

## Farm Legislation Is Dependent on Price Commodity Trends

### Parity Payment Loss Will Not Be Reflected in Income Until 1941

Washington—Administration farm officials explained this week that if Congress made no provision for farm parity payments in the Agriculture Department Appropriation Bill, the absence of such subsidies would not show up in producer incomes until the summer and fall of 1941.

In his budget message President Roosevelt made no provision for parity payments, saying he was influenced by the hope that prices would advance to a point where farm income would not be lowered if the payments were not voted.

Officials said that \$225,000,000 appropriated last year for parity payments would be distributed during the coming summer and fall among producers of cotton, wheat, corn, rice and possibly some types of tobacco. Only those farmers co-operating with crop control programs will be eligible.

Parity payments gets their name from a farm price goal set up in the 1938 Crop Control Act. This legislation authorizes programs designed to raise and maintain prices of major farm products at a level which would give them purchasing power in terms of non-farm goods and services equal to that which they held in the 1909-14 period.

Parity prices for major crops in mid-December, as determined by government economists, compared with actual average farm prices, were: cotton 15.6 and 9.7 cents per pound; wheat \$1.11 and 83.5 cents a bushel; corn 80.9 and 50.3 cents a bushel; rice \$1.02 and 76.8 cents a bushel; flue-cured tobacco 18.2 and 12.7 cents a pound; burley tobacco 16.9 and 15.3 cents a pound; and dark air-cured tobacco, 8.5 and 6.3 cents a pound.

The farm act authorizes payments to provide the farmer full parity that Congress modified the immediate income goal, in the last two appropriation bills, to 75 per cent of parity.

In addition to the parity payments farmers may receive checks for compliance with soil conservation practices prescribed by the AAA. Approximately \$500,000,000 has been appropriated annually since 1936 for such payments.

## To Conduct Maternity Clinics At Jamesville

Beginning this afternoon, the Martin County Health Department will conduct monthly maternity clinics in Jamesville, Dr. J. W. Williams, health officer, announcing that Dr. E. T. Walker will be in charge of the clinics and that he will be assisted by Miss Christine High, county nurse.

## Officers Reelected At Annual Meeting

Here last Saturday the Martin County Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Association completed one of its most successful years as of last December 31, the policyholders were informed by James L. Coltrain, secretary-treasurer, in his report to the organization's annual meeting held in the county courthouse last Saturday morning.

## Association Now Has a Cash Balance of More Than \$8,000 On Hand

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Attended by one of the largest representative groups of policyholders in recent years, the meeting reelected all its officers and approved the general operating methods for the new year. L. H. Taylor, of Poplar Point, and C. B. Fagan, of Dardens, were named to represent the association in their respective communities. The board of directors include Messrs. W. B. Harrington, S. T. Everett, W. M. Green, Joshua L. Coltrain, L. H. Taylor, S. T. Woolard and Joseph S. Griffin. Mr. James L. Coltrain, connected with the association for a long number of years, continues as its secretary and treasurer. Mr. Sylvester Peel was reelected to serve a sixth term as president, and Mr. Joseph S. Griffin was elected to continue as vice president of the organization.

Making marked gains and adding (Continued on page six)

## Farmers to Get Leaf Allotments Tomorrow

### County Growers Are Allotted A Total Of 9,422 Acres In 1940

### Allowance Is 1,826 Acres Less Than Allotment Last Year



The 1940 tobacco production control program will be carried home in black and white to the more than 1500 Martin County farmers tomorrow when they receive their new acreage allotments, the office of the county farm agent announcing today that a total of only 9,422 acres could be had for distribution. While there is some speculation as to what the reaction will be when the farmers receive their individual quotas, agricultural authorities are of the opinion that there will be very few complaints when the uncertain future for tobacco is considered, and when the new allotments are compared with the 1939 quotas and not with the 1938 plantings.

