

Watch the Label On Your Paper As It Carries the Date When Your Subscription Expires

# THE ENTERPRISE

Advertisers Will Find Our Columns a Latchkey to Over Sixteen Hundred Martin County Homes

VOLUME XXXV—NUMBER 29 Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Tuesday, June 14, 1932 ESTABLISHED 1898

## COUNTY INSTRUCTS FOR ROOSEVELT

### Total Valuation of Property in County Is \$390,941 Under Last Year

#### LITTLE CHANGE IN VALUATION OF REAL ESTATE

##### A 5-Cents Increase in Rate Will Be Necessary To Offset the Loss

Property values in Martin County for the year 1932 are \$390,941 less than they were in 1931, according to an early review of the tax scrolls turned in by the list-takers in the several townships recently. And goodness only knows what the decrease would have been had there been a revaluation of real estate allowed this year.

While there were a few variations in the real estate values, the changes were small, fire affecting a drop in some districts and improvements adding a little on in other townships. But there were radical losses in personal property values, nearly everybody in Martin County will have less than nothing in three or four more years. However, the decrease in both real and personal property values was less this year than it was in 1931. Last year there was a 23 per cent drop in personal property values this year. The loss in real property values was negligible this year as compared with the 12.3 per cent drop reported last year.

The bad feature about the loss is that it will affect the tax rate this year. It is estimated that the \$390,941 drop, or about 3.45 per cent, will call for around a 5 cents raise on the \$100 property valuation. In other words, before a reduction in the rate can be made, the commissioners will have to effect economies to offset the 5-cent per \$100 property valuation loss resulting from the decreased valuation. Well, that is their problem, and they will start on the rate-establishing task next Monday, when they meet as a board of equalization and review. The officials can expect little aid to result from that work, because many property owners will be inclined to enter protests against high valuations, and none will appear to have any increased. It is the right of the property owner to object to the assessments placed on his property, but it so happens that changes can be made only in personal property listings this year with the exception that where losses by fire or other causes have resulted, or improvements made, the board of equalization and review. The make the needed alterations in the listings.

Goose Nest led the list with the largest single loss in real estate values, that district reporting real values for 1932 at \$1,331,312, as compared with \$1,350,916 in 1931, a resulting loss of \$19,604, or 1.4 per cent. Williams was second with a \$10,417 loss, or a decrease of 2.97 per cent. Four townships reported gains in real estate values, as follows: Jamesville, \$294; Bear Grass, \$1,999; Williamston, \$6,575; and Poplar Point, \$100.

In the personal property column, every township reported a loss, the marked drop in commodity prices falling by \$347,124 to offset the increase in the various commodities grown. Robersonville reported a \$103,773, but its percentage of decrease, 27 per cent, was not as great as that for Hamilton, which was 35 per cent. Williams reported the smallest percentage of loss in personal property values, the drop there being 9.3 per cent. Jamesville was next with 9.6 per cent loss.

County Accountant J. Sam Gotsinger is now facing the huge task of checking the listings and calculating the rate. Until that work is completed and the budgets are prepared and approved, the county-wide rate can not be learned.

#### Frank Barber Killed In Wreck Near Aulander

Frank Barber, Aulander white man, was killed and two of his companions, Clarence Barber and Bob Knight were badly injured in an automobile wreck on highway 30, near Aulander, last Sunday night. Robert Easley, of the U. S. S. "Mendoza," driver of the Ford car, started to pass a truck and seeing an approaching car he turned back and crashed into the rear of the truck. Easley, escaped with minor injuries.

#### Mecklenburg Farmer Is Making Profit on Alfalfa

B. J. Hunter of Derita, Mecklenburg County, has been selling his fine alfalfa hay in Charlotte for \$20 to \$23 a ton this winter and spring and says it is the most profitable crop on his farm.

