

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER DEVOTED TO THE UPBUILDING OF HERTFORD AND PERQUIMANS COUNTY.

Volume X.—Number 28.

Hertford, Perquimans County, North Carolina, Friday, July 9, 1943.

\$1.50 Per Year.

VALUATION OF PROPERTY IN COUNTY UP \$245,000; TO SET TAX RATE JULY 19TH

Commissioners Vote For Fire Control Program Order Tax Sales Soon

Perquimans County's total property valuation reached \$6,111,782 this year, according to J. W. Ward, tax supervisor, who informed the Board of County Commissioners, at their meeting on Monday, that this amounted to an increase of approximately two hundred and forty-five thousand dollars over last year. Mr. Ward accredited the increase to higher valuation of real and personal property.

The Board of Commissioners did not set the annual tax rate Monday, due to some final checking to be done on the budget. However, the budget is now being reviewed and is scheduled to be adopted at a special meeting on July 19th. It is very likely that the tax rate will remain at \$1.50, as the Board is anxious to hold the rate at this figure, if it is possible. There has been some increase in County expenses during the past year, but the consensus of opinion is that the rate can be maintained.

The valuation of county property, as given out by Mr. Ward, and according to townships, follows:

Hertford Township	\$1,989,884
Parkville Township	1,394,988
New Hope Township	1,000,945
Belvidere Township	831,239
Bethel Township	654,249

At the request of the War Department, the Board voted for Perquimans County to join the State fire control system, and a fire control program for this county will be inaugurated within a short time. Roy L. Westfield, District Forester from Rocky Mount, and R. D. Wise, Ranger for the Dismal Swamp Protection Area, met with the Board and explained the organization of a control program for counties cooperating with the government in this program, which is used in rendering aid in protection of our coast from invasion forces and submarines.

The cost of this program is equally divided between the State System and the county. Approximate cost is expected to be about \$1,200.

The Board, on motion, also ordered the Sheriff to advertise all delinquent property taxes for sale, same to be advertised on August 6th, and the sale will be held on the first Monday in September.

The Board completed arrangements with Wall and Williams, Accountants of Raleigh, to make an audit of the county books up to June 30, 1943. This audit, when completed, will give an up-to-date report of county affairs.

THIS WEEK'S HEADLINES

Germany started the long-awaited offensive on the Russian front this week, but reports from Berlin and Moscow are meagre. The Nazis claim they have broken through the Red defenses along the central front facing Moscow. However Red officials maintain the Russian Army has all but stopped the German drive, causing heavy losses among the Nazis.

Meanwhile American and British flyers are continuing heavy air raids over France and Germany to prevent Hitler from throwing the entire weight of his fighting machine against Russia this summer. The Allied airmen, also, have continued heavy bombing of Italy and Axis strongholds in the Mediterranean. There is no hint regarding possible Allied invasion of Europe for the present, but Churchill's speech recently stating that heavy fighting will occur before the leaves fall may be interpreted to mean an invasion is likely to occur at any time.

With gasoline rationed, thus cutting heavily into pleasure driving throughout the nation, and with other items scarce, the United States celebrated one of the safest July 4th's in decades. Only a few violent deaths were reported throughout the country and very few traffic accidents. Perquimans County reported none.

Official Washington continued in a turmoil during the week. RFC chairman Jesse Jones renewed his feud with Vice-President Wallace, and the Senate voted for the second time against subsidies for the roll-back of prices. President Roosevelt has voted a bill previously, and then the House sustained the veto. What action will follow the Senate renewing the bill remains to be seen.

Mass Production

During the past several months The Perquimans Weekly has published items from Government authorities pointing out the need for increased egg production during 1943 in order that the needs of the nation may be filled.

Evidently the flock of hens owned by Jack Brinn have taken it on themselves to do something about this increased production, for Mr. Brinn reports an unusual finding in his egg nest on last Friday.

One of his prized hens produced a double egg, complete with two shells, one within the other. The job was perfect with the exception that the hen forgot to put the yolk in the outside egg, it having only the albumen. However, the egg within the egg was a grade A, having both yolk and albumen, and being in good condition.

