



## PROCEEDINGS IN MARTIN COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT

### Criminal Docket Finished Tuesday; Will Take Up Damage Suits Monday

Completing the criminal docket late Tuesday, the Martin County Superior court in session for two weeks here caught up with the civil docket early Wednesday morning and recessed until yesterday when a lone case was handled. Many cases were continued to await the return of Attorneys H. G. Horton and R. L. Coburn from the State Legislature.

In the short session yesterday, the court granted Clue Terry a divorce against Emma Terry, the plaintiff pleading two years' separation. Terry is to continue, under a court judgment, pay so much each month for the support of his children. Following the trial of that case, the court adjourned until Monday.

A high spot in the civil proceedings is expected next Monday when damage suits, amounting to more than \$65,000, are formally instituted in the case of Andrews, administrator, against Corey, and Leavister, administrator against Corey, and Corey against Leavister. The suits are the result of an automobile-truck wreck near Robersonville last September when two young men were instantly killed.

Other proceedings of the court not previously reported:

In all but one case the jury found against the defendants, the court sentences ranging from a few months on the roads to 30 years in prison.

The case charging Johnny Williams and Joe Lawson with reckless driving and murder was continued, as one of the lawyers in the case could not leave the state legislature.

Charged with abandonment and non support, Luther Harris was ordered to pay \$1,500 to the prosecuting witness and the costs of the action.

John Hill, charged with housebreaking and larceny, was the only defendant whose case went to the jury and got a free ticket to freedom.

The case charging Bill Hines with attempted housebreaking was not pressed.

Lester Matthews and Tebo Whitaker were sentenced to the roads for 18 months each, and Gilbert Whitaker them with stealing meat from Arthur Ayers and others. The two Whitakers pleaded guilty.

A divorce was granted on the grounds of two years separation, to Albert Walker, colored, against Elvina Walker.

The first case on the civil calendar, J. W. Watts, executor, against Willie and Isoline Boston, was decided in favor of the plaintiff, who was given for 12 months in the case charging immediate possession of certain land.

Interest now centers in the civil suits against Corey, which are scheduled for trial next Monday.

## Plans for Widening Washington Street Here Are Approved

### Bids for Project Will Be Received April 2; Work To Begin Right Away

Plans for widening Washington Street from the Houghton Street railroad crossing to the colored school building here have been approved in Raleigh and Washington, and the project will be thrown open for bids the second of next month, it was learned today from Mr. G. H. Harrison, member of the local board of town commissioners. If acceptable bids are received, work on the project will likely get underway about the middle of next month, Mr. Harrison said.

The survey calls for widening the street to the sidewalks up to that point where Houghton Street branches off, and from that point to the school building six feet will be added to each side of the present 18-foot road.

## Plans Are Made To Build Three Homes

Plans for the immediate construction of three homes here were said to be nearly complete this week, with the possibility that the building activities would probably be started the latter part of this or early next month.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Andrews are building on Church Street next to the home of Judge and Mrs. Clayton More. E. S. Peel and Joel Muse are building two bungalows on William Street in New Town, one on the lot next to the home of Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Perry and the other near the home of Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Roberson.

## Bill Approved To Determine Refund for Road Donations

The humble and honest plea for a refund of money lent or donated to the State Highway Commission years ago by many counties for the construction of highways in this State, received its first favorable recognition in the State Legislature yesterday when the Senate Roads committee amended and reported a bill favorably, which Senator R. L. Coburn trusts will "lead to a fair return," at least.

The bill as favored by the Senate Roads committee calls for the appointment of a committee or commission to investigate and determine the amounts due the several counties. It is understood that the bill originally proposed would establish the committee or

commission with the power to determine the amounts due the several counties and order their payment by the highway commission. The bill was amended to eliminate the second feature of the bill, and consequently no actual payment of money to the several lending counties can be expected this year. The bill upon its passage will certainly lead to a fair return later, Senator R. L. Coburn who has given much time and work to the matter, sincerely believes.

Martin County maintains that it is due around \$500,000 from the highway commission, but the committee, once it is created, will determine how much, if any of that amount should be repaid to the county.

