

No Change In Town Tax Rate Expected For Current Year

Commissioners Will Review Budget Here Next Monday Night

Williamston's tax rate for the current fiscal year will, in all probability, be determined at the regular meeting of the local town commissioners next Monday evening at eight o'clock, unofficial reports indicating that the rate will undergo no material change, that the \$2.60 per \$100 assessed valuation will continue in effect.

Reporting an increase of approximately \$49,000 in the 1938 listings over those for 1937, town officials anticipated a decrease in the rate, but the loss of several hundred dollars ordinarily raised from intangible properties eliminated a possible reduction.

The new budget figures have not been released, but it was learned that strict economy was practiced in preparing the figures for the new year and that some of the operating departments will experience reductions in their appropriations.

During what promises to be a fairly long session, the commissioners are scheduled to make final arrangements for the sale of \$2,000 general improvement bonds. Placed before a vote of the people, the proposed bond election was carried by a substantial majority, and the board at its regular meeting Monday evening plans to effect an immediate sale. During the meantime, it is believed the Public Works Administration will have taken action on the town's application for a direct grant to supplement the improvement program. The application has been filed with the PWA officials in Atlanta and the local authorities anticipate the grant will be made available by the time the bonds are sold, making it possible to start work on paving sidewalks, streets, extending water and sewer lines, and supplementing the town's water supply.

No other business except that of a routine nature is scheduled for consideration by the commissioners at the next Monday meeting.

Dozen Cases Are Called In County Court Last Monday

Judge Peel Continues Six Of Dozen Cases on Docket

The Martin County Recorder's court was all set for a big session last Monday when Judge H. O. Peel called an even dozen cases. But the session was cut short when the jurist for various good reasons continued one-half of the cases for trial at later sessions.

Large crowds were attracted to the courthouse for the session but they were mightily thinned when the court ordered the cases continued and disposed of six others in rapid order.

The case charging Andrew Everett, aged Williamston colored man, with violating the liquor laws, was postponed.

Charged with an assault with a deadly weapon, Kelly Jones pleaded guilty of simple assault. The solicitor accepted the plea and Judge Peel imposed a \$25 fine on the defendant and ordered the cost of the case be paid.

Daniel Ryan pleaded guilty of simple assault in the case charging him with an assault with a deadly weapon. Judgment was suspended upon payment of the cost.

The case charging Floyd Harrell with aiding and abetting in larceny, was postponed.

Prayer for judgment was continued until Monday, September 12 in the case charging E. L. Whitehurst with violating the liquor laws. The defendant entered a plea of not guilty.

In a civil action brought by J. G. Mobley against G. A. Oglesby, the court ruled that the defendant owed the plaintiff nothing. The plaintiff, taxed with the costs of the case, appealed to the higher court.

The following cases were continued:

John Pittman, reckless driving; Willie Faulk, violating the Alcoholic Beverages Control laws; Oliver D. Moots, reckless and careless driving; Linwood Bland, reckless and careless driving; Latham James, drunken driving; Harry Lee Speller, non-support.

Miss Helen Barber, of Windsor, attended a WPA meeting here today.

Cotton Marketing Cards To Be Ready for Farmers Soon

Approximately 1,500 marketing cards will be made ready for distribution among Martin County cotton farmers within the next two or three weeks, T. B. Slade, assistant to County Agent T. B. Brandon, said today. Growers will be advised when to call for the marketing slips.

This county has been allotted nearly 5,000 bales for marketing without penalty, unofficial estimates indicating that productions for the county as a whole, will fall considerably under that figure. Production is based on an allotment of approximately 7,000 acres, but actual plantings will not approach that figure. However, there are a few farmers who exceeded their quotas, but in quite a few cases the growers plowed up fractional acres to bring their plantings in line. Voluntary action on the plow-up plan was taken when the price outlook became disheartening and the quality of the crop was recognized as unusually poor in the county, as a whole. Farmers who held their plantings to assigned acreages will receive white marketing cards. They will be allowed to sell tax free every pound they raise. Those farmers who exceeded their acreage allotments will be issued red marketing cards and while they will be allowed to sell a greater portion of their crop without paying a penalty, they will have to fill out marketing forms each time a sale is made.