### 1931 and 1932 County Property Listings, by Townships

The following tables show, by townships, the 1931 and 1932 valuations of real and personal property in Martin County, separately and collectively, also the decrease in valuations under the 1931 mark, as well as the percentages of increases and decreases. The figures are preliminary and will probably be slightly altered by the county commissioners making adjustments next Monday, when they meet in the courthouse as a board of equalization and review. \* Indicates loss. † Indicates gain.

Township	REAL ESTATE VALUES				PERSONAL PROPERTY VALUES				TOTAL VALUES			
	1931	1932	Change	%	1931	1932	Loss	% Loss	1931	1932	Loss	% Loss
Jamesville	\$ 977,711	\$ 978,005	\$ 294†	.03†	\$ 170,575	\$ 154,122	\$ 16,453	9.6	\$ 1,148,286	\$ 1,132,127	\$ 16,159	1.5
Williams	360,372	349,955	10,417*	2.97*	45,998	41,612	4,386	9.3	406,370	391,567	14,803	3.6
Griffins	544,166	537,431	6,735*	1.25*	147,131	121,440	25,691	17.5	691,297	658,871	32,526	4.7
Bear Grass	560,715	562,714	1,999†	.3†	127,205	86,294	40,911	32.	687,920	649,008	38,912	5.7
Williamston	1,856,778	1,863,353	6,575†	.4†	442,676	396,171	46,505	11.	2,299,454	2,259,524	39,930	1.7
Cross Roads	621,255	614,751	6,504*	1.5*	85,861	61,541	24,320	28.	707,116	676,292	30,824	4.5
Robersonville	1,986,532	1,977,357	9,175*	.5*	424,773	321,000	103,773	27.	2,411,305	2,298,357	112,948	4.7
Goose Nest	1,350,916	1,331,312	19,604*	1.4*	117,112	100,331	16,781	14.3	1,468,028	1,431,643	36,385	2.5
Hamilton	954,636	954,386	250†	.03†	110,397	60,208	50,189	35.	1,125,241	1,064,783	60,458	5.6
Poplar Point	347,105	347,205	100†	.03†	38,230	30,134	8,096	21.	385,335	377,339	7,996	2.8
County Totals	\$ 9,560,186	\$ 9,516,469	\$ 43,717*	.04*	\$ 1,770,166	\$ 1,423,042	\$ 347,124	10.96	\$ 11,330,452	\$ 10,939,511	\$ 390,941	3.45

#### OPENING GAMES IN ALBEMARLE LEAGUE TODAY

##### Colerain Plays Locals Here on High School Grounds At 4:00 P. M. Today

The Albemarle League opens its season this afternoon with Colerain meeting Williamston on the high school diamond here, and with Elizabeth City playing Edenton at Edenton. Williamston goes to Windsor tomorrow and to Edenton Thursday, returning home to play Edenton on the local diamond Friday afternoon at 5 o'clock.

Manager V. J. Spivey announced yesterday that the following line-up will probably be used in the batting order named: B. Gaylord, left field; H. A. Earps, shortstop; E. M. Taylor, first base; Jimmie Brown, third base; Latham or Coble, catcher; Coffield, right field; Whitehurst or H. Gaylord, centerfield; H. Brown, second base; and Kugler, pitcher.

An admission fee of 25 cents will be charged, children under 12 years of age entering free. In handling the finances of the local team Business Manager W. Joe Taylor said that no accounts will be recognized unless accompanied by an order given by the management.

