



## PROCEEDINGS IN MARTIN COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT

### Criminal Docket Was Completed Tuesday; Many Civil Actions Settled

The Martin County Superior Court ends the first week of its two weeks term today with much work already handled, but with a congested calendar awaiting attention next week.

No startling cases have been called by the court, and comparatively small crowds have heard the proceedings. The criminal docket, completed Tuesday afternoon, was one of the smallest in years.

Criminal cases handled by the court not previously reported are as follows:

Cody Kain, young white man, pleaded guilty of robbing two stores in Everetts and was sentenced to the roads for 12 to 18 months in each case, the sentences to run concurrently. The burglary charge preferred against Kain was not pressed.

Redding Tyre and Perlie Hardison, pleaded guilty of stealing meat and were sentenced to the roads for 12 months each.

Sylvester Brown went to the roads for a period of six months when he pleaded guilty to stealing a small quantity of lard.

Charles Johnson was sentenced to the roads for two years and Lee Jones was enrolled along with him for a 12-months stay when they were found guilty of larceny and receiving.

John Williams drew six months in the case charging him with larceny and receiving.

W. T. Roberts and W. T. Albritton, charged with housebreaking and larceny, were sentenced to the roads, Roberts for a period of 18 months and Albritton for 8 months.

Probably the most important case on the civil docket was that of Mrs. Lena Cochran, asking \$50,000 damages against Dr. L. B. McBrayer. The case, called Wednesday, was expected to continue well into Thursday, but the action came to a sudden close when the litigants agreed on a \$7,500 settlement. Mr. Cochran was awarded \$4,000 damages; the estate of Robert Cochran, the man who was fatally hurt in the automobile wreck in connection with which the suit was brought, was awarded \$3,000; Leighton Cochran, young boy injured in the wreck, received \$500.

A non-suit resulted in the case of Brown, Roberson, and Coltrain vs. J. L. Coltrain, administrator, the court ordering the plaintiffs to pay the costs.

A divorce was granted Thessa B. Roebuck against William Roebuck.

The case of Slade, Rhodes and Company against Sarah Brown was settled by agreement.

Judge Barnhill non-suited the case of Miss Thelma Harrell against the Atlantic Coast Line. Miss Harrell was asking \$2,500 for injuries received in an automobile-train wreck in Aulander about two years ago.

R. W. Salisbury was given a judgment against Lewis H. Peel, the court ordering the defendant to furnish bond in the sum of \$1,000 for the alleged illegal appearance of a note endorsement.

Judgment was given H. L. Keel against Sidney Daniel.

The case of Mrs. Ethel Roebuck against Barnhill et al, in which she was asking \$2,500 for damages sustained in an elevator accident in Barnhill's store in Everetts about three years ago, was called yesterday afternoon. An error in the presentment delayed the action, and the case was not completed until noon today when the jury awarded the plaintiff a verdict in the sum of \$2,500.

The court then started on the case of Fred Everett against Dees Monument Works and by the time that is completed there'll be little time left for other cases, it is believed.

The court will continue its work next Monday morning.

### Regular Services At Baptist Church Here

There will be two regular preaching services at the Baptist church on Sunday. The 11 o'clock service following the Sunday school, and the evening service at 8 o'clock.

This, however, will be the last Sunday evening service to be held at 8 o'clock, for beginning with the first Sunday night in October, the evening service will be moved back to the 7:30 hour.

The church has some matters of importance to come up at the Sunday services, and requests the presence of the membership. Some additions are to be made to the board of deacons and two women are to be added to that board. The B. Y. P. U. groups will meet Sunday evening at 7 o'clock for the purpose of organizing for the winter's work. To all these services the public is invited.

## Opening Day Enrollment In Martin County Schools

More than 3,000 children reported for work in the thirteen white schools in this county Monday, the enrollment being one of the largest ever recorded. While there will be many changes in the enrollment figures as the term progresses, the following table shows comparative opening registrations in the elementary and high schools for the 1932-33 and 1933-34 terms:

School	1932-33			1933-34		
	Ele.	H. S.	Total	Ele.	H. S.	Total
Dardens	50		50	40		40
Jamesville	254	114	368	300	113	413
Williamston	516	182	698	555	181	736
Everetts	218	60	278	233	**	233
Gold Point	75		75	48		48
Hassell	62		62	50		50
Hamilton	135		135	165		165
Oak City	279	97	376	265	115	380
Robersonville	323	192	515	350	210	560
Parmele	75		75	55		55
Macedonia	25		25			
Farm Life	103	63	166	122	70	192
Bear Grass	233	54	287	222	54	276
Lilly's Hall	33		33	31		31
Griffins	28		28	**		**
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2,409</b>	<b>762</b>	<b>3,171</b>	<b>2,436</b>	<b>743</b>	<b>3,179</b>

\* Consolidated with Williamston. \*\* Consolidated with Farm Life.

