

# Town-Wide Clothing Collection For Needy Next Sunday Afternoon

NEARLY 4,000 COPIES OF THE ENTERPRISE GOING TO THE HOMES OF MARTIN COUNTY AND TO COUNTY SERVICEMEN

# THE ENTERPRISE

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## Bureau's President Reports on Annual Meeting In Chicago

### Delegates Named To Convention To Be Held In Winston-Salem Next Month

Farm Bureau representatives, meeting in the courthouse last Friday night, heard a detailed report on the national convention in Chicago, discussed a few business matters and appointed delegates to the State convention to be held in Winston-Salem on the 6, 7 and 8 of next month with a general invitation standing for others who care to attend the state sessions.

Names of the delegates chosen at the meeting and their committee assignments follow: Van G. Taylor, tobacco; H. U. Peel, O'Neal Club; Roy Hadley, cotton; Chas. Daniel, livestock; Joe Winslow, T. B. Slade, resolutions; G. H. Forbes, general crops, and T. B. Brandon, agricultural, business and industrial relations.

Secretary-treasurer Tom Brandon announced that the organization had a cash balance in the bank in the sum of \$1,235.73 with no outstanding obligations other than the annual barbecue to be held the latter part of April.

Reporting on the trip to the national convention of the American Farm Bureau Federation in Chicago last month, President Chas. Daniel reviewed a few of the meeting highlights.

"We had a good trip, but the weather was bad with the temperature falling six below zero. We held close to our hotel and the convention headquarters," Mr. Daniel declared.

One of the highlights in the resolutions adopted was a general demand for parity prices for all crops. Mr. Daniel explaining that U. S. Secretary Clinton P. Anderson, in a convention address, came out quite frankly in favor of full parity prices.

"The American Farm Bureau, now recognized as one of the most powerful organizations in the country, had eleven of its sponsored bills passed last year in the national congress. The organization now has 986,745 members, including approximately 42,000 from North Carolina. The South reported the largest membership percentage gain. More than 5,000 attended the convention which was one of the largest ever held," Mr. Daniel said in mentioning a few of the facts brought out at the convention.

Fertilizers were discussed, Mr. Daniel stating that the meeting declared that millions of dollars are being thrown away buying plain old dirt. "There is a national move now under way to eliminate dirt from fertilizers and put in the real ingredients," he reported.

The Farm Bureau went on record at the convention as being against subsidies.

According to recognized leaders at the convention, the outlook for agriculture is good. "The speakers," Mr. Daniel said, "pointed out that sixteen million people had left the farms. We are working to increase exports and for expanded production, which will offer a favorable set-up for agriculture." It was pointed out that while increased production is desired, controls must be continued to maintain a balance in our economy. Mr. Daniel said that the convention favored lower tariffs and increased trade.

All sections of the nation are in complete harmony, Mr. Daniel said, and "everyone seemed to enjoy the meeting," he concluded.

## Young Man With the Engineers On Leyte

Corporal John House, husband of Mrs. Elsie House of RFD No. 2, Robersonville, is now with the 1562d Engineer Depot Company on Leyte. He is at present occupying the responsible position of Issuing Clerk at a Lumber Depot. His capabilities are obvious because of his recent promotion to 7/5.

Prior to his entrance into the service Cpl. House was occupied with farming. He attended the Oak City High school and is a member of the Martin County Farm Bureau and the Christian Church of Hassell. His mother, Mrs. M. H. Ayers, resides at Hassell.

## Charged With Desertion, Man Arrested In County

Robert E. Graham, who was reported married in this county, was arrested by members of the Robersonville police force and an agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation last Friday and placed in the county jail for alleged desertion from the Navy. Few details could be learned about the case here, but after a short stay in the county jail he was turned over to the Navy's shore patrol and removed presumably to Edenton. Graham, 21 years old, was wearing civilian clothes when taken into custody.

## Local Youth To Participate In Olympic Games At Manila

With the Eleventh Airborne Division at Sedai, Japan.—(Delayed)—S/Sgt. Joseph H. Thigpen, 22 year old paratrooper from Williamston, Airborne Division has been selected to participate in the coming Olympics in Manila next month. He will play on the Division Soft Ball Team, taking over second base. Sgt. Thigpen will play in Southern Japan first, then go on to Manila for the Olympics playoff.

