

CITIZENS FORM A COMMUNITY LEAGUE HERE

More Than One Hundred Citizens Attended First Mass Meeting Friday.

OFFICERS APPOINTED
League Is Formed To Advance the Interests of the Community Town and County

With one hundred and more people attending, a Community Builders League was organized at a mass meeting held in the City Hall here last Friday evening, not for the purpose of waging a fight, but to advance the interests of the town and community and citizens. The meeting was in close harmony with the thousands of others that are being held all over the country in behalf of the home people, the ones who support the community, pay its officers and keep open the schools.

The problem of patronizing home industries, the "Live-at-Home" idea, was approached not by the merchants but by professional men and others. "It is a community affair, and it commands the immediate attention of everyone who is interested in his homes," the speakers declared.

An open forum met with a marked response, speaker after speaker rising to relate some experience of to give his views relative to the situation confronting hundreds and thousands of communities all over the country. That a spirit of cooperation will result is almost certain, the meeting pledging itself to the support of the Community Builders League.

After discussing the problem for almost two hours, the meeting appointed Mr. L. T. Fowden, insurance man, president of the League; E. P. Cunningham, first vice president and Mr. Exum Ward, second vice president Mr. Milton Moye, the temporary secretary and treasurer, was chosen permanently for the two positions. The board of directors includes Messrs. L. P. Lindsley, E. S. Peel, J. D. Woodard, S. R. Biggs, J. O. Manning, B. S. Courtney, G. H. Harrison, J. E. King, W. O. Griffin, C. O. Moore, Judge J. W. Bailey and Dr. J. H. Saunders.

A meeting of the board of directors and officers of the league was called for last evening at 7:30 o'clock.

WARNS AGAINST BIG COTTON CROP

See Danger of Price Going to 10 Cents or Less, Under Certain Conditions

The Federal Farm Board, in an emphatic appeal this week, says remember 1926 and warns against the coming season. What the Federal Farm Board can do in 1930 for the Cotton Growers of the South will depend upon what the cotton farmers do in cutting the acreage at least 6,000,000 acres.

If the same acreage is planted to cotton in 1930 as in 1929, and weather conditions are favorable, the South may produce 17,000,000 bales, or, perhaps 22,000,000 bales if the acre yield be as high as in 1914.

Such a large crop would probably bring growers 10 cents a pound or less. Think it over and use your influence to bring about a reduction of at least 15 per cent in the cotton acreage, the Farm Board urges.

"Let's see that Farmers of the South in 1930 live at home."

Ten Cases on Recorder's Court Docket Here Today

Ten cases had been placed on the docket late yesterday for trial in the recorder's court here today, the number being unusually small considering the fact that there was no session of the court held last Tuesday when Judge Bailey was called away on business.

A jury trial has been asked for, and that is expected to feature the day's proceedings.

State Inspector Visiting Schools in County Today

Miss Susan Fulghum, of the State Department of Education, is inspecting the grammar departments of several schools in the county today. While an exact schedule of her activities could not be learned at noon today, it is understood that she will visit the local school after spending a greater part of the morning at Robersonville. From here she goes to Jamesville, leaving here for Columbia.

Local Colored People Form Relief Organization

A group of colored citizens of the town met at the home of W. H. Stokes this week and arranged an organization in an effort to relieve suffering and poverty among their race. Hannah Stokes was elected president of the group with Mary B. Reddick, L. N. Slade and Janie Ordo as helpers.

THREE FORMS OF TOBACCO CO-OPS ARE SUGGESTED

Growers Are Asked to Write Dean Schaub As To Type Preferred

QUICK ACTION URGED
Asks That Growers Willing to Sign Sensible Contract Write Before March 1st

An appeal to tobacco farmers of this and other counties cultivating tobacco was made this week by Dean I. O. Schaub, of State College, a member of the organization committee, asking those growers who want an association to handle the crop this year to write him at once telling him of their wishes and giving the number of acres they represent or will plant.

This action comes following the suggestion made by Mr. J. G. Stator, of this place, and other members of the committee at a meeting of the organizing group at Raleigh a few days ago.

"When the organization committee of 15 met at State College on February 11, it declined to adopt any one type of contract without a full knowledge of how it would be supported by the growers or whether it would meet the needs of the people of this State. Three different forms were suggested. The first called for a centralization type of organization such as has been adopted in South Carolina; the second, a decentralized type of organization such as has been adopted in South Carolina; the second, a decentralized or federated type such as is used by the California Fruit Growers, and the third was a compromise between the two.

