

Allotments Under The New 1939 Soil Setup Announced

Maximum Payments For Each Farmer Will Be Determined Later

Acreage allotments for each individual farm in Martin County were announced last week by the farm agent's office, Mr. T. B. Slade, assistant, explaining that the maximum payments each farm can earn under the program, will be determined and released to the farmers as soon as possible.

The total allotments, which are not available at this time, are not expected to vary but very little if any from those in effect last year, Mr. Slade said. Some few minor adjustments were made where apparent errors were made in the past, but as a whole, the allotments remain about the same for all the soil-depleting crops.

With the distribution of the 1938 soil conservation program checks getting underway this week, it is believed that Martin farmers will recognize the worth of the program and not plant to excess even though no strict control program is in effect this year.

Along with the allotment announcements, the county office points out the average deductions that will follow in the soil conservation program payments when plantings are excessive. The schedule of deductions is, as follows:

Tobacco: First 10 per cent \$18.60 per acre. All over 10 per cent \$74.40 per acre.

Cotton: \$12.50 per acre (if you knowingly overplant cotton. No payment will be made for the farm).

Peanuts: \$13.50 per acre for each acre harvested in excess of allotment.

Irish potatoes: \$42.00 per acre. (For each acre harvested in excess of the allotment.)

General soil depleting crops: Five dollars per acre for each acre in excess of the total soil depleting allotment except for farms planting twenty acres or less plus the acreage of cotton and tobacco.

Dental Clinics Held In County Schools

Opening the first of a series of dental clinics in the county, Drs. A. D. Underwood and M. R. Evans established a full-time record in the Robersonville schools last week, a progress report filed in the county health department showing that the two State Health Department doctors have just about completed their work there and will move immediately into the schools at Gold Point and Hassell.

Centering their work in the first, second and third grades, the dentists examined 250 children during the week, treating 99 of the number and referring 135 to local dentists for treatment. Including fillings, extractions and miscellaneous treatments, the doctors performed 494 operations. Eight lectures on oral hygiene were given to the entire group. Thirty-two of the patients were grade repeaters, and only sixteen in the 250 needed no dental treatment.

Commenting on the clinics, Dr. F. E. Wilson, county health head, explained that the purpose of the examinations and treatments is to correct the teeth for dental cavities with fillings, extract teeth when necessary, clean teeth and to treat the gums. Children who are able to pay for dental work are requested to have their family dentist do the work.

The value of the dental clinics was firmly established last year when representatives of the State Health department examined and treated teeth for several hundreds of children in the county, and every effort is being made to make the service available to equally that many children and possibly more between now and the end of the current school term.

Junior Club To Hold Meet Tomorrow Night

The local Junior Woman's club will hold its regular meeting tomorrow evening in the club hall. Mrs. Eunice Figg, home service director for the Virginia Electric and Power Company, will give a cooking demonstration.

A cordial invitation is extended to the members of the senior club to attend the meeting.

Jamesville P. T. A. Will Present Play March 15

The P. T. A. of Jamesville high school will present the Old District School, March 15th, at eight o'clock in the high school auditorium.

Urge Establishment of Test Farm for Peanuts

TO SPEAK



Oscar H. Benson, national director of rural scouting, will address the regular meeting of the local Kiwanis club Thursday evening.

Ruling In Lower Court Is Upheld By High Tribunal

Gray Recovers Nothing in Damage Suit Against Griffin

Judge W. H. S. Burgwyn was upheld by the North Carolina Supreme Court a few days ago in his action non-suiting the case of D. Gray and Tom Alexander against Bennie Griffin in the Martin County Superior Court here last November. The decision of the high court was announced a few days ago, but the brief outlining the decision has not been circulated at this time.

The plaintiffs were injured in an automobile wreck on the Washington Road, near Williamston, a year ago. Alexander brought suit to recover a \$100 doctor's bill and for \$1,500 personal injuries. Gray sued for \$200 doctor's bill and \$2,000 personal injuries. It was pointed out that the defendant went into bankruptcy last March making it necessary for the plaintiffs to prove that the injuries and damages were the result of willful negligence before their claim could circumvent the bankruptcy action. It was apparent that the wreck carried no malicious intent, and when the defense made a motion of non-suit, the court granted it. An exception was noted by the defense attorney, B. A. Critcher. Attorneys Wheeler Martin and Clarence Griffin represented the defendant, a young Williams Township man.

