

County Gets Over \$100,000 In Social Security Payments

One-fourth of the Amount Is Paid To Unemployed Workers

Martin County residents and communities have benefited about \$109,450 through operation of the Social Security program, it is estimated by Charles G. Powell, chairman of the North Carolina Unemployment Compensation Commission.

Unemployment compensation, or benefits to workers temporarily out of jobs, is usually the largest item in the ten divisions of the program, in counties with fairly large industries. In the two years of benefit payments, 1938 and 1939, the distribution was \$27,186.38, included in 4,606 checks to county residents.

Through cooperation of Mr. Nathan H. Yelton, State Director of Public Assistance, and Dr. Roma S. Cheek, executive secretary of the State Commission for the Blind, and with figures from Washington and in the Central UCC office in Raleigh, it is possible to get a fairly accurate picture of the benefits distributed in Martin County.

Old Age Assistance, help for the needy passed 65 years of age, in Martin County in 31 months of distribution amounted to \$38,920. The January amount was \$1,768, going to 192 needy aged persons, an average of \$9.21 each, as compared with the State average of \$9.72 for the month.

Aid to Dependent Children, help in the support of children deprived of their natural breadwinners, amounted to \$16,465.00 in the same 31 months. The January amount was \$799, going to the support of 147 such children, an average of \$5.44 each, as compared with the State average of \$6.18 for the month.

Aid to the Blind in Martin County was \$5,381 for the same 31 months. In January \$173 went to 15 blind persons, average \$11.53 each; State average \$14.90.

In Old Age Assistance and Aid to the Blind, the funds are provided one-half by the Federal Government and one-fourth each by the State and county. In Aid to Dependent Children funds have been furnished one-third each by Federal, State and County governments. Now the Federal government will furnish one-half, as in cases of the needy aged and the blind.

Old Age Benefits, now Old Age and Survivors' Insurance, is not available by counties, but a proration can be made to get a county estimate. This has been small lump sum payments to workers in covered employment since January 1, 1937, and who have since reached 65 years of age and quit work, or to the families of such workers who have died since that date. The importance of this part of the program will be more apparent now, since payments have started on a monthly basis, as provided in an amendment by Congress in August, 1939.

With an estimate in this one small item of \$2,190 going to 60 workers or their families through October, and practically accurate figures in the other four divisions, it is apparent that just about \$90,142 has been distributed in Martin County in these five major divisions. In the other five

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Bible School Holds Closing Exercises

The Daily Vacation Bible school, which was conducted for two weeks by the local churches came to a close last Friday night with the closing exercises being held at the Methodist church.

The school was regarded as a splendid success. There were 151 enrolled; in the beginner department 27; primary 43; junior 48; and intermediate 33. By churches the showing was Baptist 50; Christian 49; Methodist 31; Episcopalian 11; Presbyterian 9; Jewish 1.

The offering, which is to go to Chinese relief, amounted to \$25. Miss Ann Meador won the award for the best kept notebook.

A large congregation attended the closing exercises Friday evening and enjoyed the program.

Concerted Red Cross Canvass Is Demanded By Local People

Mindful of the pitiful plight surrounding unfortunate humanity in the troubled and war-torn countries of Europe, local people are expressing much concern over the apparent failure that has marked the Red Cross drive-here to date. It has been said that those responsible for the drive have taken little interest in the call for funds and a more concerted effort should be made to raise the \$400 county chapter quota and exceed it if possible.

"Unless some real progress is made during the next few days in behalf of suffering humanity across the seas, pressure will be brought to have the money raised," a local citizen said yesterday.

Reports from the war areas maintain that thousands are dying from actual want, that many of these lives could be saved by making relief immediately available. Then there is a great need for additional supplies used in relieving the suffering on the field of battle and in hospitals. Solid trainloads of wounded and-dying soldiers are moving back home daily. "It is time we recognize the seriousness of the situation and do all we possibly can to relieve it," another citizen said.

Fred Taylor contributed three dollars over the week-end to boost the total raised in the county chapter to \$18 up until yesterday noon.

Allies' Hope Shattered As Belgium Surrenders

HALF HOLIDAYS

Beginning Wednesday of next week, Williamston stores and other business establishments will observe the mid-week day afternoons as a holiday, it was officially announced today by Billie Clark, secretary of the local Chamber of Commerce. Business activities will be suspended promptly at 1 o'clock on Wednesday.

