

# THE ENTERPRISE



**VOLUME XLVI—NUMBER 56** 

Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Tuesday, May 4, 1943.

# ESTABLISHED 1899

Man Killed by thit And Run Driver on **Highway in County** 

George Purvis, Poplar Point Tenant Farmer, Loses Life; No Clue in the Case

George Purvis, 33-year-old colored tenant farmer on the Taylor farm in Poplar Point Township, was struck and instantly killed by a hitand-run driver near his home on the Hamilton Highway late last Saturday night or early Sunday morning. Despite an all-night search, Patrolmen Saunders and Hunt were unable to establish a lead in the case. The only clue found so far was offered by John Bullock, colored tenant who lived near by the scene of the killing. He was on the front porch of the home and heard the car when it struck the man. He could not identify the vehicle, but he said it carried a fish net on it and was traveling toward Williamston. With that information, the patrolmen checked the river from here to Jamesville, but made no progress toward solving the case. Purvis left Williamston between

9:30 and 10 o'clock on a bus. He vis-ited Edwards' Log Cabin filling station where he bought and consumed three bottles of beer. He was last seen at the station about 10:30 o'clock and was said to have been drinking heavily at that time. According to his brother, the victim was not so drunk that he could not walk. Where he went to when he left the station could not be learned, but he was only a few hundred yards away when he was struck and killed.

Travelling the road about 1:30 o'clock, Hubert Smith, a local man, saw the body and reported to officers. Coroner S. R. Biggs accompanied the patrolmen to the scene. According to the coroner, the man's body was badly mangled, indicating that the victim was lying on the hard surface when he was struck. The man's back and neck were broken, one shoulder was almost torn from the body and his overalls were reduced to rags. The neck of a liquor bottle, the seal broken, was found in his pocket.

The hit-and-run driver, leaving Williamston.

cident reported in the county so far this year, and the second in two weeks.

the body lying in the road, increased Agents Begin Work It was the fourth fatal highway ac-ident reported in the county so far I. Eagles as Assistant **Uniform Speed Law To Tom Brandon** 



ONE OF THE THOUSANDS of Germans who have lost their lives under the burning African sun, this soldier's body hangs from the turret of the armored tank that provided no armor against death. Rommel's strength proved no match for Allied might. (International)

WOUNDED

an official message received by Mr. Ward from the Adjutant

General yesterday. Few details

were carried in the message, but

it was pointed out that further

reports on his condition could be

gust, the young man had been in

North Africa only a short time

A brother, Dennis Ward, is al-

so in the service and at the pres-

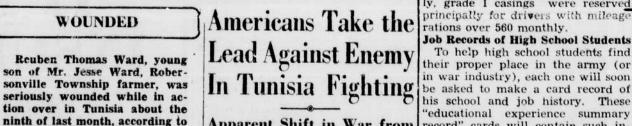
ent time is on maneuvers in

before he was wounded.

Entering the service last Au-

expected.

Louisiana.



**Eastern Front Toward a Possible Invasion** 

The valiant work of hard-hitting Americans came into the limelight ity number. vesterday when the U.S. Forces climaxed a 14-mile plunge through shell fire and death against strong

opposition offered by crack Nazi troops and occupied the important key base of Mateur. The victory is recognized as the greatest of the war for the Americans, and reduced the invicibility clam of the Germans to dust. It was a costly drive for

New Farm and Home both sides, but the gain means that Hitler's hordes will be bouncing and jumping into the sea ere another w weeks past. Late reports state that the Ma-

teur victors are continuing their push with Allied bombers and fighters pounding the enemy in retreat. Other strong stands will be made by L. L. McLendon Succeeding J. the enemy in the inner defenses before the final curtain is drawn on the scrap in Tunisia, but the recent gains chalked up by the Americans

Is Adopted by State Following months of confusion and

TOWN - FARM **IN WARTIME** 

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

tire stocks to keep the nation's ap- new tires is being depleted rapidly War Expenditures-1918 and 1943 proximately 21 million autos run- as the grade I certificates multiply ning. A liberal allotment of new car in the hands of consumers. The sup-In 1918 American war expenditires has been given this county for ply of Grade II tires was virtually tures were only 18 1-2 billion dolthe current month, but the over-ail exhausted last month, and the No. Il lars-in 1943 they will exceed 100 picture is not as bright as it was a grade certificates are now good for billion dollars. These figures show month ago. The county is to get 154 the purchase of Grade I tires. Boiled sharply the difference in cost benew car tires, 122 Grade III car tires, down to a final analysis, the tire sittween the last war and this one 67 new truck tires and two farm im- uation still is a bit gloomy. There are There were four liberty and one vicelement tires during May, or a total tory loan drives in the last war, with of 345 tires. Last month, the county county to exhaust the supply of the a total goal of less than 19 billion was allotted a total of 577 tires, in- No. I tires even before the first of the dollars, but to finance the present cluding all types for cars and trucks. May rations are cared for. Several

