

## Few Martin Farmers Take Part In Irish Potato Referendum

### Two Additional Places for Voting Will Be Opened on Saturday

As the first of two days set aside for voting on an Irish potato referendum, the polls will likely be visited by a fairly large number of potato growers during the day. Voting will continue until 5 o'clock in the agricultural building, Williamston, as well as in Robersonville and Everetts tomorrow morning at nine o'clock, the polls will likely be visited by a fairly large number of potato growers during the day. Voting will continue until 5 o'clock in the agricultural building, Williamston, as well as in Robersonville and Everetts tomorrow morning at nine o'clock, the polls will likely be visited by a fairly large number of potato growers during the day. Voting will continue until 5 o'clock in the agricultural building, Williamston, as well as in Robersonville and Everetts tomorrow morning at nine o'clock, the polls will likely be visited by a fairly large number of potato growers during the day.

## Democrats Hold Convention Here Tomorrow at 11 O'clock

Quite a few Democrats, mostly those of the New Deal following, are expected here tomorrow morning at 11 o'clock to participate in their party convention. Chairman Elbert S. Peel, of the county's Democratic Executive Committee, stated today that he was looking for a representative group from nearly every one of the 12 precincts in the county.

There'll be no keynote address at the meeting here, the county chairman explaining that the convention will limit its activities to the selection of delegates to the State convention to be held in Raleigh next Thursday and to the reorganization of the county Democratic unit. Since no delegates were named by the precincts, all Democrats in good standing are invited to the meeting. Based on the vote cast in this county for governor in 1936, the

Democrats are entitled to 33 seats in the State convention in Raleigh next week when Congressman Lindsay C. Warren will deliver the keynote address. The convention slated to be held here tomorrow morning can be expected to endorse the new crop control bill, but party leaders consider such action unnecessary. They point out that the farm bill was given an overwhelming majority, and that that vote should be recognized as an endorsement. Others interested in advancing the issue point out, however, that the vote was limited to farmers, that now the party, as a whole, should take a definite stand for or against the bill. It has been suggested that the issue will be injected into the State convention, but party leaders, believing a quarrel will follow are expected to make every effort to side track it.

## Air Mail Week To Be Observed Here

### Postmaster Says Special Plane Will Make Stop Here on Thursday Morning

Air mail service, heretofore, a bit foreign to this immediate territory, will be brought home to the people of Williamston and vicinity on May 15-21 when the Postoffice Department holds a nation-wide observance of the United States Air Mail Week. Extensive arrangements have been made with private pilots to enlarge the air mail schedule during most of the week, and outlying posts throughout the nation will be included in the air mail schedule. Tom Crawford, pilot for the Williamston Aero club, has been contacted to participate in the task of moving the mails swiftly. His schedule has not been definitely announced, postal authorities stating that he will pick up mail either at Plymouth or Washington, continue to Williamston and on to Rocky Mount via Tarboro. It is possible Crawford will make a direct connection with an established line in Raleigh. This special service is being planned for next Thursday only, Postmaster Fowden stating that on the other days air mail will be dispatched as usual by train or bus to the nearest air stations.

## Little Interest Is Being Shown In June 4 Primary In County

Interest in politics continues to lag in this county even though the primary is just three weeks off, reports from various sections indicating, however, that the candidates are breaking into the conversational subjects with more frequency and that the primary will not go by unnoticed. Hardly more than a dozen new voters have been added to the eligible list, an incomplete report from the various registrars states. Robersonville, for the first time as far as it could be learned from the records, did not have a single new name added to the books there last Saturday. Griffins led the list with five new voters. Three were reported registered in Williamston and three at Bear Grass. Several other precinct registrars reported no new names added to the voting list.

Campaigning is underway on a larger scale in the county than many believe, several of the candidates having completed personal tours of several of the districts already. No speaking have been scheduled, the campaign being advanced by several of the candidates after the house to house fashion. Representatives of Frank Hancock, candidate for the U. S. Senate against R. R. Reynolds, were here this week in the interest of his campaign. Attorney Itimous Valentine, candidate for superior court judge in this district, was here in person this week and spoke to the Lions club last evening. Nothing has been heard from Messrs. Winborne and Grady, candidates for utilities commissioner, but friends of Grady are pushing his campaign in several districts.

## Pitt County Sheriff Holding His Own In Ouster Proceedings

### Martin County Clerk States That Sheriff's Service Has Been Excellent

Alleged to have accepted bribes and facing several other charges, Sam Whitehurst, Pitt County sheriff for almost twelve years, and former Martin County resident, was holding his own in the superior court at Greenville today as the first week draws to a close in the hearing of a petition to have the officer ousted. The trial will likely continue several more days.