The half holiday schedule, already in effect in a number of towns in this section of the State, will be maintained during June, July and most of August.

Church Attendance Is In Summer Slump

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

Attendance figures at the Williamston churches for last Sunday were about as usual for this time of the year. Sunday school attendance is still ahead of the church attendance, which seems to indicate that in some instances children and young people are attending church school but not staying for the preaching service, which is the main service of the church. Parents do their children an injustice when they do not see that they attend the preaching service. By cultivating this important habit now, they will be instilling principles that will determine their interest in the future. The figures follow:

| Church | S.S. | Y.P. | A.M. | P.M. |
|--------------|------|------|------|------|
| Baptist | 121 | 13 | 80 | 54 |
| Christian | 106 | 6 | 90 | 35 |
| Episcopal | 15 | | 40 | |
| Holiness | 100 | | 60 | |
| Methodist | 76 | 21 | 56 | 48 |
| Presbyterian | 28 | | 33 | |

Work Progresses On Griffins Road

Started last week, surfacing work on the Griffins Township Road will possibly be complete about the middle of June, a representative of the contractors said yesterday.

The first coat of tar asphalt was spread ten carloads of rock and pouring more tar on the road this week. A third application will be made the early part of next month.

Nothing has been said lately about improving and surfacing of the road from Griffins filling station to Farm Life, but highway authorities are expected to give the project consideration early in the new fiscal year.

Work has been started on a road from Hassell to Highway No. 11, a distance of slightly more than one and one-half miles. It is proposed to extend the road through Hassell to connect with Highway No. 125 near Butler's Bridge.

Only Seventeen Of 1,608 Martin Farms Not Under Contract

13,442 Out of 236,546 in the State Will Not Participate In 1940 Program

A total of 1,591 growers of Martin County will cooperate with the 1940 Agricultural Conservation Program. E. Y. Floyd, AAA executive officer of N. C. State College, announced following receipt of signed Farm Plans signifying such intention. The Triple-A lists 1,608 farms in this county.

The "sign-up" for the 1940 program is an increase over the 752 farmers who earned payments under the 1939 Agricultural Conservation program. Floyd expressed himself as highly pleased over the participation indicated in this county.

Every farmer in the county was given an opportunity to sign a Farm Plan, on which he listed the soil building practices he intends to carry out. He received a copy of the Farm Plan which showed the type of practices in the program, and how much he could earn from each. The plan also listed the individual grower's allotments for soil depleting crops, which he must plant within to earn payments.

Floyd said that in the State as a whole, Farm Plans were signed by 223,104 out of the 236,546 eligible farmers. This is an approximate 94 per cent "sign-up" and is a decided contrast with the 113,598 farms on which payments were earned in 1939.

A preliminary check of the farm plans shows that more farms will be operated under conservation methods than ever before," Floyd declared. "The approved practices, such as the application of lime and phosphate seeding legumes and grasses, the use of cover and green-manure crops, the tree planting will have their greatest use in the State this year."

While Martin County, with 99 per cent of its farms signed under the program contract, ranks close to the top, there are other counties with an even higher percentage. Buncombe has a unanimous sign-up of its 3,333 farms. Orange county is ignoring the program to a marked extent, a report stating that 490 of its 1,850 farms will not be included in the list of those covered by contracts.

In this immediate territory, Beaufort and Bertie are lagging behind. Beaufort has 203 and Bertie has 198 farms not under contract. Halifax has all but 35 of its 3,715 farms under contract, and Pitt has all but 29 of its 2,850 signed.

While the farm outlook, especially for the tobacco farmer, does not look good even for those participating in the program, it is hard down gloomy for the farmer on the outside this year. The benefits from the program, on an average, will more than pay the tax bills and leave many farmers a little working capital.

Last year only 752 of the farms in this county participated in the program to the extent that they earned any of the benefits.

Jamesville Youth Has Unusual School Record

In the recent graduation exercises at Jamesville High School, James Wallace received recognition for his outstanding scholastic work.

He was president of the senior class, valedictorian of the class of 1940 and received a valedictorian medal, also a senior scholarship medal for the highest average in the class. He was awarded the Reader's Digest Valedictorian award, which entitles him to a year's subscription to the magazine.

James is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Wallace, of Jamesville.

Tangled Voting Reported In County On Saturday

Apparently unable to decide who to vote for for governor, several electors voted for more than one of the seven gubernatorial candidates in the county last Saturday. Quite a few participated in less than two contests. There was a considerable spread in the vote, nearly 500 more votes having been cast in some contests than in others.

