

Bureau Membership In The County Only Fifty Short Of Goal

Farm Security Supervisor in Timely Address to Group Friday Evening

Reporting 950 members signed up in their 1941-42 Farm Bureau drive, canvassers last Friday evening in the agricultural building agreed to push the campaign to the 1,000 goal and report for a final tabulation of the membership on Friday of next week. Believing the goal will be reached, the membership committee discussed tentative plans for calling Ed O'Neal, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation to address the annual meeting of the county unit possibly in December or January. All members of the canvassing committee who were not present for the meeting last Friday night are asked to round up their last quotas and report them at their earliest convenience.

Holding their first forum for discussions of timely farm matters, members of the organization last Friday heard Farm Security Supervisor Tom Swain tell about the food for defense program. Mr. Swain, who has since been transferred to Halifax County, declared that the situation is far more serious than we realize. "We have surpluses in some instances, but there are definite shortages staring us in the face," he declared.

Stressing the importance of health as a part of the defense program, Mr. Swain cited the rejections made in the Army on account of physical defects. He reviewed the quotas this county is being called upon to plant to important crops, and urged the farmers to cooperate with the program. "Martin farmers are being asked to increase the milk supply by 175,000 pounds, or four per cent," he said, explaining that while the increase in this county will not enter the markets, it will possibly lower the demand for canned milk which can be shipped across the ocean for use right in the thick of the fight. The government is not recommending the purchase of more cows now, but better care of those already in the county. It may be necessary to add a few cows to the herds, but the best solution to the problem is the raising of cows.

The government is calling for 36,580 more dozens of eggs, or about an eleven per cent increase in present production. Better care of the flocks will turn the tide, the supervisor believes.

Continuing, he said, "And then we are being asked to increase our peanut and soy bean plantings by thousands of acres, and to increase our acreage to oats. We are not being commanded to do all of this, but we have been told that such action is necessary if we are to play our part in relieving the present emergency and stalling a starvation threat."

Mr. Swain pleads with all Farm Bureau to get behind the program. He believes that Martin County will do its part and more.

The Farm Security Administration in the county is already visiting its clients and outlining the program plans. Supervisor J. C. Eubanks, Mrs. Henry Griffin and Mrs. Elizabeth Bradley are holding on an average two meetings each week in small community centers, preaching food for health and food for defense. The first of the meetings were held near Hassell and near Williamston last week. The farm agents are in Raleigh this week receiving instructions for carrying the plans to others in this county.

Three Of County's Selectees Rejected

Three of the ten Martin County colored selectees reporting for possible military service at Fort Bragg last week were rejected by the Army on account of physical defects, according to information received by the draft board this week. Jeremiah Brown, of Williamston, R. F. D. 1; Willie Grover Mason, of Williamston, R. F. D. 2, and Woodrow Marrow, of Hobgood, R. F. D. 1, have returned following a skirmish with the armed forces of the nation at the Fort Bragg induction center.

A call for eleven colored selectees was received in the county a few days ago. They are to report for possible military service on December 5th. No November quota was assigned this county for either white or colored trainees, and no white youths have been called for December.

Man Jailed For Alleged Theft Attempt Saturday

Edward Johnson, 36-year-old colored man, who gave his home address as Wilson, was lodged in the county jail late Saturday night for allegedly attempting to steal J. C. Kirkman's car in Jameville.

Johnson, not knowing all the gadgets, accidentally sounded the horn while fingering for the switch. The noise attracted Mr. Kirkman's attention, and arming himself he went to the car and ordered the man to back up to a tree where he held him at bay with a shotgun until Sheriff Roebuck could go and get him.

Sheriff Takes In Two Million And Quits As Tax Collector

Taking over the duties of county tax collector when he succeeded his late father as sheriff in June, 1929, Sheriff C. B. Roebuck yesterday afternoon, after taking in some over two million dollars during those 12 years, settled up with the county commissioners to the last penny and withdrew from the office of collector of real and personal property taxes. The books go to Tax Collector M. L. Peel who will continue collections for the year 1940 and make ready within the next 18 months to transfer title to those properties upon which he taxes have not been paid.