ODT Official Visits Hertford To Assist Residents' Problems

Tire Quotas For July Are Announced; Certificates Issued

Mrs. Helen Davenport, clerk of the local rationing board, announced this week that O. K. Joyner, an official of OPA, will be in Hertford on July 9, for the purpose of aiding persons of this county in any problem they might have concerning regulations of the ODT. Mr. Joyner may be found at the local ration offices.

Perquimans County will receive 156 Grade I passenger tires, 37 Grade III tires, 78 passenger tubes, 24 truck tires and 46 truck tubes during the month of July, Mrs. Davenport stated. These quotas were released this week by OPA officials.

Residents whose C gasoline books have expired may now have them renewed at the local offices, Mrs. Davenport said. The board was out of C books temporarily, but now has a supply on hand.

Tire certificates issued by the local board during the past week were as follows:

Grade I—Guy Webb, 2 tires and 2 tubes; Charlie Winslow, 2; Elihu Lane, tire and tube; C. E. Cannon, tire and tube; James Jarvis, 2 tires and 2 tubes; Robert White, tire; W. B. Walker, tire; Glen Mathews, tire; H. W. Chappell, tire and tube; Wallace Baker, tire and tube; Wm. Beaman, tire and tube; T. M. Twine, tire; Addison Medefind, tire; Will Johnson, tire and tube; James Stallings, tire and tube; State Highway Patrol, 3 tires and 2 tubes; J. W. Noland, 2 tires and 2 tubes; C. T. Chappell, tire and tube; Thomas Winslow, tire and tube; Foster Felton, tire; Vernon Lane, tire; Charles Williford, tire and tube; James Winslow, tire and tube; Warnus Winslow, tire and tube; D. J. Rogerson, tire and tube; W. W. Spencer, tube; T. C. Story, tube; Thomas Rogerson, 2 tubes, and T. Silas White, tube.

Truck Tires—E. L. Jennings, tire and tube; Andrew Johnson, 2; Geo. Asbell, tire and tube; Edgar Chappell, tube; E. D. Matthews, tire and tube; S. P. Matthews, tire and tube; Kenneth Miller, 2 tires and 2 tubes; D. F. Reed, 2.

Bonner Assured Govt. To Resume Purchase Of Potatoes In Area

Congressman Herbert C. Bonner, in a telegram to this newspaper last Thursday afternoon stated that through constant effort, he had obtained assurance from authorities in Washington that the Government will shortly resume potato purchasing throughout the First District.

Congressman Bonner said that the Government had discontinued purchasing temporarily due to transition from one fiscal year to another. Orders for Government buyers to resume their jobs have been issued, he said.

Mr. Bonner pointed out that due to rail transportation difficulties, potato producers should not rush their produce to the market and thus seriously impede the movement and purchasing work when it has been resumed.

Eight More Speeding Cases In Recorder's Court Here Tuesday

Fourteen Cases Disposed Of By Judge Chas. Johnson

Motorists who violate the new State speed law are finding the officers in this county on the job so far as bringing the violators into court. Eight more defendants, all charged with speeding, were given hearings before Recorder Charles E. Johnson. Fines and court costs were assessed in each case.

Judge Johnson issued notice to retailers of beer that County licenses must be purchased for this purpose and all retailers who have not purchased their licenses must do so at once. This warning was issued, following a request for trial by jury by William Mansfield, charged with selling beer after hours. The case was moved up to the Superior Court docket.

Albert Bond, Negro, entered a plea of guilty to reckless driving and received a 30-day sentence, suspended upon payment of a fine of \$25 and costs.

Vernon Turner paid the costs of court, after pleading guilty to speeding.

Bessie White, Negro, was found not guilty of a charge of assault, while Lillian Riddick, colored, a defendant in the same case, was found guilty as charged, and assessed \$10.

Lillie Belle Revelis and Emma Winslow, both Negroes, were tried on charges of assault. The Revelis woman was found guilty and ordered to pay court costs and doctor's bills. Emma Winslow was found not guilty.

George Gallop, Negro, paid costs of court, after pleading guilty to a charge of speeding.

