



THE ENTERPRISE



VOLUME XLVI—NUMBER 61

Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Tuesday, August 3, 1943.

ESTABLISHED 1899

Ninety-Seven Tires Allotted in County By Ration Board

Sixty-five of the Tires Were Grade I and for Cars and Pick-Up Trucks

Another liberal distribution of certificates for the purchase of new car and pick-up truck tires was effected by the Martin County Rationing Board at its regular meeting last Friday night. Sixty-five of the new tires were for cars and pick-up trucks, fifteen were Grade III's, two were for farm implements and twelve were for trucks.

Grade I tires and tubes were allotted to the following:

- H. R. Short, Oak City, one tire.
- Henry Myrick, RFD 1, Palmyra, one tire.
- J. R. Jones, RFD 3, Williamston, one tire.
- G. A. Peel, RFD 2, Williamston, one tire.
- Thurman Harrell, Oak City, one tire.
- Ira Griffin, RFD 3, Williamston, two tires.
- Jasper Whitfield, RFD 1, Hobgood, two tires.
- J. T. Allen, RFD 3, Williamston, one tire.
- W. C. Hale, RFD 1, Palmyra, two tires.
- Russell Holliday, RFD 1, Oak City, one tire.
- Robert E. Peel, Williamston, one tire.
- Henry F. Williams, RFD 1, Williamston, one tire.
- A. L. Oakley, Robersonville, one tire and one tube.
- L. M. Meeks, RFD, Robersonville, one tire.
- H. H. Williams, Everetts, two tires and one tube.
- Johnnie T. Moore, RFD 1, Palmyra, two tires and one tube.
- Raleigh L. Terry, RFD 1, Robersonville, one tire.
- W. K. Roebuck, Robersonville, one tire.
- Herbert Sexton, Jamesville, one tire and one tube.
- Gus Griffin, Robersonville, two tubes.
- C. U. Rogers, Williamston, one tire.
- Marvin Coltrain, Williamston, one tube.
- Charlie Moore, Williamston, two tires and two tubes.
- Elmer N. Modlin, Jamesville, one tube.
- Parlie Thomas, Williamston, one tube.
- J. G. Tye, RFD 2, Williamston, one tire and one tube.
- W. M. Oakley, Robersonville, two tires.
- W. H. Williams, Williamston, one tire and one tube.
- Hugh B. Griffin, RFD 1, Williamston, one tire and one tube.
- Danny Mobley, Everetts, one tire.
- G. C. Jenkins, RFD 3, Williamston, one tire.
- Grover C. Lilley, RFD 1, Jamesville, one tire.
- N. W. Worsley, Oak City, one tire.
- W. A. Perry, RFD 1, Williamston, one tire.
- Ed Warren, RFD 1, Oak City, one tire.
- Rufus Lynch, RFD 1, Oak City, one tire.

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Few Marriages In County During The Month Of July

Number Is Smallest For Any Month Since July Three Years Ago

Dan Cupid bumped into a miniature depression in striving to maintain his work in this county last month when the number of marriages dropped to the lowest point in three years. Despite war, uncertainties and multiplied handicaps, the county marriage license bureau had up until last month reported a fairly steady business. While the bottom did not drop out, the number of marriages further reflects a continued decrease in bureau activities.

Eleven licenses were issued by the Register of Deeds J. Sam Getzinger, four to white and seven to colored couples, as follows:

White
Willis G. Johnson, of Peterboro, N. H., and Mary Alice Dunning, Williamston.

Earl Luther Taylor, of RFD, Williamston, and Hazel Elizabeth Roberson, Robersonville.

Jesse Vernon Edmondson, Robersonville, and Irma Hayes Todd, Aulander.

Colored
Luke Biggs and Eloise Williams, both of Williamston.

Thomas Wilford and Odell Wiggins, both of Palmyra.

Claude Alexander Dempsey, of RFD 1, Williamston, and Rebecca Bowen, of Washington.

Julius Cherry, of Bethel, and Marion Bertha Smith, of Hobgood.

James Arthur Scott and Jessie Mae Wiggins, both of Williamston.

Geo. R. Shaw and Katherine Haggen, both of Williamston.

Workers Returning To Jobs at Fertilizer Plant

Resume Operations When About Half of Men Report Monday

Despite labor shortages and the rush to house tobacco, canning projects in several of the county school centers are reporting much progress. A carload of beans is being processed by the "neehroom" canners at the present time.

In Oak City, Principal H. M. Ainsley announced today that fifteen women were volunteering their services today, that they plan to can 200 or more quarts today. Other volunteers are urged to report on Wednesday and Thursday of this week. Their services are badly needed if a sufficient amount of food is to be preserved for the lunch room this coming term, the school man explained.

