



THE ENTERPRISE



VOLUME XLVI—NUMBER 12

Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Tuesday, February 9, 1943.

ESTABLISHED 1899

Reviews Fertilizer Situation At Farm Bureau Meet Here

Alteration in Grades Expected To Offset Shortages In Some Materials

Addressing a small group of Martin County farmers in the agricultural building last Friday evening, C. G. Crockett, farmer and fertilizer manufacturer, offered a fairly bright outlook for the fertilizer situation of the war could alter the picture considerably.

Turning his attention to the situation as it exists today, the fertilizer man stated that there is a shortage of certain fertilizer ingredients existing already, that the curtailed delivery of chemical nitrogen and tremendous demand for the ingredients in the manufacture of ammunition and other war materials are making it necessary to more or less ration the available supply of nitrogen. According to Mr. Crockett the supply is about 70 per cent of the 1941 supply, that by reducing the nitrogen content of mixed fertilizer by one per cent, the available supply could be equally distributed, and that the total fertilizer tonnage could be held to approximately the same figure manufactured a year ago.

There is a heavy withdrawal of potash, but it is Mr. Crockett's opinion that the supply will be made up for the curtailment of the nitrogen content," he explained, adding that any shortage of that ingredient, in his opinion, will not prove serious.

He recalled how the number of grades had been reduced from about 150 four years ago to 35 last year, and to 10 this year. While most of the grades have been altered, it is understood that there'll be very little if any change in tobacco fertilizers.

Asked what effect the changes would make, Mr. Crockett said that in his opinion the elimination of some nitrogen and the addition of potash would actually help in some instances, while in other cases it would possibly hurt. It has been suggested that some farmers are using too much nitrogen and not enough of the other ingredients.

Plans for handling a fair distribution of fertilizer have been worked out by the industry cooperating with the Food Production Administration, and the procedure is quite simple, but it is a well established fact that farmers will find it advisable to follow the procedure. A simple form, showing the amount of fertilizer used last year, number of acres and types of crops cultivated last season along with the requests for 1943 are required on one form. There is a separate form for new farmers or those moving from one section to another or who are tilling the soil for the first time. A third form will be used in making requests for nitrate of soda. It is believed that more nitrate of soda will be available this year than last, or about 75 per cent of the amount used in 1941. Mr. Crockett explained that many factors were involved, that the sinking of a few ships or increased war demands could darken the picture. Present indications are that the demand can be met to a reasonable extent in May or June.

He warned that the regulations governing the sale and use of fertilizers are not to be treated lightly, that farmers should by all means prepare the proper forms and use the fertilizer accordingly. Those who have purchased fertilizer and did not fill in one of the special forms should do so at once. Much stress is being placed on the production of Group A crops such as peanuts, soy beans, Irish and sweet potatoes. If and when the fertilizer shortage becomes acute, these crops will receive first consideration by fertilizer manufacturers. It is possible for farmers to increase their acreages planted to these crops and get more fertilizer. The Group B crops, such as tobacco and short staple cotton, will receive secondary consideration in the indirect fertilizer rationing system. Other crops such as watermelons and cantaloupes may be planted, but no fertilizer may be used. A fairly complete policing system will be set up to make certain that

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Cunninghams Sell Home And Farm Here Recently

Preparatory to making their home in the tobacco business, the E. P. Cunninghams last Saturday sold their West Main Street home and farm to Messrs. Jim Gray and Henry A. Johnson, of Robersonville. The purchase price was not disclosed, and the purchasers have not made public their plans.

The new owners took possession of the farm immediately, and Mr. and Mrs. Cunningham plan to move within the next sixty days, it was learned.

War Bond Sales Reach A High Figure In County Last Month

War bond sales reached a high point exceeding the quota for the period by more than \$27,000. After lagging during the early part of the month, the sales shot upward during the last few days to reflect the largest over-quota subscription so far recorded in this county. The January quota was \$57,500 and actual sales, figured at actual purchase price rather than maturity value, amounted to \$84,619.25.

