

County Agricultural Leaders And Others Hold Meeting Here

Stress Importance of Victory Gardens and Support of War Effort

Meeting in the agricultural building here Tuesday evening, county agricultural workers including farm and home agents, vocational teachers and heads of other public agencies were told that food is fast being recognized as more important in the war effort than actual cash money, that every farm family and every other person in this county and throughout the land must bend his every effort toward supporting the war program.

The meeting, one of several scheduled for the group in the county was urged to carry the program to every nook and corner in the section. Health department workers, welfare workers, home economics and vocational teachers were urged to spread the gospel of victory gardens and to urge every person to enter actively upon the huge task facing every man, woman and child in the land.

Farm Agent Tom Brandon stressed the importance of keeping the scrap iron collection program rolling along at top speed. All of the vocational teachers explained that their pupils were participating in the movement, that most of them were selling useless iron and metals and buying savings stamps with the proceeds.

Particular attention was given to the victory garden program, Miss Lora E. Sleeper, home agent, pointing out that there were approximately 400 farm families in this county without a garden last year, that this number should be reduced to an absolute minimum. J. C. Eubanks, of the Farm Security Administration office, stated that his agency could finance victory gardens for any one. Under the new program, the day laborer may borrow money from the FSA for the purchase of seed and fertilizer and other materials. It is quite evident that added importance is being attached to food during the present emergency and that the government is making every effort possible to increase food and feed supplies.

Those attending the meeting were Thos. B. Slade, T. B. Brandon, John I. Eagles and Miss Lora E. Sleeper, of the farm and home agents' offices; Miss Sarah Frances Ford, home economics teacher, Robersonville; Mrs. Lucia McInnis Long, home economics teacher, Jamesville; Miss Helen (Continued on page six)

Jury Men Are Drawn For March Term Of The Superior Court

Judge J. Paul Frizelle Will Preside Over Two-Weeks' Mixed Term

Action was taken by the county commissioners at their regular February meeting to equip the March term of the Martin Superior Court with nine new grandjurymen and a regular number for the petit juries. Nine members of the permanent jury are completing their service next month, the remaining nine will serve six more months, and the nine chosen in March will serve for twelve months.

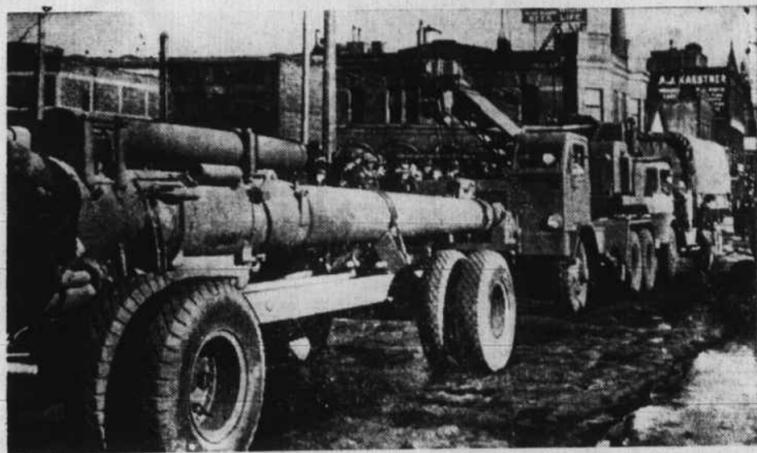
Convening on March 16th, the court is scheduled to hold sessions for two weeks and to try both criminal and civil cases. Judge J. Paul Frizelle, of Snow Hill, is to preside over the term.

Names of citizens drawn for service on either the grand or petit juries are, as follows:

- First Week**
 Jamesville Township: Wm. R. Harden, Robert Mobley, W. H. Moore, R. G. Coburn and H. L. Ange.
 Griffins Township: Mack D. Harrison.
 Bear Grass Township: M. D. Taylor.
 Williamston Township: M. T. Simpson, F. U. Barnes, W. C. Manning, John D. Biggs, V. D. Godwin, Jr., and J. A. White.
 Robersonville Township: M. E. Smith, R. A. Roebuck, Joe H. Melton, Jr., and T. C. Norwood.
 Poplar Point Township: R. H. Harrison.
 Hamilton Township: H. S. Johnson, Jr., R. T. Johnson and J. A. Haislip.
 Goose Nest Township: Harry Daniel, Lee Cox, C. W. Copeland, J. M. Johnson, R. E. Hale and E. N. Harrell.

