



REVIEW OF LAWS PASSED BY LAST STATE ASSEMBLY

Possible To Delay Tax Sale of County Until First Monday in December

A summary of laws passed by the 1935 General Assembly of this State and prepared by the Institute of Government, has just been released. A review of the laws effecting Martin County is offered.

There were a goodly number of laws passed effecting this county, the special liquor enactment receiving, by far, the most attention and comment. In fact so much attention has been given that law, that property owners have forgotten all about the time for selling land for taxes.

Chapter 321 of the public local laws permits the Martin County authorities and the town of Williamston officials to extend the time for land tax sales to the first Monday in December of each year beginning with 1934 levies. There is no provision for the continuance of land sales in the several towns outside of Williamston after next month, it is understood.

Another law empowers the county commissioners to appoint a collector to take over insolvent taxes.

Under another act, the county is divided into five districts for the nomination and election of county commissioners, as follows: Jamesville and Williams; Griffins and Bear Grass; Williamston and Poplar Point; Cross Roads and Robersonville; and Hamilton and Goose Nest, one commission to be chosen in each of the five districts.

Chapter 20 authorizes the county commissioners, in their discretion, to pay the trial justices in criminal cases where the defendant is sent to the roads or to prison, and when the defendant is unable to pay the cost. However, in cases bound over by magistrates, the trial justice apparently gets nothing.

The county commissioners have the authority under Chapter 336 of the law to appoint a fiscal agent for the clerk of superior court to handle all funds coming into his hands except fines and costs. An agent has already been appointed.

Chapter 94 prohibits, under penalty of \$25. fine or 30 days in jail, the hunting of game in the lowlands of Roanoke River during a freshet or when the water is over the river banks and game has no means of escape.

The game laws of Martin County repeal chapter 422 of the 1933 session, and the general State game laws applies to hunting quail in the county. Martin was put under the laws which make it a misdemeanor for an owner of domestic fowl, after notice, to allow them to run on the lands of another when such lands are under cultivation for grains or ornamental purposes.

The barbers' license laws were amended, requiring rural barbers as well as those in towns to have license except in those cases where barbers occasionally do work at a distance of five miles or more from any town.

Chapter 182 of the laws authorizes the State treasurer to issue \$7,000 in bonds and Martin County \$5,000 in bonds to replace a like amount stolen from W. S. Rhodes and D. G. Matthews, the owners to furnish a satisfactory indemnity bond equal to twice the amount of duplicate bonds in each case.

The public laws under chapter 295 appointed justices of the peace in the county for the term of six years, each as follows: Jamesville, A. Corey, E. H. Ange; Williams, B. L. Gardner, L. J. Hardison; Williamston, J. L. Hassell; Cross Roads, C. B. Riddick; Goose Nest, J. W. Hines. E. H. Ange, J. W. Eubanks, J. T. Barnhill and George C. Griffin were appointed members of the Martin County Board of Education.

This county was exempted from the general law which authorizes the State Board of Health to establish full time health service in any unit desired to cooperate in the program.

The law was amended so that enforcement officers shall be allowed a fee for summoning jurors for justices court.

County commissioners may direct the clerk of court to appoint special deputies as clerk in recorder's and general county courts.

Chapter 153 allows the filing of master forms of mortgages and deeds of trust and allows the provisions of such master forms to be incorporated in subsequent instruments by reference.

Chapter 457 prohibits the placing of trash, refuse or junk automobiles

County Offers Bounty for Arrest of Liquor Makers

Backing up its assertion that it would make war on the bootlegger and the illicit liquor traffic, in general, the county board of commissioners in special session here last Wednesday evening bounties on the "heads" of liquor manufacturers and violators of the liquor laws in general in this county.

For each still an officer captures, he receives \$5 under the new premiums created by the authorities. Then if he catches a man at the still and captures the still he gets \$8. An additional \$5 is allowed for extras caught at a liquor plant, it is understood. Another standing offer of \$5 goes to pay any enforcement officer who prosecutes any violator of

the liquor law. In addition to these allotments, the commissioners employed an assistant in the sheriff's office, allowing the officer more time to push the enforcement of all laws in the county. And it looks as if there will be some respect created for the law in this county, after all.

