

Meat Market Grade Average Is Very Low In Martin County

Ratings of Half of the Markets Are Below Seventy Per Cent

Completing recently a survey of the meat markets in this county, A. W. Petty, District State Sanitarian, and Charles A. Leonard, Martin Sanitary Officer, found half of the establishments with sanitary ratings ranging below the State minimum requirements. However, in the following report, Sanitarian Leonard points out that the general rating average of the twelve markets in the county has been raised by 20 per cent since a preliminary survey was made several months ago.

The report just filed in the office of the county health department is as follows:

As a result of a complete survey by the State Board of Health and the Martin County Health Department, the first official meat market grades in the county have been posted under the state meat market law. A preliminary survey was made during the early fall at which time the necessary improvements were discussed with each market operator.

The present average of the twelve grades posted is 69.5 per cent or about 20 points higher than the preliminary average of the same markets. Each market will be required to meet all the requirements and make at least 70 per cent.

The present grades are as follows: City Market, Williamston, 94.0; Everetts Grocery, Robersonville, 83.5; Robersonville-Mercantile, Robersonville, 82; Johnson-Matthews, Hamilton, 80; Johnson's, Hamilton, 74; Sunnyside, Williamston, 74; Hardy's, Everetts, 68; Cash Grocery, Everetts, 64; W. V. Daniels, Oak City, 57; Sanitary, Robersonville, 54; Sexton's, Jamesville, 54; Yellow Front, Parmele, 44.

Markets making above 90 per cent are given a blue Grade A certificate, 80 per cent to 90 per cent green B, and 70 to 80 per cent a red grade C. Housewives should always patronize the higher grade markets since the grade is derived from the type of building and equipment and the degree of sanitation or insanitation.

Markets rating in the sixties on this inspection upon recognition of their efforts were given a short extension of time in which to comply after which they must make seventy or be closed as were the markets making below sixty on this inspection. Any person operating after being closed without first meeting all requirements and being approved, is subject to prosecution, fine or imprisonment.

Most of the markets are making an earnest effort and all were in better shape than before except the Yellow Front Market in Parmele which not only made no effort but actually lowered its grade by 3 1-2 points. One of the closed markets has already begun the necessary improvements, hoping to be re-opened next week.

In the future all markets will be graded at least annually by the state and monthly by the county sanitarian.

Local Church To Hold Institute

A "Learning for Life Institute," the first to be held in the North Carolina conference, will open Sunday night at the Methodist church under the leadership of Dr. S. A. Maxwell. It will continue through Wednesday night and close with the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. The special theme of this institute, "Building Our Church in the Community" is one of genuine interest to our town. After the presentation of the subject each night an open forum period will give opportunity for questions and discussion from the floor.

The public is invited to all sessions of the institute. Its purpose is to enable the church to fearlessly, frankly, face its task through creating a genuine democracy of information, obligation, inspiration, and participation in the life of the churches of our town.

Parents-Teachers Will Hold Bridge Tourney

Plans have been perfected for the holding of the annual parents-teachers bridge tournament in the Woman's Club tomorrow afternoon and evening. The hours of play will be three and eight o'clock. It is hoped that a large number of persons interested in bridge will assist in the association's work by participating in the tournament.

Limited Number Individual Maps Available To Farmers

A limited number of individual farm maps will be made available without charge to Martin County farmers by the office of the farm agent during the next few days, it was learned today from Chief Clerk T. B. Slade. Any farmer interested in procuring a complete map of his farm is directed to file his request in the office of the agent as soon as possible.

"We will be able to prepare between three and four hundred maps for individual farmers during the next few days," Mr. Slade said, and those who file their requests immediately will be given first considerations.

The individual maps are being prepared from pictures taken in an aerial survey made in most of the county last year and year before last. The maps show the individual

farm divisions, including exact acreages in field crops and timber lands. Field acreages for 1938 as reported by the supervisors will be shown in the maps which will prove of much value to the farm owners.

The aerial survey for the entire county has not been completed and the individual maps are not yet available to farmers in Griffins, Williams and Jamesville Townships. Farmers in other townships can get a complete map merely for the asking. As rapidly as the requests are received, the maps will be drawn and then sent to Washington for printing. Some little time will be required to handle the work which will be carried on as long as possible. Those farmers interested in getting maps of their farms are urged to file their requests with the county agent's office at once, for the work will be limited this year.

Plans Completed For President's Ball Here

CONTEST

Entering its second week, the campaign for Farm Bureau members in this county is gaining momentum. Unofficial reports indicate that the membership team of Van G. Taylor is forging ahead of Charlie Daniel's team, and that nearly three hundred farmers have joined the organization since the drive got underway last Saturday a week ago.

