

Makes Final Report On T. B. Christmas Seal Sale In County

Ford, Chairman Reports
Assigned a quota of \$600, Martin County more than doubled that sum when its citizens raised \$1,312.19 in the recent T. B. Christmas Seal Sale drive. Mrs. Asa Crawford, chairman, reported this week.

The various schools of the county contributed the following amounts: Bear Grass, \$32.64; Oak City, \$51.15; Jamesville, \$53.00; Hamilton, \$26.68; Hassell, \$6; Everetts, \$40.15; Farm Life, \$40.43; Williamston, \$182.24—a total for the schools of \$438.24.

A total of \$63.82 was raised at the Saturday booth sales, and the bangle day sales amounted to \$54.90. In addition to bond purchases already acknowledged, the following organizations and business men subscribed to the following amounts: Williamston Peanut Co., \$10; Dixie Motors, \$25; B and W Tire Rebuilders, \$10; C. G. Crockett, \$5; Darden's Dept. Store, \$5; Martin-Elliott Co., \$5; Skinner Tobacco Co., \$10; King Tobacco Co., \$10; Senior Woman's Club, \$5; Williamston Pkg. Mfg. Co., \$5; Saunders and Cox, \$10; Dr. Jno. D. Biggs, \$5; Williamston Motor Co., \$10; Chas. H. Jenkins Motor Co., \$5; Mannings Laundry, \$5; Harrison Oil Co., \$5; G and H Builders Supply Co., \$5; Pender's, \$5; Williamston Supply Co., \$5.

One-dollar contributions made by mail and not previously acknowledged, follow:
Williamston (town): Ralph Parker, Henry Handy, Lucy Ward, John Tullios, Clyde Hassell, W. C. Bailey, J. D. Leggett, G. A. Harris, James Bullock, M. E. Turner, David Modlin, W. R. Banks, E. L. Etheridge, Joel Muse, K. D. Worrell, J. E. Asbury, C. U. Rogers, J. R. Peele, N. R. Manning, Randolph Allen, Mrs. Era Cobb, Mrs. P. B. Cone, Jessup Harrison, H. T. Taylor, Jerry Humble, Woodrow Tice, Mrs. Travis Kitchin, R. T. Griffin, Chas. Mobley, Julian Harrell, W. H. Dickens and J. C. Eubanks.

Williamston (R. F. D.): T. L. Roberson, Woodrow Holliday, Mrs. David Keel, C. F. Perry, M. D. Taylor, Chas. M. Peele, S. J. Tetterton, Pley Peele, Lewis Roberson, L. T. Hardin, M. G. Perry, W. A. Perry, S. H. Mobley, B. F. Lilley, Exum Ward, Nathan Rogers, Henry Oakley, G. F. Godard, Lee Hardison. Jamesville: W. F. Holliday, P. E. Getsinger, A. E. Manning, W. M. Davis, Mrs. Levi Davis, Mrs. Dare Brown, Mrs. J. L. Davenport, J. R. Williams, J. F. Martin, J. C. Kirkman, H. W. Barber, Mrs. P. C. Blount. Everetts: Mrs. Gertrude Peele. Oak City: Mrs. C. W. Cowey, W. E. Early, R. C. Brown, Sidney Malory, S. W. Cooper, Mrs. Annie E. Savage, Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Piland, B. L. Johnson and L. H. Rouse. Hamilton: Harvey Williams, Asa Johnson and R. A. Edmondson. Hassell: J. A. Haislip and Mrs. M. H. Ayers.

20,000 Casualties Returning Monthly

With Army casualty lists steadily increasing and because of the critical shortage of Army nurses and technically trained Medical Department Personnel, General George C. Marshall, Chief of Staff, U. S. Army, announced today the start of a new and vigorous recruiting drive to enlist Wacs for the newly created Women's Army Corps Medical Units for service at the Army's 60 General Hospitals in this country and called upon the governors of the District of Columbia to exercise their leadership in aiding this vitally urgent program.

