into an automobile driven by Jack Palmer, colored, near Parmele on U. S. Highway 64 last night at 9:30 o'clock. Latham, suffering a skull fracture and other injuries, died en route to a Tarboro hospital.

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Renewed Activities In Red Cross Rooms

Renewed activity was reported in the two Red Cross rooms here this week following the receipt of material for the surgical dressings room over the Western Auto Store and 100 pounds of khaki wool for the sewing room in the Woman's Club building. General calls for volunteer workers are being issued, and Mrs. N. C. Green, chairman of the sewing room, and Mrs. Tom Barnhill, chairman of the other project, explain that the work can be easily handled if the women of the community respond willingly.

Mrs. Green announces that sufficient khaki wool is on hand now to make 66 army sleeveless sweaters and 66 army mufflers. There is also a quantity of blue wool on hand for making sailors' watch caps, and 100 pounds of wool to be made into sweaters for suffering refugees. Any one having Red Cross knitting needles not in use is urged to return them to the sewing room.

Within a short time a shipment of finished knitted articles for the men in the service will be made, and Mrs. Green is urging those who have completed articles on hand to turn them in next Tuesday.

It has been suggested in some quarters that the Red Cross articles are not going into proper channels. Such statements are unfounded and are traceable to sabotage efforts. Mrs. Green explained that hundreds of letters had been received from men in the service and from helpless and needy refugees, expressing sincere appreciation for the articles made by the Red Cross.

UNCLE SAM
BATTLING TO UPHOLD
America's Freedom

THE 43RD WEEK OF THE WAR

Following passage by Congress of the second price control act, President Roosevelt ordered ceilings placed over wages, salaries, profits, farm prices and rents, and appointed supreme court Justice James F. Byrnes as Director of Economic Stabilization with the job of developing a National Economic policy.

Justice Byrnes resigned from the court to accept the new position. He will have authority over all government agencies in the economic field and will be assisted by a fourteen-member economic stabilization board composed of eight agency heads and six private citizens.

Maximum Prices and Rents

Immediately following the President's executive order, Price Administrator Henderson imposed emergency 60-day price ceilings on virtually all exempt food items, bringing 90 per cent of the family food budget under rigid control. Previously only 60 per cent was controlled. Under control for the first time are butter, cheese, evaporated and condensed milk, eggs, poultry, dry onions, potatoes, fresh and canned fruits and juices, dry edible beans, cornmeal and mutton. Food retailers, wholesalers, manufacturers and processors are affected. Each dealer's price is frozen at the highest level he charged in the five days Sept. 28 to Oct. 2 inclusive. The permanent ceilings later may entail some price reductions, Mr. Henderson said.

Administrator Henderson also completed new orders freezing all uncontrolled urban and rural rents at levels of last March 1. He announced the Office of Price Administration would amend existing regulations to prevent eviction of tenants resulting from sales of rental property, a practice which he said in many cases has become a device to avoid the effect of rent control. Previously rent control was limited to approximately 400 designated defense rental areas.

Stabilization of Wages

The President's order had the effect of freezing all wage rates for the time being until the National War Labor Board has a chance to act in individual cases. Wage rates may not be changed—up or down—without the approval of the NWLB. The board may adjust wages "to correct maladjustments or inequalities, to eliminate substandards of living, to correct gross inequities, or to aid in the effective prosecution of the war."

Salaries in excess of \$5,000 a year may not be increased without the approval of stabilization Director Byrnes unless an individual has been assigned to more difficult or more responsible work. Director Byrnes was given power to place a \$25,000 limit on salaries after taxes but with

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William B. Rogers Passes In County

Mr. William B. Rogers, well-known Bear Grass Township farmer, died at his home there last Tuesday night at 9:30 o'clock. Pneumonia, following a stroke of paralysis suffered on Thursday of last week, was given as the immediate cause of his death. He was fairly active and attended to his farm duties until he was stricken a week ago, the end coming gradually.

The son of the late Bryant Rogers and wife, he was born in Beaufort County 65 years ago. When a young man he was married to Miss Lucy V. Coltrane and she with one son, Alton, survives. Mr. Rogers moved to this county 25 years ago, making his home during most of that time in Bear Grass Township where he was highly regarded as a neighbor and friend. He was a successful farmer and a member of the Macedonia church for a number of years.

Funeral services were conducted at the home yesterday afternoon at 3 o'clock by his pastor, Rev. Dennis Warren Davis. Interment was in the Taylor cemetery, a few miles from the home in Bear Grass Township.

HIGH AS EVER

Tobacco prices on the local market were described "as high as ever" with all grades in demand. Observing a very inferior quality pile of tobacco, a farmer was anxious to know what it would sell for because he was not certain it was worth tying up. When it sold for twelve and one-half cents he went running out of the warehouse, yelling back that if any one wanted to find him he would be in his packhouse tying sorry tobacco.

Approximately 200,000 pounds of leaf are on the floors today with the average holding above 40 cents a pound despite large quantities of inferior quality tobacco.

