

Little Business On Calendar for County Authorities Monday

Direct Relief Problem Comes Before Group at Regular Monthly Meeting

Very little business was on the calendar, but the county commissioners were in session quite a while handling routine matters, receiving reports, more or less of a monotonous and possibly a meaningless nature, and discussing direct relief for the less fortunate.

Several tax relief orders were granted, most of them going to young men now in the armed services; namely, Marion Cobb, Williamston, \$2; Charlie Pittman, Goose Nest, \$2.75; George W. Wynne, Cross Roads, \$2; Edward Modlin and Simon Barber, Jamesville, \$2 each; Garland and Thomas Tice, Griffins, \$2 each. The Austin Jones estate was relieved of the payment of taxes in the amounts of \$4.64 for 1944, \$4.90 for 1943 and \$5.17 for 1942. The property was double listed in Cross Roads Township.

Jurymen were drawn for the two weeks special term of the superior court, convening in November, as follows: First week, Jamesville Township: F. W. Holliday, W. R. Roberson and C. C. Martin. Griffins: Miles R. Lilley. Bear Grass: G. A. Peel and Jos. S. Griffin.

Williamston: H. H. Taylor, Robert A. Moore, C. R. Garrett, James Arthur Gurganus, D. D. Stalls, W. S. Bailey, J. V. Andrews and W. C. Gardner. Robersonville: J. Dawson Roberson. Hamilton: M. E. Hyman. Goose Nest: L. H. Rawls and W. J. Stroud.

Second Week
Jamesville: Dan Fagan. Griffins: Thurman L. Griffin, Jordan G. Peel and Levi Edmondson. Bear Grass: Zack Cowin and M. D. Taylor.

Williamston: J. B. Glenn, John Allen Mizelle, J. W. Watts, J. E. King, E. L. Woolard, S. A. Mobley and W. J. Melson. Robersonville: C. L. Green and R. M. Stalls. Hamilton: Lloyd Coffield, John Brown and Jeff Etheridge.

Considerable discussion was centered on direct relief for several people who, for one reason or another, could not qualify for old age assistance.

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Work Dragging In The Bandage Room

Starting on its September quota nearly two weeks ago, the Red Cross Bandage Room has made comparatively little progress during that period, a report stating last night that only 5,440 surgical dressings had been prepared up until that time, leaving 9,300 to be made.

Other units assisting the work report good progress, an indirect message from Hamilton stating that the volunteers there would complete their quota this week. No reports have been received lately from the other units.

Very few people are finding time to aid the work here, one report stating that a canvasser for volunteers one afternoon had eight persons refuse because they planned to go to the show and two others had to take naps.

Several casualty messages have been delivered in this county during the past few days, clearly indicating that the war is not over. The names of the persons reporting to the bandage room here since last Thursday night:

Friday afternoon: Mesdames J. D. Page, Frank Weaver and B. S. Courtney.

Friday night: Mesdames John Peel, B. S. Courtney, and Anna Harrison and Miss Mary Louise Taylor.

Sunday afternoon: Mrs. J. W. Watts and Mrs. J. B. Taylor and Miss Dorothy Manning.

Monday afternoon: Mesdames Elbert Sherman, John Williams, Van Taylor, Walter Bailey, Beatrice James and Mrs. Victor Champion and Misses Anna Louise Taylor and Thelma Peale.

Monday night: Mrs. B. F. Perry, Mrs. W. O. Griffin and Mrs. G. H. Harrison.

Preliminary Hearing In Fatal Wreck Case Is Set

Frank Crew and Roland Outlaw, drivers of two trucks that figured in a fatal and disastrous wreck on the river fill early last Thursday morning, will be given a preliminary hearing before Justice Perry in Windsor next Saturday morning at 11 o'clock, it was learned this morning from W. E. Saunders, patrolman investigating.

It is understood that the two men will be formally charged with reckless driving and manslaughter. Matthew Bond, Bertie colored man, riding in the truck driven by Crew and owned by the Standard Fertilizer Company, was killed in the accident.