A few cotton fields in the county are beginning to turn white, but picking and marketing will hardly get underway within the next few weeks.

Seek Remedy for Low Leaf Prices At Mass Meetings of Farmers

FEW COMPLAINTS

Given fifteen days in which to file appeals, few Martin County farmers have complained about the tobacco marketing quotas allotted them last week. In accordance with the law, review boards have been appointed to review appeals and rule on complaints. Any farmer dissatisfied with his poundage allotment is directed to address a letter to the county agent setting forth grounds for his appeal. The letters will be turned over to a committee of three men who will come from another section of the State to review the appeals.

Presbyterian Young People Meet Today

At 10:30 a. m. this morning the young people of the Albemarle Presbyterian about 150 strong assembled in the Bear Grass Presbyterian church for their annual Fall conference.

Miss Sarah Stille McLean, of Plymouth, president, called the meeting to order. After a brief devotional, a number of addresses were made, all by the young people.

At 12:30 p. m. the meeting adjourned for the lunch hour. For the first time, instead of the hostess church providing the lunch, all young people were asked to bring a picnic lunch, this picnic lunch was served in the new Community House which is nearing completion. During the lunch hour there was much merriment as the different groups sang their songs and gave individual yells.

The afternoon session was taken up with the reading of the reports of the young people's organizations from each local church. Plans were made and discussed for the next three months.

The churches represented were from the territory surrounding the following cities: Kinston, New Bern, Goldsboro, Wilson, Rocky Mount, Greenville, Tarboro, Washington, Martin County, Elizabeth City and Ahoskie.

The Rev. John C. Whitley, of Bear Grass, is the director of the young people's work in the Presbytery. Mrs. Borden, of Goldsboro, represented the Woman's Auxiliary, of the Presbytery.

Leaves After Nine Months In Hospital

Willie T. Padgett, critically shot by Clayton Beacham last December returned to his home, near Jamesville, Wednesday evening after a stay of nearly nine months in a Washington hospital. While he is able to sit up during short periods daily, his condition continues serious. His bladder shot to pieces, Padgett has undergone numerous operations, and arrangements are being made to remove him to a Durham hospital next week where efforts will be made to transplant the bladder of a sheep or that of some other animal.

Padgett was shot during a quarrel with Beacham at the Padgett home in Jamesville Township early in the evening of December third. He was removed to the hospital and was given only one chance in a thousand to recover.

State Farm Bureau Leads Movement to Boost Fair Prices

Eight Meetings Are to Be Held; Greenville Is Nearest Here

A slump in tobacco prices reported generally throughout the belt since the opening a little over a week ago, is attracting wide attention, and mass meetings in eight counties have been called for tomorrow afternoon at 2:30 o'clock by the State Farm Bureau Federation executive committee in session this week.

The meetings were called in an effort to determine the cause of the slump in tobacco prices on the new bright belt markets and consider possible means of boosting the averages which have sagged more than \$3 per hundredweight in the past three days.

All meetings will be held at 2:30 o'clock Saturday afternoon in the county court houses at the following places with the following men presiding:

Wilson: A. D. Williams; Tarboro: W. W. Eagles; Nashville: W. F. Woodruff; Snow Hill: A. C. Edwards; Kinston: Dr. J. Y. Joyner; Greenville: Haywood Dail, Jr.; Warrington: W. E. Turner; Kenansville: L. P. Wells.

The meeting of the executive committee was first called as a business session but the seriousness of the tobacco price situation was discussed at length following which it was decided to call the mass meetings for Saturday. Discussions of the low prices will be directed by farm bureau members and other agricultural leaders at the mass meetings and a remedy for the situation will be sought.

E. F. Arnold, secretary of the state organization, said an effort would be made to discredit current propaganda that the crop control program is responsible and to gain farmers' assurance that the control program will be continued beyond this year to insure a "parity" price.

