

# THE ENTERPRISE

Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Friday, May 9, 1941.

Advertisers Will Find Our Columns A Latchkey To Over 1,600 Homes Of Martin County.

VOLUME XLIV—NUMBER 37

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## Leaf Growers Make Impressive Appeals For Tax Equalities

### More Than 500 Farmers in Capital Yesterday Believe No Tax Increase Likely

Led by the North Carolina Farm Bureau and assisted by members of other organizations, more than 500 tobacco farmers made an impressive protest against higher taxes on tobacco before the House Ways and Means Committee in Washington City yesterday. The members of the committee of which Representative Robert Doughton, of North Carolina, is chairman, were deeply impressed by the simple yet forceful presentation of the case by farmers and farm leaders, and it is generally believed that the battle against an increase of the top-heavy tobacco tax has virtually been won.

J. Con Lanier, of Greenville, was the first witness and he struck the keynote of the long day of testimony. When he finished, spontaneous applause filled the room and members of the committee warmly congratulated him on his presentation. The long parade of witnesses that followed reiterated and re-emphasized the facts placed before the committee by the Pitt County tobacco grower.

Pointing out that he was a World War veteran, Lanier said he knew "the awful cost in lives of unpreparedness" and assured the committee that the tobacco farmers are "100 per cent behind the defense effort." But he urged that all farmers be treated alike.

"We tobacco farmers already are the greatest casualties of this World War," Lanier stated, calling attention to the loss of vital foreign markets. "The greatest need we have now is more markets and the only place we can look is here at home. If you impose this tax, cigarettes will go out of the 15-cent class and the 10-cent cigarette will disappear. The shift from cigarettes to smoking tobacco and roll-your-owns that will occur will cost the farmer a loss in his market of 100 million pounds of tobacco a year."

The reduced consumption of cigarette tobacco caused by the higher taxes not only will be a severe blow to the tobacco farmer, but will hurt the tax revenue of the government, Lanier stressed. He pointed out that the government collects \$1.17 on each pound of cigarette tobacco, but only 18 cents on each pound of manufactured tobacco.

Harry Caldwell, of Greensboro, told the committee that government is now collecting in tobacco taxes nearly 50 times the value of the land on which it is produced. He contended that this was more than a fair share of the tax burden to bear. He warned that it would be "most unwise to impose additional taxes on this commodity when the government is already making large appropriations to support those who are producing it."

The only hint of hostility to the tobacco cause was contained in criticism directed at the net earnings of tobacco companies and in salaries paid to several tobacco company officials.

Representative Raymond S. McKeogh read statistics showing the total net income and the annual earnings per share of stock of the major tobacco companies' without having "you gentlemen and the consuming public pay for it."

Representative Frank Carlson, of

(Continued on page six)

## Reduction Made In Hog Numbers

Raleigh—North Carolina farmers slaughtered 840,000 hogs last year, or 10,000 less than in 1939, W. T. Wesson, junior statistician of the State Department of Agriculture, reported today.

The Federal-State Crop Reporting Service credited the State with a total hog production of 248,300,000 pounds live weight in 1940, or 8.6 per cent under 1939.

"The 1940 hog production returned farmers an average price of \$5.80 per 100 pounds, or \$1 under the previous year," Wesson said. "A smaller total production coupled with a 14.8 per cent decline in price resulted in 19 per cent less gross income from hogs in 1940 compared with 1939."

Total gross income from North Carolina hogs last year was estimated at \$15,262,000 compared with \$18,825,000 in 1939, and of the total gross income \$7,670,000 represented cash income from sales with \$7,592,000 representing the value of home consumption."

Wesson reported that 209,000 sows were farrowed in North Carolina last year compared with 233,000 in 1939, adding that "from the 1940 farrowings, 1,277,000 pigs were saved or an average of 6.1 pigs per litter."

Farmers reported 1,097,000 hogs on hand in January compared with 1,167,000 on the same date in 1940.

"Hogs are grown in every North Carolina county," Wesson added, "but the main producing area is found in the eastern part of the State. In 1940 the three coastal districts accounted for 71.3 per cent of the State's total number of hogs on farms."

## Plan Series Of Tuberculosis Clinics In County May 26-30

Beginning Monday, May 26, Dr. Roper of the North Carolina State Tuberculosis Sanatorium in cooperation with the Martin County Board of Health, will conduct a series of tuberculosis clinics in Williamston, Robersonville and Oak City, it was announced this week by Dr. J. W. Williams, county health officer.

"Dr. Roper can examine forty-eight subjects each day, and to distribute this number without any one having to wait, it will be necessary for all wishing the examination to phone, write or call at the health department office for an appointment," Dr. Williams said.

All persons who are suspicious of any chest condition as well as those who have come in contact with tuberculosis are invited and urged to make arrangements for attending

one of the three clinics. Those high school children who had positive reports from the skin tests made a short time ago are directed to report to their nearest station. Those persons who were examined at the clinics are also asked and urged to return for another examination.

