

Don't Turn Your Back on the Boys—Buy Another War Bond Today

NEARLY 1000 MARTIN COUNTY SERVICE MEN NOW READING THE ENTERPRISE IN ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD EACH WEEK.

THE ENTERPRISE

NEARLY 1000 MARTIN COUNTY SERVICE MEN NOW READING THE ENTERPRISE IN ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD EACH WEEK.

VOLUME XLVII—NUMBER 59

Williamsport, Martin County, North Carolina, Friday, July 28, 1944

ESTABLISHED 1900

Principals Elected For Two Schools In County Tuesday

E. G. Bourne Succeeding Hix As Head of the Local Schools

County and local school authorities, receiving four principal resignations in recent weeks, filled two of the positions this week and frankly admitted that they were experiencing serious difficulty in filling the other two. Between fifty and seventy-five letters have been written to prospects, but in most cases the prospects were not interested while a few did not even bother themselves by formally refusing the offers. Extensive searches are still going forward and it is hoped that arrangements can be completed for opening all the schools the latter part of August or early in September.

Mr. E. G. Bourne, native Virginian was elected Wednesday afternoon to succeed Principal D. N. Hix in the local schools. Mr. Hix resigned earlier in the week to accept the principalship of the Oxford City Schools. Mr. Bourne, an experienced school man, comes here highly recommended. He is a graduate of Berea (Ky.) College and did graduate work at the University of North Carolina. He headed the Dunn schools for four years and was at Penderlea two years. Mr. and Mrs. Bourne and their seven-year-old twin sons, John and Elliott, plan to move here the latter part of August. A daughter, Miss Elwee Bourne, is now employed in Charlotte where the family is temporarily at home.

The election of Albert Lee Hendron to the principalship of the Robersonville schools was also announced this week. He is succeeding Professor L. W. Anderson who recently resigned to with the Portsmouth (Va.) City Schools. Mr. Hendron is a Duke graduate and holds a master's degree from that institution. A native Virginian, he was formerly connected with the schools in Davidson County at Lexington and more recently with those in Wilson County. Mrs. Hendron has been named fourth grade teacher in the Everetts School. They have two daughters, one of whom is entering the Rex Hospital Nursing School this fall and the other is entering the Robersonville High School.

It was also announced this week that Miss Lela Brantley of Spring Hope will succeed Mrs. Lela Barnhill Bunting as third grade teacher in the Williamston School.

While there are yet a number of positions to be filled in the several (Continued on page six)

Lions Send 100,000 Cigarettes Overseas

The local Lions Club has just placed an order with a leading cigarette manufacturer for another 20,000 cigarettes to be sent and distributed free to our fighting men on the front lines. They requested that this shipment be sent to the American battlefield in France, where several of our county boys are known to be in the thick of the fight.

This shipment, which was made possible through the generous contributions of Martin County citizens make a total of 100,000 cigarettes that the club has been able to send overseas since it began its project several weeks ago. The club wishes to express their appreciation to all who have made, and are making, contributions to this activity.

The Club's Cigarette Fund Committee has just completed its fourth period collection and they wish to publicly acknowledge the establishments at which the jars with the largest collections were located. Honors for this period were very keen and for the first time there were five locations all having more than six dollars each. The club wishes to salute each of these establishments.

First place in this honor group went to John A. Griffin's store and station, where an even \$9.00 was donated, largely through the efforts of Mr. Griffin. In second place was Martin Supply Company with \$7.51, where Miss Sallie Roberson and Mr. Ralph Parker showed a lot of interest. The Terry Brothers store jar at Bear Grass gathered \$7.04 for third place, with Mrs. Irving Terry, wife of one of the proprietors, being responsible for the enthusiasm there. Mrs. Terry's husband, according to reports, is either on the West Coast or in the Pacific area, with the U. S. Navy. The reliable jar at Clark's Pharmacy did its usual good job, taking in \$6.95 for the period, to fall in fourth place. The boys and girls at the fountain were instrumental in the success there. In fifth place, with a great big \$6.11 was the jar at H. D. Harrison's store in Bear Grass, where Mrs. Simon Coltrain, a member of the firm's personnel, worked for the benefit of the front line fighters. Mrs. Coltrain has a special interest in this cause, since her husband is with the U. S. Army now fighting in Normandy.

