

Watch The Label On Your Paper, As It Carries The Date Your Subscription Expires.

THE ENTERPRISE

Advertisers Will Find Our Columns A Latchkey To Over 1,600 Homes Of Martin County.

VOLUME XLIV—NUMBER 97

Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Friday, December 5, 1941.

ESTABLISHED 1899

Present Conditions Make Cotton Quotas Necessary For 1942

Added Importance Is Given to Referendum To Be Held On December 13th

Little interest has been shown so far in the scheduled cotton referendum, but the outcome of the vote on Saturday of next week has a much greater meaning than many apparently believe.

Plans for the referendum have been completed in this county. T. B. Slade, assistant to the agent, said yesterday. Voting has been arranged for in Jamesville, Williams, Bear Grass, Williamston, Everetts, Robertsonville, Gold Point, Hassell, Hamilton and Oak City.

The following pertinent facts have been pointed out in connection with the cotton situation, proving the need for a continuation of marketing quotas for 1942:

The supply of all cotton in the world on August 1, 1941, was about 48,500,000 bales, as compared with 48,900,000 bales a year earlier.

The supply of American cotton in the world on August 1, 1941, was about 23,800,000 bales, as compared with 24,900,000 bales a year earlier.

The supply of American cotton in the world on August 1, 1941, was about 23,800,000 bales, as compared with 24,900,000 bales a year earlier.

Export markets will take about one bale in every 23 now in the United States. Our exports for the season ending July 31, 1941, amounted to about 1,100,000 bales.

Domestic markets will take about 10 bales in every 23. We used about 9 1/2 million bales during the 1940-41 season, a record high mark in domestic consumption.

National defense requires a balanced production—the right amount of each commodity. Supplies of cotton exceed present needs, including a safe reserve. On the other hand, supplies of certain other commodities must be increased.

The increase in domestic consumption, which only partly offsets the drastic loss in exports, has been a result of a greatly increased demand for cotton cloth.

In April 1940, the average price of 17 constructions of cloth was 22.12 cents, while the cotton which went into that cloth averaged 10.72 cents per pound. By April, 1941, the price of the same cotton had risen to 11.24—

(Continued on page four)

Colored Men Leave Today For Army

Eleven young Martin County colored men left here shortly before noon today for the Army induction center at Fort Bragg. A twelfth one, found to have a court record, was ordered not to report until a complete investigation could be made.

Names of the eleven men who left this morning are, Percy Horton, of Palmyra, R.F.D. 1; Benjamin Fairfax Hyman, of Hobgood, R.F.D. 1; Elbert Mitchell, of Williamston; Johnny Lee, of Williamston; LeRoy Mizelle, of Williamston; Augustus Lee Rogers, of Williamston, R.F.D. 2; Aaron Andrew Bonds, of Williamston; John D. Mason, of Williamston, R.F.D. 2; Wilbert Foster Pullen, of Robertsonville and Baltimore; James Henry Chance, of Robertsonville, R. F. D. 2, and Moses Alexander Staton, of Jamesville, R.F.D. 1.

Do You Want Your Christmas To Be Happy One This Year?

(Contributed) During the first World War when our boys were in Army camps and on the battlefield a drive was made for the Red Cross and several other like organizations in Martin County.

We are not actually at war now and have only a few men comparatively in actual service. But our glorious Red Cross is not ministering to just our own, but doing everything in its power to give food, clothing and medicine to those poor starving Greeks who were fighting so val-

Few Cases Docketed In The Superior Court

HOG KILLINGS

The hog killing season in Martin County was opened this week when County Commissioner Joshua L. Coltrain killed and packed an ample supply of meat for the coming year.

The extended warm weather is delaying the annual task, but with virtually all crops harvested and most of them marketed, farmers are expected to start killing their meat on a fairly extensive scale within the next few days.

Reports indicate that the county will kill about as much meat this year as it did last, meaning, that the supply will be ample to meet local needs.

Alonza L. Raynor Killed in Highway Accident Tuesday

Funeral Services For Farmer Of County Near Oak City Yesterday Afternoon

Alonza L. Raynor, well-known Martin County farmer, was instantly killed about 8 o'clock near Tarboro last Tuesday night when he was run down by two automobiles on Highway No. 64.