Willie Webber, Negro, failed to appear to answer charges of assault on a female, and a capias was ordered issued to bring him to court.

Walter Lillery was fined \$20 after admitting to a charge of speeding. Broader Barnett, Arthur Davis, David Donaldson and Foster Foster, all entered pleas of guilty to speeding and each was fined \$10 and costs.

Arthur Dukes, Jr. and William Costello plead guilty to speeding and each was taxed with court costs.

County Urged To Buy July Quota Of War Bonds—\$19,110

Perquimans County residents were urged today to renew regular purchases of war bonds and stamps during the month of July in order that Perquimans will close the month having sold its quota. The July quota for this county is \$19,110.

The appeal to local residents to continue the splendid example set here was issued by R. M. Riddick, chairman of the Perquimans War Finance Committee, who said, "Perquimans has an excellent record for the sale of war bonds thus far, but the Government needs every possible dollar to help finance the war and with our boys giving everything they have, certainly we, at home, should lend our dollars."

Mr. Riddick pointed out that with America and her Allies now waging an offensive war, the need for materials and weapons is far greater than last year, thus calling for increased expenditures by our Government to insure victory. The only means the Government has to raise this money is by borrowing it from the people on the home front.

Mr. Riddick reported this week that Perquimans residents purchased a total of \$20,775 worth of bonds and stamps during June. This exceeded the quota by one thousand, six hundred and sixty-five dollars, and continues the county's record of being among the counties of the State reporting excessive sales.

Miss Nell Riddick To Rejoin Faculty

F. T. Johnson, county superintendent of schools, announced this week that he had contracted with Miss Nell Riddick, of Gatesville, to teach commercial subjects at Perquimans High School during the next school term.

Miss Riddick is a former member of the local faculty, having taught here during 1941. She has been employed during the past year at the Norfolk Naval Yards.

Entire Community Mourns Death Of Mrs. J. A. Perry

Last Rites Conducted At Baptist Church On Monday Afternoon

The hundreds of friends who knew and loved Mrs. Lessie Perry, wife of J. A. Perry, who died in the Blanchard's Store fire last Friday afternoon, joined in paying final respects at funeral services conducted Monday afternoon at 4 o'clock, at the Hertford Baptist Church. The Rev. Howard G. Dawkins, pastor of the church, assisted by the Rev. B. C. Reavis, pastor of the Hertford Methodist Church, and the Rev. J. D. Cranford, pastor of the Winfall Methodist Church officiated.

The floral tributes were beautiful and were fitting to one who was so beloved by her community.

During the service, the church choir sang "Abide With Me." The casket pall consisted of a double spray of white gladioli and white carnations.

Mrs. Perry, a life-long resident of Perquimans County, was born at Woodville, the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. William Gregory, and was, at the time of her death, 46 years old. She was a member of the Hertford Baptist Church and was active in the Missionary circles of her church.

She had been an employee of the J. C. Blanchard Company for the past 26 years, having started to work there in 1917, and during all that time she was a faithful worker for both her employer and her customers.

Surviving besides her husband, J. A. Perry, are two sisters, Mrs. Mary Gregory Moore and Miss Nettie Lee Gregory, and one brother, Willie Gregory, of Fayetteville.

Active pallbearers were: Robbns Blanchard, Arthur White, Mark Gregory, Bob White, Bill Tarkenton, Marshall Owens, Julian White and Edward Byrum.

Honorary pallbearers were: Dr. C. A. Davenport, Dr. T. P. Brinn, J. C. Blanchard, L. C. Winslow, J. P. Perry, D. J. Pritchard, H. T. Broughton, J. E. White, Bill White, Cecil Winslow, V. N. Darden, E. T. Britt, A. W. Heffren, Lawrence Towe, W. S. Newby, W. H. Harcastle, Z. A. Harris, E. W. Mayes, W. T. Elliott, Dr. I. A. Ward, C. M. Harrell, S. T. Sutton, Joe Elliott, D. M. Jackson, Charles M. Williford, Hurley Hoffer, Edgar Morris, Douglas Darden, Charles E. Johnson, R. L. Knowles, Noah Gregory, B. C. Berry, Martin Towe, Ace White and Aubrey Ange.