A Final Plea Is Made For The Purchase Of More War Bonds

Leaders of the Fifth War Loan Drive in this county today issued a last and most appealing plea to all people, urging them to help push the sale of "E" bonds over the top. The purchase, it was pointed out must be made not later than tomorrow (Saturday), the county chairman explaining that the receipts must be in the Federal Reserve Bank in Richmond in time to be counted next Monday. If you haven't purchased a bond or you find it humanly possible to buy another, won't you act not later than noon tomorrow? It is no idle plea the leaders of the drive are making. The report of the drive will be read by fighting men in their foxholes. Martin County can't afford to let them down. Only this week, letters were received

direct from foxholes, the writers expressing the belief that Martin County would go over the top. No official figures could be had today, but last Monday the sale of "E" bonds was just about \$32,000 short of the quota. Approximately \$6,000 has been invested in the bonds since that time, leaving the county \$26,000 short. It is estimated that 1,000 Martin County servicemen, many of them at this very moment on the fighting fronts, will invest about \$7,000 in bonds this month, reducing the "shortage" to about \$19,000. Surely, the 25,000 people back home can and will take care of the difference. But there isn't time for further delay. If you can possibly buy just one more bond, buy it before the sun goes down tomorrow.

Local Youth Reported Missing Over Germany

MISSING IN ACTION



Lt. James Willis Ward was reported missing over Germany on July 12, according to information reaching his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John A. Ward, here this week.

James Willis Ward Co-Pilot Of Plane In Raid on Munich

Big Bomber with Engine Shot Out Last Seen Diving Into Cloud

Lt. James Willis Ward, young son of Mr. and Mrs. John A. Ward, of Williams Street, Williamston, was reported missing somewhere over Germany on July 12, according to information received here this week by his family.

Few official details could be had here immediately, but according to reliable reports, the big bomber which the young man was co-piloting was attacked in the Munich area. Eye witnesses were quoted as saying that one engine was either shot out or that it exploded and that the plane was apparently badly crippled. It was further reported that the ship went into a cloud, that it could not be determined what happened to the members of the crew after that. While the report is not very encouraging, there is still hope that young Ward and his ship companions bailed out and are safe in Germany.

Lt. Ward volunteered for service in the Army Air Corps on August 25, 1942, and entered active service on March 10, 1943, training first in Tennessee and later in several other states. He received his commission last January 7th and was home shortly after that to spend a short furlough with his parents. Just a few months ago he was transferred to England where he was stationed with the Eighth American Air Force. He met a few boys from home, and it is believed that J. E. Boykin, Jr., formerly of Williamston, is in his group.

Lt. Ward is the fourth Martin County man reported missing over Germany. Others reported missing, include Elic C. Rogers, now a prisoner, Edgar M. Taylor and Henry Wesley Allen, Jr.

One of two children, Lt. Ward has a brother, John A. Ward, Jr., in the service at Fort... His parents were visiting the son in South Carolina when the message reporting him missing was received here.

Stresses Need For More Wac Recruits

Mrs. W. E. Dunn, Civilian War Recruiter for Martin County, today emphasized the need for women qualified as medical technicians in the Women's Army Corps.

Many of the essential war-winning jobs assigned to Wacs are with the Army's Medical Corps. At military hospitals these specially trained women are lending expert and skilled aid in the care of the sick and wounded, in addition to such other jobs as laboratory workers, ambulance drivers, and administrative clerks.

Proof of these Wacs' efficiency was given recently when the Surgeon General of the Army stated that an additional 50,000 could be used by the Medical Corps.

A Wac enlistee need not have previous technical training for assignment as a Medical Wac. The Army has set up a specialized training school for Wac medical technicians at Hot Springs, Arkansas, where the trainees are taught to fill such assignments as medical and surgical technicians, X-ray technicians, and dental technicians.

Women who are between 20 and 50 years of age and who meet the physical and educational requirements may be eligible to join the Wac. Information on the enlistment procedure may be obtained from your local Civilian War Recruiter.

