

# THE ENTERPRISE

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## Small Tax Sums Are Paid Over To County And Towns

### Intangible Tax Received By County Drops Nearly \$4,000

Martin County and the several towns received this week their share of the intangible tax listed, assessed and collected by the State Department of Revenue, the income falling about \$5,000 below the amount assessed by the several towns and counties a year ago.

The county received a check for \$1,346.28 as compared with \$5,284.80 charged against owners of intangible properties a year ago. The amount received by the county represents half of the tax collected from intangible property owners less the collection costs which are regarded as abnormally high by some observers. The State treasurer horned in to get the other half of the amount collected.

In accordance with the law, the money received by the county was turned over to the county board of education for the retirement of school debts. But where the county had a promise of an income in the sum of \$5,284.80 from owners of intangible property last year, it only has \$1,346.28 this year, a decrease of \$3,938.52.

Last year, the town of Williamston collected \$1,152.76 from intangible property owners. This year it was allotted \$343.56 as its share in the intangible, making it appear that that which was intangible a year ago becomes more intangible this year.

The town of Robersonville stands to lose even more than the \$809.20 lost by Williamston, it is estimated that the intangible property listings were considerably greater than they were in Williamston. The amount paid Robersonville is not known at this time, but it could not be in excess of \$146.61, the amount left after the county and Williamston had been paid a total of \$1,889.84 of the original allotment of \$1,826.45. There are several other towns and special districts in the county, and it is thought they have a claim to a share of the intangible tax.

Commenting upon the new system of handling intangible taxes, a public official referred to it as "one big steal."

## G. P. Hall Named Acting Fire Chief Volunteer Group

### Alleged Violation of Fire District Laws Causing Much Concern

Williamston's volunteer fire company disrupted by alleged violation of those laws regulating building construction in the fire zone, was reorganized last night when G. P. Hall was recommended for the post of acting chief, the department membership looking to the town commissioners for a permanent organization, James Herbert Ward, serving as acting chief since George Harris tendered his resignation, continues as assistant chief.

Refusing to offer direct recommendations to the town authorities, members of the volunteer company discussed the advisability of employing a full-time man to head the department, one who can possibly divide his time with another department of the town. The members pointed out that it was hardly reasonable to expect them to devote the time necessary in keeping the fire-fighting equipment in condition, that they had given and would gladly continue to give their time in answering calls or serving in any emergency. Damage to clothes and bodily injury prove costly, the firemen explaining that after experiencing such losses they did not feel it was their duty to handle a task that should be assigned to a regular employee of the town. Firemen, answering a recent call, experienced a damage to clothes approximating \$100 or more, and no provision is made to reimburse them for such losses.

Guided by rules and regulations designed to prevent fire hazards, past chiefs of the fire department have tried to enforce those regulations in the issuance of building permits. Repeated violations of those rules and regulations have caused some friction, and the construction of such buildings is likely to reduce the fire insurance rating on property in what is known as the fire zone. If the class rating now enjoyed by the town is lost, it will mean that insurance premiums will be increased by several thousand dollars annually.

## Farm Bureau Names New Officers for the Coming Year

C. Abram Roberson, county commissioner and prominent farmer of Robersonville Township, was elected to head the Martin County Farm Bureau Federation unit at a meeting of the organization's membership in the agricultural building here last night. Herbert L. Roebuck, Cross Roads citizen and another well-known county farmer, was named vice president. Mr. Roberson succeeds Sam T. Everett who, as president of the unit the past year, has carried on a valuable work both for the organization and the farmers in Martin County. Mr. Roebuck succeeds Mr. J. Marion Griffin who has shown much interest in the bureau program.

J. P. Woodard, assistant county agent, succeeds T. B. Slade as secretary-treasurer of the county bureau.

The attendance upon the meeting was small and the election of township committeemen for the bureau was postponed until Friday evening of this week when a meeting will be held in the Agricultural Building at 7:30 o'clock. All Farm Bureau members attending the meeting will receive a free ticket to the barbecue dinner at the organization's state meeting to be held in Greenville on Wednesday of next week.



C. ABRAM ROBBERSON

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## Attempts To Break In Store, Man Badly Shot

### Arthur Harrison Is Trapped By Owner Of Jamesville Store

#### Charles J. Griffin Shoots Man Early Sunday Morning

Shot while attempting to break into Mr. Charles J. Griffin's store in Jamesville last Sunday morning at three o'clock, Arthur Harrison, 30-year-old colored man, is in a critical condition in a Washington hospital, late reports stating that the man has hardly one chance in a thousand to recover.

