

## SOIL PROGRAM IS MADE FLEXIBLE TO REACH MORE

### Must Shift Soil Depleting Crops Into Soil Conserving Crops

The soil-improvement program has been made more flexible so that a greater number of farmers will be able to qualify for payments.

Originally, the program specified that a farmer must have an acreage of soil-conserving crops equal to at least 20 per cent of his base acreage of cotton, tobacco or peanuts, and at least 15 per cent of his base acreage of other soil-depleting crops.

Under a new ruling, said Dean I. O. Schaub, of State College, growers who fail to meet the original minimum requirements can still qualify for partial payments.

For each acre by which they fail to meet the minimum requirements, a deduction will be made in their payment equal to one and a half times the rate of the soil-conserving payment on crops other than cotton, tobacco, and peanuts.

In North Carolina, the soil-conserving payment, for taking land out of soil-depleting crops and putting it into soil-conserving crops, will probably be around \$10 an acre, except in the case of cotton, tobacco and peanuts.

On cotton and tobacco the rate is 5 cents a pound on the average production of the land taken out of these crops, and on peanuts the rate is 1-4 cents a pound.

Another ruling provides that acreage planted to winter cover crops and green manure crops after it has been in vegetable crops will be classified as soil-conserving if it is turned under as green manure between January 1 and October 1, 1936.

However, the cover and manure crops must have been growing at least two months before being turned under.

The dean also pointed out that farmers who already have large acreages of soil-conserving crops, but comparatively small acreages of soil-depleting crops, may obtain soil-building payments without decreasing the amount of their cash crops.

If they do not reduce their depleting crops, he explained, they will not receive a soil-conserving payment, for they will not have shifted any land from depleting to conserving crops.

But they will be entitled to soil-building payments for the soil-conserving crops they grow.

The dean explained that soil-building payments are made for growing soil-conserving crops, while soil-conserving payments are made for taking land out of depleting crops and putting it in soil-conserving crops.

The AAA has eliminated the term soil-building crops. Crops formerly under this classification are now included with the soil-conserving crops.

The division of payments between landlord and tenant has been modified in this region so that 16 2-3 per cent of the payment will go to the person furnishing the land, 16 2-3 per cent to the person furnishing the work stock and tools, with 66 2-3 per cent being divided in the same proportion that the crop is divided between them.

The regulations previously established provided for a division of the payments between landlord and tenant, according to the way the crop was divided between them, with no allowance made for the person furnishing the land, tools, or work stock.

## Soil Program Off To Splendid Start Here

The soil conservation sign-up campaign was reported to have gotten off to a very successful start in nearly every one of the nine districts in this county yesterday. Two committees in the courthouse were busy all day yesterday receiving applications, and today a third man was drafted into service to aid in the work. More than 40 farmers in this immediate district have already signed, and the outlook is not bright for a much larger participation in the program than was first expected.

Only one week has been allotted to push the campaign over, and after Saturday it is likely that the work will be handled in the courthouse.

Reports from other counties are considered very encouraging. Wilson reporting last week a sign-up of more than 70 per cent of its farmers.

## Jail of County Now Ranks With North Carolina's Best

The Martin County jail, just recently rated along with nearly every other jail in the state as unfit to keep federal prisoners, is now recognized as one of the best in the 100 counties and acceptable to inspectors. No official inspection by federal authorities has been made since the jail was painted, but Deputy Marshall Buck, who was here last Saturday, explained that the jail

was one of the best in this district and he felt sure it would be given a high rating by the inspectors. With several talented painters in jail from time to time, the county authorities made arrangements to have the work done. However, before the project was completed, the painters completed their time and have managed to stay out since then. Private labor is finishing the work.

## Rural Electrification Projects Are Rushed

### SEINE FISHING

Seine fishing finally got underway yesterday morning at Jamesville after weeks of delay caused by flood waters. Small catches were reported during most of the day, Mr. C. C. Fleming, the operator, explaining that several hours were required for the seine to get wet enough to sink to the bottom. Larger catches were reported this morning, but no record hauls were made. A sail boat, going out the river this morning, grounded in the fishing ground and delayed activities several hours, but the boat was floated again about 10:30 and fishing was resumed.