Citizens Make Several Changes In County Government At Polls With Large Vote Last Saturday

Broughton Gets Big Lead For Governor In Saturday Voting

Horton Will Contest Broughton for Governorship in June 22 Primary

Settling all but two political contests in the state-wide Democratic primary last Saturday, the State electorate today is awaiting a decision by Wilkins P. Horton that will either send the gubernatorial campaign into a second primary or will virtually end political contests within the party for another two years. Despite the approximate 45,000 vote lead J. M. Broughton holds over him for governor, Horton yesterday intimated he would ask a second primary. It is generally believed that Erskine Smith, who ran second for lieutenant governor, will ask a second primary if Horton plans to advance his claim in a second contest tentatively scheduled for June 22.

Broughton went into the lead early last Saturday and although no official vote tabulation is available, preliminary returns indicate that he polled more than 150,000 voters to hold about a 45,000 marginal vote over Horton, his nearest opponent. Maxwell ran a close third, but the others made poor showings in the race for the high State office.

Broughton carried 43 of the 100 counties, Horton coming second with 26 and Maxwell third with sixteen counties in his column. Gravely annexed the top vote in eleven counties and Cooper took the high count in three. While Grady got a lone county, Simmons failed to carry a single one.

In this county Lee Gravely got a clear majority over all the other candidates combined, the Rocky Mount man polling 1,744 votes as compared with 827 polled by Broughton. Simmons fared no better than the Republican candidates and got only three lone votes in the county.

Erskine Smith and Reg Harris ran a close race in the county for lieutenant governor, and Thad Eure led the ticket over Walter Murphy in the race for secretary of state. Pou almost doubled the vote over Miller for state auditor, and Kerr Scott led C. Wayland Spruill by nearly 400 votes in the race for commissioner of agriculture. Boney received more than three times as many votes as Oliver received for insurance commissioner. Martin polled a fair-sized vote for lieutenant governor but Tompkins made a very poor run in this county for the same office.

Each of the four candidates for renomination gained victories in this county and in the State.

Health Report For The Month of April

After claiming victims by the scores during the past year, whooping cough is apparently on the way out for a time, at least, according to the April report just released by the Martin County Health Department. There was only one case of the cough reported in the county during the period and it was found among the white population in Robertsonville.

Chickenpox continued to hold a fair grip in the county, the report showing 14 new cases during the month. Thirteen of the cases were reported among the white population in Williamston Township and one in Jamesville Township.

Tuberculosis claimed two new victims, one in the Robertsonville and one in the Dardens areas among the colored population.

There were two cases of measles and one case of scarlet fever in Williamston Township during the period.

ELECTION PARTY

Although the returns caused some deep disappointment for several candidates and their supporters, the Enterprise election party last Saturday night was very successful. The attendance, estimated at 400 at one time, was possibly the largest ever seen at a similar event, several thousand dropping by during the course of the evening to study the figures.

The last precinct, No. 1 in Williamston, reported at 11 o'clock, and the totals were placed on the board a few minutes later to complete the county tabulations. Interest then centered in the State contests.

Activities In Local Employment Office

With over 1,000 new claims for unemployment compensation taken so far in 1940, the Williamston office has had considerable increase in activity recently. Over \$15,000 has been distributed from this office in weekly benefit checks to unemployed claimants since January. Both original and continued claims have shown a marked increase in number and percentage during the first quarter of 1940. Approximately 5,000 continued (weekly) claims for benefits have been taken by the Williamston office thus far this year for claimants who report weekly or at stated intervals at the various office and extension points.

Four hundred applications or new registrations have been received over the five county area in the past two months. About 300 have renewed their previous applications for work. About 60 field visits or calls on employers and business concerns have been made by local office workers in the past two months.

Employers in various lines of business report that while wholesale, retail and other lines of business are probably a little below normal there are distinct indications of improving business in several sections of the operating area of the Williamston.

Horton Gets Big Vote For Senate

Hugh G. Horton, Williamston man, polled a large vote throughout the district to gain the nomination for state senator in the primary last Saturday. D. B. Fearing, of Manteo, won over P. G. Gallop to return to the state senate.

Complete returns on the senatorial race are not available, but six of the seven counties in the district give Horton 8,711; Fearing, 5,764 and Gallop, 3,994. No report could be had from Pamlico, but it was learned that Horton led the ticket there with Gallop taking second place.

