

Fiscal Year Budget Estimate Submitted For Martin County

Combined County Services And Schools Call for Over \$275,000 in Period

According to tentative budget figures, a total of \$275,159.08 will be needed to finance all of the county's agencies, including pensions and schools, for the fiscal year beginning July 1. The total for the coming fiscal year is \$26,260.15 larger than it was for the period ending on Saturday of this week, but despite the increased requirements, the county-wide rate has been reduced from \$1.10 to \$1.05 per \$100 assessed property valuation.

In addition to the five-cent reduction in the county-wide rate, Cross Roads Township property owners will have a reduction of 15 cents in their special taxes, the rate for roads having been reduced in that district from 65 to 50 cents. No other changes are anticipated in special tax levies, officials stating that poll-tax rates will remain the same.

The tentative budget figures are appearing in print today for inspection. At least twenty days must elapse before the estimate may be formally adopted. However, it isn't likely that a special meeting of the commissioners will be held, meaning that the budget figures and rate will not be formally adopted before the first Monday in August when the commissioners meet in regular session.

It was unofficially learned that a hearing has been scheduled for one of the department heads, that he will likely appear before the board next Monday. The health department proposes slight salary increases, but the appropriation was actually reduced by a few hundred dollars from the 1944-45 fiscal year figures. Of the \$275,159.08 the budget estimate allows for the operation and maintenance of all county agencies, including schools and debt services, \$162,239.08 is to be raised by public taxation. Last year the county-wide tax levy was \$164,537.93, indicating that while some departments actually call for larger appropriations, income from other sources will more than offset the increases.

The general county fund calls for \$84,307.00 for the new fiscal year as against \$76,384.00 for 1944-45. A gain of \$7,923 is shown in the poor fund appropriation. The health fund is being reduced from \$10,210 to \$9,850. County debt service drops from \$51,983.25 to \$40,597.94. Old age assistance jumps from \$7,920 to \$9,240, a gain of \$1,320, but while aid to the aged gained some over \$1,000 public welfare administration jumped from \$4,030.00 to \$4,770.00, an increase of \$740. An increase of \$600 was allowed for aid to dependent children, and the fund for the blind was increased from \$756 to \$934.64.

These funds for the new year call for a total of \$164,284.58 as against \$173,843.93 appropriated a year ago. It is estimated that \$93,908.58 will have to be raised by general taxation to support the above agencies for the new year as against \$98,811.93 appropriated a year ago.

The schools, it is estimated, will cost the county \$112,874.50 in the coming year as against \$86,055.00 a year ago. However, the increase in actual income to be raised from public taxation is only \$2,586.50. It is estimated that public taxation will raise \$68,312.50 as against an estimate of \$65,726.00 a year ago for the schools.

The budget estimate offers a brief review of the county's bonded indebtedness. As of June 30, 1944, the county owed \$585,100. During the year the figure was reduced to \$542,550, or a decrease in the county's public debt of \$42,550.

Will Discuss GI's Bill of Rights Here

Addressing members of the Martin County Veterans Service Committee, heads of various organizations and other interested citizens in the courthouse here this evening at 8 o'clock, R. C. Godwin, State veterans employment representative, will explain provisions of the G. I. Bill of Rights, its organization and functions.

The representative will also answer questions relative to the veterans' rights under the terms of the bill.

Among other things he will discuss are provisions for financing the veteran's expense in college, for placing veterans in employment either at new jobs or in their old positions.

The public is invited to attend and veterans are asked to be present.

Local Man Critically Ill In Raleigh Hospital

Mr. John R. Peeml, well-known local man and a prominent county citizen-farmer was early today reported critically ill in a Raleigh hospital where he was carried several weeks ago for treatment. He developed pneumonia earlier in the week, and was placed in an oxygen tent yesterday, later reports stating he was too weak to remain under it.

All members of the immediate family were called to Raleigh yesterday afternoon.

