

Copper Available For Manufacture Of Liquor Stills

Sugar Shortage Continues Main Handicap In Illicit Liquor Production

Reviewing the activities of his bureau during the first part of this year, ABC Officer J. H. Roebuck said this week that copper is being made available on a fairly large scale for the illicit manufacture of liquor in this county. "We have so far this year captured more copper kettles used in the illicit business than we took during all of the war years," the officer said. Just about half of the plants captured in recent weeks were equipped with copper kettles, it was pointed out.

The sugar shortage continues to plague the illicit operators, the officer said. While cheap grades of molasses are being used as a substitute for sugar, the product manufactured from molasses does not measure up to expectations of Martin County palates, and the officer declares that most of the white lightning is being exported for consumption in adjoining territory.

Reviewing enforcement activities since the 15th of this month, Officer Roebuck said he and his assistant, Deputy Roy Peel, had wrecked five plants, three of which were equipped with expertly made copper kettles.

The first of the plants was wrecked in Bear Grass Township on the 15th. The plant, equipped with a 100-gallon capacity copper kettle, had eight 50-gallon fermenters, 300 gallons of beer and 27 gallons of white liquor.

Continuing their search the same day, the officers found and wrecked a plant equipped with a 50-gallon capacity copper kettle. The plant was located not far from the first and there were 100 gallons of beer but no liquor there.

In the Free Union section of Jamesville Township, the same two officers wrecked a 100-gallon capacity liquor still and poured out 100 gallons of cheap beer.

Returning to the same township a few days later, the officers found and wrecked a crude plant in the Mill Neck section. An oil drum was used for a kettle and the officers poured out fifty gallons of beer.

Last Monday the officers wrecked two plants in Bear Grass Township, one equipped with an old oil drum and the other with a 50-gallon copper kettle. The officers poured out 200 gallons of beer at the two plants.

Report Prowlers In Cemetery Here

A large number of local citizens who have relatives buried in the cemetery here have registered complaints recently relative to the stealing and destruction of property on the various plots in the cemetery. Ribbons have been removed from floral designs and, in some cases, baskets and even entire designs have been stolen immediately following a funeral.

There is little if anything that can be done about the stealing and destruction of property. It would be prohibitive to maintain a night watchman to keep thieves of the lowest nature from stealing in a public cemetery. However, those people who have relatives buried in the local cemetery have appealed indirectly to the decency and understanding of the culprits and insist that they refrain from tampering with and stealing from the various plots throughout the cemetery.

It may be impossible to stop the stealing but local authorities will be contacted if those guilty of making paths across the plots do not stop the practice. Any number of local citizens who live near the cemetery have deliberately made inroads into the plots in order to save a few steps.

Announce Birth and Death In Washington Hospital

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Griffin announce the birth and death of a daughter in a Washington hospital on Wednesday, April 23.

Funeral services were conducted in the Tice Cemetery in Griffiths Township Thursday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock.

Last Quarter Receipts At Post Office Break Records

Last quarter stamp sales at the local post office broke all previous records for a first quarter, according to information coming from Postmaster W. E. Dunn. However, most of the nearly \$200 gain is traceable to the month of January, the next two months showing comparative losses, especially the month of March.

During the first three months of this year stamp sales amounted to \$8,821.18 as compared with \$8,654.77 in the first quarter, a year ago. Sales last January were nearly \$800 greater than those for January, 1946, but income in March of this year was about \$400 less than it was in March, 1946.

For the first time in several years, money order business handled by the local post office showed a decrease in the first

three months of this year. Heretofore, money order business maintained a fairly sizable marginal gain over comparable quarters. While the increase was being checked, the business actually experienced a decrease of about \$900 last quarter as compared with that handled in the first three months of last year. Money order business in January, February and March of this year amounted to \$68,065.06 as compared with \$68,904.21 in the first three months of last year. All of the loss was centered in the business handled in March of this year.

The post office business offers no sure barometer for economic trends, but it is fairly evident that mail orders are dropping off fairly rapidly.

