

TOWN TAX RATE TO BE REDUCED ABOUT 15 CENTS

Rate Will Probably Be \$2.10 This Year; No Official Action As Yet

NO PAVING PROGRAM

Commissioners Unable To Get Together As To Best Method of Financing Paving Program

While the matter has not been passed upon officially, it is understood that the town's operating budget for the year will not permit a 25-cent cut in the tax rate for the current year. Unless the budget is altered, the rate will, in all probability, be \$2.10, a decrease of 15 cents on the \$100 valuation, as compared with the rate last year.

The budget, conservative in the main, allows for certain improvements, but new sidewalks are not included in the list. Judging from the face of the operating medium, the town's affairs during the period affected will be perturbed, to a great extent, after those of the past year or two.

The paving of the town's sidewalks continues as a topic of discussion at the meetings of the town commissioners, but there is some doubt as to the best method of financing the work. Several of the commissioners would have the needed amount taken from the cash sum paid the town by the Virginia Electric & Power Company. The treasurer expressed his doubt as to the legality of the procedure, and stated that the sidewalk improvement could be made by borrowing money on short-term notes. He explained that this could be done without cost to the town, considering the amount spent for patching old sidewalks year in and year out. It was pointed out that the town spends annually something over \$3,000 for streets, approximately half that amount being spent for patching sidewalks. With the property owners sharing in the expense, the sidewalks could be paved, the cost of which would be offset in a reasonably short time.

LEONS WILL BE FAIR FEATURE

Is One of Seven Free Acts To Be Staged at Fair This Year

The Leons, aerialists of wide repute, will feature the free attractions at the Roanoke Fair here the coming fall. Manager John L. Rodgers has announced. The act, Mr. Rodgers pointed out, make complete a well-balanced free act program for the fair this year, there being six other acts of various caste.

The Leons are known as the supreme aerialists of their own particular line. With their apparatus 35 feet in the air and a balancing pole on top of that, they afford one of the most hazardous thrillers of all times, a press report states in its description of the Leons and their acts.

Plans for the fair are almost complete, Manager, Rodgers stated yesterday, and everything points to one of the best fairs yet held here.

Pig With Two Mouths Is Born Near Oak City

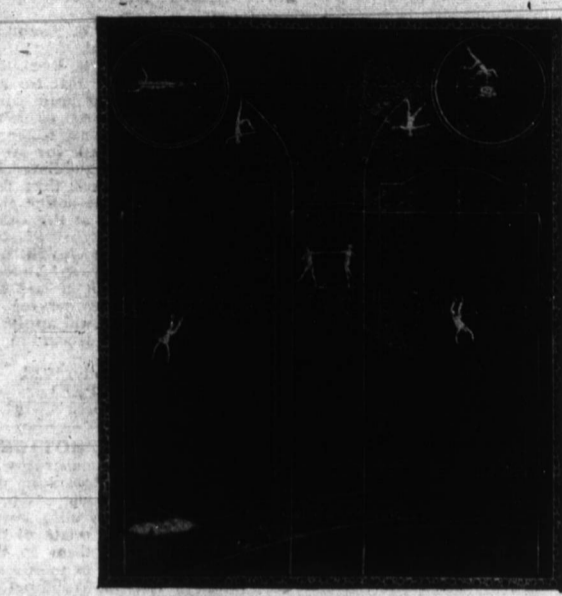
Mr. J. W. Hines, of Oak City, reports a pig born on his farm June 28 with two mouths. The pig appeared normal in all other respects.

Just below the eyes, a nose and mouth was turned one to the right and another to the left each with two nostrils and two tongues.

The pig lived two days and during that time milk was given it with a medicine dropper.

Mr. Hines has preserved the pig in an alcohol and formaldehyde solution.

THE LEONS—AERIALISTS—TO BE AT FAIR



The Leons, booked as one of the free attractions at the Roanoke Fair here this year, are noted aerialists. They will appear in two distinct acts twice daily during the fair, September 25, 26, 27, and 28, 1928.

VALUATION IN COUNTY HIGHER

Total Valuation Almost 13 Millions; \$118,150 Above Last Year

A valuation of thirteen million dollars was placed on all real and personal property in this county by the tax list-takers, reporting to the commissioners here yesterday. The amount does not include the property handled by the State Tax Commission such as that of railroads and other companies.

