



THE ENTERPRISE



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Court Grants Eight Divorces In County Yesterday Morning

Plaintiff Seeks To Have Will Set Aside in Court Here Today

Opening a two weeks term for the trial of civil cases only, the Martin County Superior Court with Judge Richard D. Dixon on the bench cranked up its divorce mill here yesterday morning and turned out eight divorces in less than 45 minutes. All of the actions were based on two years of separation and none was contested. The court machinery turned out the divorces just as a factory turns out a certain type of article every so many minutes. Today the court is working on the Rogers will case, the plaintiff, W. H. Rogers, alleging that undue influence was exercised on his mother in the preparation of her will. Most of the day and possibly part of tomorrow will be spent hearing the evidence and argument, and it is expected the court will recess for the week following the completion of the case. Work will be resumed according to schedule next Monday.

Proceedings in the court:
Divorces were granted to the following:
S. E. Sprague against Helena S. Sprague.
Queenie Minor against Andrew Minor.
Lillian Mae Coltrain against J. David Coltrain.
R. E. Beal against Nellie Smith Beal.
Joseph H. Lilley against Ethel Mae Lilley.
Paul Cherry against Fannie Cherry.
Ronald Ross Johnson against Roberta Duffy Johnson.
Archie Mobley against Dorothy Mobley.

Judge Dixon made certain in each case that the defendant was not in the Army, Navy, Marines, WAACS or WAVES, before admitting any of the routine testimony.

Two of the plaintiffs were colored and one of the applicants, it was pointed out, was seeking a divorce after being married a quarter of a century.

A consent judgment was recorded in the case of Susan A. Bunting against P. L. Salsbury. It provides that out of \$744.58 now in the hands of the clerk of the superior court that the defendant is to get \$235.00 and the plaintiff to get the remainder.

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Short Gas Rations For Many Truckers

No general survey could be made, but according to widely scattered reports coming from truck owners in various parts of the county, short gas rations will be the order of the day on and after December 1.

The rations, fixed and allotted by the National Office of Defense Transportation, are far below the amounts asked for in the applications for Certificates of War Necessity in every case so far brought to light in this county.

Asking for gas to travel about 12,000 miles, one Martin County farmer was allotted barely enough gas to run his truck 4,000 miles. Some truck operators, including a milk distributor, had their allotments reduced as much as two-thirds of the amount applied for. Few have gotten more than two-thirds of the amount asked for, it was learned.

As far as it could be learned here there is no provision for appeals, but there may be some plan made known whereby the trucker can present his case. As it stands now, the trucker will have to get along with the amount allotted him. If it is impossible for him to continue operation with the allotment, then it is likely that he'll have to discontinue operations. It has been said that Americans have not yet learned how to practice ingenuity fairly and squarely in solving a problem, but the new gas rationing system is likely to start many people riding with one another and limiting travel to a bare minimum.

Union Thanksgiving Service In Local Methodist Church

Following a long established custom, the several religious denominations here will worship in a union Thanksgiving Day service Thursday morning at 10 o'clock. The service will be held in the Methodist Church and Dr. W. R. Burrell, pastor of the Memorial Baptist Church, will deliver the sermon with other ministers taking part in the program.

No general holiday has been declared locally or in the nation, but the people are being called upon by leaders to bow down in humble prayer this Thanksgiving period. Religious leaders here are confident that the church will be filled to overflowing Thursday morning when the first Thanksgiving of the war will be observed.
Offerings made at the service to

Yanks Meet New Guinea Belles



Seated on porch of their hut in a New Guinea village, these native belles are giving the newly arrived U. S. soldiers the once-over. One of the doughboys is offering an American-made cigarette to one of the native girls. These troops may have joined the Australian ground troops in their advance on Buna, Japanese base in New Guinea.

War Bond Week Gets Able Support Locally

RATIONING BOARD

Not certain that the office will close or remain open on Thanksgiving Day, the County Rationing Board will, in an effort to keep up with its work as far as possible, meet tomorrow to consider applications for tires and other rations, Member H. L. Roebuck announced today.
There is a possibility the office will be closed Thursday for Thanksgiving, but instructions ordering a holiday had not been received up until early this afternoon.

New Regulations To Require Motorists to Sign Gas Coupons

Effective As of November 21, Ruling Will Check Interchanging

Effective as of November 21, no gasoline may be sold to consumers in exchange for ration coupons unless certain notations are written in ink on the reverse side of the coupons, the Martin County Rationing Board was advised last week-end.

The notations, according to Board Chairman C. C. Martin, are, as follows:
In the case of "A", "B", "C", "D", "S-1" or "S-2" coupons, the license number and state of registration of the vehicle for which the ration was issued.

