

Liquor Sales in County Pass \$2,000,000 Mark

Total of \$2,087,845.00 Is Spent For Liquor Since Stores Opened

Sales Last Quarter Highest on Record For That Period Of The Year

Legal liquor sales in Martin County poured over the two million-dollar mark during the first quarter of this year when \$1,159,844.40 was taken in by the four ABC stores to boost the total to \$2,087,845.00. The sales last quarter were \$38,884.25 larger than they were in the corresponding period of 1944 and the third largest recorded for any quarter since the stores were opened in July, 1935. In less than ten years about as much was spent for legal liquor, not to mention the white lightning kind, beer and wines, as farmers received for their crops in any one normal year during the period. The sales during the period and for the last quarter especially offer the people of this county a challenge to meet the current war bond quota. One has not to be for or against liquor to recognize a great lurking danger. Up until last Saturday approximately \$238,000 had been invested in war bonds by Martin County people. Go back to the first three months of this year and it is found that just about half that amount was spent for liquor. The facts will not be very well accepted out on the wide expanses of the Pacific and the dotted islands in that theater where young men are offering their lives while the people back home are spending such tremendous amounts for liquor and investing, after earnest pleading and begging, so little in war bonds.

When illicit liquor sales are considered along with the money spent for beers and wines and rum, the picture is even darker, for estimates place the money spent for intoxicating beverages outside the four legal stores at between one-fourth and one-half the amount handled after the legal fashion.

It is possible that liquor price advances account for some of the startling increase in sales, but there is every indication that rationing was indeed liberal.

The large sales in the first months of this year follow record expenditures for liquor reported in the preceding quarter when the four stores reported a gross income of \$172,525.25. Only in one other quarter have sales been greater, the stores reporting a gross income of \$137,476.80 in the last three months of 1942.

A review of the audit just recently released for the months of January, February and March of this year, shows that of the \$115,984.40 sales \$87,730.08 was sent to distilleries in other states. Operating expenses were placed at \$4,231.14, leaving a net profit of \$25,499.59 less \$80.99 for deductions from income. Direct store expenses were listed as follows: salaries and wages, \$2,594; rent, \$306; supplies, \$1,643; heat, water and lights, \$102.67; cash under, \$111.10; unclassified, \$12.00. Administrative and general expenses were placed at \$1,311.14—stationery and office supplies, \$315.43; salaries, warehouse, office and administrative, \$525.00; insurance, \$176.79; telephone and telegraph, \$21.74; heat, water and lights, 20 cents; travel and hotel, \$30.60; audit and legal, \$67.50; drayage, \$169.73, and unclassified, \$4.25.

The system assets were placed at \$78,345.11, including \$3,505.89 in cash, \$74,642.54 in inventories, and \$2,441.22 in fixed assets less \$2,244.52 reserve for depreciation. Liabilities were listed as follows: due distillers, \$11,365.43; accrued taxes, \$3,202.80; withholding taxes, \$260.80; due county and towns: Martin County, \$29,839.66; town of Williamston, \$3,907.18; town of Robersonville, \$2,033.44; town of Oak City, \$777.87; town of Jamesville, \$741.43; reserve for law enforcement, \$14,216.50, and surplus, \$12,000.00.

Profits for the first quarters were apportioned as follows: State of North Carolina, \$11,792.60; Martin County, \$9,825.12; reserve for law enforcement, \$1,364.60; town of Williamston, \$1,292.00; town of Robersonville, \$614.07; town of Oak City, \$289.84, and town of Jamesville, \$260.37.

A comparison of profits for the first three months of this year and the corresponding period in 1944

Infant Dies In Rocky Mount Hospital Monday

Robert Earl, one-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Beach of Cross Roads Township, died in a Rocky Mount hospital last Monday afternoon following a short illness of colitis.

Funeral services were conducted at the home last Tuesday afternoon by Rev. D. W. Davis. Interment was in the Bower Cemetery in Bear Grass Township.