war the people of the United States While approximately 60 more new retailers are said to have already exmust raise about 70 billion dollars car tires are to be rationed this month hausted their stocks. before the end of this year. In that than last, the total is well over 200 war, our task was chiefly to fortify short of the ration allotment for tary of War Patterson declares that a line of trenches in France-in this April. war we must equip and supply our armies on all the far-flung battle-en million new car tires in stock at

the present time, or about one new talk that equipment and material

**Change in Tire Ration** Effective May 1, passenger can drivers with mileage rations exceedturer that it hasn't a single new car high octane gas.

ing 240 monthly are eligible for any grade of new tire when their present casings are not recappable. Formerly, grade l casings were reserved principally for drivers with mileage rations over 560 monthly.

Job Records of High School Students To help high school students find their proper place in the army (or

"educational experience summary Apparent Shift in War from record" cards will contain such in-

formation as a student's academic standing and achievement, vocational and pre-induction preparation, wage earning experience, aptitudes, significant hobbies and social secur-

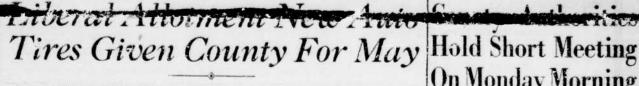
**Casualty Totals** 

Announced casualties of the Unit ed States armed forces from the outbreak of the war to date (whose next of kin have been notified) total 78,-235. This total, arrived at by combining war and navy reports, includes-dead, 12,123, wounded, 15,-049, missing 40,435, and prisoners of war, 10,628. Tire, Car, Bicycle Quotas

The national quota of new passenger car tires for rationing in May is 1,006,882, compared with 1,058,000 for

April. Certificates for purchase of these tires go to drivers whose mileage rations exceed 240 miles monthly and who do not have recappable casings. New passenger cars in May total 50,000 compared with an April allotment of 38,000. The bicycle quota for May is 88,200, unchanged from April

**Replacements for Tractor Tires** for farm tractors where there are no Robersonville. recapping facilities available, the



Apparently uncertain of the future | tire in stock in the South. Throw or synthetic rubber, rationing au- open to car operators or wing more thorities are switching to new car than 240 miles a month, the stock of

enough No. II certificates in the

On the national front, Undersecre-

the synthetic program has already

ADDRESSES

**Passes in Hospital** 

en million new car tires in stock at tane aviation gas, and there is some

tire for every three cars. Retailers used in making synthetic rubber will have been advised by one manufac- be switched for use in making more



the paper chanegd to a new address. The address changes are gladly made, but it will be of great aid to the boys in the shop if they have the last address. Service men are asked to drop the paper a card when they license issuance for the period was change their address. In many only two points below the average cases, the boys explain they are for the month of April over a tenleaving and do not know where year period. Up until last month, the they are going, and suggest that number of marriage licenses issued the paper be stopped until they in the county was greater than it get the new address. That is a was for the corresponding month in good idea, and the management last year, and judging from the recappreciates the thoughtfulness of ords, Cupid is making about as much those who have been so kind to progress in his work now despite advise such action be taken. war and changes as he made just prior to the war.

Marriage licenses were issued last month by Register of Deeds J. Sam Charles W. Cowey, Getsinger to the following: Native of County, White

James David Hollis, of Robersonville, and Mary Jane Harrison, of Stokes.

Conner Cowin, RFD 2, Williamston, and Louise Ayers, RFD 1, Robersonville.

Ellis D. Johnson, of Camp Gordon, Replacement tires can be obtained Ga., and Marjorie Edmondson, of

William Garland Perry and Mrs.

**On Monday Morning** 

In Property Values Reported by Tax Supervisor

It was a day of little business for he county commissioners when they met in regular session here yesterday. Routine matters were handled rapidly and following an impromptu discussion of various topics relating to the county, the group adjourned about the noon hour.

Other than the routine business, the minutes of the meeting carry few entries. Tax Supervisor C. D. Carstarphen, explaining that accurate ligures were not yet available, estimated that the property valuation for 1943 would reflect a gain of slightly more than \$400,000 over those for the past year. Valuations and budgets will come in for discussion possibly at the next meeting and some long essions are to be expected. It was earned that the welfare budget had been tentatively approved but in part only. The figures are virtually the same as they were for the fiscal ear ending June 39, and will be reviewed in their entirety before the budget if formally approved.

