



BENEFIT PAPERS MUST BE FILED HERE THIS WEEK

Only a Few Farmers Said To Have Failed In Filing Form T-42 Blanks

Those few farmers who sold tobacco prior to the 25th of last September and have so far failed to file papers for the benefit payments will find it necessary to do so before the last of this week if they hope to share in the equalization fund, it was announced by government authorities this week. There are said to be quite a number of Martin farmers who have, for one reason or another, failed to file certified reports of their sales prior to September 25. However, most of those failing to file the form T-42 had sold very little of their crop and considered the benefit too little to bother with.

The price equalizing payments are 20 percent on that portion of the net sales value of the 1933 crop sold before September 25, and 10 percent of the net sale value of such tobacco sold after September 25 and before the marked increase in price which resulted from the sign-up and flue-cured marketing agreement. The purpose of these payments is to compensate, insofar as possible, producers who sold their crop before improvement in prices.

In order to expedite the completion of these applications and the disbursement of payments, the deadline for such requests has been set at March 31, and no certified copies will be furnished in response to requests after that date.

Spectacular Picture at the Baptist Church Wednesday

Fitting in admirably with the Holy Week program of services under way throughout the town this week is the presentation of "The Passion Play," scheduled in the Baptist church here tomorrow evening at 9 o'clock.

This moving picture, offering valuable entertainment, is impressive, pleasing, soul-stirring, heart-reaching and uplifting. It is being brought here at a very opportune time. No admission charge will be asked, but a free will offering will be asked to defray expenses.

The picture, starting at 9 o'clock, will not interfere with any services, and the public is invited to see it.

Magazine Salesman Faces Pistol Theft Charge Here

Murray Balleager, said to a subscription agent for the Progressive Farmer, farm magazine, was arrested here last Friday for the alleged theft of a pistol from the apartment of Mr. David Keel in the Branch Bank building.

Unable to raise bond, the man continues in the county jail here. Balleager is said to have solicited subscriptions for the magazines during much of the past several months, and is understood to have been in trouble in other Eastern Carolina towns during that time.

Local School Seniors To Present Play April Sixth

The members of the local senior class will present their annual play Friday of next week, it was announced yesterday by Principal D. N. Hix.

Colored Citizens Invited To Attend Theatre Service

Colored citizens of the town are invited to attend the non-day services in the Watts Theatre here each day of this week, attending just as they would a regular theatre program.

Local Woman's Club To Hold Meeting Next Week

Attention of Woman's Club members was this week called to the regular meeting of the club which will be held Thursday afternoon of next week. With a large number of post-Easter activities expected during the week, club officials are anxious that none be arranged to conflict with the club meeting, which will have matters of importance to come before it.

Negro Choral Club Well Received In Concert

Appearing before the Methodist congregation here last Sunday evening, the local colored school choral club offered a splendid program that was greatly enjoyed. There were 26 members in the club, including the director, pianist, assisted by Principal Hayes.

Many of the popular spirituals were sung, the minister, Rev. C. T. Rogers, giving an interpretation of each as it applied to the subjects during slavery. The large audience was very complimentary of the program.

Springtime Late This Year, But It's Here Now---Maybe

Springtime this year has been everywhere except in the bag so far, but rising temperatures and a friendly sun are fast pinning the season down to its rightful place in the calendar and but little more unfavorable weather is expected.

Last week the birds had to pick through snow and ice for the early worm, and while the scene was next to disheartening, there was some consolation in seeing the bird.

Numerous predictions have resulted following one of the latest and most severe springs in years. A favorable season is forecast for

fruit, the forecasters advancing the theory that the trees were held back by the wintry weather and did not "put out" ahead of time and get their buds injured. Judging from the recent weather antics, the trees might yet be cropped in the bud by another flukeback of winter. However, farmers in this section are now completing arrangements for their spring plowing and planting, several crops having already been started.

Held back by the cold, tobacco plants escaped serious injury recently, and are now showing signs of life, farmers state.

