



KIWANIANS HEAR SCHOOL MAN AT MEET THIS WEEK

Large Attendance Present; New Officers Are Elected

The Williamston Kiwanis Club had one of the best meetings in its history here Wednesday of this week, both from the standpoint of attendance and in interest in the program.

An attendance contest was recently launched by the club, the membership being divided into two sections, denominated "Senators" and "Giants." The section which has the largest attendance at the regular meetings between now and the first of the year will be entertained at the expense of the losing side. The Senators, under the leadership of Frank Pittman, had the largest attendance at the meeting Wednesday, defeating the Giants, led by Bill Spivey, 17 to 14. Thirty-one of the 40 members of the club were present at the luncheon, with two visitors.

Mr. T. B. Attmore, of Washington, representative from the first congressional district on the state school commission, made the principal address of the meeting. He outlined some of the difficulties faced by the commission in reducing school costs by 40 per cent and at the same time providing an eight-months school term for approximately 30 per cent more children than have ever received these advantages before.

Passing from that phase to the one of teachers', principals' and superintendents' salaries, Mr. Attmore declared that while they were admittedly inadequate for the training and type of service required, they were as high as the commission could afford to pay with the amount of money yielded by state revenues. Continuing, he said there was no hope of any increase during the present term, but if the revenue increased as much as it was hoped it would, there was a possibility of a small increase in all the salaries next year. The one bright feature, he explained, was the fact that while the North Carolina salary schedule for teachers did not promise much, there was every assurance that the teachers would get every cent promised, in marked contrast to a number of states, which are far behind in paying their teachers.

Mr. Attmore's talk was considered one of the best ever heard here, and did much to clear up many misunderstandings relative to the operation of the schools under the direction of the state this year.

Officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows: President, Ray Goodson; vice president, Bill Spivey; and secretary-treasurer, N. C. Green. The outgoing president, James C. Manning, expressed his appreciation for the cooperation of the club during his term of office, and assured the newly elected officers his and the club's full support in the coming year.

Ray Goodson announced that a safety school would be conducted here during the latter part of November under the direction of the safety engineer of the Virginia Electric and Power Company. A special class will be formed at the local high school for this instruction, which embraces 15 hours of study. Others are invited to observe the class and its work, but certificates will be awarded only to those who satisfactorily complete the full 15 hours of work required. Full details will be announced later.

Robert L. Coburn gave a brief resume of the work done by the government in providing loans for farmers for production of crops, both through the "seed and feed" loan department and the regional credit corporation. The club is much interested in seeing that the seed and feed loans particularly be continued for at least another year, and members were urged to write their Congressman and Senators advocating the passage of the needed legislation immediately on the convening of the Congress in January.

Pink-Eye and Chickenpox Reported at Farm Life

Pink-eye and chickenpox, making their appearance among the pupils in the Farm Life section, are likely to cause a drop in the attendance figures in the school there this month, Principal Charlie Hough said yesterday. The school last month reported an average attendance of 95 per cent daily, one of the highest in the county, it is believed.

Only 17 More Cotton Checks Due in County

Having received 392 checks already, the county agent's office here awaits the arrival of only 71 more due farmers for participating in the cotton reduction movement in this county. The 392 checks represent a sum of \$19,916.39.

FOREST FIRES

Two fires, one burning between Robersonville and Hassell, and a second one burning just west of here, threatened vast acres of timberlands in the two districts this week. A call for the forestry boys in camp at Windsor was made, but the State office at Raleigh absolutely refused to permit the men to respond due to the fact that Martin County does not cooperate with the forest service by making an appropriation for their work. Relief heads in Robersonville and in the county office here talked with the superintendent but could not reach the camp commander at Windsor.

SEED LOANS ARE FAST BEING PAID OFF AGENT SAYS

\$45,000 Has Been Paid Back Already Out of Total Of \$100,000

Approximately \$45,000 has been paid by farmers in this county who borrowed money through the Government seed and feed loan fund last spring, Field Inspector Roy Hearne said here this week. In only a few instances have the borrowers failed to make part payment, and many of them have paid their loans in full, the inspector said. Approximately \$100,000 was borrowed from the seed and feed loan fund by Martin farmers, and it is believed that the accounts are being settled faster this year than they were last.

