

## Wind Storm Hits Eastern Section of State on Thursday

### No Great Damage Reported To Crops or Property In This Area

Sweeping out of the west, a terrific wind and sand storm damaged crops and property over a wide area in eastern North Carolina last evening about 7 o'clock, incomplete reports stating that the storm left one dead and untold damage to crops and property.

The Martin County area, experiencing a wind with an estimated velocity approximating 50 miles an hour at times, reported no serious damage. Field crops were blown down to some extent, but the resulting damage was not near as great as many had expected to find it early this morning. Light service and communication were maintained over the county, as a whole. Corn was broken in some sections and tobacco apparently attacked previously by worms fell in the fields. Mulberry trees fell in numbers and a few others broke in the wind.

Traffic on the highways was choked, travelers deserting their cars and seeking shelter in ditches. Riding along a country road in Williams Township, Val Teel and Norman K. Harrison crawled hurriedly from their car and stretched themselves in a ditch for fifteen minutes. As they rounded a curve in the road, Teel, seeing the dust swept by the wind, yelled, "Tornado, cyclone stop the car!" Harrison said before he could stop the car, the dust was so thick he could not see the cap on his radiator.

Joe Davis, 26, of Jacksonville, Fla., was killed when a tree blew down on his truck between Rocky Mount and Wilson. The colored section of Tarboro's new WPA grandstand was blown down, and considerable damage was reported to crops in Wilson and Nash Counties.

## Few Cases Called In The Recorder's Court Last Monday

### Judge H. O. Peel Holds The Court in Session Hardly One Hour

Crime continues virtually on a holiday schedule in this county judging from the few cases that are being called in the recorder's court these days. Only five cases were called by Judge H. O. Peel last Monday, and the jurist—and the solicitor, D. E. Johnson, had completed their work and adjourned the tribunal within the hour. Three of the cases were continued, a fourth was not proessed and a fifth was cleared from the docket when Judge Peel fined the defendant \$10, taxed him with the cost and revoked his driving licenses for a period of six months.

The case charging Johnnie Peel with non-support was continued until next Monday under prayer for judgment, the defendant having pleaded guilty to the charge.

A continuance was also granted in the case charging John E. Cooke with non-support.

The case charging Beverly T. Woolard with the issuance of a bad check was not proessed.

Charged with damaging or destroying personal property, Aubrey Pierce had his case continued until next Monday.

Matthew Peel, the colored man who deserted the scene after his car crashed into another one on the Robersonville-Stokes road on Saturday, May 27, appeared in court and answered to a charge of reckless driving. Peel denied his guilt, and explained to the court that he reported the accident to the landlord and was assured that proper action would be taken by him. Peel was fined \$10, taxed with the cost and had his license revoked for a period of six months. The Peel car and that of Henry Pittman, Pactolus colored man, were damaged in the crash.

## Hardin Is Charged With Manslaughter

Charged with operating an automobile with improper brakes, Emmett Hardin, Wilson candy salesman, will be tried for manslaughter in the Martin County Superior court here week after next. Hardin ran down and killed William Bonds, small colored child, on the Hamilton road, near here, last Monday morning.

At a preliminary hearing held before Justice Hassell here Wednesday morning, Hardin waived examination and was bound over to the superior court under a \$500 bond.

It was brought out at the hearing that there were no eye witnesses to the accident, but evidence offered by Patrolman W. S. Hunt was considered sufficient to support the charge and the case was set for trial in the superior court. Evidence offered by the patrolman was identical with the facts reported immediately after the accident.

## Board Approves Manual Arts Department for Local School

Meeting in regular session here this week for a preliminary review of the budget for the 1939-40 term, members of the Martin County Board of Education delayed action until next Monday on account of the illness of Mr. G. C. Griffin, member of the body, who just recently returned from a Washington hospital following a major operation. Certain phases of the budget will be discussed at the meeting next Monday, but no definite action will be taken until Mr. Griffin is able to be present at a later meeting, Superintendent J. C. Manning said today.