In the case of coupons in an interchangeable coupon book issued for fleet vehicles, the fleet designation and the state and city or town in which the principal office of the fleet operator is located. (This information may also be stamped in ink.)
In the case of "E" and "R" coupons the name and address of the person to whom issued, as it appears on the front cover of the book.

In the case of bulk coupons, the name and address of the person to whom the coupons were issued.
Dealers and intermediate distributors must write in ink on the reverse side of inventory coupons issued to them the names and addresses of their establishments as shown on their registration certificates. Their suppliers are not permitted to furnish gasoline to them in exchange for such coupons unless such notations appear.

Dealers and distributors who have on hand accumulated coupons not bearing notations as required by Section 1, must furnish these coupons to their suppliers, in preference to other coupons, before November 26, 1942. Suppliers must not accept coupons without the required notations.

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Thanksgiving Service At Smithwicks Creek

A community Thanksgiving Day service will be held at Smithwicks Creek church Thursday of this week at 11 o'clock a. m., it was announced yesterday by the pastor, Elder P. E. Getinger.
The service is held there annually and is open to all regardless of denomination or creed. A unique program features the service with the general congregation participating. The public is cordially invited.

War As It Relates To Home Front Is Reviewed For Week

Military Successes Depend on Unbroken Line of Supply and Support

The recent triphammer blows at the Axis—the United States fleet in the Solomons and by the Allies in North Africa—again underline the immense value of unbroken lines of supply and support extending from the war plants clear to the fighting fronts. In both these large-scale operations there were lines of support which played a vital part in the outcome. In the Pacific area, General MacArthur's planes damaged Jap naval concentrations in support of the Solomons action. In North Africa, invaluable aid came from French sympathizers who helped pave the way for the American landing.

These (lines of support) to our active battle-fronts involve more than military actions. In one sense they include the sustaining morale of the entire civilian population at home. And civilian morale is more than war enthusiasm—with which it is often identified—more than satisfaction in victories and praise of military heroes, more even than buying war bonds or engaging in scrap drives. These and other war activities contribute to morale, they do not include all of it by any means.

"Conquered" People's Morale High

In many parts of occupied Europe the morale of the people is still high, according to reports, in spite of concentration camps, torture, starvation and firing squads. Not the least of the Axis terror is its oppression of education. The Nazis have shot and imprisoned teachers and students alike. The Czech higher educational institutions have ceased to exist, some 60 per cent of all elementary schools have been closed. Thousands of Greek teachers have been sent to forced labor camps. Polish higher education has been destroyed, the great University of Warsaw closed. Poles are not admitted to institutions of learning re-opened for the use of transplanted Germans. A similar situation, with varying degrees

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Peanut Deliveries Near Record Peak On Market Monday

Price Holds Firm at Seven Cents with a Premium For Some Sales

Peanut sales on the local market approached a peak for the season yesterday when an estimated 12,000 bags of the goobers were delivered to buyers and cleaners. Previous deliveries had not exceeded 10,000 bags daily, according to the best estimates to be had here.

Holding to a somewhat "shaky" seven-cent figure last week, the market reflected a stronger undertone yesterday with a few sales going for \$7.15 per hundred. A seven and one-quarter-cent price was said to have been offered and refused, the farmer explaining that he was going to hold on to his crop a while longer. Heavy deliveries during recent days, in the opinion of many, have set the price fairly firm at seven cents, a few observers believing that the price trend would be upward if the sales volume showed any material sign of subsiding. "What's the use of paying more when we are being flooded with offers to sell at seven cents?" one buyer was said to have asked this morning.
Rains falling early today are expected to delay harvesting operations, but deliveries are likely to continue fairly heavy from those farms where the crops had been harvested.

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CALL FOR HELP

Literally swamped with regular duties and an expanding program, the county rationing board is urgently calling for volunteer workers to assist in preparing kerosene and fuel oil stamp allotments. With more than 5,000 allotments to be prepared, regular workers in the office have been able to prepare hardly more than 500 of the special forms, and the stamps should be in the hands of the consumers now. Unless a goodly number of volunteers report and offer their services free, the distribution of the allotments will be delayed for quite a while, it is understood. Volunteers are asked to report to the rationing board any day in the week. The work is not difficult.
The allotments will be distributed at school centers, but no date for effecting the distribution has been announced. Until the allotments can be made available, consumers will have to sign a paper akin to a promissory note, agreeing to surrender so many coupons after the stamps are received.

Not A Single Arrest Is Made Here During Past Week-End

For the first time in many, many months local officers made no arrests last week-end, the absence of activity on the crime front leaving enforcement agencies and Jailor Roy Peel guessing as to the why and wherefore for the virtual disappearance of law violations all of a sudden. The period of good behavior followed week-ends of hard work, the officers previously rounding up as many as seventeen alleged violators on a single Saturday. One man was jailed, but he was brought in from Jamesville after going on a drunken and wild rampage there.