Fired at close range from a gun, the load of shot tore away part of Harrison's stomach, a number of shot tearing into his intestines. Hospital attaches pointed out that peritonitis was certain to develop, and added that the man did not have a chance to recover.

As Harrison lay critically wounded in the hospital, officers started an immediate investigation to learn his identity, but his life could be traced back only a few weeks when he boarded with Elizabeth Pittman at 200 Walnut street, Tarboro. He came to this county only a short time ago and was employed by a lumber mill in Jamesville, little having been learned about him during his stay there. Efforts are now being made to establish his identity by submitting finger prints to the department of justice.

Sunday morning about 3 o'clock, Walter Rhodes, colored man living in an old store on Jamesville's almost deserted Main Street, left the building to escape the heat. He heard some one pounding on the Griffin store door, but the noise subsided when a group of young boys and girls rode by. Rhodes, seen by the joy riders, reasoned that he would likely be connected with the robbery and he decided to notify the owner who lived about three or four blocks away. Taking his gun, Mr. Griffin hurried to the store, approaching from one side. As he looked around the front, he saw Harrison raise a sizeable piece of iron and he fired the gun. "I did not know whether he was going to strike me or hit the door again," Mr. Griffin later explained. Apparently excited and thinking the first shot missed its mark, Mr. Griffin fired a second time, the lead taking effect in Harrison's back as he ran across a vacant lot adjoining the store. Harrison, who had torn the front door almost down, threw up his hands and surrendered. He collapsed soon after that and was removed to Dr. W. T. Gibson's office for treatment. A few hours later Harrison was removed to a Washington hospital where an operation was ordered in an effort to save his life.

No charge has been filed against the store owner, it was learned at the office of the sheriff today.

### Series Of Services In Hassell Christian Church

Rev. J. M. Perry, Robersonville minister, will start a series of revival services in the Hassell Christian church Thursday night of this week. The series will be held each evening at eight o'clock during the several days, it was announced.

## Four Injured When Truck Crashes Into Wagon Near Here

### Driver Asleep at Wheel of Machine When Crash Happens

Four people were badly but not seriously hurt, a mule was killed and another injured and a load of tobacco was scattered when a freight truck crashed into a wagon near here on the Washington Highway this morning at 8:30 o'clock. The injured include:

Lewis Harris, 26, severe cuts on left arm and leg and face; Calvin Parker, 21, long gash in neck and abrasions on arm and back; William Stokes, 17, cut on arm and leg, and bad foot injury;

Dock Parker, 30, dislocated shoulder, multiple abrasions and possibly other injuries.

A fifth rider on the wagon, Horace Rackley, 16 years old, escaped injury when he saw the truck was going to strike the wagon and jumped to safety. The injured were treated in the offices of Drs. Rhodes, Eason and McAllister.

One of the mules drawing the wagon was killed almost instantly and the other is expected to die. The wagon was reduced to splinters and a load of tobacco just taken out of a barn was scattered all over the road.

J. G. Staton, owner of the team, wagon and tobacco, had not estimated the damage this morning, but the loss is expected to approximate \$1,000 or more.

O. D. Moots, young white man who was driving the truck for Buryn, Old and Eaton, Norfolk hardware firm, escaped injury, and no great damage was done to the machine. Moots stated that he had worked all night, and that he dropped asleep at the wheel just before the truck plowed into the wagon.

## Number Of Martin Farmers Anxious To Purchase Farms

### More Than Twenty-five Apply for Farm Security Loans

Offered a splendid opportunity to purchase and operate their own farms, many farmers are planning to take advantage of that opportunity in this county, David G. Modlin of the Farm Security Administration, said today. More than thirty-five applications have already been filed in Modlin's office here, and considerable interest is being shown in the plan. It is very likely that more than 100 tenants will apply for loans in keen anticipation of launching out on their own.

Martin County has been designated by the Secretary of Agriculture as one of forty counties in the State where farm-purchase loans will be made available this fall. The number of loans will be limited, of course, but every tenant farmer desiring to own and operate a farm is eligible to apply for one of the loans. The government is anxious to halt the ever increasing number of farm tenants, and where the farm-purchase plans has been inaugurated, it is meeting with marked success.