The clinics will be conducted according to the following schedule:

May 26: Williamston for whites at grammar school building.

May 27: Williamston for colored at the same building.

May 28: Oak City for white between the hours of 9 and 1 o'clock, and for colored from 2 to 5 o'clock at the school building.

May 29: Robersonville whites in Robersonville Health Department office from 9 to 5.

May 30: Robersonville colored from 9 to 1 at same place.

### ORPHANS

Making their annual tour of nearly every county in North Carolina, fourteen youthful singers from the Oxford Orphanage will appear in concert in the local high school auditorium next Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock. The 1941 singing class, rated as the best to go on tour in recent years, is being brought here by Skewarkey Masons. The general public and especially all the little folks are invited to hear them. And it will do the hard-boiled fathers of the community good to hear the little tots.

No admission fee will be charged, but a free will offering will be received.

## Local Citizen Passes In Kinston Hospital After Short Illness

### Funeral Services Held Here Yesterday Morning For Mrs. Lossie Barnhill

Mrs. Lossie Barnhill died in a Kinston hospital at 2 o'clock Wednesday morning from an infection resulting from a fish bone swallowed by her at dinner last Monday in the home of Mrs. Fannie Biggs here. She was removed to the hospital that afternoon and an operation was performed to remove the bone which had broken and lodged in two places in the esophagus. An infection set in and resulted in death.

The daughter of the late Whit and Nancy Cherry Moore, Mrs. Barnhill was born in Cross Roads Township, near Everett, 59 years ago. In early womanhood she was married to Arthur L. Barnhill who died some years ago. No children survive the union. Following her marriage she made her home in Everett until about five years ago she moved to Williamston as a companion to Mrs. Fannie Biggs. During her stay here she had endeared herself to the family and other friends in the community.

In early life she joined the Vernon Methodist Church, and was loyal to the church and its doctrines for a long number of years.

She is survived by four sisters, Mrs. Maude Moore James, of Everett; Mrs. Ida Phelps, of Grimesland; Mrs. W. O. Donald, of this county, and Miss Clell Moore, of Rocky Mount, and four brothers, R. L. Moore, of Ayden; Cecil Moore, of Kinston; Whit Moore, of Everett, and J. Van Moore, of New York City.

Funeral services were conducted at the Biggs Funeral Home here on West Main Street yesterday morning at 11 o'clock by Rev. B. T. Hurley, Methodist minister, assisted by Rev. John W. Hardy, rector of the Church of the Advent. Interment was in the family plot on the old home farm in Cross Roads Township.

### Board Of Education Will Hold Meeting Next Monday

Meeting in special session here next Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock, the members of the Martin County Board of Education will receive bids for the construction of a teacherage in Robersonville.

Plans for the teachers have been under consideration for some time. As far as it could be learned no other business will be placed before the meeting Monday.

### RESULTS

In a listless municipal election here last Tuesday, 47 voters returned local town officers to power for the two-year term beginning next July 1.

Two tickets at the most were scattered, four commissioners, N. C. Green, Luther Peeler, V. D. Godwin and G. H. Harrison, polling the entire strength of the 47 votes cast. J. L. Hassell, nominee for mayor, and L. P. Lindsey, fifth nominee for commissioners, polled 46 votes each.

## Judge W.H. Coburn Calls Seven Cases In Recorders Court

### Short Session Of Tribunal Is Held Last Monday Morning

In one of the shortest sessions held in recent weeks, Judge W. H. Coburn called seven cases and cleared the calendar in less than an hour. A fair attendance upon the court was reported.

Defendants, charged with drunken driving, had a hard day in court and took exceptions to the jurist's findings and sentences.

Ordinarily the work of the court continues on a fairly brisk schedule until June, but the summer slump is already being felt in the court. Proceedings:

Perlie D. Godard, charged with drunken driving, pleaded not guilty.

The court, after hearing the evidence, adjudged him guilty and fined him \$50, with the costs added and his license to operate a motor vehicle revoked for one year. Godard appealed to the higher courts and was required to raise bond in the sum of \$100.

The case charging Woodrow Wilson Ray with drunken driving, was not pressed with leave. Ray returned to the county on a furlough from the Army and was said to have relied on the bottle too much while operating a borrowed truck.

Charged with drunken driving, Joseph W. Bailey was fined \$50, taxed with the cost and had his license revoked for one year.

The case charging Paul Harrell with violating the liquor laws was continued under prayer for judgment until next Monday.

A continuance was granted the State in the case charging Wheeler Lynch with violating the liquor laws. The case is set for trial next Monday.

Walter Freeman, young colored man, who dangerously stabbed his sweetheart with a pocketknife and defied arrest by Williamston police, was sentenced to the roads for a term of six months.

