

## LOCAL TOBACCO MARKET SELLS 4,773,432 POUNDS

Record for This Season Is Around 3,000,000 Less Than Year Ago

Closing the season last Tuesday, the local tobacco market handled during the 1936 season 4,773,432 pounds of the leaf, the sales bringing to the market patrons \$984,686.47. The average for the season stood at \$20.63.

One year ago the market sold 7,794,460 pounds for \$1,578,156.88, an average of \$20.25 a hundred pounds. In 1934 there were 6,298,032 pounds sold on the market for \$1,799,803.63 an average of \$28.59. Conditions looked bad in 1933, when the market sold 4,833,442 pounds for only \$684,415.39. The average was only \$14.16, but the low price that year stirred the growers to action, control went into effect and record receipts were recorded the following year.

Considering the short crop, especially centered in the yield per acre, the local market made a creditable showing during the season just ended. The record is nothing to boast about, to be sure, but when a market sells in the neighborhood of 5,000,000 pounds of tobacco it will get recognition along with the largest.

No official announcement has been released in connection with the warehouse personnel another season, but it is understood there will be one or two changes and that plans will be made on a more extensive scale than ever before to advance the interests of the market and its patrons in 1937.

## Consider Leniency For Joe Davenport

Joe Davenport, 26-year-old swamp coddler, who shot and killed his young wife, Maggie Barber Davenport, in the "Islands" section of Williams Township two years ago the 3rd of last April, is again in the limelight. Since June, 1934, the old man has served time in the State prison, his conduct and advanced age greatly impressing prison authorities, and now his case is being investigated by Edwin Gill, with the possibility that Davenport may gain his freedom before he will have served one-fifth of his minimum sentence.

As far as it could be learned here today, no recommendations have been made by the prosecution in the case, the wife killer's freedom depending largely upon what the solicitor, trial judge and others acquainted with the circumstances have to say.

Judge Walter Small sentenced Davenport to prison for not less than 15 and not more than 20 years, many believing that the old man would spend the remainder of his days in prison.

Old man Joe's daughter, the mischievous red-headed tot who was painfully shot in the legs as she rested in the arms of her mother when the fatal shots were fired, is growing rapidly and getting along very well at her adopted home here.

## Session of Industrial Commission Is Held At Courthouse Here

Evidence Is Taken in Two Cases at Hearing Held Thursday

Holding a session here yesterday morning, members of the North Carolina Industrial Commission heard evidence in two cases, but took no final action in either. The case of Lucy Bryant, colored woman whose husband was killed in an automobile accident near here last April 18, was continued. Action in the case against the National Handle Co. and an insurance firm was dropped, the plaintiff centering her claim against G. H. Hales, logging operator. It is possible for the plaintiff to recover as much as \$6,000 in the case. Attorney H. G. Horton, representing the plaintiff, said following the hearing that he did not know just when the case would be called again.

In the other case, John H. Moore, colored, was asking compensation for injuries received while working for the F. C. Cline Company widening the local Main Street.

Buren Jurney, commissioner, and Dewey Dorsett and T. A. Wilson heard the evidence offered in the two cases.

## Kieckhefer Plant Will Locate Near Plymouth

SPEAKS TODAY



Using as her topic, "The Social Security Act," Miss Lavinia Engle, of Washington, D. C., is addressing the annual North-eastern District Welfare Conference in the Woman's Club here this afternoon.

## Several People Are Seriously Injured in Bus Wreck Tuesday

Big Bus Turns Over After Running Over Dead Mule Near Windsor

Several people were hurt, two seriously, when a northbound Carolina Coach Company passenger bus turned over between here and Windsor last Tuesday night about 9:10 o'clock. No one was killed, but two passengers, Miss Annabel White, 20, of Portsmouth, Va., and F. H. Horton, 45, of Atlanta, are confined to a Windsor hospital, reports describing their condition as "critical." Miss Ethel Taylor, 20, of Edenton; Mrs. Pat Harmon, 40, of Candor; Miss Lula Netherland, 30, of Norfolk; and Wallace Jurney, of Atlanta, were painfully bruised and scratched but they were able to continue their journey with nine other passengers in a special bus after receiving first aid at the Windsor hospital.

