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Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Friday, October 27, 1939.

ESTABLISHED 1899

Lengthy Session of The County Court Is Held On Monday

Eight Cases Disposed of By Judge H. O. Peel During Day

Devoting much time to the trial of one case, the Martin County Recorder's Court was in lengthy session last Monday when Judge H. O. Peel disposed of eight cases and adjourned at 3:30 that afternoon.

The operation of slot machines in Martin County met their first real legal test in the county last Monday when Judge Peel found L. B. McCormick guilty in five cases charging the violation of the slot machine law. McCormick had been indicted in the justice of the peace courts in this county previously, but in those instances he stood charged with violating that section of the law requiring proper licensing of machines. He accepted the comparatively small fine imposed by the lower court. This week, McCormick, charged with the operating of four race horse machines in the county, maintained that his agent, a man named Martin, had switched machines without his knowledge, that there was no intentional violation of the law. The State, through its special prosecuting attorney, E. S. Peel, maintained that the defendant was responsible for the action of his agent, and that any machine that could be changed readily was illegal in the sight of the law.

McCormick was fined \$500 and taxed with the cost. The defendant, through his attorneys, Horton and Worthington, immediately filed notice of appeal, and bond was required in the sum of \$1,000 by Judge Peel.

Susie Annie Quarles, addressed as Susie Q., pleaded guilty of simple assault in the case charging her with a deadly weapon. The plea was accepted, and the court suspended judgment upon payment of the cost. The defendant was said to have jumped on the running board of an automobile and slashed her "friend" with a razor.

Jasper Williams, charged with assaulting his brother with a knife as they rode along in an automobile near Robersonville about a month ago, was found guilty over his plea of innocence. Judge Peel sentenced him to the roads for 37 days. An aged mother, taking the action against her son more seriously than he did, remained with him during the trial and returned the following day to be with him in the county jail of the county.

Isaac Ampey, charged with carrying a concealed weapon, assault with a deadly weapon and disorderly conduct, was found not guilty on the first two counts, and drew a 30-day road sentence on the third alleged violation. Ampey, absent from the courts since late 1937, is now serving his fifth sentence on the roads.

Mitchell Peterson pleaded guilty in the case charging him with failure to provide adequate support for his wife. The court continued judgment under prayer until the first Monday in April, 1940, when the defendant consented to pay \$15 each month into the court for the use of his wife. If the judgment is not complied with, the defendant will be made subject to arrest and required to show why judgment should not be pronounced.

John Dixon, charged with an assault on a female, was fined \$10 and taxed with the cost. A three-months road sentence is to become effective at any time within the next two years at the direction of the court.

Lazarus Williams, colored deaf mute and an old dealer in raw spirits, was before the court for alleged violation of the liquor laws. Williams, drawing twelve months on the roads, pleaded guilty of possessing a gallon of white liquor when he was arrested several weeks ago by Special Enforcement Officer J. H. Roebuck.

Potato Growers To Meet Here Monday

Plans for marketing the current sweet potato crop will be discussed at a meeting of county farmers in the agricultural building here next Monday night at 7:30 o'clock. C. C. Hilton, representative of the Farmers Cooperative Exchange, is scheduled to lead the discussions, and outline an advantageous program for marketing the crop.

Anxious to get a reliable production estimate and learn about how many potatoes can be bought in this area, the cooperative exchange representative will shop around for markets to consume the offerings. Operating in other sections last year, the exchange grossed about \$1 a bushel to the farmers for their offerings.

Present indications point to a 90-cent market or better this fall and winter.

Several factors closely allied with types of marketing will be reviewed and all potato growers are invited to attend the meeting.

Committees Start Work Soon On 1940 Tobacco Allotments

Following the election this afternoon of a county committee for heading up the soil conservation program for the coming year, plans calling for a complete review of tobacco contracts will be formulated, according to information coming from the office of the county agent here.

It is possible the community committees will be called to the task during the early part or middle of next week. No schedule for handling the work has been announced by the Washington office of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, but instructions are expected soon.

The review of contracts and acreage allotments, according to a recent letter from the office of Secretary Henry A. Wallace, will be based on a minimum reduction of 20

per cent of the 1939 allotment. This does not mean that a farmer's reduction will be limited to 20 per cent of his plantings this year, but that the quota will be based on the allotment.

