

## GREENVILLE NOW 1 1-2 GAMES BACK OF WILLIAMSTON

### Martins and Greenies Meet On Local Diamond Sunday 3 P. M.

Williamston's Martins continue to hold top position in the Coastal Plain loop as the season draws to a close, the locals holding the lead by 1 1/2 games over the Greenville Greenies. Developments since early in the week have changed the Martins' standing not a point, but the Greenies are now in striking position for the top in the standing. Tarboro, having climbed considerably ahead of the Snow Hill nine, is now battling Kinston for fourth position and a right to participate in the post-season play-off, while the locals and Greenville are almost certain of places in the semi-finals.

Some mediocre baseball has featured several of the games lately, but renewed life is expected as the teams enter the last lap of the race. The Martins took two straight from Goldsboro Tuesday and Wednesday, but they were turned back, 5-1, by the Eagles at Kinston yesterday.

Walters and Black featured the 4-to-1 win over the Goldsboro Bugs in Goldsboro last Tuesday, with a home run apiece, Walters' four-base knock sending in Corbett ahead of him. The two men and Sudduth, with 2 hits each, accounts for three-fourths of the Martins' safeties. Wade, for the Martins, and Webb, for the Bugs, pitched on even terms, each allowing 8 hits. Wade proved more effective in the pinches, however.

Errors figured in the 4-3 win over the Bugs here Wednesday, the locals taking the game in the fourth and fifth innings, when Black and Douglas singled and Stowe and Lynn errored to score 2 runs and in the fifth when two more runs were added by Walters' and Sudduth's doubles and a single by Black. Cherry allowed only 6 hits, while his teammates got 8 off Wilson.

Yesterday, the Martins bubbled over with errors, which coupled with 7 hits, gave Kinston a 5-1 win, that Keller fellow knocking for the circuit in the seventh with two on. Walters and Douglas, with 2 hits each, led at bat, while Gaylord featured afield with two star catches. A large attendance is expected here Sunday, when the Greenies meet the Martins. Next Friday, a double-header is being considered here with Ayden.

## Lucky Teter Unable To Play Williamston Fair Again This Year

### Unable To Get Contract With Massachusetts Fair Cancelled

Lucky Teter, the man who staged one of the most daring acts at the local fair last year even seen in this section, will not be able to return this season, the management of the Williamston Fair regretfully announced today. Mr. Walker, local representative of the fair operators, said that Mr. Teter was forced to abide by a contract made with a Massachusetts fair association. He explained that Teter made the contract with the Massachusetts fair and that later a flood washed the fair grounds away. Mr. Teter thought the fair would not be held and entered into a contract with the Williamston Fair, but since then the Massachusetts fair operators secured a PWA grant, rebuilt the fair buildings and restored the grounds.

In a letter received this week by Mr. Walker, the daring Teter stated that he is extremely regretted being unable to return, as he made many friends while in Williamston a year ago and had looked forward to returning.

Mr. Walker explained that arrangements were being made to book additional acts to supplement the program now that Lucky Teter would not be able to take part. Many local people were looking forward to the daredevil's return.

## Services at Church of the Advent Sunday, the 16th

Rev. E. F. Moseley, Rector  
Tenth Sunday after Trinity.  
Church school, 9:45 a. m.  
Morning prayer and sermon, 11 o'clock.

The union service this Sunday night will be at the Methodist church. Attendance at these union services could be much better, and everyone is urged to do his part to make the remaining services of this summer the best yet.

## Market-Fair Booster Trip Is Planned for August 28 - 29

Preliminary arrangements were advanced at a meeting of local warehousemen, business men and other interested citizens at a meeting of the tobacco board of trade last Wednesday evening for a joint good will tour of several counties in the interest of the Williamston Tobacco Market and the Williams-ton Fair. A special committee, composed of Mayor John L. Hassell, Holt Evans, N. K. Harrison, Lesman Barnhill and Harvey Walker, resident fair manager, was named and the group will make immediate arrangements for the tour.

No dates for the trip have been definitely determined, the committee stating yesterday that the good

will work would be handled probably on Friday and Saturday preceding the opening of the market here on Tuesday, September 1. Present plans call for visits in Martin, Halifax, Bertie and Washington Counties, but the committee has not mapped out a schedule at this time, and other territory might be included.

