

Attempt Made To Rob Operator Of Filling Station

Bandits Flee After Firing Shot At Mark Chesson Here Saturday Night

Playing the role of Jesse James and his brother but without the aid of a horse or two, two colored men, their faces masked, attempted to hold up Mr. Mark Chesson and rob his filling station on West Main Street here about 10:30 o'clock last Saturday night. To add color to the bold act, one of the bandits fired upon Mr. Chesson, the shot going between him and his son, Will Chesson.

Going to the station front door, one of the bandits knocked and when the operator started out he was greeted by the two men who held two guns on him. They advised him to stick up his hands and turn over his money without delay. In reply Mr. Chesson said, "Go away from here and stop messing with me."

Hearing the commotion, Mr. Chesson's son, Will, came out and he frightened the men. As they went around the corner of the station, one of the two bandits turned and fired.

Fleeing from the station to the highway, the men ran to the railroad and started toward the rail trestle. Just as they started on the bridge they were met by Roosevelt Clemmons and his wife who screamed and frightened the men. They darted back and jumped from the railroad track and fell sprawling into a deep ditch. Climbing out of the ditch, the men regained their footing and tore through the woods.

Bloodhounds were brought here and placed on the trail, but after tracking them a short distance the hounds lost their lead, one report indicating that the bandits boarded an automobile and escaped.

Officers worked on the case until late Sunday morning but were unable to make any visible progress.

Mr. Chesson and his son stated that the men were colored, that while most of their faces were hooded their arms and hands and necks were exposed. The meager description was verified by Mrs. Chesson who saw the men through the filling station door.

It was the first attempted hold-up reported in this county in recent months, and was about the only incident to mar the peace and quiet of the community during the past week-end.

State Census Gain Is Estimated At More Than 400,000

Reports from 56 Counties Total Just Short of Two Million

Raleigh—North Carolina's population apparently increased more than 400,000 between 1930 and 1940, an unofficial compilation based on preliminary reports from 56 counties indicated.

The 56 counties had 1,967,084 persons this year, compared with 1,725,142 ten years ago, a net gain of 239,689 people. Fifty-one counties showed gains but five had slight losses, totaling 2,253.

The population would be 428,000 ahead of 1930 if the entire state gained in proportion with the 56 counties, but most counties with industrial centers and larger cities were included in the 56. The 1930 population was 3,165,146.

Charlotte was given a population of 100,327. It was the first time that a North Carolina city had passed the 100,000-mark. Ten years ago Charlotte was listed at 82,675.

Guilford barely held its place as the state's most populous county, the available figures indicated. The county listed 152,218, a gain of 19,208 over its 133,010 ten years ago. Mecklenburg, growing along with Charlotte, had 150,857, an increase of 22,886 to add to its 127,971 of 1930.

The opinion was expressed in official state circles that the population gain assured North Carolina of another congressman.

The five counties losing in population all were in the Northeastern Coastal region, Camden, Currituck, Gates, Hyde and Perquimans.

Cabarrus County apparently had the biggest percentage increase for the decade, adding an even 15,000 to its 1930 total of 44,331 to make the count 59,331, a gain of more than 34 per cent. The county also claimed the largest unincorporated city in the nation, the census listing Kannapolis with more than 25,000.

Counties with industrial centers and larger cities showed the biggest population gains. These included Buncombe, Cabarrus, Caldwell, Durham, Guilford, Mecklenburg, Randolph, Rowan and Wake. Best gains in areas which are principally agricultural were in Duplin, Harnett, Haywood, Johnston, Pitt, Sampson and Wayne.

The census bureau has not released any state-wide figures yet but county and congressional district tabulations given out were used to figure the state's estimated increase in population.

General Crops Show Marked Improvement in Recent Days

After being stunned by a long dry season, general crops in this section have shown a marked improvement during the past ten days with farmers now reporting a normal yield expectancy in most cases. While the corn crop was materially damaged by the dry season, the crop is now expected to produce a yield at least 80 per cent of normal. Peanuts are doing exceptionally well with the prospects brighter for the best cotton crop in years.

