



# THE ENTERPRISE



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## Clamp Down Lid On Purchase Of Canned Fruits - Vegetables

**Stringent Regulations Virtually Tear Can Open-er from Kitchen Shelf**

Far-reaching changes in the country's eating habits were predicted today as a result of drastic regulations governing the rationing of canned vegetables and canned fruits. Based on the new system, purchases will be limited to about four cans per month for each person on an average. Those housewives who have been feeding the family out of tin cans apparently have a real problem on their hands, but possibly a majority of the people in this section will be little affected by the stringent food rationing plan.

Realizing the seriousness of the situation, flower gardeners were heard changing their plans here yesterday and a general trend from the cultivation of flowers to vegetables is now fairly certain. No one is likely to starve under the new rationing system, but a marked change in eating habits is certain for many.

Each person is allowed 48 points each month and on an average he may purchase four cans of canned goods. The point cost for soups is not so high and one may buy about 8 cans of soup weighing ten and one-half ounces per can.

The point system, upon which the new rationing plan is based, has the following values, based on the No. 2 can:

Fruits and juices: apple, apple-sauce, grapefruit, grape juice and all other canned and bottled fruits, juices and combinations, 10 points each; Apricots and pineapple, 16 points; Berries, all varieties, cherries, cranberries and sauce, fruits for salad and fruit cocktail, peaches, pears and pineapple juice, 14 points.

Vegetables and vegetable juices: asparagus, green beans, carrots, corn, spinach, tomato catsup and chili sauce, tomato juice, and all other canned and bottled vegetables, vegetable juices and combinations, 14 points each; fresh lima beans, peas, tomatoes and tomato products, 16 points each; beans, all canned and bottled dry varieties, including pork and beans, 10 points for each No. 2 can; sauerkraut, 5 points each. The No. 2 can weighs from one pound and two ounces to one pound and six ounces.

Soups, canned and bottled, all varieties, six points for a 10 1/2 ounce can.

Baby foods, canned and bottled, all varieties except milk and cereals, one point for four ounces through five and one-half ounces.

Frozen foods carry for the most part a value of ten points.

The following are not included in the rationing system:

Candied fruits, chili con carne, fruit cakes, fruit puddings, jams and jellies, olives, pickles, potato salad, preserves, relishes; frozen fruits in containers of more than 10 pounds; frozen vegetables in containers of more than 10 pounds; fruit juices in containers of more than one gallon; meat stews containing some vegetables; pasta products such as spaghetti, macaroni, noodles, whether or not they are packed with added vegetable sauces; vegetable juices in containers of more than one gallon; and by-products of fruits and vegetables, such as soybean oil, soybean milk, fruit and vegetable dyes and similar items.

Price Administrator Prentiss M. Brown, illustrating the "toughness" of the plan in operation, pointed out that the monthly allotment of 48 points will allow the purchase of one can each of peas and tomatoes in the popular No. 1 size can and one No. 2 1/2 size can of peaches.

"The civilian population of the United States," he said, "will have 254,000,000 cases of canned fruits and vegetables available for their use from March 1 to the end of September, 1944. This will mean a little more than 13,000,000 cases a month of civilian consumption for the next 19 months. The civilian population had almost 30,000,000 cases a month for their use during the 1941-42 year. "This means we will be eating less than half as much canned and processed foods as we ate the previous years. We'll go on this scant ration so that our fighting forces and the

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## Local Taxi Driver Is Held Up Monday

Howard Griffin, driver for a local taxi company, was found asleep in his parked taxi near Beaver Dam Swamp between here and Everett's yesterday morning about 8 o'clock, the alleged victim of a hold-up and robbery.

No report could be had immediately from the sheriff's office and few details could be learned. Griffin, said to have been released by his employer, could not be reached for a statement.

According to one source, the man was said to have picked up two colored fares about 5:30 yesterday morning and was traveling toward Everett's when they slugged him and took his pocket book with about \$50 in it.