Scrap Drive Making Progress In County

Hundred Thousand Pounds Collected In The Past Four Days

Preliminary Totals Reported By Little School Tots are Really Surprising

Little children may lead them in some cases, but down here in Martin County it is a case where the little children are pushing 'em to make a grand start in the all-out state-wide scrap metal drive. Preliminary reports coming from the schools are encouraging and even surprising to those who have been in the scrap drive business these past months. The greater part of 109,323 pounds of scrap metal was collected by the ten white schools during the first four days of the current drive. "And we're just beginning," the little folks in nearly every one of the schools were quoted as saying. Breaking down the commercial side of the scrap drive and tearing through barriers of apathy and indifference to the country's urgent call for scrap, the school youngsters are striking home with their interest and efforts and are accomplishing startling results. Those young folks are hard to guess, but the way they have started out in their task they'll get a million pounds and possibly more. It should be remembered that they'll have to get well over two and one-half million pounds to equal the record already established out in Nebraska.

Following a canvass of the county yesterday, Salvage Campaign Chairman V. J. Spivey reported the following collections by schools and dealers:

Jamesville	2,300
Farm Life	2,000
Bear Grass	6,000
Everetts	4,000
Robersonville	22,000
Hassell	2,500
Oak City	8,973
Gold Point	1,000
Hamilton	3,000
Williamston	38,000
Dealers	19,550
Total	109,323

Officers Capture Still In County

After a long period of comparatively little activity, County ABC Officer J. H. Roebuck and Deputy Roy Peel made an impressive blow against the illicit liquor traffic down in the Free Union section of Jamesville Township Wednesday morning when they captured a 100-gallon capacity copper kettle and poured out six barrels of beer. The still was cold, but the plant had been in operation the night before. Fairly certain that the beer was not made of sugar, the officers stated apparently that it was made with a mixture of molasses and honey.

Anticipating a visit from the officers, the operators moved the kettle from the plant. Following a smutty trail and tracking the operators, the officers found the still more than a quarter of a mile from the plant.

Open Registration Books For Election

Books for the registration of citizens desirous of participating in the general election on Tuesday, November 3, will be opened in the county's thirteen precincts tomorrow. New names will be received at that time and on the two succeeding Saturdays, the fourth Saturday having been set aside for a challenge of the registrations. Those citizens who participated in a primary or election during or since 1940 will not find it necessary to register again to vote in the general election, provided they have not changed their places of residence.

With one or two exceptions, the personnel for handling the election on November 3 will be the same as it was last May. Registrar R. R. Rawls, of Goose Nest, is now in the Army, and his brother, J. A. Rawls, has been named in his place. A resignation in Jamesville precinct is pending, according to Mr. Sylvester Peel, chairman of the county board of elections.

Absentee voting is possible in the coming election, but much red tape has to be cut to get the ballot in the box. Those citizens eligible to cast an absentee ballot are directed to contact their respective registrar or the county elections chairman for an application.

All indications point to a listless election in this county. There are no contests for county officers, and only one or two candidates on the State ticket have opposition. It is possible that the proposed amendments to the constitution will create more interest than the regular ticket will in the general election.

WARNING

District Gas Administrator Leach, visiting the county rationing board here yesterday, issued a warning against lax methods and violations in handling gasoline rationing coupons. It was pointed out that a few individual books had been stolen in this county, that the thieves are able to use the coupons because station operators do not bother to check the books with the type of car and for ownership. Such and similar cases involve the filling station operator as much as they do the person using a stolen book or using an S book to fill a tank in a car bearing an A sticker.

Mr. Leach said that no filling station operator should fill a tank unless the proper sticker appears on the windshield. It was learned here yesterday that fifteen enforcement officers are sweeping over the State, that they are expected to cover this section in due time to check reported violations and investigate the program in general.

German Hordes Still Pounding Important City Of Stalingrad

Germans First Reported To Be Withdrawing from Attack on City

Despite earlier reports that Hitler was withdrawing from the costly frontal attack on the important city of Stalingrad, late dispatches declare there is no sign of any let-up in the fighting there, that the German hordes are continuing their offensive and that the toll of life and equipment continues to mount to horrifying figures. An early afternoon report stated that 2,000 Germans sacrifice their lives in an effort to overrun two streets in the once-important industrial center.

While the late reports would seem to contradict the first, it is fairly certain that Hitler and his co-killers are disturbed over the failure of their hordes to capture the city. Over a week ago, Hitler ordered the capture of the city, but that fortress, manned by men and women who prefer death to surrender, continues to hold. While the defenders continue to hold their own before and in the city itself, the Russians are making small but steady gains northwest of the city, two strategic points having been recaptured in a flanking movement.

There is a plausible possibility that Hitler will bow to General von Bock's plans and by-pass Stalingrad for a plunge into the Caucasus. German forces, supported by reinforcements, are making some gains in their drive toward the Grozny oil fields and a major breakthrough in that area would open a route to the Caspian Sea.

