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## TOBACCO PLANT SHORTAGE SAID TO BE SERIOUS

### Farmers Considering Plants From Georgia and South Carolina

## ACREAGE DECREASES

Shortage Said by Old Tobacco Farmers To Be the Greatest in History Here

That there will be a shortage in tobacco plants in this section this year is practically certain now, according to late reports coming from farmers all over the county. The effect the reported shortage in plants will have on the acreage this season cannot be determined at this time, but it is generally believed that a decrease will result.

The shortage in plants this year in this entire section is said to be the greatest in years, scores of old tobacco farmers stating that they had never seen a year when plants were more scarce.

Unofficial reports received here during the past day or two state that farmers in nearby counties are considering ordering plants out of Georgia and South Carolina for transplanting on their farms in this part of the State.

Reports from Georgia indicate that there are sufficient plants there for farmers in several states, that the growers in that state are planning to increase their acreage to a great extent. Conflicting reports have been heard however, and it is not known now whether one is justified in believing that the farmers there will raise 150,000,000 pounds or decrease the 90,000,000 pounds raised during the past season. A majority of the reports forecasts an increase in the acreage, however.

## CALL ELECTION AT EVERETTS

### Citizens There Will Vote on Power Question the 31st of May

In an effort to ascertain the will of the qualified voters of the town of Everetts relative to the sale of the light and power distribution system there, the board of aldermen in session last Tuesday night, called an election and a new registration, the election to be held the 31st of next month.

The town has been offered \$10,000 for its power lines, distribution system, and a 30-year franchise. According to the terms of the contract, the lighting rate will be slightly lowered, but the attitude of the citizenship toward the proposal is not known, the town authorities calling the election that the question might be settled by the citizens themselves.

Mr. Jesse Keel has been appointed registrar, and he will hold the registration books open each Saturday, beginning the 26th of this month and on each Saturday thereafter until the election.

## FERTILIZER MEN HERE THURSDAY

### Officials of Local Plant Are Well Pleased With Operations

Messrs. C. B. Mitchell, vice president of the Standard Fertilizer Company, and resident of Baltimore, Harry Humphries, of Presque, Maine, and Chester Wise, of Cape Charles, Va., were visitors at the local fertilizer plant here yesterday.

They stopped here in route to Baltimore from South Carolina, where they had been for the last several days inspecting the potato crop. According to their reports, the prospects for a potato crop in South Carolina are good.

Mr. Humphries is the largest seed potato dealer in the United States, and was very much impressed with this section of the State. He ships an enormous quantity of seed potatoes to this State every year.

Mr. Mitchell was very much pleased with the local plant and believes they will continue to grow as they have in the past.

## Dan Lacey To Occupy Baptist Pulpit Sunday

Sunday school, 9:45 a. m. Morning service, 11 o'clock. Owing to the continued illness of Rev. C. H. Dickey, Mr. Dan Lacey, of Rocky Mount, N. C., assisted by the B. Y. P. U., will be in charge of the morning service. Mr. Lacey, while young in years, has already established himself as an orator of note throughout the State. He takes a very active part in all State B. Y. P. U. work.

The B. Y. P. U. will meet at their regular hour, 6:30. There will be no evening service.

## Services at the Piney Grove Baptist Church Saturday

Preaching at Piney Grove Church Saturday night at 7:30, and at 3 p. m. Sunday at Reddicks Grove by W. B. Harrington, pastor.

## Meningitis Is Reported In The Lower Part of County

### Health Authorities Order Colored School at Free Union Closed and Warn Against all Public Gatherings; Two Deaths Reported; Several People Ill

With a meningitis epidemic threatening in the lower part of the county, practicing physicians and health authorities are closely guarding the disease in an effort to check its advance. Two deaths have been reported in the Dardens section as a result of the disease this week, and several other subjects were said by County Health Officer Wm. E. Warren to be dangerously ill.

Confined so far to the colored population, three of the cases were reported in one family, a fourth case being found in a family a mile away. The first death was reported last Tuesday, the victim, Irving James, 16-year-old colored boy, was taken suddenly ill a week before. Dennis Owen, one and one-half years old, was stricken with the disease last Tuesday, dying twenty hours later.

