

## Uncertainty Marks Future WPA Privy Program in County

### President Approves \$12,666 Project for County This Week

The future of the sanitary privy building program was unofficially described as uncertain in this county a few days ago, reliable reports maintaining that there wasn't sufficient WPA labor available to carry on privy construction work simultaneously with other projects that had been approved or for which approval was pending. The possibility of discontinuing the building of the sanitary privies and transferring the WPA workers to other projects was mentioned, but later reports indicate that a movement is underway to launch an independent survey of general labor conditions in an effort to find a sufficient number of workers now unemployed to handle all the proposed projects.

Orders now pending are understood to call for a cessation of the privy program and the likely transfer of most of the 26 men now employed by the WPA to the recreational project proposed for Williamston. Unless there are other developments, the program will be discontinued in part, if not in its entirety, within the next two weeks.

An unofficial announcement from Congressman Lindsay Warren's office in Washington this week stated that the President had approved a sanitary project for this county amounting to \$12,666, that final approval by the Comptroller General was pending.

If the new appropriation is made available, it is likely that efforts will be made to continue the construction of privies, a work that has met with marked success during recent months.

It is understood that the county has been constructing each month privies in excess of its regular quota, the number of units totaling as many as 50 in a single month.

While plans are still underway for the construction of two school gymnasiums, one at Oak City and one at Jamesville, in cooperation with the Works Progress Administration, it is possible that these two projects will be delayed by shortage of WPA workers. However, there is the possibility that trend will be upward during the next few weeks or months and sufficient labor can be certified to handle all the projects without curtailment of present activities.

## To Offer Advanced Course At Oak City

Instruction in advanced English mathematics and rural economics will be offered in the Oak City High school next term to graduates wishing to return to the institution and continue their educational training. The plan is dependent upon the demand for the courses, Principal H. M. Ainsley explaining that all ex-seniors interested in the advanced studies should get in touch with him immediately. The school man is planning to leave for Chapel Hill early next week to continue his studies in the summer session at the University, and those young men and women wishing to receive instruction in the advanced courses should see him before that time.

### Infant Daughter Of Mr. And Mrs. Roberson Dies

The infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Eli Roberson died at the home of its parents in Bear Grass last Tuesday night. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Mr. Davis, and interment was in Bear Grass Township Wednesday afternoon.

### Sunday Schools To Hold Conference Here Sunday

Five district Sunday schools will hold a one-day conference in the Pentecostal Holiness church here Sunday, it was announced today. The public is invited to attend the sessions beginning at 9:30 and continuing until 4:30 that afternoon.

### Sam Whitehurst Trial Continues in Pitt County

The trial of Sam Whitehurst, Pitt County sheriff, continues in the superior court there, but late reports indicate the end is in sight. Sheriff Whitehurst took the stand in his own behalf this week, and cross examination was completed yesterday, the officer stating to the court that if any thing is due any man or the county he is ready to pay it and wants to pay it.

## Commissioners To Hear Tax Complaints at Meet Monday

The Martin County commissioners will meet in the courthouse next Monday at 10 o'clock a. m. to hear complaints from owners against tax values assessed by the list-takers in the several townships. There are many, many property owners who have complaints, but judging from the minutes of meetings in the past, comparatively few will go before the board to demand lower assessments.

The commissioners are meeting next Monday in accordance with law, and property owners who have complaints to make and who fail to make them at this time forfeit their rights to demand an investigation of their listings at a later date. In years gone by, the authorities in this county have heard tax complaints almost the year around, but they do so through their own goodness and not at the direction of the law.

### 35 PER CENT

Continued rains have exacted an additional decrease in tobacco production in this immediate section, recent estimates indicating that the crop, as a whole, has been reduced by 35 per cent. Many crops have turned yellow and started "buttoning out," experienced observers maintaining that in such cases a marked decrease in production can be expected. Many farmers are "top-dressing" their crops with high-powered fertilizer, there being some doubt as to the value of the practice. It is explained that excessive rains have rotted the roots, leaving the first fertilizer untouched, that when new roots develop they will feed from the fertilizer, some farmers reasoning that the rains have not washed the plant food away except in unusual cases.