Going to Tarboro that afternoon with Herman Manning, of Oak City, the two became separated and apparently thinking he had been left, Mr. Raynor started walking down the highway. He caught a ride out of Tarboro, and was put out in or near Mildred. A heavy fog was on the highway and one report stated that he stepped into the road to wave down an approaching car, that the driver swerved the machine, side-swiped and knocked him down. A second car ran over him, causing instant death.

A report released in Tarboro in connection with the accident, reads, as follows:

Dr. J. G. Raby, Edgecombe County coroner who investigated the accident, said that Raynor had been drinking previous to the accident. Raynor was walking along the shoulder of the road. When he attempted to cross the highway which was covered with a thick fog, a car driven by H. L. Polk, of Bethel, struck him.

Before Polk could turn his car around and get back to the prostrate man, another car driven by J. B. Bryant, of Conetoe, over-ran the victim.

Raynor was dead when officers reached the scene.

Further information was offered to Coroner Raby by Don Morris, a farmer on the Joe Powell farm in Edgecombe County. Morris said that when he was in Tarboro last night, Raynor came up to him and asked for a ride to Mildred. Morris said that after Raynor got in the car, he could tell that the man had been drinking.

When Morris reached Mildred, Raynor refused to get out of the car and pulled a knife. Morris succeeded in throwing him out of the car, however, and returned to Tarboro.

After a while, however, Morris be-

(Continued on page four)

TRAVELERS

Glancing from his desk into the main street here every now and then, Norman K. Harrison during a single day recently counted cars from 21 states. The travelers were here from Tennessee, Vermont, Indiana, New Jersey, Virginia, Maine, Florida, Texas, California, Iowa, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Illinois, New York, Delaware, Connecticut, Massachusetts, South Carolina, Kansas, Georgia, and North Carolina, of course.

Mr. Harrison is sure he missed a few states in the count.

Charges Of Murder And Manslaughter Before The Court

Only Fourteen Cases Have Been Docketed for Trial In Court Next Week

Despite two murder cases and two manslaughter charges, an uneventful term of the Martin County Superior Court is expected next week. As far as it could be learned from a review of the fourteen cases docketed up until Wednesday morning, there are no unusually long sentences awaiting those who intentionally or unintentionally wandered down the crime trail.

Should he strike Williamston for another year, he would look up Sheriff Harrison, even going to his house, and inform him, Sam tired. Sam sleepy. Lock Sam up. And this night of the jail fire he had so struck Williamston, and been so locked up for the night.

When I arrived at the fire scene, the courthouse roof had fallen in, the jail was ablaze, and a crowd of men were trying to batter the door down with a ram. I could hear the crowd inside yelling to be turned out, Sam's voice above all the others—

Turn Sam out—Turn Sam up—Turn Sam out. But the door did not yield to the ram. It must have been a stout door with stout hinges and stout lock. No one had a key, and no one had been able to find the Sheriff, or if he was found, then he could not find the key. I never learned exactly how the delay was occasioned, other than this, but I learned how Sam could hold out, and Sam never stopped hollering, until the door finally opened at the hands of the Sheriff, and by the aid of the key. That ram never did butt it open. As all, including Sam, rushed out. Sam quit calling, and took up cursing. He struck a duct-out for the open, turning loose more proficiently than I had ever heard him turn loose before, and with never a backward glance from

(Continued on page four)

Man Charged With Theft Of 12 Hides

Charlie Williams, Jamesville colored man, was arrested last Tuesday and formally charged with the theft of a dozen coon and opossum hides from Mr. Ira T. Coltrain in the county town the early part of last week.

The hides were stolen from a small storage house belonging to Mr. Coltrain. Williams was released under a bond in the sum of \$100 and he is to face trial in the county recorder's court on December 15th.

Missing his hides, Mr. Coltrain visited for buyers here and asked them to be on the lookout for the stolen property. He gave instructions to the dealers to buy the hides and he would refund their money. Dealer Jack Daniel bought the hides this week and immediately reported the pure loss. Williams arrest followed a short time later.