In his letter to the governors and commissioners asking for local aid, General Marshall said: "The care of the increasing numbers of casualties returning to the United States, together with the acute shortage in nurses and hospital personnel generally, necessitates urgent measures being taken to recruit and rapidly train women for service in Army hospitals. We urgently need Wacs units for our 60 general hospitals. Your leadership in recruiting these women will be of great service to the Army."

Paralysis Fund Drive Hardly A Third Complete In County

Paralysis fund drive in Martin County is still in its early stages, and it is still believed that the goal will be reached. Martin County reported three cases of infantile paralysis last year. Well over a thousand dollars was spent by the Infantile Paralysis Foundation in nursing care of the little victims. All expenses have been met and the money now being raised will be used in advancing research work and as a reserve for meeting future emergencies.

Chairman Wynne is anxious to complete the drive this week, and the leaders and school children are earnestly asked to do all they can to push the county over the top by that time. In Williamston, the Junior Woman's Club will sell lapels Saturday, and in other towns and communities school children will handle the lapel sales the same day.

Prominent Citizen Of County Died Monday

\$6,600 QUOTA
Assigned a quota of \$6,600.00 for the 1945 Red Cross War Fund the Martin County Chapter is making tentative plans to meet the solemn obligation the early part of March. V. J. Spivey was named chairman of the special drive at a meeting of county and district Red Cross representatives here last week-end. The Martin County Chapter includes Jamesville, Williams, Griffins, Bear Grass and Williamston Townships. The other five townships are in the Robersonville Chapter.

No definite date for launching the campaign has been fixed, but it is thought that the drive will get underway about the 5th of March.

Williamston Youth Missing in Belgium

T/S John Foster VanLandingham, Williamston youth, has been missing in Belgium since January 4, his mother, Mrs. Emily D. VanLandingham, was advised by the War Department here last Saturday morning.

The young man entered the service December 15, 1942, and had been overseas since last June. He was in the field artillery until the early part of last December when he was transferred to the infantry. In his last letter to his mother on December 30th he stated he was getting along all right, but did not like the transfer. He was 23 years old last December 14th.

Pvt. Wm. B. Partin In Army Hospital

Dictating a letter to his wife here under date of January 6, Pvt. William B. Partin, who was wounded in action on the Western Front in Belgium last December 30, stated that he was getting along very well in an Army hospital somewhere in England. He was wounded in the left shoulder and arm, but he assured his wife that the wounds were not serious.

Former representative here for the Royal Baking Company, Raleigh, Pvt. Partin is left handed, making it necessary for him to have someone else write the recent letter to Mrs. Partin.

MISSING IN ACTION

Pfc. Clifton B. Moore has been missing in action since the Western Front in Belgium.

by his mother, Mrs. Lucy P. Perry, RFD 3, Jamesville. No details could be learned immediately.

TOWN - FARM IN WARTIME

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

"Essential" and "Critical" Draft Guides
The guides set up by the War Manpower Commission for Selective Service in inducting men in the 26 through 29 age group make a nice difference between the "essential" industrial employment and that which is considered as "critical" to the war production program. Most smaller communities (excepting mining and specialized manufacturing towns) which are closely related to their agricultural areas, will find that most of the men in the affected age group fall in the category of "essential" employment when they work in such fields as the following:

Agricultural Services: Commercial poultry hatcheries, seed processing, initial processing services of threshing, cleaning, shelling, curing and the like, farm repair and maintenance services, farm product assembly services, custom grist milling. No "critical" employment is listed under the WMC guide for agricultural services. The production of packaging materials for shipping and preserving essential products is also listed as an essential class of employment.