Investigating the deaths, County Health Officer Wm. E. Warren and Dr. J. E. Smithwick this week ordered the colored school in the Free Union section closed and advised against public assemblages of any kind. The colored population in the section was taking the disease as a matter of course, and considered there was little danger in holding a meeting in the church there. The physicians warned against

further meetings at the present time and urged complete isolation as far as possible.

According to information gained from Dr. W. E. Warren yesterday, isolation is the best way to combat the spread of the disease, medical science being somewhat limited in its power to check an advance of the particular type of meningitis found there. Serum has been administered and residents coming in contact with those afflicted have been ordered quarantined in an effort to limit the spread of the disease.

Dr. H. A. Taylor, State Epidemiologist, was here yesterday conferring with the county health officer relative to the disease, but it was his belief that physicians and health authorities were doing all in their power to handle the situation.

The source of the disease has not been determined definitely, but it is understood that one of the victims was taken ill while working in Plymouth.

Dr. Warren explained that the disease found in the lower part of this county is different from that termed "Jake" Meningitis. The disease near here is similar to what is called spotted fever, the body showing many spots about the time and immediately following the death of the victim.

## AN INCREASE IN POULTRY SALES

### Another Car Will Probably Be Operated in County This Season

Poultry loadings in the county this week broke the season's record, approximately 13,000 pounds having been loaded up until late yesterday. Loadings are going forward today in Oak City, but just how the offerings are holding up at that point could not be learned at noon today. Total receipts to Martin farmers at Jamesville, this point, and Robersonville, totaled \$2,723.22. County Agent Brandon stated last night, the largest sum that has been paid so far this season.

Loadings at Jamesville increased considerably, 1,760 pounds having been delivered there Tuesday. A drop was recorded here, only 4,411 pounds being sold. Robersonville reported a large increase, farmers of that section selling 6,365 pounds. One farmer there sold eight chickens for \$13.34.

The purchasers representative stated that he had purchased more unseen corn in this county than he had at any other point in some time. The fowls were literally stuffed with corn. He stated that he did not mind paying 23 cents a pound for corn that cost only two or three cents, but that he disliked the idea of having the fowls die on his hands from overfeeding.

Agent Brandon stated that there will probably be one more car this season, the loadings this week indicating that another car could be handled successfully.

## Methodists Announce Program of Services

### Dwight A. Petty, Pastor

Sunday school at 9:45. Classes for all ages. Any who will be invited to either visit or regularly attend our school.

Morning worship at 11. Sermon by the pastor on "The Church's Responsibility to the Government." Mr. Petty believes that the Christian ministry is obligated to condemn lawlessness, to denounce injustice and disregard for law, whether it be a Judge or a Negro in a back alley.

Evening service at 7:30. Sermon by the pastor on "Christian Assurance by the Spirit's Inward Witness." Senior League, Monday at 7:30. HI-League at 7:30 Tuesday evening. Prayer Service, Wednesday at 7:30. Holly Springs Church.

The new church at Holly Springs is nearing completion. It will be in shape to have Sunday school next Sunday. The first preaching service will be conducted in it Easter Sunday at 3 o'clock.

## Sunday Services at the Local Christian Church

Preaching by the pastor at 11 a. m. and 7:30 in the evening. Special song service in the evening. Sunday school at 9:45 a. m. A cordial welcome awaits all who will attend these services.

## Thanks Friends Assisting Him to Raise Fine Money

I wish to thank my friends for assisting me in paying my fine in the Federal court at Washington this week. I trust that I may be able to return this kindness at some future time. LEVI REDDICK.

## 19 COUNTY MEN SENTENCED IN FEDERAL COURT

### Court Said To Be More Lenient with Subjects Than Formerly

## EIGHT OF FREE UNION

### Local Deputy Accompanies One Group of Prisoners To Atlanta This Morning

Nineteen Martin county violators of the liquor law pleaded guilty or were convicted in Federal court at Washington this week. The cases from this county formed a portion of the docket, it is understood. The court, according to reports, was more lenient with its subjects this week than it was during the last term.

Eight of the violators facing Judge Meekins were from the Free Union section. They were James Daniel, colored, 3 years at Washington, D. C.; Timothy Keys, Grady James and Handy Williams, all colored, charged with manufacturing, each was sentenced to Washington, D. C. for a year and a day. Edwin Pierce and Edward Cordon, also colored, charged with manufacturing were each given a year and a day in Chillicothe, Ohio. Fleetwood Brooks, colored, manufacturing, second offense, 18 months at Atlanta. Newsome D. Boston, colored, fined \$50 for possession.

