

GAME AND FISH KILLED BY FIRE AND DROUGHT

Unusual Stories Told of the Drought Effect in Certain Parts of County

MANY STREAMS DRY

Hogs Said To Be Wading Streams and Devouring Large Number Fish In Griffins District

Certain game in the woods and barrels upon barrels of fish have been destroyed in this county, either by forest fires or drought, according to reports coming from several sections. The game loss has been comparatively small, but untold numbers of fish are believed to have perished in the small streams. Forest fires have swept vast areas of wooded land in the county during the past week, destroying valuable timber and driving the game to safety in other places.

Several streams in the county, varying from 5 to more than 12 feet deep, have gone dry, leaving the fish dead or dry land. In Griffins Township, near the Hardison Mill, it is said that the fish are perishing to death, one resident declaring that the heads of the fish are much larger than their bodies. Hogs, confined in pastures bordering the creek, are said to have gone fishing and caught countless numbers of the jacks and other fish common in the streams of this section.

It is predicted that with a continuation of dry weather, practically all the smaller creeks and swamps will be completely without water.

In addition to the loss of game and fish, many people are facing a serious turn in that they are finding it necessary to haul water from deep wells to supply their households. Stock and wild animals are forced to travel several miles in certain parts of the county to find water, the reports state.

START REVIVAL HERE SUNDAY

Rev. H. C. Smith Will Assist In Series of Services At Methodist Church

The local Methodist church will start a series of revival services next Sunday morning, with the pastor, Rev. Dwight A. Petty, preaching the first two sermons that day. In the Monday evening service and on throughout the meeting, Rev. H. C. Smith, prominent minister of Rockingham, will assist Mr. Petty, it was announced recently.

A special service has been planned for all Sunday school pupils and teachers on Tuesday night, when a message will be addressed particularly to them. However, the public is cordially invited to attend the service, the pastor stated.

Next Thursday evening, the service will be arranged especially for the young people of the town and community, and all members of the young people's societies are asked to be present. The Rev. Mr. Smith is a very forceful preacher, and it is believed that the people of the town will enjoy his sermons. Every one is invited to each of the services.

In announcing the Sunday services in the church, Rev. Mr. Petty stated that the Sunday school would convene at the usual hour, and that at the 11 o'clock worship hour he would use as his theme: "The Sign for This Generation." "Playing at Religion" has been chosen by the pastor for his Sunday evening theme.

In concluding his announcement relative to the series of meetings, Mr. Petty said, "Services will probably be held at 10 o'clock each morning after Monday. These services have been planned as a contribution to the spiritual life of all the people and all the churches in the community."

Martin County Children Invited To Pitt Fair

Martin County school children were, this week, extended a special invitation by Haywood Dail, secretary of the Pitt County Fair Association, to attend the fair in Greenville next Tuesday. No admission will be charged any child going from this county before 4:30 in the afternoon, Mr. Dail stated, and each of them has a hearty invitation to visit us.

During the past several years, one day was declared a holiday that the children might attend the Roanoke Fair here, but as there will be no fair here this year, it was learned from the office of the county superintendent here yesterday afternoon that the various principals are at liberty to close their schools for the day provided the time is made up later. It could not be definitely learned whether any of the schools would suspend class work for the day, but it was indicated that many of the children from the county would more than likely attend the fair.

Average Price Climbing on Tobacco Market This Week

While there has been a slight decrease in sales on the local tobacco market this week on account of peanut digging and other farming activities interfering with tobacco grading work, the average price has increased, it was learned from the tobacco board of trade yesterday. Approximately 500,000 pounds were sold during the first four days of this week at an average price of \$12.46.

The price increase has been noticeable in the sale of the better types of tobacco on the local market this week, Barhill and In-

gram at the Farmers Warehouse reporting individual farmer averages as high as \$41.47, and many have been over the 35-cent mark. The large offerings of common tobacco continue, and they are holding down the general market average, it is said.

Increased sales are expected during the next few days after the growers complete their peanut digging. Dry weather, many farmers have said, has had much to do with the small offerings, and it is believed that a rain would result in a large increase in sales.