County Youth Fatally Wounded on Okinawa

BAPTIST PASTOR



Dr. Ira D. S. Knight enters upon his duties as pastor of the Williamston Memorial Baptist Church Sunday morning. A native of Virginia, the minister comes here from West Palm Beach, Florida.

Judge Calvin Smith Calls Five Cases In The County's Court

Small Crowd Attends Session Lasting Hardly More Than One Hour

Judge J. Calvin Smith called five cases in the Martin County Recorder's Court last Monday, the docket being an unusually small one considering the fact that the court had been idle since June 11 or while the superior tribunal was holding forth. While there was a slump on the crime front during the two weeks ending last Saturday, five cases have already been placed on the docket for trial next Monday, Clerk L. B. Wynne pointed out.

Solicitor Paul D. Roberson had an easy day last Monday, comparatively speaking. One defendant failed to answer when called, one case was continued for a defendant and three other defendants pleaded guilty, making prosecution unnecessary.

A very small crowd was present for the session which lasted hardly more than one hour, and very little interest was shown in the proceedings which follow:

The case charging Johnnie Latham with an assault on a female was not prosessed with leave. Latham had been called previously and officers have not been able to find him.

Pleading guilty in the case charging him with operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license, Ernest Rogers was fined \$15 and taxed with the cost. The court recommended that no license be issued the defendant for the next six months.

The case in which Ed Rawls stands charged with violating the liquor laws was continued until the first Monday in next September for the defendant.

John Wesley Brannon, charged with speeding on the highways, pleaded guilty, and he was fined \$15 and taxed with the cost.

Pleading guilty in the case in which he was charged with speeding on the highways, Dewey Hale VanLandingham was fined \$15 and taxed with the cost.

Paul Simpson Promoted To Rank Of Staff Sergeant

Fifth Air Force, Philippines — Joseph P. Simpson, 33, whose wife, Ethelyn, lives on Church street, has been promoted to technical sergeant with the 43rd Bombardment Group of the Fifth Air Force. Sgt. Simpson is an aerial gunner on one of the Ken's Men Liberator bombers in the Philippines.

Simpson graduated from Williamston High School. He was a general agent for the Security Life and Trust Company prior to entering the Army. He received his gunner's wings at the Harlingen, Texas, gunnery school. Sgt. Simpson was awarded the Air Medal on January 15, 1945, for meritorious service while participating in aerial flight against the enemy.

GENERAL HOLIDAY

Next Wednesday, July 4, will be observed as a general holiday with the exception of a few federal offices. No mail deliveries will be made in either the town or rural areas.

While the Fourth does not fall on publication day, The Enterprise will not print a paper on Tuesday because of delayed distribution in the rural areas. Recent postal regulations call for a complete change in the paper's mailing list, and the boys will be in the shop making those changes.

Pfc. David Hardison Dies On The Pacific Island 26th Of May

Was Fiftieth Martin County Man To Make Supreme Sacrifice In War to Date

Pfc. David Wilson Hardison, promising youth and one who was held in high esteem by all who knew him, died of wounds on Okinawa May 26, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lee D. Hardison, were advised in a special message from the War Department last Tuesday. No particulars were offered, but a letter of confirmation and other facts are expected shortly.

The young man, just 20 years old last February, was the fiftieth Martin County man to make the supreme sacrifice in the war to date. Sgt. Samuel Leo Andrews, the 49th county youth to lay down his life for his country, lives almost in sight of young Hardison's home.

The son of Lee D. and Fannie Hardison, he was born in Williams Township at the old Sheriff Hardison home place on February 25, 1925. He attended the Williamston schools and was graduated in 1941 at the age of sixteen. Following his graduation here he went to Norfolk and attended a business school, working in a store during odd hours, to help finance his education. Later the lad worked in the Navy Yard, returning home in 1943 to help relieve the labor shortage on the farm.

Entering the service on September 28 of last year, he spent a short time at Fort Bragg and then trained at Camp Wheeler a few months and after a short furlough home he went to Fort Ord, California. Leaving the States the latter part of February, the young man made a short stop at Hawaii and wrote from the Marianas on April 26, moving on to Okinawa a few days later.