Martin County paid certain amounts for liquor stills captured and men arrested for a number of years, but the special inducements were withdrawn as a matter of economy during the first part of the recent depression.

The premiums, recently created, are expected to be financed out of the five percent fund set aside out of the profits derived from sales on legal liquor.

Act Checks Court in Handling Rum Cases

LATE CHECKS

A dozen tobacco parity checks, amounting to \$1,823.67, were received in this county yesterday, leaving 33 checks still undelivered to Martin farmers. These checks have been due since last fall, but for some reason or other they were late and plenty late in reaching here.

Just when the 33 other checks will be ready for distribution is an unknown matter, but unless they arrive shortly, 1935 rental checks will be coming first for farmers in this county.

Farmers Received \$2,418,030 More In 1934 Than In 1932

Cotton and Tobacco Sell for \$3,267,634 Last Year In This County

Martin County farmers received \$2,418,030 more for their cotton and tobacco crops in 1934 than they got in 1932 according to a statement issued recently by T. B. Brandon, county agent.

In 1932, before the crop adjustment programs were instituted, the growers sold 6,217,000 pounds of leaf for \$652,858 and 6,860 bales of cotton for \$196,744.

This year the price of tobacco averaged 10.5 cents a pound and cotton was selling at six cents. By 1934, the price of tobacco rose to an average of 27 cents and cotton reached 12 cents.

This gave the growers \$2,713,636 for their 10,050,500-pound weed crop in 1934 and \$287,373 for their 6,860-bale cotton crop. In addition they received benefit payments amounting to \$229,029 on the tobacco and \$37,595 on the cotton.

This brought the total tobacco and cotton income in 1934 to \$3,267,634, Brandon pointed out, as compared with a total of \$849,602 in 1932.

Since the price of other farm commodities has also risen during this period, Brandon added, the total income of the Martin County growers has increased even more than these figures indicate.

Furthermore, he stated, at present the prospects are that the 1935 income will compare favorably with that of last year.

Three Local Faculty Appointments Made

Three new appointments were made to the local school faculty by the committee recently, Principal D. N. Hix said today. Other appointments are being considered, and the faculty will be announced in its entirety within a short time, it is believed.

Miss Dorothy Elliott, of Hertford, was appointed to fill the fifth grade vacancy in the school of Cabarrus County during the past two years.

Miss Gertrude Mercer, of Fountain, is to teach English in the high school. She has served as a member of the Conway, Northampton County, schools for several years.

Miss Josephine Grant, of Garysburg, is the new home economics teacher. She has had four years experience in the Nashville school, and is now taking advanced work in Tennessee.

ENFORCEMENT OF LIQUOR LAW UP TO CITIZENS

Town and County Officials Discuss Enforcement at Joint Meeting Here

There might be flaws in the recently passed act by the legislature permitting the sale of legal liquor by several of the 100 counties, but as a result of the particular law a marked change has taken place in public sentiment that will make the sailing quite difficult for the moonshiner and illicit liquor manufacturer in the future, according to the belief expressed by county officials, members of the town councils of Oak City, Robersonville, and Williamston, control board members and other representative citizens at a joint meeting of the authorities held in the courthouse here last Wednesday evening in the interest of effective enforcement of the liquor laws.