Commissioners In Regular Session Here Last Night

Adoption of Budget Delayed; Action Is Expected At Special Meeting

In a short meeting here last night, the commissioners limited their work to strictly routine matters taking no official action in any matter other than that dealing with monthly bills. The possibility of a tax reduction was briefly discussed, but in the absence of the treasurer no action was taken. It was announced that a special meeting will be called within the near future, that appropriations would be proposed at that time. It was the consensus of opinion expressed at the meeting last night that a reduction of possibly 10 cents on the \$100 assessed property valuation could be effected in the rate this fiscal year.

Speaking for the local public library, John L. Goff appealed to the commissioners to increase the monthly appropriation for the library by \$25. The town is now appropriating the small sum of \$25 per month, donations from the several civic and fraternal organizations and private citizens boosting that amount to approximately \$75 a month. The library is housed in the town hall and has very little overhead, the representative explaining that with the increase, the library would be able to double its book purchases.

Reviewing the activities of the library, Goff said that 1,097 books were now owned by it, that about one-fifth of them were of fairly recent date. Last year, the representative continued, the library circulated 10,445 volumes, 6,751 among adult and 3,694 among children borrowers. These figures, it was explained, do not include the many hundreds of volumes of bookmobile books lent the library and circulated by the local unit. At the present time, the library has an active list of borrowers numbering 728.

No official action was taken on (Continued on page six)

Few Colored Men Accepted By Army

Out of the approximately twenty-seven Martin County colored men reporting to the induction center in July, very few were accepted by the armed services. One report coming from an unofficial source stated that ten were ruled out on account of low literacy standards, and eight others were physically unfit for military service.

Six men, Nathaniel James, Levy James Lynch, Henry Bullock, Clyde Junior Coburn, Roscoe L. Moore and Vance Council, were accepted by the Army. Three men, William Henry Jones, William Solomon Hyman and Ernest Roberson, were accepted for service in the Navy.

Reporting that to the induction center on July 6, the men returned home and those who were accepted completed their furloughs and reported for active duty.

MARKETS

With encouraging reports coming out of Georgia, tobacco farmers in South Carolina and along the border are eagerly anticipating the opening of a successful marketing season on Thursday of this week.

Last week the markets in that belt reported an opening-day price average close to 37 cents. Many farmers believe the price trend will move upward this week and hold firm at or near the 41-cent level.

Late reports from Georgia indicate that the price average has weakened a bit to hold the general price to ceiling figures.

Aged Man Found In Woods Near Hassell Saturday Afternoon

Jesse M. C. Nelson Said To Be In Weakened Condition From Experience

Wandering from his home near Hassell early last Friday morning, Mr. Jesse M. C. Nelson, highly respected citizen of this county, was found thirty hours later lying in a swampy mud in an unconscious condition about one and one-half miles from his home. He had been exposed to a heavy rain Friday night and his face was almost bloodshot by mosquito bites. While he is in a terribly weakened condition as a result of the experience, his attending physician believes he will recover if pneumonia does not develop.

Mr. Nelson, 82 years of age, walked to a tobacco field where men were harvesting the crop shortly before 9 o'clock. He told them he was returning to the house, but apparently lost his way and wandered into the woods and continued into the swamp.

Relatives and neighbors started a search for him that afternoon and continued it until late into the night. Others were called to assist the next morning, and when they reported no success, other officers and citizens, including a number of trustees from the local prison camp. Their number boosted to about 45 by early afternoon, a sweeping search was made of the swamp. The first trace of the missing man was established when his coat was found on a log. About two hundred yards away his vest was found hanging on a tree limb. He was trailed from that spot by broken bushes for a distance of about 100 yards. Lee Vann, one of the trustees, finding the old gentleman about 4:40 o'clock lying on his back in the mud.

Apparently Mr. Nelson had fallen and was in that position during the heavy rain the night before. A signal was sounded, the searchers gathered around and carried the man from the woods and medical aid was called to him immediately.

Eleven Martin Men Accepted By Army

According to a reliable but unofficial report, the Army of the United States accepted eleven of the thirty-four white Martin County men who reported to the induction center last Wednesday. It could not be learned immediately how many, if any, were accepted by the Navy. It was also pointed out in the report that several of the original group were detained at the induction center for an extra period with the possibility that some of them would be taken into the service. The names of those detained could not be learned, and an unofficial report on the contingent will not be made available for two weeks or more.

