**VOLUME XXXIII—NUMBER 8** 

Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Tuesday, March 25, 1930.

ESTABLISHED 1898

### PROCEEDINGS IN **CRIMINAL COURT** FINALLY ENDED

Case, Charging Mabel Gib-son with Murder Is Dismissed

MANY GO TO ROADS

Court Completes Large Number Criminal Causes and Recess
Late Friday Afternoon

After consuming the two days alloted to it and three more days set apart for the trial of civil cases, the criminal docket in the superior court here was completed late last Friday, the court recessing over the week end, large number of road builders, several

The case charging Mabel Gibso with the murder of Irving Gibson, Hamilton township farmer, came to and is well informed on the subject. an abrupt end last Friday after the State had completed the testimony of its witnesses. The motion made by the missed as the evidence was insufficient was sustained by Judge Sinclair and the charge was automatically dropped from the docket.

The action of the court apparently gives weight to the suicide theory advanced immediately following Gibson's death. The untimely death of Gibson was investigated by officers, the evi dence advanced at that time implicat ing the woman. The court, however, agreed that the evidence was insuficient for conviction on the second de gree murder charge and the case was closed abruptly, the accused woman gaining her freedom after a stay of several weeks in the local jail.

Cases handled by the court last week and not previously reported fol-

Adjudged guilty of an assault with a deadly weapon, Earl Latham was sentenced to the roads of Edgecombe county for a period of two years. Sam Boston was sentenced to the

Edgecombe roads for a period of six months when found guilty of an assault with a deadly weapon.

In the case charging Buck Terry, Chester Terry and Herbert Page with an assault with deadly weapons, Buck and Chester Terry were each sentence ed to the roads for eighteen months.

In the case charging George Purrington, Dock Powell and K. Powell with hog stealing, the first two were found guilty. Purrington was sentenced to the roads for six months, sentence of Powell being deferred for a week. The case, charging Spence Hyman

with house breaking, was continued. A nol pros has returned in the case charging Lester Terry with larceny.

A nol pros also resulted in the case

in which Wm. Harrington and Sam Langley were charged with larceny. The case of T. H. Johnson, passing worthless checks, was nol prossed.

When found guilty of larceny, Robt. Price was sent to a state reformatory and Walter Harris was sentenced to the roads for six months.

Found guilty of larceny, Wm. Harrington was sentenced to the roads for DEMONSTRATION

Pleading guilty to a larceny charge, John L. Wynn was fined \$25 and taxed with the costs. Thirty days were allowed him to settle with the court.

Pleading guilty when charged with an assault with a deadly weapon, Earl Mobley was fined \$25 and taxed with

Raleigh Terry and Dennis Whitaker were each sentenced to the roads for a period of six months when found guilty of jail breaking.

### TEACHERS MEET **NEXT SATURDAY**

#### Meeting In Robersonville Is the Last of the 1929-1930 Term

The sixth and final meeting of the Martin County teachers for the 1929-1930 term will be held in the high school building next Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock, when reading circle work will be brought to a close with examinations and general tests.

The meeting was postponed week when the session conflicted with the State meeting at Raleigh on Saturday. Teachers, several of them, attending the State meeting will report the activities of the Raleigh meeting, it was stated yesterday.

### Woman's Club To Hold Regular Meet Thursday

The regular meeting of the Wo-man's club will be held Thursday afternoon at 4 o'clock. This will be a business meeting and it is very important that all members be present. The requirements to make the local high school an A grade one are very little at this time, and it will be dising the requirements or not and it is especially necessary that a good mem-

bership be present.

# Cyclone Mack to Speak Here Friday Night, March 28th

Comes Here Under the Auspices of the Community House-to-House Canvass to Builders' League; Special Seats Being Constructed In Brick Warehouse for the Meeting

here next Friday evening at 8 o'clock. instructed in the building to accommodate the crowd expected to attend the meeting. Invitations are being extended throughout this entire section, and from far and near people are plan-

ning to attend. Coming here under the auspices o getting ready for the big church case. the Community Builders' League, "Cy-The docket, last week, developed a clone Mack," as he is widely known, will champion the cause of local endefendants being sentenced to the terprises and industry. According to the promptly at 8 o'clock, and will discuss Edgecombe roads for around two ports from those communities where for an hour the problem that is atyears each.

