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Action To Be Taken In Enforcing Price Ceilings In County

Rev. W. R. Burrell Is Named To Head Regulatory Group in County

Action on the price regulation front is to be expected in those cases where willful violations are cited, according to a representative of the Office of Price Administration who was in the county this week investigating records and reports filed by merchants and other business house operators.

The Office of Price Administration has organized an Advisory Price Committee of local patriotic citizens who will give their time and services to render some aid to the general public in the vital matter of Price Ceilings. This committee is composed of Dr. W. R. Burrell, chairman; Mr. J. C. Manning and Mr. S. Everett. The headquarters for this committee will be the office of the local War Price and Ration Board where they will meet periodically in their efforts to be of service. Mr. C. C. Martin, Chairman of the Board of War Price and Ration Board, has appointed Mrs. Gladys Brewer to serve as price clerk to the Advisory Price Committee and the board. She will be on duty at all times when the local board is open and will gladly give you any information desired relating to the General Maximum Price Regulations and price ceiling matters in general.

The Advisory Price Committee members are local citizens, doing a patriotic duty at the call of their country in its time of stress, and earnestly seek your support and cooperation in their efforts to keep your cost of living down to the minimum.

This committee is convinced that a proper understanding of the Price Control Act by the public and by the merchants, dealers, and suppliers of services embraced therein is the best guarantee of winning our government's fight against inflationary rise in prices. The committee will, therefore, do all in its power to disseminate information concerning the Price Control Act and regulations issued thereunder and to assist those coming within its provisions promptly to comply with the law. To this end the committee immediately calls public attention to the following:

The headquarters of this committee are located in the agricultural building in Williamston, where the price clerk is on duty throughout the day.

Any member of the public having a complaint concerning any violation of the Price Control Act or regulations issued thereunder, or seeking any information in regard to the laws or prices thereunder, should feel free to come to the office above mentioned and confer with the price clerk or members of the committee. It is the duty of all retail dealers and suppliers of services, embraced within the provisions of the Price Control Act, to acquaint themselves with the law and the General Maximum Price Regulations issued thereunder. The committee has available an adequate supply of printed pamphlets giving full information which may be obtained free at the office above mentioned. If any dealer or supplier of services is in doubt as to whether he falls within the provisions of the law, or whether he has

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President's Speech Widely Acclaimed

President Roosevelt's message to the 78th Congress yesterday noon was widely acclaimed throughout most of the world, bitter enemies of the chief executive at home admitting it was a masterpiece. Others in various parts of the world declared it was Mr. Roosevelt's greatest speech. A few persons dug up issues to criticize, while some few others read foreign meanings into his words and attacked the President because he did not say this or that.

The address was highlighted by the praise accorded the chief military accomplishments by the Russians in 1942, to the indomitable spirit of the Chinese, and to American service men for their valor and courage. The President, while making no prophecies, intimated that the war would come to an end next year when he said that Allied forces would be marching toward Berlin and Tokyo by that time, that an increased tempo in air attacks could be expected.

He released encouraging production figures, figures that could give the Axis powers no comfort. In closing, he spoke assuredly of the future and with certainty of advances to be made in the present year.

"Therefore," he said, "let us—all of us—have confidence. Let us redouble our efforts."

"A tremendous, costly, long-enduring task in peace as well as in war is still ahead of us."

Plans Go Forward For Farm Mobilization In This County

ing advanced, Mr. T. B. Slade, of the county agent's office, announced yesterday afternoon.

Next Monday morning, county committee will meet in the agricultural building for a discussion of the preliminary plans. Tuesday morning, January 12, Triple A committee and alternates in the various townships and districts are to meet in the courthouse for a detailed discussion of the plans advanced in support of all-out production of feed and food crops in the county this year. These plans fit into a nationwide program for marshalling agriculture to meet the impending crisis as a result of war.

Allotments are being prepared for the basic crops in the agent's office.

ters of dates to be announced. The new 1943 goals will also be reviewed and it will be necessary for each farmer to submit his goal before allotments can be released.

This year is already recognized as a critical period in the history of this nation, and it is certain that every class and group will be called upon to do its utmost in steering the ship of state into a safe port. The mobilization plan is being advanced when many peanut farmers in the old belt are critical of the farm program. However, peanut growers in the new areas are said to be ready and more than willing to go over the top with their goals, and to be frank about it, peanut farmers in the old areas can easily be left out on a limb if they don't watch out.