\*\* Consolidated with Robersonville.

## "Fire-Bug" Burns Three Packhouses

### FALL BEGINS 23RD

Today marks the close of summer, and tomorrow, beginning at 7.01 in the evening autumn will be officially recognized as the third new season of 1933. The season continues with us until December 22, when old man winter makes his appearance officially.

Probably at no other season in the year do the landscapes with their golden harvests and leaves of every hue unfold a greater and more striking beauty in this section of the country than they do in the autumn season.

## COUNTY BOARD REVIEWS AUDIT

### May Turn Insolvent Tax List Over to Collector On Percentage

The Martin County commissioners, in special session here yesterday afternoon, reviewed an audit of the general county books and accepted the figures presented by Greathouse and Butler, accountants. The auditors were instructed to complete individual office audits, and it is understood that a modern accounting system will be installed in the office of the court clerk. Complete audits will be reviewed by the commissioners at their next regular meeting on October 2, it was learned following the meeting yesterday.

It is understood the commissioners are planning to turn the so-called insolvent tax list over to a special collector for the collection of accounts on a percentage basis. No definite action has been taken in the matter, as far as it could be learned, and nothing will likely be done about it until the tax sales are held the first Monday in December.

All members of the board were present for the meeting here yesterday afternoon.

### 10 Per Cent Drop in Attendance Reported

A 10 per cent decrease in attendance upon the local schools was reported for the first week by Principal D. N. Hix this morning. An average daily attendance of 159 was reported in the high school while the attendance in the elementary school dropped from 555 to 528 pupils, the school man said.

"Pink eye" was advanced as one of the main reasons for the drop in attendance.

### Says Cotton Crop Will Be Housed in Two Weeks

"Two more weeks and the cotton crop in our section will all be housed," Mr. J. W. Eubanks, member of the Martin County Board of Education, said yesterday afternoon. With the tobacco markets closed, the farmers are rushing their cotton to the gins, but most of them are carrying their cotton home with them, Mr. Eubanks explained. He also said the farmers in that section apparently realize they cannot operate next year under NRA prices on 10-cent cotton now.

## BLOODHOUNDS PUT ON TRAIL; LOSS IS \$6,000.00

### Man Believed To Have Set Fire To Buildings Is Hiding In Woods

Three packhouses on as many farms and large quantities of tobacco were destroyed by fire in Hamilton Township last night, the total loss being estimated at about \$6,000. The fires are believed to have been of incendiary origin, but at noon today no arrests had been effected, as far as it could be learned here. County officers are making a thorough investigation of the fires, but they had disclosed no findings at noon today.

The first of the three fires was discovered by Mr. L. H. Rouse at his home on Highway No. 125, near Butler's Bridge. The packhouse, a two-story wooden structure 16 by 32 feet with a shed attached, and 15 acres of tobacco with the exception of a small quantity sold on opening week, were destroyed. No insurance was carried on the tobacco, and Mr. Rouse was not sure whether there was any coverage on the building, which was valued at around \$700. Mr. Rouse, an exceptionally successful tobacco farmer, valued his tobacco at about \$2,000, basing his estimate on prices paid.

About three-quarters of an hour later fire was discovered in the packhouse belonging to Mr. W. A. White, about one-half mile from the Rouse home. The building, valued at about \$400, and six acres of tobacco with the exception of the first curing, were burned, resulting in a loss estimated by Mr. White at about \$1,000. Only \$100 insurance was carried on the building and none on the tobacco.