While the season ordinarily closes the 10th of May, it is almost certain that activities at the fishery will continue toward the latter part of next month, or just as long as the operations prove successful.

## White Man Arrested For Robbing Store Near Here Monday

### Reuben Rogers Trapped In Attempt To Burglarize Nurney's Rural Store

Reuben Rogers, 30-year-old white man, was arrested and placed in the county jail yesterday morning for the alleged robbery of Nurney's store on the Jamesville road a short while before. Caught in the act by the owners, Rogers was held until officers could be called, and he was turned over to Deputy J. H. Roebuck.

During the past two weeks, Mr. Nurney and Mr. Parker, operators of the store, had missed money from the cash drawer while they were eating breakfast in the Nurney home, a few yards away. Officers guarded the store several mornings during the breakfast hour, but the thief did not appear on those mornings. Yesterday morning, the operators became suspicious when they saw Rogers hanging around, and a trap was planned. While the operators were in the store before breakfast, Rogers entered and prowled around and slipped loose the catch to a window blind and went out when Messrs. Parker and Nurney locked the store while they were to have breakfast.

The two men were away from the store only a few minutes when Rogers was said to have entered the window. Closing in on him, they found Rogers in the store and the cash missing from the drawer. Deputy Roebuck found \$1.55 in small change in one of the man's boots, and several dollars in currency under the counter where Rogers apparently had thrown it when he learned some one was on his trail. Bond in the sum of \$500 has been named, but last reports from the sheriff's office stated Rogers continued in jail.

## Band Participated In State Contest

While Williamston's High School Band is said to have performed well it did not gain much recognition in the state music contest at Greensboro last week. The youthful musicians trailed Spruce Pine, Currituck and Wendell before honors came their way. The competition was described as being very keen, and some of the local boys were a bit disappointed with the decision of the judges. No complaints were heard about the judging, however, and some of the boys returned home with the determination to practice more and do better next time.

## Local Team Plays Two Games Here This Week

The local baseball team will play two games this week, meeting Greenville here tomorrow afternoon and Wilson here Friday.

## Work To Get Under Way in Two or More Sections in Few Days

### Contracts for Extension In Jamesville Township Are Completed

Construction on Martin County's first rural electric line under the rural electrification program is scheduled to get underway within the next few days. In the meantime plans for the electrification of other rural sections in the county, including the town of Bear Grass, are going forward rapidly.

Contracts were completed last Saturday for a rural electric line extension from Jamesville to Cedar Branch church, a distance of 1.7 miles. Easements are being obtained this week from property owners along the route preparatory to starting actual construction probably the latter part of next week. Eleven customers have already signed up for service on the Jamesville line extension, and the contracts have been turned over to the Virginia Electric and Power Company in Williamston. Construction work on a short extension along the Pitt-Martin and Edgecombe County lines is also to be started within the next few days, it was learned.

The Jamesville line extension has been under consideration for several months, and while the project was just about doomed to failure at one time, the 41 property owners renewed action almost overnight and pushed the program across.

Tomorrow night at 7:45 o'clock prospective light and power customers in parts of Griffins and Bear Grass Townships are meeting in the Bear Grass school building to consider final contracts for service. There are around 50 prospective customers in that territory, and it is believed that all of them and a few others interested in the proposed project will attend the meeting. Mr. R. H. Goodman, manager of the Williamston district of the Virginia Electric and Power Company, will attend the meeting, which is open to the public.

## Oxford Orphanage Singing Class To Be Here Monday, 11th

The singing class of the Oxford Orphanage, under the direction of Mrs. Sadie T. Hutchinson, including 14 boys and girls, will give a concert in the Williamston High School auditorium Monday evening, May 11, at 8 o'clock, it was announced this week by W. C. Manning, chairman of the Oxford Orphanage committee of the local Masonic lodge. The program will be featured with delightful songs, recitations and drills with colorful costumes and good music. Included on the program will be scenes of China boys, the chapel choir, Captain Kidd and "Let's Bel the Cat." L. W. Alderman will be with the class and will meet his friends here.