S/Sgt. Thigpen was inducted in September of 1943, he qualified as a paratrooper at Ft. Benning in October 1943. At Fort Benning he was the boxing instructor for some time. In April of 1945 he came over seas joining the 11th Airborne Division on Luzon. There, after the Luzon campaign North Carolina, who is with the 11th

paign he went back to his old job of coaching boxing. He is better known over here as "Jo-Jo" and well liked by everyone.

He earned the Philippine Liberation Ribbon with one Battle star for the Luzon campaign, and can wear on his combat jacket the Asiatic Pacific Ribbon, the Philippine Liberation, the American Defense, the Good Conduct, and the Victory Medal.

S/Sgt. Thigpen's parents, Dr. and Mrs. J. F. Thigpen, live at 517 Warren St., Williamston. When Sgt. Thigpen returns home he wants to go back to college and go in for sports writing, a subject he is well up on, and make a career of it.

(Sgt. Thigpen, while in Japan contacted Red Cross authorities and learned about the death of Lt. Colonel Wheeler Martin, Jr.)

## Reviews Record Of Carrier Shangri-La

### Martin County Young Man Was On Famous Ship During Pacific Campaign

(Having told of a rest stop at Leyte, a daring raid in the living room of Hirohito and a bit about stray bombs, Seaman Whitehurst continues the tale about stray bombs and goes into a description of the effort to knock out the Jap battleship Nagato.—Ed.)

Another bomb that broke away was having its picture taken by one of the photographers, a portly chief. When the bomb failed to stop with the plane, the chief decided it was time to run. So off he went, down the deck, with the bomb right behind him. He finally out-dodged it but his developed pictures weren't so successful. What he got was a beautiful shot of an oncoming bomb, suddenly disrupted by a wild panorama of deck, sky and planes. He'd forgotten to switch off his movie camera.

Also during the day we watched the battleships, cruisers and destroyers return to our task group after they had gone in close to shore for a point blank bombardment of steel mill installations at Muroran.

For us, the two days at Hokkaido seemed very profitable for we sunk or damaged 44 Jap vessels and in addition had heavily damaged rail and industrial facilities with a loss of but two pilots and one air crewman.

The next day we pulled out to refuel once again at the same time all hands crowded on the fantail to bid goodbye to Captain Barner who was transferred in midocean to a destroyer that would start him on his trip back to the states. Now under the command of our new skipper, Captain R. F. Whitehead, we headed back to the Tokyo area.

Strikes and Scuttlebutt If the Jap Chamber of Commerce was doing anything about the weather, they surely were not trying to make us feel welcome, or impress us with their sunny climate. For on the 17th of July when we were primarily interested in blasting the Jap battleship Nagato at Yokosuka our pilots encountered nothing but foul weather. It was too risky for our planes to return with their bombs and rockets which often broke loose and were a constant threat to the ship. The pilots had to expend them in the sea. One fighter pilot decided he wasn't going to make the trip over Japan for nothing even though the target was blanketed by clouds.

Spotting a Jap riding down the road on a bicycle, he decided to have a little fun. Diving down, he spurted machine gun bullets on either side of the Nip. "Boy that Jap really hauled," the pilot commented to the crew upon returning.

Another pilot with a 500 pound bomb to get rid of searched in vain for some sort of target. Finding none, he headed out to sea, intending to jettison his bomb in the water when suddenly he spied a lone Jap in a row boat. Peeling over on one wing, he dived on the little row boat releasing his bomb. Of course he didn't hit such a small target, but the Jap probably died from fright anyhow.

By the following day, the weather had cleared only slightly when we went to our early morning "GQ" stations, and it appeared that the strike was off against the Nagato. In fact shortly after sun rise the weather was so thick, we secured for the day and returned to our sacks to catch up on the sleep we had been losing.

Shortly before noon, however, the weather suddenly cleared and strike day was resumed immediately. We were after the Nagato.

Our first sweeps struck at nearby airfields with the intention of pinning Jap air power to the ground, then followed the bombers whose one aim was knocking the Nagato out of the war forever. By midafternoon, the bomber pilots and air crewmen were over their target, diving through an almost solid wall of flak. It was the heaviest our fliers had faced to date. Back on the ship we waited... hoping, wishing them success.

## Soda Shop Moves To New Location Here

The soda shop operated for a number of years by J. Claude Leggett in the York Building and later sold to Dillon Cobb is being moved to a new location on Washington Street. Forming a partnership, Cobb and Russell Griffin remodeled the store building in the Griffin group in front of the Roanoke Chevrolet place and moved in much of their stock and equipment last night. The partners plan to open for business in the new location on Thursday of this week.

