

Town Election Lacks Interest, Yet Develops Into Close Race

Murphy McGirt Runner Up in What Turned Out to Be Very Close Race for Commissioner. Mayor Hasty and Board Go Back for New Terms of Office

In what had appeared to be an uninteresting election of Town officials on Monday, May 3rd, developed into a close and interesting race as far as the Commissioners race was concerned.

The vote as cast in the election was as follows: For Mayor: W. H. Hasty, 82; J. C. Daniel (write-in vote, he not being a candidate), 16.

Robeson Tobacco News From Lumberton Area

Lumberton, May 4.—Tobacco transplanting time for the Lumberton flue-cured area has arrived, with tobacco growers hit by blue mold and short on plants, according to the crop condition report just issued by Jasper C. Hutto, supervisor of the Lumberton tobacco market.

It was the fifth seasonal tobacco crop conditions report issued by the Lumberton supervisor, who says the present is one of the crucial stretches of the tobacco growing period.

Jackie Cogan At the Air Base

Jackie Cogan, one of the first and most famous kid stars of the movies, having appeared in the star production, "The Kid" with Charlie Chaplin, and in other stellar roles, is now in uniform at the Laurinburg-Maxton Air Base, says "The Slipstream," the Air Base newspaper.

PIGS

On January 1, 1942, there were 60,377,000 hogs on U. S. farms. It is estimated that the 1943 pig crop may total 125,000,000 as compared with 105,000,000 last year.

Observation Tower Off 24-Hour Duty

Army Places Civilian Observers on Stand-By Orders.

C. A. Hasty, chairman of the Civilian Defense as it relates to the maintenance of the local observation tower for the spotting and reporting of aircraft, has been notified by the U. S. Army that it will not, beginning last Monday, be necessary to man the post on a twenty-four hour basis.

Last Chapter In WPA Is Written

The Works Projects Administration (WPA) ended its 8-year \$9,042,928,000.00 April 30. That depression-born service produced a great volume of construction—buildings, roads, airfields, etc. Its sewing projects for women brought out millions upon millions of garments. It did many other useful things.

But the WPA proved a curious mixture of good and evil. It wasted many millions. It had a harmful influence on politics. But principally it tended to instill in many—not all—an artificial attitude toward work, which fortunately the demands of the war have offset.

Cigar Business Shows a Pickup

Confronted by the contradictory facts that cigar factories are working on greatly increased schedules and that cigar sales measured by revenue stamps remain stationary, the Cigar Institute of America reasonably concludes that American soldiers and sailors are developing a taste for cigars.

What Your Bond Money Will Buy

The \$18.75 with which you buy a \$25 War Bond will pay for: 7 1/2 life preservers, or—1/10 of an Army mule.

DEMONSTRATION

G. D. Scroggs, Clay county, grew cowpeas on 2 acres of a 6-acre field, cut them for hay, and then limed the two acres. He planted the whole field to wheat and estimates he will make as much on the 2 acres as on the remaining 4 acres which were in corn last year.

Prof. and Mrs. Key Both In Service

The following news item clipped from a South Carolina paper will be of great interest to the many friends of Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Key, former members of the Presbyterian Junior College faculty. Prof. Key was in service during the last war, and is now connected, in the armed service, with the American Red Cross at Fort Jackson, S. C.

Several instances of father and son serving in the same outfit have been found at Fort Jackson, but the first case of a married couple, with the wife a member of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps and the husband holding the position of assistant field director of the American Red Cross, was reported at the post today.

Third Officer Wilma Howie Key has been assigned to Fort Jackson's WAAC recruiting station and assumed her duties at the post Monday.

She is the wife of Edward Key, assistant field director of the ARC, assigned to an organization at North camp, Fort Jackson. A native of Rockingham, N. C., Lieutenant Key attended George Peabody College for Teachers at Nashville, Tenn., and subsequently taught school at Jacksonville, N. C., her last station before joining the WAAC.

May Slash Farm Prices Soon

New increases in the general level of prices received by farmers raised the question today of whether the Government may have to invoke more rigid methods of price control if President Roosevelt's hold-the-line order against inflation is to be followed.