While it could not be learned definitely, Mr. Hearne said that he believed 95 per cent of the loans already paid back were those made to tobacco farmers. A few cotton farmers have also cleared their obligations to the government. A large number of growers are placing their cotton in the cooperative association and applying the receipts on their loans, which method is believed to be the most satisfactory one for all concerned.

It is understood the government will not require peanut farmers to sell their crop at present prices. The farmers will be at liberty to store them and turn the warehouse receipts over to the government as collateral for the loans. Many farmers held their peanuts off the market until June last year with the consent of the government. Whether many of the growers will be held this year cannot be determined just now as the market has hardly opened.

A new interest period goes into effect the first of next month on unpaid seed loans, and many farmers will attempt to settle their accounts before that time, it is believed.

SCHOOL NEWS AT OAK CITY

Additional Teacher Obtained Enrollment Increased

With an increase of 33 pupils over the enrollment figures for the opening last year, the Oak City High School added another teacher this week. Mr. Ernest Moore, of Mars Hill, N. C., the new teacher, is a graduate of Wake Forest, and will teach mathematics and science. The high school enrollment stands at 130 now and is the largest in the history of the school; it was reported by S. P. Williams, of the high school faculty.

At a recent meeting of parents and teachers there, an organization for the current term was formed with the following officers: Mrs. W. D. Smith, president; Mrs. James Rawls, vice president; Miss Lena Allsbrooks, secretary and treasurer; Miss Myrtis Zetterow, chaplain. Committees were named to handle various phases of the organization's work.

Approximately 25 children are being served hot lunches daily in the school, according to latest reports. While the children enjoying the service are from relief families, the lunch is open to others who care to pay the small sum of 5 cents a meal. The lunches are served under the direction of the home economics teacher, assisted by a helper paid by the welfare organization.

Welfare Authorities Are Distributing Ton Pork

Welfare agencies are distributing a ton of pork to relief families in the county this week. The shipment, received here the early part of this week, is the first of four to be made by the government as a result of its drive to decrease the meat surplus. The meat is being distributed by workers in Oak City, Hamilton, Robersonville, Williamston, and Jamesville. Distribution will also be made in other centers from time to time, it is understood.

NEW PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH MAY BE ERECTED

Hayes' Swamp Church To Be Name of Proposed New Edifice

Following a division of the minority group of members in the Smithwick's Creek Primitive Baptist church last April, plans are now being considered for the erection of a new house of worship near Hayes' Swamp in Griffins Township, the proposed church to carry the name of "Hayes' Swamp." Appeals for building funds are being directed to members of the Primitive Baptist church this week, it is understood. A house for worship is being contemplated by supporters of the movement.

For nearly six years the Smithwick's church has been a center of confusion. The membership was divided into two factions, known as "majority" and "minority" groups, an apparent difference in beliefs professed by members of both groups being considered as the main factor bringing about the division. The differences were carried to the courts, the majority receiving a favorable jury verdict, which Judge N. A. Sinclair promptly set aside. The question continues unsettled with a possibility that the case may again reach the courts.

Several months ago a division was reported within the minority group, the majority of the minority faction turning out of the church the minority by a majority of 1, it is understood. This action was said to have been taken when the minority faction failed or refused to accept the membership letter of Elder Hutchins, a star witness for the minority in the church trial. The elder was said to have been considered by part of the members of the minority as a "trouble-maker," and before they would accept him into membership they allowed themselves to be voted out of the church.

And now the lesser of the minority group, with their pastor, Elder B. S. Cowin, is said to be recognized as the "true" church by sister churches in the Kehukee association, while the greater of the minority faction are said to be recognized as the "true" church by sister churches outside the Kehukee association.

The minority is steering clear of a lawsuit and resulting costs by making plans for its own place of worship. For some time they have been conducting services in the homes of members, while the majority and middle groups continue services in the Smithwick's Creek church, but on separate days.

Friendships were ended and neighborliness was all but forgotten in some cases, but during the six years of confusion and bitterness which sometimes almost reached the breaking point, no violence has occurred to mar the peace and quiet in the district. Rather, each party in every group has advanced his own convictions in the most humble manner possible.

BUSY SESSION MAYOR'S COURT

Griffins Township Colored Population Is Very Well Represented

Griffins Township colored population was well represented in the town court here during the past week-end when three men were fined for being drunk and disorderly.

