

## Local Market Will Open September 7

### Tobacco Men Believe the Price Will Be Good This Season

At a meeting of the National Tobacco Association at Morehead City last week, the tobacco markets in Eastern Carolina will open September 6. That date applies only to the larger markets, it being the custom for the smaller markets to open a day later.

If the date set by the association is unchanged, the market will open here Wednesday, September 7. Prospects for the crop this year are a matter of speculation at this time, but the one main point of interest at the Morehead meeting centered around the price. According to those who attended the meeting, it was the general belief of the tobacco men that the crop this season would bring a good price.

Crop reports from various agencies are thought to be a little off in their figures, especially so in those concerning this immediate section. It is generally known that the acreage has been increased, varying by estimation from 10 to 15 per cent, but that there will be more tobacco produced is doubted by many. The crop in this section has not developed as was expected by many when they looked the field over two or three weeks ago. Several farmers have reported exceptionally fine crops, but the general report would show that the quality of the tobacco is not promising and that the crop will not be as good as it was last year. On sandy land, farmers state that the tobacco is very sorry and that on semi-hard soil it is some better, but in the majority of cases, it is of the poor type. It is expected that the leaf will turn out to be the lightest in years, according to more than a dozen people who have visited the fields in this section.

### Ford Sedan Stolen Last Wednesday Recovered

The Ford sedan stolen from Mr. J. O. Manning while he was attending church at Everetts last Wednesday evening was found in a ditch near Factolus later that night. The rogue, probably not familiar with driving a car, ran the machine into a ditch and, evidently frightened by an approaching car, fled, leaving the lights burning and the engine running. A colored man heard the hum of the motor and went out to investigate. Finding no one there, he cut the engine off and notified the sheriff at Greenville. The car was advertised Thursday and Mr. Manning went for it Friday.

As far as could be determined the car was not damaged. A new coat and hat left in the car by the owner just before it was stolen remained untouched.

### Baptists Change Their Program for Summer

Beginning the first Sunday in July, the local Baptist congregation will have only one preaching service each Sunday for the months of July and August. This one service will be on Sunday mornings.

In addition to the morning preaching service, the Sunday school will meet regularly, as usual, and the mid-week Bible study will carry on each Wednesday night as usual.

The people who are accustomed to attend the services at this church will kindly bear in mind this change, and it is hoped that the people will support, after a noble fashion, the Sunday morning service throughout the summer.

**STRAND THEATRE**

**WEDNESDAY**

A Crashing Real Western  
Dynamite in action—Nitro-Glycerine in comedy—T. N. T. in Thrills

**TOM TYLER**

in  
"The Sonora Kid"

MERMAID COMEDY  
"Going Crazy"

Also a  
**FREE TICKET**

to See DICK HATTON in  
"SPEEDING HOOPS" FRIDAY

**Always a Good Show.**

### Commissioners To Meet On Monday

The Fourth of July is nothing but a first Monday this year with the board of county commissioners, for the various members will meet in regular session here that day. There was some doubt at first as to whether the board would hold a session that day, but yesterday Chairman Barnhill stated that so far as he knew the board would meet.

### Rush Begins For Licenses

#### Only Two Days Remain For the Purchase of Auto Tags

The first real rush for auto licenses came last Saturday, when approximately 500 of the tags were issued to car owners by the local bureau. All during the day a short line would form, and the clerks found it difficult to keep it cleared. During the hours the bureau was open, the clerks issued tags at the rate of one a minute.

In spite of all warnings, it now looks as if the rush will reach the point where the clerks will not be able to handle it. There remain only two more days in which to purchase the tags and stay within the law, and it will be next to impossible for the bureau to issue the remaining number in that time.

Saturday's sale brought the number sold by the local bureau up to 1,500. Yesterday's sale was not so large, and today's sale, while it was making strong headway, will not equal the one last Saturday. A new record is expected to be set tomorrow and Thursday.

One of the branch managers stated yesterday that additional tags are expected to arrive within the next day or so, and that a larger number will be distributed from this point than was originally expected.

### Collins Peel With Peel Motor Company

Mr. S. C. Peel, connected with the Harrison wholesale company during the past several years, resigned his traveling salesman with that company and goes with the Peel Motor Co., Chevrolet dealers of this place. Mr. Peel enters upon his new duties this week and carries to his new position the good will of people all over Eastern Carolina.

Mr. Peel is not new in the automobile business, having been connected directly or indirectly with the business during a large part of his life. He will be succeeded by Mr. Gaylord Harrison as traveling salesman for the wholesale company.

### Volunteer Firemen Met Last Evening

Members of the volunteer fire company met in a short business session here last night in the office of Attorney Peel. Plans for the entertainment at the Eastern Carolina Firemen's association were discussed, but final arrangements are to be made by a committee.