At 3 o'clock this morning, the packhouse of William Purvis, about two miles from the White home, was burned along with a cotton house, two and a half bales of cotton and about 12 acres of tobacco. Only 40 sticks of graded tobacco had been sold, leaving Purvis with a loss estimated at about \$2,000. It is understood that the tobacco was insured. County officers and others hurried to that section early this morning, and it was first thought that a band of nightriders was responsible for the fires. This theory was soon discredited, and it is now believed that a prowling Negro fired the buildings. Bloodhounds were called by Mr. J. W. Eubanks, and they picked up a trail which was lost about an hour later and about three miles from one of the fires. A suspicious party was seen there and a search of a woods in the section is being made in an effort to capture the man. The dogs lost the trail when the man's tracks were erased by a road drag, it was said.

The farmers had signed tobacco acreage reduction contracts and took part in the cotton reduction movement, it was learned.

### Salisbury Man Accepts Position in Robersonville

B. A. Barringer, of Salisbury, has accepted a position in the Robersonville High School, taking the place made vacant by Professor J. H. Smith who resigned last week to continue his work in a Louisville Seminary.

## MANY CHILDREN ARE BEING KEPT OUT OF SCHOOLS

### Poverty and "Pink Eye" Are Given as Main Causes

While no definite figures will be available until a survey is completed in the several school districts in this county, it is estimated that several hundred children are being held at home by "pink eye" or near-poverty. In some sections of the county, the contagious "pink eye" is said to be very common among the smaller children, some families reporting all members as victims. Children suffering with this disease are advised to remain at home. While the "pink eye" causes the eye to itch and burn and the pupil to turn pink, it is not considered dangerous in most cases.

The delayed tobacco opening has developed hardships among hundreds of families, and it is believed that several hundred children are being held out of school because they have very little clothing to put on their backs. Many requests for aid have reached the county welfare office here from parents throughout the county, the authorities stating that they were finding it next to impossible to meet the requests for clothing for the needy school children. The welfare agents are doing all they can to relieve the situation, but an average attendance upon the schools will hardly be possible before the markets are open at least a week or more, enabling the parents to get money for needed clothing and supplies.

In the meantime, school and welfare authorities are urging the parents to place their children whenever it is humanly possible for them to do so. It is agreed that a whole lot of clothing is not necessary just at this time, and that many children who are not now attending school could do so if they so desired.

### Williamston Wins Over Bear Grass Yesterday

Playing a benefit game for the local high school football eleven, Williamston's all-star nine defeated the strong Bear Grass baseball team by a 12 to 7 count on the local lot yesterday afternoon. It was another one of those "hot" games in which several of the local stars almost play out.

Gurganus and Peele working on the mound for the visitors allowed seven hits; Cooke, for Williamston, was touched for 9 hits. No accurate record of errors was available. But the game was enjoyed just the same.

Next Wednesday afternoon, Oak City's strong nine will play the locals here, and the receipts will be used in financing the football schedule here this season.

### Program of Services at Christian Church Here

A regular schedule of services will be held in the local Christian church Sunday.

Sunday school convenes at 9:54. At the morning service, the pastor will speak on "Spiritual Measurements." The evening service will be held at 7:30 o'clock, the pastor preaching on "A Social Religion."

All members are urged to attend and a cordial invitation awaits visitors.

### Program of Services At Methodist Church

C. T. Rogers, pastor. The worship program of the Sunday school begins at 9:45 sharp. You are asked to be in your place by 9:40. Church services at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m.

Epworth League Monday at 8 p. m. You are cordially invited to meet with us. The congregation will be asked to make a special prayer for the absent members.

### Revival Services To Begin At Riddicks Grove Sunday

Following the regular service at Riddicks Grove Baptist Church Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock, a series of revival services will be conducted there, it was announced by the pastor, Rev. W. B. Harrington this week. The meeting, opening Sunday night, will continue through the week, it was said. The public is invited to attend the services.

### Respected Colored Woman Of Hassell Dies Last Week

Nannie Jones, very highly respected colored woman of the Hassell section, died at her home there last week following a long illness. Well advanced in age, she had been an ardent member of the Primitive Baptist church for nearly 40 years.

## Plans Go Forward for Tobacco Market Opening Next Monday

### Ask Donations for Relief of Storm Sufferers Along Coast

With hundreds of families homeless and all their earthly belongings destroyed as a result of the recent storm in eastern North Carolina, the Red Cross is appealing to local people for funds. Federal Relief Director Hopkins has ruled that Federal funds cannot be used to rebuild or repair the thousands of homes destroyed or damaged by the storm, the decision placing the entire burden on the people themselves with only the aid of the Red Cross. The people, in many cases, are in destitute circumstances, with no place to turn except to the Red Cross, and that organization is without sufficient funds to meet the emergency.