Just what inequalities, if any, the community and county committees can iron out under the new program, no one can say, but it is reasonable to assume that apparent injustices will be gladly considered.

Reports coming from the field indicate clearly that there will not be enough tobacco to go around next spring, but realizing the serious situation following a bumper crop this year farmers are not expected to clamor for more tobacco with as much zeal as they clamored for it last year.

Liquor Sales in County Decrease Last Quarter

PENCILS

That Martin County farmers are doing more figuring these days was evidenced in several of the soil conservation community committee elections held this week. It wasn't but a short time ago that less than 10 per cent of the farmers carried a pencil, but at the polling places this week possibly seventy-five per cent of the growers had pencils and one or two had fountain pens.

Where farmers, as a whole, let someone else do the figuring for them, it is now apparent that they are doing a bit of that all-important work for themselves.

Total Of \$540,528.15 Is Spent For Spirits Since Stores Opened

Last Quarter Sales Are Smaller By \$2,000 Than They Were a Year Ago

The downward trend in legal liquor sales in Martin County was again noted in the third quarter audit just released. Compared with the third quarter figures in 1938, the sales last quarter were approximately \$2,000 less, the gross income for the latter period amounting to \$30,539.58 against \$32,502.15 for the corresponding period for 1938. It was the fourth successive quarter that the four legal stores reported a decrease as compared with sales for corresponding quarters.

Profits also tumbled last quarter as compared with the net income for the corresponding period in 1938. The Alcoholic Beverages Control Board last quarter reported a net income of \$6,727.04 as compared with a net profit of \$7,739.45 a year ago.

The sales last quarter pushed the total volume of business handled by the stores since they were opened in July, 1935, to \$540,528.15. Profits for the little more than four years amount to a grand total of \$119,072.04.

Of the \$30,539.58 spent for liquor in the county last month, \$19,869.11 went to out-of-state manufacturers. Operating expenses amount to \$4,166.84, leaving a net profit of \$6,727.04 for distribution among the State, County and four town store treasuries. Approximately \$400 goes into the reserve for enforcement of the liquor laws.

Sales last quarter were reported by stores, as follows: Williamston, \$15,386.73, or more than half the total; Robersonville, \$10,030.10; Oak City, \$2,916.20, and Jamesville, \$2,206.55.

Net profits by stores are shown in the audit, as follows: Williamston, \$3,531.88; Robersonville, \$2,122.29; Oak City, \$509.57, and Jamesville, \$319.89.

The apportionment of profits follows: Town of Williamston, \$444.79; Robersonville treasury, \$253.94; Town of Oak City, \$52.33; Town of Jamesville, \$26.47; Martin County treasury for the general fund, \$2,940.51; North Carolina, \$2,595.89; Reserve of law enforcement, \$413.11.

Operating expenses by stores, including salaries, rents, administrative and general items, were listed as follows: Williamston, \$1,839.14; Robersonville, \$1,375.64; Oak City, \$507.44, and Jamesville, \$449.62; a total operating and administrative expense of \$4,166.84.

At the present time, the Martin County Alcoholic Beverages Control Board is a \$21,074.41 company with \$6,505.48 in cash, \$13,202.24 inventories and fixed assets in the sum of \$1,366.69.

A review of total sales and net profits, by quarters, for the period beginning in July, 1935, to September 30, this year, follows:

Ending	Sales	Profits
Sept., 1935	\$ 22,249.35	\$ 2,743.11
Dec., 1935	37,379.29	9,887.99
March, 1936	25,274.96	9,887.99
June, 1936	21,584.05	3,425.70
Sept., 1936	27,864.59	5,619.93
Dec., 1936	44,727.00	11,661.14
March, 1937	29,771.20	6,563.07
June, 1937	31,640.98	4,484.77
Sept., 1937	30,259.05	2,854.43
Dec., 1937	56,179.40	16,224.82
March, 1938	33,325.62	7,694.35
June, 1938	26,968.35	5,853.82
Sept., 1938	32,502.15	7,739.45
Dec., 1938	40,710.30	11,605.38
March, 1939	25,407.05	5,768.68
June, 1939	24,174.25	5,456.40
Sept., 1939	30,539.58	6,727.00
Totals	\$540,528.15	\$119,072.04

Tri-County Medical Meeting Held Here

Discuss Latest Methods For Treating Pneumonia And Infections

The regular monthly meeting of the Martin-Washington and Tyrrell Counties medical society was held at the Central Cafe in Williamston last Wednesday evening.

