



The Farmville Enterprise

VOLUME THIRTY-THREE

FARMVILLE, PITT COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1945

NUMBER FORTY-THREE



ENTHUSIASTIC DEFENSE MEETING HELD HERE TUESDAY EVENING

Meeting Called by Mayor Geo. W. Davis To Explain New Air Raid Warning Signals

The Town Hall was filled to capacity on Tuesday evening when Farmville's Defense Council, Regular and Auxiliary Police, Fire Watchers, Regular and Auxiliary Firemen, Medical Corps, First Aid, Red Cross and others assigned special duty in our local defense program attended an impressive, instructive and enthusiastic meeting called by the Local Chairman, George W. Davis.

The program opened with the singing of "America" led by Charles Baum and J. H. Moore gave the invocation.

Brief talks were made by W. A. McAdams and J. W. Joyner, members of the Light, Water and Utility Department of the Defense Program; L. T. Lucas, Chairman of the Air Raid Wardens and Auxiliary Police; Dr. J. M. Mewborn, co-chairman of the Medical Corps; R. A. Joyner, Chairman of the Firemen's Group; and by John B. Lewis, member of the Evacuation Committee, commenting on the new Air Raid and Blackout Rules and Regulations effective immediately as follows:

(1) Alarm 2-2, total of four blows, will be sounded when notice that enemy planes are headed in this direction. On sounding of this alarm all defense workers must assemble at their stations.

All lights must be extinguished including Street Lights with the exception of Manufacturing Plants essential to the WAR EFFORT.

All moving motor vehicles are permitted to use headlights (on low or depressed beam) and normal tail light and license plate lights, and may continue to travel at slow speed. Pedestrians may continue cautiously, spotting place for shelter on next alarm.

(2) Alarm 2-2, four rounds, total 16 blows, means that enemy planes are practically overhead. A TOTAL BLACKOUT.

All motor vehicles other than those on emergency service must park and extinguish lights at once.

(3) Alarm 2-2, one round, total four blows, will always follow TOTAL BLACKOUT, meaning that enemy planes have left but may return.

Blackout will continue as outlined in No. (1) above.

Motor vehicles and pedestrians may resume travel cautiously as outlined in No. (1) above.

Enemy planes may return.

(4) All clear signal. No alarm will be given. Street Lights will be turned on as only notice that Air Raid or Blackout is over.

(5) SPECIAL CAUTION: Remember that it is a serious Federal Offense to leave your Automobile, Home, or any place of Business lighted at anytime unless attended by a competent person that can extinguish said lights at instant notice.

A Filter Center has been set up here with Boy Scouts acting as messengers. Telephone 4900 in case of emergency and aid will be sent to you immediately.

According to new information given out at the recent defense school in Kinston, citizens are instructed to stay away from unexploded bombs. These will be handled by the ten qualified men who attended the school and were taught new methods.

Mrs. C. H. Joyner, chairman of the Home Nursing Corps, and Dr. Mewborn, one of the First Aid instructors, announced that new classes in each will be started in the spring if a sufficient number express a desire to attend. You are requested to sign for these at the City Hall.

J. H. Moore, Rationing Chairman, told of the whole-hearted cooperation given by the local citizens called to help with this week's rationing, and L. E. Walston, Bond Chairman, urged all to double efforts in Bond Purchasing, one of the biggest things we at home can do in the War Effort.

Mrs. J. M. Hahgood, Chairman of the Farmville Chapter, Red Cross, brought news of the local work and asked the cooperation of all in the coming Red Cross War Fund Campaign to be launched in March.

Closing the meeting, George W. Davis reminded citizens of the tremendous obligation we at home have to the boys fighting on the War front. The meeting adjourned with the singing of "God Bless America."

POINT VALUES

Here are the point values of the most common cans under the new rationing system, which will begin March 1.

The ration for March is 48 points per person (families may pool their points).

