

## REVIEW OF MARTIN COUNTY TAX QUESTION FOR 25 YEARS PRESENTS SOME VERY INTERESTING FIGURES

Less Than \$800 Lost In Sixteen-Year Period By Former Sheriff RECORD FOR STATE

Martin county finance is now a subject much discussed by the people of this county. Naturally the rapidly growing tax rate arouses the people, causing them to wonder where the trouble lies.

All public money comes from the tax payers, and, of course, should go back to them in the most beneficial way possible. The school is, of course, the greatest of all the public institutions built by public taxes. Then comes the public roads, the courts, the homes for the poor and the unfortunate.

The taxing plan in this State is to have every property owner to come before the tax list once each year and list his property for taxation. After all property is listed, it then goes into the hands of the County Commissioners, where a complete abstract of the taxpayers is brought together and certified to the Sheriff of the County. Here is where the sheriff comes in with the big job of collecting every item on the entire list.

Listening in on the general rabel, one would think that there are large sums of money lost by the County each year because people do not pay their taxes. We seem to be living over, or on a crater of suspicion, which ever flows with criticism. Some, perhaps are just, but the most part are without grounds.

It will interest the taxpayers of this county to know just how much has been lost by Martin during the past 25 years through the failure of the sheriffs who have served as tax collectors during that period.

Beginning with the first tax list collected by the late J. C. Crawford, we find that in 1899, he only lacked \$205.03 of turning in as much as he was charged with. During the year he found and collected in property and poll tax that had not been listed, \$24.97. The insolvent list added to all errors and relief orders made a total deduction of only \$230.00 from which sum the unlisted taxes picked up by the Sheriff brought the net loss from the total tax list to the sum of \$205.03.

In 1900, he collected the full amount certified to him except \$180.50. That year he picked up and collected the sum of \$77.03 from parties who had failed to list their property and poll tax, making a total net loss of \$109.47 from insolvent errors in tax list and relief orders by the County Commissioners. In 1901, the total insolvent list, errors and relief orders by the Commissioners amounted to \$307.40 less \$68.14, leaving a net loss to the County of \$239.26.

In 1902, insolvents, errors in list and relief orders amounted to \$308.47. The unlisted taxes found and collected by the Sheriff were \$55.22, net loss to the County amounting to \$253.25. The year 1903, insolvents, errors and reliefs amounted to \$329.87. Unlisted taxes found and collected amounted to \$84.17, net loss being \$245.70.

For the year 1904, insolvents, reliefs and errors totaled \$270.51 less unlisted items \$216.20. Net loss to the County being \$54.31.

For the year, 1905, the total loss

(Continued on back page this section)

## Williamston Graded Schools Will Begin Its 1925 Session On Thursday, September 10

School Board Holds Formal Meeting Last Night And Elects Teachers for Ensuing Term; Six Former Teachers To Return

The Williamston Graded schools will open for the 1925-26 session Thursday, September 10, at 9 a. m. Every child of school age is urged to be present that day, in order to assign grades, books and lesson to them.

The Board of Trustee of the school met last night in a formal session and the following teachers were elected for the coming year: Miss Emma Robertson, Williamston, first grade; Miss Lucy Claire Ivey, Scotland Neck, second grade; Miss Martha Anderson, Williamston, third grade; Miss Eleanor Stanback, Mt. Gilead, fourth grade; Miss Olivia Bridges, Poteasi, N. C., fifth grade A; Miss Ethel Griffin, Williamston, fifth grade B; Miss Lena Penland, Marshall, sixth grade. The high school teachers are: Mrs. W. H. Harrell, Williamston, Latin and French; Miss Orene B. Hol-

lowell, Tyner, N. C., English and History; J. S. Seymour, Sumter, S. C., Science and Mathematics.

Mr. G. R. Floyd of Latta, S. C., who was elected to teach the seventh grade and coach boys' athletics, has resigned to go into business in Florida. The officials of the school are doing their best to secure another man in the place of Mr. Floyd.

Miss Orene B. Hollowell, who will have charge of the girls' athletics, comes very highly recommended. In addition to having completed her work at Greenville Teachers' Training College, she has specialized in English at Columbia University, New York.

Miss Mildred Darden, of Kenly was elected to serve in the primary department and in all probability she will be assigned to a section of the first grade.

## F. L. MINGA DIES IN RICHMOND

Body Laid to Rest in Cemetery Here Yesterday Afternoon

F. L. Minga died Wednesday morning in St. Lukes hospital, Richmond, where he had been several months under the care of specialists.

Mr. Minga was taken sick in Williamston in November last year, at the home of his wife's mother, Mrs. Mary E. Peel. For several months he remained in Williamston, but was advised by his physician to go to the Richmond hospital for treatment. Nothing, however, seemed to benefit him and for some time it was apparent that life's thread was rapidly wearing away.

