

## KENTUCKY LAW TO GOVERN LEAF CROP IS PASSED

### North Carolina Assembly Continues Work On Similar Bill

The big push to effect tobacco production control and save the farmer continues to gain momentum after Virginia started the ball rolling about a year ago with the passage of a compact law in its legislature. While North Carolina is making ready to pass a law similar to that passed by Virginia, the Kentucky legislature in special session last Saturday adopted a compact act.

The Kentucky tobacco control bill was passed after a joint committee from the house and the senate worked out a compromise. The senate had refused to concur in a house amendment striking out a section exempting from the bill farmers who grow two acres or less of tobacco.

One amendment would make the act effective before March 1, the beginning of the crop year. The amendment which stirred the most controversy concerned the small grower.

This set up a minimum base of 2 acres per 30-acre farm, and a production base calculated on an equal estimated yield for similar farms in the same locality. The base for all farms of less than 30 acres will be in proportion. This provision applies, however, only to producers of tobacco during the years from 1929 to 1936.

Senator James H. Thompson, Paris, led the fight on the amended bill. Declaring federal regulation was the only solution to the problem, he said the bill was unconstitutional because it prevented some persons from growing tobacco.

The Kentucky compact is contingent on similar action by neighboring tobacco growing states.

## Baseball Meeting In New Bern Tonight

Meeting here last evening, local baseball leaders appointed a committee to participate in a meeting of the Coastal Plain League in New Bern tonight, when a decision is expected in connection with the class of ball to be played in the circuit this coming season. Some officials in the league favor the organization of professional ball, it is understood.

All clubs in the circuit last season are to be represented, and officials of the national professional baseball association are to be present for the discussions, it was stated. Messrs. L. T. Fowden, N. C. Green, Jimmie Harris, R. H. Goodman, and Dick Dunn are to represent the local club at the meeting.

## Popular Young Girl Of Everetts Passes

Miss Ella Cherry, popular 19-year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Cherry, of Everetts, died at the home of her parents there Sunday morning at 11:15 o'clock from an attack of pneumonia with which she had been ill one week. A weak heart hastened her death.

A graduate of the Everetts High School with the class of 1933, Miss Cherry possessed a pleasing disposition and had numerous friends over eastern North Carolina.

Besides her parents she is survived by the following brothers and sisters, David J. (Dick) Cherry, of Everetts; Mrs. Roscoe Gaylord, of Plymouth; Mrs. Dewey Hathaway, of Bethel; Mrs. James Johnson, of Robersonville; William Nathan Cherry, Eleanor Gray Cherry, Ruby Cherry, Mary Alice Cherry, John W. Cherry, Jr., and Mack Cherry, all of Everetts.

Funeral services were conducted Monday afternoon at 3 o'clock in the Everetts Baptist church by Rev. E. C. Shoo, Robersonville minister, and Rev. James H. Smith, pastor of the Williamston Memorial Baptist church. Interment was in the Everetts cemetery, the young women of the community handling the large floral offering.

## Record Crowds Expected At Opening of New Store

Record size crowds are expected in Williamston on Friday of this week, when Belk-Tyler open their modern new store in the Tar Heel Building on the town's Main Street. Everyone is invited, the management offering unusual bargains as an extra attraction for thrifty shoppers to visit the new store.

## Bill for Establishing Health Service in County Is Planned

Heading the important education committee and ranking member of the finance committee in the House, Representative Hugh G. Horton is having a busy time in the General Assembly this term. However, Mr. Horton, home for the week-end, said he would find time certainly this week to introduce a bill allowing Martin County to establish an all-time health service.

Just what action will be taken following the passage of the act—it is expected to pass without opposition—has not been definitely determined, but it is understood that a proposed health service has some strong support among civic organizations, especially women's organizations, and the public in general.

The service was favorably considered by the county board of health and commissioners about two years ago, but, through an error, an all-time health department was denied by an act of the legislature passed two years ago. Mr. Horton's bill will repeal the 1935 acts, as far as it relates to Martin County, he said.

