

Whiskey Sales Set New High Record in County

Total Of \$1,179,317 Spent For Liquor Since Stores Open

Last Quarter Sales \$137,476, Largest on Record For Any Other Period

Jumping from the previous high figure of \$80,357.25 recorded for the third quarter of last year, liquor sales went well over the \$100,000 mark in this county for the fourth quarter in 1942, the audit for the latter period, just released, showing that an all-time high sales record of \$137,476.80 was established by the four legal stores in the months of October, November and December, 1942. The sales for the last quarter were more than twice as great as those recorded in the fourth quarter of 1941 when the gross income amounted to \$65,754.75. Total sales for 1942 approximated a third of a million dollars, or \$324,594.45, to be exact, and were nearly twice as large as they were in 1941. Few firms in this county had a volume of business that will compare with the legal liquor sales.

Hampered by shortages, rationing and other effects of war, general business hardly held its own in this county while the liquor trade experienced its wildest growth in its nearly eight years in this county. Additions were made to the store personnel, and rationing was resorted to just before the holidays to stem the flowing tide.

Add beer and wine sales to the \$137,476.80 and the total, it is conservatively estimated, will push on toward a quarter of a million dollars for the quarter. No official figures for beer and wine sales are to be had but it was reliably learned that wine sales in a 2 by 4 filling station were almost \$1,500 in one week just before last Christmas, giving some idea of the size of the alcoholic beverage business.

Liquor prices during the quarter than they were a year ago, but the more than 100 per cent increase in sales is traceable in the main to the increased consumption of the spirits.

Increases in sales were general in all the stores. Williamston and Jamesville more than doubling theirs while Robersonville and Oak City fell a fraction under a 100 per cent gain. The following figures offer a comparison of sales for the fourth

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Fined For Drunken Horseback Riding

During his long years as a trial justice, Mayor John L. Hassell has had many people before him charged with many types of crime, but this week he had the first case charging a defendant with drunken horseback riding. The mayor admitted the defendant, Charlie Godard, colored, was not so drunk he couldn't stay on the horse, but he was of the opinion that the man was too drunk for safety. Judgment was suspended upon the payment of \$5 costs.

The mayor had a comparatively light docket in his court this week when only four cases were scheduled for trial.

Charged with being drunk and disorderly, Ernest Godard was fined \$3 and taxed with the costs.

Sam Henry Williams, charged with speeding and operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license, was bound over to the county court for trial. Bond was required in the sum of \$50.

Charged with being drunk and down, but not out, Luther Bonds was sentenced to the roads for thirty days the court suspending the sentence upon the payment of \$7.50 case costs.

Warehouse Owners Declare Dividends

Holding their annual meeting in the county courthouse here Wednesday afternoon, stockholders of the Roanoke Warehouse Company declared a six per cent dividend on its operations for 1942, and named officers for the current year.

Mr. Henry D. Peel, who has ably served the organization as its president for a long number of years, insisted that he could not continue to serve. Mr. W. Iverson Skinner was elected president to succeed Mr. Peel. Mr. S. C. Griffin was re-elected vice president and John R. Peel was continued as secretary-treasurer.

The dividend is the 21st declared by the company. The following directors were elected: Henry D. Peel, chairman; C. D. Carstarphen, H. L. Barnhill, S. C. Griffin, Calvin Ayers, Jesse Keel, J. Daniel Biggs, Joseph S. Griffin and Joshua L. Coltrain.

Allied Army Driving Nazis From Strong Position In Tunisia

Critical Positions Regained as American Forces Regain Lost Territory

Trapped in a ten-day drive starting at Faid Pass and leading through Kasserine Gap, American forces in Tunisia have broken out of that trap and are now pushing the mighty Rommel back toward the sea. The situation has been reversed, and the critical position the Americans found themselves in only a few days ago is being created for the enemy.

Under the field command of General Sir Harold Alexander, British and American forces were declared to have launched the long-awaited double squeeze on the Axis bridgehead in North Africa.