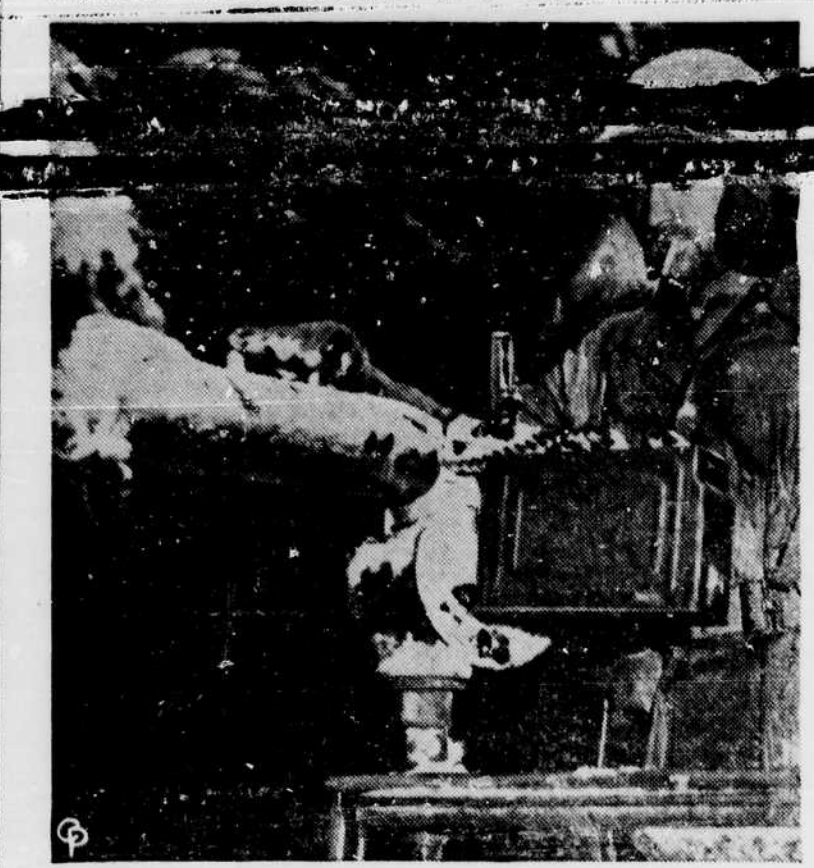
In the category of "critical" employment, as it may affect the draft status of citizens of non-industrial smaller towns, is listed such work as the repair of automobiles, busses, trucks, tractors and farm equipment. However, it is intended that in the category of repair services consideration be given only to individuals qualified to render all-round repair services on the types of equipment included in the essential list. Types of repair service other than the above are deemed "essential."

In the field of health and welfare services the critical classification is applied to physicians, surgeons, dentists, oculists, osteopaths, sanitary engineers, veterinarians engaged in farm livestock treatment, pharmaceutical services, hospitals, nursing services, and institutional care. Into the "essential" class go mortuary services, church activities, accident and fire prevention services. Only educational service considered critical is the United States Maritime Service Training Program; most others are listed as essential services.

In the forestry and lumbering fields the only critical classifications are those of timber tracts and logging camps, cutting of pulpwood, wood for tanning extract, sawmills, veneer and planing and plywood mills.

Substantially, the guide system set up by WMC, which is in accordance with the directive to Selective Service (Continued on page six)

SO YOU THINK IT'S COLD HERE



IF YOU THINK you've had reason to complain of the cold, take a look at Pvt. Charles Preston, Nicholasville, Ky., as he cleans the snow from his machine gun mounted on his jeep somewhere in Belgium. That metal gets so cold you can't touch it with your hand without serious consequences. This is an official Signal Corps Radiotelephoto. (International)

Farmer Greeted Robber With Load of Bird Shot

Rod Rodgers Taken Into Custody Later By County Officers
Farmer Charles Pate Caught Man Coming Out of His Home in Williams

A nagging series of thefts and robberies reported in and near here during recent months was believed to have been abruptly stopped last Sunday afternoon about 4 o'clock when Farmer Chas. Pate caught "Rod" Rodgers coming out of his (Pate's) home over in Williams Township and fired a load of bird shot into the intruder's legs. Instead of stopping him, the shot pushed Rodgers into high gear and he left the country in strides so broad that officers could hardly maintain the trail from one track to the next.