Holding his tax sale at the courthouse door at noon Monday, the sheriff reported only four individual sales, the purchasers in those cases acting to protect their equities. The other accounts were bid in by the county. Scheduled to surrender the duties as county tax collector, Sheriff C. B. Roebuck had the auditors check the books immediately after

the sale was made and the money in the bank to settle up his account to the penny with the commissioners.

The final report shows that \$6,849.52 is represented in land sales, and \$5,808.17 in insolvent accounts, leaving a balance of \$2,053.81 which the sheriff paid by check to complete the transaction. Sheriff Roebuck explained that the insolvent list was about \$2,400 less than it was last year, that much of the \$5,808.17 was traceable to dead accounts; that is, accounts belonging to dead men or men who had moved from the county and whose names had been brought forward on the tax books. He also pointed out that quite a few of the soldier boys still owed a few dollars, that the insolvent list sounds really larger than it is.

The settlement was accepted without question, and marks the end of a tax collection period in which every penny of the taxpayers' money has been accounted for and distributed to the several departments.

Peele's Resignation Is Held In Abeyance

PRODUCTION

A report coming from the production unit of the Martin County Chapter of the Red Cross today carried a bright spot, but the chairman, Mrs. A. E. Dunning, stated that the knitting schedule was lagging badly. Knitters are urged to respond to the call, Mrs. Dunning stating that the material may be had at the Woman's Club each Tuesday and Friday or she would upon request deliver the material in person.

The sewing project is just about to go ahead of schedule, the chairman stating that seamstresses in the rural communities were doing an effective work and that more townswomen were participating in the program now.

Library Will Hold Open House Friday Night, November 7

Window Display Is Planned Here in Connection with Book Week

By MRS. IRIS COOKE, Librarian. Book Week as a national organization was started 23 years ago in 1919 chiefly as a result of the work of Franklin Mathews, Chief Scout Librarian, who spoke before the convention of the American Booksellers Association. The result of his urging was a resolution "to organize a national campaign to arouse public interest in more and better books for children."

From 1919-23 the slogan, "More Books in the Home," was to emphasize the importance of books owned by the children themselves and to build up good personal libraries.

The 1941 theme to be observed November 2-8, is "Forward with Books," which may have many adaptations centered chiefly on patriotism.

The local public library will have around 50 new books and a window display of children's books in the Economy Auto Supply store. Posters advertising Public Library Day, November 7th, will be in evidence. Open House in the library, mayor's office, and police department will be held from 8-10 o'clock Friday evening.

Coming as a climax of the observances of the week will be the first offering of a new regular service by the library. Beginning on Saturday morning at 10 o'clock, Miss Bernice Ward will hold a Story Hour for the pre-school children whose ages start at three. At 11 o'clock children in the first three grades of school are invited. After the stories, books may be examined and taken home until the next story hour which will occur the following Saturday morning. Parents are invited to send their children so they might go "Forward with Books."

NAVY CALL

Those young men, white and colored, who are in line for definite assignments under the Army draft may choose their own jobs by joining the Navy which is offering instruction in a varied list of subjects including photography.

E. E. Parker, USN Recruiter, will be at The Enterprise office on Friday morning of this week at 9:00 o'clock to answer questions or give out any desired information concerning enlistment in the Navy or Naval Reserve. There is no obligation on the part of any youngster 17 years or older to talk with Mr. Parker, and he will be glad to outline the service opportunities.

Local Town Board Of Commissioners Met Last Evening

Ordinances Passed To Control Bicycles and Fireworks In Business District

In a two-hour session, their regular one of the month, the local town commissioners held in abeyance the resignation tendered by Commissioner M. Luther Peel, took action in several instances for the control and use of bicycles and fireworks in the business district and discussed a varied list of topics, including parking and back-lot lighting.

The acceptance of Commissioner Peel's resignation was delayed pending a ruling by the attorney general on double office holding. It was fairly evident from a ruling handed down a short time ago that the commissioner could not continue as a member of the board and serve as county tax collector. However, the act creating the office of the tax collector makes a provision for the tax collector to hold an elective office.