Much of the testimony offered by the prosecution is said to have been discredited in open court, and perjury has marked to a great extent the proceedings to date, according to reports reaching here from the Pitt capital.

It is understood the trouble started some time ago when the board of Pitt commissioners employed private detectives to "clean up" the illicit liquor business in the neighboring county. Sheriff Whitehurst advised against the employment of certain men, and is said to have told the authorities that if the officers of the county could not handle the situation, then get other officers.

Dave Wichard reporting the trial proceedings in his Greenville Reflector yesterday said:

Proceedings on the petition of individual members of the Board of County Commissioners of Pitt County, to oust Sheriff S. A. Whitehurst from office moved slowly yesterday afternoon and today as the time of the court was taken up with examination of clerks of court from surrounding counties and magistrates from this county and the offering of their records as a basis of evidence to be presented by auditors.

The counsel for the petitioners have advised the court that the audits will reveal that certain commissions have come into the sheriff's hands as a result of execution of papers through his office and that these commissions have not properly been turned over to the county, substantiating the charges in the petition that the sheriff has habitually failed or refused to keep proper records and make proper settlements with the county.

Five clerks of Superior court from various counties have already testified the commissions on the process in question will total approximately \$150. Commissions on the executions of deeds by the sheriff, which it is claimed have not been turned over to the county will amount to slightly above \$300.00. The total amount of fees resulting from the service of magistrates' papers will not be revealed until the auditors testify.

The first witness this morning was L. B. Wynne, of Martin County, who testified concerning certain process from this county served through the office of the sheriff of Pitt county.

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## Liquor Sales in County Increase Last Quarter

### EXPLORER HERE

A. Innes-Taylor, member of the Byrd expedition to the South Pole, stated while on a visit with friends here this week that he was ready but couldn't go for another trip to the cold territory. Now at home for a short time at Southern Pines, Mr. Innes-Taylor did not have a great deal to say about the long visit to the Pole, but explained that it offered great experience. He purchased the biological equipment and maintained it for the expedition.

## Employment Bureau Lands Many Tasks For County Jobless

### Williamston Office Leads in Placements During Past Month

Indications that the employment situation in the Williamston area is showing improvement, is evidenced by the large number of job placements made in the five-county area served by the local State Employment office. With ninety-eight placements made in March and well over one hundred in April, and with about seventy in the past two weeks period, to date, the Williamston office of the employment service is leading a number of offices in larger towns and cities, in total number of persons placed in jobs.

Martin, Beaufort, Tyrrell, Washington and Hyde counties, compose the five-county area served by the Williamston office. A labor shortage was reported several days ago at the Albemarle Sound bridge site, near Mackeys in Washington County, and many laborers have been sent there by the local office, in answer to calls from the contractors at work on the mammoth bridge spanning the sound, to connect Chowan and Washington counties.

A new school building in the town of Creswell, just beginning, some highway work in Washington and Beaufort counties, school buildings in Beaufort county, expansion of the Farm Security (Resettlement) building program near Creswell on Lake Phelps, and private calls for labor, on farms, in saw mills, etc., have combined to create more employment activity recently in this area, according to reports from the office of C. W. Bazemore, manager of the local employment office. C. B. Gilliam, of the Williamston office force, is at present stationed at Bayboro, to assist potato growers in the Beaufort-Pamlico county sections in getting needed labor for the oncoming potato harvest.

## Mother's Day Program At Sweet Home Church

A Mother's Day program will feature the Sunday morning service in the Sweet Home Christian church at 11 o'clock hour, Mr. J. D. Taylor announced today.

Rev. H. E. Harden, of Norfolk, will occupy the pulpit and a visiting choir will render a special program. Large crowds have been attending the Sweet Home preaching services in recent weeks, and a record attendance is expected for the special program Sunday.

## Total of \$360,255.01 Is Spent In County Since Stores Open

### State, County and Towns to Share in \$7,694.35 First Quarter Profits

Boosted by \$33,325.61 last quarter, legal liquor sales in this county from the time the stores were opened in July, 1935, up to the first of April total \$360,255.01, the sales trend being steadily and gradually upward in each corresponding quarter during the period. Jumping from \$29,771.20 for the first quarter in 1937, the sales for the three months period ending March 31 of this year amounted to \$33,325.61, an increase of \$3,554.41 according to an audit filed last week by Greathouse and Butler.

The cost of the sales was placed at \$22,098.43, leaving a gross profit for the quarter of \$11,227.18. Operating expenses for the period amounted to \$3,625.83, or 9.90 per cent of the total sales. V. J. Spivey, chairman of the county alcoholic beverages control board, points out that this operating percentage cost is among the lowest, if not the lowest, in the state. The board added approximately \$150 to the income during the period by discounting bills.