Tobacco Growers of County Are Holding Meet at Court House Here This Afternoon

Water In the Roanoke Reverses Course Here

For the first time in the recollection of Williamston citizens, water in the Roanoke is running past here toward Hamilton. In other words, the order is reversed, and now water that has always been known to run down stream is running up.

Following an unusually long drought, the sources of water have become so limited along the Roanoke basin that the waters from the Albemarle seek a level to this point and above, it is declared.

SCHOOLS WARN AGAINST FIRES

Local Children Clear Buildings in 64 Seconds in Fire Drills Yesterday at 11

In keeping with the purpose of "Fire Prevention Week," the local schools have, during the past few days, in one way or another, given the subject thought and attention. The climax of the observance was reached yesterday morning when the several hundred school children filed out of the building in a very limited time, the grammar school children clearing their building in 64 seconds, and the high school pupils clearing theirs in 69 seconds.

According to reports coming from schools in other counties where drills were held yesterday, the record here is a very good one. The Plymouth school, with practically the same number of pupils, reported a drill of only 50 seconds' duration, apparently one of the best records to be made. It is estimated that 800,000 children marched from the many buildings in the State yesterday to feature fire prevention week in this commonwealth. It was reported here early this morning that on or two of the schools in this county failed to take part in the program, but in others splendid drill records and organized work were announced.

Witnessed by members of the volunteer fire company, the local children carried out a splendid drill in a very orderly manner.

These drills, it was stated by State workers, were planned for two distinct purposes. One is to prepare the school child for a hurried and necessary exit in case of fire, and the second is to stress the importance of handling fire carefully at all times that they might better protect themselves in case of fire, wherever or whenever it might occur.

Raises Bumper Crop Sweet Potatoes on Wenona Farm

The drought is said to have limited to a marked extent the peanut, potato and other crops in this section this year, but Mr. J. G. Stator reports a bumper yield of the Porto Rican sweet potatoes on one of his farms in Washington County. According to Mr. Stator, his tenant raised 535 bushels of the potatoes on three acres of land, a fraction over 178 bushels per acre.

Two of the potatoes brought here by Mr. Stator weighed over five pounds when dug, and almost equaled the size of a small man's head.

Approximately 180 of the 535 bushels removed from the ground were either cut or bruised in digging, Mr. Stator said. Shortly after the transplanting took place, the drought is said to have come on and caused the sprouts to sink deeper in the ground than usual. As a result the potato formed, in some cases, knee deep in the ground, making digging difficult.

Just as many other farmers have reported, Mr. Stator said that there were 8 and 10 foot spaces where no potatoes were found at all.

17 PROFESSORS ORGANIZE CLUB IN THIS COUNTY

Economy Theme of Meet Held in Robersonville Wednesday Night

Meeting with Professor R. L. Leake in Robersonville last Wednesday evening, seventeen men of the various county school faculties organized a schoolmasters' club, with Professor W. R. Watson, of this place, as president. A similar organization functioned in this county last year, but it was limited more or less to the several principals. In completing the organization of the club last Wednesday, Professor L. B. Wynn, of the Parmele school, was made secretary and treasurer.

At these meetings, it was stated, the principals and teachers discuss various school problems and exchange various ideas for remedying those conditions that often prove perplexing to the individual principal or teacher. Much good resulted from the series of sessions held last year, and an increased interest in the discussions is expected this year.

As an invited guest at the meeting this week, Mr. G. H. Cox, of Robersonville, stressed the need of teaching economy in the schools. His address was apparently timely, as the discussion centered around economy and thrift at the session. All the teachers were a unit in expressing the importance of training children to realize the need of economy—more economy than has been practiced in the past.

The club members are planning to hold six sessions during the year, meeting each Wednesday evening following the county teachers' assembly. Mr. H. M. Ainsley will entertain the club at its next meeting on November 5th.

WOMAN'S CLUB PLAY TUESDAY

"Oh! Doctor," Three-Act Comedy, Will Be Given In New Auditorium

"Oh! Doctor," a three act musical comedy, to be presented at the high school auditorium, Tuesday night, October 14th, at 8 p. m., is being sponsored by the Woman's Club of Williamston.