Charges Against Red Cross Relief Prove Unfounded

Investigation Reveals Red Cross Has Done Effective Work In Texas City

Following charges by the mayor that the Red Cross had not properly handled its work in extending relief to victims of the disastrous fire in Texas City recently, an impartial investigation was made. While confusion marked the activities of officials, the Red Cross and other relief agencies during and immediately after the tragic disaster, the investigation shows that an effective work was handled.

The Red Cross, the report of the investigators revealed, sheltered and fed over 2,000 persons, operating necessary canteens to feed the rescue workers. Over 500 nurses were recruited by the organization which paid 85 of the number.

Medical and hospital supplies were furnished, as follows: surgical instruments and hospital supplies, including scarce drugs such as penicillin, streptomycin, gas gangrene anti-toxin, tetanus toxoid, large quantities of dressings, whole blood and plasma, 100 cases of glucose, 1,000 coramine ampules.

It was also found that the Red Cross had supplied embalming fluid in sufficient quantities for handling several hundred mutilated bodies. Gloves were supplied to those handling the bodies. Clothing was made available where needed, and cash grants were made for transportation in needy cases. Thousands of welfare inquiries were and are still being handled daily.

The Red Cross, Mrs. John W. Hardy, chairman of the Martin County chapter, was also advised that workers will continue to assist in meeting needs arising from fire beyond the emergency phase, and will be based on a family basis. The organization is already handling the rehabilitation task, providing food, clothing and maintenance, building repairs, household furnishing, medical supplies, equipment of various kinds for the victims.

"Possibly some deserving cases in some form when the Red Cross moved cautiously to see that every dollar was made to count," one official said.

DISCHARGES

Of the more than 2,000 Martin County men released by the armed forces following World War II, no more than 1,350 have had their discharges recorded in the office of the county register of deeds, it was learned this week. A general call is being issued to all former service men who have not done so, to have their discharges properly recorded.

Recordings are handled each Friday by the register of deeds, and a copy of the discharge is made available to the veteran without charge.

Less than 100 veterans of World War I have filed their discharges in this county, and those entitled to hospitalization are often delayed while serial numbers are checked.

LAST MEETING

Williamston's parent-teacher association will hold its last meeting of the current term in the grammar school building next Monday night at 8:00 o'clock. Officers for the 1947-48 term are to be elected and other business will be placed before the group, it was announced.

Miss Byrum's pupils will appear in a special entertainment program.

County's Wildlife Club Has Meeting In Courthouse

Ross Stevens Addresses Group and Officers Elected for New Year

"Through the diligent work and untiring efforts of our state organization and our county clubs, we succeeded in separating the Wild Life Department from the Department of Conservation and Development. However, that was just the beginning and the first step in perfecting a strong and working organization," Mr. Ross Stevens, executive secretary of the North Carolina Wild Life organization, told the members of the Martin County Club here Wednesday night.

Ben James, retiring president of the Martin County Wildlife Club, presented Mr. Stevens and complimented the speaker for the excellent record he has made in segregating the department and the organization of the county clubs throughout the State.

The speaker pointed out the many obstacles and hurdles the organization would have to overcome to make it a success. A nine man commission, a representative from each district in the state, will soon be appointed by Governor Cherry and this commission will appoint an executive director who must be an efficient and trained individual in wild life. "We are going to set up an immediate program just as soon as the commission and executive are appointed and selected. Following this we'll adopt a long range program for the protection of wild life and the promotion of the game in North Carolina," Mr. Stevens said.

A nominating committee headed by Wilber Barrett of Oak City selected J. C. Manning for president, Don Matthews, Jr., of Ham-

(Continued on page seven)

Petition Calls for 12, Noon, Closing

Beginning next Wednesday a majority, if not all, the Williamston merchants will close their places of business promptly at 12 o'clock noon rather than 12:30 p. m. When the merchants signed the petition to close their stores each Wednesday afternoon during the spring and summer months it was agreed and understood that the business houses would close promptly at 12 o'clock noon. However, several merchants, who were not contacted, were not in accord with the closing hour but with one or two exceptions practically all the merchants have agreed to begin closing at the noon hour next week.