Ensign B. A. Critcher Shoots Down His Fourth Jet Plane

After going to the rescue of an American submarine while under attack by enemy planes and shooting one of them down, Ensign Burras A. Critcher, Jr., young son of Attorney and Mrs. B. A. Critcher of Williamston, has increased his jag count to four, according to the latest reports reaching here.

Complete records are not available but it is believed that the young man ranks right at the top with Martin County boys in the number of enemy planes downed.

In a recent letter to his parents, Ensign Critcher, now somewhere in the Pacific theater, stated that he hopes to see them Christmas. His letter follows, in part:

"Well, I guess you can chalk two more little flags up for me. I'm not very well pleased with myself for them though. I patted myself on the back for the first one, but am afraid

I have changed quite a bit since then. Only find myself letting myself in for things that I am not getting away with. I have never before so deeply felt the things that we are fighting for. Many times have I experienced a very warm feeling in my heart for giving a beggar my last dime, but never before have I felt so much like going all out to help anyone. Am referring to some of the natives out here that are so sincere and true to our cause. To have them look up to you and show such gratitude for your small part in helping free them from the Japs; and to hear them cheer at the sound of one of our bombs even though that very bomb may be taking the life of one very dear to them. It is really something one could never forget. They refer to America as their 'Mother Country'. Only wish I could write some of the stories I have run across out here . . ."

ROOF

Meeting in regular session last evening, the local town commissioners disposed of routine matters, including a review of current bills, and talked about needed repairs on the town hall roof. R. E. Manning was instructed to contact the tinner and see if the roof could be mended.

After touching on a few timely topics, the four commissioners present, Messrs. N. C. Green, R. T. Griffin, G. H. Harrison and V. D. Godwin, motioned for adjournment.

Draft Registration For the Past Month

Twenty-nine teen-year-old Martin County boys registered for the draft last month, the group including thirteen colored and sixteen white. Their names and addresses follow:

White
William Hymon Williams, c, RFD 2, Williamston.
Octavius Manning, c, RFD 2, Williamston.
Arthur Frank Harrison, w, RFD 2, Williamston.
Iseke Roberson, c, RFD 1, Oak City.

Colored
Wallace T. Purvis, c, RFD 1, Robersonville.
Luther William Respass, w, RFD 1, Jamesville.
Charlie Edward Davis, c, Jamesville.
George Cromwell, Jr., c, RFD 1, Bethel.
James Godard, c, RFD 1, Robersonville.

Harry Calvin Ayers, w, RFD 2, Williamston.
Thomas Olen Martin, w, RFD 1, Jamesville.
Floyd Spruill, Jr., c, RFD 1, Williamston.
Jerry Saunders Raynor, w, RFD 3, Williamston.
Ernie Claude Mobley, w, RFD 1, Jamesville.

Thurman Rudolph Bowen, w, RFD 2, Williamston.
Isiah Hill, c, RFD 1, Williamston.
George Tilghman Lilley, w, RFD 1, Williamston.
William Peale Nelson, w, Williamston.
William Richard Williams, w, Palmyra.

Herbert Wiggins, c, Williamston.
Rufus Earl Brown, c, Williamston.
Simon Daniel Hardison, w, RFD 1, Williamston.
Marvin Richard Knox, w, RFD 2, Robersonville.
Jimmy Mike Mitchell, w, Williamston.

Hallett Swinson Davis, w, RFD 1, Jamesville.
Ramon Otis Farmer, w, RFD 1, Robersonville.

Clothes Canvass Postponed Until Next Saturday Here

The canvass for old clothes scheduled for last Saturday was postponed on account of bad weather until next Saturday morning. A few bundles were collected yesterday, but the house-to-house collection will not be made until next Saturday morning by the Scouts.

PACKAGES

Nearly 500 Christmas packages for the boys overseas have been mailed at the local post office up until last evening. Assistant Postmaster F. E. Wynne announces. Since the mailing date, September 15, an average of thirty-six packages have been mailed at the local office. There are seven other post offices in the county, and most of them are reporting increased mailings.

No Christmas packages will be accepted after the 15th of this month, and relatives and friends of the boys over there are again reminded not to wait too late to get off a token of appreciation to them.

