



# THE ENTERPRISE



VOLUME XLVI—NUMBER 87

Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Tuesday, November 2, 1943.

ESTABLISHED 1899

## Allied Fifth Army Breaks Enemy Line In Fierce Fighting

### Russians Sweeping up Operation against Nazis

The tempo of the fighting on the two major battlefronts was stepped up yesterday and today possibly as an echo to the far-reaching and meaningful developments reported by the tripartite conference recently ended at Moscow. The news from the diplomatic and war fronts yesterday and today was recognized by many as the most important of the war, but along with it comes the solemn warning that the road to victory still may be long and hard.

In Italy the Fifth Allied Army under General Mark Clark has pierced the Little Rommel Line or the enemy's main defense along the road to Rome. The fighting was admittedly costly to the Allies, but the gains were significant. Farther inland, the Allies are making steady gains ranging up to four miles daily in the drive against Rommel on the road toward Rome.

Clearing the enemy out of the Dnieper River Bend in Russia, the Red Army is swinging into action against the Germans trapped in the Crimea. The Russians have crossed the Kerch Strait, and the "Charge of the Light Brigade" is about to be re-enacted with the Germans almost certain to catch the lead and fire of the Russians. The German lines south of the Dnieper Bend have been crushed and the enemy is in full retreat, leaving vast stores and equipment and numerous fighting units trapped.

Over in the Pacific, the Allies are still pushing the Japs back and a big battle is believed in the making for Bougainville Island. The Allies have effected a landing there and the action is just another step in the march toward Rabaul, important Jap base.

## Suffers Broken Leg In Truck Accident

Willie James Roberson, young colored man, suffered a broken leg and minor bruises in a truck accident near here on the Hamilton Road early last Friday afternoon. Lee Edward Bess, colored employee of the Martin County Transfer Company of Robersonville, was driving a large tractor-trailer truck heavily loaded with peanuts and Roberson was his helper. Just as the truck was rounding a curve a short distance this side of Abbit's Mill, the load shifted causing the trailer to break loose from the tractor. The trailer bore down on the cab, and Bess, sensing what had happened, increased the speed of the truck and ran out from under the heavily loaded trailer. The truck went off the left side of the road into a ditch and was wrecked. The trailer turned over on the right side of the road, spilling the load of peanuts.

The driver of the truck was not hurt. Damage to the machine was estimated at about \$500 by Patrolman W. E. Saunders who investigated the accident. Only a few bags of peanuts were ripped open, and the damage to the cargo was negligible.

## Local Young Man Is Instructor In Army

Fort Myers, Fla.—Sgt. Robert E. Peele, husband of Mrs. Katherine Citerson Peele, and son of Mr. Herbert D. Peele, of Williamston, N. C., who was graduated last week from the Army Air Forces Flexible Gunnery School at Fort Myers, Fla., will be retained as an instructor at the school.

He was selected because of his high standing in the class and his natural qualities of leadership which were observed by the officers here during the course of instruction. He will now join one of the squadrons here as an instructor on one of the many ranges in this school.

The other members of his class will leave Buckingham for operational training units where they will form crews before going overseas. The instructors will stay behind to produce more gunners, but, after serving several months as instructors, they will get a chance for assignment to a combat theater. With months of valuable training behind them, these instructors who go to combat will have had the very best training for action against the enemy.

He entered the Army in April.

## Thirteenth Boy From Martin County Loses Life In Conflict

and made his home with Ethel Brown until he was almost seven years of age. He volunteered in the Army four years ago and had been in overseas service almost two years. His last letter, written on September 24, urged his mother not to worry about him. He said he was eagerly looking forward to the time he could return home and tell her all about the places he had visited.

Before going overseas, he was married and his widow, Marie Stalls, is making her home at Fort Bragg. Besides his wife and parents he leaves two brothers, Willie Stalls of Port Northern, Washington, and Cullen Stalls, formerly of Williamston but now of Norfolk, and a sister, Miss Delores Stalls, of Charlotte.

## To Check Work of 'C' Registrants In County

### SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Fairly lengthy holidays were fixed for the schools of this county yesterday when the Board of Education met here in regular session.

Instead of allowing one day for Thanksgiving, the board struck a liberal note and granted two. While the Christmas holiday schedule will not compare with those in past years, the board reasoned that a single week was a bit short and they called for a suspension of classes on December 17, the holiday to run to the 29th.

The board will support a community capping project in Oak City in cooperation with the county commissioners and the federal government. Once established, the project will be maintained by the community.

## At Least Four Lose Lives In Airplane Accident Near Here

### No Details of Crash Released So Far by Marine Base Authorities

At least four and possibly five persons were killed when a twin-engine plane crashed about two miles off U. S. Highway No. 17 between here and Windsor shortly before noon yesterday. No official announcement has been released and few details could be had immediately.