DIES OF WOUNDS



Wm. Thomas Sullivan, Martin County boy and the son of Mrs. Blanche Sullivan Jones, died of wounds received while in action in the service of his country, relatives here were notified a few days ago. A seaman, first class, the young man is believed to have been mortally wounded somewhere in the Pacific.

Several Are Fined In County's Court For Driving Drunk

Judge Smith Clears Docket in Short Time in First Session of Year

With a surprisingly small number of cases on the docket considering the fact that no session had been held in two weeks or since before the holidays, Judge J. Calvin Smith and Solicitor Paul D. Roberson finished their work in the county court last Monday in short order. The session was featured by the conviction of several drunken drivers, the judge imposing \$50 fines and placing the usual restrictions on the defendants in each case.

A very small crowd was in attendance upon the session which was ended before the lunch hour.

Proceedings in the court: Charged with drunken driving, Henry Godard was sentenced to the roads for 90 days, the court suspending the sentence on condition that the defendant pay a fine of \$50 and the court costs. His license was revoked for one year and his liquor ration book was ordered turned over to the Martin County ABC board for its action on suspension.

The case charging Laverne Godard with resisting arrest was continued for the defendant until February 1st.

Pleading guilty in the case charging him with drunken driving, David Taylor, Jr., colored, was fined \$50 and taxed with the costs. His driver's license was revoked for one year and his liquor rationing book was ordered turned over to the county ABC board.

Charlie "Will" Phillips, charged with the liquor laws, was fined \$25 and taxed with the costs. He pleaded guilty to the charge.

The case charging E. Rick Carson with assaulting a female was continued for the state until January 18.

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GAS REBATES

Martin County farmers, entitled to tax rebates on gasoline used in tractors and for the operation of other farm machinery, must file their claims not later than next Wednesday, January 13th, according to Mr. G. H. Harrison, of the Harrison Oil Company here. Claims to tax rebates on all gasoline used by farmers during the months of October, November and December will be considered by the State Department of Revenue.

The offices of the Harrison Oil Company have willingly offered to assist farmers in preparing their claims.

Limited Number Of Tires Are Allotted In County This Week

Many Applications Are Carried Over for Consideration at Later Meeting

Virtually clearing its files of applications for automobile and truck tires last week, the Martin County War Price and Rationing Board this week exhausted its quota after issuing a comparatively small number of tires. Learning that a liberal issuance of tires had been made at a previous meeting, motorists swarmed in with their applications, leaving the rubber problem just about as complicated as it was two weeks ago.

Four new automobile tires were issued to J. S. Massenburg, commissioner of paroles for the State of North Carolina, and two tubes were issued to John R. Coltrain, RFD 1, Williamston. No classification was established for the tubes.

New truck tires were allotted to the following: Farnville-Woodward Lumber Co., Williamston, four tires and four tubes for hauling lumber.

W. A. Manning, Jr., Williamston, one tire for transporting foods and farm products.

R. L. Stallings, RFD 1, Jamesville, two tires and two tubes for farm use.

Four Grade II tires were allowed Hardy H. Smallwood, RFD 1, Williamston, for transporting defense worker.

Grade III tires were allowed the following: J. J. Bennett, Everetts, two tires, no classification.

J. C. Rawls, Williamston, two tires, no classification.

Ervin Woodard, RFD 1, Williamston, two tires for farm use.

R. J. Hardison, RFD 1, Williamston, four tires and four tubes for farm use.

S. C. Bailey, RFD 2, Williamston, four tires, no classification.

J. S. Holliday, RFD 1, Williamston, two tires and two tubes, no classification.

Willie Roebuck, RFD 1, Oak City, two tires and one tube for farm.

J. Dawson Lilley, RFD 1, Williamston, three tires, no classification.

Russell Holliday, Williamston, one tire and one tube, no classification.

Bruce W. Coltrain, RFD 1, Williamston, one tire for transporting defense worker.

Certificates for recapped tires were issued to the following: Mrs. Lula W. Coburn, Parmele, four tires for farm and logging operations.

W. W. Tyson, Oak City, four tires for use in operating public garage.

Love Williams, Oak City, one tire, for farm.

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Pressing Club Here Is Damaged By Fire

Starting near an extractor and fed by a cleaning fluid, fire damaged the Pressing Club on Main Street here Wednesday afternoon, the operators explaining that the extent of the damage could not be determined immediately or until some of the machines are dismantled and examined.

