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Judge Hunt Parker Makes Conservative Charge To Jurymen

Chies Few Laws Out Streets Importance of Grand Jury System

Making no mention of law enforcement in time of war and commenting in no way on the war and the need for greater respect for observance of all laws, Judge R. Hunt Parker, presiding over the abbreviated term of the Martin County Superior Court, Monday addressed a clear-sounding but conservative charge to the grand jury.

Briefly outlining the duties of the nine new members who were sworn in Monday while the old members watched and listened, Judge Parker explained how the jury got their names. In 1056 England was conquered by the Norman French, and for 500 years Norman French language was used in the court. The French word, "Grand" means large, and the French word, "Petit" means small, consequently that is why one is now called the grand jury and the other, the petit jury, the first having 18 members and the second having twelve.

The jurist pointed out that in accepting the oath, a jurymen swears he will present any violation, be it as a result of observation or on the evidence offered by reliable sources. Admitting that some people violate the law almost constantly and that no one will dare indict them on account of politics or wealth and the violator is allowed to go scot free, the jurist, in a stern voice, declared that the violator could be brought to justice by a courageous grand jury. "If any one has violated the law and he is not indicted, it is your duty to bring him in," Judge Parker instructed the jurymen, warning them to ignore trivialities. "But if you fail to indict when serious crimes are committed, you bring disrepute upon law and bring contempt on yourselves," he said, and continued: "No man is too rich to be brought in to court if he has violated the law, and you should remember that law-abiding citizens merit your protection. You will be respected only as you embody justice."

Warning against the violation of the law requiring all motorists to stop at least fifty feet away when a school bus is receiving or discharging little children, Judge Parker pointed out the danger of the practice, and instructed the jurymen to check up on the patrolmen and see how many violators of the particular law had been apprehended during the past year and to see if the patrolmen are patrolling the highways when the buses are moving. "In another county I sentenced two white men and a Chinaman to prison for violating the school bus law. If they had observed that law, three little children would be breathing the same air as we are breathing today."

The jurist also instructed the jurymen to call in the school superintendent and see if every bus driver had been trained and in qualified to operate school busses. "We should remember that the automobile laws were designed and passed to protect life and limb of the traveling public," he said.

The jurymen were directed to examine all justice of the peace reports and make certain that fines, forfeitures and bonds had been accounted for. If any justice of the peace failed to report, the judge directed the foreman to issue subpoenas and have them appear before the body and explain why no report was filed.

Jail visits by the jurymen were ordered, the judge explaining the value of making such visits. "Prior to Charles II, the executive had the power to jail a person and keep him there until he rotted. The writ of habeas corpus was provided, giving to man a great privilege and a great right. A judge who refuses to sign a writ of habeas corpus is subject to a fine of \$2,500. Even with the power of the writ, some men could not get a hearing, and visits to the jail by the grand jury were ordered. We do not recognize the importance and historical origin of such laws, and take them for granted, but today in Europe, Africa and Asia executives are allowing men to lie and rot in prisons without the right of presenting their cases."

"Examine all public buildings and property owned by the county, and call State patrolmen in to examine school busses. Go to your school buildings and examine them and check up on the water supply and sanitary conditions, and if changes are needed, make recommendations to the court," the judge instructed the jurymen.

Apparently disturbed by the increasing morale lapse among the youth of the land, Judge Parker told the jurymen to call in the sheriff, deputies and other officers and check up on filling stations operating dance halls and see if they were being run in a decent and legal manner.

"In too many cases the road-side cabins and filling station dance halls are being operated as places for prostitution and gambling and drinking, and they are a stench in the nostrils of decent people. High school kids

Farm Vehicle Gas Rations To Be Determined by Committees

The War Farm Transportation Committee is meeting with representatives here this afternoon for a study of the new plan, but it could not be learned when the system would replace the old.

