

Property Values Are Boosted \$60,000 By Equalizers This Week

\$11,331,297 TOTAL VALUATION OF ALL PROPERTY

V. E. P. Company's Holdings Valued at \$67,457 More Than in 1930

Property values in Martin County were boosted by approximately \$60,000 by the county board of commissioners sitting here last Monday and Tuesday as a board of equalization and review. The latest valuation figure for county property now stands at \$11,331,297, exclusive of corporation listings. This figure, however, includes an increased valuation of \$67,457 placed on the property of the Virginia Electric and Power Company, but it does not take into consideration the listed value given in by the company.

A goodly number of complaints were entered during the two days the board was in session; however, upon investigation of a majority of the cases, the county board of commissioners did not find sufficient grounds to make many changes. No complaints were entered by property owners in Griffins and Poplar Point Townships, and the only land valuation increases were made in Williamston Township.

The following adjustments were made: Jamesville Township: W. C. Gardner, 30 acres, reduced from \$840 to \$650. R. G. Coburn, 20 acres woodland, reduced from \$500 to \$100. R. L. Coburn, list corrected, 20 acres having been listed twice, and 17 1-2 acres value reduced from \$500 to \$430. 2 1-2 acres listed by S. W. Keys was reduced from \$250 to \$150.

Williams Township: A. F. Lilley, value of 10 acres of land reduced from \$150 to \$100, on account of house burned. J. G. Staton, 50 acres Carstarphen land, reduced from \$250 to \$125. Mrs. J. W. Mayo, 225 acres from \$2,750 to \$2,500.

Bear Grass: S. H. Mobley, Edmond Harris, M. D. Taylor, and J. C. Rawls, each given a reduction of \$2 per acre, respectively, on 40, 25, 100, and 40 acres, on account of destruction by fire since assessment made by township assessors.

Williamston Township: J. T. Barnhill, tobacco warehouse, reduced from \$8,000 to \$7,500. Harrison Bros. and Co., raised from \$13,000 to \$13,500. M. J. Moye residence, raised from \$1,800 to \$2,200. L. B. Harrison, residence, raised from \$2,500 to \$2,750. Mrs. Daisy Purvis residence, reduced from \$1,800 to \$1,500.

Cross Roads Township: Mrs. R. H. Hargrove, 195 acres reduced from \$4,900 to \$4,550. J. T. Barnhill, 300 acres Everett farm, from \$14,000 to \$13,500. Barnhill Brothers, 292 acres White farm, from \$11,000 to \$10,700.

Robersonville Township: Mrs. R. H. Hargrove, residence from \$4,200 to \$4,000; store from \$4,200 to \$4,000. Mrs. Carrie J. Roberson, 126 acres, from \$1,300 to \$982. Standard Realty Co., 482 acres, from \$3,600 to \$2,500. Whitehurst and Bowers, 23 acres, from \$1,375 to \$900; and 90 acres from \$6,300 to \$4,600.

Hamilton Township: Standard Realty Co., 100 acres, from \$1,500 to \$1,000. Smith Brothers and Nowell, 80 acres from \$2,800 to \$2,400.

Goose Nest Township, J. G. Staton, 31 acres, from \$1,000 to \$650. The Virginia Electric and Power Company valuation was raised as follows, by townships:

Jamesville	\$27,000 to \$30,100
Williams	10,100 to 12,850
Williamston	48,720 to 102,670
Cross Roads	12,800 to 15,510
Robersonville	15,035 to 20,000

Totals \$113,655 to \$181,130

Announce Schedule of Prices at Curb Market

The following prices will prevail at the curb market here Saturday: Corn, 18 cents dozen; cabbage, 1 1-2 cents; Cucumbers, 4 pounds, 10c; string beans, 4c; cottage cheese, 15c block; squash, 3c pound; butter beans, 18c qt.; tomatoes, 6c pound; country butter, 35c pound.

