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ESTABLISHED 1899

Forty-Eight Tires Allotted In County By Ration Board

Than Half of Number Normally Allotted

The seriousness of the rubber shortage is reflected in the weekly allotment of tires made by the Martin County War Price and Rationing Board last Friday night. The issuance, totalling 48 tires, is considerably less than half the number normally allotted each week during recent months. The reduced allotment is reflected in all types of tires. It is generally expected that the new tire allotments will gradually dwindle because fewer vehicle owners-operators are now eligible for that type of tire. On the other hand, the available supply of Grade III is hardly adequate to care for certificates of purchase now outstanding.

Grade I tires and tubes for cars and pick-up trucks were issued to the following:

- Marvin Leggett, RFD 1, Jamesville, one tire and one tube.
- William T. Roberson, RFD 1, Williamston, one tire and one tube.
- F. W. Holliday, Jamesville, two tires and one tube.
- J. E. Copeland and Sons, RFD 1, Palmyra, three tires and one tube.
- Joe Ward, Hassell, one tire and one tube.
- W. T. Ausbon, Robersonville, two tires and two tubes.
- Woodrow W. Tyson, Oak City, one tire and one tube.
- B. B. Taylor, Hamilton, one tire and one tube.
- N. C. Highway Patrol, Williamston, two tires and two tubes.
- J. E. Copeland, RFD 1, Palmyra, two tires.
- J. Dawson Lilley, RFD 1, Williamston, one tire and one tube.
- W. K. Parker, Williamston, one tire.
- Dr. V. E. Brown, Williamston, one tire and one tube.
- Eula W. Coburn, Jamesville, one tire and one tube.
- Johnnie David Williams, RFD 1, Williamston, two tires and two tubes.
- New truck tires and certificates for recapping truck tires were issued to the following:
- Elbert W. Griffin, RFD 1, Williamston, two recaps.
- E. H. Manning, RFD 1, Williamston, two recaps.
- J. O. Manning, Williamston, two tires and two tubes.
- Lucian J. Hardison, RFD 1, Williamston, one tire.
- William Parker, RFD 3, Williamston, one tire.
- W. J. Beach, Hamilton, one tire and one tube.
- John Auston, Jamesville, two tires and one tube.
- Grade III tires were rationed to the following:
- Eula W. Coburn, Jamesville, one tire.
- F. S. Scott, RFD 1, Oak City, two tires.
- H. G. Harrison, RFD 2, Williamston, one tire and one tube.
- Wiley B. Rogerson, Robersonville.

Observation Post Schedule Reduced

The ground observation system, maintained by thousands upon thousands of volunteers, has been all but eliminated, according to an official message received here this morning by Chief Observer W. H. Carstarphen from Lt. Col. Dunham, commander Norfolk Fighter Wing. The action, ordered by the War Department, was not supported by any concrete explanation. One report declared that the action would free thousands of volunteers for work in other fields described as more important and urgent. Others read into the action a reduced possibility of enemy attack, while still others expressed the belief that mechanical equipment had been expanded to the extent that the service was not vitally necessary in the defense set-up. However, the message explained that the system should be maintained, and that it was the wish of the War Department to have the system manned each Wednesday afternoon from 1 to 5 o'clock. The first notice of the greatly curtailed observation schedule was received here this morning when William Gurganus reported a flight over town at 2:33 o'clock. The message was received by the filter center, and the voice at the other end of the line advised him to turn out the light, close the door and leave the post. Before daybreak, Chief Observer Carstarphen was asked to verify the instructions several times. The message brought great relief to Chief Observer Carstarphen and the crew of observers here who have wrestled with the round-the-clock task since July of last year. Whether the accomplishment was worth the cost, Chief Observer Carstarphen and his faithful observers never expressed doubt. They were asked to do a job by the Army, and they did it. First reports from the several posts in the county stated that the order was well received.

