

Nineteen Marriage Licenses Issued in County Last Month

Issuance Is Second Largest Reported So Far This Year

Nineteen marriage licenses, the second largest number on record so far in 1944, were issued in this county last month. For the fourth time out of the eleven months, the issuance of licenses to white couples outnumbered and then by a very small margin those issued to colored couples. The issuance did not depend altogether on civilian patronage, the records showing at least three or four of the contracting parties were in the service.

Ten of the nineteen licenses were issued to white couples, as follows:

- White
- James E. Garrington, Lynchburg, Va., and Lola Griffin, Williamston.
- J. P. Raynor, RFD 3, Williamston, and Mamie Clyde Wells, Plymouth.
- Billie John Davis, of Hamilton, and Julie Baker, of Oak City.
- Willard Earl James and Mary Elizabeth Ward, both of Robersonville.

- Colored
- Willie Gray Lee and Nellie Faye Bunch, both of Williamston.
- George W. Taylor, of Everetts and Camp Cooke, Calif., and Thelma Peel, of Everetts.
- Marvin Leroy Spruill, U. S. Navy of Roper, and Marjorie Bray Asby, of Plymouth.
- Curtis Haislip and Maryland Virginia Leggett, both of Robersonville.
- Lt. George C. Mahler, of Wilmington, and Lorene Weaver, of Williamston.

- Colored
- Fred Weaver, of Edenton, and Ella Griffin, of Williamston.

- Colored
- Sam Brown and Arnetia Gorham, both of Washington.
- James Henry Mayor and Mary Lee Jones, both of Oak City.
- William Frank Spruill and Carrie Letha Sheppard, both of Oak City.
- Charlie Thomas and Mary Moore, both of Robersonville.
- John Linwood Powell and Marjorie Page, both of Robersonville.
- Willie Alexander Rodgers and Mary Elizabeth Howell, both of Williamston.
- William Eborn Sheppard and Estelle Ward, both of Robersonville.
- Berman Rogers and Sallie Mae Harrell, both of RFD 1, Hobgood.

County's November Draft Registration

Reaching their eighteenth birthdays during the period, twenty-seven Martin County boys registered for the draft last month. Fourteen were colored and thirteen were white. Their names and addresses at the time of their registration follow:

- Garland Mitchell Wilson, c, RFD 2, Robersonville.
- West Kech, c, Warren Street, Williamston.
- Milton Robert Greene, c, Hamilton.
- Andrew Jackson Everett, c, Williamston.
- Roland McKinley Beddard, w, RFD 3, Williamston.
- Kelly Wallace, c, Everetts.
- James Lloyd Moore, w, State College, Raleigh.
- Samuel Tim Jackson, w, Williamston.
- Perry Bryant, c, RFD 1, Oak City.
- Charles Irving Stokes, c, RFD 2, Williamston.
- Gene Wayland Taylor, w, The Citadel, Charleston, S. C.
- Frederick Harrell Bennett, c, Williamston.
- Elmer Lee Griffin, c, RFD 3, Williamston.
- Frederick Leon Hardison, w, Duke University, Durham.
- Francis Darrell Taylor, w, Everetts.
- Tom Brown Manning, w, Jamesville.
- Gordon Ray Hinson, w, RFD 1, Bethel.
- Albert Lord Williams, c, RFD 1, Palmyra.
- James Albert Coltrane, w, RFD 1, Williamston.
- Edward Earl Whitley, w, RFD 1, Robersonville.
- Quinton Durward Jones, c, Parmele.
- Willie James Purvis, c, RFD 3, Williamston.
- Oscar Lewis, c, RFD 1, Oak City.
- James Edward Stokes, c, Williamston.
- Romas Taylor Griffin, w, RFD 1, Williamston.
- Marvin Odell Harrell, w, RFD 1, Oak City.
- James Wallace Bennett, c, Williamston.

Mrs. Bill Myers Is Badly Hurt In Fall Saturday

Mrs. Bill Myers critically hurt her knee in a fall while making ready to get into a car in front of Alpha Cleaners on Main Street here last Saturday evening. Someone had dropped and broken a bottle of oil in the street and Mrs. Myers stepped into it and slipped. The bone in her knee was crushed and reports from the local hospital indicate that she will not be able to walk in some time.