Eight Local Firemen At Greenville Meeting

The regular meeting of the Eastern Carolina Firemen's association was held last Tuesday night in Greenville with a goodly number of representatives from the member towns attending. Eight members, attending from the local company, reporting upon their return an enjoyable meeting. Snow Hill will entertain the association at its next meeting in October.

Weather Continues Plenty Warm Here

Weather discussions in the larger papers of the country have been limited during the past few days, the heat apparently yielding to the moratorium and the general plight of Germany. But, anyway, it has been "hot" in our community during this week, the mercury reaching as high as the 96-mark in the shade and over 115 in the sun.

Simon Lilley, Griffins Township farmer, reported high temperatures in his tobacco field yesterday, adding that he left the tobacco patch and went to cool off in a tobacco curing barn where the thermometer was registering only 175 degrees.

BETTER TIMES ARE PREDICTED

Decision Is Based on Similarities in Depressions of Past Half Century

Washington, July 16.—Tracing similarities in past business depressions, the agriculture department's economic bureau said today a continuation of the "striking analogy" of the 1914-1931 and 1878-1895 fluctuations "suggests a revival in the near future similar to that of 1894-1895."

Business rose from a low of 80 per cent in June, 1894, to about 98 in January, 1895. During the next quarter a decline dropped the index to slightly below 90, but a succeeding rise brought it up to about 106 in the fall of 1895.

The present depression hit a low of 71 last January. An upward trend extending through the first quarter into April swung the indicator to around 77. The chart for the second quarter has not been drawn.

The bureau presented charts of three periods, 1858 to 1877; 1878 to 1897, and 1914 to 1931. "Comparing first," the bureau said, "the 1914-1931 period with the 1858-1877 period, the following striking similarities stand out:

(1) Enormous war time price inflation gave way to deflation, that of 1864-65 being accompanied by a business depression in 1865, and that of 1920-21 by a depression in 1921.

(2) Eight years later, after periods marked by recoveries and minor recessions, industrial booms developed, one in 1873, the other in 1929. The depression following 1873 lasted for about five years, when the boom of 1879-1880 set in. The current depression has been on for a year and a half.

(3) During the two post-war periods, commodity prices declined from a level of about 240 to 120 in about 10 years, the post civil war decline being fairly continuous, the post world war decline being interrupted by a period of relative stability from 1922 to 1929.

"Comparing the 1914-1931 series of business fluctuations with those of 1878-1895, a somewhat different suggestion for the next year or two may be obtained. It is possible to trace a striking similarity between major business cycles of 1878-1885 and 1914-1921, and between the major cycles of 1885-1894 and 1921-1930. Even the minor cycles terminating in 1888 and 1924; 1891 and 1927 and 1894 and 1930 are similar. A continuation of this most striking analogy suggests a revival in the near future similar to that of 1894-1895."

Program of Services At Baptist Church

The union evening service goes to the Presbyterian church Sunday night with the Rev. Bill Wiegmann preaching the sermon.

These services have been unusually good this summer, and should be made very helpful services to the large number of people they are intended to serve.

The pastor will preach Sunday morning on the text, "We Have Found Him," which will be found in the first chapter of John's Gospel. His many friends are pleased to know that Mr. Jim Everett was received into the fellowship of our church upon a profession of faith and was immersed at the church on Wednesday evening.

Dungannon, Va., a town of 1,000 persons, is without municipal officials, because none of the town's citizens want the jobs. State authorities are expected to draft officials for the town.

FIRST PRISONER GOES TO WORK ON STATE ROADS

Henry Gorham Has Doubtful Distinction of Being County's First

Martin county, under the new road law, started contributing toward the maintenance of State highways this week when the recorder's court sentenced Henry Gorham to the roads for a period of fifteen months, the last six of which are to be suspended upon the good behavior of the defendant. Isam Williams was scheduled to accompany Gorham to the roads, but he appealed to the higher courts and his six months sentence is now pending. Gorham was found guilty of larceny and operating an automobile without proper license.

There are several Martin prisoners now at work on the State roads, but they were at work before the State took over the highways the first of this month.

