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Reject Two-Thirds Of December Draft Group from County

A Second Draft Group from County Is Now Being Thinned Out

Martin County apparently is sending some fairly poor specimens of manhood to army induction centers or else the Army is mighty particular about who and the type of men it wants, a report of the December draft call for colored men in this county showing that about two thirds of the group of 49 men were rejected. Thirty-seven were ruled out on account of physical ailments and twelve were too far below required mental or literacy standards to stick for service.

Four of the men called to report for service failed to report. They are James Andrews Moses, J. D. Swanwick, Bryant and William Andrews. Four other men were transferred to other boards for induction, Neal McNair to Wilmington, Oscar Everett and James Walker, Jr., to Norfolk, and Weldon Bonner to Baltimore.

The names of the men accepted out of the December call follow: William Blount Hill, Cornelius Jenkins, Elijah Brown, Jr., Robert Williams, Julius Peel, Junior Williams, Robert Lee Neal, Calvin Hill, Joseph Henry Peel, Almond Barnes, Luke Ira Peel, Geo. Washington Brooks, Hermon Peel, William Matthew Chance, Nathaniel Howard, James Spencer Little, William Thomas Howell, Harry Clinton Norfleet, Erashmond Lloyd, Bennie Bee Tyner, Bennie Lee Ormond, Joe Henry Gainer, Orlander Rodgers, John Lee Ballard, Cornelius Ebron, Melvin Biggs, Rascoe Clemmons, Willie Vance Williams, George Rodgers, Luther Brown.

Names of the men rejected are, as follows: Seth Needham Boston, John Daniel Everett, James Watts Rhodes, George Daniel Lynch, Willie Grover Mason, Richard Davis, Paul Grimes, Whit Jones, Jr., Ernest Turner, Jr., William Baker, Ernest Major Station, Neal Coburn, William Arthur Rhodes, Leamon Sherrod, Lee Ward, William Bess, William James, Bennie Wilkins, James Ollie Brown, Levi Jones, Jasper Roland Howell, Marion Knight, Vance Brooks, Jr., Edward Bennett, Warren Utah Riddick, Alexander Hodges, Valmer Chance, Horace Lee, Oscar Lawrence James, Mayo Andrews, Willie Gus Williams, Willie Lawrence Gorham, Lester Brown, Augustus Hopkins, Jeremiah James, Luentenant Carr, Horace Andrews, Jimmie James, Jas. Alexander, Leander Winbush, Floyd Mills, Willie B. Carr, Booker Thomas Everett, Willie Harvey Bell, Linwood Ebron, Ervan Little, Marcellious Parker, John David Roberson, Percy Dorsey Evans.

Hardly before the group was sifted out and the small portion of the December call inducted into service, another group, answering the January call, reported to be run through the sifter.

Most of the men making the trip to the induction center this week are understood to have been rejected. With the exception of one or two the men returned late last night, and those who were accepted will enjoy a seven-day furlough before returning for actual service. The group was one of the largest, if not the largest, to report from this county.

Williamston Native Missing In Action

Lieutenant Walter Earl Brown, native of Williamston and the son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Brown, of Wilson, was reported missing by the Navy Department in a special communication received by relatives last week-end. The young man, a member of the Medical Corps, United States Navy, was reported missing following action in the performance of his duty and in the service of his country, the message first received by his wife, Mrs. Mary Dickinson Brown, of Fremont, stated. He was last heard from by letter last November 9th.

Brown, 29 years old, lived here as a child, going when quite young with his parents to Baltimore. The family later located in Wilson where he completed high school. He was graduated from the University of North Carolina and completed his medical course at Duke, later doing his intern work in a Rocky Mount hospital. Volunteering his services, he entered the Navy's Medical Corps in 1940.

He married Miss Mary Dickinson Hooks in 1939, and is a nephew of Mr. R. B. Brown and Mrs. C. O. Moore, of Williamston.