In allowing the motion of non-suit last November, Judge Burgwyn censured the action of the defendant who allegedly went into bankruptcy to forestall payment in the suit. "A little charity is worth more than a few dollars," Judge Burgwyn remarked at the time the plaintiffs failed to show wanton negligence and a motion of non-suit was granted.

Sheriff's Office Had Very Busy February

Employees in the sheriff's office were kept busy last month chasing the disturbers of the peace, wrecking liquor stills, ejecting folks, summoning jurors, claiming property for owners, collecting taxes and attending to the hundred and one sundry tasks that are turned over to the office for execution.

Releasing his first detailed report, Sheriff C. B. Roebuck left little doubt in the mind of the county commissioners at their regular meeting this week as to whether he was earning his pay and rendering an able service.

The detailed report follows: Taxes collected, \$6,923.62; warrants served, 26; capias served, one; subpoenas served, 33; civil papers served, 12; claim and delivery papers handled, 5; executions served, 4; jurors summoned for March court, 54; ejectments served, 4; cases investigated, 10; liquor stills captured, 17; beer destroyed, 8,150 gallons; illegal liquor destroyed, one gallon; miles traveled (three cars) 2,400 miles. In tabulating the office activities, the sheriff said he just wasn't going to count the telephone calls and include them in the report.

February was a comparatively short month, but it was one crowded with activities for the law-enforcement office group.

Organized Farmers Make First Appeal For Farm Changes

State Farm Bureau Officials Address County Farmers

Recently perfecting a strong organization under the American Farm Bureau Federation banner, nearly five hundred Martin County farmers entered the State's political arena for the first time in history as an organized group last Friday night when they met in the county courthouse here and unanimously expressed themselves in favor of the establishment of a State peanut test farm, the transfer of the several test farms from the jurisdiction of the State Department of Agriculture to the Agricultural College, and the elimination of dual activities as now carried on by the department and the State College Extension division in Raleigh.

The action was taken following several stirring addresses by State Farm Bureau leaders and R. C. Holland, president of the North Carolina Peanut Stabilization Cooperative. There was little doubt following the meeting that Martin County farmers have entered a flying wedge in the political activities of the county and State, for it was openly expressed that if the legislature fails to recognize their wishes before it adjourns the current term there will be a lot of talking done before another election.

There was nothing secret about the meeting, and the farmers loudly voiced their approval when asked if they were in favor of taking the test farms away from the department of agriculture and placing them under the State College Extension Service. The speakers recalled that Commissioner Kerr Scott had promised to clean the cobwebs from the corners of the department's office, "but apparently they are still there," one of the speakers alleged. "We have no personal fight with Mr. Scott, we want results from our test farms," the speaker said.

Farmers were urged to see their representative and ask his support of House bill 653 affecting the test farm problem.

"We, the farmers of North Carolina, are tired of paying taxes on seeds and fertilizers and allowing the politicians in Raleigh to make office appointments and dictate how that money is to be spent."

Defeated in the agriculture committee room, the proposal to transfer the test farms will be brought up again immediately, and a concerted drive is being made by Farm Bureau groups to have the lawmakers comply with their wishes.

Scout Program At Kiwanis Meeting

A program centering around rural scouting will feature the meeting of the Kiwanis club here Thursday evening, L. B. Wynne, the president, announcing that a nationally-known speaker will address the members and about twenty special guests. Key men in the boy-scout organization are expected to attend the meeting from all over the district. The Scout organization group will hold a session in the afternoon and join the Kiwanis that evening when O. H. Benson delivers the main address.

Dr. Benson, founder of the 4-H club organization, comes to the club here with a world of experience and educational training. He has farmed, followed the reaper in the western wheat fields, taught school, wrote text books, lectured throughout the land and traveled extensively.

District Scout Official J. J. Sigwald will preside over the afternoon session.

Members of the club are urged to attend the meeting.