## To Map Plans For Red Cross War Fund Drive In Chapter

Meeting in the courthouse here Thursday evening at 8 o'clock, Red Cross officials and volunteers will map final plans for a chapter-wide drive to raise \$3,900, the Martin County Chapter's quota in the Red Cross 1943 War Fund. Bill Spivey, chairman of the War Fund drive, and J. C. Manning, chairman of the chapter, will meet with the volunteer canvassers and outline the plans for the drive. Volunteers and other interested citizens are invited and urged to attend the meeting which will be held in the county commissioners' room. Material will be distributed to the canvassers attending the meeting, and it is important that every one who can and will take part in the drive be present.

The American Red Cross is calling for a far greater amount this year than it did following Pearl Harbor, 1941, when this chapter and others throughout the nation over-

scribed their quotas for wide margins. The increase in the drive, it is no greater in proportion than is the increased need. In fact, it is the opinion of many that the organization should call for even more money so that it services could be increased.

About 30 per cent of the money collected in the chapter will be held at home to finance local projects. The sewing room project is financed almost entirely by those funds, the chairman explaining that approximately \$140 was spent only recently for yarn and other materials. While the Army furnishes the material for the surgical bandages, the chapter is responsible for incidentals, such as heat, lights and so on. Other services, such as that offered in cases of serious illness and death, are financed locally, meaning that the cost at home will be increased.

## CALL FOR BOOKS

Reporting a great need for more good books for use in army camps and service areas, the American Library Association, Red Cross and USO are asking the general public to participate in the Victory Book Campaign which is now underway throughout the nation. If you have a book you want to keep, that is the book you are asked to give to the men in the armed services. Many calls are being made by the service men for western and detective stories.

In this county the schools are receiving the books. Send a spare book to school by your child or leave it at the local drug stores. Miss Elizabeth House, regional librarian, will collect the books from the schools and turn them over to the camp libraries.

## Cited For Pleasure Driving - Speeding

Several Martin County persons were called before the Martin County Rationing Board in the agricultural building Monday night for alleged violation of the pleasure driving ban and the 35-mile speed regulation. Two persons cited for violating the regulations did not report.

Recognized as little more than a racket, excessive driving by some part-time preachers was scored by the board this week when "Rev." Blossom Bellamy's A and B books were confiscated for a period of 30 days. He was charged with pleasure driving. It is to be noted that Bellamy did not have the "C" book more or less in common use.

The case against Ophus Revels was dismissed when it was learned that he had sold his car. Charged with pleasure driving, Cleo Leathers was allowed to retain his A and B gas books when he pointed out that his father was sick and had to be on a special diet, and that he was the only son at home.

Charged with exceeding the 35-mile limit, Haywood Fields, of Palmyra RFD 1, was said to have held improperly marked coupons and the case was continued for further investigation.

G. H. Edmondson, charged with pleasure driving, failed to report.

The case charging Nathaniel Hopkins with pleasure driving was dismissed when it was learned that he had lost his gas book a month ago.

Julian Fagan, charged with speeding, did not report.

## Army Men Enjoy Short Visit Here Recently

Members of an artillery group apparently enjoyed a brief stop in Williamston recently according to a note received by Rev. John W. Hardy, of the USO, from Colonel Harry P. Newton. Arriving here late one afternoon and leaving the next morning, the men had such a brief visit that they came and went before many townspeople knew they were here.

Colonel Newton said in his letter: "I wish to express my appreciation for your very successful effort in providing entertainment for my officers and men during their short stay in Williamston. The men enjoyed the evening thoroughly and will, I am sure, always remember Williamston as a very hospitable town."

## MORE CHECKS

The payment of soil conservation benefits to Martin County farmers is advancing by leaps and bounds, Miss Mary Carstaphen, clerk in the office of the county agent, stating this week that a total of \$47,715 had been paid to date. Coming direct from the AAA regional office in Richmond, the payments representing 684 applications were made to 1,319 farmers.

Less than half of the applications have cleared the office, and it is estimated the total payments will exceed \$100,000 in the county this year.

## TOWN - FARM IN WARTIME

Weekly news digest from the town and farm

### Many Jobs Are War Jobs

Such essential civilian activities as agriculture, food processing, mining, textiles, transportation, communications, heating, power and educational services are "war jobs," says the War Manpower Commission. People engaged in these activities are considered essential to the war effort and are exempt from military service as well as in peace, and essential civilian workers are on an equal plane with workers in basic war industries.

