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VOLUME XXXVI—NUMBER 12

Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Tuesday, April 11, 1933

ESTABLISHED 1898

## SEVERAL LARGE DAMAGE SUITS ARE SCHEDULED

### \$50,000 Suit Started Against Dr. McBrayer as Result Of Automobile Wreck

The calendar prepared for the two-week term of Martin County Superior Court convening next Monday for the trial of civil cases only during two weeks, carries some of the largest damage suits called in this county in years.

Mrs. Lena Cochran, of Robersonville, representing herself and son and the estate, is suing Dr. L. B. McBrayer for \$50,000. Mrs. Cochran and her son were injured and Mr. Cochran was fatally hurt in an automobile accident near Robersonville several months ago. She is asking \$10,000 each for herself and son, and \$30,000 as administratrix of the estate. The Southern Pines doctor, said to have carried a large amount of public liability and property damage insurance, has entered a counter claim and is asking \$1,000 for personal damage received by him and \$1,500 damage to his big Cadillac car.

It isn't likely that the cases will be heard during the term, as the calendar is crowded. The cases will probably be called at the June term. Attorneys Smith and Horton are representing Mrs. Cochran, and Attorneys Burgess and Baker are representing Dr. McBrayer.

Another damage suit, Oscar Peel, Administrator, against Roberson and Peel, is scheduled for trial. The suit, asking \$15,000 damaged, developed when George Stokes was fatally injured in a truck wreck on the Washington road December 24, 1931.

A third damage suit is that of Gardner against the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company, growing out of a train-automobile wreck several months ago near Plymouth.

## 16 PERMITS TO MARRY ISSUED

### Roosevelt Wave of Prosperity Apparently Strikes Martin Bureau

The Roosevelt wave of prosperity was felt at the Martin County marriage license bureau last month, when 16 licenses were issued, as compared with 5 the month before and 7 in March of last year. Nine of the licenses were issued to white couples.

#### White

Clarence Hardy and Susie Wynn, both of Martin.

Roy Skinner, of Pitt, and Sadie Ippock, of Edgecombe.

John B. Cook and Reba Teel, both of Martin.

Joe Ball and Mrs. Bessie Swain, both of Martin.

William Marion Lilley and Martha Viola Griffin, both of Martin County.

Richard F. Andrews and Lillian Coburn, of Martin County.

Leroy Whitfield and Elizabeth Matthews, both of Martin County.

Warren Leggett, jr., and Lizzie Marie Gardner, both of Martin.

#### Colored

O. C. Andrews and Annie J. Bryant, both of Martin County.

Roosevelt Woolard and Minnie Lee, of Martin County.

George Harrell and Contelia Phillips, of Martin County.

William Arthur Parker and Mary Parker, both of Martin County.

Simon Reddick and Mary Bazemore, of Martin County.

James W. Smith, of Halifax County, and Luzanna Ruffin, of Martin.

## Everetts 4-H Club In a Regular Meet Monday

The 4-H club of Everetts met Monday in the school house. At the regular meeting a 4-H rug was exhibited which was made by Lishia Ballard. This is the first rug which has been made and completed to be shown other club members.

Many of the club members are making very good record books this year and much of the time is being spent upon pages which are due in the record books.

Plans were made for having a representative from the club attend the State Short Course this year. Members were urged to enter the biscuit contest.—Ruth Cullipher, reporter.

## Donates 25 Bushels of Sweet Potatoes to Needy

The diet of the needy or less fortunate was varied last week through the goodness of Mr. Joshua L. Coltrain, Williams Township farmer and county commissioner, who donated 25 bushels of cured sweet potatoes to welfare headquarters here for distribution. Small portions were sacked and the sweets found waiting and outstretched arms.

## Fishing on Roanoke Picks Up Suddenly Early Today

Fishing activities on the Roanoke took on much added interest early today, when the catches were increased two, three, and even four times in size over the catches of a few days before.

At Camp Point, a few miles below Jamesville, one report stated that from 12,000 to 15,000 herring were taken at the first dip today. The Fleming Fishery at Jamesville reported around 10,000 caught in the first dip there this morning, the catches averaging from 5,000 to 7,000.

Fishing up to that time had been progressing slowly in the Roanoke, only medium size catches having been reported. The season is now nearing a climax and by the latter part of this and the early part of next week, maximum catches are expected.

According to reports received here, the river started filling up with the fish by the thousands about 4 o'clock this morning. A call for additional workers was made at the fisheries.

