

## EARLY SALES AVERAGE \$11.22

### Estimated 170,000 Pounds on Local Floors

#### Big Decline in Value of Farm Products Is Shown in Survey

##### 3 CROPS IN THIS COUNTY ONCE WORTH \$3,000,000

##### Bigger Crops Sell For Less In 1932 Than Smaller Crops Sold for in 1931

All farm crops in Martin County, with the exception of truck and other garden crops, sold for a total of \$1,636,842, or \$48,670 less than the same crops sold for in 1931. When the acreage is considered, the 1931 crop brought much more money than the 1932 crop did. In 1931, 65,641 acres were planted to 12 crops in this county. Last year there were 70,330 acres planted to the same crops, or an increase of 4,689 acres, yet the total value was decreased by \$48,670.

The four main crops, tobacco, peanuts, corn, and cotton, sold for \$1,493,846 last year. In 1931 the same crops sold for \$1,585,532. The crops of wheat, oats, rye, soybeans, cowpeas, Irish potatoes and sweet potatoes, constituting 8,289 acres in 1932, sold for \$142,996. In 1931, 5,969 acres of the same crops sold for \$111,885.

At one time Martin County farmers were selling three crops each valued at more than one million dollars. This was the only county in the state to produce three major crops, tobacco, peanuts, and cotton, worth more than a million dollars each, the tobacco crop alone carrying a value of nearly \$3,000,000 in each of several years.

Not one of the three has passed the million mark in value recently. A study of acreages planted to the various crops in this county during the past 12 years shows one main action, with a slight variation making itself noticeable during the past two years. During most of that period, every available acre, almost, was planted either to tobacco, cotton, peanuts, or corn. The number of acres planted to strictly food crops was hardly more than a side line with the farmers.

Without a single exception, acreages were increased to certain crops bringing good prices the year before, and acreages were decreased to those crops bringing low prices the preceding year. The growers were as regular in their acreage variations as the pendulum of a clock is regular in its stroke. They would swing from first one side to the other. Peanut prices were low last year, and, as a result, there is a marked decrease in the acreage to that crop this year.

It is all in the game, and no one person or group of persons is to be held accountable.

#### MARTINS WIN SECOND HALF

#### Locals Win 16 and Lose 7 Games During Second Half of Season

Defeating Colerain here last Friday afternoon, 10 to 7, and Edenton the following day by a 6 to 0 count, Williamston's baseball team won the second half in the Albemarle League, gaining the right to battle Edenton, winners of the first half, for championship honors in the "little world series" starting here this afternoon.

Colerain, with mostly all local talent, made it interesting for the Martins last Thursday. Once or twice the visitors nearly upset the game for the locals. White, for Colerain, allowed 12 hits, while his teammates got eight off Herring.

The mighty O'Brien was hit at random here last Saturday afternoon in the eighth innings of a scheduled double-header, and the locals won by a score of 6 to 0. Brake batted for the circuit, his third four-bagger of the week. Earp made a two-base hit and a three-bagger. Latham and Uzle hit safely three out of four times at bat, the team touching O'Brien for 14 hits. Cherry fanned eight men and allowed three scratch hits.

Rain fell in torrents, closing the game after the eighth and ending the season. Williamston won 16 games and lost 7 in the last half of the season.

#### Farming in Martin County

The following table gives the acreage and values of Martin County crops for the years 1931 and 1932:

Crop	1932		1931	
	Acreage	Price	Acreage	Price
Tobacco	10,066	\$908,758	13,271	\$755,651
Peanuts	22,483	292,279	21,578	513,556
Corn	21,476	158,493	19,788	191,152
Cotton	8,016	134,316	5,035	113,288
Sweet Potatoes	1,595	53,975	1,180	47,790
Irish Potatoes	439	47,109	453	24,915
Soybeans	4,570	30,893	2,598	18,550
Oats	848	6,445	1,382	17,828
Cowpeas	710	4,345	326	2,445
Rye	14	137	17	179
Wheat	13	92	13	178
Totals	70,330	\$1,636,842	65,641	\$1,685,842

#### COUNTY RANKS 95TH IN NUMBER OF ILLITERATES

#### Nearly 3,000 Martin People Over 10 Years Unable To Read or Write

Martin County, the section enjoying the greatest farming diversification of any in the country, and with its modern school buildings in every district, ranks 95th among the counties in illiteracy. In 1930 there were 2,861 people in the county 10 years of age and over unable to read or write. The number represents 17.4 per cent of the population. The white illiterates constitute 8.7 per cent, while the negroes unable to read or write constitute 27.2 per cent, or more than 1 out of every four.