Early Collapse Of Germany Expected By Some Observers

Americans Drive 15 Miles Southwest of St. Lo Since Tuesday

Sweeping victories on the Eastern Front followed by a 15-mile breakthrough by the Americans in the West have the observers busy these days, latest reports coming out of Washington stating that congressional leaders are predicting the early collapse of Germany. The military, however, is not quite so optimistic, and reminds the world that only the last shot will mark the end. The optimistic predictions were coming thick and fast in Washington this morning as the Congressional boys made ready for the reopening of Congress next week. Some were declaring that the collapse of Germany would come before peace plans could be completed. Others were pointing out that quick action would be necessary if we are to meet the expected developments.

Even though the Russian sweep in the East and the four-day drive by the Americans in the West have featured the European theater war, extensive air attacks in central Germany today are said to be of more than usual significance. The raids were ranked among the greatest of the war and are believed by some to be timed with the growing unrest on the German home front.

On the Eastern front, the Russians are following up their first round of the battle for Warsaw. At the Vistula, 56 miles southeast of Warsaw, one of the nine Red Armies on the 1200-mile front are 15 miles from the border of Silesia in Germany proper. More than three million Russians are marching toward Berlin, the group just south of Warsaw being about 325 miles from the Nazi capital. Successes were reported yesterday and today from one end of the front to the other, the victories yesterday being described as the greatest of the war for the Russians.

Back on the Western Front, the Americans have driven fifteen miles through the enemy's main and secondary defenses and are now in the vicinity of Coutances. American tanks were said to be fanning out along a forty-mile front and mopping up as they went along. In the Caen sector, the Germans are fiercely counter-attacking, but the British and Canadians were said to be absorbing everything the enemy could offer there. The retreat of the Germans before the Americans was described as chaotic, and seven German divisions or about 70,000 men, are about to be trapped as a result of the new drive. The American tank offensive, covering ten miles in yesterday's action alone, was described as the most brilliant operation of the invasion campaign to date.

The Americans experienced a heavy blow presumably last Tuesday when General Lesley McNair, the man who had trained the ground forces, was killed in the St. Lo area.

In Italy, the Allies were reported today by the Germans to have opened a major drive just south of Florence and the advanced lines are now within seven miles of the important objective.

Over in the Pacific, the Allies have taken the best airbase in the Marianas on Tinian Island, and are (Continued on page six)

More Sugar Is Being Used For Illicit Liquor Manufacturing

According to reliable reports, fairly large amounts of white cane sugar are being used for the manufacture of illicit liquor in this county. Up until a short time ago, officers found very little sugar beer at illicit distilleries in the county, but in recent days as many as 800 gallons of sugar beer were found at a single plant. It is apparent that the black market is again functioning on a rather pretentious scale.

Raiding in Bear Grass a few days ago, Officer Joe Roebuck and Roy Peal wrecked a 100-gallon capacity still with its 50-gallon doubler, 250-gallon cooler and seventeen fermenters. They poured out 800 gallons of sugar beer and 37 gallons of liquor, wrecking two 10-gallon kegs and four 5-gallon glass jugs. The

liquor haul was the largest single catch reported by the officers in two or more years. Looking for the missing still worm, the officers ran across the liquor a few hundred yards from the still.

Reentering Bear Grass the next day, the officers wrecked a 100-gallon capacity tin still and five fermenters, pouring out 250 gallons of molasses beer. Still later, the officers wrecked a 30-gallon capacity tin still and one fermenter, pouring out fifty gallons of beer.

A partial plant was wrecked near Hassell last week-end, the officers pouring out fifty gallons of sugar beer. On Tuesday of this week, the officers returned to Hamilton Township and tore up a 30-gallon oil drum that was being used for a still and wrecked three fermenters.

Note Gradual Decline In Legal Liquor Sales

Total of \$1,609,483.30 Is Spent For Liquor Since Stores Opened

Sales For First Three Months Of This Year Smaller Than in 1943

An official audit just recently released for the first three months of this year shows a gradual decline in the sale of liquor by the four county alcoholic beverage control stores. After reaching an all-time high record of \$1,374,768.80 in the three months ending December 31, 1942, the sales have steadily decreased, possibly as a result of rationing and the scarcity of the available supply. In the first quarter of last year, sales amounted to \$1,011,665.30, the gross income dropping to \$77,100.15 in the corresponding three months of this year, a drop of \$24,565.15. When the advance in price of liquor is considered, it is quite evident that the consumption of legal liquor has actually decreased more than the cash sales would indicate.