The exact amount reported by the list-takers is \$12,989,691 and is \$118,150 above the amount listed last year. There was a decrease of \$84,226 reported, \$49,077 of that amount being in Robersonville township and the remaining \$41,149 is in Goose Nest township. Offsetting this decrease there were increases reported in eight of the townships, totalling \$202,876, making a total increase to the valuation after subtracting the two losses of \$118,150 as compared with the listings last year.

Other properties not included in the listings received by the list-takers will carry the grand valuation in the neighborhood of sixteen millions of dollars, it is thought.

The listings by townships follow: Jamesville \$1,239,121; Williams 485,996; Griffins 817,395; Bear Grass 844,143; Williamston 2,370,712; Cross Roads 839,854; Robersonville 2,864,014; Poplar Point 446,726; Hamilton 1,355,886; Goose Nest 1,725,844.

Total \$12,989,691

Former Martin Man Files in Bankruptcy

Richmond, July 9.—Through Atty. Luke Lamb, of Wilson, James L. Wynne, of Henrico County, Va., formerly of Williamston, N. C., took advantage of the bankruptcy act here today in Federal Court, listing liabilities of \$96,551, with \$100 of assets.

Among the judgment creditors were: County of Martin, \$40,596, transferred to J. T. Barnhill, Everett, trustee to Fannie Stator; Farmers and Merchants Bank, of Williamston, \$8,430; J. D. Biggs and H. H. Cowen, executors of Jos. W. Whittaker, Williamston, \$3,183. Included in the list of unsecured creditors are: C. D. Carstarphen, Williamston, \$500; A. R. Dunning, Williamston, \$600; Clayton Moore, Williamston, \$700; Drs. Bolce and Willis, Parkview Hospital, Rocky Mount, \$100.

Employment Certificates Issued in New York

Nearly 54,000 boys and girls under 16 years of age were released from full-time school attendance in New York State and were granted employment certificates during the year ending August, 1926, according to figures recently compiled by the New York child-labor committee in cooperation with the State education department. About 90 per cent of the total number were from city schools. Nearly four-fifths of the 53,644 children, 42,530 remained in school until their fifteenth birthday, and three-fifths of the pupils who left school to enter industry had completed at least the eighth grade. Under the law no child under 15 may receive an employment certificate unless he has graduated from an elementary school. Only 9.69 per cent of those applying were refused permits, due in most cases to lack of physical fitness.—School Life.

COUNTY BOARD MEETS TO HEAR TAX PROTESTS

Forty-Four Citizens Present To Protest Against Valuation

FEW ARE LOWERED

Only 19 Adjustments Completed Yesterday; Meet Today To Settle Remaining 25

Forty-four tax complaints made to Martin County's Board of Commissioners here yesterday carried the work of the body into an extra session and today the members of the board busied themselves with the matters set forth in the complaints. Of the forty-four complaints heard yesterday a reduction of \$7,120 was made; yet on the other side of the ledger, an increase of \$8,980 was recorded. Only 19 of the 44 adjustments were made in the meeting yesterday, and 7 of that number resulted in increased valuations. Final action was withheld in the case of the other 25 complaints and today, with additional data at hand, the board is threshing them out.

Yesterday's session went by very quietly with the exception of one or two happenings where those demanding relief were given no satisfactory answer. Under storm, the officials held their ground, refusing relief in certain cases and causing an increase in certain listings. According to unofficial reports, a new method is being followed by the commissioners in handling the complaints. When a complaint is made, the valuation on the property in question is examined. The findings there are then compared with those connected with adjoining property. If there is a discrepancy, the adjoining property is in danger of having cast on it a higher valuation. It is understood that several increased valuations were effected this morning, but they had not been officially recorded at noon today.

The high spot of the meeting yesterday came when it was stated by a private attorney that the list takers had no right to increase property valuations over and above the amount stipulated by the owner listing the property. The most direct law in the matter held in part that the list taker did not have to put down the valuation offered by the property owner. The question arose when certain property was listed at \$4,200 by the owner and when the list taker increased it to \$6,000. The matter had not been definitely settled in time for publication today, but it was the prevailing opinion that the list taker was right in his action.

CALENDAR OF 13 MONTHS URGED

New Plan Would Make Months Uniform With 28 Days Each

A movement is now being organized to change our present calendar and have 13 months of 28 days each. It is thought that months of even length will make everything work much easier in business. Then each week day would be on the same day of every month.