Interment was made in Cedarwood Cemetery.

Final Rites Held Last Friday For Mrs. Lucy Spivey

Mrs. Lucy Green Spivey, 44, died at her home at New Hope, at 5:30 o'clock, Wednesday afternoon, June 30, following a long illness.

Mrs. Spivey was a native and life-long resident of Perquimans County. She was a member of the New Hope Methodist Church.

Besides her husband, Matt Spivey, she is survived by one daughter, Mrs. J. E. McDonald of New Hope, two sons, Howard Winborne Spivey of the U. S. Navy, and Matt Spivey, Jr., of New Hope; two sisters, Mrs. Mae G. Saunders of Elizabeth City, and Mrs. Oscar Nurney of Fentress, Va.; one half-brother, Sam Green of New Hope; one grandchild, and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were conducted at 3 o'clock last Friday afternoon at the New Hope Methodist Church with the Rev. J. D. Cranford, pastor, officiating. Burial was made in the family cemetery.

Lions To Install New Officers At Meeting Friday Night 7:15

The Hertford Lions Club will meet on Friday evening at 7:15, at the Colonial Tourist Home. All members are urged to be present as new officers will be installed at this meeting.

Retiring president, Archie T. Lane, and Ralph White, who represented the local club at the Lions State Convention in Winston-Salem, will make a report to the club of the meeting. Charles M. Williford will be installed as president of the club at the meeting tonight.

DISASTROUS FIRE CAUSES ONE DEATH; DESTROYED BLANCHARD'S DEPT. STORE

Fire Oddities

A close inspection of the fire-damaged second floor of the J. C. Blanchard store this week revealed two unexplainable oddities which happened during the fire.

Five Bibles were on display on a table in the ready-to-wear department, along with merchandise and other items. The merchandise and hat stands were totally destroyed, but the Bibles remained in good condition, the cover of one Bible being slightly burned, but the pages throughout the lot were not even burned or water damaged.

Not far away was a carton of matches, broken open and scattered about, but not one of them was burned.

Youths Reminded To Register For Draft On 18th Birthday

Calls Received For August Are Reduced In Number Of Men

Perquimans County young men were reminded this week by General J. Van B. Metts, State Director of Selective Service, that they must appear at the local draft board offices and register for service on their eighteenth birthday.

There has been a tendency in some areas for youths to forget this obligation, but Mrs. Ruth Sumner, clerk of the Perquimans Board, stated this week that it is believed here that the majority of youths register when reaching their eighteenth birthday. The local board has been registering from six to ten youths each month, since the present ruling was adopted. Mrs. Sumner also announced that two calls for men during August have been received here. Each of the quotas is for five men, the first for five white men, on August 4, and the other for five Negroes for August 19.

Five colored selectees left here on Wednesday for Fort Bragg to receive their final physical examinations prior to induction into the Army. These include Milton Perry, Charles Hudson, Jr., Joe Walker, Lester Wilson, Jr., Charles Henry and Howard Spencer.

The local board has a call for 15 white men to leave for Fort Bragg on July 22, but due to the shortage of registrants in the local files, and the number in essential occupations, it is doubtful that the quota will be filled.

Men who are inducted into the Army from this date on will be permitted a 21-day furlough prior to beginning actual training. However, men accepted into the Navy will be allowed only a seven-day furlough before reporting for service.

Report Given On Persons Injured In Fire Last Friday

A check on Wednesday revealed that the nine persons injured in the Blanchard's Store fire on last Friday are doing as well as can be expected.

Miss Barbara Winslow and Ed Laughinghouse are still in the Albemarle Hospital, but are reported as being somewhat better, though both are still seriously ill.

Bill Fowler, whose arm was broken, is getting on fine.

Mrs. E. W. Mayes is still confined to her home, but X-rays revealed no broken bones.

Mrs. Beasley was reported as suffering a broken ankle, but received a fracture of a foot bone instead, and is resting well.