Many Growers After Seed and Feed Loans

FEW REGISTER

Nineteen unemployed farmers have registered for farm work in this county, J. W. Hines, employment bureau head in the county, said this week. It is believed there are many others who are unemployed, but who have failed to register.

Many of those believed eligible to register and take part in whatever relief program the government advances, have failed to register, probably for the simple reason they have registered several times for this or that, and nothing ever happened to their applications. It is also believed that should a definite program be made known, the registration would be materially increased.

ANOTHER AUTO HITS UNDERPASS

South Mills Man On His Way to Brother's Funeral, Stopped Here

Another unsuccessful attempt to tear out the center support to the railroad bridge at the west end of Main Street here was made early yesterday morning, when a Mr. Denning, of South Mills, accidentally ran his Chevrolet sedan into the obstruction. The frame of the car was broken, the axle bent, fender smashed, and one wheel torn away, but hardly a dent was made in the concrete pillar.

Mr. Denning and his wife were on their way to South Carolina to attend the funeral of his brother. Neither of the occupants of the car was injured.

Contractors are now working to remove the center support to the bridge but with three attacks made on the pillar during the past several days, it is likely one or more cars will strike the support before it can be removed.

Friday Afternoon Service at the Episcopal Church

In addition to the services every night at 7:30, there will be a service on Good Friday at 2 p. m., in the Church of the Advent, this hour being one of the three corresponding to the time that Jesus hung upon the Cross.

SOME VARIATION IN REGULATIONS FROM LAST YEAR

Borrowers Must Apply To Production Unit Before Filing Applications

A goodly number of applications for emergency loans were received here yesterday, but very few of them were acceptable, Field Inspector Roy Hearne explaining that the applicants desiring to borrow over \$45 first had to apply to the Crop Production Loan Corporation and be refused credit there before favorable action could be taken by the emergency loan office. Several farmers, desiring to borrow less than \$45, had their applications accepted, it was learned.

Reports from various sources clearly indicate that the emergency loans are only for those who possess no earthly goods other than the clothes on their backs, and to that might be added a house full of young ones. The would-be borrower must even then prove he has no earthly goods by applying to the Crop Production Corporation. As soon as the applications are turned down by that agency, the farmer then calls upon the emergency lending office and completes the application. The farmer owning property will, it is quite apparent, find it necessary to borrow from the Crop Production Loan agency, or do without borrowed money; that is, if he wishes to borrow more than \$45.

It is again repeated that farmers desiring to borrow money for financing their farming operations will find it to their advantage to apply at the Crop Production Loan office in the old Dennis Simmons Lumber Company building first. That agency is advancing loans very rapidly, but present indications point to a smaller number of loans this year than formerly. The names of those farmers cooperating in control of production are now before the lending agency.

Oak City Negro Charged with Transporting Liquor

Norman Jones, colored, was arrested in Oak City last Saturday afternoon and placed in the county jail, charged with the alleged transportation of liquor. Jones is said to have two or three points of liquor on his person when he was arrested.

COUNTY BOARDS ELECTION NAMED BY STATE BOARD

Reappointed County Board Will Set Up Machinery At April 14 Meeting

Machinery for handling the June and July primaries in this state was set up by the State Board of Elections over the week-end when the several county boards of elections were named. Messrs. Sylvester Peel, of Griffins, chairman; J. R. Winslow, of Robersonville; and C. B. Fagan, Republican, of Dardens, were again selected to handle the elections in this county, the three already having served for some time as chairman and members of the board.

While the three named in this county have not formally accepted the appointments, it is believed they will serve on the board again this year. Messrs. Peel, Winslow, and Fagan will meet in the county courthouse Saturday, April 14, when a county organization will be perfected for holding the registration and elections. Registrars and judges of election for the 12 precincts in the county will be appointed at that time for holding the June 2 primary and a second, if necessary, on June 30. Opinions have already been advanced that the contests will reach a second primary in this county.

Registration books will be open each Saturday from May 5 to May 19, from 9 a. m. to sundown. Challenge day is May 26, when the registration books will be opened to the public for inspection between the hours of 9 a. m. and 3 p. m.

