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Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Friday, November 17, 1939.

ESTABLISHED 1899

## \$600.00 Session Of County Court Held By Judge H.O. Peel

### Judge Luther Hamilton Will Preside Over Term To Last Two Weeks

Judge H. O. Peel and Solicitor Don E. Johnson held a \$600 session of the Martin County Recorder's Court last Monday, the fines approximating if not surpassing all previous records. Eleven cases were called and several of them were contested by keen lawyers, the court completing its work promptly at the dinner hour. Judge Peel arranged the business of the court for a two weeks' holiday while the superior court is in session handling the trial of civil cases.

Several actions, slated for trial last Monday, were continued by order of the judge until the first Monday in December when a sandwich of the county tribunal will be held. The December term of the superior court convenes on Monday, December 11 for a one-week term.

Proceedings last Monday: Adjudged guilty of violating the liquor laws, Mary Eliza Spruill was sentenced to serve a sixty-day term in the common jail. The judge altered the judgment and fined her \$50 and added the cost.

Jeremiah Fulford, charged with selling scrap tobacco without a proper license, pleaded not guilty, the court continuing the case under prayer for judgment until December 4th.

The case charging George Harrison, Jr., with reckless driving was noprosecuted. A continuance was granted in the case charging Jasper Williams with violating the motor vehicle laws. Williams also faced the court on a charge of violating the tobacco scrap law. Both cases are scheduled for trial the first Monday in next month.

Gus Forrest, catcher of little fishes, was again in the court. This time he was charged with non-support, the court directing him to pay \$6 a month for the support of his children and reappear at the end of that time for further judgment. Forrest intimated that he had issued a paper to certain property, and claimed immunity from any responsibility that might fall upon his shoulders as a father of needy children. No notice of the plea was entered in the court records, and it is apparent that the defendant will have to turn to the courts to regain the paper.

Roy Boston, charged with drunken driving, was fined \$50, taxed with the cost and had his license revoked for a period of one year.

The case charging Paul Bullock with buying and selling scrap tobacco without proper license was non-suited upon motion of the defense.

The healthy fine, \$500, was imposed upon Abe Martin who stood charged with violating the slot machine law.

Charged with non-support, Archie Mobley, Jr., was directed to pay \$10 a month during the next six months for the support of his child. He is to reappear at the end of that time for further judgment.

Jasper Woolard, facing a similar charge, was directed to pay \$10 a month for the next year for the benefit of his wife. He appealed and Judge Peel required bond in the sum of \$100.

## Slight Decrease In Delinquent Tax List

For the first time in several years, the delinquent tax list for the Town of Williamston reflects a downward trend, the list appearing today for the first time showing an unpaid amount smaller by \$200.46 than the one for 1937. While the number of delinquents jumped just one, the amount of unpaid taxes fell from \$4,545.90 to \$4,345.44. The number of accounts unpaid by property owners increased from 42 to 52, but the colored property owners lopped nine names from the delinquent list for the 1938 tax year as compared with the 1937 tax-year number. Briefly stated, the decrease in number and unpaid amounts is traceable to the list of colored property owners.

These figures represent real property taxes and do not throw any light on personal property collections. However, it is understood that a personal drive by the collector has resulted in larger personal property collections than was the case a year ago.

Appearing today for the first time the 1939 list will be made subject to sale at auction on the second Monday in next month, December 11. Ordinarily the delinquent list is reduced before the collector's sale.

A comparison of the number of accounts unpaid and the amount due for the tax years of 1937 and 1938, respectively, follows by races:

White	42	\$3,243.53
Colored	106	1,302.37
Totals	148	\$4,545.90
White	52	\$3,312.70
Colored	97	1,032.74
Total for 1938	149	\$4,345.44

## Changes Effected In Postal Schedules Here This Week

Working toward an improved postal service here, postoffice authorities this week effected several changes in the service schedule. Postmaster L. T. Fowden explaining that they possibly will be made permanent.

The half-holiday in effect each Wednesday afternoon during the past several years has been marked off the schedule, the office remaining open each week day from 8 a. m. to 6 p. m. except on national holidays. The half holiday was removed from the schedule when the office experienced an increasing business and there was a marked need for a longer service, the postmaster explained. Carriers on the rural free delivery routes are now leaving the local office at 8 o'clock each morning instead of 8:15, the postmaster stating that the advanced schedule will get the mail to the rural patrons just that much earlier and avoid a

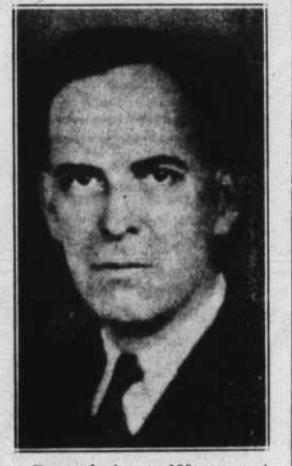
noon-hour rush upon the return of the carriers.

