

Slight Decrease In County Property Values

Tax Structure In County Is Likely to Remain Unchanged

Personal Property Values in County Reflect Continued Decline

Martin County could have used its 1939 list and been within one-tenth of one per cent correct in setting up its personal and real property values for 1940, according to a preliminary report recently released by Tax Supervisor S. H. Grimes showing the comparative values as set up on the books for last year and for 1940.

The most striking feature of the new listings is found in a reversal of the trend in values. For the first time since the depression the early part of last decade, tax valuations are smaller for the new year than they were for the preceding one. The decrease is small, to be sure, but try as hard as he could, the supervisor fell short \$11,870 in bringing the total county valuations this year up to the 1939 figure. It is apparent from the figures that the decrease is so small that it is hardly expected to influence a change in the basic tax rate for the county this year. Any change in the rate will be due to other factors, and those factors will hardly present themselves within the next two or three months or until about the time the commissioners start studying the budget for the new fiscal year.

In fixing the rate for the next fiscal year, the commissioners will have a property base slightly in excess of twelve million dollars to stand on. The total real and personal valuation this year is estimated at \$10,239,308 as against \$10,251,178 for 1939. These figures do not include corporation listings which in all probability will exceed one and three-quarter million dollars.

A study of the district valuations shows that the personal property decrease this year is less than half the amount recorded in the loss column in 1939. A decrease of more than \$90,000 was reported in 1939 as compared with the personal property listings the year before, the decrease this year in values placed on that type of property standing at \$46,025. In 1939 every township in the county except two, Jamesville and Williamston, reported decreases in their personal property listings. This year all but three townships, Jamesville, Williamston and Cross Roads, report gains.

Making a personal investigation in those districts where losses were reported, Supervisor Grimes found shrinking inventories accounted for a major portion of the decreases. In Jamesville Township, the North Carolina Pulp Company reported a substantial reduction in its inventory listings. In Williamston the idle factory of the Columbian Peanut Company reported decreased inventories to the reported tune of nearly \$35,000. Stock inventories were considerably less at the plant of Saunders and Cox, the supervisor reported. Harrison Brothers' stock did not show up on the books for the first time in many years, the firm having been liquidated. Harrison Wholesale Company had lowered its inventories to a new low point, Supervisor Grimes said in a way of explaining the losses. Slight gains were reported by other personal property owners, but those gains were not sufficient to offset the heavy losses centered in the inventories of the new firms. The decrease in Cross Roads was reported generally. Robersonville shows a substantial

Young People To Hold Conference

The third annual adult conference of the Disciples of Christ for North Carolina will be held at Montreat, North Carolina, on June 10-16. The conference faculty and subjects have just been released by C. A. Jarman, director of religious education for the state, and also for the conference. They are as follows:

C. C. Ware, Wilson, state secretary and conference director; Mrs. H. H. Settle, Greenville, state secretary of missionary organizations and conference director; Harry J. Berry, Asheville, minister First Christian church and conference dean; Miss Florence Carmichael, St. Louis, Mo., national director of children's work, supervisor in "Serving Children in the Local Church"; Mrs. W. A. Ryan, Greenville, instructor in "Serving Children in the Local Church"; Miss Anne Harper, Raleigh, instructor in "Serving Children of the Local Church"; George Oliver Taylor, St. Louis, Mo., national director of young people's work, instructor in "Training Young People"; Ross J. Griffith, Indianapolis, Ind., professor in Butler Univ., instructor in "The Rural Church"; Joel E. Vause, Spray, minister First Christian Church, instructor in "Evangelism in the Local Church."

Miss Carmichael will conduct a laboratory school for junior children which offers teachers in this department an excellent opportunity.

1939 and 1940 County Property Listings, by Townships

The following tabulations show, by townships, the 1939 and 1940 valuations of real and personal property values in Martin County, separately and collectively, the decrease in total valuations over the 1939 listings, and also the percentage of increase or decrease by townships. The figures are subject to minor change and do not include corporation listings. Asterisk (*) indicates loss. All others are gains.