Lester Whitaker, white, charged with manufacturing, was sentenced to Atlanta for a period of 18 months. Wm. Cullin, colored, was given a year and a day at Atlanta for manufacturing.

Ben Biggs, colored, found guilty of manufacturing and possession a second time, was sent to Atlanta for a period of 18 months.

David Gurganus, white, a year and a day at Chillicothe for manufacturing. Walter Collins, colored, fined \$50 for possession.

Levi Reddick, white, fined \$50 for possession.

Tom Norwood, white, fined \$50 for possession.

K. O. Rogerson, white, fined \$50 for possession.

Roscoe Staton, colored, fined \$50 for possession.

Lin Williams, fined \$50 for possession.

W. H. Daughtry, white, jailed for two hours for manufacturing.

Mayo Harrell, fined \$50 for possession of material.

Traveling in special cars, the prisoners left Washington this morning for their respective destinations, Deputy J. H. Roebuck, of this place, going as a guard with the group "billed" for Atlanta.

## Federal Court Interrupts Recorder Here Tuesday

It just seems as if Judge Bailey and Solicitor Peel can't hold their court for other courts. During two weeks in March they had to give over to the superior court; a session was held on Tuesday of last week, but with many of the court attendants being called as witnesses in the Federal court at Washington, no cases were heard last Tuesday. Next Tuesday and the following Tuesday the Martin County Superior Court will be in session, freeing the county court out again.

The recorder will occupy the bench one more time this month, a session being scheduled for the 29th.

## DOCTORS MEET IN ROBERSONVILLE

### Dr. E. E. Pittman Elected President of Society for The Ensuing Term

The Martin County Medical Society held its regular annual meeting with Drs. Ward and Nelson as hosts in Robersonville Wednesday evening at 7:30 o'clock. Every member of the society was present, including the honorary members, Drs. P. B. Cone and Kilpatrick. Dr. Pittman read a very instructive and interesting paper on nephrosis, which was well received and discussed by a number of the physicians. Other practical subjects relating to medicine and surgery were also ably discussed.

The splendid menu, consisting of fried chicken and everything that goes with it, was served by Mr. Fulmer and most highly enjoyed by all. The next meeting will be held the middle of July with Dr. Long in Hamilton.

Officers elected for the ensuing term: Dr. E. E. Pittman, president; Dr. E. M. Long, vice president; Dr. William E. Warren, secretary.

Dr. Wm. E. Warren was elected as delegate to the North Carolina Medical Society, which meets at Pinehurst April 28, 1930.

## Woodmen In District Meeting at Greenville

Returning late yesterday from a district meeting of the Modern Woodmen held in Greenville, Mr. Paul Bailey of Everetts, stated it was one of the best sessions he had ever attended. A splendid program had been arranged and was well executed, he said. The meeting was well attended by Modern Woodmen from all over the district.

## Sketch Of J. H. Johnson's Life During The Civil War

In the fast fading Line of Gray, Martin County has only five heroes. These is no history more interesting than the trials and tribulations experienced by the men who defended the South's Cause in the Civil War. Their stories exact strict attention on the part of mere youth as well as command the interest of those of all ages.

Following is a brief sketch of Mr. James H. Johnson, one of the county's oldest veterans. Other sketches will appear from time to time.

James H. Johnson, 87 years of age, was born near Oak City where he was reared on a farm. At a tender age and soon after the conflict between the States was opened he joined Captain Clemmons' company, being one of the first to volunteer in the cause of the South. Immediately after he volunteered, his company, made up principally of young Martin County men, was sent to defend the fort at Roanoke Island. He saw but little service before the fort fell into the hands of the enemy and he was taken prisoner. Mr. Johnson, with a number of other prisoners from this county, was sent to Governor's Island, New York, later going to Boston. He was held prisoner there until Christmas, 1861, when he was exchanged.

Returning home from Boston, Mr. Johnson then went with the 17th Regiment, Company E. From the early

part of 1862 until Johnson's surrender near Greensboro in 1865, Mr. Johnson had many varied experiences and several close calls. He was with Ransom's Brigade in the capture of Plymouth, and told of many happenings that caused one's hair to stand on its end. In making the charge, General Ransom drove his horse into Conby Creek, the steed being fastened solid in the mire. Mr. Johnson laughed heartily when telling how he and the late Timothy I. Gray, also a Martin County boy, pulled the horse from the creek. He offered an interesting description of the charge and told how the enemy fled before him.

