

Advertisers Will Find Our Columns a Lode to over 1,000 Homes of Martin County.

THE ENTERPRISE

Watch the Label on Your Paper, as it Carries the Date Your Subscription Expires.

VOLUME XLII—NUMBER 19

Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Tuesday, March 8, 1938.

ESTABLISHED 1899

Commission Names S. H. Grimes Head Of Tax List Group

Varied Problems Heard by County Authorities in Long Session

Preliminary arrangements for handling the county's tax list structure for the current year were handled by the Martin commissioners in regular session here yesterday, the body appointing S. H. Grimes supervisor of the list-takers. Several applicants had filed for the job of list-taker in the several townships, but the board left definite appointments up to the supervisor after approving all applications and recommending appointments in those districts where no applicants had applied for the jobs. List-taker appointments are expected within a short time or well before the third Monday in this month when taxing schedules are to be discussed at a meeting of the supervisor and his appointees. Applications for the tax-listing jobs were received and approved by the commissioners, as follows: O. W. Hamilton, Jamesville; L. J. Hardison, Williams; A. B. Ayers, and Sidney Beacham, Bear Grass; H. M. Burras, and Irving C. Griffin, Williamston; H. S. Everett, Robersonville; LeRoy Everett, Hamilton, and J. A. Rawl, Goose Nest.

The business program outside that scheduled as routine, dealt with varied requests and held the commissioners in session until almost six o'clock. A petition, signed by 36 citizens and asking that fox hounds be exempted from taxation, was received, the commissioners deferring action for a ruling by the county attorney. The \$700 valuation placed on a tractor belonging to J. M. C. Nelson in Goose Nest Township, was ordered lowered to \$580. The commissioners donated \$50 to the State Department of Conservation and Development for making a moving picture for promotion of safety on the highways of county and state. Dr. A. J. Osteen was appointed to vaccinate dogs against rabies, the vaccination campaign to get underway within the next few weeks. A schedule for handling the vaccinations will be announced within a short time.

Petitioned by seven Jamesville Township citizens, the commissioners directed a urgent request to the State Highway Commission to include in its system that road beginning at the residence of Mrs. Warren Barber in Jamesville township and running to the Barber road via the Gib Moore place and C. W. Moore's residence, a distance of seven-tenths of a mile. The petition pointed out that the road was a regular rural free delivery and school bus route, that the services had been altered on account of the bad condition of the road.

Skating Accident Sends Local Boy To Hospital

Skating down Haughton Street early last Friday afternoon with a bottle in his hand, Earl Stevenson, Jr., fell and badly cut his left wrist, reports stating that it will be several weeks before he will have full use of his hand. Two large blood vessels were severed as well as the main tendon. The boy, 12 years old, was given first aid treatment by Dr. W. C. Winn and later removed to a Washington hospital. A colored boy aided in getting the boy's skates off, and young Stevenson ran the block and a half to the doctor's office, leaving a trail of blood behind him. The youth was said to have had a new pair of skates and that he was not accustomed to them.

Rides Bicycle Here From Oak City In 90 Minutes

Summoned as a witness in the county court here yesterday, Charles Harrell, Goose Nest farmer, found himself short on transportation, but to keep his engagement he straddled his bicycle at 9:30 and pedaled his way into the county capital an hour and a half later. He wasn't trying to set a new bicycle speed record, but when a man peddles a bicycle from a mile the other side of Oak City to Williamston in 90 minutes he is not losing much time. His work in the court over, he spotted a truck from Oak City and loaded his wheel for a pushless ride home. "The hills clog to Williamston were getting kinder 'tight' all right," Harrell commented. Mr. John Price, of near here, was a business visitor in town this afternoon.

