

## New State Tax On Intangibles Is Due First Time Today

### Little Attention Given to Listing Bonds, Notes for Taxation

The new state tax on intangible personal property is scheduled to be paid before this day is spent, but according to unofficial reports from over the field few people have given the haphazard scheme of taxation any serious attention. Present indications point to a poor showing for the new tax as of this date, but what the system, applied gently to real wealth, will prove to be later depends upon the administrators. As far as it could be learned here today, no large number of bond or note holders have listed such intangible property for taxation.

Assuming that this hidden property would be made open to taxation if the rate was reduced, State taxing authorities maintain that more money would be collected at the reduced rate than was collected when such property was placed on the county tax books at the current rate. Reports maintain that listings under the new system are small, that an investigation must be carried behind the curtain to the actual records in county court-houses.

Unofficial reports state that the intangible tax will exceed the income tax paid in this county. That amount is not great, and when the intangible collections are divided among the State and political districts a tiny bit can be expected.

The act represents an effort to apply rates of tax on intangible personal property that will not be oppressive to any taxpayer, and the Department of Revenue trusts that it may have the whole-hearted support and cooperation of the people of the state in making a success of this extremely moderate tax law. Thomas W. Alexander, Jr., chief of the franchise and intangible divisions of the department, observed, Report blanks and additional information on the tax may be secured either from his office in Raleigh or from field deputies of the Revenue Department, he added.

Intangible property on which the tax as of December 31, 1937, will be due may be roughly divided into six classifications:

1. Bank deposits, which must be reported by residents only if the bank is outside the state, since banks within the state will report deposits and pay the tax. Rate, 10 cents per \$100.
  2. Money on hand, in addition to bank deposits. Rate, 20 cents per \$100.
  3. Accounts receivable in excess of \$300. Current accounts payable, but not capital outlay, may be deducted. Rate, 25 cents per \$100.
  4. Bonds, notes and all other evidences of debt, other than accounts receivable. Rate, 40 cents on every \$100 of the fair market value in excess of \$300.
  5. Money left on deposit with insurance companies and subject to withdrawal. This does not include the cash surrender value of insurance policies. Rate, 25 cents per \$100.
- Stock in foreign corporations that are not domesticated and paying taxes in this state. Rate, 30 cents per \$100 of fair market value.

## Fishery To Start Work Tomorrow

According to unofficial information received here today, C. C. Fleming plans to start operations at his Jamesville fishery tomorrow. The day for starting operations is not definite, the reports stating that unfavorable weather conditions or unforeseen obstacles may delay the schedule.

Few fish have been taken from the river by operators of drift nets, but added interest in fishing activities was created last Saturday when Daniel Holliday, young man, dipped a sizeable shad from the river at Jamesville.

Small catches by the seine are predicted during the first few days of operation, the season getting underway on a big scale early in April.

The plants at Camp Point and in the lower part of the county plan to start operations next week.

## Parents-Teachers To Hold Regular Meet Tomorrow

Local parents-teachers will hold their regular meeting in the grammar school auditorium tomorrow afternoon at 3:30 o'clock when Mr. Charles Leonard, county sanitarian, and Miss Lora E. Sleeper, home agent, will discuss topics of interest. Principal D. N. Hix announced this morning.

## Working to Convert County Home into T. B. Sanatorium

No hurried or radical change is being considered, but welfare leaders in this county are gradually working to convert the county home into a sanatorium for tuberculosis victims. The change, recognized as one of the county's most urgent needs, is already underway, reports from welfare headquarters stating that five inmates were removed from the institution into private homes only a few days ago. Three of the inmates were returned to Pamlico County, the contract entered into a number of years ago by the commissioners of the two counties and providing for the care of inmates from that county having been cancelled last week. The two other inmates leaving the home last week were placed on old age pension rolls, and are now in private homes. Others will be moved as soon as arrangements can be effected, the welfare authorities pointing out that the old age assistance plan has decreased the number applying for admittance into the county home to a minimum.

The first step to provide a place

for tuberculosis victims, and Martin County had ten or more who have been denied admittance into State sanatoriums, was made a few days ago when a small section of the home was sectionized and a patient was received.

Much study has been given to the change now underway, the welfare authorities pointing out that aged can be cared for in private homes at far less expense to the taxpayers than in the county institution, and that their removal will make room for tuberculosis victims who are unable to get into a state sanatorium or finance their stay in a private institution.

It is expected the change will require many months or even years, but the policy is well-founded and its adoption is almost certain at some time in the future. No inmate will be driven from the home, and no one deserving care will be denied admittance into the home, that the change may be effected more quickly, it was explained.