Victim Of Main Street Accident Is Improving

Jimmie Mitchell, local youth who was critically injured in an automobile-bicycle accident on Main Street here last Tuesday was reported much improved in a Washington hospital today. Suffering a skull fracture, the 13-year-old boy was said to have shown marked improvement yesterday and this morning. However, he remains unconscious, the reports stated.

County Board Of Commissioners In Special Meeting

Approval of Farm Life Road Withheld For Period Of Thirty Days

Meeting in special session here last Saturday, members of the Martin County Board of Commissioners refused to approve the farm-to-market road in Griffins Township and no action is likely to be taken until a map of the proposed project has been publicly displayed in the county courthouse for a period of thirty days. In accordance with the law, the commissioners, according to Board Chairman J. E. Pope, are not supposed to approve a road construction project until the public has an opportunity to study the project plans and enter protests if they desire. However, highway authorities point out that the procedure is not necessary, that the maps are posted as a matter of courtesy.

No official record appears, but it is understood that one protest is pending and that possibly several others will likely be made against the proposed location of the road. However, the map was removed early yesterday, allegedly at the order of Engineer Gardner, of Tarboro, and when farmers looked for the map in the courthouse yesterday afternoon they could not find it, and no satisfactory explanation for its removal could be learned.

While a delay of two or three weeks in the construction of the road is now almost certain, representatives of the highway commission stated last night that there was no indication the proposed project would be abandoned.

Protesting the location of the road near his home, Mr. J. Eason Lilley is reported to have agreed to tear off about ten feet from the front of his store and move other properties to make room for the road in front of his home rather than have it run to the rear of his home and divide his farmlands. Other farmers, it was reliably learned yesterday, are greatly concerned about the road cutting into their fields.

Running into a community made up of small farms, a standard-width road offers quite a problem to the farmers as well as the engineers. A farmer who has all his land centered in one or two fields is a bit skeptical about a road running through and cutting to pieces one of those fields. However, it is believed that no one is trying to block the project, that they are merely anxious to have the engineers propose a route that is mutually advantageous to all concerned.

District Highway Commissioner Collin Barnes, of Murfreesboro, attended the meeting, and it was his opinion that the map should be posted for thirty days before the commissioners offered the proposed route their approval.

The commissioner when asked about other road projects in the county said that he was of the opinion that it would not be so very long before money would be made available for surfacing the Hassell road from N. C. Highway 125.

Other than to urge Representative H. G. Horton to support the movement to have around \$77,000 restored to the health fund, the commissioners limited official action to road matters.

Officers Use Boat To Capture Liquor Still

Taking their boat along in a truck, Special Enforcement Officer J. H. Roebuck and Deputy Roy Peel paddled more than a mile to capture a liquor still in the Poplar Point territory of Hamilton Township last Friday. The plant, including a 75-gallon capacity copper-kettle and 350 gallons of beer, was stationed on a platform in the isolated swamp. Signals were fired, and the operators paddled for the open waters before the officers reached the plant. It was the first time, officers in this county had carried their private boat along in conducting a raid on the illicit liquor manufacturing industry.

SURVEY

In a meeting held yesterday morning local ministers discussed plans for a religious survey within the next two weeks in Williamston.

Sunday afternoon at four-thirty pastors and representatives from each congregation in town will meet at the Baptist Church to make final arrangements for the census. Citizens are asked to be ready for the canvassers so that a complete survey might be made.

Thousands Of Dollars Are Being Distributed To Martin Farmers Participating In Soil Program

Farmers of County Hear Addresses By Bureau Officials

Activities of Farm Bureau Explained in Meeting At Courthouse

Recognized farm leaders, addressing a special meeting of the Martin County Farm Bureau in the courthouse last Friday night, offered an interesting and comprehensive review of agricultural problems as they relate to the present and future and explained the valuable work being carried on by the farm organization in the State and nation.

Farm Bureau President J. E. Winslow, first speaker on the program, told of the Farm Bureau's work in Washington and pointed out that only a few days before, the directors met there and urged the mighty agricultural committees to retain the AAA program and support laws that will adjust differences and place agriculture on an equal foundation with other industry. Mr. Winslow stated that "economy" was the watchword in Congress just now, and unorganized agriculture will bear the brunt of economy measures unless the farmers strengthen their ranks and support their organizations. "We must fight to hold what we have, for it is apparent that strongly organized industry will see that the other fellow takes the 'cut,'" Mr. Winslow said.