It is generally understood that Martin farmers planted well in excess of 15,000 acres to tobacco last season, the end of the last marketing season finding them hardly as well off as they were at the end of the 1938 marketing period.

The Agricultural Adjustment Administration is making an attractive offer for program participation this coming season. The farmer who complies with the plan and holds his acreage down to his allotment will receive nine dollars per acre times his allotted acreage. Overplanting will cost the farmer at the rate of about \$72 an acre.

Realizing that it is impossible to effect a distribution of the limited acreage to the complete satisfaction of all growers, the county farm agent's office points out the following methods of appeal.

Any person may, within 15 days after notice is forwarded to or made available to him request the county committee in writing to reconsider its recommendation or determination regarding any of the following matters affecting any farm in which he has an interest: (a) Eligibility to file an application for payment; (b) any allotment, usual acreage, yield, measurement, or goal; (c) the division of payment, or (d) any other matter affecting the right to or the amount of his payment with respect to the farm. The county committee shall notify such person in writing of its decision within 15 days after receipt of the written request for reconsideration. If such person is not satisfied with the decision of the county committee, he may, within 15 days after the decision is forwarded to or made available to him, appeal in writing to the State committee. The State committee shall notify the person in writing of its decision within 30 days after the receipt of the appeal. If such person is not satisfied with the decision of the State committee, he may, within 15 days after the decision is forwarded to or made available to him, request the regional director to review the decision of the State committee.

Written notice of any decision rendered under this section by the county or state committee shall also be issued to each person known to it who, as landlord, tenant, or sharecropper having an interest in the operation of the farm may be adversely affected by such decision. Only a person who shows that he is adversely affected by the outcome of any request for reconsideration or appeal may appeal the matter further, but any person, who as landlord, tenant, or sharecropper having any interest in the operation of the farm, would be affected by the decision to be made on any reconsideration by the county committee or subsequent appeal shall be given a full and fair hearing if he appears when the hearing thereon is held.

Denying any connection in the cases charging him with the robbery of the Standard filling station here on the morning of December 16 and with the robbery of a Standard station in Plymouth on December 13, Lorenzo Wiggins, local colored boy, is now facing another charge. The young colored boy, arrested with three others last Saturday, is alleged to have stolen a pistol from the Atlantic Hotel here some weeks ago. The pistol was recovered in Washington yesterday by local officers when the purchaser, Henry Wier, learned it had been stolen.

Two Slightly Hurt In Auto Accident Sunday

Miss Helen Ross and Mr. Arthur Benton, vocational agricultural teacher in the Oak City schools, were slightly hurt last Sunday evening when their car skidded and tore into a ditch bank between Oak City and Hobgood. No great damage was done to the car.

## Large Sum Will Be Spent In Deepening The Roanoke River

### Work on 10-Foot Channel To Palmyra Will Be Started Next Spring

Plans are virtually complete for spending \$350,000 in deepening the Roanoke River from its mouth to Palmyra, unofficial reports received here today stating that contracts for the project will be let early in the spring. Small amounts have been spent "snagging" the river, but the project now pending is the largest to get attention in recent years.

Considerable work will be done near the mouth and on up to a point just this side of Plymouth to accommodate the North Carolina Pulp Company. From that point, the government engineers plan to cut a 12-foot channel to a point about one mile up the river from Williams. It is also proposed to dredge the river to a minimum depth of ten feet from that point to Palmyra. According to the unofficial information received here it is possible that the government will increase the channel depths two feet more than the present plans call for, the engineers pointing out that the greater channel depth will make it possible for any and all craft using the inland waterways to ply the Roanoke without difficulty.

While traffic on the Roanoke is said to have experienced a decrease during the past year, the government apparently anticipates a heavier volume in the years to come.

## Negro Jailed For Drunken Driving

Drunken driving and a riding fight landed Harvey Rascoe, Louis Basnight and James Everett, Bertie colored men, in the county jail here last Friday night about 8 o'clock.

