

## Griffin Stresses Tolerance In His Talk To Graduates

### Program Well Attended in Local High School Last Evening

The thirtieth commencement, marking the close of another successful term in the local high school was held in the high school auditorium last evening when the forty-two graduates—thirty-two of them young ladies—heard Lloyd Griffin, secretary of the State School Commission, stress tolerance as a main virtue in life and when fifty-five certificates of promotion were delivered to pupils quitting the seventh grade. An added feature in the program was the awarding of special certificates of merit to ten young girls and boys who had completed a series of supplementary courses ranking them as graduates of a twelfth-grade high school.

One of the largest crowds on record filled the large auditorium to capacity last evening, the program coming as a climax to the series of similar events held in the course of the past thirty years.

Pointing out that the 1939 graduating class had a greater percentage of graduates than any previous one, R. L. Coburn, chairman of the local school board, introduced Mr. Griffin as the main speaker of the evening.

Prefacing his remarks with the warning that the high school graduate of today was going to find the pathway of life from now on more difficult to follow, that they would have to edge their way through the crowds by their own efforts, the secretary of the state commission stressed the value of tolerance in his twenty-five minute address. "Learn to appreciate the viewpoint of the other fellow," he advised the forty-two young graduates, urging them to examine all the facts in every case before they offered criticism. "If you examine the viewpoints of others carefully, you are certain to meet with success," Mr. Griffin said, pointing out a little incident where two knights observed the color of a sign from different sides and fought before they learned that each was right, that they had not stopped to examine both sides each for himself.

The speaker urged his listeners to recognize the rules and regulations

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## Authorities Pass Two County-wide Health Ordinances

### Legislation To Promote an Insured Milk Supply And Sanitation

The Martin County Board of Health, with all members present, met in the office of the health department Tuesday afternoon and enacted into law for this county two ordinances.

#### Milk Ordinance

A county-wide milk ordinance based on the U. S. Public Health Service Milk Code, and revised by the N. C. State Board of Health, was adopted after presentation and discussion by Mr. E. B. Roach, district sanitarian of the State Board of Health, and Mr. Charles Leonard, of the local health department. This ordinance calls for the inspection and proper sanitary supervision of all milk dealers and dairymen, the issuance of permits by the health officer, and the proper grading and labeling of all milk sold in the county. "From and after 12 months from the date on which this ordinance takes effect, no milk or milk products shall be sold to the final consumer, or to restaurants, soda fountains, grocery stores, or similar establishments, except Grades A and B Pasteurized, Certified and Grade A Raw. This shall not be construed as forbidding the sale of lower grades of milk and milk products during temporary periods of degrading not exceeding 30-consecutive days, or in emergencies, such longer periods as the health officer may deem necessary."

This ordinance makes it imperative that every person, firm, or corporation selling, delivering, or giving away any milk or milk products must first obtain a permit from the county health officer. This clause of the ordinance goes into effect immediately, and after twelve months no milk other than the above mentioned may be sold in the county.

A similar milk ordinance was passed by the town commissioners

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## Tobacco Transplanting Now Underway on Sizable Scale

Tobacco transplanting started on a small scale in various communities as early as two or three weeks ago, is now getting underway in nearly every section of the county, reports stating that the work is almost certain to reach a peak during next week.

Delayed by severe blue mold attacks, the transplanting season will extend into late May on some farms and it is likely that quite a few farmers will experience a shortage of plants. Late reports state that the plants aren't as plentiful as many farmers first thought they were, but it is the general belief that this county will transplant a normal acreage plus an increase that has been estimated as high as 25 per cent of the 1938 acreage.

A few farmers, producing on a

small scale, have already completed the transplanting of their crops, and by the end of next week it is estimated that 50 per cent or more of the crop will have been placed in the fields.

While there are "spotted" shortages of plants, it is generally reported that neighbor farmers will have ample plants for their own use and some to spare, but in those cases where the growers will have to borrow plants they will have to wait their turn and transplanting on their farms will come late in the season.

Weather conditions have been ideal in some communities during the past few days, and farmers have been and are continuing to work long hours transplanting their crops.

## Certificates And Awards Are Made To Students Here

### More Than 100 Pupils in Line for Diplomas or Certificates

It was a happy period in the lives of a large number of boys and girls here last evening when they received certificates, special awards and diplomas to mark the close of another term in the local schools.