F. L. Childress, driver of the bus and an employee of the Coach company for 15 years, was held blameless by passengers in the bus who saw the conditions under which the accident took place, it was said.

About 25 minutes before the bus accident, Thomas M. Parker, Aoshkie man, driving a Chevrolet, crashed into and killed a mule about 3 miles this side of Windsor. Parker was carried to Windsor for treatment and the dead animal was left on the highway, but officers were notified and they started for the scene. Just as they neared the spot they saw the left wheels of the bus strike the animal, bus and passengers turning over on the right side of the road. It was pointed out that a car traveling west was stopped on the highway near the dead mule, and that its lights kept the bus driver from seeing the obstruction in time to stop.

## Infant Son of Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Gurganus Dies

Funeral services were conducted last Monday afternoon for James Reddin Gurganus, 14 weeks old, at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Gurganus, in Bear Grass Township. The child died Sunday morning following a short illness. The baby was the third child of Mr. and Mrs. Gurganus to die during the past year. One child died about a year ago after eating box lye. Another, about 10 years old, died from a tumor of the brain in a Richmond hospital just a few months ago.

The parents survive with two daughters, Gertie and Eula Mae, and four sons, Vernon, Moses, Clifton, and George Floyd Gurganus.

## Federal Inspectors Give County Jail High Rating

Inspected yesterday by a federal inspector, the Martin County jail was given a high rating, and it is almost certain that the bastille will be placed on the federal approved list. The inspector commented favorably on the condition of the jail, and indicated that it would be recommended for use by the government. There are only two or three jails in eastern Carolina on the government's approved list at the present time, it is understood.

## Decision Reached at Meeting Last Night; Site in This County

Railroad Officials Here for Session Say Work Will Begin Immediately

The Kieckhefer Container Company, a New Jersey concern, will locate a pulp mill estimated to cost between one and a half to two million dollars on the Roanoke River in Martin County, it was unofficially learned following a meeting of the company officials here early this morning. Few details could be had in connection with locating the plant, reports from railroad traffic men stating that spur tracks would be built immediately to the site on the Lucas farm at the mouth of the Cashie and Middle Rivers, about 3 miles this side of Plymouth.

Official information received yesterday from the company headquarters in Delair, N. J., stated that the site on the Roanoke at this point could not be used to advantage and that the mill would be located near here. Unofficial reports received a few hours later, stated that the site near Plymouth had been selected. C. A. White, W. M. Carey, J. F. Dalton, E. L. Walker, L. J. Mennir, Joseph Frey, William J. Myer, Andrew Fischer, jr., O. C. Lee, C. F. Marshall, F. H. Cothran, Kieckhefer Container Company and railroad officials, met in the George Reynolds Hotel here last night, the decision to locate the mill at Plymouth being learned after the meeting adjourned at 1 o'clock this morning.

An option on the 75-acre Lucas farm was announced only a few days ago, all indications prior to that time pointing to a site in Bertie as a possible location for the mill.

The location of a pulp mill in this section was considered several months ago, when Mr. H. M. Kieckhefer stopped here and conferred with Mayor J. L. Hassell. Plans for the project were advanced immediately, and it was generally agreed at one time that the plant would be located at this point just below the plant of the Standard Fertilizer Co. Officials of the company, for some reason that has not been fully explained, withdrew their consideration from this point as a possible location, and under the direction of Mr. Clarence A. White, who will be general manager of the plant, started taking options on sites in Bertie on the Cashie River, and at Jamesville and also at Plymouth. The option at Plymouth was just recently renewed, it is understood.

Local authorities, including the county commissioners, could not be reached for an official statement today, and it is not known just what, if any, agreements were effected between them and the pulp-mill officials. It had been agreed to allow the mill owners certain concessions if they located the plant here, but whether the concessions are to be allowed now that the plant is to be placed near Plymouth could not be learned.