## Will Give Annual Concert In the High School Auditorium

For more than 50 years the Singing Class has made annual tours all over North Carolina. The orphanage has been in operation for 62 years, and a number of Martin County children have been cared for in the institution. Several are there now, and it is possible some of them may be included in the singing class membership.

## Local Team Plays Two Games Here This Week

The regular monthly meeting of the John Walton Hassell post of the American Legion Auxiliary will be held Saturday afternoon, May 2, at 3 o'clock, in the home of Mrs. W. Mack Wynne, Robersonville. Members please take notice of the change in place.

## ABANDON HOPE OF AGRICULTURE BUILDING HERE

### Committee Unable To Get Suitable Site At Last Minute For Structure

All hope for getting an agricultural building in this county thru the Works Progress Administration has been abandoned, Mr. J. E. Pope, chairman of the Martin County Board of Commissioners, said yesterday. Plans for the proposed project fell through when a committee representing the board of commissioners failed to procure a suitable site, WPA officials having ruled as the last minute that an addition to the courthouse would not be considered.

Learning last Thursday evening that the agricultural building could not be built as a part of the courthouse, the committee attempted to buy a lot, but the board representatives and property owners could not get together. "We offered \$1,800 for a site and there was our limit, but the owner wanted \$2,000," Mr. Pope said.

When informed last Thursday evening that a separate site for the building would be necessary, the committee immediately started looking for that site, the WPA authorities explaining that some definite action would have to be taken by Saturday night. "We could not complete the arrangements by that time, and, according to what the WPA representatives said, there is no hope of getting the \$10,000 building," Mr. Pope explained.

Construction work is already underway on similar buildings in a large number of counties in this section of the state.

## DRIVE ON RABIES TO BE FINISHED UP BY SATURDAY

Arrangements have been completed for winding up the anti-rabies campaign on Saturday of this week in the county. No accurate record on the anti-rabies campaign is available just now, but Sheriff C. B. Roebuck states that the dog owners are cooperating better this year than they did last to make the movement prove successful. Very few have refused to have their dogs vaccinated, it was said.

Numbers of dogs have been added to the tax list as a result of the anti-rabies campaign, but the increase has not been sufficient to offset the cost of the vaccinations, it is believed. Angered because her dog had been listed for taxation, an old colored woman living near here was down on the sheriff for charging her \$1 tax. It was her belief that a woman did not have to pay tax on a dog, she claimed. The officer tried to explain that she would have to pay tax on a mule, automobile or other personal property, but she did not own a mule, automobile or any personal property. She was only interested in her puppy, she said.

Wednesday afternoon, a clinic will be held at Robert Moore's filling station on the Hamilton Road. Thursday afternoon dogs will be vaccinated at Mickey's Inn on the Everetts road and at the old Biggs schoolhouse Friday afternoon. An all-day clinic will be held at the county courthouse Saturday to complete the work in Williamston Township.

An all-day clinic will be held at Godard Brothers' filling station for all dogs in Williams Township.

Four clinics will be held Saturday at Bennie Lilley's store and the Ange school house that morning and at Jamesville and Dardens that afternoon.

## Skewarkee Masons Will Hold Meeting Tonight

There will be a regular meeting of Skewarkee Lodge, No. 90, A. F. and A. M., in the lodge room tonight at 7:30. In addition to the regular business, there will be work in the first degree. All members and visiting Masons are invited and urged to attend.

## Legion Auxiliary To Meet With Mrs. Mack Wynne

The regular monthly meeting of the John Walton Hassell post of the American Legion Auxiliary will be held Saturday afternoon, May 2, at 3 o'clock, in the home of Mrs. W. Mack Wynne, Robersonville. Members please take notice of the change in place.

## Work Gets Underway Today On Widening of Street Here

Work on Williamston's main street-widening project, pending for the past two months, got under way this morning when the construction forces of F. D. Cline, contractor, moved in from Selma. A distribution plant is being erected today, and grading work is under way on the west end of the street, the foreman stating early today that probably a few yards of concrete would be poured late this afternoon.