Farmers, tilling their lands by day, are fishing by night at this point.

## SUSPEND PROJECTS

In suspending relief work projects for residents on farms, the Governor's Office on Relief said this week that the step was taken to enable all farm families to more effectively devote their energies to gardening and farming. The suspension was said to be a logical development of the plan to require all persons living on the land to cultivate their own food and feed-stuffs as a prerequisite to further relief.

It was pointed out, however, that whenever it is found necessary direct relief will be provided farm residents until their farms and gardens begin to produce their food.

## USE LIMESTONE IN MANUFACTURE OF FERTILIZERS

### Recent Findings of Federal Government Support Recommendations

The use of dolomite or dolomitic limestone in complete fertilizers as advocated in North Carolina for the past two or three years by leading farmers has found support by the findings of investigators connected with the Bureau of Chemistry and Soils of the United States Department of Agriculture.

In a recent release, the department cites results secured by K. C. Beeson and Dr. Wm. H. Ross in which they say, "Dolomite or dolomitic limestone, added to complete fertilizers, which contain ammonium compounds will prevent them from increasing soil acidity."

"For many years," says the federal statement, "the mixed fertilizers of this country contained approximately equal proportions of Chilean nitrate of soda and sulfate of ammonia. Such mixtures were not acid forming. The new developments that have recently taken place in fixing the nitrogen of the air have changed the situation. Many of the complete fertilizers now sold in this country are therefore acid-forming in their influence on the soil. If the use of such fertilizers is to continue, a serious decrease in the crop-producing capacity of the soils of the United States is likely to result."

The item then goes on to recommend the use of suitable applications of limestone and says that the dolomitic kind does not cause a loss of plant food when mixed with complete fertilizers as do ordinary limestones. The use of the dolomitic limestone in the fertilizer allows the use of a small amount at a time thus doing away with the danger of over-liming certain crops.

Farmers of North Carolina have been following this practice of requesting fertilizer companies to use this kind of limestone in their mixtures and thus do away with worthless sand as well as add additional value to the plant food mixture.

## Oak City School News For The Past Week

The music department of the Oak City school will present an operetta, "The Golden Whistle," on Thursday evening, April 13, at 8 o'clock. It is hoped that a large number will attend. There will be a small admission to offset expenses.

## Hot Lunch

Hot lunch is still being served to an average of 65 children each day. Records of the weights of these children show a decided gain. The monthly examinations of last month show that pupils are improving rather than retarding.—L. Allsbrook.

## Caldwell Farmers Purchase 8,500 Pounds of Lespedeza

Caldwell farmers purchased about 8,500 pounds of Kobe lespedeza from the Iredell Mutual Exchange this season.

## SMITH EXPLAINS BILL RELATING TO ASSESSMENTS

### Will Be Surprised If Beer Will Raise \$500,000 In Taxes Annually

The bill relating to the payment of assessments for street improvements in Williamston was explained by Representative J. C. Smith in a letter received here last Saturday. Under the provisions of the bill enacted into law last week, the town authorities are empowered to accept street improvement bonds in settlement of assessments against real estate in the town.

The bill reads:

"That the Board of Commissioners of the town of Williamston be, and they are hereby, authorized and empowered to accept at their face value any and all bonds issued by said town for street improvements, whether said bonds are due or not, as credit on or in settlement of assessments against real estate in said town for street improvements."

The bill was forwarded to Mr. Smith by Attorney E. S. Peel at the request of a number of holders of Williamston street improvement bonds. While the law does not affect the town in the least, it will probably be of value to holders of street improvement bonds.

Referring to other activities, Mr. Smith said, "There is a regulatory act now being considered with very stringent provisions, and this may to some extent take care of the beer problem in the state. The suggestion that it will raise more than a million dollars in revenue, in my opinion, is a mistake. If \$500,000 is collected from that source, it will surprise me, unless everybody is going to drink beer to excess."

"The question of when I am coming home to live is indeed very interesting. I am feeling pretty tough since nobody is doing anything at present to feed my family."

