

Stresses Importance Of Aircraft Warning Service Here Sunday

More Than Four Hundred Hear Army Representa- tives in High School

Speaking to more than four hundred persons in the high school auditorium here last Sunday afternoon, Lieutenant Richard E. Manchec, ground observer for the Norfolk District Command, reiterated the need for an "effective and efficient" ground observation system.

The meeting, one of the most impressive of its kind ever held in the county, was opened with a song, "America," by the large audience, followed by a prayer by Rev. John L. Goff. Hugh G. Horton, county chairman of civilian defense, briefly addressed the group and introduced J. Paul Simpson, county director of aircraft warning service. Mr. Simpson recognized the several chief observers from the various posts and cited the record of Elmer Modlin, of Jam-ville, who after his car became stuck in the mud, walked four miles on a cold night recently to stand watch at the Jamesville post.

Lieutenant Pyatt, also of the Norfolk district and public relations officer, expressed appreciation for the large crowd present and for the co-operation and interest in the work in this county. "I am pleased to be able to recognize the efforts of the observers and I assure you the Army appreciates the work that is being done," the lieutenant said.

Making his second appearance in the county in recent weeks, Lieutenant Manchec again made an impressive plea for support of the aircraft warning service and the entire war program. "Let us not be like France when the Maginot line was not sufficiently backed up. Don't let us sit back and take comfort in this or that, but let's back up the Army's efforts," he pleaded in stressing the importance of the ground observation system, and urging his hearers not to fall into a false security.

Continuing he said, "We can't fight an enemy we can't see. We must know where he is and the only way we can learn is from the ground observer system." Declaring that in his opinion the situation was far more serious than many of us believe it to be, the Army man declared that eastern North Carolina was in a strategic position in the approach to vital centers. Citing again Hitler's own golden rule, it was the lieutenant's belief that this country would be bombed. It is possible, he declared, and a British officer in the audience whispered to his companion and declared, "That man isn't kidding."

Declaring that this war was serious business, the observer explained that 18 men were needed on the home front to support a man at the battle front, that already we are millions short on the home front, meaning that many would have to do more than one job. "In these extra jobs we are privileged to do our bit and not be forced by a ruthless murderer. We are going to win this war and win it the American way. Let everyone do his part.

"There are 7,000 observation posts
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W. S. (Bud) Peele Dies at Home Near Here Early Today

Funeral for Prominent Farmer Wednesday Afternoon At Three O'Clock

William Stanley (Bud) Peele, prominent farmer and well-known Martin County citizen, died at his home near here this morning at 3:45 o'clock following a long illness. In feeble health for nearly three years, Mr. Peele continued active until about three months ago. Forced to confinement at that time, he was still able to be up and about the home until last Friday when his condition became critical. He was conscious until the last, the end coming with members of his family at the bedside.

The son of the late Stanley and Marina Peele, he was born in Cross Roads Township 59 years ago on the 27th of last August. Spending his early life on the home farm, Mr. Peele married Miss Lula Jones in 1905. After a stay of one year in Bear Grass Township, he bought and located on a farm near Williamston about 35 years ago. Following the death of his first wife, he was married to Miss Ella Rogerson, who survives.

Mr. Peele was a member of the Primitive Baptist Church at Bear Grass for more than a quarter of a century. He was a faithful attendant upon its services and was active in its programs. Interested in community and county affairs, he was recognized as a leader in his community and enjoyed a large friendship throughout this section. Before the consolation program was launched, Mr. Peele was a member of the local school committee and always showed a keen interest in those affairs.
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Yanks Buy Souvenirs in India



When payday rolls around once a month, a good many of the men in service go on buying sprees. Corporals Ted Orlinkowski (left), of Milwaukee, Wis., and Milan Budan, of Chicago, spend part of their salaries buying souvenirs at a mart in New Delhi, India. We wonder whether the girl-friend who gets that gown they're looking over will have nerve enough to wear it.
(Central Press)

Captain Don Godwin Is Reported Missing

SEWING ROOM

Assigned a large work quota, the local Red Cross sewing room is calling for more volunteers, Mrs. N. C. Green, chairman, stating last evening that there was an urgent need for additional volunteers to cut out approximately 400 articles of women's clothing.

Beginning this week, the sewing room, in addition to its regular hours from 10 a. m. to 5 p. m. each Tuesday, will remain open each Thursday evening from 8 to 10 o'clock. Quite a few have been faithful in handling the work, and now others are badly needed and they are earnestly urged to report to the sewing room Thursday evening and as often as possible in the future.