The county quota for February has been reduced, and it is reasonable to believe that the \$43,864.75 will be subscribed with some to spare. North Carolina is being asked to buy bonds to the tune of \$6,900,000.00 this month, a spokesman for the War Savings Staff stated. "We must continue to hit the line

Increased Production Promised By Farmers

POTATO MARKET

Plans are being completed for the operation of an Irish potato market in Williamston this coming season, according to an announcement made by Mr. C. G. Crockett of the Standard Fertilizer Co. In addition to establishing a market, the company will maintain a standard grading system, making it possible for a farmer to have his potatoes graded and placed on sale at any market of the farmer's choice.

Mr. Crockett, believing that present indications point to a favorable season, explained that an effort is being established in the market to relieve as much as possible the food shortage that can become serious. Representatives of the company will be glad to discuss the potato situation, incentive payments and other facts without any obligation.

Army Rejects Large Number Of Draftees From Martin County

Fifty-eight Percent of Young Men Answering January Call Are Ruled Out

Slightly more than fifty-eight per cent of the young Martin County men answering the Army's January draft call were rejected for military service on account of physical disability or low literacy standards, it was learned from an official audit just received from the induction center. Eighteen men were accepted and three of them squeezed in with 1-B ratings. Twenty-five were rejected, 22 on account of physical disqualifications and three on account of low literacy standards. The showing was one of the poorest made by any white group of young men to leave the county, and is little better than the poorest record chalked up by colored draftees.

Three of the young men scheduled to answer the January call failed to report.

Hardly had the January call audit reached the draft board office before another contingent of white youths reported to the induction center from this county. No report has been received from the last group, but the young men are expected home some time today for their seven-day furloughs.

The names of the men accepted out of the January call are, as follows: Gilbert Hinton Ward, Robert Eason Jones, John Willis Gurganus, Stewart Harrell, William Clarence Thomas, Leslie Wilson Manning, Clarence Raymond Bryant, Haywood Elmore Wynne, William Russell Roebuck, James Morris Stalls, William Maurice Pate, James Roy Wilson, Benjamin Jordan Hopkins, James Kader Rogerson, Jr., Jasper Ellis, Richard Gladstone Slade, John Rich-

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SURRENDERED

Two Martin County motorists were directed to surrender their gasoline rationing books for designated periods by the rationing board sitting as a board of inquiry here last evening. Charged with pleasure driving, Thurman B. Harrell, of Oak City, surrendered both his A and B ration books for 60 days, and J. H. Coltrain, facing a similar charge, lost his A book for three days. The case charging J. H. Parham with exceeding the 35-mile speed regulation was dismissed when it was pointed out that precautionary measures had been taken against future violations.

War As It Relates To Home Front Is Reviewed For Week

The annual "March of Dimes" advertisement as follows: The \$127,500,000.00 raised in the county during the last Saturday by Chairman Iverson Skinner. The drive was one of the most successful ever held in the county, Mr. Skinner commented.

A total of \$550,111 was raised in the county, the chairman adding that the figure did not include reports yet to be received from Hamilton and Gold Point. Comparative speaking, Jamesville led the county with a total of \$110,343. Williamston reported the largest single amount, \$199,833, and Robersonville was second with \$114,983, but based on population Jamesville, it is admitted, held the lead.

There is a large "if" in our calculations, however. Pressure on the price structure is increasing in every direction, mainly because the huge gain in our national income—(expected to exceed \$125 billions this year) is out of line with the growing scarcity of civilian goods and services. That is, we are constantly getting more money, with which to buy fewer goods and services. The competition of dollars for the reduced supplies of everything will be far more severe were it not for the rationing of many items, and the knowledge that many more will be rationed.

War As It Relates To Home Front Is Reviewed For Week

Rationing Saved An Estimated Six Billion Dollars Last Year

Robertsonville: post office, \$2,362.50; Guaranty Bank, \$13,445.25; Williamston: post office, \$5,343.75; Branch Bank, \$33,841.75; Guaranty Bank, \$23,381.25; and Martin County Building and Loan Association, \$6,150.00; Jamesville, post office, \$93.75.