Three Fail To Report When Called By Army

Three colored registrants, scheduled to answer a current draft call, failed to report this week in this county, and their names are being turned over to the authorities. Two others, unable to get transportation to town, reported late and they were sent down on regular buses, the others, numbering approximately 100 men, made the trip to the induction center in two special tractor-trailer buses.

Dates And High Spots In The Rationing System for January

program during January and early February follow:

Coffee—Coupon No. 27 in War Ration Book One good for purchase of one pound of coffee until February 8th.

Sugar—Coupon No. 10 in Book One good for three pounds of sugar through January 31.

Gasoline—Coupons Nos. 2 and 3 both good now for nine gallons of fuel oil, the No. 2 coupon expiring on January 23 and the No. 3 coupon expiring on February 19. As far as it could be learned here today, no 25 per cent reduction in the value of the coupons has been effected for non-residential users, but the overall ten per cent reduction is in effect for all users.

Ration Book—January 15 is the last date one may procure Ration Book No. 1. Persons who do not have a No. 1 book now should apply for one before January 15, provided he

Mileage—Gasoline and Tires—January 21 is last day for using No. 3 coupon in "A" coupon books. Number 4 coupons become valid January 22.

January 31 is last day that temporary "T" coupons will be issued directly by rationing boards. Beginning February 1st, "T" rations will be issued on the basis of ODT Certificates of War Necessity.

Motorists must have auto tires inspected by January 31, official OPA inspectors at designated filling stations, garages, tire shops, and other places will check all tires on your car and make report on your tire inspection record.

Rationing Board Office Hours—Daily from 8 a. m. to 5 p. m. with an hour off for lunch. The office is closed each Tuesday, Friday and Saturday at 12 o'clock noon to the public. Official board meetings are held each Monday.

War As It Relates To Home Front Review For Week

Hitler and His Nazi Party Round Out 10 Years of Power in Germany

Ten years ago this month Adolf Hitler and his Nazi Party came into power in Germany. In one of his first speeches he declared that the Nazis would not be guilty either of "lies or swindles," and a few months later disclaimed any aggressive intentions toward his European neighbors.

The record of Hitler and his infamous associates speaks for itself—in the ruin of civilized countries, in the enslavement, torture, and slaughter of millions. After a decade of destruction without parallel in human history, it is plain that his ambitions reached beyond the subjection of Germany, (of which he was not a native), and to Europe and the greater part of the world, leaving the rest of it to his partners in crime.

'Unholy Program' Answered

A year ago, this January, the United Nations answered this unholy program with a solemn declaration of mutual assistance against common enemies—a pact strengthened by force of arms which have grown mightier month by month. And this voluntary association of free peoples in a war against the forces of modern barbarism has been furthered by Lease-Lend arrangements whereby we have supplied food and the weapons and materials of war to our Allies in return for the lives they have risked and given on the battle fronts, and the goods and services they have placed at our disposal where they were most needed. This mutual exchange of war goods and war services still is going on, and must go on—for Lease-Lend is a vital part of our whole war strategy.

To the Nazis and the Jap militarists can be attributed the shortages and inconveniences which began to alter our ways of living last year, and during the coming year will place far greater restriction on all our activities.

East To Feel Full Impact—These restrictions will affect the whole country but they will be based most heavily along the Atlantic Seaboard. For example, the 17 eastern states and the District of Columbia have just been struck with what amounts to a social revolution by a blanket ban on automobile pleasure driving. Anyone who goes out for a "Sunday drive" or motors to a basketball game or takes a spin over to Aunt Martha's for a bridge game may forfeit his gasoline ration book. In effect, it means that the motorist is going to have less gas in his car so he can have some oil in his fuel tank.

At the same time, every structure (Continued on page six)

Tire Inspectors Will Hold Meet Thursday

Operators of tire inspection stations are to hold a meeting in the county agricultural building on Thursday afternoon of this week at 2 o'clock for a discussion of the rules and regulations for handling tire inspections under the rationing program. All stations are being directed to have a representative present at the meeting.

An inspector from the State OPA office will meet with the station inspectors and outline in detail their duties and changes in the system.