County Believed Nearing Its Goal With E Bond Purchases

Called out of town unexpectedly and before he could prepare a report on recent bond purchases in this county, Chairman Herman A. Bowen was quoted as saying earlier in the day that it was fairly apparent the quota is within sight. Several very encouraging reports, while of a general nature, were received over the week-end, but there is some doubt if two or three of the districts are making the progress necessary for a unanimous over-the-top report.

In the absence of a complete report from the chairman, the progress of the drive can be stated only in general terms. However, two bond rallies were held with marked success in the county last Friday night in Griffins and Cross Roads, and it is believed that both districts reached and passed their quotas. Out in Griffins, the auctioneer, Jimmy Taylor, had to be called from the floor when the supply of bonds was exhausted. The crowd, a fairly sizable one, really pulled out the wallets and shucked out the greenbacks. When the records were checked, the small but earnest gathering had bought \$32,168.75 worth of "E" bonds or just about three times their original quota and more than its combined quota of E's and negotiables. Very few bonds were auctioned off in unusually large denominations, but a prospective \$25 bond purchaser eyeing one of the cakes or pies or other items did not have a ghost of a chance. Chairman Geo. Griffin thanked the people and expressed great satisfaction.

The rally at Cross Roads was a very successful one. Valuable prizes were offered and Jackie Taylor was getting hot when he got down to auctioning off a package of chewing gum for as much as \$750. Chairman Paul Bailey explained that no bonds were delivered at the rally, but he was fairly well convinced that the pledges along with the support of others would carry his district over the top within the next few days. A complete report on the bond drive is expected the latter part of this week. During the meantime, our people are asked to continue to buy bonds. Quotas may have been reached and passed, but one hasn't done his best in behalf of the fighting men until he has invested every available dollar.

Retired Banker Passes At Home Here Sunday

Joseph G. Godard, pioneer in the county's commercial banking field, died at his home on Marshall Avenue here Sunday morning at 6:05 o'clock following a long period of declining health. His condition had been critical since a fall three weeks before when he broke several ribs. Almost eighty-two years of age, he had not been very active during the past eight or ten years. He almost lost his sight some years ago, and he is believed to have stumbled in his room, causing him to fall against a table.

The son of the late Jos. G. Godard and Frances Peel Godard, he was born in Griffins Township on a December 22, 1862. He was only a year old when his father returned to the Civil War and was killed. Nothing was ever heard from him.

When in his teens, Mr. Godard attended Stephen Outerbridge's school in Mimosa, not far from Hamilton. He walked the approximately twenty miles and would travel the same way at intervals of a few weeks to see his mother. After teaching in the county schools two or three years, he started a business career that was destined to gain for him fame and a small fortune. Not so long ago, Mr. Godard recalled his trip to Williamston to work for Stator Godard, general merchant and county treasurer. Packing his clothes in a cracker box, he walked to town and worked hard for a year or two before he returned to his old home community and opened and operated a general store at Hardison's Mill. His sales were small, hardly exceeding \$25 or \$30 a week there, and he then located in Everetts where he operated a store for a short while. Later he moved to Plymouth and was employed by the Hornthals. Having gained a splendid business knowledge in his early associations with the section's leading merchants, he returned to Williamston in the nineties and entered into a partnership with the late Joe Everett. He bought out his partner's interests and along about 1899 he sold his business to his brother and made ready to organize the first bank in this county.

Placing \$5,000 of his own money into the venture, Mr. Godard opened the Bank of Martin County in 1900 in the building now occupied by the Alpha Cleaners, corner of Smithwick and Main Streets. Two years later the Godard building, housing the bank and a number of offices, was constructed just across Smithwick Street. He served the institution as president until its consolidation with the Farmers and Merchants Bank in 1917. During those years, Mr. Godard and his bank figured prominently in the material progress of the county. His acts were not publicized, but he befriended many down through the years, lending his own money to those in need when there wasn't sufficient security to support a loan with the bank. He farmed extensively and was instrumental in forming land and seed improvement associations, and while he is remembered as the county's first commercial banker, possibly his work in agriculture was equally as important.