## Last Call for Special Base Leaf Contracts

### SPRING IS HERE

Spring struck here in full blast by the calendar, as well as by the weather, the mercury almost reaching summertime levels during the early afternoon. And spring buying was increased in the local stores.

Farmers stated that many more days like yesterday and tobacco plants will be ready for transplanting within three or four weeks. Trees are budding out, flowers are blooming and signs of new life are noticeable in nature everywhere. Farmers are stirring the soil making ready for the earliest planting seasons in years. But there will likely be a few more cold days before the summer sun gets down to real shining.

## Building and Loan Prize Essay Contest To Be Held Saturday

### Local Association Offering \$30 in Prizes; Winner To District Finals

The first elimination contests in the State Building and Loan Association essay contest will be held in the local high school tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock, with one participant from each of five schools expected to take part. The winners of the contest will compete in a district meet within the next few weeks, and the winner of that contest will go to Winston-Salem for the finals.

In connection with the state-wide contest, the Martin County Building & Loan Association is offering \$30 in prizes; \$15 first, \$10 second, and \$5 third. There is a possibility that one or even more of the schools will not be represented, making it almost certain that each participant will share in the prize money.

It is understood that 18 papers were submitted by pupils in the local school, but late yesterday the winner had not been chosen to compete in the contest tomorrow.

## Bertie Quartet To Sing At Christian Church

Bible school at 9:45; worship at 11 o'clock. Sunday should be a great and full day. Mr. L. S. Mizelle, register of deeds, of Windsor, will bring his male quartet over to sing Sunday night at 7:30. They will bring several numbers and should have a full house to enjoy the music as well as show appreciation for their coming. The pastor will preach Sunday morning on "Benefits of the Good Life," and at 7:30 on "Feeling After the True God." All members are urged to attend all services Sunday, and the public is cordially invited.

## Plan To Reopen School At Hamilton on Monday

Closed by a sweeping epidemic of measles last week the Hamilton school will reopen next Monday. Principal Edmondson announced yesterday. About 60 cases of measles have been reported in the district indirectly, and when the school closed last week half of the pupils enrolled were missing in the classes.

Professor Edmondson was of the opinion that an attendance fairly close to normal could be expected when work was started next Monday morning at the usual hour.

## 100 APPLICATIONS HAVE ALREADY BEEN RECEIVED

### Total of 450 Acres All That Can Be Allotted for This County

### Many Disappointed

The county agent's office plans to receive all applications for special base tobacco contracts by Tuesday of next week, Assistant County Agent M. L. Barnes announced yesterday. Already about 100 applications have been received, and they will be forwarded to Raleigh the early part of next week for classification and approval, it was stated. Those farmers who are eligible to sign special base tobacco contracts are urged to make formal application in the office of the county agent not later than next Monday.

To care for these special base contracts, the county has been allotted about 450 acres and around 450,000 pounds, it is understood. There is some doubt if the additional allotment will care for the requests.

Several farmers have been disappointed in applying for the special contracts. The ruling specifically states that no special contract will be accepted on a farm where a regular contract is held by the owner. Two young men applied for a contract this week, explaining that their father owned three separate farms, and only one was covered by a regular contract. It is understood the only way the two young men could qualify for a special contract would be to purchase the land from their father.

Consideration is being given the applications by the following:

- (1) Former tenants who have regularly grown tobacco and who now own and operate farms.
- (2) Tobacco farmers who have lost their farms through foreclosure since 1929.
- (3) Tenants who have been compelled to move from tobacco-producing farms and who are now growing tobacco on farms for which no equitable allotment can be obtained under tobacco production adjustment contracts.
- (4) Farmers who have reduced their acreage and production of tobacco since 1929 to such an extent that they cannot obtain an equitable allotment under a production adjustment contract.
- (5) Sons of tobacco farmers who have recently become of age and who now own or rent farms of their own.
- (6) Other tobacco growers who could not obtain an equitable allotment for tobacco production adjustment contracts.

## Programs of Services At Episcopal Churches

Rev. E. F. Moseley, Rector  
Third Sunday in Lent.  
Church school, 9:45 a. m.; Holy Communion, 8 a. m.