Suspicious Character Is Jailed Saturday Night

Frank White, 23 years old and a suspicious character, was arrested in a woods near Hassell last Saturday and placed in the county jail for investigation by Patrolman Whit Saunders. According to identification cards carried on his person, White registered in Florence, S. C., but his home is in Emanuel, Ga.

Almost barefooted and carrying a spoiled herring, the man was found hovering around a small fire about 10:30 that night. He stated that he had been released from the chain gang at Kenansville the Monday before and was on his way home. He had not traveled very far, but his course was away from home.

LEGIONNAIRE

The John Walton Hassell Post of the American Legion recruited its first member from World War II ranks recently when C. C. Moore, of Jamesville, received an honorable discharge from the Army and became eligible for membership. It is generally believed that the Legion membership will jump to high figures when the present war is ended and the vets become eligible to join. Dr. John D. Biggs, commander of the county post, explained.

At the present time, the post has a total of 166 members, the largest in the history of the organization in this county.

Plans Go Forward For Farm Mobilization in This County

Natural leaders in a meeting in the courthouse here today for mobilizing agriculture on an all-out production scale for the current year. Few details could be had immediately as the meeting was still in progress at noon today, but there was a keen interest in the movement and there is every reason to believe that Martin County farmers will stretch every point in answering President Roosevelt's appeal for increases in food and feed crops in 1943. More than thirty farm leaders are in attendance upon the meeting today, and they are being charged with the task of carrying the program back to the several communities. Dates have not been set for carrying the mobilization plans to the farmers direct, but it is planned to start the movement in the various communities possible some time next week.

Other details of the program will be announced within the next few days. Allotments for most of the principle crops grown in this county will remain little changed from those of last year, but sizable increases are

expected throughout the main agricultural state will be asked to lend every effort toward an increased production. A ten per cent increase is being asked in peanut production. It was pointed out in the meeting early this morning that details for handling the increase and the price question would be cleared up shortly. It has

been decided to allot a certain number of peanut allotments and establish a price in the neighborhood of six cents for the entire crop. It is possible for farmers in this county to substitute peanuts for short staple cotton and still hold on to their cotton allotments under certain conditions.

It is quite apparent that the mobilization plans will not fit every individual case, but if honest-to-goodness action was ever needed on the home front, it is needed now. The President has appealed to agriculture, and while some may be reluctant to act it is believed most Martin County farmers will strain every point to answer that appeal in behalf of those who carry guns, in behalf of those who fight with us, and in behalf of world decency and peace.

Home Front To Feel Effects Of The War Program

Russians' Counter-Offensives Continue To Meet With Great Success

While Russia's great offensives continue to roll the Germans back, war is breaking out on the home front in the form of a budget in the sum of 109 billion dollars and a sixteen billion dollar tax bill or forced savings program proposed by President Roosevelt in his message to Congress yesterday.

In his accompanying message—a document firm, yet conciliatory—President Roosevelt called it a "maximum program for waging war" that "reflects the determination of civilians to 'pass the ammunition'."

War outlays alone will take an estimated \$100,000,000,000 roughly the amount the government spent from its birth in 1789 through 1930, and an equal out of every dollar of the over-all budget.

The President's tax recommendations—which he did not define, but which propose compulsory savings and some form of pay-as-you-go plan—would raise present gross Treasury revenues from \$35,000,000,000 to \$51,000,000,000, thus requiring the people to shoulder half the cost of fighting the war.

Lacking these new revenues, he said at a budget seminar with newspapermen on Saturday, the government faces a deficit of \$71,047,679,923 in the coming fiscal year, and the national debt—now approximately \$113,000,000,000—will soar to an astronomical \$210,000,000,000 by the end of that period.

The debt will pass the present statutory limit—\$125,000,000,000—by \$10,000,000,000 during the current fiscal year, he added, and Congress therefore must prepare to raise the ceiling.

"To do this is sound," Mr. Roosevelt said, "for such a debt can and will be repaid."