Make Plans For \$10,000 War Relief Fund Drive In County

Meeting in the Branch Banking and Trust Company building here this afternoon, leaders are planning plans for conducting the War Relief Fund Drive in this section of the county. Leaders in District No. 2 with headquarters in Robersonville are expected to complete these plans soon and make ready to participate in the drive for approximately \$10,000.

President Roosevelt will open the nation-wide War Fund drive tonight at 10:30 o'clock on a coast-to-coast radio broadcast. The people of this county are earnestly urged to hear the appeal by the President, and get a slant on what is happening as a result of war.

Martin County's quota is recognized as one of the largest if not the largest ever assigned in support of any cause. It is just about double the Red Cross quota assigned last year. With the quota comes a distinct challenge to every man, woman and child in Martin County, and their support is earnestly solicited.

PICKERS PEANUTS

Leon Matthews and three other farmers in the Parmele section opened the 1943 peanut threshing season yesterday when they placed their pickers in operation.

While the yield is hardly coming up to expectations, the goobers were said to be dry and of fairly good quality.

As far as it could be learned the threshing season is more advanced this year than at any other period in many years. However, it will be several weeks before the work approaches a climax. Many farmers have not completed digging their crops, and a majority have just recently finished the task.

Youth Arrested For Alleged Violation of The White Slave Act

John Tuck Sentenced to Prison for Eighteen Months in Federal Court

Arrested here last Saturday by State Highway patrolmen and federal authorities for alleged violation of the White Slave Act, John Tuck, young white man of 231 49th Street, Newport News, was sentenced to a reformatory at Chillicothe, Ohio, for a term of eighteen months by Judge I. M. Meekins in federal court in Washington yesterday. The sentence was lifted, the court ordering the defendant to pay \$5 a month for the next eighteen months and to remain under probation during that period.

The young man was alleged to have brought Lucille Taylor, 17 years old, of 217 Fifth Street, Newport News, and Texas, and Joanne Hester, 17, of 217 Fifth Street, Newport News, and Germantown, Pennsylvania, to Williamston last Friday night from Virginia. It was alleged that he and one of the girls registered at a local hotel as man and wife. When charged in court yesterday with violating Section 393.404 of the White Slave Traffic Act, Act of Title 18 (Criminal Code) Revised Statutes of the United States, Tuck pleaded guilty. It could not be officially learned, but FBI agents, working on the case in cooperation with Patrolmen W. E. Saunders and W. S. Hunt, gained confessions from one of the girls, but it could not be learned if her sworn statements were used in the trial.

Tuck's arrest followed an accident on the Jamesville Road at Sweet Water Creek last Saturday morning. He was slightly injured, but was able to be out following first aid treatment in the local hospital. Given a preliminary hearing before U. S. Commissioner John Respass in Washington, Tuck was placed under bond in the sum of \$1,000. The district attorney arranged for an immediate trial. Tuck was a member of character witnesses, and it was said that it was his first appearance as a defendant in the courts.

Facing similar charges, Godard was arrested by federal authorities.

REGULAR SCHEDULE

After operating on a "short" schedule since the opening of the term on September 1, all county schools, white and colored, will go on a regular operating schedule next Monday. All schools in the county except Williamston and Farm Life observed the short-day schedule. Reports from several principals state that the abbreviated schedule had proved very successful, that had it not been accepted classes possibly would have been suspended out of necessity for indefinite periods.

TOWN - FARM IN WARTIME

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

Despite pressing duties, Mr. N. C. Green has accepted the county chairmanship, and he has already made splendid progress in carrying the appeal to leaders who will direct the drive in this and the Robersonville districts where it is planned to use the Red Cross campaign canvassers in carrying the appealing messages to every home in the county.

Details of the drive will be announced shortly, but during the meantime, everyone is urged to prepare to take part in the campaign. The money raised during the drive will go to American servicemen, to the prisoners of war, to starving humanity in Greece, Russia, China, Poland and others. There have been many worthy calls and the people of this county have never failed to answer. If ever there was a time for our people to come to the aid of suffering humanity it is now.