St. Martin's, Hamilton  
Church school, 10 a. m.; Holy Communion and sermon, 11 a. m.; Evening Prayer and sermon, 7:30 p. m.

## Regular Services at All Presbyterian Churches

The Presbyterian church and Sunday school services will be held at all points at the usual hours Sunday, it was announced today by Rev. Z. T. Piephoff, pastor.

## MILK RATING OF TOWN IS AMONG STATE'S HIGHEST

### Ranks With Largest Cities of State; Consumption Is Very Low

With a milk rating 92 per cent of perfect, Williamston ranked among the 29 cities and towns in the state having unusually favorable records for the period, according to a release in the North Carolina State Health Bulletin. The town's grade "A" milk supply compared favorably with that of cities like Durham, Charlotte, Greensboro, and others.

Alterations are being made at the local dairy, making it eligible for an even higher rating at the next inspection by sanitary authorities.

The main objection to the entire milk situation here is the very low consumption. If the supply was evenly consumed here, the drinkers would have hardly enough to keep a kitten alive. The situation is that some few are getting sufficient milk and the majority are getting little or none of the food considered so important in the diet of every one and especially in that of the child.

Williamston's milk ordinance has been in effect only a very short while, but marked improvements have been made to bring the supply up to a creditable rating during that time, and almost daily more citizens are becoming more conscious of what a reliable dairy operated under state and local sanitary regulations means to the health of the community.

## Board of Health Asks Employment Of County Nurse

### Delegations from Parent-Teacher Associations Are Sponsors

The employment of a county health nurse was urged by representatives of parent-teacher associations before a special meeting of the county board of health held here this morning. Delegations were here from Robersonville, Everetts, Bear Grass and Williamston, Mrs. E. F. Moseley, Williamston; Mrs. V. A. Ward, Robersonville; Mrs. John A. Ward, Williamston; Professor R. I. Leake, Robersonville, and Mr. John Hopkins, Everetts, directing special appeals to the board members for a county nurse. Dr. J. H. Saunders outlined the duties a county nurse would be expected to perform.

Going into executive session, the health body unanimously recommended the employment of a nurse and a committee from the parent-teacher groups are scheduled to take the recommendations before the county commissioners at their meeting to be held the first Monday of next month. The representatives are to present their recommendations at 2 o'clock that day, it was stated.

Drs. W. C. Mercer, V. A. Ward and Messrs. J. E. Pope, J. J. Hassell and J. C. Manning, members of the county board of health, attended the meeting.

## Fairfield Girl Wins In District Contest

Competing for a High Point College scholarship in a district oratorical contest held in the high school building here last Tuesday evening, Miss Wilma Blake, student in the Fairfield school, of Hyde County, won over Miss Phyllis Blake, a senior in the same school. Six of the other semifinal candidates were ruled out, and the seventh one failed to report for the contest. Miss Blake, in addition to winning the \$50 scholarship, has the opportunity to compete for more valuable scholarships at the college next week.

Professor N. M. Harrison, of High Point College, presided over the contest, and Miss Ethel Taylor, Mrs. F. W. Hoyt, and W. C. Manning acted as judges at the contest here.

## Capital Punishment Loses In Kiwanis Club Debate

In an impromptu debate held by the local Kiwanis club last Wednesday evening, a decision was rendered against capital punishment in this State. Although only two members could be found to debate against the supreme penalty for capital felonies, the decision of the judges would do away with capital punishment.

E. F. Moseley and W. H. Carstarphen debated against capital punishment and Harcum Grimes and Pat Hoggard argued for the supreme penalty measure.

## Legislative Committee Is To Investigate Prison Camp Here

### Congress Makes Available \$60,000,000 For Seed and Feed Loans This Season

Passing the deficiency bill this week Congress has at last made available \$60,000,000 for financing needy farmers throughout the country this spring. Arrangements are going forward rapidly for handling the seed and feed loan fund, and it is believed that the loans will be available to farmers in this county within the next week or two. Definite announcement is expected shortly.