## Plans Well Advanced For Big Exposition And Indoor Circus

### Planters Warehouse Here Is Elaborately Decorated by Experts

Plans were announced well advanced today for holding the big merchants exposition and indoor circus in the Planters Warehouse here during the entire week beginning, June 20, President D. V. Clayton, of the Lions club, the sponsoring organization, explaining that present indications point to a gala week of fun and entertainment for the people of this and surrounding communities.

Scheduled to have been held in the New Carolina tobacco warehouse, the event was moved to the Planters warehouse when it was learned that construction work on the new structure would hardly be completed in time for the decorators to complete their work. Starting last Friday afternoon, a special group of expert decorators have been busy day and night handling the task, their handiwork converting the barren building into a cozy room of striking colors. The decoration scheme is recognized as the most elaborate and well executed of any ever advanced in this section.

### Many Exhibitors

Thirty booths have been made ready for exhibitors, the president of the sponsoring organization stating that eighteen had already been sold, and that contracts were pending for a dozen others. Present indications point to one of the most extensive arrays of exhibits ever gathered under a single roof in this section at one time. Considerable time has been given to the preparation of the booths for the exhibitors and it is quite apparent that the exposition itself will attract a great deal of attention.

### Amusements

Special arrangements have been effected for staging the special acts and seating the audiences, Mr. Grey of the Grey Productions, announcing today that sixteen novelty acts had been booked, that the management was guaranteeing the people of this section a week of high class entertainment and fun. Sixteen acts have been contracted, including one by the Cress acrobatic troupe which is just back from a successful tour in Europe. Lippincott, well-known magician, will have a prominent place on the program along with the other fifteen specialty features.

Paul Jones and his orchestra have been booked for the entire week, and on Saturday night Zack Green and his colored "syncopators" will take over the musical program.

ness and not at the direction of the law.

Quite a few property owners have inspected the 1938 tax lists, and others have a right to review the listings. The books are open to the public at the present time, but will soon be turned over to the county accountant's office where they will be proven and made ready for computing the actual tax amounts immediately after the authorities determine the 1938 rate.

A preliminary review of the listings shows a slight gain in values after accounting for the reduction resulting when the State took over the solvent credits. At the present time the property values of the North Carolina Pulp Company are not on the county tax books, but even without those listings, the total county valuation reflects a slight increase over those of a year ago.

## Primary Vote Last Saturday Is Among Largest Ever Cast

### Size of Guesses on Vote Range From 2,800 to More Than 4,200

Casting 3,354 votes last Saturday, Martin County citizens established a new record count for a regular primary, the final tabulation showing an increase of more than 200 over the record established on June 4 two years ago. The vote was not a record by any means, for in the second or special primary on July 4, 1936, there were 3,524 votes cast, and in November that year the count reached an all-time high of 4,474 votes. But the vote last Saturday still holds as a record as far as a regular primary is concerned.

Precincts in the southern part of the county reported a vote ranging from 20 to 130 greater than that in the June primary, 1936, the county jumping 243 in 1936 to 370 in Griffiths last Saturday. The precincts, Jamesville, Williams, Griffiths, Bear Grass, and Williamston reported fairly sizeable gains, and Gold Point, Poplar Point and Hamilton reported slight increases.

When it came to guessing the size of the vote that would be cast in the county, Luther Peel, Williamston man, walked off with the honors, but James R. Corey, of Williamston R. F. D. No. 1 ran him a close second. Peel guessed there would be 3,280 votes cast, his estimate falling short exactly 74 votes. Mr. Corey, guessing 3,444 votes would be cast, overshot the total by a count of 90.

Sheriff C. B. Roebuck proved himself the poorest guesser in the county when he estimated there would be only 2,800 votes cast. Apparently the officer calculated there would not be much interest in the contests.

Most of the more than 100 guesses directed at the county vote ranged between 3,000 and 3,800, one estimate running as high as 4,208. When it came to predicting the size of vote that would be cast in the individual precincts, Messrs. Rossell Rogers, of Bear Grass, Eli Rodgers, of Robersonville, and B. M. Worsley, of Goose Nest, were tops. Mr. Rogers missed by one vote in estimating the count in his precinct. Mr. Rogers was over by five votes, and Mr. Worsley was under by six votes. Mr. H. H. Roberson estimated 90 votes would be cast in Gold Point, his estimate falling eight short.