STUDYING BUDGET

Meeting here this morning at 9:30 o'clock, Martin County's commissioners are giving budget figures serious study for the new fiscal year. A reduction in the rate, according to preliminary estimates, is just about out of the question and the authorities will possibly do well to hold it to its present figure of \$1.10 per \$100 property valuation.

There are slight increases in the budget, but there is to meet increasing costs, and the property valuation increases, considerably less than expected, will hardly offset them.

Von Ribbentrop Is Taken in Germany By British Agents

Six Thousand Tons of Bombs Daily Are Promised The Japs Beginning Soon

Germany's ace diplomat, Von Ribbentrop, was captured this week by British agents in Hamburg, the arrest accounting for all of the top Nazi leaders with the possible exception of one Adolf Hitler, whose fate is not yet definitely known. Ribbentrop, the man who forced one country after another to yield to the Nazi yoke, is wanted by at least ten countries. Going under an assumed name, the man was captured in a cheap boarding house in Hamburg and was definitely identified. He had a vial of poison on him, but the first reports of his arrest indicated that he had no anxious intention of ending his life. He declared that he was waiting for Allied hatred to cool, that he had planned to surrender later when he thought a fair trial would be possible. His sister was later arrested.

Allied forces are rapidly restoring order in Europe, and quite a few local boys are seeing the sight in helping handle the restoration job. Writing a short time ago, Billy Biggs says he is seeing Europe in a jeep. The young man led a convoy moving thousands of liberated Italians out of Germany to their homeland. "The Italians could not do enough for us when we moved into Italy with their relatives and friends," the young man said, adding that he was looking forward to a similar trip into France.

On the Pacific side, the tempo of the war is gradually and steadily increasing. Tokyo says that air power has already started arriving from the European area and is now being based in the Philippines and other areas for an attack on Japan.

According to reports coming out of Washington, the Pacific war is almost certain to take one of two courses. American military authorities are said to believe that Japan may possibly surrender in ninety days, that if she doesn't then the United States may choose to wage a long war of attrition and starvation rather than launch an immediate frontal assault. Military preparations are being advanced for a long war of attrition. The Japs have been notified that beginning the first of next month at least 6,000 tons of bombs will fall every day for a year on their factories and lands.

Japan's Premier Suzuki said a short time ago that the battle for Okinawa would just about settle the war. Now, he admits the battle is lost, but that the defeat will not force his resignation and that the Japs, including civilians, would fight to the death. The last main defense on Okinawa has been taken by the Americans and the Japs are now reported to be surrendering in numbers, and the end of the fight is expected shortly. Already more than 10 air fields are in use by American planes.

The Australians, landing on North

Mrs. S. Whitehurst Died Last Thursday

Mrs. Lula B. Whitehurst, member of a prominent Pitt County family, died at her home in Bethel last Thursday night after a brief illness.

Mrs. Whitehurst was 79 years old and the wife of the late Samuel Clayton Whitehurst, and the daughter of the late B. L. T. Barnhill and Mrs. Barnhill. Funeral services were conducted in the Bethel Methodist Church last Saturday afternoon.

Surviving are four sons, L. J. Whitehurst of Bethel, L. A. Whitehurst of Greenville, S. C. Whitehurst of Bethel and George Whitehurst of Williamston; Mrs. J. J. Marlow of Wilmington, Calif., and Martha Whitehurst of Bethel. Two sisters, Mrs. Nettie Barnhill of Miami and Mrs. Maude Ward of Norfolk also survive.

Eleven Marriages In Martin County During Past Month

Issuance Is One of Smallest Reported for May in Ten Years

Eleven marriage licenses were issued by Register of Deeds J. Sam Getsinger in this county last month, the issuance being one of the smallest reported for May in ten years. Five years ago there were only six licenses issued, but with that exception the bureau reported business from fair to good since the depression years when the issuance dropped to six for May, 1932.

The eleven licenses last month were issued five to white and six to colored couples, as follows:

White
Jay Eddie Keel and Odessa Kirkman, both of Pitt County.
John Raymond Roberson and Elizabeth Peele Bailey, both of Williamston.