Fifteen of Williamston's most talented young people make up the cast and choruses, consisting of 50 girls and boys. The gay costumes add much to the attraction of the play.

The leading parts are taken by Miss Lucille Hassell, who is the much-adored daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edens, Mr. Edens being played by Robert Manning and Mrs. Edens by Mrs. J. H. Edwards. The hero we all are very well acquainted with is Mr. Weigman, playing the part of Dr. Jim, or "Oh! Doctor." Penelope, a country cousin of Mr. and Mrs. Edens, Margaret Everett; and her admirer, or better known to her as her "big strong hero," Hubert Coburn, Terrill and Fenton, who are East Side crooks, played by Maurice Watts and "Crow" Cook. Kitty, the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edens, Rebecca Harrison, Nesso, the Edens maid, so perfectly played by Ruth Manning. The old negro and detective being Mr. "Pete" Fowden, known to Williamston as Connie Mack's most ardent supporter. Tickets on sale at "Crow's Nest."

The contract provides that a final decision as to operations in 1930 shall be made on October 15, but the contracts are to remain open until May 1, 1931, when a decision is to be made as to that year. George R. Eoss, personal representative of Governor Gardner, has called the executive committee of the organization committee to meet in Raleigh on October 14 to make a decision as to this year's crop.

The Federal Farm Board has indicated its willingness to support any association strong enough to give reasonable expectation of success that may be formed, even if for a restricted area. The indications are that any associations which will be formed this year will be for restricted areas, owing to the lateness of the season.

"Several sections have shown much greater interest than others and most hope for success is felt for that part of the "Old Belt" centering around Surry and Stokes Counties.

There has been also great interest in Greene, Duplin, and in other counties of the Eastern Carolina belt, and in particularly all of the "border counties" which grow the South Carolina type of tobacco. However, in these counties much of the tobacco has already been marketed and much more is heavily mortgaged, conditions which obtain to a far lesser extent in the Old Belt, where warehouses have just opened and where mortgages are not so general.

Believe Andrew Jackson's Death Monday Accidental

The Andrew Jackson killing on the Roanoke River, near Jamesville, early this week, continues as a mysterious one to officers, who have not yet dismissed the case. An autopsy was performed here late Tuesday, and a .22 rifle cartridge was found lodged in the colored man's brain.

Latest developments near the scene of the killing indicate that the shooting was accidental and unknown to those firing the shot. Several parties were fishing and hunting near the scene of the killing about the time it is believed the man was shot.

Announce Baptist Services At Two Rural Churches

Preaching services will be held at the Piney Grove Baptist Church Saturday evening at 7:30 o'clock, and at Reddick's Grove Sunday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock, it was announced by the pastor, Rev. W. B. Harrington, yesterday morning. The public is invited to attend each of the services.

C. T. ROBERSON FIRST OF 7000 TO PAY 1930 TAXES

Sheriff Now Has Only 6,999 Taxpayers To Collect 1930 Taxes From

Opening the county tax books here last Monday, Sheriff C. T. Roebuck made his first collection, over half hundred dollars, yesterday morning, when Mr. C. T. Roberson, farmer-merchant of Griffins Township, settled his account. The 1 per cent discount was allowed.

While the settlement is a bit advanced, it represents one of the best-paying townships in the entire county, there being very few old accounts unpaid there.

Sheriff Roebuck was very optimistic following the transaction, apparently forgetting that there are approximately 6,999 other property owners from whom to collect the remaining \$299,950 of the 1930 levy.

Collections in both the various municipalities and county are expected to take a decided jump within the next few days when the big corporations and holders of vast properties effect settlements to reap the 1 per cent discount allowed during October.

PLAN EXTENSION COURSE MONDAY

Dr. George Howard Will Explain Extension Work To County Teachers

The organization of an extension class by the University of North Carolina will be undertaken here next Monday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock, it was learned in the office of the county superintendent here yesterday afternoon. Details of the meeting and the organization plans for the class could not be learned yesterday. It was stated, however, that Professor George Howard, of the University Extension Division, would be here to discuss the course with those teachers desiring to earn credits towards a degree.