The vote cast last Saturday compared with that cast in the June 4, 1936, follows, by precincts:

	1936	1938
Jamesville	363	382
Williams	108	173
Griffiths	243	370
Bear Grass	238	251
Williamston	814	878
Cross Roads	224	197
Robersonville	426	395
Gold Point	90	98
Poplar Point	132	146
Hassell	109	89
Hamilton	153	169
Goose Nest	232	206
Totals	3132	3354

### Legion Post To Elect Officers Monday Night

The election of officers will feature the meeting of the John Walton Hassell post of the American Legion in the hut on Watts Street here next Monday night, June 13 at 8 o'clock. Considerable interest is expected to develop in the election of officers and a large attendance is expected upon the matters which was described as an important one. All members of the post are urged to attend.

## Judge Peel Calls Number of Cases in Recorder's Court

### Little Interest Attached to Proceedings Last Monday

Very little interest was attached to the proceedings in the county recorder's court last Monday. The number of cases was decidedly greater than a week before, but the charges for the most part were considered of minor importance, and the session attracted no large crowd. Judge H. O. Peel called eight cases and continued several others.

William Wilson pleaded guilty to an assault with a deadly weapon and the court continued the case under prayer for judgment.

Judgment was suspended upon payment of the cost in the case charging Henry Howell with an assault with a deadly weapon. Howell pleading guilty in the case, was also directed to pay a doctor's bill.

The case charging G. R. Bateman with drunken driving was continued until the first Monday in August. Bateman, an Elizabeth City man, was driving the car that crashed into the one occupied by Mrs. Sadie Peel, former clerk of the superior and recorder's courts, the early part of last week, near Robersonville. A continuance of the case was ordered pending the outcome of Mrs. Peel's injuries. The wreck victim is getting along very well, but will be confined to her bed for several weeks.

Joe Ball, charged with an assault, was sentenced to the roads for 60 days, the sentence to begin at the direction of the court at any time during the next two years.

Charged with an assault with a deadly weapon, John L. Wynne was directed to pay the costs of the case, the court suspending judgment.

Lossie Outterbridge Corey, charged with violating the liquor laws, was sentenced to jail for thirty days.

Charged with allowing a minor to operate a car, Mrs. Marcilla Coltrain pleaded guilty, the court continuing the action under prayer for judgment until June 13.

## First Cucumbers Are Delivered Here For Northern Shipments

### Plan to Handle Twenty or More Carloads Here This Season

The first cucumbers planted under contract on two hundred acres in this county last spring started moving to the northern markets this week when twenty-two bushels moved out by express. Yesterday, ten bushels were handled at the grading station here and approximately 30 bushels were moved this morning.

Ranging in price from 20 to 70 cents a bushel, the first offerings are averaging around 45 cents a bushel, unofficial reports released for the local market stated.

Comparatively small shipments are expected to continue until about the middle of next week when marked increases are expected in the delivery of the cucumbers. L. N. Johnson, representing Harry Brown commission broker in Brooklyn and who entered into the contracts with the growers, state that this point will possibly be handling from one to three carloads of cucumbers by the end of next week, that he estimated between 20 and 30 carloads of the vegetable would be cleared from this point before the season closed within the next ten days or two weeks.

Sub-delivery stations will possibly be opened.

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### CHECK-UP

A special corps of about 15 supervisors will start checking soil conservation compliance in this county the early part of next week, it was learned from the county agent here today.

Supervisors are attending a three-day school here this week, preparatory to starting the work which will be centered on farms west of Sweet Water Creek and U. S. Highway 17 at first. Aerial maps have been made of farms in the remaining territory just recently and the land surveys will get underway there the latter part of this or early next month.

Robert Smith, of State College, is conducting the special classes for supervisors from this and adjoining counties.

## Discontinuance of Passenger Train Service Here Proposed

A curtailed passenger train service on the Plymouth-Tarboro branch of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company has been proposed by the operators, according to a public notice posted on the company's property here on Wednesday of this week. The notice, posted by Superintendent Cobb at the direction of F. W. Brown, General Manager of the Coast Line system, advises that the company will petition the North Carolina Utilities Commission in Raleigh ten days after last Wednesday for permission to discontinue the two passenger trains operating through here at the present time.

Notice of the proposed action comes as a marked surprise to those who recall the construction of the road back in the nineties. It was understood at that time that the char-

ter granted the company called for the operation of at least one passenger train on the Plymouth branch. The notice posted here offers no details, but it is understood that the company will consider establishing a combination passenger-freight service. This plan, however, will provide no Sunday service and interrupt mail schedules, reports stating that the trains handle most of the mails leaving and coming into the local office.