Members of the two teams are to compare notes shortly and make plans for a whirlwind windup next week. The winners of the contest will be guests of the losers at a big supper.

Mrs. N. L. Hyman Dies In Sanatorium Yesterday Morning

Funeral Service Will Be in Oak City This Afternoon

Mrs. Pauline Davenport Hyman, greatly beloved young woman of Oak City, died at Sanatorium yesterday morning following an illness of several months' duration. She had been in ill health for some time but her condition was much improved until last summer when she suffered a relapse and returned to the sanatorium for treatment.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Luther J. Davenport, Mrs. Hyman was born in Hamilton about 29 years ago. After spending her early childhood there she moved with her parents to Oak City. About seven years ago she was married to Mr. N. Lawrence Hyman, of Oak City, and he, with one son, Sidney Carrol Hyman, four years old, survives. She also leaves three sisters, Miss Madeline Davenport, a teacher in the Powellville schools, and Irene Davenport, of Oak City, and Mrs. Fred Barrett, also of Oak City, and three brothers, Messrs. Norman Earl, William Luther and Otis Davenport, and one half-brother, Mr. Rudolph Whitley, of Roseboro.

Mrs. Hyman was greatly beloved by a host of friends in this county. She was a devoted wife and mother, was a faithful religious worker in the Oak City community.

State Council Of Churches Hold Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the North Carolina Council of Churches will convene in the First Presbyterian church, of Durham, on January 17-19. Many of the outstanding religious authorities of America will have places on the program. North Carolina has a right to be proud that it has such a council since it leads most of the states in the nation in the perfection of such a council.

Such a state set-up is recommended by the last Edinburg conference for it will function with the World Council of Churches which is being worked out in the great council convening at Madras, India.

Rev. John L. Goff, of Williamston, a member of the executive committee from the Christian church, plans to attend.

First Snow In Two Years Falls Here Early Yesterday

Thunder and Lightning Accompanies Three-inch Snowfall

This section's first snow since January, 1937, fell here early yesterday morning. Measuring three inches, the snow came as a surprise to people throughout this section.

At ten o'clock Sunday night, rain, hominy now, and a few flakes fell, but about midnight the mixture gave way to a light rain. Soon after two o'clock yesterday morning an electrical storm of short duration was heard, and a short time later the snow started falling thick and fast. It was the first time since February, 1915, that an electrical storm accompanied a snow. Mayor John L. Hassell said yesterday. At daybreak the snow had covered the ground and during the next two hours a heavy fall was reported.

Snowfalls have been reported in adjoining territories in recent weeks and while a few flakes fell here during last month, the fall yesterday was the first to cover the ground since early in 1937.

The mercury, doing about face, dropped from 70 degrees last Tuesday to 36 Sunday night. The drop was gradual, however, and when local people retired Sunday night they had no idea they would find the earth covered by a white blanket the following morning.

After hanging in the lower forties during much of yesterday, the mercury started climbing in the afternoon and today there is little sign of the snow left.

Following the fall, old-time residents started offering their predictions, some stating that a good crop year is in prospect for this section. "I am not quite sure, but it seems as if the old folks used to look forward to a favorable crop season when a snow was accompanied by lightning and thunder," Mayor John L. Hassell said.

While general business was slowed down to some extent, the schools of the county opened on schedule yesterday morning. Road conditions were not at all good following the snow, but reports from the office of the county board of education reported that all school busses made their trips.

Breaking numbers to wires down, the snow storm interrupted the communication systems of both the telephone and telegraph during the greater part of yesterday, and complete repairs had not been made to the systems today.

Reports state that other sections had a larger snow than the one here. Bethel reported a six-inch fall, and at Rocky Mount there were ten inches.

Third Of Million For Roanoke River

The expenditure of a third of a million dollars for improving the Roanoke River has been recommended by engineers to the Congress. In their report, the engineers claimed that approximately \$351,255,700 could be profitably expended in the next twelve months on rivers and harbors improvements and for flood control throughout the nation. The president's budget for such work was placed at \$72,000,000.

The report was sent to the rivers and harbors committee for its use in drafting the annual legislation authorizing expenditures for waterway projects. Funds for carrying out the work must be made available by an appropriation act.

Proposed work on the Roanoke includes a \$323,000 project for dredging channels between the Albemarle Sound and the North Carolina Pulp Mill in the lower part of this county and between Hamilton and Palmyra landing, and the dredging of a cut-off channel two miles above Hamilton. The few remaining hundred dollars would be spent for clearing trees and logs from the stream.