### No Frills on Shoes

Unessential frills on shoes have been eliminated by order of WPB which also limited the height of heels on women's shoes, and restricted colors to four—black, white, army russet and town brown. Some shoes will be discontinued. They include men's patent leather, men's sandals, men's and women's metal spiked golf shoes, and women's formal evening slippers. Heavy leather may be used only for making work shoes, cowboy utility boots, and lined police shoes.

### Nurses Should Register

Every graduate nurse in the country is urged to register with the Nursing, Health and Medical Committee, Office of Defense Health and Welfare services of the Federal Security Agency. Fifty per cent have already returned their cards, according to the War Manpower Commission, but the need is urgent because nursing units will be formed on a voluntary basis as fast as possible.

### 1942 Onion Sets

Temporary sixty day ceilings have been placed on the 1942 crop of onion sets by OPA, at the highest levels at which sales were made by growers or merchandisers during the five days between February 10 and 14, 1943. Both commercial growers and "Victory Gardeners" will benefit by the regulation.

### The new ceilings reflect an average price to the grower of about \$5 a bushel and are more than double the price paid during the 1937-1941 seasons.

### Retail Sales

Total retail sales in 1942 reached the record total of \$56,382,000,000 which was an increase of 4 per cent over 1941. Sales at retail in 1942 were 45 per cent higher than in the 1935-1939 base period.

### Trend of Food Prices

Prices of foods under OPA control since May rose 3 per cent from December 15 to January 12 to a level 1.8 per cent above last May. Prices of uncontrolled foods (about 10 per cent of the family food bill) decreased 2.3 per cent and now stand 27.2 per cent above the May level. This is the first decline in prices of uncontrolled foods since May.

### War Boards on Farm Machinery

U. S. Dept. of Agriculture War Boards now have the authority by amendment to food production order 3, to approve changes in distribution quotas for rationed farm machinery and equipment.

### Quotas for Boilers Increased

Quotas of iron and steel to be used in the manufacture of low-pressure cast iron boilers for war housing and civilian replacement needs, and in repair parts for such boilers, during the first six months of 1943, have been increased by WPB.

### War Expenditures by the United States Government totaled \$6,254,000,000 in January. This was 2.1 per cent higher than December and 185 per cent greater than in January 1942. The average daily rate of expenditure in January was \$240,500,000 compared with \$235,600,000 in December. The January 1942, \$81,200,000 was spent daily for war purposes.

### Older Students Leaving Schools In This County

No detailed report could be had, but reports heard here during the past few days point to quite a heavy withdrawal of older boys from the several high schools in this county for work on the farms. The withdrawal has not reached serious proportions, but the trend now underway is recognized by some as pointing toward the closing of the high schools sooner or later if present conditions are aggravated much more.

## Worker Killed By Tree In Logwoods

Alec Hill, Jamesville colored man, was instantly killed by a falling tree while working in the logwoods in Griffiths Township yesterday morning about 11:45 o'clock.

Employed by Sam Godard, logging contractor, Hill was sawing down a big gum tree with Andrew Marriner, also of Jamesville. They had sawed the tree almost through when the saw hung. They drove several wedges into the tree, and Hill walked away to get another saw to finish the task. He had gone only a few feet when the tree started to fall. Marriner called a warning, and Hill turned and ran directly into the path of the falling tree. His skull was crushed.

Investigating the accident, Coroner S. R. Biggs ruled that it was accidental and no formal inquest was considered necessary.

Hill, about 45 years of age, was a willing worker.

## AIR RAID ALERT

According to reliable information, an air raid alert or blackout can be expected in this district between now and late next Friday night.

## Martin County Draft Board Is Building Up Reserve From Group Of Single Men With Dependents

### School Bus Mileage Order Puzzling To Some Parents

The order coming from the Office of Defense Transportation and calling for reduced school bus mileage is being received in this county without much complaint. But the order coming under present conditions is proving puzzling to quite a few parents whose children are being forced to walk as many as two miles to get to school.

Several parents were in the office of the superintendent of counties last week in connection with the order. While they expressed every willingness to cooperate in the war program and have their children walk, it was quite apparent that something about the order is puzzling to them. "We are recognizing the order for what it is worth, but we simply can't understand why our government permits beer, wine and liquor trucks to continue to travel the highways when little children are forced to walk," one father speaking quite humbly but with some misgiving, was quoted as saying. The pleasure ban is highly effective, but there is enough of that type of driving along with the unnecessary trips to run the school busses to every door in Martin County every day in the week.