Business Awaiting Outcome of Vote on Farm Bill Saturday

Added importance was attached to the farm bill referendums by farm leaders over the week-end when they pointed out that general business in the agricultural sections was doing little more than marking time pending the outcome of the vote in the tobacco and cotton bills on Saturday of this week. Attention to the farm bill was attracted a few days ago when financial units started advancing loans with greater precaution, reports stating that financing activities were being advanced slowly at this time. It is now quite apparent that financial backing will be available on a very limited scale if the farm bill fails of passage. Convinced beyond all doubt that farm commodity prices will fall to a low level if the

new bill fails at the polls Saturday, credit agencies are proceeding cautiously at this time in advancing loans. There is reason to believe that credit will be as "tight" next week as it was back in the early thirties if the farmers vote down the control program at the polls on Saturday. Reports from the fertilizer industry state that there is now little activity in that field, that ordinarily business is booming a this period of the year. If the bill fails of passage, many farmers will go back to the old practice of planting crops without the use of fertilizer. While the farm bill is not expected to eliminate all economic troubles, it is certain to halt a return to chaotic conditions in all lines of endeavor throughout the agricultural regions.

Drive Continues For Passage of Farm Bill

BOY SCOUT WEEK

Next week will be observed in this county as Boy Scout week, the leaders pointing out that special efforts will be made during the period to encourage Scouting, support the movement and make it possible for more youths to become Scouts. Martin County is to raise \$300 to advance the Scout work at Williamston and Robersonville, and a drive will be made during the next week for that amount. Civic organizations in the two towns have underwritten the quota, and the public is urged to lend its support. At present the Williamston troop has 29 members and considerable interest is being shown in Scouting by the local youngsters.

Oak City Officer Found Not Guilty In Unusual Case

Charges Brought Following an Investigation by Police

Charged with disorderly conduct, Edmond Earley, Oak City chief of police, and Harry Stubbs Peel, R. H. Long and Joshua Mac Johnson, special deputies, were found not guilty by Judge H. O. Peel in the Martin County Recorder's court here yesterday. The prosecution, aided by Attorney Allsbrooks, attempted to show that the officers assaulted Mrs. Lillian Flannagan, Oak City resident, and R. G. Pritchett, guest in the Flannagan home Saturday before last. According to evidence offered at the trial, Officer Earley upon the complaint of a number of prominent Oak City citizens went to investigate certain charges directed against the Flannagan home. He deputized the three young men, and explained to the court that he went there to issue a warning to "be head of the house, that he planned no arrest and was not clothed with a warrant. The defense also maintained that an entrance into the home was gained without force, that the officer stated his business and explained to Pritchett that he would have to leave the home. Pritchett maintains he was driven from the Flannagan home into the hands of a waiting mob, that he was assaulted by one of the three special deputies and that his life was threatened. The charges were denied, Officer Earley explaining that he accompanied Pritchett to Hobgood where he (Pritchett) spent the remainder of the night. Pritchett claimed that the three special deputies followed them all the way to Hobgood, but it could not be proved that the deputies had threatened his life, or that they were acting out of the rights of citizens.

Building And Loan Stock Sale Progressing Rapidly

The forty-first stock series of the Martin County Building and Loan Association is attracting many new investors, a report from officials of the organization this morning stated. That the stock sale will exceed 500 shares was almost certain, officials explaining that before the series closes more stock will have been subscribed than at any previous time in recent years.

Mass Meeting Here Last Friday Packs County Courthouse

Barnes, Ferguson, Suggs and Dail Address Farmers

Murphy L. Barnes and B. Troy Ferguson, of the State Agriculture Extension Division, and Bruce Suggs and Haywood Dail, "interested" farmers left little ground for the opposition to stand on when they finished addressing nearly 500 farmers in the county courthouse last Friday night in support of the new 1938 farm bill. Anxious for every bit of information they can get on the new farm program, Martin farmers crowded into the court auditorium, reports stating that the meeting was one of the largest held in this county in years. The farmers showed considerable interest in the activities, and while no expression of support was asked it was apparent the body overwhelmingly favored the passage of the new farm bill. It is believed those in the meeting last Friday night will vote more than 95 per cent in support of the program at the polls on Saturday of this week. Introduced by County Agent T. B. Brandon, M. L. Barnes, of the extension division, reviewed agriculture from 1920 to the present time, pointing out the depression periods and explaining that this past history could be used as a guide against future disasters in agriculture. He pointed out the benefits under the soil conservation program, and how that program fitted into the control plan. Mr. Barnes dealt with the basic facts underlying the need for a control program, and urged the farmers to give serious thought to the problem now facing them. District Agent Ferguson supplemented facts offered by Mr. Barnes, and asked that these facts be given careful thought. Bruce Suggs made a stirring appeal in behalf of the bill, and Haywood Dail followed him with a speech that reminded one of a last-minute political rally. The referendums on Saturday of this week are more important than any election you have ever voted in before, he declared. "It is the first time you have ever been privileged to vote for yourself," Dail added, explaining that the politicians had been doing all the voting and business manipulating in years gone by. "It's up to you, and if you fail to pass the bill on Saturday, March 12, don't go home complaining to your wife and children next fall about low tobacco prices," Mr. Dail concluded.