Food Administration officials weighed a report of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics that farm product prices advanced nearly 2 per cent between mid-March and mid-April.

Tentative figures compiled by the bureau indicated that farmers received nearly \$1,400,000,000 from commodities sold during March, compared with about \$982,000,000 in the same month last year, bringing the total income to about \$1,000,000,000 for the first three months of the year, as against \$830,000,000 in the corresponding quarter last year.

Federal farm officials, who expressed hope that agricultural prices would level pointed out that most commodities having a direct effect on the cost of food had been brought under price ceilings. They explained also that it was not unusual for prices of many farm products to advance at this season and decline a few weeks later when new crops started moving.

Some Declines Noted. Not all farm commodities advanced between mid-March and mid-April. Increases were limited principally to fruits, potatoes, corn, hay, other livestock feeds, flaxseed, peanuts, dry beans, wool, chickens, beef cattle and sheep. Commercial truck crops, hogs, veal calves, lambs, eggs and wheat declined, while dairy products held steady.

The demand for farm products during the next several months, at prices prevailing under present ceilings, will remain in excess of supplies available, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics said, adding, however, that rationing would minimize the pressure of the excess demand.

Supplies of farm products remained relatively large, the bureau said, with seasonal declines in crop stocks and downturns in livestock slaughter being offset in large part by seasonal increases in the production of dairy and poultry products.

News Bits From The Air Base

Army chow is the next best thing to home-cooking, according to a group of Flora Macdonald College girls from Red Springs, who visited the Laurinburg-Maxton Air Base recently for a glee club performance. . . . After a matinee appearance, the girls were guests of the soldiers and really took over the chow line. . . . The 392nd Base Headquarters and Air Base Squadron has a Victory Garden all its own and most any afternoon you'll find some of the boys digging or planting in two plots covering about 12 1/2 acres.

They're looking forward to fine crops of butter beans, beets, string beans, potatoes, collards, tomatoes and corn. . . . Lieut. William M. Wheeler is in charge of the Victory Garden project. . . . The base's new finance officer is Captain Francis L. Linton who comes here from Bowman Field, Ky., where he served for more than a year in a similar capacity. . . . He replaces Lieut. Carl M. Andrews who is enrolled in an Army course at Duke University. . . . The men got a big kick out of "Soup to Nuts," New York musical comedy revue which was staged recently at the base theater by USO-Camp Shows. . . . A 200-unit, \$400,000 housing project for base civilian employees is to be erected soon. . . . There will be 35 to 40 buildings. . . . All of this is in addition to a 34-apartment project now nearing completion. . . . A popular canine character here is Thor, the Great Dane pet of Lt. Stanley B. Virkler. . . . In spite of his 150 pounds, Thor is one of the friendliest "guys" on the post. . . . Captain Francis B. Mayer, base adjutant, ordered a service badge with four stars for his mother who has four sons in the service. . . . Later, he received the badge from the firm with the notation that any one with four sons in the service doesn't have to pay for such an item. . . . "Softball is moving into the limelight with a night-team league soon to get underway. . . . An occasion of the fifth birthday of Fritz, German shepherd collie mascot of the 392nd Base Headquarters and Air Base Squadron. . . . You bet, there was a swell cake with five candles on it. . . . Fritz's master is Corp. Read Wilson, former Asheville (N. C.) radio announcer. . . . Pic. Wally Jacobs, boarding a bus at nearby Lumberton, met two soldiers who discovered they lacked 30 cents to pay fares. Private Jacobs dug in and helped them out. Next morning when Jacobs reported to work he found an envelope on his desk and when he opened it, out rolled three dimes!