Vegetables	Weight	Point Values
Peas	1 lb. 4 oz.	16
Corn	1 lb. 4 oz.	14
Tomatoes	1 lb. 3 oz.	16
Asparagus	1 lb. 3 oz.	14
Beans	1 lb. 3 oz.	14
Spinach	1 lb. 2 oz.	11
Peaches	1 lb. 14 oz.	21
Pears	1 lb. 14 oz.	21
Sliced Pineapple	1 lb. 14 oz.	24
Grapefruit	1 lb. 4 oz.	10
Fruit Cocktail	1 lb. 1 oz.	11
Juices and Soups		
Grapefruit	2 lb. 14 oz.	23
Tomato	2 lb. 14 oz.	32
Pineapple	2 lb. 14 oz.	32
Tomato	1 lb. 7 oz.	17
Grape Juice	1 qt. or 2 lbs.	15
Soups	10 1-2 ozs.	6

Applications Received For Cotton Insurance

More than 4,000 North Carolina cotton growers already have insured their 1943 crops under the insurance program offered by the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, according to Tom M. Cornwell, Cleveland County farmer and a member of the State AAA Committee.

The insurance, which is being offered for the second year, guarantees the grower 50 or 75 percent of his normal yield against losses from causes over which he has no control such as floods, drought, windstorm, hail, and insect damage. The coverage which can be obtained and rates already have been sent to cotton growers by County AAA offices.

A new war clause in the insurance this year, Cornwell said, now covers losses caused from wartime shortages of labor and materials, provided it is determined it was humanly impossible to obtain them.

"This insurance is not designed as a money-making proposition for either the grower or the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation which is an agency of the U. S. Department of Agriculture," he declared. "It merely affords the grower an opportunity to protect himself against total or partial loss of income in years when he has a crop failure due to causes over which he has no control."

Deadline for making application for insurance on the 1943 crop is April 1, and applications may be made at the AAA office in the county in which the farm is located.

Farmville Boy Reported Missing In European Area

His Parents, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Burnett, Notified Wednesday; Have Three Boys In Service

A telegram received Wednesday afternoon by Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Burnett revealed the fact that their son, Tech. Sgt. Herbert Hemby Burnett, of the U. S. Air Corps, European Area, has been missing in action since Feb. 16th, 1945. He was a Radio and Aerial Gunner, and entered the services of his Country Aug. 7th, 1941.

Mr. and Mrs. Burnett have two other boys in service, namely: Sgt. Joab Pennell Burnett, U. S. Marine, and Cadet Clay A. Burnett, U. S. Air Corps Advance Training, Luke Field, Phoenix, Arizona.

To Assist In Filing Income Tax Returns

J. C. Herring and W. O. Bensch, Deputy Commissioners of the State Revenue Department, will be in Farmville, at the City Hall on March 4th and 5th, for the purpose of assisting the taxpayers in filing their State Tax Returns. Be sure to see them, should you need help in making out your return. There will be no charge for this service.

LOAN PAYMENTS

Last year farmers repaid a total of \$28,000,000 on loans administered by the Emergency Crop and Food Loan Office, as compared to the \$18,500,000 which they borrowed during the year.

If you want a soft snap get a job. The more you work, the more you get.

Registration Begins For New Ration Book

Supplies To Be Cut In Half Under New System

Washington, Feb. 22.—American householders are to be allowed less than half of the canned fruits and vegetables they have been in the habit of eating under a "scant ration" program starting next Monday.

The March allowance announced by the Office of Price Administration last night provides, on an average, for only about three cans per person for the month.

Price Administrator Prentiss Brown estimated the civilian supply from March 1 to September 1945, would average a little more than 13,000,000 cases a month compared with 30,000,000 in 1941-42.

This week all families must live on the canned goods they have, and next week, when sales are resumed, they take a new kind of ration book to the store.

Everyone has 48 points to "spend" in March, and families may pool their points. It will take, for example, 14 points to buy a standard size can of corn or green beans, 16 for peas or tomatoes, 21 for peaches or pears, 10 for grapefruit, 23 for grapefruit juice, 23 for large cans of tomato or pineapple juice, 15 for grape juice, 6 for soup, 1 for baby food, about 13 points a pound for frozen fruits or vegetables.