Promise Important News on War Plans 10 O'clock Tonight

Russian Offensives Continue To Gather Momentum on The Eastern Front

Heartening news is being promised the Allied World at 10 o'clock Eastern War Time tonight when a special announcement will be released to the world presumably by a supreme United Nations War Council. The news, anticipated now for several days, will, it is believed, have to do with war strategy plans as formulated by the United States, Britain, Russia, China and the other Allied Nations. That "big" news would soon be released to the world was intimated in unofficial but reliable reports emanating from London just last Friday.

During the meantime, the war is still rolling forward with the Allies holding the advantage on nearly every front, including those in the battle areas and back in the conquered territories. On the Eastern front, Premier Josef Stalin gives a beautiful word picture of Russian progress. The Russian leader reports 102 German divisions have been ousted, 200,000 Nazis taken prisoners and a gain of 248 miles since the winter offensive was launched two months ago. The 102 German divisions count up to about one and one-half million men, and it is the general belief that while that number may not have been wiped out it is fairly certain that they are out of the fight.

The news promised tonight is expected to stir the world, observers being unable to guess the nature of the release other than that it will have to do with war strategy and a settlement of the political muddle in North Africa. As for the political muddle, it is expected to be cleared up.
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Stolen Car Recovered By Two Officers Here

An old '37 model car, stolen from Lonnie Roberson, 810 Brambleton, Norfolk, last week has been recovered by Patrolman W. E. Saunders and Officer Chas. R. Moore, of the local police force. Theodore Harris, 17, was arrested and charged with the theft along with Octavious Roberson, a distant relative of the car owner. The owner called for the car yesterday and the case is being turned over to the FBI.

The Robersons and Harris are said to have lived in this county at one time.

War Price Officials Explain Regulations At Meeting Here

Retail Merchants Are Assured That It Will Be Possible To Make a Living

More than three hundred retail merchants and other business men from this and adjoining counties heard their first detailed explanation of price ceiling and regulations at a meeting held here last Friday evening. The price bogey, carrying some trouble to be sure, was proved not to be such a bad fellow after all, and with some few exceptions the anti-inflation plan was well received by the large group.

Opening a general session in the courthouse auditorium at 8 o'clock, A. A. Campbell, of the OPA district office in Greenville, explained that the system was not designed to make trouble, but to avoid trouble, that he and other representatives of the OPA were holding meetings to help merchants and consumers alike. He briefly outlined the price ceiling plan and recalled the price situation as it existed back in World War I when sugar sold for 30 and 35 cents a pound and suits of clothes jumped to as high as \$100 each. The price control plan was worked out jointly by economists, merchants and lawyers and in this county it is being instituted under the direction of Dr. W. R. Burrell, J. C. Manning and H. S. Everett, members of the war price committee.

The main foundation for the price control structure is based on prices existing in March of last year, but in many cases current prices may be based on cost plus a percentage profit, it was explained. The March price lists, covering every retail item, should have been posted and filed in the office of the county war price and rationing board long ago, and in those cases where none has been filed, Mr. Chappell advised the merchants to get their prices in order at once. "If these price lists are not filed immediately, they will be demanded, and violation of the regulations is certain to be checked," Chappell continued. According to the OPA representative, there are many investigators and once the merchant learns what he is supposed to do and fails to comply with the regulations he can expect the worst.

While the price plan makes it possible for a retailer to make a living, excess profits are definitely out for the duration, it was declared, and if a business man can't make a living under the new regulations he just as well close now because there is no apparent relief in sight for individual cases.

Urging every business man to keep some kind of record and especially invoices, Chappell explained that the burden is on the retailer to prove what his prices were in March, 1942, or that they are based on the allowed percentage plus cost basis. For instance if a consumer buys an article and he says the price is too high, the merchant must have his ceiling price if the sale is based on last March figures or his invoice if he has one.
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Reviews Activities On the Legislative Front in the State

Bill Introduced to Eliminate Sales Tax on All Items In This State

By CLARENCE W. GRIFFIN
During the past week the Finance and Appropriations Committees were busy holding public hearings on the Revenue bill and the new tax bill. It looks now as if the Appropriations Bill and the Revenue Bill will be ready for action by the General Assembly much earlier than usual. During the past week a bill was introduced which would require funds collected by the State Board of Barber Examiners to be spent under the direction of the budget director. This action was aimed at clearing up the situation which develops each summer when several members of the Board of Barber Examiners allegedly spent several thousand dollars each without cause.