"We find that prices have slumped from two to five cents a pound since the border belt opened, and the trend is downward," Secretary Arnold said after the meeting. "We had no indication that the trend would continue downward, but we hope to bring it upward."

A. D. Williams, president of the Wilson County Farm Bureau, said the committee was informed disgruntled farmers were talking about defeating the crop control bill in referendum this fall and that tobacco buyers, learning of the farmers' attitude on the bill had said they would not pay 25 cents for tobacco this year, when they could buy it another year for 15 cents if the control bill is not voted into effect again.

A few farmers from this county are planning to attend the meeting in Greenville.

Suffers Ankle Injury When Soft Drink Bottle Explodes

Sarah Keel Taylor, young daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Taylor, suffered a bad cut on her left ankle early this week when a soft drink bottle exploded in Penders store and a piece of the glass struck her. Several stitches were necessary to close the wound.

Prominent County Citizen Passes At Home In Everetts

Funeral Services Conducted Yesterday Afternoon For S. S. Bailey

Samuel Stewart Bailey, prominent county citizen and well-known farmer of Everetts, died at his home there Wednesday afternoon at four o'clock following a long period of ill health. A victim of high blood pressure and complications, Mr. Bailey was in his usual health last Tuesday when he joined Mrs. Bailey at the table for the evening meal. He suffered the stroke there, and his condition became critical. Although he had no use of his faculties he remained conscious until just before the end.

The son of the late Cecelia J. Peel and Warner Jesse Bailey, he was born in Everetts on February 15, 1867. Educated in the old school, Mr. Bailey developed a character that made everyone look upon him as a good man, one who gained and held the high respect of acquaintances in every walk of life. In the home he was a thoughtful husband and an understanding father, placing his welfare second to that of his family and friends. His was a well-lived life, offering a splendid example for succeeding generations to follow. In his dealings with his fellow man, honesty and fairness held prominent places, and the little community in which he lived and died and the county of which he was a citizen were made better places through his influence and the high moral standards he observed during his more than 71 years of life.

During a few years, Mr. Bailey was engaged in the mercantile business, but later he centered his attention to the farm from which he retired from active management a few years ago.

On November 4, 1900, he was married to Miss Nancy Mabel Parker who survives with one son, Joseph Walter Bailey, former judge of Martin County's Recorder's court.

Funeral services were held at the late home yesterday afternoon at four o'clock by Rev. E. C. Shoe, Robersonville Baptist minister, and Rev. James H. Smith, pastor of the Baptist church here. Burial was in the new cemetery at Robersonville. A large crowd was present for the last rites to pay tribute to his memory.

Board Favors Plan To Organize County Social Work Council

Third Case Worker Will Be Added to Department Personnel

Meeting in special session here this week, the Martin County Welfare Board approved plans advanced by Miss Mary Taylor, superintendent of the county's welfare department for organizing a County Council of Social Work to study the social and civic needs of Martin County and provide a free discussion of social problems, to formulate principles and promote standards of social and civic work, and to develop an attitude of cooperation in the handling of common welfare problems.

The board approved the selection of a new case worker, who will begin her duties on the staff of the County Welfare Department September 19.

The board approved eighteen Old Age Assistance applications, averaging \$9.87 per month for each grant. Twelve applications for Old Age Assistance were rejected. Two applications for this type of assistance were held for further investigation by the case workers of the welfare department. Two applications for increases in grants were approved.

Two applications involving eight children were approved for Aid to Dependent Children. The average grant per family was \$15.00 per month or \$3.33 1-3 per month per child. Two applications for Aid to Dependent children were rejected.

The board composed of Rev. E. C. Shoe, of Robersonville, Messrs. W. Robert Everett, of Palmyra, and Joshua L. Coltrain, of Williams Township, adjourned to meet again in joint session with the county child welfare advisory committee on September 20.

Two Colored Boys Hurt as Wheel Crashes Into Auto

Bill Brown and Monk Williams, young colored boys, were slightly hurt when they ran their bicycle into the side of a car driven by Mack Curtis, Rocky Mount man, at the colored school here this afternoon.

