

Everyone Must Help If This County Is To Reach War Bond Goal



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Allies Consolidate Positions On Front Just South of Rome

Russians Score Another Big Victory as They Close In On City of Nikopol

The possibility of an early defeat of Germany is far from evident today south of Rome where the Allies are said to have consolidated their positions and dug in for more powerful enemy counterattacks. The situation along the beachhead is not fully described in the last report coming from that area, and it is not known what is meant by the Allies consolidating their positions. Counterattacks of increasing strength are expected in that area, while around Cassino bitter fighting continues. It was stated that Allied air power was battering German supply lines, and that air power plus a determined land army would hold the beachhead for the Allies against almost anything the enemy offered.

Another black report, telling how an American hospital was bombed, came out of the area south of Rome this morning. At least twenty-six persons, including several nurses, were killed. The raid was made by a lone German bomber. The Russians have scored another great victory on their southern front where they are driving into the city of Nikopol, great iron and industrial center which Hitler had ordered defended at all costs. About five divisions are believed trapped there. Further to north and a short distance of Kiev, the Russians are going about their business of liquidating ten trapped Nazi divisions. On the extreme northern end of the 1,200-mile front, the Russians are working to knock Finland out of the war. Helsinki was bombed Sunday, and the little nation is being urged to recognize the folly of its ways and make peace with Russia.

Air attacks on the French invasion coasts and on western Germany are being continued with ever-increasing ferocity, but little has been said or heard about a cross-channel invasion during recent days. That the tempo of the Pacific war is being stepped up is clearly indicated in recent dispatches coming from north and south.

Surface ships made a daring attack on Japan's strong base on Paramushiro, the enemy's home territory. The feat has caused the Japs much worry. In the south central Pacific, the Allies are driving forward on land and battering the Japs from the air. Thirty-five Jap barges were sunk recently at Wewak and Rabaul was attacked again over the week-end.

Pvt. Bennie Weaver Writes From Florida

Surviving a serious case of homesickness, Pvt. Benjamin R. Weaver, young son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Weaver of Williamston who insisted that he be taken into the service despite a weak knee, is rapidly developing into a good soldier, but the young man is living for mail from friends back home.

A "chain" letter was directed to him recently, and writing from his station at Camp Gordon Johnston, Florida, the young man expresses his appreciation in the following note: "I would like to thank all persons taking part in the 'chain letter' I received from you. It really was a wonderful feeling to know that the folks back home were thinking about me. Mail call is the most important thing to a soldier in a day's work. I never realized how much mail meant until I got into the service. I have read the letter over and over and enjoy it more each time. It was mentioned in the letter about the bond drive, and I know the people of my town and my county will get well over their quota. It sure is tough training down here, but I know I can take it.

"I have also gotten the Enterprise and it also helps build up my morale. I never appreciated a paper so much in all my life.

"I want to thank those who wrote to me, and pray that this war will end soon and I can return to the most wonderful town in all the world—Williamston."

Firemen Get Two Calls Last Night and This Morning

Local firemen were called out twice within nine hours this week. Without sounding a general alarm, the department sent several men to a backlot fire, starting under rather mysterious circumstances back of Pender's store. The fire, believed to have been started by a little "vandal" or urchin, burned the backdoor loading platform but caused no great damage. This morning the firemen were called to the Bob Everett home on Houghton Street where a chimney was blazing. No damage resulted.

County Education Authorities Frown On Saturday Schedule

A proposal to include Saturdays in the regular school schedule was frowned upon by members of the Martin County Board of Education in session here yesterday, meaning that most of the schools will not close the current session until May 23 instead of the 19th. The authorities were of the opinion that just as many children would attend the last four days of the term ending May 23h as on Saturdays, the board also pointing out that a Saturday schedule would interrupt plans of many youngsters who hold down Saturday jobs. Several schools had planned to adopt the Saturday schedule for about a month.

The board also recommended that no short schedules calling for the opening of the schools before nine o'clock each morning be placed in effect before some time in March.

TOWN - FARM IN WARTIME

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

Agricultural Research Developments
Impressive research results that have come out of the laboratories, field plots, and experimental kitchens of the Department of Agriculture include the release in a single year of 35 new varieties of strains of crop plants, stepping up production of penicillin, developing methods by which sheep can dose themselves for intestinal worms by taking worm medicine in their salt, curing Cheddar cheese in half the time previously required, revolutionizing ways of fighting insect scourges, and developing recipes so that new soybean products may be used to supplement scarcer foods.

