

PROCEEDINGS IN MARTIN COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT

Three Cases Called Yesterday; Only One Entirely Disposed of

The Martin Superior Court opened its second week yesterday, calling only three cases during the day and disposing of only one of the three in its entirety. Judge E. H. Cranmer, of Southport, returned Sunday to continue his work on the bench.

Much of yesterday was required in handling the case of W. C. James against the North Carolina Joint Stock Land Bank. The plaintiff was given a verdict, but Judge Cranmer set it aside and the case was scheduled for trial again next November.

Ellen Cowen Twiddy was given a divorce against J. O. Twiddy on statutory grounds.

The case of Nancy Rolox against H. C. Notman was placed in the hands of the clerk of court for reference.

Today the court called the cases of Worsley and Raynor against the Green Oil Company. Plaintiff Worsley is asking \$1,000 damages and Raynor is pleading for \$2,500 as a result of injuries received in an automobile-truck wreck at a street intersection in Oak City the 14th of last March. The plaintiffs declare D. Champion, driver of the truck, was driving at a rapid speed through Oak City at the time and that caused the accident.

Mrs. S. E. Roberson Died Last Friday at Home in Cross Roads

Highly Respected Woman Passes Away After Long Illness

Mrs. S. E. Roberson, highly respected woman of Cross Roads Township, died at her home there last Friday evening at 6 o'clock from a complication of diseases. She had been in declining health for the past 13 months, and her condition had been serious for some time.

Mrs. Roberson was born 57 years ago in the community where she lived all her life. She was married to Mr. Roberson at an early age, and he, with seven children, James L. Roberson, of Washington; Alma Roberson, of Florida; and Judea and Irvin Roberson, of Cross Roads; and Mrs. Herman Williams, of Everetts; Mrs. Taylor, of Rocky Mount, and Miss Marie Roberson, of Cross Roads, survives. She also leaves three sisters, Mrs. A. L. Roebuck and Mrs. J. T. Edmondson, of Williamston, and Mrs. Wiley Rogerson, of Robersonville; and one brother, Mr. J. H. Wynn, of Maysville.

Funeral services were conducted from the Christian chapel in Cross Roads Saturday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock by Rev. Warren Davis, and interment followed in the family plot. Mrs. Roberson held membership in the community church for many years, and her life was marked for its Christianlike character and friendliness to everyone.

Many Oak City Grads Taking Advanced Study

A large number of last term graduates from the Oak City High School are seeking higher learning than any of the school's previous classes, it was reported by Miss Stalls, director of senior activities there this week. Ten members of the 1935 graduating class are attending various schools and colleges in this and two other states, as follows:

- Ora Johnson and Elizabeth Edmondson, business college in Norfolk.
- Bettie Mayo Everett, Woman's College, Greensboro.
- Ludell Bellflower and Nancy Haislip, Teachers' College, Greenville, Virginia Perkins, business school in Raleigh.
- Lucius Long Davenport and Melvin Crisp, Campbell College, Buies Creek.
- Hassell Worsley, Oak Ridge.
- Dick Slade, The Citadel, Charleston, S. C.

Revival Services Being Held at Riddicks Grove

Rev. W. B. Harrington, pastor is conducting a series of revival services in the Riddick's Grove Baptist church this week, the first of the services having been held Monday night. The meeting will continue through Sunday, the minister announcing services each evening at 7:30 o'clock. The public is invited to attend.

Tobacco Marketing Cards Change Hands This Week

The sale and purchase of tobacco marketing cards were reported this week by the office of County Agent T. B. Brandon. Cards carrying more than 5,000 pounds of excess tobacco, have been turned into the office, and several thousand pounds have already been sold at the agreed figure of 4 cents a pound.

The office explained that a farmer did not have to wait until he marketed all his tobacco to offer any expected surplus poundage for sale. When a farmer foresees he will have an excess poundage on his card, he can sell that excess at once by carrying his card to the office of the agent.

Card transfers should be made through the office of the county agent, but farmers have the right to buy and sell from whom they please, and at any price they might determine. It is advisable to handle the transfer through the office of the agent, because no production credit will go to the farmer who has to buy excess poundage when no record is made at the office.

It was announced as a certainty that there would be sufficient cards to care for the marketing of the current crop, and those farmers who wish to sell any of their card excess should make arrangements to do so at their earliest convenience.

Average Is Higher on Mart Here This Week

County Tax Collections Showing Slight Increase

Martin County tax collections continue to reflect slight increases from day to day as the time for advertising draws near. Sheriff C. B. Roeluck said yesterday. Approximately \$35,000 of the \$175,000 levy remains uncollected, but it is believed that about half and probably more of this amount will have been paid before the list is advertised early next month.

A final warning is being issued by the collector today, urging immediate payment.