Vance Brooks was fined \$5 and taxed with the cost for being drunk and disorderly.

Will Johnson and his son, Spruill Johnson, tried on similar charges before Justice of the Peace J. L. Hassell, were each fined \$2.50 and taxed with the costs.

Silas Williams, charged with violating the game laws, was dismissed by the court upon the payment of the cost. Williams, an old colored man, who hunts and fishes for a living, exceeded the bag limit for squirrels.

Mayo Peel, tried on a drunk and disorderly conduct charge, was fined \$2.50 and taxed with the cost in the mayor's court over the week-end.

Changes To Be Made In Election Personnel

The personnel named for conducting the wet-dry election on November 7 was altered this week when two pollholders found it necessary to resign. Messrs. Henry Griffin, jr., Williams Precinct, and Warren H. Biggs, Williamston precinct, notified Mr. Sylvester Peel, chairman of the county board of elections, that they would be unable to serve as pollholders. Mr. Peel will immediately appoint pollholders to fill the two positions made vacant by the resignations of the two men.

ARMISTICE DAY PLANS TO COME UP AT MEETING

Legion Post To Meet Next Tuesday and Outline Program

In a meeting of the steering committee of the local post of the American Legion on Tuesday evening of this week, it was decided to call a full meeting of the members of the John Walton Hassell Post, in their regular meeting place, on next Monday evening at 7:30 o'clock, for the purpose of making further arrangements for the Armistice Day celebration here in two weeks from now.

By now it is generally known that the Legionnaires of the fourth district are to gather here on November 11 for an all-day celebration. This should make a great day for Williamston and Martin County; but it also means a great deal of responsibility for the local post; and it is felt that every member should come out to this meeting Monday night and engage with the others in the final preparation for this celebration.

In order to make this Armistice Day gathering a success, it is going to take the best cooperation of the members of the Legion and of the town and community as a whole. Nothing short of a splendid program will suffice; and it is felt that the whole community will be interested in this large gathering of people who will be in Williamston for an entire day.

SQUATTERS FARE WELL IN COUNTY

42 Families With No Place To Go Have Made Out Somehow

Forty-two Martin County families have been recognized as "squatters" by the relief office this year. Starting the year off with no place to go and with almost less than nothing, these families "squatted" anywhere they could find a vacant shelter. Some of them were given free land by considerate owners, making possible a small garden. Others were refused a foot of land, and the owners are said to have charged rent in some cases. The fare of the group of 42 families was little better in some cases than that of many families during the hectic reconstruction days following the Civil War.

But, when put to the test, a number of the families pushed forward, and while their fare is far short of that enjoyed by the average, they are in better shape financially and physically than they were early this year, thanks to the relief workers.

Twenty-four of the families were white.

MANY ASKING HOME LOANS

None Actually Completed So Far, But Applications Being Made Daily

While no loans have been made to owners who are about to lose their homes in this county, the appraisers of the Home Loan Bank have made an inspection tour through this section. Just when the loans will be advanced, it could not be learned, but it is understood that no foreclosures will be in order until after the property owners first have an opportunity to borrow money or make arrangements to lift any outstanding mortgages held against their property.

Additional applications for loans are being received almost daily in this county, and when the loans start coming in they will be in fairly sizeable numbers, it is understood.

Episcopalians Announce Program of Services

This Sunday is the fifth of the month, and the morning service will be at the Church of the Advent and the evening service at St. Martin's, Hamilton. The subject of the sermon, "The Danger of Prayer."

On this Sunday afternoon between 3:30 and 5:30 o'clock committees of two from the Church of the Advent will visit every home of the congregation. The object of this visitation is not to collect money, but to establish friendly contacts, to offer information about the church, and to receive suggestions regarding the work of the church. It is urged that every family be at home at the appointed time.

Holy Trinity Mission At the Holy Trinity Mission near Bear Grass there will be a preaching service in addition to the regular Sunday school this Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock.

One Warehouse Here Made 20-Cent Average Thursday

With the price situation more favorable this week than at any time during the season, farmers today were advised to sell their good tobacco now, particularly next week. Prices have been stronger here this week, with one tobacco warehouse averaging \$20.05 for its entire sale yesterday. The other warehouses would have made similar averages had it not been for the poor quality of tobacco on their floors.