It may be the quiet before the storm, and it is quite likely that a little crime wave will strike now that the holiday season is at hand.

Trying to explain the marked decrease or the absence of arrests here last week-end, officers explained

that Constable Chas. R. Moore, a regular member of the police force now, was not sick. They added that the drunks were few and far between, that if there were any they made themselves scarce. Improved behavior may not be traceable to it altogether, but local officers say it was rather singular that the number of arrests fell to zero the first Saturday that the legal liquor store observed the six o'clock closing hour. Sales at the local store dropped from \$2,041 the Saturday before to \$1,700 last Saturday.

Hearing that no arrests were made during the week-end, several citizens suggested that the police missed a good chance when they did not take into custody a group of irrepressibles who popped bombs and fire-crackers late into the night Sunday.

Another County Boy Is Killed In Action

William F. Haslip Gives His Life In Service of Country

Oak City Young Man Seventh From County Reported Killed or Missing

William Freeman Haslip, 21, young Martin County man of near Oak City, has been killed in the "performance of duty for his country," his mother, Mrs. Nannie F. Haslip, was advised in a special message received from T. Holcomb, Lieutenant General, United States Marine Corps, last Friday evening. The message was the seventh bearing tragic news to loved ones in this county since Pearl Harbor.

Expressing deep regret and offering the heart-felt sympathy of the Marine Corps general, the message offered few details. It is generally believed the young man is the first from this county to die in land combat, presumably on Guadalcanal in the Solomon Islands. The general explained that it was necessary to withhold details that might be profitable aid to the enemy. Internment was made temporarily "in the locality where death occurred," the message indicating that the young man's body will be brought back home after the war to lie at rest among kin and kin who had figured in three wars before him.

The son of Mrs. Nannie F. Haslip and her husband, the late Hannibal J. Haslip, the young man was born in this county 24 years ago, the 27th of last August. He attended the Hassel school in his early youth and was graduated from the Oak City High School. About two years later at the age of 22 he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. He was first assigned to duty at Parris Island, South Carolina, for a few weeks. The following several months he was in the service at Cuba, returning to this country a little over a year ago to complete his training at New River. Last March he made his last visit home, leaving shortly after that time for foreign service, presumably in the Southwest Pacific. His last letters, written in October, stated that he was in good health, that he was getting along all right. Characteristic of the young man, and reflecting thoughtfulness, each of his letters urged his mother not to worry about him too much. "Keep up hope. Things are looking better and everything is going to be all right," the young man said, in substance, to reassure his mother.

Quiet and unassuming, young Haslip was a good boy, neighbors and other friends praising his good traits and manly and clean walk through life. Assuming many of the responsibilities of the home and farm following the death of his father about seven years ago, the young man through his thoughtfulness and kind acts enhanced the bonds of love within the little family group and gained the admiration of neighbors and other friends. Only his country's call could induce him to quit home and loved ones, and that call was willingly answered and now his duty has been well done. While he, no doubt, missed loved ones and his work-back home, he never complained and always expressed pleasure for the opportunity

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Cotton Ginnings Still Trailing Those Of 1941

Current cotton ginnings, while showing a marked gain during the past few weeks, are still trailing those of a year ago, and it is fairly certain that production this year will fall considerably below that of 1941.
According to a report just released by the Bureau of the Census through its agent, Vernon W. Griffin, 3,900 bales have been ginned from the current crop as compared with 4,852 bales ginned up until November 14, last year.

BOMB SCHOOL

The State Office of Civilian Defense will hold a two-day bomb school for chief air raid wardens in this section of the State on Friday and Saturday, December 4 and 5, Mr. Hugh G. Horton, chairman of civilian defense for this county, announced yesterday.
A special detail of Army officers, possibly fifteen or more, has been assigned to conduct the school. No detailed announcement was released, but in addition to the regular course special pictures will be shown in the Watts theatre each morning. The school will be held in the George Reynolds Hotel.

Bulk Of Christmas Mail Must Be Sent By December First

Equipment Ordinarily Used in Handling of Holiday Mail Not Available

The bulk of Christmas mail must be in the post office by December 1st this year if deliveries on time are to be assured, according to Smith W. Purdum, Second Assistant Postmaster General. Mr. Purdum is responsible to Postmaster General Frank C. Walker for smooth and efficient air and railway mail service.
Unprecedented wartime demands on the postal and transportation systems, plus a prospective record volume of Christmas mailings, were cited by Mr. Purdum as necessitating earlier mailings than ever before. "It is physically impossible for the railroads and air lines, burdened with vitally important war materials, to handle Christmas mailings as rapidly as in normal times," Mr. Purdum said. "If the bulk of parcels and greeting cards are held back until the usual time—the period of about December 15 to 23—they simply cannot be distributed in time, and thousands of gifts will reach their destinations after Christmas."