Making a study of the local office operations this week, Inspector Conderman is said to be considering an enlarged village delivery service, one that will include several new streets. These plans are not at all definite, however.

Noticing the difficulty experienced in handling mail inadequately addressed, the inspector ordered the postmaster to return all letters to the senders for complete addresses. "Ten years ago a letter with an incomplete address could be handled very easily here, but the number of patrons has increased to such an extent that it is next to impossible to handle the large volume of mail with due dispatch when the letters and parcels carry incomplete addresses," the postmaster explained. All patrons are urged to include street addresses and box and rural route numbers on all mail.

## Superior Court Opens Term Here Next Week

### CANDIDATE



Favored by a 100 per cent "backing" by his home folks, as J. W. Noell, Roxboro editor, points out, the Honorable Reg. L. Harris, of the Person capital, announces his candidacy for Lieutenant Governor of North Carolina.

## Continuing Drive Against Distillers

Aided by representatives of the Federal Alcoholic Tax Unit, J. H. Roebuck, head of the enforcement bureau for the Martin County Alcoholic Beverages Control Board, is continuing a relentless drive against the illicit liquor traffic in this county. During the past two days, the officers wrecked several plants, poured out over 1,500 gallons of beer and rounded up a schedule that centers in two or three of the ten townships in the county.

About 1,300 gallons of the 1,550 gallons of beer destroyed were poured in the Free Union section of Jamesville Township where the officers wrecked a partial plant. Two partial plants were destroyed there yesterday.

Bringing the illicit traffic well under control during recent weeks, Enforcement Officer Roebuck is now being assisted in the work by Steve Adler of the Alcoholic Tax Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation who, recently assigned here, will aid the officer in holding the traffic under control.

## National Book Week Is Observed By High School

National Book Week was formally observed by the local high school at yesterday's assembly when a number of interesting book reviews accompanied by characterizations, were presented to the student body by the ninth grade and the members of the Beta club.

Characterizations and reviews, among others, included Paul Green's "The Lost Colony," Pearl Buck's "The Good Earth," Helen Hunt Jackson's "Ramona," and Cyril Clemens' "Uncle Dan," the story of the grand old man of Scouting, Dan Beard.

The characterization of Old Tom recalled to many their enjoyable visit to historic Roanoke Island where they saw Green's great drama.

## Man Detained In County For Greensboro Police

R. W. Edwards, Washington, D. C. man, was detained here by county authorities Wednesday for officers in Greensboro where he is wanted for the alleged issuance of worthless checks. Edwards was taken into custody by Chief Edmond Early, of the Oak City police force.

## Plaintiffs Seeking \$50,785 Damages In Martin Civil Court

### Automobile Accidents Account for Six of Nine Damage Suits

The calendar for the two weeks special term of Martin County Superior court convening here next Monday is fairly crowded with damage suits, nine plaintiffs seeking a total of \$50,785 damages alleged to have resulted from automobile accidents or from the negligence of defendants in four other cases in which the automobile did not figure.

Marion Evans, Robersonville man, is suing N. T. Stokes and Mrs. J. C. Savage for \$175 damages alleged to have resulted in an automobile accident at the intersection of Robersonville and Academy Streets in Robersonville last May 13. Mrs. Dessie Evans is suing the same defendants for \$1,000 damages for injuries alleged to have resulted in the same accident. The defendant, Mrs. J. C. Savage, in a counter suit, is seeking \$5,000 damages for injuries alleged to have resulted to her in the intersection wreck.

Alleging false arrest, Calvin Wynne, young Martin County man, is suing W. T. Tadlock, Bertie County man, for \$1,000 damage, \$500 actual and \$500 punitive.

Jimmie Mitchell by his next friend, Joe Mitchell, is suing G. P. Hall for \$10,000 for personal injuries received in an automobile accident on Williamston's main street on March 7 of this year. Miss Ella Mae Gaylord is also suing Hall for \$125 property damage alleged to have resulted in an automobile accident at the intersection of Church and Smithwick Streets here on May 15.

Two suits in which W. S. Hadley, S. H. and Z. V. Bunting are suing A. H. Steele for \$490 alleged due them in rent and for a sale of the Atlantic Hotel property are also on the trial calendar.