Mr. McLendon has made his address tracting an almost nation-wide attenrelative to the "Chain Store Menace," he has studied the conditions carefully

During the past few weeks, Mr. Mc-Lendon has addressed meetings in several states, the officers of the league defense, asking that the case be dis here stating that he is in big demand be made and a cordial invitation to atall over the South, and has an appoint- tend is extended to all. ment for practically every night weeks in advance

In carrying on the drive in behalf of Friday night session to have Mr. Mc- stated.

B. F. McLendon, noted evangelist Lendon come down and address the and renowned lecturer, will deliver a people of this section. Leagues in other public address in the Brick warehouse centers have expressed their interest in the next Friday meeting, and presen Approximately 2,000 seats are being indications point to a very successful undertaking.

Ed Parker and his 17-piece orchestra will be here that evening, it was stated yesterday, to play just prior to the address, assuring entertainment for all. The orchestra will appear in an hour's concert and the public is cordially invited to be on hand at 7:00 o'clock when the musical program opens. Mr. McLendon will start his address

president of the community builders' league stated yesterday that man, woman and child. No charge will week.

The arrangement committee has contracted with the Murray-McCabe Lumber company to erect the seats and the community's welfare, the officers platform, and this work with all other and directors of the league held two details will be made complete within meetings last week, deciding at their the next two or three days, it was

### SHIP CARP TO PHILADELPHIA

### Local Fishermen Ship Approximately Thousand Pounds Yesterday

Messrs. Pete and Claude Cherry, lo al fishermen for a number of years, are making lrage shipments of German carp, cat fish and ells to the northern markets at this time, yesterday's catch netting them over one thousan ounds of marketable fish.

With modern equipment and large pod nets, the two fishermen are inreasing their business over last year to a marked extent, and the possibilties for a continued increase are good Hauls are made several times during wiftness of the water. When the waters begin to rise, the fish become more ctive and travel more swiftly making possible for the fishermen to reap arge hauls from their nets.

Regular fish boxes are being used nd the shipments are made from the accident. plant of the Lindsley Ice Company, where the fish are packed in ice. So far this season, the fishermen

have been marketing their catches through big fish dealers in Philadelphia where the carp and allied fish are SEINE FISHING considered a very select dish. The fish on the Philadelphia and other northern markets are selling for around 15 cents per pound at this time, according to So Far Catches Have Been Old Ford High School To

# IS SUCCESS HERE

Ohio Demonstrator Shows Large Number Use of Electric Stove

The electrical cooking demonstration put on by the Virginia Electric and Power company in the Woman's Club hall here last Friday afternoon was very successful. There were housewives present from this community, from Everetts, Robersonville and James-

An economist from the Westing house Electric company, of Mansfield, Ohio, began the demonstration by preparing and cooking a meal on the electric stove especially installed for the demonstration. This was said to be very interesting and instructive.

Mr. R. H. Goodman, salesmanager of the company in the Carolinas district next explained the new rates which he said are as low as any in the country. Mr. Stricker, of the Westinghouse company completed the pro-gram with a talk on hot-water heating by electricity.

### Kiwanis Club To Hold

Regular Meet Tomorrow Messrs. J. D. Woolard, Norman Harrison and Frank Margolis, will have charge of the Kiwanis meeting tomor row. They are arranging a good pro gram and every Kiwanian is expected to attend.

The meeting will begin promptly a 12:30.

# Will Conduct Two-Weeks

Revival in Holiness Church The Rev. Mrs. Edge, of Richmond will conduct a two-weeks revival service at the local Pentecostal Holiness church, beginning April 7, it was an-nounced today. The public is extend-lid from the coffin, to the terror of the stated. Every member of the chapter necessary that a good mem- ed a cordial welcome to attend any of pall bearers and mourners, who fled in and all visiting Royal Arch Masons panic.

