

## Large Portion of British and French Army Isolated: March to The Channel Accomplished Fact

### Their Defense Shot, Allies Are Planning Big Counter-Attack

#### Ruthless March Turns Toward England Where Millions Are Threatened

Starting their big push less than two weeks ago, the mighty German hordes today are reported to have dealt the Allies additional heavy blows that virtually cleared a path to the English Channel and carried the murderous invaders to within 60 miles of Paris. The German high command claimed that the Nazi forces had got within sight of the channel, that a million British, Belgian and French forces in Flanders had been isolated from the main French army.

Allied command denied the claim, but reports from Paris and London did say that the forces in northern France were retreating, indicating that Hitler and his mechanized beasts are headed for England. The Germans are apparently sweeping forward on all fronts, leaving behind them destroyed main defenses of their foes. That the drive toward the English Channel would lighten the pressure on the forces defending Paris is not materializing, one report stating that Reims, a strong French military base, had been captured and that the two forked attacks were progressing "according to plans."

There was some talk about a French counter attack under the direction of the new French general, Weygand. Military observers believe the attack will be directed at a "bulge" in the Allied lines where the invaders have driven a deep pocket into the defense of Paris and the channel. Considerable difficulty apparently was and is still being experienced in massing troops, one report claiming that German air forces were disrupting the organization movement by tearing up rail centers and directing attacks on the concentration centers.

Devastation of human life and property was general following the invasion of the hordes, the famous library at Louvain being included in the ruins. Untold suffering is being reported in the invaded countries, while back in Germany the population carries on in peace and quiet, little disturbed about the war. News of the ruthless victories stirs the population in the Nazi death-dealing country to triumphant shouting.

Back in Paris this morning, Premier Reynaud stated that the invaders had gained a foothold in France through traitors, that the Germans had been invited in over bridges that could have and should have been blown up over the Meuse River. Germany reports that bridge-building material was included in the regular equipment that was carried along by the invaders.

Sea warfare is coming back into (Continued on page six)

## New Election Laws in Effect Next Saturday

### Telling Effect Is Predicted In Size Of Vote In Primary

#### Elimination of the Absentee Vote and Machine Markers Are Main Changes

New election laws designed to give a free expression of the individual voter's views will go into effect next Saturday when the electorate selects its nominees for the November election. Centered around the elimination of the absentee ballot and the limited marking of ballots, the new laws are expected to have much bearing on the size of the vote as well as keep the candidates guessing until the count of votes gets underway.

Explaining the use of markers in primaries, a State election official says:

The only voters who may be assisted in the marking of their ballots are those who cannot read and those who by reason of physical handicap, such as blindness, paralysis or other disabling defect, are unable to mark their ballot.

In an official opinion, the attorney general ruled that only those illiterates registered under the Grandfather Clause of the Constitution were entitled to assistance by reason of their inability to read.

When a voter is entitled to assistance in the marking of the ballot, he must obtain the assistance from a (Continued on page six)

## Fair-Sized Vote Is Expected In This County Saturday

### Enterprise Readers Invited To Record Guesses On Size of Vote

Despite a lagging interest in political affairs, local and State, a representative vote is expected in this county Saturday. At no other time in political history have there been more candidates for governor and county treasurer, the crowded field apparently crowding out much interest. But with as many candidates in the field as there are, it is quite reasonable to expect a larger vote than the present campaign activities would indicate. The war has almost made politics a side issue, but through force of habit and by reason of one or more of the 42 candidates, the electorate is expected to record a fairly sizable vote on Saturday of this week.

Two years ago this county recorded one of its largest primary votes. Political observers doubt if the record will be maintained, but there are several factors that are quite certain to bolster interest and affect the size of the vote. The three contests for commissioners will, no doubt, add to the vote in several sections particularly and in general throughout the county. The treasurer's race will have a noticeable effect. Then there are the State contests and one local race, but the State ticket, many believe, will have little effect on the size of the vote.

But as for predicting the size of the vote, one's guess is as good as another's. Below are listed the new registration figures, the 1932 vote and a place for recording guess estimates by precincts. The person guessing the nearest will receive a subscription to this paper for one year. Guesses must be in the mail or in this office not later than 6 p. m. Friday, May 24.

Precinct	Reg.	Vote	Guess
Jamesville	538	382	
Williams	261	173	
Griffins	430	370	
Bear Grass	412	251	
Williamston 1	681	878	
Williamston 2	739	*	
Cross Roads	400	197	
Robersonville	963	395	
Gold Point	94	98	
Poplar Point	206	146	
Hamilton	170	169	
Hassell	150	89	
Goose Nest	402	206	
	5446	3354	

\*The 1938 vote is combined with that for Precinct No. 1.

It is believed that the elimination of the absentee ballot and the tightening up on the regulations governing the marking of tickets will affect the size of the vote. At the close of the second registration period, there were 2,765 names on the books. A great majority of those names was put there by the electorate, and it is reasonable to believe that the person who took enough interest in politics to register will participate in the primary. Many of the 2,681 other names were placed on the books by solicitation mainly, and no large percentage of those electors will likely participate in the primary. Some think the vote count at the close of the primary next Saturday will exceed 3,000 by a substantial margin; others believe it will range around 3,000.

## Aged Woman Passes At Home In County Late Last Evening

### Funeral Services Are Being Held For Mrs. R. W. Perry This Afternoon

Mrs. R. W. Perry, aged 72, died at her home in the Smithwicks Creek community at 10 o'clock last night following a long period of declining health. Pneumonia was given as the immediate cause of her death. She was 72 years old and had lived in the community of her birth all her life with the exception of brief periods spent visiting her children in other parts of the county.

Mrs. Perry was the daughter of the late John Daniel and Ann Hardison Griffin. She married in early womanhood and reared a large family of children. A member of the church at Smithwicks Creek for a long number of years, Mrs. Perry was held in high regard by her neighbors and other friends over the large community in which she lived. She was a loyal member of the church, adhering closely to its doctrines and exemplifying its teachings in her daily living. Possessing a kind voice, she was a devoted wife and mother.

Besides her husband she leaves ten children, Messrs. Simon D. Perry, of Cross Roads; William A. Perry, of Rocky Mount; C. F. Perry, of Williamston; Joseph H. Perry, of Williams Township; and Dewey Perry, of Griffins Township; and five daughters, Mrs. R. D. Jones, Mrs. E. S. Revels, Mrs. Simon Ward, Mrs. Claudia Hardison and Mrs. M. D. Corey, all of this county.

Funeral services are being conducted in the Smithwicks Creek church this afternoon at 3 o'clock by Elder P. E. Getsinger, and interment will follow in the family cemetery.

## Names of Forty-Two Candidates Will Appear on Primary Ballots In This County Saturday, May 25

### Two of Five Candidates



Messrs. John Peel, left, and Ben Courtney, right, are two of the five candidates for the office of Martin County treasurer. Both men are of Williamston.

## Big Dinner Feature Of WPA Open House Observance Locally

### Heads of Professional Service Divisions Offer Interesting And Informative Reports

"Open House" was observed here last night by the local unit of Works Progress Administration when more than 125 citizens and organization workers assembled in the basement of the grammar school to hear reports by the various workers in the county.

A barbecue dinner was served under the supervision and direction of Miss Ella Mae Gaylord before the toastmaster, Mayor John L. Hassell, assumed charge of the program.

Mayor Hassell welcomed both the visitors and the men and women associated with the Works Progress Administration. Mr. Hassell pointed out the many fine things the WPA has accomplished for Williamston and Martin County. "Open House" is being observed all over the nation this week by the many WPA units and the public is invited to visit the offices, sewing rooms and other places of activity where the units are working, Mr. Hassell said.

Several national figures, including Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, were scheduled to speak to the many meetings over the country by radio but due to static the speeches were eliminated.

Mr. Hassell called on Mrs. Gladys Brewer to discuss the library project along with David Hix who spoke briefly on both the library and lunch projects. "We have at least 2,000 volumes in our library and we have fed more than 10,000 meals to underprivileged children in the local schools this year," the speakers stated.

Mrs. Annie Bell Rogerson, of Robersonville, gave a brief report of the recreation project that is now being developed there.

Bill Spivey, in giving his report of the recreation project told of the wilderness that once existed back of the courthouse. It has been cleared, cleaned up and drained and is now one of the finest play grounds in eastern Carolina," Mr. Spivey said.

Bobby Watson, of Robersonville, rendered the only music heard during the program. Watson, a young boy of 10 or 12 years, played and sang.

Marvin Everett, of Robersonville, told of the fine services of the Works Progress Administration in giving their schools matron service.

Representing the sewing room, Mrs. Feofil Summerlin gave a very interesting and capable report of the work accomplished through this project. "We are now making 487 garments each month," Mrs. Summerlin said.

John Pope, chairman of the county board of commissioners, and Miss Mary Taylor spoke of the invaluable service the WPA is rendering to the county.

Miss Reba Taylor told of the work of the Surplus Commodity Project in Martin County and Superintendent J. C. Manning spoke briefly of the Works Progress Administration projects that are not in operation but available to Martin County.

## Two More New Homes Are Under Construction Here

Home construction that was unusually well advanced in the early spring continues to gain momentum here. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hitch are starting work on a six-room home on Hassell Street, and Mr. and Mrs. Joe Godard are introducing a new type of home construction on Marshall Avenue.

## Democrats Placing 37 Names On State And County Ballots

### Wallace Declares He Is Still In Race For Jamesville Township Constable

Martin County voters will have a field of 42 candidates to choose their officers from in the primary on Saturday of this week. The names of thirty-seven of the candidates appear on the county and State Democratic ballots, leaving the few Republicans in the county a quiet and peaceful time in the selection of their nominees from a field of five candidates. In addition to the 37 Democratic and five Republican candidates, Jamesville Township has two candidates for constable. The entries in the various political contests constitute one of the largest line-ups of candidates to appear before the electorate in this county in recent years, the 1930 June primary placing the names of 58 candidates before the voters in this county. In 1930 there were eleven candidates for county commissioners and nine for membership on the board of education. The State ballots, Democratic and Republican combined, carried the names of only twelve candidates. Had there been a large state ticket that year, the pollholders would hardly have completed the check-up in time to declare the candidates for the second primary that year. The voters ten years ago not only had a large field to choose from, but they also had a voice in choosing their officers from township road constable and road commissioners on up to United States Senator. The 1930 primary came in an off year, the electorate waiting two years to vote for governor.

The nineteen names appearing on the State Democratic ballot are distributed under six contest headings, as follows:

For Governor: Paul Grady, Thomas E. Cooper, Wilkins P. Horton, A. J. Maxwell, J. Melville Broughton, Arthur Simmons and L. Lee Gravelly.

For Lieutenant Governor: W. E. Eskine Smith, Dan Tompkins, R. L. Harris and L. A. Martin.

For Secretary of State: Thad Eure and Walter Murphy.

For Auditor: Charles W. Miller and George Ross Poir.

For Commissioner of Agriculture: C. Wayland Spruill and W. Kerr Scott.

For Insurance Commissioner: Dan C. Boney and William B. Oliver.

On the Republican State ballot are five names, as follows: For Governor: George M. Pritchard, Robert H. McNeill and John R. Hoffman.

For Lieutenant Governor: J. Forest Witten and Halsey B. Leavitt. To distinguish the ballots, the Republican (Continued on page six)

## Harmony Marks State Meeting of Democrats

### Elbert Peel Named State Presidential Elector In Raleigh

The aloofness toward the Democratic administration in Washington as evidenced in high political circles in this State in recent months was buried deep last Friday when a record crowd of little and big Democrats gathered in their State convention in Raleigh and loudly proclaimed the work of the New Deal and went on record as favoring a third term for Roosevelt. In the face of a powerful following for Roosevelt, the opposition remained in secret, reports stating that harmony prevailed even when the delegation to the national convention was instructed to stand by Roosevelt until he was renominated or just as long as his name remained before the convention.

For the first time in years, a Martin County man was chosen a presidential elector. Elbert S. Peel, Williamston attorney, will have his name on the Democratic national ballot next November. The electoral college, a plan in use since the formation of the government, calls for the election of electors, who, in accordance with the vote of the people, elect the President.

Reporting on the last Friday convention (Continued on page six)

## For Board of Education



Messrs. John W. Eubanks, of Hassell, left, and Leslie Hardison, of Jamesville, right, are two of four candidates for the three seats on the Martin County Board of Education.