The official schedule of games in the league is as follows:

- TUESDAY, JUNE 14th Elizabeth City at Edenton. Colerain at Williamston.
- WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15th Edenton at Elizabeth City. Williamston at Windsor.
- THURSDAY, JUNE 16th Elizabeth City at Colerain. Williamston at Edenton.
- FRIDAY, JUNE 17th Colerain at Elizabeth City. Edenton at Williamston.
- TUESDAY, JUNE 21st Elizabeth City at Williamston. Colerain at Edenton.
- WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22nd Williamston at Elizabeth City. Edenton at Windsor.
- THURSDAY, JUNE 23rd Elizabeth City at Edenton. Colerain at Williamston.
- FRIDAY, JUNE 24th Edenton at Elizabeth City. Williamston at Colerain.
- TUESDAY, JUNE 28th Elizabeth City at Colerain. Williamston at Edenton.
- WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29th Colerain at Elizabeth City. Edenton at Williamston.
- THURSDAY, JUNE 30th Elizabeth City at Edenton. Williamston at Windsor.
- FRIDAY, JULY 1st Edenton at Elizabeth City. Colerain at Williamston.
- MONDAY, JULY 4th Elizabeth City at Edenton (10 a. m.). Colerain at Williamston (10 a. m.). Edenton at Elizabeth City (4 p. m.). Williamston at Colerain (4 p. m.).
- WEDNESDAY, JULY 6th Elizabeth City at Williamston. Edenton at Windsor.
- THURSDAY, JULY 7th Williamston at Elizabeth City. Colerain at Edenton.
- FRIDAY, JULY 8th No Games Scheduled.
- TUESDAY, JULY 12th Elizabeth City at Windsor. Williamston at Edenton.
- WEDNESDAY, JULY 13th Colerain at Elizabeth City. Edenton at Williamston.
- THURSDAY, JULY 14th Williamston at Elizabeth City. Colerain at Edenton.

(Continued on back page)

#### Look for Fireworks at State Democratic Meet Thursday

Reports received from many of the counties in the State indicate the State convention in Raleigh Thursday of this week will strongly favor Franklin D. Roosevelt as the Democratic nominee for the presidency. While political leaders in the State are "harping" on harmony, it is believed a regular old ruckus will develop when the several thousand delegates, alternates, and spectators gather at Raleigh for the convention, which, if patterned after the 1928 meeting, will be more of a monkey show than a meeting to discuss

matters of vital importance to the people of the State and nation. Already the Republicans are having their national pow-wow in Chicago, trying desperately to concoct some plan on how to "sell Hoover to the nation again." The notice about to be given wet issues is likely to overshadow more important problems. And when the Republicans complete their show, the Democrats will muster their forces to meet in the same Chicago hall the latter part of the month in an attempt to outwit their recognized opponents.

#### A. L. THIGPEN DIES IN PITT

##### Was Brother To Dr. J. F. Thigpen; Last Rites Held Saturday

A. L. Thigpen, prominent farmer of Pitt County and a brother to Dr. J. F. Thigpen, of this place, died at his home in the Belvoir community of this county early last Friday morning, following an illness extending over a period of six months. Mr. Thigpen was born and reared in the community in which he died. He was a successful grower and contributed greatly to the development of agriculture. He served as deputy sheriff of Pitt County for a number of years, endeavoring himself to hundreds of people with whom he came in contact through impartiality in administration of his duties. Funeral services were conducted from his late home Saturday morning by Rev. A. J. Crane, Presbyterian minister, of Tarboro. Interment was in the family cemetery in Belvoir Township, Pitt County.

#### FEDERAL TAXES UP NEXT WEEK

##### Gasoline, Automobile Tires and Postage Rates Are Included in List

Beginning next Tuesday, gasoline consumers will start paying a one-cent federal tax on gasoline, two per cent more for candy, three per cent more for automobile tires, and two cents for every bank check drawn. And then beginning July 6, postal patrons will pay three cents to mail a first-class letter and two cents for a postal card. Other postal rate increases will be announced later, it was learned this week from Postmaster Jesse T. Price. Congress passed the Federal excise tax schedule week before last, the new schedule receiving approval of President Hoover, last week.

Of these taxes, the bank check item is unknown heretofore in this country; the others, however, having been at one time or another in effect, particularly during the years immediately following the World War. There are numerous other excise taxes imposed by the new law, but the items listed above are the ones that will affect most people, particularly the bank check tax, although the latter will yield nothing like the revenue it would have before the wholesale closing of banks during the last two or three years.