Farmer Pate did not know the intruder, but other parties saw Rodgers in that community earlier in the afternoon and officers, Sheriff C. B. Roebuck and Patrolman W. E. Saunders, picked up the clue and arrested Rodgers about two hours later at his home near Skewarkey.

Troubled by prowlers over a period of months, Farmer Pate last Sunday did not accompany his family to church but took a stand in one of his outbuildings. Rodgers slipped into the house and when he started out with ten pounds of sugar, a pair of overalls and a few other items, Pate called to him to halt. Rodgers said nothing but started fumbling around his pockets. Pate was quoted as saying that he thought Rodgers was feeling for a gun and he fired the load of bird shot from a point about 50 or 60 yards away. The farmer then told Rodgers to halt or he would shoot him with a load of buck shot. Rodgers depended on speed and went away before a second shot could be fired, leaving the sugar and overalls.

When he was arrested and the officers found the shot in his legs, they were certain they had the right man. However, Rodgers maintained that he had walked down the railroad toward Jamesville and that someone shot him while he was sitting on the creek trestle.

Rodgers is said to be a good workaholic but that he has "taken" ways. He has been in the courts for alleged thefts. No hearing has been scheduled in the case, as far as it could be learned late yesterday afternoon.

Former Local Boy Is Now Serving In Pacific Area
Seaman 1/c Charlie Gilbert Mobley, son of Mrs. Bettie Mobley Lilley, of Williamston and Plymouth, recently notified his wife that he is now serving somewhere in the Pacific. The young man entered the Navy last May 26, received his basic training at Camp Peary, attended a four weeks special course at Camp Shelton, Va., and spent nine weeks at the armed guard center, New York, before being shipped out last November 14th.

German People Are Fleeing From Berlin

Russians Less Than 150 Miles of Capital; Big Drive in West Is Predicted
Late reports coming through Sweden and yet unconfirmed declare that civilians and quite a few of the high ranking authorities are fleeing from Berlin as the Russians continue their great five-prong offensive from the East. Hitler, believed to have been idle in the military affairs of Germany for some time, is being taken from the "cedar chest" to boost his countrymen's morale, the report adding that he is leaving for the Eastern Front presumably to direct the defense of the Fatherland along the Oder River.

Adolf will have to hurry if he is to reach the Oder ahead of the Russians, late reports stating that General Konev's Red Army has the river defenses under fire and that the Russians are now within 150 miles of Berlin. German morale is now believed facing the supreme test. Never before has a great war been fought on German soil and the German people are about to crack under the new experience. They were told back yonder that they must kill and murder the Russians to save the Fatherland. Now, the Russians, remembering the brutal slaughter in more than 100 of their big cities and thousands of towns, are marching toward Berlin.

The first few days of the Russian drive have not materially weakened the Germans in manpower, one report stating that hardly half as many prisoners were taken in the latest campaign as had been taken in previous offensives. Less than 25,000 prisoners were taken in the first few days of the drive, but the counted dead numbered around 60,000. It is believed that the Germans withdrew, hastily to be sure, to the Oder River where an all-out defense is likely. Some observers think the Germans will offer a stubborn defense along that line and then center their striking power for offensives in the West. This line of reasoning runs counter to much of the optimism expressed at the present time. However, others point out that German morale is at a new low point, that Germany is likely to crack within even before the Allies deliver the all-out military blow.

Brother Of Local Resident Wounded

S/Sgt. Andrew Lewis Morris is in an Army hospital somewhere in France recovering from wounds received on the Western Front in Belgium, his sister, Mrs. C. R. Whitaker, 306 W. Main Street, Williamston, was advised last week-end. He was a paratrooper.