Marriage Licenses Back to Normal in County Last Month

Sixteen Weddings Are Reported Following Small Number in Past Months

After reaching an unusually low point during the several preceding months, Dan Cupid staged a battling comeback in September to boost the number of marriages in this county to about a normal or respectable figure. There were sixteen marriage licenses sold in the county last month, six to white and ten to colored couples. In July and August there were only two licenses sold in this county to white couples. The issuance last month was the largest since April and the largest for any September since 1940.

Licenses were issued by Register of Deeds J. Sam Getsinger to the six white and ten colored couples last month as follows:

White
Albert Earl Lewis, RFD 2, Williamston and Mattie Marie Hardison, RFD 1, Oak City.
Zeph R. Roberson, RFD 1, Oak City, and Alice Roberta Brown, Williamston.
Jesse D. Heath and Marjorie Jackson, both of Williamston.
Pfc. William H. Capps, Williamston and Miami, and Bernice Gardner, Norfolk.

Theron R. Gurganus and Doris O. Clark, both of Williamston.
Colored
Willie B. Jackson, Robersonville, and Adelaide Staton, Williamston.
Leroy Purvis and Catherine Knight, both of Norfolk.
Zeas Council and Minnie D. Best, both of RFD 1, Bethel.
Noah Smallwood and Lillie Mae Freeman, both of Oak City.
Clarence Purvis of Hamilton, and Estelle Swimpson, of RFD 1, Oak City.

Ben Octavius Nichols and Ruth Moye, both of Williamston.
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Lions Club Places Blind Booth Here

The Blind Committee of the local Lions Club recently completed another project in connection with its work in aiding the blind and visually handicapped. This new project is a booth or miniature store, which was built, painted and located by the committee members, and is being used by Richard Thompson, local colored blind man.

The stand, which is located in front of the Roanoke-Dixie Warehouse, is being operated by Thompson, who is offering for sale to the public a limited line of merchandise consisting of soft drinks, cakes, crackers, soups, apples, and other small items. The club set Thompson up in his new business and is helping him with the necessary finances until he can become self-sustaining. Sales to date have been very gratifying, according to the committee members, who are helping Thompson with his bookkeeping, and all profits are going to the operator.

The Lions Club wishes to thank the warehouse operators for permission to place this stand on their property and the Williamston Supply Company for its cooperation in the construction of it. Lions working on this project were, John H. Edwards, H. P. Mobley, D. R. Sullivan, Jas. B. Peale and Roy Ward.

Home-Coming Day Next Sunday At Hassell Church

The Hassell Christian Church will observe its annual home-coming on Sunday morning, October 8, at 11 o'clock when most of the members who have moved to other centers, the membership and special friends are expected to gather there in number. A special message is being prepared by the pastor and there will be special music.

Gold Point School To Be Consolidated With Robersonville

Education Board Spend Hours Reviewing Insurance Policies

Meeting in regular session Monday, the Martin County Board of Education ordered the consolidation of the Gold Point School with the one at Robersonville, the consolidation to be effected immediately. Details, delegated to a special committee, had not been worked out late last night.

The consolidation was considered by the board some time ago. At that time it was agreed to maintain the school at Gold Point with the average daily attendance held to 45 pupils. The figures for the first two weeks of the current term fell a little over two points below the standard, and the board ordered the consolidation.

It was thought that the school at Hassell would absorb several of the pupils, but the committee, named to investigate a division of the districts, had not reported its findings early today.

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Pfc. Burrace Ange Wounded in France

Pfc. Burrace Franklin Ange, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Ange, RFD 1, Jamesville, was seriously wounded in France on September 10, according to a message received last week to a relative. No details were to be had immediately. The young man is the thirty-seventh one from this county to have been reported wounded in the war to date and the fourteenth in France.

The young man entered the service at Fort Bragg only last December. After spending a short while there he was sent to Camp Blanding, Fla., for his basic training. Completing twenty-two weeks of training there, he was given a 17-day furlough which he spent with his parents and wife. On June 26 he reported to Fort Meade, Md., leaving a short time later for overseas.