Mr. Minga was a native of Smithfield, Virginia, and was 62 years old. He has been engaged in the peanut business practically all his life and was a fine judge of them. For a number of years, he was manager of a large peanut business in Petersburg where he lived.

He married Miss Lavenia Peel 22 years ago, who survives him.

The body was brought here and interment made yesterday, the funeral service being held at the Episcopal church, of which he was a member, by Rev. Theodore Partrick, jr., of Plymouth. Elder Sylvester Hassell assisted in the services at the grave. The active pall bearers were Dr. J. H. Saunders, L. B. Harrison, J. L. Hassell, John D. Biggs, Arthur Anderson and E. S. Peel.

## J. O. Manning Resigns As Chief of Police

J. O. Manning, who has been City Chief of Police for the past two years resigned his position Wednesday to take effect next Tuesday morning, September 1.

Mayor Robt. L. Coburn immediately appointed J. Raleigh Manning of Jamesville to fill the place temporarily. A meeting will be held either this afternoon or Monday night to elect a man for the place permanently. J. Raleigh Manning has been special deputy of Jamesville township for some time and has made a very capable and efficient officer.

The position pays \$125.00 monthly and all fees are commission. There are two or three applicants for the place, but at the present no conclusion has been reached by the members of the Board.

## THREE MONTHS-OLD CHILD DIED WEDNESDAY MORNING

Ella Louise, the three months old child of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Lynch died on the Ballard farm in Poplar Point, Wednesday morning. The child was found dead in bed, death being caused from strangulation by phlegm. The child had developed a cold from which it had suffered several days before its death.

Miss Irene Lassiter of Whitakers is visiting Mr. and Mrs. Lee Brewer.

## AMERICAN LEGION POST ORGANIZED

J. Sam Getsinger Elected Post Commander; M. D. Watts Elected Adjutant of This Post

An American Legion Post was organized in Martin county last Wednesday night when sixteen ex-service men met at the Mayor's office here and entered their names on the membership list.

Capt. Rodman, of Washington, made a short talk, outlining the duties and the purpose of the Legion. Following Capt. Rodman's talk, the meeting was turned over to Mr. Corey, who organized the Post.

The charter members, signing Wednesday night are: Messrs. Robt. L. Coburn, M. D. Watts, E. S. Peel, Luke Lamb, J. S. Getsinger, John A. Ward, Norman K. Harrison, J. S. Seymour, J. L. Williams, Robt. A. Taylor, W. C. Purvis, J. H. Saunders, H. M. Britt, J. W. Watts, Jr. and C. R. Mobley.

A motion was made and seconded that the Post be named for John W. Hassell, the first Martin county man who fell in service. The motion was carried unanimously.

The following officers were elected: J. Sam Getsinger, Post Commander; R. L. Coburn, Vice-Post Commander; M. D. Watts, Adjutant; N. K. Harrison, Finance Officer; J. S. Seymour, Chaplain; E. S. Peel, Service Officer; W. C. Purvis, Sergeant-at-Arms.

On September 7 and 8, the American Legion convention will be held at Fayetteville, N. C. and Messrs. Luke Lamb, W. C. Purvis, E. S. Peel and N. K. Harrison were elected to represent this Post, Messrs. Lamb and Purvis as delegates and Messrs. Peel and Harrison as alternates.

It was voted that the Post meet the first Thursday night in each month at the Masonic Hall.

As most of the adjoining counties have Posts already organized, we want every ex-service man in this county to be present at the next meeting, September 8th.

There is no reason why Martin county should not have just as good a Post, better if we try, than any other county.

Our motto is "service" and one of our main duties is service to the ex-service men who need attention, widows and children of ex-service men. Mr. E. S. Peel will assist any ex-service man to receive compensation that is due him.

The American Legion has a paid man in Washington who knows the ropes and the correct and shortest channels by which to place claims and can secure the quickest results.

Be on hand at the Masonic Hall and let's make the John W. Hassell American Post of the American Legion the best if not the largest in the State.

MAURICE D. WATTS, Adjutant.

Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Edwards returned to their home in Kinston this morning after visiting their son, Mr. F. L. Edwards and Mrs. Edwards.

## FORD ANNOUNCES IMPROVED LINES

Goes to Colors in Closed Cars; Many Other Refinements Made; Brakes are Larger, More Powerful

Body changes and chassis refinements more pronounced than any made since the adoption of the model T chassis were announced yesterday by the Ford Motor Company. There will be no advance in price, it also was stated that production at the Norfolk branch should start by the first week in September.

Outstanding features of the improvements in both open and enclosed types are lower, all-steel bodies on a lowered chassis, complete new design in most body types, a change from black to color in closed cars, larger, lower fenders newly designed seats and larger, more powerful brakes.