The young man's mother, Mrs. A. J. Morris, of Richmond, received a telegram from the War Department on January 14, stating that he had been killed in action on December 20. Letters received direct from the young man under date of December 28 and 29th stated that he was in the hospital recovering from wounds, that he had received the Purple Heart and that he had been recommended for the Silver Star. The direct information shows the death announcement was made in error. Sgt. Morris, formerly of Ahoskie and Woodville, wears the Bronze Star for service in the invasion of France on D-Day.

Sgt. Bonnie Taylor Wounded in Action

T/Sgt. Bonnie M. Taylor was slightly wounded in action in Germany on January 3, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. K. Taylor, RFD 2, Williamston, were advised by the War Department last Friday afternoon.

Volunteering his services in October, 1940, Sgt. Taylor was with the Rangers. He has been overseas since November, 1943, and while he talks little about the war, it is known that he has seen much action. He was in the first group of American troops to land in France last June. Twenty-four years old next month, the young man attended school at Bear Grass and farmed until he volunteered for service more than four years ago.

While most of them are being assigned to industrial plants, quite a few German prisoners from the local Prisoner of War camp are being employed on farms in this county.

THE RECORD SPEAKS . . .

After breaking into the accident record columns during the second week of the current year, motorists on Martin County highways last week held the line and scored a perfect safety record; that is, as far as reports reaching the highway patrol show. The record to date is not so bad, and by exercising just a little more care and discretion, motorists can materially hold the record to the present figures.

3rd Week Comparison			
Accidents In'd Killed Dam'ge			
1945	0	0	\$ 000
1944	0	0	0 000
Comparison To Date			
1945	2	1	\$ 150
1944	1	0	1 500

According to reports reaching here this week, "General" Herbert (Skippy) Cowen and Lawrence Lindsley, Jr., met by chance in far-away Calcutta, India, recently. It was a joyous meeting, the boys learning that they were stationed hardly four miles apart.

PRISON LABOR

According to reliable information gained this week, 463 prisoners were assigned to farm jobs in the county last month. They worked a total of approximately 3,500 hours cutting wood for tobacco curing barns, shrubbing and gathering corn. The labor cost the farmers approximately \$850. No prisoners have been used to cut wood for commercial use.

Eighty-three Tires Allotted By Board

Eighty-three tires—77 for cars and six for trucks—were allotted by the Martin County War Price and Rationing Board last Friday night.

Certificates for the purchase of Grade I tires were issued to the following:
W. Robert Everett, Hyman Clark, B. S. Courtney, Woolard Furniture Co., R. L. Coburn, Velma Bailey, Raleigh Lilley, Geo. W. Wynne, H. W. Modlin, J. T. Thompson, S. J. Lilley, Richard D. Jones, Noah Boston, Kader Lilley, Matthew Cottan, W. I. Watkins, J. H. Morring, Nathaniel Coltrian, A. R. White, Willis Williams, L. C. Brown, Dr. J. S. Rhodes, Royal Gurganus, Standard Fertilizer Co., W. W. Waters, J. H. Hopkins, Geo. C. James, Henry Haislip, James Bailey, Adrow Smith, Mary Slade, H. M. Peel, W. L. Taylor, Octavius Barber, F. W. McDaniels, J. D. Etheridge, Frank Bell, J. Ernie Gardner, C. P. Hopkins, Mrs. W. Henry Gray, Mrs. W. R. L. Purvis, G. A. Wetherington, Roy Martin, Cortez Bowen, Ernest Harrison, Simon Lilley, Carl R. Wynne, Clayton Revels, Luther Lee Whitfield, C. D. Bullock, W. B. Peel, J. D. Eids, H. C. Roberson, A. F. Coltrian, E. D. Mizelle, Willie Long, Sam Moore, Irving G. Roberson, White and Everett.