Working at the machine, Louene Bell stated that he did not know how the fire started. "It flared up and almost set me a fire," Bell was quoted as saying. He was not smoking, and it is thought that friction started the fire. Smoke soon filled the building and the flames leaped to nearly all parts of the cleaning and pressing room. Persons on the streets rushed in and carried out many of the clothes, but a few in the back room could not be reached and they were damaged. Very little of the woodwork in the building burned, the volunteer firemen confining most of the fire to the spot where the machine was located. The ceiling was blistered and the floor was damaged when firemen cut holes in to get to the fire that broke out underneath.

The loss, unofficially estimated at between \$1,000 and \$1,200, was covered by insurance.

Hugh Horton Draws Important Place On Senate Committees

Local Man Named Chairman Of the Important Education Committee

Named to head the important education committee and appointed a member of several other important committees, including the finance group, Senator Hugh G. Horton is holding a ranking position in North Carolina's 1943 session of the General Assembly. In addition to his chairmanship, the local man is a member of the following committees: finance, agriculture, courts and judicial districts, judiciary No. 2, commercial fisheries, codification, election laws, water commerce, unemployment compensation, trustees of the university, propositions and grievances.

A total of thirteen including the education committee chairmanship. The assignments, no doubt, will call for a great deal of work during the session opening in Raleigh this week.

The committee on education is almost certain to hold an important place in the legislative mill this term since the time is considered ripe for adopting a uniform nine months school term. This assignment alone is likely to keep Mr. Horton busy, but he'll have to find time to work with the other committees. It is believed by some that the finance groups will, with a huge cash surplus on hand, find the sailing fairly easy this term. Certainly the task of getting the cash will not begin to compare with the one encountered back in the early thirties. Then there is the agriculture committee to be considered. Major problems are facing farmers, and no doubt the State program will call for more action this year than would ordinarily be the case. A recodification of the State laws is in the offing and that committee will have more work than usual. They are still working on the election laws, trying to make honest boys out of corrupt politicians and voters, and Mr. Horton will have a nominal hand in handling his work on the election laws committee. Water commerce is looming as a big factor in commerce during these abnormal times, and that committee is likely to require much of his time. Unemployment compensation has its problems, too, and some work on the committee will be necessary. Then there are the penal institutions, and work on this committee along with that necessary on the others will certainly keep Mr. Horton working night and day during the current session of the assembly.

Improving Slowly Following Accident

William Bowen, young county whiteman is improving slowly at his home in Bear Grass Township, from injuries received while bird hunting in Williams Township the early part of last week. Late reports stated that he was suffering a great deal and that his condition was still bad, for the most part.

The load of shot, accidentally fired by a friend and companion, Dallas Purvis, struck Mr. Bowen in the face, one shot piercing the right eyeball and blotting out his sight in that eye. Another shot pierced his lip and Mr. Bowen spat that one out. Several others grazed the right side of his face and a few went through his cap.

The men, using No. 9 shot, were bird hunting.

Officers Wreck Liquor Plant In County Tuesday

Raiding in Bear Grass Township last Tuesday, Officer J. H. Roebuck, assisted by ABC officers from Pitt and Beaufort counties and federal agents, wrecked a small liquor plant in Bear Grass Township. The kettle had been moved beyond the reach of the officers, but they found and poured out two barrels of molasses beer and wrecked the manufacturing equipment.

FEW APPEALS

Comparatively few appeals have been filed so far by Martin County truckers who allege their gas allotments are not sufficient to maintain their normal operations. Farmers and other truck owners may get the appeal application forms from the office of the county agent. Farmers will prepare the appeals and return them to the agent's office either by mail or in person. The appeals will be reviewed by the county war transportation committee and then they will be sent to Raleigh for final action. Operators of non-farm trucks may get their appeal forms from the agent's office either by mail or in person. These truckers are to prepare the appeals and mail them to W. Stewart, O. D. T., care Chamber of Commerce, Washington, North Carolina. It is understood that the appeals must be in by January 31 instead of the tenth as was previously announced.

War Bond Sales Reach Record High Figure In This County

Reached a record high figure in this county last month, but even then the purchases were below expectation. According to fairly complete reports received this week, Martin County people invested a total of \$290,143.25 in war and victory bonds. It was pointed out that the sale would possibly have been a few thousand dollars larger but for the fact that one or two institutions exhausted their supply of bonds and could not get more in time to include them in the December sales.

