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ESTABLISHED 1898

STATION ROBBED AT JAMESVILLE SUNDAY NIGHT

Robbers Truck Away Iron Safe and About \$200 In Cash

The Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company station at Jamesville was entered last Sunday night, or early on Monday morning by robbers who trucked away a big iron safe and several hundred dollars. A school truck at the home of Joe Davis was robbed of a battery and floor boards the same night, it was learned yesterday morning.

Going to the station yesterday morning, Agent Carson found one of the doors had been forced open and the safe missing. Just how the robbers loaded the safe that weighs between 800 and 1,000 pounds, the agent and officers could not determine. Apparently there were several of the robbers in the group. After loading the safe the robbers followed a southern course out of Jamesville, circling back to highway No. 90 this side of Gardner's Creek, where the trail was lost by officers.

The approximately \$200 in the safe belonged to the Town of Jamesville, the railroad company and the station agent, it was unofficially learned here.

An attempt to steal the safe was made two or three years ago, when robbers entered the station and loaded the money container on a small railroad car and started away. They had gone only a short distance when the section master fired into the group and frightened them away.

LOCAL JUNIORS ADD 26 MEMBERS

Initiations Administered by Visiting Degree Team Thursday Night

A marked increase in the activities of the local council of the Junior Order of United American Mechanics and an increased interest in the work of the organization was reported here last week when the unit added 26 members to its roll, increasing its membership to 80.

The new members were initiated at two points, eight at Robersonville and 18 here. The Robersonville degree team handled the work here last Thursday night, assisted by D. M. Frank, H. L. Swain, and W. H. Harrison. Ten additional candidates now have their applications in for membership.

The names of the new members are as follows: William Keel, Dennis Holliday, Grover Rogerson, D. E. Gurganus, James Wynne, Isaac Jessup Harrison, Bruce Whitley, William Gurganus, J. L. Hassell, Cecil H. Bland, C. L. Daniel, N. D. Griffin, Earl V. Terterton, R. J. Hardison, Ed A. Simpkins, Jr., W. Lawrence Manning, Kader Lilley, J. R. Rogerson, H. B. York, W. D. Modlin, Wilma Brabble, Harry Ganderson, Chas. A. Coltrain, Coy D. Lamm, N. O. Jones, and Hubert C. Roberson.

SCHOOL NEWS AT OAK CITY

District Teachers To Hold Meeting There This Thursday Night

Preparations for the construction of a gymnasium and agricultural building in Oak City are nearly complete, according to information received here this week. Lumber, donated by citizens interested in the welfare of the community and its children, is being sawed for use in the construction of the project, planned in connection with CWA activities in that section.

White teachers in the Oak City No. 3 district will hold their first meeting of the year in the school auditorium there Thursday evening of this week at 7:30 o'clock. Principal H. M. Ainsley announced last Saturday. Character and citizenship training will be discussed, and all teachers are urged to be present for the discussion.

Pupils in the school there have passed the half-way mark in the current term. Examinations were complete last Friday, early reports indicating splendid results. In their first game of the season, the Oak City basketball team defeated Robersonville by the close score of 14 to 13.

Bertie Agent Keeps Office Open Day and Night

Farm Agent B. E. Grant, of Bertie County, reports that he has had to keep his office open day and night to handle the rush of growers seeking loans on their cotton options and equalization payments on their tobacco.

Seed and Feed Loans Made In Martin Nearly All Paid

Employees of the seed and feed loan organization are now collecting the few unpaid accounts created last spring when loans were advanced farmers. Field Inspector Roy Hearne said yesterday that approximately 95 per cent of the \$90,000 lent last year and the \$16,000 uncollected from the 1931 loans had already been collected, leaving about \$2,000 unpaid. Most of the unpaid amount is secured by peanuts held in storage, he said. There are approximately 50 accounts varying in size from 8 cents to \$10 unpaid. These amounts represent unpaid interest, Mr. Hearne said.

Present indications point to a 99 per cent collection of accounts, and the record should be of value to farmers when they get ready to borrow from the fund this season, provided, of course, the fund is again created. A bill has been introduced in the House of Representatives by Congressman Warren, and it has been favorably approved by the committees, but its passage is pending in the two branches of Congress. A few farmers in this county are making arrangements to borrow from the crop production fund.

