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VOLUME XL—NUMBER 7

Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Friday, January 22, 1937

ESTABLISHED 1899

3 COUNTY BILLS ARE INTRODUCED IN LEGISLATURE

County To Have Right To Establish an All-time Health Department

Representative H. G. Horton introduced two local bills in the House of Representatives, Raleigh, on Wednesday, one having to do with the election of county commissioners and the other allowing the establishment of an all-time health service in this county.

Details of the two bills have not been released, but the one offered in connection with the election of county commissioners is believed to supplement an act passed by the legislature in 1935. The 1935 law provided for the nomination of commissioners by districts, the nominees then going into the general election to be voted on by the entire county. The newly proposed law, as it is understood here, would hold the election of the commissioners within the several individual districts. Referred to the committee on counties, cities and towns, the bill is expected to become law without opposition.

The health bill introduced by Mr. Horton carries no provision for the creation of an all-time health department in the county. It merely empowers the county commissioners to provide the service if and when they consider it necessary, it is understood.

The need for a full-time health service in this county was recognized when the matter was brought to public attention two years ago, and already plans are underway to have a department established as soon as possible. The service will feature a program in the Williamston Kiwanis club within the next few weeks, it was learned yesterday from the club's program committee. Other organizations, especially those of the women, are expected to strongly support the proposed health program.

Yesterday Representative Horton introduced a bill extending the time for tax sales in the county and several municipalities until the first Monday in December of each year. The bill, as it is understood here, is more of an amendment to the one passed by the 1935 assembly granting the county and town of Williamston the right to postpone tax sales. The 1935 law made no provision for postponing sales in the other municipalities, and it is thought that the proposed law would make the sales for county and all towns in the county uniform.

Theodore Kampas Dies Here Suddenly

Theodore Kampas, native of Turkey but a citizen of the United States for the past 23 years, died suddenly in a rooming house here yesterday morning at 9:30 o'clock from a stroke suffered a short while before. In failing health for some time, Kampas had retired after operating cafes in Scotland Neck, Robersonville, and Plymouth, and came here to spend some time with Gus Rigas. He had been here several months.

Kampas is without relatives in this country but leaves two sisters, Hionie Kampadgi, No. 11 Rue Boston, Moda Constantinople, Turkey; and Olympia Sotriady, Xanthe, Greece. He was 51 years old. Funeral arrangements had not been completed at noon today, but burial will probably be made Sunday at 3 o'clock. "Boss" Brown, Plymouth man, named executor of the estate by Kampas in a will written in March, 1932, will handle the funeral arrangements. It was learned from S. R. Biggs at the Biggs Funeral Parlor, where the body now rests. A priest from Raleigh or Wilson will conduct the last rites, and interment will follow in the cemetery here.

J. A. Bowen, 76 years Old, Dies at Jamesville Home

J. A. Bowen, 76 years old, died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Ina Whitaker, near Jamesville, yesterday afternoon following a long period of declining health. He was born near Williamston and lived in this county all his life.

Besides his daughter, he is survived by two sons, C. A. Bowen, of Greenville, and C. E. Bowen, of Gastonia.

Funeral services will be held this afternoon at 3:30 o'clock and burial will follow in the Sam Meeks Cemetery, near Williamston, on the old Everett road.

Indications Are Coastal Plain League Will Play "Pro" Ball

Almost certain that Williamston will retain its franchise in the Coastal Plain baseball circuit this coming season, local baseball leaders participated in a meeting of the association officers and others at New Bern last Tuesday night, when it was virtually agreed the association should adopt professional ball. Pending receipt of delayed votes from two of the clubs, no official announcement has been issued by the league president, but L. T. Fowden, president of the local club, said he felt sure the league would turn to professional ranks.

In past seasons, only college youths or others outside the profes-

Sentiment Growing for 2 Per Cent Sales Tax

SCHOOLS OPEN

An order to close several of the schools in the upper part of the county yesterday was rescinded when the sun broke through the clouds and gave promise for a break in the bad weather that has prevailed in this section for several weeks. School authorities stated this morning that the regular schedule would continue in effect just as long as the buses were able to run.

Attendance in nearly all the schools is holding up well. Superintendent J. C. Manning said, adding that the figure was about 85 per cent, or almost normal, for the season of the year.

Four Cases Tried in Recorder's Court

Dockets with few cases and recognized of little importance or interest have featured the weekly sessions of the Martin County Recorder's court so far this year. Only four cases were called by Judge H. O. Peel at the Monday session, and the docket was cleared in a comparatively short time.

The case charging Albert Lee with larceny and receiving was not pressed.

Charged with an assault, Walter McDonald was adjudged not guilty.