- Second Week**
 Jamesville Township: Jos. Martin, Griffins Township: Ben Ira Hardison, J. Raymond Gurkin, E. Dewey Perry.
 Bear Grass Township: Garland W. Harris.
 Williamston Township: Malgram Barefoot, M. D. Wilson, K. D. Worrell.
 Poplar Point Township: Z. E. Edmondson and J. W. Harris.
 Hamilton Township: N. B. Bland, E. W. Lee, W. C. House and J. B. Everett.
 Goose Nest Township: Jos. Moyer, Russell Holliday and Lemon Strickland.

Heading East For Coastal Defense



Heading for the proving grounds at Aberdeen, Md., a big 240-mm. howitzer is hauled through Milwaukee streets after being turned out by a factory there. After tests, the mobile gun will become a unit in the wall of steel guarding America's east coast.

Judge Robt. Coburn Calls Twenty-Five Cases In His Court

Alleged Violators of Health Laws Are Called To Answer In Open Court

Calling twenty-five cases at the last Monday session, Judge Robert L. Coburn was more than three hours clearing the docket, much of the time having been spent in handling alleged violations of the public health laws. Very few white spectators were present for the proceedings, but the colored population was well represented at both the bar of justice and in the audience. Solicitor Paul D. Roberson prosecuted the docket and most of the defendants pleaded guilty.

Proceedings: The case charging Mark Parker with violating the motor vehicle laws was not pressed, the court reserving the right to hear new evidence should any be found.

Charged with drunken driving week before last, Homer Russell Martin failed to appear for trial last week and last Monday his \$85 cash bond was ordered forfeited. Steps were taken to have his driver's license revoked, and papers were issued for his arrest.

Probable cause appearing, the case charging Harry Davis with false pretense was sent to the superior court for trial. Bond in the sum of \$100 was required.

The case charging Columbus Brown with non-support was not pressed.

Facing the court on two counts, both charging him with having assaulted two victims with a deadly weapon, Charlie Razor was sentenced to the roads for six months in each case, Judge Coburn ordering the second sentence to begin at the expiration of the first.

Charged with disposing of mortgaged property, James Strawbridge failed to answer when called in open court and papers were issued for his arrest.

The case charging A. E. Lewis with reckless driving was continued (Continued on page six)

CROP INSURANCE

Meeting in the agricultural building here next Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock, daylight time, agricultural leaders, including all county and community committeemen of the AAA, will discuss a government cotton crop insurance program. Little information has been released in this section in connection with the cotton insurance program, and the discussion should prove of interest.

A review of the entire agricultural program as it relates to the war will also be included in the discussions at the meeting. The insurance plans have occasioned much interest in other sections.

Daylight Saving Time To Go Into Effect Monday Morning

Effective next Monday morning at 2 o'clock, the nation will adopt a daylight saving time schedule. Regardless of its merits or whatever its disadvantages may be, the new time schedule is the law of the land and all clocks will be advanced one hour that day. Restricted to limited areas last summer, the daylight saving schedule under the new law is nation-wide in scope, and everything will move in accordance with the new schedule.

While the schools will observe the new time, the hours will be altered to care for those cases where the children are now leaving home before the break of day almost. In an order released this week by the office of the county superintendent,

FIRST CHECKS

The first of the 1941 soil conservation checks are now ready for distribution in this county, the office of the county agent announcing today that 84 vouchers, representing 47 applications and amounting to \$6,811.05 were received late yesterday afternoon. Owners will be notified by direct mail when to call for their checks, the office urging the farmers not to report to the office until they had received direct notice to do so. There are 1,153 applications pending in Washington, and more checks are expected shortly. About 400 applications are yet to be prepared and sent in from this county for payments.

Home And Contents Destroyed By Fire Here Tuesday Night

Was Second Costly Fire Here Within Twelve-Hour Period

Believed to have been started accidentally or intentionally by Philip Thompson, Jr., six-year-old colored boy, fire destroyed the home of Dora West, colored woman, on West Warren Street here last Tuesday night. Most of the contents, valued at nearly \$1,000, were also burned.