It is understood that application blanks will be placed in the hands of the community committeemen and they will be asked to receive and consider the requests. They will reconcile his mileage to about the average for the district. Briefly stated, the OPA figures that the farmers' gas needs rather than his wants can be more accurately determined within the community than they could be by an agency far removed.

The applications will then be reviewed by the county transportation committee and later delivered to the rationing board for action. Members of the transportation committee in this county are: Messrs. Jesse Crisp, chairman; Carl Griffin, Clayton House, Sherwood, Roberson and John A. Manning. It is not certain that the last named committeeman will serve since he has attended no meetings to date. Alternates on the committee are, W. O. Griffin, Will W. Taylor, of Robersonville, Bill Beach and Joshua L. Coltrain.

Superior Court Ends Regular Term Today

Local and county officers worked over time rounding up twelve drunks last week-end or the largest number to wake up and find themselves in jail in some weeks. Three others, charged with drunken driving or gambling, were rounded up earlier in the week.

Three of the fifteen persons arrested were white, the ages of most of the group ranging from twenty to thirty years.

Leaders Will Carry Food Conservation Plan To All People

Under the sponsorship of the Office of Civilian Defense all Home Economists in North Carolina have volunteered their services to teach all families—urban and rural—how to conserve the foods produced under the Food for Freedom program, so that no one in North Carolina will go hungry during the winter of 1943-1944.

In organizing this program Mrs. Stella R. Cusick of the Farm Security Administration, Miss Catherine T. Dennis of Vocational Home Extension and Miss Ruth Current of Extension met with Dr. John Fox Kendrick of O.C.D., who is state chairman of the Nutrition committee, and worked out plans for (1) a workshop on the state level at which home economists on the state and district levels met together to work out plans for reaching the last family on the last row in the whole state, (2) worked out plans for these Home Economists to give demonstrations in every county in the state, first to the paid Home Economists in the county and then to all of the sector leaders in the towns of the county.

In this two-day meeting plans are to be worked out so that trained Home Economics workers, paid and volunteer, will give demonstrations in every zone in towns and every rural community, so that leaders thus trained can reach every family in every county.

This is the first time in the history of the state that all organizations have worked together to put over a coordinated program of food conservation that will reach every family in the state with uniform information. So impressive was this program that Washington not only sent representatives to the state meeting, but also asked that a copy of the plans for the meeting be sent to them to be distributed to every state in America.

On March 19 and 20, Miss Maybel Lacey, district supervisor of Vocational Home Extension, will be in the county.

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TAX REVIEW

Sitting as a board of equalization and review, the Martin County commissioners were in session a greater part of Monday hearing appeals for lower valuations in their county tax listings. The list could not be had immediately, but most of the appeals were entered by those who had had their timberlands burned or on which much timber had been cut and removed to the mills.

It is generally believed that the commissioners headed off a flood of complaints when they ordered a blanket reduction of 25 per cent in automobile tax values a short time ago.

TOWN - FARM IN WARTIME

(A weekly news digest from the rural press section of the OWI news bureau)

Ration Calendar
Gasoline—"A" book Coupon No. 4 expires March 21.
Sugar—Coupon No. 12, 5 lbs. valid March 18. Must last through the end of May, or 11 weeks.
Coffee—Stamp No. 25, 1 lb., expires March 21.

Fuel Oil—Period 4 Coupons expire April 6 in zones C and D. April 12 in zone B, April 17 in zone A. Period 5 coupons are now valid in all zones.

Beef Price Violators Go to Jail
"The prison terms of up to seven months in jail with accompanying fines ranging to \$5,800 meted out to 13 individual violators of OPA price ceilings on beef at the wholesale level today is only the start of our broadened campaign to wipe out the Black Market in meat in this country," price administrator Prentiss M. Brown said on March 9th in commenting on the sentences and fines handed out by federal Judge Coddard in United States District Court in New York City.

Prices of Fresh Vegetables
Regional OPA offices may adjust the maximum price of any seller of fresh lettuce, spinach, carrots, green peas, snap beans, tomatoes, and cabbage when the ceiling price is likely to disrupt normal distribution, the OPA has ruled.