Appearing as the main speaker on the program, R. C. Holland, president of the Stabilization Cooperative, cited the strength an organized group has in advancing a common cause, and when organized, the farmers of this county will get somewhere. "The Farm Bureau furnished the right kind of leadership and I have cast my lot with it, sink or swim," he said.

Mr. Holland reviewed the activities of the Farm Bureau organization, and painted a rather gloomy picture for the lowly peanut. "If the farmers want a peanut marketing program next fall, I think it advisable to start thinking about it now," Mr. Holland said, adding that possibly the Farm Bureau would take action within the next several weeks in an effort to have the cooperative plan continued.

Looking to the future of the peanut crop, Mr. Holland stated that the indications point to two-cent peanuts after farmers in other states start expanding the crop. Farmers in the southeast had rather plant and sell peanuts at 2 cents a pound than plant and sell cotton at present prices. A minimum production of 20 per cent and a maximum production can be expected in Georgia this year. Texas, reports state, will increase its crop 25 per cent, according to Holland who added that machinery manufacturers are encouraging peanut expansion to increase machinery sales there. "We have got to produce peanuts on an oil-price basis, and we need a test farm that proper efforts might be made to assure the future of the lowly goober," he said. Farmers were urged to ask their legislators to provide the test farm for peanuts and place all test farms under the agricultural college. "We do not want a peanut test farm under dual management," he said.

(Continued on page three)

Local Post Office Now Has Vacancy

The United States Civil Service Commission announces an open competitive examination for the position of substitute-clerk-carrier for filling vacancies in the post office at Williamston, N. C.

Applications for this position must be on file with the manager, Fourth U. S. Civil Service District, Washington, D. C., not later than March 25, 1939.

The examination is being held to fill a vacancy in the post office service.

Competitors will be required to report for written examination, which will be held approximately 15 days after the date set for the close of receipt of applications. Full information and application blanks may be obtained from the Secretary, Board of U. S. Civil Service Examiners, Post Office, Williamston.

PENDING

Hopeful that a friendly agreement can be effected within the near future, town attorneys today announced that proceedings started a few days ago for the condemnation of a small piece of property on Watts Street were being held in abeyance. Unable to buy a piece of property at what the officials considered a fair price, town attorneys were ordered to start condemnation proceedings that a suitable site might be had for sinking a fourth deep well for the town water supply.

Local Students Will Participate In The District Music Meet

Will Enter Mixed Chorus, Girls Glee Club, Trio And Solo

The musical organizations of Williamston high school are making preparations to participate in the district music contest which will be held in Greenville April 1. This contest is a preliminary to the Twentieth Annual State Music contest and festival, which will be held at the Woman's College in Greensboro on April 18, 19, 20, and 21. Schools winning in competition at Greenville are eligible for the state wide contest. The local school will send into competition with other schools a mixed chorus, a girls' glee club, a trio, and a soprano solo. Rehearsals are being held three times weekly under the direction of Miss Jones, instructor. Dorris Moore, a senior, is accompanist. The personnel of the groups is as follows:

Girls Glee Club
Sopranos: Mary Gwen Osborne, Katherine Manning, Mary Charles Godwin, Martha Rhodes Ward, Mary O'Neil Pope, Margaret Jones, Nancy Biggs, Susie Pearl Ward, Mary Warren.

Second sopranos: Marjorie Grey Dunn, Madelyn Taylor, Millie Biggs, Dixie Daniels, Dorothy Coltraine, Carolyn Lindsley, Patsy King, Caroline Stalls.

Altos: Elizabeth Parker, Virginia Williams, Dorothy Manning, Elsie Gurganus, Myrtle Jones, Doleta Gardner.

Mixed Chorus
Sopranos: Susie Whitley, Sadie Grey Gorkin, Marjorie Grey Dunn, Mary Gwen Osborne, Katherine Manning, Mary Charles Godwin, Martha Rhodes Ward, Mary O'Neil Pope, Nancy Biggs, Susie Pearl Ward, Mary Ruth Ward.