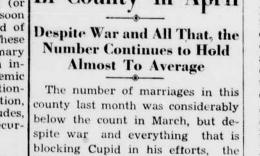
The board unanimously voted a eave of absence for John I. Eagles, assistant farm agent, the leave to last for the duration or as long as Mr. Eagles is in the service. L. L. McLendon, of Duplin County, was appointed to succeed Mr. Eagles, the county voting a supporting salary in the sum of \$85

Reporting to the board on the eve of the time set for advertising delinquent tax accounts, Collector M. Luher Peel pointed out that only about \$16,500 of the \$213,521.97 levy for 1942 had been uncollected, that the uncollected balance was several thousand dollars below the balance due and unpaid on 1941 taxes as of October 1, last year. In other words, the advertising list when it appears next week will be smaller than it was last year even though the collection schedule has been advanced live months. The delinquent list will be prepared the latter part of this week for publication next week. A final warning is being issued to the delinquents today by Collector Peel.

The 1941 levy is now 97.6 per cent collected, leaving an unpaid balance of \$5,068.14. The 1940 levy has been

(Continued on page six)

Funeral Services Held at Late Place Wife-Killer Home Near Oak City on Under \$1,000 Bond Sunday Afternoon Charles W. Cowey, respected citi-Sheppard Spruill, 50-year-old colzen of the Oak City section, died in a Durham hospital early last Friday 20-year-old wife, Katherine, near following a long illness. Mr. Cowey Oak City on Sunday, April 25, was entered the hospital on April 21 and placed under a \$1,000 bond followunderwent a major operation a short ing a preliminary hearing before time later. He had been in declining Justice J. L. Hassell here last Saturday morning. Unable to raise the health for some time.

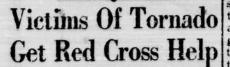


Following months of confusion and uncertainty of enforcement, the ter much delay and a great deal of McLendon was added to the county wrangling, has adopted a uniform speed law of 35 miles an hour for the State. The law, created by the governor and council of state under powers granted under the Emergency War Power Act, becomes effective on Thursday of this week. A special speed law of 15 miles an hour and regulations for car lighting were also adopted for those areas on and near the Carolina coast.

Placed on their honor, some motorists exceeded the limit in the past and literally thumbed their noses at patrolmen when questioned. After Thursday noon, violators are subject to arrest.

In his speed limit proclamation Governor Broughton stated that the suspension and modification of the vehicle laws "are in my judgment in the public interest and are necessary for the protection of the lives and property of the State, and for the defense and security of the State and nation, and for the proper conduct of the war and the successful prosecution thereof."

Secretary of State Thad Eure, by order of the Council of State, has ordered 2,000 copies of the proclamation printed and distributed to judicial and law enforcement agencies throughout the State.



Their homes wrecked by a tornado that swept over a small area in the Angetown section of this county a short time ago, the families of Arthur Ange and James Perkins were proffered aid by the American Red Cross yesterday, it was learned fol-lowing a visit by Miss Juliet France, Field Director for the organization. Exact figures could not be had officially, but it is understood that the Ange family was allowed about \$250 for furniture wrecked in the tornado, \$1,629 toward the construction of a new home and about \$40 for doctor's bills. In all probability, Mr. Ange would have had to mortgage a major portion of his farm to replace his home and buildings, but with the Red Cross stepping in it is likely that he'll be able to handle the rehabilitation program without much difficulty.

The Perkins family had no interest in the house in which they lived, but they were allowed about \$76 to replace clothing and furniture lost in the storm.

Miss Lora E. Sleeper as Martin County home agent, and when L. L. agent's staff to succeed John Ivey Eagles as assistant to Tom Brandon. Miss Sleeper , resigning the position she had held for more than sixteen years, left this morning to be with her parents in New Hampshire. Mc-Lendon was appointed Monday to way for the striking advance. Ma-Mr. Eagles was called into active forces between November 27 and

service by the U.S. Navy. Reporting for work last Saturday, Miss Pigg has, since her arrival, spent a greater part of her time studying office records and schedules prepared by her predeccor. For of Bizerte, the gains giving the Althe present, at least, the old schedule

the new agent with possibly a few minor changes. A native of Mecklenburg County, Miss Pigg comes to Martin highly qualified in the field Funch a repeat offensive on the of home economics. She was graduated from the Woman's College of the University of North Carolina, Hitler will shift from that area and Greensboro, and taught in the Lexington High School for three years. During the past eleven months she was associated with the vocational

education program in Concord. Mr. McLendon, an old hand in county agent's work, comes to this county from Kenansville, down in Duplin A graduate of State Col-lege, Raleigh, he served Duplin as its agent for about twenty years, resigning a few years ago to go with the Farm Security Administration and later with the Triple A program. Anxious to get back into extension work, he accepted the position in this county and is expected to continue the work for the duration Mr. McLendon has three sons, J. C., L. L., Jr., and W. J., in the