(Continued on page four)

Deputy Collectors Complete Round-up

Coming into this county about two weeks ago, five special deputies of the North Carolina Department of Revenue have about completed their round-up of delinquent sales tax accounts. No accurate or official report could be had on collections in the four counties in this district, but it is estimated that the "flying squadron" will account for between eight and ten thousand dollars before they leave over the week-end.

The five deputies have been working in Bertie, Martin, Washington and Tyrrell Counties. While they collected a number of privilege or Schedule "B" taxes, their main attention was centered on delinquent sales tax accounts.

(Continued on page four)

REMEMBRANCES By CHAS. SMALLWOOD Williamston, N. C. DURING 1870's and '80's

Not so many moons after the big fire, the old court house and jail, down main street, on river hill again blanketed the town in red, and wrapped the heavens with lightwood smoke. All the old county records were gone. Nothing saved as I understood. The devils in the dungeon, as well as the better standing in the upper lockers, also one volunteer by the name of Sam Nelson, came near going along with the courthouse records.

Sam, a nit-wit, emanated from around Grimesland, crossroads in Pitt County, habitually and periodically hiked himself to all neighboring vicinities, as inclination saw fit to take him, and Williamston was on his list. Sam was a harmless soul, when no one bothered him, but like old Isom, of the flour episode, if you jibed at him you got "cussed" roundly, and lots of bad boys delighted in doing this. Sam never traveled Williamston's tar-softened sidewalks, nor no other town's any kind of side walks. His path lay only through the middle of the street, or the middle of the road, afoot and barefoot at that. No winter ever induced Sam to wear shoes. He sometimes carried a budget on his back, most always a stick in his hand, which he would flourish when pestered, and muttered himself along when not bothered. He knew his friends in every town, usually in stores that befriended him, and at will would dash in saying—Sam hungry, bread and cheese—or any other such edible with which he was familiar, never tarrying after eating. Always in a hurry; always on the tramp. It is a wonder he didn't walk his legs off. Had he lived and started out during these days of hit-and-runners, he would never have lasted long enough to become a part of this narrative.

Should he strike Williamston for another year, he would look up Sheriff Harrison, even going to his house, and inform him, Sam tired. Sam sleepy. Lock Sam up. And this night of the jail fire he had so struck Williamston, and been so locked up for the night.

When I arrived at the fire scene, the courthouse roof had fallen in, the jail was ablaze, and a crowd of men were trying to batter the door down with a ram. I could hear the crowd inside yelling to be turned out, Sam's voice above all the others—

Turn Sam out—Turn Sam up—Turn Sam out. But the door did not yield to the ram. It must have been a stout door with stout hinges and stout lock. No one had a key, and no one had been able to find the Sheriff, or if he was found, then he could not find the key. I never learned exactly how the delay was occasioned, other than this, but I learned how Sam could hold out, and Sam never stopped hollering, until the door finally opened at the hands of the Sheriff, and by the aid of the key. That ram never did butt it open. As all, including Sam, rushed out. Sam quit calling, and took up cursing. He struck a duct-out for the open, turning loose more proficiently than I had ever heard him turn loose before, and with never a backward glance from

(Continued on page four)

FORUM

An open forum, centered around the interesting and timely theme, "Should America Declare War Now?" will be held in the high school auditorium in Robertsonville on Monday evening, December 8th, at eight o'clock. Professor L. W. Anderson, principal of the school, announced this week.

Sponsored by the Robertsonville Parent-Teacher Association, the forum will be held under the direction of Dr. Ralph McDonald, former candidate for governor and now of the Extension Division of the University of North Carolina.

Dr. McDonald's address is being sponsored as an educational feature for the general public, Principal Anderson said.

Man Charged With Theft Of 12 Hides

Charlie Williams, Jamesville colored man, was arrested last Tuesday and formally charged with the theft of a dozen coon and opossum hides from Mr. Ira T. Coltrain in the county town the early part of last week.

The hides were stolen from a small storage house belonging to Mr. Coltrain. Williams was released under a bond in the sum of \$100 and he is to face trial in the county recorder's court on December 15th.