Ten per cent of all the people in the State of North Carolina 10 years of age and over are illiterate, according to the 1930 census. An illiterate is one who confesses the inability to read and write. How many near-illiterates there are in the state no one knows. But certainly there are far more people who can barely read and write than there are who cannot read and write at all.

All told there was more than 236,000 people 10 years of age and over who are illiterate. There were 241,000 in 1920. In other words, the number of illiterates declined only slightly. The percentage of illiteracy has been on the decline for decades, but there has been little change in the number for a half-century or more.

There are more than 93,000 native white illiterates in the state. Eighty-three thousand of these are adults, 21 years of age and over, and 10,000 are white children from 10 to 21 years of age. During the last 10 years there was a decrease of around 11,000 in native white illiterates in the state.

There are more than 137,000 illiterate negroes in the state, or almost exactly one-fifth of all negroes 10 years of age and over. The number of illiterate negroes in the state increased by nearly 4,000 during the last 10-year period. This was due mainly to large migrations of negroes from Georgia and South Carolina over into the southern part of the Piedmont country. Illiteracy among negroes, as among native whites, is an adult problem. Eighty-five per cent of all illiterate negroes are 21 years of age or over. Ninety per cent of all white illiterates are 21 years of age or over.

#### Drunken Man Shoots Three Friends Near Free Store

Affado Cordon, Dallas James, and Abraham Pearce, all colored men living in the Free Union section of this county, were painfully but not seriously shot by Early May Boston there last Sunday. Boston, said to have been intoxicated, shot the men as they appeared on the scene and for some cause that had not been determined this morning.

Cordon was shot in the leg. James was peppered in the arm by the shot from Boston's gun, and Pearce was spotted all over the back of his head when he fled from the scene. Boston was at his home, and his victims were said to be friends.

#### SCHOOL TRUCK MILEAGE LOWER

#### Re-routing of Trucks Will Decrease Distance By About 100 Miles

The distance of school truck routes in this county has been reduced by approximately 100 miles, it was learned this week, following the rerouting of the 34 busses serving the several Martin schools. Routes are yet to be established in one or two districts, but the mileage there will be changed very little, if any, it is believed.

The reduced mileage is the direct result of recent the state-wide law prohibiting county authorities providing transportation for those children living within two miles of a school house or that distance from a truck route. The trucks will serve those children living within two miles of a route only where the children live on that route. In other words, trucks have been operated extra mileage to haul a child or several children a mile and even less in some cases. Now the trucks will take a direct course in so far as it is possible and children living within two miles on either side of the route will have to make connection by walking to the truck route.

Many complaints are expected from both parents and children in some sections, but the new ruling was instigated by the lawmakers in an effort to effect operating costs in the transportation system.

#### Use Lard and Sulphur To Kill Some Poultry Insects

The sand flea or stick-tight flea among poultry can be treated very effectively by rubbing the infested parts with a mixture of two parts of lard and one part of finely powdered sulphur. The insect breeds in shady, sandy places under outbuildings and in chip piles and these places should be sprayed with kerosene or wired off so as to exclude the birds.

#### Considered Best To Cut and Plow Under Stalks

Tobacco stalks which are allowed to stand after harvest furnish food and breeding places for a large number of insects and should be plowed under or cut immediately after harvesting. Where the stalks are green it is best to plow them under as these green stalks supply a certain amount of plant food to the soil.

#### Proper Curing Will Save the Sweet Potato Crop

If a sweet potato grower can control the temperature and ventilation in curing his crop, he can save his potatoes, says I. I. Crawley, of Morganton, route 1, who is building a 500-bushel storage house this summer.

#### Tobacco Growers Organize In Effort To Raise Prices

Tobacco farmers of Craven, and Granville Counties have organized county associations to aid members in bargaining for better tobacco prices this fall.

#### TOWN LINING UP SOLIDLY BEHIND N. R. A. CAMPAIGN

#### Volunteers Are Visiting the Business Firms Here This Morning

While messages continued to pour into Washington from all parts of the country today, indicating that the nation has lined up solidly behind the President's Emergency Re-employment campaign, the local committee was receiving pledges of 100 per cent support from the citizenry of this community.

"America has gone to war," said W. C. Manning, chairman of the local organization of the National Recovery Administration drive. "Yes; that's exactly what has happened. We are at war against as cruel and malicious an enemy as ever attempted to riddle Old Glory. Just think for a moment of the suffering and death that have come from this frightful depression of the last four years.

"We simply must get our people back to work," continued the chairman, "and this present drive will do it. Here in Williamston we hear words of praise and encouragement on every hand from those who have studied the plans and realize that they are practicable and economically sound. I refer, of course, to the two plans for the adoption of the industrial codes and the so-called blanket code.