The fair management pledged its cooperation in the movement, and promised to provide special entertainment and souvenirs. A contract with the local high school band will be made, the band program to be an added feature on the tour that will last the greater part of two days.

## Liquor Profits Effect 14c Saving in Taxes

### Prices on Border Markets Higher

"Good tobaccos are selling good, medium types are selling from 6 to 10 cents higher, and the common grades are commanding about the same prices, or probably not quite as much as they did last year," Holt Evans, proprietor of the Planters Warehouse here, said this morning following his return from several of the Border and South Carolina markets. The prices as a whole were described as very satisfactory by Mr. Evans, who said the American, Reynolds, Liggett & Myers, and Imperial were buying freely on the opening sales yesterday.

Tobacco growers were jubilant as the prices on all the markets proved satisfactory and few farmers turned their tags indicating that they would not sell their loads at the price offered.

With sales blocked on nearly every market, no official sales and price averages were compiled, but reports from many of the markets said that the opening day average would hit 25 cents a pound. From every market came the report that prices were higher than last year, although several reported that the higher prices for the better quality were partially offset by lower prices for the cheaper grades.

Late reports from Georgia indicate stronger prices on the markets there.

## No County Court Is Held Tuesday

Called out of the county unexpectedly last Monday, Judge H. O. Peel found it necessary to cancel the last Tuesday session of the Martin County Recorder's court at the last minute. Receiving no notice of the postponed session, witnesses and defendants out under bond reported in fairly large numbers at the courthouse, but returned home shortly when they learned the judge was gone. Several defendants will continue as guests of the county in its jail for another week, and probably longer, the judge failing to say just when he planned to return.

A fairly busy session was in the making when the delay in trial was ordered, Clerk of Court L. B. Wynne stating that a dozen new cases had been scheduled since the last session a week ago last Tuesday and that several were left over from the week before.

## H. H. Cowen Suffers Bad Foot Injury Yesterday

Mr. Herbert H. Cowen had his left foot badly mashed yesterday morning when a pile of lumber fell on it while he was at the plant of the Williamston Supply Company here. The man's big toe was broken, and a cast was placed around his foot.

## Infant of Mr. and Mrs. Whitehurst Found Dead

Martha Ileen, five-months-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Whitehurst died suddenly at the home of her parents in Beaufort County, near the Martin line, Wednesday morning about 3:30 o'clock. The child was apparently all right at two o'clock that morning when the mother fed her. About one hour and a half later, the infant was found dead beside its mother.

Funeral services were held yesterday at the home and burial was in the Ross Gurganus cemetery in Bear Grass Township, this county.

## Rate Based on That Figure This Year; Is Believed Greater

### Added Requirements Taken Care of By Profits With No Increase in Rate

"What became of the liquor profits?" is a frequent question asked members of the Martin County Alcoholic Beverages Control Board and other officials by numerous property owners in all parts of the county, according to reports heard since the county tax rate was definitely determined the early part of this month. Once the 1936-37 budget estimate is understood, the answer to the question is quite simple, but the general impression, briefly advanced, is that the tax rate should have been materially reduced if the county was actually receiving as much profit from the sale of legal liquor as reports claimed.

The budget estimate for the current fiscal year anticipates a revenue of around \$15,000 from the sale of legal liquor during 1936-37, the amount equaling a like amount that 14 cents on the \$100 property valuation would raise. In short the liquor profits made it possible to hold the tax rate down to \$1.43, and at the same time meet increased obligations, such as an additional \$8,000 for bonded indebtedness, a \$5,000 anti-typhoid campaign, an all-time public welfare department, and several other items of lesser amounts. Had there been no liquor profits to consider in preparing the 1936 budget and had the budget carried all the new items now found in it, the tax rate this year would have been \$1.57, or 14 cents higher than it is, according to the chairman of the county board of commissioners. The budget estimate as it deals with expected revenue from liquor sales is, to say the least, very conservative, and it is believed that the profits will probably be nearer \$20,000 than \$15,000.

The liquor profits made it possible for the tax rate to show less than a 15-cent levy for the general fund for the first time in years.

It was considered by the authorities at one time to use the liquor profits to buy in county bonds, eliminating interest and principal at the same time, but when the final show-down came, the commissioners decided to divert the profits into the general fund and effect a reduction in the amount of taxes that would have had to be levied to meet the demands on that particular fund. Had the county decided to buy in its own bonds, the tax rate would not have been affected this year, but would have made lower levies possible in years to come. At the present time, the liquor profits are reflected in increased public activities and do credit to the management of those handling the sale of legal liquor.