Missing his hides, Mr. Coltrain visited for buyers here and asked them to be on the lookout for the stolen property. He gave instructions to the dealers to buy the hides and he would refund their money. Dealer Jack Daniel bought the hides this week and immediately reported the pure loss. Williams arrest followed a short time later.

(Continued on page four)

A Generous People Asked To Pass Judgment On Needy Ones

Sponsored by the local Kiwanis Club, the Christmas Cheer movement will be extended to the needy of the community again this season. The task can't be handled by the civic group alone and a thoughtful and generous people are being asked to pass judgment on the less fortunate.

Will that judgment be meted out after the principles propounded by the Master on Cavalry, or will the less fortunate be condemned by neglect and selfishness? The support given the Christmas cheer movement in the years that are gone makes it certain that the thoughtful people of this community will make a willing and voluntary effort to remove that forlorn feeling found in an empty stocking and at the dinner table where even the bare necessities of life are found on Christmas day.

Boy Scouts and other local youths under the direction of Professor D.

N. Hix and other members of the faculty will canvass the town tomorrow morning beginning at 9:30 o'clock for discarded toys, old clothing or any other articles that might be of some value to some less fortunate soul. Housewives are urged to have their bundles ready and on the porches for the canvassers.

It was thought one time to dispense with the program this year, but contrary to the current belief there is a marked need for the Christmas Cheer movement. Local people have been called on for many donations, and they are assured that no nagging or begging will be considered in financing the project which will meet with success or failure in accordance with the voluntary action of the individual. If you would grasp the real meaning of the Christmas season, then support the Christmas Cheer fund.

Farmers Ask Price Clarification For Oil Stock Peanuts

Preliminary Reports Indicate That Farmers Are Slow To Increase Production

While it is believed surplus peanuts produced for oil purposes will sell for at least three and one-half cents, farmers are looking to Secretary of Agriculture Claude Wickard for a statement clarifying the price situation before they go all-out for a record production even if increased stock are needed in the name of defense.

A group of Congressmen representing Southern peanut growers requested Secretary of Agriculture Wickard this week to clarify his recent announcement urging farmers to produce additional peanuts for oil purposes.

Wickard recently suggested to peanut growers that additional peanut oil was needed and that they should increase their output, but now Japanese oil is being imported in large quantities and the need for more peanut oil is not as acute as it was a few months ago.

Representative Cooley, of North Carolina, spokesman for a delegation, said the production of peanuts for edible trade was under a control program and that the Secretary's announcement had the effect of bringing the peanut produced for oil purposes under parity provisions.

"If importation of Japanese oil continues," Cooley said, "the Southern peanut farmers will find himself in great distress. Therefore, I think it is fair to assume that Secretary Wickard will make another announcement before the planting season, explaining what the farmer should do."

A break with Japan, however, will cut off oil imports and boost the market here.

Headed by R. Flake Shaw, secretary of the North Carolina Farm Bureau, the delegation discussed the possible repercussions from the proposed expansion program, and it is reasonable to believe that some action will be taken to minimize the dangers of such a departure from the established farm program.

During the meantime, community committees are continuing their survey under the "Food for Freedom" program. No tabulations have been made public by the county agent's office, but it is understood that Martin County will fall far short in meeting its quota for surplus peanuts. A fairly definite trend as to planned acreages is expected shortly, however as the work has already been completed in Cross Roads, Bear Grass and Robertsonville Townships. The work is about 70 per cent complete in other districts. It was learned that while many farmers are showing no great interest in the program calling for increased peanut acreages, they are planning to go all out for increases in hog raising and egg production. "If the egg production measures up to expectation there'll be plenty of the hen fruit another year," one committeeman was quoted as saying.

(Continued on page four)

Peanuts Are About Marketed In Area

The peanut marketing season is rapidly drawing to a close in this section, reports from the cleaners and buyers today stating that less than 10 per cent of the crop is in the hands of the farmers and that the unsold portion of the crop will hardly move until after the holidays. Less than 1,000 bags are being offered here daily, but a few farmers are storing the goobers in fairly large quantities.

