

Auxiliary Members Of The First Area In Annual Meeting

More Than 100 Are Guests Of Martin Auxiliary Here Yesterday

More than 100 leaders in American Legion Auxiliary units throughout this section were in attendance upon the First Area annual conference which was graciously entertained by the Martin County Auxiliary here yesterday. Called to order by the president, Mrs. H. L. Swain, the meeting entered upon an interesting business session at 10 o'clock in the Presbyterian church.

The special guests were tendered hearty welcomes by Mayor J. L. Hassell as representative of the town, and Mrs. J. R. Winslow, as president of the Martin Auxiliary, Mrs. Paul Mallison, of Rocky Mount, responding.

The program featured a number of highlights including an address by J. H. Rose, of Greenville. Mr. Rose had as his topic, "Opportunities of Americans and Our Duty Toward Building Good Citizens." Other numbers on the program included a solo by Mrs. A. Q. Roebuck, of Farmville; highlights of the national convention by Mrs. D. M. Reaves, of Edenton; "What It Takes to Make Best All Around Unit," by Miss Arelia Adams, departmental secretary of Dunn; Why attend state conventions?, by Mrs. Herbert Taylor, department president, of Dunn.

A moment of silence for those who gave their lives "for God and country," was observed; and several songs were sung by the assembly.

Just prior to the noon hour, the following reports were heard:

Mrs. B. E. Grant, Tornado chairman, Windsor; Mrs. R. E. Leary, Edenton, 1st district committeewoman; Mrs. Claudius McGowan, Plymouth, 2nd district committeewoman; Mrs. R. J. White, Conway, 4th district committeewoman; Mrs. Norman Y. Chambliss, Rocky Mount, 5th district committeewoman.

Completing their business session, the auxiliary members repaired to the Legion Hut on Watts Street where a tasty luncheon was served by the host unit. The hut was conveniently arranged and attractively decorated, many in the group complimenting the local auxiliary and legion post for carrying out such a successful building program.

The afternoon program, held in the hut, had its significant features, too. The chairman called the meeting to order, and Mrs. J. R. Winslow, president of the county unit, headed the Gold Star Mothers' program. There were only three Gold Star mothers present, Mrs. Annie Savage, of Oak City, and Mrs. Laura Hadley and Mrs. Linda Bailey, both of Williamston, Martin County, with six Gold Star mothers, has more than any other county in the area, it was pointed out at the meeting yesterday. Mrs. Annie Savage, in behalf of the Gold Star mothers, presented the Hut with a Bible.

A solo, "Crossing the Bar," by Mrs. A. Q. Roebuck and two solos by Mrs. Charles Davenport were greatly enjoyed.

Past area president were recognized, and the meeting had as its special guests, Mrs. Mann, of Newton, who is a candidate for department president of the State Auxiliary, and June Rose, candidate for State Legion Commander.

The meeting closed with the singing of several war-time songs, and was considered one of the most successful ever held by the combined auxiliaries.

Pages were Misses Delphia Rawls, Louise Wilson and Muriel Wynn, all of Robersonville, and Alberta Swain of Williamston.

March Busy Month For The Sheriff

Sheriff C. B. Roebuck and his assistants had another busy period during the month of March according to his report for the month. The detailed report follows:

Taxes collected, \$6,687.75; warrants served, 15; capias served, 2; subpoenas served, 84; civil papers served, 32-44; claim and delivery, 2-2; executions served, 3; jurors summoned to April court, 26; elements served, 3; cases investigated, 4; liquor stills captured, 17; beer destroyed, 8,750 gallons; illegal whiskey destroyed, 77 gallons; arrests made on whiskey charge, 5; miles traveled, 3 cars, 4618; service rendered in court, 8 days; prisoners transferred to Raleigh, 6; prisoners transferred to Goldsboro, 2.

Mrs. F. U. Barnes, Mrs. C. G. Crockett, Mrs. C. A. Harrison and Mrs. N. C. Green visited in Raleigh this week.

Woman Jailed for Refusing To Comply With Health Law

Charged with refusing to comply with health laws requiring victims of a venereal disease to take treatment at the hands of a private doctor or in one of the two venereal disease clinics conducted weekly in Williamston and Robersonville by the health department, a colored woman in Robersonville was jailed here this week. Several disease victims, becoming lax in adhering to treatment schedule, have been warned by court order to attend the clinic, but the arrest this week was the first that has been effected in the campaign to stamp out or lessen the dreaded disease in the county.

The woman, 49 years of age, pledged her willingness to comply with the regulations of the law in the future.

