



# THE ENTERPRISE



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## Reviews Activities On the Legislative Front in the State

### Proposed Bill Would Allow Ration Board Members Small Compensation

By CLARENCE W. GRIFFIN  
Martin County Representative  
The 1943 session of the General Assembly is starting to work much more actively than in previous years. Everybody seems to be in a hurry to finish the work and adjourn, however, in my opinion, it will be March 15 before the adjournment date is reached.

It looks as if the next general election will be asked to vote on a Constitutional amendment to our State Constitution. A bill has been introduced to submit a Constitutional Amendment to the next general election which would make the Commissioner of Agriculture and the Commissioner of Labor Constitutional officers and members of the Council of the State. This bill is an administration measure and will doubtless pass. Two measures have been introduced in the field of taxation. One would provide for State Income Taxes to be paid in quarterly installments rather than in one installment which we now have. The other bill would exempt members of the armed forces from poll taxes while they are serving in the armed forces. There seems to be much sentiment in favor of this bill.

The Governor recommended in his message that 20 million dollars of the State surplus be invested in Government securities as a cushion for a depression which is expected to follow the conclusion of this war. This bill has been amended by the committee to raise the sum to 22 million dollars and to invest in the governor and the council of the State the authority to invest any further surplus from time to time.

It seems that this session of the General Assembly will probably give the public schools of North Carolina and the school teachers of the State more consideration than they have had for the last several sessions. Already a bill has been introduced providing for a State-wide nine months school, which bill has the support of the governor and it looks now as if it has a good chance of passing. The teachers and other State employees will doubtless have a salary raise, effective as of January 1, 1943. A supplemental appropriations bill has been introduced with the recommendation of the governor, providing for substantial pay increases for all state employees. The amount will range from 10 to 20 per cent, depending upon the present salary.

A bill has been introduced to pre-

## A Last Warning Is Issued To County Draft Delinquents

### Firm Action Promised Draft Delinquents Beginning Next Month

"A fine of \$10,000 or five years in prison, or both, is the penalty facing a person convicted of delinquency under Selective Service Act," General J. Van B. Metts, State Director of Selective Service, announced today.

"Far too many men are escaping their obligations under the act because they are delinquent," the state director said. He further stated that a vigorous effort will be made during the month of January to have delinquents and suspected delinquents report to their local boards to have the charges of delinquency removed. "Those who do report voluntarily to their local board during the month of January, 1943, will be allowed to comply with their obligations, but those who fail or refuse to do so will find that their names have been reported to the Department of Justice for prosecution," the director said.

To further clarify the requirements, General Metts emphasized these points:

1. Every person who was required to register under any one of the six Presidential Proclamations which have heretofore been issued, except those registrants in the 45-65 year old group, must have in his personal possession at all times a valid Notice of Classification in addition to his Registration Certificate.

2. Upon request, every person required to carry a Notice of Classification must submit his notice to any law enforcing officer, representatives of the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Attorney General, or any official of the National or State Headquarters of Selective Service, any member of a local or appeal board, any Government Appeal Agent, or any other official designated by the Director of Selective Service.

3. Every registrant between the ages of 18 and 45 should keep his local board notified of any change of address so that he may be sure that he receives his mail at all times with reasonable promptness. The local

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## No Immediate Call Expected For Married Men in County

Men for army, navy, marine or coast guard service is expected in this county, according to unofficial information gained here this week. Last fall it was considered probable that the draft would reach into the married ranks in this county and take those men without children or other dependents. It is now believed that these men will have another chance of being called into the service. The information just gained is based on estimates and is offered on condition that the calls will be of normal size during the next few months. It is understood that the next calls, beginning in February, will draw heavily from the 18- and 19-year-old ranks or those young men who registered last June. It is understood that none of the recent registrants was included in the list of those just recently instructed to report, and none of them is expected to be called in February.

## More Martin County Men Called By Army

### APPLICATIONS

Nearly 800 applications have been signed and forwarded to Raleigh from this county by farmers who cooperated in the 1942 soil conservation program, it was announced this week by Miss Mary Carstarphen, clerk in the county farm agent's office. It is estimated that there are approximately 1,550 farmers in this county who are entitled to conservation payments in varying amounts.

According to one report, Martin was one of a fairly small number of counties in the state where more than 90 per cent of the farmers cooperated in the soil conservation program last year.

## Board Reclassifies Fifty-eight Men in Monday Night Meet

### Members Expected To Meet Again Soon To Complete Their Reclassifications

Receiving several personal appeals and burdened with borderline cases touching on the pathetic side, the Martin County Draft Board handled only 58 reclassifications in a long meeting here last night. The members plan to meet again soon to complete the reclassification work. Possibly no more than two-thirds of the appeals were reviewed at the meeting. There has been some talk about changing deferment requirements, but the board has received no official notice and its work is based on the old rules and regulations.