Drs. E. T. Walker and J. T. Llewellyn presented papers on the latest developments of sulphanilamide and sulphapyridine in the treatment of pneumonias and strep infections. An open discussion was held following the presentation of these papers and it was readily agreed by all present that these drugs constitute the greatest advancement in the treatment of pneumonias that has ever been made, and even surpasses the value of the much publicized pneumonia serum, particularly in rural areas. It was brought out that with these new developments it is unnecessary for such a great loss of life due to pneumonia. The cost of the treatment is very small, and it should be practical for everyone to be adequately treated by a physician rather than resort to home remedies and neighborly advice.

The membership of this society consists of the following physicians: Dr. Jesse Ward and Vernon Ward, of Robersonville; Dr. J. S. Rhodes, Dr. Victor Brown, Dr. R. G. McAllister, Dr. E. T. Walker and Dr. J. T. Llewellyn, of Williamston; Dr. E. W. Ferguson, Dr. Alban Papineau and Dr. T. L. Bray, of Plymouth; Dr. S. C. Chaplin, of Columbia; Dr. J. M. Phelps, of Creswell; Dr. E. E. Pittman, of Oak City; Dr. S. V. Lewis, of Plymouth; Dr. F. E. Wilson, of Williamston; and Dr. Nelson, of Robersonville. Dr. Jesse Ward is president; Dr. J. M. Phelps, vice president, and Dr. F. E. Wilson, secretary-treasurer.

Test Chemicals For Control Of Weeds

Preliminary tests were started in the county this week to determine the value of cyanamide as a property for the control of weeds in tobacco plant beds. The tests are being conducted on the farms of H. H. Roberson, Gold Point, W. M. Harrison, Bear Grass and W. M. Hardison, Poplar Point.

The chemical, just now being placed on the market on a commercial scale, is designed to prevent the germination of weed seed and hold the tobacco plant bed free of foreign plants.

Coming here to assist in making the tests, State Extension Tobacco Specialist Lloyd T. Weeks, former assistant agent in this county, reserved all comment in connection with the value of the comparatively new product. The specialist will observe the tests in this county and similar ones in other counties before offering his opinion as to the value of the chemical. All Martin farmers are welcome to observe the tests from time to time.

Instructions offered by the manufacturers point out that the material, coming in powdered form, should be applied to the plant bed from sixty to ninety days in advance of planting time.

Ill Effects Of War Are Felt By Apple Growers

While the States may be safe from actual gunfire, it is becoming more evident day by day that this country is not safe from economic ills growing out of the European war.

Their prices already depressed by a ready market in Europe, apple growers are facing a rather serious situation back home. Trucks in greatly increased numbers are scouring the country, offering apples at new low prices.

A grower, stopping here a short while this week, was distressed to learn that the American liner, "City of Flint," had been captured by Germany. "The farmers in my community located in the valley of Virginia had four carloads of apples aboard the liner," the grower said.

SPONSORS

At a special meeting of the Junior Woman's club Tuesday night, it was unanimously voted that the club sponsor the Red Cross roll call this year. The meeting was presided over by the president, Mrs. Irving Margolis, and a special talk was made by Mr. Harry Biggs, Martin County chairman of the Red Cross.

Mrs. Joseph Eason was appointed general chairman of this drive and her assistants are: Mrs. Ernest Etheridge, Mrs. Henry Manning and Mrs. Curtis Leggett. This committee will be supported by all members of the club which is expecting a successful drive in this community.

Bumper Potato Crop Reported In Martin County This Season

Income From Crop Likely To Approximate \$180,000 Or More

Supplementary reports coming from the fields maintain that Martin County farmers are harvesting a bumper sweet potato crop at this time, the yield running as high as 400 bushels or more per acre in some sections.

Revised estimates on the crop in this county point to a production slightly in excess of 250,000 bushels, as compared with a three-year average of around 175,000 bushels. Possibly four-fifths of the crop will be offered on the markets. With approximately 200,000 bushels to offer for the trade, Martin farmers are expected to realize between \$180,000 and \$200,000 from the crop this season.