If Hitler decides to withdraw from Stalingrad as he was quoted over DNB, official German radio, where will he strike next? Is a question the Allied commands are now pondering over. It is fairly certain that he will bolster his drive toward the Middle East in an effort to meet Rommel's forces in Africa. But Rommel, suffering heavy losses under Allied air attacks, can hardly move at the present time. It is possible that Hitler will draw some of his forces back to the west to plague the Allies in that area. When Hitler announced last night that he was continuing his frontal attack on Stalingrad, that he would finish the job with heavy artillery and dive bombers, he caused some confusion, but behind it all it is apparent that the murderer has suffered a major set-back at the hands of the valiant Russians in and around Stalingrad.

The American air force is being heard from in a big way today. More than 100 strong and escorted for the first time by American fighters aided by the RAF, American bombers are working over Lille, important French industrial center near the Belgium border. No report on the raid, described as the greatest ever

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DISTRICT MEET

Closing their office in the agricultural building here all day next Tuesday, members of the county rationing board and employees will attend a meeting of state and district rationing authorities in Greenville next Tuesday, Mr. H. L. Roebuck, a member of the local board, announced this morning.

No comment could be had from the board member, but it is understood that the authorities will discuss a more rigid system for gas rationing and discuss plans for handling fuel oil allotments.

Several Schools In County Are Pushing Campaign For Scrap

County-wide Collection Gaining Impetus, Pointing to Clean Sweep Next Week

Going wholeheartedly into the campaign to collect every piece of old scrap iron and metal, school children and others, too, are expected to make a clean sweep on a county-wide basis this week-end. Although some of the schools are not operating just now and other children are as busy as they can be with the farm harvest work, all the young folks are pushing the campaign.

Individual reports are encouraging and they point to a successful campaign extending to every nook and corner in the county.

Principal D. N. Hix and his scrap-pers are leading the county just now with a collection of 38,000 pounds piled in the two school yards during the past few days. Miss Edith Bradley's sixth grade is leading at present with 4,800 pounds, and Mrs. John Eagles' sixth grade is second with 3,700 pounds. Over in the primary department, Mrs. Carroll Crockett's little first graders are making quite a showing with some over 2,000 pounds of scrap on the yard heap.

In Jamesville the school children have brought in a total of 2300 pounds. They expect to increase this amount by a large margin over the week-end. Mrs. W. B. Gaylord, who owns a large number of cannon balls made during the Civil War said yesterday she would make her contribution over the week-end, and Mrs. Annie Glasgow, who owns an old cotton gin, stated that she was going to contribute the entire gin to the salvage program.

Farm Life school children have only collected 2000 pounds but they expect to get busy over the week-end and put into operation several trucks hauling scrap metal, Principal Tommie Gaylord said yesterday.

Due to the illness of Principal T. O. Hickman and because Russell Rogers was busy on the local tobacco market Bear Grass was delayed in getting its campaign started. However, they have collected 6000 pounds and expect to pass this figure by a large score next week.

The Everetts school, working under the direction of Chairman D. W. Gaskill, has collected 4000 pounds of scrap iron and metal. Clarence and Earl Forbes will contribute next week a large steam boiler which will increase the tonnage there considerably.

Robersonville school children, working with Principal L. W. Anderson and Principal Marvin Everett, have donated and sold approximately 11 tons and they expect to double this amount within the next few days.

The Hassell school and community have collected around 2500 pounds and George Haislip, principal of the school there, said yesterday they expected to enter the campaign with full force next week. No trailers were available in the community for the hauling of the scrap and

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Secretary Declares Attack On Farm Bureau Unfounded

Speaks to Directors and Membership Committee Here Wednesday Evening

"This is no time to quibble about small matters, but for the sake of fairness the records should be kept straight," R. Flake Shaw, executive secretary of the North Carolina Farm Bureau, declared in defense of the organization at a meeting of the Martin County unit directors and membership committee at the American Legion hut here last Wednesday evening. The Farm Bureau official strongly declared that the farmer's patriotism was beyond question, that the farmer had done his part and could be expected to continue to do his part in peace or war. "The farmer is only asking that he be treated fairly," Mr. Shaw added, expressing some wonder as to why the public feels as it does about the farmer.

Continuing Mr. Shaw said, "Reviewing the record, one can find no reason to apologize for the stand taken by the Farm Bureau. When definite facts support your case, and your case is just and fair, there is no cause for an apology. It is possible," Mr. Shaw frankly admitted, "that the farm bloc stepped a bit too rapidly to the front," but he quickly branded most of the criticism directed against it during the recent parity price fight in Congress as being unfair and unjustified.

"The Farm Bureau has accomplished much for the farmer and for the country, too. It has given the nation the ever-normal granary, and when it disagrees with the President on agricultural matters, the organization does not mean that it isn't going to do its part."

"Two years ago, the Farm Bureau passed a resolution in its annual meeting at Baltimore, calling for

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