Kasserine Pass, from which Marshal Erwin Rommel last Sunday threatened to break into Algeria, was being savagely cleared of the last Axis defenses while the east Allied planes loosed a deadly air barrage on the enemy's rear, striking his airfields, supply depots and transport columns.

(The Axis still is getting large numbers of troops and supplies, Canadian press correspondent Ross Munro reported from field headquarters. He said an American pilot patrolling the Sicilian Straits saw large enemy convoys steaming toward Tunisia and that the pilot had seen 40 large German transport planes landing troops at Bizerte.) Allied tank columns and infantry were reported threatening German positions at Sbeitla and Ousselta above the Kasserine Gap.

Thus, instead of Rommel assuming a dominating position on the Algerian frontier, dispatches showed that he was being compelled to pull back his shattered armor toward the coastal corridor in eastern Tunisia.

In the south, his Mareth Line appeared due to suffer a large-scale attack from the British Eighth Army veterans of General Sir Bernard L. Montgomery.

French headquarters announced that the Germans had been beaten back west of Ousselta with serious losses when they tried to launch an attack. Prisoners were taken.

The Americans have regained from ten to fifteen miles of the ground they lost, but it is possible that Rommel will attempt another drive. Allied losses have been quite heavy, but not as heavy as preliminary reports indicated they would be.

Over on the Eastern front, the Russians have broken through strong defenses west of Kharkov, but weather conditions have slowed the Soviets down on other fronts.

In Burma, the Japs ran into serious death when forty of their planes dove in for an attack and all but nine were destroyed by Allied fighters.

The Chinese are battling the Japs effectively in the Salween River area.

The Royal Air Force is over Germany again today, following extensive raids over industrial areas on the continent last night.

Trouble is brewing in a big way on the home front in Washington with differences existing between the administration and congress over manpower, farm prices and subsidies, labor, \$25,000 salary limits, draft, to mention a few.

A bill, including cost of labor in fixing farm prices, has been approved.

Charles H. Whitaker Now A Sergeant In The Army

Charles H. Whitaker, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Whitaker, of Williamston, N. C., has recently been promoted from Corporal to the rank of Sergeant according to announcement by the authorities at the Army Air Force Proving Ground, Eglin Field, Florida.

Sergeant Whitaker has been in the Army since July 22, 1942.

The tremendous increase in Army personnel has created a great opportunity for men who can prove themselves capable of holding the rank of non-commissioned officers.

New Air Boss



PRIME MINISTER CHURCHILL announced in the House of Commons that Air Marshal Sir A. W. Tedder (above), of the R.A.F., has been named the Mediterranean air commander in chief. Tedder is credited with directing the aerial phase of the successful Libyan campaign. He is directly responsible to Lieut. Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, Allied commander. (International)

Judge J. C. Smith Calls Six Cases In The County Court

Uneventful Proceedings Mark Regular Session of the Tribunal Monday

Calling half a dozen cases, Judge J. Calvin Smith held an uneventful session of the Martin County Recorder's Court last Monday. Lasting until shortly after 12 o'clock, noon, the session attracted a fair-sized number of spectators, quite a few attending from Hamilton.

Proceedings: Pleading guilty in the case charging him with speeding, William Oden was fined \$20 and taxed with the costs.

Charged with reckless driving and an assault with a deadly weapon, Bryant Taylor pleaded not guilty to both counts. He was adjudged not guilty of an assault with a deadly

weapon and guilty on the other count. The case was continued under prayer for judgment until the second Monday in July, 1943, the court requiring the defendant to pay the costs immediately.

Henry S. Hatten, charged with non-support, failed to answer when called in open court, and papers were ordered issued for his arrest.

The case charging Ophus Revels with operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license was continued until March 1st.

Charged with drunken and reckless driving, Lennie Sutton pleaded not guilty. The court found him guilty of reckless driving and suspended judgment upon the payment of a \$25 fine and the costs of the case.

The case charging Francis J. Tyson with trespassing was remanded to the justice of the peace court.