While this county was buying over \$200,000 in bonds the country invested more than twelve billions in victory bonds. They had been asked to invest at least ten billion in the securities by the Treasury Department.

Last Warning Issued To Draft Delinquents

Fifty-Eight Listed As Delinquents By County Draft Board

Vigorous Action Is Expected Against Delinquents After February 1

A last warning to Martin County draft delinquents was issued this week by Selective Service officials, urging them to comply with draft rules and regulations or suffer the consequences. While cases of delinquency have been turned over to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for action and others have already been carried into the courts from this county, it is understood that a more vigorous system for handling the delinquencies will be placed into effect on or about the first of next month and drastic action is to be expected.

The Martin County Draft Board lists fifty-eight men in its registrations as being delinquent. While it is certain that some few of the men are trying to dodge the draft, it is equally as certain that some of those who are classed as delinquents know no better or have carelessly overlooked the rules and regulations requiring them to leave their forwarding addresses and the like. Of the 58 listed delinquents in this county only nine of them are white.

The list below is published in the hope that relatives or friends having knowledge of the whereabouts of the delinquents will let them know that they are not in good standing and that they should act to correct their status with the draft board. It is possible that some of the delinquents are listed in error, but as far as the draft board records show the following men are delinquent as of January 5, 1943:

- Euphrates Eugene Singleton, c, Jamesville
- Columbus James, c, Robersonville
- John Robert Lawrence, c, RFD 1, Oak City
- William Henry George, c, Williamston
- George Barfield, c, RFD 3, Williamston
- Armand Lee Ward, c, Parmele
- George Spencer Jones, c, RFD 1, Hobgood
- Vernon Lee Staton, c, Everetts
- Lavughn Carraway, c, Robersonville
- Alexis Lawrence Thigpen, w, Williamston
- Augustus Lee Rogers, c, RFD 2, Williamston
- William Jones, c, Oak City
- Willie Buck Williams, w, RFD 1, Williamston
- Ronald Daniel, c, RFD 2, Robersonville
- George Woollard, c, RFD 1, Williamston

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Small Home Burns In County Monday

Believed to have started from a falling spark on the roof, fire destroyed the small country home of Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Brown, about five miles from Hamilton on the River Road, early last Monday afternoon during a strong windstorm. Mrs. Brown, about 65 years of age, was home with several of her small grandchildren and Mr. Brown was working with his sons at a peanut picker about a mile away.

Carrying the little tots from the house, Mrs. Brown went back into the house to save as many articles as possible. The two- and three-year-old children followed her back into the house and by the time she carried them out again the fire had gained so much headway that she could not enter the building and all the contents were lost. Her sons, seeing the fire, ran almost a mile across fields but when they reached the scene they could do nothing to stop the fire.

About \$200 in insurance was carried on the property.

Pleasure Driving Is Outlawed This Week

Violators Are Subject To Lose Their "A", "B" or "C" Ration Cards

Reflecting a far more serious shortage in gasoline and fuel oil than many would allow themselves believe, orders were issued in Washington this week ruling out all pleasure driving in seventeen eastern states and lowering fuel oil rations by 25 per cent in some cases. The order was accompanied by the warning that violations will subject the owner to the loss of his rations in either the "A", "B" or "C" class.

The order banning all pleasure driving and calling for a more conservative use of gas and oil by everyone, supported by frank reports coming from some oil distributors in this immediate section stating that last deliveries were hardly one-third their normal size.

Pleasure driving has been defined in general terms, but it will be up to the individual to prove beyond a doubt that his driving is not in that class if he should be questioned. Under those conditions, marginal driving is to be questioned, but it has been ruled that driving to and from church is not fun. The business of driving several blocks to get to one's work two or three blocks away is being questioned, but as far as it could be learned from ration authorities the practice has not been ruled out. "Any person who can't walk one or two blocks to his work is not worth much after he gets there," an observer in Washington declared last night in appealing for a greater conservation of gas.

No direct instructions have been received by officers here and in the county, but it has been reliably learned that they will be called upon to check up and report pleasure driving. The OPA is understood to have its own checkers scattered from New York to Florida, and action under the order is to be expected.