While much work was done to the building, the operators of the business to be known as G and C Soda Shop, state that they were unable to get tile for the floor and were unable to get a new front. These improvements will be made just as soon as the material is made available.

## County Boy Badly Hurt In Accident

Dallas Godard, Jamesville young man, was badly but not critically hurt in an automobile accident near Great Bridge, Va., last Friday night. The large boy in his shoulder broken, he is in Norfolk General Hospital, last reports reaching here stating that he was getting along very well.

Few details of the accident could be learned here, but it is believed that another young man, a former resident of Plymouth, was fatally injured and a third party was critically hurt.

Young Godard went through an automobile accident at Sweet Water Creek near here the early part of last week. He was not hurt in that accident.

## Fair Response To Appeal For Paralysis Fund In the County

Only a fair response has been reported to date to the appeal for support of the infantile paralysis fund drive in this county, Chairman L. B. Wynne stating yesterday that a little over \$400 had been contributed up until that time. The total included one or two liberal contributions, one in the sum of \$25 from Dr. E. T. Walker, and another in the sum of \$20 from Dr. J. S. Rhodes. Most of the other donations made in response to direct mail appeals ranged around \$5. Only eighty replies had been received up until Monday morning from the 365 direct mail appeals, it was pointed out.

Twenty-five little coin collectors have been "planted" in the county, but apparently they are not attracting very much attention, the drive chairman stating, "I picked one up and shook it, and the jingle did not sound so hot."

While the drive is making only fair progress among the general public, encouraging reports are coming in from the various schools where the little folks are really working in earnest to help this county go over the top. Two grades in the local grammar school last week-end had raised more than \$40 each, and the little folks were still working in an effort to boost the totals.

Martin County has been asked to raise \$2,120 for the fund this year. A large portion of the amount raised will remain in the county for emergencies at home. The remainder will be sent to the National Foundation which only a few days ago contributed \$17,000 to a hospital in this state to promote research work.

The drive is scheduled to close on Thursday of next week and the chairman is anxious to get favorable answers from every one of his letters and have the county reach and exceed its goal.

## Well-Known Citizen Passes At His Home In County Saturday

### Funeral Service Held Monday For Robert G. Sexton Near Jamesville

Robert G. Sexton, well-known county citizen, died at his home near Jamesville last Saturday morning at 10:30 o'clock following a long period of declining health. His condition had been serious for months, but he was thought to be getting along about as well as usual up until a short time before the end. Pneumonia was given as the immediate cause of his death.

The son of the late William Sexton and wife, he was born 85 years ago, the 20th of last September in Jamesville Township where he lived and farmed all his life. He was a good neighbor and was held in high esteem.

More than half century ago he joined the Baptist church at Cedar Branch and was one of its oldest members. As long as his health permitted, he was regular in attendance upon its services and in its work, and was for years a recognized leader in his community.

When a young man he was married to Miss Bettie Mobley. Three children, Milton J. Sexton of Zebulon, John E. Sexton of Washington, and Charlie C. Sexton of Jamesville, survive that union. His second marriage was to Miss Millie Lilley and six children survive that union. Their names are, Mrs. R. C. Stallings and Mrs. Garland M. Anderson, both of Jamesville; Will and George T. Sexton, both of Plymouth, and Clarence and Herbert A. Sexton, both of Jamesville. Mr. Sexton's third marriage was to Mrs. Dorna Lilley Stallings and she survives.

Funeral services were conducted at the late home yesterday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock by his pastor, Rev. W. B. Harrington, and burial was in the family cemetery, near the home.

## Honor Draft Board Members In County

Martin County's Draft Board members and appeal agent will be honored at a special meeting to be held in Greenville next Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock in the courthouse. Certificates and medals will be presented in recognition of the work handled by the board officials who accepted the unwanted posts back in 1940 and struggled through the ordeal without cash remuneration and without too much sympathy from a portion of the general public.

The State to have no broken chain in its volunteer draft board personnel. Messrs. R. H. Goodman, chairman, and Joe Ayers and Dr. Jesse Ward ably served as members of the board and Mr. Wheeler Martin served as appeal agent. And they continue at their posts.

The presentations will be made by Governor Gregg Cherry.

## Peanut Harvest Is Delayed In County

Hampered last fall and in the early winter by labor shortages, the peanut harvest has been completely rained out in this county during recent days. It is true that most of the crop has been harvested, but several hundreds of acres are still in the field. Apparently disturbed over the outlook for completing this task, one farmer was quoted as saying this week that it looked as if he would have to plow around the stacks when he started his 1946 farming program.