## Regular Services Sunday In Presbyterian Churches

Regular services will be held at all points this Sunday. The Woman's Auxiliary of the Presbyterian church will hold its August meeting in the church this evening at 8 o'clock. The study in the Book of Genesis will be continued.

## Service Schedule at Local Methodist Church Sunday

R. R. Grant, Minister  
Church school, 9:45.  
Regular morning service, 11 o'clock.  
The union service will be held in the Methodist church in the evening, and the public is cordially invited to attend.

## WARREN NOT TO ACCEPT PLACE IF OFFERED TO HIM

### Prefers To Remain in House Statement Issued This Week Says

Commenting for the first time on repeated news articles that he would be appointed Comptroller General of the United States, Representative Lindsay C. Warren stated definitely today that if the position was tendered to him by the President that he would not accept same. The statement comes as no surprise to the people of the First Congressional District who in large numbers have urged Mr. Warren to remain in Congress where he has already served 12 years and has been renominated for another term.

Mr. Warren's statement: "If by any chance I have been considered by the President for the great position of Comptroller General, it is a distinct compliment and honor. All I know about the matter is what has come to be in the papers and in personal letters from friends. No man in public life has ever received more loyal support and friendship than I have from the people of the First Congressional District. Large numbers of my friends in every county in the district have been kind enough to say that I should remain in Congress. This I prefer to do, believing that I can best serve the district, state and our great President in my present position. Therefore, if the position of Comptroller General was tendered to me, I could not accept it."

## Truck Driver Fined For Blocking Fire Apparatus on Street

### Mayor Directs Warning To Other Drivers Urging Care During Fires

Philistine Barnhill, young colored man, was fined \$2.50 and taxed with the cost for the alleged violation of local traffic laws during a fire here Wednesday afternoon. In imposing the fine later that afternoon, Mayor Hassell sounded a warning to other drivers who take traffic laws lightly when fire alarms are sounded and the fire-fighting apparatus starts moving.

That there were other infractions of the traffic laws Wednesday afternoon and during nearly all other fire alarms, there is no doubt, but Barnhill, driving a big oil truck, blocked the street when he turned to the left of a double-parked car, causing the driver to bring the fire truck almost to a stop.

Town ordinances make it unlawful for car operators to follow the fire-fighting apparatus within one block, and when an alarm sounds, drivers are supposed to park their cars until after the equipment and firemen pass. Private cars are rushed right behind the fire truck in numerous cases, making it next to impossible for firemen who miss the truck at the station and who are forced to travel in their own cars to reach a fire quickly. During the Wednesday afternoon fire, several small boys dashed into the main street at a busy intersection on their bicycles, endangering their own lives and increasing traffic hazards at a critical time.

## James D. Gurganus Dies in Bear Grass

James David Gurganus, 66 years old, died at his home in Bear Grass Township Tuesday morning, following a long period of ill health. He had been confined to his bed for about two months. Mr. Gurganus was widely known in this county through his travels.

Funeral services were conducted Wednesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock at the late home by Rev. Z. T. Piephoff, Presbyterian minister. Burial followed in the old Gurganus burial ground, near the home.

Mrs. Gurganus, with two children, J. D. Gurganus, Jr., and Pinnie Gurganus, survive. He also leaves three sisters, Mrs. Fannie Page, Mrs. Amanda Cannady and Miss Maggie Gurganus.  
He was the son of the late David and Pinnie Gurganus, and lived in this county all his life.

Extension workers at State College point out that now is the time to prepare to seed alfalfa and other legumes this fall.

## Pulp-Mill Officials Continue Investigations in This Section

Continuing their investigation this week, officials of a large pulp mill will probably decide within the next 10 days or two weeks whether they will locate a branch plant on the Roanoke River here, according to unofficial information received this morning. While the prospects were considered bright for Williamston as a location for the plant, no definite action has been taken in that connection, it was learned.

Coming here last Tuesday, four of the company officials and representa-

tatives have been making a first-hand survey of the timber resources, transportation facilities and the proposed site on Roanoke River just below the Standard Fertilizer Company plant. Two of the officials are returning north this afternoon, the other two gentlemen to remain here for about a week to continue the various surveys.