In one of his last letters written on the bloody island for which a great price was paid, the young soldier stated he was in the thick of the fight, that since he was in it he was not as nervous as he was while moving into the war zone. He assured his parents that he would be all right and asked that they pray for him, and that he would pray for them.

David joined the Methodist Church at Holly Springs when he was quite young, and was regular in attendance upon its services, teaching a class in Sunday School for a few years. He was well spoken of wherever he went, and it was indeed evident that he placed a real value on the finer and nobler things in life.

Besides his parents, he is survived by two brothers, Henry Lee Hardison of South Norfolk, Sgt. John Ben Hardison who is now stationed at Presque Island, Maine, and three sisters, Mrs. J. R. Whitehurst of Portsmouth, Mrs. Harry Edgar Mobley, RFD 1, Robersonville, and Miss Sallie Martin Hardison, of the home.

Extent of Storm Varies by Sections

Damage caused by the storm last Monday night and early Tuesday morning was more severe in some parts of the county than others, according to reports trickling in during the past few days. Apparently Jamesville and Griffins had more rain and stronger winds than most other townships in the county. It was still too wet to plow in those districts yesterday, and tobacco in a goodly number of fields was said to have flopped. Some farmers in the county declare that as many as five leaves, on an average, were either blown from the tobacco stalk or broken.

Tobacco in some areas scalded in the hot sun following the more than three and one-half inches of rain, and most farmers are now rushing to harvest the crop.

Bible School Closes Very Successful Term Friday

Exercises, marking the close of a two weeks daily vacation Bible school term here, were held in the Baptist Church last Friday evening before a large audience. The program was unusually good and reflected much work on the part of the 25 teachers and more than 200 pupils.

Enrollment by churches was reported as follows: Baptist, 65; Christian, 60; Methodist, 21; Holiness, 14; Episcopalians, 12; Presbyterian, 8; West End Sunday School, 6, and Jewish, 1.

A free-will offering taken that evening amounted to \$85, and goes for world relief.

In bringing the school to a close, Miss Ethel Guest, principal, expressed her appreciation for the cooperation advanced by the pupils and patrons.

Dr. Ira D. S. Knight Beginning Pastorate For Baptists Sunday

Comes Here From West Palm Beach Where He Handled An Effective Work

Recently accepting a call, Dr. Ira D. S. Knight, for the past six years pastor of the large West Palm Beach Florida Baptist Church, will enter upon his new duties as pastor of the Williamston Memorial Baptist Church Sunday, preaching his first regular sermon that morning and to a union congregation that evening. He is succeeding Dr. W. R. Burrell who resigned a few weeks ago following two faithful and devoted pastorates here.

Dr. Knight comes to this community with full accreditation of this section of North Carolina. Although he has lived in West Palm Beach for the past five years and nine months where he served the First Baptist Church, he is a native of Virginia. A graduate of Richmond University, he was ordained in Leesburg, Va., and later received his honorary doctor's degree from that institution. For nearly nine years he was pastor in Norfolk, moving to Durham where he served as pastor for ten years before going to Florida. He is now being welcomed to the center of the circle of old pastorates.

After he was graduated from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., Dr. Knight was called to Glasgow, Ky., where he and Mrs. Knight were married. Commenting on the minister's able work in Florida, the Palm Beach Post, in a recent edition, said:

"Dr. Knight, during his six years here, has increased the church membership from 1464 to 1744, with total addition of 697. According to church records, there was a small debt on the parsonage and a few outstanding bills, totaling \$3,475. Today, total funds available are approximately \$28,000. A parking lot was purchased recently for \$3,000. Gifts reported to missions the year before he accepted the pastorate here amounted to \$5,220, in comparison with \$10,875 for the past year."

"Dr. Knight has been outstanding in the civic and cultural life of the community. He is past president of the Ministerial Association, and for three years he was a member of the executive committee of the Florida Baptist Convention.