Most of the fiercest fighting encountered by Mr. Johnson was at Bermuda Hundreds and other points around Petersburg. Although many men were shot dead by his side, he escaped with only two slight wounds, neither of which forced him from actual service.

After a stay in the conflict around Petersburg, Mr. Johnson was detailed for foraging service with General (Fighting) Joe Wheeler. Of all the service he saw, Mr. Johnson says his work with General Wheeler, whom he knew well from personal contact, was the most thrilling. He was greatly impressed with the beauty in the Valley of Virginia, stating that the people there were the most loyal and most generous he has ever met in his life.

## PLAN TO HOLD TAX MEETING IN THIS COUNTY

### Farm And Home Owners Are Expected To Attend Meeting

## MEET IN COURTHOUSE

### Meetings in Many Counties Tomorrow Will Appoint Delegates to State Meeting

A large number of farm and home owners of Martin County are expected at the courthouse next Saturday morning, April 12, to attend the mass meeting which is to be held for the purpose of organizing a County Tax Relief Association and send as many delegates as possible to the State Tax Relief meeting in Raleigh on Monday, April 14.

The campaign to bring about reduced property valuations is sweeping over North Carolina, and in each of the hundred counties of the State meetings will be held next Saturday morning for the purpose of helping perfect county units of the State organization.

State Chairman Larry I. Moore, of New Bern, is urging the various county chairmen to see that the meetings are given extensive publicity.

"These county meetings next Saturday are of vital importance to the success of the campaign," he stated recently. "Thousands of farms and homes in North Carolina already have been sold for taxes at a small pittance of their true value and valid tax deeds have been given to purchasers. Hundreds of actions to foreclose tax certificates are now pending in every county and, unless some relief is secured, these properties will have to be sacrificed. It is up to the farm and home owners in our hundred counties to attend the meetings in their respective counties next Saturday morning at 10:30 o'clock. Each meeting has been called for that hour. If we proceed to take action now, there is no question but that beneficial results will follow. If we display an attitude of indifference, then we can blame no one but ourselves for existing conditions. I sincerely hope that every farm and home owner who can possibly do so will attend the meeting at the courthouse next Saturday.

Martin County is cooperating in the organization plan and a large crowd is expected at the courthouse here at 10:30 Saturday.

## Presbyterian Services Are Announced for Sunday

### Rev. Z. T. Piephof, Pastor

True sayings: "Have a good conscience and thou shalt ever have joy." Sunday school, 9:45 a. m. Departmental classes. Mr. John L. Rodgers, superintendent.

Worship service and sermon 11 a. m. "The Immortality of the Soul."

Does the individual man have a soul? The Materialist says "No," for they say there is but one substance and that is matter. Granting that man has a soul, is it immortal? The Pantheist says, "That the race is immortal but the individual is not." But what does the Christian believe and why? Come to church Sunday and hear this subject discussed. We welcome all.

## Bear Grass

Presbyterian religious services will be held in the school house Sunday evening at 7:30 o'clock. Come and bring the children as this is the night in which they will be rewarded for attendance upon 13 consecutive services.

## Civil Term of Court To Convene Monday

### COURT TO HEAR CIVIL MATTERS ONLY AT TERM

### Sixty-Nine Cases Appear on Calendar for Trial During 2 Weeks

### MOORE WILL PRESIDE

### Several Familiar Cases Are on Calendar for Trial Before Judge Moore Next Week

With Judge Clayton Moore presiding, a two-weeks term of Martin County Superior Court convenes here next Monday, only civil matters being scheduled for trial. Sixty-nine cases appear on the calendar, but it is considered very doubtful if the court will hear all the causes listed.

Two familiar cases again appear on the calendar for the trial next week. The cases, Modlin against Town and Dickey against Railroad, have been scheduled several times before, the Dickey versus Railroad case having been tried once. The cause was carried before the Supreme Court and a new trial was granted.

The calendar, prepared by members of the local bar, carries the following cases:

Monday, April 14: Morris vs. Grimes et al; Cherry vs. Lilley; Hadley vs. Norton; Modlin vs. Town; Matthews vs. Peel; Davis vs. Hinson et al.

