

Germany And Italy Formally At War Against This Nation

Large Number Cases On Recorder's Court Docket For Monday

Session Next Week Will Be The First Held in More Than a Month

Idle for various reasons since the 10th of last month, the Martin County Recorder's Court will find an unusually large docket awaiting its attention next Monday. Forty-two cases have already been booked for trial, and possibly others will be added to the list.

The court suspended its sessions on November 17 and 24 to avoid a conflict with the special term of superior court. The session scheduled for the first Monday in this month was called off on account of the serious illness and death of Judge W. Hubert Coburn. Recognizing the vacancy, the county commissioners named Attorney Robert L. Coburn to the post and he will enter upon his new duties next Monday morning at 9:30 o'clock.

Of the forty-two cases on the docket, fifteen charge the defendants with failing or refusing to pay dog taxes. It is understood that agreements have been reached in all fifteen of the cases, and that while the charges will be read in open court and entered in the records, the defendants will be formally discharged upon payment of the tax and costs. Warrants were issued against the following by Special Tax Collector S. H. Grimes, charging non-payment of dog taxes: Walter Wynne, Jesse J. Bullock, Fernando Briley, Ed Moore, Fred Taylor, Hellary Matthews, Lonnie Whitfield, Thurman Williams, John Bridges, Jeffrey Spruill, Robert L. Cochran, James Glover, A. W. Boyd, James Glover, Jr., L. W. Williams.

It is fairly apparent that old Rover will have to give a good financial account of himself or go the way of the Japs.

Other cases on the docket, not including a few that have been continued until a later session, are, as follows:

Charlie Clark, drunken driving. Ivory Clark, careless and reckless driving.

Joe Carr Eborn, assault with a deadly weapon.

Haywood Spruill, failing or refusing to pay dog tax. Spruill appealed from a judgment in Justice Hopkins' court in Oak City to the superior court and the case was then referred to the county court.

Roy D. Harrell, drunken driving.

Jeff Slade, disorderly conduct and assault on a female.

Justice Andrews, assault.

Charlie Williams, larceny.

Maggie Davis Wilson, assault with a deadly weapon.

Herman Clarence Taylor, colored, drunken driving.

Early Goodman, drunken driving.

Lester J. Martin, assault with a deadly weapon.

Edgar Taylor, carrying a concealed weapon.

Council Smith, drunken and reckless driving.

Ernest Godard, drunken driving.

Raymond Vinters, drunken driving.

Floyd Wilson, drunk and disorderly and carrying a concealed weapon.

Linwood Leslie Moore, carrying a concealed weapon and violating the motor vehicle laws.

Walter Wallace Bailey, operating car without a driver's license, reckless and hit-and-run driving and carrying a concealed weapon.

James H. Ward, speeding on the highways.

Katherine Theresa Halpin, drunken driving.

Tim Council, Ruffin Council and Anna Council, larceny of a 14-pound turkey.

Wheeler Smith, violating the liquor laws.

Eight or nearly one-third of the regular cases on the docket charged drunken driving.

Fire Department Gets Two Calls

Wintry weather striking with increased force yesterday aggravated the fire danger in many homes, and two barely escaped destruction during the day.

The local fire department was called out yesterday morning at 7:20 o'clock when smoke poured through large cracks in the chimney of Susie Hines' home on Wilson Street. No damage was done.

Yesterday afternoon at 3:45 o'clock fire, starting on the roof around a flue, damaged the home of Mr. and Mrs. Perlie Moore, near here, on the Hamilton Road. Travelers saw the smoke, stopped and helped bring the fire under control. The local fire department answered a call from the home, and reached there just as the fire was checked. A fairly large hole was burned in the roof. Neighbors, almost certain the house would burn down, had moved a greater part of the furniture out of the house.

Country Springs Into Action To Cope With Serious War Dangers

OBSERVERS

Maybe we are safe tucked some 100 miles away from the coast. Maybe Hitler and his barbarian hordes have never heard of and care less for us, but orders have been received by air-raid observers in this county, instructing them to maintain 24-hour watches at their observation posts. The order is a big one for the single observer, and so far there has been no unified instructions from the district civilian defense head. It is a settled fact that one observer will be unable to maintain a continuous vigil, and the observers are looking to other volunteers for help.

Hugh Spruill reported movement of four planes yesterday afternoon after receiving his instructions at noon. Other observers over the county are making similar reports. Some arrangements will have to be made to help these observers who are volunteering their service gratis.