"Very briefly the situation may be explained in this way: In order to build up the nation's buying power to keep pace with the increasing commodity prices, there must be wholesale re-employment—not some time in the near future, but right now. So President Roosevelt, acting under the Industrial Recovery Act, first entrusted to General Hugh S. Johnson the organization of the vast task of working out acceptable industrial codes. This work has been progressing rapidly and satisfactorily. Then in order to speed things up still more and get men back to work more quickly throughout the nation, thus raising the mass buying power to keep pace with increasing commodity prices, President Roosevelt inaugurated the blanket code. This was quite fully gone into in his recent nation-wide radio address.

"The members of our local organization here in Williamston have taken off our coats, rolled up our sleeves and we have pledged the administration in Washington to work to the limit to get every working man and working woman in the town back to work before many more weeks.

"We are getting wonderful encouragement and I am sure that I shall have the honor of reporting to President Roosevelt and Recovery Administrator Johnson that Williamston has no slackers in this great drive to put an end to the depression and all the misery and suffering that have gone with it.

"Yes; America has gone to war—and, as usual, America will win."

#### Local Milk Prices Advance To Offset Higher Feed Cost

Experiencing a marked increase in feed prices and labor costs, local dairy owners are finding it necessary to advance their prices. Beginning Friday of this week the dairies will charge 14 cents a quart for milk, the price schedule varying as to quantity on the 14-cent basis. The two-cent increase a quart falls short in offsetting the production costs, the dairymen pointed out.

#### N. R. A. Program Planned For Kiwanis Meeting Here

The local Kiwanis club will hold its regular luncheon at 12:30 tomorrow in the Woman's Club hall. A program having to do with the National Recovery Act has been planned and it should prove of interest to everyone especially to business men.

#### Series Services Underway In Everett Baptist Church

Rev. James H. Smith, a former pastor of the Everetts Baptist church, started a series of services there last night. The public is invited to attend the services continuing through this week.

#### Farmers Say Little, Although No Tags Turned Early in Day

#### County Tobacco Farmers To Meet Here Friday Morning

In an effort to boost tobacco prices now being received in Eastern Carolina, tobacco farmers are holding organization meetings throughout the belt this week. Martin farmers are called to meet in the courthouse Friday morning at 10 o'clock, when resolutions will be offered and delegates are selected to attend a State meeting. The success of the movement rests with the farmers and all are urged to attend.

Already in several counties the growers have organized. They will be represented at the State meeting scheduled to be held in Raleigh Wednesday of next week. The State meeting is to be a conference and not a speech making affair and only those official delegates named by the county

meetings are expected to attend. If the State meeting is properly supported by the farmers throughout the belt, advantageous action is expected to follow. Appeals will be addressed to the tobacco administration in Washington where it is believed some steps will be taken to bring about better prices for the present crop as well as the one next year.

At the present time the control of acreage and production is being considered, but new plans may develop in the county meetings and the one to be held in Raleigh.

Farmers from other counties as well as those in Martin are invited and urged to be present at the meeting Friday morning at 11 o'clock in the Martin County courthouse.

#### LOWER GRADES MUCH HIGHER THAN YEAR AGO

#### No Dissatisfaction Reported on Local Floors This Morning

Tobacco sales were underway throughout the Eastern Bright Belt today, with several of the markets reporting heavy offerings, with prices ranging only slightly higher than those on opening day last year. As far as it could be learned at noon today, no specific complaints had been made by farmers against the sales, but very few were praising the prices received.

Offerings of inferior quality were commanding prices estimated to be from about 40 to 50 per cent higher than were paid for similar grades last year. Good quality tobacco was believed to be lower in price, very few piles bringing more than 20 cents a pound. Two-cent tobacco last year was selling today for as much as 6 cents a pound.

Approximately 170,000 pounds of the golden weed are on the floors here today, with the quality said to be the best in several years. In the first hour of sales this morning, 23,690 pounds were sold for \$275,801, a resulting average of \$11.22 per 100 pounds. These are actual figures taken from gross returns. The prices are not boosted, and as compared with the first hour sales last season they are exactly \$1.20 per hundred pounds higher. But the quality is believed to be considerably better than that of last season, and in the final analysis the 1933 prices are little higher, if any than those last year.

While no dissatisfaction was reported, there were disappointed farmers when the prices fell below the 15-cent average mark. Most of the farmers selling early today had little comment to make, but many said they received more money than they had expected they would receive.

As a whole, the farmers are saying nothing, but they are shaking their heads. They state the inferior grades are higher, but the advance on those grades is being subtracted from the prices for better grades.

Greenville, with the largest break in the history of the market, reported around 2,000,000 pounds on the floors there today, and that the block could hardly be cleared before some time tomorrow. The price average was estimated at between 9 1/2 and 10 cents. Farmers had very little to say, taking the operations as a matter of course. No tags were turned early in the day, a report stated.

