

## Unemployed Given \$5,000 Insurance By District Office Here

### "No Check Troubles Here," Unemployment Official Explains

More than 1,000 checks, representing \$5,000 have been delivered to the unemployed in this district during the past few weeks, John Enright, Claims Interviewer for the North Carolina Unemployment Compensation Commission, said today. The checks were distributed to the jobless in five counties by representatives of the unemployment commission and those of the employment service.

"Those unemployed workers covered by the North Carolina Unemployment Compensation law in this district, have been very patient and we have had no 'check troubles' similar to those reported in some sections of the state," Mr. Enright said. The district office here has been very prompt in handling the claims to the insurance, and checks have been delivered within a few hours following their arrival here from the State office in Raleigh.

Losing their jobs shortly after the law went into effect, nearly 100 workers in this community built up only small reserves and the funds to them have been exhausted. New claims have been filed by others who lost their jobs more recently, and they are expected to start receiving the weekly checks within the next few days. In this group are about 100 men and women who until recently were employed by the W. I. Skinner Tobacco company.

The checks so far have been small for the most part, the average ranging around \$5 and some being for as little as \$1.50. To speed up the distribution a short time back, the authorities included several weekly payments in a single check, boosting some amounts to more than \$50. Checks are being received almost daily for the unemployed, and their distribution is being effected the same day in most cases.

The unemployed problem in this community is said to continue of no great consequence, but in some of the five counties included in this district, the number of jobless is reaching almost serious proportions and is increasing.

## Lewis Moore, 47, Dies In Martin County Home

Lewis Moore, 47, died in the Martin County home yesterday afternoon at five o'clock following a long period of declining health. Mr. Moore was admitted to the home from Bear Grass Township about two years ago, and during much of that time he had been confined to his bed.

Funeral services are being conducted this afternoon at 3 o'clock and interment will follow in the family cemetery in Bear Grass Township.

He is survived by one brother, Kelly Moore, and three sisters.

Little Pete Fowden returned last night from Durham where he has been attending school during the past several days.

## County Tobacco and Cotton Quotas Promised Next Week

Working night and day, agricultural authorities in Raleigh are making every effort humanly possible to assign tobacco and cotton quotas to the several counties as early as possible, Murphy L. Barnes, a member of the State extension forces, stating yesterday that this county would receive its allotments next week, possibly on Monday.

Claims of individuals were grouped in the office of County Agent T. B. Brandon here this morning and sent by Mr. Barnes to the State office where the authorities will study them and make known the allotments as soon as possible.

Individual allotments cannot be made until the county quota is determined. County and township committees will take the county quota and break it up into individual allotments. It will take several

days to handle this work, and it is hardly reasonable to believe that the individual allotments can be completed before week after next.

"We are doing everything we possibly can to complete this work and let the farmer have the facts as they apply to his individual farm, but it will take time," an official said today.

Just how many acres of cotton and how many pounds of tobacco this county will receive cannot be estimated with any degree of accuracy, but it is well understood that Martin farmers have some substantial claims to liberal allowances for both crops. Martin County has a tobacco base of about 15,000 acres, and it is reasonable to believe that it will receive an allotment of between 11,000 and 11,500 acres from the state authorities.

## Winter Season Comes To an End Next Week

### BLUE MOLD

Blue mold, the scourge that yields a control stick possibly larger than the one yielded by farmers at the polls last Saturday, has made its appearance in tobacco plant beds in Columbus County, according to reliable reports reaching here yesterday.

Martin farmers, experiencing a marked shortage of plants last season as a result of the blue mold, have made extensive preparations to combat a possible shortage this year by doubling the size of their beds and sowing seed several times.

## Welfare Boards To Meet Jointly

The Martin County Welfare board and the County Child Welfare Advisory committee are to hold a joint meeting in the county welfare office on the second floor of the courthouse here next Tuesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock, Miss Mary Taylor, superintendent of welfare, announced today.

No meeting of the Child Welfare Advisory committees has been held in this county in some time, and the joint session next week will outline the problems common to both welfare units, Miss Taylor explained.