Henry Ellison, charged with drunken driving, pleaded not guilty. Adjudged guilty by the court, he was fined \$50, taxed with the cost and had his license revoked for one year. The defendant gave notice of appeal and bond in the sum of \$100 was required.

She is survived by four sisters, Mrs. Maude Moore James, of Everett; Mrs. Ida Phelps, of Grimesland; Mrs. W. O. Donald, of this county, and Miss Clell Moore, of Rocky Mount, and four brothers, R. L. Moore, of Ayden; Cecil Moore, of Kinston; Whit Moore, of Everett, and J. Van Moore, of New York City.

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### Jamesville Fishery Suspends Operation

Seine fishing at Jamesville was suspended yesterday afternoon at 3 o'clock or two days before the end of the season. Catches dropping to as few as two or three hundred herring and four or five rock, were not large enough to justify continued operations, a report from the section's fishing center stated. The plant at Camp Point, several miles below Jamesville, was closed Wednesday.

An official report on the activities of the season is not available, but it is generally understood that the fishery operators have met with fair success during the past several weeks, but the season just ending was not as successful as the one a year ago. Fish appeared in the Roanoke in greater numbers during a few days, but the catches were below normal during a greater part of the season.

Individual fishermen are taking rock from the stream in fair-sized numbers but with the disappearance of the herring, it is difficult for them to get bait, and as a usual thing the rock season is about over when the herring disappears.

For individual fishermen as a whole, the season was rated as one of the most successful in recent years as far as catches were concerned. Market prices dipped to ridiculously low levels, sales as low as 35 cents per 100 herring being reported. A few were said to have been made at 25 cents a hundred.

More people came here from long distances than ever before to enjoy the fishing opportunity and to supplement their food supplies.

Fishermen are now again turning to the more common fish such as carp and catfish.

## Thirty-Nine Years Ago As Recorded In The Enterprise

AUGUST 30, 1901.

Only two more days before court Chinese laundry starts up Monday.

Williamston is to have a spoke and handle factory.

The excursionists returned about 3 o'clock yesterday morning.

The Williamston Academy begins its fall term Monday, Sept. 9th.

We are sorry to say that Conoho and Ballard items are crowded out of this issue.

Over 200 horses have died in Hyde County, so far, from the epidemic that is raging there.

Let all the young business men come out Monday evening, Williamston should have a business association.

At a call meeting of the commissioners Wednesday night it was decided to enforce the cow-law recently passed by that body.

Mr. W. A. Ellison's fine horse has been suffering lately from "Pink Eye," but we are glad to say that the horse is much better at this writing.

Thanks to our commissioners and constable our streets are now looking like the town is inhabited. Weeds are gone, ditches cleaned out and general repairs are going on.

The following is taken from King's Weekly, dated August 27th.

"It had rained twenty-five days in succession up to yesterday. If it rained yesterday that made the 26th."

The suspension of traffic over the route is considered necessary, and motorists will gladly tolerate the inconvenience. It is a well established fact that the general public as well as motorists are losing all patience with the contractors and the feeble efforts to rebuild the fill. Progressing at the pace of a snail month after month, the work is far from complete, and representatives of the firm after stating some time ago that the project would be completed by May now apparently have no idea when the road will be open to normal traffic. Eighty days of the ninety working days allotted for the completion of the project have passed.

The young men of Williamston are earnestly requested to meet at The Enterprise office on Monday, Sept. 2nd, for the purpose of organizing a Young Men's Business Association. Let all who are interested in the welfare of our town come out at 8:30 o'clock.

On Thursday, the 29th inst., Mr. J. W. York gave an old-fashioned barbecue at his home near Williamston to about 50 of his friends. The barbecue was done up in the best style, and this with everything else was plentiful, and it would have pleased the taste of the finest epicurean to have seen the respects paid to this elegant repast by the crowd present. Everybody was in good humor, the day spent only too quickly, and everyone bade the host and hostess goodbye voting this one of the most pleasant days of their lives and wishing them a long life of prosperity.

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Master George V. Strong had the misfortune to break his arm on Thursday last. He fell out of a hammock. Dr. Harrell was called in and soon relieved the little fellow. He is getting along nicely.

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### Fourteen Marriage Licenses Issued In County Last Month

### Issuance Is Largest Reported For Any April in the Past Three Years

While dropping to a new low figure for the year, April marriage licenses in this county were greater in number than those for the corresponding month in the past three years. The number was nine greater than the issuance in April, 1939, and four greater in the same month of 1940. Judging from the number of licenses issued during the past four months, 1941 is going to be a good year for weddings in this county. Already there have been 67 licenses issued as compared with 46 in the first four months of 1939 and 48 in the same period of 1940.

Last month there were issued six white to white and eight to colored couples in this county by Register of Deeds J. Sam Getsinger, as follows:

White

Ola L. Harrell, of Palmyra, and Dora Weatherbee, of Oak City.

Charles Roland Jones, of Elizabeth City, and Mrs. Blanche B. Sullivan, of Williamston.