Commenting on the action taken, county health officials explained that the woman had been contacted by members of the health department several times, that she was

urged to attend the clinics for her own welfare, and that she had been warned of her pending arrest and subsequent detention in the county jail. She was said to have treated the warnings lightly and boasted of her negative action. "We hated to resort to the drastic action, and it worried us a great deal, but when we consider the potential value of the clinics we honestly believe that no action is too drastic to promote the campaign to stamp out the scourge," Dr. F. E. Wilson, head of the department explained. "Every consideration possible was shown the subject, and we hope that other disease victims will let the case be an example for them," the health official added.

Several hundred subjects are now being treated in the clinics, and the health authorities state that much progress is being made to check the disease, but that there is much work yet to be done.

Improvement Project Planned for Roanoke

ROOKED

Neatly attired, freshly shaven and his hair perfectly parted and slicked down, Mayor John L. Hassell waited the arrival of a group of young New Jersey school teachers here last Tuesday afternoon. The young ladies were scheduled to arrive here at 3 o'clock that afternoon, and when they failed to make their appearance two hours later, the mayor just knew he was rooked.

The school teachers are making a tour of this section of the state, studying economic conditions and interesting themselves in bits of local history. They were to make a brief study here, and they would have learned much as the mayor and Commissioner G. H. Harrison had outlined a few high spots on paper.

J. M. Broughton To Speak At Farm Life

Plans for the Farm Life school commencement program were announced complete this week by Principal C. B. Martin, as follows: Musical recital, Friday night, April 14; Miss Melba Russ will present her students in a recital consisting of piano, string instruments and tapping. Elementary program, Friday night, April 21st. This program will be a miscellaneous one consisting chiefly of assembly programs presented by the grades during the current school year.

Commencement sermon, Sunday morning, 11 a. m., April 23. Elder J. B. Lee, of Four Oaks, will deliver the sermon.

Class day exercises, Wednesday morning, 11 a. m. April 26th.

Picnic, Wednesday noon, April 26.

Literary address, Wednesday afternoon, 2:30, April 26th. The address will be delivered by Mr. J. M. Broughton, a very prominent attorney, of Raleigh.

Clinic

There were fourteen children examined by the county health authorities at the pre-school clinic Monday afternoon.

Senior Play

The senior class presented the play, "Lena Rivers," to a packed auditorium Friday night. This was the first in a series of programs to be presented during the next two weeks of school.

Parents Day

Parents of the school visited in the school Wednesday to observe the work of the various rooms and particularly the projects carried out during the past four months.

LAST MEETING

The Williamston Parent-Teacher Association will hold its last meeting of the school year in the grammar school auditorium next Wednesday afternoon at 3:30. Dr. Underwood, dentist of the State Board of Health, now conducting a dental clinic in the local school, will be the principal speaker. All patrons of the school are asked to be present for the meeting and assist in closing out the year's work.

Library Observes Its First Anniversary on Last Tuesday Here

More Than 8,000 Books Are Lent During First Year

The Williamston Public library reached its first birthday anniversary last Tuesday. The formal opening of the library was on the evening of April 11, 1938, and the circulating of books did not begin until the following day when 67 books were checked out. Under the direction of Mrs. James Cook and the assistance of a WPA library worker the library has been kept open for four hours each day since that time.

Though the year the library has been the recipient of many books and with the choice of the Junior Woman's club to furnish gift money for children's books and the sponsoring of a 'tag day' in the interest of the library, funds which are needed may be forthcoming. Recently a book club was organized and the books when read will be turned over to the library.

The story hour, which was held for almost the entire year on Saturday mornings was abandoned until after school closes, for the outside interests of the children made it easy for the children to forget. The story hour will be resumed shortly and the time announced.

During the year there was circulated a total of 8,356 books, 3,671 were adult books and 4,685 were juvenile. The library now has 669 registered borrowers. The librarian and her helper has accessioned a total of 401 books which are the property of the local library.

Since the record shows that a little more than two books for each person living in Williamston have been circulated during the past year this record cannot be maintained unless there is more adequate support given the library. There must be money to replace books that are worn out and for the purchase of new titles in order that an already reading group may be kept and a larger number induced to become users of the reading facilities. The library has served a number of rural people and would like to expand its service until it is the center of book distribution in the county. This can be done when the town and county put the library into its annual budget and feel that here is a fundamental part of the community's life. The present housing situation of the library is of a temporary nature and the library board is desirous of building up the book units so that in the near future permanent quarters may be obtained.

All who are connected with the library in any official capacity are desirous of making the library more available and earnestly solicit your patronage and suggestions. May the years that lie ahead vindicate the wisdom that our community has and will make in her library.

Pre-School Clinic Held Here Tuesday

The response to the pre-school clinic held at the Williamston grammar school last Tuesday exceeded all previous records when sixty-three children reported for the physical examinations. Dr. Wilson and the two county nurses, assisted by several members of the parent-teacher association, handled the well ordered group efficiently, completing most of the examinations in the forenoon. All children were vaccinated against smallpox.