Longer lines, effected through higher radiator and redesigned cowl and bodies are apparent in all the improved Ford cars, but are especially pronounced in the open types. Wide crown fenders hung close to the wheels contribute to the general effect of lowness and smartness.

While runabout and touring car remain in black, the closed bodies are finished in harmonic schemes, enhanced by nickel radiators. The coupe and tudor bodies are finished in deep champagne green, while the fordor is rich Windsor Maroon.

Greater comfort is provided for driver and passengers in both open and closed cars by larger compartments, more deeply cushioned seats and greater leg room.

Many new conveniences are also incorporated in the improved cars. In the runabout, touring car, coupe and tudor, the gasoline tank is under the cowl and filled through an ingeniously located filler cap completely hidden from sight by a cover similar in appearance to a cowl ventilator.

One-piece windshield and narrowed pillars in the tudor and coupe offer the driver greatly increased visibility and improved ventilation.

Driving comfort is materially increased by lower seats, scientifically improved back rests, and lowered steering wheel. Brake and clutch pedals are wider and more conveniently spaced.

Four doors are now provided on the touring car and two on the runabout permitting the driver to take his place from the left side of the car. Curtains, held secure by rods, open with the doors.

Most important in the mechanical changes are the improved brakes. The transmission brake drum and bands have been considerably increased in size which gives the foot brake softer and more positive action as well as longer life. The real wheel brake drums are larger and the brake of self energizing type.

Cord tires are now standard equipment on all Ford cars.

## J. O. Manning Buys Gurganus Grocery

J. O. Manning has purchased the Gurganus Grocery and will be open for business Tuesday, September 1. The store will be closed Monday for the purpose of taking stock of the goods on hand.

Mr. Manning has been in the grocery business in Williamston before and has a number of former patrons who will be pleased to find him in the business again.

## County Schools To Open Next Month

The various county schools will open next month for the 1925-26 sessions. The seventh will be the lucky day for a large number, while some will not open until the latter part of the month.

The eight-months that will open the week of the 7th are:

Oak City, H. M. Ainsley, principal, 7th; Williamston, J. S. Seymour, principal, 10th; Robersonville, R. L. Leake, principal, 7th; Parmele, Owen Dupree, principal, 14th; Jamesville, C. O. Small, principal, 9th; Dardens, Mrs. Annie E. Powell, principal, 7th; Everetts, R. T. Johnson, principal, 7th; Hamilton, J. L. Jones, principal, 7th.

The six-months schools that will open at various times next month, but not later than November 1, are: Farm Life, John Lilley, principal; Bear Grass, S. M. Lee, principal; Sandy Ridge, Griffins, Roanoke, Poplar Point, and Macedonia have not elected their principals at this time, but will have their principals before the schools start; Cross Roads, Miss Bynum, principal, Hurst, Mrs. Eakes, principal; Hassell, Mrs. D. R. Edmondson, principal; Manning, Mrs. F. M. Hardison, principal; Whitley, Miss Williams, principal.

## Pleasant Visitors Here From Windsor



Misses Betty Perry, Anne Elizabeth Nowell and Miriam Bridges, three of Windsor's prominent young ladies. The picture was snapped a few days ago when they were visiting friends here.

## MARTIN AND BERTIE BEGINNING TO KNOW EACH OTHER BETTER

Brief Sketch of Bertie County As Seen By Visitor

Many generations come and went in both Martin and Bertie counties, neither knowing of the existence of the other. Yet like Columbus, the peoples of both counties seemed to have a faint feeling that something lay beyond the great yellow Roanoke and the wide swamp skirting its borders.

Geographers began to teach that the earth was round confining the vague idea which had existed among the people that there was really a land beyond.

Then legends began to float across, telling us of a people as good as we, a people who daily viewed the same sun as we and women fair, who would sit and gaze at the same moon as they do everywhere.

The knowledge of each other began to increase and as we knew more we care more. As our cares increased our efforts extended until we said to them and they said to us, "Let's come together."

Then grew the great Roanoke bridge, which united the counties and made us one.

We found our neighbor greater than we had dreamed, one of the fairest counties of all North Carolina. Bertie is more than two centuries old with a population of 23,992 which is more than 3,000 greater than our own. It has an area more than 60 per cent greater than Martin.

The name of the County came from James and Henry Bertie, who were two of the lord proprietors, and they together owned one eighth of all Carolina at one time.

There are many good things that can be said about Bertie county, both her people and her lands, and both appeal to visitors.