Sales Ban Is Lifted On Farm Machines

According to an announcement issued this week by Mr. Jesse Crisp, chairman of the Martin County United States Department of Agriculture War Board, horse or tractor drawn garden planters and horse drawn two row and over, riding, cultivators are no longer rationed. One row, riding, two horse cultivators are being rationed, it was explained.

"This order will free for sale to farmers all stocks of garden planters and two row and over, riding, horse drawn cultivators now in dealers' hands," Mr. Crisp said. "These cultivators are being removed from the rationed list because no new ones are being made. Purchase of either item for non-farm use, however, will require a priority rating."

Very few of these types of planters or cultivators are available in this section, and it is believed the order will have very little meaning.

Applications for purchase certificates for any farm machinery now subject to rationing can be made at the county agent's office in Williamston.

Milk Ordinance Is Slightly Changed

In an effort to relieve the milk shortage, health authorities are making a slight change in standard milk ordinances. Under the regular ordinance was not so urgent as to force them to the registration place. Quite a few of the late registrants declared their books had been lost and that they had been getting along without sugar and coffee. Then there was that few who had plentiful sugar and coffee stocks at registration time last spring. The new regulations smoked them out. Most of the registrants were colored, and poor colored at that.

The delayed registration approached a climax late yesterday afternoon when a proud, prospective father presented his case to the registrars.

Applications For 500 Tires Pending In Board's Office

Hardly Ten Percent of Orders Received in January Have Been Filled So Far

Adopting a liberal policy, rationing boards are flooding the country with tire rations, but the old order of supply and demand are to be reckoned with now and many motorists are finding it impossible to get tires even though they are armed with ration certificates and priority ratings. It is estimated that hardly more than ten per cent of the tires rationed in this county last month have actually been made available. The certificates are piling up and will be serviced in the order they are received by the dealers, but how and when are unknown quantities just now.

During the meantime applications for 501 more passenger and pick-up truck tires are pending in the rationing board office, and it is quite possible that before those tires are actually met, many people will recognize the rubber shortage for what it really is. However, there is one reserve to draw from and it is possible that many of those tires called in by the government some months ago and commonly referred to as idle tires will be made available. It is understood that dealers have orders pending in government warehouses at the present time.

A special order was issued this week by the Office of Price Administration, advising that certificates would no longer be required for recapping passenger and pick-up truck tires. Regular truck-type tires may be recapped only with a certificate. While the car or pick-up truck owner may have his own tires recapped with passenger-type camelback without local board authorization, he will not be permitted to exchange a recappable tire carcass for one already recapped except by a certificate from the rationing board. Dealers no longer have to sell their recappable carcasses to a recapper. They may have recappable tire carcasses recapped and returned to them without certificates, but inventory limitations on passenger-type camelback stocks will be retained, it was pointed out.

The regular meeting of the board last Monday, but it is possible the board will meet the latter part of the week and operate under special instructions in an effort to relieve the rationing congestion.

Truck and tractor tires and tubes were allotted the following: Edgewood Dairy, Williamston, one tractor tire and tube.

Roberson and Peel, Williamston, one tractor tire and tube.

Royal Baking Co., Williamston, one truck tire and tube.

State Highway and Public Works Commission, Tarboro and Robersonville, four new tires and four tubes for mowing machines.

Tires and tubes for passenger cars were allotted as follows: S. E. Taylor, RFD 3, Williamston, three tubes.

W. K. Roebuck, RFD 1, Robersonville, one tube.

J. F. Bailey, RFD 1, Robersonville, two tubes.

Mildred Purvis, RFD 1, Robersonville, one grade III tire and one tube.

The Conoho Gun Club, C. James representative, was ruled ineligible for four new truck tires and two tubes.

Gets First Lieutenant Commission In The Army

L. Hugh Hardison, young son of Mr. and Mrs. Luther D. Hardison, of Jamesville, was recently promoted to a first lieutenant in the Army Air Corps. Receiving his first commission and wings at Spence Field, Moultrie, Ga., last July 3rd, Lieutenant Hardison is now stationed at Greenville, Mississippi. A brother, Lieutenant (junior grade) S. Ralph Hardison, is with the Naval Air Corps and is stationed at New Orleans.