(Continued on page six)

# HALF HOLIDAYS

Beginning tomorrow, local stores and other places of busi-ness will close each Wednesday afternoon during the next several months. The half-holiday schedule will include county and town offices and most all places of business other than those directly or indirectly connected with the war effort.

With Victory gardens to care for and more work needed in and around the homes and yards, clerks and other employees can use the half day to marked advantage. Housewives and other shoppers are asked to note the boliday schedule and coopnew erste with the merchants.

most bitter fighting was mainly feat of infantry supported by longrange American 155-millimeter ar tillery that had shelled the town for

live days. American infantry units seized green and bald hills in the heavilyfortified Jefna positions west of Mateur yesterday morning to clear the

tour had been held briefly by British December 4 in the early stages of

the Tunisian fighting. Further to the north, Americans, fighting side by side with the French had driven the within fourteen miles drop of the hat," the lecturer-minlies control of all territory west of ister declared.

of activities will be maintained by the new agent with possibly a few Contrary to early predictions, the Germans now are not expected to in the fire, the speaker said. Eastern Front this summer, some observers advancing the belief that gamble on an invasion attempt a-

(Continued on page six)

**Town Board Holds Uneventful Meet** 

With an unusually light business calendar, the local town commissioners held an uneventful meeting last evening. Current bills were inspect d and ordered paid. The only official act came in the form of an order for the opening of the municipal swimming pool the latter part of this

month, possibly on Sunday, May 30. Mrs. Velma Coburn and Miss Ruth Manning were appointed to manage and operate the pool again this sea

son. The managers will employ life guards and handle other details in connection with the operation of the project. No salary schedule was menioned. Complaints against the dumping of sewage into open ditches were heard,

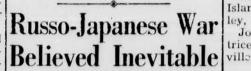
and following a conference with health department officials some action is to be expected within a short time.

**County Gets Four Tires** And 25 Bikes For May

Martin County has been allotted four new cars and twenty-five bicycles for rationing this month. There is an accumulation of certificates for bicycles, and a few new car certificates have been carried over from month to month. In some cases, the certificate holders were unable to find the cars.

A Designation and the second of the second second

OPA has announced. Formerly, no liamston. (Continued on page six)



ley, of Williamston.

Asked about the relationship bening, both of Williamston. tween Russia and Japan, Dr. R. H. Moses Bunch and Emma Dell Par-

Crossfield in an open forum in the grammar school auditorium here last Tuesday evening, stated that in his

opinion war between Russia and Japan is inevitable. "Either one of them will pounce on the other at the Williamston.

Pacts now existing between Rus-Fairbanks, Alaska, and Norma Jones, sia and Japan are serving as a mat- of Williamston.

ter of convenience while both na-Samuel Lee Purvis, RFD 3, Wiltions are busy handling other irons liamston, and Lula Rhodes, of RFD 3. Williamston.

Eddie Golphin and Daisy Bonds, Continuing the discussion on Russia. Dr. Crossfield said that there is both of Williamston.

be in London, New York and Wilof Robersonville.

liamston today had it not been for Russia. He referred to the Russians **Colored Draftees To** as a great people, and that bolshevism and atheism were on the way out and that the nation is well on Leave Soon for Army the road to democracy. It is Mr. Crossfield's belief that

the Japs will bomb American soil

the first opportunity they get, that they will come through Mexico. He has no idea that Japan will conquer the United States.

## Navy Recruiter Is Now At Williamston Post Office

U. S. Navy Recruiter, D. R. Taylor, is stationed at the post office in Williamston. Mr. Taylor opened his office Monday, May 3, and will re-main through Wednesday, May 5th. All persons seeking information concerning the Navy, Waves or Spars

are cordially invited to come to the post office on the above dates between the hours of 8 a.m. and 6 p.

**ROUND-UP** 

Local and county officers had another busy week-end rounding up alleged violators, mostly drunks. Nine persons were arrested and jailed during the period, five for alleged drupkenness, two for drunken driving, one for larceny and one under an old charge.

Four of the nine were white men, the ages of the nine ranging from 20 to 50 years.