While Rascoe was weaving his way down the main street under the steering wheel, Basnight and Everett were busy working on each other with a knife and a liquor bottle. The licks were flying thick and fast, and Rascoe claims that Everett grabbed the steering wheel and threw the car into the police automobile and ran it almost into the police station. The court ruled that Rascoe was too drunk to drive and relieved him of the responsibility during the next twelve months. A fine of \$50 with costs added was imposed in the case.

Basnight and Everett, tried by Justice J. L. Hassell in his court Saturday morning, suspended judgment upon payment of the cost in the case charging them with an affray.

Joseph Grandy and George Eason, riding in the car at the time of the accident, were ruled innocent victims of a wild ride.

Damage to the police car was estimated at \$15.

Hearing the crash, Chief W. B. Daniel and Officer J. H. Aillsbrooks rushed from the police station and arrested the men before they could get out of the car.

## Martin Boasts No Rich Democrats

Jackson Day dinners, held last night throughout the county to boost the Democratic party's finances, were not attended by Martin County Democrats, as far as it could be learned here today.

Local figures prominent in the party explained they could not find time to attend the dinners, several of them freely admitting the \$25 fee was not immediately available.

Record attendances were reported in many sections, and Paul V. McNutt, prominently mentioned as a presidential candidate, was said to have made a great speech in Raleigh. The speaker was loudly applauded when he mentioned President Roosevelt.

### The Record Speaks . . .

A greater regard for life, limb and property was noted in the highway record in this county during the first week of the new year. Reports coming from State Highway Patrolman Whit Saunders show that there were only two minor motor vehicle accidents in the county during the period. No one was killed. No one was injured and the property damage was small. Martin County motorists can pat themselves on the back for every day, every week and for every month they contribute to the all-important business of safe driving.

The record for the first week in this year and for the first week in last year follows:

Accidents Inj'd Killed Dam'ge	1940	1939
	2	0
	0	0
	\$52.50	00.00

## Local and County Authorities Unravel Series of Robberies

### In County During Recent Weeks

### C. D. Carstarphen President Building & Loan Association

Meeting in regular session here last evening, the directors of the Martin County Building and Loan Association elected C. D. Carstarphen to head the organization as president. The office was made vacant by the death of Mr. C. A. Harrison, who ably served the association as president for eleven years. Mr. Carstarphen has been an active director for a long number of years and had served several terms as its vice president. Mr. N. C. Green, prominent in the activities for a long period, was elected to the vice presidency. The action taken by the board of directors last evening was to fill the unexpired terms, the elections being subject to the wishes of the shareholders in annual session here next May.

## Two Fire Calls Are Received Saturday

Local volunteer firemen, idle during most of the holiday season, went into action for the first time in the new year last Saturday when they received two calls.

That afternoon about three o'clock fire threatened the Brown fireworks shop on Washington Street. A customer innocently dropped a torpedo into a box of torpedoes and a hundred or more of them exploded. Smoke filled the small room, forcing out the owner and several other persons. It was thought that the stock and building would catch on fire and the department was called. Fortunately the stock of fireworks did not catch and little damage was caused by the exploding torpedoes.

The firemen were called to the John Cooke home on Church Street about 11:30 that night when a chimney burned out and scattered sparks all over the wooden shingles, and threatened to catch furniture in an upstairs room. No damage was done however, and the fire equipment was returned to the station in a very short time.

## Congress Argues Lynching Question

Faced with a complicated business calendar, the National Congress wandered from its sworn duties yesterday to argue over the proposed anti-lynching bill, the action disgusting members of both parties in all sections of the country.

Passage of the bill will, many believe, increase greater sectional friction and increase greater disrespect for law and order.

Little has been heard from the Congress since it convened last week, but reports state that a mass of cares and woes are being unpacked and placed on the calendar for consideration during the coming weeks and months.

According to reports this session of Congress will be the most expensive ever held. Last summer the lawmakers voted an additional \$1,500 a year for clerk hire for each of the 96 Senators and 435 Representatives, the action adding almost a million dollars to the bill.