No information has been made public as to the progress made in locating the plant here, but it is believed at this time that Williamston has an advantage over other possible locations.

## To Remodel City Hall For PWA Office Space

### Definite Assurance Of Location Here Is Given Yesterday

### Start Search for Available Apartments and Rooms To House People

Definitely assured yesterday by State Administrator George W. Coan Jr., that WPA districts No. 1 at Elizabeth City, and No. 2 at New Bern, would be combined with the headquarters of the enlarged district located here, local town authorities started immediately making arrangements to house the personnel and provide around 6,000 square feet of office space.

County welfare workers, resettlement administration forces, and the heads of the child welfare and sewing room projects are moving their offices to the county courthouse today, the agricultural workers there being huddled into two rooms to provide the space. The arrangement is only temporary, or until the agricultural building is completed.

Present plans call for the complete remodeling of the City Hall auditorium. Contractors are now figuring the cost of the project, and work is expected to get underway tomorrow or Monday. Measurements made yesterday show that two stories can be built within the present auditorium, each floor to have around 12 offices.

The location of the WPA district headquarters here adds to the housing shortage, but efforts are now being made to handle that problem. Between 25 and 30 of the PWA employees are already assured rooms, and several families have agreed to provide apartments for some of the families. However, there is still an urgent need for more apartments and rooms, and Mayor Hassell has been named to head a committee to handle the housing of the WPA forces. Williamston people who can possibly arrange apartments in their homes or who have one or more rooms for rent are urged to get in touch with Mr. Hassell at once.

Recognized as one of the greatest single assets the town has enjoyed in years, the WPA forces will be cared for, town authorities assured the directors, and local people are urged to cooperate in the movement to house and welcome the town's new citizens the first of next month.

The local tobacco market opens September 1, the schools open a few days later, and the fair gets underway here about one month later, adding to the housing problem, but it is believed that Williamston people will adequately meet the emergency.

Mayor Hassell can be reached at telephone 6-W or his office on East Main Street, and he will appreciate a listing of all available rooms and apartments.

## Religious Meeting To Be Held At Prison Camp

Under the direction of the Rev. G. T. Hill, local colored minister who has been preaching each Sunday afternoon in the prison camp since its erection near here, a one week meeting will get underway there next Monday night. This work has been supervised and carried on under the leadership of the local Presbyterian minister with funds secured by him from a few Christian men in Williamston. Hymn books were contributed by an interested friend a few months ago. Present plans are to secure the loan of a piano for the week and to have a service each night about 8 o'clock. The members of the local Baptist colored choir will render selections and lead the singing each night. The messages will be brought each evening by the Rev. Z. T. Piephoff.

## Weather Station Here Is Pending

The location of a 6-hour off-airway weather reporting station here is being delayed pending a further investigation, E. M. Barto, associate meteorologist with headquarters in Atlanta, stating this morning that telephone calls necessary in reporting the readings would run too high and that other arrangements would have to be considered at the direction of the Central Office, Weather Bureau, Washington, D. C.

Equipment for the station here had already been requisitioned, and arrangements were complete for installing the station when the Washington Bureau asked a further investigation be made. At the present time, the telegraph office could handle only one of the four daily reports, and the telephone costs were considered prohibitive, it was pointed out. The weather man did not say whether he would try to get the Western Union to alter its hours that it might handle at least three of the messages or that the bureau would consider another location for the six-hour station.

## Defendant Is Denied Bond In W. G. Wynn Murder Case Here

### Mrs. Wm. G. Wynn Waives Examination at Hearing Held Tuesday

Arraigned on a charge of first-degree murder, Mrs. Estelle Taylor Wynn, young white woman of the Bear Grass community, was denied bond at a preliminary hearing held before Justice of the Peace John L. Hassell in the county court room Tuesday afternoon. Charged with killing her husband, William Gray Wynn, 32, with a .22 caliber rifle as he slept in a chair on the porch of their home last Sunday evening about 7:30 o'clock, Mrs. Wynn is likely to have to remain in jail until the superior court convenes in September, although her attorney, J. C. Smith, was said to have been considering demanding that she be allowed bond under a writ of habeas corpus. No developments had been reported along this line of proposed procedure today, it was learned.

Mrs. Wynn waived examination at the hearing Tuesday, Sheriff C. B. Roebuck being the only witness, and it was upon his testimony that the justice ruled there was probable cause supporting a first-degree murder charge under which no bond is allowed. Very little evidence was offered by the officer other than that given by Mrs. Wynn in her confession of the killing the evening before.