Washington Reports 1935 Tobacco Prices In Excess of Parity

Officials Say No Way to Improve Prices Under Present Terms of Act

Washington, D. C.—Since they are always glad to see their friends, it was said in AAA official circles yesterday that the delegation representing the flue-cured tobacco growers would be welcomed when they arrive Wednesday; but it is still not clear how the government is to intervene in the situation with a view to improving prices. It was said that in 1934 there was produced in the State 413,103,000 pounds of flue-cured tobacco. The average farm price for that year was 27.3 cents a pound.

It is now estimated that 523,974,000 pounds will be placed on the market during the current season, and up to the present time prices have averaged 19.7 cents a pound. It was stated that no one expected the price situation that so happily prevailed last year would be duplicated any time soon, but it is nevertheless contended that the average for the season is thus far still above parity. The parity price is now figured at 18.9, and not 19 1-2 cents, as some of the friends of the farmers had been led to believe.

The view is generally taken here that if the formula for arriving at parity is to be changed, or if market conditions are to be changed in any material respect, the agricultural adjustment act itself will have to undergo alterations at the hands of Congress.

Inmate of County Home Dies Sunday

Alfred Hodges, 58-year-old inmate of the Martin County Home, died there early Sunday morning following years of suffering caused by rheumatism. He had not been able to walk during the greater part of his stay of 10 years or more at the home, and was confined to his bed two years or more.

Funeral services were conducted yesterday afternoon by Rev. Z. T. Piephoff and burial was in the cemetery at Skewarke church.

One sister, Mrs. Maggie Stubbs, of Raleigh, and four brothers, Eli, Columbus-Hodges, of Williamston, Norwood Hodges, of Petersburg, and John Hodges, of Raleigh, survive.

Public Meeting of Cotton Farmers Here Next Friday

A public cotton meeting will be held in the courthouse in this county Friday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock, when representatives of the N. C. Cotton Growers' Association will review the cotton situation. All farmers are urged to attend.

SIZE OF TOBACCO CROP TO GOVERN PLANTINGS IN 1936

Possible That Full 35 Per Cent Reduction May Be Made, Hutson Says

With reference to prices paid for flue-cured tobacco in portions of North Carolina, the Agricultural Adjustment Administration this week made public the following statement: by J. B. Hutson, director of the tobacco division:

"In connection with the price situation for flue-cured tobacco, the question has been raised as to the probable 1936 plantings.

"The 1936 flue-cured tobacco adjustment program provides for a reduction of not exceeding 35 per cent from the bases established in the contract. Whether the reduction will be the full amount authorized, or a lesser figure, will depend upon the size of the 1935 crop and developments affecting world consumption during the next few months.

"At the time the program for 1935 was formulated, it was anticipated that the program would result in a crop of approximately 715,000,000 pounds. Some current estimates are above and some below this figure. It was contemplated that a crop of 775,000,000 pounds would bring the stocks, which were below normal following the short crop of last year, to near the normal level. With a normal stock situation, plans for 1936 would provide for the reduction of the crop to the level of consumption, which would mean a reduction of between 25 and 30 per cent from the bases established under present contracts unless world consumption should increase above present levels. If consumption should decline materially below present levels, and if the crop should turn out to be near the higher of the current estimates, the full 35 per cent reduction probably would be made."

Sales for Season Are Near Three and Half Million Pound Mark

Better Quality of Tobacco Being Marketed and Average Climbs

Tobacco prices, while still considered low, are stronger on the market this week than they were last, official records showing an increase of more than \$2 a hundred for some grades. Prices for other grades are little changed from what they were last week, when the lowest averages of the season were reported over the belt. However, farmers appeared in a better frame of mind on the market here yesterday and today, and many received more than they had really expected.

Sales yesterday totaled 170,872 pounds, bringing a total of \$31,510.07 and averaging \$18.44. Today, it was estimated 140,000 pounds were put on the floors with the average a little higher, due possibly to an improvement in the quality of tobacco rather than an upward trend in the price. Thirty-cent averages were fairly numerous, and lots of 4,000 pounds and more were bringing well over 21 cents.

So far this season, the market has sold 3,388,922 pounds for \$608,602.85, or an average of \$17.96. The sales today will carry the offerings well over the three and one-half million pound mark, and push the average above the 18-cent figure.

Some farmers are said to have turned tags during the past few days, and patronized two or three larger markets. Several of those same farmers were reported back here today and stated they found the Williamston market one of the most reliable they had visited.

Reliable estimates indicate that about 40 per cent of the crop has been sold in this section, and that conditions are very favorable for the Williamston market to establish new poundage records this season.

Negro Arrested for Greenville Robbery

Arthur Johnson, colored man, was arrested here Sunday morning for the alleged robbery of a market and bank in Greenville the night before. Arrested by county officers, Johnson was turned over to Greenville officers Sunday afternoon.