Tobacco Prices Showing Added Strength as Local Market Passes The Million-Pound Mark Today

Comparison of Enrollment

Forty-three more pupils entered the ten white schools of the county yesterday than on the opening day a year ago, according to official but incomplete figures coming from the office of the board of education here today.

General increases were reported by the high school departments, but the elementary divisions were short of the opening day figure for the 1937-38 term.

The figures below, while subject to change, give an enrollment comparison in the high school and elementary departments for the opening yesterday and the one a year ago.

	1937-38	1938-39	1937-38	1938-39
Jamesville	318	110	428	319
Farm Life	137	59	196	132
Bear Grass	245	69	314	264
Williamston	546	209	755	558
Everetts	253	253	255	185
Robersonville	322	275	397	324
Gold Point	69	47	65	235
Hassell	47	47	55	65
Oak City	247	145	392	255
Hamilton	200	200	204	140
Totals	2384	867	3251	2431
Incomplete				777
				3208

Schools Open with an Increased Attendance

Slight Decrease Is Reported In The Elementary Grades

Crowded Conditions Exist In Several Grades in Some Schools

Thirty-five Martin County schools opened the 1938-39 term yesterday morning, reports from the ten white units showing a total gain of forty-three pupils over opening-day enrollment figures a year ago. Reports are not available for the colored schools, but it was unofficially learned that the Williamston colored school could not crowd all its pupils into the building.

Preliminary reports coming from the ten white schools show a decrease in the elementary enrollments but the loss there was more than offset by sizeable increases in the high school departments, especially at Robersonville where a gain of 35 was reported in the number of advanced pupils. At Williamston the high school enrollment jumped from 185 last fall to 209 yesterday.

"We are expecting increased numbers next Monday," most of the principals explained in reporting the opening-day enrollment figures late yesterday.

With decreased attendances, some of the schools are subject to lose a teacher in the elementary department, it was pointed out.

Principal Jim Uzzle had a problem on his hands at Jamesville when he counted 63 little folks asking admittance to the second grade there. The school there reported, a stable elementary enrollment and an increase of twelve in the high school.

Farm Life showed gains in both divisions, but they were small. Bear Grass lost a few in the lower grades, but gained two in the high school.

Reporting 546 present yesterday, Principal D. N. Hix predicted that the elementary enrollment would be increased by half a hundred next Monday. No material increase is expected in the high school enrollment of yesterday. The opening here was, as in most of the schools, informal. Rev. John Hardy conducted the devotional program, and R. L. Coburn, chairman of the school board, emphasized the importance of a good beginning in life, in a brief talk to the pupils and teachers. "Competition is so great in this modern age that only those with adequate training and preparation can expect to achieve economic security," he said.

The schools at Everetts, Gold Point and Hassell just held their own in enrolling pupils, and complete reports were not available for Oak City and Hamilton.

There was much shifting of pupils reported the first day, but proper assignments of pupils will be effected immediately, it was learned.

All teachers were present and the opening was recognized as one of the most successful in the history of the county school system.

TAXES

Taxes will again come to the front when the Martin County commissioners, in accordance with the law, order the advertisement of all delinquent taxes on October 1 for sale on the first Monday in November. The law, governing the sale of taxes by the sheriff, directs the county authorities to advertise taxes for sale on any first Monday from June to November and it is beyond their power to delay the sale after the first Monday in the latter month.

Very little business other than that of a routine nature is scheduled for consideration by the board at the regular meeting next Monday.

Many Tenants Wish To Purchase Farms

Seventeen out of every one hundred tenants in Martin County are anxious to buy and operate their own farms, D. G. Modlin of the Farm Security Administration, said after receiving 269 applications from tenants for farm-purchase loans. The period for filing applications was closed Wednesday, unofficial reports stating that Martin County ranked near the top with the number of tenants wishing to buy and operate their own farms under the provisions of the Farm Security Administration.

