

MANY PEANUTS SHIPPED FROM HERE THIS YEAR

230 Cars Shipped Since October 29th; Boat Line Carries Some

80 PER CENT IS SOLD

Total of Around Seventy Thousand Bags Shipped; Would Make Train Over Two Miles Long

If the popcorn growers have done as well this year as the peanut growers in this section have done, there will be no shortage of peanuts-popcorn at the circuses for a long time to come. Shipments of peanuts from this market reached in the neighborhood of seventy thousand bags yesterday. Put them all in railroad cars and there would be around 230 cars, making a solid train of over two miles in length.

The first shipment was made over the A. C. L. October 29. Since that time the shipments have increased in size and number and as many as fifteen cars have left the market here in one day. The boat line handled a large number of the goobers, carrying solid loads to Edenton and other peanut markets. The majority of the shipments went to Suffolk and Edenton.

Reports from other markets in the county were not obtainable yesterday, but it is understood that they when added to the ones here, will show Martin county to be one of the largest peanut growing counties in the country.

Unfavorable weather conditions have delayed the peanut farmers in picking and marketing their crops, and at this time, it is estimated that not more than eighty per cent of the crop has been picked and sold. It will be some time in January before a complete report can be had, showing the exact number of bags of peanuts raised in the county.

BOYS AND GIRLS WIN AT WINDSOR

Double Victory Registered By Local Basketball Teams Tuesday

Two victories were registered last Tuesday night when the local high school basketball teams met those of Windsor in Windsor. The girls won by a ten to five count while the boys made eighteen markers to their opponents' seven.

The local boys after losing to Windsor here last week, entered into real practice and developed better form in a very short time. The girls' team is improving with daily practice, and before the season is over Coach Hood feels sure he will have a winning team.

Several positions on the regular boys' team remain unfilled, and Mr. Hood, the coach, states it will be after Christmas before a final selection will be made. The boys are striving after permanent berths on the squad, and with a few players to spare, a creditable five is expected to result.

Woman's Club To Hold Meeting Next Thursday

The regular meeting of the Woman's club will be held next Thursday afternoon in the club rooms. Due to the busy season, the members of the club are assured that the meeting will not last very long.

Attend Meeting of Medical Societies

Doctors W. E. Warren, J. E. Smithwick, J. S. Rhodes and J. H. Saunders attended a joint meeting of the medical societies of Edgecombe, Martin, Beaufort, Pitt and Halifax counties in Tarboro last Wednesday.

STRAND THEATRE

SATURDAY JACK HOXIE

in "BARB WIRE" Also

2 - REEL COMEDY And Serial

"SCARLET BRAND" Always a Good Show

Power Plant Sale Will Be Decided at Polls Tuesday

Is One of Most Important Elections in History of Town; 165 Votes Needed to Carry Election

One of the most important questions the town has faced for many years will be decided next Tuesday when the power proposal presents itself for settlement. To carry the election, 165 votes will have to be cast in its favor; to defeat the measure, that number will have to be registered against it. The power situation in our town is to be taken seriously, and the citizenry should take an interest in the election next Tuesday.

At the election next Tuesday, those in favor of the offer shall vote a ticket upon which will be

printed the words, "For Power Proposal", those wishing to vote against the offer shall vote a ticket upon which will be printed the words "Against Power Proposal".

The Board of Town Commissioners and the town's officers have made every attempt to put the matter before the people in a fair and square manner. The question is up to the voters, and the town's officials are anxious for the people to join in and work cooperatively for the best interest of the future development of the town and its citizenry.

3,500 TONS GUANO UNLOADED HERE

High Water on Roanoke Delays Bringing Barges Up River

Shipments of raw materials to the Standard Fertilizer Company here reached 3,500 tons yesterday when the Grace Bennett, a three-mast schooner docked at the company's wharf with three hundred and fifty tons of fertilizer aboard. During the past several weeks, the company has, in the face of unfavorable weather conditions, operated almost continuously, unloading the raw products.

High water in the Roanoke has delayed several shipments of the fertilizer ingredients, and at the present time the Northern Twenty is anchored near Jamesville waiting for the high water to go down. An ocean going tug was forced to drop the big barge from its tow when it faced the swift current of the Roanoke. Two barges were carried out Wednesday, and it was all the tug boat could do to swing them around the curves of the river.

Mr. Bonduant, plant manager stated yesterday that as long as the water remained up, the Northern Twenty would have to remain below Jamesville with its 800-ton cargo. Measurements of the river yesterday showed that the water was about on a stand still.