The validity of that section of the law is to be determined or rejected by the office of the attorney general. Until the ruling is received, Mr. Peel will continue as a member of the board.

Tentative plans for improving the local parking congestion were virtually abandoned when it was pointed out that municipalities were being asked to curb their light expansion programs, and there was some doubt about the feasibility of lighting the backlots for night parking. Cost estimates will be asked, possibly, but the parking situation will hardly be changed right away. The commissioners did consider parking limits for local auto owners, but the proposal will be placed on a voluntary basis to start with. Merchants and clerks will be asked to leave their cars at home or park them off the streets.

Again the commissioners admitted (Continued on page six)

Prominent Farmer Passes In County

Levi Davis, prominent farmer and well-known citizen of Jameville Township, died at his home near Jameville on Highway 64 last Sunday evening at 9:30 o'clock following a long period of declining health.

A supporter of worth-while undertakings including religious and civic activities, Mr. Davis was held in high esteem by his fellowmen. While he never pushed himself forward, Mr. Davis could be counted on at all times to support the school and lend a helping hand to his fellowmen.

Following the untimely death of a young son about a year ago, Mr. Davis had failed rapidly. He was a native of Jameville Township where he spent his entire life living peacefully with his neighbors, and where he enjoyed a large friendship.

The son of Mrs. Ellen Davis and the late Durham Davis, he was born in this county on April 26, 1892. He was married to Miss Mattie N. Gurkin in 1914.

Besides his widow he is survived by the following children: Belva Rae and Durham Davis, of the home; Mrs. William Hopkins, of Dardens; Mrs. Alexander Daniel, of Norfolk; Levi Davis, Jr., of the U. S. Army; and a daughter, Mrs. Horace Kendrick, of Birmingham, Ala. He also leaves a brother, Mr. Mack Ange, of Jameville.

He was a member of the Free Will Baptist Church and his pastor is conducting the last rites at the home this afternoon at 3 o'clock. Interment will follow in the family cemetery, near the home.

REMEMBRANCES

By CHAS. SMALLWOOD
Williamston, N. C.
DURING 1870's and '80's

Young men of the town, beyond school age, but not yet launched into businesses of their own, leading the carefree life of clerk-ships, etc., were many; a few to be mentioned at this time being: Will and Sam Ellison, Will and Jim Carstarphen, Joe Lanier, Joe Everett, Walter Clemons, Will and John Harrell, Jim Robertson, Wigg Watts, Joe Godard, and Lon Gardner. Henry Williams "dickered" with mule-trading; Bill Cherry was chief public hauler; Cliff Bland was a greater river-fisherman.

Many times I have seen him come trudging up Main Street from the river, a canoe paddle across one shoulder, a sturgeon hung there, which was so large and long that its tail would be dragging the ground. He would dress, carve and weigh it out to ready customers, and then was the day that most of Williamston feasted on—sturgeon steak or stew.

These were the days when the railroad came down from Tarboro. Old Negroes used to tell me of "what-all happened when we-all heard de yankeys was cummin'," but I was actually experience the thrill of hearing "the railroad was coming." It finally arrived, and built its first depot (a board platform) where it crossed Smithwick Street, and just half a block from where I lived at Sister Sallie's, and from the porch I would watch or join all the town as it went down daily "to see the train come in," a custom which was partially continued until automobiles made train-comings uninteresting.

Captain John Cotton (afterwards, General Cotton, of the State Guards) was first conductor, and which created him an all-important personage.

It was while the railroad was building from town to the river that Mr. Everett, six or seven miles up the line, decided he wished a side-track, or switch, from the road where it passed his house, so, standing in with some of the road foremen, he got them to herd a work-crew one Sunday, load them aboard a flat-car, and the engine pulled them up to his place where they "put in" the switch and that was the day the present city of Everetts was "born."

I, with some other boys and young men, scrambled aboard too, and were present at the "bornin'." I think Mr. Everett spread a feast for the notables of the party, but I happened not to be noticeable and feasted on the glory of the day only.