Altos: Madelyn Taylor, Millie Biggs, Dixie Daniels, Mary K. Swain, Elizabeth Parker, Virginia Williams, Elsie Gurganus, Dorothy Manning, Doleta Gardner.

Tenors: Theron Gurganus, Frank Lilly, J. B. Taylor, Ben Grimes, Charles Mizelle, Joseph Gurganus.

Bass: Jack Edmondson, Jerry Manning, Erwin Gurganus, James Willis Ward, John Miller, Jack Sullivan, Joseph Thigpen.

The trio is composed of Katherine Manning, Marjorie Grey Dunn and Elizabeth Parker.

Mary Gwen Osborne will be entered as soprano soloist.

Two Escape Injury In Wreck Saturday

Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Harrison miraculously escaped injury last Saturday evening when their car skidded, turned over and landed bottom side up in a creek near Garysburg, Northampton County. Thrown into water up to their necks, Mr. and Mrs. Harrison both crawled from the overturned car unhurt except for a few slight bruises and shock.

Traveling home from Richmond, Mr. Harrison drove over a hill and saw a car parked on the highway. He applied his brakes and his car skidded on the wet pavement and turned over into the creek. Passengers in the parked car and others at a wreck nearby, assisted Mr. and Mrs. Harrison from the overturned car and carried them to Welton where they awaited the delivery of dry clothes before continuing to their home here.

Damage to the Harrison car was estimated at about \$250.

First Of \$175,000 Payments Is Made In County Monday

Owners Will Be Notified When To Call For Their Checks

Martin County farmers who participated in the soil conservation program last year and who gave up an acre here and an acre there to improve their soil are now reaping their reward, the office of the county farm agent through Assistant T. B. Slade announcing this week that the first of the \$175,000 soil conservation money expected in the county is now being distributed to the owners.

The first batch of checks was received last Friday afternoon. Others were received Saturday and still others came in Monday, the office stating that most of the owners of the 165 checks, representing a total of \$6,400 had been notified to call for their money. The office pointed out with much emphasis that it will be unnecessary for farmers to call for their checks until they had been notified directly by the office. Farmers will be notified the day after the checks arrive from Washington, but during the first few days the checks have been released in comparatively small numbers and it might be that several weeks' time will be required to complete the "pay-off."

Averaging around \$40 each, the checks range in size from \$1 to \$100. Most of the first ones received were for farmers in Griffins and Bear Grass Townships, a dozen or two being consigned to farmers in the Jamesville territory. Notices, advising them to call for the soil conservation program money, have been

mailed to the farmers in the first two districts, and other farmers can well look out for the mail man. Additional checks are expected daily.

The immediate value and importance of the soil conservation program is being well demonstrated to the farmers of the county in the distribution of the tens of thousands of dollars when the financial problems are acute for them. Business, in general, lifted its face merely on the reports announcing the early payment of the soil conservation money, and while the story cannot be told to any one day, it is recognized as the biggest one that has been "broken" on the business front in the county this year. The actual pecuniary value of the soil program to Martin County farmers is brought "closer home" when one realizes that the benefit payments almost equal one-fourth of the entire amount of the 1932 tobacco crop in the county sold for. The payments are far larger than entire peanut crop sold for in years past.

Aided by a control program last year, Martin farmers are receiving their largest benefit payments since the program was established by the present national administration. More than 1,108 applications have been filed, representing approximately 2,500 farmers. About 100 farmers who are entitled to share in the benefit payments have not yet entered their applications or the applications are being delayed pending the execution of proper signatures.

The checks, made out to landowners and tenants individually, are not subject to deductions by creditors or others, and it is likely that a greater portion of the \$175,000 will be put into circulation in the course of a few weeks or months.

Several In County Get Free Hospitalization

Nearly a dozen Martin County people were given free hospitalization through the crippled children's division of the State Board of Health last year; it was learned from a report released this week by the division head. The service was independent of county participation. Approximately \$1,210 was spent by the State in restoring the approximately dozen patients to normal health.

Cured of a spine ailment resulting from an attack of infantile paralysis, one of the patients lost his mental faculties a few days ago and had to be transferred to a State hospital yesterday. He was cured of his physical defect, however.