Tuesday, April 15: Dawes vs. Shivers; Dickey vs. Railroad; Martin & Sons vs. Hardison; Hassell vs. Peanut Company; Gray and wife vs. Peel et al; Matthews vs. Wynn; Matthews vs. Woolard; Matthews vs. Whitaker.

Wednesday, April 16: In Re Will Ed Lloyd; Harell vs. Shelton; Davenport vs. Davenport; Roberson vs. Matthews, Phillips vs. Cherry; Bank vs. Roberson; Anderson and Company vs. Forbes and Morton.

Thursday, April 17: Peanut Company vs. Walters; H. J. Hardison vs. Bonding Company; Roebuck vs. Bonding Company; Oil Company vs. Biggs Drug Company; Davenport vs. Davenport; Hardison vs. Whitaker; Daniel vs. Roberson.

Friday, April 18: Bunch vs. Gorham et al; Ayers and Company vs. Warren et al; Bunting vs. Edmondson; Tetterton vs. Life and Trust Company; Harrison vs. Higgs; Coburn, receiver, vs. Everett.

Monday, April 21: Roebuck vs. Everett; Truitt vs. Downs; Truitt vs. Downs; Fertilizer Company vs. Sitterson; Bank vs. Sitterson; Moore, administrator, vs. Jorogay, et al; Power Company vs. Dicus; James vs. Parmele.

Tuesday, April 22: Fertilizer Company vs. Holliday; Hopkins vs. Williams; Motor Company vs. Holliday; Perry vs. Sykes; Boston vs. Cordon; Coltrain vs. Mobley; Fertilizer Company vs. Godard.

Fertilizer Company vs. Williams. Wednesday, April 23: Roberson vs. Jolly; Gurganus vs. Gardner; Coltrain vs. Heath; Roebuck vs. Carson; Barnhill Brothers vs. Warren; Blount vs. Holliday; Wynn vs. Andrews; Ayers and Company vs. Curtis; Fertilizer Company vs. Hurley; Motor Company vs. Godard.

Thursday, April 24: Ayers and Company vs. Ward; Bank vs. Sitterson; Motor Company vs. Barnhill; Davenport vs. Purvis; Peel vs. Warren; Tire Company vs. Patrick; Hat Company vs. Rhodes; Ayers and Company vs. Bennett.

## REPUBLICANS IN MEETING HERE

### Appoint Members of State Executive Committee At Meeting

Republicans from the fourteen counties in the First Congressional district held their congressional convention in the courthouse here yesterday afternoon when members of the State Executive committee were appointed and other political questions, of a local nature, were handled. The convention passed quietly, only one contest coming before the meeting.

M. B. Prescott, of Ayden, was elected chairman of the meeting and T. E. Beaman, of Greenville, secretary. The convention endorsed J. S. Duncan for national committeeman. John L. Phelps of Washington county, Wheeler Martin, of Martin county, Adrian S. Mitchell, of Hertford, and J. D. Paul, of Beaufort county, were elected members of the State Executive committee.

The only contest was that of W. J. Manning and Wheeler Martin, Mr. Martin winning by a large count a place on the executive committee.

## Local Bank to Observe Halifax Day Tomorrow

Halifax Day will be observed by the Branch Banking and Trust Company here tomorrow, it was announced by Cashier C. D. Carstarphen yesterday. The day will go practically unnoticed by other institutions and business houses in the county, according to information received here.

Throughout the State, however, the day will be generally observed, it was stated.

Halifax Day marks the signing of the Declaration of Independence by North Carolina over here at Halifax.

## Work on 1930 Census Is Progressing Rapidly Here

The 1930 census in this county is progressing rapidly, according to reports coming from several of the twelve enumerators. Varied and unusual experiences are being reported, but as a whole the enumerators are receiving a hearty cooperation on the part of their subjects.

The government is urging the enumerators to complete the survey by Saturday of next week, but it is believed that an extension of time will be necessary for a few of the enumerators to complete the work in their districts.

## Program of Services at Church of The Advent

Rev. A. H. Marshall, Rector Services for April 13th. Sunday school at 10 a. m. Morning Prayer and Communion at 11 o'clock. Special Palm Sunday music—Lenten services every Tuesday and Friday at 4:30. Communion every Wednesday at 10 a. m.

You are cordially invited to all of these services.

## Many Expected to Attend Operetta Here Tonight

Large crowds are expected to attend the grammar grade operetta in the local high school auditorium this evening.