Messrs. E. C. Shoe, of Robersonville; Robert Everett, of Palmyra, and Joshua L. Coltrain, of Williams Township, are members of the county welfare board. The child advisory committee is composed of Mrs. H. M. Ainsley, of Oak City; Attorney H. G. Horton and Rev. Z. T. Piephoff, of Williamston; Dr. W. T. Gibson, of Jamesville, and Mrs. W. H. Gray, of Robersonville. Mrs. Ainsley and Dr. Gibson are new members on the committee.

## Mildest Weather On Record Is Felt In This Section

### Light Rainfall Is Reported During Period; No Snows Here

The passing of winter next Monday is, to be sure, a common place event, but the kind of winter that ends next week is to be chronicled among the unusual, so unusual, in fact, that many have never seen one and may never see another equal it for mildness and the absence of heavy rains and snows. Old Man Winter hardly established a foothold in this section during his regular visit. Of course, he may strike before his official exit next Monday, or he may strike back at the expense of Miss Springtime, but to date he hasn't offered a sample even suggesting the weather experienced two years ago. The season closing next Monday knocks into a cocked hat all that theoretical hocus centered around one Mr. Groundhog, and it is just as reasonable to accept the antics of that animal as a guide to fair weather as to foul and for just as many days as one wishes. Probably Old Man Winter fooled the groundhog just as badly as he fooled the old reliable weather prophets who base their predictions on an ache or pain in this foot or that foot or some other part of the anatomy.

Reviewing the fast-ending winter, one finds that the mercury dropped below freezing on only a few occasions, and did not hold that low position for a long period. The mercury hovered around such dizzy heights, that it was almost useless for automobile owners to buy anti-freeze for their car radiators. And the plumber, ordinarily enjoying great popularity and a booming business in any old winter period, had it unusually dull. Woodyard operators report a soft winter but a hard one financially speaking. About the highest thermometer reading recorded was 85 in the shade, and a temperature like that will pass for summer almost any old day.

The period was a dry one, and not a single snow covered the ground in this immediate section. The Governor's Hospitality committee could not go wrong in telling the world that Martin County is the most "balanced" county in the world to enjoy Florida climate.

Less than six inches of rain has fallen this winter compared with nearly fourteen a year ago. A few snow flakes fell on one or two occasions, but even Florida has a snow flurry every now and then.

Flowers have bloomed almost all winter long, and bulbs planted in the out-of-doors came up ahead of those buried in special pots and placed under cover. Farmers sowed their tobacco beds, and almost before they could turn their backs the little plants were coming up at them. Pear and peach trees have been laughing right in winter's face for weeks.

All in all, this winter has been the mildest in the memory of the town's oldest citizens, and one that has been enjoyed by nearly everyone. The season has hardly been more than a fall extended or a spring advanced.

The weather man is promising fair and warmer weather during the remainder of winter.

## Fifteen Criminal Cases To Be Tried In Superior Court

### Judge Walter Bone Will Preside Over Two Weeks Term

Fifteen criminal cases have been placed on the docket to date for trial in the Martin County Superior court convening next week for a two-weeks regular term. Interest in the term is centered around the case charging James Moore with killing Robert Coltrain while operating a car on Williamston's West Main street and the one charging Joseph Gordon with running over and killing Delmar James near Dardens just a week after the young Coltrain boy was killed on February 19.

Moore, young Poplar Point colored man, faces hit-and-run and manslaughter charges. Unable to raise a \$2,000 bond, he continues in jail. Moore was arrested on Monday afternoon after officers had worked more than forty hours on the case. He admitted driving the death car when officers bombarded him with questions. James Wallace, young Everetts Negro, and Carrie Bell Ward and Almata Edwards, Williamston colored women, were arrested and face charges in the superior court for aiding and abetting in a felony. They were riding with Moore when he turned off the road, struck and killed the Coltrain youth and seriously injured Mrs. Charles Bullock and her son, Robert. The Ward woman, unable to raise bond, continues in jail, but the other two defendants, Wallace and Almata Edwards, are at liberty under bond.

Joseph Gordon, coffin company employee from Rich Square, is at liberty under a \$800 bond, in the case charging him with running over and killing Delmar James, young colored boy, near Dardens, on February 26.