Referring to himself as the oldest graduate of the local high school, Albert S. Peel recalled the time his father gave him the first diploma after the high school department was incorporated in the system back in 1909-1910, "and now I am delivering diplomas to the youngest graduates, including my son." Diplomas were given to 42 graduates, thirty-two girls and a mere ten boys. Seventh grade certificates of graduation were given fifty-five pupils, some of them mighty small, but all smart. Certificates of merit were given ten young men and women who had subscribed to a course of instruction supplementary to the required subjects, and while the certificates bear no legal rating they are equal to a diploma given by a twelfth grade high school. Those receiving the special certificate of merit were, Thelma Griffin, Rosa Lee Hardison, Magdalena Harrell, Marjorie and Sarah Holliday, Le-man Keel, C. T. Roberson, Lucille Rogerson, John Ward, Jr., and E. G. Wynne.

Coming as a climax to a year of keen competition by students in the various departments, the announcement of special awards was received with great interest in the school. Hugh G. Horton made the special awards, and offered merited congratulations to each of those gaining recognition by their untiring efforts advanced during many months in school.

Averaging 96.45 in her studies during her four years in high school, Miss Sallie Gray Gurkin was awarded the W. C. Manning valedictorian cup. Miss Gurkin, it was pointed out, was neither absent nor tardy during her eleven years in school. Despite the unique record and as meritorious as it was, Miss Gurkin led Miss Reid White by only one-half point to claim one of the highest honors that any high school can offer.

Miss Evelyn Grace Griffin, a first year student in the home economics department, was awarded the Sarah Manning home economics cup.

Elbert S. Peel, Jr., the outstanding star of two sports and casually recognized for his studiousness, received the R. H. Goodman athletic trophy.

The Woman's club civics award, won by the glee club, was received by Miss Clara L. Jones, director.

As their parting gift to the school the seniors left \$15 in cash to be matched with State funds for the purchase of library books.

## Hydrophobia Case Report Is Declared Unfounded

Reports stating that a young child in a nearby rural community had fallen victim to hydrophobia were declared unfounded by members of the medical profession here today.

It was explained that the child, about eight years old, was suffering an apparently serious nervous disorder, but that its condition was now improving rapidly.

## Rev. Johnson Will Preach In The County Sunday

Rev. Wade Johnson will fill his appointments in Siloam Church at 3 p. m. and in Jamesville at 7:30.

## Farm Life School Ends Successful Term Wednesday

### "Next" Governor Addresses Eleven Seniors and School Patrons

J. M. Broughton, 25 years a State lawyer, delivered a stirring address to mark the close of a successful term for the Farm Life school in the county last Wednesday afternoon. Recognized as one of the most important events that can follow in the course of a year, the commencement program, including a picnic dinner, attracted large crowds during the day.

Introduced by Attorney Clarence Griffin as a candidate and the "next" governor of North Carolina, Mr. Broughton delivered an able address to the eleven seniors and the large number of patrons and friends of the school present for the event.

Using as his topic, "A Balanced Life," the speaker told the graduating class to dedicate their life to worthy purposes and invest their lives in community service whether as a cotton picker or a preacher. He counseled the students to not set their lives on money alone because such will end in unhappiness.

The seniors were also advised to pursue a cultivated life and not to concentrate all their attention on one thing. Study poetry along with science he advised them regardless of the vocation they followed in life.

Along with a dedicated and cultivated life the speaker urged the students to have enthusiasm to drive forward which he said had made possible all the great achievements in history. Don't be afraid to try big things, they were told, because out of this will come great achievements. Reference was made to the life of Louis Pasteur, the great scientist, whose achievements were accomplished only because the scientist was not afraid to attempt big things.

Finally the graduates were urged to live an elevated life. This life, he said should embody faith in worthy things, faith in other people, and faith in God. The speaker fittingly used several good stories to illustrate his points and held a large audience to close attention. The diplomas were delivered by James C. Manning, county superintendent of schools.

Wednesday evening, the gubernatorial candidate delivered the annual address to the seniors and school patrons at Bear Grass where his speech was well received by a large audience.

## Display Interesting Exhibits At School

Gathering representative articles from the several departments in the local high school, grade teachers built up an interesting display of exhibits in one of the class rooms this week. Viewed by a large number of school patrons, the exhibit attracted much favorable comment.