### MORE CHECKS

Pay day continues for Martin County farmers, according to information coming from the office of the county agent this week. Additional soil conservation benefit checks have been received and are now being distributed to 361 farmers.

Last Saturday, 361 checks representing 153 applications for benefit payments and amounting to \$21,114.95 were received by the agent's office. Notified direct to call for their checks, the owners started streaming to the agent's office Monday.

To date, 1,301 checks representing 606 applications and amounting to \$70,069.10 have been received in the county, the agent's office stating that the total payments will possibly amount to around \$100,000 this year.

## Building And Loan Points To Interest In Home Building

### Official Explains Construction Costs Are Lower Than Year Ago

"Since the first of the year natural forces have been operating to cause renewed interest in home building," Mr. Wheeler Martin, secretary of the Martin County Building and Loan association, declared yesterday.

"During the past nine years," he said, "a tremendous shortage of homes has accumulated, and some residential construction must take place to fill the gap. No one knows exactly just how many homes are needed. All sorts of experts have tried to accurately fix the shortage and have published many widely varying figures, but the truth of the matter is that nobody knows. The shortage of homes depends upon demand, and the demand in turn depends upon the economic condition of the people. When employment is steady or conditions improving people are no longer satisfied to live cooped up under the same conditions as when employment is uncertain. So the shortage of homes rises and falls with changes in business." (Continued on page six)

## Business Pulse Quickened By Passage of Farm Bill

After marking time for several weeks, general business in this agricultural community is said to have shown a quickened pulse yesterday following the passage of the new 1938 agriculture bill at the polls last Saturday. Increased activities were reported along the financial and farm supply fronts, the reports from those two sources throwing an air of confidence around most of this little community's business.

The favorable vote seems to have had invigorating effect in all lines of endeavor, several business men questioned yesterday and today stating that they were more optimistic now than they had been in several months.

Those farmers and a few business men, too, who applied for credit from various sources a week or two ago and who were asked to await the outcome of the farm bill vote

## Airplane Crashes Here Last Sunday; Occupants Unhurt

### Ship Loaded on Truck and Carried to Rocky Mount for Repairs

William Thomas Crawford, local aviator, and a passenger, Miss Katherine Harrison, Plymouth young woman employed in the local office of the Works Progress Administration, escaped uninjured when the new plane owned by the Williamston Aerial Club and piloted by young Crawford, crashed on the club's landing field near the Standard Fertilizer Company plant on Roanoke River here last Sunday afternoon. Crawford and Miss Harrison were slightly jarred when the ship went into a nose dive and the propeller tore into the ground. Damage to the plane was estimated at about \$100, the accident tearing off the propeller and damaging a wing.

The pilot had the plane well under control as he was bringing it to a smooth landing, but the wheels struck a rough spot in the field and caused the ship to do a nose dive. Spectators on the field rushed to the ship, but the occupants were able to get out unassisted.

Undaunted by the accident, Crawford and other members of the club went about the task yesterday of taking the plane to pieces for shipment by truck to Rocky Mount for repairs. The owners who had just accepted the plane direct from the manufacturers a few hours before the accident, state that they plan to be flying high again within two weeks. During the meantime, the club members are making plans to have the landing field enlarged and put in better condition.

It was the third airplane accident ever reported in this county. The first accident was several years ago when Rufus Cherry was riding with a barnstormer and the plane plowed into a wire fence at the fairgrounds. The second accident was reported several months ago when Pilot Crawford struck and killed a hog in Farmer Rome Corey's field in the Farm Life section. None of the accidents proved serious, and the flying spirit has not been at all impaired, but there is little likelihood that the names of the club's two secret members will be revealed at an early date.

## Young County Boy Kills Self While Playing With Gun

### Pete Hoggard, Jr., Dies in Bertie Swamp, Near Palmyra, Sunday

A shot accidentally fired from an old pistol cost Pete Hoggard, Jr., young Martin County boy, his life last Sunday morning as he roamed the Roanoke swamps just across the river from Palmyra landing in Bertie County. Hoggard, a hole bored through his chest by a shot from a .38 caliber pistol, died while his companion, Edsel Ellis, tried to carry him from the swamp. Death is said to have followed within fifteen minutes after the shooting.

Martin County officers were notified of the shooting, and they called Bertie authorities when it was learned the shooting took place in the swamps of Bertie County across the river a short distance from Palmyra. An inquest was held by Dr. Smith, Bertie County coroner, the jury finding that the boy came to his death accidentally. No charges were brought against Ellis, also a Martin County young man and the shot victim's only companion.