"We adopted the conference report on the appropriations bill, but I doubt if we can ever raise revenue enough to take care of the appropriations. The committee on finance is to report the revenue bill today, carrying a 3 per cent sales tax, and this I do not favor, but I have long since learned that I am not going to get the things that I favor, but it is only a case of doing the best you can under the circumstances. It is my opinion that, if we are to have a sales tax, that we should make it 4 or 5 per cent in order that the merchants might be forced to pass it on, thereby saving himself and get from that source of revenue an amount sufficient to take care of appropriations set out in the bill. All sources of revenue seem to be declining daily, and there seem to be no source untouched that a majority will agree to tax. Legislation is a compromise like a jury verdict, and in this age, when the people are in such a disturbed frame of mind, it is hard to get a half dozen to agree on one proposition, not to say a word of 120."

"While I am not enjoying my stay here now, it is pleasant to know that I am not harassed by constituents, but I am willing to listen to any suggestion my folks may have to offer. If I had been harassed like most of the members I think I should have resigned long ago."

## MAIL SCHEDULES OF 87 YEARS AGO SEEM SLOW NOW

### More Than 30 Hours Were Required To Get Mail Here from Halifax

Back in the old days a traveler would wait a week for a stage coach; today one generally grumbles if he misses a partition in a revolving door. Today, when speed is rate above human life, it is hard to believe there ever was a time when more than 30 hours were required for mail to reach Williamston from Halifax, in an adjoining county. The North Carolina Standard, a Raleigh newspaper, in its issue of December 30, 1846, carried a number of mail schedules, two of which were of great purport to the people of this section at that time. Through the courtesy of Mr. Warren H. Biggs, in whose possession the particular copy of the Standard is now in, two of the old schedules appear here:

Leaving Plymouth Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday of each week, an hour after midnight, the carrier would serve patrons at Gardner's Bridge, Williamston, Washington, Swift Creek bridge, and New Bern, reaching the latter place at 10 o'clock p. m., about 21 hours being required for the trip. Today, mail is brought here from Plymouth in about 25 minutes and is in Washington about 30 minutes later. On the return trip about 90 years ago, the mails left New Bern each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 3 o'clock a. m. and arrived in Plymouth at 11 p. m. the same day.

The other schedule covered the distance between here and Halifax. The mails left Halifax each Sunday and Thursday at 6 o'clock in the morning and reached here at 4 o'clock the following day. Mail for Halifax was dispatched at 6 a. m. each Tuesday and Saturday, arriving at Halifax the following day at 4 p. m.

## SMALL WOMAN IS SHOWN HERE

### Mother of Three Children Weighs Only 37 Pounds, Is 28 Inches Tall

Mrs. Doletta Buck, the smallest mother in the world, is spending a few days here this week, and regular exhibitions, sponsored by the Woman's Club, are arranged in the store formerly occupied by the W. J. Hodges Grocery Company.

The little woman, weighing only 37 pounds, and measuring 28 inches in height, was born in Quincy, Ill., 51 years ago. When 11 months old, she walked and talked, but then she was only 9 inches tall and weighed only 4 pounds. A brother was normal in size and weight.

Unusually active despite her small size, Mrs. Buck was graduated from the Furman, Neb., school, and she later taught for three years in the public schools of that city. She went on the stage at Concord, N. C., in 1905.

There are three children, two stalwart young men, one 27 and the other 21 years old, and one daughter, 8 years old. The husband is 6 feet tall. Their home is in Enid, Okla.

## Mrs. Bettie M. Hudson Died Near Parmele Friday

Mrs. Bettie M. Hudson, widow of James Allen Hudson, died at the home of her son near Parmele last Friday of cancer. Mrs. Hudson, 65 years old, had been in feeble health for some time.

Born in Pitt County, Mrs. Hudson had lived in this county for some time. Five children, three sons and two girls, survive.

Funeral services were conducted on Saturday by Rev. E. C. Shoe, Methodist minister of Robersonville. Interment was in the Hardy burial ground between Greenville and Grimesland.

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## BETTER BISCUIT CONTEST WILL BE HELD IN COUNTY

### Being Staged for 4-H Club Members Over 14 Years Age

By Miss Lora E. Sleeper

A better biscuit contest is being planned for all 4-H club members over 14 years old in the county. This is the second such contest which has been conducted in the state. It is necessary to have 10 club members compete in the county contest, which will be held in the home agent's office at the courthouse April 15th to make the county eligible to enter the district contest. All contestants should send or mail in their biscuits by April 15.