A report from local police states that not more than two cars were seen on the streets last night that could possibly have been on pleasure missions. The number early last night was thin as compared with the parking on evenings earlier in the week and today there are plenty of parking spaces on the streets, indicating that more people are waking up to the serious situation surrounding the gasoline supply. Quite a few people braved the rain and walked to amusement centers here last evening and one young married couple made it to the pictures on one bicycle.

The OPA set forth this list of purposes for which "A", "B" or "C" ration books may or may not be used:

- 1—May be used for family or personal necessity, driving for which no adequate alternative means of transportation are available.
- 2—May be used for occupational driving, or driving by naval or military personnel under transfer orders or on leave or furlough for the purpose of visiting relatives or making

MAIL DELAYS

Carelessness in addressing and affixing postage to soldiers' mail is delaying deliveries in thousands of cases, according to reliable information coming from postal authorities. It is understood that much of the mail going to service men is assorted by companies for delivery direct to the addressees. Since the mail is not distributed by a regular post office, there is no system available for collecting any postage that might be due. Where the sender's name appears on the envelope, it is returned. When there is no return address on the envelope, the letter is sent to the dead letter office where the sender is notified. Delays run into weeks when greater care in addressing and affixing postage would expedite the delivery of the soldier's mail.

Two Japanese Troop Ships Are Sunk Off New Guinea's Coast

Russian Forces Continuing Relentless Drive On Toward Rostov

In what some observers believe to have been the latest move in another concentrated attack in the South Pacific, the Japs met with apparent defeat when they tried this week to get reinforcements to their men in New Guinea. At least two large troop transports were sunk and others were damaged, along with the destruction of 27 Jap planes, as a ten-ship convoy moved toward the New Guinea coast. Sighting the convoy, American airmen unloaded 135 tons of bombs on the enemy and are said to have driven back the remnants in a 24-hour engagement starting last Wednesday. A late report states the battle is still raging. Reports state that the Japs are amassing another large fleet at Rabaul, New Britain, and another great sea engagement in the Southwest Pacific is believed in the offing. Allied spokesmen say they are ready, but according to Navy Secretary Knox the concentration of Jap ships in that area has not reached any sizable proportions.

Apparently all is not quiet in that part of the world, but few details of any action there are available. On the land fronts, the Russian forces are busily and steadily chasing the Germans on several fronts and continuing their relentless drive on toward Rostov, Germany, at last, has admitted that its armies are retreating from the Caucasus. Late reports from Moscow state that the Russian forces have swarmed through 65 or more populated towns and cities in the lower Don valley and were within 60 miles of the important key center of Rostov. Retreating from the Caucasus front, the Germans were said to be murdering civilians and burning property before them.

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FIRST

A. M. Hasty, popular young Robersonville man, is understood to be the first Martin County man to enlist in the United States Army and earn a commission under the voluntary enlistment program for officer's training. Others have earned commissions, but Mr. Hasty was not in line for immediate call when he enlisted and that feature makes him first in his class.

Mr. Hasty was commissioned a second lieutenant last December 23rd, and he with Mrs. Hasty, the former Miss Gladys Everett, are now at home in Ebernet, Wyoming, for the present.

Governor Sounds A Progressive Note

A progressive note was sounded by Governor J. M. Broughtin in his address to the North Carolina General Assembly in Raleigh yesterday noon when he recommended war legislation, a post-war program, a nine-month school year, increased salaries for state employees, the elimination of shocking conditions existing in the State's institutions for the insane, and a \$15,000,000 bond issue for the promotion of a road-building program after the war.

He asked certain powers for himself and the Council of State in handling any emergencies resulting from the war. Financial recommendations, for the most part, will await the budget message next week, but the governor did recommend that taxes not be increased and that \$20,000,000 of the treasury surplus be set up as a post-war reserve.

In connection with the recommendation for a ninth school month, which he would make optional during the war, the governor said, "we are financially able to take this progressive step."

Nothing was said about lifting the sales tax or lowering taxes. Other general recommendations included: a Negro Training School for Girls; strengthening the election laws, as recommended by the State Board of Elections; stricter laws concerning the sale of wines; appropriations for the State Planning Commission, which has never functioned; requirements that all licensing boards turn in all funds to the State Treasurer and operate under the Budget Bureau; giving the Commissioner of Agriculture and the Commissioner of Labor the same salaries as members of the Council of State and making them members of that body.

During the early sessions of the legislature, a few local bills were introduced, reports from the assembly indicating that the body will get down to work and end the session in six or eight weeks.