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ESTABLISHED 1898

FARMERS SOON TO GET TOBACCO BENEFIT MONEY

Approximately \$58,000 Estimated As Farmers' Share In Martin

Martin County farmers will receive within the next month or two approximately \$58,000 as their share in the tobacco benefit fund. Warehouse employees are busy now verifying sales records, and the work will be rushed to completion by the latter part of this week, it is understood. It is not known here just what will be done after the sales are verified, but it is believed that the information will be forwarded to the secretary of agriculture, who will draw checks for the various amounts and forward them to the county agent. The farmer will be asked to call at the office of the county agent with his sales slips and get his money. It might be that the farmer will be asked to call at the agent's office before the information is forwarded to Washington. However, complete details will be announced in ample time so as not to cause a delay in placing the benefit money in the hands of the growers.

During the first four sales days, August 29 to September 1, inclusive, the local market paid out \$35,526.18. The government will add to that amount 20 per cent of the total, creating \$7,105.23 more for the farmers. From September 25 to October 7, the government will pay 10 per cent of the receipts, bringing to patrons of this market an additional \$17,918.69, or a total of \$25,023.92.

The undertaking is a huge one, and if everything works smoothly much time will be required to complete the work. More particulars in connection with the plan will be made from time to time.

PLAN ADDITION AT BEAR GRASS

Consider Constructing Two-Room Addition To School

Plans are being considered for the construction of a two-room addition to the Bear Grass school building, it was learned this week. The project has been approved by the school commission authorities and is now before the Civil Works administrator in Raleigh.

At the present time the school there is badly crowded even with one grade housed in the community house and another in the library.

The project, estimated to cost approximately \$8,000, will be financed by the Civil Works Administration, it is understood.

Thief Whitewashes Mule and Sells Him To Owner

Colorful stories were told back yonder in the old horse-trading days, but one even more colorful was learned this week following the delivery of one Edward Brooks, colored prisoner, to the State Highway road camp near here.

As the story was learned here, Brooks is alleged to have stolen a black mule. He whitewashed the animal and sold him to the original owner who did not discover his "white" mule was black until a rain caught them both in the open a few days later.

The same Brooks is said to have placed his small brother in a sack and sold him as a pig in the pike, receiving \$4.50. Brooks dumped the boy in the hog pen and went on his way. The boy crawled from the pen and beat his brother home, while the purchaser is said to have believed the pig he thought he bought had escaped.

Brooks, coming here from Pantego, is now serving time in the road camp near here.

Fifteen Pupils Make Everetts Honor Roll

The names of fifteen pupils appear on the Everetts school honor roll for the third month, recently ended, it was announced this week by Principal Russell, as follows:

First Grade: Rachel Marie Edmondson, Harold Harrison.
Second Grade: Janie Margaret Ayers, Bernice Meeks, Mary Lou Wynne, Russell Mobley, Billy Clark.
Third Grade: Dora O'Neil Bailey, John Mobley, Jr.
Fourth Grade: Grace Clark.
Fifth Grade: Florine Clark.
Sixth Grade: Joe Johnson.
Seventh Grade: Mattie Lou Keel, Margaret Edwards, Ernestine Forbes.

More Cotton Ginned This Year In Martin County

Martin County farmers had ginned 1,269 more bales of cotton up to the first of this month than they did up to the first of December last year, a government report released recently shows. The report shows 5,824 bales ginned this year as compared with 4,555 ginned to December 1 last year.

The State, with 661,621 bales ginned this year, reported an increase of 46,221 bales over last year's production. Had the reduction program not been in effect, it is believed the crop would have been the largest grown in this State in a number of years.

CANTATA TO BE PRESENTED BY CHORAL CLUB

Choral Society Will Have Charge Of "The King Cometh" Sunday

This coming Sunday afternoon at 5:30 o'clock the Williamston Choral Society will give a Christmas cantata at the Church of the Advent. The name of the cantata is "The King Cometh," by Stults. It is written in three parts: I, A King Is Promised; II, The Incarnation; III, The King Is Born. It will take about 50 minutes to render this music, and after it begins there will be no intermission. Promptly at 5:30 the procession will form at the entrance of the church, and the lights of the church will be turned out, excepting the lights on the organ and those on the altar. Each member of the choir will carry a candle, and they will march in, singing "O Come All Ye Faithful." After the choir is seated, the rector of the church will read a passage of Scripture and offer a prayer, and then the cantata will begin.