#### Parker Grocery Company Opens Store Here Today

The Parker Grocery Company, the town's newest enterprise, opened for business today under the management of W. Henry Gurkin, an experienced merchant. Mr. Gurkin will be associated with his brother, Mr. John Parker, formerly of Norfolk where he conducted a mercantile establishment for a number of years. The new concern has renovated the building next to Harrison Brothers and Company's store, and is rapidly preparing a nice stock and display of groceries and general produce. While the company will operate on a strictly cash basis, deliveries will be made every hour of the day, it was stated by Mr. Gurkin this morning.

#### Al Smith May Run For the Presidency as Independent

A third party, with Alfred E. Smith as its head, was rumored in reports received here early this morning. While only a few details were released early today, it is understood that some prominent and wealthy Philadelphia man would finance Smith's campaign. The wet plank is said to be one of the main features in the former New York governor's platform.

#### SHOWERS OVER WEEK-END BIG HELP TO CROPS

##### Few Farmers Continue To Transplant Tobacco in This Section

Showers falling intermittently in this section over the week-end and yesterday are said to have been of untold value to crops that were suffering from the dry weather experienced for weeks. Farmers were more optimistic today as a result of the rains, several stating that all crops grey inches over Sunday night.

In some quarters real optimism prevailed, for there a few farmers completed their last transplantings of tobacco. If favorable seasons can be had from now on, the late settings will turn out to be about as good as the crop transplanted early, it is believed. Plants set out early in the season show little uniformity, and those with any height at all have leaves similar to rabbits' ears, as they are so small and straight. Transplanting during the past day or two has been carried on on a very, very small scale, and will not affect the size of the acreage hardly any, it is believed. No well-founded estimates have been offered lately in connection with the number of acres planted to tobacco in this county, but it is still believed by many that not more than a 50 or 60 per cent of the size of last year's crop will be cultivated this season.

All plant life took on added color over the week-end, and the outlook right now for better crops, even though smaller ones, than were cultivated last year is far better than it was only a few days ago.

#### FIREMEN WILL SPONSOR MOVIE

##### "Firemen, Save My Child" Is Title of Picture at Watts Next Week

Through the courtesy of the Watts Theatre management, the Williamston Volunteer Fire Company is making arrangements to sponsor the picture, "Firemen, Save My Child," with Joe E. Brown, at the Watts here Thursday and Friday nights of next week, June 23 and 24. The firemen and their representatives will make a drive with tickets, and it is hoped the community will support the movement. Proceeds from the sale will go into the firemen's relief fund, which is used in case of injury and personal losses generally suffered by the individual members. No increase in the admission prices, and all sales will be divided equally between the fire company and the theatre management.

Few direct calls have been made by the fire company here upon the general public, but every call upon the fire company, regardless of when it was received, has been willingly answered by the volunteers. In making this call, the firemen are anxious that a ready and willing response will result. Tickets will be offered for sale next week.

#### Mrs. Marshall Talks On Japan Here Yesterday

Mrs. George Marshall, recently returned from Japan, made a very interesting talk before an attentive audience in the Episcopal church here yesterday afternoon. Mrs. Marshall was accompanied by relatives and while here they were the guests of the Andrews'.

### Reynolds Advocates Control Convention

#### THREE-AND-ONE

Mullins, S. C.—Tobacco growers in this immediate section, having had many troubles locating plants due to the ravages of blue mold and hail, have according to H. B. Harrington, jr., a local planter, coined a term to describe the year's crop. Riding to his farm today, Mr. Harrington gave a young white boy a lift. The young boy asked Harrington if he had ever seen a year produce more "Three-and-one" tobacco. Asked just what specie of tobacco this was, the young man solemnly replied, "three bad hills and one good one." He stated his folks had a large crop of this three-and-one this season.