The establishment of a manual arts department in the Williamston High school was tentatively approved by the meeting this week, subject to final approval by the county board of commissioners and education authorities in Raleigh. It is estimated that the proposed department can be created and maintained with no great cost accruing to the county. Plans for the department call for the construction of a small wooden building to house the workshop, the cost estimates running from \$750 to \$1,000. The new department will not be created before the 1940-41 term, if then, it was stated.

Conducting an investigation of crowded conditions in the colored school at Parmele, the board made a ground inspection there but no action can be taken to relieve the congested conditions this coming term, the board ruled. It is likely that a new high school unit costing possibly \$5,000 will be proposed next year for the Parmele school.

## RE-ELECTED



Unanimously re-elected by a joint meeting of the County Board of Commissioners and County Welfare Board this week Miss Mary Taylor begins her third term as superintendent of public welfare in this county.

## Mother Of County Agent Dies Here

Mrs. Mattie Burris Brandon, member of a prominent South Carolina family, died here Wednesday afternoon at 3 o'clock while visiting her son, T. B. Brandon, and family on Grace Street. Mrs. Brandon, who would have been 81 years old the first of next month, after spending the winter here returned last Thursday for a short visit and was taken ill Sunday. She had been in feeble health for some time but was able to be up until her last illness, the end being attributable to the infirmities of age.

Mrs. Brandon was born in McConnellsville, South Carolina, the daughter of Thomas Davis Burris and Margaret Bone Burris. Her father, a native of Scotland, figured prominently in the War Between the States, serving the South as a major in the army. She was the last member of her immediate family, her forebearers having had an active part in the development of York and Chester Counties in South Carolina.

Following the death of her husband, J. E. Brandon, about six years ago, Mrs. Brandon made her home with her sons spending much of that time with her son here. Besides her son here, she is survived by two sons, Messrs. L. B. Brandon, superintendent of the State Farm at Caledonia, and J. D. Brandon, of Mt. Olive. The body was carried early yesterday morning to the old family home where services were conducted yesterday afternoon in the Oliver Presbyterian church by her pastor, the Rev. Mr. Bailey. Interment was in the family plot in the churchyard at McConnellsville.

## County Has Two Candidates For Places On The Patrol

Martin County has two out of the 100 candidates for places on the State Highway Patrol. James Douglas Mallory, of Oak City, and Williamston, and James Robert Wynne, of Robersonville, are slated to enter training at Hendersonville next month subject to appointment a short time later.

## PROGRESSING

The drive to establish a live chamber of commerce here is progressing nicely, and considerable interest is being shown in the proposed organization, a member of the special committee appointed at a meeting of citizens last Friday evening, said this morning.

No direct refusals to join the chamber of commerce had been reported by one of the organization's membership canvassing groups said today.

A meeting of the organization committee will be held the early part of next week when further plans will be advanced for the organization of the body.

## Everetts Citizens Settle Politics For Another Two Years

Showing an unprecedented interest and casting a record vote, Everetts citizens settled their local politics for another two years last Tuesday when they effected a shake-up in their old organization. Squeezing in on the regular ticket, independent candidates annexed two of the four positions, and while the legality of the election as it relates to dates may be questioned, it is generally understood that the losing candidates will accept the verdict at the polls and fall in line with the political opposition to promote the general welfare of the town and its 270 people.

C. B. Riddick, convention nominee, scored a 56-20 victory over Woolard Peel, the independent candidate who was seeking re-election.

Main interest in the election apparently was centered in the race for commissioners, the electorate getting busy with its pens and pencils to score victories for two independent candidates, Harry Hardy and Paul Bailey, by writing in their names on the regular ticket. While the vote was decisive, it was an interesting contest, and one that possibly attracted more attention than any ever held in the district. While the race was friendly and no enemies were created, it is generally admitted that the increased interest shown by the voters will promote a greater interest in the town's affairs.

## Fire Chief Files Answer In Small Damage Suit Here

### Defendant Starts Counter Action To Recover Damages Result of Wreck

Denying the principal charges preferred in a complaint filed by Miss Ella Mae Gaylord to recover \$125 damages alleged to have resulted in an automobile accident at the intersection of Smithwick and Church Streets here on the morning of May 15, the defendant, G. P. Hall, local fire chief, this week started a counter suit to recover \$187.50, damages allegedly resulting to his car through the negligence of the plaintiff.