The market has just about kept up with the harvest and since the recent rains started falling very few peanuts have moved to the cleaners.

## Twenty-two County Boys Register For Draft In December

Volunteering For Service Ahead Of Selective Service, Six Vets Also Register

Twenty-two Martin County youths registered in December for possible service in the country's armed forces. Ten of the boys are white, and at least nineteen of the entire group live or work on farms.

In addition to the registration of those youths who became eighteen years old in December, six World War II veterans registered during the period. Volunteering for service ahead of Selective Service, the six veterans had never registered. While their names are on the books now, they are not subject to call, it was explained.

The names of the eighteen-year-olds registering last month and their addresses follow: Elijah Crandall, Jr., col, RFD 1, Robersonville. Lanier Earl Matthews, w, Parmele. Wilmer Gray Modlin, w, RFD 1, Williamston. Charles Ernest Jones, w, RFD 3, Williamston. Jesse Mayo Andrews, col, RFD 3, Williamston. George Mack Spruill, col, RFD 3, Williamston. Lester George Land, col, RFD 3, Williamston. Clarence Rudolph Coffield, col, RFD 3, Williamston. Kader Burroughs Taylor, w, RFD 3, Williamston. Lonnie Edwin Gardner, w, RFD 1, Jamesville. Henderson Moore, col, RFD 1, Jamesville. Sam Henry Lilley, col, RFD 1, Jamesville. Russell Ampley, col, RFD 1, Robersonville. William Hilliard, col, RFD 1, Palmyra. William Henry Brown, col, RFD 2, Williamston. David Rhodes Rogerson, w, RFD 1, Williamston. L. V. Taylor, col, RFD 3, Williamston. William Grimes, col, RFD 1, Williamston. Charles Gilbert Thompson, w, Washington, D. C. Donald Edwin Everett, w, Robersonville and Chapel Hill. Essix Wilson, col, Williamston. Jesse Gray Lilley, w, RFD 1, Williamston. The names of the veterans registering last month: William Norman Everett, w, Hamilton. Edward Robert Truesdell, w, Oak City. James Busick Taylor, Jr., Williamston. LeRoy Harrell, w, Parmele. Patrick Henry Davenport, w, Hamilton. James Lee Thomas, col, Palmyra. The registration last month was hardly as large as some had expected, but so far no reports of any one failing to register have been received by the draft board. Several weeks ago, the board was advised that one or two youths apparently had failed to register, and the cases were referred for investigation. No report on the investigations has been made public, and it is presumed that the registrations were handled.

## Principals Discuss School Problems

Meeting in Jamesville recently Martin County's school principals and special guests discussed several school problems and offered timely solutions.

While the shortage of regular and substitute teachers continues as the No. 1 problem, the group was agreed that only time will remedy the situation.

Discussing the operation of school buses, Principal Rhue of the Jamesville school outlined a program in effect there for improving the service. Points are given the drivers for being on time, cleanliness, lack of complaints from citizens, patrolmen and mechanics, and good behavior of the pupils in the buses. The principal pointed out that patrols are provided for assisting the drivers in promoting good behavior. The drivers will be rewarded with a trip to Raleigh and special recognition will be given them.

Williamston's principal, Sam D. Bundy, spoke on good sportsmanship and frankly declared that good sportsmanship should be developed in the athletic program or the program should be eliminated. He called upon the principals to aid the coaches in promoting good sportsmanship.

The group will hold its next meeting in Williamston on February 11.

## Escape Injury In Gold Point Wreck

No one was hurt but about \$500 damage was done to a 1941 Buick car when the machine went out of control, knocked down a tree and a telephone pole and came to a stop when it plowed into a larger tree in the business section of Gold Point Monday morning at 9:30 o'clock.

The car was being driven by Elmer Evans, recently removed from Pitt County to RFD 2, Robersonville. Traveling toward Spring Green, the driver was accompanied by Curtis Roebuck.

## ROUND-UP

There was little activity on the crime front in this immediate area last week-end, the records showing that only three persons were arrested and temporarily detained in the county jail during the period. Two drunks and an alleged deserter were jailed. Two of them were white. Officers pointed out that very little hard liquor was to be found in the county-operated stores, and possibly the improvement on the crime front was traceable to the liquor shortage.

## Birth Party Planned By Belk-Tyler Wednesday

By way of celebrating the 9th anniversary of their birthday in this community, Belk-Tyler Department Store will begin tomorrow a sale during which they are offering special items gathered for their birthday party.