Reports from various towns along the line served by the two trains indicate that the petition will be strongly opposed, that delegations will be sent to Raleigh in the interest of having the service continued. No date for a hearing has been announced, but it is likely that quite a few local people will consider opposing the curtailed service plan.

## Mrs. J. T. Daniel Dies Suddenly At Her Oak City Home

### Funeral Services Are Held There Yesterday Afternoon

Mrs. John T. Daniel, greatly beloved woman and a well-known citizen of this county, died suddenly at her home in Oak City last Wednesday morning at 11:10 o'clock, apparently the victim of a heart attack. Mrs. Daniel, 61 years of age, was in her usual health early that morning and was attending to her duties in the home when she was taken ill and died apparently very peacefully. She was alone at the time, a daughter-in-law, Mrs. Wheeler Daniel, finding her seated on the stairs. Mrs. Daniel is believed to have suffered a heart attack while walking up the stairs. She sat down and when found her head was resting in her lap, reports stating that she had been dead possibly 45 minutes or an hour when she was found.

The daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Henry Everett, Mrs. Daniel was born in Robersonville Township, near Robersonville, where she spent her early life. When a young woman she was married to Mr. Daniel and moved to Oak City, living there the remainder of her life. She was a faithful member of the Baptist church for a long number of years, and was held in high esteem by all who knew her. In the home she was a thoughtful wife and an understanding mother; her Christian-like character endearing her to the people of the community.

Besides her husband, she leaves five children, Mrs. Edmond Early, Mrs. W. W. Casper, and Messrs. Wheeler, Harry and John Daniel, Jr. all of Oak City. She is also survived by four brothers, Messrs. H. S. Everett, S. T. Everett, both of Robersonville; J. D. Everett, of Jefferson City, Tenn., and Simon Everett, of Pilot Mountain, and two sisters, Mrs. Allie Andrews, of Hopewell, Va., and Mrs. J. B. Rawls, of Robersonville.

Funeral services were conducted from the home yesterday afternoon by Rev. George L. Leggett and Rev. E. C. Shoe, Robersonville Baptist minister. Burial was in the Oak City cemetery.

### Colored Man Survives Bite Of Rattlesnake

Bitten by a rattlesnake the early part of this week, Sam Moore, Jamesville colored man, is living today and apparently enjoying his usual good health.

Working in a logwoods for the Bingham Lumber Company, young Moore was bitten while sawing a log in the rattlesnake-infested territory near Dymond City. He was rushed to the offices of Drs. Saunders and Brown where he received his first treatment. Today he is back at his task, but a bit more careful of snakes.

The snake, a rather large one, had been pinned under a tree limb for several days, and it is believed that the reptile had exhausted the supply of poison in his body before attacking Moore.

### Local Young Man Is Improving In Hospital

Critically ill in a Washington hospital during the past three weeks, George Harrison, Jr., young local man, was reported improving there today. Dr. Horsley, Richmond doctor, was called in yesterday for a consultation with attending physicians, and while the visiting doctor found him a very sick patient, he was encouraging in his reports, it was learned here.

### SENATOR



D. Bradford Fearing, president of the Roanoke Island Historical Association, was successful in his candidacy for a seat in the State Senate at the polls in this district last Saturday.

## Brighter Outlook For Exportation of Flue-cured Tobacco

### Price Prospects Heartening To Farmers With Short Crops

Martin County farmers, discouraged by unfavorable crop conditions, were greatly heartened by a report released this week and stating that certain factors may effect increases in flue-cured tobacco prices this fall.

The prediction that tobacco exports will continue to show an increase and that prices may be "lifted" is based in part, on the misfortune of another people. W. P. Hedrick, tobacco marketing specialist of the State Department of Agriculture believes the war between Japan and China may mean better prices, and explains:

"Japan's war machine has struck the most fertile tobacco section of China and prevented marketing of the Chinese crop with a resulting heavier demand for American tobacco."

"Flue-cured exports during the first four months of this year have increased 37 per cent over the same period of 1937," he added, pointing out that the Department of Commerce had reported an export increase of 40,000,000 pounds compared with a total of 66,000,000 pounds sent abroad during the first four months of 1937."