Any tenant in this county wishing to apply for a loan is directed to the Farm Security office in the courthouse. Applications must be filed by the last of this month. A committee of three farmers will study the loans (Continued on page four)

## Successful Season Is Predicted For Williamston Tobacco Mart Despite Short Crop In Section

### ATTENDING SPECIAL SESSION



Attending a special session of the State Legislature this week, Senator R. L. Coburn, left, and Hugh G. Horton, right, are almost certain the group will pass a law enabling the State to participate in an eight million dollar PWA building program and adjourn early next week. Some observers point out that the session is "cut and dried" to order, that there will be little for legislators to do.



## Market Is Better Prepared To Serve Growers In Section

### Growth Last Season Sets Pace for Entire Bright Belt

Despite a short crop in the section this year, the Williamston tobacco market is destined to experience a very successful season beginning on Thursday, August 25, Henry Johnson, who returns here for his second year as sales supervisor, predicted today. "I do not base the prediction on my own observation, but on reports coming direct from the farmers over a wide area," Mr. Johnson explained. And he offered proof to support the encouraging prediction. "Learning of the added preparations that the Williamston market has made for serving them, farmers who have never sold tobacco here before can now be listed as regular patrons this season," the sales supervisor said.

"If this section had the size of crop this year that it had last, Williamston could have been depended upon to gain a ranking position with the larger markets of the belt, but we are not discouraged, for we earnestly hope and honestly believe that the short crop is going to bring more money than many farmers think it will," Johnson continued.

The Williamston tobacco market established a new record for the entire bright belt last year, making a gain of nearly 88 per cent in its sales last season over those for the previous year. The force that made that record possible is back in its entirety and supplemented by several of the ablest citizens of two counties. "Upon this force of prominent citizens, all able tobaccoists and warehousemen, Williamston is certain to grow," the supervisor pointed out, adding that he had traveled over the marketing area and while he found the crop curtailed, he had every reason to believe that the local market is now nearing the biggest year in its history. "Farmers say voluntarily that Williamston is the coming market, that it probably holds more promise than most any other one in the belt." Continuing, Mr. Johnson said, "I have had so many farmers tell me that up until last year, they never sold tobacco on the Williamston market, but experiencing noble treatment and a marked appreciation last season they are returning this year stronger for the local market than ever."

The market operating personnel for the Williamston market cannot be matched. As citizens, they occupy prominent places in the religious, civic and business life of the community. Long years of experience in the business place them in a splendid position to serve their patrons. Messrs. John Gurkin, Arlie T. Belch, Sylvester Lilley and Bob Ingram will operate the Planters Warehouse and the New Carolina Warehouse, the latter just recently completed being one of the largest and most modern houses in the belt. Messrs. S. Claude Griffin and Jimmie Taylor with their auctioneer, Jackie Taylor, will return to the Roanoke-Dixie house.

The Farmers Warehouse, greatly enlarged, will be operated by Messrs. Leman Barnhill, Holt Evans and Joe Moye again this year.

### Arrested In Bertie, Man Is Placed In Jail Here

Appearing mentally unbalanced, Robert McNish, young colored man, was arrested in Bertie County yesterday morning and placed in the hands of Martin County officers a short time later.

Maintaining he was not their charge, but not knowing what else to do, county officers placed the man in jail while they assumed the responsibility of investigating the case, McNish, it was learned from the sheriff's office in Beaufort County, had served two sentences on the roads at Gainesville, Ga. Roaming across the country, McNish was arrested in Beaufort County a short time ago under the assumed name of Robert B. Jones, reports stating that a Robert B. Jones was wanted in another county for murder. Cleared of that charge, McNish was released and enjoyed freedom until picked up yesterday morning by a Bertie officer who brought him here for Martin authorities to handle.

## Regulations For Marketing of Flue-Cured Leaf In '38-39

### Each Farmer Will Receive Marketing Card With His Allotment

Regulations covering the marketing of flue-cured tobacco for the 1938-39 marketing season have been released by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, it was announced from the office of the county farm agent.

These regulations were issued in accordance with the market quota provisions of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938.

In administering the quotas, each farm operator will be given a marketing card showing the amount of tobacco he can sell without penalty. The card is to be presented to a representative of the AAA at auction warehouses for all sales of tobacco, and all sales within the quota will be recorded on the marketing card.

For farms on which the tobacco available for marketing does not exceed the quota, each producer having a share in the tobacco will be entitled to market under the quota his share of the crop. However, if the total amount available for marketing exceeds the quota, each producer will be entitled to market only his pro rata share of the quota without penalty.