W. M. Hardison, digging his crop this week, reports a yield slightly in excess of 400 bushels per acre. Farmer Van Taylor, after starting digging operations this week, soon learned that he had not purchased half enough baskets to care for his harvest. Out in Griffins, Farmer George E. Roberson completing the harvesting of his crop this week with a yield right at 310 bushels per acre. He discarded a large number weighing five pounds or more and still maintained his yield at a point in excess of 300 bushels.

While marketing activities are yet several months away, unofficial reports state that there will be more competition on the local market for the coming season. The Farmers Cooperative Exchange is said to have made plans for opening and maintaining a receiving station at this point, and it is likely that other old-line companies will have their representatives here.

With increased activities reported in and around the steel centers throughout the nation, it is reasonable to believe the crop will command a fair price despite reported production increases in many states. The quality of the crop is fair to good, and growers, using curing houses in a majority of cases where the sweets are to enter the trade, are exercising due care in harvesting and storing them.

Parents-Teachers In Regular Meet

Approximately sixty members of the local parent teachers association were present for the second meeting of the organization held last Tuesday in the high school auditorium.

After the meeting was called to order by Mrs. J. B. Taylor, president, the seventh grade pupils presented a short playlet, "The Saver Succeeds," followed by several musical numbers. Dr. F. E. Wilson, County Health physician, after commenting on the department's efforts to conserve the vision of school children, introduced Miss Phyllis Owen, of Richmond, Va., who spoke on eye health and the conservation of vision. Miss Owen explained the differences in eight faculties of various kinds of animals and man, and gave an interesting three-point recipe for lighting, namely: the quantity of light, the quality of light, and the position of the body in receiving the light. Her lecture was illustrated with a varied collection of lantern slides which proved of interest to the assembly.

Business matters were deferred until the November meeting.

Germany Planning Daily Air Raids

Following the assertion by high German authorities that the war would be fought to a finish, Adolf Hitler today stated that he was ready to release the brakes and start bombing England from the air ten times daily. It was also stated that only a word is waited from Hitler to start a vast attack along the Rhine-land. Hitler branded England's prime minister, Chamberlain, as being stupid and a liar.

While the American steamship, "City of Flint," is now en route to an unannounced German port, mystery still surrounds the capture of the American vessel by Germany a few days ago. The ship was taken from the American crew, but the 42 American seamen are said to be still aboard.

In Washington a final vote is expected late today in the senate on the neutrality bill, the isolationists admitting defeat but claiming a moral victory.

The bill will then go to the House where the lines are divided.

The United States has demanded the return of the ship, but it is apparent that the demands are being ignored by German authorities who, it is reported, will dispose of the ship according to its own rules and regulations.

Groups Administering Conservation Program Get Endorsement Vote

DIPHTHERIA

Striking suddenly this week, diphtheria claimed its first life in the county this year, reports from the office of the county board of health stating that the two-year-old child victim had not been immunized against the disease. Other children in the same family, immunized against the disease, continue in apparently good health.

Parents in this county have been urged to have their children immunized against diphtheria, and now state law demands that the protection be given all children.

Prices Weaken From High Point Monday On Tobacco Markets

Average for Week Will Range Between Sixteen and Seventeen Cents

After reaching a high point of the season last Monday, tobacco prices proved weaker as the sales progressed this week with the general average for the period ranging between sixteen and seventeen cents. Last Monday, the buyers could hardly be "choked" off a pile of tobacco and the average for the day exceeded 19 cents. The offerings that day were possibly the best seen on the local market this season. And while the quality was possibly not as good on the succeeding days, it was quite evident that the demand for the offerings was not as great as it had been.

As various reports went out claiming price advances, agricultural leaders, recognizing a lull in the markets, appealed to the farmers to slacken their deliveries in the hope that smaller sales would instill strength into the buying activities.

Lower prices were reported throughout the marketing belt, and even "padded" figures failed to measure up to the last Monday quotations.

Nearing the end of a block that has overrun all four warehouses since the sales were resumed on the 10th of this month, the Williamston market will get back on a normal operating schedule next Monday.

Sales for the season on the local market to date are nearing eight million pounds, and present indications are that the 10-million pound goal will be reached before the end of the season or possibly the latter part of next month or in early December.