"Equally prominent in the life of the community has been Mrs. Knight who is serving her second year as president of the Women's Missionary Society of the First Baptist Church, is teacher of the Ann Judson Bible Class, sponsor of the Friendship Training Union of the church, and is a member of the Music Study Club, and the Woman's Club. She also is a member of the State executive board of the Baptist Women's Missionary Union as chairman of the Florida Children's Home at Arcadia."

The minister will be welcomed to Williamston Sunday evening at a union service in his church. Dr. and Mrs. Knight are expected to arrive here tomorrow and will be at home in the parsonage on Church Street.

Carnival Ends A Week's Stud Here Saturday Night

The firemen's fun festival now being held on the West Church Street show grounds in Williamston is attracting large and well satisfied crowds every night this week and will come to a highly successful close Saturday at midnight.

Saturday will be the last day and the event will open at 1 P. M. and continue until midnight. A Children's Party will be staged for children tomorrow afternoon from 1 to 6 p. m. with free main gate admission and a special reduced admission price of 12 cents, tax included for any of the many big thrill rides.

Little Business Scheduled For Local Town Authorities

Meeting next Monday night, the local town commissioners will have very little and possibly no new business before them for consideration. Budget estimates are being prepared but they will not be ready in time for study at the meeting, it was learned.

WOUNDED

Pfc. William Vernon Roebuck, Martin County youth, was wounded in the leg on Okinawa early in June, according to a message received this week by his father, Mr. W. R. Roebuck, RFD 2, Williamston. Writing on June 12, the nineteen-year-old soldier said he was in a hospital, that he was getting along very well. Relatives have not been officially notified by the government.

Entering the service last September 28, he is the fifth Martin County young man known to have been wounded on Okinawa. He entered the service with Pfc. David Hardison who died of wounds on the Pacific island the 26th of May.

E Bond Sales Are Just \$44,325 Short of Goal

Campaign Extended To the Latter Part Of the Coming Week

Seven of Eleven Districts Go Over Top; Ask County To Help State Reach Goal

Purchasing at least \$17,318.75 worth since the last report was prepared, Martin citizens have pushed the county to within \$39,843.75 of the "E" bond quota. Seven townships, according to an incomplete report filed yesterday by Chairman D. V. Clayton, are now over the top. They are Jamesville, Bear Grass, Cross Roads, Robersonville, Poplar Point, Goose Nest and Hamilton, the latter squeezing by with a few hundred to spare a few days ago.

With one possible exception, the lagging districts have made much progress since the last report was submitted. Williams is just a little over \$1,000 short of its goal. Williamston added \$12,950.00 up until yesterday noon to boost its total to \$116,918.75, but it is some over \$40,000 from its goal. Chairman Clayton believes the township will make the grade now that the campaign has been extended into next week. Griffins added more than \$2,000 to its total this week, and it is still believed that the people there will measure up just as they have measured up in the past with the leaders. Purchasing a \$1,000 bond for \$750, Hamilton went over the top this week, leaving Williams, Griffins, Williamston and Hassell districts to show their colors, or to speak more frankly, to put up or shut up.

North Carolina is lagging by about ten million in its "E" bond wired and the State chairman urged County Chairman Clayton yesterday to push his sales to the quota and add, if possible, another \$60,000 to help care for the deficiency in other counties. If the lagging townships in this county come across, there will be about \$14,000 Chairman Clayton can "lend" to the State chairman. So far only three counties in the State have officially exceeded their quotas.

Martin County is just about \$40,000 short. This is the last report showing the strong and weak spots before the drive extension approaches its close. Study the facts and don't delay in supporting the final push.

The county treasurer this week invested \$19,980 in "E" series bonds, but the county had already exceeded its negotiable bond quota. So it's still the "E" bond goal the people are asked to reach without further delay.