The local firemen are planning a big reception for the firemen when they meet here next month.

### Many Local People Go To Pamlico Beach

According to the number of local people visiting Pamlico Beach each week, that resort is the main haven of rest for the week-end excursionists from here. Although there have been few week ends thus far that have contributed real warm weather, the number attending that resort has ranged from 10 upward. It is understood that the town will have a large delegation there during the next week end. The hotel service and meals there have been favorably commented upon by visitors from all over this section, and the number of people to visit there is increasing.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Clark visited relatives in Durham Sunday. Mrs. Clark will remain there a few days. Mr. Clark returned home yesterday.

## Taylor Wins Hard-Fought Legal Battle

### Jury Returned Verdict After Deliberating Five Minutes

After five days of evidence, flowery speeches and other happenings common in the courtroom, the James versus Taylor case came to a close when the jury, after five minutes of deliberation, found in favor of the defendant Taylor, here yesterday afternoon.

This was one of the most notable civil cases tried in our county during the past several years. More witnesses were introduced in the case than at any previous time during the past several years.

The plaintiff claimed that under an agreement covering a part of the warehouse season of 1925 that the defendant and he had a contract whereby he was to buy tobacco on his warehouse floor with the defendant's money and the defendant was to handle the tobacco on a fifty-fifty basis as relating to profits and losses.

It turned out at the end of the season several thousand dollars had been lost, and about 13,000 pounds of tobacco was short according to the books of James. James claimed a large sum of money was due him for loss in pounds, bad handling and also for selling on a low market. Besides this a claim was made for injury to the plaintiff's reputation. The plaintiff James also charged that W. F. Crawford who had actually handled the leaf account had not properly accounted for much of the tobacco he had handled.

Soon after the plaintiff introduced his testimony, it was thought by many that he had no case, and that he was unable to substantiate a single one of his claims.

The defense presented an itemized statement of all tobacco received and showed the proceeds of same. It was the defense's contention that the loss in pounds was because much of the 350,000 pounds of tobacco bought was in high order, bought widely, scattered around in nooks and corners where it was damaged by the weather and that it lost in both quality and pounds before it went into the hands of Mr. Crawford. It was also claimed that Mr. James sold much of the tobacco, that he sold 12,000 pounds on Sunday at one time besides large quantities of damaged tobacco at other times and placed much of the leaf in the scrap. All of this was never charged against the leaf account, according to the James audit, the audit including only the tobacco handled by Crawford.

After a long battle of five days in which James was represented by Ward and Grimes, of Washington, Albion Dunn, of Greenville, Stubbs and Stubbs, of Williamston, and Taylor by A. R. Dunning, E. S. Peel and Wheeler Martin, of Williamston, and A. D. McLean, of Washington, the verdict was returned by the jury in about five minutes.

The case brought to a close the June term Martin Superior court. To finish the case, court was continued through yesterday.

### Mrs. J. J. Long Dies In Hospital Saturday

Mrs. J. J. Long, of near Oak City, died last Saturday at 1:30 in a Rocky Mount hospital at the age of 72 years. Mrs. Long had been in feeble health for some time and had been in the hospital for the past two weeks for treatment.

Before her marriage to the late J. J. Long immediately after the Civil War, she was a Miss Allsbrook, of Scotland Neck. Since her marriage, she lived near Oak City, where a family of fine young girls and boys was reared.

Interment was made in the cemetery at Conoho Church, near Oak City Sunday afternoon, Rev. Grimes officiating.

### Town Commissioners Meet Next Tuesday

At their last meeting, the town commissioners postponed the meeting scheduled for next Monday night until Tuesday, July 5. Several members of the board are planning to be out of town on the Fourth, and it was decided to postpone the meeting until the following day.

### Everetts to Meet Creswell Thursday

Everetts will meet Creswell in a baseball game at Everetts next Thursday afternoon, according to Manager Bailey of the Everetts team.

The game will be called at 4:15 and is expected to be one of the best of the season.

## Governmental Costs of State Next Lowest

### State Maintenance and Operation Amounted To \$16,292,822

The Federal Department of Commerce has just published a report showing the cost of State government for the year 1926. It is interesting to know that the cost in North Carolina is the lowest of any State in the Union except Alabama. The northern and western States are generally much higher than the Southern States. Every one of the conservative New England States are in the high column, while every Southern State except Texas is in the low column.