"The nation is soundly solvent." Of his program as a whole, he said it must, of necessity, "be harsh," that everyone should remember "it is a war for existence, and not taxation, which compels us to devote more than one-half of all our resources to war use."

The President hewed to the line with these other hard facts: Citizens can anticipate spending only \$500 each for goods and services in fiscal 1944. This is about 25 per cent less than the \$625 they spent in calendar 1941, a record consumption year. He added, however, that they would still be better fed, clothed and housed than people anywhere else in the world.

On the actual battlefronts, Russia is still making the main news with continued counter-offensives, the Red Army having restored most of its lines as of last November. The Russians have also recovered a large portion of the territory taken from them since last June. In Southern Russia Berlin admits that its forces are in serious trouble as two mighty Russian armies push on toward Rostov. One important town after another has fallen into Russian hands during recent days, most of them on the Rostov-Baku rail line. The threat to the vast Russian oil fields of Baku has definitely been eliminated, and Hitler's loss there offers an en-

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The British Are Coming To Town

The British are coming, this time for a four-day visit in local homes. Rev. John W. Hardy was asked yesterday if it would be possible for local people to entertain a dozen British seamen for a few days. Several standing invitations were accepted and the minister is seeking homes for the remaining ones. None of these men has been here before, but it is understood that the entertainment accorded the group of sailors here during the holiday season impressed the Britishers greatly and the men are eagerly looking forward to their stay in local homes after many long months on the oceans.

Two of the men arriving tomorrow evening at 6:20 will be the guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Saunders. Ten others are expected here Thursday evening at the same hour. Local people who will find it convenient to do so, and it is sincerely believed that many will find it that way, are asked to contact Parson Hardy at once and advise him they'll be glad to have the visitors in their homes during the short period. The special visitors are to return Sunday.

Dog Crashes Window To Get To Her Ten Puppies

Locked in an upstairs room, a dog belonging to Van Respass, crashed a 14 by 36 glass window in the second floor of the home on Sycamore Street to get to her ten three-week-old puppies in the dog house in the yard. Aroused by the crash about 4 o'clock yesterday morning, Respass reached the window just in time to keep the mother dog from jumping from a porch roof to the ground. The animal apparently was not hurt in crashing through the window.

Start Closing In On Violators Of Gas Ban

Several Numbers To Be Turned Over To Ration Board Here

Special Government Agent Makes Investigation Aided By Various Officers

That federal rationing authorities meant what they said when an order was issued banning all pleasure driving is being firmly established as a fact in many of the eastern states. Few details have been officially released in connection with the enforcement program, but it was learned here that special agents are making an extensive investigation and that they with the aid of local county and highway patrolmen can be expected to "crack down" on violators.

Even before details could be completed for handling the violations, investigators were making their rounds, visiting various spots in this county. No statement could be had directly from the OPA representative who visited this county last Saturday night, but one charge is expected to grow out of his visit. The numbers had not been reported to the county rationing board here this morning, but it is understood that quite a few cases will be reported to the board just as soon as final plans for handling them can be completed. The county rationing board was only notified officially of its duties in handling such cases yesterday afternoon. The instructions, defining pleasure driving, are almost identical with those released through the press last week. Since then, however, it has been ruled that while persons may drive to their work in the morning and home in the evening they are violating the meaning of the ruling when they ride to and from lunch. It was also specifically stated that driving to civic clubs is unlawful.

The owner of an "A" card may use his car for essential business and shopping after a reasonable plan, but it is unlawful for a person to use his car to make a trip to the store for the purchase of a drink or some minor (Continued on page six)

Lanier Will Filed In Court Recently

Written back in 1939, the will of Miss Mamie Lanier was filed in the clerk of court's office in this county last week. Leaving an estate, estimated to be worth from \$30,000 to \$35,000, Miss Lanier left the greater part of her earthly goods to distant relatives in Oklahoma and Mississippi.