Attendance at this year's clinic exceeded that of last year by ten children. In recent years approximately ninety per cent of the beginning children have been present at the clinics. All indications point to an enrollment of about seventy-five beginnings when the new term begins in the fall.

Mrs. Godwin's Mother Died Yesterday Morning

Mrs. Alma Virginia Pope, mother of Mrs. V. D. Godwin, of Williamston, died at her home in Weldon yesterday morning at the age of 82 years. Mrs. Pope, a native of Virginia, had made her home in Weldon for the past 35 years. Besides her daughter here she is survived by two sons, Stanley Pope, of Georgia, and Blunt Pope, of Daytona Beach, Fla., and a daughter, Mrs. T. A. Whitfield, of Weldon.

Funeral services are being conducted at the residence this afternoon at 3 o'clock by Rev. R. S. Fountain, Baptist minister. Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Godwin, Sr., Mrs. Frank Hitch and Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Godwin, Jr., are among those from here attending the last rites.

Tax Listing Is Progressing Very Slowly In The County

Tax listing, getting underway last week, is progressing very slowly in the county at the present time, according to reports received here yesterday and today from six of the ten list-takers. The indications are that there'll be a big rush as the listing period draws to a close on the 29th of this month, reports from Tax Supervisor S. H. Grimes maintaining that he cannot extend the time for property owners to get their values on the books.

The possibility of applying rules and regulations promulgated by legislative acts is being talked in some quarters by taxing authorities. In those cases property owners are subject to court action and their properties doubly listed.

Yesterday, ninety per cent of the property owners in Williamston Township had not listed their holdings, and the work has not reached the point where a prediction can be advanced with any degree of accuracy.

Administrative Ruling Favors Cotton Growers

New Amendment To Maintain Crop Base In Martin County

Government Offers Inducement to Check Cotton Planting

A far sweeping amendment to the Agricultural Adjustment Administration act this week is expected to have a marked effect on 1939 cotton production in that it induces growers to forego the planting of the crop and yet carries the same soil conservation payments and possibly the parity price adjustments.

Briefly stated, a farmer who has a cotton acreage allotment can plant fifty per cent of the allotment and receive full parity payments, or he can plant no cotton at all and still receive full payments under the soil program, provided, of course, he does not plant other base crops in excess of the allotments.

The amendment reads, in part, as follows:

"If a producer has an acreage allotment of cotton of 10 acres for 1939 and plants only five acres under the amendment, he will receive payment under the 1939 conservation program for the entire ten acres and his acreage allotment for 1940 will not be affected."

A letter from State Executive Officer E. Y. Floyd to the office of the county agent went on to say, "This statement is based upon conditions existing at the present time and is subject to change provided Congress sees fit to add additional amendments to the law. In this same case the producer would receive the cotton price adjustment payment on the full allotment. The statements would be just as true in a case of a ten acre allotment wherein the producer would not plant any cotton."

Martin County farmers learning about the amendment and who recognize the importance of complying with the soil conservation program are not planning to plant a stalk of cotton this year. They will receive the conservation payment just the same, and it is understood that they will also receive a price adjustment payment, and by foregoing their cotton crops this year they will not surrender their base acreages for next year.

If Martin County farmers recognize the value of the new amendment and forego the plantings, they will receive approximately \$42,000 next fall, provided, of course, they comply with the regular provisions of the conservation program. In addition to that amount they are likely to receive a price adjustment.

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False Alarm Received By Firemen Wednesday

A false alarm was received by the local volunteer fire department Wednesday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock. The call was said to have come from Railroad Street.

It was the second call received by the department in as many days.

A third call in as many days was received at 10:30 yesterday morning when fire broke out in a trash pile on the river and started spreading toward the dock warehouses. The company was out an hour and a half.

Much Activity On Farms Of County At Present Time

Heavy Fertilizer Shipments Are Moving Into Rural Area

Planting a few of their early crops and making preparations for the transplanting of tobacco during the next two weeks, Martin County farmers are as busy as the proverbial bee. Observing long hours, most Martin farmers have turned their soil and "whipped" it in shape for the early crops, and from now until about the early part of May activities will be centered in the preparation of land for young tobacco plants. Few fields in this section can be seen without a farmer and his team or tractor in operation.

Fertilizer shipments are moving in almost a steady stream to farms throughout this community and by the last of this month many thousands of dollars worth of the material will have been moved from storage. Fertilizer sales to date are equally as heavy as they were last season, and it is generally predicted that the total sales will surpass those of a year ago.