The court had a goodly number of cases on its docket for trial during the session last Tuesday, but none of them was of any great importance.

The case charging David Edwards with larceny was not prosed.

The case charging Prim Sherrod with breaking a window and also with larceny, was transferred to the superior court docket.

Adrian and Mayo Ange were found not guilty of larceny and receiving.

Hettie Powell, sentenced to jail for a period of 30 days in the case charging her with larceny and receiving, appealed.

The case charging Booker T. Bradley with assault with a deadly weapon was continued one week.

John Griffin and Curtis Rhodes were found guilty of an affray, the court requiring Griffin to pay one-half the costs and Rhodes to pay the other half and a \$15 fine.

Charged with an assault with a deadly weapon and being drunk and disorderly, William Cherry was found guilty on the first count and was fined \$15 and taxed with the costs.

William Baker was found guilty of simple trespass, the court suspending judgment upon the payment of the cost by the defendant.

The case charging Eli Staton Stalls with an assault with a deadly weapon, was transferred to the juvenile court.

Alton Hoy Smith pleaded guilty of an assault with a deadly weapon and prayer for judgment was continued for three weeks.

Found guilty in the case charging him with non-support, H. D. Rogers was required to pay \$4 monthly until September. He appealed.

George Purvis failed to answer to the case charging him with abandonment.

J. A. Davenport was found not guilty in the case charging him with carrying a concealed weapon and assault.

Probable cause appearing in the case charging him with seduction, Primus Cherry was bound over to the superior court under a \$300 bond.

Willis Pearce was found guilty of operating a car without license, and he appealed when the court suspended the judgment and taxed him with the costs of the case. Bond was fixed in the sum of \$50.

In the case charging Isam Williams with abandonment and non-support, the defendant appealed from the six-months road sentence, the court requiring bond in the sum of \$150.

Windsor Man Painfully Burned at Eden House

Chesson Thomas, young Windsor man, was painfully burned when his clothing, saturated with gasoline, caught fire Wednesday. The young man was riding with several companions in a motor boat at Eden House when the engine back-fired and ignited gasoline spilled on his clothing a short while before. Thomas jumped into the water and saved himself, the other young men saving the boat by turning it over.

Fifty Carloads of Tomatoes Is Shipped From Plymouth

Fifty cars of tomatoes had been shipped from Plymouth to northern markets at noon Wednesday by the Crockett Packing Company, which started packing green tomatoes here the first of the month. Packing will continue in full force during the balance of this month and probably longer. Some green tomatoes will be packed each week until September.

The canning plant is also being put into readiness for the season, and it is expected that canning will be commenced the latter part of this week. The canning season will continue until the middle of September, it is understood. Members of the Crockett Pack-

COUNTY RATE TO BE ABOUT \$1

County Will Lose 16 Teachers

Allotment Made to Counties By State Board This Week

LEAF ACREAGE OF STATE OFF

Decrease Estimated From 2 to 10 Per Cent, Varying According to Belt

Substantial reductions in cotton and tobacco acreages and increases in food and feedstuff acreages in North Carolina were reported yesterday by the State Department of Agriculture in cooperation with the Federal Crop Reporting Service.

The cotton acreage reduction is 18 per cent under last year—the largest in the United States, and giving North Carolina its smallest cotton acreage since 1915.

Land in cotton on July 1 was estimated at 1,358,000 acres, 298,000 acres under last year's total. The national reduction is 10 per cent. Cotton under cultivation is estimated at 80 per cent of a perfect crop.

The Old Belt tobacco acreage is estimated at 98 per cent of last year's, the New Belt at 92 per cent, the South Carolina Belt at 90 per cent, and the Mountain County Belt at 90 per cent.

The quality of the crop thus far has not been found to be very good.

Feed crops generally were reported well above average and flourishing, having been greatly benefited by recent rains.

Corn acreage shows a 4 per cent increase over last year with the greatest number of acres under cultivation since 1917.

The wheat acreage is up 20 per cent, oats 6 per cent, barley 21 per cent, rye 25 per cent, and buckwheat 25 per cent. Heavy yields per acre are predicted.