According to latest census figures there are 1,643 tenant farmers in Martin County, the number being around 62 per cent of all farmers in the county. There are 925 white and 716 colored tenants in the county, the percentage standing at 56.4 and 43.6 respectively.

The applications received in this county will be turned over to a committee of three farmers who will determine the successful applicants and assist them in purchasing farms in time for cultivation next year. It has not been announced, but it is likely that more than a dozen loans will be made in the county this year by the Farm Security Administration, but additional loans will be considered next year.

Farmer Is Victim Of Flimflammers

Flimflammers, working the old pocket-book game, picked up another sucker in the county this week, according to reports reaching here from Robersonville. A colored farmer whose name could not be learned was reported to have lost \$83 in Robersonville Wednesday noon, late reports stating that nothing had been heard from the flimflammers, a colored man and colored woman.

The victim, sheepishly admitting his participation in the old game, explained that the pocket-book was used, that he became suspicious and when he accused the man and woman of being flimflammers they snatched the money out of his pocket and fled.

Market Will Miss Blocking Today By Only Few Minutes

Growers Are Offering Tips For Sale In Fairly Large Quantities

Prices on Williamston's tobacco market showed added strength yesterday, reports from the sales this morning maintaining that there is little change from the gain recognized yesterday. Farmers state that some grades have advanced in prices as much as five to seven cents a pound over those reported earlier in the week, and it is agreed for the most part that the inferior quality grades are still bringing good prices, but the 30- and 32-cent piles are not so conspicuous on the floors these days.

"There is no doubt but what the local tobacco market showed added strength yesterday, but tobacco is still cheap, not only here but throughout the belt," Supervisor of Sales Henry Johnson said in explaining that he had visited nearly all the principal markets during the past few days. "It is no use to kid ourselves and say tobacco is selling high, but I do say and challenge anyone to dispute the statement that tobacco is selling just as high as it is on any market anywhere," Mr. Johnson added.

Many complaints have been heard during the past few days, but yesterday and today farmers were either fairly well satisfied or were reconciled to the price average and few complaints were heard.

The market today will miss blocking by a matter of a few minutes, Supervisor Henry Johnson stating that the offerings today estimated in excess of two hundred thousand pounds will send the total sales well over the one million pound mark.

Surprising as it may seem, the general average of the market to date this year compares very favorably for that recorded for the same period a year ago. Some say the quality is better this year than the brown lugs offered a year ago, and it is agreed that the farmers up until they started marketing tips in fairly large quantities were offering some of their best quality tobacco.

Local tobaccoists are hopeful the price average will strengthen as the season advances. A decrease of more than 100,000,000 pounds in the eastern bright belt is now almost a certainty and it is hoped that once this shortage is considered the price will strengthen in proportion.

Regardless of the trend, it can be said and truthfully so that Williamston is selling tobacco just as high as any market.

Crowds Attending Macedonia Meeting

Large crowds have been attending the revival at the Macedonia Christian church, conducted by Dr. John William Tyndall, Jr., Texas evangelist. For the last three nights the building has been filled almost to capacity and it is expected that still larger crowds will be in attendance upon the meeting by the end of the week. Rev. Hyndall is the son of the world famous Bible scholar and college president, Dr. John W. Tyndall, who was accidentally killed in an automobile wreck five years ago, and who was so well known throughout this section where he was at one time president of Industrial Christian college, near Kinston, and who was at the time of his death president of Randolph College, Ciske, Texas. Dr. John Jr., has been vice president of the board of trustees of this college since 1933.

Some of the subjects to be used over the week-end are as follows: Friday evening, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?"; Saturday morning, "Never Man Spoke as This Man"; Saturday evening, "Was the Thief Saved on the Cross?"; Sunday morning, "The Torn Veil"; Sunday evening, "The Difference Between the Sinner in the Church and the Sinner out of the Church."

Every member and friend of the church is urged to bring a basket dinner which will be served on the church yard after morning worship. There will also be an afternoon service at three o'clock. Music will be furnished by a quartet.