Although the law provides that the forms on which farmers must apply for the seed loan funds are to be printed at the Government Printing Office in Washington, Senator Duncan U. Fletcher, chairman of the joint committee on printing, said this could be suspended, and that specimen forms would be sent to the local printers in various agricultural districts, where they can be prepared immediately, distributed through the Farm Credit Administration field offices and made out by applicant farmers at once.

Senator Smith expressed the hope that the FCA would be making loans from the \$60,000,000 fund within several days.

The seed loan authorization bill was passed some time ago, but no appropriation was made. For a time it appeared the money would come from the President's \$4,880,000,000 work relief bill, but when this got lost in committee after the Senate vote on the McCarran amendment, it began to look as if the small farmer was not going to get any government help in financing his crop this year.

Senator Smith, however, succeeded in having the money carried in the deficiency measure, and today's action clears the track for speedy issuance of the loans which will enable the farmer to get his crop in the ground. Representative Warren, of North Carolina, and Representative Fulmer, of South Carolina, sponsored the seed loan bill in the House.

## MISSING CATTLE BELIEVED TO BE RUNNING WILD

### Cattle From Drought Areas Roaming in Woods in Lower Part County

Making a search for government cattle lost in the thick woods of Jamesville and Griffiths Township, the searchers are said to have met with some success a few days ago when they found one of the animals alive and wild. Several of the searching party sought safety in the tree tops while the animal bellowed and pawed after them until she fell exhausted. The cow, one of about 1,500 shipped into this county several months ago by the government from western drought areas, was later caught and hauled from the woods to a keeper's barn, where she is to be fattened and probably killed to feed the hungry mouths of relief subjects.

It is believed that a few of the cows lost in the woods are still alive, but nearly all of the 150 that were lost there are thought to have died from one cause or another, including attacks upon them by bears. The county relief office is directing a search for the missing cattle to establish a check insofar as it is possible to do so on those animals that were lost.

Existing on reeds, the cow that was found a few days ago was said to be very poor and dangerously wild.

Searchers are said to be looking for lost cattle in other sections of eastern Carolina, unofficial reports stating that nearly 1,000 head of the western cattle were lost or missing in the New Bern area. All the cattle were supposed to have been moved from the pastures and delivered to the relief slaughter houses several months ago, but many of the pastures were apparently too large and the cows could not be found when instructions for moving them were received.

## Dangerous Negro Shackled for Trip To State Prison

### Is First Man Ever Treated In Such Manner by Sheriff Roebuck

Sheriff C. B. Roebuck shackled his first prisoner during his stay in office last Wednesday for transportation to the State prison. Andrew Lloyd, recognized as one of the meanest negroes to occupy the jail here in years, was bound hand and foot and placed under guard for his trip to the prison, where he is to serve from 7 to 10 years for the felonious attack upon Mr. Walter Gurganus here March 2. Noah Andrews, Lloyd's partner in the crime, was handcuffed for his trip to Raleigh. Oscar Lewis, convicted of second degree murder, and sentenced to serve 30 years in prison, had the characteristics of a meek lamb on the trip as compared with Lloyd. The officers experienced no difficulty in making the trip, but they warned the prison authorities about the sneaking character of Lloyd and Andrews.

Following the removal of the three prisoners, the jail was cleared of all county charges. There are three in the jail now, but they are there as guests of the Federal government.

## CHARGES MADE BY GREENVILLE COLORED WOMAN

### Says Her Son Was Beaten Unmercifully During January

### Refused To Work

An investigation of the Martin County prison camp, near here, has been ordered following charges lodged against officials by a colored woman in Greenville. The charges are believed to be the result of wide and sympathetic publicity given prisoners in other camps, the prison authorities stating that they were of the honest opinion the charges lodged against this county camp would be proved unfounded by an investigation.

According to unofficial information received here, State officials, as well as Superintendent C. R. Mobley, of the local camp, are anxious that the legislative committee make an investigation here, that special invitations had been extended the committee. A legislative sub-committee on penal institutions investigating the report of alleged mistreatment of a convict at the county camp, is said to have decided this week to send some of its members to investigate the charges, but as far as it could be learned today no specific date for the visit has been determined.