Increased Production Promised By Farmers

Incentive Payments Expected To Boost Food Crop Acreage

Soy Bean Acreage Will Likely Be Increased by About 1,500 Acres

Despite labor shortages, uncertainties and the bad taste left in some instances by the oil peanut market last season, Martin County farmers are promising increased acreages of food, feed and oil crops for 1943, according to an incomplete survey of the office of the county agent a few days ago. The program plans have not been prepared and signed in their entirety, and definite figures are not yet available. It is apparent, however, that substantial increases will be made in the acreage of peanuts to be farmed. Based on 95 per cent of the larger plans, the survey shows that the soy bean acreage will be increased by nearly 1,500 acres, and the survey also indicates that peanuts will be planted on more than 22,000 acres in the county this year.

After the crop plans were filed, the United States Department of Agriculture announced that incentive payments will be made for acreages planted in excess of the goal for food and feed crops. Some farmers are already asking to increase their goals, and record production is expected in some instances.

The farmers in making out their crop plans agreed to plant about as many Irish potatoes as they did last year, but after the incentive payments were announced, quite a few farmers changed their plans and are now planning to increase their plantings. A market for Irish potatoes is to be opened in Williamston this spring, and it is understood that more farmers in and around the town will go into the potato business and old growers will increase their acreages.

A farmer who has an Irish potato goal of three acres and plants that many, will receive 50 cents a bushel as incentive payment on three-tenths of one acre, the payment to be in addition to the regular market price. A guaranteed price of \$2.40 a hundred has been mentioned with the possibility that it will be increased to \$3. If a farmer plants 3.7 acres of Irish potatoes, the incentive payment will apply to one acre, that is, he will be paid 50 cents a bushel extra on all potatoes grown on one acre. The rate of incentive

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Danford Brown Dies At Home In County

Danford Brown, well-known citizen and retired farmer, died at his home near Hassell last Sunday evening at 9:20 o'clock of a heart attack. He had been in declining health for a year or more, and his condition was regarded as serious some time before the end. The seventy years old he was the son of the late Sebrun Brown, of this county, and wife, the late Martha E. Harrell Brown, formerly of Edgecombe County. Mr. Brown had farmed all his life, holding to his tasks as long as his health permitted him to do so. He was a member of the Christian Church at Gold Point for twenty years, and was highly regarded by those who knew him. He is survived by one son, P. H. Brown, of the home, and two sisters, Mrs. J. H. Hyman and Mrs. N. B. Bland, all of this county. Funeral services are being conducted this afternoon at 3 o'clock from the home by Rev. W. M. Perry. Interment will follow in the family cemetery on the home farm.

War As It Relates To Home Front Is Reviewed For Week

Rationing Saved An Estimated Six Billion Dollars Last Year

dent Roosevelt's birthday anniversary and to combat infantile paraisy, is was a marked success in this county, according to a preliminary but fairly complete report filed as of last Saturday by Chairman Iverson Skinner. The drive was one of the most successful ever held in the county, Mr. Skinner commented.

A total of \$550,111 was raised in the county, the chairman adding that the figure did not include reports yet to be received from Hamilton and Gold Point. Comparative speaking, Jamesville led the county with a total of \$110,343. Williamston reported the largest single amount, \$199,833, and Robersonville was second with \$114,983, but based on population Jamesville, it is admitted, held the lead.

Earm Registrants Are Reclassified By Board

Fourth Of The New Classifications Are Based On Unit Plan

Not Certain That Present Law Will Be Continued Any Length of Time

Holding another long session here last night, the Martin County Draft Board reclassified twenty-eight registrants with no assurance that the classifications will hold for any length of time. Hardly before the draft board had established a unit basis for agricultural deferments, sweeping changes were proposed in the draft law. If the proposed law passes, farm deferments and work-ups for all occupational workers will be out for single men and they will be called in order irrespective of dependency and other factors. With the present regulations subject to change, the board hardly more than tested the farm deferment plan at the meeting. It is quite possible that the new classifications assigned at the meeting will be changed if Congress decides that all single men must be called before the reservoir of married men is tapped.

Under the provisions of the proposed law, men between the ages of 18 and 65 and women between the ages of 18 and 50 would be made subject to draft for work in industry and agriculture, making it possible to call all single men into service regardless of vocation or dependency and replace them in the factor or on the farm from the labor draft.