While the intent of the new liquor law is generally understood, its status is very much up in the air, but the county attorney said at the meeting that there were enough teeth in the laws passed prior to the Turlington Act in 1919 to handle any situation that might come up in connection with law violations. However, these laws have not been resurrected, and there is some doubt as to the unlawfulness of certain acts that heretofore were known to be unlawful under the Turlington Act. Under the law, the bootlegger might possess illicit liquor, and so long as the Federal authorities leave him alone, the county enforcement authorities will be helpless unless they can establish certain facts determining guilt, it is understood. However, it was clearly shown at the joint meeting that public sentiment is no longer indifferent but that it reflects the willingness of representative people to help blot out the run traffic just as long as legal liquor is available. In short, the meeting said, the representative consumer is going to switch his business to the legal stores and then report his old friend, the bootlegger, provided the illicit traffic is continued by him. This was substantiated by Sheriff C. B. Roebuck when he explained to the meeting that numerous citizens over the county who had winked at the liquor laws heretofore were going to join in the drive to switch the trade from the bootlegger to the county.

Judgments Are Withheld in Several Cases Tuesday By Judge H. O. Peel

The court was baffled by the limitations placed on the jurisdiction over liquor law violations in this county by the recent legislature, but in strict accordance with that act, it is understood that there is nothing else to do but turn loose those charged with possession of illicit liquor when no charge of selling is proved. Possession of moonshine liquor conflicts with the federal law, but federal officers are supposed to handle prosecutions in those cases. Apparently hopeful that something will be done about the situation, Recorder H. O. Peel continued liquor cases for judgment when they were called last Tuesday.

The court called the following cases: Henry Bass, charged with an assault on a female, was found guilty, judgment being suspended upon the payment of cost. Charged with disorderly conduct and violation of the prohibition law, Page Bugg, white hotel man of Weldon, was found not guilty. J. C. Garner, of Weldon, was adjudged guilty of driving a car while intoxicated, and was fined \$50 and taxed with the costs. His license to operate a car was revoked for a period of three months.

Charged with violation of the prohibition law, Teddy Jackson was adjudged guilty, the court suspending sentence upon the payment of cost. Dock Whitaker was found not guilty in the case charging him with an attack on a female.

The case charging Charlie Brown with violating the liquor laws was continued for judgment.

Mark Lyon, charged with possession of liquor, pleaded guilty of having the liquor but explained it was for his own use. The case was continued for judgment.

Joe Bach, charged with driving a car while drunk, was found not guilty.

Rev. Mr. Rountree at the Episcopal Church Sunday

Rev. E. F. Moseley, Rector Fifth Sunday after Trinity Church school, 9:45 a. m. and morning prayer and sermon at 11 a. m. The service Sunday will be taken by Rev. Jack Rountree, of Glendora, California, in the absence of the rector, who is attending a clergy conference at Lake Kanuga. Mr. Rountree is visiting relatives in Kinston this summer and has kindly consented to serve for Mr. Moseley here next Sunday morning.

Methodists to Take Special Offering at Service Sunday

Besides the church school at 9:45 and worship service at 11 in the local Methodist church Sunday morning there will be a special offering for the Methodist orphanage at Raleigh. The membership in particular, and friends in general are most cordially invited to take part in this very worthy object. Services will be held at Holly Springs Sunday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock.

Legal Liquor Goes on Sale In County Control Stores

MARTINS TAKE FIFTH PLACE IN COASTAL LOOP

Club Officials Hold Meeting Last Night and Change In Line-up Expected

Playing only two games so far this week and losing both of them, the Martins dropped to fifth place in the Coastal Plain League standings yesterday. However, top teams in the loop experienced losses, and the Martins are still no further from the top than they were a week ago as far as the number of games are concerned.

The activities of the week carried on when it wasn't raining brought the club officials together in a meeting here last night, and some new faces are expected in the line-up by Sunday when the Martins and Ayden are scheduled to play a regular league game here at 3:30 o'clock. Several new players have been called and probably at least three of them will report tomorrow or Sunday, it was learned from the club president today.

Last Tuesday the Martins took their worst drubbing of the season, losing to Ayden by Ayden by a 15 to 2 count. The Pitt club worked on three Martin pitchers, but made only 10 hits, while the Martins, led by Marable with two safeties, made eight, one for an extra base. Fourteen free passes were handed Ayden, six by Gaddy, four by Cherry and four by Abbott, the Pitt boys turning the liberal offerings of the three into seven runs.