The contract calls for widening the west end of the street to a width of 24 feet and as far out as the town limits. The eastern end of the street will be 30 feet wide from the Hall home to the Harris filling station, near the river, when the project is completed. About two weeks' time will be required to handle the project, it was stated.

## Use of Liquor Profits Is Presenting Problem Projects for Public Improvements Are Suggested by Some

### Question Has Not Received Official Consideration Up Until Now

With around \$2,000 in liquor profits in the county's general fund, the question has already presented itself as to how the money is to be spent. The question has not received official consideration so far, but the conservatives are said to be awaiting the use of the profits in decreasing the county tax rate, while there are others who would like to see the county either invest the money, described as "tainted" by some, or handle a well-planned improvement program.

According to unofficial reports, the county commissioners, or several of them, at least, are of the opinion the profits should be used in effecting a reduction in the tax rate. A joint improvement program in cooperation with the Works Progress Administration has been mentioned by some leaders in public life, these people pointing out that the county could profit to a greater extent by having the government match its funds received from legal liquor sales.

Another line of thought is presenting itself, the leaders in this class considering it unwise to use the profits from legal liquor sales in decreasing the tax rate, for the liquor control system might be altered and the revenue diverted to the state or other agencies. In that case, the tax rate would necessarily have to be increased soon after it was decreased.

The approximately \$2,000 in liquor profits was only turned into the general fund a few weeks ago, and it now appears that some definite regulations must be adopted soon as to how and for what the money shall be spent. Probably the question will receive preliminary consideration at the next regular meeting of the commissioners.

## 20 Cases for Trial In Recorder Court

Convening for the first time since April 7, the county recorder's court is handling a docket of 20 cases today, the sessions during the past two weeks having been cancelled for the superior tribunal.

The court has on its docket another one of those unusual cases for trial. George Silverthorne is charged with driving a horse and road cart while intoxicated, a violation under the vehicle laws of the state. Patrolman Stewart arrested Silverthorne and took charge of the horse last Saturday a week ago, the officer appearing just as much at home in the contraption as he would have been on his motorcycle.

One or two other cases charging drunken automobile driving are on the docket, but most of the cases charge assault and larceny.

## Local Parent-Teacher Meeting Thursday 3:30

The local parent-teacher association will hold a business meeting in the grammar school building Thursday afternoon of this week at 3:30 o'clock. Officers for the coming year will be elected, and other business handled at that time. Principal Hix announced this morning.

An entertainment program will be rendered by a grammar school chorus. Members of the organization are urged to attend.

Business men of Brevard are co-operating in the Transylvania Farm program of lime, legumes, livestock and poultry based on soil conservation.

### TO SPEAK HERE

William H. Griffin, Chapel Hill resident and candidate for a seat in the United States Senate, is scheduled to speak here Friday at noon. Just where the candidate, one of four in the field, will speak could not be learned, but unofficial reports state that he will appeal to the voters through a loud speaker on his car.

There are now four candidates in the field for the office now held by Josiah William Bailey. Their names are: David Strain, of Durham; Richard Fountain, of Rocky Mount; Mr. Griffin, and Mr. Bailey.

Candidate Griffin has planned to make 93 speeches between now and the June 6 primary. He is a noted lawyer, having practiced in New York, Washington, Paris, France, and North Carolina.

## Expect One Contest At Least for Places On County Board

### Five Candidates Announce and a Sixth Expected To Enter Race Soon

A spark of interest in county politics was virtually assured this week when unofficial reports were heard stating that at least four members of the present board of county commissioners and probably the fifth member would seek reelection. As a result of a law passed by the last legislature arranging the nomination of commissioners by districts, a peculiar situation arises. Messrs. Joshua L. Coltrain, of Williams Township; and C. C. Fleming, of Jamesville Township, are, according to reports, scheduled to compete for the nomination in the Jamesville-Williams district. So far no other contests for county commissioner have developed, and at present Mr. V. G. Taylor, of Cross Roads, has not intimated that he planned to seek reelection. It is possible that he will seek reelection if no opposition presents itself, and he may enter the race anyway. But just what he plans to do is not definitely known.