Well prepared posters described the progress made in the various departments, and in several divisions a number of articles had been collected for observation and study by the pupils in connection with their class-room work. Those posters and displays centering around the home economics, language, commercial, English and general science departments, were unusually interesting and reflected a progressive march in the local school during the term just ended.

Several hundred articles were included in the display.

## Effect Two Arrests In Connection With Store Robbery Here

### Only One of 15 Watches Stolen From Peele's Is Recovered

Working night and day for more than two weeks, Officer J. H. Allsbrooks this week finally established a definite clue in the Peele Jewelry Store robbery here on the morning of April 8. George Perkins, young Negro, stands charged with the actual robbery and Willie Green, 40-year-old colored man, is being held for aiding and abetting in the sale of stolen goods.

The arrests were effected late last Tuesday afternoon after the officer had traced and recovered one of about fifteen watches stolen from the store window. Going to Norfolk Tuesday the officer accompanied by the store owner, Edwin Peel, found one of the stolen watches in a pawn shop where Perkins is alleged to have sold it outright about one week after the robbery.

Perkins vigorously denies the robbery, and claims he knows nothing about it. Unable to get Perkins to talk, officers are planning to carry him before the pawnshop operator for identification. Questioned this week, the broker stated that he remembered the person who sold the watch to him. It was filed with the pawnshop operator in the name of Roberson. Perkins, convicted for the theft of two or three watches from Jeweler J. L. Peel several years ago and in the courts several times for other infractions of the law, is expected to talk as the officers collect more evidence in the case.

Willie Green readily admitted that he carried Perkins to Norfolk on Saturday, April 15, but denies any knowledge of the robbery. According to Green's story, Perkins wanted to go to Norfolk to look for a job. Green says he carried him to Norfolk, that they parted on Church Street and he did not see Perkins until late that afternoon. Unable to find the job he was looking for, Perkins, according to Green, made arrangements to return home. Perkins was said to have been penniless on the trip to Norfolk, but had money on the return trip and bought some gas in addition to paying Green \$3.50 for his services.

Knocking a small hole in the plate glass, the robber is believed to have stolen fourteen or fifteen wrist watches from the Peele store window here early in the morning of April 8.

## Fewer County Dogs Being Vaccinated

With fewer dogs being vaccinated in the county this year than last, authorities are now giving the matter consideration with the possibility of starting a killing campaign as soon as the drive against rabies is completed next month. Dogs, in accordance with law, must be vaccinated or killed, and the authorities have warned the owners that dogs will be killed if vaccination receipts are not produced when called for.

Once the initial campaign is completed, Dr. A. J. Osteen will vaccinate dogs at his office here, but the charge will be increased from fifty cents to one dollar. At the present time, the county allows fifty cents credit in taxes, meaning that owners can get their dogs vaccinated at no cost to them.

Last year nearly 1,500 dogs were vaccinated in the county. So far this year, less than 1,000 have been vaccinated. The records below show, last year vaccinations first and vaccinations this year second, Jamesville Township, 256 and 225; Williams Township, 66 and 41; Griffins Township, 181 and 169; Bear Grass, 191 and 141; Williamston, 374 and 142; Cross Roads, 160 and 90; Poplar Point, 104 and 22.

Next Monday, dogs will be vaccinated at Gold Point from 10 to 2, and on Wednesday at Parmele from 11 to 2.

## Truck With Thirty-One Bales Cotton Turns Over

A large truck and trailer loaded with thirty-one bales of cotton turned over, near here, on the Everetts Road late yesterday afternoon when the driver, Isaac Nixon, of Smithfield, ran on the shoulder to avoid a crash with a passing car. Nixon and a companion were not injured and the truck and cotton belonging to Austin and Ogburn, of Smithfield, were not badly damaged.

After reloading the cotton with a wrecking machine, the driver continued on his way.

## Section Will See Road Construction Work This Season

### Surface Stokes and Farm Life Roads; Widen Conine Bridge

Considerable highway construction and improvements to bridges will be centered in this section during the next few months, but the tentative program unofficially announced this week does not include one important link in the system that had been endorsed and placed second on the list by the Martin County commissioners at a meeting several months ago.