Another third of a million dollars has been asked for dredging a channel in the Tar River from Washington to Hardee's Landing, near Greenville.

The ever-present task of keeping the Cape Fear dredged at and below Wilmington is slated to get approximately \$215,000.

School Masters' Club To Entertain Teachers

The Martin County School Masters' club will entertain the teachers of the county at an oyster roast in the gymnasium here tomorrow evening.

Martin County Farmers Applying For Benefit Payments Under The Soil Conservation Plan For 1938

Northerners Move Southward To Spend the Winter Months

The flow of vacation traffic delayed by the holidays and then by the warm season during the early part of this month, is beginning to increase southward as the winter season begins to assert itself in the North. Representing Massachusetts possibly more than any other state, autoists are moving through here in large numbers daily, the estimates ranging as high as 175 to 200.

A few of the travelers stop over for lunch—a sandwich and a drink hurriedly consumed—and several gallons of gasoline for their motors.

A sure harbinger of genuine business recovery is an improvement in vacation traffic. There's an old economic adage that when Mr. and

Mrs. America begin to spend vacation money, prosperity cannot be far behind.

Such a trend has been reported from Miami, Fla., where reports on early season arrival of visitors indicates a 10 per cent increase over last year. The visitors will spend some \$27,000,000, it is estimated, compared with \$25,000,000 in the 1937-38 season, the previous peak. To prepare for this onrush Miami and the metropolitan area spent \$21,500,000 last year for building, including the erection of 11 new hotels, 2,000 private homes, 46 apartment houses, a huge ice skating rink, a midget auto racing track, the metropolitan area's third horse racing track and its ninth golf course.

Local Boy Participates In Air Races At Miami

Earns Small Cash Prize, Free Gas And Oil On Trip

Averages 110 Miles an Hour On Homeward Run Last Thursday

Driving his 40-horse power Taylor Craft plane, Tennyson Ayers, young man of this county, participated in the Miami air races last week, earning a small cash award and free gas and oil on the two-way trip.

Leaving here about noon on January 2 the young pilot picked up a passenger in Washington and hopped to Jacksonville that afternoon and continued to Miami the following day. Two other brief stops were made for refueling the little ship.

Driving along the shoreline, Ayers, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Ayers, of Bear Grass, flew low most of the way to get the advantage of a favorable tail wind. Fishermen along the way took no chances when they saw his ship coming and darted for cover. The young man was a little late in getting off and did not join the fleet that converged on Miami until he reached the Florida resort. There was little competition in his plane class, but he was recognized and rated with star pilots from all parts of the nation.

Starting off with the fleet on the return trip, Ayers soon took the lead away from the fifty-horse power craft and sailed into Goldsboro Wednesday for an overnight stop. He averaged 110 miles an hour with the light ship and made about 25 miles to the gallon of gasoline.

The trip, greatly enjoyed by the young pilot, was without the slightest accident.

Taking an examination by a government inspector in Charlotte last month, young Ayers now holds a commercial license and one of the highest ratings in the State. He took his examination under J. G. Nolls, government inspector who gave Doug Corrigan, the wrong-way flier, his license.

Near Record Is Set For Rainfall In '38

With one exception, the rainfall in 1938 was the heaviest on record at the weather station on Roanoke River here, a review of the readings by Hugh Spruill, bridge keeper, this week shows.

Starting off with medium readings in the first three months, the weather station reported an increase from two to seven inches in April. Heavy rains continued through May, June and July, reaching a top of almost ten inches in July. Farmers recall the wet season, well remembering how their crops drowned in the deluge of rains that fell day after day and week after week. Unusually favorable at the beginning of the season later proved to be the most disastrous in years.

Slightly over one inch of rain was recorded along with the snow yesterday.

Indications Point To \$100,000 Payment In County This Year

Between 1,200 and 1,400 To Participate in Benefit Program

Machinery for receiving applications for benefit payments under the 1938 soil conservation program is being completed this week. T. B. Slade, assistant to the county farm agent, announcing today that the first requests for the benefits would be taken in Bear Grass and Cross Roads Townships tomorrow.

Farmers are being notified when to apply for the payments. Mr. Slade stating that all applications should be in the office of the agent as soon as possible. "The earlier the applications are received, the earlier the payments can be expected," Mr. Slade explained. Applications will be received in other townships in the county the latter part of this week, and the work will likely be completed during the early part of next week. All farmers, complying with the soil conservation program in 1938 and who fail or find it inconvenient to apply direct to the local committee when they sit in the various districts on specified dates will find it necessary to file their application in the office of the county agent.