He is the only son of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Ange.
Another Jamesville boy, L. V. Ange, was reported seriously wounded in France on September 11, according to a message received last week by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Levin Ange.

ABC Officer Is Busy During Past Month

The illicit liquor business, trying to stage an apparent comeback, experienced serious reverses in this county last month, according to a report released this week by Deputy J. H. Roebuck, enforcement officer for the Alcoholic Beverages Control Board.

Thirteen persons were arrested, the courts finding twelve of them guilty as charged. Road sentences, totaling 56 months, were meted out and fines in the sum of \$515 were imposed and collected.

The officer, assisted for the most part by Deputy Roy Peel, confiscated twenty gallons and three pints of illicit liquor and captured nine stills. They poured out 1,270 gallons of beer mash, 90 per cent of which was made from sugar.

Escapes Injury In Accident Thursday

Cpl. Edward Barbour, after going through the heavy fighting of the Sicilian campaign, had a narrow call near the prisoner of war camp here late last Thursday afternoon when the timber-loading conveyor from the railroad spur track to the river fell on the car he was driving.

The heavy timber, toppled over by a gust of wind, fell on the top of the camp commander's car. Cpl. Barber slumped down in the seat, a big nail driving through the top missing his head by inches.

ROUND-UP

Local police, taking their turn last week-end, rounded up and jailed nine persons, their raids following two active periods for county officers and highway patrolmen in previous weeks.

Nine of the ten persons rounded up and jailed were charged with public drunkenness and disorderly conduct. The tenth person was booked for drunken driving, the first such case since Jesse Griffin, Beaufort white man, ran down and killed two small girls in the county last week.

Six of the ten persons jailed were white, and the ages of the group ranged from 23 to 59 years.

John Dave Davenport Fatally Shot Near Here

Cherry Surrenders To Officers Three Hours After Attack

Preliminary Hearing in Case Tentatively Scheduled For Tomorrow

Using a gun loaded with No. 8 shot Bryant Cherry, young white man of Williams Township, shot and fatally hurt John Dave Davenport, 34, last evening about 8 o'clock on Highway 64 a short distance beyond Sweet Water Creek. Davenport, removed to the local hospital, died within a minute or two after he was admitted to the institution.

Cherry, claiming to have acted in self-defense, surrendered to officers at the police station here at 11:15 o'clock last night and was jailed. A preliminary hearing has been tentatively scheduled for tomorrow.

Conflicting stories about the events leading up to the fatal attack were heard. Officers are still investigating and have released few of their findings.

According to the best information to be had soon after the shooting and early this morning, the two men were riding with Stanley Ward and Sam Pate, neighbors, and entered into an argument. The four men left Jernigan's filling station here between 7 and 8 o'clock, one report stating that they were drinking. Pate, living just across the creek bridge, got out, and the other three started in the direction of Cherry's home, a filling station just a short distance up the road. Davenport and Cherry talked about taking their wives to the fair next week, and Davenport is said to have made slurring remarks about Cherry's wife, the same report declaring that Cherry became enraged when Davenport accused him of doing certain deeds. Ward, driving the car, finally put Cherry out and continued in the direction of Davenport's home. The two men had gone only a short distance when Davenport asked Ward to turn around, explaining that he wanted to go and apologize to Cherry. During the meantime, Cherry came marching up the road with his shot gun, explaining later that he was taking the weapon to the home of his mother about two miles away.

Ward parked his car on the side of the road, and tried to reason with Cherry. An attempt to take the gun away, one report declaring that Cherry had threatened to kill Ward if he (Ward) did not leave him alone. Davenport, during the meantime, was said to have continued on down the road in the direction of his home. Cherry followed and overtook him about 125 yards from where the car was parked between the home of Mr. Sam Andrews and that of Ward. Davenport was then said to have turned and asked Cherry why he was following him. Just what happened then is not definite.

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Eighteen Men Are Accepted By Army

Eighteen of the forty white and colored men reporting for physical examinations at Fort Bragg in this county last month were accepted, according to official audits recently returned to the county draft board office.