No offering will be taken, but the alms basins will be placed on a table in the vestibule of the church, so that those who desire may make an offering, the money to be used for charity.

As has been announced, the Choral Society is sponsored by the Woman's Club, but is made up of men as well as women. There are over 25 members. The cantata is directed by Mrs. Wheeler Martin and the organist is Mrs. Warren Biggs.

It is understood that this service will take the place of the usual Sunday night services in the churches; hence a large crowd is expected.

Election Of Vestry At Church Of The Advent

Sunday evening, after the regular service, there was a congregational meeting at the Church of the Advent for the purpose of electing the Vestry for the coming year. The same members as last year were re-elected. They are Messrs. N. C. Green, Maurice Moore, Clayton Moore, J. H. Saunders, Ellis Malone, R. S. Smith, C. B. Clark and Leslie Fowden. At the organization of the Vestry, Mr. Green was elected senior warden and Mr. Maurice Moore was elected junior warden. Judge Moore was elected treasurer, and Mr. Maurice Moore secretary.

Martin County Schools Close For Holidays

The last of the Martin County schools close tomorrow for the Christmas holidays, several having ceased activities last Friday. Closing tomorrow afternoon, the local schools will reopen Monday, January 1, it was announced yesterday by Principal D. N. Hix.

Brief Christmas exercises including the exchange of gifts will feature the closing day activities here tomorrow.

Car Owners Asked To Reserve Parking Space

Local car owners are again asked to use discretion in parking their cars in the business section during these next few days. With a very few exceptions, most employees are walking to and from their work, providing just that many more parking places for visitors from the country and other communities.

Two Martin County Girls Honored At E. C. T. C.

Two Martin County girls, Miss Virginia Green Taylor, of Williamston, and Miss Thelma Peel, of Everetts, were signally honored recently when they were elected to head their respective classes in the East Carolina Teachers' College, Greenville.



BOY NEARLY LOSES SIGHT BY FIREWORKS

Firecracker Explodes In Face Of Martin Anderson Last Week

Martin Anderson, young son of Mr. and Mrs. O. S. Anderson, nearly lost his sight last week when a firecracker exploded and burned his eyes. It was thought at first that the child would be blind for life, but doctors are now more hopeful that his eyes will be all right within a few days. Doctors scraped the eyeball and removed the burned powder.

While the accident is one of the most serious heard here this year in connection with the firing of popcrackers, there have been a number of others of minor consequence. Little Catherine York suffered a burned finger in attempting to shoot a popcracker last week.

Shooting of fireworks is being well controlled in the business section here, but dangerous practices have been reported in other sections. Children, playing with the dangerous fireworks should remember that it is unlawful to throw popcrackers at people or automobiles. Several arrests are pending, it is understood, in some cases where children threw popcrackers at cars.

Sheriff C. B. Roebuck's car was a firecracker target on the Jameville road last week, one attack almost causing the officer to wreck his car. Other motorists have reported attacks made on their cars by children with the various fireworks weapons, and it is understood that some of the cases will be investigated.

Several bales of cotton were threatened by fire in Oak City last week as a result of careless handling of fireworks. The owner, Mr. J. H. Ayers, discovered the fire and put it out before any damage was done.

Already more fireworks have been sold and fired here than at any Christmas time in years, and while local and county authorities are quietly observing the play, they plan to prosecute every case possible where the laws are violated.

Drives Car Into Mule Stable; Hailed In Court

Losing control of the machine, Elbert Wilson, young white man, drove his Pontiac coupe through a fence and into a mule stable on Frank Weaver's farm to the edge of town here last Sunday night. Considerable damage was done to the car, fence and stables; but Wilson and his companion, W. B. Glasgow, escaped with slight injuries.

Wilson crashed the fence, and continued his wild drive through the side of the building, stopping the car in a stable with a mule. Planks and splinters flew thick and fast, but the animal was not hurt.

GLADSTONE WILL PROBATED HERE

Estate Estimated To Reach Between \$75,000 And \$100,000

The will of the late Frank L. Gladstone was filed in the courthouse here last week, representing what is believed to be one of the largest estates bequeathed a beneficiary in this county in a number of years. The will mentioned two beneficiaries, Mrs. L. F. Anthony, a sister who died sometime ago, and his wife, Mrs. Gattie Cloman Gladstone. The paper, prepared back in May, 1922, bequeathed \$5,000 to Mrs. Anthony and the remainder of the estate to Mrs. Gladstone.

It is estimated that the estate has a value ranging from \$75,000 to \$100,000.