Tobacco, broken and generally retarded ten days ago, is now meeting in the rows. While the crop is considerably later than usual, it is expected to average close to 900 pounds to the acre. The leaf is now beginning to ripen, and harvesting work is getting underway on a fairly large scale. However, harvesting work will hardly reach a peak in this county before next week. "Pullings" have been light this week, as a rule, but in those cases where the crop was transplanted early the farmers are fairly well advanced with their harvesting work.

Dry weather is again threatening some sections of the county, but it is causing no great concern as most of the crops are already made. Light showers falling in the vicinity of Williamston last Saturday and Sunday afternoons made for good seasons and garden and field crops continue to show a marked improvement.

Successfully withstanding boll weevil attacks, cotton offers the greatest promise possibly of any crops in the county. Farmers, resorting to the poisoning methods recommended by agricultural departments, controlled the weevil and favorable weather conditions have combined to make the season an ideal one for the crop.

Expect Show Down in European War Shortly

SEES DARK OUTLOOK



Dr. Thomas S. Gates, president of University of Pennsylvania, is active Episcopal church leader, who sees dark world outlook unless spiritual forces can be rallied and sustained.

Church Attendance Shows Gain Sunday In Spite of the Heat

Holiness Church Has Record Attendance Upon Its Night Service

By REV. Z. T. PIEPHOFF, Presbyterian Minister.

In spite of the terrific heat of last Sunday the record of attendance compares favorably with that of other Sundays. Those who are interested in the greatest institution on earth seem to be at least consistent in attendance. The church deserves a better fate than the citizens of Williamston are giving it. It is the only institution in the world that holds within its tenets the solution for all the world's ills. If America should ever be troubled with Fifth Columnists, you can rest assured that they will come from the ranks of those who have neglected the church. Many are of the opinion today that America has more to fear from those who enjoy its Christian blessings and freedom and show an indifference for the one organization that has made them possible, than it has to fear from any other group or groups.

If the world is ever made safe for Democracy and is to permanently keep its freedom, it will be accomplished only by those who instill in their own lives the teachings and principles of the word of God.

Behold below the small number of persons who are holding the life of Williamston together and whose presence in our midst has made Williamston what it is in spite of the larger number who seem to have no regard for decency, morals, or religion.

	S.S.	Y.P.	A.M.	PM
Baptist	119	4	85	18
Christian	95	4	65	18
Episcopal	12		20	
Holiness	121		180	275
Methodist	66	18	58	47
Presbyterian	28		28	
Totals	439	26	416	358
Prev. week	440	33	363	289

Alleged Bootlegger Is Arrested In Jameville

Willie Hopkins, alleged bootlegger with a reputation, was arrested at his home in Jameville last Saturday night by A.B.C. Officer J. H. Roebuck and Deputy Bill Haislip. Hopkins, colored, had a gallon of raw liquor on hand and was about ready to serve several customers when the officers arrived.

Bond was required in the sum of \$200. The case against Hopkins is slated for trial in the county court next Monday.

Thirty-Nine Years Ago As Recorded In The Enterprise

Mr. George W. Newell spent Sunday in Mildred.

J. J. Gregory, of Windsor, was in town last week.

Reuben James, Jr., of Bethel, was in town last week.

Mr. Don Gilliam spent Sunday and Monday at home.

Herbert Taylor, of Bethel, was in town last week attending court.

Thunderstorm Monday night accompanied by rain and lightning.

Rev. Mr. Wingate will preach at the Episcopal Church Friday night at 8 o'clock.

Miss Hattie Harrell left Tuesday morning for Baltimore. She will be gone several weeks.

Miss Maggie Brown and Mrs. Annie Andrews, of Goose Nest, were in town Tuesday.

Mrs. A. T. Crawford, who has been confined at the hospital in Baltimore returned home last week.

Mrs. J. Paul Simpson was visiting in Everetts last week as the guest of Mr. J. D. Simpson's family.

Mrs. G. W. Blount left last week for the North to buy her Spring Millinery and other goods.

Mr. D. W. Lewis was in town several days this week, and came in the office to renew his subscription.

Miss Alys V. Lutz, the popular daughter of C. D. Carstarphen, returned to Baltimore last Thursday night.