# AGED BERTIE **NEGRO KILLED**

### Instantly Killed by Hit-and-Run Driver Near Windsor Last Sunday Noon

George Hoggard, an 80-year-old colored man of Bertie county, was instantly killed by a hit and run car near his home just this side of Windson about noon last Sunday.

The old man was walking in the behind the death car, stated that no SCHOOLS CLOSED effort was made by the driver of the death car, that it was impossible is believed that the car was a Chevrothe week, the work depending upon the let coupe and was occupied at the time

by two women and a man. The aged man's head was crushed a shoe was knocked off and thrown a distance of several feet down the road, and his glasses were picked up several yards from the scene of the

search for the hit and run driver, but no arrests have been made at

# Small; Number of Shad Is Very Limited

he C. C. Fleming fishery, Jamesville, is progressing slowly at this time, ac- Farm Life auditorium Thursday evenyesterday. Catches ranging around a will go for the benefit of the Farm Life hundred are being made with the herring predominating. Shad are few and far between so far, the report states.

While the fishing so far this week has not ben as good as it was last week, increased catches are expected within the next few days.

When the season reaches its peak which will be within a comparatively short time now, thousands of people are expected to visit the fisheries to view the operations.

### Important Meeting of the Woman's Club Tomorrow

The directors of the Community Builders' League will meet the mem-bers of the Woman's club in the club rooms this evening at 8 o'clock.
Important business has been scheduled for presentation at the meeting and an earnest appeal is being made for all women of the town to attend. The meeting will last only a short while, it was stated.

### Man Breaks Out of Coffin And Produces A Panic

Mexico City, March 24.- Juan Garcia, 24 a clerk living near Atzacapotzalco, Mexico City suburb, saved himself from the grave but nearly sent his its entirety, the service, and the mem startled relatives there when he suddenly broke from his coffin, while beng transported to the cemetery.

Following an extremely heavy meal with wine, Garcia suddenly collapsed and a physician pronounced him dead. Funeral arrangements were made, in-asmuch as burial in Mexico City fol- Thursday night, March 27 at 7:45 o'to the cemetery started and in thirty minutes, Garcie would have been in-

He recovered, however, brought the will come before the meeting, it was

### CENSUS PLANS IN THE COUNTY ARE COMPLETE

Begin In All Parts of the Country Next Week

# NINE TAKERS NAMED

ey of Business Houses in Martis County Practically Complete, According to Reports

Preparations for the taking of the 1930 census in Martin county are almost complete, according to informaion given out by a branch of the census department yesterday afteroon. Nine of the census takers had een named yesterday and the appointment of three others is likely to be

The business survey, handled in this ccunty by Mrs. David Grimes, of Robersonville, Mrs. O. S. Anderson, of this lace and Mr. W. W. Walters, of Jamesville, is nearing completion, it of tobacco in this county, many acres learned yesterday and will be out of formerly used in the cultivation of cotit is a community undertaking, one that should be of vital interest to every

Twelve persons will call on every house in the county during the course of the next several weeks, asking the greatest number and most varied questions ever prepared in a census before. The information will be used for statistical purposes only, the facts be-

ing guarded closely in all cases. The people of the county can be of much help to the canvassers by answering all questions promptly, stating the facts truly in all cases.

It is not known just how long it will ounty, but the work will extend over period of several weeks, it is gener-

lly believed. The towns of Robersonville and Wil n the working organization in this county, each of the townships having ne census taker. There will be one each for Williamston and Roberson ville townships outside the towns, i

# road when struck by the machine, his thead being badly crushed. Parties just TWO SHORT TERM

identify exactly the car. It Cross Roads Closes Friday Farm Life Completes Term Next Tuesday

The second of Martin county's six nonth term schools will close nex Friday, when the Cross Roads school completes its work for the 1929-30 term, it was learned yesterday in the office of the county superintendent Bertie officers are continuing the Ange Town, completing the term last month, was the first of the short-tern

schools to close. Hardly a week will pass from now until the middle of May but what one or more schools will close in the couny. Farm Life will herald its closing AT JAMESVILLE next Tuesday with appropriate exer cises and probably a picnic dinner.