With the help of Dean Schaub and Dr. J. G. Knapp, agricultural economist at State College, the sub-committee will take these three forms under advisement and will report back to the main committee within 30 days. In the meantime, the advice of the Federal Farm Board and of the attorney-general of North Carolina will be solicited.

"Obviously, it will take some time to formulate these three contracts," says Dean Schaub. "If an organization is to be formed in time to handle the 1930 crop, it is necessary for the committee to get a clear idea as to the sentiment among tobacco growers.

"At the suggestion of J. G. Stator, of Williamston, and other members of the committee, I am asking all growers who would be willing to sign a sane and sensible contract to express their willingness by writing either a letter or card to me at Raleigh by March 1 or by March 10, at the latest. In these communications, I would like to know how many acres of tobacco the writer plants or represents."

Dean Schaub said that the response to this request will probably determine whether it is advisable for the committee to begin at once an intensive campaign for signing up the drop of 1930. If there is not a distinct sentiment in favor of immediate action, the committee will then give more time and consideration to studying the kind of contract that will best suit conditions as they have been revealed to the committee by growers with whom it has been in contact it was stated.

Disorderly Conduct Lands Two White Men In Jail

John Page and Reuben Bunting, two white men of Robersonville township, were arrested and placed in jail here late last Sunday afternoon when they got drunk and created a disturbance on a public road, near Robersonville. With a five-gallon demijohn filled with home brew, cider, plain old beer, or some other spirits that officers have been unable to analyze, the two men were brought in by Mr. Joe Winslow.

In a cell together, Page and Bunting are said to have started an argument among themselves, one declaring that Sheriff Roebuck was a bad officer for locking them up, the other maintaining that the sheriff was right. "Yes, you don't appreciate anything one does for you," Page said to his intoxicated friend. "Sheriff Roebuck locked us up to keep us out of trouble, don't you understand?" Page continued, but Bunting insisted otherwise.

The two were scheduled to appear before Judge Bailey in the recorder's court here today.

"Parme" Hard for Radio Announcer To Pronounce

In announcing the special radio request of Mrs. H. R. Speight, Parme, yesterday, the announcer at WPTF, Raleigh broadcasting station, asked for sympathy when he started to pronounce the name of the town. He applied the accents, causing one to believe that the town's name is spelled Parmier. The pronunciation did very well at that, but apparently leads one to believe that he has never traveled over the Coast-Line in this part of the State. Once, Parme, was visited more than any other town in the section, and many hours and days have been spent there by travelers waiting for trains.

County Commissioners In Special Meet Saturday

The Board of Martin County Commissioners met in special session here last Saturday only two issues coming before the body. The handling of renewed notes was dispatched and a special school election was ordered for Bear Grass School District at the request of 84 citizens there.

Thieves Steal Much Meat From Farmer, Near Here

Thieves, entering the smoke house of Mr. Eli Sprull, white farmer of near here, last Saturday night made almost a clean sweep, taking 13 hams, several shoulders, about 40 pieces of bacon and all the sausage he had. An entrance was forced at the rear of the house.

County Home Services For Fourth Sunday

Rev. T. M. Bizzell, pastor of the Williamston Pentecostal Holiness Church, will preach at the county home the fourth Sunday afternoon of this month at 3 o'clock. The public is invited to the service.

TAX ELECTION FOR BEAR GRASS

Eighty-four Citizens of the District Sign Petition Asking for Election

With a petition carrying the names of 84 citizens in the Bear Grass community before them, the Martin County commissioners last Saturday ordered that a special school election be held in that district the 31st of next month to determine the wishes of the qualified voters there relative to the levying of a special tax to increase the length of the school term.

By special arrangements, the school there is planning an eight-months term this year, but the lengthened term as a permanent thing will be determined at the polls the latter part of next month. Mr. A. B. Rogers was appointed registrar for the new registration which opened today to continue open until the 22nd of next month. W. M. Harrison and W. A. Brown were appointed poll holders and D. Bailey was selected as official marker for the election.

The question involves a special tax of not more than 35 cents on the \$100 property valuation on the one hand, and an extra two months of school on the other hand.