Some light will be thrown on the rampage, but even Francis Carson and Roy Bowers, Jr., defendants, are not expected to offer a reasonable excuse when they appear for trial next week in the case charging them with malicious damage to real property. The two young men went on a dynamite raid on the morning of January 15, spreading terror in the Parmele, Robersonville and Bear Grass communities. After a brief stay in Florida, the two young men returned to this county and surrendered to officers. They are at liberty under small bonds.

Six of the 15 cases on the docket were appealed from the county court, and it is likely that three of the six will be nolleprossed as the State's main witness, George Beck, a former policeman at Jamesville, has moved to another state. Beck is not likely to return to prosecute the cases or push a civil action of his own, reports from the courthouse maintain.

Other cases on the docket: Alex Bonner, charged with larceny, appealed from a judgment handed down in the county court. James and Ethel Gilmore, charged with violating the liquor laws in one form or another and taking the law to task in other ways, are

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## Miss Lydia Briley Dies In Jamesville

Funeral services were conducted yesterday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock for Miss Lydia V. Briley from the home of Mr. and Mrs. O. G. Carson in Jamesville. Miss Briley, Mr. Carson's aunt, died at the Carson home there Wednesday afternoon following a long period of declining health. She had suffered much with heart trouble, and during the three weeks preceding her death she was confined to her bed.

The daughter of the late Elisha and Pennie Drew Nelson Briley, she was born in Pitt County, near Greenville, 80 years ago, the 30th of last January. She spent her early life in that community, but later made her home in the old Carson family home, near Bethel, and about two years ago she moved to Jamesville to make her home with Mr. and Mrs. Carson.

Miss Briley was held in high esteem by all who knew her, and she had a large circle of friends in her home and adopted communities. She was the last member of her immediate family, and is survived by several nieces and nephews, including W. C. Daniels of the News and Observer advertising staff, Raleigh, and Mr. Carson, of Jamesville.

Rev. W. B. Harrington, of this county, and Rev. Gilbert Davis, of Pitt, conducted the last rites. Interment was in the Carson family cemetery just across the Martin line in Pitt county.

## Seine Fishing Gets Underway In the Roanoke at Jamesville

Success marked the opening of the seine fishing season in the Roanoke at Jamesville yesterday, reports from the Martin County town stating that the nets trapped thirteen herring and two sizeable shad on the first "haul." On March 14, a year ago, a lone herring was caught when the seine was thrown across the river there to mark the opening of the 1937 season.

Yesterday, six "hauls" were made with the seine, the average catch ranging around 50 herring and an occasional shad or rock. During the next few days no heavy catches are expected, but in early April the season comes into its own in a big way and during the remainder of the month the herring are taken by the thousands. The fishing period

generally extends into the early part of May, the exact closing date being determined by the Board of Conservation and Development.

Reports state that there aren't many fish in the river just now, but the activities carried on yesterday by the fishery operators and operators of drift nets during the past few days clearly indicate that the fish are finding their way up the stream through the pulp mill acids that many believed would turn back or kill them.

The fisheries in the lower part of the county, near Plymouth, are scheduled to start operations next Monday.

Fish are appearing daily on the streets here in larger numbers and the price has dropped from five cents each to four for 15 cents.

## \$25,000 Damage Suit Filed Here Yesterday

### Bus Corporation And Driver Are Named Defendants

#### Edna Lee Mizelle Makes Serious Allegations Against Driver

A suit to recover \$25,000 damages was started in the Martin County Superior Court here yesterday by Edna Lee Mizelle through her next friend, J. P. Holliday, against the Norfolk Southern Bus Corporation, the plaintiff alleging she was doped and made victim of a plan "diabolically conceived" by J. T. White, bus driver for the defendant corporation.

The plaintiff, 15 years old and a resident of Jamesville Township, states in the complaint filed by her attorney, Elbert E. Peel, that she was traveling from Norfolk to her home last December, that she changed and boarded a bus in Williamston for Jamesville. Riding alone with the bus driver, she alleges that he offered her a coca cola and that "there was something wrong with the drink, that some kind of drug or dope had been put in it."