Annie Mae Harris by her next friend, H. P. Williams, is suing John C. Tayloe, Joshua Tayloe, trading as Tayloe Hospital, and C. W. Goodwin and Graham Ramsey for \$10,000. The plaintiff alleges the defendants permitted a cheese-cloth sponge to remain in an opening made in the performance of an operation in the institution on May 11, 1936. The suit was started in the superior court of Pasquotank County, but was transferred to this county at the request of the defense. The case is on the calendar for trial on Monday, Nov. 27.

G. H. Mizelle is suing insurance company to recover premiums in the sum of \$485 paid under a special disability clause.

Helen Waters, the little girl who

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## ALLOTMENTS

Final plans for placing the machinery in motion for determining the 1940 tobacco allotments were explained at a district meeting of county committeemen and farm representatives in the Martin Agricultural building this week, T. B. Slade, assistant to the agent in this county, stating today that the community and county committeemen would start reviewing data or farm facts for each individual farmer next week.

Final allotments will be determined in the State office, but the facts upon which the allotments are determined will be based on the findings of the community committeemen, it was stated. Quotas will be made known to the growers about December 15.

## Place Forty Cases On Court Calendar For Special Term

### Tribunal Arranges Business For Carry Over While "Big" Court Reigns

Forty cases have been placed on the civil calendar for consideration at the two weeks' term of Martin County Superior Court convening next Monday. Judge Luther Hamilton, of Morehead City, making his first visit to this county as a member of the superior court bench, will preside over the term which will consider only civil cases.

While there are numbers of cases regarded of no great importance, the calendar carries quite a few major suits, the plaintiffs, in at least one case, looking to the court for judgment in excess of \$15,000. Several \$10,000 suits are on the calendar, the plaintiffs in five cases seeking almost \$40,000 damages alleged to have resulted from automobile accidents.

A list of the cases follows: Monday, Nov. 20: Hyman vs. Williams, Powell against Smith, Grimes v. Close, Clark vs. Close, Harrison v. Hopkins, Thomas versus Bennett, P.iland v. Bellflower.

Tuesday, Nov. 21: Evans vs. Stokes et al, Evans versus Stokes et al, Bellamy against Barrett, Vandeford vs. Hodges, Duggins v. Moore, Lee Co. versus Corey, Tin Co. v. Aushorn, Harrison vs. Rogers.

Wednesday, Nov. 22: Fertilizer Co. against Hearne, Coffield v. Roberson, Fertilizer Co. vs. Jenkins, Fertilizer Co. against Kennedy, Fertilizer Co. vs. Chason, Wynn v. Tadlock.

Thursday, Nov. 23: Mitchel versus Hall, Gaylord v. Hall, Bunting versus Steele, Hadley vs. Steele.

Monday, Nov. 27: Harris v. Tayloe, Fertilizer Co. vs. Stamburg, Fertilizer Co. against Little, Killebrew vs. House, Hilliard versus Shaw, Coast Line v. Town of Robersonville, Lumber Co. vs. Cowen.

Tuesday, Nov. 28: Mizelle vs. Insurance Co., Supply Co. vs. Steele, Chase versus Jackson, Griffin vs. Pierce, Waters v. Allen, Coltrair vs. Insurance Co., Coltrair against Hagwood, Thompson vs. Bennett.

## Complicated Case Before Court For Trial Next Week

### Thirteen Cases Advanced For Little Piece of Land In Goose Nest

A rather complicated case will be presented to the special term of Martin County Superior court here next week for consideration and possible solution. The case, heard by the court on one or two previous occasions, offers at least thirteen claimants to a small piece of land in Goose Nest Township. The first apparent complication centers around the legal line-up in the case. The calendar reads in one case, Critcher and Swain, attorneys for the plaintiff, William T. Grimes et al, and Bourne, Peel and Manning, attorneys for the defendant, Close. In a second case, the legal line-up is, Bourne, Peel and Manning, attorneys for the plaintiff, Clark, and Critcher and Swain, at in Martin County and North Carolina in his brief talk to the meeting.

"North Carolina has only about 6,000 Farm Bureau members, but the drive is on and between now and November 30, we hope to have two or three times that many," he explained. Pitt County, with over a thousand signed in one week, is working for 3,000 members.

Reporting on the activities of the membership drive to date, J. P. Woodard stated that 418 members had been added to the list in the county during the first stage of the campaign. Captain Charlie Daniel's team led with 218 members over Captain J. R. Winslow and he with his lieutenants ate a turkey supper at the expense of the losers.