P IN WARDER DEP TO THE TORONT AND

Lydia L. Griffin, both of RFD 1, Wil Lt. Leonard E. Nagel, of Blue Island, Ill., and Marjorie DeJean Lil-

Joseph Brake Roberson and Beatrice Earl Vick, both of Roberson-

Colored

Woodrow Wrisby and Fannie Man-

ker, both of Oak City. King David Latham and Velma

Dickens, both of Robersonville. Wm. Henry Nichols, RFD 1, Williamston, and Ethel Mae Reid, of

Technical Sergeant William Louis Riddick, of RFD 1, Williamston and tention on farming, but he was vir

Eli Carr and Lizzie May Keel, both little doubt but that Germany would

Some over half hundred colored draftees are scheduled to leave the county this week for an Army induction center, according to information gained from some of the draftees themselves. No official report on the colored draftees leaving the county week before last is availbale at this time, but according to one source of information only a small percentage of the group was accepted.

In accordance with new Selective Service regulations, the names of the men will be made public following their departure. A short time ago the names were ordered withheld. A draft call for white men, unofficially described to be about as large as the one received in April, is to be answered the latter part of this month, and that it will be followed in June by a call equally as arge if not larger than the one for May. Whether the draft board can

## **District Board Denies Appeal For Deferment**

meet the quotas remains to be seen

An appeal, entered by R. G. El liott, local man, for draft deferment was rejected by the district appeal board in Windsor last week, according to a report reaching here yesterday. The appeal was the fourth from this county to be denied during the week, it was learned.

amount, Spruill was returned to jail The son of the late William and to await trial in the county's super-Mary Rawls Cowey, he was born in jor court next month.

the Oak City section of this county Spruill offered no testimony at 68 years ago. After spending his early the hearing, but according to one relife on the farm he entered the emport the man has changed his story. ploy of the Atlantic Coast Line Rail-He first maintained that he was road Company, retiring a few years hooting at a snake and accidentally ago following a long period of faith-ful service. Following his retirement hit and fatally wounded his wife. He s now claiming that he shot the wothere he centered his time and atman in self-defense. According to Spruill's latest version of the shoottually forced to retire from that task ing, the wife was chasing him with by failing health. Mr. Cowey was a an axe.

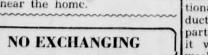
member of the Free Will Baptist There are several angles to the at-Church for many years, and was retack that have not been cleared up garded as an upright and dependable as yet. How the woman got into the citizen, one who valued life's basic house after she was shot has not been ideals and the friendship and confiexplained. Officers believe she walkdence of his fellowman. ed there since blood was found in

He married twice, leaving six chilmore than one room of the house. dren by his first wife. Their names And it has not been explained why are, Mrs. T. H. Latham, of Faison; Spruill allowed the woman to lie Luther Cowey, of Hobgood; Mrs. Rethere and die without calling a doca Melburn, of Eure, N. C.; Mrs. Ida tor. During that time, Spruill took a Whitfield, of Oak City, and Mrs. seat on the front porch and waited Della Hardy, of Palmyra. His second for the "law" to take him, and there wife survives with the following are those who can't understand that. children, Kelly B. Cowey and Clyde

Cowey, both of the U.S. Armed Services; Francis, Bennie Lee and Next Army Call To Maggie E. Cowey. Mr. Cowey had lived in the Oak **Get Jimmy Brown** 

City community all his life as did his parents before him.

Services were conducted at the nome Sunday arternoon at 4 o'clock and burial was in the family ceme ery near the home.



Unable to find Grade III tires, many holders of certificates for that type of tire rations are appealing to and urging the rationing board in this county to exchange the certificates and give them rations for Grade I tires.

Chairman C. C. Martin pointed out today that the board has no authority to change the certificates, that a man who has a gas allotment allowing 240 miles or less could get only a Grade III tire certificate. It is true that holders of Grade II certificates are now eligible for Grade I tires but they were favored by a change in the grade schedule and not by any change in the eligibility ratings.

Martin County's contribution to national baseball, is now subject to induction call by the Army the latter part of this month or in early June, t was unofficially learned this week. Scheduled to take his screening

Passing his physical "screening"

test a few weeks ago, Jimmie Brown

test here some weeks ago, Brown asked for a transfer to St. Louis. The request was granted and a report reached here just a few days ago, stating that he passed the preliminary test.

The successful passage of the preiminary test places the young man in line for the next draft call from this county According to reliable information, Brown is asking for an induction transfer, meaning that he will report to the Army direct from St. Louis. It is possible he will leave a few days ahead or a few days behind the contingent moving out of this county about the last of this nonth

Whether he passes the physical test at the induction center is any one's guess.