Following the consolidation of the bank, he was instrumental in forming

(Continued on page six)

Seal Sale Receiving Favorable Response

The current sale of TB Christmas seals is making splendid progress, the chairman, Mrs. Asa Crawford, stating that it is quite possible the sales will set a new record.

During the first week of the drive, 500 special letters were mailed to citizens in the town and county, asking them to buy the seals enclosed. Nearly 200 of the letters have been answered. Only six returned the seals, but in other cases the donations were double the amounts sought.

In addition to the direct mail solicitations, the drive is featuring TB bond sales, the preliminary report showing that eighteen local business houses and clubs had bought bonds ranging from \$5 to \$10 each.

No report has been filed for the street sales and those in the schools, but they are certain to add up to a goodly sum.

Contributions of \$1 or more will be publicly acknowledged within the next few days.

Woman Critically Attacked By Hog

Mrs. Lilley, 65 years of age and a member of a tenant family on Joe Bunting's farm between Oak City and Tarboro, was critically hurt when attacked by a hog near her home last Friday. Few details of the attack could be had here immediately, but according to the first reports, the animal chewed the woman's fingers and hands and tore out part of her jawbone and tongue.

Removed to a Tarboro hospital, the victim was said to be in a serious condition when last reports were received.

It seems that some pigs were running loose in the yard and a dog caught one of them. Mrs. Lilley was said to have gone out to free the pig when an old sow ran toward her. Mrs. Lilley fell while trying to jump a ditch and the hog piled in on top of her. She was home alone at the time, but some neighbors came about that time and drove the animal away.

Start Campaign to Reduce Rat Menace Here Today

Another drive against rats is being being started here today and owners are warned to keep up their pets.

Jimmy Watts Tells Of Bomb Raid Over Territory of Enemy

Young Local Man Stationed In Italy with American Bomb Squadron

Stationed somewhere in Italy with an American bomb squadron, Sgt. Jimmy Watts, chief mechanic on a big bomber, describes a raid over enemy territory in the following story recently received by The Enterprise:

This is just a note to give the folks there at home an idea of how it feels to be on a bombing raid over enemy territory.

To start at the beginning, on the days we had missions, the C. Q. would awaken us several hours before sunrise, informing us as to the time of our briefing. After rushing through breakfast, we start toward the operations building, for briefing. After briefing, we draw flying equipment, and load the trucks for our ride out to our ship.

At the specified time, we begin to warm up engines, the engineer watching the instruments for any tell-tale sign of trouble. At last we are given clearance for take-off, and the ships line up in position for take-off.

After take-off, we seek our position in formation. The squadron formed, we circle the locality until the group has formed, then set out on course for the rendezvous point to meet other units of the wing who are to accompany us on the mission.

After forming the wing, we set out on course toward the target. As we reach a "safe" territory (where stray bullets will not harm anyone) we test-fire our guns to assure ourselves that everything is in perfect working order.

Each man then settles himself in a comfortable position until we near enemy occupied territory, at which time we begin searching the skies for enemy fighters, being careful not to mistake our own ships for those of the enemy, as we are often given fighter protection for our raids.

We are alert in every way, for once a fighter is close enough for recognition, they are almost within range, and once they start, it's only a few seconds we are able to fire—and it's either him, or us.

As we near the expected areas for flak, the navigator warns us to don our protective armor. This done, we resume our watch for enemy aircraft, only watching more closely than ever for fighters, as they are more likely to appear close to the target, than at other times. The fighters narrow

(Continued on page six)

Suffers Fractured Arm In Auto Wreck

Wheeler Smith Boston, colored man of Jamesville Township, suffered a compound fracture of his left arm last Sunday morning when his car plowed into one driven by Mr. Grover Lilley at Dardens. No one else was hurt, but both cars were badly damaged, Patrolman W. E. Saunders estimating that it would cost \$300 to repair Smith's old Pontiac, and \$290 for the Lilley car.

Mr. Lilley, it was reported, was turning into his driveway and had the front wheels of his car off the highway to the left when Smith rounded a curve and tried to run by in front of the Lilley car.