Alleging she lapsed into unconsciousness, the plaintiff further states that she was carried through Jamesville and into Columbia. The complaint maintains that the bus driver wrongfully and unlawfully placed something in the coca cola that doped or drugged her and rendered her senseless and incapable of knowing what she was doing, that the defendant, through its agent, failed and neglected to put her off at her destination, but wrongfully and unlawfully carried said plaintiff at a late hour to a distant town where she knew no one.

According to the allegations advanced in the complaint, the plaintiff was without money, that the bus driver gave her \$2 and took her to a hotel room and then left her. The plaintiff, although still dazed, doped or drugged, could walk and get around at that time, but the complaint further alleges that she was not in full possession of her mental faculties. She retired for the night, but in a very short time, she alleges the bus driver returned to her room with a pistol, and that she, frightened to death, "was forced to submit to the demands of the agent of the defendant."

The plaintiff points out in the complaint that she had not traveled much, that she was returning to her home after a visit with relatives in Norfolk, that she was timid, and alleges she in her helplessness was taken advantage of by the agent of the defendant company.

Reports state that the young girl has suffered great mental anguish and has been subjected to ridicule.

The case has not been set for trial but it is likely to be placed on the calendar for consideration at the special term of Martin Superior court convening here next month.

### Farmer Loses Finger When Gun Explodes

Guy Leggett, Bear Grass Township farmer, suffered a severe hand injury last Tuesday morning when he took his gun to kill a chicken and the weapon exploded. One finger was almost torn away by the explosion.

The victim received medical attention in a local doctor's office, and is reported to be getting along very well.

## Political Pot In This County Is Far From Usual Boiling Point

### Not a Single Candidacy for A County Office Has Been Announced

Not a single candidacy for a political office in the county has been announced so far, the delay of the office seekers in getting their hats into the ring being recognized as very unusual. And while the political pot is far from the boiling point just now, rumors have it that the heat will be turned on shortly.

Most of the incumbents are certain to file for re-election, but they are in no hurry to stir up the political waters and attract attention to the various jobs that are to be filled by ballot. J. Sam Getsinger, register of deeds, is not required to enter a race this year, that office now requiring a vote every four years instead of every two. He is in a good position to stand on the sidelines and watch any battle that may be pitched by candidates for other jobs this season.

Just now Martin County people interested in politics will have to be content with activities in State and district happenings. Quite a few have filed their candidacies for various district and State political offices, but so far the judgeship contest between I. T. Valentine and Walter Bone and the United States senatorial race of Bob Reynolds and Frank Hancock are attracting what little interest there has been created of a political bend.

S. O. Williams, Hyde County lawyer, and W. B. Rodman, Jr., of Washington, are said to be in the race for State senator from this district, but only the candidacy of Bradford Fearing, well-known Dare county citizen, has been announced here.

Representative Lindsay Warren has officially announced his candidacy to succeed himself, and it is likely he will be opposed in the primary. M. N. Elliott, named by a Republican convention held in this county recently as their candidate for Congress from this the first district, will oppose Mr. Warren in the November election.

Four persons are likely to be in the Democratic primary to seek nomination as the party's candidate for the United States Senate. Senator Robert R. Reynolds, of Asheville, and Representative Frank W. Hancock, Jr., of Oxford, have already filed. The Rev. A. A. Johnson, of Buncombe county, and Arthur Simmons, of Burlington, have announced their candidacies for a seat in the Senate.

The Republicans, meeting in Charlotte this week, named John Newell as their candidate for U. S. senator, and he will oppose the Democratic primary winner next November.

### United States Senate Candidate Visits Here

Congressman Frank Hancock, candidate for the United States Senate, was here yesterday afternoon making new acquaintances and feeling out his political strength against his opponent, Robert R. Reynolds. The congressman is on a trip from the mountains to the sea, his campaign giving him little time at home at Washington just now.

### HAIL

A severe hail storm struck certain sections of this county late yesterday afternoon, reports from the stricken areas stating that no serious damage was done by the stones were were said to be as large as hen eggs.