Hardly before the current session got underway, political observers started guessing how long it will last. Despite the discord over the trade agreements, log-rolling tactics that are certain to be introduced into the picture, some observers believe the damage will have been done and the lawmakers ready to return to their homes about the middle of June. If adjournment does not come by then, the July weather may have its usual effect and run the Congressmen out.

## Farmers Likely To Switch To Cotton

Planting much of their available land to tobacco last year, quite a few Martin County farmers are likely to switch back to cotton this season. Last year Martin farmers did not plant all their cotton allotment, and the surplus planted to tobacco in 1939 will just about take up the cotton allotment this year.

## County Colored Man Dies In The State Sanatorium

Leon McCoy Rogers, 39-year-old Martin County colored man, died in the State Sanatorium last week following a long illness. He had been in the institution only a few weeks. Last rites were conducted last Thursday and interment was in the family plot on the home farm in Bear Grass Township. Besides his parents, he leaves a wife who is a patient in the sanatorium.

**PRESIDENT**

C. D. Carstarphen, well-known local man, was elevated to the presidency of the Martin County Building and Loan Association by the board of directors in session here last evening to fill the office made vacant by the death of C. A. Harrison. Mr. Carstarphen has been active in the association's management for a long number of years.

**Mrs. C. A. Harrison Takes Oath of Office**

Subscribing to the oath of office before Clerk of Court L. B. Wynne early last Saturday afternoon, Mrs. C. A. Harrison immediately entered upon her duties as Martin County treasurer. Appointed by the county commissioners to fill the office made vacant by the death of her husband, Mr. C. A. Harrison, in a Richmond hospital early in the morning of December 28, Mrs. Harrison subscribed to the oath at her home on Academy Street.

Her first official act was to sign the pay vouchers for the other county officers and the checks for those holding accounts against the county. "We received our pay all right, and it is all gone," one county officer said early Monday after receiving his check last Saturday afternoon.

An audit of the late treasurer's books was completed late last Friday night. "The books balanced to the penny, and the records were in perfect order," one of the auditors commented. When the cash was checked, there was a discrepancy of 76 cents. A few minutes later as one of the auditors was checking the bonds, three quarters and the lone penny dropped from one of the bond jackets. And thus was stamped a perfect approval on the perfect record of the late county servant.

**HOT MONEY**

Soiled by the hands of an alleged thief, two hundred ordinary nickels were said to have been sold for \$9.50 to a small-scale filling station operator here a few days ago. It was one of the few transactions on record where the good money of Uncle Sam was traded at less than its actual face value.

Dennis Wynne, alleged robber-thief, stands accused of taking the nickels from a slot machine of the one arm bandit type and selling them to "Chip" Moore. And it can be marked down for the first time that the bandit machine lost.

Applications for the refunds usually receive prompt attention.

## Local Robber Faces Another Charge

Denying any connection in the cases charging him with the robbery of the Standard filling station here on the morning of December 16 and with the robbery of a Standard station in Plymouth on December 13, Lorenzo Wiggins, local colored boy, is now facing another charge.

Let Contract For New Home On Martin Heights

A contract for the construction of a modern frame home was let last week to Martin and Perry, local contractors, by Mr. and Mrs. Victor Champion. Construction work is to get underway within a short while.

Mr. Champion, formerly of Williamston, is now prominently connected with the Chilean Nitrate company, and will make his headquarters here.

Mr. Champion once farmed in this county and was employed at one time by the Enterprise when he was a rising young lad. He and Mrs. Champion have made many friends here and in this section, who are glad to learn that they will make their home here in the future.

## Four Are Arrested In Connection with Station Robberies

### Open Season On Stealing Is Brought To a Close, Sheriff Says

Picking up a minor clue from an unexpected source last week, Officer J. H. Aillsbrooks brought to an end a series of robberies that had just about upset the equilibrium in law enforcement agencies here and in the county.