A tabulation of the vote follows:

| | Horton | Fearing | Gallop |
|------------|--------|---------|--------|
| Beaufort | 2401 | 1787 | 1561 |
| Hyde | 818 | 713 | 716 |
| Washington | 1086 | 710 | 438 |
| Martin | 3188 | 1053 | 907 |
| Dare | 739 | 958 | 135 |
| Pamlico | | | |
| Totals | 8711 | 5764 | 3994 |

McNeill Leads Republican Ticket In Martin County

The Republican ticket made a ragged showing in this county last Saturday when less than two dozen members of the party participated in the primary. McNeill led the ticket for governor on the Republican ticket with 11 votes.

Seven precincts reported no Republican votes.

The vote:
For governor: McNeill, 11; Hoffman, 4; and Pritchard, 5.
For lieutenant governor: Witten, 10; and Leavitt, 9.

Ben Courtney Is Not Certain He Will Ask For Second Primary

Roberson Wins Over Taylor For Commissioner By Only Seventeen Votes

Going to the polls in record numbers, Martin County Democrats virtually settled their politics for another two years in the primary last Saturday when a shake-up resulted in the official family. Close votes were recorded in several contests, one candidate winning by a margin of only seventeen votes, according to a review of the unofficial vote.

No definite decision has been reached as to the possibility of a second primary for the office of treasurer, Ben Courtney, runner-up, stating today that he would issue a statement the latter part of this week. He has five days to file his intention with the board of elections. Dick Smith, leading the field of five candidates with 1302 votes, missed a majority by about 400 votes. The leader polled well over one-third of the votes and 457 more than his nearest opponent, John Peel ran fairly close to Courtney with 629 votes, W. H. Biggs holding fourth position with 565 votes and H. M. Burras fifth with 242 votes. Smith led in ten of the thirteen precincts. The treasurer's contest was one of the main ones in the county and held a close position for interest along with the county commissioners' and board of education races.

Martin citizens gave their fellow countyman, H. G. Horton, an overwhelming majority in the race for State Senator from this, the second senatorial district. The candidate polled well over twice as many as the other two candidates combined, and according to unofficial returns led the ticket in at least four of the seven counties for senator. He will go to the State Senate with D. Bradford Fearing who was second high over P. G. Gallop, Hyde County's entry in the contest.

In the contests for county commissioners, the voters called for a change in the board personnel and ousted C. C. Fleming, of Jamesville, and John E. Pope, of Williamston. C. Abram Roberson, retained by the voters, led his opponent, Van G. Taylor, by only 17 votes according to the unofficial returns. As a result of the Saturday vote, Joshua L. Coltrain, of Williams Township, succeeds C. C. Fleming, and C. D. Carstarphen, Williamston man, succeeds John E. Pope. Mr. Roberson returns to the board along with R. L. Perry, of the Griffins-Bear Grass Townships, and R. A. Haislip, of the Hamilton-Goose Nest district, the latter two having been nominated without opposition. The names of the five commissioners who will take office next December, subject to their election in November, and the districts they are to represent are as follows: Jamesville-Williams Townships, Joshua L. Coltrain; Griffins-Bear Grass Townships, Robert

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Hardison Wins In Constable Contest

Jamesville Township citizens expressed their wishes with a large vote in the race for township constable last Saturday. Joe Hardison, polling 169 votes, won over his opponent, Clarence Wallace, by a majority of 50 votes.

A friendly but heated campaign marked the contest which attracted considerable interest in and around the county town. It was the only local contest on the ballot and in early morning voting the interest became so great that an additional order of ballots was placed by Mr. Sylvester Peel, chairman of the Martin County Board of Elections.

How They Voted in the Thirteen Precincts of Martin County in the Primary Last Saturday

