

# Williamston Leads in Price Average for September

## Market Sells 4,281,208 Pounds During Period for \$1.63 More Than Average for the Entire Belt

### Travel Executives Party Will Stop Here Tuesday Afternoon

Travel executives from various parts of the nation will stop in Williamston for a brief period next Tuesday afternoon on their tour of North Carolina which is being sponsored by the Governor's hospitality committee, Department of Conservation and Development. Traveling in three large buses and about fifteen automobiles, the distinguished visitors are scheduled to reach here at 3:35 that afternoon and continue to Edenton and Elizabeth City at 3:50 o'clock.

### Prominent Bertie Farmer Says This Is the Best Market

Williamston's claim to the highest tobacco market in the belt was substantiated beyond all doubt this week when the official crop report for the State was released. The local market up to the first of this month averaged \$23.85 per hundred pounds or \$1.65 a hundred higher than the average for the entire belt. It led one of the big markets, Wilson, by nearly \$2 a hundred pounds and others in the big class by \$1 or more.

### Few Sportsmen In County Hunting At Present Time

Opened the first of this month, the hunting season has received very little attention in this county so far. The fall marketing season has kept business men as well as farmers busy, and there has been little time for hunting. However, within the next few days hunters in large numbers will turn to the woods in search of squirrel, deer and a few other types of game. The season is not expected to get underway on a big scale until November 20 when it will be lawful to take quail and turkeys.

### Judge H. O. Peel Calls Seven Cases In County's Court

Seven cases were called in the county recorder's court last Monday by Judge H. O. Peel who completed the work of the tribunal before adjourning at noon. The size of the docket was considerably smaller than it was a week ago, the number of cases falling considerably below the average for a session following fair week in Williamston. A few cases were continued, Judge Peel not knowing at the time that the docket would be "swamped" by liquor cases next Monday.

### Busy Season and High Water Is Delaying Hunting in This County

Hunters entering the woods on and since the first day of the season state that the mosquitoes have been numerous, that there was little pleasure in hunting. Cooler weather during the past day or two is calculated to eliminate the mosquito and make hunting more pleasant. Just now high waters along the Roanoke low grounds prohibit hunting in that area, County Game Warden Abbott issuing a warning today against the practice. Hunters, caught hunting within 100 yards of high water in the Roanoke low grounds, will be prosecuted, the warden said.

### Number Falls Considerably Below Par for Session Following Fair Week

Albert Flannagan, charged with violating the alcoholic beverage control laws, was fined \$50 and sentenced to the roads for six months, the sentence to begin at the direction of the court. Flannagan, alleged to have transported a quantity of liquor, lost his car, a Ford V-8, the court ordering it confiscated by county officers.

### Damage Suit Against Solicitor Is Settled Out Of Court Here

The \$10,000 damage suit brought in the Martin County Superior court by Jno. E. Manning, administrator, against Don Gilliam, district solicitor, was settled last week when the plaintiff took a voluntary non-suit before Clerk of Court L. B. Wynne. No amount was mentioned in the papers that were entered in the records of the clerk's office, but it is understood the action was marked off the court docket in consideration of a \$2,500 settlement to the plaintiff.

### Charged with Drunken Driving, J. S. Crandall Was Fined \$50. He Was Ordered to Pay the Cost and His License to Operate a Motor Vehicle Was Revoked for One Year.

The case charging Ernest Andrews with operating a car with no operator's license, was remanded to the juvenile court for trial. Charged with temporary larceny and driving a car while his operator's license was revoked, Jesse Williams was sentenced to the roads for six months.

### No Trace Of Missing Man Reported So Far

No word has yet been received from Dan Blue, young colored man, missing in this county since Tuesday afternoon of last week, officers stating today that they were unable to establish a single clue that might lead to the man's whereabouts.

### Explosion Wrecks Lumber Plant At Bear Grass Today

### One Man Is Badly Hurt In Unusual Accident That Jars Little Town

The little town of Bear Grass was jarred to its foundation and one man was badly hurt this afternoon at 12:30 o'clock when a boiler at the C. Gilbert Rogerson lumber plant exploded. Reports reaching here stated that scores of children, playing on the school grounds near by, miraculously escaped injury. Employees had left the mill hardly more than ten minutes before the explosion to go to the noon-day meal. No one could have come through the explosion had he been in the mill when the boiler lifted itself and scattered into many pieces, some falling nearly 200 yards away.

Mr. Henry D. Harrison, the village blacksmith who was walking near the mill at the time of the explosion, was badly cut on the forehead and rendered almost unconscious. Flying dirt and debris all but covered him after he was knocked to the ground. Mr. Harrison was treated in a local doctor's office and is expected to recover.

Several windows in the Presbyterian church were shattered, and canned goods on the shelves in stores about 200 yards away were jarred down.

Flying bricks and timbers fell on the school grounds where a number of children were playing during the noon recess period, but none was hurt there. Streets in the main part of the town were dotted with bricks and mortar.

The mill was in order when the workmen left for lunch, Mr. Rogerson, the owner, stating that he could assign no reason for the explosion. No estimate on the amount of the loss could be had other than the mill was damaged beyond repair.