TOWNSHIPS:	PERSONAL PROPERTY				REAL ESTATE				REAL AND PERSONAL			
	1939	1940	Gain-Loss	Pct.	1939	1940	Gain-Loss	Pct.	1939	1940	Gain-Loss	Pct.
Jamesville	\$ 577,781	\$ 548,408	\$29,373*	5.1*	\$ 781,143	\$ 781,980	\$ 837	.1	\$1,358,924	\$1,330,388	\$28,536*	2.1*
Williams	33,095	35,340	2,245	6.7	255,890	255,640	250*	.1*	288,985	290,980	1,995	.7
Griffins	150,777	155,585	4,808	3.2	392,849	393,850	1,001	.2	543,626	549,435	5,809	1.1
Bear Grass	125,804	133,830	8,026	6.4	437,630	440,388	2,758	.6	563,434	574,218	10,784	1.9
Williamston	701,490	621,275	-80,215*	11.4*	1,757,509	1,782,480	24,971	1.4	2,458,999	2,403,755	55,244*	2.2*
Cross Roads	128,888	121,927	-6,961*	5.4*	446,541	446,450	91*	0.0*	575,429	568,377	7,052*	1.2*
Robersonville	503,227	541,088	37,861	7.5	1,505,408	1,511,703	6,295	.4	2,008,635	2,052,791	44,156	2.2
Poplar Point	68,130	75,099	6,969	10.3	260,049	260,299	250	.1	328,179	335,398	7,219	2.2
Hamilton	182,143	191,341	9,198	5.0	723,346	722,009	-1,337*	.2*	905,489	913,350	7,861	.9
Goose Nest	217,383	218,800	1,417	6.5	1,002,095	1,001,816	-279*	.0*	1,219,478	1,220,616	1,138	.1
County Totals	\$2,688,718	\$2,642,693	\$46,025*	1.7*	\$7,562,460	\$7,596,615	\$34,155	.4	\$10,251,178	\$10,239,308	\$11,870*	.1*

ANNOUNCES



C. D. Carstarphen, local young man who for a number of years was prominently connected with the section's banking business, today announced his candidacy for county commissioner from the Williamston-Poplar Point district. He is opposing Mr. John E. Pope, incumbent.

Personnel Named For Cancer Drive Here Next Week

Shortage in Printed Material Causes Delay in Starting Annual Drive

Delayed by a shortage in printed material, the annual drive for funds to fight the dreaded disease of cancer is scheduled to get underway here next week, Mrs. Joel Muse, head of the army for cancer control in this county, said today.

In the event the printed material does not reach here by next Monday, the drive will likely be advanced with the understanding that those subscribing to the movement will have the booklets and other literature delivered to them immediately upon their arrival.

An earnest appeal is being directed to local people, urging them to support the movement in the hope that a greater progress will follow in the fight against cancer. The names of the canvassers and the territory assigned them are: Mrs. E. T. Walker, Mrs. Curtis Leggett and Mrs. Irving M. Margolis, Main Street.

Mrs. J. H. Saunders, Jr., Church Street.
Mrs. J. Paul Simpson, Academy Street.
Mrs. G. H. Harrison, Jr., Simmons Street.
Mrs. James H. Smith, Smithwick Street.
Mrs. R. G. McAllister, Watts Street.
Mrs. A. J. Manning, Jr., Williams Street.
Mrs. K. D. Worrell, Marshall Avenue.
Mrs. C. H. Godwin, Jr., Tar Heel Apartments.
Mrs. Edwin Peel, Works Progress Administration offices.
Misses Mary Taylor and Sara Cone, Mary County courthouse and agricultural building.

(Continued on page six)

REBATES

Martin County farmers who use gasoline in carrying on their farming operations have until next Monday to file their applications for tax rebates, Mr. G. H. Harrison of the Harrison Oil Company here announced today. These rebates ordinarily run into the hundreds of dollars, and all farmers possessing valid claims to the refunds will find it profitable to present them not later than next Monday. Representatives of the local oil company will gladly assist any farmer in the proper filing of the claims. The claims cover the taxes paid on gasoline purchases made during the first quarter of the current year.