Commissioners Hold Uneventful Meeting In County Yesterday

Department Reports and Tax Relief Orders Constitute Most of Business

The regular session of the Martin County Commissioners here yesterday was an uneventful one, the authorities spending a greater part of the morning hearing reports and granting tax relief orders. The meeting, adjourned before lunch, was one of the shortest held by the commissioners in recent months. Jurors for the two weeks term of superior court convening in November were drawn and current bills were duly inspected.

Relief orders for poll taxes, based for the most part on service records, were issued to the following: Chas. T. Bowers, Paul D. Roberson, R. Edwin Peele, Luther Harris, S. L. Godard, John I. Eagles and Grady James for the year 1943. Jim Carraway was relieved of the payment of \$3.97 taxes when it was found the property had been doubly listed. John W. Hardy, serviceman, was relieved of \$2 poll tax for 1942, and Stephen Gardner was relieved of \$2 poll tax payment for the same year. J. Watts Rhodes was relieved of the payment of \$1.80 taxes doubly listed in Williamston Township. A release was also given E. G. Whitehurst for \$7.25 taxes doubly listed, and the Roanoke Chevrolet Company was relieved of the payment of \$3.03 on property listed in error in Jamesville Township. The \$23.87 tax bill on the Mack Rogers estate property was cancelled when it was found to be a holding when it was listed twice.

The departmental reports varied little from previous ones, holding about the same old rut and revealing little or nothing of general public interest.

However, Tax Collector Luther Peel stated that tax payments are progressing rapidly, that \$75,950.99 of the \$200,083.86 levy for 1943 had already been collected. It is believed that the payments are greater at this time of the fiscal year than in any other period in years and years. The collector's report also showed that only \$8,024.44 of the 1942 levy remained uncollected. The \$207,228.91 levy for 1941 has been reduced to \$4,125.28. Of the \$1,572.47 represented in land sales for 1940, all but \$1,432.41 has been collected, and the insolvent list for that year has been reduced from \$5,945.31 to \$2,013.80.

Lt. Jas. D. Walters Awarded Air Medal

First Lieutenant James D. Walters, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Walters, of Jamesville, was recently awarded the Oak Leaf Cluster to the air medal for his service as a member of the United States Army Air Force in the Pacific war theater. The young man was one of five American pursuit pilots who have met the Japanese in many battles and who were awarded the cluster to the air medal in place of second awards of the medal.

Lieut. Gen. C. Kenney, commander of Allied air forces in the Southwest Pacific, made the awards "for meritorious achievement while participating in 25 operational flight missions during which hostile contact was probable and expected." The citations said: "These operations included escorting bombers and transport aircraft, interception and attack missions, and patrol and reconnaissance flights. "In the course of these operations, strafing and bombing attacks were made from dangerously low altitudes, destroying and damaging enemy installations and equipment. Throughout these flights outstanding courage, ability and devotion to duty were demonstrated."

County War Bond Drive Just Short Of One Million Dollars

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officially learned, however, that Robersonville added to its sales last Saturday and boosted its total to \$1,387.50, and Cross Roads was credited with about \$1,400 since the last report was submitted. Approximately \$6,000 or more was reported in Williamston. A few other scattering sales were made, but they could not be handled in time for a complete review of the county totals. It is conservatively estimated, however, that the total is not more than \$18,000 or \$20,000 short of one million dollars for the county, as a whole.

According to incomplete reports, only three districts, Jamesville, Williams and Williamston have not reached their full quotas. Cross Roads has gone over and it is believed Hassell rounded out its quota with a little to spare.

Several Persons Hurt In Series of Accidents

Five Persons Injured But None Seriously Over The Week-end

Property Damage Approximates \$1,000 in Five Car-Truck Wrecks

Five persons were hurt, none seriously, in a series of automobile-truck accidents in this county over the week-end period. The smash-up and crashes followed a period of few or no mishaps on the streets and highways of the county.