Valued at approximately \$2,500, the house was protected by insurance until a short time ago, the owner, burned out and with no place to go, stating that the policy had lapsed. No insurance was carried on the contents, and the few articles saved were either damaged slightly or broken almost beyond repair.

No direct charge was made, but the owner of the house is of the opinion that the boy, rooming in the house with his mother until they (Continued on page six)

Building Loans Still Available

Petitioned by the Martin County Building and Loan Association to make installment loans to its active and potential customers, the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond issued an order this week authorizing the local association to make loans in accordance with its usual policy after approval by the officers and board of directors. The local building and loan association has complied with the rules and regulations of the Federal act and is now in a position to make any bona-fide loan for building and modernization.

By a special act of the President of the United States it became unlawful to participate in installment selling or to make installment loans without certain restrictions or with the approval of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

Dependency Offers No Sure Basis For Service Deferment

Government Considering Aid To Those Who Have Bona-fide Dependents

The old saying, "He doesn't have a leg to stand on," does not apply to the man with two legs and an otherwise healthy anatomy when it comes to service in the nation's eight-million-man army. Late reports from the National Selective Service headquarters state dependency offers little hope for deferment from service in the armed forces or other strategic posts.

No so long ago, Selective Service ruled that young men who married on or after last December 7th had no claim to deferment. A short time later, the Selective Service ruled that men who married on or after September 16th, 1940, now have no sure claim to deferment. Still later reports state that there are no sure claims to deferment by any married man within the draft ages.

Of course, the facts in every single case will be considered, and it is possible that a man marrying since last December 7th may be deferred. Recent rulings will allow deferment in certain cases for a short time at least, or until a proposed bill is enacted into law. The man with dependents and the man with dependents-to-be may be deferred until the law is passed allowing the registrant so much for the support of those dependents while he soldiers for his country.

It is estimated that there are ten million men now deferred on account of dependency. A law similar to the old "Allowance and Allotment Act" in effect last war is being proposed, and many of the ten million men will be made available for armed service. The call for an eight million man army is certain to include many married men whose wives hold down jobs. The recent ruling states that it is possible that no man will be drafted if such action will result in a marked lowering of the standard (Continued on page six)

Simple Air Raid Instructions Are Cited In Leaflet

Martin Citizens Are Urged To Read Instructions They May Save Lives

Several thousand leaflets, carrying instructions for combating air raid dangers, are being distributed in the county through the office of civilian defense in the commissioners' room in the courthouse. Chairman Hugh G. Horton points out while the dangers of an air raid in this county are a bit remote, all citizens should make every effort to be prepared to meet any eventuality.

Instructions on the leaflet read, as follows:

1. Should an air raid come to your community, you can do your part while protecting yourself. Remember these six simple rules:
 2. Stay home.
 3. Put out lights.
 4. Lie down.
 5. Stay away from windows.
 6. Don't telephone.
- Don't run—walk. Don't scream—be quiet. Don't crowd into public places. If the raid starts when you are away from home, lie down under shelter. Keep your mouth open by rolling your handkerchief and putting it between your teeth. Put your hands over your ears. Protect the back of your head. Don't look up.
- In the house, go into your refuge room and close the door. Make yourself comfortable. Relax. If bombs fall near you, lie down. A good place is under a table with sturdy legs, or a strong couch turned upside down.
- (Continued on page six)

Will Hold School for County Registrars in Courthouse Tuesday

Large Numbers Volunteering For Service in Handling Draft Registration

Plans and ways for handling the draft registration in this county on Tuesday, February 17, will be explained in detail by draft board officials at a meeting of volunteer registrars to be held in the courthouse next Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock, daylight time. Large numbers of citizens in each of the eight established registration centers have already volunteered their services and they are urged to attend the school of instruction next Tuesday evening. The registration forms will be explained and answers to various questions relating to the registration will be answered.

Minor changes have been made in the registration personnel. Chairman R. H. Goodson stating that Mr. Joe R. Winslow will supervise the registration in Robersonville, and that Mr. Bill Beach will serve as chairman of the registration in Hamilton. The registration for the Robersonville community will be held in the old C and W Motor Company building next to the post office on Main Street. Jamesville registration headquarters will be maintained in the gymnasium, and in Williamston the registration will be handled in the American Legion Hut on Watts Street. In the other five registration centers, the subjects will register at the schools.