More than thirty teachers, attending a meeting of the Martin County Teachers' Association here last Saturday afternoon, stated that they would like to take the course, and it is believed that certain instruction will be offered this year. Similar classes were conducted in several adjoining counties last year and a number of Martin County teachers attended them.

Several Martin Teachers Likely To Be Disappointed

Stinging disappointment is in store for several Martin County teachers today when they fail to receive their pay checks for their first month's work. "We regret to find it necessary to withhold any check, but the board of education requires every teacher to have his or her contract properly filled in and on file at the board's office," Superintendent Pope stated yesterday afternoon in explaining why several of the teachers would likely be disappointed today.

Pay vouchers for the first month of work have been prepared and those teachers failing to receive one are assured that they will receive their money as soon as the contracts are properly prepared and filed, it was stated.

Rally Day at Christian Church Here Sunday

Bible school, 9:45 a. m. Mr. W. C. Manning, superintendent.

The second Sunday in October is the first Sunday in our church year, and to start the year off right, we are attempting to have every member and friend of the church present. The sermon for the morning will be "A Century of Achievement."

The Christian Endeavor will meet at 6:30. Jack Manning, leader.

Night service at 7:30. Sermon, "The Weather of the Soul."

There will be no prayer meeting next Wednesday. Every one is urged to attend the series of services at the Methodist church during the coming week.

County Legion Post Will Hold Meet Here Monday

A special meeting of the Martin County Post of the American Legion, will be held in the City Hall here at 7:30 o'clock next Monday night, it was announced this morning by the Post's commander, Rev. Arthur H. Marshall.

The officers of the post are very anxious for all ex-service men who possibly can, to attend the meeting.

Former Principal Goes With Big Publishing Co.

J. F. Jerome, one time principal of the Williamston Schools but for nine years county superintendent of the Wayne county public schools, resigning his position there this week to accept a position with the educational department of the Rand McNally Publishing Company.

Democrats Planning Intensive Campaign

Squirrel Season To Open Wednesday

Squirrel hunters are oiling up their guns and getting a supply of ammunition this week, for next Wednesday, October 15, the season opens, and there are many who are planning to start in on the very first day. Hunting license sales took a decided jump upward during the present week, as the squirrel is one of the most popular of the small game in this section and practically every boy and man big enough to carry a gun goes after the little denizen of the forest sooner or later during the season. The season remains open for three months, closing January 15, and it is permissible to kill as many as 10 each day, under the law.

DISTRICT SCOUTS HAVE RALLY DAY

Robersonville Troop Wins Here and Will Take A Part In Area Meeting

In a district Boy Scout rally held here yesterday afternoon, the Robersonville troop won over the local boys by a 38 to 26 score, the visitors proving themselves master scouts in many of the contests. The rally was limited to scout work principally, and clearly indicated that a worth-while work is being carried on by the two groups. The troop from Plymouth was scheduled to take part in the rally, but for some reason the boys there failed to come.

The winner in the rally here goes to the area rally, which will likely be held in Greenville some time about the latter part of this month.

Scout Executive Stuckey, of Wilson, Messrs. Smith and Roberson, of Robersonville, and local scout heads had charge of the rally here yesterday afternoon.

Parmele Said To Be An Unusually Dry Town

Much has been said about the drought this year and various cities have reported unusual stories, but Parmele, right here at home, goes 'em one better and says that even a drink of liquor can not be bought there. The citizen went on to say that peacefulness reigned there, and that a prisoner had not been in the town jail for a long time.

Water shortages in the swamps is limiting the manufacture of liquor in certain parts of the county, it is understood, but the shortage in the "spirits" at Parmele was attributed to a law-abiding citizenship.

Unusual Session of County Court Held Here Tuesday

Judge Bailey established an unusual record here last Tuesday, when in a ten-minute session of the recorder's court, he tried one case, and after deliberating over the affair, decided to try it over again next week.

The short session, according to the Judge, was due to the large number of Martin County cases in the Federal court in Washington at that time. Of the sixty-three cases to be tried in the court there, forty-seven were from this county, and as a result there were hardly enough lawyers left to carry on a court here.