The University News Letter gives the following financial exhibits for North Carolina:

The payments for maintenance and operation of the general departments of North Carolina for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1926, amounted to \$16,292,822, or \$5.75 per capita. This includes \$1,923,579, apportionments for education to the minor civil divisions of the State. In 1926 the comparative per capita for maintenance and operation of general departments was \$6.09, and in 1917, \$1.96. The expenses of public service enterprises amounted to \$16,635; interest on debt, \$5,214.37; and outlays for permanent improvements, \$24,280,305. The total payments, therefore, for expenses of general departments and public service enterprises, interest, and outlays were \$45,804,036. The totals include all payments for the year, whether made from current revenues or from the proceeds of bond issues.

Of the governmental costs reported above, \$23,990,981 was for highways, \$2,940,210 being for maintenance and \$21,050,671 for construction.

Revenues  
The total revenue receipts of North Carolina for 1926 were \$36,474,774, or \$12.87 per capita. This was \$14,950,943 more than the total payments of the year, exclusive of the payments for permanent improvements, but \$9,529,262 less than the total payments including those for permanent improvements. These payments in excess of revenue receipts were met from the proceeds of debt obligations. Property and special taxes represented 21.8 per cent of the total revenue for 1926, 18.5 per cent for 1925, and 0.2 per cent for 1917. The increase in the amount of property and special taxes collected was 77.2 per cent from 1917 to 1925, and 51.3 per cent from 1925 to 1926, the increase from 1925 to 1926 being largely due to the greater receipts from the income tax.

The per capita property and special taxes were \$2.81 in 1926, \$1.92 in 1925, and \$1.20 in 1917. The receipts from general property taxes in 1925 and 1926 were negligible, being only collections on levy of previous years. Earnings of general departments, or compensation for services rendered by State officials, represented 11.1 per cent of the total revenue for 1926, 11.2 per cent for 1925, and 20.4 per cent for 1917.

Business and non-business licenses constituted 43.1 per cent of the total revenue for 1926, 49.3 per cent for 1925, and 19.4 per cent for 1917.

Receipts from business licenses consist chiefly of taxes exacted from insurance and other incorporated companies and of sales tax on gasoline, while those from non-business licenses comprise chiefly taxes on motor vehicles.

### Assault Case Before Justice of the Peace

While Judge Nunn and his 12 jurors were listening to the flowery language of several lawyers in the James-Taylor suit, Justice of the Peace J. L. Hassell, at the mayor's office, was listening to facts about domestic relations. Joe Davenport was brought into court by a warrant charging him with beating his wife.

The evidence in the case proved the charge to be true, and when the Justice saw that large whelps remained on the legs of the man's wife, he bound Joe over to the recorder's court under a \$100 bond.

Davenport's motive in whipping his wife was not recorded in the court record, but judging from the bruises on his wife's legs, the man must have been in a state of madness when he administered the whipping. The Davenports live near here in Williams Township. It is thought the case will be ready for compromise by Tuesday week, the day set for the case to go before Judge Bailey.

### No Recorder's Court Here Next Tuesday

There will be no recorder's court here next Tuesday, according to Recorder Walter Bailey. The court will hold its regular session the following Tuesday, July 12.

## Questions and Answers About Special School Election July 5

### Last-Minute Rush Brings Registration Total to 451

#### More Than 125 Citizens Place Their Names On Books Last Day; Saturday Day for Challenge

The number of citizens registering for the special school election to be held here the 5th of next month reached 451 before the books closed Saturday. More than 125 electors joined in the last-minute rush and placed their names on the books; it was the registrar's first real busy day since the books opened a month ago. Indications during the first few days of the registration pointed to a

lifeless election, and up until the last day it looked as if the election would be held with few availing themselves of the opportunity to take part. The last day of registration, however, makes possible a representative election, and unless the electors get forgetful a good vote is expected.

The registration books will be open for challenge next Saturday at the Farmers Supply Co. store.

### Start Bazemore Case Tomorrow

#### Many Local People Are Planning to Attend Trial in Snow Hill

The Bazemore murder trial is scheduled to start in the Greene County Superior court at Snow Hill tomorrow. Witnesses here were notified that the case would be called in the morning, and the six or more who will give evidence will leave here in time to reach there when the court is called. Judge E. H. Cramer is presiding over the present session there.

It will be remembered that this case was tried in the same court several months ago with Judge Stack presiding. A new trial was granted when an appeal was made to the Supreme court, a technical error serving as a basis for the re-trial. Bazemore was sentenced to die in the electric chair for the murder of Gordon Yelverton, young white boy of this place.

Besides the witnesses many local people will visit the county seat of Greene to hear the proceedings.

### Two Cases Tried; Four Continued by Recorder

Recorder's court today succeeded in making history of two cases and encumbering itself with future trouble by continuing four cases.