In his answer, the defendant alleges: "That the plaintiff in driving on Smithwick Street approaching the intersection of Church and Smithwick Street was driving in a careless and reckless manner at an excessive rate of speed, to wit: 35 miles per hour as she approached said intersection without due caution and circumspection and without a proper look-out for pedestrians and others driving on her wrong side of the street and was driving in such a manner as to endanger or likely to endanger this plaintiff and others who had occasion to cross said street; that the plaintiff failed to exercise ordinary care in the operation of said car, but on the contrary drove same at an excessive rate of speed in an improper and careless manner in view of the circumstances, she approaching said intersection, and the plaintiff did not have the proper look-out or circumspection and did not have said car under control and did not act as a prudent person under the circumstances for although she was approaching said intersection on the wrong side of the street at an excessive rate of speed, when she observed this defendant entering said intersection, if she had acted as a prudent person and turned from one to two feet to her right towards her right side of the street, there would have been no collision for the collision took place four feet from the center of said street on her wrong side of the street, but instead of turning to the right and avoiding the collision, she did not act as a prudent or ordinary person as she did not put on any brakes or lessen her speed but drove into and hit defendant's car on the right hand side of the front of his car and smashed in the right wheel, lights and damaged other parts of defendant's car and after doing this, drove at least forty feet before she was able to stop her car."

"That the unlawful acts and negligence of the plaintiff as set out above in detail, was the proximate cause of injury and damages to defendant's car and resulted from the negligence of the plaintiff and plaintiff on account of her negligence, same being the proximate cause of the collision, is now stopped to recover of this defendant and the defendant especially pleads the negligence of the plaintiff as a complete bar to any recovery on the part of the plaintiff."

## Three Arrested At Stills In County

Arrested at liquor stills in the Free Union section of Jamesville Township this week, Lewis Keyes, Joe Taper and James Moore, all colored, were placed under bonds in the sum of \$300 each by United States Commissioner Walter Halberstadt here for their appearance in the next term of federal court at Washington. Unable to raise the amount of bond immediately, the three men were placed in the county jail.

Taken into custody by Federal Officer Steve Adler, of Elizabeth City, and County Officers J. H. Roebuck and Bill Haislip, at a large still, the three men maintained that they had just reached the plant ahead of the officers and went there to get a drink of beer. The plant was not in operation and the kettle was not to be found, but approximately 1,400 gallons of beer were on hand and most ready for cooking.

Before leaving the section, the officers found and wrecked a second plant, pouring out approximately 250 gallons of beer.

Returning to the Free Union section Wednesday morning, the officers wrecked a large plant, but the manufacturing equipment had been moved.

Yesterday morning, Special Officer J. H. Roebuck, operating alone, wrecked two stills in Bear Grass and poured out about 800 gallons of beer. One of the stills was made of tin, the officer stating that the best it could turn out would be poison liquor. The other still was an old gas drum with a keg for a cap.

## Enforcement Unit Has Busy Month

After getting off to a late start, liquor law enforcement officers settled down to an active schedule and battered away in their campaign against the illicit traffic last month. The officers did not score during the first eight days of June, but from then on they averaged wrecking nearly one plant a day until the latter part of the period.

Fifteen stills were captured, three in Jamesville, nine in Bear Grass, two in Cross Roads and one in Hamilton Townships.

Six thousand and fifty gallons of beer and thirteen and one-half pints of liquor were poured out, and four arrests were made. Fines totaled \$25 and the combined sentences call for fifteen months on the roads and in jail.

Headed by Special Officer J. H. Roebuck, the raiders traveled 857 miles during the month.

## Shake-up Follows in General Municipal Election Last Tuesday

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## Start Checking Land Under Soil Program

### Important Rules And Regulations Must Be Followed

#### Surveyors Start Work Monday; Cooperation of Farmers Is Sought

The annual task of checking compliance with the soil conservation program gets underway in this county next Monday, the office of the county agent announcing several important rules and regulations that the growers will find profitable to follow. In completing preparations today for surveying county crop lands, T. B. Slade, assistant in the office of Farm Agent T. B. Brandon, appealed to all farmers for their cooperation with the surveyors or supervisors in checking the compliance work.