Asked about the project from Highway No. 125 to Hassell, District Highway Commissioner D. C. Barnes, of Murfreesboro, pointed out in a letter to County Board Chairman J. E. Pope this week as follows: "The Hassell project will have consideration in connection with program for road improvement which we expect soon to make up, but I cannot tell you definitely what the result will be."

Chairman Pope, learning that there is a surplus in the 1938-39 highway fund and remembering the recommendations of his board wrote to Commissioner Barnes several days ago calling attention to the virtual agreement that the Farm Life Road would be given recognition first, the Hassell project second and the Stokes road third consideration.

Since writing Mr. Barnes urging him to remember Martin County in distributing the road funds, Mr. Pope learns that work has already been started to surface the road from Robersonville to the Martin-Pitt boundary toward Stokes. No objection is being filed to the procedure of the highway commission, but it is quite apparent that the Martin County Board of Commissioners are nothing more than figureheads when the state commission makes ready to do some needed road building in their domain.

It is possible that the commission had surplus funds in its treasury, and that it is trying to advance the Stokes road project before the money reverts to the State's general fund. Probably the surplus is not sufficient to surface the Hassell road, but it is sufficient to surface the approximately five miles of road from Robersonville to the Pitt County line. The project was not let to contract as the Farm Life road is expected to be next month or as the Hassell project is expected to be at some near future date.

Work on the Stokes road project is already underway, and while there is no assurance it will be completed without an additional appropriation, it is generally believed highway authorities will try to rush it to completion by late August of this year. The highway forces plan to place the base on the road by early July and follow with rock and asphalt similar to that used on the road from Bear Grass to Highway 17.

The right-of-way virtually settled following a long controversy, the Farm Life-Old Mill Inn project is scheduled to be let to contract next month—if nothing else happens.

Handled by State Highway forces, work on widening Conine Creek bridge was started this week. The bridge, demanding almost constant attention, is to be widened six feet. Work will be limited to the short bridge, but the commission plans to widen both bridges including the steel draw over the river. It is estimated that the completed projects will cost in excess of two hundred thousand dollars.

## Mill At Everetts Destroyed By Fire

Fire, starting from sparks, destroyed the Barnhill lumber mill and threatened nearby buildings including the Peel home in Everetts Wednesday morning about 10:35 o'clock. Falling on a tar-paper roof, the sparks fired a small house where shavings were stored, and despite strenuous efforts to confine the fire to the small structure it soon reached the main plant. The mill and equipment were burned in a very short time.

Williamston's fire department volunteers and equipment were called, but the fire had gained much headway and with the water supply blocked by the fire itself the firemen could render very little help.

The loss was estimated at a figure in excess of \$5,000 and was not covered by insurance.

According to unofficial plans of the owner-operator, the plant will be rebuilt as soon as possible.

## Important Meeting of County Board Monday

### PROPOSAL

Recognizing the added expense incurred by the county in late property listing for taxation, tax authorities are planning to offer certain recommendations to correct the practice. The authorities propose to penalize late listers 10 per cent, and subject those who refuse or fail to list to double taxation. The list-takers have been instructed to note the late listers, and provisions will be made on the tax receipts to carry the ten per cent late-listing penalty. Indictments are being considered for those who fail to list. Tomorrow is the last day allowed for listing properties in the county.

## Governor Speaks To Capacity Audience At Robersonville

### Address Marks Close of School Term There Wednesday

Speaking before a packed audience in the Robersonville high school Wednesday night, Governor Clyde R. Hoey advised the large senior class in the ways and means of living. Every nook and corner of the auditorium was filled and even windows were crowded from the outside to hear the governor.

Clyde Hoey began his speech by telling the young folks not to look on life as something gloomy but rather to look upon life from the bridge side. "Strange and fearful things have happened and may happen but surely the golden era of this world and civilization has not passed." God is not ready for the foundations of civilization to go astray, at this time, and we must wake up to the realization that there is plenty to be done and accomplished for this generation and those to follow, the governor said.

Governor Hoey made it plain to his attentive audience that the road to accomplishment and success is not an easy one. "I began work at 12 and I found a world full of activity, hardships and many difficulties to overcome." It is absolutely essential for the individual to know himself and one can maintain his self respect without being overpowered with "ego," Mr. Hoey said. We must overcome our weaknesses each day and exercise self control for success depends largely upon control and regulation of our conduct.