Christmas Stockings for Oteen Needed at Once

Those who want to remember the soldiers at Oteen with a Christmas stocking are asked to send them to Mrs. J. F. Thigpen at once. The committee wishes to get them off so the gifts will reach Asheville before Christmas Eve. The club women of Asheville will distribute the stockings and the flowers the Philaena classes are giving to the boys at a Christmas party. A few stockings have already been sent from here, but not as many as were sent last year.

High School Play To Be Staged Tonight

According to the ticket sale, a large number of people tonight will see "Cupid up-to-date", a musical comedy sponsored by the Dramatic club of the local high school. Reports coming from the last dress rehearsals indicate that the play will meet with great approval.

Farm Life Quint Wins From Local Boys, 12-9

The local high school quintet lost its second game of the season here last night when the boys from Farm Life won 12 to 9. With Cox out of the game, the locals got off to a poor start, and were unable to overcome Farm Life's lead. The visitors played a creditable game, but on the whole a poor brand of ball was seen.

Suffers Broken Arm in Game Tuesday Night

Edwin Cox suffered a broken arm in the Windsor-Williamston basketball game last Tuesday night. In the third quarter, young Cox made a high jump, lost his balance and fell on his left arm, breaking the two bones. Up until that time, Cox was leading the team in points scored and with feature plays.

Baptists Announce Services for Sunday

Sunday morning the pastor will preach from the book of Philimon—a short epistle of but a few verses. In the evening the subject discussed will be Temptation.

This church is preparing for the two services which it will hold on Christmas Day—the morning White Gift service, an afternoon Twilight service.

LEAF MARKET CLOSES TODAY

Warehouses To Open Again January 3; Nearly Eight Million Pounds Sold

The local tobacco market closed today with its sales a fraction under the eight-million mark. The bad weather for the most of the week brought the sales down considerably. Exclusive of scrap, the number of pounds sold up to the 14th of the month reached 7,886,576.

The average price for the market according to the last government report was 25.71. The average for the State was 26.40. There were five eastern markets that led Williamston in pounds, Wilson, Greenville, Kinston, Rocky Mount and Farmville.

Seven markets led in prices, Robersonville, Washington, Wilson, Tarboro, Greenville, Farmville, Rocky Mount.

The price change from last year is very interesting and reflects one fact, that the seasons in a community which produce a good crop will insure good prices in a neighboring market. Last year, Ahoskie was among the highest while this year it was the lowest.

The warehouses expect to open again about the 3rd of January as there seems to be considerable tobacco that could not be put on the market before its close for the holidays.

CAPTURE STILL AND EQUIPMENT

Property Used At Stills Would Have Made 625 Gallons Whisky

Officer C. F. Alexander accompanied by Deputy Sheriff Grimes of this county and Deputies Rodgers and Mitchell, of Beaufort county observed the woods a mile and a half east of Bear Grass Wednesday. Their search had hardly begun before they found two white men mixing beer. The officers were discovered by the mixers who made their escape. The still had been removed from the furnace and was either hidden or carried to some other stand for use. The officers found a "crow's nest" high up in a tree which was evidently used by a sentry when the still was in operation.

Continuing their search, the officers found a few hundred yards away, a big outfit consisting of a 200-gallon copper still, a steam boiler of from six to eight horse capacity, two bags of sugar, double coolers, about a dozen barrels and a number of large vats holding about 500 gallons each. The officers estimated that there were about 5000 gallons of beer almost ready for use. At this plant they also found axes, buckets, tubs, and pump hose.

At another place, Mr. Alexander and his assistants destroyed four barrels of beer. The property used in connection with the stills would have, according to estimates made by the officers, turned out 625 gallons of mongrel whiskey and would have sold for \$2500 at the moonshine rate, about \$5000 at the street boot-leg price and for about \$9,000 at the fancy-dance rate.

Ex-Soldiers Should File Claims Before January 1

Every man who served in the World War is entitled to compensation. After January 1, it will be too late. All who fail to file by that time will be shut out. It is reported that there are yet half a million soldiers who have not filed their claims.

If every man in Martin county will take it upon himself to inquire of his neighbor soldier if he has filed his claim for adjusted compensation, then no one need be left out. Attorneys Elbert S. Peel and Robert L. Coburn, both ex-soldiers signify their willingness to assist any comrade in preparing his claim.