Seeds Not Rationed
Peas, beans and lentils when bought exclusively for use as seed are exempt from the processed foods rationing program and do not require the surrender of either point stamps or ration certificates, according to OPA.

Substitute Coal or Wood
Fuel oil users who would be entitled to receive auxiliary rations of 100 gallons or more for heating purposes will not be issued such rations if they can obtain the extra heat from coal or wood stoves, OPA announced recently. This order applies to private home owners, apartment house and cold-water flat operators, industrial plants heated by steam, and all others who burn oil for heat. To prevent hardship, the order provides for certain exceptions.

Certificates to Farmers
Farm families who have enlisted in the huge 1943 food production program will be awarded a certificate of farm war service, signed by Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard, in recognition of their war work. It will be presented by county USDA boards as soon as possible.

Farm Income
A preliminary review of the date available on farm income and expenditures during 1942 indicates that the net return to farm operators for their labor, capital investment, and management and for other unpaid family labor, was about 10,200 million dollars.

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Jamesville Reports A Series Of Fires

Two small colored homes have been burned and other threatened in Jamesville during the past ten days or two weeks. The home of John Daniel Williams was burned a short time ago.

Last Sunday night about 10 o'clock fire, starting from a defective flue, damaged the home of Annie Hopkins slightly. Two hours later the house caught fire a second time and burned down, one report stating that only a photograph and a few other articles were saved. The home of Emma Gray, standing near the Hopkins home on St. Johns Street, caught fire, but volunteers put it out.

As far as it could be learned here, the Williams loss was covered by insurance, but none was carried on the Hopkins home.

NOT GUILTY

Called before the rationing board of inquiry for alleged pleasure driving, Farmer Andrew Haislip offered a plausible explanation, and the board dismissed the case. Mr. Haislip stated that his boy was home on furlough from the Army the latter part of February, that the youth asked for the car to visit an aunt in Tarboro. At 12:30 o'clock Sunday morning, February 28, the car was parked near a dance hall in Tarboro, and a representative of the OPA took the license number down and the complaint just reached the board in the county last week.

In dismissing the case at the hearing Monday night, it was understood that the use of the car would be closely guarded in the future.

Several other cases are pending before the board, all of them reaching the office too late for the proper notice to be given, directing the defendants to appear in both pleasure and speeding cases.

Possible Veto Of Blanket Farm Deferment Bill Will Be Too Late To Save Married Men From Draft

Red Cross Reports Increased Receipts In County Chapter

Indications Are That Chapter Will Exceed \$3900 Quota By Nearly \$1,000

Late reports received by Chairman V. J. Spivey continue to boost the total amount raised in the Martin County Chapter for the American Red Cross War Fund. Present indications point to a substantial gain over the original quota of \$3,900, the fund chairman stating that the excess will approximate \$1,000 when all reports are counted. The drive to date stands at \$4,681.90 and a few canvassers have not yet completed their territory and filed reports.

Combined with the Robersonville Chapter which embraces Robersonville, Cross Roads, Poplar Point, Hamilton and Goose Nest Townships, the county will raise approximately \$6,700, it is estimated.

Sizable donations from the Macedonia church school and others have been received, the late reports showing an excellent work by the colored citizens who have already exceeded their quota by \$262.71. All contributions will be publicly acknowledged as rapidly as possible.

The campaign in the chapter to date is reflected in the following figures:

	Quota	Amount
Jamesville	\$ 300	\$ 502.67
Williams	100	101.76
Griffins	250	296.72
Bear Grass	300	343.90
Williamston	2550	2748.24
Macedonia		25.00
Colored Citizens	400	662.71
	\$3900	\$4681.90

Working in a strictly rural community canvassers in Williams Township went over the top with their drive under the leadership of Mrs. R. J. Hardison. It wasn't so much the amount given, but the spirit that supported the drive there that counts.