CWA Work Greatly Curtailed in County

Regional Credit Loans Are Retired In Full In County

Every dollar of the approximately \$200,000 borrowed by Martin County farmers from the Regional Credit Corporation last year has been paid, Attorney W. H. Coburn said this week, establishing an almost unheard-of record as far as credit is concerned. The sizes of the loans were for as much as \$20,000, it was learned.

LODGE OFFICIAL HAS NEED FOR DISTRESS SIGN

Treasurer of Colored Lodge In Everetts Outwitted By His "Brothers"

Deviating from its regular duties of "burying the dead and caring for the sick," a certain colored lodge with headquarters in Everetts started an investigation of its treasurer and treasurer last week. A meeting date was arranged and the "brothers" apparently did some politicking in their ranks. In the meantime, the treasurer was making great preparations of his own, for he anticipated a demand for an accounting of the approximately \$40 in the treasury fund. Alleged to have misplaced the \$40, the treasurer visited a friend, explained the situation to him and borrowed \$40 on the condition that he would return the money the next day after he proved beyond all doubt to the brothers the night before that the money was on hand and in safe keeping. The loan was granted.

At the meeting the treasurer's report was heard with interest. All went well until the brothers of the fraternity decided to change treasurers then and there, the retiring officer finding it necessary to surrender the \$40 to the lodge he was supposed to return to the owner the next day. In the accounting next day, some one was short \$40, and it wasn't the lodge.

Missionary To India To Speak Here Thursday

Mrs. Bessie Farrar Madsen, a prominent missionary to India, for a number of years, will speak here in the Christian church Thursday afternoon of this week at 4 o'clock, it was announced today.

Mrs. Madsen will tell of conditions as they exist in India today, and review the activities of missionary workers there. Her address will be of unusual interest, no doubt, and the general public is cordially invited to hear her.

Sent out by the United Christian Missionary Society, of Indianapolis, Ind., Mrs. Madsen will also visit Plymouth at 10 o'clock Thursday morning and Robersonville that evening at 7:30 o'clock.

Defeat Forestry Boys; Play Elizabeth City Here at 7:45

Williamston's high school basketball boys maintained an undefeated record here last Friday night when they brought their list of victories up to three by defeating the Civilian Conservation Corps quint from the camp at Windsor.

Anderson led the locals with seven field goals, while Manning was second in the scoring work with two field goals and two free shots. Halthcock led the 3-C boys with six field goals.

The best game of the season so far is expected here tonight, when the boys' team meets the Elizabeth City High School quint at the Farmers Warehouse at 7:45. Friday night the Williamston boys and girls will play a double header with Hobgood at Hobgood.

HOURS REDUCED FROM 30 TO 15 ON MOST PROJECTS

Pay Roll of Approximately \$6,000 Will Be Reduced About One-third

Reaching a new high peak last week when 533 workers received \$6,639.90, Civil Works Administration activities in this county have been greatly curtailed this week, it was learned from the office of J. W. Hines, unemployment bureau head, yesterday.

All projects ready for submission to the State authorities and not yet approved will be necessarily delayed pending action in Washington, D. C. If additional appropriations are provided, many of the projects now pending in this county will be approved, no doubt. If additional appropriations are not granted, then the projects will be indefinitely postponed.

With insufficient funds to maintain the old work schedule, CWA authorities in this county were directed last week to reduce the working hours in those centers of less than 2,500 from 30 hours to 15 hours a week. In centers of more than 2,500 population the hours have been reduced from 30 to 24 hours a week, the rate of pay per hour remaining unchanged. Under the new ruling, the pay roll in the county this week will probably drop to \$3,500 or less.

No additional workers can be added to the CWA list at the present time unless a vacancy in the present ranks develops. When a project is completed, the workers are automatically thrown out of work unless they can be placed on other projects already approved and under execution.

The elaborate sewing project approved in this county and employing 22 women was temporarily delayed under the new order because the project had not been started. Projects providing clerical assistance in the offices of the clerk of court, sheriff and register of deeds are going forward as the assignments had been made before the new ruling went into effect, it is understood.

Last week there were 500 men on the CWA pay roll in this county, the number receiving \$6,283.45. The 33 women employed under the Federal Emergency Relief Association in this county were paid \$356.45 last week. Awaiting action in the National Congress, CWA activities are being curtailed throughout the county, just as they have been curtailed in this county.