The advent of the railroad must have encouraged the advent of the telegraph also, for soon after the one, came the other.

The first telegraph office consisted of a table, a keyboard and an operator, located in a corner of J. D. Biggs and Co.'s office. The operator was one Charlie Watson, a curly-headed youngster, who at once became the "wonder-man" amongst us. He was also a wonder to Mr. Walter Hassell, who took him to board, and who became much concerned less New Town's undertaker get him from the effects of starvation. Mr. Hassell said nothing in the world was sufficiently appetizing as to cause him to want to eat. That the only thing he could imagine he was existing upon might be the ticks emanating from his occupation. Anyway, about all he did at the dining table was to sit down and get up.

Quite some years later, I was at the dining table of my own boarding house in Birmingham, Ala., and was introduced to a Mr. Watson, sitting next seat. I remarked that I had known a Charley Watson in Williamston, N. C., and that the present, reminded me a little of him except that "he present" seemed to have an appetite, but no curly hair, while reverses were the case with the other.

"He present" said—Well, I'm the fellow. When I found my appetite, my hair stopped kinking. And that is the last I ever saw of Williamston's first telegraph operator.

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Mayor Issues "Library Day" Proclamation

Whereas, one of the precious treasures of this world is a Library, because it contains the products of that which is the world's greatest treasure, the mind of man, a storehouse of what men and women have thought and felt and discovered throughout the ages and what they are feeling and discovering now.

It is the link which binds the past with the present and the future, the work of the minds of scholars present, past and future.

And whereas, a long felt want has been supplied in Williamston by the establishment of a Public Library in our town.

Now, therefore, I, J. L. Hassell, Mayor of Williamston do hereby proclaim Friday, November 7th, 1941, as Library Day in Williamston, when the Williamston Public Library will be dedicated and when another powerful lamp of learning will be lighted.

May it light the paths of the people of this town and community in pursuit of justice, peace and truth.

J. L. HASSELL, Mayor.

Name Wheeler Martin Assistant Prosecutor

Sheriff Makes Final Tax Settlement with County Authorities

Tax Relief Orders Take Up Much Time of Commissioners Monday

Attorney Wheeler Martin was appointed assistant solicitor of the recorder's court by the Martin County commissioners in regular session here yesterday. The action was taken at the request of Solicitor Don E. Johnson who is now engaged in special defense studies at State College and who explained to the board that he did not know when he would be able to return to handle the work. The appointment, effective at once, runs until January 1. Solicitor Johnson was at the prosecutor's table in the county court Monday. The prosecutor's life is very much up in the air at the present time. He doesn't know whether he'll be back home January 1, or whether he'll be doing special defense work in Diesel engineering or in the Army ranks. He is hoping that it will be possible for him to return home.

The regular monthly meeting of the county commissioners heard a great deal about tax relief orders, but the high spot came late in the afternoon when Sheriff C. B. Roebuck effected final settlement for the 1940 taxes and when he was relieved of the collection of all real and personal property tax collections. The sheriff explained that most of the insolvent list was traceable to men who had left the county but whose names had been brought forward by the list-takers year after year. "And then there are several hundred taxpayers in the Army from this county," the sheriff added. The business of transferring names on the tax books year after year was virtually discarded this year, and other things being equal the insolvent list for 1941 should not be as large as it was this year. The unpaid amount this year was several thousand dollars less than it was a year ago, a favorable fall having made itself felt in the tax collector's office. The old 1940 books and tax sale certificates are now in the hands of the regular tax collector, M. L. Peel. He will continue to collect those accounts along with the ones for 1941 and take legal action within a specified time to transfer title of properties.

Julius D. Hardison, the old sage of Williams Township, appeared before the board and walked away with a tax relief order relieving him of payment of taxes on fifty acres of woodland listed in error.

A relief order was issued to the Roanoke Railroad and Lumber Company for taxes in the sum of \$206 levied in error against its holdings in Bear Grass Township.