Sanitarian Lists Market and Cafe Grades In County

Nine Markets and Six Cafes Get A Ratings For The First Quarter

Meat market and cafe ratings were listed a few days ago for the first quarter in this county by Sanitarian W. B. Gaylord. Nine markets and six cafes rated A grades.

The report, released this week by the sanitarian-inspector, follows:

Markets

Grade A: Ward, Williamston, 94.5; Hardison, Jamesville, 98.5; Page, Robersonville, 93.0; McClees, Williamston, 92.5; Page, Robersonville, 92.5; Colonial, Williamston, 91.5; Hardy, Williamston, 91.0; Everetts & Warren, Robersonville, 90.5; Colonial Frozen Foods, Williamston, 90.5.

Grade B: Brown Bros., Jamesville, 88.5; Hardy, Everetts, 88.5; Sexton, Jamesville, 88.5; B & B, Hamilton, 88; Browns, Williamston, 87; Cherry, Everetts, 87; Ayers, Oak City, 86.5; Rogers, Williamston, 86.5; Bryan, Robersonville, 86; Shaw, Williamston, 86; Jones Community, Williamston, 85.5; Roberson, Williamston, 85.5; Red Front, Williamston, 85.5; Hoggard, Williamston, 84.5; Johnson, Hamilton, 84.5; Smith, Williamston, 84.5; Ben's, Williamston, 83.5; Lilley, Williamston, 83.5; Moore, Williamston, 83.0; Williams, Robersonville, 83.0; Eason and Briley, Robersonville, 82.5; Sunnyside, Williamston, 82; Edmondson and Cherry, Hamilton, 80; Tiny, Williamston, 80.

Grade C: Bunting, Oak City, 79.5.

Cafes

Grade A: Griffin, Williamston, 95; Central, Williamston, 93.5; Barney's Grill, Williamston, 92; City Lunch, Robersonville, 91.5; Sunny Side Oyster Bar, Williamston, 91; Friendly Coffee Shop, Robersonville, 90.0.

Grade B: G. & C., Williamston, 89.5; Moore, Williamston, 88; Sumara, Williamston, 87.5; Big Apple, Robersonville, 86.5; Raynor, Hamilton, 86.5; Chimney Corner, Williamston, 85.3; Harris, Williamston, 85.3; Roberson, Williamston, 85; Two Sisters, Williamston, 8.5; Cotton Club, Williamston, 82.5; Ben's, Williamston, 81.5; Rogers, Williamston, 81.5; Clark, Jamesville, 81; and Edmondson & Cherry, Hamilton, 80.

Grade C: Hitching Post, Williamston, 78.5; Grimes Drug Store, Robersonville, 74.5; Little Savoy, Williamston, 70.5.

Siamese Biddies Stolen Saturday

Siamese biddies, fully developed and attached to one another at their breasts, were stolen from Miss Mary Jane Rogers at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Minga Rogers, near Williamston last Saturday night.

Purchasing a number of chicks from a hatchery a few days ago, the young club member did not discover the freak until a day or two later, and it is not certain whether the twins were counted as one or two by the hatchery operator.

The owner stated that the chicks were getting along all right and growing fairly rapidly up until they disappeared.

Greatly disappointed when she learned the chicks had disappeared, Mary Jane is now centering her attention again on her baby beef which she plans to enter in the Fat Stock Show in Williamston on Friday, May 9.

Truck-Car Wreck On Street Here

No one was hurt but considerable property damage resulted when a car and pick-up truck crashed at the intersection of Washington Street and the Jamesville Road here early last Saturday night.

Leon Brown, operating the truck, had started across Washington Street just as B. L. Conway was driving out of town. Brown was detained on a drunken driving charge and Conway was charged with speeding.

No estimate on the damage could be had immediately.

Court Completes Special Term In County Tuesday

Eighth Divorce Granted On Tuesday; Other Cases Are Settled

Tentatively scheduled to run for two weeks, the Martin County Superior Court completed its work in less than two days and adjourned about the middle of the afternoon Tuesday. No very important cases were on the calendar and very few people were in the courtroom to hear the proceedings. Judge W. H. S. Burgwyn of Jackson presided.