Town Commissioners Hold Brief Session Last Night

Very little business was discussed at the regular meeting of the local town commissioners last evening. The session was the first held in two months, the regular November meeting have been cancelled when only one member reported.

No action was taken on a request by H. L. Swain for a permit to pen hogs on his farm at the edge of town. Several requests for street lights were heard, but no action was taken on any of them. The commissioners propose to clear off and prepare the property between the Roanoke-Dixie warehouse and the railroad for a parking lot.

QUOTAS AND PRICES

Quotas for the 1945 tobacco crop were invoked by the Department of Agriculture last Friday just a few hours before the deadline. The allotment system provides for the same acreage next year as was allowed this year. Since the 1944 plantings were less than the allotment, farmers with few exceptions are not expected to enter any objections to the control plans.

Accompanying the order announcing the continuation of the production control program was an order fixing prices for the 1944 crop at the same figures in effect for the 1944 crop, and no serious objections are anticipated on that count.

(Continued on page six)

'SELL' \$552,675 IN WAR BONDS

BOY WAR BONDS

BEFORE THESE TRIPLETS—Janet Lee, Nancy Sue, and Karen Ann Bachant—decided to eat war bonds, they "sold" \$552,675 worth of them in five hours at a rally in New York City. Their father, Harry Bachant, was killed in action in the European theatre of operations (International)

The county's governmental system marked the end of one term and the beginning of another yesterday without a single change in the officiating personnel. It was hard to tell just where the old term ended and the new one began, there being only a slight interruption for the administering of the oaths of office. The new term called for extra activities the first day, but even then the members of the board of commissioners completed their work and adjourned by mid-afternoon.

The only change in the official county family was noted when Commissioner C. D. Carstarphen did not report and qualify for the office to which he was elected for another two years. He had advised the county authorities that his work made it impossible for him to continue as a member of the board and that he would not qualify. His successor has not been named, but an appointment by Clerk of Court L. B. Wynne is expected within the week. No applications for the job have been received, and just now the position is begging.

Completing two terms as a member of the board, Commissioner Carstarphen has rendered a valuable service to the people. As tax supervisor, he was instrumental in procuring and maintaining about the best if not the best tax valuations the county has ever had. It is not perfect, to be sure, but it is so good that the board decided not to order a new valuation for 1945. He with all the members of the old board has plugged steadily to reduce the county debt and handle the affairs of the county in an efficient manner, always balancing the conservative with the liberal to get a progressive governmental system.

All the county officers except the fifth commissioner and the surveyor or qualified for office at the meeting this week. Bonds were submitted and approved, and the officials continued their work from the old to the new term. Mr. R. L. Perry was again chosen chairman of the board of commissioners, Elbert S. Peel was appointed solicitor of the county court for two years and county attorney, the latter job carrying a \$100 retainer's fee. John W. Bland was reappointed superintendent of the county home.

Luther Peel was appointed tax supervisor for 1945. He will call his list-takers into a meeting during the week of December 18 to adopt a schedule of personal property values and make plans for handling the new lists beginning on or about January 1. Most of the old list-takers are expected to serve.

Tax relief orders were granted in the sum of \$2 each to two members of the armed forces, Irving Terry, of Bear Grass, and Hugh B. Griffin of Griffins. A similar order was granted in the sum of \$2 to Howard Hopkins, war veteran, and John W. Gurlin was relieved of the payment of \$1.10 on property listed in error.

Reporting on the current tax collections, Luther Peel stated that a little over 61 per cent of the levy of \$193,619.58 had been collected, or \$119,357.19. The 1943 levy was 98.4 per cent collected, the 1942 levy is 99 per cent and the 1941 levy is 99.2 per cent collected.

County Officials Start New Term on Monday

Expect Appointment Fifth Commissioner Within A Few Days

Tax Supervisor Named and Bonds Approved; Officers Take Oath

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

All Martin County schools will close Wednesday, December 20, for the Christmas holidays and reopen on Monday, January 1, the Martin County Board of Education ruled in regular session here yesterday. Considering the two days saved at Thanksgiving and the fact that repair work is needed on some of the busses, the three board members present favored the ten-day holiday schedule.