Colored Residents Here Raise \$74.29 For The Red Cross

Total of \$488.02 of \$1,100 Initial Quota Raised So Far in Chapter

Receiving a liberal support from Williamston's colored citizens, the Red Cross membership drive now stands at \$488.02 in the Martin County chapter or slightly more than \$600 short of the initial quota. The colored citizens reported \$74.29. Several of the five townships in this chapter have not even made a report as far as it could be learned. Other chapters in the county and State have more than subscribed their initial quotas, and upon receiving a second appeal issued following the declarations of war this week those chapters are making progress on their second quota. As far as it could be learned late yesterday no second quota had been assigned this county, but it was unofficially learned this morning that the organization is asking \$2,000 more. A meeting will be held in the courthouse next Monday afternoon at 4 o'clock to outline plans for the drive.

It is generally believed that Williams and Griffins Townships have made a canvass but have not yet reported. Plans are being advanced to launch a more extensive campaign locally, and an announcement is expected in this connection within the next few days. Martin County raised thousands of dollars for the Red Cross in the last war. The struggle now underway is far more serious and the need far greater and yet less than \$1,000 has been raised in the entire county. When will our people wake up? Many are still waiting for someone to go around and beg and beg them. Others can't give up one single luxury for a single day. Others find excuse to withhold a small donation. A few volunteer to go forward with a liberal donation. If you haven't made your contribution, mail it or deliver it to Mrs. Jos. A. Eason, or leave it at one of the local banks and it will surely find its way to the national organization. If you have already joined and made a contribution, make another one if you possibly can. It is no longer a sacrifice; it is a privilege to contribute to the humane organization.

Follow the Red Cross thermometer in front of Clark's Pharmacy and (Continued on page four)

REFERENDUM

The importance of supporting the cotton program with a larger vote in the referendum tomorrow is again pointed out by agricultural leaders. Every cotton farmer is earnestly urged to participate in the referendum which will be held in most of the townships.

It has been reliably pointed out that the price of cotton under the program has been almost twice as high as it was in the early thirties without a program.

Present indications point to a light vote, meaning that the program is in danger. With this in mind, Martin farmers are urged to report to their polling places in large numbers.

Millions Are Now Laying Foundation For Final Victory

Our People Are Participating In Task Now Facing The Nation

Even before appeals could be had from national and state leaders, patriotic citizens throughout the nation are coming forward to play their part in the war and lay the foundation for final victory. It is encouraging indeed to note that our people in Martin County are already participating in the tremendous task, and to believe that they will not falter when the load becomes greater and the going becomes more difficult.

From Oak City comes word about a movement by the school children to promote the sale of savings stamps. Williamston's sixth grade is organizing a savings stamp club. The band is announcing a savings stamp concert. Others are expected to advance similar movements in every nook and corner of the county.

Turning to the general public, one finds a marked trend toward post offices, banks and other establishments for the purchase of savings stamps and bonds. The local postoffice yesterday had sold out its \$25 bonds. Where a few faithful ones had been buying stamps with much regularity, the many started buying following the Japanese attack on our forces at Pearl Harbor. The sale of savings stamps and bonds has hardly started however, and we will have hardly started on the victory road until we multiply our present efforts many times, possibly 50 or 100 times more.

The dark spot in the picture is the support accorded the Red Cross in this chapter. Comparative reports would indicate that we are slackers when it comes to supporting an agency that is doing more for suffering humanity on more fronts than any other. The failure to support the Red Cross is regarded as serious in some quarters. Other chapters, much smaller than the Martin County chapter, over subscribed their first quotas, and are making marked progress in raising their second quotas assigned following the declaration of war the first of this week. If the Martin County chapter has been assigned a second quota, it has not been made public by Harry Biggs.

A movement is now underway to switch from the Christmas card to the savings stamp and to exchange ordinary presents. Several thousand dollars could be invested in savings stamps and defense bonds if the money ordinarily spent for Christmas cards and postage stamps in this county were diverted to the war purpose.

The soldiers of this nation have a right to look to and even demand of the general public a strong support, and the man who falters in that task should be branded as a

(Continued on page four)

Brother Seriously Attacked With Axe

James Boston, Free Union colored man, was critically attacked near his home early yesterday afternoon by his half-brother, Newsome Boston. Using an axe, the attacker cut the brother in the back, knocked him down with a lick on the shoulder and then delivered a well-directed blow on the victim's forehead. The man was still living, according to last reports reaching here.