Mr. R. A. Haislip has already announced his candidacy in the Goose Nest-Hamilton district, a section that is not directly represented on the board of commissioners just now. It was reliably learned this week that Messrs. Coltrain, Fleming, Perry, and Pope plan to seek reelection, but it could not be learned just what Mr. Taylor, the fifth popular member of the body, planned to do in connection with another term as commissioner.

The announcements this week virtually assure the board of commissioners a quorum, at least, but the political situation on the board of education front remains distressingly quiet.

## Town Commissioners In Special Meeting Today

The local town commissioners are meeting in special session this afternoon to complete arrangements for refunding town bonds. It is understood the commissioners will also consider plans in connection with the proposed location here of a pulp mill.

## Building Loan Stockholders Meet Here Next Tuesday

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Martin County Building and Loan Association will be held in the office of Secretary Wheeler Martin next Tuesday morning at 11 o'clock, it was announced today. All stockholders are urged to attend.

## TAX LISTING WILL BE BROUGHT TO CLOSE THURSDAY

### Substantial Losses In Some Township Listings Are Reported

Time for listing of property for taxation in this county is scheduled to close Thursday of this week. As far as it could be learned today, no provision for an extension has been made, subjecting those owners who have not listed their property by that time to a penalty as great as 100 per cent, it is understood. Whether the county commissioners will consider an extension or just allow the law to take its course is not known. Extensions have been the order in years gone by, but the time has come when many property owners completely ignore the requirements necessary in handling the taxing system, and it is possible that a substantial penalty will be imposed.

Some townships have reported remarkable responses to the call to list property, but this situation is not general, it is understood.

No accurate forecast on the trend of values is yet available, but half the districts, if not more, are expected to show substantial losses this year. In the strictly rural townships, losses can be expected, the decrease being as great as 25 per cent in some cases. Little change is noted in values, both real and personal, it is understood, but the loss is traceable to an act of the last legislature including livestock as an item for exemption under certain conditions. Over in Williams Township, the changed law is said to be very effective and receiving general approval.

## Small Attendance Upon Pre-School Clinics Reported

### Thirty-eight Children Are Examined In Local School Today

A smaller attendance than last year upon pre-school clinics started in this county Monday, was reported today. However, the clinics during the first two days were described as very successful.

Twenty pre-school children were examined at Jamesville yesterday morning and nine at Farm Life in the afternoon. Last year 26 were examined at Jamesville and 22 at Farm Life.

This morning, Drs. Rhodes, Evans, Saunders, Spencer and Mercer, assisted by Mrs. Sloan, State nurse, examined 38 children in the local school compared with 54 a year ago. The future pupils were said to be unusually healthy, the examiners finding only 17 in the group with physical defects. Ten had defective teeth and none had defective vision. There were 13 cases of bad tonsils and adenoids.

Tomorrow morning a clinic will be held at Bear Grass and at Everetts tomorrow afternoon. Thursday, children will be examined at Robersonville and at Oak City Friday morning and Hamilton that afternoon.

At the clinic here today, about one-half the children were from the country. Others would probably have been here if their parents had not been forced to remain at home and carry on their farming operations.

## Mrs. Bailey Dies In Robersonville

Mrs. Mamie Barnhill Bailey, sister of Mr. J. T. Barnhill, of this place, and greatly beloved citizen of Robersonville, died at her home there last evening at 7:10 o'clock following an illness of only a few weeks' duration. Funeral services are being conducted at the Robersonville Primitive Baptist Church, of which she had been a faithful member for many years, this afternoon at 3:30 o'clock by Elder B. S. Cowin. Burial will follow in the new cemetery there.

Mrs. Bailey, 58 years old, was the daughter of Mrs. Creasy Barnhill and husband, the late A. P. Barnhill. She was born and reared in this county, near Everetts. In early womanhood she was married to Mr. Robt. A. Bailey and he with two children, Mrs. I. Mayo Little and Miss Gladys Bailey, all of Robersonville, survives. She also leaves besides her mother and brother here, one sister, Mrs. Hsie Roberson, and two brothers, Messrs. J. B. Barnhill and Church Barnhill, all of this county.