Three of the accidents were reported on local streets, Joe Godard, Jr., formerly of Jamesville but now of 231 49th Street, Newport News, plowed up and ripped down several sections of the Sweet Water Creek fill fence, and a child was run down near Robersonville. Damage to property approximated \$1,000, not including hospital costs, doctors' fees and work time losses.

Last Friday night, a pick-up truck driven by Jack Hardison and a 1930 model car driven by Roland B. Leggett, Jr., crashed on the main street in front of the George Reynolds Hotel. Leggett had several fingers broken and James Moore, a passenger, received a several-stitch gash on his head when he plowed through the windshield. Leggett explained he was driving on the left side of the street passing a car when Hardison turned into the main thoroughfare off Smithwick Street. Hardison had hardly more than cleared the intersection before the vehicles crashed head-on. Damage to the truck was estimated at \$40 and that to the car at \$25.

About two hours later, the cars of a Mrs. Council and C. S. Graham, colored Methodist minister, crashed at the Main and Houghton Street intersection. Very little damage was done, and the preacher, working for a peaceful settlement, accepted the costs of the repairs estimated at about \$10.

Saturday morning, Joe Godard, Jr. of Jamesville, passed over the Sweet Water Creek bridge apparently at a fast speed and failed to negotiate the curve just beyond. The car, a 1940 Ford tudor sedan, ripped off even with the ground a dozen posts, rolled up the heavy steel wire and plunged down the creek embankment. Godard was badly bruised and cut about the face and left arm. He was thrown out of the car but was pinned underneath after it had completed two scammersaults. John Tuck, a passenger in the car along with Lucas...

Number Of Fathers Leaving For Army

Their last hopes fading for a stay of induction, quite a few fathers are scheduled to leave this county for an army induction center tomorrow, according to reports coming from a few fathers this week. No official list of names could be had, but according to individual reports pieced together here approximately twenty fathers will be included in the group leaving the county tomorrow about 11 o'clock.

A few fathers have been accepted from this county, but their entrance was more or less voluntary while in a few cases the fathers had deserted their families, the action having reduced their deferment status. Such cases were few, but the story from now on apparently presents a picture.

RAINFALL

After holding to unusually low levels, rainfall in this section is gradually increasing, according to information coming from the station on Roanoke River here. Through September of this year a total of 36.14 inches of rain had been recorded as compared with 25.91 inches in the first nine months of 1942. The rainfall for 1943 to date is about five inches greater than the total for all of 1941 and is just about two inches under the total fall for 1942. In 1939, the rainfall here was 55.48 inches. It dropped to 37.89 inches in 1940 and hit a new low in the history of the weather station in 1941 when only 31.76 inches of rain were recorded. The trend is now pointing upward again.

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U.S. Seventh Army Is Said To Have Shown Up On Italy's Coast

Drive in Italy Continues But Lull Reported on the Russian Front

The United States Seventh Army, lost to the public eye for the past few weeks, is said to have shown up on Italy's Adriatic coast, causing some observers to guess that an invasion of the Balkans is in the offing. Few details of the "discovery" were revealed and if the Army has gone there, the full meaning of the move is yet to be revealed. Unfavorable seasons are not very inviting to an invasion of the Balkans just now. However, other developments in the Mediterranean area could possibly be timed to a Balkan thrust. Airfields in Greece were bombed last night by Billy Mitchell and other types of American craft for the first time, and the British went into action in the Dodecanese. Landing on the island of Coo, 23 miles long and the second largest in the group, Britishers soon encountered strong opposition when the Germans, striking in force by sea and air, wrested several strategic points from them. While it was rated as a minor gain for the Germans, the loss rates as a measurable one for the Allies.

A lull has apparently settled on a greater part of Russian's eastern front, late reports stating that rain and mud have bogged down land activities for the most part, but air activity is being stepped up in several areas. German resistance is said to have been increased, but activity is limited to local engagements.

In Italy, the Allies are continuing their march northward. A fierce enemy delaying action is being encountered, but it is now thought that the Germans will offer to make no determined stand until the Po Valley is reached. The Allies this morning are within 85 miles of Rome, a city whose fate hangs in a precarious balance.