Program of Services At Christian Church

During the months of July and August the Christian church will have morning church services on the third Sunday in addition to its regular services. The sermon Sunday morning will be "What To Believe About the Universe," which is the second in a series of sermons on Christian beliefs.

The evening union service will be held at the Presbyterian church at 8 o'clock, the pastor of this church preaching.

The Sunday school and Christian Endeavor will meet at the usual hours. Let us do our best to hold up our attendance and interest in spite of the summer heat.

Next Tuesday at 4 o'clock a Junior Christian Endeavor will be organized at the church. There has been a great demand for such an organization among the juniors, and now while there is time to spare we can begin and perfect our organization. This will be under the capable leadership of Mrs. Pattie Taylor and Mrs. James H. Ward. All children from the ages of 9 to 12 are invited to attend this meeting.

The State Board of Equalization, in its work of allotment of teachers to the several schools of the State, kept in mind the fact that the recent school legislation apparently intended that all economies consistent with efficiency should be effectuated. With this in view, a very earnest effort was made on the part of the board to make a complete study of the school organizations at present existent in the various counties. The organization statements obtained from all counties, showing the number of rooms in the school buildings, the enrollment and attendance for the past two years, together with a copy of the recent road maps showing the location of these schools, proved very valuable in this work. In addition, very nearly every county in the State was visited and the county school officials therein consulted by the district board member.

E. S. McCabe Contracts For Building of House

Mr. E. S. McCabe let the contract this week for a new home to be erected on West Main Street, near that of Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Cunningham. The home, to be of the Colonial type, will cost approximately \$7,500, it is understood.

Building operations, headed by W. R. Marshall, Robersonville contractor, will be started within the next few days or as soon as material can be placed on the lot, it was stated.

County Farmers Are Getting Good Curings

Early reports on initial tobacco curings in the county this year indicate that the lugs are of a better quality, as a whole, than they were last season. However, many farmers reporting a good quality also reported light weight, but as a whole at least a medium weight and a good quality crop is forecast in the county this season.

Tobacco harvesting is being pushed very rapidly in the county at the present time, some farmers now working on their third pullings.

Few reports of barns being burned have been heard so far, none having occurred in this immediate section.

SCOUT TROOP IS BACK FROM CAMP

Have Enjoyable Outing at Camp Charles, Near Wilson

The local Boy Scout troop returned yesterday afternoon after a very enjoyable outing at Camp Charles, near Wilson, during the past week. Scoutmaster Martin accompanied the boys to camp and remained until Sunday when Assistant Scoutmaster Wiegmann relieved him.

Reporting on the trip this morning, Assistant Scoutmaster Wiegmann stated that the boys had a wonderful time and seemed to enjoy themselves greatly. Three of the boys, Billy Hopkins are staying over for another week and will hear Paul Siple, the arctic scout explorer, next Wednesday.

Oscar Anderson, jr., fell on a rock and hurt his arm painfully, but the injury was not considered serious by doctors at the camp.

Colored Man Caught at Still in Beaufort County

Isaac Godley, colored, was arrested at a liquor still near Leggett's Cross Roads, Beaufort county, yesterday afternoon and landed in the county jail here where he remained until last night, bond in the sum of \$1,000 being furnished.

Godley was operating a 100-gallon plant and had thirteen gallons of liquor ready for delivery when the officers made the raid.

Presbyterian Program of Services Is Announced

Sunday, July 19, 1931: "The church with an open door." Church school at 9:45 a. m. Worship service and sermon, 11 a. m., subject: "Being Like God."

Roberson's Farm Sunday school at 4 p. m. Preaching immediately afterwards.

Prayer meeting Thursday night at 8 p. m. Bear Grass Sunday school at 9:30 a. m. Worship service and sermon at 8 p. m. Come and worship with us.