About a year or more ago fire wrecked the mill.

### Injured Last Week School Child Better

Seriously injured in an unusual accident, near Robersonville, on Monday of last week, the young daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Matthews was reported today to be improving in a Rocky Mount hospital. The child, a pupil in the Robersonville school, suffered a broken back and arm and other injuries when the porch of an abandoned school house fell on her.

According to reports reaching here, the child and other pupils were returning home from school when the bus got struck near the old school house, a few miles south of Robersonville. The children were directed to leave the bus to lighten the load, and they went to the school porch for shelter. They were playing there when the supports gave away and the porch fell in. One of two others were hurt, but their injuries were not serious, it was learned.

The accident was the indirect result of bad roads that the 35 school buses have to travel in this county.

### Doctors Make Plans To Entertain Society

Meeting in informal session here last Tuesday evening, the Martin County Medical Society discussed plans for entertaining the annual meeting of the Second District Medical group in Williamston about the 17th of next month. The meeting was held in the offices of Dr. J. H. Saunders, the group enjoying dinner later in the evening.

The second medical district is made up of about six counties, and it is thought that between 75 and 100 doctors will be present for the meeting here next month.

### Pulp Plant Makes First Machinery Tests Recently

Preparatory to starting full-time operation within the next three or four weeks, operators of the North Carolina Pulp Company are making preliminary tests of their equipment this week, according to reports reaching here from the plant in the lower part of this county.

No definite date has been determined for the formal opening of the three million dollar plant.

### New Cotton Sale Certificates Martin Farmers Delivering

The first of the 1937 cotton sales certificates in this county were received by the farm agent's office here a few days ago, the authorities pointing out that these certificates must be filed within 15 days from time of sale as the first step to qualify the producer for the three-cent price adjustment payment next year. Farmer J. E. Copeland, of Goose Nest, delivered a first day ago certificates covering the sale of fourteen bales from the current crop. Payment of the three cents will be made after compliance is established in the spring of 1938.

The three cent payment is applicable to only 65 per cent of a farm base, leaving the other 35 per cent upon the mercy of the markets or to go into storage.

Many Martin farmers are selling

### President Calls For Special Meet National Congress

### Sets November 15 As Date for Beginning Consideration of Problems

In his tenth fireside chat Tuesday night, President Roosevelt issued a call for a special session of the National Congress to convene November 15 for the consideration of farm legislation, wages and hours, reorganization of the government, creation of seven "little T. V. A.'s" to administer the nation's power projects, and the restoration of the anti-trust laws to their original virility.

The call, expected by many for some time, finds the law-makers scattered over the globe, some in Africa, some in Europe, some on official business or traveling at public expense.

The administration, the President declared, intends this winter to find a way to prevent 4-1-2 cent cotton, nine cent corn and 30 cent wheat—with all the disaster those prices mean for all of us—from ever coming back again.

The power projects need a more business-like system of planning and greater foresight than we use today, and for that reason he had recommended to the congress last session the creation of seven planning regions.

To carry out any 20th century program, he declared the executive branch of the government requires 20th century machinery to work with—hence he has asked for authority to remake the structure of the government.

### Strikes at Differentials

"Far sighted" business men already understand and agree with the administration's policy in respect of wages and hours, and that no one section of the country can permanently benefit itself, or the rest of the country, by maintaining standards of wages and hours far inferior to other sections of the country." Here he was seen striking at the so-called wage differentials, and generally to southern opposition to the Black-Connerly bill.

Whatever danger there may be to the prosperity and profits of the many, if there be any danger, comes not from government's attitude toward business but from restraints now imposed upon business by private monopolies and financial oligarchies. The administration now is studying how to strengthen the anti-trust laws in order to end monopoly—not to hurt free legitimate business, he said, indicating new legislation would be urged in the November program.

### Cotton Ginnings are Running Considerably Behind Those of Last Year, According to Special Agent Luther Hardison who filed his first report for the 1937 season today covering the activities up to the first of this month. Prior to October 1 of last year, farmers in this county had ginned 960 bales compared with only 260 up to the same time this year. Mr. Hardison said in his report.

The crop is short in the county this year, farmers stating that the boll weevil did considerable damage. However, while Martin farmers are reporting a decrease, the country, as a whole, is reporting a record size crop.

Labor shortages have delayed cotton picking in some sections of the county, some farmers stating that they had to pay high prices to have their crops picked. Ginning activities have also been delayed on account of the tobacco marketing rush. The tobacco work, for the most part, will have been completed shortly and ginning activities will get underway on a larger scale.

### Legion Post Holds Meeting This Week

Meeting in their regular monthly session here last Monday evening members of the John Walton Hasell Post of the American Legion advanced plans for continuing construction work on their new hut on Watts Street in Williamston.

Commander J. E. Boykin, presiding over the meeting, stated that the building had been closed in and that plans had been made for purchasing flooring, instructions going to the carpenter committee to have the floor placed. The commander and Bob Taylor were appointed to purchase paint and have the building painted.