According to a fairly complete report released by Chairman Clayton, the "E" bond sales up until noon yesterday stood, as follows:

Quota	Sales
Jamesville	\$ 11,250 \$ 16,200.00
Williams	7,300 6,093.75
Griffins	18,500 10,912.50
Bear Grass	13,000 13,725.00
Williamston	157,500 116,918.75
Cross Roads	11,300 12,337.50
Robersonville	111,300 116,118.75
Poplar Point	7,300 8,212.50
Hamilton	14,750 15,056.25
Hassell	7,500 2,362.50
Goose Nest	11,300 13,218.75
	\$371,000 \$331,156.25

Over Ten Million Messages Handled

Over 10,500,000 Expeditionary Force Messages have been handled by Western Union since June, 1942, between servicemen overseas and their friends and relatives at home, it was announced last night by Pauline Buckner, local telegraph manager. Of these only 2,900,000 EFM's were from the folks at home. Service people sent 2.6 to each one they received.

More than 400,000 EFM's were sent to members of the armed forces overseas in the first seven months the service was in effect in 1942, nearly 900,000 in 1943, and over a million in 1944. Around 100,000 a month are sent now. Messages from the servicemen to home jumped from 600,000 in 1942, to 3,200,000 in 1944, and are running about 300,000 a month now.

Justice Hassell Hears Four Cases In Court Recently

Justice J. L. Hassell heard four cases in his court here during the past few days. Jos. J. Boyle and John E. Haislip, here from the base in Edenton, were required to pay \$7 costs each in the case charging them with being drunk and disorderly.

Moses C. Taylor, drunk and down, was taxed with \$7.50 costs. Charged with disorderly conduct, Louene Bell was required to pay \$8.50 costs.

Operating a motor vehicle with improper brakes, Lawrence Wiggins was fined \$10 and taxed with \$6 costs.

SUBMITS STORY



Sgt. Ernie Lee Modlin, young Jamesville man who captured a German general and who was given the officer's personal effects, is submitting a story of the Eighty-Third Infantry Division. He is the son of Mr. Joe Gray Modlin, RFD 1, Jamesville.

Eleven White Men From County Are Called for Service

Nearly All the Inductees Are Young and Majority Of Them Off the Farm

Eleven Martin County white men, all in their teens except two, left last Tuesday for final induction into the Armed Forces. Only one in the group was married, and according to draft board records no children were left behind.

Seven of the eleven worked on the farm, but several of that number attended high school and were not classified as farmers. Five were eighteen years old or so long ago, four are nineteen, one is twenty and the eleventh one is 29 years of age.

The contingent was scheduled to leave the county at 8:10 o'clock that morning on a regular bus schedule, but there was some misunderstanding and the entire group left between 11 and 12 o'clock noon the same day.

Names and addresses of the young men leaving are as follows:

Marion Clyde Ward, RFD 2, Williamston.

Dallas Cortez Ayers, RFD 3, Williamston.

John David Lilley, Jr., RFD 2, Williamston.

Cecil Benjamin Whitehurst, RFD 2, Williamston.

Wilbur Eugene Cannon, RFD 1, Hogwood.

Jesse Gray Lilley, RFD 1, Williamston.

Jesse Herbert Rogers, RFD 3, Williamston.

Evan Beacham, RFD 1, Jamesville.

Thomas Earl Roberson, RFD 1, Williamston.

James Russell Lee, RFD 2, Williamston.

Dennis Warren, Robersonville.

Local Youth Discharged From The Army This Week

After serving a year, ten months and fourteen days in service, about 10 months of the time spent overseas, Jimmy C. Manning, Jr., was honorably discharged by the Army last Tuesday. The young man, suffering trench foot and a knee wound, returned home and will paint this summer. He plans to enter college next fall.

He wears three bronze battle stars and the European African Middle Eastern ribbons.

Used Car Dealers Must Have Authorization Number

Dealers in used cars, trucks and motorcycles must have authorization numbers by August 1. The Office of War Price and Rationing announces. Proper forms may be had at the office in this county; in the agricultural building.

IN HOSPITAL

Suffering a heart attack during the battle for Okinawa, Second Lieutenant Frank Everett returned to the States last Monday and is now undergoing treatment in a California hospital, his father, Mr. LeRoy Everett of Hamilton, has been advised. The young Marine has been overseas about two years, and was returned to this county in a hospital plane.