Greatest Naval Battle Goes Down In History

BOOSTING COTTON

Cooperating with the National Cotton Council in increasing the use of cotton and cotton goods, William H. Reilly and Company are offering 3,000,000 22 by 44-inch bath towels to housewives during the course of the next few weeks. The attractive offer is explained in a page advertisement carried by the Reilly firm in this issue.

Judge H. O. Peel Calls Ten Cases In County Court

Jasper Williams Gets Three Months in Hamilton Assault Case

Calling ten cases at the regular session of the county recorder's court last Monday, Judge H. O. Peel cleared the docket and adjourned the tribunal until April 29th, the superior court to hold forth during the two weeks' interval.

Interest in the proceedings centered around the Hamilton assault case against Jasper Williams. Alleged to have assaulted his estranged wife with a shotgun, Williams was sentenced to the roads for a term of three months.

Pleading not guilty in the case charging him with an assault on a female, William Bowen was adjudged guilty and sentenced to the roads for sixty days.

Charged with drunken driving, Willie Davis was fined \$50, taxed with the case costs and had his driver's license revoked for a period of one year. He entered a plea of not guilty in the case.

Peter Spruill and Herman Sanders were charged with larceny. The defense counsel at the conclusion of the state's evidence made a motion for judgment as of not guilty and the motion was granted.

The case charging J. T. Perry with bastardy was continued until the first Monday in June.

Charged with non-support, Joseph Harrell was adjudged not guilty of the charge as it related to his wife, but he was adjudged guilty of not supporting his son. The court directed him to pay \$10 a month for twelve months for the child's support and to reappear at the end of that time for further judgment.

Ben Wilson was fined \$60, taxed with the cost and had his license to operate a motor vehicle revoked for one year in the case charging him with drunken driving and operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license.

Two civil cases were heard during the comparatively short session, the court granting Sallie Kettrell a judgment in the sum of \$200 with interest from last September against the C. and W. Motor Company, and a judgment in the sum of \$80.48 with interest from last September against H. C. Woolard. The defendants were taxed with the trial costs.

(Continued on page six)

Youthful Attacker Before The Courts

Crime, ordinarily centered around the seasoned and hard-boiled group, broke out in the tender ranks of the local school first grade this week when Mayo Beacham attacked his teacher, Miss Josephine Harrison, and directed a verbal attack against her that would have pushed into the shade most any old sailor man.

Conflagration Now Anticipated Along The Western Front

Hundreds of Germans Drowned As Eight Transports Sink in North Sea

What many believe to be the greatest naval battle in all history was recorded in the North Sea off the Norwegian coast this week when the allied fleet moved to block an invasion of the little Scandinavian countries by Hitler's Germany. So great was the destruction that no official inventory of the losses has been released. It was said that 200 ships moved into the sea battles as 2,000 planes fought from the air, advance estimates placing the losses in the hundreds of millions of dollars and possibly several thousand lives.

From the little country of Sweden whose independence is threatened daily, reports state that many German bodies are being washed ashore over a large front. The first reports striking close to an official release today stated that twenty German ships had been sent to the bottom, including six troop transports, several warships and a number of supply ships.

Claims, unconfirmed of course, maintain that Germany steamed four troop ships through the battle lines and landed 20,000 additional men in Norway late yesterday. Today, the Germans manned the land forts at Oslo Fjord, but England declares every German ship in the Skaggerak will be sunk and the Germans driven out of Norway. There is talk today that Germany might invade Sweden to send aid to her men if they are trapped in Norway. Sweden declares she will meet any invasion of her territory by force.

Despite reported heavy reversals suffered at sea, Germany declares her plans of invasion were advanced.

(Continued on page six)

Pre-School Clinic Here Next Week

A clinic for children who will enter school for the first time next fall will be held at the Williamston grammar school next Wednesday and Thursday mornings, beginning at 8:30. The county health physician and nurses, assisted by members of the local parent-teacher association, will make physical examination of the beginners and complete records necessary to school enrollment next September. All children who will be six years old by October 1 are eligible to enter school next fall, and should be brought to the clinic by their parents.

Principal D. N. Hix is sending out letters to approximately 75 parents today, but complete information as to the exact number of children eligible for the clinic is not available. Parents whose children meet the age requirement are urged to bring their children in accordance with the following schedule:

Wednesday, April 17, 8:30, out-of-town children.
Thursday, April 18, 8:30, Williamston children.

The clinic will continue through each of the two mornings.

Eight Martin Youths Enter Civilian Camps This Week

Eight Martin County boys entered the Civilian Conservation Corps this week and are now stationed in Dare County, near Manteo.

Reporting in Washington Wednesday, the following boys were accepted: Arthur Crisp, Hassell; Joseph H. Daniel, Oak City; Dallas Biggs, Everetts; James W. Bowen and Marvin Manning, Williamston; F. D. No. 3; James Willie Knox, Hamilton; James Earl Cassell, R. F. D. 1, Williamston, and Hubert A. Bunting, Parmele.

Politics Beginning To Pop In Martin County

FOR JUDGE



W. H. Coburn, well-known local attorney, yesterday announced his candidacy for judge of the Martin County Recorder's court. Mr. Coburn, for several terms solicitor of the court, is thoroughly experienced in duties of the tribunal.

Coburn Announces For Judge County Recorder's Court

Candidates Announce for All Places Except on Board of Education

Politics are beginning to pop in this county as the time for filing candidacies draws to a close tomorrow evening at 6 o'clock. But despite late developments three seats on the Martin County Board of Education are still open. The last public office in the county other than on the education board received a bid yesterday afternoon when W. H. Coburn, well-known local attorney, announced his candidacy for judge of the county recorder's court. Whether he will be opposed in the primary by Judge H. O. Peel, incumbent, is not certain, no public announcement having been made to date by Mr. Peel as to his plans.

The Coburn candidacy was said to have been pledged a strong support in some quarters, and should Mr. Peel announce for renomination and re-election a spirited contest is to be expected with his strong following.

As far as it could be learned today there are only four assured races scheduled in this county with the climax falling on primary day, Saturday, May 25. There's that hot race—race with five candidates in the field. All of them are doing a bit of work, and this contest is expected to bolster the new registration figures and draw a sizable vote on the 25th.

The second race centers around the office of county commissioner from the Jamesville-Williams district. No contest has been held on the commissioners' front since 1936 when Messrs. C. C. Fleming, of Jamesville, and Joshua L. Coltrane, of Williams, opposed each other. The Jamesville representative scored a 323-to-121 victory over his opponent in that race. At that time the vote was limited to the voters in the two districts, but in 1937 the law was changed and next month all the voters in the county will help choose a commissioner from the Jamesville-Williams district. A third contest was developed this morning when C. D. Carstarphen announced for county commissioner from the Williamston-Poplar Point district. This is the first commissioner's contest in this district within the past ten or twelve years. There was talk of opposition for at least one other incumbent commissioner, but no definite developments had materialized in that connection at noon today as far as it could be learned here.

The fourth and only other assured contest having a local atmosphere is centered around the two second senatorial district seats. Three candidates have announced for the two seats, and the three-cornered race is expected to create added interest along the political front, certainly in Hyde, Dare and Martin Counties, the homes of the candidates.

While the political battle-front takes form, Sheriff Charlie B. Roebuck, Clerk of Court L. B. Wynne and Coroner S. R. Biggs are quietly observing from the sidelines, their hold on the respective offices being firm until 1942, if not longer, of course.

The only public offices going begging are found on the Martin County

(Continued on page six)

Colored Church At Robersonville Asks For Worship Right

Defendants Alleged To Have Locked Plaintiffs Out Of Building

Church disputes heretofore confined to white religious groups have broken out among the colored brethren and sisters in this county. Attorneys Peel and Manning filing this week a complaint in the superior court for a group of members of the Colored Holiness Church of God in Christ against four defendants.