All men who attained the age of 20 years on or before last December 31 and others who do not become 45 years of age on or before Monday, February 16th, must register. However, it is not necessary for anyone who registered either in the first registration in 1940 or in the second registration last year, to register week after next.

Chief Registrar F. C. Stallings announced the Jamesville volunteer registrars as follows: Mrs. Titus Martin, Mrs. P. C. Blount, Mrs. Raymond Kniss, Mrs. Edgar Brown, Mrs. Stella Hyman, Mrs. James Long, Misses Virginia Hassell, Gladys Ipeck and Lola Harrison and Messrs. J. T. Uzzle, R. L. Stallings, Ernest Capps and C. C. Fagan.

The following are volunteering their services in handling the registration in Williamston: Carolyn Lindsley, Marjorie Lindsley, Edna Barnhill, Ruth Ward, Dorothy Manning, Marie Griffin, Truliah Ward Page, Bolton Cowen, Mary Carstarphen, Mrs. David Modlin, Alma Godwin, Mary Elizabeth Keel, Lorene Weaver, Mamie Clyde Taylor, Sarah Cooke, Burnice Ward, Mrs. Reg Simpson, Mrs. Tillman Coltrain, Dixie Daniel, Mrs. Edwin Holding, and nine girls from the commercial class at the high school, Sarah Cook, Mrs. N. R. Manning and Katherine Hardison.

The date for holding the school was changed to avoid a conflict with the test blackout scheduled for next Monday night.

Funeral Monday For Mrs. Ernest Leggett

Funeral services were conducted Monday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock for Mrs. Ernest Leggett who died at her home in Poplar Point Sunday afternoon at 1:15 o'clock. Rev. John W. Hardy, local Episcopal minister, conducted the last rites at the home and interment was in the Leggett Cemetery in Poplar Point Township. Mrs. Leggett had been in declining health for several years, during a part of which time she had undergone treatment at Sanatorium. She recently underwent an operation and her condition was considered critical for several weeks before the end.

The daughter of Frank and Mary Worrell Edwards, she was born in Southampton County, Virginia, 33 years ago. When a young woman she was married to Mr. Leggett and located in this county fifteen years ago, making many friends in her adopted community.

Besides five small children she leaves three sisters, Mrs. R. L. Overton, Mrs. Ralph Waters and Mrs. T. A. Newsome, all of Roanoke Rapids.

County Tax Collections Near Record For The Time Of Year

With \$140,276.62 of the 1941 levy already in the bank, Martin County Tax Collector Luther Peel is believed to have established a record in the collection of taxes. In his monthly report to the county commission, he stated that only \$65,729.83 of the \$206,006.45 remained uncollected. He added that property owners are continuing to make payments and that present indications pointed to sizable collections between now and March 2nd when the penalty is created.

Order Test Blackout In This Area Monday

RECLASSIFICATION

Meeting in special session here this evening at 8:00 o'clock, the Martin County Draft Board will consider about twenty-five appeals from registrants for reclassification. In appealing to the board, the registrants claim that new conditions or circumstances have presented themselves and warrant a change in draft ratings.

Registrants wishing to appeal for a reclassification must give official notice within ten days after their get their classification. Under a new ruling, only the registrant may appear before the board and then only by designated appointment, or his case may be placed before the board in writing. Final appeals may be made to the district appeal board by the registrant only after he signs regular appeal form to be found in the draft board office.

Japanese Drive In Pacific Continues Toward the South

Recent Events Show That This Country Is in War Up To Its Neck

The United States, Britain, Dutch and Chinese are offering a fierce opposition, no doubt, but the Japanese drive in the Pacific continues to move forward gradually toward the south, recent events proving that up until now the allies have fought a losing fight. There are the bright spots, to be sure, but before the tide can be turned extensive aid must be made available in many places.

Communications with important bases in the Netherlands East Indies have been severed, indicating that the Japs have taken them over. The siege of Singapore is well advanced with the British defenders holding an advantage in big guns but at the mercy of the invaders in the air.