MORE TROUBLE AT MARION MILL

Home of Mill President, R. Baldwin, Dynamited by Unknown Parties

Trouble broke out anew in Marion, the scene of recent mill strikes, last Saturday night when the home of R. W. Baldwin, president of the Marion mill was dynamited by unknown parties. The damage was estimated at \$1,000. No one was injured as the family was in Baltimore at the time.

A press report says, "The immediate prospects of hundreds of jobless men, women and children—the union figures it a thousand—being deprived of the free food supplied them since last August has caused a new black cloud to gather in the Marion sky."

The dynamiting of Mill President R. W. Baldwin's home Saturday night—the first flash of the impending storm—has not been followed by further disorder but there are many in Marion who fear that it was the beginning of another reign of terror. The feeling, however, is not the tense, electrical suspense that preceded the riots and fatal gun battles last fall but rather a heavy, dull gloom that hangs over the community like a fog.

Others think that the disorders of the mill village have run their course and that when the free food supply is stopped March 1, the strikers will disperse and there will be no further trouble.

Beaten in all their strikes, six of their number killed when they substituted violence for peaceful picketing, the spirit of the unionists may have been broken, as many believe. But danger is seen in the fact that the majority of the ex-strikers who left Marion to find other work were of the union's better element while among those who remain are to be found almost all of the trouble makers.

"Mr. Baldwin arrived in Marion yesterday morning and upon seeing newspaper men get off the same train he exploded: 'Blowing up the house doesn't matter but there's no damn use in you fellows coming up here and taking pictures. Everything is quiet now and it's no use in you fellows stirring it all up again!'"

"Asked if he considered the dynamiting of his home a quiet act, Mr. Baldwin recovered his temper and his grin but declined to answer.

"The explosion was a great surprise to me as to others in the community," declared John Peel, vice president of the State Federation of Labor.

American Legions Circus Underway at Windsor

The American Legion circus, held under the auspices of the Bertie Post at Windsor, is attracting large crowds this week, according to reports received here. The bad weather delayed the opening last Saturday night, but a splendid program was in progress last night and will continue throughout the week.

Mr. Sam Harrell Resigns From Courtney's Store

After sixteen years, excepting 22 days, in the employ of the B. S. Courtney Furniture store, here, Mr. Sam Harrell resigned last Saturday. During that time Mr. Harrell has made an unusual record, being from his regular duties only a few days.

Attendance Honor Roll For Lillies Hall School

Thirteen pupils made the perfect attendance honor roll in the Lillies Hall School during the month of January, as follows:—
Second grade—Mamie C. Harrison, Vera Lilley.
Third grade—Ruth M. Lilley, Zorah Lilley, Josie Lilley.
Fourth grade—Carrie Lilley, Matilda Peel, Dapil Lilley.
Fifth grade—Gladys Lilley, Albert Lilley, Joseph Lilley, Evan Lilley, Eason Revels.

"LIVE-AT-HOME" PRIZE WINNERS NAMED HERE

Milford Harrison Wins The First Prize, A Five-Dollars Sweater

5 PRIZES ARE GIVEN
Prizes Winners in Other Group Contests Will Be Announced Soon, Principal Watson States

The Live-at-Home contests in the first four grades of the local school were closed yesterday when Mrs. John D. Biggs, Mrs. P. B. Cone and Mrs. D. M. Roberson looked over the many posters and booklets on display in the school library and declared the winners. The first prize, a \$5.00 article, was awarded Milford Harrison, a pupil in the B section of the third grade.

The poster, winning the first prize, did not only present the various things needed by every family on a farm, but it went further and showed the whole family in action; the father and mother at their posts, the boy looking after the cows and the girl gathering the vegetables, the baby was sitting by the milk bottle. The poster clearly presented not only the house but the happy home.

Addie Lee, Meador, a pupil in the A section of the fourth grade, won the second prize, fifty pounds of sugar.

This poster pointed out the loss North Carolina is sustaining by buying food stuff from other states as follows: sheep, \$1,079,122; corn, \$1,233,482; poultry, \$4,550,000; eggs, \$1,100,000; wheat, \$6,840,000; beef, \$3,946,950; potatoes, \$2,087,516; pigs, \$10,455,460, a total of \$40,000,000. We pay for things that we can produce as well as any part of the world.