Program of Services At Methodist Church

C. T. Rogers, Pastor. Sunday school (cool or hot), 9:45. Preaching, 11 a. m. Epworth League, Monday, 8 p. m. Hi League, Tuesday, 8 p. m. Missionary Society, Wednesday, 4:30 p. m.

"Jesus, as His custom was, went into the synagogue on the Sabbath Day." Luke 4:16. You are invited to worship with us.

Holly Spring Home Club Holds Meeting Tuesday

Members of the Holly Springs Demonstration club held their regular meeting last Tuesday at the home of Mrs. L. J. Hardison in Williams Township; Mrs. J. L. Coltrane, president, presiding.

Away at camp this week, Miss Sleeper was not present for the meeting, but the ladies, under the direction of Mrs. W. L. Taylor canned various vegetables. Plans were made for a county-wide dinner to be served the first Monday of next month.

The next meeting of the club will be held with Mrs. Lee Hardison on August 10th.

State Control Roads, Schools

Accounts For Big Reduction

TOTAL SAVING TO TAXPAYERS WILL BE ABOUT \$88,000

Drop in Property Values To Affect Rate by About Sixteen Cents

State aid for the operation of the six months schools and the maintenance of county roads will effect Martin's rate to the extent of 55.6 cents, according to figures released this week by the State Tax Commission. And while the aid will affect the rate to the extent of 55.6 cents in this county, it is not to be inferred that the rate will be 78.4 cents, this figure being derived by subtracting 55.6 cents (State aid) from \$1.34, the rate levied in the county last year. There are several factors to be considered, and when they are the rate will rest close to \$1 or probably even more.

One of the first factors to be considered is the approximately one and one-half million drop in property valuations. This decrease will affect the rate by approximately 16 cents, leaving for consideration other factors that will have a tendency to push the rate upward.

On an assessed valuation last year of \$15,887,039, the county, including the individual road districts levied a 30.7 cents rate or \$48,843 for road and bridge maintenance. The State paid the county approximately \$27,524, the amount being applied to debt service. The amount given by the State subtracted from the maintenance figure gives the reduction in road costs to the county, a rate of 13.4 or \$21,319. Last year the county levied a rate of 57.2 cents for current operation of the six months schools or \$90,874. On the basis of the same valuation, the county will levy a 15-cent rate or \$23,831 this year for its six months schools, leaving the State with a 42.2 rate or to pay \$67,043 in operating the six months schools in the county. The combined reductions in this county amount to \$88,362.

For the State as a whole, a net reduction of \$12,167,849 from the 1930 property tax levies for the six months school term and county roads will be realized as a result of the school and road legislation of the 1931 General Assembly.

A saving of nearly twelve and a quarter million dollars from the actual 1930 levies will accrue to the owners of property from the passage of the administration road law under which the state takes over the entire maintenance of county roads, and the MacLean school law which the state takes over the entire maintenance of the six months school term and reduces the levies on property for school support to 15 cents.

The net reduction from the 1930 levy for the six months school term is \$9,652,491, and for roads \$2,515,358. The average reduction in rate for the (Continued on page four)

SHIPPERS MAKE FAIR PROFIT ON PEPPER SO FAR

Price Takes Tumble, Due to Lateness of Season; Rains Favorable

(Robersonville Weekly Herald)

The raising of pepper seems to be more profitable this year than it was in the past two or three, according to reports from farmers of Robersonville and the Everetts section.

Mayor Hurst shipped six crates last week to Saslaw and Wexler, produce merchants of New York, which netted him 87 1-2 cents per crate. This week he shipped 52 crates, but was of the opinion that the price would drop this week due to the lateness of the season.

Messrs. John H. Wynn and C. B. Clark, of Everetts, shipped around 100 crates last week at a net profit of \$42 on the 100 baskets. They also made a large shipment this week, but they, too, are expecting a reduction in price this week. Mr. Wynn shipped a few crates week before last, which netted him \$1.32 cents per crate, the highest price received by any grower in this section this year.

The rains of the last few days have been very favorable for the growing of pepper, and unless the price takes a decided change, a profit will be made on the crop this year.

(Continued on the back page)