County boards will tabulate first primary votes on June 5 and second primary votes on July 3.

LIST-TAKERS OF COUNTY TO MEET HERE TOMORROW

Will Determine a Standard Value for Personal Property

Rules and regulations for listing property in this county for taxation for the current year will be formulated at a meeting of the supervisor and list-takers to be held in the courthouse here tomorrow, it was learned from Supervisor T. C. Griffin yesterday. The meeting is scheduled to be held at 10 o'clock some place in the courthouse if that place can be found while court is in session and all the offices taken up by emergency loan, welfare, and employment forces, not to mention the regular county units.

The meeting tomorrow is called in an effort to establish a uniform value for property throughout the county. While the value itself is of little consequence, it is very important that it be uniform.

Material for preparing the abstracts and scrolls has not arrived, but it is expected here in time for distribution to the 10 list-takers tomorrow. If the material fails to reach here by that time, it will be placed in the hands of list-takers before the first of April, when listing operations are supposed to be started.

Griffins Farmer Continues Ill at His Home There

Ben Mc. Manning, prominent Griffins Township citizen, continues dangerously ill at his home there. Immediate members of his family were called to his bedside this morning.

Tobacco Benefit Payments Being Mailed To Growers

Tax Notes Must Be Executed By Latter Part of This Week

Their 1929, 1930, and 1931 taxes unpaid, many Martin County property owners are now executing notes to forestall the sale of their property next October, it was learned this week. The time for executing the notes expires next Saturday, and the property owner who has not paid his taxes can prevent the sale next October only by advancing the cash, it is understood.

There are many property owners who have apparently made no effort to pay their taxes or execute notes or do anything to settle their accounts, it was learned.

When the time comes for the foreclosure proceedings some time between now and next October, the property owner who has made no arrangements to pay or satisfy the account will, in all probability, lose his property. The tax notes, made possible by law at the last legislature, carry no penalty and are payable over a five-year period. Martin property owners will find it to their decided advantage to look after their unpaid tax accounts if they happen to have any. The law does not apply to 1933 taxes.

PROCEEDINGS IN MARTIN COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT

Non-suit Results In \$20,000 Damage Suit Against Coast Line

The Martin County Superior court is marking time this week in the trial of civil cases, and is expected to reach a climax tomorrow afternoon when the case of the Harrison Wholesale Company is scheduled to be heard against J. Neal Watson et al. W. R. Proctor, convicted gangster, is scheduled to appear as a witness in the case which the company is bringing in an effort to recover property alleged to have been sold to Watson.

Finishing the Frank D. Taylor case against T. S. Hadley late last Friday, the court adjourned until Monday morning. A verdict favoring the plaintiff was returned by the jury.

A non-suit resulted in the \$20,000 damage suit brought by Thos. H. Bowers against the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company. Mr. Bowers lost part of his right foot when he was run over in Parmele by a train in March, 1932.

A divorce was granted Archie Johnson against Florence Johnson, the judgment being withheld from the records until the costs of the case are paid.

The will of Lizzie Williams Boozé, late of Williamston, willing all her property to Lizzie Jones, was set aside by the jury on the grounds that the signature was not that of the testator.

The court will likely continue in session through Friday of this week with Judge Walter Small on the bench.

Inez Jones Accidentally Shot by Willie C. Davis

Inez Jones, colored woman, was painfully, but not seriously, shot here yesterday morning by Willie Clifton Davis. The ball, said to have been fired accidentally, entered the woman's thigh.

Officers investigated the case, but made no arrests when both Davis and the woman declared the shooting was done accidentally while they were playing. Chief Daniel dropped the case after commenting that a gun was a dangerous weapon with which to play.

TWO ARRESTED IN CONNECTION WITH ROBBERY

Caleb and James Moore To Fight Extradition From Easily, South Carolina

Caleb and James Moore, two young white men, accused of a series of daring robberies in Martin County in recent weeks and said to have taken part in other robberies in parts of North and South Carolina, were arrested yesterday in Easley, South Carolina. Sheriff C. B. Roebuck was informed here today. Arrangements had not been made at noon today for the return of the two men, but it is understood that Sheriff Reynolds, of Tyrrell County, and Sheriff C. B. Roebuck were planning to go for the men provided proper papers for their return could be procured from the South Carolina governor.