When arrested here, Johnson is said to have had a few articles on his person stolen from the bank. He was said to have been found in the market Saturday night by the owner, but ran over the man and escaped. A third business house was robbed in Greenville the same night, and it is believed that Johnson was one of the parties stealing several dresses there.

Some of the articles, said to have been stolen there, were recovered here last night, and two or three more arrests in this county are expected shortly.

Farmville-Woodward To Enlarge Their Plant Here

According to reliable information heard this week, the Farmville-Woodward Lumber Company is planning the enlargement of its plant here within the near future. A representative of the firm said yesterday that details for the enlargement had not been completed, but that new equipment would be added to the plant and that approximately 25 additional men would be given employment.

Delegation Seeks Aid of AAA To Raise Leaf Price

Tobacco Sign-Up in County 90 Per Cent Complete This Week

99 Per Cent Support for Program Predicted by Assistant Agent

The new tobacco control program sign-up was announced 90 per cent complete in the county this week by Assistant County Agent M. L. Barnes, who, at that time, predicted approximately a 99 per cent support for the control measure in the county this year. Contracts are being handled in the county courthouse, and while there is no great rush, the farmers are steadily signing. No definite date for closing the campaign has been announced, Mr. Barnes stating they were desirous of bringing the drive to a virtual close by the latter part of this week.

Very few farmers are said to have refused the contracts, and in fact there has been less opposition to the agreements since tobacco prices reached a new low last week. Some farmers who hesitated to sign when the campaign was first launched, are understood to have reconsidered and willingly signed in recent days.

Mrs. Frank Britton Dies Suddenly Near Plymouth Saturday

Native of This County Victim of Apoplexy; Final Rites Sunday

Mrs. Mary Emily Britton, wife of Frank Britton, died at her home near Plymouth in Washington County late last Saturday night following an illness of only a few hours' duration. She suffered a stroke of apoplexy at 6 o'clock Saturday evening after returning from a visit to neighbors.

Mrs. Britton was a native of this county, the daughter of the late W. G. Bailey and Mary Gurganous Bailey. She lived in this county until about two years ago, when the family moved to Washington County. She had experienced failing health on one occasion some time ago, but just prior to her last illness, she was considered in fairly good health. She was a member of the Baptist church, and Rev. Richard Lucas, of Plymouth, conducted the last rites at the home Sunday afternoon. Burial was in this county, near Everetts.

Mr. Britton survives with five children, Arthur, of Dardens; Ella Mae, of Edenton; Emily, Hubert and Gracia Britton, all of near Plymouth. She also leaves three brothers, Messrs. John Bailey, of Everetts, and Bob Bailey and Con Bailey, of Robersonville. She was 57 years old and a good woman.

Justice Clarkson To Speak In County Next Sunday

Associate Justice Herriott Clarkson of the Supreme Court of North Carolina will speak in the Church of the Advent next Sunday, September 29, at 11 a. m. and in the evening he will speak at St. Martin's Episcopal church at Hamilton.

This advance notice is given because it is believed that a large congregation will want to hear Justice Clarkson, who is a prominent Episcopal layman and active in religious work.

Gives Directions on Fruit Selection for Fair Exhibits

The necessary essentials in selecting fruit for exhibition at fairs is to see that it is free from any blemish, has the typical color for the kind; is true to size and shape for the variety, and that all specimens are uniform. Be sure that the proper number of each kind of fruit is selected. This number varies with different fairs or associations, and the catalog must be studied for the correct number. Make the exhibit as neat and as attractive as possible with contrasting colors between fruit and container. Quality fruit has been given a low score many times due to poor arrangements.

Six Person County farmers, growing corn after lespedeza, report that their acre yields will be doubled this season.

DROP FIVE BUSESSES

Five school busses were taken out of operation in this county a day or two ago at the direction of E. W. Avert, state school commission representative, who made a study of the transportation system. In four of the five cases, trucks will make two trips, a large-size truck doing the work of two at Oak City. One bus was discontinued in each of five schools, Jamesville Farm Life, Bear Grass, Robersonville and Oak City.

Very few changes were made in the routes themselves, it was learned Monday following a four day study of the system in the county.

Colored Prisoners Extend Thanks for Religious Services

Religious Program at Camp Near Here, Most Inspiring of Any in County

Ever since the opening of the local prison camp, No. 119, a number of months ago, Rev. G. T. Hill, colored minister and school teacher, assisted by other interested colored ministers, has been conducting a religious service each Sunday afternoon for these prisoners. This work from the very beginning has been under the auspices and direction of the local Presbyterian church. At a nominal expense the work has continued from month to month. The salary of the minister has been provided by interested friends.