Thomas James, charged with manufacturing liquor, was sentenced to the roads for three months, the sentence to begin at the direction of the court any time within the next two years. James was ordered to pay a \$50 fine and costs. Sam James, second defendant in the case, failed to answer when called.

Henry Herman Hollis was fined \$25 and taxed with the costs in the case charging him with reckless driving and operating a car with improper license and lights.

Palmyra Roads In Bad Condition

Handicapped nearly the year around in their travels and completely bottled up during such weather as existed in recent days, county citizens from the Palmyra section are said to have directed a personal appeal to the highway commission in Raleigh yesterday for better roads.

Probably in no other section of the county are the roads in worse condition than they are there, reports indicate. The schools in the upper part of the county were scheduled to close just when the sun made its appearance yesterday, and unless the weather is more favorable the schools there and possibly others will be closed in the county next week.

Dr. W. F. Evans To Head Martin Medical Society

Holding a business meeting here last Friday evening, the Martin County Medical Society elected Dr. W. F. Evans, local man, as its head and Dr. Alban Papineau, of Plymouth, vice president. Dr. Joseph Eason, of Williamston, was reelected secretary and treasurer. The society includes Tyrrell, Washington and Martin Counties, and the meeting was attended by 10 doctors.

Following the business session held in the new office building of Dr. J. H. Saunders on Smithwick Street, the members enjoyed an oyster roast at Mickey's Inn.

Commercial Course In School Favored By Parents-Teachers

Plans of Organization Call For Lunch Room In Grammar School

Perhaps the most important matter brought to the attention of the local parent-teacher organization Wednesday at its third regular meeting was that of supplementing the curriculum of the high school department in the local school. Realizing the importance of vocational training in our schools, the parents and teachers discussed freely plans for requesting an additional teacher for typing, short-hand, and book-keeping here next year. Those who were in attendance voiced unanimous approval, and the president, Mrs. J. F. Thigpen, appointed a committee, including Mrs. Clayton Moore, Mrs. E. S. Peel, Mrs. Hugh Horton, and Miss Annie VanDyke to meet with the school board at its next regular meeting.

Other business included plans for a lunch room to be sponsored jointly by the parent-teacher association and the county welfare board to serve hot lunches in the grammar school. The lunches will be free to the needy children. As soon as space is provided, this service will begin.

As an aid to the study of art, the finance committee granted the local school \$20 to invest in framed pictures. A sum of money was also set aside to secure the services of Carl Bolander, an eminent speaker on the subject of art, to address the people of Williamston some time later. In conjunction with the subject of art, the high school will hold an exhibition of famous paintings the week of March 15.

Leaders among the boys and girls of the high school entertained those present with talks about the extra-curricular activities sponsored here. Mary Helen Boykin very ably presented the plan and objectives of the Beta Club, while Addie Lee Meador talked on the school newspaper, Junie Peel on the Boy Scouts, Jerry Clark on the debating club, and E. G. Wynne on the school band.

Would Reduce Rate 1 Per Cent, Permit No Exempt Articles

Proposed Bill and Several Amendments Are Now Before Committee

North Carolina's General Assembly continues to mark time as the third week of the session draws to a close tomorrow. There has been a great deal of maneuvering during that time, but few accomplishments in completed legislation are on the record. The "good people" are still being heard from back home, all wanting increased budgets for this or that nearest them and all wanting reduced taxes, if not complete exemption.

The legislators are lining up for some major battles, several skirmishes having already been reported in connection with important legislation. The latest turn has to do with the sales tax, reports indicating that a reduction of 1 per cent will possibly be effected and no exemptions allowed. It is quite apparent that something will be done with the sales tax, but, as Tom Bost intimates, it will be the same old devil dressed up in different clothes. There is nothing so far to indicate that the tax will be lifted in its entirety.

Reaching the senate this week, the child labor bill is expected to call for a showdown before so very long. Support for the bill calling for an amendment to the U. S. Constitution is believed to be gaining strength in the assembly, but passage of the bill is indeed doubtful.

The amendment to the state constitution passed last November was ratified yesterday by the house voting for the supreme court to have six associate justices instead of four. The bill goes to the senate where its passage is predicted.

Mired in the mud, rural citizens from many sections of the state are calling to the legislators for help, and apparently those pleas are being heard. A \$2,000,000 increase in the road maintenance fund was proposed Thursday. However, it was not explained whether the increase, if allowed, would be for the "system" or for country roads. Many believe the proposed increase could be only for country roads.

Final decisions are expected next week on many major matters confronting the assembly. The six-day week, voted on themselves, is being more or less observed by the legislators, records last week-end show.