Sales by individual stores and net profits were shown in the audit, as follows: Williamston, sales, \$16,925.56 and profits, \$4,081.30; Robersonville, sales, \$9,086.35, profits, \$1,992.29; Oak City, sales, \$3,826.10 and profits, \$902.68; Jamesville, sales, \$3,487.60 and profits, \$725.08.

The division of profits, \$7,694.35, for the quarter was effected as follows: Martin County, \$3,771.72; State of North Carolina, \$2,332.75, this amount representing a seven per cent tax on gross sales; Town of Williamston, \$579.30; Town of Robersonville, \$271.25; Town of Oak City, \$106.97, and Town of Jamesville, \$96.20. In addition to the State, County and Town profits, the board placed \$536.16 into the law enforcement fund.

On March 31, the county alcoholic beverages control board reported inventories amounting to \$15,399.81. During the first quarter ending last March, the county board paid \$1,996.50 in salaries and wages, \$291 rent, \$56.09 for supplies and \$47.11 for repairs to various properties. Administrative and general expenses for the three months totaled

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## Scouts Brave Wet Weather On Outing Trip Last Night

Braving a heavy rain, local Boy Scouts camped out in the woods on the Martin farm last night. Camping under the direction of Scoutmaster Horace Ray, the boys held to their tents and went through the night without getting wet.

## Brice McCay Released; To Join New Bern Club

Released this morning by the Martins, Brice McCay, right fielder here for his second season, leaves this afternoon for New Bern for an assignment in the pastures for the Bruins. Reports state that McCay had several offers, but decided to sign with the New Bern Bears.

## Work On Warehouse Progresses Rapidly

With the owners in the thick of the work and with thirty carpenters on the job, construction of Williamston's fourth tobacco warehouse—the New Carolina—is progressing rapidly today. Just how long it will require the workers to complete the house cannot be definitely determined, but the owners state they plan to complete the wood work some time next week, weather conditions being favorable.

Starting Wednesday morning, twenty men had covered one-half the roof with sheeting, meaning they had sawed and nailed boards over an area of around 23,000 square feet.

The steel construction work, started last week, was completed last Monday, and the front part of the house is about ready for the brick masons. Starting last week from the floor, the builders have almost closed in the house, establishing what is believed a new record for swift construction in these parts. The New Carolina is rated as one of the most modern houses in the entire country for the sale of leaf tobacco. Special attention was given the planning of the house for an even lighting effect, the owners stating that a solid carload of glass has been unloaded for the skylights. There'll be only a few windows, and none of them will be located on the sides. Two main entrances are located in the front and several doors will be placed on the west side for loading purposes.

## Game With New Bern Bears This Afternoon Called Off

The Martins are remaining idle this afternoon, New Bern club officials advising at noon today that the grounds there were too wet for a contest. The game will possibly be scheduled on Monday, an off-day in the weekly schedule, later in the season.

Dr. J. H. Saunders is confined to his home here by a slight illness.

## Supervisor Predicts an Increase in Tax Values

### Pulp Mill Is Certain To Effect Increases In Property Values

The annual tax listing job virtually completed, County Tax Supervisor S. H. Grimes predicted today that the assessed valuation will exceed that of a year ago by approximately \$300,000, the head of the tax listing work explaining, however, that it would be several weeks before definite valuation figures would be available.

"It is hard to tell just how the values will run this year," the supervisor said in pointing out that approximately \$400,000 would be removed from the county books under a new law requiring the listing of intangibles with the State at a lower rate. Very few intangibles have been listed in some townships in years past, and in those districts the lists will run about the same this year as they did last. One or two other townships will show a gain, but there is some doubt if the gain will offset the loss by the transfer of intangibles.

Much of the loss that is certain to follow the transfer of intangibles from the county books to the State will be partially if not entirely offset by the new listings of the North Carolina Pulp Company properties. A preliminary list was submitted by the company a few days ago, the county taxing authorities considering the assessed values unusually low. The entire plant, including equipment, buildings and personal property, was listed at \$379,000. The valuation report submitted by the company knocks into a cocked hat reports claiming the plant would cost seven million dollars. Supervisor Grimes states he is calling for a statement of values, that he believes the figure will be materially increased.

According to Mr. Grimes the expiration of the extension granted by the county commissioners for listing property, found few names not on the books. Less than a dozen or two failed to list their properties, the supervisor said, pointing out that there may be a few who moved into the county within the past year and who failed to list property or poll. The supervisor is planning to make a complete study of these cases, and he is also planning to make a drive to get other property on the tax books that has not been listed in years gone by. Just now Mr. Grimes is spending much of his time working on the pulp mill case.