Manager Ernest Mears, in announcing the birthday party expressed the gratitude of the company for the patronage and cooperation which have been accorded the store by the people of Williamston and its trading territory.

## CLOTHING

After getting off to a slow start in most sections of the county, the Victory Clothing Collection launched in the name of destitute millions overseas, is gaining momentum and Chairman Bob Tarkenton is now fairly confident that the challenge will be met.

Members of home demonstration clubs in the county, under the direction of the new home agents, are getting behind the drive and they contributed a goodly number of serviceable clothing items last week-end.

A town-wide canvass for used clothing will be made in Williamston next Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock by Chairman Tarkenton and members of the Lions Club, the sponsoring organization in this section. During the meantime, clothes will be accepted at the depot in the offices of the Virginia Electric and Power Company here.

## Ask Volunteers To Help Hold In Check Inflationary Prices

### Board Representatives Asked To Make Surveys Of Stores Monthly

Addressing a meeting of local women in the district OPA office here last Friday, Mrs. A. D. Folger, of the State Office, appealed for support in handling the task of holding inflationary prices in check. She called for volunteers to make price surveys at regular intervals during the next few months. Mrs. Folger explained that OPA personnel had been greatly reduced in number, that the three employees in the Williamston district could not possibly make adequate surveys in the territory comprising Tyrrell, Washington, Martin and Bertie Counties.

"We did not like the war, but we were forced into it," Mrs. Folger said after recalling a pleasant visit to this county some years ago when her late husband presided over a term of the superior court. She added, "We do not like price control, but it is advisable, and whether we like it or not, we must handle the task of holding prices in check. The shooting has stopped, but it is not yet time to relax; we must battle inflation."

Mrs. Folger went on to explain that we have inflation now to some extent, but it is not as bad as it would have been had there been no control. Continuing she said, "In the Revolutionary War period, a dollar was reduced in value to 33 cents. The value dropped to 44 cents during the Civil War. In World War 1 a dollar would buy only 40 cents worth of goods, and at the present time, the dollar is worth 76 cents."

The State representative said that mistakes had been made, that as many as possible had been corrected, and while others are being made, the records show that much good is being accomplished.

The speaker went on to explain that demand far exceeds supply, that

(Continued on page four)

## Hershey Calls For Longer Draft Term

Selective Service Director Lewis B. Hershey recently proposed before the Senate Military Affairs subcommittee that the Army and Navy lower their physical requirements, and asked Congress to amend the draft act to provide that all inductees serve a specific term, preferably 18 months.

He also told the subcommittee investigating demobilization that the Draft Act should be extended immediately so the public as well as the draft boards and prospective inductees could know what to expect. The law expires May 15.

He denied taking orders from the Army on draft policy. He strongly opposed increasing the present draft age to include men 26 through 29 because "it would irritate millions of persons and produce only a few thousand soldiers." Only men 18 through 25 are now being drafted.

Hershey also: Recommended that men discharged after serving less than six months be reintroduced to serve out an 18-month term.

Said that 60,000 to 80,000 temporarily deferred high school students would become available for the draft in June and July "if there still is Selective Service."

Opposed the drafting of fathers. He said such action "would not meet with popular approval."

Said his orders on policy came only from the White House.

## Kills Cow On Road In Oak City Area

No one was hurt but a cow was killed and other property damage resulted in an accident near Oak City last Friday morning about 1:30 o'clock.

Driving a pick-up truck belonging to Chas. Shields of Scotland Neck, Wm. J. Davis struck and killed a cow belonging to Jesse Mobley. Davis was driving toward Oak City from Tarboro when the cow jumped into the road.

Investigating the accident, Patrolman W. E. Saunders estimated the property damage, including the cow, at about \$175.

## RUSH IS ON

After putting off the task for more than three weeks, property owners are flocking to their township listtakers, to get their property on the books before the end of this month when late listing will be subjected to penalty provided by law.

With hardly a week to complete the task, the list-takers explain that it will be almost impossible to handle the rush without having the property owners wait to take their turns.

## ANNUAL BARBECUE

Meeting in the county courthouse last Friday night, representatives of the Martin County Farm Bureau selected Friday, April 26, as the date for holding the organization's annual barbecue dinner. Committees will be named later to make arrangements for the event which will be held in connection with the annual 4-H fat stock show.

The barbecue dinners and stock shows have been held in the county for the past several years. Approximately 1,500 people attended the last dinner and annual meeting of the farm organization in this county.