Said to have been operating out of the Marine base at Edgerton, the plane was said by witnesses at a distance to have gone into a nose dive from a high altitude and plunged into a woods at a terrific speed. Parts of the plane were scattered over a radius of two hundred feet or more, one report stating that the machine made a hole in the ground large enough to place two or three automobiles. One engine was found in the hole and the other was thrown a short distance away. The bodies of the men were so badly mangled and burned that they could not be identified, one report declared.

It was unofficially learned that one of the men was from North Carolina, but their names and addresses could not be learned.

Cecil Phelps, said to have witnessed the fall, was quoted as saying that he saw something fall from the plane. Another report stated that one of the men jumped out, but he was so near the ground that he was killed.

## Local Club To Meet In Red Cross Room

After meeting in various homes, the Tailor Club a local sewing circle embracing a membership of fifteen women, is now holding its semi-monthly sessions in the Red Cross bandage room over the Western Auto Store.

The members expressed the desire to aid the vital work and suspended their regular meetings. They are rendering valuable assistance to the project, and it is pointed out that other clubs and organizations could render a valuable service by transferring their meetings to the bandage room.

## Oak City School Raises \$52.60 For The War Fund

Approximately one-fourth of the Oak City United War Fund Quota was raised by the school pupils, Principal H. M. Ainsley announced yesterday. Donations were recorded by grades, as follows: First grade, \$3.36; second, \$2.28; third, \$1.50; fourth, \$3.70; fifth, \$2.25; sixth, \$3.40; seventh, \$2.50; eighth, \$5.08; ninth, \$6.50; eleventh, \$6.80; twelfth, \$15.25; total \$52.60.

## Township Offering Liberal Support To War Fund Campaign

### Quota Exceeded by \$1,572.06 and All Collections Are Not Yet Reported

Assigned a quota of \$4,221.00, Williamston Township has exceeded that figure and forged ahead to set an all-time record in answering the call of suffering humanity. According to last-minute reports of collections made and accounted for by the canvass leaders, the township has raised \$5,793.06, or \$1,572.06 in excess of its original quota.

Four canvassers are yet to report and several others have not quite completed their canvass. It is estimated that the township will go well over \$6,000.

A list of contributions not previously reported for the township, follows:

- Woolard Hardware Co., \$50; B. S. Courtney Employees, \$7.50; George Sfetos, \$50; Bus Station Employees, \$20; Herman Taylor, \$3.50; Hubert Smith, \$3.50; Mark Chesson, \$3; Mrs. C. D. Cavanaugh, \$5; Roy L. Ward, \$7.50; Mrs. Whitford, \$5; Elton Andrews, \$5; Grover Lilley, \$5; Archie Whitley, \$1; Frank Weathers, \$1; Paul Whitchard, \$1; H. H. Taylor, \$1; Guy Roberson, \$1; C. R. Whitaker, \$1; Mayo Matthews, 50c; Raleigh Mizelle, \$2; Walter Speller, \$2; Robert Beacham, \$1; Roger Critcher, \$10; Titus Critcher, \$10; Mrs. F. E. Wynne, \$2; Branch Banking & Trust Company Employees, \$30.50; Guaranty Bank and Trust Company Employees, \$25; City Hall Employees, \$33; Proctor Shop, \$17; Margolis Bros. Employees, \$5.20; E. and W. Grocery Employees, \$20; Martin County Building and Loan Association, \$10; John W. Manning, \$5; Pender's Store, \$15; Pender's Store Employees, \$10; Mrs. J. W. Garris, 50c; Mrs. Linwood Pate, \$1; Mrs. W. H. Williams, \$1.25; Mrs. J. L. Ward, 50c; Mrs. W. J. Smith, \$1; E. H. Willard, \$1; C. H. Godwin, Sr., \$1; J. G. Staton, \$5; Mrs. J. G. Staton, \$25; Mr. and Mrs. Harrell Everett, \$5; C. G. Crockett, \$25; Clarence Faulkner, \$3; Edna Rawls, \$2.50; Mrs. Bill Howell, \$3; Mamie Clyde Taylor, \$1.50; Ann Getsinger, \$1; Woodrow Tice, \$4; R. W. Bondurant, \$4; J. C. Cooke, \$5; Hilton Forbes, \$1; George E. Moore, \$2; Joe Robertson, \$1; Henry D. Harrison, Jr., \$1; Williamston Hwd. Co., \$5; Martin County FCX Employees, \$3.30; Willie Modlin, \$10;

## Sworn Statement Showing Units Produced in 1943 Will Be Required

In what might be a move to weed out non- or marginal producers, the Martin County War Board at the direction of Selective Service, is calling for an exacting review of work handled by the approximately 2,000 draft registrants now holding "C" classifications. Few details of the plan and the exact purpose of the movement have been released. It was learned, however, that every "C" registrant will be required to make a detailed report of his farm production, showing acreages planted to the various crops, livestock and poultry raised, forest products delivered and other farm activities.