Julius Caesar worked out a calendar before Christ was born which, with slight changes, served the world until 1582, when Pope Gregory struck 10 days from the calendar and changed the method of counting leap years. For many years afterwards time was counted both in the old style and in the new style. Thus George Washington was born February 11 by the old calendar and February 22 by the new.

Many leading business men, teachers, and professional men are urging the change to a 13-month year. The League of Nations recommends it; the State Department at Washington has a committee now working on plans for the change. This committee has suggested 1933 as the year for changing from the present 12-month calendar to the 13-month calendar.

Mission School To Close Tomorrow

The mission school of the Methodist Church here will come to a close tomorrow evening when the 27 pupils appear in a pageant, 'The Jubilee Party'. There will be no charge, and the public is invited to witness the program.

Directed by Mrs. John F. Thigpen, superintendent of the Junior Epworth League, the daily vacation mission school has had a successful run of three weeks. The daily programs have been divided into three periods, devotional, handiwork, and recreation.

The pupils have been instructed by Mrs. W. C. Mannig, jr., Mrs. J. D. Barnhill, Mrs. O. P. Fitzgerald, and Miss Minnie Robertson. The exercises tomorrow evening will be held at 8 o'clock in the church.

County Rate Expected To Be Increased at Least Six Cents

Increase in Budget Estimate for Interest and Sinking Fund Account Will Bring About Higher Rate; School Budget Not Yet Completed

A 6-cent increase in the county's tax rate is practically inevitable, according to the budget of the county auditor, J. Sam Getzinger. The increase is separate and distinct from school operation, and while no official sanction could be had as to a prospective increase in the school rate, it is likely that one will result there also.

The county general fund remains unchanged; that is, the rate of 15 cents will apply this year as it did last. The bridge fund, calling for a 5-cent levy on the \$100 valuation remains unchanged.

Last year where there was a 28-cent levy to care for the interest and sinking fund, there will be a 34-cent levy this year. Last year the entire rate stood at \$1.33 on the \$100 valuation. According to the budget, as it now stands, the rate will be \$1.39 this year. The \$1.39 rate does not taken into consideration the expected increase in the school rate.

The budgetary work will be completed, it is understood, within the next few days when it will be possible to get more accurate figures as to the tax rate for the county for the year.

CLUB GIRLS GO TO CAMP TODAY

Thirty-Three Girls Under Leadership of Miss Lora Sleeper Leave

Thirty-three club girls from all over the county with their leader, Miss Lora E. Sleeper, left today for a 10-day stay at Camp Leach, near Bath Packed in school trucks, the young girls are off for a week's outing at the beach, where they will receive instruction in the various phases of home economics.

While several of the girls go to the camp for their second time in as many summers, the majority of them are making their first trip as a result of Miss Sleeper's successful work with their clubs the latter part of the 1927-28 school term. During the stay at camp, regular classes will be held for the girls, and certain periods of the day will be given over to recreation.

Next Sunday is visitors' day, and a cordial invitation is extended by the campers to all their friends to visit them that day.

Stores To Be Closed Tomorrow Afternoon

Tomorrow afternoon will be dullness itself when all, or practically all, the merchants close their stores at 1 o'clock for the remainder of the day. The custom to close for a half day, established here this year for the first time, will hold throughout this month and the greater part of next, it was stated in the petition signed by 21 merchants of the town. Besides the merchants, the local bank will observe the afternoon as a holiday.

GAME KILLED IN STATE LAST YEAR

Total of 4,529,590 Pieces of Game Fall Before Sportsmen

According to preliminary estimates furnished by Wade H. Phillips, director of Department of Conservation and Development, there were 4,529,590 pieces of game killed in the State during the first season the new State-wide game laws were in effect. The estimates are based on reports from 40 per cent of the hunters in the State, reply cards having been mailed to all those purchasing hunting licenses during the first season.

The report states, "Leading the field in popularity with the hunters is the lowly rabbit, the most ubiquitous of all the game birds and animals, being found in every section. A total of 1,555,270 cottontails went down before the hunters, or slightly more than one-third of the combined bag of the mammals."

Next in order in volume of bag was the squirrel, 1,263,360 of which were taken during the season, showing almost as wide range of distribution as the rabbit. Among the game birds, the quail was by far the most prevalent and popular with the hunters, who are estimated to have killed close to one million in the entire State, or in more definite figures, 982,980. Its distribution covers the greater part of the State with the exception of part of the high altitudes in the west.

Of the larger game animals, the deer was the most important, the number killed amounting to 4,510. Eastern counties furnished the largest number of these animals with western counties situated around State and Federal game refuges providing most of the rest.