The market has been flooded this week with green and black tips, and other medium grades of tobacco. However, all grades were stronger this week than last and large sales are anticipated next week as the peanut and cotton crops have been harvested.

Farm administration officials yesterday estimated the income of farmers from all types of tobacco crops at approximately \$200,000,000, an increase of \$90,000,000 over returns from 1932 production.

It was estimated the flue-cured crop alone, grown chiefly in the Carolinas, Virginia, and Georgia, will yield about \$118,000,000, as compared with \$43,000,000 last year.

Of this increase, it was estimated \$25,000,000 will be due to the processing tax on domestically manufactured leaf, which will be paid out before the end of the crop year in rental benefits to the farmers who agree to reduce their acreage next season.

PAYING TAXES FAST

Sheriff C. B. Roebuck reported yesterday that so far this week he had collected more taxes than in any other similar period since he had been in office. Collections have been average nearly \$4,000 a day, he said.

Realizing that the time for payment of 1932 taxes is about spent, property owners are now rapidly paying their accounts, the sheriff said.

RECORDER HAD SMALL DOCKET

Court Nol Prossed Case Charging Jake Moore With Kidnaping

The recorder's court last Tuesday was a complete flop as far as the collection of fines is concerned. And there were no road sentences, indicating that the general behavior throughout the county during the past week has been slightly above par. Work of the court was cleared before the noon hour.

A non suit resulted in the case against Ray Moore, charged with trespassing.

Prayer for judgment was continued in the two cases against Eugene Anderson, one charging him with carrying a concealed weapon and the other for non-support. The causes were continued until next Tuesday.

A non-suit resulted in the case against Tobie Barber. According to reports, Barber was haled into court when it was alleged he told a man named Kain that he was going to shoot him through a window just as soon as he (Barber) found him (Kain) asleep.

The nearest kidnaping case docketed for trial in a Martin County court since the new law requiring life imprisonment was passed was that charging Jake Moore with stealing a child in Robersonville. The case resulted in a nol pros. In another case, charging Moore with abduction, the court failed to find probable cause of guilt and the charge was dropped there. It was reported that the abduction charge was preferred when another man's wife left her home and associated with Moore, the evidence in the county court indicating that the woman left of her own volition and was not abducted by Moore as the warrant charged.

Hallow'en Party At Bear Grass Tuesday

The Bear Grass school is making arrangements for a large scale Hallow'en party there next Tuesday evening at 7:30 o'clock. Principal Hickman announced yesterday. Receipts will be used for school purposes, and the public is urged to attend.

Will Start Operating Saw Mill Next Week

The Woodward Lumber Company will probably start operating its plant here some time next week, it was unofficially learned yesterday. The mill, formerly owned and operated by the Murray & McCabe Company, has been repaired and will be ready for operation about the first of the month. A new dry kiln and lumber shed have been completed, and most of the machinery has been placed. The company will only handle rough lumber, it is understood, and will probably turn out about 30,000 feet daily.

Old Fashioned Sweet Gum Is Put To New Uses

The old-fashioned sweet gum we used to gather is now called storax and is used in making perfumes and cinnamon alcohol, says R. W. Graeber, extension forester at State College.

SALES TAX GAINS IN FAVOR AS TAX NOTICES GO OUT

Property Owners Finding Tax Bills Considerably Under Last Year

A decided turn favoring the sales tax as a means of raising revenue was reported in various sections of the county this week when thousands of property owners received their tax statements or notices for 1933 taxes. Comparing the amounts, the property owners found their taxes are considerable lower than they were last year, and the reduction is traceable to the sales tax. The savings on direct property range from a few cents to hundreds of dollars.

Deputy Commissioner of Revenue Edward James said this week that he had heard more favorable criticism of the sales tax during the past few days, or since the notices were received by the property owners than at any other time since the law went into effect. While there are a few merchants hostile to the sales tax, nearly all others are very well pleased with the rational means of raising revenue, especially are they pleased when they realize the difference in their property taxes for the past year and for 1933.

While Mr. James had no definite record of sales tax collections, he was of the opinion that the county would average paying around \$2,000 monthly. Collections have materially increased during the past few weeks, he said. During the summer months, people apparently bought those articles that were non-taxable, and collections were very small, he explained. So far no prosecutions have been attempted in those cases where the law has been violated in this county. However, one is in the making against a county merchant who is failing to pass the tax on to his customers. The name of the merchant was not revealed.