Record Egg Crop Expected

Three out of every four eggs to be produced in 1944 have been allocated to civilians, the War Food Administration announces. An anticipated supply of eggs this year, possibly exceeding 61 billion, is based on the potential production of the greatest number of laying hens on record in the United States.

Autos, Bicycles, Tires, Gasoline

February quota of new passenger automobiles is 10,000, two-thirds of the January quota, and of new bicycles is 7,500, one-half the January quota, the Office of Price Administration has announced. Except for a decrease of approximately one-fourth in the number of used and reclaimed (Grade III) passenger tires February quotas for tires and tubes are about the same as for January. Essential truck operators in areas where tire recapping facilities are inadequate or unavailable may obtain a ration certificate permitting them to exchange with dealers a tire which needs recapping for a used tire or a new "war" tire. Automobile drivers hereafter will find that the purpose for which they drive, rather than the distance they drive, will determine their eligibility for tires. Motorists may now use indelible pencil as well as ink to write their license numbers and state of registration on each gasoline coupon. Motorists must now present their tire inspection records when applying for special gasoline rations.

County Finances Hold Spotlight At Meeting

HUNTING SEASON

The hunting season for nearly all types of game, including birds and turkeys, closes in this county on Thursday of this week, according to Game Warden Bill Abbitt who points out that it will be unlawful to have any game of any kind in one's possession after that date.

For the most part, game was fairly plentiful in this section during the current season, but the shortage of gun shells hampered the style of many "sportsmen".

Town Commission In Short Meeting Here Last Evening

Police Ordered To Hold Walk Open In Front of Main Street Theater

With little business on their regular meeting calendar, members of the local town board last evening recognized the nuisance value and inconvenience of sidewalk blocking in front of the main street theater. Anxious to cause no trouble but recognizing the need for correcting a bad situation, the commissioners directed the superintendent of streets to keep a portion of the sidewalk where the theater goes could line up and allow ample room for the traffic to pass without having to go into the street. An order is going to the police directing them to keep the theater patrons within the lines. The new ruling is almost certain to get its first test tomorrow night if the street department workers can find time to mark the lines.

It is quite possible that traffic lanes could be marked off by several of the filling stations where pedestrians are often forced to weave their way through cars or turn to the street for passage.

The commissioners agreed to investigate along with the county the possibility of improving that portion of the old Hamilton Road leading to the theater.

Youths Ride Bikes From New Bern for Visit Here

Working to earn their Scout merit badges and at the same time defeating gas rationing, two youths, Frank Fagan, Jr., and Raymond Maxwell, rode their bicycles from New Bern to visit Mr. and Mrs. S. R. Biggs here for the week-end.

It was a long and hard pull, but the youths made the 120-mile round trip all right.

BLACKOUT

An Army-ordered blackout for this district, comprising all of Martin County and parts of Bertie and other territory, will be held tonight at 9:30 o'clock. The first signal, a red one, is due about 9:30 o'clock, meaning that all lights are to be turned out and all traffic stopped. The blue signal, a two-minute blast of the siren, will follow in about 15 minutes, meaning that pedestrians and vehicular traffic may be resumed under certain conditions, but no house or store lighting will be allowed until the all-clear is given about 10:10 p. m. The Army, it is understood, will have observers throughout the district to check the effectiveness of the test.

More Than \$100,000 Is Invested In Bonds For Postwar Period

New Plan Advanced For Collecting Dog Taxes To Go Into Effect In April

County finances—investments and tax collections for the past three years—held the spotlight at the regular meeting of the county commissioners here yesterday. A few routine business matters were discussed and handled during the short session, but the tax collector's and auditor's reports attracted the most attention along with a plan for collecting 1944 dog taxes at the time the canines are vaccinated. It was pointed out that the county has \$78,500 invested in government war bonds to meet road and bridge bonds falling due in 1959. In addition to that amount, the county has invested \$30,000 in war bonds for its capital reserve fund. The \$78,500 will go a long way in meeting the approximately \$120,000 due in county road and bridge bonds when they fall due in 1959. The \$30,000 in the capital reserve fund will be available for permanent improvements in the postwar period. At the present time, the county has \$132,998.22 cash in banks for the general, road and school funds, and there is little doubt but what the county is in excellent financial shape than at any time in its history.

Reviewing the tax collector's report, the commissioners found that 88 per cent or \$175,688.19 of the \$200,218.07 levy for 1943 had been collected.