Community To Aid European Refugees

Preparatory to advancing a united drive for the relief of European refugees, a joint meeting of the Kiwanis and Lion's clubs was held here last night to discuss ways and means of raising Williamston's allotment of goal of \$500.00.

The meeting was presided over by Charlie Leonard, president of the Lion's club. He spoke of the purpose and importance of the meeting and asked Frank Margolis to introduce Norman Gold, attorney of Rocky Mount, speaker for the joint meeting.

Pointing out that the refugee work embraced all people, regardless of color, creed or race, Mr. Gold stated that it was next to impossible for the work to be carried on without the cooperation and financial support of the American people. He said the United States had been called on to raise \$20,000,000. This entire amount will be used to care for refugees entering this country, those residing in camps in other countries like England and France, and those who were, in reality, not going any place but just drifting due to the fact that they had no place to go.

Committee appointments will likely be made this week and a general drive for funds will be made the latter part of next week.

Cars Slightly Damaged In Main Street Accident Here

No one was hurt and very little damage resulted in a minor automobile accident on East Main Street here late Wednesday afternoon. Miss Kathleen Price was backing her car from the curb and struck the right rear fender of a car driven by Mary Gray.

Few Changes Are Made By Growers In Unit Meetings

Delegates Elect The County Committee At Convention Here Today

The work of the Martin County Agricultural Conservation association was given a near unanimous vote of approval by hundreds of farmers at the community committee elections held this week. An unusually small number of changes were made in the personnel elected to administer the 1940 soil conservation program. In one or two communities, the old committees were re-elected in their entirety and in other districts all members were retained with a slight change in their duty assignments.

As a whole, the community committee elections attracted considerable attention, but in one or two instances the growers showed very little interest in the proceedings. Farmers in Bear Grass opened the farm-political season with a bang when nearly 100 attended the meeting in the school house there and effected sweeping changes in their committee personnel. Only one old member was retained, and the voting was lively. At Robersonville less than three dozen farmers participated in the election Tuesday night.

The elections were held without the slightest trouble, and while every man's candidate did not succeed in getting a place on a committee, there was no complaint heard about the method of voting.

Eligibility rules, forced into the limelight a few days ago under a political ruse by Senator Bailey and Governor Hoke, were hardly mentioned, and while one or two farmers did not vote because they are not planning to comply with the program next year, they apparently realized they could have voted if they really wanted to do so.

This afternoon the delegates elected at the community meetings are meeting in the agricultural building to elect a county committee. It is generally believed, judging from the action of the community elections, that the old county committee, Messrs. Jesse Crisp, of Oak City, chairman; J. R. Winslow, of Robersonville, vice chairman, and W. M. Harrison, of Bear Grass, regular member, will be re-elected.

The results of the elections in the nine communities this week are as follows: Cross Roads, W. L. Ausborn, chairman; Gaston James, vice chairman; G. H. Forbes, regular member; Henry D. Peel, first alternate, and J. Marion Griffin, second alternate on the community committee. G. H. Forbes was elected delegate and Gordon Bailey was named alternate to the county convention which is being held here this afternoon.

Robersonville: R. S. Everett, chairman; J. R. Daniel, vice chairman; S. T. Everett, regular member; J. R. Winslow, first alternate and H. H. Roberson, second alternate. J. R. Winslow was elected delegate and S. T. Everett, alternate, to the county convention. There were only seventeen votes cast at the meeting in Robersonville and the nominees were re-elected by a unanimous vote.

(Continued on page four)

Lending Agency Is Represented Here

A lending agency with five million dollars now available to farmers was established here yesterday by H. A. White and Sons, realtors and insurance representatives, of Greenville. W. W. Lee, representative of the company, completed arrangements with Harrison and Carstarphen, local insurance men, to receive applications in this section.

Mr. Lee, district president of the North Carolina Building and Loan League, embracing several counties in eastern Carolina, representing one of the oldest and largest real estate and insurance companies in North Carolina, said the loans would be confined, without exception, to farm lands.

The loans will be made on 5, 10 and 15-year periods, at an interest rate ranging from 4 1/2 to 5 per cent. "There is a clause in the contract or mortgage that is of particular interest to the farmer. It says, 'No payment is required on principal unless the farmer so desires it.'"

Mr. Lee pointed out that the terms were very lenient in that the contract did not require a payment on the principal in bad crop years or when farm commodities were selling respectively low.