The Moores, operating in this county with the home of Mrs. Lily Johnson, near Oak City, as their base, were arrested following a robbery in the South Carolina town, it was said.

The two men are believed to have robbed the Coast Line station safes at Jakesville, Oak City, Everetts and the one in the post office at Hassell. They are also charged with robbery in Tyrrell County where they are said to be from originally.

Parties To Auto Wreck Escape Without Injury

The fenders and running board were torn off and other damage was done to the car belonging to Jessup Harrison last Friday night when it was struck by another car driven by H. C. Reece, traveling man out of Washington, near here on the Washington road. Neither of the car occupants was hurt.

A mist was falling at the time, making for poor visibility. Mr. Reece accepted responsibility for the damage done to the Harrison car, it was stated.

Masons Meet After Church Tonight

There will be a short Masonic meeting tonight immediately following the church service, it was announced this morning by J. C. Anderson, master.

FARMERS IN THIS STATE WILL GET OVER \$5,000,000.00

Martin County Checks Will Be Delayed Until Contracts Are Revised

Tobacco benefit payments are now being made to the approximately 105,000 farmers in four states cooperating in the tobacco reduction movement. When the payments are completed, more than eight and one-half millions of dollars will have been received by farmers in the states of North and South Carolina, Virginia, Georgia, and Florida.

Farmers in this state will receive \$5,231,000, of which amount \$3,221,000 represents rentals for 1934 and \$2,010,000 for equalization payments on the 1933 crop.

Outside of about 14 farmers in this county, Martin growers will not receive their checks for several weeks, it is believed. Revision of the contracts has not been completed, and it will be the latter part of next week if not longer before the contracts are returned to the authorities in Raleigh and Washington. Checks will follow in due time after the contracts are returned, it is understood. And it might be that some farmers who have failed to cooperate fairly in the reduction movement will receive no checks at all, and in addition to that their contracts are likely to be cancelled.

With about 1,000 farms represented in the initial agreement plan, that many benefit checks will be received, but the amount could not be learned. The amount of the rentals could not be learned either, as the contracts have not been approved in their entirety.

J. B. Hutson, tobacco division chief, said 97 per cent of the flue-cured growers had signed contracts to reduce their acreage under the Farm Administration's plan to trim the 1934 crop by about 30 per cent. Approximately 15 per cent of the contracts were already in, he said, and the tobacco chief expected to receive for the next two or three weeks about \$5,000 to 10,000 contracts a day. It was his plan to send out checks as fast as the contracts came in, if possible.

The rental payments will be on a basis of \$17.50 an acre. Hutson said the equalization profits would be 20 per cent of the value of the 1933 crop sold before the program became operative.

Many obstacles were encountered by the tobacco division in computing the 1934 rental payment each farmer should receive.

Hutson explained the problem in a letter to Representative Green, of Florida. The Floridian quoted the letter in part as follows:

"The acceptance of all flue-cured tobacco contracts was delayed by the fact that farmers throughout the entire belt overestimated their acreage and production of tobacco in 1931 and 1932.

"Many farmers did not submit actual acreage and production, but rather estimates that would enable them to grow what they would consider a 'reasonable' amount of tobacco. Had these estimates been accepted without adjustment, a larger tobacco crop might have been produced in 1934 than was produced in 1933. This situation made it essential to require adjustments of acreage and production estimates by all farmers."

The tobacco chief said the price of last year's flue-cured tobacco was raised 3 to 4 cents a pound by the government's production control program.

No Meeting of Juniors To Be Held Here This Week

The local council of the Junior Order will hold no meeting here this week, as many of the members are planning to attend a district gathering in Robersonville Thursday night. Any members of the local council desiring to attend the district meeting in Robersonville and have no means of transportation are asked to be at the Central Filling Station at 6 o'clock Thursday evening and transportation will be arranged, Julian Harrell said yesterday.