Rural Light Meet Is Held In County

Considerable interest was shown by citizens of Bear Grass and Griffins Townships in a proposed rural electrification program in those sections at a meeting held in the Macedonia church last Wednesday evening. Plans are now underway for a canvass of the territory, the Virginia Electric and Power Company officials stating they will start construction of the approximately 17 miles of line just as soon as the committee appointed at the Wednesday meeting effect necessary customer contracts.

The proposed program in the two districts is one of the largest considered in this county. About 75 farmers were present for the Wednesday meeting, reports indicating that immediate action can be expected on the proposed undertaking.

Gunshot Victim Reported Recovering in Hospital

Critically injured in her shoulder when shot by Hoyt Smith last Saturday night in the Free Union section of Jamesville Township, Australia Peel, young colored woman, was given a chance to live by doctors in a Rocky Mount hospital, where she was carried Sunday.

If no developments set in, the woman is expected to recover, a report received from the hospital yesterday stated.

Smith, who intended the load of gunshot for Joe Woolard, continues in the county jail here.

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Load of Fertilizer Wrecked in Swamp

A big truck and semi-trailer, owned by Newman and Ellington, of Henderson, turned over with 10 tons of costly fertilizer in a swamp between Parmele and Robersonville Wednesday afternoon about 2 o'clock. Turned bottom-side-up, the top of the truck was partly submerged in water, and it was first thought the driver had been pinned down and drowned. It was later learned he left the scene hurriedly and without reporting the wreck to authorities. Upon reaching the scene, Patrolman W. S. Hunt waded into the water without boots and tore a hole through the bottom of the truck to learn if the driver had escaped.

Wrapped in a heavy tarpaulin, the fertilizer, or a greater part of it, was not damaged and was recovered. The truck was pulled from the swamp, reports stating that it was damaged to the extent of about \$100.

Rev. J. M. Perry To Preach In Jamesville This Sunday

Rev. James M. Perry will conduct the morning and evening services in the Jamesville Christian church on Sunday at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. The public is extended a cordial invitation.

The Tarboro Rotary Club will conduct its regular orthopedic clinic next Monday from 9 a. m. to 1 p. m., in the Presbyterian Sunday-school rooms there. The club is anxious for all unfortunate cripples who are unable to pay for treatment to attend.

Orthopedic Clinic To Be Held In Tarboro Monday

The Tarboro Rotary Club will conduct its regular orthopedic clinic next Monday from 9 a. m. to 1 p. m., in the Presbyterian Sunday-school rooms there. The club is anxious for all unfortunate cripples who are unable to pay for treatment to attend.

The teams played on even terms during the first three quarters, neither team leading at any time by more than three points. The Halifax lads took the lead in the final period and held it for a 7-point victory margin. While the boys lost their game, the Bear Grass girls won 32 to 8, Rogerson leading both teams in scoring.

Bear Grass Boys Lost First Basketball Game of Season

Wednesday night, Bear Grass won a double-header over Williamston, the girls winning, 31 to 15, and the boys holding the long end of a 25-11 score.

Two Men Lost In Dismal Swamp Since Wednesday

J. F. Porter, white saw mill operator, and a colored man, are the objects of an extensive search now forming in the dismal of Griffins Township, it was learned here at noon. Special calls were made to CCC authorities to send searchers for the two men missing since Wednesday night in the vast dismal.

Several Thousand Farmers Meet In Raleigh, Urging Legislators To Pass Tobacco Control Legislation

Poultry Car To Be Operated in Four County Towns Next Week

Martin County agents, cooperating with the Farmers Cooperative Exchange, will operate a poultry car in this county next week, beginning with loadings in Jamesville on Tuesday, January 26, it was officially announced by Agent T. B. Brandon today. Moving from Jamesville on Tuesday afternoon, the car will be in Williamston the following morning. Loadings will be made in Robersonville on Thursday and in Oak City Friday afternoon. A definite schedule as to exact hours could not be determined today, Mr. Brandon stating that he hoped it would be possible to get two cars so that a

full day's loading would be possible at Robersonville.

Prices this year are slightly under those of a year ago, but, considering present market conditions, the prices are recognized as very favorable. Colored hens, selling for 18 cents last year, are quoted at 16 cents for the loadings next week. The car operators are of the opinion that hucksters will not "horn in" on the offerings at the prices quoted.

Additional shipments from the county this season will depend entirely on the extent of the patronage given the undertaking, it was explained.

Building Reaches New High Here Last Year

Is Second Successive Year for Records To Fall; Total \$125,150

Eighteen New Homes Built During Period at Cost Of About \$58,000

Building activities, setting a high record here in 1935, when \$117,090 was spent on new construction and repairs; continued upward last year, an official report released yesterday by Building Inspector Henry D. Harrison shows. During 1936 the inspector issued 40 building permits, representing expenditures amounting to \$125,150. In the previous year, the inspector issued 52 permits, more than one-third of the number being for construction of colored tenant houses.