Robersonville

More than 250 farmers were in attendance upon the community meeting in Robersonville last evening, reports reaching here today indicating that that section would poll a sizeable vote next Saturday, giving the farm bill possibly a 95 percent support. Tonight's agents are at Everetts, Farm Life and Jamesville. A drive in the county in behalf of the farm bill will be brought to a close in the county tomorrow evening, but led by members of the Martin County Farm Bureau, farmers are expected to continue their work right up until the polls close next Saturday evening at 7 o'clock.

Several Fined For Operating Autos In Need Of Repair

Systematic Checks by State Patrol Shows Many Car Defects

Conducting systematic checks of motor vehicle equipment, members of the State Highway Patrol are bringing into the justice of the peace courts of this county numbers of drivers operating cars and trucks with improper brakes and with other mechanical defects. Starting near Williamston several alleged violators of the motor vehicle laws and they were carried into the courts and fined \$10 and taxed with the costs. Last week-end, the patrolmen were stationed between Oak City and Hamilton, near Oak City, and cited ten drivers to the courts. Some were charged with operating motor vehicles with improper brakes. Others were alleged to have operated cars with improper lights, licenses or without a horn. Some were fined for operating a car without proper driving licenses. There were several other charges that are recognized as alleging minor infractions of the motor vehicle laws, but in accordance with the law, all the defendants were required to pay a minimum fine of \$10 with the court costs added. Cases handled by Justice J. L. Hassell here yesterday: William E. Thrusa, of Hampton, S. C., improper equipment. Cornelius Bryant, Hobgood, improper brakes and no windshield wiper. Herman Fleming, of Hassell; T. H. Johnson, of Oak City; Ben L. Harrell, of Palmyra; Walter Hester, of Hamilton, and Archie Barber, of Jamesville, improper brakes. Richard Kaynor, of Oak City, no windshield wiper and no horn. James Bridgers, of Williamston, improper lights. J. C. Haislip, of Hamilton, no operator's license.

Rev. John Hardy Is Welcomed Here At Combined Service

Cooperative Spirit Among Local Churches Is Pointed Out

Their services cancelled, according to custom, members of the several churches here joined the Episcopians in welcoming their new pastor, Rev. John W. Hardy, at a union service in the Church of the Advent Sunday evening. All of the several local denominations were well represented, the event reflecting a splendid spirit of cooperation among the town's church people. Welcoming the new minister and his wife to the town, Rev. James H. Smith, pastor of the Baptist church, pointed out the fine cooperative spirit among the several churches here, giving credit to the late Chas. H. Dickey and Rev. E. F. Moseley for effecting the friendly relations that exist among the several congregations in the advancement of religious activities. "There has never existed a better cooperative spirit among the churches than now," Rev. Smith said, adding that it was a great pleasure in behalf of the people of Williamston to welcome the young minister here. Expressing his appreciation for the welcome extended him, Rev. Hardy commented highly on the cooperative church spirit here and pledged his best efforts in supporting the friendly relations policy, and promoting the religious and civic welfare of the community. The young minister greatly impressed his hearers with his sermon, and they are confident the religious life not only in the Church of the Advent but throughout the community also, will be enriched by his ministry and his work. The entire community considers itself fortunate in having the courageous and promising young man enter the local religious field, firmly believing that the Church of the Advent has made by bringing him here a valuable contribution to the religious advancement of the town and section.