An eighth divorce granted during the term went to Norma Jones Riddick in her case against William Louis Riddick Tuesday morning.

A judgment was reached by agreement in the case of Fannie Lilley Peel and husband, Gilbert Peel, Minnie Lillie Crabtree and husband, James Crabtree, Estelle Lilley Harrison and husband, I. J. Harrison, Gladys Lilley Revels and husband, Clayton Revels, and Ola Lea Lilley against Kader Lilley and wife, Rosa Bullock Lilley, Ben D. Lilley and wife, Mary Harris Lilley, Della Lilley Harrington and husband, Paul Harrington. The plaintiffs had filed a petition for the partition of certain properties, the litigants agreeing to allot one-eighth interest of Ben D. Lilley in his father's real estate to include two tracts of land and a tobacco barn on the Hopkins farm. Other lands, including the Hopkins farm and the home place, are to be sold, the children, with the exception of Ben D. Lilley, to receive one-seventh of the proceeds each after costs are paid, including a one-seventh attorney's fee. B. A. Critcher, Clarence Griffin and Hoover Taft were named commissioners by the court to handle the sale.

In the case of Dorothy Jean Cartwright who brought suit by her next friend, Mrs. W. J. Cartwright, against Wilbert H. Whitehurst, the plaintiff was allowed a judgment in the sum of \$800, of which \$500 is to be paid for medical expenses. The remainder of the \$800 is to be turned over to the clerk of court to be handled by him in accordance with law. The defendant is to pay \$50 to the plaintiff's counsel and \$25 to his own lawyer. The plaintiff was injured when she was run down by the defendant's automobile last May 11 on the highway between Williamston and Everetts, suffering a broken leg, abrasions and other injuries.

A voluntary non-suit was recorded in the case brought by D. C. McLawhorn against Mayo Matthews. In the case of Dennis Holliday against G. A. Oglesby, the court approved the referee's findings, allowing the plaintiff \$414.20 with interest from January, 1945. The referee, B. A. Critcher, was allowed \$100. Mrs. Lorene Mahler, stenographer, \$42.41. The plaintiff was directed to pay \$25 to the referee and one-half the stenographer's fees.

The court approved the sale of certain lands in the case of Vernella Whitfield and others against Howard Whitfield. After hearing the plaintiff's evidence in the case of D. D. Coburn against the Coast Line Railroad, the court granted a motion made by the defense for a judgment of non-suit. The plaintiff appealed to the higher courts. The case of Hurlie Pittman and wife against Arthur L. Pittman (Continued on page eight)

The newly formed chapter will be instituted and officers installed at 8:00 o'clock p. m. on Monday, May 5. The meeting will be a closed one and only charter members will be admitted, it was announced.

The chapter has tentatively scheduled its regular meetings on the first and third Friday nights in each month at 8:00 o'clock. An initiation fee of \$10 was fixed and yearly dues were placed at \$3.

Aged Resident Dies At Daughter's Home

Rosa Chesson, one of Williamston's oldest and most highly respected colored citizens, died at the home of her daughter here on Sycamore Street last Sunday. She was born in Northampton County 85 years ago, locating in Williamston about forty years ago. Funeral services were conducted Thursday afternoon by her pastor, Rev. J. R. Green, and interment was in the Odd Fellows Cemetery.

Surviving are two daughters, Ida Eborn and Mattie Spruill, one son, Ransom Chesson; a brother and sister; two grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and four great-great grandchildren.

Create Tuberculosis Program for County

SPEAKER



J. M. Broughton, former governor and a promising candidate for the U. S. Senate, has accepted an invitation to address the annual meeting of the Martin County Farm Bureau in the Williamston High School auditorium Friday, May 9, it was announced this week by the organization's secretary, T. B. Brandon.