## Negro Barber Shop Destroyed by Fire

Fire wrecked the barber shop of Eddie Watts Brown, colored, on Washington Street yesterday afternoon at 2 o'clock, the volunteer firemen delayed by a dead battery in starting the truck engine, arriving there in time to save the site. The barber chairs and a few other articles were removed from the building, but most of the contents went up in smoke with the one-story tinwood building.

No estimate on the amount of the loss could be had today, but the damage will hardly exceed \$500, it is believed.

Unable to start the truck engine, the volunteers were longer answering the call than at any other time since the apparatus was purchased eight years ago. When last used early Tuesday morning of this week, the truck functioned properly, but it is believed that some prowler slipped into the truck room and turned on the lights on the dashboard and under the hood, exhausting the energy of the battery. An Orange Crush truck pushed the fire wagon off finally, the equipment reaching the fire about 8 minutes late. The trouble came just when Hubert Smith, truck mechanic, was confined to his bed with injuries received in an accident last week and the fire chief, H. D. Harrison, was out of town.

## SOCIAL SECURITY IS TOPIC AT MEET IN SESSION HERE

Welfare Leaders From 22 Counties Hear Number Noted Speakers

North Carolina is on the threshold of a great social security program, and let's work to put it over, Mrs. W. T. Bost, Commissioner of State Public Welfare, told 200 or more welfare workers of the northeastern welfare district in conference here today. Support of the federal government's social security plan was urged, the conference appealing to the workers and the public in general to get in touch with state legislators and urge them to place North Carolina in step with other states in putting the program over.

The morning session of the annual one-day conference crowded the main auditorium of the Baptist church, the program there including addresses by welfare and social security leaders from both State and Nation.

"The requirement of every family is a plan of living," Mrs. J. M. Hobgood, Pitt County welfare chairman told the assembly in the opening address. "The federal government offers such a plan, and if it is to succeed, the power must come from the home," Mrs. Hobgood said in appealing for public sentiment to support the plan.

Mrs. W. T. Bost, whose lovely character and understanding places her at the heart position in welfare work, pointed out the responsibility of the State in social legislation, explaining that it should not be the aim of state and local agencies to lower their appropriations when federal aid is received, but that it should be the combined aim of all to aid the needy and the less fortunate. Mrs. Bost dispelled the idea that the Social Security Act would wreck State finances when she estimated the program would cost not to exceed five millions of dollars, and that she believed it would be between three and four millions. The needs of the thousands of less fortunate were pointed out, the speaker showing the advantage and duty of the State in supporting the plan.

Mrs. Blanche Carr Sterne, speaking as president of the State Association of County Superintendents of Public Welfare, reviewed the work of the organization, and urged its members to see their State legislators in the interest of the vast security program now being launched under the direction of the federal government.

Centering her address around the children as the nation's greatest resource, Miss Mary Labarre, of the Federal Children's Bureau, Washington, D. C., explained that the social security act has faced the needs of youth. She pointed out the inadequate health services, the high mortality rates among infants and mothers, adding that only in recent years has the federal government offered aid to youth similar to that extended in matching state funds for road building and forest protection.

Welfare leaders are in attendance upon the meeting from 22 counties in the district, the program, dealing with one of the greatest social programs ever undertaken in this nation, attracting minute attention of everyone of them.

Miss Mary Taylor, president of the district group, presided at the morning session. This afternoon, Miss Lavinia Engle, of the Social Security Board educational division, Washington City, is addressing the welfare leaders, her topic having to do with the Social Security Act. A large representation is present for the address which is considered the main feature of the entire program.

## Superior Court To Convene Monday

The Martin County Superior Court will convene next Monday for the trial of civil cases, Judge A. D. Folger, of Dobson, recently appointed to fill the position made vacant by Judge Clayton Moore's resignation, coming here to preside over his third term of court. The court is scheduled to run during the first three days of next week only, recessing on Wednesday for the Thanksgiving holidays. Work will be resumed on the following Monday. Very few of the 56 cases on the calendar are considered of any great importance. The \$2,500 damage suit brought by Mrs. C. O. Godard against Joe Lawson on Tuesday of the second week will probably attract more witnesses and spectators than any other case on the calendar.