The various list-takers are slated to transfer the listings from the abstracts to the scroll books this month and have their lists ready for inspection by the commissioners in June.

## Little Rogerson Child Is Back In Durham Hospital

Ill luck has again overtaken Jas. Rogerson, young son of Mr. and Mrs. Noah Rogerson, of Bear Grass. In October of last year, the little fellow, about 5 years old, got a piece of a peanut in his lung. Hovering near death, the boy was confined to a Durham hospital for months. His condition finally improved and he was able to return home not so long ago. Last week the little fellow got a piece of apple into the same lung, and he is back in the same hospital, doctors stating that he has a chance to recover if pneumonia does not develop.

### RAINFALL

The long dry season that has caused much concern among farmers and gardeners in this section during the past several weeks, was definitely broken early this morning when nearly one and one-half inches of rain fell. The rain accompanied a drop in the mercury, but the cold "snap" was overshadowed by the rain that fell during several hours. Reports from the weather station that the rainfall so far this month is greater than it was for all of May a year ago. To date, 1.65 inches have fallen here compared with 1.41 in May last year.

## Summer Slump Hits Docket In County Court Last Monday

### Only Three Cases Called By Judge Peel in Brief Session

The old summer slump, striking a bit out of season, was recognized in the size of the Martin County Recorder's court docket last Monday. Only three cases were called by Judge H. O. Peel, and the court was in session a very short time. Several cases were continued at the request of defense counsel.

Elmer Swain, charged with larceny and receiving, pleaded guilty in the case and was sentenced to the roads for three months. The court suspended the sentence and placed the defendant on probation for a period of two years under supervision of the North Carolina Probation Commission and its officers.

James Williams, charged with speeding and reckless driving, was found not guilty by the court.

The case charging Jumbo Whitley with non-support was nolprossed. Lin Williams, facing the court in two cases charging violation of the liquor laws, was granted a continuance. The defendant was brought into court on a warrant issued by Special Officer J. H. Roebuck charging illegal possession of liquor.

Few spectators were present for the proceedings, the session attracting about as little attention as any one held in recent months.

## Tobacco Stocks Show An Increase Over Last Year

Total tobacco stocks on hand in the country the first of last month were greater by 153,094,000 pounds than they were at the same time a year ago, according to official report just released by the United States Department of Agriculture. More than one-third of the increase is traceable to Eastern North Carolina, Old Virginia Belt, Georgia and South Carolina where the flue-cured type jumped from 872,509,000 pounds in April, 1937, to 930,907,000 on April 1, 1938.

On April 1, a year ago, there were 2,279,113,000 pounds of tobacco on hand in the United States as compared with 2,432,000,000 pounds on hand the first of last month.

During the first three months of this year, 136,332,000 pounds of tobacco were withdrawn from stocks, the January 1, 1938 poundage figure standing at 1,069,229,000.

## Visitors Address Lions Club Here

Addresses by two distinguished visitors featured the program at the regular meeting of the local Lions Club last evening. A large representation of the membership was present and greatly enjoyed the program.

Addressing the club members, Attorney Itimous Valentine, candidate for the second district judgeship, stressed the value of friendship, placing it above material things as measured in terms of gold or silver. The speaker did not mention his candidacy for the judgeship, but entered into the club fellowship as a visiting Lion.

Mack M. Jernigan, District Lions Governor, of Dunn, also addressed the meeting and reviewed the activities of Lionism. He highly commended the local unit for its work program, and encouraged its members to continue their work.

## Kiwanis-Lions To Play Deciding Game May 17

With the game count standing at one-all, the Lions and Kiwanians have finally mustered sufficient courage to meet and decide the diamond championship on Tuesday, May 17. Long and frequent practice schedules are being planned by the team managers, and a little secret maneuvering by both will likely take place in an effort to "pull something" on the other.

Tickets are now on sale, the leaders of the two civic organizations explaining that the proceeds in their entirety will go to the public library fund.

## Martin Man Wanted For Alleged Manslaughter

A warrant, calling for the arrest of W. B. Weaver on a manslaughter charge, was received by the sheriff's office here this morning from Wake Forest. Instructions, accompanying the warrant, called for bond in the sum of \$2,000 for Weaver's appearance at a preliminary hearing in Wake, Forest on Saturday of next week.

Weaver is alleged to have been driving a truck that figured in a wreck costing the life of R. W. Bauer in Wake County on Tuesday evening of last week. Vernon Sechrist, Rocky Mount newspaper man, and Bill, Draper, also of Rocky Mount, were injured.

Weaver is said to be in the employ of a county transfer company.

Mr. and Mrs. B. Haywood Knight left this week for their home in Millburn, N. J., after spending the weekend with Mrs. Ada B. Knight.