While Superintendent C. R. Mobley stated he had rather have the facts come from the investigating committee, he did say that he would gladly welcome the investigators and aid them in every way he possibly could in their work.

The health and general welfare of prisoners held in the camp here have been closely looked after by an able physician, the health advantages being recognized as far superior to those available to the average man on the outside.

The one and only charge directed against the camp here is set out in a letter written by a colored woman in Greenville to Mrs. Bost, of the State Welfare Board. The letter:

"I am writing you about my son who was sent from this county to serve 4 to 7 years. I have received a letter and information stating that the overseers and guards stationed in Martin

(Continued on back page)

## Double Liability of Bank Stockholders Is Relieved by Law

### Local Bank Is Taking Steps To Comply With Act Passed Last Week

In the interest of relieving the stockholders in the Branch Banking and Trust Company and Bank of Robersonville of double liability on their stock holdings in that institution, Mr. John G. Allen, jr., from the examining staff of the State Banking Department was in Williamston and Robersonville on March 18.

The legislature on last Friday passed the Lindsay bill and it was immediately ratified. It makes the following provisions for relieving stockholders in State banking institutions of double liability:

1. Publication by the Bank in a newspaper having general circulation in the community where the bank is located, once each week for four consecutive weeks prior to May 1, 1935, of the bank's intent to seek such relief.
2. Mailing written notice to each depositor and to each other creditor prior to May 1, 1935.
3. Sworn affidavits from a bank officer that such notices have been mailed and sworn affidavits from the publisher on each insertion of the advertisement, that such publication has been made.

On the completion of these proceedings and the forwarding of such certificates to the Commissioner of Banks state banking institutions can accomplish this relief to their stockholders by July 1, 1935.

The Lindsay bill provides that banks previously organized or relieved thru the provisions of the Aycock bill, an enactment of the 1933 legislature, can take advantage of the same methods of procedure outlined above, and have released to them the North Carolina or United States bonds pledged in connection with that act, and at the same time obtain relief for their stockholders from all double liability.

## COTTON CAMPAIGN

The campaign for signing those cotton farmers who were ineligible to sign last year is nearing completion in this county. Mr. T. B. Slade, in charge of cotton control, said yesterday. Those farmers who have not signed and desire to participate in the movement are urged to visit their respective committees immediately. Most of the approximately 600 growers eligible to participate in the cotton control movement have already signed, it was stated.

## Survey Shows Need Of New Post Office Building for Town

### Postal Inspector Expected To Recommend Erection Of New Building

Williamston's need for a new post office building was substantiated in a preliminary survey conducted this week by Mr. N. A. Nichols, of the Post Office Department, Postmaster Leslie T. Fowden said this morning. Based upon his findings, Mr. Nichols is expected to recommend a new building for the office here, Mr. Fowden added.

Reviewing the business of the office during the past 10 years, the inspector found a gradual but steady increase annually. Those findings were supported by the marked activity in local stores and business houses, and the general progressive appearance of the town. Before leaving the inspector looked over several possible sites for the building which will be included in his recommendations to the proper authorities.

## Meat Is Stolen From Poplar Point Farmer

Several hams and shoulders were stolen from Farmer Don Johnson at his home in Poplar Point early yesterday morning. Breaking the lock on the smokehouse, the robbers carried eight nice hams and five shoulders out and hid them close to the road a short distance away. Mrs. Johnson discovered the robbery about 12:30, when she started to the home of a neighbor to get him to go after a doctor for her husband, who was sick. Other neighbors were called, and they tracked the robbers to the road and found most of the hidden meat. It is believed the robbers planned to pick up the meat with a car but were frightened away.

Officers were called, and they conducted a search but could not find the two hams and two shoulders that were missing.

## Sunday Services At Local Baptist Church

With Easter just one month away, the intervening weeks offer the church one of its choicest periods during the entire church year. This organization, with all of its auxiliaries, should make the most of these pre-Easter weeks. Following the church school Sunday morning, the pastor will preach, and again in the evening, following the meeting of the young people. With the arrival of spring, the services should be well attended.