Mrs. A. R. Dunning, chairman of the Martin County chapter of

the Red Cross organization, has been asked to direct an appeal to Martin County people, and it is hoped that a substantial support will be given the appeal. All funds will be used directly in the stricken areas. Thousands of dollars will be required to meet the minimum needs of those families without resources whatever.

Since the appeal comes in behalf of near-by neighbors, it is believed the people of Martin County will respond willingly and liberally. An organization to canvass the people of the county is being planned, but in the meantime all those willing to contribute to the worthy cause are asked to forward their donations to Mrs. Dunning, chairman, at Williamston.

### GETS 8 MONTHS FOR KILLING SUNDAY NIGHT

### Jasper Page Pleads Guilty To Manslaughter in Court Tuesday

Robersonville, N. C., Sept. 21.—Jasper Page, colored, was sentenced to the roads for a period of eight months by Judge M. V. Barnhill in the Martin County Superior Court last Tuesday afternoon for the killing of Jasper Staton, colored, near here last Sunday night. Page pleaded guilty to manslaughter, and evidence in the case proved favorable to him. Judge Barnhill, it was unofficially learned, would have favored Page's release had the man limited the number of shots fired into Staton's body. Very little evidence was heard, and the case was disposed of in short order.

Staton, employed locally during the past year or two, went to the home of Nan Coffield, colored woman living on the James Daniel farm, near here, last Sunday evening. While there he quarreled with Mary Jane Andrews, an occupant of the Coffield home. The Coffield woman attempted to run him away when he attacked the girl, and when she failed in her efforts she called to Page, who also lived in the Coffield home. Page, apparently excited, ran for a pistol, and upon his return he used it freely. One shot struck Staton and one ball entered the face of the girl, but she was not seriously wounded. Staton was removed to a Washington hospital, where he died about 3 o'clock Monday morning.

### Agent Is Appointed For Cotton Growers Group

James M. Rogers, son of Rev. C. T. Rogers, of Williamston, was named authorized agent of the North Carolina Cotton Growers Cooperative Association for Martin County this week. Growers are directed to get in touch with Mr. Rogers when planning to make cotton deliveries.

### Services at Hamilton Church Next Sunday

There will be morning and evening prayer with sermon each time at St. Martin's Episcopal Church, Hamilton, this Sunday. It is hoped that every member will make a special effort to attend these services, as announcements will be made for the fall work. We cordially invite all our friends to worship with us, too.

### Supreme Court Sends Case Back For Retrial

The State Supreme Court this week granted Hoyt Barber, Martin County farmer, a new trial in the case instituted by the Colt Company, makers of carbide plants, to recover approximately \$400 claimed due it by the farmer.

Upon what grounds a new trial was granted, Mr. Barber by the court could not be learned. Judge Hunt Parker did not submit the charges of fraud to the jury, nor did he charge the jury in the case, it is understood. The case will likely be called at the November term of the Martin County Superior Court.

Catawba County farmers have purchased more farm machinery in the past three months than they have in the whole of the past three years.

## LARGE QUANTITY WEED HAS BEEN PUT ON FLOORS

### Agreement Is Still Hanging Fire Between Buyers and Government

Reports received from Washington at noon today stated that the conference arranged to boost tobacco prices was still in session, but that an early agreement was expected.

While government officials and tobacco buyers and manufacturers have failed to adopt an agreement advancing prices to a certain point, tobacco farmers throughout eastern Carolina continued their preparation today to place a portion of their crop on the warehouse floors for sale Monday morning. Already millions of pounds of the crop have been placed on warehouse floors for sale next Monday, and while there is a possibility that warehouses will continue closed, it is believed that sales will be resumed that day with the understanding that the government will see to it that he farmer gets a higher price for his tobacco.

The warehouses here are receiving tobacco right along now, it was reported this afternoon.

It was generally believed and hoped in these parts that some agreement had already been reached that would have resulted in parity prices for the remainder of the present crop, that the conference scheduled in Washington yesterday was for the formal adoption of the proposals advanced last week. The meeting scheduled for yesterday morning, was recessed until that afternoon, and when no settlement could be reached the conference then recessed until today.