Coming home unexpectedly about 1 o'clock, Newsome Boston found his wife in the bedroom with the half-brother. Just as the husband knocked open the door, the wife went out the window, taking the sash and carrying it in record time to the home of a neighbor. As the husband rushed at his wife with the axe, the half-brother skipped out the door. Unable to get to his wife, Newsome then turned on the half-brother with the axe, striking the first two blows as they both ran. Neighbors would not let him get to his wife, Newsome stating later to the sheriff that he would have killed her if he could have gotten to her.

Going to a telephone, the husband called the sheriff and told him of the attack. Reaching the store where the man waited, the sheriff was informed that the attack victim was not yet dead. "Let me go back and finish the job," Newsome was quoted as saying. The enraged husband was arrested and is being held in jail pending the outcome of his brother's condition.

Eight-Hour Convoy Goes Through Here For New Positions

Industry Already on Twenty-four Hour Schedule Seven Days Each Week

Snapping out of a deep sleep enjoyed during the past two years while treacherous murderers moved closer and closer to their objective, this nation following the stunning blow received at the hands of a yellow Japan last Sunday is rapidly springing into action to meet a new crisis, described by many as the most serious to ever face the American people. That the new emergency can and will be handled is certain, but the people believe the task will not be an easy one and that it cannot be handled in weeks or a few months.

American industry is humming in high gear, running full speed ahead 24 hours a day and seven days a week. Lifted from their feet by high-powered trucks and other types of motorized equipment, troops are moving from their camps to new positions. The American public who only a few days ago passed the serious situation by as a national or world-wide joke is awakening to the grave dangers ahead and taking action to support its government and the men in the front lines. The transformation has been so sudden, so great, that its full meaning can hardly be grasped in the space of a few short days. The meaning, registered at the moment by a sickening lump in one's throat, will be revealed in the mass production to come in the days that lie ahead and in the accomplishments on the battle fronts on land and sea and in the air.

Unannounced and their destination held secret, several thousand troops moved northward through here Wednesday afternoon and night. Reverberations from Japan's declaration of war were heard, but the movement of troops, fully equipped and their guns in hand, through here during the greater part of eight hours added a realistic touch and brought closer to home the dangers emanating from a little empire thousands of miles away in the Pacific and from a murderer's roost across the Atlantic.

There was a grim determination on the faces of nearly every one of the several thousand men who passed through here Wednesday in the 30-mile-long convoy. Some, it was learned, were disappointed because Christmas furloughs were cancelled, but they were not angry with anyone except the Japs.

Moving out of Camp Davis Wednesday morning, the first of the 94th Coast Artillery units passed through here at 2:25 that afternoon. The last of the several hundred vehicles speeded through at 10:15 o'clock that night. There were an estimated 600 vehicles, the estimates of the number of men ranging from 2,000 to 4,000 in addition to a special contingent moving northward from Fort Bragg and camping here over night. Hundreds of search lights, guns and signal units, mounted on special trucks, were included in the convoy.

Brief comments coming during a short pause now and then from the men clearly indicated that the armed forces are ready for action and possibly more unified and more anxious to wipe Japan off the face of the earth than are the folks back home, if such were possible.

Running into the convoy out of Camp Davis at this point, a special contingent from Fort Bragg was sidetracked here over night. Headed by Captain Merwyn C. Lennon and Lieutenants W. D. Workman, Jr., Luther M. McBeck, all of South Carolina, and Richard D. Curtin, of Massachusetts, the Fort Bragg anti-aircraft headquarters' battery was made up of 85 men traveling in fifteen trucks and several cars. The men set up camp at the high school and were quartered in the gymnasium and one school room. Free pictures and other entertainment were arranged by the USO and individuals. The group moved out the following morning at 8 o'clock, traveling northward possibly for duty some where along the Atlantic Coast.

Aged Negro Woman Loses Life In Fire

Jennie Bennett, aged colored woman was burned to death in a fire that destroyed her home in Hamilton early last Tuesday afternoon. Ninety-three years old, the former faithful slave, had been sick several weeks and was not seen outside the house during that morning. Her daughter was working away from home, leaving the aged mother alone.

When the fire was discovered, the small three-room house was burning rapidly. Some one rushed inside and found the aged woman already burned to death in a pile of old papers and rags, and efforts to remove the body at that time were futile.

She had been a hard worker throughout her long life, and was an appreciative old soul, neighbors pointed out.

Fierce Fighting Continues In The Pacific; Foul Blow Is Expected From The Nazis In The Atlantic

Plans For Listing Property Will Be Outlined Monday

Tax Supervisor Names List-takers for the Ten Townships

Plans for listing property in Martin County as of January 1, 1942, will be formulated at a meeting of the tax supervisor, C. D. Carstarphen, and the ten list-takers at a meeting in the commissioner's room in the courthouse next Monday morning at 9 o'clock.