### SECOND PRIMARY DISAPPROVED BY VOTE OF 45 TO 15

##### Pass Resolution Favoring Candidate Reynolds' Wet Stand

Under the Democratic banner, Robert R. Reynolds' supporters held a political convention in the courthouse here last Saturday afternoon. The principles advanced there were as far removed from democracy as east is from west, the "steam roller" flattening the spirit of fairness and harmony to push forward resolutions endorsing Mr. Reynolds' wet plank and his nomination as a candidate for the United States Senate. One spark of harmony glimmered when the 45 Reynolds' men and the 15 Morrison men (there were no women present) unanimously agreed to instruct the 19 county voters for Roosevelt's nomination for the presidency.

With the resolutions already prepared, A. R. Dunning, county manager for Reynolds, made certain his audience and railroaded them across despite the pleas for harmony made by County Chairman E. S. Peel. Winking his eye and making light of the cause of the minority, Mr. Dunning called for a vote, but not until Mr. L. T. Fowden charged the Reynolds leaders with unfair tactics. The Reynolds' supporter denied that there had been any drumming on the streets for the strength with which to dominate the convention, Farmer Pleny Peel, occupying a prominent seat, tapping his walking stick in approval of the denial.

The action, it is believed, will result in a split at the polls next November, even though both sides pledged their support to the nominee, whether he be Reynolds or Morrison.

Advancing his resolution endorsing Reynolds' nomination without a second primary, Mr. Dunning said it will cost \$104,000 to decide the contest. He did not say that there is a contest for the commissioner of labor nomination and that many of the 100 counties will hold second primaries to decide their local political issues.

The convention did not name any delegates to the State meeting, leaving the field open for any Democrat in good standing to go to Raleigh next Thursday. Those who attend, however, must abide by the convention's instructions and favor Reynolds' wet platform, his nomination without a second primary and Franklin D. Roosevelt as the next presidential nominee.

Just how many are planning to attend from this county is not known, but it is believed that a goodly number will be on hand for anything that might happen in Raleigh's new auditorium.

Elbert S. Peel was reelected chairman of the county Democratic Executive Committee and Pleny Peel secretary. The precinct organizations reported last Saturday are:

- Jamesville: R. O. Martin, chairman; J. F. Jordan, C. W. Mizelle, B. E. Lilley, and H. B. Barber, members.
- Williams: Joshua L. Coltrair, chairman; Jno. W. Hopkins, Stuart Terterton, W. W. Griffin, and Lucian J. Hardison.
- Griffins: Pleny Peel, chairman; W. B. Harrington, T. C. Griffin, J. Eason Lilley, and Louis Peel.
- Bear Grass: A. B. Rogerson, chairman; H. C. Green, Knezer Harrison, Calvin Ayers, and J. D. Wynn.
- Williamston: Leslie Fowden, chairman; J. L. Hassell, W. J. Taylor, Mrs. Carrie Rhodes and Mrs. S. R. Biggs.
- Cross Roads: J. S. Ayers, chairman; J. S. Peel, Lester Peel, C. B. Riddick, and L. A. Clark.
- Robersonville: Ed James, chairman; I. M. Little, F. L. Roebuck, J. C. Smith, and V. L. Roberson.
- Gold Point: J. L. Croom, chairman; W. A. Vanderford, J. Henry Roberson, J. W. Perkins, and J. W. Taylor.
- Poplar Point: W. S. White, chairman; Roy Taylor, Herman Harrison, W. S. Leggett, and Harrell Everett.
- Hamilton: J. A. Davenport, chairman; Harry Waldo, Paul Salsbury, D. G. Matthews, and F. L. Gladstone.
- Hassell: J. W. Eubanks, chairman; G. S. Haislip, C. L. Nelson, E. R. Edmondson, jr., and H. L. Purvis.

(Continued on the back page)