## Ross Advises Refusing All Claims To Refunds

Forty or more farmers are joining others from the tobacco-growing areas of North Carolina in Raleigh this afternoon to appear before a joint meeting of the House and Senate agricultural committees to press for compact legislation to control tobacco production. Nearly every section of the county is represented, reports stating that 10 or more carloads are in Raleigh. It is expected that North Carolina will follow Virginia and Kentucky in passing a compact bill.

## Children in Schools Here Do Fairly Well In Standard Tests

### More Than 200 Average Above Rating For Entire State

The Williamston school enjoys a fairly good rating, compared with State and national averages, data recently released from standard tests given here last fall show. While the school, as a whole, ranks well with the state and national averages, there were 119 children out of the total of 326 taking the tests who fell below the average for the state and 156 who fell below the national average, Principal L. W. Anderson said this week.

"This means, the school head continued, "that at least one-third of all students in the grades tested are in a grade level higher than they should be. When it is realized, however, that the local students do not have the advantage of the extra ninth month on which these tests are based, and also that the local students are often interrupted by short days because of rain, it is easy to conclude that the students, if given an equal opportunity, would approach closely the state average."

"In comparing the different grades grade three was the possessor of the highest grade average, with only 3 students out of 83 falling below the state average. Out of 63 students in grade four, 20 fell below the state average and out of 80 students in the fifth grade 40 failed to make the standard. Grade 6 had 24 out of 59 to fall below and grade 7, 32 out of 61 to fall below.

"In fairness to the teachers of the grades, it must be stated that the large number of failures in certain grades do not indicate that the teacher is below average in ability. Grades frequently earn reputations of being weak in the first grade and keep the reputation throughout school, sometimes gathering overgrown and laggard students as the class moves on up through the grades."

## Tobacco Plants Are Coming Up

Tobacco farmers, already experiencing many obstacles in cultivating tobacco, including blue mold, wild fire, unfavorable seasons, Granville wilt, and numerous others, are now reporting tobacco plants growing in beds and the transplanting season is yet several months off. In many such cases, the farmers are plowing up the beds and sowing more seed, for they are certain cold weather between now and transplanting time will kill the tender plants.

Comparatively few farmers in this county have sowed their tobacco seed, but preparations are underway on a big scale to start the work shortly.

## Free Union Colored Woman Expected To Die Result Gunshot

### Australia Peel's Condition Critical; Hoyt Smith Held for Attack

Australia Peel, young, colored woman living in the Free Union section of Jamesville Township, this county, was shot and critically wounded by Hoyt Smith, colored, at her home there late last Saturday night. Removed Sunday to a Rocky Mount hospital, the woman, an expectant mother, was said to have little chance to live. Smith, arrested by Plymouth officers as he started to board a Norfolk Southern freight train shortly after the shooting, is in the Martin County jail, a preliminary hearing being held in abeyance pending the outcome of the woman's injury.

Sitting with her back to the window, the Peel woman, wife of Gattis Peel, received the entire load of big shot from a gun in her shoulder, the shot and shell wadding entering the flesh and tearing a hole about 3 inches in diameter, it was reported.

Smith, less than 30 days out of State's prison, claimed he intended the shot for Joe Woolard, who was visiting the Peels at the time. Explaining that he was about drunk, Smith said he saw the shadow of a person at the window and fired. After his arrest he learned he had made a mistake and shot the wrong person.

According to Smith, everybody in the Free Union section is "down" on him, and the trouble started when he bumped into a wrestling match in Luther Cordon's store. Joe Woolard, Smith claims, got a gun and shot him in the back, the load striking a pint bottle of liquor in his hip pocket. The bottle, Smith continued, was not quite large enough and failed to stop two shots that passed into his body. Rushing from the store to his home about three-fourths of a mile away, Smith got his gun and tracked Woolard to the Peel home, where he made a mistake in picking out the man he wanted.