According to rumors heard during the past two or three days, Mr. Gladstone's daughter, Mrs. Mary Taylor, is likely to contest the will, but this could not be learned as an established truth here.

1934 Automobile License Tags Moving Slowly

The sale of 1934 State automobile license tags is advancing a bit slowly here, the bureau reporting a few over 400 sold up until yesterday noon. The sale represents a cash outlay of slightly more than \$5,000.

According to unofficial information received here a day or two ago, the local bureau will be closed after the first of the year. It was first announced by the Carolina Motor Club, which organization maintains the bureau, that the office here would be kept open all next year.

"Prairie Rose" To Be Given At Jameville

Jameville High School students will present the play, "Prairie Rose," in the high school auditorium there this evening at 8 o'clock.

The cast, coached by Miss Annie V. Horner, is well selected for the play presentation, and a number of features have been arranged between the four acts.

Proceeds from the 10 and 20-cent admission fee will be used for school purposes, it was announced.

Mad Dog Runs Wild In Bear Grass Township

Two young sons of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Mendenhall, of Bear Grass Township, were bitten last week by a mad dog. A third person was said to have been bitten, but he had not started taking treatments up until yesterday.

A report from the bureau of hygiene, Raleigh, was received here yesterday, and the two children started taking the Pasteur treatment immediately.

PROGRAMS WILL BE PUT ON BY PRESBYTERIANS

Local Christmas Program To Be Presented At 5:30 Friday Afternoon

During the Christmas season, the following Christmas programs and trees will be given by the Presbyterians.

At Ballard's Farm the Sunday school will present a Christmas program which will be followed by the distribution of presents and fruit. After the exercises the Young People will practice a little play entitled "Gifts For the King."

The Christmas program will be Wednesday night at 7 o'clock. The play Tuesday night of next week.

On Thursday night at Roberson's Chapel the Choral Club of Williamston will sing. After the musical program gifts and fruit will be given to the members of the Sunday school. The hour is 7 p. m.

On Friday afternoon at 5:30 the Williamston Sunday school will present its Christmas program followed by the awarding of presents for yearly attendance and also gifts and fruits for each Sunday school pupil.

Friday night at 7 o'clock the Bear Grass Sunday school will give a Christmas program followed by the play "Gifts For the King" by the Young People of the church. Gifts and fruit will be given to Sunday school pupils and the Young People.

Regular services will be held at each of these points on Christmas eve.

Woman's Club Sponsors Dance Friday Night

The local Woman's Club announces a dance in the club hall here next Friday evening, the Robersonville orchestra furnishing the music.

Improved Attendance Last Month In Local School

Attendance figures reflected an improved condition in the local school during the third month, Principal D. N. Hix reporting an increase of 15 pupils in attendance over the previous month. The average daily attendance for the period was 91 per cent, 540 pupils in the elementary grades and 157 in the high school attending regularly on an average.

Stray Mule Killed by Car On Highway Yesterday

A mule, loose on the highway between Everetts and Robersonville, was struck and killed by an automobile driven by Joe Pinner, of Elizabeth City, late yesterday afternoon. The name of the owner of the animal could not be learned here.

FOUR MORE DAYS!

Four more shopping days are left before Christmas. While it is too late to shop early, it is not too late to find hundreds of bargains in local stores. In fact, new shipments of appropriate Christmas gifts for all members of the family are arriving daily, and present indications point to a continued busy season here.

To accommodate their patrons, local stores will continue open each evening this week until 9 o'clock with the exception of Saturday, when the stores will continue open until 11 o'clock.

SEE AGREEMENT ON NEW PRICE FOR PEANUTS

Accord, Tentatively Approved, Fixes Increased Figure For Crop

Washington. — Tentative approval was given by C. W. Marvin, acting secretary of agriculture, to a peanut marketing agreement, which, it was announced, calls for a minimum price to growers \$5 a ton higher than the schedule considered in the first draft of the agreement.

Under the agreement, prices would be set on the basis of U. S. grades, as follows:

Southeast and Southwest Spanish and Virginia Spanish U. S. No. 1 stock, \$65 a ton; southeast runners, U. S. No. 1, \$55 a ton; Virginias shelling stock, U. S. No. 3, basis, \$60 a ton.

These prices could be changed at any time with the approval of the secretary of agriculture.

After signing of the agreement by the contracting parties, it will be returned for final consideration by the agricultural adjustment administration.

Agriculture department officials said proponents of the agreement represent approximately 75 per cent of the milling volume in the Virginia-Carolina area and the southeast and 100 per cent of the volume in the southwest.