Phoney Peace Terms Offered By Hitler Are Insult To Justice

Germany Makes Ready For Attack Even While Hitler Talks An Empty Peace

Reaching a stalemate following the crumbling of France, the European war is now slated for a show-down shortly, according to views expressed by many observers and reports coming out of the war-torn territory. One report says Hitler is waiting for the moon to go down before attempting to strike at the heart of the great British Empire, but it is evident that even while Hitler talked of an impossible peace last Friday his power machine was rolling forward on many fronts in anticipating an attack on the British Isles.

Centering its work on preparing a strong defense, England has not offered to carry the war into foreign territory. Her leaders have been intent to meet the invading hordes on the home grounds. While England is preparing to meet the invaders, the German hordes move swiftly and surely in the out-of-way places in preparation for the attack. Possibly no attempt will be made immediately to land troops on the Isles, but there is much activity in Spain where German soldiers are said to be moving in great numbers. Possibly an attack will be directed against Gibraltar and other points vital to English commerce in an attempt to tighten the economic blockade against Britain. There is talk of an enlarged German submarine fleet, small torpedo boats and increased air power, all of which may be loosed on England before an invasion is actually attempted.

The lines are being tightly drawn for action of one kind or another. Lord Halifax, British foreign secretary, said in an address yesterday that Great Britain will fight on until Hitler's mad plans for Europe are completely shattered and the liberties of all nations are restored. Prime Minister Churchill, in an address today, supported the Halifax declaration, leaving future action up to German's mad beast.

Lord Halifax said, "Quite plainly, unless the greater part of the world has entirely misread his speech, his picture of Europe is one of Germany lording it over these people whom he has deprived of freedom. We remain unmoved by threats."

Lord Halifax spoke gravely of Hitler's threat that, unless Britain submits to his military might, he will destroy not only the British Isles but the British Empire.

In every part of Britain there is only one spirit, a spirit of indomitable resolution," he said.

He admitted that "his struggle may cost us everything" but that "the peoples of the British Commonwealth, along with those who love truth, justice and freedom, will never accept this new world of Hitler's."

"Hitler may plant the swastika where he will, but unless he can sap the strength of Britain the foundations of his empire are built on sand."

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County Welfare Board In Regular Meet Last Week

Ten needy persons were added to the relief rolls in this county last week when the Martin County Welfare Board approved applications for seven aged persons and three for dependent children. Several of the applications received consideration by the mere fact that four old persons had been removed from the list by death during the past few weeks.

Messrs. E. C. Shoe, chairman; Robert Everett and Mrs. Wheeler Martin, members of the board, were present for the meeting.

Aaa J. Manning Accepts Agency For General Tires

Asa J. Manning, proprietor of the Sinclair Service Station, has accepted the agency in this community for General tires. "After handling tires for ten years, I decided to swing to Generals," the new dealer said, adding that he was convinced that Generals would measure up to the expectations of his customers.

An unusually large stock of the new tires is being unloaded at the station on the corner of Main and Smithwick Streets today.

Christians Schedule Last Prayer Meeting Service

The last mid-week service for a period of several weeks will be held in the Williamston Christian Church Thursday evening at 8:00 when the pastor speaks on the subject, "Adorning your Religion."

LADIES' NIGHT

Ladies' night will be observed at the direction of the club management, Mr. J. Eason Lilley, in the local baseball park Thursday night of this week when the Martins meet the Greens at 8:15 o'clock.

A special invitation is being extended the ladies, and they are urged to bring their husbands and friends.

Three-Year Production Control Program Is Adopted by Tobacco Farmers At Polls Last Saturday

Farmers Of Martin County Give Plan Substantial Vote

Growers Voluntarily Rally To Support of Program and Put It Across

Proving in years past that they could be depended upon in times of stress, Martin County farmers again maintained that reputation last Saturday when they went to the polls and cast an overwhelming vote for a three-year tobacco control program, two districts, Hamilton and Gold Point, giving the measure a solid vote. While the vote was not as large as had been hoped for, it ranked with the best in percentage and proved that the farmer with proper information at his hand can be depended upon in a real crisis such as the one that faced the tobacco-growing territories.