The liquor business, despite war and repeated appeals for greater savings investments and support for the war effort, still holds a formidable place in the commercial life of the county, the figures showing that total sales since the stores were opened in July, 1935, have climbed to nearly one and two-thirds millions of dollars. Add to this sum, the total sales of beer and wines unaccounted for in the general audit, and the beverage bill will possibly approximate three millions or more.

Of the \$77,100.15 total gross sales reported for January, February and March of this year, \$54,497.42 was paid to the manufacturers. Operating expenses during the period amounted to \$3,689.01, leaving a net sales income of \$18,913.72. Despite the decrease in sales, the board continues in a healthy financial condition. (Continued on page six)

Local Boy Writes Home From France

Stationed now in France, Cpl. E. G. Wynne wrote the following letter to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dick Wynne:

"A batch of mail just came in and I received four of the home-town papers which I have just finished reading. Although they were a bit old, I enjoyed reading them. They kept me in touch with a lot of my old friends in the service. In nearly every one I noticed that someone is missing in action. I can see why since I am now in a position to see some of the results of war, and believe me, it is terrible. I never see anyone that I knew at home, but I do see plenty of other soldiers.

"Right now I am smoking a cigar the captain just received from home. They are almost impossible to get, however, we do get plenty to eat. For instance, tonight we had chicken and potatoes out of cans. Life here isn't for me so very different from what it was in England except for the fact that I now sleep in a foxhole. It is a comfortable foxhole with lots of mosquitoes. As yet I haven't installed running water, but I plan to do so the first time it rains. Life isn't bad. The people seem very friendly, but my French is poor so I don't have much to say to them.

"We were paid recently in French money and I received nearly a basketful. I'm thinking of wall papering my tent with some. The rest, amounting to \$60, I am sending home for deposit to my account.

"Just helped a fellow eat some cookies from home. They were a little stale, but good, nevertheless. . ."

Town Board Plans To Buy Fire Truck

Meeting in special session last evening, the local town commissioners, recognizing the need for additional fire-fighting equipment, considered the purchase of a new fire truck.

Three pieces of equipment, one costing \$4,675, and another costing \$7,250, and still another costing \$3,350, were studied, the group deciding to wait until the first Monday in August before making a final purchase.

The \$4,675 machine is built on a commercial chassis and pumps 500 gallons of water per minute. The \$7,250 machine is custom built, has a 170 horsepower motor and pumps 500 gallons of water per minute. The third machine is also custom built, has 190 horsepower and pumps 750 gallons of water per minute.

SUPPLY MINISTER

Rev. Joseph Huske, formerly of Fayetteville but more recently an assistant to the rector of the Episcopal church in Greenville, has been called to supply here during the leave of absence granted Rev. John Hardy the early part of last year.

A young man, the called minister just recently completed his seminary training. He plans to move here next week and hold his first service on August 6th.

Eleven Speedsters In The Recorder's Court Last Monday

Fifteen Cases Are Handled by Judge J. C. Smith During Morning Session

Judge J. Calvin Smith threw the machinery in high gear and cleared the fifteen cases from the County Recorder's court in almost record time last Monday. Much time was spent handling an assault case, but eleven others were cleared in a matter of a few minutes. The court was in session a greater part of the morning, and while there have been shorter sessions, it has been a long time since the court handled that many cases in that length of time.

The court made its speed when eleven defendants, charged with speeding on the highways, pleaded guilty through their attorney. None of the defendants was in the court, and very little evidence was offered by the State, the defendants having pleaded guilty. The cases originated several weeks ago when Corporal W. S. Hunt overhauled a truck convoy traveling between Robersonville and Williamston at a speed ranging up to almost sixty miles an hour. The truck drivers were employed by the Ballenger Construction Company and it is believed that the concern accepted the verdict. Each defendant was fined \$15 and taxed with the costs, the entire bill for the eleven men amounting to about \$393.00. The names of the defendants follow: Sidney W. Cooke, Leon Driggers, Jr., James D. Badger, LeRoy Clark, Woodrow Locklear, Freelan D. Martin, James C. Orr, James Allen Rudd, John K. Carroll, John Harger and Charles Carl Boles.