Julius Andrews, 1.00; Mrs. Julius Andrews, 1.00; Sam Andrews, 1.00; Frank Hopkins, 1.00; Woodrow Holiday, 1.00; Bob Jones, 1.00; Mrs. Charlie Daniel, 1.00; Billie Gurganov, 1.00; Joe Johnson, 1.00; N. S. Cherry, 1.00; Mrs. Mary Cherry, 1.00; Mr. and Mrs. Lillian Long, 1.00; Mrs. Charlie Pate, 50c; Mrs. A. W. Hardison, 50c; Wilford Hardison, 1.00; Noah Robertson, 1.00; Charlie Pate, 50c; Will Manning, 25c; Mrs. Annie Robertson, 1.00; Mrs. Lee Hardison, 1.00; Charlie Daniel, 2.00; Mrs. Charlie Daniel, 1.00; Sam Andrews, 1.00; Mrs. R. J. Hardison, 1.00; Arthur Williams, 1.00; Mrs. Lucy Smithwick, 50c; Mrs. S. J. Tetterton, 25c; Mrs. Luther Taylor, 25c; Luther Taylor, 50c; Earl Taylor, 50c; Dennis Barber, 1.00; W. W. Griffin, 5.00; R. J. Hardison, 2.00; C. M. Barber, 50c; Mr. and Mrs. Will Gurkin, 1.00; Mrs. G. C. James, 25c; J. A. Gardner, 1.00; Mrs. Ernie Gardner, 25c; Mrs. Hardy Gardner, 25c; Mrs. Mary Robertson, 25c; Wendell Modlin, 10c; Joe A. Hardison, 10c; Willie Mayo Gardner, 10c; Emma Gardner, 10c; Ranel Gardner, 10c; Chester Gardner, 5c; Peggy Gardner, 5c; Neal Godard, 50c; Tommie Robertson, 25c; Ade Robertson, 25c; Leroy Godard, 10c; Pete Coltrain, 10c; Mrs. Mary Parrisher, 10c; Mrs. Sudie Moore, 1.00; Asa Moore, 25c; James Moore, 1.00.

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Report Two Fires Over the Week-end

Two fires, both potentially serious, were reported here over the week-end. However, both were checked in their early stages and very little damage resulted.

Starting from an over-heated motor, fire burned a wooden safety crate, searched a few baskets and was about to spread to the big dry kiln loaded with baskets at the Williamston Package Manufacturing Company plant near the river last Friday evening when employees discovered it and brought it under control just as the fire-fighting apparatus was carried to the scene by volunteers. The damage was estimated at \$50.

Apparently catching from the plant's smokestack, fire burned a small hole in the east side of the Williamston Peanut Company factory yesterday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock. Catching near the eaves of the four-story structure, the fire burned a hole through the weatherboarding before it was discovered. Operations were stopped and employees brought the fire under control with extinguishers. The fire company was called but its services were not necessary.

CAPTAIN



Raleigh T. Harrington, young son of Rev. and Mrs. W. B. Harrington of this county, was recently promoted to the rank of captain in the Army Air Corps. The young man, now in foreign service, is the third Martin County man to attain that rank during the current war. Wheeler Martin, Jr., and Carl Edward Norman having earned the commission some time ago. Young Martin is now a major in the air corps. Captain Harrington has been on special assignment for some time, his work keeping him in close association with ranking officials, and on one trip he was in the company of the Duke and Duchess of Windsor.

War Becomes More Realistic As The Tide Turns Again

Increased Action Predicted on All Major Fronts During Coming Months

With a slight turn for the worse in Russia and with increased action expected on nearly all of the major fronts during the coming months, the war is rapidly becoming more realistic back home, not forgetting the plight facing married men without children in this county.

Two powerful armies, both intact, are moving in Russia today, one travelling toward the heart of Russia and the other toward the common enemy. The movements are like unopposed trains going in opposite directions with the space between them being reduced to a dangerous margin.