Tobacco cloth, stretched over plant beds was riddle, and automobile drivers were forced to stop their machines during the storm that lasted for nearly 16 minutes.

Heavy falls were reported in Williams Township and between here and Washington.

## Former Local Man Dies In Hospital

Robert F. Heydenreich, for several years a Williamston resident but who made his home in Alexandria, Va., for some time, died in a Portsmouth hospital last Wednesday morning at 8:20 o'clock following an illness of more than two months' duration.

Mr. Heydenreich, popular superintendent for the Roberts Paving Company for the past twelve years, suffered a minor injury to his nose the early part of January. An infection developed, and he entered a hospital for treatment. His temperature was said to have reached as high as 108 degrees, and his condition was described as critical some time before his death.

Coming here about 1922 as a young man just out of college, he started work with the old Southern Willite Paving Company. During his stay here he made numerous friends among local people, and was highly regarded by all. He married Miss Mary Gladys Watts, local girl, and she with one daughter survives. At the time of his illness, Mr. Heydenreich headed the activities of his company in the Portsmouth area.

The body was carried to Staunton, Va., the old family home, Wednesday, for burial this afternoon.

## Increase in Number of Forest Fires Reported

### Nearly Thousand Acres Are Burned In Martin County

#### Fire Wardens Answer 21 Calls Within Two Months

Forest fire wardens in this county had a busy time during the first two months of this year, according to a report just released by County Warden S. J. Tetterton. A dry season during the winter months aggravated the dangers of forest fires, and the wardens, assistants and conscripted labor were much in demand during January and February.

Warden Tetterton reviewing the activities, stated there were twenty-one forest fires, or an average of almost three each week, that the damage exceeded \$1,000. A total area of approximately 700 acres was burned over in the county, most of the fires and damage being reported in the Hassellville district. The

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### Legion Post Group Improve Hut Yard

Coming here from various parts of the county yesterday afternoon, fifteen members of the John Walton Hassell Post of the American Legion made considerable progress in clearing the hut grounds on Watts street of dead trees, brush and undergrowth. The work frolic was earnestly entered into by men who aren't afraid of work, and when they quit for the day they had greatly added to the appearance of the grounds.

Observers see there an ideal location for a swimming pool and a community playground. Plans are complete for opening a public library in the building, and that with the improved grounds and a meeting center for the Legion post promises to make it a community gathering place.

The names of those offering their services free to clear the grounds are: Messrs. Henry Peél, M. D. Ayers, M. A. Price, Gaston Savage, John G. Corey, Ben Whitehurst, Arthur Roberson, Leonard Bennett, Tom Roberson, Buck Rogerson, Tom Wynne, Dave Manning, L. T. Harrington, Bob Leggett and John A. Ward.

## Control Program for Peanuts Being Sought

### Tobacco Transplanting On Border Reported Recently

Tobacco transplanting in the Border Belt section was reported this week, information received here stating that M. G. Evans, Robeson County farmer, had transplanted a part of his crop. The official report indicated that Evans transplanted a quarter of an acre to gain the distinction of being the first farmer to start the work this season.

Ordinarily transplantings are not started there before about the middle of April.

While Evans has not been advised how much tobacco he may plant, it is certain that he has not exceeded his quota as yet.

Martin County farmers, if the blue mold does not strike and the weather continues favorable, will likely start transplanting their tobacco crops about the middle of next month. Plants are growing rapidly in the beds, nearly every farmer reporting a large supply.

The county's oldest farmers state they can't recall when plants were further advanced at this season.

## Lindsay C. Warren Drafting Bill To Include Peanuts

### Farm Leaders Hope Control Can Be Effected for Coming Crop

A control program for peanuts was considered possible following a meeting of farm leaders from North Carolina and Virginia with lawmakers in Washington day before yesterday. Returning home yesterday, the farm leaders, including B. B. Everett, of Palmyra, were reported to be very optimistic over the prospects for the passage of the bill.

Information gained here indicates that strong efforts will be made to effect necessary legislation immediately and place machinery in motion for administering the peanut section. The most optimistic believe that the control plan can be ad-

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