Reports from the eleven voting districts state that the tobacco farmers, as a rule, voluntarily rallied to the support of the program and went to work early to pile up an early majority and maintain it throughout the day. No trouble was reported and voting was without incident throughout the county, several of the referendum officials stating that the opposition, in most cases, was secretly expressed. Some missionary work was necessary in a few instances, but just a reminder was all that was necessary.

While the program was carried by more than 86 per cent, Martin County piled up a vote of 2,885 for a three-year program, fifteen for a one-year program and 39 votes against any kind of a program, 98.7 of the farmers having expressed themselves as favoring the long-term plan.

Comparatively few votes were challenged, the county committee said following a canvass of the vote in the agricultural building Monday morning.

A record of the county vote by districts, follows:

	3-yr.	1-yr.	No
Hamilton	115	0	0
Jameville	260	4	12
Goose Nest	331	1	4
Williams	112	1	2
Bear Grass	306	1	5
Gold Point	118	0	0
Cross Roads	300	1	1
Robersonville	430	3	10
Hassell	145	1	1
Williamston and Poplar Point	441	1	1
Giffers	327	2	3
TOTALS	2885	15	39

Unusual Theft At Slaughter House

A unique stealing scheme was said to have been uncovered at Roberson's Slaughter House, near here, last week.

The firm buys large quantities of hogs and cattle, making it almost impossible to keep up with every head. Last week the owner, D. M. Roberson, weighed in a shipment and left a short time later for a business trip in Tennessee. A man whose identity has not yet been determined, learned Mr. Roberson had left town and he went into action. According to reports, the man slipped into one of the hog pens during a lull period in the receiving department and drove the hogs around to the weighing station. An assistant was called and he weighed the hogs for a second time and issued a settlement slip. The man got his check and left.

Later in the afternoon, an employee of the company recognized the hogs and explained that they were making a second trip from the weighing station.

Assistants learned that the check had been cashed. Officers were called and an investigation is now underway.

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First Carload Of Baskets Shipped By Local Factory

After shipping millions of feet of timber for the manufacture of baskets in the North, Williamston last Saturday shipped its first carload of finished baskets north for distribution among apple growers. The baskets, manufactured by the Goldman Package Manufacturing Company in its recently completed factory here, were shipped by rail to the firm's distribution warehouses in Glassboro, New Jersey.

The shipment was made up of 3,600 baskets and 12,768 heads, the shipment being among the first manufactured by the new plant here last week.

Production is being gradually increased at the plant, and daily shipments will start moving out of the factory within the next few days.

Local People Are Talking About the Weather Just Now

Thermometer Readings As High As 103 in Shade And 124 in Sun

It's the weather again. And just as usual there is a lot of talk about it, but no one seems to be doing anything about it.

Not quite two weeks ago, we were talking about the dry weather, some disagreeing as to its effect on crops and so on. Then a cool weekend was felt, and some ventured to say that July was going to be a cool month. Possibly there would be frost and a few snowflakes. As the weather turned to the hot side and the mercury started climbing to dangerous heights last Friday, the population was agreed that the weather was hot. Temperatures were clocked at 99 Saturday in the shade, and on Sunday the mercury scampered right on up to 103 in the shade, unofficial reports declaring a reading of 126 in the sun was recorded. Yesterday, the mercury dropped back a fraction and hovered around the 100-mark during the afternoon. There was little relief to be had from the slight drop in temperature, however, and the weather man is slow in promising any immediate relief. There has been some talk of a slight change tomorrow and more than an even break for sweltering humanity about Thursday. The promises are not at all definite, and those who have experienced the heat here during the past few days feel certain that it will require a week to cool off.

Starting just this side of the Rockies, the heat wave has gripped a large portion of the eastern half of the nation. Scores have died from the heat, and quite a few, seeking refuge in streams and at the beaches have lost their lives by drowning.

While the people talk, cotton and other crops are growing, and every now and then there's a fellow who without all complaint and darningly says he is enjoying the weather. Possibly that fellow and others like him remember last winter when everything was shivering and fuel bills were tearing up the family budget.

Among the several WPA gardening projects, the one at Oak City is said to be attracting much attention.

Mr. H. M. Ainsley, principal of Oak City white school, wishes to take this opportunity to thank the people of the Oak City community for their cooperation in furnishing fertilizer and other supplies for the WPA school garden.