The third prize was awarded Thelma Griffin, section A, third grade, \$3.00.

Fourth prize went to Grace Jones of the B section, first grade; ten passes to the Watts theatre.

Lydia Hinson, of section B, third grade, was awarded the fifth prize, a \$2 trade ticket at the Bailey-Sessoms drug store.

The prize winners in the other two group contests will be announced later, it was stated by Principal Wm. R. Watson.

MENINGITIS IS CAUSE OF DEATH

Unusual Circumstances Are Cause for Investigation of Goodman's Death

After thoroughly investigating the case, Doctors Willis, of Rocky Mount, and Warren, of this place, yesterday, report, gave cerebral meningitis as the cause of the death of H. B. Goodman, 35-year-old farmer of the Dardens section, who died under unusual circumstances there last Thursday.

Three other deaths, occurring in the community where Goodman is said to have moved from, are thought to have been caused by the same disease.

In reporting the examination of Goodman's body and brain, the doctors gave an accurate history of Goodman's physical ailments. They stated that he had suffered attacks of appendicitis and had had symptoms of tuberculosis which were cured. A gun wound, inflicted when Goodman attempted suicide several months ago, was described and its effect was explained.

Two School Buildings At Jacksonville Are Burned

New Bern, Feb. 17.—Investigation is being made by Onslow county authorities into two mysterious fires which damaged the new high school building Friday night and completely destroyed the old high school building Sunday night at Jacksonville. Both are believed to have been incendiary origin.

Epworth League Conducts Exposition Next Friday

Friday evening at 7:30 o'clock, the Epworth League will conduct an Exposition of the League at the Methodist church here, it was announced by the pastor today.

Mr. P. H. Brown Sells Interest In Local Hardware Store

Mr. P. H. Brown, manager and partner in the Culpepper Hardware store here since its organization several years ago has sold his interest in the business and resigns as active manager.

In establishing the store here Mr. Brown and the Culpepper Brothers, of Elizabeth City, brought to the town and community one of its greatest assets, and it is with regret that Mr. Brown's many friends learn of his withdrawal from the business to give his time to farming.

Mr. J. C. Anderson, a partner in the business, succeeds Mr. Brown as manager of the store, it was announced.

ILLITERACY HIGH AMONG WHITES IN MARTIN COUNTY

But Nine Counties in State Have Higher Percentage Than Martin

STATE AVERAGE IS 13.1
18.6 Persons Out of Each 100 in This County Can Neither Read Nor Write, Report Says

Of the 29 counties having more than 15 per cent illiteracy, Martin stands tenth from the top, the rate here being 18.6 the 100 population as compared with 13.1 per cent for the entire State, it was pointed out in a report of the National Advisory Committee on Illiteracy, Washington, D. C., yesterday. Of the more than 25,000 population in our county, there are approximately 2,680 people 10 years and older who can neither read nor write.

According to a report made by the committee, there are 241,603 people in this State 10 years old and over who can neither read nor write. Of this number, there are 104,844 white people who can neither read nor write. There are 133,744 colored illiterates in the State, the report shows. The majority of the 241,603 illiterates, the report shows, is found in the rural sections, only 35,671 illiterates being located in the urban districts.

While Edgecombe county has the largest percentage of illiterates, 22.4, Robeson county leads in number with 7,627. Beaufort has 117 more than Martin county has, yet its percentage is lower.

White illiteracy in this State is greater than the total in Colorado, Delaware, Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, Iowa, Oregon, South Dakota and Utah.

Only six states in the Union have more illiterates than North Carolina. Those states include Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, New York, Pennsylvania, and Texas.

In making its report this week, the committee remarks: "The committee holds that illiteracy is one of the chief causes of poverty and poverty in turn perpetuates illiteracy. The eradication of poverty will go hand in hand with the eradication of illiteracy. In number, the illiterates of the present time exceed the population of the Colonies when Washington led in their liberation from foreign rule. These slaves of ignorance outnumber the slaves that Lincoln emancipated. America has had two great emancipations; one the emancipation of the Colonies from the tyranny of foreign rule, the second—the emancipation of the slaves from the tyranny of private ownership. We have come now to the third emancipation; the release from the thrall of ignorance of 5,000,000 of our fellow citizens. The cooperation of the Federal Government, the State Commonwealths, private philanthropy, and public-spirited citizens acting in accordance with a wisely chosen and thoroughly practical plan can accomplish this end. The purpose is to aggressively push this campaign until the desired purpose is accomplished. No element in the campaign is more important than the county, and headquarters in Washington must lean heavily on those units or it will fail."