Twenty-eight cases were reviewed and classifications assigned at the meeting here last night. The number is so small that it is hardly possible to determine a trend, but taking the first fourteen cases at their face value, five of the registrants qualified for deferment under the farm unit plan. Two were placed in 1-A, the others in 2-B, 3-B or 3-A classifications as the conditions demanded.

Starting with the first man in the files, Milgram Bradford, married farmer living on RFD 3, Williamston, the board found that he was directly responsible for the production of twelve war units. He was placed in 3-C. Now, if the law is not changed and the registrant does not change his position, he will continue in that classification. However, if he changes from farming to an unessential occupation, he immediately subjects

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J. B. Mallory Dies At Home In County

J. B. Mallory, native of Granville County and capable tobacco farmer died at his home near Everetts last Saturday morning at 3 o'clock from a heart attack. He had been ill about two weeks. The son of the late Sidney C. Mallory and Lula York Mallory, he was born in Granville County 55 years ago. He moved to this county in 1926 and married Miss Bessie Whitfield who survived with three children, Harry, Whiti and Lula Patrick Mallory, all of the home. He is also survived by a sister, Mrs. A. L. Keel, of Everetts. After living in this county for some years, he moved to Bertie County, returning after a few years to this county and locating in the Oak City section. He had just moved to the Everetts community a short time ago. Mr. Mallory was a capable tobacco farmer and enjoyed a large friendship in his adopted communities. Funeral services were conducted Sunday afternoon at the home at 3 o'clock by Rev. J. M. Perry, Robersonville minister. Interment was in the Everetts Cemetery.

ROUND-UP

Following a period of little activity during the previous period, local police reported more than a 100 per cent increase in their business last week-end. Eight drunks and a deserter were jailed during the period by the police to give them about an average record for arrests. Four of the nine arrested were white, and the ages of the group ranged from 19 to 55 years. Only four persons were arrested and placed in the jail during the previous week-end.

Fight Against Paralysis Aply Supported By Martin Citizens

The annual "March of Dimes" advertisement as follows: The \$127,500,000.00 raised in the county during the last Saturday by Chairman Iverson Skinner. The drive was one of the most successful ever held in the county, Mr. Skinner commented.

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There is a large "if" in our calculations, however. Pressure on the price structure is increasing in every direction, mainly because the huge gain in our national income—(expected to exceed \$125 billions this year) is out of line with the growing scarcity of civilian goods and services. That is, we are constantly getting more money, with which to buy fewer goods and services. The competition of dollars for the reduced supplies of everything will be far more severe were it not for the rationing of many items, and the knowledge that many more will be rationed.

Shoes Included In Group Of Articles On Rationing List

Generally Believed Allowances Will Not Cause Any Great Hardships

Without advanced warning, shoes were included in the group of rationed articles by a special order emanating from the Office of Price Administration in Washington last Sunday. Stores were closed yesterday and today purchases were possible only in exchange for Stamp No. 17 in War Ration Book One, and the cash, of course.

All shoes, including low quarter, high quarter or whatnot are now being rationed at the rate of about three pairs a year except in unusual cases where such people as policemen and mail men wear 'em out at a rapid rate. Bedroom slippers, soft-soled baby shoes and shoes without rubber or leather soles are not being rationed. Stamp No. 17 will allow the purchase of one pair of shoes until June 15. By June 15th some kind of stamps to cover additional shoe purchases will be provided.

It is not believed that the rationing order will cause any great hardships, and in special cases it will be possible for some to get additional pairs. The manufacture of unnecessary and there'll be no more spike heels, evening slippers, men's patent leathers, few sport shoes, no two tones, or gold or silver slippers made. Here are the other facts that consumer needs to know about shoe rationing: If you buy shoes and they don't fit, take them back. The store must give you back a stamp 17 and a receipt which will entitle you to another pair of shoes in that or any other store. Stamp 17 in any ration book owned by a member of your family can be used by any other member of the family. Thus parents can use their

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Desrter Returned To Military Police

Absent without leave and said to be recognized as a deserter, D. E. Davis, 21-year-old white youth, was arrested at his home near here last Friday night by Patrolman Here Saunders. Young Davis was reported absent without leave just a few weeks ago. Detained by local police at that time, he was called for by Army police and returned to camp. It is understood he was placed in the guard house for a short stay and later transferred to Camp Butler. Receiving his pay, approximately \$100, on the 27th of January, the young man did not answer the next call, and instructions were issued calling for his arrest. He was removed from the county jail yesterday afternoon and turned over to military police and carried to Fort Bragg where court martial stares him in the face.