Other proceedings in the court: Lamon James, charged with assaulting a female, pleaded not guilty. Adjudged guilty after a long, drawn-out trial, the defendant was sentenced to the roads for sixty days. The sentence was suspended upon the payment of a \$25 fine and cost, the court further stipulating that the defendants is not to interfere with or molest the prosecuting witness, Gladys Pierce, during the next year.

Pleading guilty in the case charging them with being drunk and disorderly and with an assault, Jess Adkins and William H. Davis, were each fined \$10 and taxed with one-half the costs.

Charged with shoplifting, Theodore Rowe was sentenced to the roads for six months, the court suspending the road term upon the payment of a \$50 fine and the court costs. The court also stipulated in its judgment that the defendant is to answer the call of the Halifax County Draft Board for pre-induction.

Leslie Simpson, charged with being drunk and disorderly, was fined \$25 and taxed with the costs.

Aged County Native Passes In Tennessee

Joe Hogg, native of this county, died at his home in Memphis, Tenn., a few days ago at the advanced age of 105 years, according to clipping from the Memphis Commercial Appeal, submitted by Mr. G. R. Roebuck, a native of this county who is now in business in Haynes, Ark.

Few local people remember the old man, but it is understood that he was a tenant on the farm of the late Sheriff Hardison in Williams Township, some time after the Civil War.

The Memphis paper carried the following account of the old man's death:

"Joe Hogg, one of Memphis' oldest and most colorful characters, died at 5:30 a. m. yesterday at his home, 1626 N. Trezevant. He was 105. 'Born in Williamson, N. C., Mr. Hogg was a timberman both before and after the Civil War. During the war he plied the Roanoke River as a blockade runner bringing shot and powder to the Confederates and exchanging it for produce. He later farmed in Texas, Oklahoma and western Arkansas, moving to Memphis in 1932. On his 100th birthday the Women's Council of Hollywood Christian Church entertained with a birthday party honoring him; and last year, just a short time before her death, he and his wife, Mrs. Mary Hogg, were serenaded by a group of Tech High School boys and girls on her 93rd birthday. They had been married 76 years.

Mr. Hogg told many interesting stories of Civil War days and of his early experiences in the West. Until the death of his wife, they had their own garden and chickens and Mr. Hogg sometimes sold vegetables and eggs to supplement his pension. He leaves his son, W. H. Hogg, with whom he lived.

"The last rites were conducted at Hollywood Christian Church by Rev. J. Murray Taylor. Interment was in Raleigh Cemetery, Memphis.

The old man did a bit of evangelistic work in his late years, and attracted large crowds to his meetings.

MISSING



Pfc. Levie Davis was reported missing in France on June 21, his mother, Mrs. Mattie N. Davis, RFD 1, Jamesville, was notified a few days ago.

County Boy Writes From Pacific Area

Writing from somewhere in New Guinea, Cpl. Ben Hopkins said in a recent letter:

"Today is the Fourth of July and a beautiful day for New Guinea weather. Since I cannot be in good old Martin County, I want to let all know that my thoughts are back with you. I am getting along fine and am in the best of health.

"I see in the papers that some of the boys overseas are getting soft drinks, ice cream, furloughs and getting dates. Well, I am glad, mightily glad, for all of them. I wish we could only get one of the four. I believe if I could see a piece of beefsteak my tongue would slap my brains out.

"There are no women over here except the natives. There are no cities, towns or even villages near us and there isn't a thing to do except stay on the job.

"Today, I met two boys from Williamston. When I saw them I jumped up and down and shook both of their hands. Their names are Eugene Hardison and Dallas Manning. Outside of our little group of Martin County boys, they were the first I had seen since leaving home except Kitty Riddick who I saw in Hollywood.

"I hope all of you back home will (Continued on page six)

OPENING DATES

The date for opening the tobacco markets in this belt has been changed from August 21 to 28 by order of the governor. The change itself will make no material difference to the farmers in this section because marketing activities are considerably behind schedule this year.

It is understood that the date change was effected as a part of the over-all strategy to force the bright flue-cured belt price ceiling up to 45 1/2 cents. Economic Stabilizer Vinson has ruled against a demand for the price ceiling boost, leaving the problem unsolved. Another meeting has been tentatively scheduled to be held in Washington tomorrow when a solution of the problem is expected. During the meantime, southern tobacco markets will continue closed.