## Homestead Amendment Likely To Reduce Property Valuation In County One Million Dollars

### It Won't Be Long Now—Just 28 Christmas Shopping Days

Time continues to chop away the days, and now there are only 28 of them left in which nearly all of the 1936 Christmas shopping must be done. The wise shopper is giving the task some consideration already.

As the Christmas season approaches, Williamston merchants are fast completing arrangements for one of their busiest periods in years. Through long

months these merchants have served the people of this section, making hardly enough to meet the costs that must be met in support of yours and our community. At this time let us remember them first when starting our Christmas shopping, returning full well that the success of each of us is measured to some extent by the success of the home merchant.

### Accurate Estimate Difficult Due To Method of Listing

Review Shows Present System of Listing Is Likely To Be Revised

The new constitutional amendment making possible a \$1,000 maximum exemption on homestead listings will reduce the present property values by about one million dollars in this county, a hurried review of the tax books shows. The method of listing property in this county makes it next to impossible to get any accurate estimate as to the extent property values will be affected under the new amendment. At the present time a man's home and a part or all of his farm are listed jointly, and in some the description does not mention a home owned by the taxpayer.

Under the new amendment, taxing officials will be forced to change their antiquated methods of listing taxes. Values will have to be assigned to definite piece and certain types of property. In this connection probably more adequate descriptions of all property will be necessary. Until values are set up on the books for those homes owned and occupied by the taxpayer, it will be impossible to get a definite idea as to how much the homestead amendment will affect the total property valuation in this county.

A study of property owned by white property owners in Jamesville shows seven homes valued at less than \$300, some of them ranging in value as low as \$50. If the legislature arbitrarily sets the exemption figure at \$300 for the first year, then property valued at \$1,140 will be totally lost to taxation among white home owners in that district.

In the class having a value between \$301 and \$750, there are around 30 homes, and they carry a total value of \$12,925. If the legislature places the exemption figure the first year at \$750, then the total

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## To Resume Boundary Hearing December 21

### Around 7,000 Acres Swampland All Now Involved in Dispute

Martin County Scores Point At Hearing Held This Week by Commission

Martin County was reported to have scored a partial victory in the Beaufort-Martin boundary line dispute last Wednesday, when Grimes & Grimes, representing Beaufort, admitted the location of the present line was correct from Turkey Swamp to a point on the Thoroughfare Road, a few miles from Smithwicks Creek church. Darkness ended the investigation by a special commission at that point late Wednesday, the investigators setting December 21 as the date when the investigation will be resumed and completed.

Continuation of oral evidence will be heard and possibly a visit will be made to the territory in question at that time, it was said.

Very little difficulty was reported in reaching an agreement as to the location of the boundary from Turkey Swamp to the point near Smithwicks Creek. However, the task now becomes greater in establishing the line from the point near Smithwicks Creek to the head of Welch's Creek. In that "dismal" territory the main controversy seems to rest. Martin County maintains that the line runs from the point near Smithwicks Creek to a cypress and then in a straight course to Welch's Creek. Beaufort claims the line follows a straight course from the point located near Smithwicks Creek.

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## TOTAL OF 9 CASES TRIED IN COUNTY COURT TUESDAY

No Sessions During Next Few Weeks Account of Superior Court

The county court called nine cases Tuesday, and after clearing the docket adjourned until the second Tuesday in December, the superior court holding forth during the next few weeks for the trial of civil cases. The proceedings Tuesday attracted only a small number of spectators, and the cases were of recognized little importance.

Charged with drunken automobile driving, W. B. Gaylord appealed to the higher courts from the judgment of \$50 fine and costs.

Golden Bryant was sentenced to the roads for six months on a larceny and receiving charge.

James Dixon, charged with operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license and with reckless driving, was fined \$25 and taxed with the cost.