The message intimated that if his condition continued to improve he should be able to return home in about three weeks.

County Boy Submits Account of the 83rd Infantry Engineers

Highlights of Long Trip from Indiana to Junction with Russians on the Elbe

A member of Co. B, 308th Engineers, 83rd Division, Sgt. Ernie Lee Modlin, son of Mr. Joe Gray Modlin, RFD 1, Jamesville, submits an interesting story of his outfit from the time it was inactivated at Camp Atterbury, Indiana, until it met the Russians across the Elbe in Germany. While the young man had little to say about his individual exploits, it is known that he personally captured a German general, that he was given the enemy officer's personal effects which he sent home.

The first installment of the story follows:

USA-BRITAIN

The 83rd Division was reactivated August 15, 1942 at Camp Atterbury, Indiana under command of Major General (then Brigadier General) Frank W. Milburn, who now commands the XXI U. S. Corps. Training began in November, and progress was so rapid that the 83rd was ordered to Second Army maneuvers in Tennessee in July and August of 1943. Despite the fact it was the youngest division participating, the 83rd received prominent recognition from higher headquarters. After maneuvers, the Division went to Camp Breckinridge, Kentucky, where the men were given advanced training and primed for overseas duty. On April 6th, the 83rd embarked for New York for England under the command of Major General (then Brigadier General) Robert C. Mason. For two months the Division conducted intensive training in the Midlands and Northern Wales. Shortly after D-Day, the 83rd was transferred from the Third to the First Army and left Southampton for the Continent and combat.

NORMANDY

Leading elements of the Division landed at Omaha Beach on June 19th after lying offshore in rough channel weather for almost a week. The Division assembled in the vicinity of Briqueville, Normandy and then moved west to Carentan, where elements of the 101st Airborne were relieved on June 26th. The Carentan sector was heavily defended by crack Nazi SS, Panzer and paratroops. The initial offensive of the 83rd was launched July 4th and the final objective, the high ground in the vicinity of Periers, was reached a few weeks later. Hedgerow fighting has probably been the most difficult of the war. The Germans had four years to prepare defenses against a possible invasion and employed every known defense to stop the American advance. Hedgerows were zeroed in by enemy artillery, paths of machine gun cross-fire were set up and entrenchments were constructed not only behind but also under the hedgerows. Connecting trenches gave the enemy escape routes when their positions were overrun by the doughboys. During this campaign the 17th SS Panzer Grenadier Division was given a decisive beating by the 83rd. When the Normandy breakthrough came on July 25th, the 83rd smashed remnants of enemy resistance to cut the St. Lo-Periers Highway and come to rest astride the St. Lo-Coutances Highway.

BRITANNY

On August 2nd, the Division launched for Brittany and launched a two-week campaign aimed at the capture of the garrisons of St. Malo and Dinard. From the so-called impregnable Citadel of St. Malo, Colonel von Alcock declared, "I am a German soldier, and German soldiers do not surrender!" But on August 17th he surrendered himself and his entire garrison after a heavy

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Start Damage Suit As Result of Wreck

The Williamston Lumber Company this week started a suit in the superior court of this county against Vandye Furniture Company, Henry Paul and Douglas O'Mary to recover \$2,600 damages alleged to have resulted in a truck wreck near Everetts on last March 14.

The complaint alleges that the defendant, Paul, driving in a reckless and careless manner attempted to pass a truck driven by O'Mary and crashed into the plaintiff's log truck, doing \$1,600 damages to the truck and causing damage of \$1,000 as a result of loss of truck use.

Jeremiah Brown, colored driver of the log truck, was fatally injured. No suit has been brought by his administrator.

British Consul Inspects Subjects' Camps in County

Tyler, Florida, British consul stationed in Smith, was in the county a few days ago inspecting camps where Barbadians are stationed and employed under contract with the British government. Quite a few men from the Barbados Islands are now employed in the county and section.