The regulations provide for the transfer of quotas among farms, which means that a farmer who has a quota exceeding the tobacco available for marketing may authorize the transfer of that part of his quota not needed. Quotas may be transferred directly among farmers at the county office or warehouse, or through warehousemen who agree to act as agents.

If quotas are transferred from one farm to another through direct negotiations between the operators of the farms concerned, the consideration for the transfer may be whatever the operators agree upon. If a warehouseman acts as agent in the transfer, the rate of consideration is fixed at five cents per pound.

The payment received by the operator for the transfer of any proportion of the quota will be divided among the producers on the farm in proportion to their share of the crop unless the producers agree among themselves to a different division of the payment.

A warehouseman acting as agent may charge the operator of the farm to which he arranges a transfer of (Continued on page four)

### Few Stills Found In Robersonville District

Raiding in the Great Swamp section of Robersonville Township last week, special enforcements officers found and wrecked a complete liquor still of the steam type. It was the second illicit distillery found in the township within the past three or four years, officers explained.

Sunday morning, the officers conducted a search at Gardner's Creek and found about one-half gallon of liquor. No arrests were made at either the still or the creek.

### CARDS

Unofficial reports heard today still maintain that Martin County farmers will receive their tobacco marketing cards in ample time for the opening in this belt on August 25. There are a few who were late in filing an application, and they are likely to receive their quotas too late for the opening.

Only one temporary marketing card has been issued in this county to date, the farmers being virtually assured that their marketing activities will not be delayed.

A second card was issued today to a Bear Grass farmer.

## Several Arrested In Liquor Raids

Several alleged bootleggers were taken in a series of raids conducted by Special Enforcement Officer J. H. Roebuck and Deputy Bill Haislip here last week-end.

Andrew Everett, aged colored man who has been in the courts several times on similar charges, was placed under bond when the officers raided his small shop on Washington street and found about one-fourth of a pint of rural liquor in his possession. It was a very small quantity all right, officers explained, but there was evidence of sale. Two or three gallon jugs were found.

Although she poured most of the liquor into a slop bucket, Clara Davis, colored, was booked for trial in the county court next Monday when officers found a small quantity of liquor in a refrigerator at her home on Elm Street.

Sam Hardison was also booked for trial when officers found him with a small quantity of legal liquor in a garage on Railroad Street.

"There was evidence of sale," the officers explained, adding that a man recognized as a "customer" was seen leaving the place just as they arrived.

A quart of legal liquor was found in another home, but no evidence of sale could be established, and no charges were brought in that case.

## Miss Katie Philpot Is Now Only Woman Mail Carrier Remaining In U. S. Postal Service

The recent transfer of Anna McDonald from mail-carrier in Anaconda, Montana, to a clerical job in the Post Office Department, left only one woman mail-carrier in the United States postal service. What the Post Office Department apparently overlooked, John Martin, the keen-eyed editor of Time magazine, remembered while hunting in and around Williamston a year ago this winter.

When the Montana city of about 13,000 population hailed the retirement of "the last woman city mail carrier in the United States", Editor Martin set the record straight by reviewing the record of Miss Katie Philpot as carrier in Williamston since the war.

Classifying the type of mail handled by Williamston's mail carrier, Editor John S. ("S") probably for "Stew" Martin did not mention all that literature sent out by his publishing house "begging" renewal subscriptions. But anyway the keen observer got the records straight as to woman mail carriers in the following article appearing in yesterday's edition of "Time": Having trudged 65,000 miles carrying 283 tons of mail since 1918, Anna McDonald, 45, of Anaconda, Mont., was last week transferred from mail-carrier to a clerical job by the Post Office Department. Anaconda hailed the retirement of "the last woman city mail carrier in the United States". But Anaconda was wrong.

Though its records on the subject are vague, the Post Office Department did know that Anaconda's Anna was not the last of her species. During the War many a strong girl got a man's job toting letters from door to door. At least one who still functions is Katie E. Philpot, 44, of Williamston, N. C. Famed otherwise for fine tobacco, corn meal and wild turkeys, Williamston takes pride in the slim, resolute figure of Katie Philpot marching dutifully through the north end of town every morning and afternoon, her slim back bent under the weight of farm papers, religious tracts and mail order literature, her slim legs encased in black cotton hose below neat knickers of Post Office grey.