Ellis told Martin County officers that Hoggard spent Saturday night with him, that they decided the following morning to go over to the Lewiston Hunting Club for dinner and carried the old pistol with them. Ellis stated that he fired the pistol several times, and handed it over to Hoggard, that he (Hoggard) was trying to dislodge a shell when the weapon fired and sent a bullet through his companion's chest.

"I started carrying Hoggard out of the swamp, but put him down when I learned he had died," Ellis was quoted as saying. The boy, leaving the body in the swamp, continued to the river, paddled across the stream and went to a house about a mile away to report the killing.

First reports stated that Ellis offered several versions of the killing, but the sheriff's office in this county stated that the accidental theory was well established, that apparently the story convinced the coroner's jury and made an indictment unnecessary.

The body was carried to the Scotland Neck Funeral home where services will be held this afternoon, at 2 o'clock. Burial will take place in Lewiston.

Surviving the boy are his father, Pete Hoggard, of Palmyra; his stepmother, four brothers, J. P. Hoggard, of Richmond; Virgil Hoggard of Williamston, Delbert and Morrison Hoggard of Palmyra, and two sisters, Mrs. Mildred Bunch and Mrs. Elsie Roberson of Palmyra.

## Knife Victim Dies Sunday In Hospital

Jasper Wiggins, local colored man, died Sunday morning in a veterans' hospital at Hampton, Va., of knife wounds received in a fight with Ben Flagg, also colored, at Jamesville on the evening of January 15. The immediate cause of his death given on the certificate was myelitis, traumatic, cervical region of cord.

Wiggins, about 47 years old and father of several children, was stabbed in the neck, the wound paralyzing the lower part of his body. After receiving medical treatment here he was removed to the veterans' hospital.

Flagg, an employee of a lumber mill in Jamesville, quit the county immediately after the fight that cost Wiggins his life and he has not been heard from.

Wiggins was brought here early this morning for burial this afternoon.

## Officers Investigate Children Bootleggers

Following the capture of about five gallons of illegal liquor in a brush thicket just off upper Warren street yesterday, local officers are investigating reports connecting small colored children with the bootlegging of liquor. No arrests have been made, but the case is claiming attention of the department.

Reports state that the children, directed by their father, peddle the liquor and offer it for sale in small quantities. While owners have not definitely established ownership of the liquor, they believe they know the operator and are now working to build up a case against him.

Misses Blanche Sullivan, Natalie Gould, Louise Groce, Messrs James Bullock, Ellis Ramey and Lowell Barnes visited in Manteo this week-end.

## Martin County Farmers Rally to Support of Farm Bill With Big Vote in Saturday Referendums

### Supervisor Names Personnel To Prepare County Tax Lists

Tax list-takers were named this week by County Tax Supervisor S. H. Grimes to prepare the 1938 lists in the ten townships, Mr. Grimes explaining that the personnel is subject to a last-minute change. The list-takers and supervisor will meet in the county courthouse next Monday to determine values for personal properties including stocks of merchandise, farm provisions and similar items. The supervisor is planning to attend a school for tax authorities in Raleigh on Thursday of this week to better prepare himself for the changes that have been effected by the passage

of a law governing the taxing of intangible properties.

Names of the list-takers by townships are:

Jamesville: O. W. Hamilton, Williams: L. J. Hardison, Griffins: George C. Griffin, Bear Grass: A. B. Ayers, Williamston: H. M. Burras, Cross Roads: Gordon Bailey, Robersonville: H. S. Everett, Poplar Point: L. G. Taylor, Hamilton: L. R. Everett, Goose Nest: J. A. Rowls. The personnel for handling the lists this year is the same as it was last year, Mr. Grimes said.

## Four of 11 Districts Give 1938 Program Unanimous Support

### Vote 3,063 to 39 for Tobacco; 1,716 to 15 for Cotton

Martin County farmers left no doubt in the minds of everyone their stand on the 1938 farm bill last Saturday when they went to the eleven polling places and gave the program a support approximating 100 per cent. These farmers, well remembering the hectic days back in the early thirties, may have, according to some, voted away their individual freedom and rugged individualism, but reports from the every one of the eleven voting places state that they supported the program gladly. The opposition, proving far weaker than the most pessimistic had even predicted, hardly made a ripple on the surface, the final vote count giving 3,063 for tobacco control and 39 against or a 98.7 percentage support. Cotton was a side issue in the voting last Saturday, but the farmers picked the old king from the dirt and offered him a 99.1 percentage support, or 1,716 for and 15 against control.