Marjorie Perry is recovering from burns. Mary Webb, Carolyn Phillips and Margaret Divers, it is reported, are doing well.

Cecil Winslow, who suffered severe burns, will be able to be out in a day or two.

Dr. E. Louise Payne Joins Hospital Staff

Dr. E. Louise Payne left last Wednesday, after a short visit to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Payne, to join the Medical staff of the Woman's Hospital, Philadelphia, Pa. Dr. Payne, a graduate of Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania, recently completed her internship at the Western Pennsylvania Hospital in Pittsburgh.

Mrs. J. A. Perry Victim Of Fire; Nine Injured. Heavy Damage

Hertford's most disastrous fire in a decade occurred here last Friday afternoon, when an oil stove, located on the second floor of the J. C. Blanchard Department Store exploded, resulting in the death of Mrs. J. A. Perry and injuries to nine other persons, and \$50,000 or more damage to the store.

Mrs. Perry, known to use thousands of patrons of the store as "Miss Lessie," was prevented from reaching the fire escape by the explosion, along with several other persons who jumped from the windows of the building facing Church Street. Her body was found near the window after the fire had been brought under control. It is believed that Mrs. Perry either fainted or was overcome by the terrific smoke before she could jump from the window. Dr. C. A. Davenport, county coroner, pronounced her death due to suffocation.

The fire was discovered a short time before the explosion and word was given for all to get out of the store, but the explosion occurred so quickly that those trapped had to make their way to the windows, where they called for help. Sheriff J. E. Winslow and L. L. Winslow obtained a step-ladder and drove a truck over the sidewalk in an effort to provide means of escape, but the people began jumping before the ladder could be placed against the window.

Bill Fowler, who was assisting in the rescue work, suffered a broken arm when one of the ladies jumping from the window hit his arm.

Those injured in escaping from the building were: Ed Laughinghouse, hip injuries and broken leg; Barbara Winslow, serious burns; Mrs. E. W. Mayes, lacerations and abrasions; Mary Webb, abrasions and shock; Mrs. Beasley, broken ankle and lacerations; Margaret Divers, burns; Carolyn Phillips, abrasions and foot injury; Marjorie Perry, burns, and Cecil Winslow, Jr., burns.

All of the injured received treatment at the offices of Dr. Davenport and Dr. T. P. Brinn. Ed Laughinghouse, Miss Winslow and Bill Fowler, the most seriously injured, were taken to Albemarle Hospital.

The fire spread so rapidly it was soon known that assistance was needed to bring the flames under control, and calls were made to the Edenton, Elizabeth City and Harvey's Point Naval Air Station fire departments which rushed to the scene immediately. An excellent job was turned in by all departments, but outstanding was the splendid job performed by the sailors from Harvey's Point Station, who worked untiringly.

Committees Formed To Aid Governor's Vagrancy Program

Governor J. M. Broughton has appointed Charles Wheelbee as general chairman of various committees, formed here Tuesday morning, for the purpose of carrying out the Governor's proclamation of "work or fight." These committees were named at a meeting called by the general chairman and the purpose of the groups will be to see that the Governor's program is thoroughly observed throughout Perquimans.

The purpose of this program is to combat all vagrancy within the State, and to see that every able-bodied person is engaged at some type of work.

The committees appointed Tuesday were: Executive committee—Claud White, Julian White, E. M. Perry, Charles E. Johnson and J. H. Newbold. Enforcement committee—All law officers of the county and the judge of Recorder's Court. Agriculture committee—J. H. Newbold, S. M. Long, Dr. E. S. White, W. W. Spencer, Archie T. Lane and Dr. T. P. Brinn. Labor Committee—C. D. White, Julian White, J. F. Winslow, E. M. Perry and W. O. Hunter. Colored committee—King Williams, the Rev. J. A. Harrell, the Rev. G. W. Gaines, the Rev. Cliff Parker, W. R. Privott, Frank Elliott, W. N. Douglas and L. D. Turner.

All residents of the county, whether they are members of a committee or not, are requested to notify the committee or law enforcement officers if they know of persons violating the terms of the proclamation, thus aiding in bringing about an end to vagrancy in North Carolina.