Maxton Citizens Protest Against John L. Lewis

A representative group of Maxton citizens joined with other communities and towns of Robeson county in a protest against John L. Lewis, leader of the United Mine Workers Union. As the deadline 10 a. m. Saturday morning approached and it appeared certain that Lewis was not going to relent in his demands that the mine workers be given a \$2.00 per day increase in wage, citizens of this county wired our Representatives in Congress urging that something be done to stop John L. Lewis. The telegram from Maxton citizens read as follows:

"I am, Robert R. Reynolds, Josiah W. Bailey, United States Senator, and J. Bayard Clark, Member of Congress, Washington, D. C., and daughters of Robeson county are serving and fighting on every front, both at home and abroad, to preserve the liberties of the American people. Their parents, relatives and friends are paying taxes and purchasing War Bonds to the limit of their ability to sustain them. We have talked with many such parents, relatives and friends and with men faced with armed service under the Selective Service Act, and believe the citizens, including all races, of this county would have you as our representatives in Congress deal effectively with John L. Lewis if the existing law is inadequate to effectively control both employers and employees engaged in all war work. We would have you try to repeal and put through effective laws for that purpose. Farmers are penalized for violating rules of the Farm Administration; merchants are indicted for OPA violations; individual citizens are punished for tax evasion and helplessness; prostitutes are imprisoned in military areas. All of which is right. We ask that such like justice prevail in the seats of basic war industries."

Maxton Firm Is Reorganized

Pates Supply Company Furniture Store Transfers Assets to New Corporation. The Pates Supply Company, Incorporated, owner of the furniture store operated here since last June under the name of Pates Supply Company, Incorporated with Mr. J. F. McDonald as manager, has transferred its assets in the business to a new group of stockholders who have been granted a charter from the State of North Carolina. The name of the new company is Service Trading Company, and the transfer was made effective at the close of business on April 30th.

The duly elected officers of the new enterprise are R. H. Livermore, president; G. E. Bracey, vice-president; M. P. James, secretary-treasurer and manager, and J. F. McDonald, assistant secretary-treasurer and manager.

It was announced that Mr. M. P. James will still be in charge of the Pates Supply Company cotton office and business here, and that this change is not to be considered as having any connection with the Pates Supply Company cotton business, which has been in operation here, with Mr. James as their representative, for quite a few years.

Ration Board Has Blanks for Retailers

Mrs. Clyde Lanning, price clerk of the Red Springs District Rationing Board, has announced that the blanks for registering meats and fats by retailers are now available at all rationing boards in North Carolina. Local merchants of Maxton and surrounding communities are requested to call at the Maxton town office, where Mrs. Lundsford, clerk of the Maxton board will distribute them, blanks.

Birth Announcement

Sgt. and Mrs. J. J. Hunckler announce the birth of their daughter, Patricia Ann. The baby was born on May 1st at the Laurinburg Hospital. Sgt. and Mrs. Hunckler are making their home with Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Evans of Maxton.

Womans Club To Have Meeting

The Maxton Woman's Club will meet at the home of Mrs. Henry Carter Friday, May 14, at 4:30 o'clock. Mrs. W. A. Webb, chairman of the fine arts department, will have charge of the program for the afternoon. She will give an illustrated talk on "America's Heritage of Song." This resume brings in briefly songs from the American Indian to World War II such as the Cowboy ballads, spirituals, Puritans, songs of Washington's time, Sea Chanteys, Stephen Foster songs, college songs, hymns, songs of World War I and II. There will be guest soloists. Plans for next year's club calendar will be discussed, committees named and business of interest to each member transacted. A full attendance is desired.

Mrs. McClelland will give an interesting report of the State Federation meeting at High Point. The hostesses for the afternoon are Mrs. Carter, Mrs. LaMotte, Mrs. J. L. Currie, Mrs. J. M. Patterson and Mrs. Fred Solomon.

State OPA Office Acts To Halt Poultry Prices

Raleigh, May 7.—Twelve court actions have been begun against violators of price ceilings on poultry in the first 10 days of an intensive drive to stamp out black market sales of fowl. Norman C. Shepard, head of the legal division of the Office of Price Administration of Raleigh announced today.

In addition, many other poultry sellers have received warnings that unless they stop over-the-ceiling sales, proceedings to suspend their licenses will be instituted or other legal remedies pursued. Conference resulting in compliance agreements have also been used effectively.