A degree of uncertainty surrounds the plans for the 1939 tobacco crop, but there is little doubt but what Martin County farmers and others in surrounding counties are working for an increased acreage. Blue mold is generally reported, but latest information from various parts of the county indicates that there are sufficient plants for a normal crop and an increase of about 25 per cent. Blue mold damage is spotted, quite a few farmers reporting their plant beds free of the disease. Beds, attacked two weeks or more have about recovered in most instances, and transplanting is expected to get underway on a fairly sizeable scale by next week, weather conditions being favorable.

Transplanting was reported in several townships of the county this week. Plants were placed on several acres in Bear Grass Township yesterday. Farmers in Goose Nest and Jamesville Townships started the work on a small scale earlier in the week.

Reliable reports indicate that more than 100 new barns will be built in the county this year, and that that number will be increased at the last minute if plants are plentiful. Fifteen new barns have already been constructed or are in the process of construction in one township. "And with one or two exceptions, they are not replacements," reports state. "The largest single increase proposed by a single farm was reported yesterday, a farmer stating that a neighbor who had three acres last season was planning to plant twenty acres during the next two or three weeks."

Georgia is said to have transplanted a normal crop with a slight increase. The border is starting the work, and a sizeable increase is expected there.

Nineteen Martin Boys Enter Camp

Nineteen Martin County boys enrolled for service in the Civilian Conservation Corps last week, the enlistment being the largest from this county in a number of months.

The fourteen white enrollees were assigned to camps at New Holland and Manteo, the five colored boys going to New Bern to enter a camp there.

Names of the boys and their home addresses: White — Joseph Strickland, Oak City; Robert H. Bullock, Robersonville; Cecil Williams, Robersonville; Dennis Whichard, Williamston; Thelbert C. Whitley, Robersonville; Llewellyn Gregory, Dardens; Bennie Holland, Williamston; Carroll Nicholson, Williamston; Dallas Biggs, Williamston; George Ben Warren, Robersonville; Wilson Moore, Jamesville; Jarvis Peel, Oak City; Lonnie Peel, Oak City, and James Williams, Jamesville.

Colored: Daniel Williams, Frank Felton Slade, Booker T. Everett, James Wilson and William Henry Jones, all of Williamston. No applications were filed for entrance into the service by colored youths outside of Williamston, it was pointed out.

Fined For Violation Of The Motor Vehicle Laws

Ruell Williams, charged with allowing a non-licensed driver to operate his automobile, was fined \$10 and taxed with the cost in Justice J. L. Hassell's court here this week. Charged with public drunkenness, Charlie Mack Bullock was released upon payment of the cost.

CONVENTION

A quiet time is in the offing as local citizens gather in their biennial convention at the court house this evening at 8 o'clock to virtually settle their politics for another two years. With only a few hours remaining before the convention is called to order, announced candidacies have not been made for all the positions on the board of aldermen or commissioners. It is generally understood, however, that members of the present board, Messrs. G. H. Harrison, N. C. Green, Luther Peel, V. D. Godwin and L. P. Lindsley will offer themselves for re-election. Election of the convention nominees is scheduled to follow on May 2.

Apparent Increase In Number of Dogs

Preliminary reports from the first dispensaries in the series to be held in every district of the county indicate a substantial increase in the number of dogs. Going into Jamesville Township the early part of this week, Dr. A. J. Osteen, who is vaccinating all dogs in accordance with state law, inoculated 210 canines or nearly twice as many as were vaccinated there a year ago. A good number was vaccinated at the No. 90 filling station in Williamston Township yesterday.

Apparently realizing the value of the drive against rabies, dog owners are cooperating splendidly in the drive so far in this county. While the owners are charged 50 cents for each vaccination, the amount is refunded upon payment of county taxes. Only one mad dog has been reported in this county since the anti-rabies campaign was launched several years ago, and that dog had not been vaccinated, reports state.

Today, the veterinarian is vaccinating at Harrison Mill in Griffins Township. Next Monday, the work will be continued at Eason Lilly's store in the same township, and the following day dogs will be vaccinated at Corey's Crossroads in Bear Grass Township.

Accurate records are being kept on the vaccinations. These records will be checked with those on the tax books, and all owners who are found to have evaded the law will be made subject to prosecution in the courts.

CLINICS

Preliminary reports from the first of a series of pre-school clinics indicate that an increased attendance can be expected in the first grade in the schools of this county next fall. The first clinics were held at Jamesville, Farm Life and Williamston this week with a total of 112 children present, Williamston with 64 reporting a record number for its clinic.

Today, Dr. Wilson and his assistants are in Bear Grass and Everetts. Next Monday they go to the Robersonville graded school, and on the following day they will be in Hamilton at 9 and Oak City at 1 o'clock.