Arrested Monday afternoon following the holding of the last rites of her husband, Mrs. Wynn confessed the killing, and talked freely of the events leading up to the tragedy.

## County Club Girls Leave For Camp Next Tuesday

A fairly large number of Martin County club girls will leave next Tuesday for a summer outing. The truck will be at the Robersonville elementary school building that morning at 9 o'clock, stopping in Everetts a few minutes later and reaching Williamston at 9:45. The truck will leave from the Central Filling station here. All girls are asked to carry a lunch for the noon meal.

The club members with others from adjoining counties will spend several days at Camp Leach.

## DEMURRER FILED TO ALLEGATIONS IN DAMAGE SUIT

### Defense Maintains John A. Davenport Hasn't Valid Cause for Libel Action

Counsel for the twenty defendants in the \$20,000 libel suit brought by John A. Davenport, of Hamilton, last Wednesday filed a demurrer in the case, maintaining that the plaintiff "does not state facts sufficient to constitute a cause of action." As it is understood now, further action in the case awaits a ruling by the trial judge who will be asked to pass on the validity of the complaint filed by Mr. Davenport's counsel, Coburn and Coburn, the 23rd of last month.

The demurrer, filed by Attorneys Peel and Horton, maintains that the facts are not sufficient to constitute a cause of action, and offers the following reasons in support of the claim:

"First: The alleged libelous words were addressed to Mr. Slyvester Peel, chairman of the board of elections of Martin County, by voters who were interested in the election which was held on June 6, 1936.

"Second: That under the law the county board of elections has power to remove registrars appointed by it for incompetency, failure to discharge the duties of office, failure to qualify within the time prescribed by law, fraud, or any other satisfactory cause.

"Third: That the county board of elections is charged with the duties to investigate irregularities, non-performance of duties, or violation of law by election officers and other persons; to administer oaths, issue subpoenas, summon witnesses, compel the production of books, papers, records; and other evidence in connection with any such investigation.

"Fourth: That on its face, the complaint shows that the alleged libelous matter was a petition to the proper legal authority for the purpose of starting a legal investigation of the conduct of the election held on June 6, 1936, and the qualifications of the person holding the office of registrar of Hamilton Precinct.

"Fifth: That on its face, the complaint shows that the alleged libelous matter was a petition filed in a judicial proceedings, and that same is a privileged communication, and that plaintiff's complaint does not, therefore, state a cause of action."

Names of the defendants cited in the complaint filed last month are: S. M. Ewell, B. B. Taylor, Hubert Everett, Asa Johnson, W. Herman Everett, W. W. Davis, L. H. Rouse, R. W. Salsbury, J. E. Hines, W. F. Thomas, G. W. Still, Joe H. Clark, Roy Beach, John C. Pittman, G. Al-jood, J. S. Ayers, F. L. Haislip, Henry Thomas, H. L. Everett and W. B. Everett.

## \$200 Damage by Fire At Service Station

Fed by a pipe line extending into an eight-thousand gallon gasoline storage tank, fire threatened the Central Filling station and large blocks of property nearby at the corner of Main and Washington Streets here Wednesday afternoon at 4 o'clock. The fire, burning raw gasoline and escaping fumes, was brought under control by the local fire company volunteers before any great damage resulted, "Chick" Manning, operator of the station, estimating the loss at about \$200. Chemicals were used to check the fire that at times extended 10 or 12 feet into the air.

Bill Bailey, special agent for a fire insurance company out of Raleigh, had just had his gas tank filled, and as he started to drive from under the station the back bumper of the car caught the gasoline pump hose and pulled the pump down. Friction caused when the metal struck the concrete is believed to have started the fire. Bailey quit his car, the motor running, and hurried across the street. Filling station attendants pushed the car out, while spectators fled rapidly to points of safety.

## Officers Capture Two Stills In Bear Grass This Week

Raiding in Bear Grass Township yesterday and today, Sheriff C. B. Roebuck and Deputy J. H. Roebuck destroyed two liquor distilling plants of the steam type and wrecked much equipment. Nearly 500 gallons of beer were poured out at the plant yesterday. This morning the officers found a still running full blast, but the three operators escaped when signals were fled. Nine gallons of liquor were found there.