The garden has been very successful and around 300 quarts have already been canned. This is just a beginning as there are 2000 tomato plants on which the fruit is just beginning to ripen. People in the community who have quart or one-half gallon glass jars will do well to get them out of the closet at once. He will call for the jars a record of those loaned will be kept.

A two-acre garden is being cultivated and the canning is being done in the lunch room. This room is being renovated at present so that a good cafeteria will be ready for service when school opens.

People of the Oak City community are cordially invited to visit both garden and canning center.

Farmers In Six States Favored Three-Year Plan

Size of Vote and Majority Are Beyond Expectations of Farm Leaders

Tobacco farmers in six states left little doubt in the minds of agricultural leaders that they were capable of meeting the crisis that blue-cured tobacco found itself in when they voted by a sizable majority last Saturday to maintain production quotas for the next three years.

Farmers in the six states threw their support to the measure, each of the producing areas giving the program more than the two-thirds majority required to place the program in effect for the next three years.

While Alabama gave the three-year plan a 100 per cent support, the heavy vote was cast in North Carolina where a support, figured right at 87 per cent was recorded. The total vote, based on virtually complete returns, gave the three-year program 159,786 votes, the one-year plan, 3,354 votes, with the opposition recording 23,020 votes. The vote by states:

	3-yr.	1-yr.	No
North Car.	112,665	1918	15,493
Virginia	12,119	392	3,337
South Car.	16,204	441	1,619
Georgia	16,159	551	2,374
Florida	2,555	52	197
Alabama	84	0	0

AAA officials heralded the huge majority for control not only as a vote of confidence for the AAA program but as a move to avert price declines in the face of an unprecedented tobacco surplus and collapse of foreign trade as a result of European war.

Individual acreage allotments will be made each of the years of 1941, 1942 and 1943, and all produce produced within the acreage will be sold without penalty. Tobacco sold from acreage in excess of allotments will pay a marketing penalty of 10 cents a pound.

By extending control to cover production in 1941, 1942 and 1943, tobacco growers accepted government assurance that the price for 1940 tobacco will be stabilized in spite of surpluses and war effects.

J. B. Hutson, assistant AAA administrator, assured the growers throughout the belt that under 3-year control the government will make the necessary purchases of surplus tobacco to keep fall prices at the 14.9 average received last year.

North Carolina's current crop is estimated at 458,540,000 pounds, which would yield a gross income of \$68,781,000 at last year's price average. The six-state belt has predicted a harvest of 676,000,000 pounds, or a \$101,400,000 crop.

Control advocates had predicted that a failure of three-year control would mean a price decline—2 or 3 cents per pound in the case of one year control—and possibly a \$23,000,000 loss in case of unrestricted production.

Current tobacco ills had their beginning with the 1939 crop, for which control failed in the referendum of December 10, 1938. Growers planted 855,000 acres in this State, and the entire belt produced the unprecedented peak crop of 1,159,320,000 pounds which left a surplus 50 per cent.

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Plan Special Event At Fort Raleigh

Manteo—The 150th Anniversary of the United States Coast Guard—The oldest branch of the government service—will be commemorated here in a four-day celebration beginning Friday, August 2nd, at Fort Raleigh in connection with the 353rd anniversary of the establishment of the Roanoke Island colonies and the fourth season of Paul Green's epic drama "The Lost Colony."

Though the anniversary falls on Sunday, August 4th, the exercises will begin Friday with an elaborate exhibit of modern and historic life-saving equipment, thrilling capsize races and rescue demonstrations, and a welcoming address by North Carolina's Democratic nominee for governor, John Meville Broughton. The Lost Colony chorus will give a program Sunday morning dedicated to the memory of the heroic figures in the Coast Guard service of this area.

Highlight of the celebration will be the arrival Monday of Admiral R. R. Waesche, commandant of the Coast Guard, who will fly here from New York to participate in the commemorative ceremonies. The remainder of the day will feature rowing races and massed demonstration flights. The celebration will then be continued in Elizabeth City where Congressman Lindsay Warren, as the principal speaker, will dedicate the service's magnificent new air base.

Oak City Garden Project Success

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