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## RED CROSS CALL

The first answers to the calls coming from a pleading humanity across the seas were received here over the week-end when Harry A. Biggs, chairman of the Martin County Red Cross chapter, reported donations amounting to \$15. The chapter is making slow progress in meeting its quota of \$400. Realizing the tragic conditions existing in the war-stricken areas of Europe, citizens in other sections are rapidly subscribing their chapter quotas, and others are passing the quota mark.

Donations are acknowledged here as follows: Mrs. Annie Glasgow \$ 3.00 Mrs. E. T. Walker 2.00 A Friend 10.00

## Poppies Will Be Sold On May 25th

When the citizens of Martin County put on their memorial poppies on Poppy Day, May 25, to honor the World War dead, they will be helping children of dead and disabled veterans to a fair start in life, according to Mrs. Charles Davenport, president of John Walton Hassell unit of the American Legion Auxiliary.

Money contributed for the poppies will help maintain the Auxiliary's child welfare activities during the coming year, she explained. Much of it will go into emergency aid for families left dependent by the death or disability of a veteran.

(Continued on page six)

## Church Attendance Figures Continue To Show A Decline

### One Out of Ten Persons Present For Services in Local Churches Sunday

#### By REV. S. J. STARNES, Pastor, Methodist Church

Spring fever seems to have struck the churchgoers in Williamston during the last few weeks. Instead of church attendance picking up during the beautiful Sundays of the last few weeks, it has shown a decrease in every church. Sunday school attendance has held up better than church attendance. The figures as reported by the various churches do not speak well for Williamston. While many people are very loyal to the church and are always there, yet there are many others whose attendance record is rather poor. The pastors have for the past few months been giving attendance figures at the various services in order that the people of Williamston may see the picture just as it really is.

The figures below may not be exactly correct, since a count was not made, but only an estimate given in a few instances. On the other hand a number of them are correct, a count having been made in each service at some of the churches. But these are approximately correct, and give an indication of the attendance upon religious services for the day.

	Total Attendance	Church		
	S.S.	Y.P.	A.M.	P.M.
Baptist	114	13	85	44
Christian	120	7	120	25
Episcopal	20	50	13	
Holiness	112	85	80	
Methodist	79	16	53	47
Presbyterian	27	25		
Totals	472	36	418	209
Last Week	454	43	398	192

While there was a slight gain in the totals last Sunday over the attendance figures for the Sunday before, several of the churches reported sizeable decreases. Two churches where services are ordinarily held twice each Sunday held only one service the Sunday before, but with services underway in all churches last Sunday, the total attendance figures were little larger than they were the week before. The attendance upon the Sunday morning service in the Baptist Church dropped from 110 to 85. At the Methodist Church Sunday evening the attendance dropped from 80 to 53. For the third successive Sunday the number attending the young people's services decreased.

It is thought the census will show Williamston has around 4,000 inhabitants. Among the white churches of the town there are perhaps less than 1,000 members. In the morning service of last Sunday there were 418 present in all the churches, or less than one out of ten, or to be more exact only nine and one-half persons out of each one hundred of the population who attended the morning services. No community can hope to develop the finest citizenship with such unconcern toward morals and religion. The ultimate strength of any people can be measured by its interest in and loyalty to the spiritual values of life as represented by the Christian religion.

## Colored Citizen Dies At Her Home Here Sunday

### Ethel Jones Patterson, Middle-aged Colored Woman, Died at Her Home Here on Washington Street on Sunday Afternoon Following a Ten-day Illness. Funeral Services Will Be Conducted Tomorrow.

Ethel Jones Patterson, middle-aged colored woman, died at her home here on Washington Street on Sunday afternoon following a ten-day illness. Funeral services will be conducted tomorrow.

## GAINING



L. Lee Gravelly, Rocky Mount man and one of seven candidates for governor, is reported to have gained much strength during recent days in this county and throughout a number of sections in the State.

## Registrations Apparently Meet With General Approval

Martin County political leaders apparently are well satisfied with the new registration recently completed in this county, reports stating that not a single entry on the books was challenged last Saturday.