Four precincts, Williams, Cross Roads, Gold Point and Hassell, voted 100 per cent for control of both cotton and tobacco. Griffins giving the cotton section of the bill a similar support. Williams and Cross Roads were the only two complete townships to offer a 100 per cent support on a township-wide basis. But the others did not lag behind, and the vote in Jamesville where nearly half the opposition was expressed, was not bad.

### Voting Quiet

Voting throughout the county was without disturbance, quietness marking the activities at every one of the eleven polling places. Lucian J. Hardison, finding a few voters with no way of transportation, volunteered his car and hauled those farmers to the polls over in Williams Township. Two republicans in one township in the upper part of the county voluntarily entered the campaign in behalf of the bill's passage.

Voting was in the open for the most part, one district stating that not a single person troubled himself to go into the secret rooms to mark his tickets. Opposition was a bit bashful in others, and a few withdrew to a corner or behind curtains to mark tickets. One man is said to have traveled quite a distance to register an opposing vote.

Activities around the polls drew no complaints in this county. The opposition, though small it was, could find no cause for complaining, the final vote being accepted by all as an expression of the people's will. Few votes were challenged by the poll holders, and most if not all the votes subject to challenge were said to have favored the bill. The voting was described as the quietest as a whole ever recorded in the county, the farmers turning out in almost a steady stream and of their own accord from early morning until the polls closed at 7 o'clock that evening.

The results were tabulated in the county agricultural building, and much interest was shown in the outcome of the day's voting.

## Burial At Random Causes Confusion

The burial of human bodies outside regular cemeteries and individual home plots is causing considerable confusion for local police. Several bodies have been exhumed during the past few months, and the need for stricter rules governing the disposal of human bodies has been clearly established.

A colored child said to have been of doubtful parentage died shortly after birth here last week, and its body was buried in a hog pasture not so very far off the upper end of Warren street. The unusual burying place attracted attention of rum addicts, and they, thinking the bootleggers were storing liquor underground temporarily, dug the baby up. Officers were notified, and the case was investigated. Proper certificates had been filed with the vital statistic bureau, and no evidence of foul play was advanced.

The body of the child was turned over to an undertaker for reburial last Saturday.

## Farm Bill Given Majority Vote In All But 3 States

### Heavy North Carolina Vote Passes Tobacco Bill Last Saturday

A heavy vote in North Carolina and especially in this immediate section brought up an unfavorable balance in the states of Georgia and Florida and assured the passage of the tobacco section in the new 1938 farm bill. Only one state, California, disapproved the cotton feature of the bill, and its vote was just under the two-thirds majority.

The several states voting on the tobacco section, gave the program a majority of 86 per cent, this state offering it a support approximating 90 per cent. Martin and other counties in this section rolled up a 97 per cent margin in the tobacco poll and 96.5 for cotton control. Georgia polled 61 per cent of its votes in favor of tobacco, and Florida fell under the two-thirds majority mark by nearly 8 per cent.

Complete returns from the tobacco and cotton referendums in this State are not available, but incomplete reports gave the tobacco vote at 145,980 for and 16,890 against control. The cotton section received a vote of 127,656, the opposition polling around 16,000 votes.

Farmers in this section recognized the vote as being against Senator Josiah W. Bailey, many of them expressing regret that they were not privileged to participate in a referendum on Mr. Bailey.

The huge majorities given the tobacco and cotton control features are certain to make the administration of the bill easier, but reports from Washington state that Senator Bailey will "watch the experiment with great interest." He was also reported to have been greatly interested in the results of the vote in Sampson and Johnston counties where the bill survived against an alleged strong opposition—Stanly county was the only one in the state to vote against the bill.

Forces are now at work for the administration of the bill, and county quotas are to be assigned within the next two weeks, it is understood. During the meantime, minimum plantings can be figured on the basis of 70 per cent of the old triple A base by individual farmers. It is hoped this percentage can be raised, but no definite information in that connection is available just now.

## Farm Bill Vote in County

Martin County farmers came up to the expectations of their leaders last Saturday when they polled a 98.7 per cent vote for tobacco control, and supported quota allotments for cotton with a vote of 99.1 per cent. The vote by districts:

	TOBACCO		COTTON	
	For	Against	For	Against
Jamesville	267	19	44	5
Williams	120	0	67	0
Griffins	313	7	33	0
Bear Grass	326	2	66	1
Williamston	519	2	251	1
Poplar Point				
Cross Roads	307	0	197	0
Robersonville	488	3	289	3
Gold Point	122	0	91	0
Hassell	173	0	159	0
Hamilton	132	3	121	3
Goose Nest	304	4	200	3
Totals	2071	40	1718	16

\*Vote represented in totals for Williamston and Cross Roads districts