Colored
Joseph C. Olschner, of Nashville, Tenn., and Lucy Evelyn Lilley, of Williamston.
Pvt. Evan Franklin Moyer, of Reading, Pa., and Williamston, and Kathleen Gurganus, of Williamston.

Robert T. Taylor and Eris Delores Stallings, both of Williamston.

Colored
James Biggs, Jr., and Mary Lee Wiggins, both of Williamston.
Cecil Ernul and Nettie Brown, both of Williamston.

George Hayes and Vinie Smith, both of Williamston.

Oscar Cherry, RFD 1, Bethel, and Mattie Evelyn Lynch, of Oak City.
James E. Purvis and Allie Mae Moore, both of Williamston.

William James Morris, of Camp Lejeune, and Orlando, Fla., and Mary Vivian Harris, of Williamston.

Goes To Rescue Of Men Near Bastogne

Cpl. Joe E. Hudgins, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hudgins who live on the Sherrod farm near Hamilton, and two other youths played a prominent part in getting aid to American troops trapped at Bastogne. Hudgins and his companions, one a classmate in high school, were dropmasters in Troop Carrier C-47's which flew in through a heavy barrage of flak and ground fire to parachute supplies and relieve the encircled American garrison and enable the troops to thwart von Rundstedt's all-out counter-offensive. They were charged with the responsibility of sending down the vital supplies to the right place.

Cpl. Hudgins was recently awarded the Air Medal for his meritorious conduct during similar air supply missions in the invasion of France and Holland. He has been overseas about seventeen months.

Local Youth Awarded Combat Infantry Badge

With the 103rd (Cactus) Division of the Seventh Army—Pfc. Simon C. Griffin of Williamston, North Carolina, was recently awarded the Combat Infantry Badge for outstanding performance of duty with the 103rd Infantry Division in ground combat against the enemy.

Undego Major Operations
Mrs. Edith Ayers Martin and Sam H. Mobley are getting along very well following major operations in the local hospital this week.

IN THE ARMY

In reporting an induction call earlier this month, it was stated that Luther Hugh G. Hardison and Joseph Alexander Martin, both of Jamesville, did not answer. It was known at the time that those two young men owning those names were already in the service, but since there are duplicates, the facts were reported as they appeared.

Checking the report in more detail, it was learned from the records, that both men entered the service one day and were discharged the next. However, the discharges were granted that the men might volunteer for other branches of the service, and they just did not report their action. Hardison is a lieutenant and Martin is a staff sergeant in the service now.

O. S. Anderson, Jr. Awarded Air Medal

Headquarters, Third Air Division, England—Not satisfied with supervising the supply of ammunition for B-17 Flying Fortresses from an Eighth Air Force divisional headquarters, Major Oscar S. Anderson, 27, of Williamston, N. C., participated in a number of bombing attacks to observe the functioning of ordnance equipment in the air and has been awarded the Air Medal for "meritorious achievement."

Major Anderson, recently awarded the Air Medal, flew in heavy bombardment missions in the air offensive against such targets as the oil plants at Nuremberg and Neuberg, the tank factories at Plauen, and the marshalling yards at Aussig. The B-17 bombing attacks which pulverized these targets contributed to the ultimate defeat of Germany.

The citation, accompanying the award, stated in part, "The courage, coolness, and skill displayed by Major Anderson on these occasions reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States."

Major Anderson serves as an assistant to the director of the ordnance section at the headquarters of Major General E. E. Partridge's Third Air Division, the division which has received a Distinguished Unit Citation for its England-Africa shuttle bombing of Messerschmitt plants at Regensburg, Germany. The young major was also recently awarded the Bronze Star Medal.

Major Anderson served as an assistant superintendent for the Standard Fertilizer Company, of Williamston, prior to his entry into the armed forces in August, 1941. His home address was 214 Main Street, Williamston.