On September 14, Selective Service called for forty-five white men. Only an even dozen were available, and out of that twelve, six were accepted. The names of those passing the examination: Julian Robert Rawls, Jr., Alton Thomas Johnson, Spencer Eldred Coltraine, Otis Clifton Roberson, Charles Clancey Carter, and Garland Stator.

On September 7, thirty-four colored men were called for the pre-induction examination. Twelve were accepted, sixteen were rejected, three were transferred to other boards and three failed to report. Names of those accepted: Frank Scott, James Elbert Brooks, Levi Brown, Charles Douglas Slade, Edward Curtis Carter, Lester Carr, Ernest Bowens, Arlester Bagley, Percy Marvin Boston, Millard Fillmore Delvison, James Oscar Spruill and Thad Harris, Jr.

James Purvis, Louis Leggett and William Oscar Andrews did not report, but Purvis and Andrews have been accounted for, it was learned. Louis Leggett, RFD 1, Robersonville, has been reported delinquent. Clarence George Everett Whitfield, Octavia Rogers and Hubert Walton Howard were transferred to other boards.

Firemen Are Called Out Early Saturday Morning

Local firemen were called out at 2:45 o'clock last Saturday morning when fire threatened the home of Capicola Rigby, corner of Pearl and Wilson Streets. No great damage was done, but the fire was detected just in time to keep it from spreading.

Edna E. Brown, Tony Jenkins, R. B. Jones, R. M. Quinn, David B. Seagriff, W. V. Ormond, Geo. W. Lassiter, L. A. Thompson, A. R. White, M. L. Peel, Columbus Ebron, C. H. Godwin, Jr., Joe Ward, Thurman Ange, Davis Purvis, Urnie Bunting, Ernest D. Edmondson, Jno. T. Smithwick, Lonnie Bonner, T. L. Lilley, R. H. Salisbury, Ada I. Price, Dewey Leggett, Herman Moore, Lester Cherry, Gussie Harrison, Thurman Bowen, Fannie M. Bennett.

Small truck tires were issued to the following: U. S. Hassell, Farmville, Woodward Lumber Co., J. E. Corey, J. E. Andrews, E. N. Harrell and Williamston Supply Co.

Officer Gets Wet When He Falls Into Ditch

Aiding Halifax County officers, Sheriff C. B. Roebuck was hardly sphy enough to jump a ditch in the upper part of the county about 3 o'clock last Sunday morning and fell into the water.

He and other officers got their men—three Fields colored men who were wanted for assaulting an officer in Hobgood the night before.

First Army Drives Nearly Nine Miles Into Siegfried Line

INCREASE BOND

First placed at \$2,000, the appearance bond required of Jesse Griffin, Beaufort County white man who ran down and killed two young girls and badly injured a third person in the county last week, yesterday was increased to \$5,000.

No formal hearing has been scheduled in the case, officers stating that it was being delayed pending the outcome of the injuries received by Mrs. Mendenhall. Griffin, 34 years old, has had little to say about the tragedy but he was declared to be very interested in the amount of his bond and getting out of jail. It was later announced that he had waived preliminary hearing.

Removed to the local hospital last Thursday night, Mrs. Mendenhall was able to return to her home in a Biggs ambulance Sunday afternoon. No bones were broken, but she suffered severe shock, and one of her limbs was bruised to the bone.

Arthur P. Fowler Is Killed In Action

Previously reported missing, Arthur Pohl Fowler, Fireman 1/c, is now known to have been killed in action while in the service of his country, it was revealed in a second message received by Mrs. Fowler, the former Miss Louise Coltraine, near here last Sunday morning. The message, stating that burial was at sea with full military honors, was signed by Vice Admiral Randall Jacobs, Chief of Naval Personnel.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Fowler, 649 Markea Avenue, Salt Lake City, Utah, the young man was only 23 years old last June 25. He volunteered for service before the war, and was seriously wounded at Pearl Harbor. Recovering from those wounds, he returned to active service and was seriously wounded a second time when the Allies went into North Africa. It was while he was recuperating from his second wounds that he met Miss Coltraine, daughter of Mr. Oliver Coltraine, RFD 1, Williamston, and later married her in Norfolk on August 5, 1943.