Joseph Gregory Critically Ill In Elizabeth City

Joseph Gregory, for a number of years connected with the C. O. Moore Grocery business here, is critically ill at the home of his sister, Mrs. James Yates, in Elizabeth City. Reports received here this morning indicated there was very little hope for his recovery.

Holy Week Services Are Attracting Large Crowds

By CHARLES H. DICKEY

Williamston people, and many from the surrounding countryside, are flocking into the several churches here this week in a great simultaneous pre-Easter series of community services, which were attended yesterday by approximately 1,500 people.

Plans were made well in advance by the ministers of the town and the church leaders, and last Sunday morning at 11 o'clock the five up-town churches launched simultaneous services which are to continue throughout this week and Easter Sunday morning, followed by the Choral Club's rendition of appropriate Easter music rendered in the Memorial Baptist church Sunday evening at 7:30 o'clock.

Easter Emphasized

One of the main factors which is contributing in such a striking manner to the success of these religious efforts is their timeliness. By common consent Easter is the high day in all Christian churches, and Holy Week is the most important week in the church year.

Because of the seasonableness of the time and the psychology of the season, it was believed by all concerned that this was the week for Williamston's religious forces to rally together in one grand effort to make the community Christ-conscious. That this is being done is evident upon every hand and is attested to by great throngs of people.

Nightly Church Services

Following out the well-laid plans, each of the participating churches are holding nightly services in their respective places of worship every night of this week, except Saturday night. And these same churches are planning to make Easter Sunday a memorable day in the religious life of this community.

The Sunday services were well attended, and reports from all the churches last evening indicated that unusually large crowds gathered for the Monday evening service. Some of the churches reported the largest crowds ever witnessed on a first Monday night service.

Noon-Day Service in Theatre

A feature of the week's efforts is the community noon-day service being held every day in the Watts Theatre, where the community choral club

is furnishing the nucleus about which the mid-day choir is built, and where the ministers take turns in conducting the services.

At the first of these services held Monday noon there were nearly 150 present. People have been seen in these noon-day services who hadn't been to church in years. They come directly from their shops, farms, and stores, where, each day, the service starts promptly at noon and ends as promptly at 12:20 o'clock. It is believed that before the week shall have ended, tremendous crowds will be gathering there daily.

Religion in the Schools

In addition to the services in the several churches and in the Watts Theatre, the ministers are going, each day, into the grammar and high schools, where, due to the fine cooperation of those in charge, arrangements have been worked out for short religious services for the several hundreds of Martin County school children.

These school services will continue throughout the week, and, according to reports, the youngsters are giving most excellent attention to the brief

daily messages which are being brought to them. And when it is remembered that these same children go back, each afternoon, into homes four miles and miles around, it will be seen how extensive the impression is that is being made, and how generally the surrounding territory is being covered.

Fine Spirit Prevailing

The spirit among the Williamston churches is as fine as one could hope to see in any locality, and much better than is generally found. There is no element of rivalry, but, on the other hand, a spirit of cooperation and fellowship.

Not only is that true of the many churches and church people, but it is observed today by a prominent citizen that the spirit of the entire community is the best it has ever been. Williamston, in these days, is like one great family, where the rich and the poor, the learned and the unlearned, meet together in a common cause.

Rural People Come In

It was very noticeable in the evening services last night that there were a number of people from the countryside who came in for the services.

It is thought that every one of the churches had men, women, and children who live miles and miles away in the country.

These fellow citizens are always welcome to Williamston, and especially to its religious services. It is thought that throughout the week, many others will come in. For there is one point about these meetings: They are for no one class, but for all those who, at this Easter season, are desirous of a deeper appreciation of the great fact of the resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth.

Church Expectations High

The ministers and church people of the community are jubilant over the prospects of many additions to the several churches this week, and plans are already afoot for baptismal services in some of the churches Easter Sunday morning.

The local ministers are conducting all these services, with the exception of the Presbyterian church, where a visiting minister is in charge each evening. It is believed that Williamston is witnessing one of the best religious revivals felt here in years, and that the results will be incalculable.

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