No One Badly Hurt In Car-Truck Wreck

No one was badly hurt in a car-truck crash at Bear Grass about one o'clock Sunday morning, and two young boys, one named Nelson and the other one named Pilgreen, came out of a spin on the Robersonville-Stokes road and county again unbruised but not badly hurt. Damage to all the vehicles will approximate \$700 or more, it was unofficially estimated.

Driving a pick-up truck, R. Sears, Hamilton man, struck Jas. R. Cherry's 1940 Mercury near the Bear Grass school. The car was parked in front of the Cherry home, one report stated, but the accident was not reported until about noon Sunday and a detailed account of the wreck could not be had. Mr. Sears, painfully but not seriously bruised, is confined to his bed at this time. Damage to the car was estimated at \$100 and repairs to the truck will cost approximately \$75, according to Patrolman W. E. Saunders.

Few details could be had on the other wreck reported in the county. According to information reaching here, the Nelson car went out of control near the home of Commissioner C. Abram Roberson on the Robersonville-Stokes Highway and turned over.

Called as Witness In Gasoline Coupon Case

Patrolman W. E. Saunders was called to appear before a hearing commissioner in Norfolk today as a witness in the case charging Marvin Ross, former Martin County man, with the wrongful possession of gasoline coupons. The case had its origin in this county last July 3 when the patrolman found coupons said to have been illegal in Ross' possession.

Raise \$1,142.37 For Infantile Paralysis

More than doubling the original quota, the infantile paralysis fund drive in this county now stands at \$1,142.37, and all reports are not yet in. Chairman L. B. Wynne believes the total will exceed \$1,150. The Hamilton school reported the following contributions by grades in the school: First, \$1.25; second, \$1.56; third, \$9.16; fourth, \$3.90; fifth and sixth, \$12.40; and seventh, \$3.60.

The local colored school reported \$36.00 as follows: Third grade, \$3.30; fourth grade, \$3.75; fifth, \$4.60; sixth, \$1.20; seventh, \$4.45; eighth B, \$4; eighth A, \$2.90; ninth, \$9.60; eleventh, \$2.20.

Recruit Glad To Get Home From Boot Camp

Johnnie Cherry, seaman 2-c, is glad to be home from "boot" camp for a week's stay with his family and friends. "These past few weeks have been hard ones," the young seaman said, adding that he hoped it would not be quite so bad in the future. "I preferred the Army and they put me in the Navy, but I have been making out very well," the young man said following his early arrival here before day Sunday morning. He returns to Bainbridge, Md., for further orders.

THE RECORD SPEAKS . . .

Motorists on Martin County highways are steadily pecking away at the task of building up a bloody and costly accident record. Already there have been three times as many wrecks reported this year as there were reported in the corresponding period. While not so many have been injured, the death toll and damage columns are running well ahead of the figures for the first five weeks in 1943.

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.

Accidents In'd Killed Dam'ge	1944	2	1	0	\$ 675
	1943	0	0	0	0 000
Comparison To Date	1944	6	1	1	1325
	1943	2	3	0	500

Bond Sales In County Boosted To \$581,199

Hamilton Township Is Latest To Go Over Top In Bond Drive

Most Districts Are Approaching Original Goals, Drive Chairman Says

Boosted by approximately \$108,686.50 since the last report was tabulated last Thursday, the Fourth War Bond Drive in this county now is less than \$150,000 short of the assigned quota. Campaign Chairman Herman A. Bowen stating late yesterday that total sales up to that time amounted to \$581,199.80. Bowen predicted at that time that the goal would be reached, but he pointed out that the time is rapidly drawing to a close for the purchase of negotiable bonds, and that the drive is now in its fourth week. It was also pointed out that the State and County figured largely in the purchase of \$108,686.50 bonds since the last report was made.

Hamilton advised the chairman yesterday that sufficient applications had been received to put that district over the top with some to spare. Jamesville continues to boost its total, and several other townships are said to be nearing their quotas. No report by townships could be had today, the chairman explaining that the reporting agencies merely reported the totals, that a breakdown of the total by districts would be attempted the latter part of the week. However, it was quite apparent that Williamston Township is still lagging. It was estimated that sales here went over the \$200,000 mark since last Thursday leaving about \$100,000 to go before the quota is reached.