The names of those men accepted immediately by the Army are, as follows:

Joseph H. (Buck) Saunders, Jr., Bernice L. Rogerson, Asa J. Taylor, Van R. Taylor, Walter T. Mendenhall, Ernest R. Froneberger, Henry R. Warren, Harry M. Wynne, Ned P. Everett, Herman A. Dixon, William O. Donald, Jr.

According to the report, the men are to return for active duty on Thursday, August 19. Returning home early in the morning of last Friday, the eleven men accepted immediately are enjoying a three-week furlough instead of a two-weeks respite in effect up until just recently.

Opening New Business Here Next Saturday

Plans were announced just about complete today for the opening of Wier's Furniture Store in the building recently occupied by Pittman's next to The Enterprise.

Several large truckloads of new and used furniture have already been unloaded and other shipments are due before the opening. Manager-Owner John Wier announces.

THE RECORD SPEAKS . . .

One minor accident crept into the county's highway "tear 'em up and kill 'em" record last week, boosting the total for the year to date to 26. After remaining more than 50 per cent below the figure for the corresponding period a year ago, the record has lost that advantage and is gradually gaining. Only does the favorable advantage hold in the number of injured.

The following tabulations offer a comparison of the accident trend: first, by corresponding weeks in this year and last and for each year to the present time.

31st Week Comparison				
Accidents Inj'd Killed Dam'ge				
1943	1	1	0	\$ 50
1942	0	0	0	000
Comparison To Date				
1943	26	12	5	3575
1942	44	27	1	5943

New Draft Rules Are Likely To Follow Call For Fathers

Million Men Would Qualify For Service, Those Law-makers Who Were Quick To Comment On The Recent Selective Service Announcement, Declared That Those Single Men Could Be Replaced By Older Men Now In Non-essential Jobs.

It is fairly apparent that the drafting of fathers will come only after prolonged debate and wrangling.

Along with the special announcement, draft boards are expected to receive an order directing them to review the cases of all registrants, to dig out those single men who could possibly qualify for some type of service.

Instructions have not yet been received by the local draft boards, but it is understood that those fathers in non-essential industry, regardless of how many children they have, will be the first to be called.

Holding Two Men In County for Highway Robbery and Attack

Defendants To Get Preliminary Hearing Here Tomorrow Evening

Charged with assaulting and robbing Lacy Steele, white pulp mill worker in the lower part of this county last Friday about noon, Ernest Jones and Levester Archie, young colored men, are being held in the jail here while officers continue to gather evidence considered of a damaging nature to the defendants' cause.

Wandering into this county a short time ago, Jones, said to be from Pitt County, and Archie, said to be from Charlotte, got a job at the plant of the North Carolina Pulp Company. They reported for work about 1 o'clock Friday morning, but left a few hours later. It is believed the men never reached their stations in the plant but spent some time searching clothes in the locker rooms and wandering around the plant yard. They were seen later in the day loafing around box cars in the wood yard. When Mr. Steele completed his day's work about noon he started walking the railroad into Plymouth, but before he crossed the county line he was accosted and knocked unconscious. The robbers relieved him of a pocket knife and his pay check. While he could not definitely describe the men he offered a fairly good description of the clothes they wore. Apparently no one saw the attack, but officers learned that Jones and Archie were in the neighborhood of the scene when the attack was made. The victim was not seriously hurt, but his injuries were painful.

One report stated that Mr. Steele was straddled by one of the men who held a razor at his neck while the other searched his pockets.

Sheriff J. K. Reid and Chief P. W. Brown of Washington and Plymouth were immediately notified by other workers who were returning from the mill. Chief Brown questioned the two men, but they offered a good story and they were allowed to pass. Further down the railroad Sheriff Reid became suspicious of the two men while questioning them and he took them into custody and turned them over to Sheriff C. B. Roebuck, Patrolman W. S. Hunt and Chief W. B. Daniel.

A hearing will be given the two men before Justice J. L. Hassell here tomorrow night.

Several Hurt When Car Strikes Bridge

Three Cases, Including Excessive Driving, Were Heard by the Martin County War Price and Rationing Board Panels in Session Last Friday Night.

Their car plowing into the guard rail on the eastern end of the Roanoke River bridge, several persons were painfully but not critically hurt about 5:30 o'clock last Sunday morning.

James Sessoms, driver of the 1941 Plymouth sedan, was badly cut on his knee, his wife, Mary Sessoms, suffered deep lacerations on her face and one knee, and Robert Thompson sprained an ankle. Garris Lee and Denny Lee Cherry, other passengers in the car, were not injured. The party, all colored, was from Colerain.