Presbyterians Announce Sunday Service Program

Sunday, October 12, 1930.

"The Church With An Open Door," Church school, 9:45 a. m.

Worship service and sermon, 11 a. m.

Leggett's Farm

Sunday school, 3:30 p. m.

Farm Life

Singing, story telling, preaching, 7 p. m.

The public is invited to attend one or all of these services.

Drop In Peanut Prices Reported This Week

Peanut digging in certain sections of the county has been completed, and it will be a matter of only a few more days before the crop has been stacked for the curing season, according to various reports heard here today.

A marked drop in the goober price was reported this week, but it is hoped that it is only a temporary one and that a good price will be in effect during the main selling season.

Quality is considered better in the county crop this year, but it is agreed that the size will be far below normal.

JOSIAH BAILEY TO SPEAK HERE OCTOBER 25TH

Congressman Lindsay C. Warren and Cooley Are On Campaign Program

A LIMITED INTEREST

Campaign Will Be Carried To Robersonville, Bear Grass, Jamesville and Here According to Plans

Although there is a limited interest in the coming November election in this county, Democratic Party leaders are planning a series of speakings in several of the towns and communities within the next few days; it was announced by Mr. Elbert S. Peel, chairman of the Martin County Democratic Executive Committee.

The high spot of the Democratic campaign in this county will be the address here by Josiah William Bailey, Democratic nominee for the United States Senate. Mr. Bailey will speak here, probably in the courthouse, Saturday, October 25, some time in the afternoon, the definite hour being undetermined at this time. Two or three days before Mr. Bailey makes his address, Attorney Harold Cooley, of Nashville, will address the voters at Bear Grass and Congressman Lindsay Warren will speak at Robersonville. Other engagements are being planned at the request of the State Democratic Executive Committee, and it is likely that speakers will carry the campaign into the Jamesville and Oak City sections in addition to those already announced, some time prior to the general election.

Other than in the State contests, there will be no opposition to the Democratic ticket in this county, it was unofficially learned yesterday. The senatorial contest, with Josiah Bailey representing the Democrats, and George Pritchard the Republicans, will likely be the most interesting feature of the election, and that is expected to create no great interest in these parts.

Since the registration books opened here Saturday of last week, Registrar Luther Peel stated that no one had entered a name to the list. The books will remain open until October 25, it was stated. Those citizens having registered for previous elections will find it unnecessary to re-enter their names at this time to vote in the general election November 4th.

Smoke From Forest Fires Makes Driving Dangerous

Smoke from forest fires has filled the air practically all over Eastern North Carolina for the past few weeks. At times the smoke is so dense that it is dangerous to drive a car, and there were two or three accidents occurring this week that were blamed on this cause. The long period of dry weather has dried out everything in the woods, and if a blaze once gets a start, it is hard to bring under control. As a matter of fact, there is little effort being made to stop the destruction, and many thousands of dollars' worth of valuable timber has gone up in smoke in this immediate section recently.

Henry Roberson, colored of Griffins tore up an automobile, hurt his wife and wrecked the car driven by his brother in that district this week when he was blinded by smoke and lost his way.

Several other minor accidents, resulting from smoke, have been reported, but no one has been seriously hurt.

909 Bales of Cotton Ginned Up to October 1 In Martin

Nine hundred and nine bales of cotton, counting round as half bales, were ginned in this county from the crop of 1930 prior to the first of this month, according to government figures released this morning.

Comparative figures were not available at the time the report was made but it is believed that the ginnings so far for this season are slightly greater than they were last.

County Government Head Warns Commissioners

County commissioners who fail to adhere strictly to the county government acts, not only are violating the law, but are preparing "mare's nests," which will hatch trouble for them later, according to Charles M. Johnson, secretary of the County Government Advisory Commission, in pointing to the indictment of the Avery commissioners for neglect of duty in requiring the sheriff to make proper settlement. Mr. Johnson made public a letter written June 20, 1930, pointing out their failures, which he wrote them "are liable to lead you into serious difficulties later on in the year."