While there is some doubt as to the number participating in the soil program and also as to the extent of participation, it is important that all cotton acreages be measured, Mr. Slade explaining that cotton is under a control program and that a farmer's cotton acreage must be checked before a free marketing card can be issued. In connection with the cotton program, Mr. Slade also pointed out that the farmer who planted cotton last year must have his cotton acreage measured this year whether he is cooperating with the program or not if he is to participate in the cotton price adjustment payments which will amount to more than \$32,000 for the combined cotton farmers of the county this year. Applications for cotton price adjustment payments may be filed just as soon as the acreage has been measured, checked and the grower notified. The payments will be made possibly not later than next November.

As a protective measure in the establishment of future bases for tobacco, plans are being made for the measurement of all tobacco acreages even where the grower is not cooperating with the soil conservation program. "It is possible that the acreage this year will have some bearing on the size of the county allotment in years to come," Mr. Slade said. However, it was pointed out that it is not imperative for the non-cooperating farmer to have his tobacco acreage checked. Apparently it is advisable to have the acreage measured and the facts recorded in case future allotments are partly determined on the current year plantings.

The task of measuring the farm lands this year will get off to no rapid start next week, Mr. Slade stating that the surveyors will start in small groups and later increased as appointments are made and approved by the State office. The approximately 25 young men attending the three-day school and taking the examinations and field tests this week showed up well in their grades, Mr. Slade said and a reliable working organization is assured in handling the task this summer.

The young men are interested in the work, and with the cooperation of the farmers a good job can be expected.

Farmers will be notified a few days before the surveyors are to check the compliance work, and as soon as the surveys are made and measurements are checked each farmer will be notified of the findings.

## Drowning Victim Operated Passenger Bus Thru Here

E. E. Fish, driver of one of the big Carolina Coach passenger buses through Williamston, lost his life by drowning in Neuse River, near Raleigh, last Wednesday afternoon. Going into the river soon after enjoying a picnic dinner, Fish called for help and A. J. Self and Leon W. Newton, drivers for the company, lost their lives trying to save him.

## Drive Against Typhoid Closes Its Third Week

Thousands were assured protection against typhoid fever in the county as the anti-fever drive neared the end of its third week this afternoon.

The clinics will be opened next week in accordance with the regular schedule for those who were a week late in getting started. Early next month the campaign will be continued in the upper part of the county.

Wearing out an automatic syringe, Dr. F. E. Wilson drew blood from his fingers as he used an old-type syringe in making approximately 1,000 injections at the colored school here yesterday.

Miss Grace Burroughs left this morning for Asheville for an extended visit with friends.

## Able Auctioneers Will Sing Familiar Tobacco Song Here

With Jackie Taylor returning and Joe Cuthrell coming in for his first trip, the Williamston Tobacco Market is assured one of the best auctioneering teams in the country.

Cuthrell was signed this week by the operators of the New Farmers and Planters warehouses, the event drawing favorable comment from leading tobaccoists over the Bright Belt. Cuthrell, whose home is in Kinston, has been heard by hundreds of thousands of people over the radio when he appeared on the Lucky Strike program. He is one of the main three who have successfully tuned their peculiar jargon to harmonize with the sounds as they rode the ether waves.

During the past several seasons, Mr. Cuthrell has been on the Kinston market. He resigned his job there to enter business for himself, but later changed his mind and his contract had been filled by another. He has also auctioneered on the Wilson market and has held one of the largest auctioneering jobs in Tennessee for the past several seasons.

Jackie Taylor, already widely known throughout this section as one of the smoothest auctioneers in the business, will return to the Roanoke and Dixie and in addition to that assignment handle the task in the New Carolina this coming season.

Regardless of whatever tongue they employ, be it known or unknown, these two men are certain to sing high tunes over the piles of golden leaf in the four warehouses here this season.