Martin County Chapter Ships 75,000 Bandages to the Army

The Martin County Chapter of the American Red Cross is making arrangements to ship 75,000 bandages for use by the Army. Mrs. R. H. Goodman, chairman of the chapter's surgical dressing station here, stating that the bandages would fill 20 large cartons. While the shipment represents a great deal of work, Mrs. Goodman pointed out that a letter had been received from Red Cross headquarters urging the chapter to speed up and increase its work. The need for the bandages was described as urgent. In recognition of that urgent need, Mrs. Goodman expressed the hope that many who have never volunteered their services will do so now and aid in making 18,000 4 by 4 sponges. These sponges, it was pointed out, were to have been made as a part of the November quota and prepared for shipment not later than the second week in December.

Approximately 75 persons have been in attendance upon the project

Will Start Red Cross War Drive Next Week

Chapter Asked To Raise \$3,900.00 For Great Task Ahead

According to an official ruling received by the Martin County Draft Board this week, a married man, in the eyes of the Selective Service, is childless if the addition to the family was born on or after last September 8th. The ruling apparently was handed down as a part of the preparations now underway to start drafting married men without children.

The old ruling declaring a man single if he was married on or after December 8, 1941, remains unchanged. He may be very much married, but in the eyes of the draft he isn't.

Dr. Edgar M. Long Passes in Hospital Last Wednesday

Funeral Service for Hamilton Physician Held Yesterday Afternoon

Dr. Edgar Miller Long, well-known Hamilton physician, died in a Rocky Mount hospital Wednesday morning at 10:10 o'clock following a long period of declining health. Suffering an attack of pneumonia some months ago, he had been in poor health since that time. He was taken ill with influenza a few weeks ago and his condition became suddenly worse last Saturday and he was removed to the hospital.

The son of the late Dr. Benjamin L. Long, a member of an old Martin County family, and wife, the former Miss Sallie Miller, of Lenoir County, Dr. Long was born in Hamilton on April 1, 1889. He attended the local schools and at a tender age entered the old military academy at Chocowinity. Possessed of a keen mechanical mind, he first considered a mechanical engineering career, but upon the insistence of his father, he entered the pre-medical school at the University, and was later graduated from the University of Maryland. In 1909 and just before he was 20 years old he started the practice of medicine in Faison. A few years later or about 1912 he located in Hamilton to engage in the joint practice with his father. Dr. Long led his classes in med school and was recognized as an able physician, and one who read extensively in several fields.

He first married Miss Mary Worsley of Oak City, two children, Mrs. Braxton Rhodes, of Wilson and Pineleaps, and Miss Peggy Long, of Rocky Mount.

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Final plans were completed last night for Troop 27's all-out scrap drive tomorrow when Williamston was divided into sections for a complete house to house canvass. Headed by Scoutmaster Monk Cobb and Assistant Bob Levin, the troop will compete directly with neighboring council troops in an effort to push Eastern Carolina over the top in scrap totals.

The drive will start at 9 o'clock tomorrow morning when the scouts begin the collection. Aiding them will be Bill Spivey who has donated his truck for the occasion. Housewives are urged to call the scouts to the door if they pass if there is any scrap to be taken up. Cobb pointed out that anything will be accepted.

This drive will mark the first time that the local troop has attempted a concentrated scrap collection. Previous to this it has been done on an individual basis. Totals will be announced in Tuesday's Enterprise.

Leaders of the drive in Williamston are Patrol Leaders Hugh Horton, Jr., Gilbert Woolard and Cecil Harris who will be in charge of approximately 25 boys.

Two Sons And Two Grandsons In Army

There are many combinations of relations in the armed services, such as four, five and in a few cases seven brothers, fathers and sons, but Mr. Pleny Peel, well-known county citizen of Griffins Township, has the distinction of having two sons and two grandsons in the service.