On September 1, the following resolution of thanks was signed by 46 of the present inmates and sent to Rev. Z. T. Piephoff, pastor of the Martin County Home Mission Field of the Southern Presbyterian church: "To the Rev. Mr. Z. T. Piephoff and his mission board:

"We, the undersigned men of Prison Camp No. 119, of Williamston, N. C., wish to extend to you our sincere thanks for sending a man to us every Sunday to teach us the way of the Lord.

"Through this work we have been made to see our errors in life, and we are now determined to change our ways and become law-abiding citizens of North Carolina.

"Again, we wish to thank you and assure you that your great efforts shall yield a very bountiful harvest.

"All who have signed our names here, you can depend upon as being changed men at heart."

In commenting on the work being done among the colored prisoners of the local camp, Mr. Piephoff said that he considered this work as one of the most needed, inspiring and appreciated pieces of religious work that is being done in the county. The greatest need of the work of this time is hymn books. About 75 to 100 of these books are needed. No greater piece of mission work could be done by some interested Christian than to send Mr. Piephoff a check that these books might be purchased.

Town Tax Collections Still One-Fourth Short

Making preparations to advertise the delinquent tax list early next month, the town treasurer's office yesterday reported \$10,568.33 property taxes unpaid, or about one-fourth of the levy for 1934. In addition to that amount, the office reported \$3,056.93 paying assessments unpaid.

Collections are increasing gradually since the town authorities ordered the delinquent list advertised next month and the sale the second Monday in November.

Local Colored School Has Big Enrollment Monday

Starting the new term yesterday morning, the local colored school reported 533 children enrolled, 83 in the high school and 450 in the elementary department. The opening day enrollment broke all previous records, Principal Hayes stating that the number was only 4 greater than the enrollment was last year, however.

An increase in the enrollment is expected as the term progresses and the children are released from various jobs.

Closing of Markets Suggested as Final Resort by Growers

Committee Headed by Senator Bailey and Governor Ehringhaus

A special committee, named at a mass meeting of tobacco farmers in Raleigh last Saturday, will appear before AAA authorities in Washington City tomorrow and plead for higher tobacco prices. The closing of the markets was mentioned as a last resort to relieve the situation discussed at the mass meeting.

Governor J. C. B. Ehringhaus, Senator J. W. Bailey, Dr. Clarence Poe, 22 many of the 12 congressmen as possible, the state advisory committee, and representatives of the Eastern Carolina Warehouse Association are carrying the case of the tobacco farmers to Washington tomorrow afternoon.

The committee goes to Washington with a 10-point program of suggestions adopted by the mass meeting last Saturday. The program:

1. Immediate completion of the campaign to secure farmer signatures on control contracts for the next four years.

2. Improved acreage allotment plans, with more attention given the viewpoint of growers and the creation of a stabilization corporation to take surplus tobacco off the market, to be held until the supply shall be diminished by reduction of acreage.

3. Immediate conferences with the tobacco manufacturers in an effort to secure their cooperation in boosting prices to a fair level.

4. A definite unequivocal announcement by Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace that the tobacco acreage will be cut by a definite percentage next year, thereby offsetting the effect of the present surplus.

5. The inauguration of a fairer, more accurate system of estimating the "parity" price of tobacco and the public announcement of parity, in order that farmers might know what price level the AAA is trying to hit.

6. Adoption of some method by which contract growers can express their opinions more readily to the AAA authorities in Washington.

7. The issuing of a statement from Washington that, regardless of the year's average in all tobacco states, last week's prices were below parity.

(Secretary Wallace in a letter to Governor Ehringhaus said they were above the "parity level" for the time of the year, and there was a fear that farmers, believing Wallace considered present prices fair, would not sign again.)

8. A joint effort between the committee and the AAA to work out a solution of the problem as speedily as possible, in order that the farmers might get the most advantage out of any rise in prices.

9. The consideration of a "tobacco holiday," a short period during which tobacco markets would be closed during a whirlwind sign-up campaign.

While the committee was centering on Washington, tobacco prices were said to have improved slightly over the low average of last week. Offerings were not as great, many farmers having stopped grading for fear a holiday would be called.

A few farmers from this county attended the meeting in Raleigh Saturday and are anxiously awaiting developments in Washington tomorrow.

Second Still of Week Is Captured in Bear Grass

Making a second raid of the week in Bear Grass Township, Officers Joe Roebuck and Roy Peel found a large copper still and all plant equipment last Friday afternoon. Six barrels of beer and four gallons of liquor were found and destroyed. The plant was in operation at the time, but the colored operator jumped into a swamp and waded through water several feet deep to make good his escape.

To Begin Revival at Maple Grove Church in October

Rev. M. L. Ambrose will conduct a series of revival services in the Maple Grove Christian church, beginning the first Sunday in October. It was announced this week. The services will be held each night during one week, it is understood.