Quite a few high school and college students were deferred at the meeting, but the deferments were for short periods only. In those cases where classifications were granted in the B groups, the board acted in accordance with official rulings direct from Selective Service headquarters.

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## Re-Elect Members Of Health Board

Meeting in special session in the courthouse Monday, the constituted members of the Martin County Board of Health, R. L. Perry, chairman, Mayor John L. Hassell and Jas. C. Manning, re-elected on the motion of Hassell the three elective members of the board, Drs. W. C. Mercer, V. A. Ward and J. S. Rhodes. No other business was handled by the board, but the chairman is calling the members into a special meeting to be held on the first Monday in February.

It is understood that the board will meet in joint session with the county commissioners for a review of the department's activities on the first Monday in next month.

### ROUND-UP

Nine persons were arrested and placed in the county jail here in routine round-up last week-end, the number being several points larger than for the previous period. Six of the nine were booked for public drunkenness, and it should be noted that public drunkenness is a violation of the law within the town limits if it isn't a violation on the outside. One each was arrested and jailed for non-support, assault with a deadly weapon and violation of the unemployment compensation act.

Two of the nine persons were white.

## Allies Score Great Gains On Fronts in Past Week

### Air War Again Carried to the Heart of Germany With Devastating Effect

Gathering momentum day by day, Allied forces are scoring great gains against the enemy on the far-flung battle fronts this week, the successes being centered in the raising of the siege at Leningrad yesterday and in the devastating air raids over Berlin by Allied bombers Saturday and Sunday nights. The push against Rommel, just recently renewed by General Montgomery's Eighth Army, looms up as a part of the good news, and in the Pacific things are going bad, very bad, for the yellow Japs.

The siege of Leningrad, held at bay by the fighting Russians for 16 long months, was finally broken when the ancient fortress of Schlessburg was captured following a seven-day fierce battle and the Leningrad garrison and the northern Red Army joined forces.

A greater part of the long 1,800-mile Russian front is alive with activity, and the Soviets are pounding the invaders at every turn. Among the recent successes is the capture of Kamensk, important German stronghold on the Rostov-Moscow rail line. One of the heavy blows dealt the Germans in the war was the one before Stalingrad. Trapped there, 22 German divisions or well over 200,000 men have been reduced to less than 50,000. The Russians have encouraged the world with their superior fighting and have done a great deal to wear Hitler and his gang down, out there is still no room for over-confidence, for the war is not yet won.

The real success of the Allied raids over Berlin has not been determined, but the Saturday and Sunday night raids must have weakened morale of the German people. The raids certainly "peppered" up the British who begged that Rome be given a similar dose. Carrying over block-busters and incendiaries, the Allied planes left great fires burning in the heart of the city. Only one plane was lost Saturday night when the defenders were caught flat-footed, but 22 planes were lost the following night.

Rommel is fleeing again before the British Eighth Army on the road to Tripoli, and observers believe he will hardly slow down until he makes a supreme effort to join the German forces in Tunisia.

Allied forces, including the Camel Corps of the Fighting French, are moving in on Tripoli from several sides, the British Eighth Army being within 70 miles of the port on the west.

In Tunisia, the Germans launched two attacks, one of which was beaten back by tank and infantry forces on the central front. Small German gains were reported in the second attack which was borne by the Fighting French.

Early afternoon reports from Russia, released in special communiques, stated that the Russian forces were about to cut off the entire northern German army. Swedish dispatches state that Sweden is on the alert for

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### Committees to Carry Program to Farmers Friday and Saturday

The 1943 plans for mobilization of agriculture in this county in support of the war will be carried to every Martin farmer on Friday and Saturday of this week. Community committees will sit at designated places to receive the farmers during the two days. The 1943 allotments for basic crops, recognized as little different from those in effect last year, will be released and pledges for war crops will be solicited. There is nothing complicated about the pledges, but President Roosevelt and other leaders who are earnestly working for victory and a lasting peace are pleading with the farmers to support the program in every way possible. Already there is evidence of pledged cooperation on the part of merchants and other business men and while it is a far cry from an actuality possibly clerks, business men and others will offer a helping hand before the middle we are now in is cleared up.

Despite scattered grumbling over peanut price differentials, many Martin County farmers are already proving that their patriotism is greater than greed and selfishness and indications are that they will do all that it is humanly possible for them to do in advancing the war program and helping to write the peace. Committees will sit at the following places and farmers will report to their respective district centers:

Jamesville Township: Town House, Friday and Saturday, G. C. Gurkin, H. A. Sexton, Carl Griffin and L. R. Gardner, committeemen.