The order, turning around busses a mile and one-half from the end of their old trips, went into effect on Monday or on the same day that the county rationing board was flooded with loyal citizens applying for "extra" gas.

While some of the parents are possibly "wasting" gas, others who are saving every drop to the point of inconveniencing themselves are quoted as saying that they are getting fed up with a system that allows some to travel home for the week-end from the defense centers, others to make numerous trips when one would suffice, and still others to take advantage of the ban by fair or foul means.

## Majority Of Recent County Draftees Is Unfit For The Army

### One Out Of Fifteen White Men Enters Navy At Service Induction Center

The old story that many are called but few are chosen still plagues Martin County draftees reporting for service in the armed forces, a recent audit showing that more than half of the last group of young white men to report were rated unfit for military duty. One other was rejected because he had been discharged from the Navy. He was quickly replaced, however, when the Navy accepted one out of the group passing the final physical tests.

Of the fourteen accepted by the Army, eleven were placed in 1-A and three squeezed in with 1-B physical ratings. Three failed to report and one, Tofik (Mitchell) Michael, was transferred to another board. It was learned later that he had already been inducted and that he had requested to be sent immediately to Egypt. Of the 17 failing to pass the tests, sixteen were ruled out on account of physical disabilities.

It is understood that one of those accepted for service later transferred to the Marine Corps, but his name could not be learned immediately.

The names of the men accepted follow: William Victor Andrews, James Julian Jackson, James Hope Ayers, Melvin Dudley Bennett, Ervin Clyde Cullipher, James Henry Warren, Jr., William Adrian Roberson, Cecil Ward Pierce, James Phillip Williams, Navy; Joe John Johnson, Jr., Joseph Edward Boykin, Jr., Edward Ashley Roberson, James Hilry Edmondson, Wilton Leverage Godard, William Eugene Peele.

Those rejected were: Joseph Tillman Coltrain, James Dennis Bunting, Joseph Lollie Barnhill, John David Bryan, Andrew Edmondson Bullock, Richard Earl Bland, Jesse Thomas Moore, Rodney Harvey Roberson, Earl Miller Harrell, James Edward Moore, Julian Robert Rawls, Jr., Noah Saunders Roberson, Burtis Conway Nelson, Linwood Maurice Brown, William Wade Gurganus, Morris Mizelle Mobley, John Henry Bowen.

Joseph William Hardison, Edgar Martin L. Whaley and Henry Thomas Daniel failed to report, the draft board being notified that Daniel underwent an emergency operation in a Norfolk hospital just before he was to be inducted.

## Registrations Go Forward Rapidly

Preliminary reports from a few of the registration centers this morning indicate that the people of this county are calling for their No. 2 war ration books in large numbers. Nearly 700 books—698 to be exact—were issued in Williamston Monday afternoon between 2 and 7 o'clock p. m. Most other sections reported a brisk business during the first day.

The registration will continue in both the white and colored schools throughout the county until Thursday evening, except in Robersonville where plans were made to keep the registration place open longer.

In the local schools, registrations are being handled between 2 and 7 p. m.

## Number Farmers Are Ineligible For C Classifications

### Board Places Twenty-eight of Forty-two Single Farmers In 1-A Group

Not certain that the next one or two calls can be filled from the 1-A ranks, the Martin County Draft Board is now building up a reserve from that group of single men with dependents.

The exact status of about 38 1-A men instructed to report early next week for their preliminary physical examinations cannot be determined at this time, but at a meeting of the board here last night it was made fairly apparent that few if any single men with dependents would be called in March. It was pointed out that possibly a small number of the men now in the 3-A classification who are being called to report for the preliminary physical examination will be placed in the 1-A classification and made subject to call. Each of the cases will be reviewed and the men will be notified if there is any change made in their classification, that is if they are transferred from 3-A to 1-A.

The board, expecting fairly heavy calls in March and in succeeding months, is scraping the bottom of the barrel for potential manpower before going into those classifications embracing single men with dependents and married men with and without children. The reclassifications last night were made from the farm group principally; that is, the board reviewed claims for reclassification under the farm production unit program. Forty-three cases were reviewed, and of the forty-two filed by single farmers, twenty-eight were placed in 1-A, the board ruling that its opinion that number 1-A is directly responsible for the production of the required farm units.