In addition to determining a schedule of values for personal property, the tax authorities will discuss the new tax laws such as those exempting certain types of farm produce. It is possible that the elimination of all farm products grown in 1941 from the tax books will cause personal property values to topple to a new low unless the schedule for other personal property items is increased. The meeting is expected to decide on a definite course for the list-takers to follow. Just how much the elimination of farm produce from the books will affect the total values cannot be determined, some tax observers stating that the loss will not be very great.

Preliminary plans for a tax list taken in strict accordance with the terms of the law. Every property owner and every person subject to poll tax will be required to list. It is not likely that any names will be brought forward. It is also fairly certain that late listers will be made subject to a penalty. Those who fail or refuse to list will be made subject to prosecution in the courts after very much the same pattern followed in rounding up alleged tax dodgers in the county a few months ago.

Quite a few changes in the tax-listing personnel has been effected, Supervisor C. D. Carstarphen stating that six new list-takers had been appointed along with the four old ones to handle the job this year. The names of the list-takers are: J. Linwood Knowles, Jamesville Township; Vernon Griffin, Williams Township; W. Tom Roberson, Griffins Township; Russell Rogers, Bear Grass Township; John R. Peel, Williams Township; W. L. Ausbon, Cross Roads Township; H. S. Everett, Robertsonville Township; LeRoy Everett, Hamilton Township; LeRoy Taylor, Poplar Point Township; and J. A. Rawls, Goose Nest Township. The first six named list-takers succeed others.

Tax Supervisor Carstarphen was in Chapel Hill yesterday attending a meeting of county tax authorities from over the State for a discussion of the new tax laws and problems.

Travels Long Way To Fight Germans

Captured while fighting to defend his country, Stanley Salkowski, formerly of Poland, traveled thousands of miles, changed countries and with a grim determination volunteered in the United States Army to carry on the fight against all mankind's worst enemy, Adolf Hitler.

Unable to speak English fluently, the young Polack nevertheless told an interesting story while his company camped here last Wednesday night en route from Fort Bragg to an unannounced destination possibly somewhere along the Eastern Seaboard.

The young man, his friendliness and genuine appreciativeness offsetting his abbreviated stature did not dwell on the horrors accompanying Hitler's ruthless invasion of Poland. Falling prisoner to the barbarian hordes, the Polander was thrown into a concentration camp. Only the hope of escape kept him alive there.

Once that hope materialized, he fled through Warsaw and on across the Balkans, finally reaching Portugal where fortune again smiled down upon him. Traveling on the liner President Roosevelt, Salkowski reached this country about two years ago. All was not easy in his newly found home, but he was determined to solve the problems as they presented themselves, and after overcoming them he cast his lot with Uncle Sam's Army in April of this year.

He's making us a good soldier, his superior officer, Lieutenant Workman, declared, and although the ladies say he isn't the most "polished" dancer in the world he made quite a hit at the impromptu dance held in his honor and in the honor of his comrades at the Woman's Club hall here Wednesday evening.

CHEER FUND

Caught between the war and thoughtlessness, the needy are staring squarely in the face a bleak time this Christmas season. Few toys have been collected and few articles of clothing have been offered to the Christmas cheer fund committee for distribution among the needy this Christmas. No second canvass of the town for the articles has been planned, but individuals will aid the cause by leaving any old toys or clothing at the Enterprise office. If delivery isn't convenient, call 46 and a messenger will be dispatched for the bundle. Make your cash donations to Rev. John W. Hardy, treasurer of the fund, who reports \$39.75 contributed by the following to date: Mrs. John A. Ward, \$1; Mrs. Herman Bowen, \$2; Miss Kate Philpott, \$1; Woman's Council of the Christian Church, \$5; Junior Woman's Club, \$5; Mrs. Abner Brown, 75c; Harry Biggs, \$25.

Many Men Will Be Called To Colors In Coming Months

Registration for All Men from 18 to 44 Years of Age Is Now Expected

With the nation engulfed in war on two sides, leaders of the armed forces are said to be planning to issue a call for all available manpower. To date no instructions have been received by the Martin County Draft Board for speeding up the draft machinery, but an order calling for increased activities is expected almost daily.

Other than the call for fifteen white men on January 8th, this county has no orders for adding to the armed forces. The board has classified 2,800 men to date and exhausted 1,556 order numbers in filling the county quotas, leaving about 500 men to be classified and more than 1,500 to draw on in filling quotas.