Farm administration officials sat in on the meetings of domestic and export buyers. The domestic buyers outlined a tentative proposal which was taken under consideration by administration officials.

It would bind the larger domestic buyers to pay prices close to parity for the remainder of the marketing year up to June 30, but the buying would be based on consumption of flue-cured by the manufacturers over the last few years.

On its face, the proposition sounded good to farm officials, but they said they wanted to do a little research before they accepted it, especially to find out how much tobacco would be bought.

Growers complained that the larger domestic buyers had paid parity prices for the better grades of tobacco they acquired in the past, but that the real problem was the lower grades and the tobacco exported.

George N. Peek, administrator of the farm act, Chester C. Davis, director of production, and J. B. Hutson, head of the tobacco section, discussed the new proposal with the domestic buyers, including S. Clay Williams, president of the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, and several others, but no conclusion was reached.

The export buyers held preliminary discussions during the morning and early in the afternoon they withdrew to a closed room in a hotel for a session which lasted hours.

The proposed agreement on which the hearing was held, or rather scheduled, would have bound both the larger domestic and export purchasers to pay prices to be set by the Secretary of Agriculture.

The pact was presented to the tobacco men last week by the farm administration, it being the first proposed marketing agreement offered by Secretary Wallace. After the meeting it was indicated that the buyers would accept the pact, but over the weekend a good many of them changed their minds.

The export buyers, who handle on an average more than one-half the flue-cured crop, balked at entering an agreement along with the domestic group. The export representatives said their situation was different and should be handled through a separate pact. Farm officials tentatively agreed, provided the proposals by the export group were satisfactory.

A phase of the flue-cured export situation which has encouraged the farm officials is the low level of the dollar. This, they said, would enable the foreign purchasers to pay a price approaching parity and yet the actual cost of their tobacco in terms of gold would be relatively low.

A bit disappointed because of the delay, the administration group reported "progress" and reiterated determination to obtain higher prices to the growers.

### PUT OFF TAX SALE

Martin County tax sales for the year 1932, held up by an injunction several weeks ago, were again delayed this week when Judge M. V. Barnhill signed an order scheduling the sales for the first Monday in December. The delinquent list was scheduled to be advertised the first week in October and the sales were to follow on the first Monday in November. Under the new order, the list will be advertised the first week in November, and the sales held the first Monday in December.

The second delay in holding the sales was granted, it is understood, because the tobacco holiday had delayed the income of many property owners. County authorities are confident that many of the tax accounts will have been settled by the first week in November now that the property owners have been given added opportunity to pay their taxes.

### SEEK UNIFORM PEANUT PRICE

### Meeting Is Held at Rich Square Tuesday To Make Plans

Rich Square, Sept. 20.—Plans were laid here Tuesday afternoon to seek to carry to a successful culmination the stabilization of peanut prices by the steering committee of the Eastern Carolina Chamber of Commerce, sponsor of this movement.

In the absence of Chairman J. H. Matthews, Secretary N. G. Bartlett acted as chairman of the meeting. Congressman John H. Kerr made an address to the gathering. Judge Kerr will accompany the committee to Washington for the furtherance of the plan at a later date.

The meeting went on record as asking for a minimum of 3-1-2 cents per pound for the 1933 crop with a 25 per cent acreage reduction for 1934 and 1935. The meeting also favored entering into a marketing agreement with the cleaners and shellers for handling the crop. Plans were laid for carrying forward a campaign to get peanuts under the wing of the agricultural adjustment administration at the next session of Congress. Judge Kerr expressed the feeling that there would not be so much trouble encountered in getting peanuts put back into the bill by an amendment now, because the authorities at Washington are more familiar now with the importance of this crop. The adoption of the peanut code will be the next thing of importance to the industry, the committee feels. Reports by those present from five counties indicated an unusually short crop this year.

### Presbyterians Announce Week's Program Services

"The Church with an open door." The usual services will be held at all points Sunday, September 24. A series of meetings will begin at Roberson's Chapel Thursday night, October 5th, at 7:30 p. m., and at Bear Grass on Monday night, October 16th. The Rev. M. O. Sommers, of Clinton, N. C., will bring the messages at Roberson's Chapel and the Rev. W. S. Harden, of Greenville, N. C., the ones at Bear Grass. Make a new deal with yourself and come to church Sunday.