Administrator Brown himself acknowledged that it is a "scant ration" but said people will get along on it "so that our fighting forces and the fighting forces of our allies may have the food they need to carry on."

Besides thumbing cookbooks, in search of fresh vegetable receipts this week, every family must send an adult representative to register for the new ration books.

The blue coupons in the book are for canned goods; the red ones will be used later for meat. A, B, and C blue coupons may be "spent" in March. The figures—1, 2, 5, or 8—are the point values. Thus two 8-point, or any other combination of stamps adding up to 16 will buy a can of peas.

April's ration will become useable on March 25 in conjunction with any March stamps left. This one-week overlap will prevent people from being stuck with a small number of points which can't buy anything.

About the only thing "cheap" on the list, from a rationing standpoint, is canned sauerkraut, but there is hardly any of that on the market. There is plenty of bulk sauerkraut, which is not rationed.

The table of point values will be posted in all grocery stores, and the point value will be marked on each can or shelf in the store, but the housewives will want to clip copies wherever available in order to figure out their food budgets.

The table covers all canned or frozen fruits or vegetables, dried fruit, canned soup or baby food. To be added to it in a few days will be the point values of dried beans, peas, and lentils, which were frozen without warming Saturday night, but which do not have to be declared when applying for the new ration books.

Today, registration begins and continues all week throughout the nation. Take "consumer declaration" and No. 1 ration books to school houses, etc., to get No. 2 ration book. Clip from newspaper table of "point values" to guide future shopping.

All week: Don't try to buy, because grocers are forbidden to sell, any canned fruits, vegetables, fish, meat, soups, baby food, or frozen or dried varieties of the same. You can buy anything else in the store, including bread, milk, cereals, (including canned baby cereals), soap, cheese, fresh fruits and vegetables, fresh meat, paper products, etc.

Monday, March 1.—Resume buying canned, frozen and dried fruits and vegetables by the point rationing system. Sale of canned meat and fish still prohibited (probably be resumed at end of month as rationed items along with meats.)

BETTER
Dehydrated foods now being produced are far better in flavor, appearance, and nutritional value than were those processed during the last World War.

WHEAT
Stocks of wheat on hand January 1 were estimated by the Crop Reporting Board at 285,221,000 bushels, the largest in nine years of record for that date.

Allied forces fighting in North Africa are familiar with rationing of the essential commodity—water. From private to general, these rationing are identical.

Wickard Asks For Program

Wants Authority To Proceed With Farm Production

Washington, Feb. 24.—Secretary of Agriculture Wickard asked Congress today for a "clear mandate immediately" to proceed with his announced 1945 farm production program along lines intended to raise farm income without raising prices to consumers.

That program, which had evoked sharp criticism from members of the congressional farm bloc, was outlined before the house agricultural committee today.

"I take it for granted," the food administrator said, "that almost everyone feels that increased costs to farmers necessitate increased returns on many agricultural commodities during 1945."

"Now I want to state frankly that one way to enable farmers to receive the returns necessary to cover their costs would be by increasing prices. I do not believe, however, that all things considered, that this is the preferable way."

The secretary said that there are other ways of giving farmers increased returns. He outlined them as follows:

1.—Government support of prices of all farm products needed in the war effort.

2.—A government offer to purchase certain products—such as soy beans, peanuts, flax seed, canned vegetables, sugar beets, and perhaps others—and resell them to processors and distributors at prices in line with OPA price ceilings.

3.—An offer to farmers of incentive payments on needed war crops in order to enable the producers to meet increased costs without raising consumer prices.

Wickard has not been able to proceed with the incentive payment part of his program because Congress has refused so far to appropriate \$100,000,000 sought for such payments. Farm state congressmen have also criticized the idea of government purchase of farm commodities and resale at lower prices.

Farmers Indicate Banner Hog Year

Judging from county agent reports, 1945 will be a banner year for hog production in North Carolina, says Dr. C. D. Grinnelle, veterinarian of the Agricultural Experiment Station at N. C. State College.

Proper feeding, breeding, and management practices will assure Tar Heel farmers of reaching and exceeding their pork goals for this year, Dr. Grinnelle stated.