Romulus Peel, a brother-in-law of the victim, and Robert O. Clark carried Smith to Plymouth and are said to have reported the shooting to officers there. Smith, while being brought through the lower end of the county to the Martin jail, sent word to Romulus Peel threatening his life. Smith said it looked as if he was going away for quite a while but that he would be back some time to even up with the man he believed to have "squealed" on him.

Pleading guilty of housebreaking, Smith was sentenced in the Martin County Superior Court in September, 1934, to serve three years in the State prison.

## Busses in County Are Still Operating

Bad roads that have made traffic almost impossible in many rural sections of the county have not stopped the school busses so far, a report from the office of the county superintendent today stated. Schedules have been maintained with difficulty, however, it was explained.

Several counties have closed their schools already and several more are considering closing their plants until the roads improve, it is understood. Bertie County school authorities yesterday said that the schools there would likely be closed this week.

Mail carriers are serving their patrons at a marked disadvantage in this county, Walter Brown, of the Jamesville office, stating yesterday that he detoured 10 miles to make his schedule.

## Another Rise in Roanoke At This Point Predicted

Another rise in the Roanoke at this point was announced by weather bureau forecasters today. The stream, flooding its banks here more than a week ago is still about five inches over the banks at the present time, the latest report stating that the river would start rising slowly again late today. Weldon reported 29 feet of water in the river there this morning. Unless there is considerable water up the river the new rise is not expected to overflow the banks here more than one foot.

## County Teachers Receive Salaries for Fourth Month

Prepared last Friday, salary checks for Martin County teachers are being delivered this week from the office of the county superintendent. The checks, totaling more than \$16,000, are for the fourth-month salaries.

## Legislature Takes Up Problem of Financing Agencies of State Next Two Years; Sales Tax Approved

### First in Series of Farm Meets Is Held at Oak City Monday

Attended by 49 farmers, the first of a series of farm educational meetings held in Oak City Monday night was declared very successful by County Agent T. B. Brandon today.

Heads of the various agricultural divisions discussed the activities handled by each department, and all phases of the program proved interesting. The high spot in the program centered around soil conservation and crop control, and many questions were asked in that connection, Mr. Brandon said.

Other meetings will be held in the county this week as follows: Hassell, Tuesday night; Farm Life, Wednesday night; Robersonville, Thursday night; and Bear Grass Friday night.

All farmers interested in any phase of the agricultural program as it relates to loans, services of agents, and soil conservation and control are invited to attend the meetings.

## First Herring Is Caught At Jamesville Monday

### Key to Smokehouse Found Earlier Than Usual This Season

### Preparations for Big Season To Get Underway In Next Few Weeks

Dipping their net into the Roanoke yesterday at Jamesville, Messrs. U. S. Hassell and Carl Martin found "the key to Martin County's smokehouse" to beat the 1936 find by about five weeks and almost equal the record established by Mr. Hassell himself two years ago. Using a dip net, the two men caught three nice size herring in something over an hour, the catch coming as big news to hundreds in this county whose smokehouses will hardly get so much as a smell of high-priced hog meat this year.

As the farmer looks to his meat as his main food supply, those removed from the farm look to the herring for their main source of food, and the fishing season is anticipated with anxiety. Herring and griddle cornbread furnish the brawn and power for large numbers of those in the working class, and the fish is a delicacy at the same time on thousands of tables throughout the land. A successful fishing season along the Roanoke is the best insurance available to all classes against hunger during the dull summer months.

Fishing on the Roanoke during the past two seasons was not very successful, high water holding the seines idle for weeks. No such season is anticipated this year, and the fishery owners are hopeful to start operations some time the latter part of March.

## Williamston A. C. Team Swings Into Action Friday

The newly formed Williamston A. C. basketball team swings into action against the classy Windsor All-Star five in a game scheduled for Friday night in the new high school gym at 8 o'clock. Practice has been underway for several days, and the club shows promise of becoming a smooth-working unit. Tentative arrangements have been made for games with several teams, including a Wake Forest College all-star team. Negotiations are now underway for two games with the strong Campbell College quint, one game to be played there and a return game here.

