

## UNION SERVICES ARE PLANNED BY MINISTERS HERE

### Will Be Held Week Before And Week After Easter

Plans for the Union Easter services to be held this year were made at a meeting of local ministers held at the Baptist parsonage last Tuesday morning. Dates for the series of services have been definitely set for April 5 through April 19. It was originally planned to begin the services one week earlier and bring them to a close on Easter day, but it was learned that one of the ministers would be unable to be here the week prior to April 5, and it was then decided to change the time so as to embrace the week before and the week after Easter.

Local ministers will do the preaching themselves, the night services being held in the union tabernacle at the Roanoke-Dixie Warehouse. In addition to the night schedule, it is planned to hold noon-day services as well as chapel services at both the elementary and high school buildings. Definite schedules will be announced later.

The Holy Week observance has become an annual custom in Williamston, a custom that has met with much success in the past few years, large crowds attending. Heretofore the services have been held at the various churches in rotation, with all of the ministers participating, and in addition the noon-day services at the Watts Theatre have been well attended. The tabernacle was erected for the union revival at the Roanoke-Dixie Warehouse last fall, and when that was brought to a close local religious leaders decided to retain the meeting place, intact with a view to holding the union meeting this spring.

"It is hoped," a local minister said this week, "that all Christians will join hands and work together as fellow-Christians, talking, working, praying and living in perfect harmony, in order that we may all be encouraged and that our Saviour's Kingdom may be advanced."

## Distributing \$25,000 In Peanut Benefit Checks To Growers

### 180 Received; Nearly 400 More Expected Within Next Few Days

One hundred and eighty peanut benefit checks, totaling \$25,072.88, have been received in the office of the county agent for distribution among Martin farmers, but in no case will the checks be delivered to the owners until the notice has been sent direct by the office, it was explained. Nearly 400 additional checks are due in this county, and they are expected within the next few days.

The benefit checks were approved just before the AAA was invalidated and their distribution has been delayed since early January.

It was explained by the agent's office here that many farmers had not signed necessary papers where operations were carried on by landlord and tenant jointly. These papers must be executed before checks can be delivered, it was pointed out.

## Funeral Service for Willie Bowen Today

Willie Bowen, young farmer of Bear Grass Township, died at his home there early yesterday morning of pneumonia. He had been ill for about two weeks.

The son of Mrs. Millie Gurganus Bowen and the late Paul Bowen, he was born in this county 35 years ago and had farmed all his life. In early manhood he married Miss Price, of Williamston, who survives with several children.

Funeral services are being conducted at the home this afternoon at 2:30 o'clock by Rev. Z. T. Piephoff, Presbyterian minister. Burial will be in the Bowen cemetery, not far from the home.

## Seine Being Put in River At County Fishery Today

Seine fishing in the Roanoke was started today at Jamesville, after high water had delayed operations earlier in the week. No reports on the catches could be had at noon.

Hardly before the season was opened, the fishery operators are likely to discontinue operations within the next few days on account of high water.

## School Bus Conditions Need Remedying Says Grand Jury

Meeting in quarterly session this week, the Martin County grand jury in its report to the court recommended certain conditions be remedied in connection with the operation of school busses. The recommendations were made after vigorous complaints had been directed to the members of the jury, point out the crowded conditions existing and serious mechanical defects found in some of the school busses. The bad condition of the roads was said to have caused the mechanical defects but they will be remedied at once.

As for the overcrowded conditions, it is likely that a hot attack will have to be directed to the State School Commission in Raleigh before a change will be made.

The report stated that all justices of the peace in the county had filed their reports and that all fines collected by them had been paid into the county treasury.

Inspecting county properties and offices, the jurymen found them in excellent condition. A leak was found in the county home cellar to make findings during the inspection just short of perfect.

## Lawson Cets Year on Manslaughter Charge

### SPRING — TRA LA!

The calendar makers and the weather men got together to usher in good old springtime this afternoon at 1:58 o'clock, and it is quite evident that after one of the severest winters ever witnessed by many, the season will be welcomed by all. Even those who are cold weather enthusiasts are joining in to welcome the new deal in weather. For the most part, everyone can complain about the spring fever, but any old ailment is better than taking a huge coal-wood bill pill. Spring this year follows the worst winter in many years, and while the weather went to an old-timey North Pole extreme, probably it was mild compared with the extremes to which the good people carried their comments.

## Delivering Series Strong Sermons at Episcopal Church

### Rev. W. H. Milton, of Wilmington, Drawing Fair-Sized Crowds

Fair-sized crowds have been attending the services held in the Church of the Advent each night this week by the Rev. W. H. Milton, rector of St. James Episcopal church at Wilmington. Dr. Milton, considered one of the leading ministers in the Episcopal church of the state, has delivered a series of strong sermons on the subject, "The Prodigal Son," speaking on several phases of that broad topic and taking it up from a different angle each night.

At the service Wednesday night, Dr. Milton stressed the mistake the young man made in wasting his substance in riotous living and then commended his willingness to acknowledge his mistakes and determination to do better. In a graphic manner, the minister described the joy of a father and mother, when a wayward child returns to his home. The text dealt with the attitude and actions of the older brother, who complained at the love and favors shown by the father to the prodigal while the one who remained at home was not given any special attention, the latter apparently not knowing that there is more joy in heaven over one sinner that repenteth than over a thousand just men who need no repentance.

Dr. Milton's series of services will be brought to a close tonight. Through an exchange arrangement, the Rev. E. F. Moseley, rector of the Church of the Advent, has been holding similar services in Dr. Milton's Wilmington church this week.

Dr. Milton also made an interesting address at the bi-weekly meeting of the Kiwanis Club, which was held Thursday at noon. There was practically a full membership of the club in attendance.

## Greenville Negro Found Guilty on Murder Charge

Willie Tate, Greenville negro, was found guilty of first-degree murder in the Pitt County Superior Court yesterday afternoon, and is scheduled to die the 24th of next month. Tate was charged with the murder of Alexander Warren, Bethel white man, and criminally assaulted Miss Helen Phelps on a little-used road just out of Greenville the 28th of last month. Two other defendants, Otis Watson and Geo. Lee, in the case are being tried separately. Thousands gathered in Greenville for the trial, it was said.

## Ben Scott Acquitted Of Murder; Other Court Proceedings

### Criminal Docket Is Cleared Wednesday; Now Trying Civil Actions

Completing the criminal docket Wednesday morning, the Martin County Superior Court called the first of a large number of civil cases that afternoon, Judge Moore setting seven actions for consideration before closing the first of the two-weeks term today. Judge W. C. Harris, of Raleigh, will preside next week, when only civil cases will be heard. Interest centers around the Andrews and Leavister cases against Lloyd Corey, Pitt County farmer, whose truck crashed with a car near Robersonville more than a year ago, taking the lives of Marshall Andrews and John Leavister.

The featured criminal cases disposed of were those charging Joe Lawson with manslaughter and Ben Scott, local colored man, with murder in the second degree. The jury found that Lawson was responsible for the death of little Peggy Hardison and the serious injury to Mrs. C. O. Godard when his truck, driven by Johnnie Williams, crashed into them between here and Jamesville in November, 1934. Lawson, Bethel white man, was sentenced Wednesday afternoon to one year in the State prison, the court allowing the man until the third week in April to arrange certain business matters and start serving the sentence. Bond was required in the sum of \$2,000. Johnnie Williams, a second defendant in the case, accepted the 18 months to two years sentence imposed by Judge Parker last June and has since been paroled.

The case charging Ben Scott with the murder of Henry Lanier, local colored man, the middle of last month, came to an abrupt end when Solicitor Gilliam admitted that he as well as county and local officers were baffled and suggested a verdict of not guilty. Judge Moore directed that a verdict of not guilty be entered, and the case never reached the jury. Solicitor Gilliam admitted that it was impossible to establish a motive for the crime. Willie Melton, charged with having a part in the crime, was dismissed, the court not pressing the case with leave. Should any new evidence be uncovered, the case can be reopened against Melton, but as far as Scott is concerned, he is out of reach of the courts in the case.

Sentence had not been passed at noon today in the case charging Wiley Phelps with an assault with a deadly weapon.

After completing the criminal docket Wednesday morning, the court started handling civil cases, reports from the courthouse at noon today indicating a recess will be taken late this afternoon until Monday when Judge Harris will be on the bench.

## Funds Allotted for Work on Roanoke

Washington.—The Chief of Engineers for Rivers and Harbors has notified Representative Lindsay C. Warren that his request for an allotment of funds for the removal of snags in Roanoke River between Palmyra and Hamilton has been granted and that the work will be undertaken in the near future. The U. S. District Engineer of Norfolk, Va., will hold a hearing this month at Plymouth on the advisability of greater depth in the river from Weldon to its mouth.

## COUNTY AGENTS TO TALK SIGN-UP PLAN NEXT WEEK

### State-Wide Meeting To Be Held in Raleigh Monday And Tuesday

County Agent T. B. Brandon, Assistant T. B. Slade, and probably some others from this county will attend a meeting to be held in Raleigh Monday and Tuesday, when plans will be formulated for conducting the "whirlwind" sign-up campaign for voluntary tobacco control this year. The meeting in Raleigh is to be state-wide in scope.

Following the state meeting, the various counties will hold their respective meetings, at which time the entire plan will be outlined and explained in detail. The meeting for this county is scheduled for Saturday of next week, March 28, at 3 o'clock. A morning meeting the same day will be held for the county and community committeemen, when details for the county-wide set-up will be worked out and approved.

The afternoon meeting at 3 o'clock will be an open meeting and all the farmers of the county are urged and expected to participate in a cooperative movement that is expected to hold up the price of tobacco this year. It was stated yesterday by Murphy L. Barnes, assistant county agent, that any farmer is eligible to participate who raises cotton, peanuts or tobacco, and these three crops are to be discussed at the county-wide meeting.

## HONOR ROLL OF LOCAL SCHOOLS FOR PAST MONTH

### Names of 103 Pupils Are Reported on List by Principal Hix

The names of 103 pupils appear on the local school honor roll for the fourth month, Principal D. N. Hix announced a few days ago. The names are as follows, by grades:

- Elementary**
- Grade 1-A: Hugh Horton, Annie Virginia Chesson, Louise Griffin, Louise Hines, Dorothy Leggett, Elizabeth Manning, Catherine Moseley, Elizabeth Parker, Elizabeth Taylor.
- Grade 1-B: Frank Bennett, Roddy Everett, Bert Moore, George Moore, Therman Raynor, Frances Griffin, Gertrude McLawhorn.
- Grade 2-A: John Daniel, Jesse Gurganus, Wilber Jackson, Millie Coltrain, Sylvia Green, Frances Griffin, Irene Peel, Dora Twiddy.
- 2-B: Joseph Coltrain, James Hardison, Ida Grey Cherry, Marjorie Martin, Molly Peaks, Gloria Robertson.
- Grade 3-A: Isabelle Anderson, Frances Booth, Mamie C. Holliday, Alberta Knox, Anne Meador, Betsy Manning, Angela McLawhorn, Violet Phelps, Betty Davis Rogers, Alberta Swain, Helen Weaver, Joseph Wynne, Frederick Wheeler, John Whitley, David Roberson, Parker Peel.
- Grade 3-B: Clarence Pate, Henry Mizelle, Ruben Williams, Estelle Corey, Mildred Lassiter, Susie Revels.
- Grade 4-A: Jasper Browder, Conrad Getsinger, Richard Margolis, Maurice Moore, Bill Peele, Luther Peele, Jerry Raynor, J. D. Woolard, Betsy Anderson, Virginia Hines, Lenora Melson, Nancy Mercer, Della Jane Mobley, Susan Moore, Flossie Peaks, Mary Trulsh Page.
- Grade 4-B: Elsie Coltrain, Henry Everette, Elmer Mizelle, Louise Rogerson, Frances Thomas, Elton Wallace.
- Grade 5-A: Bill Griffin, Theron Gurganus, Shirley Booth, Evelyn Griffin, Mary O'Neal Pope, Madelyn Taylor, Mary Warren.
- Grade 5-B: Daisy Roberson, Emma Belle Ward.
- 6-A: Bill Bowen, Billy Mercer, Dolly Godard, Mary Charles Godwin, Bina Jackson, Elizabeth Parker, Daisy Peaks, Sybil Roberson.
- Grade 6-B: John Coltrain.
- Grade 7-A: Catherine Manning, Marjorie Grey Dunn, Maud Taylor.
- Grade 7-B: Sadie Mae Gurganus.
- High School**
- Grade 8: Virgil Ward, Sallie Grey Gurkin, Reid White.
- Grade 9: Grace Barnhill.
- Grade 11: Edna Ballard, Marie Griffin, Ben Manning.

## Play To Be Given at Jamesville March 27

A home talent play, "Peggy Ann," will be given at the Jamesville school auditorium Friday evening of next week, March 27, at 7:30 p. m., it was announced by Principal James Uzzle this week. The proceeds will be used for the benefit of the school.

## River Is Headed for Another Rampage; Fourth This Year

For the fourth time this year, the Roanoke River is expected to reach a high mark here, a telegram received yesterday by Hugh Spruill, of the local weather station, from Lee Denson, chief of the weather bureau at Raleigh, stating that a stage of 44 feet is expected at Weldon today or tomorrow. The telegram stated that it was impossible to make any accurate predictions yet as to how high the water would go here, but it is not expected to reach the record level of 14.7 feet made in the second January freshet.

Mr. Spruill said yesterday that the flood crest would hardly be reached here until a week after it is recorded in Weldon. He expects the river to go at least two feet over the banks, based on the reported flood level anticipated at Weldon, this estimate is subject to any change in weather conditions over the Roanoke basin within the next few days. The Roanoke reached flood stage twice in January and once last month. Further information is expected by the weather station here daily for the next few days.

## Voluntary Sign-Up for Leaf Control Planned

### Believe Situation Is To Be Taken Care of Fairly Well for 1936

### Whirlwind Campaign Is To Be Staged; Suggested by Agriculture Leaders

An attempt now underway to effect a voluntary sign-up among the growers in several states bring a renewed hope to tobacco sections, the latest developments indicating that the situation will be fairly well if not perfectly handled this year. The latest development, based on voluntary but urged action, relieves the strong tension that has surrounded the tobacco control question for several weeks. And no governor has to call a special session, a fact that apparently brings great relief to some politicians.

The campaign for a voluntary sign-up was mapped by agricultural leaders in Raleigh this week, with Governor Ehringhaus presiding over the meeting.

While farm leaders in their meeting at Raleigh were pressing for a voluntary control program, North Carolina representatives at Washington were appealing to Secretary Wallace for liberal allowances to tobacco farmers under the soil conservation program.

Machinery for an intensive drive to secure the signatures of at least 80 per cent of the growers, or of growers owning 80 per cent of the acreage on which the 1935 tobacco crop was produced was set in motion after the farm leaders unanimously had endorsed provisions of the proposed contract.

Under the contract, the flue-cured crop this season would be limited to 70 per cent of the base acreage under the old AAA.

Governor Ehringhaus was authorized by the central steering committee to communicate with Governor George Peery, of Virginia, and Governor Olin D. Johnston, of South Carolina, to urge immediate conferences looking to similar campaigns in those states.

Dean I. O. Schaub, of the N. C. State College Extension Service, told the farm leaders a sign-up campaign has started in Georgia as the outgrowth of meetings held last week, and said he had assurances the program would be backed there.

Printing of 200,000 contracts will be started at once, and they will be placed in the hands of county farm agents for distribution shortly. Schaub told the committee there were around 100,000 growers who would be prospective signers. The money to finance printing, distribution and other expenses of the campaign would be underwritten privately, committee members said. State and Federal funds are not available.

The action starting the immediate drive culminated a four-hour meeting, and the appellation "whirlwind" was appended to the campaign by the central committee.

The committee stressed the idea the contract signing would be supplementary to, and not in conflict with, the new Federal soil conservation program and with the idea of proposed compacts between the states.

## Few Farmers Apply for Seed and Feed Loans

Very few farmers in this county have applied for seed and feed loans so far, according to Mr. J. D. Wordsworth, field representative. Less than two dozen applications had been filed up to this morning, and the amounts asked were fairly small it was stated. Yancey County farmers purchased cooperatively 5,000 pounds of lespedeza seed for planting this spring.

## GIVE DETAILS ON NEW FARM PLAN FOR THIS SEASON

### Benefit Payment Will Not Be Less Than Five Cents A Pound on Tobacco

Soil conservation grants of 15 or 20 million dollars probably will be paid North Carolina farmers this year under the new farm program. The exact amount, said Dean I. O. Schaub, of State College, will depend largely upon the number of farmers entering the program and the amount of land on which grants are to be paid.

Although no contracts will be signed, as under the old AAA, farmers will be paid for devoting part of their land to soil-building or soil-conserving crops, he explained. The three major objectives of the soil conservation and domestic allotment act are:

Conservation of the soil through wise use of the land. This will also check the overproduction of soil-depleting cash crops.

Re-establishment and maintenance of farm income at a "fair level."

Protection of consumers by assuring adequate supplies of food, feed and other farm commodities now and in the future.

With these objectives, said the dean, the new program will have a broader significance than the old AAA, although it may not limit cash crops as effectively as was done before.

Farmers who qualify for payments this year will be required to have an acreage of soil-conserving crops, or land devoted to some other conservation practice, equal to at least 20 percent of the acres in soil-depleting crops.

And he must not have an acreage of depleting crops this year greater than his base acreage for these crops.

The bases and normal average yields for cotton, tobacco, and peanuts will be the same as established for 1936 under the old AAA.

Bases for other depleting crops will be worked out on a fair and equitable basis by the Secretary of Agriculture, Dean Schaub said.

Cotton, tobacco, corn, wheat, peanuts, truck and the like are classified as soil-depleting crops. Soil-conserving crops include forest trees, legumes, hays and pasture grasses.

Part of the soil conservation grant to each farm will be a moderate soil-maintenance payment, probably 75 cents an acre, on land planted to soil-building or conserving crops.

Fields already in these crops, and on which the crops are maintained in 1936, will qualify for these payments as well as fields where these crops are planted this year for the first time in several years.

The other part of the grant will be a diversion payment on land shifted from depleting crops to soil-building or conserving crops.

A diversion payment of six cents a pound on the average production of land thus taken out of cotton has been recommended. The recommended tobacco payment is at least five cents a pound, but in no event less than the rate per pound on cotton.

For peanuts, the recommended rate is 1 1/4 cents a pound, but in no case less than 25 percent of the rate for cotton.

Diversion payments on other soil-depleting crops will be fixed later, Dean Schaub said.

The maximum amount of cotton land on which diversion payments will be made for shifting to soil-building of conserving crops is 40 percent of the base acreage.

The maximum diversion on which tobacco payments will be made is 30 percent of the base, and the maximum for peanuts is 20 percent of the base, the dean pointed out.

No diversion payment will be made on food and feed crops if the farmer, in diverting land in these crops to soil improvement, reduces his food and feed production below the amount needed on the farm.

## Training School for Young Baptists Here Next Week

A training school for the junior and senior departments of the B. Y. P. U. will be held in the local Baptist church all next week. The meetings will begin Monday night at 7 o'clock and continue throughout the week. The teaching of the classes will be under the supervision of Mesdames D. E. Darden and Murphy Barnes. The deacons of the church will also have a training class and Rev. Mr. Smith will attend to the teaching end of the program.

## CLAY CASE

Directed to find a verdict of guilty in the case charging Dr. Geo. R. Clay, Washington osteopath, with practicing medicine without license, the jury started its deliberations at 1 o'clock this afternoon. Final disposition of the case was still pending an hour later.

The Washington man is also facing trial on a charge of murder as a result of the death of Mrs. Kathleen Lilley in his sanitarium last January, but prosecution on that charge awaits grand jury action.

The State rested its case yesterday, and the doctor took the stand, the court considering a directed verdict at that time. However, the trial was continued and completed today.

## Trustees of Farm Bureau To Meet Here Tomorrow

### To Consider Plans in Connection With Drive for Membership

Township trustees of the recently organized Martin County Farm Bureau will hold a meeting at the courthouse here tomorrow afternoon at 3 o'clock to consider means of further intensifying the membership campaign now being waged in the county. There are two trustees from each township.

M. L. Barnes, secretary-treasurer of the county bureau, said yesterday that the organization now had a total of 109 paid-up members, with a large number expected to be added within the next week, as the county and office forces are expending every effort to reach the county's hoped-for quota of 1,000 membership. The organization at present seems to be strongest in the Robersonville section, with Jamesville second and the Oak City community third. Williamston Township at present apparently is bringing up the tail-end of the procession.

## Many Lives Lost as Flood Waters Cover Parts Twelve States

### Property Loss Runs Well Into Millions; Large Number Homeless

More than 100 lives have been lost and damage running into the millions of dollars has been caused by floods sweeping over twelve states this week, and in some centers the surging waters had not reached their crest today.

Pittsburgh, with 25,000 families driven from their homes, reported more than 10 feet of water in its main business district. The city is in darkness and communications systems have been thrown out of order. Thousands were trapped in down-town office buildings.

Washington City's Arlington and Potomac Park drives and the cherry trees were well under water, and only one highway south was reported open to traffic yesterday.

All train schedules out of New York to the north and west were cancelled yesterday by the Pennsylvania system, and air travel in a number of centers was stopped when the landing fields became flooded.

In nearly every one of the twelve states the floods were described as the worst in history.