Going into a huddle with county officers, Sheriff C. B. Roebuck, Deputy Bill Haislip and Special Officer J. H. Roebuck, the town cop started out with a weak thread to unravel the most baffling series of robberies in Everetts, Williamston and Griffins Township. At the end of five days and after working night and day on the case, the officers had woven together enough evidence to warrant the arrest of Dennis Wynne, young white man of Cross Roads Township.

Facts began to unravel fast following his arrest, and purchasers of goods allegedly stolen from filling stations in Everetts, Williamston and Griffins Township started reporting to the law. By late Saturday night a definite trace of nearly all the stolen property had been established, the officers continuing their work during most of Sunday to recover tires and other automobile accessories.

Following Dennis Wynne's arrest Saturday morning, his brother, Bill Wynne, 20 years old, was taken into custody—Grandy Pemberton, colored man of Mt. Gilead, was arrested and Lorenzo Wiggins, local colored boy about 16 years old, was next to fall into the hands of the law. Slow to start at first, three of the quartet started talking, and details of one crime after another were revealed in rapid succession.

The trail of the robbers was followed into Washington County, and later to Manteo where most of the goods were recovered from a filling station operator.

At one time the entire personnel of the local and county law enforcement bureaus was active, the officers picking up trails here and there over the county and weaving their findings into undisputable evidence around the conference table in several instances.

Suspecting Dennis Wynne, 22 years old, the officers checked his activities from early summer. They learned he had bought a car to solicit clothes for a Williamston cleaning and pressing establishment. He lost his job there, and it wasn't long the officers learned that he went on a rampage that soon developed him into Martin County's No. 1 robber. Accompanied by his brother,

(Continued on page six)

## PENDING

Action was said to be pending today against several persons in this and other counties for allegedly purchasing goods known to have been stolen. No warrants have been drawn in this connection as yet, and it is possible that further developments will await the pleasure of the March grand jury.

"It is possible that some of the purchasers did not know the goods were stolen, but in most cases we believe they did," officers were quoted as saying following the roundup of four young men who stand charged with robbing filling stations in this and Washington County.

## Weather Interferes With State Traffic

Snow and sleet aggravating low mercury readings interrupted traffic and school activities, in several sections of the State yesterday. Rural schools in several counties were closed and traffic decreased almost to a minimum, moved slowly over large areas of the State.

The unfavorable weather conditions retarded traffic here Sunday evening, but the fall of snow and sleet was not large enough to cause any handicap yesterday at this point.

Rural residents, however, are fearing the worst in mud when the weather breaks.

Relief, temporary at least, is being promised on a small scale for tomorrow.

Freezing weather has had its telling effect on the potato market here, reports stating that fairly sizable quantities of the sweets have been damaged.

Gardners Creek froze over yesterday, but no one dared walk across the stream on the thin ice.

## Will Likely Start Work In February Or Early In March

Farmers, consuming gasoline in their tractors and engines used in picking peanuts and handling other farm work, have until next Monday to file their claims for gasoline tax refunds. These refunds amount to hundreds of dollars for the fourth quarter, but to get the rebate, farmers must file their applications.

G. H. Harrison and other employees of the Harrison Oil Company will gladly assist any farmer in filing application for gas tax refunds.

It is understood that quite a few nickels were placed in circulation before the lump sale.

## Fire Destroys Everetts Tenant House Saturday

Believed to have started from a flue in the kitchen, fire destroyed the home of Jim Wallace, colored, in Everetts about 8 o'clock last Saturday night. Most of the furniture was removed from the building.

Mr. J. T. Barnhill, owner of the house, stated that he was not certain whether insurance on the building was in force at the time. The building was valued at \$1,000.

The Wallace home was the third to be destroyed by fire in this county during recent days. Mr. and Mrs. Walter Gardner lost their home in Williams Township a few days ago, and Walter Johnson and his large family were burned out last week.

(Continued on page six)