The next census, to be taken this year, will probably show a change in the illiteracy rate in this county, but it is believed there will be found hundreds both white and black who can neither read nor write their own names.

SHIP 6 1-2 TONS OF LIVE POULTRY

Loading in County Last Week Larger Than at January Car

Approximately 13,000 pounds of live poultry were shipped from this county last week, according to a report made yesterday morning by County Agent T. B. Brandon. While the shipment last week was three thousand pounds larger than the one in January, the loadings are falling behind those made last year. Prices paid so far this year have been a fraction under those paid last season, but that factor, it is believed not to be the sole cause for the comparatively small shipments, the agent stated. "The poultry is apparently not here," Mr. Brandon remarked.

As the season advances, however, the loadings are expected to increase. The next car, according to present plans, will be operated in this county about the middle of March.

Farmers in the Jamesville section shipped 2,118 pounds last Tuesday, Williamston leading the county with 5,064 pounds Wednesday. Robersonville was second with 3,216 pounds while Oak City was third, with 2,500 pounds. No report as to the total receipts was available yesterday afternoon.

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Rev. T. M. Bizzell, pastor of the Williamston Pentecostal Holiness Church, will preach at the county home the fourth Sunday afternoon of this month at 3 o'clock. The public is invited to the service.

Peanut Growers To Meet Here Thursday

Community Builders To Have Mass Meet

In furthering the interests of the Community Builders League, organized at a meeting of more than 100 citizens here last Friday night, the board of directors and officers of the League, at a meeting held in the office of the president last night, called another mass meeting for next Friday evening at 8 o'clock in the City Hall, an urgent appeal being extended to all to attend, the women of the community being especially invited.

A program is being arranged and reports will be made of activities now in force in nearby communities. The meeting promises to be an interesting one, and a large attendance is expected.

BOY SCOUTS IN SERVICE SUNDAY

Several Scouts Advanced to Higher Grades; District Scoutmaster Here

Local religious worship last Sunday evening was centered around a Boy Scout service at the Methodist church, all the churches of the town uniting in the one service.

Following the devotional, led by Reverends Petty and Dickey, the Scouts took charge of the program. The youngsters were given front seats and a court of honor was opened. The following Scouts were advanced in grade: Reginald Simpson to the rank of first class and Walter Cook was made a second-class Scout. Lawrence Lindsley, jr., Shelbourne Hall, Wheeler Martin, jr., Oscar Anderson, jr., Francis Peel, Jack Manning, J. D. Bowen, jr., Roger Critcher, jr., Danie Hardison, Billy Clark, Russell Roebuck and Vernon Godwin, jr., were advanced to the grade of tenderfoot Scouts.

Scoutmaster Wheeler Martin, assisted by Herbert Stuckey, Division Scoutmaster of Wilson, was in charge of the ceremony. In a talk before the audience, Mr. Stuckey pointed out the many ways in which the Scout work prepares boys to meet conditions and emergencies as well as prepare them for useful services.

The service was largely attended by members of all the local denominations and made a marked impression in behalf of the Scout work.

GARDEN EXPERT ADDRESSES MEET

Miss Leah Parker Urges Landlords to Have Their Tenants Raise Gardens

Miss Leah Parker, garden specialist of Atlanta, gave a lecture and demonstrations on gardens at the high school auditorium here today. She is working under Mrs. Jane McKimmon, head of the State Home Demonstration work. Miss Parker, in her address, urged every landlord to require each tenant to grow a good, all-year-around garden for both health and economy.

She says actual tests show the value of an acre of cotton to be \$41; an acre of tobacco to be \$157 while an acre of garden is worth \$450.

Miss Parker also stated that every family should eat much leafy food and recommended collards, spinach, turnip greens and other like vegetables; which with proper handling may be had every day in the year.

The root crops most needed, Miss Parker explained, are turnips, rutabagas, parsnip and carrots which are available all the year. For the summer crops she suggests peas, beans, corn, squash and tomatoes, and these should be canned.

If we are to be strong and healthy, Miss Parker pointed out that these vegetables must be included in our diet.

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