Wednesday, the locals were rained out in their game scheduled with New Bern.

Yesterday, the New Bern Bears took the game by a 7 to 4 count. Kennel, the New Bern twirler, earning most of the laurels with his six-hit pitching and two home runs. Leary hit a home run for the Martin in the fifth inning with two men on base to score three-fourths of his team's runs. Marable and Corbett featured afield, handling 17 chances. Morris worked on the mound for the Martins and allowed only seven hits.

This afternoon Tarboro comes here, and Cecil Brake, formerly in the right field for the Martins, is expected to be in the line-up for the visitors.

Watermelon Case On Court Docket

A few days ago James Henry Walston, colored, bought a watermelon from L. C. Nurney, country merchant on the Jamesville Road. The melon was not ripe, and the purchaser demanded another in its place. The merchant explained that he did not guarantee the melon, and could not replace it. When Mr. Nurney went inside the store, Walston, aided by Frank Powell, is said to have walked off with another melon.

The merchant swore out a warrant charging the two men with the alleged theft, and a preliminary hearing was held here Wednesday afternoon by Justice J. L. Hassell who sent the controversy to the county court for trial next Tuesday.

It is estimated that the watermelon will cost somebody around \$20 in court costs before the case is settled. Frank Powell, Walston's colored associate, is under a \$100 bond to insure peace.

Name Disbursing Officer for County Control Board

Mr. J. Sam Getsinger was named this week disbursing officer for the Martin County Alcoholic Beverage Control Board by the county commissioners. He will handle the duties in connection with his regular work, it is understood.

Methodist Society To Hold Meeting Monday at 3:30

The Woman's Missionary Society of the Methodist church will meet in the church Monday afternoon at 3 o'clock. All members of the society are requested to be present.

Haywood Farmers Go In For Beans and Tomatoes

More than 500 acres of snap beans and tomatoes have been planted in Haywood County this season, and both crops are in excellent condition.

FARM DEBT MEET

The Martin County Farm Debt Adjustment Committee will meet next Friday morning July 26, in the county courthouse at 10 o'clock when several financially distressed farm debt cases will be considered.

All financially distressed farmers in this county are urged to meet with this committee and avail themselves of this free and comparatively easy method of solving their financial problems. Mr. Joseph P. Greenleaf, of Elizabeth City, assistant State representative of the Farm Debt Commission; and Mr. B. B. Bell, of Shawboro, contact man for the Federal Land Bank, will also meet with the committee.

July Rainfall Likely to Break all Records In This Community

Some Damage Results To Tobacco Crop In This County Recently

With as much rain already reported so far this month as there fell last July, new records of rainfall are in prospect for this section. In July last year, 7.38 inches of rain fell here, and to date the same amount has been reported for the current month, most of that amount, or 6.45 inches, having fallen in about the last two weeks.

More than one inch of rain fell here Wednesday afternoon, and that with two previous heavy falls, is causing much damage to the tobacco crop.

To what extent the crop has been damaged in this county, no one seems to agree, but it is admitted that the crop has not yet been ruined. In low fields and on certain types of land, considerable damage has been done to the crop by heavy rains over the county, as a whole. In other sections and on certain types of land, the crop has hardly been damaged any at all, and the situation is not as serious in this county as it is in some others, according to reports reaching here.

Admitting that the rains had damaged his crop to some extent, one farmer today stated that even then it was far better than it was just before the rains started falling about two weeks ago.

The crop is said to be ripening rapidly in the fields, and farmers have been working right on through the rain and sunshine alike to save the first leaves.

Most all crops are threatened by grass in some sections where the farmers have not been able to run their plows in over two weeks.

Justice J. L. Hassell Hears Several Cases

Luther Washington, Greenville colored man, was fined \$2.50 an dtaxed with the costs in Mayor Hassell's court here Wednesday for assaulting James White, young colored boy here. The case only charged simple assault.

Dealie Allen, colored woman, was fined \$2.50 and taxed with the costs in the case charging her with public drunkenness. The woman was found on the streets here so drunk she could hardly lie on the ground without holding on to something.