Local Chapter Of Order Of Eastern Star Established

Officers To Be Installed At Closed Meeting Here Monday, May 5

Meeting in the Skewerkey Lodge room here last Monday evening, wives, daughters, mothers, sisters of Masons and a few Masons, with the aid of Mrs. Blanche Twiford, a past grand worthy matron, Mr. W. M. Smith, district deputy grand patron, and Mr. and Mrs. Gregory of Elizabeth City, formulated plans for the organization of a Williamston chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star. Mrs. Twiford led the group in its organizational plans and much interest was expressed in the proposed chapter.

Officers were elected, as follows: Mrs. Esther Harrison Spivey, worthy matron; Mr. V. J. Spivey, worthy patron; Mrs. Mary Lowder, associate matron; Mr. C. J. Goodman, associate patron; Mrs. Mildred Talley Crawford, secretary; Mrs. Sylvia Upton Green, treasurer; Mrs. Emelyne Evans Griffin, conductress; Mrs. Pattie Edmondson Taylor, associate conductress.

The following officers were appointed: Mrs. Lelia Hott Goff, chaplain; Miss Marjorie Linsley, marshal; Mrs. Katherine Harrison Clark, organist; Mrs. Minerva Finzimer Levin, Adah; Mrs. Evelyn Totten Goodmon, Ruth; Mrs. Lottie Anderson Harrison, Esther; Mrs. Bettie Taylor Manning, Martha; Mrs. Mrs. Mary Cooke Clayton, warder; and Mr. Henry Griffin, sentinel.

The newly formed chapter will be instituted and officers installed at 8:00 o'clock p. m. on Monday, May 5. The meeting will be a closed one and only charter members will be admitted, it was announced.

The chapter has tentatively scheduled its regular meetings on the first and third Friday nights in each month at 8:00 o'clock. An initiation fee of \$10 was fixed and yearly dues were placed at \$3.

Export Restrictions On Automobiles Removed

American automobiles now may be shipped abroad without restrictions. Export licenses for new and used cars no longer are required. Last year, U. S. auto manufacturers did not ship as many cars abroad as their quotas permitted. Consequently, no important increase is looked for with the relaxation of controls until more shipping becomes available.

Committee Named At Meeting Here Wednesday Night

To Employ Trained Part- Time Worker In Fight Against Tuberculosis

A definite program for expanding the fight against tuberculosis in Martin County was formulated at a meeting of interested citizens from several sections of the county in the Baptist church here Wednesday evening when a committee was named and a part-time trained worker was employed to lead the drive.

Called by Chas. H. Manning, chairman of the last seal sale drive, at the suggestion of the North Carolina Tuberculosis Association, the meeting named Philip Keel of Robersonville and Edgar Gurganus of Williamston joint chairmen of the committee. Miss Mary Taylor, county welfare department superintendent, was named secretary, and Mrs. P. B. Cone, president of the Williamston Woman's Club, will serve as treasurer. Chas. Manning is to continue as seal sale chairman. Members of the committee include, Nat Johnson, Oak City; Mrs. A. P. Barnhill, Cross Roads; Carven Roebuck, Hamilton; Mrs. Ben James, Poplar Point; Elder A. B. Ayers, Bear Grass; George McRorie, Robersonville; Rev. W. B. Harrington, Griffiths; Frosty Martin, Jamesville; C. L. Daniel, Williams; Dr. J. T. Llewellyn, anatorium doctor; and J. C. Manning, superintendent of county schools.

Miss Ann Mann, field representative of the North Carolina Tuberculosis Association, briefly addressed the meeting, pointing out that Martin County had the second highest TB death rate in the State. "In 1945 there were 22 TB deaths in this county, a rate of about 80 per 100,000 population which compares with 23 per 100,000 for the State," Miss Mann said. She explained that there are, on an average, ten cases of tuberculosis for each death, meaning that in 1945 Martin County had approximately 220 cases of tuberculosis. "You do have a problem in this county, and the State association wants to help in every way possible in advancing a program against the disease," Miss Mann said. She suggested the formation of a committee to head the program and pointed out that in a number of counties a part-time worker had been employed to conduct an educational program among civic leaders, in the various clubs and schools, and to coordinate the work of existing agencies.