Injunction suits have been brought against poultry price violators at all levels of distribution, and defendants include fowl growers, country shippers, wholesalers and retailers.

In battling the black market in live poultry, the Office of Price Administration has made three major changes in the regulations relating to poultry price ceilings.

1. Reduction and simplification of the number of classifications of live poultry, with slight lowering of a few prices.

2. Provision for payment of the hauler—the man who buys the farmer's chickens and markets them in town.

3. Making the maximum prices live, rather than delivered. The changes represent a simplification and tightening of the price regulation to make it more easily understood and enforceable.

Officials of the State OPA said today, adding that detailed information is easily obtainable from local war price and rationing boards of district OPA offices.

Live broilers and fryers now are treated as one classification, with the ceiling price set at 28 1/2 cents per pound. Formerly broilers had been 28 cents and fryers 29 1/2. Live hens are in one classification instead of two, with a top price of 25 cents. The previous prices were 24 cents for light hens and 27 for medium and light. These prices are for poultry sold to wholesalers. If a producer sells to a retailer, he may add 1 1/2 cents per pound, and if to an ultimate consumer, an additional 20 per cent mark-up.

The hauler, under the new regulations, is to be paid on a graduated scale, if the haul is in excess of 20 miles, but to be eligible for this payment, he must sell to a wholesaler, retailer, or ultimate consumer located in the town where the poultry is to be consumed. Heretofore no provision was made by OPA for payment of the hauler. The hauler is also required to have with him in his truck a statement showing the quantity, grade, weight class, price paid, and number of each type of poultry being transported, and the name and place of the farmer or seller and of the buyer. Formerly the maximum prices for live poultry were delivered prices, but that has been changed to f.o.b.

Local Library Faces Crisis

The Senior Woman's Club of Maxton has announced that unless the citizens of Maxton contribute to the support of the Gilbert Patterson Memorial Library the library will have to be closed. Heretofore the Federal Government has been paying the librarian. The building is donated by the members of the Patterson family. Since its organization the library has been built up to include several thousand volumes of good reading material. At the present time, more so than in the past, people are using the library. Soldiers wives and strangers in our midst are finding the library very helpful.

Unless sufficient money can be raised to pay the salary of the librarian and the upkeep of the library then the library will have to be closed. A committee composed of Mrs. Annie Williams, Miss Marguerite Townsend, Mrs. Alton Greene, Mrs. McBryde Austin and Mrs. Henry Carter is seeking to raise the necessary funds for this cause. They feel that it is a worthy cause and one that should not be overlooked by the citizens of our town.

News and Views

THIS COLUMN. Since taking over this post I have been trying to find out what the purpose of this column was. I have about decided that it was intended to give the editor an avenue of escape as well as a chance to express personal views. That is exactly what I shall use it for. We see things and hear things that wouldn't be worth a darn as a news story, editorial or advertisement, but it does impress us as being interesting. For example nobody would read a story, if written to itself, about the bench along side of the State Bank. Yet that very bench has been the sea of learning debates, fish stories and a whole lot of other things for the past several years. In fact when I finished high school, right at the beginning of the depression, Mr. Mark Kannon told me that if I would spend just three afternoons a week on that bench that I wouldn't need a college education. Well, I didn't follow him to the limit in his advice, but I have visited the bench often, consecutively, constantly and frequently and the things that are discussed and told at that FORUM would make the encyclopedia writers blush from lack of knowledge. Only a few know it, but on one afternoon I heard and saw a 15-pound catfish caught on that bench. Whereupon one man got up, threw his hat on the sidewalk and declared, "I'm going home. A decent har hasn't got a chance in this crowd."

ANSWER TO C. A. PAUL

A. Paul, popular writer in The Charlotte News, always ends up his column by asking this question: "What ever became of—?" Last week he asked, "What ever became of the fellow who was tougher than a lightwood knot?" Well, Mr. Paul, our guess is that they are all of 'em busy becoming so, in Uncle Sam's Army, Navy, Marines, Coast Guard, etc.