Composing the local team are former college and prep-school stars, including Anderson and Manning, formerly of Campbell College, Cobb, Hopkins, and Rose, formerly of Christ School, Hack Gaylor, former Richmond University star, and others. Teams desiring games with the locals are requested to communicate with J. W. Price, Williamston.

## Legislature Takes Up Problem of Financing Agencies of State Next Two Years; Sales Tax Approved

### Big Fight Is Likely To Center Around Items for Exemption

Propose New Taxes Levies On Bank Deposits, Wine And Insurance

The legislature, entering its third week Monday, plunged into one of its greatest—if not the greatest—problems, that of financing the state departments and agencies for the next two years. Early action centered around the sales tax, the one big problem bursting into close to 100 smaller ones.

Without a dissenting vote, the finance committee approved the continuation of the sales tax, leaving the task to a sub-committee to "dress the old devil up in new clothes." While no possibility is seen just at this time for the elimination of the tax, the argument is centering around its reduction from 3 to 2 per cent and an increase in the exemption items. If the rate is reduced to 2 per cent, Representative Lumpkin stated he would not press for exemptions on baby carriages, kitchen stoves, coffins and overalls. On the other side, there were those who would hold the exemptions to the original nine "necessities," regardless of the percentage of the tax rate.

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A definition of "necessities" was then offered. Representative Lumpkin including coal, wood, coke, ice, \$3 shoes, overalls, \$10 suits of clothing, \$2.50 hats for women and men, \$3 women's dresses, 75-cent hose for women, \$2 children's garments, all foods, kitchen and cooking utensils selling for less than \$2, cook stoves, beds, cheap furniture, \$10 baby carriages, \$3 cradles, and \$60 coffins. These he would add to those articles proposed to be exempted by the budget commission.

New sources of revenue that are being considered would tax bank deposits 20 cents on the \$100; matured insurance, 25 cents on the \$100 and wines at rates to be determined. A lull in legislative activities is expected this week, when members of the assembly will go to Washington for the presidential inauguration.

## Mrs. Anna Mizelle Died Last Saturday

Mrs. Anna Phillips Mizelle, widow of Ashley Mizelle and resident of Griffins Township, this county, for 19 years, died at the home of her niece, Mrs. R. L. Savage, in Rocky Mount, last Saturday night. Mrs. Mizelle left this county soon after the death of her husband about 18 years ago.

Seventy-two years old, Mrs. Mizelle was born and reared in the Conetoe community of Edgecombe County. She was the last one of a prominent family and leaves no immediate relatives, but a number of nieces and nephews survive. She was a life-long member of the Little Creek Primitive Baptist church near Conetoe.

Funeral services were conducted Sunday afternoon at the family cemetery by Elder J. D. Flye, of Rocky Mount, her pastor. Her nephews served as active pall-bearers.

## Alleged Murderer Arrested Here for New Bern Police

Wanted for a year-old alleged murder in Craven County, James Pruden, alias LeRoy Sutton, colored, was arrested by local police officers here last Saturday, a rejected sweetheart offering information that led to the man's arrest.

Pruden was turned over to Sheriff Lane, of Craven County, and returned to New Bern Sunday to face the charge.

## Parent-Teacher Group To Meet Tomorrow Afternoon

A regular meeting of the Williamston Parent-Teacher Association will be held in the local high school auditorium tomorrow afternoon at 3:30 o'clock. Mrs. J. F. Thigpen, the president, announced this morning. A splendid program has been arranged by the committee and a large attendance upon the meeting is urged.

## Rural Electrification Meet At Macedonia Tomorrow

A rural electrification meeting will be held in the Macedonia church Wednesday night at 7:30 o'clock, when plans will be advanced for the construction of a power and light line from Bear Grass to the Farm Life community in Griffins Township. Power company officials will be present and the attendance of everyone interested in the project is urged.