Following are the preliminary estimates of the game killed during the hunting year: 1,555,270 rabbits; 1,263,360 squirrels; 4,510 deer; 28,620 coons; 324,210 opossums; 16,810 minks and skunks; 720 wildcats; 84,140 muskrats; 981,980 quail; 6,110 turkeys; 500 grouse; 2,820 pheasants; 17,540 snipe; 1,220 rails and coots; 12,740 woodcocks; 170,070 doves; 5,280 geese; and 108,690 ducks. These figures are not final, and are subject to some revision when final tabulations are completed.

Commenting on these estimates, Director Phillips said, "While these figures are only approximate, they are sufficiently accurate to show that it is not too late to make North Carolina the first game State in the Union."

According to the census figures, more game was taken per hunter by those having State licenses than by either of the other classes of licenses which is believed to be partly explained by the fact that those who buy State licenses, hunt in many parts of the State and probably more often than the others average.

Mr. J. Y. Stokes, of Reidsville, was here on business today.

PROPERTY HERE SHOWS INCREASE 1928 VALUATION

Williamston Township Valuation Now Nearly \$2,500,000

INCREASE OF \$80,000.00

Larger Increase Expected Next Year On Account of Large Building Program At Present

Property valuation in Williamston township practically reached the two and one-half million mark this past May, according to the returns of the list taker made public here yesterday. An increase of approximately \$80,000 was shown in the listing this year as compared with the totals on the scroll for the year 1927. The increase, one of the largest reported in the county for 1928 listings, was derived from numerous sources, only one or two several thousand dollar sums being added.

While there was a substantial increase in the listings for the township this year, prospects for an even larger increase in tax valuations are good for the year 1929. New buildings now under construction here and representing another \$200,000 investment, are not included in the listings this year, and therefore played no part in the \$80,000 increase recorded by the list taker. The new buildings will be valued as of May 1, 1929.

STATE THIRD IN TAX PAYMENTS

Now Headed Only by New York and Pennsylvania In Internal Revenue

Washington, July 8.—North Carolina has nosed out another State and moves up-to-third position in the amount of internal revenue collections for the fiscal year 1928, according to a statement made public today by the Treasury Department.

For the fiscal year ending June 30th, North Carolina taxpayers paid into the Federal treasury the sum of \$204,965,857 in miscellaneous taxes and \$20,352,303 in income taxes. This was an increase of \$1,147,546 over 1927 in income taxes, North Carolina being one of only seven States showing an increase in Federal income payments, which indicated the steady progress being made by the various industries of the State. North Carolina and Texas were the only Southern States reporting an increase in collection of income taxes.

New York and Pennsylvania were the only States leading North Carolina in the total amount of Federal taxes for the fiscal year 1928, the State reporting a total collection of \$225,316,161, taking third position from Illinois, the latter State reporting total collections of \$222,029,673.

Regular Meeting of Masons Tonight

There will be a regular communication of Skowarkee Lodge, No. 90 A. F. and A. M., tonight at 8:00 o'clock. This is the first regular meeting since the new officers were installed and N. C. Green, the new Master, particularly urges a full attendance of the members. Visiting Masons are cordially invited.

Cars Collide On Eden House Road Sunday

The running boards of cars belonging to Mr. J. A. Manning, of this place, and an Edenton citizen were torn off last Sunday night when the two hit on the Eden House road in Bertie County. Other damage resulting from the collision made it necessary for Mr. Manning and his family and Mr. and Mrs. O. S. Anderson and children to travel home in another car. No one was hurt.

Lindsay Warren To Speak To Kiwanians

Congressman Lindsay C. Warren, of Washington, will address the Kiwanis club here tomorrow at its regular luncheon, it was announced this morning by Mr. B. S. Courtney, who has the tomorrow's meet in charge.

Aurora Borealis Display Alarms Many People

The Aurora Borealis which presented a beautiful scene Saturday night, alarmed many people nursing superstitions. The display was one of the most beautiful seen in years and affected wire circuits and put many of them out of order temporarily. While some people in this country seem to fear the great phenomenon the Greenlanders are greatly cheered by its light and beauty during their long six months' nights.

STRAND THEATRE

WEDNESDAY RANGER in **RANGER OF THE NORTH** Also **2-REEL COMEDY AND SERIAL** and **FREE TICKET FOR SHOW FRIDAY**