Accurate figures are not available just now, but it is estimated that had all Martin County farmers complied with the program in its entirety they would have received approximately \$240,000. An incomplete survey indicates that the farmers earned last year possibly a little in excess of \$100,000.

Busy making out the application forms, the office of the agent has not had time to make a study of the figures, but it is generally believed that at least 200 farmers forfeited all claims to payments under the benefit program when they planted in excess of their 1938 quotas, leaving between 1,200 and 1,400 others who will share to some extent in the program benefits. Possibly as many as 600 farmers complied with the program in its entirety and those farmers are almost certain to receive the bulk of the total payments in the county.

Most farmers surrendered large portions of their benefit payments when they planted tobacco and peanuts in excess of their allotments. The penalty for excess tobacco plantings runs up to \$85 an acre, and although a farmer planted only one-half acre of tobacco in excess of his allotment he will lose \$42.50. There is some talk in Congress now about lowering this penalty, but it isn't likely that any action toward this end will be taken in time to affect the penalty schedule for the 1938 crop. A farmer planting peanuts in excess of his allotment will be penalized at the rate of \$12.50 an acre. Comparatively few farmers planted in excess of their cotton

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Warren Griffin In Jail For Forgery

Warren Griffin, young Griffins Township negro, was jailed here on Sunday for the alleged forgery of two checks on January 7. Forging the name of farmer John A. Hardison, of the Farm Life community, Griffin is alleged to have cashed a check for \$11.95 at Perry's store and one for \$8.60 at Moore's grocery.

Griffin was recognized as a Farm Life negro, but his name was not known. Supplied with a description of the man and the goods he bought, Sheriff C. B. Roebuck picked up the man's trail in Griffins Township Sunday afternoon. Griffin's home was searched and a pair of shoes and a hat purchased from Mr. Perry's store were found hidden behind the kitchen stove.

Griffin claimed he bought the shoes from another store, but the arresting officer learned that that store did not carry the brand of shoes found hidden in Griffin's kitchen.

Strongly denying the forgery, Griffin will be given a preliminary hearing here today, and the case will be carried over to the superior court for trial in March.

FEW CASES

Five cases have been placed on the civil docket for trial in the superior court so far this year as compared with thirteen cases placed there during the corresponding period in 1938. All the cases are of minor importance, Clerk L. B. Wynne said.

Three claim and delivery papers were filed along with one for a division in a land suit and one for divorce.

4-H Clubs Of County Effect Organization For Current Year

Much Interest Is Shown in Election of Club Officers

The organization of the 4-H clubs in this county was perfected in a series of meetings held recently. J. P. Woodard, assistant county agent, stating that the boys and girls showed much interest in the election of officers for the new year. "I think they elected a very capable group as officers, and it is an honor for any boy or girl to be elected to head his or her club," the assistant agent added.

For the first time, the club boys and girls elected historians this year to record and maintain records of the activities of the various units in the county.

Names of the new officers who will serve until next year are, as follows:

Everetts: president, Mary Alice Cherry; vice president, Billie Clark; historian, Irene Williams; boys' secretary, Russell Wynne; girls' secretary, Melvin McGowan.

Robersonville high school: president, Ervin Dixon; vice president, Lucile Cox; historian, Wilbur Gerald James; girls' secretary, Nellie Johnson, boys' secretary, Herbert Cullipher.

Robersonville elementary: president, Edith Roebuck; vice president, Henry Winston; historian, Bobby Watson; girls' secretary, Mattie Whichard; boys' secretary, Dick Green.

Williamston high: president, Billie Clark; vice president, Reg Griffin; historian, Fabian Barnhill; girls' secretary, Nina Bennett; boys' secretary, George W. Corey.

Williamston elementary: president, Slade Peele Revels; vice president, Millie Coltrain; girls' secretary, Lillian Maxwell; boys' secretary, David Perry.

Farm Life: president, Howell Peele; vice president, Mary Manning; historian, Lola Smithwick; boys' secretary, Carlyle Manning.

Jamesville: president, Elwood Brown; vice president, Mercedes Ange; historian, Pearl Ange; boys' secretary, Andrew Long; girls' secretary, Faye Swinson.

Bear Grass: president, Charlie Harrison; vice president, Luther Cratt; historian, Lester Ward; girls' secretary, Elva Leggett; boys' secretary, Rufus Gurganus.