Junior Order Council Is Organized At Oak City

The organization of a Junior Order Council in Oak City was perfected last Wednesday evening when 35 young men and other interested citizens in the community joined the organization. Several members of near-by councils were present for the meeting.

With a new council and increased activities in old councils, Junior Order work is advancing rapidly in this county. Robersonville council reported a large addition to its membership a few weeks ago, and the council at Williamston initiated a large number of candidates last week.

Best To Feed Chickens Milk Before Clabbered

The feeding of clabbered milk in pans or shallow receptacles, unless cleaned and scalded daily, will cause loose, yellowish voidings. Where the clabber is fed, it is best to have two sets of drinking vessels so that one may be thoroughly cleaned each day. The best way, however, is to feed the milk before it clabbers which will eliminate any accumulation of the harmful bacteria.

GOLD NO LONGER LEGAL TENDER IN TRADE CHANNELS

Seller Here Hesitates To Accept Precious Metal for Goods Today

Gold certificates and gold itself are no longer recognized as a medium of exchange, according to action taken last week. Banks are now accepting the certificates and the precious metal for collection only. In other words, a man with a five dollar gold piece or certificate can leave it at the bank, and the bank will forward it to the Federal Reserve Bank for collection. Just how many dollars he will receive, no one seems to know just now.

For the first time in history a seller here this morning hesitated to accept gold in payment of goods purchased. A customer offered gold in payment for the goods, but the seller did not know whether to accept the precious metal or not. The seller was advised that the gold could not be accepted for collection only, and it could not be learned whether the deal was completed on a gold exchange basis or not.

Since the President issued the proclamation calling in all the gold, approximately \$1,000 worth of the precious metal has been shipped out of this section, clearly indicating that the people in this section do business with a common currency.

Business firms or others accepting gold or gold certificates do so at their own risk as the money is no longer recognized as a medium of exchange.

PIG LIVES AFTER FAST OF 26 DAYS

Animal Lost About Forty Pounds During Forced Fasting Period

Starting a forced hunger strike last Thanksgiving Day, a 60-pound pig belonging to Messrs. W. E. and N. T. Tice, of Griffins Township, was found 26 days later in fair condition, but lighter by about 40 pounds.

Wandering around in the Tice pasture, the pig walked into a hollow gum root on the 30th of November and could not get out. Mr. Tice missed the pig, and after making a diligent search throughout the pasture he concluded that the animal had been stolen. The day after Christmas, William Hardison was hunting in the pasture and his dog found the hog. Young Hardison called the owners, and they pulled the pig free, and after 26 days without food or water the pig broke away from his rescuers and rushed to the house and water.

The animal had eaten much of the tree root. Mr. Tice said he believed the pig would have lived several more days without food or water.

DRIEST MONTH IN 44 YEARS

Only 1.23 Inches of Rain Fell In This Section In December

Last December was the driest December in the State in 44 years. Lee A. Denson, in charge of the weather bureau in Raleigh, reported the average precipitation for the state last month was only 1.73 inches, or less than 50 per cent of the normal and the lowest for any December since 1889.

The rainfall in this section was exactly one-half inch below the State average, Hugh Spruill reporting only 1.23 inches during the period at the river here.

A large portion of the rain falling annually in this section comes the latter part of January and during the month of February. In other words, we are now entering upon what is supposed to be and what is hoped a rainy season. If there is no increase in the rainfall during the next few weeks over that of the last few months there can well be expected a dry time by and by.

Surface wells are dry in many sections, forcing farmers to haul water from deep wells for their household use and for their stock.

So far this month about one and one-half inches of rain have fallen here, a deficiency of about one and one-half inches. Yesterday and last night .55 of an inch was reported at the river station here.

Commercial Hog Raisers Should Sign Contracts

North Carolina farmers who grow hogs for the market should sign one of the new corn-hog adjustment contracts, suggests W. W. Shay. He urges such action where the growers have also signed one of the tobacco or cotton contracts.

Mr. W. J. Beach, of Hamilton, was here this morning.