Sarah O. Cherry was relieved of payment of taxes on a lot in Williamston for \$150, the complainant showing that the listing was in error.

The board agreed to employ a janitor for the courthouse and agricultural building, the order creating the services of a special man limiting the salary to \$40 a month.

J. D. Gurganus, of Bear Grass, was exempted from poll tax for 1941 and future years on account of disability.

An order was issued directing the tax authorities to issue written orders for tax advertising notices for publication.

Mrs. Della Anderson Passes In the County

Mrs. Della Bennett Anderson, aged and respected county citizen, died at the home of her sister, Mrs. Dorcas Lassiter in Poplar Point Township last Friday following a short illness. She was 85 years old, but despite her advanced age she was unusually active up until a short time before her death.

The daughter of the late James Thomas and Anna Whitley Bennett, Mrs. Anderson was born in this county near Williamston. She spent her early life in this section and when a young woman married Geo. Anderson. Following her marriage she made her home in Plymouth, later going to Craven County where Mr. Anderson was employed by the railroad. Following his death about 1903 she made her home with a son in New Bern, moving back to this county about 15 years ago.

She is survived by two sons, William Anderson, of Hopewell, and Marshall Anderson, of New Bern. She also leaves three sisters, Mrs. Dorcas Lassiter with whom she made her home; Mrs. Lydia Pierce, of Poplar Point and Mrs. Florence Edwards, of Williamston, and a brother, Joe F. Bennett, of Poplar Point.

Funeral services were conducted at the late home Saturday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock by Elder B. S. Cowin. Interment was in the Spring Green Church Cemetery.

NO INSTRUCTIONS

Instructions for curtailing the use of power and light in this district have not been received, power company officials stating that they are not certain what course to follow until they have written orders determining future action. Expressing a willingness to cooperate in any and every way possible with defense, Manager Goodman said he had not been instructed to discontinue service in any case where the consumer refused or failed to cut out street signs or window lights.

It is understood that the VEP Company is now sending 20 million kilowatt hours to the Carolina Power Company each month, that while more power is possibly available, it cannot be transmitted over the present wire hook-up. It is quite likely that local people will be asked to curtail their light and power usage, and it has been pointed out that such action would, at least, show a cooperative spirit.

Rev. Jack Rountree To Conduct Mission In Episcopal Church

Kinston Minister Will Preach Twice Daily During the Next Week

By REV. JOHN HARDY, Rector.

Beginning on Sunday night, November 9th, at 8 o'clock, the Rev. Jack Rountree of Kinston will conduct a preaching mission at the Church of the Advent. The mission will continue through Friday night. There will also be a service each morning at 10:30. The subject for the morning service will be the Church; the evening sermons will be devoted to certain great religious themes of vital importance to us today.

The Rev. Mr. Rountree is one of the outstanding preachers of the Episcopal Church in this State. He has had considerable experience in conducting missions, since he is chairman of the Department of Evangelism in the Diocese of East Carolina. His work consists of several churches near Kinston, Snow Hill, Trenton, Grifton and Seven Springs. He is also a member of the Executive Council and of the Departments of Christian Social Relations and Christian Education. Besides being very busy with his church activities he shows a great community spirit. He is chairman of the Board of Directors of the Woman's Colony, and Chairman of the Federal Housing Project in Kinston.

Recently Mr. Rountree had this to say in regard to the religious life of our times and the need for missions: "No one looking at the life of America today will deny the fact that the greatest need of man is God. Nor will anyone deny the fact even Christian people need to form convictions that are stable and enduring about God. We all need to think our way closer to God; for religion must be reasonable if it is to grip and hold the entire personality. After all, Faith is but the adventure of reason in the quest of that which though unseen is to become fully known. Mission should, so far as possible, include both prophetic evangelism and teaching. Those great themes (upon which are based those convictions that bind us to God) should be presented with the intention of securing response to and acceptance of God as the Home of the Soul."

In the mission, Mr. Rountree will stress the themes that bind us to God. The morning service will be devoted to teaching and the evening to prophetic evangelism. The Church of the Advent invites the people of Williamston and Martin County to attend the services throughout the week; and also to attend the morning service on Sunday the 16th, when Bishop Thomas C. Darst will make his annual visit.