Williams Township: County House, Friday and Saturday, Joe Lawrence Coltrane, O. S. Green and R. J. Hardison, committeemen.

Griffins Township: Stephen Manning's store at Piney Grove, Friday and Saturday, Geo. C. Griffin and B. F. Lilley, committeemen.

Williamston and Poplar Point Townships: Agricultural Building, Friday and Saturday, John W. Gurkin, R. T. Griffin, W. M. Hardison, committeemen.

Cross Roads Township: At Cross Roads on Friday and at Everetts on Saturday, W. L. Ausbon, Frank Bailey and G. H. Forbes, committeemen.

Bear Grass Township: Rogers Supply Company Friday and Saturday, T. L. Robertson, Jos. S. Griffin and H. G. Harrison, committeemen.

Robersonville Township: Texaco Station Friday and Saturday, R. S. Everett, S. T. Everett, Clifton Keel and J. R. Daniel, committeemen.

Hamilton Township: Slade-Rhodes store Friday and Saturday, Geo. Oglesby and W. J. Beach, committeemen, and at Hassell also on Friday and Saturday, D. R. Edmondson and Woodrow Purvis, committeemen. The Hassell team will be in P. C. Edmondson's store.

Goose Nest Township: J. H. Ayers' store Friday and Saturday, H. A. Early, Jack Smith, L. L. Harrell and J. T. Mizelle, committeemen.

Agricultural leaders are anxious to complete the mobilization plans during the two days and all farmers are urged to report to their respective community centers and work for all-out production.

## Curb Market Sales Establish Record

Marketing surplus farm products replaced North Carolina home demonstration club members in the big business class in 1942, as sales on the 55 organized markets topped the half-million dollar mark for the first time.

Mrs. Cornelia C. Morris, extension economist in food conservation and marketing at N. C. State College, pointed out in a year-end summary that other sales in addition to those on the curb market pushed the 1942 total to \$1,199,656.66.

The home demonstration curb market serves as a retail agency and provides farm women with a direct outlet to nearby consumers for such produce as vegetables, meat, butter, eggs, poultry, milk products, cakes, bread, flowers and canned goods.

The second type of market for farm women is furnished by merchants, individuals, institutions, hotels and similar large buyers. Women either sell individually or group themselves together in selling produce to these buyers.

Curb market sales during the year just closed amounted to \$570,643.87, and sales to hotels, institutions, and other large buyers to \$629,012.79.

The Durham County home demonstration market jumped into the lead in 1942, selling products valued at \$45,500.34. Nash was second, followed by Wayne.

## Farm Mobilization In The County This Week

### TOBACCO

Tobacco was given official recognition by national draft authorities this week when they notified the county draft board that one-half acre of the crop would count one unit in the system for deferring farmers from military duty. By recognizing tobacco as an "essential" crop and giving it a comparatively high unit value, the draft authorities, it is believed, will make it possible for a few farmers who have a well-balanced farm program to support draft deferment claims.

There has been some talk about lowering the number of units required of farmers seeking deferment from 16 to 8, but no official notice has been given the draft board in this county. The reduction will make it possible for many farmers to support deferment claims, it is believed. Official notification is awaited by county draft authorities.

## Seamen Subjected To Heavy Question Bombardment Here

### Students Greatly Enjoy Visit Of Britishers in the Local Schools

Petty Officers Alfred Williams and Frank Moore visited the Williamston schools during their recent stay in Williamston, and spoke briefly before assemblies at the grammar and high schools.

The British officers visited the grammar school last Friday at the invitation of Miss Edith Bradley's sixth grade room which had charge of the assembly, and entertained the children by reviewing English history and by describing the conditions under which the children of England are receiving instruction during the war period.

The seamen stated that the war had inflicted great hardships on children and on family life in their native land.

An extensive question and answer period was enjoyed by those present, the little folk asking innumerable questions ranging from the progress of the war to the consumption of barbecue in England.

At the high school yesterday morning the mixed chorus entertained the visitors by singing several special selections, including the British national anthem. The student body and mixed chorus also sang the songs of the various branches of our armed forces.

In presenting the visitors to the assembly, Principal D. N. Hix expressed appreciation that the seamen were able to get their impressions

## Lightning Fires And Burns Barn

Fire, started by a bolt of lightning, destroyed the tobacco barn and a quantity of hay belonging to Joe Bland near the church at Cross Roads yesterday morning at 9 o'clock. Driving along the road, Nathan Wynn saw the lightning strike the structure, but before he could summon help and reach the barn the fire had gained so much headway it could not be checked. Several bags of fertilizer under the barn shed were saved. No estimate on the loss could be had, and it could not be learned if the property was insured.