ROBERSONVILLE MAN IS ROBBED BY HIGHWAYMEN

Henry Johnson, Jr., Is Victim of Well-Planned Hold-Up

GET \$52.80 AND WATCH

Two Negroes, After Robbing and Binding Auto Salesman, Try To Run Car Over Him

Mr. Henry Johnson, Jr., salesman for the Robersonville Motor Company, was robbed by highwaymen last Wednesday night on the old Palmyra-Hobgood road, a short distance from Oak City.

A reporter for the Robersonville Record writes:

"The highwaymen, according to Mr. Johnson, got \$52.80 cash off his person, and his watch. The negroes had, apparently planned a most clever scheme by which to execute their crime. According to Mr. Johnson, the two negroes came to Robersonville on Wednesday, calling at the Robersonville Motor Company on the pretense of wishing to purchase a used car. Mr. Johnson waited on them, and they became interested in an Oldsmobile. However, they explained to Mr. Johnson that they would have to consult their wives and wished for them also to see the car, requesting that he meet them in Palmyra with the car about sunset or dark Wednesday night. Upon reaching Palmyra Mr. Johnson found only one of the negroes there, he explaining that the other one had gone to Oak City after his wife. When Mr. Johnson told him that he could not wait much longer, the negro offered him \$10.00 deposit, stating that if they failed to see the other party that night that he would call at the Robersonville Motor Company Thursday and close the deal for the car. The negro, thereupon, gave Mr. Johnson a \$20.00 bill and Mr. Johnson gave him \$10.00 change and a receipt. However, before Mr. Johnson got away it was suggested by the negro that they go toward Oak City and they would meet the second negro with his wife. Unsuspectingly, Mr. Johnson complied and took the negro in the Oldsmobile for the trip.

"When about three and a half miles out from Oak City, the negro asked Mr. Johnson to stop a minute, to which request he also complied. When the negro got out of the car he switched the lights off and the second negro emerged from the bushes and had Mr. Johnson covered with a gun. After tying his hands behind him with wire, and also tying his handkerchief over Mr. Johnson's face, they searched him, taking the \$52.80 and his watch; after which they threw him to the ground and attempted to run the car over him, but this, without success as Mr. Johnson managed to keep the wheels off of him. They drove Mr. Johnson's car some 400 yards down the road and abandoned it, one negro coming back and striking Mr. Johnson in the face, knocking him unconscious for almost an hour.

"When he came to, Mr. Johnson saw a white man coming toward him, but he, upon seeing him bandaged with the handkerchief was at first hesitant in approaching Mr. Johnson. However, when he understood what had taken place the man, a Mr. Scott who lives on the Leggett farm, released Mr. Johnson and they went to a negro's home nearby. The company's office here was notified, and they, in turn, notified local and county authorities in all the surrounding towns and counties. Bloodhounds from Enfield were summoned and they carried the trail for some distance where it came to an abrupt end, evidence showing that the negroes had boarded another car."

The negroes are not known in the upper part of the county, and while they are not sure, residents there are of the opinion that the men are from near Weldon. Several clues are being followed in an effort to capture the robbers, but up until this morning very little progress had been made to that end.

Twilight Service at Baptist Church on Christmas Day

It was announced Sunday at the Baptist church that plans had been perfected for another "Twilight Christmas Service" in that church.

This service will be held in the church at 5 o'clock in the afternoon of Christmas Day.

In this way, the people who attend the afternoon service will be free to attend any other churches of the town in the evening, or to spend their Christmas evening anyway they may like. Also, by holding the service at this time, it will give everybody in Williamston an opportunity to attend.

The service will be very simple, and brief, consisting of appropriate Christmas music, an anthem and a short address by the pastor.

This service, with the White Gift service held in the church on Sunday morning at 10:30 o'clock will be the only services held in the church Christmas Day.

ASK PARKING ON SIDE STREETS

Mayor Says Limiting Rule Will Be Passed If Request Not Obeyed

Attention of local automobile owners is again called to the request made a few days ago by Mayor Coburn. If the request is heeded, no special parking laws will be necessary, it was stated yesterday by a town official.

Should the request be ignored, it is understood that a parking limit ordinance will necessarily be passed in order to relieve the congested parking conditions on Main and Washington streets.

In the Mayor's request all local automobile owners are asked to either walk to their businesses during tomorrow and the business days of next week or avoid parking their cars in the business districts of the two streets.

Mr. Coburn stated that this would be of great help to the many visitors coming here during tomorrow and next week.

RUNS CAR INTO OPEN DRAW

Man From Blounts Creek Is Drowned at New Bridge Near Columbia

Harry Eugene Stewart, a traveling man, drove his car into the open draw of the new Scuppernon River bridge at Columbia Wednesday night about 7:30 and was drowned.