SAW WAR'S END

T/5 Hattie E. Bass, the young woman who saw history made in the little red schoolhouse at Rheims, France, last May 6, went with General Eisenhower's staff to witness the signing of the German surrender. Miss Bass' father, L. G. Bass, is a former resident of Martin County and is a half brother to Mrs. Joe L. Halship of the Hassell community. Her parents are now living in Wilmington.

In a recent letter she said: "Although there was work to be done, no one was in a working mood, and spent most of the day watching the Russians and Germans coming in and out of the building. I even saw the people who signed the surrender and was right here when it all happened."

Twelve Colored Men Reported For Final Induction Thursday

Group Includes Only One Married Man and Four Farmers

Twelve Martin County colored men were called yesterday to report for final induction into the armed services, the call being about normal.

Only one man in the group was listed as being married and he is reported without children. Four of the twelve were listed as farmers. With one exception, the call included youths in their teen ages. About half of them just recently attained their eighteenth birthdays, five were nineteen years old just recently and one is 27.

Names of those called, their registration and last-given addresses follow:

Arthur McIntyre, Williamston.
Quinton Durward Jones, Parmele.
Sammy Thomas Roberson, RFD 1, Robersonville and Stokes.
James Edward Stokes, Williams- ton.

Berlie Baker, Williamston.
James Willis Williams, RFD 2, Williamston and Norfolk.
Joe Walter Williams, RFD 2, Williamston.

Walter Anderson, Williamston.
Essell James, RFD 1, Jamesville.
Louis Daniel Ormond, Williams- ton.

James Robert Lee Jenkins, RFD 2, Robersonville.

Even before the group left for final induction, a call had been issued by the draft board, directing a fair-sized number of colored men to report for pre-induction examinations next Monday.

A goodly number of white men reported for pre-induction examinations on Tuesday of last week, and a fair-sized number will be called to report for final induction about week after next.

Funeral Wednesday For Sylvester Lilley

Funeral services were conducted at the home in Griffins Township last Wednesday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock for Mr. Sylvester B. Lilley, prominent farmer-business man, who died suddenly near here last Tuesday morning. Rev. D. W. Davis and Rev. W. B. Harrington officiated, and interment followed in the Lilley family cemetery, not far from the home. The last rites were attended by a large crowd, including business associates and friends from all parts of the county.

Mr. Lilley was 64 years old last November 11, and was born in Griffins Township, the son of the late Kader and Mary Griffin Lilley. While he had not enjoyed the best of health for several weeks or more, his condition was not considered serious at any time. He, with J. C. Norris, local contractor, was inspecting a tobacco barn furnace near Dardens Tuesday morning, and they were on their way to Williamston when he was taken critically ill, dying a few minutes later and before medical aid could be rendered.

Besides his widow, the former Miss Sarah Rogerson, he is survived by three sons, Elmo, Roland and Ralph; two brothers, Messrs. J. Dawson and J. Eason-Lilley, and two sisters, Mrs. Garland Perry and Mrs. Jno. W. Manning, all of this county.

Farewell Sermon

Rev. E. C. Wilkie will preach his farewell sermon in the Everetts Baptist Church at 8:30 p. m.

Real Property Values in Martin County

The ban on building construction is again reflected in Martin County real property values, a comparison for the years 1944 and 1945 showing little change in the figures, according to information released a few days ago by M. Luther Peel, county tax supervisor. Two townships reported losses of a few hundred dollars each, but most of the districts reported slight gains. As a whole, the building program was virtually at a standstill, one report stating that the small gains were traceable to repairs rather than to new building construction. The new construction, valued at \$63,750, was about equally divided, the white owners reporting an increase of \$34,554 and the colored owners showing a gain of \$29,196. The gain in real property values is not of sufficient size to influence a change in the tax rate, and if any decrease in the rate structure is to be had it will have to be based on lower budget figures. The figures below, showing a comparison of real property values for the years 1944 and 1945, gains and losses and percentage variations, are listed by townships for white and colored owners.