During each future meeting, the Post will receive a collection for use in aiding disabled veterans, the action to create the fund passing by unanimous vote, it was stated.

After handling a few other business matters, the meeting was adjourned, the group to hold its November meeting here on the second Monday in the month.

### Defendants Will Fight Cases in Court Monday

### Twenty-six Booked For Trial As Result Of Liquor Roundup

### Only Eleven Warrants Returned to Clerk's Office, Others Due Tomorrow

Twenty-six of the twenty-seven alleged violators of the liquor laws trapped in a dragnet spread over this county during the past thirty days will face trial in the county recorder's court here next Monday, the 27th defendant fleeing the section before officers could reach him with a warrant. Only eleven warrants have been returned to the office of the clerk of superior court, but the other fifteen are due in not later than tomorrow.

Reports state that nearly all the defendants will enter pleas of not guilty, that they will offer a stubborn defense in trying to discredit the evidence gathered by a group of three special detectives sent here by the State Alcoholic Beverage Control Board. Private counsel has been employed in at least one-third of the cases, it is understood, and it is likely the defense will have nearly every lawyer in the county pleading the cases next Monday. Attorney Robt. L. Coburn, who will prosecute the docket in the continued absence of Solicitor W. H. Coburn, his brother, will not have any assistance. However, he is planning to push the prosecution and ask for maximum judgments.

A few of the defendants are said to be little concerned over the charges against them. One in a nearby town said, "I know all about the plot. One of the men (detective) came to my place at least ten times, and I ain't telling nothing yet." Another one said he planned to plead guilty, and if the sentence wasn't just right he would appeal to the higher courts, and if the case came to a final show-down he would feign illness.

Several of the defendants are said to be repeaters, and in most of their cases much uneasiness is being expressed over the outcome.

Two of the defendants, Geneva Moore and Henry Brown, both colored of Robersonville, continue in jail in default of \$100 bonds. Only one other person was jailed and she later raised bond in the sum of \$200.

Warrants had been returned this morning against the following: Lin Williams and wife, James Henry Brown, Geneva Moore, Paul Bullock, Edward Coffield, Rick Carson and wife, Mrs. Fannie Bryan and Jim Mordecai.

In addition to the 26 liquor cases booked for trial, the county court will have before it several other charges of drunken driving already placed on the docket for the next Monday court.

In prohibition days, the bootleggers when they entered court in droves were said to be meeting in convention. It is apparent now that the alleged bootleggers are going to reconvene.

The round-up by detectives in this county has not caused very much comment, but the public is said to be awaiting the trials with interest.

### PAY OR ELSE

With several thousand dollars uncollected from personal property owners, the Martin County tax collector issued a warning this week that there'll be some automobiles and other articles confiscated unless somebody pays some taxes and pays them now. Some of the fellows who talk a great deal and pay little or nothing had better keep their coats on, for the collector is out for the cash. His orders are to get the tax money or the property. Collectors are going into various parts of the county this week rounding up the unpaid accounts and making ready for a settlement with the county authorities within the next two or three weeks.

### Few County Farmers Have Ginned Cotton

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### Late Estimates From Farmers Indicate 75 Per Cent of Crop Has Been Sold

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"We are leading the way all right," a member of the Williamston Tobacco Board of Trade said this morning, "and we will continue to lead the way," he added.

"I have tried them all, and I am thoroughly convinced that Williamston has the best market in the State," a prominent Bertie County farmer said here yesterday afternoon.

Since the first of October, the local market has had some of its largest sales of the season, Supervisor Henry Johnson stating today that the sales now stand right at seven million pounds for the season. Last week, the market broke all poundage records, the sales exceeding 1,100,000 pounds. The price average, \$33.04, was the highest for any period of the season.

Prices reached a peak last Monday, the entire market averaging right at 35 cents for the day. Monday was the highest day of the season, and while the prices have not been as strong since that time, they have been holding up well on the local market. The sales have not been quite as large on an average, but the market will operate late into the afternoon today to clear the floors.

### Advertise Town Tax Delinquents

Williamston's town tax delinquent list, carrying the names of 158 property owners, is being advertised today for sale the second Tuesday in November. According to the records there are 42 accounts unpaid by white owners and 106 by colored owners. Last year there were 148 unpaid accounts representing \$3,656.52.

The unpaid accounts this year total \$4,380.94, an increase of nearly \$1,000. Of this amount \$3,044.68 is due from white property owners.

### Let Contract For New Home On Grace Street

A contract for the construction of a new home for Mr. and Mrs. Tom B. Brandon was let this week to Perry and Martin, local builders. The home will be located on Grace Street just two lots removed from the Goodman home.

The contractors plan to start construction of the six-room, one-story structure next week. It will be of frame construction.

### Wisconsin Man Inspects Land Holdings In County

Coming here this week from Milwaukee, Wisconsin, L. A. Thompson inspected his land holdings embracing about 10,000 acres in the old Jymond City area of Griffins township. According to unofficial reports, he land owner still plans to develop the property with the possibility of establishing a cattle ranch here.