# Give Play at Farm Life

The Old Ford High School, of Beau-Seine firshing, started fast week at fort county, will present a one-act ne C. C. Fleming fishery, Jamesville, negro play and negro minstrel in the cording to reports received here late ing at 8 o'clock. Part of the proceeds school,t it was stated.

### Bear Grass Organization

To Hold Important Meet The parent-teacher's association of the Bear Grass School will meet Thursday evening of this week at 8 o'clock, it was announced yesterday. An interesting program is being arranged, it was stated, and an address will be made. The association is very desirous of having a large attendance

#### to attend. Young Men To Conduct Mid-Week Baptist Service

and is especially urging all parents

The Young Men's Baraca class of the Memorial Baptist Church will conchurch Wednesday of this week. The pastor will be in Greenville attending the Centennial celebration of the Bapist convention of this state.

The young men's class has grown ina considerable organization in recent nonths, and under the able leadership the young men themseves, is doing

notable piece of work. Wednesday evening at 7:30 o'clock bership of the church are cordially in

#### Conoho Chapter To Hold Special Convocation Here The Conoho Chapter, No 12, R. A. M., will hold a special convocation on

C. B. Clark, High Priest. In addition to the annual election of officers, other important business

are urged to attend.

# Case Called Here Yesterday MARTIN RAISES

# Is Lowest In Twentyfive Year Period

LITTLE COTTON

Cotton production in Martin county

suffered heavy losses in the cultivation schools for the six months period. State yield per acre is given at 197 available for Martin county alone, it school term. is believed that the acreage yield here

greatest decrease in yield, only 6,861 bales being raised there during the 10,718 bales. Washington county re- distributed among the seven ported more than a 50 per cent decrease, while Bertie reported a decrease equire to complete the survey in this of 3,620 bales last year as compared with the 1928 production.

Of the one hundred counties in the State, only 21 reported increases, and none of them was very large. In 1928, iamston will form two separate units the State production totalled 869,248 bales, while last year the yield dropped to 766,787 bales, a decrease of 102,461 bales in one year's time.

# TO LEND \$2,500 TO MARTIN FARMERS

Sum Expected Here Is Part of \$7,000,000 Appropriation by Congress

While the appropriation of \$7,000,-000.00 for aid of farmers in the strick en areas of the South and West has Farmers are said to be exchanging reing to information received here. A committee has been appointed in this county to pass upon the loans, but further action locally depends upon

the government. The sum alloted this county, while it has not been definitely determined, will range around \$2,500, according to County Agent T. B. Brandon, who is in active charge of the preliminary arrangements here.

### Baptist Centennial In Grenville This Week

One hundred years ago, the Baptist what was then the small town of Greenville.

At that time there were a few scat tered churches over the State, with no no schools and fractically no organiza tion of a denominational order.

Today, the denomination is numeri cally large and financially strong. It supports seven schools and colleges and one hospital in the State, in addition to its affiliation with the Southern Baptist Convention, and the extension work which it carries on through that

In one hundred years the Baptists in North Carolina have grown from a few thousand, to well over a quarter of a million. They own a vast amount of property throughout the State and

have prospered in a unique way. At the State convention in Shelby last fall it was ordered that the Baptists of the State meet in a specially called session at Greenville in this will specialize in the purchase and sellmonth, to fittingly observe and celebrate the centennial. Accordingly, on Wednesday and Thursday of this week the Baptists from the mountains to the sea will descend upon Greenville for this two days session. There will be no business transacted, the entire time being given over to inspirational matters

The pastor from the local church will be in attendance both days, and it is understood that a number of people from the local church will attend the verious sessions.