One son, William Staten Peel, a sergeant in the United States Marine Corps, is somewhere in the Pacific war zone. The other son, Pvt. Joseph A. Peel, is in technical training in the Army Air Force. One grandson, Gilbert Peel, Jr., Petty Officer 2nd Class, United States Navy, has been in the Pacific war zone since September. The other grandson, Francis Dallas Peel, who has recently been promoted from Petty Officer 3rd Class to Petty Officer 2nd Class in the Navy, is also in the Pacific theatre of war.

NINTH MONTH

A bill creating a ninth month school term became law in this State yesterday when the House of Representatives voted on the third reading 89 to 8 for the measure. The longer term will be in effect beginning next September.

It is possible that the term will be held to 170 days, any action along that line resting with the governor.

The House last night passed a bill prohibiting the sale of beer and wine between 11:30 p. m. and 7 a. m. and empowering the county commissioners to ban sales from 11:30 p. m. Saturday until Monday at 7 a. m.

Boy Scouts Guests Of Civic Clubs At Meeting Last Night

Dr. Maynard Fletcher Speaks To Appreciative Group In Gymnasium

Over 150 Lions, Kiwanians, dads and Scouts heard Dr. Maynard Fletcher, of Washington, urge everyone to be a boy again at the annual Father and Son banquet in the high school gymnasium here last night. Dr. Fletcher's topic was, "Dad, As Seen Through the Eyes of a Boy."

The 60 year old Scout leader and council director completely won over his audience when several fathers took him too literally and threw bread at each other while another group followed up the evening with a quick basketball practice.

Dr. Fletcher warned fathers in the crowd to guard your sons' spare time now more than ever. He pointed out that school teachers spend more direct time with a boy than his own father. "It is up to you," he said pointing to the fathers, "to combat this by being with your boys and being a regular fellow again."

"I want you fathers," Dr. Fletcher continued, "to take your sons to church like our dads did long ago. If you don't take him to church, see that he joins a scout troop." Turning to the ministers and preachers present, he called for a troop in every church. "A troop that will cooperate with the church and be a benefit to the church and to the boy."

A solemn hush fell over the audience as the quiet-spoken scout leader and "still boy himself" told the men that there was never a truer word spoken than the fact that, "What Williamston and Martin County is tomorrow depends on what your boy is today."

Preceding Dr. Fletcher's very well (Continued on page four)

BLACKOUT

Other than a few minor mix-ups over the signals, the test blackout "pulled" in this district last night was a great success, reports from the district control center declared. A fire alarm, coming about an hour before the warning signals, was confusing and caused a few local people to turn out their lights.

Apparently there are too many signals. On the first, everything blacked out, but a few cars continued in accordance with regulations. Before the second or "red" signal was sounded, everything was dark and at a standstill. But when the "red" or five-blast signal was sounded, a few persons turned on their lights. They were quickly turned out. There was splendid cooperation, and the control center believes the district is about ready for any eventuality. The test lasted for about forty minutes.

Four Hundred Persons Rush To Get Old No. 1 Ration Book

Well convinced they could not get the new or No. 2 war ration books without first getting the old, more than four hundred Martin County people started a big rush on the rationing board office here Wednesday and yesterday to sign up for the No. 1 books.

Interesting stories were told by the registrants who offered startling excuses for not having registered for the No. 1 book before. "I had sixteen children and when I registered last spring I overlooked one of 'em," a mother explained. Apparently she recognizes more fully the value of a ration ticket now.

The biggest rush was prompted by babies born since the first rationing. It was far from a contest, but the babies were there in numbers, one es-

timating placing the number well over 100.

Some of the late registrants explained their delayed action by pointing out that they dined in cafes. Others stated they did not use sugar or coffee and that the need for shoes was not so urgent as to force them to the registration place. Quite a few of the late registrants declared their books had been lost and that they had been getting along without sugar and coffee. Then there was that few who had plentiful sugar and coffee stocks at registration time last spring. The new regulations smoked them out. Most of the registrants were colored, and poor colored at that.

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