Traveling through Williamston night before last, a native of the Indies was not very encouraging over the future of Singapore. Coming to this country and establishing citizenship eight years ago, the traveler said that unless the defenders had improved their positions since he was there eight months ago, Singapore would find it extremely difficult to hold out. However, he did say that if this country could or would wake up to the seriousness of the situation and get supplies to the defenders in quantities, the Japs would never succeed in taking the strategic base. "I hate to say it because they are my own people, but fed with propaganda and offered a bowl of rice and given a gun, the natives are likely to turn against the defenders in some sections of the Indies," the traveler said.

Having fought with the Allies on (Continued on page six)

PHYSICAL TESTS

The health of Martin County young men is apparently improving or else the Army doctors are not so exacting as they were once in passing out straight tickets to the camps, forts and bases.

Examining quite a number of Martin County youths this week, the Army Examining Center in another county is said to have rejected four white youths and only three colored boys. Various physical defects were listed in those seven cases, but for the first time a draftee this week was rejected because of a speech impediment. No, he wasn't fooling, for the draft board officials and examining board had tried to make conversation with him before.

Assistant Civilian Defense Officer Will Observe Compliance

Warning To Be Sounded Between 8 and 10 P.M.: Law To Require Lights Out

In accordance with an order from W. F. Nuffer, State Assistant Director of Civilian Defense, a test blackout will be observed in this district next Monday night. District Air Raid Warden G. P. Hall announced today. Complete details for observing the blackout order could not be had here today, but in accordance with recently enacted law no person shall burn lights in his home, store or place of business unless windows and glass doors are covered to keep the light from leaking out. Local automobile traffic will be brought to a standstill, but it is not certain if through traffic will be stalled. In adjoining districts, all traffic was halted during the test.

The fire siren will be used to give the alarm here, Warden Hall stating that all lights are to be turned out or windows shaded so no light can be seen from the outside when five short blasts of the siren are sounded. The all-clear signal will be one long blast of the siren. These signals will be used only for blackouts, the warden stating that any other blast or series of blasts of the siren will be taken to mean that there is a fire.

The warning signal will be sounded some time between eight and ten o'clock that night. Just how long the blackout will last is not known, but no lights are to be turned on until the all-clear signal is sounded.

The blackout will be in effect in that portion of Bertie County, south of an east-west line through Briena Vista and east of a north-south line two miles east of Oak City in Martin County and east of north-south line two miles east of Robersonville and all of Washington and Tyrrell Counties, according to instructions received from Director Nuffer. Towns included in the districts are Windsor, Quitman, Oak City, Dardens, Plymouth, Rapier, Crosswell and Columbus.

Uninformed men have been present for the test blackouts in some districts, but it could not be learned if any would accompany Director Nuffer Monday for the test in this, the Williamston district.

According to unofficial reports (Continued on page six)

Marriage License Issuance Hits Low Figure In County

Number of White Marriages In County Last Month Is Smallest in Years

After holding to a fairly large figure and maintaining a fairly even trend during the past several years, the issuance of marriage licenses to white couples in this county almost scraped bottom last month. It is not even suggested that a single marriage in recent months was prompted by the war situation, but it is indeed singular for the bottom to fall out of the marriage license business the very first month after the tying of a knot was ruled out as far as dependency is concerned. There were only three licenses issued to white couples in the county last month.

Rules and regulations cut no ice in the footsie-wootie love schedule among the colored population, for in January, there were nine licenses issued by Register of Deeds J. Sam Getsinger to members of the colored race, the number being the same as the January issuance last year while the number issued to white couples last month was less than half the number issued in January, 1941.

Licenses were issued to the following last month:

- White**
 Jasper David Woolard and Velma Revels, both of Williamston.
 James Elton Smith and Nellie Gray Matthews, both of Robersonville.
 Daniel Wesley Jones, of Williamston, and Pauline Modlin, of Jamesville.

- Colored**
 William Crandall and Marjorie Latham, both of Pitt County.
 Nathaniel Brooks and Annie Lucille Staton, both of Jamesville.
 Samuel Slade and Ollie Lee Everett, both of Robersonville.
 Lee M. Rawlings and Lottie Lee Page, both of Robersonville.
 Joe Purvis and Lovie Ewell, both of Williamston.
 Wallace Moore and Annie Ellison, both of Jamesville.
 Riley Williams, of Hamilton, and Minerva Ellison, of Bethel.
 William Godard and Hattie Lee Spruill, both of Williamston.
 Roscoe Little, of Bethel, and Denia Stancill, of Robersonville.