The J. R. Lanier farm in Williams Township was left to Grover C. Godard under certain conditions. Mr. Godard is to pay to the executor, C. D. Carstarphen, the sum of \$4,000 within twelve months and the amount is to be turned over to Lucy Biggs Martin, of Oklahoma, and Maggie Biggs Tucker, of Mississippi. Minnie Dupree Parker, John Henry Dupree, Emma Dupree Summerlin and Mollie Rickus Brade, of the Rocky Mount section, were left \$1,000 each. The remaining portion of a \$5,000 annuity insurance policy, was left to R. D. Trevathan and G. G. Trevathan, also of Rocky Mount. The remainder of the property, both real and personal, was left to the relatives in Oklahoma and Mississippi.

Miss Lanier provided for the payment of any outstanding debts and all burial expenses.

Past Year Hectic One For Illegal Business

Seventy-one Liquor Stills Captured By Enforcement Unit

ROUND-UP

The law's regular round-up of alleged violators of the peace again fell below its general average last week-end when only six persons were arrested and jailed. There was a marked scarcity of drinks; at least, only two were booked on that count during the period. Possibly one or more escaped the claws of local police, but the staggering nuisances were not as brazen as they generally are on the streets on Saturdays.

One was booked for drunken driving, one for being drunk on the streets, another for larceny, another for assault with deadly weapon. Three of the six were young white men.

County Mutual Fire Insurance Officers - Stockholders Meet

Sylvester Peel, President, and All Other Officers Are Re-elected Saturday

Holding their annual meeting in the county courthouse last Saturday, stockholders of the Martin County Branch of the Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Association, re-elected all their officers and directors and heard a review of the branch's operations during the past year. Officers re-elected are: Sylvester Peel, president; Jos. S. Griffin, vice president, and Geo. C. Griffin, secretary-treasurer. The following were re-elected to the board of directors: Sam T. Everett and W. M. Green, of Robertsonville, and Joshua L. Coltrain, W. B. Harrington, Leroy G. Taylor and Jos. S. Griffin, all of Williamston. Township supervisors are: Jamesville: C. B. Fagan, F. C. Stallings and J. W. Martin; Williams: W. W. Griffin, Joshua L. Coltrain and W. J. Gardner; Grifflins: L. H. Roberson, W. B. Harrington and Pleny Peel; Bear Grass: Jos. S. Griffin, Edmond Harris and Calvin Ayers; Williams: Jos. Bowen, W. S. Peel, M. A. Price; Cross Roads, J. A. Ausbon, Henry D. Peel and Henry Peel; Robertsonville: A. E. Smith, Lester House, and R. S. Everett; Poplar Point: W. S. White and L. G. Taylor; Hamilton: W. S. Rhodes, T. B. Slade and Edwin Purvis; Goose Nest: W. R. Everett, R. A. Haislip and W. G. Keel.

The association had a very successful year in 1942. Fire losses amounted to only \$3,551.54. Levying only one-half of one per cent during the period, the association had an income from that source plus smaller amounts from interest and fees, of \$6,320.16. Expenses were quite small, leaving the association with a balance or surplus in the sum of \$14.

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Mule Is Killed In Highway Accident

In one of the first road accidents of the new year in this county a mule was killed and one person was painfully but not seriously hurt. The accident also turned up one of the first apparent violators of the pleasure driving ban, and resulted in a property damage estimated at about \$200 by Patrolman Whit Saunders, the investigator.

Purchasing his weekly rations in Bear Grass, John Daniel Mason, colored, had carried them home and was on his way early Saturday night to Williamston to buy a pint of liquor, according to his own admission. He had traveled only a short distance out of Bear Grass when he crashed into the rear of a mule and cart driven by Louis Sheppard. The cart driver was thrown in one direction, the cart in another and the mule, fatally hurt, was knocked to the side of the road. Sheppard was given medical treatment and is understood to be getting along all right now.

Mason explained that he was meeting a car and did not see the cart until he was right on it or too late to avoid the crash. The mule-drawn vehicle had no light on it, and the driver was booked for operating on the highways at night without a light.