Shoots Woman And Then Gives Self Up

Henry Price, 51-year-old colored janitor, went on a shooting rampage last Saturday night, striking and breaking Maggie Wilson's left arm and barely missing one of the colored woman's small children. Walking a bit leisurely, Price reported to the police station and surrendered. He was ordered held in jail.

Referring to the victim as his "under-the-sleeve wife," Price went to her home and fired three shots from a .22 rifle. One of the shots barely missed a child and another tore into the woman's arm, breaking it at the elbow. "She would not cooperate with me," Price told police in an apparent effort to justify the assault in his own mind, at least.
No hearing has been held in the case.
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Pleasure Ban Violations Aired Before O. P. A. Board Members

At Special Inquiry Last Night

Liberal Support Being Given County Paralysis Fund Drive

A liberal support is being given the infantile paralysis fund drive in this county. W. Iverson Skinner, chairman, said this morning. Several of the President's birthday greeting cards have been packed with dimes and turned over to the chairman by individuals, and the various schools and clubs are completing their greetings with dimes. The collection, located throughout the county, are adding weight, and the March of Dimes will be launched Saturday when representatives of clubs and other organizations carry the appeal for support to the people on the streets.

In support of the drive for funds to fight infantile paralysis, Mayor John L. Hassell yesterday issued the following proclamation:
"For the past nine years Presi-

All-Out Support For Farm Plan Indicated

County Farmers Are Anxious To Do Their Bit In War Program

Complete Mobilization Is Now
Expected by Latter Part
Of This Week
An all-out support of the nation's farm mobilization program by Martin County farmers was indicated in the first reports coming from field sign-ups last Friday and Saturday in the several township centers. No complete reports on the sign-up are to be had at this time, but in those districts where the work is nearing completion the committeemen are expressing general satisfaction with the progress the mobilization program is making.

While it is possible for those who have not yet signed up to hold the program below planned goals, the outlook based on completed plans is really encouraging and even better than many expected. That Martin County farmers are willing and anxious to do their bit in the war program is evidenced in such reports as were received from Goose Nest Township. "Farmers are more interested in the program and anxious to meet the goals than they have ever been," Committeeman Jesse Crisp was quoted as saying. Similar reports are coming in from most of the other centers, and it is fairly apparent that the farmers of this county, or at least a large majority of them, are ready to tackle one of the largest assignments ever given them. While some called attention to labor shortages and other problems, most of them expressed a determination to do their dead level best and meet the goals if it was humanly possible for them to do so.

The mobilization program has been aided by recent draft rulings and an increase in farm machinery manufactures, including repair parts. "Our government helped us when the way was dark and disheartening, and now I feel it is no more than my duty to do my level best in helping my government and accepting my full share of the responsibility and burden for maintaining the boys who are on the firing line for us," one county farmer was quoted as saying as he left his committee with an assignment that will require long hours of toil to handle.

The sign-up is fairly well advanced in most of the township centers.
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Officers Take Prize Still In The County

A prize still was captured intact by Officers J. H. Roebuck and Roy Peel during a long raid in the Free Union area of Jamesville Township last Friday. The outfit included a well-made copper still, cap, worm and cooler and had a capacity of nearly fifty gallons.

The officers spotted the plant several days before the final raid, but it was decided to delay action with the possibility that the operator could be snaggd. When they returned last Friday, the officers were surprised to learn that beer drinkers had consumed almost a barrel of beer. The kettle had been removed, but exercising the best of detection methods, the officers found it half mile away after a three hour search.
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Rations Suspended In Number of Cases And Warning Issued

Illegal Use of Gas Coupons Indicated in One Or Two Cases

That the ban on pleasure driving is not to be taken lightly was brought home to a number of alleged violators at a public inquiry held in the agricultural building here last night by the Martin County Rationing Board and special representatives from the State office of the Office of Price Administration, Raleigh. Rations were suspended in a number of cases and meaningful warnings were issued in others, the board of inquiry recognizing bona fide excuses or claims in still others.

It was pointed out by Field Rationing Officer Don Leach that there was a war to be won, that the pleasure driving ban and 35-mile speed order were instituted in an effort to help win the war and violators could accept the consequences. It was also pointed out that a strict enforcement of the orders could be expected in the future.

Even though their rations were suspended for as many as 60 days in some cases, the alleged violators were warned that a second violation would be the suspension of all rations for the duration of the war. It was intimated following the public hearings that voluntary cooperation while around 90 per cent effective is not meeting with the emergency demands, and that special instructions are being prepared calling for a more extensive drive against pleasure driving and speeding.