### F. K. Hodges To Open Grocery Store Here Soon

Mr. F. K. Hodges is making arrangements for opening a grocery store the building formerly occupied by Funeral arrangements were made, inasmuch as burial in Mexico City follows death without delay, the cortege clock, it was announced yesterday by ing is being remodeled, Mr. Hodges stating yesterday afternoon that plans to open for business within the next two weeks.

For a number of years, Mr. Hodges has been in the dry goods business,

# SCHOOL FUND IS PAID IN FULL

Smithwick's Creek Church

### 1929 Production In County This County Receives \$45,-536.90 For Operating Schools 6 Months

The balance of the fourth installduring the past year was the lowest in ment of the equalizing fund, a sum twenty-five years, wet weather and amounting to \$41,671.22, was mailed to the boll weevil resulting in the unus- the several counties a few days ago, ually low production record. While according to a report coming from the there were only 5,213 bales raised in State Superintendent's office in Ralmade tomorrow or Thursday, it was the county in 1928, production last eigh yesterday. Martin county shared year dropped to 3,029 bales, a decrease in the fourth installment to the extent of 2,184 bales or nearly 50 per cent. The farming industry, in addition to received during the 1929-30 term up losing thousands of dollars on the crop, to \$45,536.90 for the operation of the

The first part of the fourth payment, the sum of \$615,462.50, was sent out in ton being turned into tobacco. The February. The total of these two amounts, \$1,257,133.72, therefore, reprepounds in 1929 as compared with 215 sents the fourth and last installment of according to the beliefs entertained pounds in 1928. While figures are not the fund applicable to the six months by many at this time.

Some time next month the State Dewas far below that for the State, as a partment of Instruction will distribute those districts operating their schools or more to go on the stand. beyond six months. Martin county is past year, as compared with 17,579 expected to share to the extent of \$9,bales reported in 1928, a decrease of 532.15 in this fund, the amount being running for eight months.

# POOR TOBACCO BEDS REPORTED

Many Farmers Are Replanting Beds Despite Lateness of Season

Tobacco farmers in several sections of this county are meeting their first difficulty in preparing and cultivating the 1930 crop, poor tobacco beds being reported by numbers of farmers.

While the poor condition of the plant beds is attributable in part to insects, cold weather is believed to have caused the most damage. -Finding their plants so scarce, a

seed a second time, although the season for that work is unusually late. not actually been passed, preparations for the handling of the loans are being made at this time, accord
effort to determine the true situation fense, who, after entereing two obeffort to determine the true situation fense, who, after entereing two obas it exists so that it will be possible jections rested, the following jury beto borrow or buy from one another. Several farmers in the Jamesville and Griffins township sections stated as their beliefs that plants would be un- Humble, farmer, Ayden, Free Will

## 200 SHARES SOLD BY ASSOCIATION

### Sales Expected to Reach 300 Mark Before the 26th Series Closes

According to a statement made last member. L. C. Fletcher, merchant night by an official of the Martin Winterville, Free Will Baptist. County Building and Loan association, 200 shares of stock have been sold in While the sale has established no new

While the sale of shares in the present series has reached the 200 mark, it is an assured fact that at least 100 more shares will be issued before the subscription period closes.

### Norfolk Undersellers To Open Store Here Friday

The Norfolk Underselling company announced today their opening sale which will begin next Friday. The firm has ben located here before, and ing of bankrupt stocks as in the past. The stock of Mr. F. K. Hodges has been purchased and a large stock shipped here from Atlantic City will be

F. K. Hodges. Mr. Jack Frank, the manager states of goods and that they anticipate a large opening sale. Mr. A. Hassell will assist Mr. Frank in his new busi-

added to the stock bought from Mr.