The standard recipe follows, and this will be used by all contestants:

2 cups sifted flour, 2 tablespoons fat, 4 teaspoons baking powder, about 3-4 cup milk, 1 teaspoon salt. Sift flour, baking powder, and salt. Add the fat and with two knives cut into the flour until well distributed. Add milk slowly and just enough to make a soft dough. Place on a floured board and roll out to about 1-2 inch thickness. Cut with biscuit cutter (not over 2 1-2 inches in diameter, preferable size 2-inch cutter), place on pan and bake in hot oven (475 degrees) 10 to 15 minutes. Any brand of flour is permissible and any brand of baking powder. Use the standard recipe for best results which appears on the can of baking powder.

The biscuits will be judged April 15th, the winning contestant submitting her biscuits in the district contest. The prize offered is \$12.50 to be used for the girl in attending state short course. Wake up, girls, and get busy trying for the biscuit contest! If 10 girls compete the girl who wins in the county contest will not only get a chance at the district contest but will receive a county prize of money for going to camp.

#### 4-H Girls, Attention

All girls enrolled in 4-H clubs, 14 years old by July 1, are eligible to enter the contest. The county contest will be held Saturday evening in the home agent's office. Ten girls are necessary to participate in the contest and make the county eligible to enter the district contest. The prize offered in the district is \$12.50 to be used for the winning girl going to the State Short Course. If there are ten girls in the contest the winner in the county will receive prize money sufficient to take care of expenses for the club camp. All girls sending in biscuits should select the four biscuits and wrap in oiled paper and place in a box, tin or cardboard, and mail into Miss Lora E. Sleeper, Williamston. The biscuits are due at noon April 15. Any biscuits received later than that time will be eliminated from the county contest.

## Bear Grass School News For The Past Week

The Bear Grass baseball team defeated Williamston's nine at Bear Grass last Tuesday afternoon by an 18 to 5 score, in the first game of the season for Bear Grass. Henry Gurganus allowed Williamston only four hits. Batteries for Williamston were, Manning, Harrison, Cooke and Hopkins, Gurganus and Malone holding the important positions for Bear Grass.

#### Play a Success

The senior play entitled, "A Noble Outcast," which was presented last Friday evening was very successful. A large number of patrons and students were present.

## Jig Saw Puzzle Mania Is Due To Neurotic Mania

New York—Now Charles Gray Shaw tells what he thinks of the jig saw puzzle fad.

It will be recalled that Shaw, philosophy professor at New York University, was the one who caused a storm when he said in 1931 something about whistlers being morons.

"The jig-saw, like the cross-word puzzle," he declared recently, "is a self-imposed intelligence test, by which the puzzler wishes to assure himself that he is not in the moron class."

"Such tests on a smaller scale are used in determining degrees of idiocy."

"The present craze for puzzles is a neurotic condition. A symptom of a nervous disorder."

## Order Horizontal Cut of Third In Land Values in This County

### School Teachers To Get But 70 Per Cent Pay This Month

Drastic reductions in all school teachers' salaries were recently ordered by State authorities, and now the instructors are about to end their labors with a deficit. A 5 per cent reduction, made retroactive to the beginning of the term, has been effected in the salaries of teachers, truck drivers, and all other school employees.

A teacher who has been receiving a monthly salary of \$100 will get only \$70 for the sixth month, it is understood, and so on down

the line. In other words, a teacher drawing \$100 monthly should have received \$600 during the six-month term, but the authorities came along and said that 5 per cent should be deducted from the \$600.

A nominal reduction in salaries would probably have been accepted with grace, but it is believed that the drastic decrease will bring bitter and apparently just protests.

It is not known how the salaries for the seventh and eighth months will be altered, if any.

### TAX RATE TO BE UPPED TO CARE FOR DIFFERENCE

#### Several List-takers Ordered To Start the Listing of Property at Once

A horizontal reduction of 33 1-3 per cent in all real property values in this county was ordered by the Martin County Commissioners in special session here yesterday. The blanket decrease was ordered after the commissioners discussed a complete revaluation of all properties and found that a revaluation would cost at least \$1,000 or more. The horizontal reduction gained added favor when it was agreed that there was insufficient time to revalue properties and complete the work for this year.

In short, the action of the commissioners yesterday is going to prove of little value to taxpayers. But the demand for a lower valuation has been too great to let values go unchanged, and now there will be a reduced valuation and a higher tax rate.

Everything being equal, the rate this year will be about \$1.70, as compared with \$1.25 last year. However, the 17 cents levied on property for schools will be removed, dropping the rate to about \$1.53, or 28 cents above the 1932 rate. Real property values in the county last year were \$9,516,460. Decreasing that amount by one-third, there is left a property value of \$6,344,313. The personal property will remain about the same as it was last year, it is believed. The personal property value last year, \$1,423,642, added to the reduced real estate values make a total valuation of \$7,767,955, as compared with \$10,939,511 last year.