Some discrepancies were said to have been found in some claims, but what action if any will be taken in those cases by the board could not be learned. It was intimated that 1-A classifications can be expected in such cases.

Other than the farm classifications the board handled one dealing with a married man who had deserted his wife and family. He was placed in 1-A.

The reclassifications follow: Harry Jordan Smith, w, RFD 3, Williamston, 1-A; Samuel David Jenkins, w, RFD 2, Robersonville, 1-A; William Stanley Peele, Jr., w, RFD 2, Williamston, 1-A; John Arnold Stalls, Jr., w, RFD 1, Oak City, 2-C; David Louis Callaway, w, RFD 1, Jamesville, 2-C; Major Earle Council, w, Oak City, 1-A; Ira Frederick Griffin, w, RFD 1, Williamston, 1-A; Marion Taylor Holliday, w, RFD 1, Jamesville, 2-C; Hosten Rubben Burroughs, w, RFD 3, Williamston, 3-A; Leonard Harold Ange, w, RFD 1, Jamesville, classification pending investigation; James Alphonso Everett, Jr., w, RFD 1, Palmyra, 1-A; Albert James Martin, w, RFD 1, Jamesville, 2-C; Henry Felton Rogers, w, RFD 2, Williamston, 2-C; Charlie Elmer Bridgman, w, RFD 1, Williamston, 1-A; William Thomas Brown, w, Oak City, 1-A; Lester Lee Knox, w, RFD 2, Robersonville, 1-A; Robert Lee Everett, w, RFD 1, Robersonville, 1-A; William McDalton Cratt, w, RFD 2, Williamston, 1-A; Paul Chester Edmondson, Jr., w, Hassell, 1-A; Lawrence Edwin Coltrain, w, RFD 1, Jamesville, 2-C.

## Civic Clubs Sponsor Boy Scout Dinner

The two local men's civic clubs, the Lions and Kiwanis, will be joint hosts to the members of local Boy Scout Troop No. 27 at a dinner here Thursday night of this week. This affair will begin at 7:00 o'clock and will be held at the high school gym.

In addition to the present members of the local troop, fathers of scouts who are not members of either civic club are also invited, and club members not having sons of their own are expected to have as his guest some boy who is interested in becoming a scout. Any boy who has reached the age of nine years is eligible to become either a Cub or a regular scout.

As a special feature of the evening, the scout committee has been fortunate in securing the presence of Dr. Maynard O. Fletcher, business manager of Tayloe Hospital, Washington, and who is the president of the East North Carolina Council of Boy Scouts. Dr. Fletcher has done a great deal toward the advancement of scouting in eastern North Carolina, and it is felt that his talk will certainly be enjoyable and instrumental.

The Lions and Kiwanis Clubs are now jointly sponsoring the Scout movement locally, and all members of both clubs are urged to attend this supper, to show the boys that they are really backing them up in their efforts to form a stronger and larger troop.

This joint meeting will take the place of the regular fourth Thursday dinner meeting of the Lions Club.

## County Boy Making Good In Uncle Sam's Navy

Enlisting some time ago, Simon E. Perry, Jr., Martin County youth, who is now a seaman first class, is making good in Uncle Sam's Navy down at Bradford, Norfolk.

According to word reaching here, the young man was one of six picked out of a large group for a special assignment. Perry, the only North Carolina boy in the group, and other members of his class made the highest average of any to take the special training course.

## Death Car Driver Is Placed Under Bond

William Henry Knight, young colored man charged with reckless driving, manslaughter and failing to report an accident, was placed under bond in the sum of \$500 at a hearing held before Mayor Leggett in Hassell last Friday evening.

Knight was driving a car when it went out of control and fatally injured Cassie C. Sneed, 30-year-old colored woman, on Highway No. 11 the latter part of last month.

At the hearing, Knight declared that the lights of another car blinded him. Witnesses declared that no other car was in sight, that the victim of the accident pleaded with Knight and urged him to slow down before he reached the curve where the car went out of control.

The case will be booked for trial in the superior court next month.