Meeting with the county board last night were J. H. Paylor, OPA enforcement attorney; Claude J. Gray, field investigator; and Don Leach, field rationing officer for the OPA.

John Daniel Mason, the first man called to answer for allegedly violating the pleasure driving ban, had his rations suspended for thirty days. Mason, it was learned from the evidence, went to Bear Grass on the evening of January 9, bought some groceries and left them in the store. He picked up one "Red" Rogers, presumably to take him home for a kerosene ration book. Driving in the direction of Williamston and away from his home, Mason, the board ruled, was violating the ban. Mason, said to have told officers he was on his way to Williamston to buy a pint of liquor, explained that he was only fooling, that he was
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Respected Farmer Dies At His Home Saturday Morning

Funeral Services Held For Stephen R. Bullock On Sunday Afternoon

Stephen R. Bullock, respected citizen and farmer, died at his home near here last Saturday morning at 8:30 o'clock. A victim of a heart ailment, Mr. Bullock had been in feeble health for about a year, but up until a short time before the end he was able to be up and attend to a few minor duties on the farm.

The son of the late Robert and Pattie Knox Bullock, he was born near Everetts on August 10, 1880. When a young man he was married to Miss Martha Keel, and she with six children; Mrs. Albert Manning, of Williamston; Mrs. H. L. Strickland, of Plymouth; Mrs. R. L. White, of Bethel; Lonnie Bullock, Mrs. Ada Robertson and C. D. Bullock, all of Williamston, survives. He also leaves three brothers, J. E., Staton A. and John R. Bullock, all of the Everetts community, and two sisters, Mrs. Wm. Beach and Miss Nancy Bullock, also of Everetts.

Mr. Bullock farmed all his life. After spending a number of years in the community of his birth, he moved to the Macedonia section and later lived in Poplar Point, locating near Williamston about fifteen years ago. A hard worker, he lived by the sweat of his brow, finding peace and contentment in his own labors. He valued honesty and the friendship of his fellowman, seldom asking favors but remaining ready at all times to render a favor to others. Mr. Bullock was held in high esteem and enjoyed a large circle of friends.

Although he never affiliated with any church, he was a believer in the Primitive Baptist faith and Elder B. S. Cowin, of the Primitive Baptist Church, and Rev. Z. T. Piephoff, Presbyterian minister, conducted the last rites at the home Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock. Interment was in the family cemetery near the home.
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DRIVER

Patrolman Whit Saunders has arrested hundreds of drunken drivers since he has been with the Highway Patrol, but last Saturday he arrested and charged the first defendant with operating a tractor while in an intoxicated condition. Operating a large tractor, Walter Sermon, 23-year-old colored man, was "cutting" a wide streak up the highway near the radio station on U. S. 64. The driver, working for a logging firm, was on his way from Plymouth to Whitakers. Sermon was one of the only two persons jailed here last week-end.

Local Parents And Teachers Endorse Long School Term

Resolutions, Urging Extended Term, Salary Increase, Given to Legislators

The Williamston Parent-Teacher Association held its January meeting last Wednesday afternoon, devoting a considerable part of the session to discussion of legislative proposals to extend the state-wide school term to nine months and increase teachers' salaries. The following resolution was adopted by the association membership and has been transmitted to our duly elected representatives in the General Assembly, Hugh Horton and Clarence Griffin:

Resolved, that this association formally endorses legislative proposals for the addition of the ninth month and increase the salaries of our teachers, and that our representatives in the General Assembly, Hugh G. Horton and Clarence Griffin, be advised of our position and urged to support actively this legislation.

In the letter to the lawmakers the association expressed its position as follows:
"Our membership feels that a system which has brought about a nine months term for nearly one-third of the children of the state, yet denies that educational opportunity to others, is grossly unfair.
"We value our children as highly as do those parents in wealthier counties and cities, and desire that their opportunities in life be equal to any provided in North Carolina.
"We urge our duly elected representatives in the General Assembly to lend every assistance to the enactment of legislation which will guarantee this equality of educational opportunity in North Carolina."
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Farm Security Groups Meet Here This Week

Farmers operating under the Farm Security Administration's tenant-purchase plan are holding their annual meetings in the county courthouse this week. Mr. J. C. Eubanks, supervisor, stating that the 22 white clients would meet on Thursday for what will be nearly an all-day session. The thirteen colored patrons will meet on the following day.