Kharkov, the great Russian industrial center in the Donets Basin, has again fallen into the hands of the Germans after a 30-day period of freedom. The Germans apparently still have their hopes attached to the promised lands in the Baku oil fields, and to support their hopes they are throwing fresh troops by the hundreds thousands and tanks by the thousands into the fight. Paralleling the German activity, the Russians are driving to recapture Smolensk, an important objective, but one that will hardly offset the loss suffered at Kharkov. The Russians are also driving forward in the south around Rostov, and despite Kharkov they are not pessimistic.

With the situation in Russia admittedly growing worse and with French patriots going into action by the tens of thousands under recognized military leaders, some observers are predicting increased action on other fronts ere long. What that action will be, few possibly know.

The Germans are rumored to be making preparations to block invasion attempts by instituting fake wrinkles such as commando raids and possible use of gas.

Late reports state that the Russians have checked the German on the Eastern Front.

MISSING

Very few errors have been detected so far, but it is understood that some few of the No. 2 War Ration books are short of one sheet of coupons.

County Is More War Conscious As Draft Grabs Married Men

Big Rush on to Bring Status of Registrants Up To Date; Many Return to Farm

Little less than a temporary breakdown of the Selective Service system can save a goodly number of Martin County married men without children from the draft in this county next month, according to an unofficial interpretation of the cold facts as they exist today. Laws, rules and regulations are in a high state of uncertainty in Washington at this time as the Congress renews its debate today on the blanket deferment of all farmers regardless of productivity. The Bankhead bill has already passed the Senate and now goes to the House, but the passage of the bill there is almost certain to face presidential veto, meaning that a person wearing a pair of overalls will, in the final analysis, not be eligible for deferment. The veto, predicted by Washington observers, will hardly come in time to save the situation for married men without children in this county next month. Even if the old selective service system continues in effect, married men in this county will hardly have more than a few weeks' grace for the supply of single 1-A men is about exhausted. Possibly the county draft board could have rounded up enough teen-age boys and marginal farmers to meet the April and May calls, but the June call would have to be answered by the married men.

Finding it necessary to make preparations well in advance for meeting a call, the county draft board is proceeding with its plans to fill the April call mostly with married men, approximately 200 married men in the first registration and about a dozen in later ones are being called up for their physical examinations in Williamston on Thursday and Friday of this week. It is estimated that there are about 750 married men in the county without children. Approximately 500 of that number live on farms and are automatically deferred for at least thirty days.

Quite a few in the list instructed to report had children born prior to last September 8, but failed to advise the draft board of any change in their draft status. Most of them are rushing to the draft board to clarify the records. If they notify the board in time, they will not be required to take the physical examination, but if they wait until Thursday or Friday, they will be too late and will be called upon to take the test.

Unofficial reports state that quite a few town workers are returning to the farm, that others are looking for places to go to on the farm. In view of the possibility of a veto of a bill to place all farmers under a blanket deferment, those who return to the farm should make certain that they can qualify as producers and not as draft evaders. The nation, as a whole, is ready to see farmers deferred, but the reverberations will reach to high heaven if married men are called upon to leave their homes and families while single men don a pair of overalls and make a poor pretense at farming.

The call for married men to report for physical examinations is really making this little county war conscious, and many embarrassing questions are being asked. They are wondering if it makes sense for a single man to stay home to raise tobacco and not enough food and feed to sustain himself and his stock, not to mention the urgent need for raising food to feed others.

The following white married men are to report for physical examinations this week unless they can prove their draft status has changed: Jamesville: James William Long, Edgar Daniel Brown, Charles Armon Askey, Edward Earl Brown, Samuel Henry Holliday, James Benjamin Holliday, Franklin, Burras Ange, Robert Clarence Sexton, Bernard Enright Spencer, Harvey Glenworth Currie, Edward Lee Martin.

Jamesville, RFD 1: Kenneth Frederick Woolard, Cushion Howard Barber, William Edward Moore, Charlie Crofton Sexton, Jr., Robert Lee Dickerson.

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