PREPARE GIFTS FOR CHILDREN

Welfare Group Make Plans To Distribute Number Of Baskets

While no centralized effort has been advanced, it is understood that many individuals in this section are planning to prepare and deliver boxes to unfortunate children Christmas day. Welfare workers have already prepared small gifts and delivered them to a number of needy children, and the churches will remember many others as has been the custom.

Mrs. L. B. Harrison, chairman of the Woman's Club welfare committee, said this morning that small boxes of candy and fruit would probably be collected and delivered to approximately 25 children by that department this Christmas. However, many cases will be left to individuals to care for, and it is believed the real spirit of the season will be well advanced by those in a position to make the less fortunate happy.

Home Economics Class Makes Quilt By Hand

The home economics department in the local high school recently completed a quilt, and members of the class are now selling chances on it. The winner will be determined at a drawing in the B. S. Courtney Furniture Store Tuesday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock, the proceeds from the sale going to buy additional equipment for the department.

To Submit Swimming Pool Project To Officials Soon

Williamston citizens, a number of them, are planning to go to Raleigh probably Thursday of this week in the interest of a project for a swimming pool here. Plans and specifications have already been prepared, it was learned today.

Pie Party Announced At Cedar Branch Church

The Cedar Branch Baptist church announces a pie party to be held there Thursday evening of this week. The drawing of a number to determine the winner of a bed quilt will feature the party, it was said.

CWA WORKERS DECREASED AS JOBS ARE DONE

Approval Of New Projects, However, Will Create More Work

Completing certain projects last week, the list of C. W. A. workers was slightly decreased during the period, effecting a decrease in the amount of the payroll. Disbursing Officer Luther Peel said yesterday that \$3,138.75 was paid to the workers.

Several new projects were approved last Saturday, and it is now believed that more than 400 men will be on the C. W. A. list in this county by the latter part of this week. The payroll this week will probably exceed \$5,000 in the county.

Various difficulties are being experienced in the work, mainly in the placing of farmers and tenants on the work list. The State authorities have instructed all county units not to hire farmers or tenants as they were recognized as employed the year around.

The quota of workers allotted the State has been increased by about 10,000 men, and it is estimated that the allotment to this county will be increased from 442 to approximately 500 men.

Five projects were formally approved by Mrs. O'Berry's office last week, creating jobs for 245 men in this county. One or two of the projects were already underway, and the new work will create jobs for hardly more than 225 men.

The main project approved calls for the construction of 2,400 sanitary privies in the county, giving employment to more than 163 men. The sanitary project provided the expenditure of more than \$24,000. Engineer A. Corey and his assistant, Mr. Raymond MacKenzie, are already making final plans for the construction of the little units, and it is believed the first of the houses will be constructed by or before the latter part of this week.

A preliminary survey of sanitary conditions here and there throughout the county has brought in some almost unbelievable stories. A climax to the facts was reached when an inspector found five families living in one house and there wasn't a privy on the plantation.

In executing the sanitary plans, the authorities are asking the cooperation of all the people. Those landowners needing a privy on their property will do the authorities a favor by applying for labor and house construction.

A second sizeable project approved last week calls for the improvement of the river road from Hamilton to Palmyra. Definite cost figures are not available at this time, but the project will cost five or six thousand dollars, it is believed. The project will employ approximately 42 men.

The completion of the Jameville-Washington road was ordered, providing the continued employment of 42 men and the expenditure of around \$4,416.

A drainage project for the Town of Hamilton was also approved, calling for an expenditure of \$558 and the employment of 12 men.

Robersonville's drainage project, already underway, was formally approved last week, calling for the employment of 35 men and the expenditure of \$3,628.

Martin County has several other projects awaiting consideration, and two or three more will be submitted the State authorities of the C. W. A. probably this week. One of the projects to be submitted is for a swimming pool here.

Much Favorable Comment About Decorated Streets

Williamston's 850 various colored lights in the business districts have been the cause of much favorable comment from visitors far and near. Many have said that the town is one of the best lighted they had seen this year. An additional 150 of the colored lights were placed in the lower Main street business section and on Washington street over the weekend.

Farm Life 4-H Club Holds Regular Meeting

The 4-H Club of Farm Life school met in the school auditorium on December 15, 1933. The president called the meeting to order and the secretary called the roll. After singing Christmas songs, the girls took patterns of a needle book, and then learned to make rugs out of sacks. Plans were made for the meeting next month.