John Price, charged with being drunk and disorderly, failed to answer when called.

Jeff Slade, charged with an assault with a deadly weapon, was found not guilty.

The case charging Daniel Williams with an assault with a deadly weapon was not pressed.

William Brown, charged with carrying a concealed weapon and with disorderly conduct, was fined \$50 and taxed with the cost.

The case charging N. B. Lilley with disorderly conduct was not pressed.

Adjudged guilty of trespass and attempted larceny, Herbert Brown, Jack Lanier, and James Walston were sentenced to the roads, Brown for six months and the other two defendants for three months each. They appealed, the court requiring bond in the sum of \$200 for Brown and \$100 each of the other two.

## Peanuts Start Moving in Quantities During Week

Peanuts started moving to market this week in considerable quantities, some of the buyers receiving several thousand bags in a single day, reports state. Prices are centered around the 3-cent mark with an occasional purchase reaching 3 3/4 cents for the jumbo type of nut.

## Red Cross Campaign Is Far From Goal of \$200

No complete report had been filed today, but it is generally believed that the Red Cross membership drive in this county is far from its goal as the end of the campaign nears. This county is asked to raise only \$200 as its membership quota, but that figure will not be reached unless there is more interest shown in the movement between now and next Wednesday, when the drive is scheduled to end.

## WPA Project Near Here Is Approved by Officials

A project for clearing grounds for the new highway radio station near here was approved by the district and state offices of the relief organization this week, the work estimated to cost \$626. Work on the project is expected to get underway immediately.

Contracts for the construction of the radio base here are still pending, the State Division of Purchase and Contract postponing work until changes in building plans can be effected in an effort to hold the costs within certain figures, it is understood.

## Preaching Mission Attracts Attention

The National Preaching Mission is expected to attract considerable attention next week, when some of the greatest church leaders on both sides of the Atlantic are to broadcast at regular intervals during the period, according to Rev. Charles H. Dickey, of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, who will be in charge of the program.

While the main program does not get underway until Thursday of next week, special broadcasts will be made beginning Sunday according to the former local minister. The schedule is as follows: Sunday, November 22: 5:30 to 5:45 p. m.; Wednesday, 5 to 5:15; Thursday and Friday, 11:30 to 11:45 a. m. and 5 to 5:15 p. m.; Saturday, 10:45 to 11 a. m. and 5:45 to 6 p. m.; Sunday, 10:30 to 11 a. m. and 5:30 to 6 p. m.

## Presbyterian Woman's Auxiliary Meets Tonight

The circle meeting of the woman's Auxiliary of the local Presbyterian church will meet tonight at Mrs. B. B. Rogerson's on Main Street at 7:30 p. m.

## Union Thanksgiving Service Next Week

Following a long-established custom the church of Williamston will join in a Union Thanksgiving Service next Thursday morning at 10 a. m. in the Baptist church. The minister who will bring the message will be announced later. It is hoped that all the members of the various churches will use this outward means to show their inward gratitude to God for the many blessings of life.

## Around 50 Game Law Violations Prosecuted

Although the main hunting season is just getting underway, nearly 50 game law violations have been prosecuted in the county so far, Warden Abbott said today. Many arrests are expected during the next few days, when large numbers of hunters enter the woods and fields for quail and rabbit.

## Hearing Held Thursday For Alleged Hog Stealers

Charged with stealing hogs from Farmer Herbert Manning in Griffins Township week before last, J. P. Powell and Nicodemus Barrow, colored, were given a hearing by Justice Hassell here yesterday, the judge releasing Powell and ordering Barrow held for trial in the superior court under a \$200 bond. Unable to raise that amount, Barrow is spending time in jail.

## Repairs Being Made To Tar Heel Store Building

Repair work on the Tar Heel Apartment building stores was started this week, the owner to have the two stores ready for the Belk chain on or about the first of the year, it is understood. Young's has surrendered its lease on one of the two stores and will vacate by the first of the year, the new firm to occupy both of the store units.