"If we attain and realize the finer things of life, surely we'll have to deny ourselves and accept a certain amount of subjection to render real service in this life."

In speaking of education the governor said, "Education has power and through it we shall grow. A certain amount of humility must be practiced but we must be exalted to reach the high destination that has been designed for us."

In closing his speech the governor told the graduating class the world is full of privations and hardships but not to be discouraged for this is a wonderful land and nation in which to live. "Living in a world with many faults and heart aches is not to be relished but the individual with courage shall succeed."

Governor Hoey was introduced by Attorney Hugh Horton. He was very complimentary to the governor in his introductory remarks when he spoke of the fine relationship that existed between them while he served in the two regular sessions of the legislature and the special term.

## Vacation Bible School To Begin Monday Morning

Beginning Monday morning at 9 a. m. in the Poplar Point Mission the Presbyterians will inaugurate their Summer Daily Vacation Bible School program.

This school will run for two weeks beginning at 9 a. m. and ending at 11:30 a. m. Monday through Fridays.

All the children of the community in and around this mission are invited to attend its daily sessions.

The Rev. Z. T. Piephoff, Miss Efflerie Griffin, Miss Mildred Hardison and Miss Ruby Bennett and others will conduct the school.

This school will be followed by the one at Roberson's Chapel and the second will be followed by one at Bear Grass.

## Property Listing And Slot Machine To Get Attention

### General Welfare Budget And County Home Will Be Discussed

A busy day for the Martin County Commissioners next Monday was predicted today as the business calendar for the session was tentatively prepared by J. Sam Getsinger, ex-officio clerk to the board.

The old, old subject of taxation will present itself for consideration. This time the subject marks the beginning of a new tax year, but there may be one or two late comers who will possibly complain about old valuations. The question in connection with the taxing system will center around a request for an extension for the completion of the listing of property. The will of the board could not be determined, but some of the authorities are not in favor of extending the time for handling the task. Each year with few exceptions in past years, the task has been spread out over a period of nearly two months. Delays have been experienced in the preparation of the tax books, and much confusion follows in September and October, as a rule.

Realizing that many property owners will be subject to penalty under the law if an extension is not granted, it is possible the authorities will grant them an extra week and probably more in which the task can be completed.

The fate of the slot machine in Martin County will possibly be decided by the commissioners next Monday. The individual memos have not been polled, but it is understood that the authorities will withhold licenses to the machine operators if that action conforms to the law. As a source of revenue, the slot machine has proved disappointing to the county financiers in years past, and the authorities are of the opinion that little is to be gained general operation of the slots in the county. It is likely that the William-

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## Superior Court In Final Session Of Term Late Tuesday

### Number of Cases Cleared From Docket by Compromise or Trial

Foregoing jury trials, litigants in the Martin County Superior court turned to compromising methods to clear a goodly number of cases from the civil calendar and hasten adjournment of the special two-weeks' term late Tuesday. Judge Henry A. Grady, of New Bern, presided over the term, and as a whole, the court was successful in clearing its quota of cases from the files.

Among the last of the jury trials was the case of F. S. Harrell against P. L. Salsbury. Following the comparatively lengthy trial, the court found that the plaintiff owed the defendant \$1,200 and interest from October, 1935, and \$620 and interest from November, 1937, subject to the following credits due the plaintiff: \$100 as of May, 1936; \$114 as of the same month, 1930.35 as of November, 1937. The plaintiff was allowed until June, 1939, to pay off deeds of trust and notes, less credits, and if obligations are not paid by plaintiff at that time, E. S. Peel and H. G. Horton, as commissioners, are to sell certain lands at public auction to satisfy claims. An appeal was noted in the case by the defense.

The case of Gladys Bailey James against Johnnie James, Jr., was settled by agreement, the court declaring the plaintiff sole owner of certain properties. It appearing to the court that a marriage separation had been agreed upon, it was ordered that neither the plaintiff or the defendant shall have interest in the property of each other in the future.

A compromise settlement was effected in the case of Matthew J. Jones against Larry Bunting, the plaintiff to receive \$50 with interest from November 1, 1938, and the defendant to pay the case cost.

Plaintiffs Mary Eliza Rogerson Roberson and Naomi Rogerson Gurganus were declared to hold valid

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