Legion Post Plans Public Barbecue In Hut Friday

The county post of the American Legion has completed plans for a public barbecue in the hut on Watts Street here Friday evening of this week at 7 o'clock. Tickets to the supper are now on sale, the post officers explaining that a final drive is being advanced for funds with which to complete the building. The public is invited.

Two Find In County Court For Drunkenness

Charged with being drunk and disorderly and resisting arrest, Rob Barber, Georgia salesman and M. and H. Blackman, Virginia men, were tried in the county court here yesterday. A verdict of not guilty was directed by the court as to M. Blackman, and the other two defendants were fined \$10 and taxed with the costs.

Board Commissioners Consider \$50,000 Street, Water and Sewer Improvements To Town System

Basic Rules for Voting in Referendum on March 12th

Martin County farmers will vote on the new farm bill at their respective political polling places on Saturday, March 12, with the exception of those in Poplar Point Township. The farmers in that township or precinct will vote in the agricultural building at Williamston.

Polls open at 7 a. m. and close at 7 p. m. Every farmer who grew tobacco or cotton in 1937 is entitled to vote. The landlord is entitled to only one vote, and each tenant is entitled to one vote each. In the event two or more persons engaged in producing flue-cured tobacco in 1937 jointly, in common or in community, each such person is entitled to vote. There will be no voting by mail, proxy, or agent. A secret ballot is to prevail at the polls. The tobacco ballot is similar to the following:
1938 Flue-cured Tobacco Marketing Quota Referendum Ballot
Do you favor flue-cured tobacco marketing quotas for 1938 crop?
Yes No
(Mark one square with an (X) showing which way you vote.)
1938 Cotton Marketing Quota Referendum Ballot
Do you favor cotton marketing quotas for the 1938 crop?
Yes No
(Mark one square with an (X) showing which way you vote.)

Abe R. Corey Dies At Griffins Home After Long Illness

Funeral Services at Late Home at 2 O'clock Today

Abe R. Corey, well known Griffins Township farmer, died at his home in the Hardison Mill section last evening at seven o'clock following a long period of declining health. Mr. Corey suffered a stroke of paralysis about a year ago, but recovered sufficiently to be up and attend to a few minor duties in his farm. Last Friday evening, a week ago, he suffered another stroke, and the end had been expected almost hourly after that time. The son of the late John Gray Corey and Prudence Hardison Corey, he was born in Griffins Township, 59 years ago. He was a member of one of this county's oldest families, his father and grandfather having been born and reared in the Hardison Mill section. Until his health began to fail him, Mr. Corey farmed. He was a hard worker, and although he experienced adversity on many occasions he continued at his task with an increased determination to get ahead in life. He had many friends throughout the section. In early manhood he married Miss Bettie Roberson and she survives with seven children, Alton Corey, Mrs. Otis Wainwright, of Griffins Township; Mrs. Herbert Lassiter, of Jamesville; Mrs. Finner Silverthorne and Miss Mary Bell Corey, of Griffins; Henry Corey, of Williamston, and Russell Corey, of Griffins. Funeral services are being conducted at the late home this afternoon at 2 o'clock by Elder P. E. Getsinger and Rev. W. B. Harrington. Interment will follow in the Hardison Mill Cemetery.

District Building And Loan Meeting Here Soon

A district meeting of building and loan association officials will be held here week after next, Mr. Wheeler Martin, secretary of the local organization, announced today. More than 150 building and loan people representing around 30 associations are expected here for the meeting. Arrangements for holding an afternoon and evening session are being made at the present time, and complete plans will be announced shortly, Mr. Martin said.

Twenty-five Have Applied For Seed And Feed Loans

Twenty-five Martin farmers, finding regular credit sources closed to them, have filed applications for seed-feed loans to date, W. B. Watts who is receiving applications in the agricultural building here, said this morning. The average application is for around \$100, it was pointed out. The seed-feed loan office will remain open for several weeks, but any farmer planning to finance his operations with a seedfeed loan is directed to file application as soon as possible.

Woman's Club Will Meet Tomorrow Afternoon Here

The regular monthly meeting of the Williamston Woman's Club will be held Wednesday afternoon at three o'clock in the club rooms. Miss Ethel Parker, of Statesville, who is quite active in cancer work in the State and Mrs. Clarence Beasley, president of the Fifteenth District, will be present for the meeting. The Junior Woman's club is cordially invited to be present.