No one seems to know just how the accident happened, and it was some time before the car and the man's body were removed from the water.

Mr. Stewart had lived in Washington for a number of years, moving there from the western part of the State. He married Miss Mae Blount, daughter of Mrs. W. A. Blount, of Washington, who with five young sons survives. Mr. Stewart traveled for the Michelin Tire Company for a number of years. He purchased a farm at Blounts Creek a few years ago and moved there with his family and engaged in the poultry business, continuing his work with the Michelin Company.

The body was removed to the home of his mother-in-law in Washington yesterday where the funeral and burial services were held today.

2 COLORED MEN CAUGHT AT STILL

Federal Agents Get Still And Plenty Equipment, Besides Two Men

Federal Agent C. F. Alexander and Deputy Sheriff George M. Harris, of Beaufort county, captured Tom Baker and Smith Crandall, negroes, at a still near the Beaufort county line yesterday afternoon. The black-line were too busy to watch for officers, for they had already manufactured twelve gallons of liquor and had the plant steaming when the officers walked upon the scene.

The officers brought the outfit, including the two operators, two vessels of liquor, complete still and accessories before the U. S. commissioner here yesterday afternoon, for a hearing of the two men. Baker and Crandall both declared that it was their first day at a still and that they were wage earners, that some unknown Martin county man had gone to their homes near Pactus in Pitt county and hired them to run the plant for him. They were to be paid for the work -3.50 in cash and a gallon of liquor each.

The defendants were placed in jail in default of \$500 bonds. They were confined hardy two hours before friends bonded them.

Chain Store Opens Here Tomorrow

North Carolina Chain Stores, with the home office at Elizabeth City, will open one of its first stores here tomorrow. The old post office building has been remodeled for the new store, and while it will be impossible to arrange all the stock as it should be by the time of opening, Mr. B. G. Shanhouse, the store's manager, states this will not affect the big opening expected tomorrow.

Charges Against Senators-Elect Holding Up Senate

The charges against Senators Vare, of Pennsylvania and Smith, of Illinois are holding up the work of the U. S. Senate.

Smith and Vare, it is alleged, won their way to the Senate by fraudulent and corrupt means and their right to take seats in the body are being questioned. Senator Norris, a Republican, was the first to call their hands and block the entrance to the Senate for them.



SUPERIOR COURT ENDED TUESDAY

Several Divorce Actions Started; Only One Completed

The work of the Martin County Superior court just before its adjournment last Tuesday evening dealt mostly with judgments and divorce actions.

After pleading guilty to the charge, assault with a deadly weapon, Don Johnson had the following judgment imposed. That defendant be confined in the State's prison for not more than seven years and not less than two years. Capias only to issue upon motion of the solicitor which may be done at any time within five years from this date. Upon issuance of capias, defendant not to be required to serve said sentence unless the Judge holding the court shall be satisfied that the defendant has violated some criminal law of the State of North Carolina, or has been drunk or intoxicated, and upon a showing satisfactory to the Judge that the defendant has violated any criminal law of the State of North Carolina or has been drunk or intoxicated the defendant shall serve the sentence hereinafter imposed, said term to begin as of that date.

On a trespass charge Johnson waived the finding of a true bill of the grand jury and plead guilty. A sixty-day jail sentence was imposed, but with the holidays so near, Judge Moore arranged the sentence so that Johnson might be out during a part of the time. The arrangement provides a week's stay in jail at this time and a \$250 bond at the end of the term of one week for his return January 5, 1928 when he will complete serving the sentence.

After pleading guilty of assault against Tom Askew, H. L. Gardner was given a one-year road sentence which was suspended upon the good behavior of the defendant during that time. It was agreed that the defendant pay Askew \$350, and Dr. J. H. Saunders \$50 for the treatment of Askew.

Several divorce actions were started, but with the exception of two, judgment was suspended.

A complete divorce was granted Ella Nowell from James Nowell.

CARS MUST HAVE TAGS BY JANUARY

State Inspector Says Cars Must Have Licenses Or Stay Off Roads

According to a statement made by Mr. A. McKensie, car inspector representing the State Automobile License bureau, no car will be permitted to travel the highways of the State after January 1, without having the 1928 license tag attached.

He states that Mr. Doughton, Tax Commissioner, has ordered deputies to stop all motor vehicles found operating without license after the first of the New Year.

The sale of licenses is said to be progressing slowly and is very much behind the sale of last July for the same period. The local bureau reports a similar situation here, and unless sales pick up at once, the managers think it will be almost impossible to prevent crowded conditions during the latter part of the month.