Unofficial reports reaching here indicate, however, that the board will be instructed shortly to finish its classification work, reclassify all men heretofore deferred on account of the 28-year age limit. It is also expected that those men placed in the 4 A classification on account of previous service with the armed forces will be reclassified and made subject to recall to the colors of the county.

Men, scheduled to leave the army because they were 28 years old or older, are being detained, Woodrow Ray, local young man home on a brief furlough, stating today that he did not expect to get out even though he was one of about 3,000 scheduled to get an honorable discharge just before Japan declared war on the United States.

A new registration is in the offing, the tentative plans calling for the registration of all men between the ages of 18 and 44 years for possible military service and also the registration of all others, up to 64 years of age for varied service in the civilian defense ranks.

Increased calls for men are expected beginning in January or just as soon as arrangements can be made to handle them.

No action is anticipated immediately, but plans are being considered looking toward the registration of women for possible service in the defense of the county.

It is now estimated that the draft will take in at least 500,000 men during the early part of 1942, meaning that as many as fifty or more men will leave this county at one time.

TEN MORE DAYS

There are only ten more days to complete the Christmas shopping task and mail all the presents for timely delivery. Williamston merchants, pointing out that their stocks are being replenished almost daily, are again inviting the patronage of all the people in this section. The time is getting short for making complete the shopping list.

Postmaster L. T. Fowden is also cordially urging the people to mail their packages early. It has been pointed out that Christmas cards, mailed late and as second class matter will not be assured of delivery.

Russia Declares No Separate Peace To Be Made with Nazis

Japanese Losses In Past Two Days Are Reported Extensive

Formal declarations of war by Italy and Germany against the United States and by the United States against Germany and Italy were made yesterday, the action merely recognizing the state of conflict that had existed for some months. The situation, regarded as serious beyond comprehension, was little aggravated by the action which in itself was hardly regarded as news. Entering a taxi in New York yesterday, a passenger asked the driver about the late war news. He explained that there was nothing new. A few minutes later he casually mentioned the German and Italian declarations of war against the United States. Hitler's two-hour verbal barrage, climaxed by the war declaration near the close yesterday morning, was virtually ignored in this country. Secretary of State Cordell Hull refused to receive the German representative at the State Department and the war declaration was placed in the hands of a minor clerk there.

Within a few hours, President Roosevelt addressed a message to the Senate and House, but the message was not delivered in person. A short time later the Congress unanimously declared a state of war existed between the United States and Germany and between the United States and Italy. The late developments leave few spots neutral on the face of the earth, and even in those spots the effects of war and strife will be felt. Coming without demonstration, the two formal declarations of war strengthened the ties of unity that were so effectively made when Japan launched its dastardly attack on American lives last Sunday morning in the Pacific.

Recovering from the shock of the surprise attack, the United States is striking back at the yellow dogs in the Pacific. The Japs may have the upper hand in the battle of the Pacific, but the forces of this nation and Britain and other allies are scoring some telling blows.

Three Japanese ships have been sunk and another badly damaged in the five-day battle in the Pacific. Reports also state that many Japanese planes have been shot down, that American forces are masterly fighting the yellow skulls.

Unconfirmed reports from Honolulu said that at least one Japanese aircraft carrier and four submarines were sunk in Sunday's Honolulu action.

The lineup of Naval reprisals wrought against the Japanese, as announced in War and Navy department communiques:

Sunk: The 29,000-ton battleship Haruna sank to the bottom yesterday by Army bombers off the northern coast of Luzon, in the Philippines.

One cruiser and one destroyer, neither identified, sunk by naval air action off Wake Island by defending Marine garrisons.

Bombed and badly damaged: Another 29,000-ton battleship, a sister ship of the Haruna and believed to be the Kirishima—hit by bombs from naval patrol planes off the coast

(Continued on page four)

To Present Pageant Here Sunday Night

The pageant of "The Nativity," staged this morning for the school children, will be presented Sunday night at eight o'clock for the public. Taking part in the presentation are approximately two hundred children including the elementary and high school glee clubs, a reader and various characters who portray the Christmas story.

Miss Kathryn Mewborn, public school music teacher, directs the glee clubs.

Included in the list of traditional Christmas carols are: "Westminster Carol," "Carol of Shepherds," "O Come All Ye Faithful," "O Little Town of Bethlehem," "In the Silence of the Night," "Hark the Herald Angels Sing," "Long Ago A Star," "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear," "We Three Kings," "Joseph, Tender Joseph Mine," "Silent Night," "O Holy Night," "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming."

Churches of the community will not have regular services but will join in the school worship program.