Some of the important steps in attaining the required pork supply the State College specialist listed as follows:

Raise two litters per sow per year, and spread out farrowings so that better care can be given to each litter.

Be sure the sows have balanced diets, both before and after farrowing, so they can produce and nourish sturdy litters. Give sows warm, dry quarters, with sufficient room so baby pigs will not be crushed.

Raise each litter on clean ground and in sanitary surroundings so the pigs will not pick up parasites and disease germs.

Feed pigs for fast gains, getting as much growth as possible before weaning time. Have a veterinarian vaccinate against cholera around weaning time.

Provide plenty of clean fresh water. Water is as important as feed in putting on fast gains.

Watch closely for signs of disease. If illness occurs, have accurate diagnosis of trouble made immediately.

Tobacco Beds Should Receive Extra Seed

Tobacco growers should immediately remove the cannaas from their beds and broadcast from one-half to three-quarters as much seed as was originally sown, advises Extension Agronomist E. R. Collins of N. C. State College. It has been the experience of growers in the past that very cold weather severely damaged young tobacco seedlings.

The cannaas should be replaced as soon as the beds have been resown, continued Dr. Collins. If young plants were just coming through the ground when the heavy frosts occurred last week, many were probably killed or left in such a weakened condition that they will not make healthy, fast-growing plants.

The soil was softened by the frosts and the seed now need not become imbedded with a light covering of soil to germinate. Plants from these seed will grow rapidly when weather conditions are favorable.

Soviets Punch New Gaps In Nazi Defense Line

Russians Advance In Thawing Ukraine, Topping More Nazi Strongholds

London, Feb. 25.—The Red army surging westward over a 300-mile front in a race against spring mud was reported early today to have topped several more Axis strongholds in the drive toward Poltava and Konotop, Ukraine rail junctions guarding the approaches to the Nazi Dnieper River line.

The regular midnight Moscow communique received by the Soviet monitors said another large populated place west of Kharkov had fallen, reported fresh gains in the effort to encircle Orel, hinge of the southern and central fronts, and told of the trapping of two German battalions (approximately 1,000 men) in the Western Caucasus.

Refused To Surrender.
The Russians said those two battalions now were being annihilated after refusing to surrender.

Intensive German counterattacks with tank and plane support were acknowledged in the Donets Basin. While claiming the repulse of most of these, the Russians admitted German units had driven a wedge into their lines southwest of Kramatorsk. This town is about 50 miles above Stalino whence the Nazi escape railway runs out of the Donets Basin.

Thirteen German tanks were destroyed in the fighting, but the bulletin did not tell of the final outcome.

The locality seized west of Kharkov was not identified. The communique said 200 German bodies were counted, and large quantities of war material captured. This Soviet column was within 50 miles of Poltava on the basis of Soviet dispatches, and another operating from Kramatorsk to the south was at least 10 miles nearer.

Nor did the Russians mention the progress of their troops driving toward Dnepropetrovsk on the Dnieper River bend. These units had been reported about 30 miles from the river in an effort to trap the exposed Nazi forces in the Donets basin far to the east.

In the Molokhangelak sector 40 miles below Orel, the communique said the Russians were fighting for possession of another large populated place, and had killed 200 more Germans. Progress in this area also was announced in yesterday's midday communique.

Thaw In Ukraine.
Dispatches said a thaw was beginning in the Ukraine, and the comparative vagueness of the Soviet midnight bulletin indicated that muddy roads might have slackened Red Army operations.

West of Rostov in the push along the Sea of Azov the Russians said the Nazis "threw in" motorized infantry and tanks, and supported by aircraft launched fierce counterattacks" after the Russians first cracked the enemy's lines.

"All enemy counterattacks were repulsed with heavy losses," the communique added. "More than 600 enemy officers and men were killed."

Several more populated places were captured in the western Caucasus drive from Krasnodar toward Novorossiisk, the bulletin said. Russian units last were reported 40 miles east of Novorossiisk.