Tobacco Campaign Near 100 Per Cent Success in County

TO TIGHTEN UP MACHINERY FOR CWA IN STATE

Will Insist Upon the Rigid Administration of All CWA Projects

Raleigh.—A general tightening up of all the administrative machinery in both the Civil Works Administration and the National Reemployment Service in North Carolina, as well as over the entire nation, is definitely forecast as the result of recent developments both here and in Washington, according to careful observers here. For while no one who really is familiar with what is going on thinks for a moment that Congress will permit the Civil Works program for providing work for the unemployed to be discontinued, it is believed that it is going to insist upon much more rigid administration and supervision of all Civil Works projects and more careful observance of the laws and regulations governing placement of workers and wages to be paid. There are also indications that CWA officials in Washington are planning to exercise much more rigid control over state Civil Works organizations by using the National Reemployment Service as a sort of balance wheel that will act in some degree as a check upon the CWA administrations.

Perhaps the most important step yet taken to tighten up the local county CWA units in this State is the plan just approved and announced by Mrs. Thomas O'Berry, State CWA administrator and Capus M. Waynick, state director of the National Reemployment Service, to set up definite machinery for handling complaints and for fixing responsibility where any irregularities are found. So far as it is known, North Carolina is the first State in which such a plan has been worked out and set up by the directors of these two services entirely upon their own initiative, without waiting for instructions from Washington.

This new plan, which is expected to be put into operation immediately, provides for the thorough investigation of every complaint in the county of its origin by a committee of four composed of the county CWA director, the county reemployment service manager, one member of the CWA advisory committee and one member from the county NRS advisory committee. But this county complaint board or committee will have no executive authority. It will merely investigate all complaints and make a written report on its findings to Mrs. O'Berry and Director Waynick, who will then take whatever action they deem necessary.

All complaints, as in the past, should be sent direct either to Mrs. O'Berry or Director Waynick in Raleigh. These in turn will be referred back to the county committees for investigation. The reports on the investigations will then be sent back to Raleigh in duplicate to Mrs. O'Berry and Waynick who will have full power to act.

Director Waynick has already announced that he is going to insist more than ever that county and city reemployment managers adhere to the letter of the law more strictly than ever in making placements on CWA projects and that he will not hesitate to displace managers and put in new ones wherever irregularities are found.

There are also indications that Mrs. O'Berry is going to insist upon greater efficiency on the part of county CWA managers and that those who are not measuring up to the necessary requirements are likely to be dropped. For under the law, Mrs. O'Berry has full authority to change any county administrator at any time.

Collector Checks Up On Sale of Meat In County

Internal Revenue Collector Holmes was in the county last week investigating returns from millers handling corn and farmers selling meat. Several farmers were warned about the processing tax on hogs and cured meat, but as far as it could be learned no returns were made. A tax of one cent a pound is due the government on live hogs, the tax on cured meat ranging from one to slightly over two cents a pound.

A farmer killing meat for his own use is not required to pay any tax, but when he sells either to his own tenants or others he is supposed to pay the processing tax.

Mr. J. G. Staton went to a Washington hospital yesterday for an examination. He returned home last evening.

HUNTING SEASON

Many hunters in this section were apparently much disturbed when it was announced that the hunting season for quail ended in the eastern zone the first of next month. The season does close in the zone at that time, but there are exceptions in a few counties, including Martin, Halifax, Hertford, Bertie, and Washington, and a few others where the season for hunting quail does not close until February 20.

The squirrel season closes the first of next month. It will also be unlawful to take coons after that time. The season for hunting wild turkey ends with the bird season, February 20.

SCHOOL CENSUS GOES FORWARD AT RAPID PACE

Preliminary Survey Shows Many Children Out of County Schools

Started last week the school census in this county is progressing rapidly at this time, reports from the court-house indicated yesterday. While the survey is far from complete, early reports indicate that many children are not attending school. The enumerators stated that the main excuse offered by those parents whose children are not in school was they had insufficient clothing. Conditions were described as very unfavorable in Cross Roads Township, where a large number of children were found out of school. Preliminary reports from every other district indicated that there are several hundred children of school age remaining out of school throughout the county.

The enumerators are taking down the names of all those children who should be in school and filing them with the welfare authorities that the cases might be investigated.

At least two or three more weeks will be required to complete the field survey, and then the enumerators will have to compile the records before complete information as to the number of children out of school and the reasons assigned will be available.

PLAN TO CHECK CWA COMPLAINTS

Investigation Group To Be Named In Each of the 100 Counties

Raleigh.—Special machinery to check complaints growing out of administration of civil works projects in North Carolina began to function Monday.