In a day's journey from the Speller's ferry farm, going southeasterly and skirting the Roanoke river may be seen some of the finest farms in all this State. The Cedar Landing farms, the Mooring farms and others for natural fertility and beauty are hard to beat, and though they have been farmed under the tenant system for more than fifty years they produce good crops now. They are occupied exclusively by negroes.

The inhabitants are honorable, substantial citizens, really an unusually grade citizenship with numerous churches and adequate schools.

Passing through the Roanoke section, you find yourself in the Cashie Neck neighborhood where may be found fine farms and fine folks, the Tarantons, Phelps, Tadlocks, Skyles, and a number of other prominent families who go to make a real neighborhood.

The center of this community is Woodard, where a post office and several good country stores are located. Driving still east, we cross the Cashie and pull down the gas until we reach the Chowan section. At Avoca, where more herrings have been caught at one haul with a seine than at any other place in the world. We met here the Messrs. Capeharts and looked over their large farms. We then hunted up Mr. E. S. Askew, and had a little chat with him. It is always good to be with Steve, he will cheer you up so with his optimism.

We hurried along to Merry Hill, (Continued on back page this section)

## ROBERSONVILLE SCHOOLS OPEN 7th

Opens For Third Term In Its New Brick Building; Program Begins at 9 A. M.

The Robersonville public schools will open its third term in the new brick building Monday, September 7. Indications point for one of the largest enrollments ever known to the school. The public is cordially invited to the school at eleven o'clock on opening day when an inspirational address will be delivered by a well-known speaker.

The following program will be followed during the day:

9:00 o'clock, classification and assignments,  
11:00 o'clock, assemble in auditorium (students and public),  
11:15 o'clock, chapel exercise,  
12:00 o'clock, address,  
3:00 o'clock, elementary teachers' meeting,  
4:00 o'clock, high-school teachers' meeting.

All students who wish to enter this school from other schools will kindly bring report cards or a transcript of record. If your boy or girl will be six years old as of September 1, 1925 he is entitled to enter school. Positively no boy or girl may enter the first grade two weeks after school begins. Kindly realize that the teacher of the first grade will be obliged to begin a new section each time a boy or girl enters after two weeks from opening date. This is impossible with an enrollment in the first grade of about forty pupils. First grade students may enter in September and January in compliance with above.

Your County Health department has already called your attention to vaccination. Therefore, please do not allow your child to enter school without being vaccinated. All teachers in Martin county must be vaccinated or show reason why they should not be, and receive a health certificate from a well-known doctor. These matters aid in safeguarding not only your own health, but your neighbor's health also.

Give your boy or girl the implements with which to work. This not only means books, etc. but a room at home where certain specified hours may be used in study, certain hours used in "helping around the house", and certain hours for recreation. Help your boys and girls to systematize their hours at home. At school they study, recite and play by a daily schedule. If some such scheme is followed, at the age of seventeen a normal boy or girl should graduate from high school. The normal age for each grade follows:

First grade, 6 to 7 years; second grade, 7 to 8 years; third grade, 8 to 9 years; fourth grade, 9 to 10 years; fifth grade, 10 to 11 years; sixth grade, 11 to 12 years; seventh grade, 12 to 13 years; eighth grade, 13 to 14 years; ninth grade, 14 to 15 years; tenth grade, 15 to 16 years; eleventh grade, 16 to 17 years.

School is an expensive business, but it will cost your boy or girl a lifetime of hard-labor if he or she fails to grasp the opportunity that our present-day school affords.

## ROBERSONVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOL

## 2,000 Cattle Tested For Tuberculosis

Dr. Duckworth says he has tested Three of them were cattle shipped finding only five with tuberculosis. Three of them were cattle shipped in from another state.

Testing will be completed in the County by the middle of September, and Dr. Duckworth wants every body who have cattle in the county that have been missed or that were not tested, except in the lower part of Jamesville township, which section is not yet completed, to notify him at once of the location so they may be treated before he leaves the County.

## E. V. Mason to Preach For Baptists Sunday

Rev. E. V. Mason of Aulander will preach at the Baptist church Sunday, August 30, both morning and evening.

Mr. Mason is a splendid preacher and you will enjoy hearing him. Sunday school, 9:45 a. m.—J. C. Anderson, superintendent. You are invited to attend all these services.

## MAKES SPEECH AT WOODMEN PICNIC AT EDEN HOUSE

Mr. M. L. Tremain of Winston-Salem, State Deputy of the Modern Woodmen of America, was in town yesterday en route to Eden House in Bertie county, where he made an address at a Woodmen picnic.

**Strand Theatre**

**TONIGHT**  
Fred Thompson in a 5-reel westerner.

**TOMORROW**  
Dick Hatton in "Where Romance Rides"  
Two reel comedy.  
Episode No. 2 of "Fighting Ranger"  
Don't forget the \$5 gold piece to be given away tomorrow night.