Very little business was before the meeting which was adjourned after the annual audit had been approved and the sale of the old Godard Hill school site in Williams Township was ordered sold.

Sixty-Seven Tires Allotted By Board

Certificates for sixty-seven tires—six for small trucks and 61 for passenger cars—were issued by the Martin County War Price and Rationing Board last Friday.

For the current month, the county has been allotted 309 passenger car tires and forty-two for small trucks.

Grade I tire certificates were issued to the following:

- R. C. Gurganus, James W. Garris, F. S. Scott, Ira Jones, G. H. Martin, Hubert Modlin, Starling Bell, Allie Griffin, Mack Wynne, Jeff D. Etheridge, D. L. Hardy, James Robert Wynne, Dr. J. S. Rhodes, Chas. H. Godwin, Jr., Grace Whitley Maynard, J. S. Ayers, Jr., R. N. Turner, P. M. Holliday, John Mobley, N. M. Hyman, Arthur Peaks, L. W. Harrison, Hubert Virgil Lilley, Charlie Bryant, W. C. Bailey, H. G. Harrison, J. A. Roebuck, Bithel Braddy, Garland Cowan, Elmer E. Peel, E. T. Rawls, Leland Corbun, Richard J. Jones, Luke Harrell, David R. Davis, William Hopkins, J. T. Heath, Stacy S. Cox, J. H. Coburn, Charlie Lee, R. W. Wilson, Herbert Winchester, G. W. Harris, J. D. Mason, Woolard Hardware Co., B. S. Courtney.

Certificates for small truck tires were issued to the following:

- J. R. Coltrane, Chas. H. Jenkins, V. G. Taylor, Royal Baking Co.

War Board Denies Farmers Releases

Meeting in the agricultural building last Friday afternoon, the Martin County War Board denied several farmers releases from agriculture to enter industry. One or two permanent releases were granted when reasons acceptable by the board were offered for the changes. Quite a few were released from their farming activities for short periods.

Permanent releases were denied J. H. Cullipher, Russell Wynn Mobley and Luther Stallings. Just what action will be taken if a farmer leaves the farm without first obtaining a release could not be learned immediately, but it is understood that one or two have been called for duty in the armed forces.

The war board, composed of J. F. Crisp, chairman; T. B. Brandon, H. F. McKnight, J. C. Eubanks, J. W. Eubanks, V. B. Hairr and L. A. Clark will meet again Friday afternoon of this week in the agricultural building to hear applicants appealing for releases. The meeting will open about one o'clock.

Firemen Called To Farm Home Near Here Saturday

Local volunteer firemen were called to the Kelvin Grove farm home on the Washington Road near here last Saturday evening when a burning chimney threatened the structure. No damage was done.

Six Allied Armies Report Fighting On Germany's Soil

Russians Driving Steadily in Direction of Austria

Six and possibly seven Allied armies are now fighting on German territory, the combined forces slowly but steadily pushing forward against the vital industrial areas of the enemy. Patton's Third Army is holding the spotlight, temporarily at least. Advancing one and one-half miles almost overnight, three divisions from the Third are approaching the important center of Saarbrücken while men of the First and Ninth Armies are lining up for a bloody fight along the Roer. It is fairly apparent that a new and even more bloody phase of the Western Front is now developing, that heavy casualties are to be expected.

Accompanying the increased tempo on the Western Front, Allied planes are working in greater strength against enemy targets, especially rail centers feeding the enemy forces. For thirty-six hours, Allied planes roared across the English Channel to carry on an almost ceaseless drive against the enemy.

Attention is also given the latest drive by the Russians in Hungary. Advancing as many as twenty miles a day, the Russians are now within fifty miles of the Austrian border, late reports stating that the Hungarians and Germans are fleeing in great disorder ahead of the drive and that German officials are leaving Vienna in great haste.

In Italy the stalemate apparently has been broken by a new British Eighth Army drive which cut an important rail line leading into Bologna.

A full continues on the front in Greece is causing concern, and already there is a sharp difference of opinion among the Allies. Churchill said this morning that British power could be expected to step in to maintain order. His declaration still leaves the fate of the liberationists in doubt.

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