Apparently running at a high rate of speed, the car tore down two or three concrete posts in the bridge and barely missed going off the bridge into the swamp below. The car was said to have been wrecked beyond repair.

Three cases, including excessive driving, were heard by the Martin County War Price and Rationing Board panels in session last Friday night, the authorities issuing warnings in two cases and continuing a third until Friday of this week. No speeding charges were before the group.

Willie Powell of Williamston was warned against excessive driving, and similar action was taken in the case charging Walter Biggs with excessive driving.

No action was taken in the case charging Evelyn Lilley with driving in excess of her allotment, the board ordering a warning until Friday of this week when complete records are to be submitted for inspection.

ROUND-UP

Following a busy period during the week ending July 24, local and county officers had it fairly quiet last week-end. Only two arrests were recorded and they were made in the lower part of the county. Not a single arrest was made locally during the period.

Crime activities during July were considerably below the record reported for the same month a year ago, but the number of arrests last month was considerably greater than those recorded in July, 1942. Thirty-six persons were jailed last month in the county, compared with 41 in July of last year and 24 in July, 1941.

Move For Peace In Italy Experiencing Added Difficulties

Increased Force Now Driving On In Sicily; Russians Reported In Orel

The outlook for an immediate peace in Italy is a gloomy one today, observers now advancing the opinion that Mussolini's withdrawal, forced or voluntary, has had little effect in clearing up the muddled situation, that the Allies are back where they were ten days ago in their Italian peace march. It is beginning to appear, as some predicted at first when Badoglio was termed a "marionette little King", that Mussolini's successors, possibly at the point of the German sword, are working for the advantage of Hitler. It is also apparent that the King and Badoglio are not acting in accordance with the wishes of the Italian people who are ready for any kind of surrender just so long as it is in the direction of peace. In the face of the people's demand for peace, one report declares that Badoglio's regime is unlikely to last more than a few days longer. The King's position is as precarious but he will be wholeheartedly backed if he is able to give tangible proof of his desire to obtain peace whatever the price. But there are those who doubt the King's power to take such a lead.

That the recent peace puff is not turning out for the sole advantage of the Axis is seen in the increasing muddle on the war fronts themselves. The Italians are still surrendering, and in occupied countries they are actually fighting the Germans. Over in Crete, the Germans are disarming the Italians as rapidly as they can, and the action is likely to spread to other countries and even into Italy itself. The Germans are trying to stop the transfer of Italian soldiers, but one report states that three divisions have already moved out of Greece into Albania. Rommel is now said to be in Yugoslavia to take over areas which have been occupied by the Italians.

The virtual nine-day truce allowed Italy has given Germany just that much more time to shift her troops, one report stating that eighteen of Hitler's divisions had moved in to take over and to challenge the Allies when they march northward in Italy.

Apparently recognizing the failure of the peace moves, the Allies have broken their fighting lull and are now back in their stride with an all-out drive to knock out Sicily and follow through possibly into Italy itself.

Refusing General Eisenhower's surrender terms and after making a peace feint of his own, Badoglio, unofficially is said to have received a seven-point program from President Roosevelt which calls for: The immediate cessation of hostilities; no more collaboration with the Germans; the turning over of all war material undamaged; the use of Italy for bases of operation; the release of all prisoners.

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Country's Service Men Here Today, Gone Tomorrow

Sizable Job To Keep up With Changes in Mailing Addresses

Uncle Sam's service men are on the move everywhere, in all foreign lands and in the home land. Dispatches from the war fronts tell how fast the young men are moving forward there, and the man handling The Enterprise mailing list can well vouch how fast they are moving here. He says they are here tomorrow, some going one direction and some another, many passing each other along the way.

Out of a comparatively small number of white draftees leaving the county not so long ago, at least one is in six different states, and every one of them has changed his address one or more times. Approximately five hundred service men are receiving The Enterprise now, and it is conservatively estimated that four hundred and ninety-four of them have had their addresses changed one or more times, not voluntarily, of course, but in accordance with an old Army tradition. It is a big job to keep up with those addresses, but The Enterprise force is ready to make the changes. It asks that the boys send in their changes of address along with the old one as soon as possible after the new location is determined.

Telling how swiftly he is seeing the country, Pvt. Tom H. Ward writes from Sioux City, Iowa, as follows: "How is everything progressing in Martin County? Fine I hope. I am doing fine. After spending two months on Miami Beach, nine days in Salt Lake City, Utah, I am now out in the corn state, Iowa, located at Sioux City. I wish to state that

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Ration Board Panel Hears Three Cases

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