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Red Army Is Driving Forward After Great Victories In South

Kursk Recaptured and Battle Of Rostov Now Said To Be Raging

After scoring great victories at Stalingrad and virtually trapping between an estimated 150,000 and 200,000 German troops in the West Caucasus, the Red Army is moving forward on other fronts, mauling the invaders back in rapid fashion. Kursk, an anchorage in the more or less recaptured German positions, has been reclaimed by the Russians, and the drive into the Ukraine at Kharkov apparently is gaining momentum. A furious battle is said to be raging today at Rostov, late reports stating that the Russians have already pierced the outer defenses of the vital center. It is thought by some that the Germans will abandon Rostov and withdraw to safer quarters.

The fall of Kursk, 125 miles north of Kharkov, was one of the deadliest blows dealt the Germans since their defeat at Stalingrad. The victory was announced in a special communique, which said that the Soviets captured the city Sunday in a swift, head-on drive, supplemented by a flanking movement from the northwest.

Since they overran Kursk in November, 1941, the Germans had converted the city of 75,000 into one of the strongest of their "hedghog" bases in Russia, and it constituted a keystone on the formidable north-south Orel-Kursk-Kharkov line which defended the western flank of the Don basin and the approaches to the Dnieper.

Kursk also was the junction of the Moscow-Kharkov trunk railway and the line between Voronezh and Kiev. Its fall opened up the possibility of gigantic flanking movements against not only Kharkov to the south and Orel to the north, but also the intermediate base of Belgorod, 45 miles northeast of Kharkov.

Tremendous stores of booty were captured at Kursk, the communique said. Adding to the picture of the Kursk success was the announcement in the midnight bulletin that Soviet troops north of the city had captured more than 1,000 prisoners, two tanks, five guns, 26 trucks and other rich booty in one day's fighting.

"In their retreat the Germans are abandoning their wounded to their fate and even finishing them off," the communique said. "In the village of Timiryazovo, Hitlerites blew up a hospital in which 27 wounded German officers and men were housed." The devastation at Stalingrad is being revealed following surveys of the once model city by correspondents. Not one building was left standing and few walls were left intact by the ruthless invaders.

Though they dropped millions of pounds of air bombs on it and pumped shells into it for months, they never able to claim it for themselves. Just a mass of wreckage, frozen German bodies and frozen pools of blood mark the spot of one of the greatest military stands in all history.

In the Pacific arena, American armymen, taking over from the marines, have wiped out the last organized resistance, a report early this afternoon declaring that the Japs have been reduced to a very small number in isolated groups and that they are facing death or surrender. The island is now claimed in its entirety by American forces.

Developments in the sea-air fighting are still underway on what has been described to be a sporadic schedule. Neither side has withdrawn and details are not to be had on the fighting, but both sides have experienced losses. One of the most extensive raids has been directed on the Japs in New Guinea and another on Rangoon.

Air attacks in the Mediterranean area feature the fighting in that part of the world, Allied airmen having just announced that twenty-eight more German planes had been shot down in Africa against five Allied planes lost. General Montgomery's 8th Army is now in the fight in Tunisia, unofficial reports stating that the British are making it plenty hot for Rommel's Africa Corps. The Americans are now facing Rommel's men, but heavy rains continue to fall and little activity has been reported along the 150 mile line held by the Yanks.

With about ten German divisions entrenched along the Mediterranean from Bizerte to the Mareth line a short distance below Gabes, the Allied forces, including the Americans, British and Fighting French are tightening their ranks along the approximately 300 mile front in preparation for a drive to rid the enemy from his coastal positions varying in depth from about 30 to 65 miles. The

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Firemen Called To West Main Street Late Sunday

Starting from a spark, fire did right much damage to the roof of a small tenant house just off West Main Street last Sunday evening at 6:20 o'clock. Fire broke out in several places, but it was brought under control with a small hose line from the fire truck.