In 1941, about 21,950 mail cars were required between December 12 and 24 to deliver Christmas mails—enough cars to make a train 270 miles long. This year, the extra cars needed to move holiday mails are largely being used by the armed services, and a severe shortage is in prospect.
The postal service usually borrows about 2,500 trucks from the Army and other Government agencies, and rents about 10,000 from private owners, to handle the Christmas mails. This year, it will be extremely difficult to obtain enough of these vehicles to meet even a substantial part of the need. The Army needs its own trucks and private owners are reluctant to let someone else use their tires.

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No General Holiday Will Be Observed In County Thursday

While many business houses and offices will close, Thanksgiving day will not be observed as a general holiday in the county, according to fairly complete reports coming from various sources. Stores, business offices, including the post office, banks and similar institutions will observe the day as a full holiday. No postal deliveries will be made in the town or rural deliveries and no window service will be offered at the post office. County and town offices, including the office of the arm agent, will be closed. County school children will have a two-day holiday.

The draft board will remain open along with those industries directly or indirectly connected with the war program, including lumber mills and the peanut plant. Peanut warehouses and receiving stations will remain open and carry on operations as usual.
In his annual proclamation, President Roosevelt did not declare the day as a general holiday, but he designated the day as one of earnest prayer. Despite the work scheduled in some plants and offices, it is agreed that everyone will find time to bow down in prayer and thanksgiving. Union Thanksgiving Day services will be held in the local Methodist Church that morning at 10 o'clock when Dr. W. R. Burrell, pastor of the Memorial Baptist Church, delivers the annual sermon.

Allies Score Gains On Both Diplomatic And Battle Fronts

Dakar and Martinique Flop Over to Allies; Tide of Battle Is Turning in Russia

The Allies made big news on both the battle and diplomatic fronts during the past few days when important bases at Dakar and Martinique were gained without bloodshed and when Russia drove a deep wedge back of the German invaders before Stalingrad. While the invader in North Africa continues, indications point to some heavy fighting in Tunisia. Late reports state that the Germans had moved in much more equipment and a considerably larger force than was thought possible, and that German air power was picking at General Alexander's forces as they pursued General Erwin Rommel along the Libyan coast in the general direction of Tripoli.

In connection with developments at Dakar and Martinique, few details have been released and the status of the new Allied gains is not quite clear. It is certain that Hitler's plans in those quarters have been thwarted, and the diplomatic maneuvers constitute a great victory for the Allies. In the harbor at Dakar are the 35,000-ton battleship, Richieu, three cruisers, three destroyers, seven submarines and a number of light craft units. One report states that the ships will be made available to the Allies. The diplomatic negotiations, bringing about the annexation of Martinique by the Allies without occupation, apparently provide for the immobilization of that portion of the French fleet there. The French have at Martinique an aircraft carrier, two cruisers and a number of auxiliary vessels. The status of the merchant fleet is not yet certain.

The Russians, starting a powerful winter offensive, have cut Axis supply line to Stalingrad and heavy fighting is continuing in the elbow of the Don River. It is an enormous task, and the Russians must be pretty badly battered after holding the Germans at bay for 100 days in and in front of Stalingrad, but they are in line to trap a third of a million German troops between the Don and the Stalingrad. They have been taking prisoners by the tens of thousands in recent days, and enemy casualties have been enormous. Other gains have been reported by the Russians in the Leningrad area and in the Caucasus.

Although news from the Southwest Pacific brought sorrow to this county, the outlook in that area is regarded as more favorable with the Allied forces moving in on the Japs at Buna, New Guinea, and gradually clearing Guadalcanal of the yellow scoundrels.
A late report states that Admiral Jean Darlan had ordered the French fleet at Dakar to remain there for the present.
Navy Secretary Frank Knox announced today that the Japs on Guadalcanal had been cut off from all reinforcements, that enemy landings even in small boats were impossible.

Draft Board Dinner Open To The Public

In discussing plans for the dinner to be given the local draft board on Friday evening, December 4th, Dr. John D. Biggs stated yesterday that the dinner and the entertainment would not be confined to members of the American Legion. "Any person who buys a ticket is eligible to attend this special meeting," Dr. Biggs said.
President Roosevelt asked the Legion throughout the country to arrange the special programs to pay tribute to the draft boards as a token of the nation's appreciation of their unselfish services in the war effort.

In Williamston tickets may be secured from Bob Taylor, Dr. Biggs or Eugene Rice. In Robersonville, Joe Winslow or Leon Wilson have tickets for sale. Others having tickets for the dinner and program are M. W. Worsley of Oak City, and H. U. Peel, Williamston, RFD.

CALL FOR HELP