	White				Colored			
	1944	1945	Gain	Pct.	1944	1945	Gain	Pct.
Jamesville	\$ 796,264	\$ 795,820	\$ 444*	00.0	\$ 113,276	\$ 113,864	\$ 588	00.5
Williams	247,614	254,906	7,292	02.9	34,946	36,780	1,834	05.3
Griffins	431,888	437,828	5,940	01.3	10,245	11,395	1,150	11.2
Bear Grass	442,162	446,292	4,130	00.9	18,843	19,275	432	02.3
Williamston	1,936,962	1,942,147	5,185	00.2	159,565	173,297	13,732	08.6
Cross Roads	452,709	452,038	671*	00.0	28,071	24,375	3,696*	*13.1
Robersonville	1,471,758	1,475,307	3,549	00.2	117,526	129,480	11,954	10.1
Poplar Point	264,642	265,722	1,080	00.4	5,670	5,670	000	00.0
Hamilton	693,482	694,152	670	00.0	73,514	76,014	2,500	03.4
Goose Nest	855,216	863,039	7,823	00.9	168,184	168,886	702	04.0
	\$ 7,592,697	\$ 7,627,251	\$ 34,554	00.4	\$ 729,840	\$ 759,036	\$ 29,196	04.0

*—Denotes decrease.

Superior Court Opens Short Term June 18th

HIS FIRST LETTER

The first letter written personally by Pvt. George James, Jr., since he was wounded on April 10, 1945, was received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. James, RFD, Robersonville, this week.

The letter stated that he was recovering rapidly from the wounds and that he expected to be home within thirty days. The cast covering his arm has been removed, and twenty-seven stitches were taken to sew up wounds on his chest and stomach.

Judge Calvin Smith Calls Eleven Cases In County's Court

Number of Cases Holds Up But Finances Now In Summer Slump

Judge J. C. Smith called eleven cases in the Martin County Recorder's Court last Monday and finished his work in about two hours. Only a fair-sized crowd attended the session, and the proceedings attracted very little attention.

While the number of cases continues to hold up, the summer slump has struck the court revenue. Fines were rather limited, but costs were only slightly below normal, Clerk L. B. Wynne said.

Proceedings: A \$25 cash bond was ordered forfeited when Seymour Portnoff, charged with speeding, failed to appear in open court.

The case charging Burt Scott with bastardy was continued until the first Monday in July.

Entering no plea, Herman Wilson, charged with drunk driving, was adjudged guilty. Judgment was continued under prayer for judgment.

Mayo Andrews, charged with violating the health laws, pleaded guilty and was sentenced to the roads for thirty days. The road sentence was suspended upon the payment of a \$10 fine and the costs, and on further condition that he comply with certain health law requirements.

Pleading not guilty in the case charging him with allowing an unlicensed driver to operate a motor vehicle, James Kelly Moore was adjudged guilty. He was fined \$10 and taxed with the costs.

Pleading guilty of operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license, Thomas Raymond Gibson was fined \$10 and required to pay the court costs.

Curtis Willis, pleading guilty, was fined \$15, taxed with the cost and had his license revoked for ten days for speeding on the highways.

Charged with larceny and receiving, Edgar Holmes was found not guilty. Herman Johnson, a second defendant in the case, was adjudged guilty, and judgment was suspended by the court.

Charged with assaulting a female, Prim Sherrod pleaded guilty and was sentenced to the roads for four months. All but the first day of the road sentence was suspended upon the payment of a \$20 fine and cost, and on the condition that he is not to mistreat his wife in anyway during the one-year suspension period.

Charged with non-support, Ervin Ross was adjudged guilty over his plea of innocence and was sentenced to the roads for six months. The sentence was suspended for two years upon the payment of the case costs and the payment of \$25 now and \$20 a month for the next two years for the benefit of his wife and children. He is to reappear at the end of that time for further judgment.

In the civil case of J. T. James against Chas. H. Jenkins and Company, the defendant asked for a jury trial and the case was automatically placed on the superior court docket.

Judge Smith and Solicitor Roberson will have a holiday next Monday when the superior court will convene for the trial of both criminal and civil cases for a week.