Tass dispatches said "the offensive in the Donets basin is gradually coming to a head," and also said that "the final outcome is nearing in the Caucasus," where German forces are pinned into a narrow pocket based on Novorossiisk, Black Sea port.

The Wednesday noon communique said Russian troops had plunged on west of the Suny-Lebedin-Akh-Tyryka salient which is the apex of the triangle pointed toward Konotop and Kiev. Three hundred Germans were killed in a fight for one town, and the Red army knocked out more strongly-fortified enemy points, the communique said.

It said the young seedlings were not killed by the recent frosts, the newly sown seed will not interfere with the early plants. However, if the original plants were killed or severely weakened, the new plants from the present sowing will assure the grower of a good stand of vigorous plants.

Many growers consider a good even stand of fast-growing plants half the battle in producing a high yielding crop of good quality tobacco.

Prohibiting the use of tin in replacing certain small-type gas meters will save more than 125 tons of this metal a year.

ALLIED PLANES RAIN BOMBS ON THE FLEEING NAZIS

WAR IN BRIEF

Allied forces box Axis in narrow salient before Kassrine Pass, seeking to exploit powerful counter-burge which swept enemy back 15 miles in western Tunisia; Axis suffered heavy losses; Allied bombers hit Bizerte and Mezzina.

Soviet forces drive on German railroad junction base of Vovsaba northwest of Kharkov.

Japs make light raids on Guadalcanal, New Hebrides and Tulagi; American planes hit Jay Points in Solomon.

Reliable information reaching London said Finland, through Sweden, submitted four-point peace feeler to Russia.

Hitler says he intends to force occupied countries to join German war effort which will be unprecedented.

Chinese in Kiangsi kill about 300 Japs; enemy driving toward Changsha, vital base in Hunan. RAF hits Jap steamer off Burma coast and bombs Akyab area; Japs ineffectively raid American airfield in Assam. Gandhi's condition improves on 16th day of fast.

Southern Farming Film To Be Shown In State

The new AAA motion picture on Southern agriculture entitled, "Farm Better Lines" soon will be shown in theaters throughout North Carolina as a result of arrangements between the U. S. Department of Agriculture and Republic Pictures, Inc. It was announced today by G. T. Scott, chairman of the State AAA Committee.

The picture was directed by Roger Barlow and its heroes are the men, women, and children who are plowing, planting, hoeing, and caring this country's way to victory. The picture shows particularly how two of North Carolina's crops—peanuts and cotton—are actually fighting on world battlefronts. It also pays tribute to the housewives who are growing Victory Gardens and canning food at home to keep their families healthy and take a load off of already overburdened transportation facilities.

Other activities along the farm battle line which are pictures in the movie include collecting scrap metal, sharing farm machinery, and saving soil resources through conservation practices.

Scott also announced that prints of this film for small projectors are now available for use at farm meetings over the State. These may be obtained by writing the State USDA War Board at Raleigh.

Jap and U. S. Airmen Exchange Hard Blows

Washington, Feb. 24.—Furious bombing of air bases and ground positions in the South Pacific was reported by the Navy Wednesday, in telling of a Japanese air raid on the United States base on Espiritu, Santo Island and five United States aerial attacks on Japanese bases.

The series of attacks which began Sunday and continued through Tuesday was reported in Navy communique No. 221:

"South Pacific: (All dates are east longitude):
"1.—On February 21st:
"(a) During the morning, Japanese planes carried out a light raid on United States positions on Espiritu Santo Island in the New Hebrides.

Fire Started.
"(b) During the afternoon avenger torpedo planes (Grumman TBF) and Dauntless dive bombers (Douglas), with fighter escort, attacked Japanese positions at Munda. Several fires were started in the target area.

"(c) During the night of February 21-22, Japanese planes raided United States positions at Tulagi in the New Hebrides group of the Solomon Islands.

"2.—February 22:
"(a) A United States search plane, operating near Choleau Island, scored bomb hits on an enemy barge loaded with Japanese soldiers.