Coming to the county earlier in plans now being followed in several counties and suggested that a part-time worker be employed in Martin. Working toward that end, leaders contacted several persons and Mrs. Eva Avant Grimes said she would consider the offer. The Wednesday night who is to enter upon her new (Continued on page eight)

ROAD MAP

A map for the construction of a farm-to-market road in Griffiths Township was posted at the courthouse here Wednesday, offering some hope that the project will be included in a highway letting within the next six or eight weeks.

The survey locates the road on the route running from the Griffiths service station to the big pine near Smithwick's Creek church, where it makes a curve and follows the present road beyond Tice Cemetery, and then swerves to the left through the Tice field, on across the road near Hayes Swamp Church, then back of the Pleny Peel home, and then down the old road to the Hardison home which it passes to the rear and out to temporary 171.

Cancer Fund Drive Showing Progress In Martin County

Several Districts Nearing Quotas, Chairman Said Thursday Morning

The cancer fund drive in Martin County is rapidly gaining momentum and is almost certain to go over the top, Chairman Wheeler M. Manning announced. Reports from all the districts were not available as of early Thursday morning, but it was learned that several districts were nearing their quotas at that time and would likely complete the drive over the week-end. This county is being asked to raise \$1,500.

As of Thursday morning, Goose Nest Township Chairman N. Lawrence Hyman stated that \$94.25 of the \$100 quota assigned his district had been raised, that the citizens of that area would carry the drive over the top there shortly.

In Bear Grass, Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Terry, serving as co-chairmen of the drive, stated that \$60 or about 80 percent of their quota had been raised.

Jamesville has raised \$45.60 or about 50 percent of its quota, according to a report released by Mrs. Oscar Davenport, chairman of the drive in that township.

Griffins has just about reached its quota and the drive will be completed during the week-end, Chairman W. B. Harrington explained late Wednesday evening.

Chairman R. K. Adkins, Robersonville Township, announced Wednesday that the personnel had been named to handle the drive there and the canvassers are now working to meet the district quota.

In Williamston about one-half the quota has already been raised in the business district, and Mrs. P. B. Cone, chairman, announced Thursday that canvassers had been named to carry the drive into the residential areas. It was explained that \$245 of the \$600 township quota had been raised, that the drive would go over the top before the close next Wednesday.

Canvassers and their assignments were listed for this township, as follows:

Mrs. H. L. Swain, Haughton Street; Mrs. Davis Modlin, Haughton Street Extension; Mrs. Larry Bullock, Marshall Avenue; Mrs. Joe David Throver, Watts Street; Miss Marjorie Dunn, Warren Street; Mrs. James Bullock, Williams Street; Mrs. Walter Martin, Academy Street Extension; Mrs. George Mahler, Academy and Church Streets; Mrs. Leman Barnhill, Simmons Avenue; Miss Patsy King, East Main Street; Mrs. T. B. Brandon, Grace Street; Mrs. Kathleen Sherman, West Main Street; Mrs. J. W. Watts, Biggs and Ray Streets.

Heavy Docket In Recorder's Court

After remaining idle while the superior tribunal was in session last Monday, the Martin County Recorder's Court will face a fairly crowded docket when it resumes work next Monday. Approximately thirty cases had been booked for trial on next week's Thursday morning, and others are almost certain to be placed there before the week is spent. However, it isn't expected that the docket will be as heavy as it was on Monday of last week when 46 cases were called by Judge J. C. Smith. No session of the court was held on Easter Monday and the docket carried an accumulation of cases on the 14th.

Included in the cases tentatively scheduled for consideration next Monday are, four charging drunken driving, three for public drunkenness, three for speeding, two reckless driving two carrying concealed weapons, one indecent exposure, five assaults, one disorderly conduct, and one larceny and receiving.

Appropriations Doubtful For School Lunch Project

According to indirect reports, the outlook for national school lunch programs is indeed dim. Appeals are being directed to Washington urging the senators to pass Senate Bill 761, and the representative to support House Bill 1775.