## Will Make Tenant Loans for Purchase Of Farms This Year

### Nine Farms Bought Last Year For Tenants in Martin County

Meeting with marked success last year, the tenant farm purchase program of the Farm Security Administration will be continued in this county this year, District Supervisor David Modlin was advised this week. Nine farms were bought for tenants through the program last year in this county reports stating that success is marking the venture and that possibly efforts will be advanced on a larger scale to expand the venture during the remainder of this year.

On the basis of the recommendations of the State committee, loans are to be made under the terms of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant act in all the fifty counties previously designated for the Tenant Purchase program, Modlin explained.

In order that the program may get off to an early start and that the supervisors may have an opportunity to process the loans in the various counties before next January 1, Supervisor Modlin in this county has been directed to receive applications immediately, giving full opportunity to those wishing to apply for loans and buy a farm of their own.

It was pointed out that those who had already applied but that not have re-applied as their applications are still on file and will receive every consideration possible in due time. Modlin added, however, that this group, numbering nearly 300 in this county, were invited to report to the office and furnish any additional information they may have gained since their applications were filed. There will be no discrimination shown as between those filing last year and those filing this year, it was pointed out.

Tenants, sharecroppers and farm laborers of all racial groups are eligible to apply for the loans. No closing date for receiving the applications has been mentioned but those desiring to purchase a farm and operate under the program are urged to file their applications immediately with the supervisor in his office in Williamston.

## Counter Suit Is Started In Evans Case Last Monday

### Defendants Are Suing for \$7,465.37 in Counter Action Against Mrs. Evans

Growing out of an automobile accident at a Robersonville Street intersection the 13th of last month, three damage suits have been started in the superior courts of this and Pitt County, the defendants in the case brought against them by Mrs. Dessie Evans asking a combined damages in the sum of \$7,465.37 in a counter suit.

Alleging she was badly injured when her car and the one driven by Mrs. J. C. Savage, of Greenville, crashed at the intersection, Mrs. Evans started suit the latter part of last month to recover \$1,000 damages from N. T. Stokes, owner of the car, and Mrs. J. C. Savage, driver.

Filing their answer in the Martin County Superior court this week, the defendants vigorously deny the complaint and advanced a claim for the \$7,465.37 alleged damages in a counter suit. "The wreck," the defendants say in their answer, "was the direct result of, and caused wholly and entirely through the dangerous, willful, negligent, reckless, careless, wanton and criminal operation of automobile by plaintiff, and that any resultant damage or injury therefrom, which plaintiff might have suffered, was the sole, proximate result of plaintiff's contributory negligence and failure on her part to exercise due care and caution.

Supporting their claim for damages, the defendants allege that on the afternoon of May 13 about 3

(Continued on page six)

## Music Teacher Is Named By Board

The local school board in session this week appointed Miss Kathryn Mewborn, of Tarboro, to fill the public school music vacancy created by the resignation of Miss Clara Louise Jones. Miss Mewborn is a graduate of the Woman's college of the University of North Carolina and was highly recommended to local school authorities by Miss Grace Van Dyke Moore, head of the music department of that institution. In addition to her choral work, Miss Mewborn has served in orchestras and bands, specializing in the trumpet and other brass instruments, and will assist in training a larger and better band in the Williamston schools. The major part of her work, however, will be in the choral work begun in elementary and high school grades last year.

## RAINFALL

Well advanced in a wet period that nearly proved disastrous to agriculture last season, this section is experiencing almost ideal weather conditions so far this year. However, things are getting on the dry side, but there is some consolation in the old saying that dry weather scares us to death and wet weather ruins us.

During April and May of last year, nearly fourteen inches of rain fell at this point as compared with five and one-half inches in the same two months this year. As the days passed in June a year ago, the rains continued to fall and at the end of the month, nearly ten inches of rain had been recorded by the Roanoke river weather station here. July added nearly six and one-half inches, and it was not until August that a mule could walk across many fields without miring to his knees in the soft land.

The rains were well scattered last month, and while some sections had more than others, the station here recorded 2.26 inches.

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