Reports were filed by the following canvassers: Charles Daniel, 35 members; W. M. Harrison, 25; H. U. Peel, 5; Frank Bailey, 43; George Griffin, 21; Bill Beach, 30; S. T. Everett, 26; J. R. Winslow, 75; Gaston James, 15; Robert Everett, 18; V. G. Taylor, 17; Leman Barnhill, 20; Garland Forbes, 6; L. H. Roberson, 7; J. H. Lilliard, 7; Joe Griffin, 4; W. L. Aushon, 3; Herbert Manning, 5; Lester Everett, 8; C. L. Green, 6; T. L. House, 7; Floyd Moore, 5 and C. A. Roberson, 6.

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## Volunteers Have Half-Hour Fire Here This Morning

Called out at 10:55 this morning, members of the local volunteer fire company battled a roof fire on North Sycamore Street for almost half an hour. The fire was burning over a fairly sizable area on the roof when the apparatus was moved to the Alonza Wilson home, a two-story wooden structure. Using two ladders and a small hose the firemen brought the fire under control without much resulting damage to the structure. Damage was estimated by Fire Chief Hall to be less than \$25.

## Control Program For Peanuts Is Advocated

### Three-point Plan Is Discussed By Group In Washington City

#### Legislation Needed To Create Control Based on 1939 Planted Acreage

Anticipating further sizable increases in the peanut acreage by tobacco and cotton farmers, representatives of the peanut areas in several states meeting with agricultural authorities in Washington this week advocated a three-point program based on the 1939 planted acreage for the 1940 peanut crop.

Reporting the activities of the conference, Mayon Parker, of Ahoskie, said:

Seeking a method of arresting a threatened increase in peanut acreage next year as a result of the control programs in operation for tobacco and cotton, peanut farmers from North Carolina, Virginia, Georgia, Alabama and Texas in a meeting at Washington Tuesday with officials of the Department of Agriculture, asked the cooperation of the department in a three-point program of acreage and marketing control which would accept the planted and harvested acreages of this crop year as the basis of allotments of acreage for next year, continue the peanut stabilization program in effect, increase the penalties under the Soil Conservation program for over-planting peanut acreages, and bring about effective control of peanut expansion by enactment of legislation which would permit the inclusion of peanuts under the marketing agreements and orders section of the Agricultural Adjustment Act.

Growers attending the conference from all States in the three producing areas were unanimous in their request for the accomplishment of their three-point program, the meeting with the Department of Agriculture officials Tuesday having been preceded on Monday by a series of conferences between farmers and the representatives of the Peanut Stabilization Cooperatives of Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama and Texas in which agreement was reached as to the pressing need of a check of expansion of acreage and the best methods of approach to the problem.

Although no definite conclusions were reached and further study of the problem of acreage expansion control will be required, those attending the conference were pleased with the reception given the ideas advanced by them and hopeful that the final results may be achieved. It was pointed out that additional legislation appeared to be necessary before any permanent program for peanuts could be made effective and it was agreed that only through some permanent program could there be brought into being an effective method for controlling and arresting the steady increase in peanut acreage since 1930.

Among the representatives of the peanut growers who attended the conference there was unanimous opinion that, whatever basis of allotments should be upon the acreage planted and harvested this year, 1939, and no reductions should be made from these allotments either for individual growers, states or regional producing areas.

Estimates of the planted and harvested acres for all producing states and areas this year are placed at 1,820,000 acres. This figure is 320,000 acres in excess of the 1,500,000 acres allotted for 1939 under the Soil Conservation program. The growers, pending a complete working out of the three-point program they presented, requested that the Soil Conservation allotment for 1940 be made at 1,820,000, the acreage planted and harvested this year, and that the penalties for over-planting allotted acreages be substantially increased to discourage tobacco and cotton farmers from diverting acreages formerly planted in these crops to peanuts next year. J. B. Hutson, assistant

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## OVER 10,000,000

An all-time sales record was established by the local tobacco market yesterday when well over 100,000 pounds of the golden leaf were sold to run the total to 10,106,941 pounds. A fairly sizable sale is underway on the market today, and indications are that the total for the season will exceed ten and one-half million pounds. No definite date for closing the market has been determined, but it is likely that the season will be brought to a close the early part of Thanksgiving week. Prices on the local market yesterday and today were recognized as about the strongest received during the season.

### NEW PASTOR



REV. S. J. STARNES Succeeding Dr. S. A. Maxwell as pastor of the local Methodist church, Rev. S. J. Starnes will be welcomed to his new field by the several religious bodies in a union service Sunday evening at 7:30 o'clock in the Methodist church.