Unofficial reports clearly indicated that Poplar Point was nearing or had actually reached its goal. Robersonville is believed to be within \$31,000 of its goal of \$220,000. Sales have been reported in every district. Chairman Chas. Davenport stating that Jamesville had sold over \$28,000, that all but \$1,000 represented "E" bonds. "There are times when one gets a bit disheartened, but most of the people have cooperated," Chairman Davenport declared yesterday as he and his workers planned to carry the drive into a few more nooks and corners. Most of the bonds sold in that township were of fairly small denominations.

Other than the plugging from day to day in most of the townships, the bond drive will be featured by a big bond rally in the Oak City school on Friday evening of this week. Chairman Bowen plans to attend with typewriters and assistants to write down names of contributors. A drive program has been planned, and while admission will be by a 25-cent war stamp, a large crowd is expected to attend.

"We have not recovered from the last bond drive," many persons are reported to have said.

WAC Recruiter To Hold Interviews

Cpl. Bernita M. Frank of the Greenville U. S. Army Recruiting sub-station, will be in the post office in Williamston on Friday and Saturday.

Interview women interested in enlisting in the Women's Army Corps. Our problem, briefly, is to save manpower, to make the fullest use of every soldier, either in combat with the enemy or in a position of close administrative or supply support of combat troops, as an ever-increasing portion of our army finds its way overseas.

As a solution of the problem—the saving of manpower—an organization has been set up in the Army to make use of the patriotic strength of the women of the nation. Close to 75,000 women patriots are serving their country in the uniform of the Army.

Now women may choose their preferred branch of service within the Women's Army Corps. There are now 239 Army jobs that can be aptly filled by women and Cpl. Frank hopes all the eligible women in this section will report for an interview on Friday and Saturday.

Rev. Chas. Leonard Is Home From China Mission

Rev. Chas. Leonard recently returned to this country after a stay of several months in China and India. He is spending a few days in Windsor with his son. He was forced to leave the war-stricken country on account of failing health. Mr. Leonard made his home here for a short while and he is expected to visit friends in this community before leaving to join Mrs. Leonard in the Hawaiian Islands.

RGUND-UP

Following the introduction of additional liquor ration coupons earlier in the week, business for local and military police increased here over the week-end. Eight persons were arrested and jailed, the military police picking up a serviceman. Three of the eight were white, and the ages of the group ranged from 21 to 65 years. Six of the eight were charged with being publicly drunk, one being down and out. One was charged with breaking and entering and one was booked for drunken driving.

County Boy Fatally Hurt In Fall From Log Truck Monday

Earl L. Taylor Is Pronounced Dead Upon Arrival At Hospital Here

Earl Luther Taylor, 21 years old, was fatally hurt in a fall from a log truck in Griffins Township about 2:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon. While it is believed he died almost instantly, he was not pronounced dead until his arrival at the local hospital where he was brought within an hour of his death. It was stated that his neck was broken and that he suffered a fracture of the skull.

According to witnesses to the accident, the young man, a truck driver for Gaines and Kirkman, Jamesville lumber mill operators, climbed on top of the vehicle and was straightening out a log when the cant hook slipped, causing him to fall. The young man apparently landed on his head, breaking his neck and fracturing the skull.

The son of George Luther and Mattie Meeks Taylor, he was born in Cross Roads Township on November 3, 1922. While he had moved a number of times with the family, he had always lived in Martin County, helping his father on the farm most of the time, and working during the off-season with the lumber mill at Jamesville. At the time of his death, he was making his home in Williams Township.

On July 9 of last year, he was married to Miss Hazel Roberson of near Robersonville. Besides his parents and wife he leaves two sisters, Miss Addie Lee Taylor, of Norfolk, and Mrs. Howard Taylor, of Oak City, S. C., and Nathaniel Taylor of the home.

When a youth he joined the Cedar Grove Free Will Baptist Church in Poplar Point Township. He was a hard-working boy and was held in high regard by all those who knew him.

Funeral services will be conducted at 3 o'clock Wednesday afternoon from the home of his parents in Williams Township. Rev. J. M. Perry, Robersonville Christian minister, will conduct the last rites, and interment will follow in the Robersonville Cemetery.

The accident was the first one of this kind in the county this year, and was one of the very few fatal ones recorded in recent months.

Returned Here To Face Station Robbery Charge

L. S. Nichols, young colored man, was jailed here last week-end for the alleged robbery of the Gulf filling station on Washington Street last November. He was arrested in Edenton.

Placed under bond in the sum of \$200, the man had not raised the amount and continued in jail today.