LANGUAGE WE LIKE

It's not what you say, but how you say it that counts. The romantic orations of the hapless bachelor carries all the charm and weaves the same spell as that of the more ardent Romeo if spoken at the right moment and in the right place. But what we liked most was this quoted paragraph in President Roosevelt's speech Sunday night, "I want to make it clear that every American miner who has stopped mining coal—no matter how sincere his motives, no matter how legitimate he may believe his grievance to be—every idle miner, directly or indirectly, is obstructing our war effort."

IN THE SERVICE

Seaman Third Class Julius E. Rogers has been assigned to the Sperry Gyroscope Service school in Brooklyn, N. Y. Seaman Rogers entered the Navy in August, 1941.

Hasty Wall, of the United States Coast Guard, Manhattan Beach Training Station, of Brooklyn, New York, has been chosen, along with 149 others, out of ten thousand for seamanship school. Mr. Wall and Rogers, mentioned above are nephews of the Hasty family.

Maxton Man Promoted in Marines

Albert Bruce Bracey, of Maxton, who is serving with the Marines in Cuba, has been promoted to technical sergeant, it was announced today.

A graduate of Rowland high school, Sgt. Bracey is a brother of Council Bracey of Maxton.

"Your tame but desperate lover?" . . . C. A. Paul might answer that in The Charlotte News. Always signed his love letters, . . .

Silver Wings Posthumously Awarded To Parents of Maxton Boy

United States Government Presents Silver Wings to Parents of James E. Morrison, Junior, Missing Since February After Plane Crash in Mississippi River.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Morrison, parents of James E. Morrison, Jr., have received from the United States Government the Silver Wings which are pinned on every flyer who finishes his course as an Army flyer and is commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Air Force. Had James Morrison lived and let us all hope that he still lives, although he has been reported as missing since February 28th after a plane crash in the Mississippi River) he would have received his Silver Wings on March 26, 1943.

Mr. and Mrs. Morrison, along with Army officials, have practically abandoned all hope for the safety of their young son. Despite of the anxiety aroused in such cases Mr. and Mrs. Morrison and family have displayed a loyal and brave attitude which speaks itself of the son they gave to "this great cause." James Morrison is not dead. He shall live forever in the memory and minds of those of us who loved liberty and freedom. His Silver Wings are but the emblem of the character he left behind, and of the character which becomes his parents and forebears.

P. J. C. Announces Summer School Plans

An accelerated double session of summer school will be held at Presbyterian Junior College this year. The first term begins June 7th and ending July 19th. The second term will be from July 19th through August 30th. Courses will be given in freshman and sophomore levels, in the college department, and in the 10th, 11th, and 12th levels in the preparatory department.

High school students may accelerate both high school and college education more than one-third. According to present regulations students who complete two years of junior college by their eighteenth year will be allowed to finish professional training and be inducted into the Army in some capacity which will use their additional preparation.

A large number are expected to take the accelerated summer business courses. Last year every student successfully passed the Civil Service examination in typing at the end of summer school. Women will be admitted to the summer school.

The national government recognizes the need that a continuing supply of young men shall be trained for the professions in many fields, including engineering, bacteriology, chemistry, physics, mathematics, meteorology, architecture, radio, sanitation, agriculture, forestry, pharmacy, optometry, medicine, dentistry, veterinary, and theology. (See Selective Service Occupational Bulletins 10 and 11, amended March 1, 1943.) There is provision that a student may be deferred until he has completed his professional training, provided he is far enough along in his course when he becomes subject to draft. This means that all students who hope to prepare for a profession should accelerate their educational progress to the greatest degree consistent with health and thorough work.

Now you tell me. What three "great big beautiful dolls" were sitting on the benches between this office and the post office the other night about show time? . . . Is there anything attractive up town at 1:30 in the morning except for those who have to be up at that time of night? Why those who drive taxpayers' cars or taxpayers' gas and tires make no effort to conserve? . . . What pot is boiling that is about to run over? . . . In fact the grease is getting hot and one potato is already fried. . . . Well, now you tell us. We don't yet rightly know. . . . And another thing, what became of the fellow who always signed his love letters, . . .