Capus M. Waynick, state reemployment service director, and Mrs. Thos. O'Berry, state civil works administrator, Saturday agreed upon a tentative set-up for the investigation machinery. A general central clearing house for all complaints will be set up in Raleigh to handle reports and present data on protests to Mr. Waynick and Mrs. O'Berry.

Each county will have a local investigation group composed of two members from the civil works set-up in the county and two from the reemployment service. Final decision will rest with Mr. Waynick and Mrs. O'Berry.

Fire Company Answered Two Calls Last Friday

The local company answered its second call in one day last Friday afternoon when fire threatened the home of Nancy Roberson, colored, near the colored Methodist church. Very little damage was done to the roof, where the fire started by sparks from a kitchen flue.

Earlier in the day, the firemen were called to the home of Will Baker below the river hill. It was one of the few times that the local company was called out twice in a single day.

Old-time Schooner Docks at Fertilizer Plant Here

A schooner, one of the first to come up the Roanoke River in several years and one of the few seen this far inland since the days of the steamboat, is unloading a cargo of fertilizer materials at the Standard Fertilizer Company wharf here this week. The boat, said to have been chartered by the Wharf and Barge Company, is out of Baltimore. Tugs towed the vessel here, and as far as it could be learned the schooner's sails were not used on the trip.

ATTENTION NOW TO CENTER ON COTTON SIGN-UP

Completed Contracts Are Being Forwarded To Washington City

With a sign-up estimated at between 99 and 100 per cent complete, the tobacco acreage reduction campaign was brought to a close in this county last Saturday. A few contracts are believed to be in the hands of committees, and when those papers are received, the campaign will be only a few points from the 100 per cent mark.

Employees in the office of the county agent are forwarding the contracts to state authorities as rapidly as possible, and it is now believed that the preliminary work on the reduction drive will be completed in the county by the middle or latter part of next week. Two hundred and forty-one contracts, 97 from Jamesville, 17 from Bear Grass, 15 from Robersonville, 62 from Cross Roads and 50 from Williamston, have already been forwarded to the authorities in Raleigh for inspection before they are sent into Washington, D. C., where they will be passed on and benefit checks are prepared for the growers. Several hundred additional contracts will be forwarded to Raleigh within the next day or two, or just as soon as the county committee—Messrs. V. G. Taylor, H. H. Cowen, and E. P. Cunningham—attach their signatures to the papers.

Just as soon as the tobacco campaign work is finished, the office of the county agent will start on the cotton reduction campaign, it is understood. Contracts have already been delivered to two committees—Robersonville and Cross Roads—and preliminary activities are already underway in those two districts. Other contracts are being delivered this week, County Agent Brandon announced this morning.

95 PER CENT LEAF GROWERS SIGNED

Signers Will Receive About \$11,000,000 for Part In Reduction Drive

Raleigh.—Ninety-five per cent of the blue-cured tobacco growers in North Carolina have signed crop reduction contracts, tentative reports indicated today, and the signers will get about \$11,000,000 in rental and equalization payments.

E. Y. Floyd, state campaign director said reports in hand indicate the 1934 tobacco crop will be reduced by 165,000 acres, which produce usually about 114,000,000 pounds of weed.

Floyd figured the growers will get something like \$30,000,000 increased return for their 1933-34 crop due to higher prices because of reduced production in addition to the direct benefits of \$11,000,000.

TOBACCO SEED BEING CLEANED

Martin Farmers Are Using Better Quality Cloth For Plant Beds

Approximately 80 pounds of tobacco seed have been cleaned for Martin County farmers so far this season, Mr. F. K. Hodges, assistant to Agent T. B. Brandon, said yesterday.

While most of the seed have been found to be of fair quality, Mr. Hodges said that he found several lots last week that were worthless. One farmer is said to have left a quart of seed to be treated and less than a table-spoonful were found to be worth sowing.

Very few plant beds have been prepared in this section so far, but by the early or middle of next month nearly every hillside and vacant space will be dotted throughout the county with white canvas.

Farmers, following recommendations of the State specialists, are buying better quality cloth for their beds this season. The better grade of cloth is supposed to ward off insects and other pests.

Skewarkee Lodge Masons To Hold Meeting Tonight

Skewarkee Lodge of Masons will hold a regular communication at the lodge hall tonight at 7:30 p. m., it was announced by the master, M. J. Moye, this morning. The lodge has received a special dispensation to hold its annual election of officers at this time, and a representative gathering of the members is earnestly requested.