## Welcome Minister At Union Service

Rev. S. J. Starnes, recently appointed by the Methodist Conference to succeed Dr. S. A. Maxwell as pastor of the local church, will be welcomed by religious groups in a union service Sunday evening at 7:30 o'clock. Rev. John L. Goff, vice president of the local ministerial association, announced today. Members of the local association will be in charge of the devotional period and the incoming pastor will deliver the evening sermon.

"This time-honored custom is the most natural way in which to greet and welcome a fellow minister and a religious leader into a community, and it is hoped that the community will respond in a fine way and greet Mr. Starnes and his family," Rev. Mr. Goff said. There will be no evening programs in those churches participating in the union service.

Rev. and Mrs. Starnes and their five children moved here yesterday from Aberdeen where he held a successful pastorate in the Page Memorial Methodist church.

Commenting on the minister's departure, "The Sandhill Citizen," Aberdeen newspaper, said editorially:

"It is with genuine regret that we see the Rev. S. J. Starnes, pastor of the Aberdeen-Vass charge of the Methodist church, depart for his new charge in Williamston. Mr. Starnes is a good man, a man who has won the love and admiration of all the people regardless of creed or denomination. He is a plain man who goes about his work in a very quiet and unassuming manner."

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## Farm Bureau Plans Second Drive For Members in County

### Leaders Address Membership Committee in Meeting Here Last Night

Addressed by prominent farm leaders, the Martin County Farm Bureau Federation membership group in meeting here last evening adopted plans for continuing an extensive drive for additional members during the next two weeks. A mass meeting has been slated for next Thursday night in the county courthouse when R. C. Holland, president of the North Carolina Peanut Stabilization Cooperative, will explain the precarious position facing the peanut farmers and outline a program for solving the problem.

R. G. Arnold, southeastern director for the American Farm Bureau Federation, will also address the group. A special appeal to all farmers is being directed by C. Abram Roberson, president of the Martin Farm Bureau Federation, urging them to attend the meeting.

Mr. Holland reviewed the peanut situation and reported developments at a conference held by peanut growers with representatives of the United States Department of Agriculture in Washington this week. After outlining a proposed solution centering around a three-point program, Mr. Holland turned to the Farm Bureau officials and pleaded for their support in carrying the needs before Congress early next year. "We must turn to the American Farm Bureau for help if we are to hold any chance whatever in Washington," Mr. Holland declared.

Briefly addressing the meeting, J. E. Winslow, president of the State Farm Bureau Federation, stated that the directors of the organization were starting work next week to formulate plans for a long-time farm program. "We need to go forward on an even keel, and if we are to make any progress toward that end, we will have to turn to the American Farm Bureau for help," Mr. Winslow said. It is apparent now that farm leaders recognize the great need for a tobacco program of at least five years' duration. "New England has pitted the South against the West and held the good things for itself all these years, and now we must organize to break up such an arrangement," Winslow said in appealing for an increased support for the Farm Bureau and its policies to bring relief to agriculture.

"There'll be friction in any farm program until we have perfected an organization so strong that it can stand on equal ground with other industry at Washington," R. G. Arnold, director in the American Farm Bureau, said.

Haywood Dail, the old war horse who has been in the thick of the farm battle, told the small group that if we are to maintain a decent standard of living in the South we must perfect a strong organization and see that we get a fair return on our labors. "Every child is born into an organization except the farmer's. His child is born not knowing whether he will be for the butcher or panned up for show purposes," Mr. Dail declared in pleading with the group to see that their sons will not have

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## Sales Are Higher; Prices Are Lower

Raleigh—North Carolina farmers had received up to November 1 approximately \$25,000,000 less for their tobacco crop than on the corresponding date last year, it can be easily figured from the November warehouse sales summary of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture.

Based on poundage and average prices given in the summary, computation of the total amount received shows that farmers had received almost \$75,000,000 up to the first of this month (the exact figures \$74,390,457.19) against a total of slightly more than \$100,000,000 (exact figures \$101,355,520.09) up to November 1, 1938.

This decrease in cash receipts came about in the face of the fact that the poundage has been heavier than last. The department's figures indicate that up to the first there had been sold 480,869,148 pounds of producers' tobacco, as against 433,143,291 pounds to November 1, last year. This increase is the more remarkable in view of the fact that all the markets were closed from September 12 to October 10 on account of the withdrawal of its bidders by the British Imperial Tobacco company.

The tobacco of 1938, however, sold at an average price of \$23.40 per hundred pounds, while this season the average price dropped to \$15.47, and that has been regarded as a "fair" price in relation to the size of the bumper crop which was produced with no crop control in effect.

The immediate effect of control for the 1940 crop can be gauged approximately by the fact that the tobacco average rose \$3.50 per hundred in October over the pre-market holiday levels.