Organized resistance has been shattered on the island of Corsica, and the remaining Germans there are doomed.

The air war continues over Germany, recent raids having been directed on a large scale against the manufacturing city of Frankfurt. The Americans were over there yesterday and did much damage. They lost fifteen bombers. The RAF was over there last night and added to the devastation, losing ten ships. The enemy lost about 75 fighters in the two engagements.

The Americans and Australians are still making it hot for the Japs in the Solomon area, late reports stating that the yellow scoundrels are making desperate attempts to vacate some of the vulnerable spots. In China, a new Jap drive has flared up. Using 130,000 men with increased air support, the Japs have started a movement to encircle the Chinese in the Yangtze River area. American militarists declare that the Japs have increased their air power as much as 200 per cent in some areas over China.

W. T. Padgett Dies In Local Hospital Yesterday Morning

Funeral This Afternoon For Respected Angetown Section

W. T. Padgett, highly respected citizen and farmer of the Angetown community of Jamesville Township, died in a local hospital yesterday morning following a long period of declining health. Although he was able to be up and about, he had been in feeble health for almost a year, spending the last two weeks in the hospital. Pneumonia was given as the immediate cause of his death.

The son of Mrs. Florence Ward Padgett and her late husband, Frank Padgett, he was born in Washington County on March 20, 1883. In early manhood he was married to Miss Maggie Ange of this county and a few years later moved to Martin to make his home and continue his farming pursuits. Mr. Padgett was a member of Christian Hope Church in Washington County for almost half a century. He was a good citizen and a friendly neighbor, holding the respect of both the old and young in his community.

Besides his widow and mother he is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Lovie Davis and Mrs. Willie Gardner both of the home community. He is also survived by two brothers, Dennis Padgett and John Padgett and three sisters, Mrs. Claude Ange, Mrs. Della Aughton and Mrs. Ange.

Funeral services are being conducted at the late home this afternoon at 3 o'clock by his pastor, Rev. J. Robert Lee. Interment will follow in the Ange Cemetery, near the home.

LICENSE BUREAU

Closed for the past several weeks, the Carolina Motor Club will reopen its State Automobile license bureau here the first of December, it was reliably learned today. Harrison and Carstarphen have been named to handle the business in their office in the Geo. Reynolds Hotel building on Main Street. The new 1944 State vehicle tags will be placed on sale at that time, and it is understood that owners-operators will have until January 31 to purchase the tags.

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Fire Wrecks House On Elm Street Here

Believed by some to have been of incendiary origin, fire gutted and wrecked the two-story home of Walter Mizelle, colored, corner Church and Elm Streets, here Sunday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock. The house was just about a total loss and what little furniture that was not burned was badly wrecked in its removal.

The family left earlier in the day for church services on West Warren Street, and no one was in the home at the time. A roamer went there about 12:30 and while dressing she heard two small boys call the Mizelles. When she answered the call, the boys ran. The roamer left the house a short time later, and the back door was left unlocked as was the front door usually followed. Some believe the boys returned to the house and built a fire in an upstairs room. When discovered, the fire was breaking through the roof and by the time the alarm was sounded the entire second floor and the roof over the "L" was burning. Firemen, using two lines of hose, soon brought the fire under control, but not until the house had been gutted.

Insurance in the sum of \$1,500 was carried on the building, but the furniture, valued at \$500, was not insured.

Investigating the fire, Chief G. P. Hall learned that some one had tried to fire the home last Friday night, that sticks saturated with kerosene were found burning under the kitchen. The fire was found and extinguished before it damaged the house.

About two weeks ago some one entered the James Brown home, next door to the Mizelles on Church Street, and built a fire with paper and a pair of pants on the Brown organ. It was discovered before much damage was done.

GETS CITATION



First Lieutenant James D. Walters, Jamesville young man, was awarded the Oak Leaf Cluster to the air medal recently for meritorious service performed during 25 operational flights against the Japs.