When questioned this week, Selective Service authorities would offer no comment, but it is well understood that an exhaustive check-up is to be made on the activities of those registrants who hold preferred draft classifications.

The approximately 2,000 questionnaires are being placed in the mails this week. The registrants are to prepare the answers and submit them to their respective committees for verification. They are warned that the statements of production are to be handled within ten days, that if they are not handled properly, the registrants will be subjected to a 1-A classification irrespective of dependency or production.

The authorities are demanding an accurate statement, not as to what the registrant plans to do in 1944 but as to what he actually did in the way of meeting the conditions under which he was given the preferred classification. The farmer who actually works and met the requirements is virtually certain to be continued in his "C" classification, but if there is reason to believe that terms have not been met then a re-classification is to be expected, according to reliable but unofficial information received here.

In a letter to the several community committees, the authorities are directing them to withhold their signatures until the registrant proves his production claims. In preparing his production records, the registrant is to take into account only those units which he actually produced.

Whether there'll be a wholesale review of the "C" registrants' classifications could not be learned.

## Local Club To Meet In Red Cross Room

After meeting in various homes, the Tailor Club a local sewing circle embracing a membership of fifteen women, is now holding its semi-monthly sessions in the Red Cross bandage room over the Western Auto Store.

The members expressed the desire to aid the vital work and suspended their regular meetings. They are rendering valuable assistance to the project, and it is pointed out that other clubs and organizations could render a valuable service by transferring their meetings to the bandage room.

## Oak City School Raises \$52.60 For The War Fund

Approximately one-fourth of the Oak City United War Fund Quota was raised by the school pupils, Principal H. M. Ainsley announced yesterday. Donations were recorded by grades, as follows: First grade, \$3.36; second, \$2.28; third, \$1.50; fourth, \$3.70; fifth, \$2.25; sixth, \$3.40; seventh, \$2.50; eighth, \$5.08; ninth, \$6.50; eleventh, \$6.80; twelfth, \$15.25; total \$52.60.

## Tobacco Market Closing Very Successful Season This Week

With final sales scheduled for Friday of this week, the Williamston Tobacco Market is closing one of the most successful seasons in its history. According to an unofficial but reliable report released early today, the market will have sold by the closing date right at eight and one-half million pounds for one of the highest prices averages in the belt.

Prices on the market here yesterday, the first day sales were held since the three-day holiday last week, were some stronger than they were a few days before the interruption. Prices ranged up to \$47 per hundred for the better quality grades, and the inferior types were selling several dollars higher than they did just before the holiday.

## Fund Drive Over the Top In This District

### Drive In This Area Will Be Completed Within Short Time

### Total of \$7,415.69 Raised and Reported by Four of The Five Townships

The Martin County United War Fund Drive is meeting with marked success, Chairman N. C. Green announced today as complete and fairly complete reports were filed by canvass leaders in four of the five townships in this district. Each of the town townships exceeded its quota, several by comfortable margins and one by more than \$1,500. The fifth township, Williams, in the district, has filed no official report, but it is understood that the quota has been met.

Up in District No. 2, the campaign was started a bit late, but preliminary reports indicate that Oak City has already gone over the top, that possibly Poplar Point and one or two others had reached its quota. "We have raised between \$500 and \$1,000 to date," Rev. J. M. Perry, District No. 2 chairman, estimated last night. "We are hoping to complete the drive the latter part of the week, and are still hopeful our people will meet the challenge," Mr. Perry added.

Williamston, the second township to reach and exceed its quota, has four canvassers, Dan Wynne, John Bland, Dennis Hardy and C. D. Bullock, yet to report and a few others who have not filed complete reports. Assigned a quota of \$4,221.00, the township yesterday had collected and reported a total of \$5,793.06. The colored citizens are making progress in their drive for \$1,000 in the five townships of District No. 1. E. J. Hayes announcing late yesterday that Corey's community had reported \$46.30; Smithwick's Community, \$46.50; Jamesville Community, \$100.25, and Dardens' Community, \$100.51. In the local colored school, more than \$50 had been raised among the children and teachers.

Bear Grass reported a small addition to its previous collection. The names of the contributors along with several others left out in the first report will be published as soon as possible.

A comparison of quotas and collections made and reported follows for four of the five townships in District No. 2:

	Amount	Quota
Bear Grass	\$ 531.64	\$ 500
Williamston	5793.06	4221
Jamesville	664.49	650
Griffins	426.50	400

It is estimated that Williams has \$150, that the colored collections to date will total at least \$500, that late contributions not figured in the total in Williamston will amount to \$150, and that the grand total for the district stands at about \$3,215.43 today. The colored citizens say they will meet the challenge, and it is believed that the drive will reach a figure right at \$9,000 in this district by the end of the week.