Oil stock prices were reported \$1 a ton less today and are now standing at \$71. Regular trade quotations are strong at 5 cents with a few sales being made at 5 1/8 or better.

At this time last year, peanut deliveries were blocking the plants and storage houses throughout this section.

(Continued on page four)

Japan Stalling For More Time In Her Aggression Move

Weak Reply Given To Question Relative To Move Into French Indo-China

Brazenly stalling for more time, without doubt, Japan today gave an evasive and "unsatisfactory" answer to this country's question concerning the movement of Japanese troops into French Indo-China. Reaction to the virtually meaningless answer is pending the completion of a conference between Secretary of State Cordell Hull and the President. Speaking without complete knowledge of the full contents of the note sent in answer to President Roosevelt's question of last Tuesday, a week ago, observers believed that the fuse simmering for long months was now burning near the powder keg, that war is possible within a few days or even hours.

Japan, early reports stated, claimed that the movement of 100,000 or more troops into French Indo-China was made in full accord with Vichy, meaning, it must be admitted, Germany has a hand in the Japs' aggressive policy. Japan denied that the move was a threat to Thailand or that it was a continuation of an aggressive policy. The message maintained that the troops were placed there to offset a threat offered by the Chinese.

While Japan was sending her weak answer, the Australian War Cabinet, in special and continuous session, declared that Japan is operating behind a mask. Developments in the Far East point to some action, but it is thought that the situation will drag along unchanged until some forward incident lights the powder keg.

As a post-script to the evasive note, Japan expressed the brazen hope that negotiations would be continued.

The spread of the war in Europe is expected within the next few hours when England goes ahead with her plans to declare war against Finland. The time for an answer to Britain's ultimatum to Finland expires at midnight tonight.

While her stand has not been made definitely clear, Turkey is now included in the loose-lead program, meaning that the Allies consider that country an ally.

On the Russian front, the Germans continue in full retreat from the Rostov sector, late communiques from the Russian capital stating that 100 Soviet towns had been recaptured. While the situation around Moscow continues serious, the counter-attack by the Russians is being extended along the battlefield toward Moscow, and military observers are of the opinion that the city will not fall into German hands.

Russian tanks, cavalry and infantry were credited with successes all the way from the Sea of Azov north to the central front around Moscow. They appeared to be so closely spaced as to represent a synchronized drive on a big scale.

A Tabs News Agency dispatch said that at one point, identified only as "D", Soviet troops pierced the "whole German defense line," and occupied a strategic zone and several heights.

On the right wing of the southern front, high up in the Donets Valley, the Soviets were reported "likewise successful," though details were meager. Counter-attacks by the Germans, described as designed to draw off Soviet strength and ease the plight of Axis forces routed from Rostov, were squelched consistently, Tabs said.

Soviet defenders of the Kharkov segment were reported from Kuibyshev to have absorbed the impact

(Continued on page four)

Army Is Calling For Fifteen White Men

Fifteen young Martin County white men are being called up for service in the armed forces beginning January 8th, the draft board was officially notified here yesterday. No quota for colored men was assigned the county for next month. The white call is the first received in this county since October, two colored groups having answered calls during the meantime.

With the exception of two or three young men whose deferments have expired, the January quota will be filled with registrants whose order numbers range from 1,556 to around 1,800. Names of those men to report for duty on the eighth have not been drawn, the draft board stating that about twenty men had already passed their preliminary physical examinations and are subject to call.

Under a new plan, registrants will be given preliminary examinations by draft board doctors and then receive final examination at a district center, meaning that if they pass both examinations they will not return immediately from the army induction centers. It is not likely that the fifteen men to report on January 8th from this county will be examined at the center, but will be handled just as other men before them were handled.

(Continued on page four)

ENCOURAGING

Martin County's later ridges and other secondary roads in the State are almost in line for recognition by the powers. For years and years, the boys mired up in mud have cried out from the top of the narrow ridges for help. "Funds are not available," they have heard over and over again.

Gasoline taxes are mounting sky high the independents say, and since materials for the primary roads are running short, it now looks as if the secondary routes will come to the front.

(Continued on page four)