Colon R. Harrison, Five Months Old, Dies Tuesday

Colon Gray Harrison, five months old, died en route to a local doctor's office last Tuesday evening about 7 o'clock. He had been undergoing treatment in a Washington hospital and was thought to be improving until he was taken worse suddenly Tuesday and died before medical aid could be rendered.

Funeral services were conducted Wednesday afternoon at the home of his parents, Mr. Roland Harrison and wife, the former Miss Marie Martin, in Bear Grass Township. Interment was in the Mobley Cemetery in Bear Grass Township.

Expecting Action on Two Cases Just Back From High Tribunal

Twelve Criminal Cases Have Been Placed on Docket for Trial and Consideration

With Judge Q. K. Nimocks of Fayetteville scheduled to preside, the Martin County Superior Court opens a one week term for the trial of both criminal and civil cases here next Monday. Twelve cases have been placed on the criminal docket for trial or consideration, but as far as it could be learned today no civil calendar has been prepared.

Newly appointed to succeed Donnell Gilliam as solicitor, George M. Fountain, young Tarboro attorney, will prosecute the docket. The young man has served as solicitor in only one or two courts, and makes his first appearance here in that capacity next Monday.

Most of the cases on the criminal docket were sent up from the county recorder's court, several of them going there when the defendants called for jury trials.

The case against Herman Manning and Joe Martin, convicted and sentenced to two years in prison by Judge Leo Carr at the last September term for allegedly aiding and abetting in an illegal operation, is expected to come up for final review. At the trial last September, Martin pleaded guilty and Manning was adjudged guilty. They appealed to the State Supreme Court and were denied a new trial. The decision of the state court was reached before last March, but it did not clear official channels in time for the case to come up for final review at the regular term held that month.

The decision has been certified and ordinarily action, directing the defendants to start their sentences, would have followed in due course. However, the case has its implications and apparently justice was trampled in the dust. There is some doubt as to how the case will be handled in this county.

While the two defendants were convicted and sentenced in this county for aiding and abetting in the crime that allegedly resulted in the death of Beulah Brown, the principal in the case was in some way not yet fully explained adjudged not guilty. When the principal, Dr. Heck Person, of Wayne County, was placed on trial for having performed the operation, several of the principal witnesses were never called. As far as it could be learned here, the solicitor made no comment and offered no explanation. Legal opinion differs on the case as it stands now, some saying that the positive and negative of courthouse justice has clashed head-on, that it is hard to understand why the principal should go free and those aiding and abetting are convicted and sentenced to prison. Other legal opinion maintains that the peculiar situation as it relates to the principal cannot influence the case in this county, that those tried in this county had a fair trial according to the findings of the state court, that they committed a crime, a serious one against society, and that they should pay the penalty.

Even from this distance the case smells, and the public who still looks upon the courts as places of justice await developments from now on out.

Another decision was handed down by the state court and calls for a new trial in the case against Lucile Bowen Brown. It is understood that some error was found in the judge's charge to the jury, and that a new trial was granted on that count rather than on several other exceptions filed by defense counsel. Lucile Bowen Brown, a Washington County colored woman, home on visit from up north, was returning when she allegedly violated consolidated statute 60-136 governing the seating in public transportation vehicles. On July 14, 1944, the defendant was ordered to move back on a Carolina Trailways bus at Robersonville. She refused, and she was first charged in the county court with violating the "seating" law and using profane language. Adjudged guilty, she was fined \$25 and taxed with the cost. Appealing her case, she was tried in the superior court last September and Judge Leo Carr sustained the sentence after she had been adjudged guilty by jury. The decision

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Liberated, Local Youth Man Expected Home Soon

Liberated a little over a month ago after being held prisoner by the Germans, S/Sgt. R. J. Hardison is expected home this week-end or early next week. The local young man, an aerial gunner and crew chief of a B-24, talked with his mother, Mrs. Bessie Hardison, this week and stated that he would be home in a few days.