| | State Senator | | County Treasurer | | County Commissioners | | | | Board of Education | | | | For Governor | | | For Lieutenant Governor | | For Secretary of State | State Auditor | Com. of Agriculture Commissioner | | Insurance | Oliver | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|--------|------------------|----------|----------------------|-------|--------|------|--------------------|----------|------|-------------|--------------|----------|---------|-------------------------|----------|------------------------|---------------|----------------------------------|--------|-----------|--------|---------|-----------|---------|---------|-------|----------|--------|--------|------|--------|--------|-----|---------|-------|
| | Gallop | Horton | Fearing | Courtney | Bliggs | Smith | Burras | Peel | Fleming | Coltrain | Pope | Carstarphen | Taylor | Roberson | Griffin | Knowles | Hardison | Eubanks | Grady | Cooper | Horton | | | Maxwell | Broughton | Simmons | Gravely | Smith | Tompkins | Harris | Martin | Eure | Murphy | Miller | Pou | Spruill | Scott |
| JAMESVILLE | 84 | 302 | 83 | 105 | 59 | 110 | 57 | 34 | 247 | 107 | 75 | 232 | 138 | 133 | 131 | 153 | 261 | 157 | 124 | 7 | 70 | 23 | 75 | 0 | 67 | 92 | 23 | 35 | 144 | 217 | 69 | 103 | 163 | 88 | 227 | 203 | 83 |
| WILLIAMS | 30 | 130 | 32 | 21 | 33 | 60 | 15 | 21 | 41 | 94 | 51 | 71 | 72 | 34 | 72 | 60 | 103 | 51 | 19 | 1 | 6 | 37 | 11 | 0 | 89 | 27 | 9 | 24 | 35 | 76 | 32 | 40 | 53 | 56 | 25 | 73 | 29 |
| GRIFFINS | 74 | 211 | 64 | 27 | 29 | 41 | 2 | 189 | 70 | 180 | 57 | 183 | 92 | 117 | 270 | 121 | 152 | 130 | 9 | 3 | 18 | 39 | 177 | 0 | 41 | 47 | 6 | 46 | 65 | 156 | 37 | 64 | 95 | 85 | 112 | 120 | 43 |
| BEAR GRASS | 48 | 197 | 91 | 64 | 23 | 112 | 7 | 41 | 136 | 71 | 39 | 178 | 53 | 149 | 171 | 148 | 121 | 76 | 4 | 7 | 16 | 20 | 45 | 0 | 157 | 50 | 8 | 45 | 58 | 139 | 48 | 49 | 112 | 62 | 157 | 159 | 37 |
| WILLIAMSTON 1 | 120 | 452 | 151 | 85 | 71 | 181 | 21 | 126 | 202 | 225 | 163 | 299 | 231 | 204 | 312 | 242 | 260 | 300 | 5 | 11 | 69 | 88 | 123 | 1 | 187 | 210 | 18 | 97 | 72 | 330 | 103 | 114 | 281 | 144 | 307 | 360 | 76 |
| WILLIAMSTON 2 | 108 | 537 | 249 | 144 | 103 | 212 | 55 | 62 | 287 | 232 | 233 | 327 | 323 | 212 | 361 | 311 | 297 | 364 | 13 | 9 | 81 | 50 | 178 | 0 | 250 | 300 | 32 | 97 | 79 | 422 | 107 | 149 | 350 | 177 | 365 | 458 | 64 |
| CROSS ROADS | 83 | 219 | 48 | 39 | 37 | 133 | 12 | 32 | 69 | 140 | 34 | 192 | 193 | 60 | 153 | 134 | 100 | 158 | 16 | 5 | 39 | 16 | 23 | 1 | 168 | 92 | 11 | 43 | 51 | 163 | 55 | 99 | 99 | 148 | 96 | 148 | 64 |
| ROBERSONVILLE | 139 | 431 | 173 | 129 | 38 | 198 | 44 | 41 | 169 | 199 | 257 | 133 | 40 | 414 | 287 | 213 | 237 | 239 | 17 | 8 | 22 | 72 | 87 | 1 | 261 | 65 | 10 | 316 | 32 | 402 | 41 | 98 | 304 | 272 | 168 | 115 | 114 |
| GOLD POINT | 24 | 113 | 50 | 27 | 11 | 58 | 11 | 13 | 43 | 63 | 52 | 57 | 41 | 78 | 79 | 60 | 61 | 94 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 4 | 7 | 0 | 103 | 31 | 5 | 67 | 12 | 83 | 31 | 45 | 64 | 102 | 15 | 60 | 53 |
| POPLAR POINT | 50 | 146 | 25 | 25 | 77 | 18 | 3 | 32 | 43 | 84 | 17 | 129 | 131 | 23 | 29 | 87 | 91 | 74 | 2 | 0 | 11 | 6 | 7 | 0 | 132 | 26 | 7 | 41 | 56 | 100 | 35 | 56 | 66 | 86 | 54 | 94 | 29 |
| HAMILTON | 28 | 140 | 24 | 51 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |