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ROANOKE CREST MAY BE REACHED BY WEDNESDAY

Stage of 14.2 Feet Expected Here; Rose Over Foot Last Night

Rising more than a foot last night the Roanoke River, now on its fourth rampage this year, is expected to reach a crest of 14.2 feet at this point late tomorrow or early Thursday, Hugh Spring reported from the local weather station this morning. According to the report, the stream will rise about 11 or 12 more inches before going on a stand.

Reports received from Weldon this morning stated the river, had receded there and the level was about normal. The stream was falling rapidly at Scotland Neck, and at Hamilton it is expected to reach a crest this afternoon.

The waters are pouring into the sound rapidly, and the current is so strong at this point that all fishermen have been forced off the stream. All traffic has been cancelled on the river at this point by regular shippers, it is understood, and it will be some time next week before the stream is used by those carriers. One or two fishermen braved the stream with their dip nets, but they soon pulled to the banks below the Standard Fertilizer Company plant, finding it impossible to successfully battle the swift current. Considerable damage is expected to fishing machines, the owners stating it is impossible to reach them in their small boats.

\$450 Salary Limit Is Voted by Directors Of Coastal League

Meeting Held in Tarboro Friday Night; To Meet Here Next Month

Meeting in Tarboro last Friday night, officials of the various clubs in the Coastal Plain Baseball League agreed to limit players' salaries, including that of manager, to \$450 weekly this coming season. This figure does not include board and operating expenses, it is understood.

All the clubs—Goldsboro, New Bern, Snow-Hill, Kinston, Ayden, Greenville, Tarboro and Williamston—in the league last year are included in the circuit again. Several applications to enter the league were entered by other towns, including Wilmington, but all berths were taken and there will be no change in the line-up.

The club officials frowned upon a proposal to open the league to professional players, limiting the player selections to the various colleges, for the most part. Manager Walker of the local club is lining up his players for the coming season, early reports being considered very encouraging by club officials.

A meeting of the league officials will be held here about the middle of next month, when final plans for the season will be formulated.

Aged Citizen of Bear Grass Dies

Miss Courtney Bowen, one of Bear Grass Township's oldest citizens, died at the home of her nephew, Mr. Ben Bowen, there early Monday morning from a stroke of apoplexy. Miss Bowen, highly respected in her community, was 82 years old. She was the last member of a large family, leaving a number of nephews and nieces as her only near relatives.

Funeral services are being conducted this afternoon by Elder B. S. Cowin. Burial will follow in the Bowen cemetery, near her late home.

Cotton Report Shows Ginnings Below 1934

Cotton production in this county last year was about one-fourth less than it was in 1934, reports described as virtually complete and just released by the Federal Government show. In 1934 there were 4,418 bales of cotton produced in this county as compared with 3,329 bales produced last year.

Regular Meeting of Local Masonic Lodge Tonight

There will be a regular meeting of Skewarke Lodge, No. 90, A. F. and A. M., at the lodge hall at 7:30 tonight. There will be work in the first degree. All members and visiting Masons are urged to attend.

Suggestion Is Made That Car Peanuts Be Sent Flood Victims

With a surplus on their hands and a control program being considered, the suggestion has been made that Martin farmers donate a carload of farmer's stock peanuts for distribution among the flood victims. The goobers could be turned over to the Red Cross for proper distribution, it was explained.

Farmer Bob Everett, of Palmyra, stated yesterday that he would start the movement by donating five bags of peanuts, and it is believed that 200 bags or more would be gladly

given should a system for collection be planned.

Harry Biggs, chairman of the county chapter of the Red Cross, had not been asked to consider the proposition, but it is believed that the undertaking could be handled if the farmers got behind the movement.

It was explained that considerable advertising would be given the peanuts in the long run, and the cost to the individual farmer would be negligible.

Clay Case Mistrial Due To Jury Disagreement

TAX PAYMENTS

With approximately \$40,000 being distributed to them in peanut benefit payments, Martin County farmers are rapidly settling their 1935 taxes before the three percent penalty goes into effect on Thursday of next week, according to Sheriff C. B. Roebuck, the man handling the big collection job.

Collections are said to be considerably ahead of those up to the same time last year, and with \$40,000 now available to many property owners, it is believed and expected that the unpaid amount on 1935 taxes will be greatly reduced during the next few days.

Nearly 200 peanut benefit checks are in the process of distribution and others are expected the latter part of this or early next week, it is understood.

NEW FARM PLANS TO BE EXPLAINED AT COUNTY MEET

Extension Workers To Go Into Every County of North Carolina

The new farm program will be explained to North Carolina farmers in a series of mass meetings that will cover the entire State.

The meetings will be conducted by seven teams from the State College agricultural extension service which have been making an exhaustive study of the program.

Starting in the coastal counties on March 26, the teams will swing across the State until they finish with the mountain counties on April 18, said Dean I. O. Schaub, director of the extension service. Meetings will be held in Martin County on Saturday, March 28 and in Plymouth on Friday, March 27.

In most counties, he said, the farmers will gather in the courthouses on the day designated. Where the courthouses will not be available, the county agents will select other suitable meeting places. In arranging for the meeting, the farm agents have been instructed to invite vocational teachers, home agents, other agricultural leaders, and all farmers.

The new program is more adapted to all the farms in North Carolina, the dean pointed out, than was the old AAA. Therefore it is urgent that every farmer attend these meetings.

In the tobacco counties, he continued, the speakers will also stress the importance of united action by the growers to control production under the voluntary contracts and the State compact plan if such a plan is adopted.

County and community committees will play a prominent role in administering the new program, the dean pointed out. County agents have been asked to appoint temporary committees to serve until the growers can elect permanent committees.

The committeemen will meet with the county agents in the mornings before each mass meeting, it was said.

Large Crowds Attending Revival at Local Church

The series of revival services starting in the local Pentecostal Holiness church a week ago Sunday are attracting large crowds nightly. Rev. Mr. Ward, of Newport News, is conducting the services assisted by the pastor, Rev. J. G. Crocker, of Pine Level.

Services are held each evening at 7:30 o'clock and the public is invited to attend.

Judge Lectures Jury Members for Failing To Find Clay Guilty

Eight for Acquittal, Three For Conviction and One Not Voting

The case charging George R. Clay, Washington osteopath, with practicing medicine and surgery without license, came to a startling end in the Beaufort County Superior Court late Friday afternoon when the jury locked 8 for acquittal, 3 for conviction, and 1 failing to advance his stand.

Taking the case about 1 o'clock that afternoon after Judge Vernon Cowper had plainly instructed them to find a verdict of guilty if they believed the testimony of the defendant himself or acquit the defendant if they did not believe his testimony, the jury deliberated or wrangled until late afternoon, when Judge Cowper dismissed them.

The mistrial automatically postponed trial in the case until next September, the state announcing it would ask the removal of the case into another county for trial.

Lasting the greater part of three days, the case reached a climax when Judge Cowper delivered a stinging lecture, declaring to the jurors that they had utterly failed to realize their duty under their oaths and that apparently the case marked a "breakdown of law enforcement," temporarily, at least, in Beaufort County.

With Judge Cowper ruling that admissions of Dr. Clay constituted a plain violation of the law, the jury had only to decide whether or not they believed the osteopath's testimony. No other question was involved, as far as the jury was concerned.

Dr. Clay admitted frankly on direct examination Thursday that he had administered ether, sodium amylal, hydrochloric acid, glucose and procaine to patients at his Pamlico osteopathic sanitarium here. The last three medicines were injected with hypodermic needles.

In his ruling Judge Cowper held that these were drugs as defined by the 1935 statute relating to pure food and drugs.

Dr. Clay also said that he had performed numerous operations for tonsillitis, tumors, ruptures and other such conditions. On motion of the state the warrant against him was amended to charge the practice of surgery without a license, as well as practice of medicine.

In view of these admissions, Judge Cowper told the jury they should return a verdict of guilty, if willing to accept them at face value.

"A situation like this always saddens me," the judge told the jury in announcing its discharge. "You should have understood that you were to take the law from the court. You failed to realize that this was a part of your oath. I'm not impugning your motives, I believe you simply think that the law should not be as it is written."

"This case was of vital importance to the entire state. I was especially anxious that it go up to your higher court for a final determination of the issues."

The charges against the osteopath, growing directly out of the sudden death of Mrs. Kathleen Lilley in the Pamlico Sanitarium last January, caused Martin County people to take considerable interest in the case, and large numbers from this section, as well as many from other counties crowded into the Beaufort courthouse during the three-day trial.

It is possible that the osteopath will face trial on two charges—practicing medicine and surgery without license, and murder—next September or October.

SUPERIOR COURT IS WORKING ON CIVIL CALENDAR

Leavister-Andrews Case Is Continued Account of Counsel's Absence

Entering its second week yesterday, the Martin County Superior Court continued its work on the civil docket, but reports indicated the tribunal was making little progress. The Leavister-Andrews cases against Lloyd Corey were continued for Attorney Douglass, Leavister counsel, on account of a death in his family. The continuation of these cases brought a recess in the court early yesterday morning after a lone divorce case had been handled. The postponement of the Leavister-Andrews cases virtually reduced public interest in the docket to a minimum.

The criminal docket was finally completed last Friday afternoon, when Judge Moore suspended sentence upon payment of cost in the case charging Wiley Phelps with an assault with a deadly weapon. Solicitor Gilliam had previously accepted a plea of guilty to simple assault.

Two divorces have been granted by the court so far. Pleading two-year separation, J. P. Bland was granted a divorce against Bessie Bland. The same grounds were used by Rome Little to procure a divorce against Mary Little.

The lengthy case of Joe Everett, Robersonville man, against J. H. James and others was completed late Friday afternoon when the jury awarded the plaintiff a \$500 judgment.

The cases of A. D. Griffin, jr., against Mary Griffin and Luther Taylor against Ed Burns were nonsuited. The plaintiff in the first case wanted a mortgage set aside. In the second case, Taylor asked \$500 actual and \$1,000 punitive damages because Burns threw a firecracker against or in the car of the plaintiff.

Fund Grows for Flood Sufferers

The appeal for donations to alleviate human suffering in flood sections of the country is meeting with a ready response locally, Harry A. Biggs, chairman of the Martin County Chapter of the Red Cross, said today. More than \$25 has already been contributed by Williamston people and the appeal is hardly two days old.

Do nations are not being personally solicited, Mr. Biggs explaining that any amount anyone desiring to give would be immediately forwarded to national headquarters of the American Red Cross.

Nearly 200 lives have been lost and property losses run into the hundreds of millions of dollars, and the need for aid is described as great.

Murphy Barnes To Speak At Junior Meet Thursday

Murphy L. Barnes, assistant county agent, will explain the agricultural situation at the regular meeting of the local council, Junior Order of United American Mechanics, here Thursday evening of this week at 7:30 o'clock, it was announced today.

Last Thursday evening, the members of the council enjoyed an oyster roast arranged by Member John A. Ward.

Only One Driver Caught Without License Sunday

In an extensive check of drivers' licenses in this section, Patrolman Billie Hunt Sunday found the first car operator without the required permit. Walter Rogers, Martin colored man, was stopped on the Roanoke River fill and admitted he had failed to apply for a license. He was booked for trial in the Bertie court tomorrow.

NO FISHING YET

Seine fishing at Jamesville continues at a standstill, Mr. C. C. Fleming, operator, explaining this morning that high waters were flooding the battery and that operations could hardly get underway before the latter part of next week.

Arrangements were completed last week to make a test of the long net, but a sudden wind started blowing and halted the operations.

Mr. Fleming said today that he was ready to start the fishery operations just as soon as the water went off the battery.

Agricultural Storage and Market Facility Warehouse Here May Be Erected by Federal WPA Agency

President Roosevelt Issues Appeal for Flood Sufferers

Following is the text of President Roosevelt's appeal in behalf of flood sufferers:

"To the People of the United States: "Flood waters raging throughout eleven states have driven 200,000 people from their homes, with every indication that this number may be materially increased within the next twenty-four hours. In this grave emergency, the homeless are turning to our great national relief agency, the American Red Cross, for food, clothing, shelter and medical care.

"To enable the Red Cross to meet this immediate obligation and to continue to carry the burden of caring for these unfortunate men, women and children until their homes are restored and they can return to normal living conditions, it is necessary that a minimum relief fund of three million dollars be raised as promptly as possible.

"As President of the United States and as President of the American Red Cross, I am, therefore, urging our people to contribute promptly and most generously so that sufficient funds may be available for the relief of these thousands of your homeless fellow citizens. I am confident that in the face of this great need your response will be as immediate and as generous as has always been the case when the Red Cross has acted as your agent in the relief of human suffering.

"FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT."

Contributions may be forwarded to Harry A. Biggs, Chairman of the Martin County Chapter of the American Red Cross, Williamston, N. C., and such contributions will be forwarded promptly to Washington, D. C.

Project Is Approved By County Board at Meet Here Monday

Action Taken Preliminary And Building Not Yet Definitely Assured

The proposed construction of an agricultural storage and market facility warehouse here by the Works Progress Administration was considered at a special meeting of the Martin County commissioners here yesterday, when Joe Hanson, representing the government, appeared before the body and explained the details. The commissioners approved the proposed project, agreeing to provide a site. It was quite evident that the commissioners will not participate in the project cost other than supplying the site.

According to the plans the building will be 100 by 150 feet and of fire-proof construction. It is estimated the cost will be around \$18,000.

The action taken at the Monday meeting is only of a preliminary nature and does not mean that the Federal authorities will approve the proposed project.

The construction of an agricultural office building for this county has been approved, but it could not be learned just when work on the project will get underway. At a recent meeting, the Martin commissioners agreed to meet the cost of the skilled labor which will amount to about 30 per cent of the total expense. No such agreement was considered for the proposed construction of the WPA market facility farmers' warehouse.

It is understood the proposed new building would house the Farmers' Cooperative Exchange, curb market and provide storage for farm crops with the possibility that it's uses could be expanded in the future. Attended by Commissioners R. L. Perry, Joshua L. Coltraine, V. G. Taylor and John E. Pope, chairman, the meeting yesterday discussed no other business.