Robersonville reported around 210,000 pounds on its floors today, with the average price estimated at about 11 cents a pound.

The W. I. Skinner Tobacco Company and the Export company were principal buyers on the Williamston market, the large domestic concerns buying very little.

Unfavorable weather prevailing in this section during the past few days has delayed the farmers in preparing their crops for market, and as a result comparatively light sales are expected during the next several days. At noon today there was doubt if all the offerings could be sold before closing time.

#### Former Martin Man Gets License To Practice Law

Paul R. Waters, former Martin County boy, was one of the large number of young men passing the recent State Bar examination entitling him to practice law in the courts of this State. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Warren W. Waters, of Jamesville, and is connected with the Smith-Douglass Company at its branch in Kinston.

Miss Rosalie Inman, a student at N. C. College, Greensboro, is spending a few days here with her sister, Mrs. J. E. King and Mr. King.

#### JAIL ALLEGED ROBBER HERE

#### Coley King Awaits Trial in Connection with Everetts and Oak City Robbery

Coley King, young white man alleged to have taken part in various robberies in this county several months ago, was jailed here last Saturday by Sheriff C. B. Roebuck. He is scheduled to face trial at the next term of superior court convening here September 18.

King, captured in Southern Pines about three weeks ago, is said to have robbed several stores in Everetts and Oak City. T. C. Poole and Geo. Berry were found guilty of participating in the robbery when they were tried before Judge Hunt Parker here last March. One or two others believed to have been connected with the robberies have not been arrested.

#### Local Ball Team Pitchers Have Successful Season

The Williamston baseball club established splendid pitching records during the Albemarle League season, the four main pitchers winning 30 and losing 16 games during that time, which combined with the one win pitched by Elliott gives the club a percentage of .660. There was also one tie game.

Kugler, with 11 wins and 3 losses, for a percentage of .786, led the club. It might be pointed out that he got several favorable "breaks" getting credit for one win with one pitched ball. Practor won 4 and lost 2 for a percentage of .667. Cherry was next with 9 wins and 6 defeats, for a percentage of .600. Herring won 6 and lost 5, for a mark of .545. Cherry and Elliott, who only played one game with the club has a record of 1,000, winning his only start.

#### Organize Community Bible Class and Singing School

A Bible and singing school, organized in the Lilley's Hall community of Griffins Township, is attracting large numbers weekly, Simon Lilley, one of the organizers, said recently. The neighborhood gatherings are attended by about 75 of the community people on an average. The school is serving the community as a place of recreation as well as providing of much value in the spiritual uplifting of the community.

#### Escapes Unhurt When Automobile Turns Over

Dick Cherry, pitcher on the local baseball team, escaped injury when his car skidded and turned over on the Everetts road out of town early last Saturday night. The car was not badly damaged.

#### LAW AGAINST FIRE - LIGHTING STRENGTHENED

#### Unlawful To Hunt Game in Boats by Use of Torch or Other Lights

With the opening of the hunting season only a few days distant, County Game Warden Hines calls the attention of hunters to the new law passed by the last legislature in connection with hunting by fire-lighting on the rivers, creeks, and other streams in Martin, Bertie, Beaufort, and Washington Counties.

The act reads: "Section 1. That it shall be unlawful for any person or persons to hunt with gun any wild animal or wild fowl, or game of any kind in the night time by fire-light, electric light, flashlight, lantern, torch or any other kind of artificial light whatsoever in or from any boat, canoe, skiff, or any other kind of craft floated on water, on any of the rivers, creeks, streams, or other bodies of water of the counties of Bertie, Martin, Washington, and Beaufort.

"Sec. 2. That when more persons than one are engaged in the offense set out in section one of this act, any one of them may be compelled to give evidence against all others concerned, and the witness upon giving such information shall be acquitted and held discharged from all penalties and pains to which he was subjected by his participation in the offense."

The teeth in the act are found in section three which reads as follows: "That it shall constitute prima facie evidence of the violation of this act if any one be found in the night time on any of the rivers, creeks, streams, or other watercourses, with gun or guns, in any boat, canoe, skiff, or other craft, with any artificial light or lights or any material or equipment used in fire-lighting as set forth and defined in the first section of the act."

Persons violating the provisions of the act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined or imprisoned at the discretion of the court.

It is understood that a similar law has been on the books making hunting from boats by artificial light unlawful, but the new act puts more teeth in the law.

#### T. W. Holliday Is First Farmer To Sell Tobacco

Mr. T. W. Holliday, Jamesville Township farmer, was the first to arrive here yesterday with tobacco for sale today. He had approximately 500 pounds of the golden weed.

Deliveries to the warehouses here were brisk during a greater part of yesterday afternoon, but no record-breaking quantity for the initial sale was anticipated at that time.