Bomb Bombardment Fought.
"(b) During the late afternoon Albatrosses (Ball F-39) Corsairs (Vought F-40) and Lightning (Lockheed P-38) strafed enemy positions at Rakata on the northern shore of Santa Isabel Island.

"3.—On February 23, an enemy plane dropped bombs on the air field at Guadalcanal.

"4.—During the night of February 23, B-24 heavy bombers (Consolidated B-24) bombed enemy positions at Vila and at Munda in the New Hebrides group. All United States planes returned."

Field Reports Say Axis Army In Full Retreat After Driving Within Three Miles of Thala; 1,000 Italians Trapped In Pass

Allied Headquarters in North Africa, Feb. 24.—American and British forces, after a bitter three-day battle have hurled Marshal Erwin Rommel's flood-tide of armor back into the mountains of the Kassrine Gap in Central Tunisia under a hail of bursting bombs from hundreds of planes.

The German chieftain is in full retreat, field reports said today, after his tanks had surged to within three miles of Thala, key road junction to the upper plains of Kramama, and his battered armor was reported attempting to make a stand only three miles from the mouth of the twisting gap from which he sallied for his attempt to unhook the Allied front in Tunisia.

(Rommel thus had been forced to drop back at least 14 miles from the highwater mark of his advance. Thala is 25 miles north of Kassrine. The Kassrine Pass is five or six miles long and is northwest of Kassrine.)

(Rommel still was 53 or 54 miles west of the starting point of his offensive at Faid Pass, however.)

(A Reuters dispatch from Allied headquarters said a battalion of about 1,000 Italians had been trapped in another pass leading toward Silians, about 70 miles northwest of Kassrine. French Moroccan troops let the Italians enter and then closed in, the dispatch said, while a Scottish regiment blocked another exit.)

(A Berlin broadcast recorded in London said fighting in the southeast area of the Atlas mountains had temporarily halted after Axis troops had killed 4,500 Allied troops and wounded or captured 15,500 more. There was no confirmation of these figures from Allied sources.)

An Allied headquarters communique said the backwash of the Rommel thrust began early yesterday after American and British forces had successfully stood off his attacks during three days of heavy fighting.

"Our infantry and armored units were in contact with the enemy throughout the day, inflicting heavy casualties, taking many prisoners and securing some abandoned enemy material," the communique said.

The Germans apparently were keeping their tanks near the mouth of the pass to cover their retreat against onrushing American and British armored forces and under the heaviest Allied air attack of the Tunisian war.

American troops attacking down the Hoggap river from the west captured more than 800 German and Italian prisoners and enough small arms to equip an entire battalion.

With the coming of daylight Maj. Gen. Carl Spaatz, American air chief on the Tunisian front, threw almost every British and American plane at his disposal against the battered and retreating Germans.

They turned the road from Thala through the Kassrine valley, walled by 4,000 and 5,000-foot mountains, into a veritable hell of exploding bombs and machine-gun fire.

Ever Flying Fortresses, usually used only for heavy bombardment of airfields and ports, joined in the attacks, smashing tons of bombs on the roads along which Rommel was attempting to withdraw.

Pilots of both the RAF and the American Airforce report great damage was done to the retreating forces.

It appeared that Rommel had suffered the greatest losses that Germans have met in Tunisia.

Fortresses, twin-motored maneuverers and Mitchells and Bostons all joined in the devastating attacks of the Kassrine, Silians and Faidana areas. Hurricane bombers, Lightnings, Albatrosses and Spitfires were among the "light staff" which poured machine-gun and cannon fire into trucks and then raked roadside ditches for hiding Germans.

Formation after formation attacked the Kassrine and Silians areas with the Fortresses first laying neat strings of bombs along the roadsides and Mitchells, Mitchells and attack planes following.

Even outside the battle area one convoy of 20 German vehicles on the Faidana road was blasted to splinters.

Eight Allied planes were lost in these assaults, in raids on Bizerte and the air base at Kairouan and in one attempt to which five Bostons carrying motor transports were sunk.

Marshal Rommel continued to retrain the Allied line to the northwest of the Kassrine sector. However, and made one attack west of Guelma, this was repulsed, the communique said.