NEW ROAD FROM BETHEL TO OAK CITY PROPOSED

Map Is Posted in Court House; Objections May Be Made

A new road from Bethel to a point connecting the Tarboro-Oak City road near the latter town is being proposed in a map posted in the courthouse here this week. Details of the newly proposed project are not known here, as it was understood that the highway commission was either going to improve Number 11 from Bethel to Oak City through Hassell or about one mile from that town.

The proposed road, it is believed, will hardly shorten the distance between Oak City and Bethel. In other words, the present route through Hassell is about as short as the one proposed. The new route, if it is approved, will run in Edgecombe County several miles and enter this county a short distance from where it will connect with the Tarboro-Oak City road. About seven miles of the route will be new road altogether.

Opinions of those living in the district have not been heard here, but it is understood that complaints will be in order for thirty days before any definite action is taken in connection with advancing the project.

The road from Butler's Bridge to Hassell has just recently been improved, and it might be that an improved road will be provided from Hassell to the new Number 11, provided, of course, the new Number 11 is approved and built.

COTTON CHECKS ARE DELIVERED

Few Farmers Complaining About Requirements of Government

Reports coming from the courthouse here state that a few farmers or landowners are complaining about the requirements of the government in the delivery of cotton reduction checks. One or two were apparently angered when it was pointed out to them that they would have to get their tenants sign a release before the checks could be delivered.

As far as it could be learned, no attempt on the part of the landlord to defraud a tenant has been made. However, one case was reported to the authorities at the direction of district relief officials for investigation. After the landlord and tenant signed for the check, the landlord placed it in his pocket and directed the tenant, a father of about a dozen children; to the relief office. It does not necessarily mean that the action of the landlord is illegal, for the tenant may have been indebted to the master in that amount, or even to a greater extent. However, that practice is not at all in keeping with the purpose of the government's policy, which would have had the landlord share to a certain extent, at least, with the tenant.

Little Girl Dies At Hospital in Kinston

Effie Lee Mallory, 14-months-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Will Mallory, of near Everetts, died in a Kinston hospital about midnight last Friday. A bread crumb lodged in the lungs of the little child, and an operation was performed in an attempt to save her life. She was said to have had a weak heart, making it impossible for her to survive the operation.

Funeral services were conducted Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock by the Rev. E. C. Shoe, of Robersonville. Interment was in the Everetts cemetery.

17 COUNTY BOYS SIGN WITH C.C.C.

15 Are Expected To Leave in Next Few Days for Camps in South

Seventeen young Martin County boys this week signed up for duty in the Civilian Conservation Corps, and 15 of them will likely leave within the next few days for camps in the South. Twenty young men applied, but up to noon yesterday only 17 had signed up. The county's quota is only 15, and two will be eliminated in the preliminary examinations to be held some time within the next several days, it is understood.

The names of the boys signing for duty in the camps are: John Marshall, Carl Robert Wynn, Andrew Claiborne Sumnerlin, and Robert B. Brown, jr., of Williamston. Richard Everett, William Thompson, Hubert Cherry, James Douglas Mallory, and George Modlin, of Williamston R. F. D.

Herman Savage, Fred Andrews, and Oscar Peel, jr., of Oak City.

Grover Harrison, of Bear Grass. Thomas Randolph White, William Raymond Price, and Grady Clarence Modlin, of Jamesville.

Marcellus Clark, Dardens (colored).

Baptists Announce Program of Services

The Baptist church announces a program of services for Sunday which includes two preaching and worshiping services, the Sunday school session, and the meeting of the young people's union. To any or all of these services the general public is invited.

A new emphasis is being placed on the Sunday evening service, and in the month of October the attendance upon this service has greatly improved. The membership of this church and congregation are asked to frequent this place of worship on the Lord's Day, and by their regular attendance make their personal contribution towards further advancing the cause of their church.

Sunday is the day for a special offering in the Sunday school to State missions. It is asked that the Sunday school be especially liberal in this matter.

Hallow'en Program At Farm Life on Tuesday

A unique program, planned by the Farm Life junior class for the fun and merriment of old and young, will feature a Hallow'en party there next Tuesday evening at 7:30 o'clock, Principal Charles Hough announced yesterday. The public is invited to attend and take part.