The fire was the second one reported in that community in a little over a week. The home and all the contents belonging to Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Wynn were burned last Saturday a week ago on the S. T. Wynn farm. No fire had been in the house that day and no one was at home and the origin of the fire could not be determined. The only thing Mr. and Mrs. Wynn saved were the clothes they were wearing at the time. The loss amounted to well over \$1,000.

### IMPORTANT MEET

An important meeting of all Martin County retailers, including filling station operators, garages, pressing clubs and regular merchants, will be held in the county courthouse Friday night at 8 o'clock, it was announced this week by A. A. Chappell, field price officer for the OPA. The meeting will review price regulations and ceilings. Mr. Chappell pointing out that it will be well worthwhile for the retailer to attend and acquaint himself with the regulations. Violations even unintentional, reported after the meeting will be subject to prosecution.

## W. Iverson Skinner Heads County Drive To Fight Paralysis

### No Birthday Ball Will Be Held In The County This Year

Appointed chairman to carry the tenth annual appeal to the people of this county in support of a nationwide fight against infantile paralysis, W. Iverson Skinner last week-end completed plans for the annual drive for funds. Recognizing the seriousness of existing conditions, the chairman announced that no dance or birthday ball would be held in the county in connection with the drive, but that everyone would be given an opportunity to share in the worthwhile task.

Aided by Dr. E. T. Walker, co-chairman, and Mrs. Wheeler Martin, vice chairman, and E. J. Hayes, organizer in the colored schools, Chairman Skinner is depending upon district chairmen to push the campaign to a successful conclusion by the last of this month. These district chairmen are: Jamesville, P. B. Britton; Farm Life, Thomas Goodard; Bear Grass, L. O. Hickman; Williamston, D. N. Hix; Everetts, D. W. Gaskill; Robersonville, L. W. Anderson; Gold Point, Mrs. Annie Roberson; Hassell, Geo. Haislip; Hamilton, J. Howard Bunn; and Oak City, H. M. Ainsley.

Chairman Skinner has already effected the distribution of 80 small coin collectors in filling stations, stores and other public places throughout the county. Made in the shape of a poster with a coin slot, the little collectors are expected to account for well over \$100 this year. Another supporting plan in the drive is the birth greeting card with coin slots for twenty dimes. The chairman is hopeful that every grade in every school in the county will account for one or more of these cards. Mr. Skinner has asked that they be turned over to him so they can be mailed, or in those cases where they are mailed direct he asks that a record be kept so an accurate report can be filed. Approximately 500 of the greeting cards are being distributed in the county, and a special appeal is being directed to various organizations and clubs, urging their leaders to assist in the work.

The Woman's Club in Williamston has already agreed to assist in handling the greeting cards.

A third supporting plan will center around the March of Dimes. The dime parade is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, January 30. The Junior Woman's Club has agreed to head the march in Williamston. Tags will be given those persons supporting the march of dimes.

## Farm Equipment Is Rationed by Board In Martin County

### Few Machines and Similar Items Made Available To Farmers Recently

While many items necessary to farming operations are still on the "free" list, the rationing system is being tightly drawn on others. In recent weeks, the farm machinery rationing board in this county has issued much farm equipment, but few machines were included in the list. Items issued included as little as a few years of poultry wire, but most of the rationed covered wire for fencing.

Rations covering various items were made available to the following farmers:

Joe H. Hopkins, RFD 1, Williamston, three rolls of barbed wire.

Lester L. Everett, RFD 1, Robersonville, two rolls of poultry and one roll of field fence wire.

Coy Roberson, Williamston, cy-

press tank.

John Gurkin, RFD 2, Williamston, three rolls of fence wire.

J. E. King, Williamston, three rolls of fence wire.

Luther Peel, Williamston, three rolls of fence wire.

Mrs. Nannie Haislip, Oak City, one fertilizer distributor.

T. H. Johnson, Oak City, fertilizer distributor.

U. S. Hassell, Jamesville, one roll of wire.

Mrs. Clara Everett, Hamilton, fertilizer distributor.

Wm. C. Hopkins, RFD 1, Williamston, six rolls of fence wire.

C. B. Allen, RFD 3, Williamston, two rolls of fence wire.

H. M. Ainsley, Oak City, electric water pump.

W. K. Ward, RFD 2, Williamston, two rolls poultry wire.

Jesse Clark, RFD 3, Williamston, two rolls of fence wire.

Garland B. Jones, RFD 3, Williamston, one roll of wire fence.

Clyde Roberson, RFD 3, Williamston, four rolls of wire fence.

E. G. Anderson, Robersonville, one 2-horse disc plow.

Paul Delberry, RFD 1, Palmyra, one 2-horse wagon.

Robert L. Pierce, RFD 3, Williamston, three rolls of fence wire.

Nancy Keys, Jamesville, six feet of poultry wire.

L. H. Hux, Oak City, fertilizer dis-

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