The case charging Howard Cherry with possession of bootleg liquor, was sent by the trial justice to the county court for consideration next Tuesday. Cherry was caught by Officer Allbrooks pouring out liquor from a half-gallon jar at a hot dog stand near the Farmers warehouse.

Young Man Held In Jail in Robbery Case

At a hearing here Wednesday, Jas. Borden Stanley, young white man of New Bern, charged with attempting to break into P. P. Peel's store on Washington Street early the day before, was bound over to the Martin County Superior court for trial. Justice Hassell required bond in the sum of \$500, and Stanley, unable to raise that amount, was returned to the county jail to await trial next September.

When asked why he tried to break into the store, Stanley replied, "just because, that's all."

Store Here Reports Small Sales During First Sellings Hours

Lawrence Griffin Is First To Make Purchase at Local Store

Outlawed 26 years ago, legal liquor was returned for the thirsty of this county shortly before 10 o'clock this morning when two stores, one at Robersonville and one here, were opened by an alcoholic beverage control board for the county of Martin. The event occasioned no excitement, and the comparatively small sales up until noon indicated that John Barleycorn's return created little interest when it came right down to transactions and revenue raising.

The announced opening was delayed about an hour at the local store on account of last minutes arrangements necessary to handle the money. The first purchase was made by Lawrence Griffin, Griffins-Township white man. He bought one of the cheapest brands, it was stated. Sales were less than \$25 an hour before noon at the Williamston store. Labon Lilly, also of Griffins, made the largest purchase, \$5 worth, up until 11 o'clock.

Robersonville's Main Street store was stocked late last evening when Control Board member Irving Smith, his assistants and the town law, carried away a large truck load of liquor. The opening there was without event, early reports indicating that sales were light, and the populace a bit "liquor shy" in the open. The same situation was recognized here, some waiting for others to break the ice before diving in themselves.

Late hours were observed by workmen in preparing the building on the corner of Smithwick and Main Streets here last night. Stock shelves were completed at 2 o'clock this morning, and Board Chairman V. J. Spivey and his assistants started stocking the store at 5:30 in an effort to open the store at the announced hour, but they were about 50 minutes late.

A few out-of-town customers visited the store here this morning, and an increased patronage is expected from home and abroad tomorrow.

The stores will open each week day at 9:00 in the morning and close at 6 p. m. Legal holidays will be observed and no sales will be made on election days. Manager Spivey explaining that sales will be made for cash only and only to persons 21-years of age or older. Sales will be refused any persons convicted of being liquor addicts and to any person under the influence of liquor. In addition to those sales limitations, the store manager reserves the right to refuse, in his discretion, the sale of liquor to any person and to determine the amount. Purchasers will not be allowed to break seals of containers on the store premises, and the fact that it is unlawful to take a drink of liquor or offer a drink to any person on the store premises, or in any public road or street, was pointed out in rules and regulations posted in the stores today.

In opening the stores, the control board directed a plea to the town authorities where stores are located, asking their cooperation in enforcing the laws, explaining that the stores are opened for two reasons—to create revenue and eliminate the bootlegger. Any constructive criticism will be appreciated, Chairman Spivey said.

Individual letters were addressed to the several store employees yesterday, directing them to be courteous but stern in enforcing the rules and regulations, and explaining that they would be held responsible for any loss in inventory.

Bonds have been issued as follows: board members, \$5,000 each; disbursing officer, \$15,000; store managers, \$5,000 and clerks \$2,500 each. Stocks are insured from the time they are unloaded at the freight stations to the point they are sold and the money is placed in the bank, the bonds and insurance costing around \$1,000 for the year, it is understood.

Union Service To Be Held In Baptist Church Sunday

The union service comes to the Baptist church Sunday evening at 8 o'clock, and the community in general is invited to worship at the service, which is the first of the series to come to the Baptist church this summer. The pastor will preach at the Sunday morning hour, following the Sunday school.