# Fail To Organize Walton

The organization of an Izaak Walton League in this county failed to there were 98 members of the church materialize at a scheduled meeting to in 1927 and that all the plaintiffs to The organization of an Izaak Walbe held here, but efforts for the or-ganization of a body in this county N. Rogerson was pastor of the church will continue, it is understood.

son was here, but the attendance up-on the meeting was insufficient to warrant organization proceedings, it is understood. Colonel Bullock is exbut prior to that time he operated a pected to make another visit here grocery store for several years.

# LARGE CROWDS PACK ROOM TO HEAR EVIDENCE

Selection of Jury from Special Venire Made In A Very Short Time

# CASE MOVES SLOWLY

Only One Witness Has Reached the Stand So Far; Defense Has 70 Witnesses, Report States

Only one witness, Mr. P. E. Getsinger, has been called in the case so far, and at noon it was thought that he would continue on the stand for another hour or longer. He was questioned up until a few minutes before

the noon recess by A. D. MacLean. The case will consume the entire week and may go over into the next,

The defense has seventy witnesses, many of them coming from as far away as Alamance to the west and approximately \$1,250,000, the fund set Tyrrell and Hyde in the east. The Pitt county, probably suffered the aside by the General Assembly to aid plaintiffs will perhaps have a dozen

> After a delay of several days as a result of a large criminal docket, the nuck-talked talked about Smithwick's Creek Primitive Baptist Church case was called in the Martin County Superior court here yesterday morning, about 75 members, who are known as the majority faction, suing about 18 members, called the minority faction, all of the same church, for possession of the church building and property.

> The court house was packed, and with the lawyers, Messrs. Ward and Grimes, and Paul, of Washington, and E. S. Peel, of Williamston, representing the plaintiffs, and Messrs. A. D. MacLean, of Washington, and A. R. Dunning, of this place, taking their places, the case was called by Judge N. A. Sinclair at 10:05 o'clock.

The selection of a jury was made in the special venire summoned in Pitt good number of farmers is planting county being examined to complete the list. After questioning thirteen members of the venire as to their kinship knowledge of the case and their reing selected:

J. L. Jenkins, merchant, of Ayden, member of Christian church; J. E. usually short in their sections this Baptist; A. F. Rowe, banker, of Ayden, Primitive Baptist; W. D. Owen, farmer of Fountain, non-member; H. S. Ragsdale, tobacconist of Greenville, Missionary Baptist; C. M. Smith, of Farmville; W. D. Bailey, farmer of Stokes, Methodist; Geo. Dale, farmer of Winterville, Free Will Baptist; J. H. Byrum, merchant of Ayden, Free Will Baptist; W. T. Allen, farmer of Greenville, Free Will Baptist; E. H. Hooks, merchant of Winterville, non-

According to present indications, the trial is very likely to continue for sevthe organization's twenty-sixth series. eral days, a large number of witnesses being scheduled for the stand. Followhight mark, the results are very satis- ing the general arrangements yesterfactory considering the conditions as day, the court busied itself with the they now exist in this part of the examining of only one witness during the remainder of the day and it is reported that the defense has around 75 witnesses, not even mentioning those

for the other side. Following the selection of the jury. Attorney Ward read the complaint, Lawyer MacLean, for the defense, reading the answer. After discussing the case at length, trial issues were finally determined, and at 12:40 the plaintiffs introduced what is known in the case of the Sylvester Hassell Pamphlet, which they allege is a proper exemplification of the Primitive Bap-

tist Faith or Creed. Court adjourned until 2:30. Perlie E. Getsinger, star witness for the plaintiffs, was the first to take the stand, going there at 2:35. He stated that he was 46 years old, that he was elected clerk of the Smithwick's Creek Church in November 1924, and has in that they have an unusually large stock his possession all books and records of said church recorded since 1803 up to and including last Saturday, Mr. Getsinger stated that all entries since his election have been made in his own hand writing and contain a true record of all motions and resolutions passed by the conferences of said church, that League Here Last Friday the minutes are always read at each meeting, also at the ensuing meeting. for 15 years until he resigned in No-Colonel Seymour Bullock, of Wil-