Fourth Deep Well Necessary To Meet Demand for Water

Want to Surface Several Streets and Lay New Water Lines

A \$50,000 improvement program was mentioned, but the town commissioners in regular meeting here last evening confined final official action to the handling of one or two minor business items. A refund of \$10.77 in taxes was granted Mrs. W. T. Stone, an investigation showing that the property upon which taxes had been paid was just outside the town limits. The appointment of a tax list-taker was deferred until later in the month, the authorities stating that they would likely name the same list-taker employed by the county. Appointments of list-takers have not been effected by S. H. Grimes, county tax supervisor.

Considering at a special meeting last week petitions for laying sewer and water lines on West Academy Street and on a new development by Dr. J. F. Thigpen just east of the graded school building, the commissioners last night virtually completed arrangements for handling the two projects, and for sinking of a fourth deep well to bolster the town's water supply. It is estimated that from ten to twelve thousand dollars will be necessary to sink the well and place the water department in position to meet the increased demand which has doubled and trebled itself in recent years.

The major improvement program is yet in its embryo state, but its advancement has already been pointed out as necessary, and action is to be expected sooner or later. This program as outlined briefly at the meeting last night calls for the surfacing of Marshall Avenue and Warren street and the laying of sidewalks there, the surfacing of Smithwick street from Simmons avenue to Grace street and down that street to Houghton Street and the laying of sidewalks, and the surfacing of a connecting link and the laying of a sidewalk between Church and Main Street on Elm street.

Considering the financial side, the authorities pointed-out that a large bulk of the town's outstanding bonds were being refunded at a lower rate of interest, that much if not all the proposed improvement program could be handled without an increase in the tax rate structure. The issuance of bonds with the approval of the voters will be necessary. It was pointed out that the Thigpen development just east of the grammar school building and paralleling Main Street two blocks to the north is going forward rapidly, that construction work on the George Whitehurst home there is expected to get underway within the next few days, and that five others are planning to build homes there. Developments during the next thirty or sixty days will probably determine the fate of the newly proposed improvement program.

Local Airport Used For First Time Last Sunday

Williamston's new airport on Roanoke River, near the plant of the Standard Fertilizer Company, was used for the first time last Sunday morning when Tom Crawford, local young man, landed his plane there. The young man brought his plane here from its former base, Rocky Mount, in about 25 minutes. The delivery of a new plane to the Williamston Aerial club was delayed on account of high waters in Ohio, Henry Johnson, president of the club, explained. The new equipment is expected any day now.

James Coburn, 76, Claimed By Death

James C. Coburn, native of this county and a prominent citizen of the Gold Point section of this county for many years, died at the home of a daughter in Pitt County last Friday noon following a short illness. Mr. Coburn lived in this county all his life until the first of this year when he retired from the farm and moved to Pitt County to make his home. Just a few days before his death he returned to this county to worship in the Spring Green Primitive Baptist church. He was 76 years old and was highly regarded in this section and in his adopted home community, near Greenville. Funeral services were conducted in the church at Spring Green last Saturday afternoon by Elder W. E. Grimes, interment following in the churchyard there.

James Coburn, 76, Claimed By Death

Mr. Coburn had married twice, his second wife, Mrs. Charity E. Coburn, surviving him. He also leaves one son, Roy Coburn, a former employee of Harrison Brothers and Company here but now of Greenville, and four daughters, Mrs. J. D. Nimmo and Mrs. W. E. Bulard of Richmond, Va.; Mrs. W. M. Grimes of Robersonville and Miss Thelma Blanche Coburn of Greenville; 12 grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Twenty-five Have Applied For Seed And Feed Loans

Twenty-five Martin farmers, finding regular credit sources closed to them, have filed applications for seed-feed loans to date, W. B. Watts who is receiving applications in the agricultural building here, said this morning. The average application is for around \$100, it was pointed out. The seed-feed loan office will remain open for several weeks, but any farmer planning to finance his operations with a seedfeed loan is directed to file application as soon as possible.