Centering around a little house of worship on Cochran Street in Robersonville, the suit was instituted by Deacon Henry Brown, Clemmie Capehart, Church Mother, Mary Harris, deaconess and trustee, and Members J. A. Edward, Sam Terry, Columbus Perkins, Williams Sutton, Ruth Ann Jones, Sweetie Bell Perkins, Elmore Brown, Lena Sutton, Carrie Elizabeth Jones, Inesa Grimes, Beatrice Howard, Irene Sheppard, Rosa Lee Chance, Elmore Little, Isaac Sutton, Thelma Mae Daniel, Ella B. Brown, Jessie Mae Sutton, Rosa Sutton and Sallie Mae Brown against Jasper Andrews, Mamie Jenkins, Maggie Pointer and Thurston Jenkins, a former parson of the Church of God in Christ.

Organized in 1931, the complaint reads, the church bought a lot on the west side of Cochran Street in Robersonville and soon thereafter a building was erected.

The complaint makes no mention of the happenings in the religious organization from its beginning until Brother Andrews and Parson Jenkins pulled out and with Mamie Jenkins and Maggie Pointer became members of Jesus Only Holiness Church in Greenville.

Declaring that the fourth brothers and sisters are no longer members of the Church of God in Christ, the complaint declares that the defendants have committed acts against the authority of the Church of God in Christ by taking wood from the church to the home of Mamie Jenkins, that defendants locked the door to keep the plaintiffs out. The complaint claims that Mamie Jenkins claims she has a note against the church for an unknown amount, but the plaintiffs deny any such debt is due her. It is also alleged in the complaint that the defendants have moved a small building from the church property, and that defendants dispute the right of plaintiffs to hold services in the church.

The plaintiffs are appealing to the court that they be declared the only members and officers of Church of God in Christ and that the defending them in their religious services and be restrained from interfering with

(Continued on page six)

Peanut Allotment Given To Counties

Allotted an additional 9,000 acres of peanuts by the U. S. Department of Agriculture this week, the State office of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration in Raleigh has "broken down" the acreage increase to counties, and some work has already been advanced toward ironing out apparent inequalities.

Most of the allotment was centered in those counties listed in the non-commercial group, the authorities pointing out that the growers in those counties are now subject to control penalties whereas they were privileged to grow an increased peanut acreage without penalty. The approximately 1,400 acres allotted to the commercial counties in addition to their regular 1940 allotments are being used to iron out apparent inequalities. Martin County was given an additional 141 acres, increasing its total peanut allotment to 18,274 acres this year.

(Continued on page six)

Call For Earlier 1940 Thanksgiving

A movement was started in Charlotte this week to get Governor Clyde Hoey to urge President Roosevelt to call an early Thanksgiving Day this year. The Charlotte group apparently realizing the value of an earlier Thanksgiving is appealing to the State Merchants' association for support of the movement.

Last year, Governor Hoey, acting possibly for dual reasons, proclaimed the last Thursday in November as Thanksgiving Day. It was intimated at that time that the executive would not miss the splendid opportunity to act contrarily to the plan advanced by Roosevelt. While the worshippers and thankful ones, well realizing that thanks could be offered on either day, remained quiet the sporting element pointed out the schedule of sports events as some sacred and not to be broken.

With the appeal coming from the people direct, it is possible that Governor Hoey will consider proclaiming the third Thursday in November as Thanksgiving day this year, the action being subject to the President's proclamation, no doubt.

The Charlotte merchants are also supporting a movement to place into effect a daylight saving schedule in that area this summer. It is believed that the movement would meet with state-wide approval, but that it will not prove satisfactory on a limited observance scale.

PROGRESSES

Work on the Goldman Package Manufacturing Company's new plant here is progressing rapidly, Messrs. Milton L. Goldman and M. M. Levin, members of the firm, stating upon a visit here this week that they were well pleased with developments. Mr. Goldman, who will be associated in the management of the business at this point, is now making his home here at the Dunning Place. Mr. Levin is returning to his home in New Jersey stated that machinery shipments would likely get underway within the next two weeks, that the firm was still planning on starting operations within the next three months.