He attributed the "export boom" to depleted European markets, increased consumption in European countries and the war.

Hedrick, who graded and bought tobacco in China for eight years, said that "normally, Chinese tobacco would have already been marketed and would have permitted British manufacturers to operate smoothly, but because of war conditions and resulting destruction of transportation systems, China's flue-cured crop cannot be secured for world trade." Great Britain is a heavy consumer of Chinese flue-cured tobacco.

Along the Lunghai railway, where tens of thousands of troops are reported engaged in bloody conflict, lies the best tobacco land in China, Hedrick said. With Chinese soldiers and civilians fleeing before the invaders, he added, marketing the crop is uncertain.

In some sections of China, the specialist said, the Chinese will not plant a new crop if they have failed to market the last—a type of "control." He said that failure to market the 1937 crop had resulted in no 1938 crop in some places there.

## Martin County Man Is Fatally Injured In Auto-Truck Wreck

### Funeral Wednesday Afternoon for W. C. Cowey Near Oak City

Injured in an automobile-truck wreck near Conetoe Creek in Pitt County early last Monday evening, William Charles Cowey, former young Martin County man, died in a Tarboro hospital the following day about 5:30 o'clock p. m. Thought to have been only slightly hurt, Cowey was first removed to his home but when he failed to respond to treatment, he was carried to a hospital. He became worse rapidly, and death followed from internal injuries.

Driving an old Model T car, Cowey is said to have driven out from under James' filling station and was struck by a truck driven by J.

Eugene Manning, of Tarboro R. F. D. No. 1. Patrolmen Hunt and Rothrock, investigating the accident, found the brakes on the truck were in proper shape and learned that the truck was not running at an excessive speed. An inquest into the man's death was considered unnecessary by the Pitt County coroner.

Before he died, Cowey is quoted as saying: "I was on my way home with my little fish truck when suddenly a large truck loomed in front of me. In some way the truck and my car collided and threw my truck onto the dirt and demolished it. I was hurt but didn't think it was serious at the time." The young man was X-rayed at the hospital but no broken bones were apparent, but he was badly crushed internally.

The wreck victim was the son of C. W. Cowey, railroad employee who lives near Oak City, and the late Mrs. Jane Rogers Cowey. He was only 25 years old, and was a member of the Baptist church.

Funeral services were conducted Wednesday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock from the Cowey home, near Oak City, by Rev. James H. Smith, Williamston Baptist minister. Interment was in the family plot, near the home.

Besides his father, he is survived by his step-mother, one brother, Luther Cowey, of Hobgood; and five sisters, Mrs. T. H. Latham, of Faison; Mrs. J. L. Melvin, of Princess Ann, Va.; Mrs. Stephen Stalls, of Robersonville; Mrs. J. C. Whitfield, of Hamilton; and Mrs. W. J. Hardy, of Palmyra; three half-brothers, Kelly B., Clyde and Bennie Lee Cowey and one half-sister, Frances Cowey, all of near Oak City.

## Start Construction Rural Light Line

Construction work was started yesterday on a 10-mile rural power line to the Farm Life section of Griffiths Township, the project having experienced considerable delay during recent weeks. No date for completing the line has been set, representatives of the Virginia Electric and Power Company explaining that the work would be carried forward as rapidly as possible. If present plans materialize, the projects should be completed and made ready for use by the latter part of this month.

Around fifty-five customers have contracted for service in the section the line will serve.

Yesterday, construction forces distributed poles on the line as far as Piney Grove Church, and that work is being completed today. Extra men have been employed to rush the work on the line.

### Arrest Two Men At Liquor Still Tuesday

Arrested at a liquor still along the Martin-Edgecombe boundary last Tuesday, Elbert Henderson and Leslie Acklin, colored, were placed in the Martin County jail in default of bond in the sum of \$500 each.

The two men, said to be wanderers, were given a preliminary hearing by U. S. Commissioner Walter Halberstadt who ordered them placed in jail until the next term of federal court convenes in this district.

### Piney Grove Bible School Has Increased Enrollment

Beginning a two-weeks term last Monday, the daily vacation Bible school in the Piney Grove Baptist church has reported an increasing enrollment from day to day, the pastor announcing that 84 children were now participating in the program. Rev. James H. Smith, pastor of the Baptist church here, is superintendent of the school and he has several volunteer assistants.