Fernanda Bland plead guilty to the charge of driving a car while drunk. He was fined \$75, charged with the cost of the case and had his license to drive a car revoked for four months.

Jim and Ben Everett, charged with assault with deadly weapon, were found to be guilty of nothing more than simple assault and this was found to be true only in Ben's case. He was charged with the cost and Jim escaped cost and penalty when he was proved not guilty.

Will Williams who drove his car into that of Herbert Hopkins, was charged with driving while drunk. The case was continued for two weeks.

The case in which Hezekiah Williams was charged with non-support was continued for two weeks.

The cases against Wesley Baker and C. H. Clark were continued for two weeks.

There will be no session of the court next week, Tuesday, July 12 being set for the next term.

### Local Bank Sells Travelers' Checks

The Farmers & Merchants Bank has just added a new service, that of selling traveler's checks. The service is of much help to the traveling public, and it was to meet the demand of many traveling salesmen that the bank added it to its group of other services.

The checks range in denominations from \$10 to \$100. Fraud is prevented by having the purchaser sign the check book when bought and then sign when the check is cashed, the corresponding signatures giving the check its validity.

### Sixty Registered for Smithwick Election

Around 60 citizens in the Smithwick school district entered their names on the registration books for the special school election in that district to be held July 5. Mr. W. A. Gardner, registrar for the district, has had a slow business registering the electors in the district, but it is understood that the election will create a great deal of interest even though it is on a small scale.

The vote will be made next Tuesday at the old Smithwick schoolhouse.

### The School Election and Its Purpose Fully Explained

Numerous questions have been directed to the office of the Martin County Board of Education concerning the significance of the special election to be held at the courthouse in Williamston on July 5th, 1927. For no other purpose than to avoid duplication of answers, and to save time of questioners and responder, the following questionnaire and answers are compiled:

Taxpayer: "What tax do we pay for school in Williamston at this time?"

Answer: "We paid 88 cents on \$100 property valuation last year to maintain our school six months, as does a property holder in Biggs, Burroughs, or any other school district in Martin County."

Taxpayer: "Is there no other school tax on us?"

Answer: "Yes; in addition to the above 88 cents we paid a special tax on \$100 property valuation in Williamston Special Tax District, which holders of property in Biggs, Burroughs, and Whitley Districts did not pay."

Taxpayer: "Do you mean to say that a citizen in Williamston pays 36 cents more on \$100 worth of property for schools than a citizen of the other districts in the township?"

Answer: "Yes; that is the situation."

Taxpayer: "Well, what is the additional 36 cents on the \$100 property valuation used for?"

Answer: "To support the Williamston school for the seventh and eighth months."

Taxpayer: "But why does the county and State not pay the cost of support longer than six months?"

Answer: "Because the people of the State only voted for a constitutional amendment calling for maintenance of schools for six months."

Taxpayer: "Is it worth while, after all, to provide for eight months of school?"

Answer: "It looks somewhat like it pays when large numbers leave the six-months-term districts and come to Williamston eight-months-term district."

"It looks a little like it pays when the average daily attendance of pupils in six-months-term districts of the county is about 50 per cent of the enrollment, and the average daily attendance of pupils in eight-months-term districts is about 85 per cent of the enrollment."

"It looks a little bit like it pays when citizens of six-months districts say their children who have attended Williamston one year have learned more in that year than in several years attendance of six-months schools."

"It looks a little like it pays when a certain eight-months school of this county with an average yearly enrollment of less than 300 pupils has turned out 24 teachers in the last four years whose yearly earnings will amount to more than the tax paid to support the school, not to mention others trained for lives of usefulness."

"It looks—"

Taxpayer: "Hold on; I know all that's so; but what I was only anxious to know was what this new plan, when carried, would cost me?"

Answer: "That depends on where you live and how your holdings are divided."

Taxpayer: "Suppose I live in Williamston Special Tax District?"

Answer: "In that case, all your taxable property being in Williamston, to vote for local tax July 5th would not increase your tax at all."

Taxpayer: "What if most of my holdings were outside of Williamston and in what is now Whitley District?"

Answer: "When you vote for local tax, you increase the amount you pay, but ten chances to one you are thereby enabled to hire a better type of tenant on your land and increase the productivity of your farm."

Taxpayer: "Suppose I reside in Biggs District?"

Answer: "If you have any listed property, your tax will be increased by 35 cents on the \$100 worth of property. But if you have children or expect to have children in Williamston school, this is your opportunity to do the honest thing and vote to support the school your children enjoy."

Taxpayer: "Could an honorable man do other than to vote for local tax when living in non-local territory he had for years sent his children to Williamston without paying one penny to support the seventh and eighth month of school?"

Answer: "Now, you are warning

(Continued on the back page)