Two Arrested in Aulander Fatality

Aulander, Dec. 15.—Following the report that someone had thrown gasoline or kerosene on the clothing of Colon Burkett, of Lewiston, earlier in the night before he had been fatally burned early Sunday morning, Joe Shirley and Charlie Conner were arrested but were released as they knew nothing of the tragedy.

No one had been with Burkett for an hour when Mrs. Whit Parker, at whose home he was staying, discovered him in the front yard, on Main street, of Lewiston, with his clothing on fire and awoke her husband who extinguished the flames but only after Burkett had been fatally burned. He died at about 11:30 Sunday while being carried to Rocky Mount hospital.

TO CHOOSE SITE FOR NEW HIGH SCHOOL TUESDAY

Big Crowd Expected To Be At Board Meeting Tuesday Night

TWO SITES FAVORED

Property Near Fair Grounds and Lot In New Town Seem To Be Favorites Now

The meeting called by the Board of Education to be held next Tuesday afternoon at the courthouse when a site for the new school building will be selected, will in all probability, be largely attended by citizens of the town and community. Already many citizens have offered their ideas as to where the site should be, and as far as it can be learned, the field in New Town and property on Highway No. 90 are most widely suggested.

One citizen, favoring the Martin property on Highway 90 stated that this site was decidedly the best one, considering drainage, room, town expansion and the publicity feature of the building. Should the building be located there, it would be only a matter of a very few months before the railroad underpass would be widened and sidewalks provided and constructed from the hill this side take underpass to the school building.

Another citizen in expressing his ideas and views stated that the logical site would be in the field in New Town, near the home of Mr. Bob Leggett. Giving his reasons for this as a probable site, he mentioned the convenience of the location, room and development of the town. He did not say a street would be cut through from the town's main thoroughfare, across the railroad near the storage warehouse and on into Hatton street, but he did say that one could be cut through there, making the school convenient to the business district and as easily accessible for the children as is the present building. This citizen mentioned the undesirable features of this along with the good ones, stating that a school building located on this site would have a tendency to centralize the town instead of scattering it over a two-mile territory.

It is understood that favorable offers have been made, and that they will be made public next Tuesday at the meeting.

HONOR ROLL OF LOCAL SCHOOL

Forty-Five Pupils on List for Past Month; Only 2 In High School

Forty-five pupils in the local school burned the mid-night oil during the past school month and made the averages and marks necessary to get their names among the list of honor students. The second grade led the list when it contributed eleven of the forty-five names.

The roll by grades follows:

- First grade—Grace Barnhill, Cottie Mae Wynne, Thelma Griffin, Kilai Sumara, Bill Roberson.
- Second grade—Joseph Barnhill, Addie Meador, Burras Critcher, John F. Thigpen, Ellis Wynne, Julia Everett, Jean Watts, Gwendolyn Watts.
- Third grade—R. A. Pope, Jr., Chas. Dickey, Pete Egan, Carlyle Hall, Lois Taylor, Fannie Spain Holliday, Ruby Harrison, Florence Woodard Holliday, Marie Griffin, Ella Wynne Critcher, Annie Mae Leggett.
- Fourth grade—Mamie Clyde Taylor.
- Fifth grade—Kathleen Price, Bolton Cowen, Eloise Cooke, Thad Harrison, Jr., Joe Thrower, Jr.
- Sixth grade—Olive McCabe, Alice Harrison, Grace Manning, Jessie Mae Anderson, Eula Green, Billie Green.
- Seventh grade—Josephine Anderson, Herbert Whitley.
- Eighth grade—Cushing Hassell, Gormer Taylor, Myrtle Brown.
- Ninth grade—Jim Rhodes, Jr., Hazel Modlin, Julian Daniel.
- Tenth grade—Edith Peele.
- Eleventh grade—Ollie Marie Roberson.

Christmas Seal Sale Here Falls Behind

With the quota hardly half sold, the committee in charge is making a last minute plea to the people of the town to buy Tuberculosis Christmas seals. As compared with last year the sale this season is falling far behind in number of seals sold. The committee, however, is depending upon the sale during the next few days to show an increase.

Coach B. E. Hood Is Sworn In As Lawyer

Brodie E. Hood appeared before the local bar Wednesday and was sworn in by Judge Clayton Moore. Lawyer Hood passed the bar examination to practice law about two years ago after completing his studies at Wake Forest College.

At the present time, Mr. Hood is a member of the local school faculty.