CLINICS

Between four and five hundred mules have been treated in the series of special clinics now being held in the county. Assistant County Agent L. L. McLendon said yesterday. While patronage has been limited in some areas, farmers in most sections have almost overrun the clinics with their team, according to the agent. Unable to handle the business at the announced clinic places, the agent has placed two more clinics on the schedule. The veterinarians will be in Hamilton Thursday afternoon of this week at 1 o'clock, and Friday they will hold a clinic at the same hour at Paul Lilley's service station on the Washington Highway.

Sixty-Four Tires Of All Types Allotted By Rationing Board

Reduction Noted In Issuance Of Tires Of The Grade Three Type

Sixty-four tires of all types were allotted by the Martin County War Price and Rationing Board last Friday night, the issuance of Grade I car and truck tires holding to about a normal figure while there was a reduction made in Grade III rations. Grade I tires and tubes for cars and pick-up trucks were released to the following:

- William R. Hardison, RFD 1, Williamston, two tires and one tube.
- Oscar B. Roberson, RFD 1, Williamston, one tire.
- Town of Williamston, two tires and two tubes.
- J. C. Ross, Oak City, one tire.
- R. L. Whitehurst, RFD 2, Williamston, two tires and one tube.
- W. L. Bryant, RFD 1, Bethel, one tire.
- J. C. Manning, Williamston, one tire and one tube.
- Howard Coltrair, RFD 1, Williamston, one tire and one tube.
- Joseph Holliday, RFD 1, Jamesville, two tires and two tubes.
- J. L. Whitfield, Robersonville, one tire and one tube.
- T. H. Brown, Jamesville, one tire, one tube and one tube.
- A. P. Hyman, RFD 1, Palmyra, one tire and one tube.
- D. B. Mobley, RFD 1, Robersonville, one tire and one tube.
- W. R. Roberson, Jamesville, one tire and one tube.
- Mrs. W. T. Thomas, Hamilton, one tire and one tube.
- N. M. Hyman, RFD 1, Palmyra, one tire and one tube.
- A. E. Purvis, RFD 1, Bethel, one tire and one tube.
- Jack Smith, RFD 1, Oak City, one tire.
- V. B. Hairr, Jamesville, one tire and one tube.
- Mrs. Audrey Williams Carter, Williamston, one tire and one tube.
- Grace Whitely Maynard, Williamston, one tire.
- John Mobley, RFD 3, Williamston, one tire and one tube.
- James Hollis, Robersonville, two tubes.
- Mrs. H. L. Hopkins, Oak City, two tubes.
- J. C. Johnson, Oak City, one tube.
- Truck tires and tubes were released to the following: Harrison Oil Co., Williamston, two tires and two tubes.
- Lee Glenn, Williamston, one tire and one tube.
- C. L. Wilson, Robersonville, one tube.
- Farmville-Woodward Lumber Co., Williamston, two tires and one tube.
- Roberson Slaughter House, Williamston, one tube.

(Continued on page six)

Wounded In Bomber Raid Over Germany

Wounded in a bomber raid over Kiel, Germany, on or about January 5th, Staff Sergeant Edgar M. Taylor is believed to be getting along very well, presumably in a hospital some where in England. The young man's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Monroe Taylor of Poplar Point were notified by the Adjutant General a short time ago that the young man was wounded in action over the great German naval base, but the sergeant has written since that time to his parents, and apparently is getting along very well. The nature of his wounds is not known.

In a letter, dated January 26, or more than two weeks from the time he was wounded, Sergeant Taylor said in part, "...I'm getting along fine, but I am not doing much of anything but eating and sleeping. Have not been going out much lately, but hope to get off for about eight days some time pretty soon."

It is fairly apparent from the letter that the young man has been out of actual combat for a short time. Concluding the young man said, "I sure would like to be home to get a good meal once more. I hope it will not be long now before I'm home again, with good luck."

Young Taylor volunteered three years ago, the 24th of this month, and he has been overseas since June, 1942. He'll only be 22 years old the fourth of next month.

Former Local Resident Reported Critically Ill

Mrs. W. A. Ellison, native of this county and a Williamston resident for many years, is critically ill at her home in Belhaven, relatives here have been advised. Apparently suffering a stroke Sunday morning, Mrs. Ellison, the former Miss Mollie Gibson, had not regained consciousness early this morning and her condition was said to be growing worse gradually at that time. Her son, W. A. Ellison, was called to her bedside from New York.