The young man made his last visit to this county back in April of this year and left the following month for service in the Pacific. It is believed that he was slightly wounded soon after his return to the Pacific last spring.

The young man was killed after September 19, a letter, written by him on that date to his wife, stating that he had been so busy with invasions that he had not had time to write. He assured his wife that he was getting along all right at that time, that he was in the best of health and for her not to worry. "I will see you, and it will be soon," he said.

Besides his parents and widow, he is survived by three sisters, Mrs. Marvin Coltraine of Norfolk and Williamston; Mrs. George S. Sipes and Miss Caroline Fowler; a brother, Paul Fowler, all of Salt Lake City.

A daughter was born to Mrs. Fowler and her late husband in a Washington hospital early yesterday. The mother and daughter are getting along very well today, it was learned here.

Eighty-three Tires Allotted By Board

Eighty-three tires—74 for passenger cars and nine for small trucks—were issued by the Martin County War Price and Rationing Board last Friday night.

The October tire allotment calls for the release of 255 grade I and thirty-seven small truck tires. The quota is less than that for the month of September.

Grade I tires were released to the following: Garland C. Tice, B. J. Taylor, Clyde Revels, Roberson Slaughter House, Lewis Daniel, William S. Peale, James Frazier, T. B. Brandon, Ethel G. Roberson, John Roebuck, Gomer Taylor, N. T. Daniel, Willie W. Briley, J. D. Beach, Fenner L. Hardison, H. M. Ayers, W. G. Peale, W. H. Britton, Sylvester Taylor, Daniel DeMary, Dennis Bunting, R. L. Coburn, Garland Cowan, Andrew Haislip, Archie E. Hardison, Benjamin E. Griffin, John H. Peale, Mrs. Lillie Wynne, Betty Lou Edwards, Adele H. Tetterton, Vernon Gurganus, W. M. Bowen, J. E. White, Robert Mobley, Ernest Jenkins, H. B. Jernigan, J. L. Beach, J. E. Cope.

Grade II tires were released to the following: U. S. Hassell, Farmville, Woodward Lumber Co., J. E. Corey, J. E. Andrews, E. N. Harrell and Williamston Supply Co.

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First Army Drives Nearly Nine Miles Into Siegfried Line

FORCES GO FORWARD ON 11-MILE FRONT

Marking time for the most part since the whirlwind drive through France was completed, Allied forces are now driving forward again, late reports not yet confirmed stating that morning that General Courtney Hodges' First American Army had picked out the strongest sector of the Siegfried Line and had pushed forward nine miles along an 11-mile front.

Starting last Sunday morning about nine o'clock, the First Army drive was said to be facing bitter opposition even after the American artillery and bombers had pounded the enemy unmercifully for hours. The Americans poured through the gap, but it is claimed by the enemy that the attackers have not yet struck the main defense and that there has been no break-through. The drive was launched about seven miles north of Aachen.

Late dispatches indicate that General Patton's Army is moving to join the American First and that increased action all along the West Wall is to be expected. Progress has been made in the fight to the south at the Belfort Gap, and back to the north, the British are turning back savage counterattacks.

Calais has fallen, leaving only one port—Dunkirk—in the hands of the enemy, and the Canadians, fighting for revenge, are driving hard on that objective.

A move to liberate Greece is making progress, late reports stating that Greek patriots have already freed a large part of their country, and that an Allied invasion of Crete had been effected.

The irony of war was brought to light in Eorraine where the Americans seized a giant arsenal operated by the enemy. The factory, covering 10 acres, was turning out huge guns with machinery made in Milwaukee.

Little has been heard from the Pacific theater, but the Americans are still bombing objectives in the path to the Philippines, including the Philippines. The Japs claimed today to have landed a strong force on the China coast.

Russians have joined Tito's Partisans of the Yugoslav 14th Corps and were converging on Belgrade. Polish patriots are said to have given up the fight in Warsaw. The fall of the Baltic port of Riga is expected shortly.

The Army Air Forces has recorded.
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