## Finds And Turns Purse Over To Its Owner Here

Finding a billfold containing \$25 in cash and important papers on the main street here last week, Crawford Coltrain, of Farm Life, turned the valuables over the owner, Miss Saily Gray White, without reward. During recent weeks quite a few people have lost valuables in this section, but in few instances were they recovered.

## No Meeting Held By Town Commissioners

With the Honorable Mayor out of town for a meeting of the State Waterworks Association in Winston-Salem, the regular meeting of the local town commissioners was postponed last evening. No definite date for the session has been announced.

## Hundreds of Service Men Relieved of Tax Payments In County

### Jurers Drawn by Commissioners in Regular Monthly Session Monday

Service men's tax accounts were wiped off the county books by official order here yesterday when the commissioners issued relief orders in the sum of \$1,620.01. Most of the accounts involved taxes charged against personal properties with the poll tax representing a greater portion of the amount. In discussing the blanket relief order, the authorities declared that there was no other course of action when all the facts are considered. However, it is understood that a few servicemen paid their tax accounts while at home on leave. It is also understood that no tax relief was granted where accounts were charged against real properties.

Relief orders were issued in 525 cases, but in quite a few instances more than one order was issued for a single serviceman.

Going back to the tax year, 1940, the commissioners issued 91 relief orders in the sum of \$229.78. For the following year they issued 175 relief orders in the sum of \$531.79. There were 251 servicemen's accounts on the books for 1942, amounting to \$840.94. There were only eight relief orders issued for the current tax year, the accounts amounting to \$17.50.

The meeting of the commissioners was a very short one, the officials completing their work before adjourning for lunch.

The following citizens were drawn for jury service during the one week term of superior court convening on December 13:

- Jamesville Township: J. E. Hedrick and J. Linwood Knowles.
- Williams Township: S. L. Andrews.
- Griffins Township: B. R. Manning and Richard S. Corey.
- Bear Grass Township: Carl Lee Beacham.
- Williamston Township: W. C. Manning, C. D. Carstarphen, D. C. McLawhorn, W. J. Hodges, E. C. Jones, V. U. Bunting and C. C. Parker.
- Robersonville Township: J. E. Page, Fred Taylor and L. B. Williams.
- Poplar Point Township: Junior Mills.
- Goose Nest Township: Arrington Hale.

## Parents Hear From Son In War Prison

"I am getting along pretty good," Technical Sergeant Eli Clayton Rogers said in his first letter received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Eli Rogers, since he was taken a prisoner of war by the Germans back in May of this year.

Dated May 29, 1943, and just received here yesterday, the short letter said that his health was fine, "So, above all, don't worry about me." The young man, reported missing in a raid over Germany on or about May 1, this year, expressed the hope that all at home were well. A month later he was reported a prisoner of war.

He asked his parents to send him a razor, blades, towels, socks and underwear, tooth brush and paste. They were directed to go to the Red Cross and get definite instructions for mailing the package.

In conclusion, the young man said, "I would love to see you all, but please don't worry. Take care of yourselves and my dog."

The soldier's dog died a short time ago.

The young man's family has sent packages previously and Mr. Rogers was busy yesterday making ready another one.

## County Young Man At Aviation Cadet Center

San Antonio Aviation Cadet Center, Texas.—Among cadets now stationed at the Army Air Forces Pre-flight School for Pilots at the San Antonio Aviation Cadet Center, the nation's largest pool for fighting air crews, are 34 young men from North Carolina. When they have completed their studies and training at the preflight school, the cadets will be sent to a primary flying field. Still further training in basic and advanced flying schools will prepare them to be combat pilots.

This group includes one from Williamston, Aviation Cadet Clifton E. Ward, RFD 1.

## Slightly Hurt In Auto Accident Sunday Morning

Jack Hardison, young white man, received minor cuts when the car in which he was riding crashed into another at No. 90 filling station on the Jamesville Road last Sunday morning at 1 o'clock. Robert James Duggins was discharging some passengers at the station when Joseph Edward Hardison drove up the hill and crashed into him. Damage to the Duggins' car was estimated at \$200 and that to the Hardison car at \$150 by Patrolman W. E. Saunders who investigated the accident.

## Seek Enlistments In Woman's Army Corps

Falling behind in meeting its quota in the Woman's Army Corps, Martin County is being called upon to furnish six recruits between now and the end of this month. The American Legion Auxiliary of the John Walton Hassell Post is aiding the enlistment work, and applications may be had by contacting Mrs. W. J. Beach, Hamilton; Mrs. William Gray, Robersonville; or Mrs. P. M. Holaday, Jamesville. They will be glad to outline the enlistment plans to interested young women in the county.