The 1935 total was considerably increased by the cost of one structure, which was estimated at \$25,000. The 1936 program included 18 new homes, the construction cost amounting to \$58,000, according to the building inspector's report. The largest single construction job was the primary school building carrying a cost of \$12,000. An agricultural building, not yet complete, cost \$10,000. Nearly \$6,000 was spent on new store buildings, and two filling stations were built at a total cost of \$600. Repairs and construction of office buildings cost approximately \$13,000. Repairs to other buildings cost more than \$7,000, and an addition to the Baptist church was estimated to have cost \$4,700.

Home construction costs did not exceed \$5,000 per unit and ranged as low as \$400 for a tenant house, the average cost ranging around \$3,200 per home. Several building permits have already been issued this year, Inspector Harrison stating that an all-time building record would likely be established here during the year.

Credit Association Hold Meeting Here

The annual meeting of the Washington Production Credit Association was held in the courthouse here Wednesday with approximately 300 stockholders in attendance. J. B. Patrick, president of the organization, presided, and reports were rendered by E. L. Greene, secretary and treasurer; L. N. Davenport, director; and by the president, R. R. Pearson, of the Federal Land Bank, briefly addressed the gathering. Hiram L. Gardner, executive vice president of the Columbia, S. C., Production Credit Corporation made the main address.

The new board of directors are J. B. Patrick, L. N. Davenport, J. W. Jarvis, H. H. Cowen and M. Luther Peel. The association operates in Beaufort, Hyde, Tyrrell, Washington, and Martin Counties.

Following the business meeting, the group had an oyster roast and barbecue dinner in the Roanoke-Dixie Warehouse.

Want Compact Law Amended To Protect Small Farm Owners

Road Maintenance Fund To Get Extra \$2,000,000 If Proposed Bill Passes

Thousands of farmers—one state paper said 2,000 and another 3,000—left no doubt in the minds of the North Carolina General Assembly's agricultural committee that they wanted tobacco production control, but were not so sure as to who should be controlled when they met before the legislative representatives in Raleigh's auditorium last Tuesday.

The demonstrations were such as to direct the committee to report favorably the proposed legislation that would create a compact law for the control of tobacco production in several states.

The farmers were together on the need of controlled production, but there seemed to be differences as to the means of accomplishing it, reports from the meeting indicating that the growers will accept the compact bill as it is with the hope that relief for the little farmer can be obtained from the several county committees. The meeting, apparently well attended by "little" farmers, would make sure that crop control was to start at the top and come down with great weight resting on the big producer. Amendments to the act, except those relating to its administration within the state, will automatically render the compact law invalid, it is understood. In other words, if each of the tobacco-growing states attempts to amend the proposed control act, the result will be no act at all.

Explaining the compact, E. Y. Floyd said that it fits like a glove into the soil conservation program. It replaces the Kerr-Smith act, and payments from soil conservation compliance replace old AAA benefits. The measure as drafted met the unanimous approval of the North Carolina Tobacco Advisory Committee, the advisory committees of other states and the administration at Washington, and was adjudged practically by attorney generals of the various states.

Considering the bill Wednesday, the joint house and senate agricultural committees were unable to effect a solution, and turned the problem over to a subcommittee. Five amendments have been proposed, none of which, if embraced in the bill, would affect the compact law, it is understood. One amendment would guarantee the small farmer a allotment of 3.2 acres and a maximum of 35 per cent of the cultivated acreage. Around this point is expected to center the main bone of contention.

A second amendment would require publication of growers' names their allotments and percentage of cultivated acreage in tobacco. Another proposed amendment would allot the same number of pounds per acre to every farm in the state. Still another amendment would establish allotments on the basis of percentage of cultivated land in tobacco and other cash crops; to determine allotments by comparison with other farms under similar conditions.

Kentucky, North Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia must effect a compact for control of burley and dark-fired tobacco before the compact becomes effective. Kentucky and Virginia have already passed the act. For flue-cured crop control, there must be a compact among North Carolina, Virginia, South Carolina, and Georgia. Virginia is the only one in the group that has already passed the act.

Belk-Tyler Company Has Successful Opening Today

Belk-Tyler Company, opening their new store here this morning, attracted hundreds of shoppers from a wide area, the management stating at noon that the opening was proving highly successful.

The store was packed at times, and the crowds continued to appear as the first day of business for the new firm here progressed.

Coming here for a brief stay this morning, Mr. A. L. Tyler, owner, stated he was well pleased with the opening and the prospects for the future.