The \$1.25 rate on the amount last year raised \$137,500. The same rate on the decreased valuation will raise only about \$97,019.4. Naturally it follows that the rate will have to be increased by 45 cents to make up the difference. The \$1.70 rate will be lowered by 17 cents, the amount levied for the 6-months schools by the State, leaving the 1933 rate at about \$1.53. There may be other changes to effect the increase of the rate even more, but that will be determined by the commissioners after all the values are established.

A recent law was passed making commissioners not criminally liable for not levying a sufficient tax to care for bonded indebtedness. However, they are authorized to do so, and it is not expected that the commissioners in this county will fail to levy the required amount. The fixing of a rate is months off, the big problem now being to get the values on the books.

Listing work was to have been held up until the first of next month, but yesterday information was received instructing the list-takers to start work immediately. The earlier listing will enable the list-takers and accountant to complete the work and have the books ready for the collector at the proper time next fall.

## HONOR ROLL AT FARM LIFE

### Total of Fifty-Nine Names On List for Sixth Month

The Farm Life School had a sizeable honor roll for the sixth month, recently completed, the list being one of the largest reported during the current term. Fifty-nine names are included in the list, as follows:

First grade: Josephine Hardison, Reba Faye Griffin, Dorothy Roberson, Noah Roberson; McDonald Hardison. Second grade: Elizabeth Manning, Lola V. Hardison, Allie M. Hardison, Allie M. Hardison, Evelyn Hardison, Martha Atha Roberson, Blanche Heath, Mary Manning, B. F. Lilley, E. H. Manning, Alton Faye Peel, Paisley Corey, Hazel Corey, Farease Manning. Third grade: Cleo Roberson, Laura Lilley, Lalo Smith Smithwick, Frances Manning, Carlyle Manning, Chloe Hardison, Thomas Daniel, Earl Heath, Robert Whitley, Vera Pearl Williams.

Fourth grade: Lavanth Hardison; Esther Williams, Oscar Wiggins, Ida Mae Corey, Hoyt Coltrain, Herbert L. Manning, Elbert Heath. Fifth grade: Ethel Lilley, Ola Lee Lilley, William Lilley, Vergil Lilley, Bettie Louise Lilley, Mary Manning, Eula Williams. Sixth grade: Sarah Getsinger, Joe Peel. Seventh grade: Mamie Clyde Manning, Eva Manning, Hugh B. Griffin, Daniel T. Lilley, Annie Getsinger, Evelyn Peel, John B. Roberson. Eighth grade: Jay Daniel, Wendell Hardison, James Peel. Ninth grade: Sarah Roberson, Thelma Coltrain, Carrie Dell Griffin, Verna Griffin, Bettie Ruth Heath. Tenth grade: Louise Manning. Eleventh grade: Archie Coltrain, Eva Brown Coltrain, Mildred Roberson, Veona Roberson.

## Bank Will Observe Halifax Day as a Holiday Tomorrow

Tomorrow, Halifax Day, will be observed as a holiday by the Branch Banking and Trust Company here, it was announced today.

Halifax Day, marking the signing of the Declaration of Independence, is widely observed in some sections of the State, but other than with the bank and its employees, business will continue as usual.

## Millinery School Planned Here Thursday, April 13

By Miss L. E. Sleeper

New bonnets from old straws will be the most interesting subject for all the club women and others interested in remodelling old hats and make them look like new. Miss Willie Hunter is due to be in the county to help you in this work which many women are interested in. Come and bring your lunch to Miss Sleeper's office Thursday morning at 10:30 o'clock and spend your time profitably.

## Why Fertile Eggs Fail To Hatch in Incubators

There are many factors causing the failure of fertile eggs to hatch out in an incubator, but the lack of vitality on either side of the breeding pen, carelessness in storing eggs for hatching, extreme variation of the temperature or humidity in incubator are the principal reasons. Care in the selection and storage of hatching eggs and constant attention to the incubator for temperature and humidity will give a larger hatch of healthy chicks.

## Alamance Farmers Are Tanning Hides This Year

Twenty-five Alamance County farmers have tanned hides for a home supply of leather this past winter according to the formula used by the animal husbandry department at the State College.