Farmers Are Hitting High Spots Only in Plowing Activities

Land Still Too Wet in Most Places; Roads Greatly Improved

Although the land is mighty wet, numbers of farmers in this county started running their plows yesterday. The plowing activities were confined to the high spots for the most part, however.

Reports given by a number of farmers this week indicated the tobacco transplanting activities could go forward in this section about the usual time, provided no handicaps are experienced between now and the early part of May. Apparently there are plenty of plants, some of them having the size larger than a dime.

With the roads greatly improved, fertilizer materials are moving in fairly large quantities now, and if the weather is not too bad all farming activities will be underway on a large scale within the next 10 or 12 days.

Several Plan To Attend Hearing in Plymouth 25th

A hearing on the proposal to increase the depth of the Roanoke from 5 to 10 feet from Hamilton to Weldon will be held in Plymouth tomorrow afternoon at 1 o'clock. Representatives of the government and army engineers will be present to hear the proposals, and several people from here and others in the towns located on and near the river are planning to attend. The meeting is open to all interested persons.

Play To Be Given at Oak City School Friday Night

The senior class of the Oak City High School will present "Aaron Slick From Punkin Creek," a rural comedy in three acts, in the school auditorium there Friday evening of this week at 7:30 o'clock. The play shows an old farmer getting ahead of the city slickers and offers plenty of fun.

Farm Bureau Officials Plan Continuing Drive

Representatives of Seven Townships At Meet Saturday

Many Farmers Misunderstand Objectives of Organization

Plans for continuing the Martin County Farm Bureau membership campaign were discussed by the township directors here last Saturday afternoon at a meeting attended by representatives from seven of the ten districts in the county. A complete membership report up to that time carried the names of 137 farmers, Robersonville leading the list with the largest number of farmers and closely followed by the Cross Roads and Williamston townships.

One of the main discussions had to do with the misconception many farmers had of the bureau and its work. Probably Director C. Abram Roberson advanced the clearest conception of the bureau when he said that it was an organization perfected to protect and promote the general welfare of the farmer. He explained that the organization was created to aid agriculture just as associations of bankers, merchants, and doctors are organized to protect and promote their interests.

The membership drive in this county has been hindered because some farmers thought they were joining something akin to the old co-op association, it was pointed out. Others were of the opinion that by joining they were agreeing to curtail acreage and production of crops. The farm bureau does none of this, but as Mr. Roberson points out, it promotes and protects the general welfare of its members. It gathers the voices of the many and concentrates them into one that equal rights may be demanded of legislators, congress, and the middlemen. In short, the farm bureau, supported by a large and responsible membership, can accomplish things that no individual acting alone could even hope to bring about.

At the meeting last Saturday preliminary plans were discussed to form township units that certain accomplishments might be effected to the advantage of the members. For an example, the members could launch a movement among themselves to better their cottonseed by joining together and having the ginners make special arrangements to gin their cotton. Other movements are possible; in fact, there are many benefits possible through and by membership in the bureau.

To say the least, the membership drive, costing the individual farmer only \$2, has proved a bit disappointing in this county, but the campaign is not over, and there is still hope for a thousand joiners. Other counties are making progress, and Martin is not expected to fall down

SELLING SCRAP

With control bars down, and regardless of the consequences, some farmers in near-by counties are said to be marketing scrap tobacco in fair-sized quantities. Several loads of the inferior quality tobacco have passed through here recently en route to an unannounced market.

The movement of the tobacco brought condemnation from a few farmers who happened to be on the local streets and saw the tobacco, but their personal protests were considered far from the point of positive action against the practice.

W. B. RODMAN, JR., OF WASHINGTON, IN SENATE RACE

Three-Cornered Contest for Two Places Assured; No Other Developments

The political situation in this section took on added interest over the week-end when Attorney William B. Rodman, jr., of Washington, announced his candidacy for the state senate from this district, subject to the June democratic primary. Mr. Rodman's announcement brings three candidates into the field for the two positions, Messrs. R. L. Colburn, of Williamston, and T. B. Attmore, of Washington, have previously announced their candidacies.

Mr. Rodman graduated from the University of North Carolina in 1910, studied law there and obtained his license to practice in 1911. He has since that time practiced in Washington and generally throughout this district as a member of the law firm of MacLean and Rodman. During the World War he served in the U. S. Navy with the rank of lieutenant and prior to the war served as commanding officer of the Washington division of the Naval Militia. He has served as mayor of Washington and as president of the Washington Rotary Club.

So far the contest for the state senate is the first to develop in this county or district. However, added interest is expected ere long, as the primary is hardly more than two months off. Attorney Carl Bailey, Senator from this district, has not made public his intentions in connection with entering the race to succeed himself in that position. With the exception of Martin's one and Beaufort's two, no other counties have advanced candidates for the state senate.