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Mrs. Will Stubbs Dies At Her Home

Mrs. Lenora Stubbs died at her home in Jameville Township Sunday evening at 6:30 o'clock following a long period of declining health. The daughter of the late Benjamin and Elizabeth Mizelle Mills, she was born 73 years ago.

In early womanhood she was married to Will Stubbs who died some years ago. Following her marriage she had made her home near Jameville, and was highly regarded as a neighbor and friend. She was a member of the Jameville Christian Church for nearly half a century.

She is survived by three sons, Clyde Stubbs, of Rocky Mount; Tommie Stubbs, of Oteen and Bennie Stubbs, of the home, and two daughters, Mrs. Mary Spruill, of Rocky Mount, and Mrs. Emma Moore, of Jameville.

Funeral services were conducted yesterday afternoon at the home at 3:30 o'clock by Rev. Luther Ambrose. Interment was in the Roberson Cemetery, near the home.

Local Man Charged With Violating Liquor Laws

Attracting attention when he speeded down a local street Sunday, Ernest Tillman, young white man, was arrested and charged with transporting illegal liquor by Officer J. H. Allsbrooks and Patrolman Saunders. Continuing to the man's shack near the Farmville-Woodward Lumber mill, the officers found about seven gallons of illicit liquor in his possession there.

Judgment was suspended upon payment of the cost in the county court here yesterday.

Subs Attack Fourth United States Ship Off Coast of Iceland

Ninety-five Men Are Reported Lost in Sinking of the Reuben James

Limping safely into port this morning, the American ship Salinas described a submarine attack that had been made on her last Wednesday night, a few hours before the ill-fated attack was directed against the U. S. S. Reuben James. Apparently no great damage was done to the ship, and no casualties were reported. Accompanying the report was a statement placing the death toll on the ill-fated destroyer, Reuben James, at 95—seven officers and 88 crew members. Forty-four men had been reported saved soon after the attack last Thursday night. A young seaman, by the name of Moore who lived near Palmyra, was on the Reuben James. As far as it could be learned here today, he has not been accounted for.

Including the men who died for the cause of humanity on the Kearny and the Reuben James, this country has already lost more seamen in the present war than she did in all of World War I. The attack on the Salinas was the fourth reported on an American ship so far in the present war. The ship was carrying oil to the American base in Iceland.

While the American losses were being reported, Germany sent out reports claiming that eleven other ships representing 53,000 tons had been sunk and several other ones damaged in the Atlantic.

On the Russian front, the outlook for the defense is not very bright. Terrific fighting continues, but there are admitted stories of another "Dunkirk" on the Black Sea where a large part of the Soviet Army was about to be wiped out in its attempt to escape.

While Russia is admitting reverses in the Crimea, the drive is proving costly to the Germans. Nearly 100,000 Nazis have been killed there, and an enormous loss in planes and tanks has been suffered by the invaders.

New and more powerful German drives are being directed in the rich industrial Ukraine basin, and the push on Moscow is being renewed, the late reports indicating that Hitler will sacrifice the better part of his manpower and equipment to advance his Russian plans.

A Russian citizen, stopping in Williamston a short while this morning, expressed confidence in his country, and said he knew the defenders would be successful. "Even if Moscow falls, Germany will have only made a start in its drive to conquer Russia," he was quoted as saying.

Slithering across frozen ground, German tanks and artillery have unleashed the third full-scale blitzkrieg in five weeks against the defenses of Moscow, concentrating in the Tula sector south of the capital, war dispatches said today.

Farther north the Russians seized the offensive and began encircling the city of Kalinin.

The Germans were reported to have moved up huge forces and begun a general onslaught below Moscow, but the Moscow radio said the Russians were ready for it. Tula admittedly was in danger, but Moscow's defenders were reported driving the Germans back from several strategic points around Kalinin.

Soviet forces besieging Kalinin from the northeast were said to have (Continued on page six)