

Start Drive To Extend Highway 64 To The Ocean

Columbia Citizens Now Working for Direct Route from Ocean to Mountains

A drive to connect the ocean with Murphy by a direct hard surfaced route is now being formulated by Messrs. Floyd and Earl Cohoon, prominent Columbia business men.

According to Victor Meekins, Dare sheriff and Manteo editor, "It is the idea of these men that Route 64, which traverses Columbia, can be made one of the most famous tourist routes in America. As was advocated by C. Wallace Tatem some years ago, Route 64 is considered a great route for a park to park highway connecting the Cape Hatteras National Seashore with the Smoky Mountains. The enthusiastic Cohoons who by the way, are not closely related, believe they can go even further and by organizing an association whose membership would be confined to the towns and villages traversed by this highway from Columbia to Murphy, they would not only effectually advertise it on a national scale, but would create sentiment that would tend to bring about many improvements. They consider it a disgrace to the State of North Carolina that this road has never been extended beyond Albemarle River and think it is the state's duty to push it on to Roanoke Island and the seashore.

"The two Cohoons expect to send an invitation to Dare County people and to all other towns east of Raleigh along this route to join them in taking initial steps in forming such an organization. They refer to the many historic points of interest that lie in proximity to the route or immediately on it.

"They go far enough to say that east and west should join hands in perpetuating this great road and in sharing its attractions with the nation to their mutual profit.

"Why should not," say they, "the people of the mountain region delight in sending down tourists to the far east in exchange for our visitors who we might direct westward? With each section working in unanimous cooperation we would keep thousands of people within the state, who now either go north or south, in search of attractions that can no wise compare with those we have in North Carolina."

"The Cohoons say that before the summer is over, they will initiate this movement and will have the united backing of their home town to start with."

Crops Not Damaged In County By Rain

Heavy rains falling in the county during the past few days have caused no serious damage to crops, a hurried survey of the agricultural situation revealed today.

The ground is saturated and additional rainfall just now is subject to cause some damage, farmers questioned yesterday and today, said.

Tobacco is ripening rapidly and it is possible that late crops will take a second growth, but the situation is not at all alarming and present indications point to bumper crops. The corn crop outlook is the brightest in years in Martin County.

June, reckoned as a dry month, turned out to be not so dry after all. During the period, 5.40 inches of rain fell as compared with 9.71 inches in June, a year ago.

July is fast getting on the wet side, the local weather station reporting 3.35 inches of rain to date, the heaviest fall, 1.98 inches, coming early yesterday morning.

Planning Tour Of Farms In County

Martin County farmers are being invited to participate in the annual county farm tour scheduled for Wednesday of next week. This is the third annual tour planned in the county, and more farmers are expected to participate in the review of farm practices than last year.

A schedule of the tour is now in the making, and will be made public within the next two or three days. According to tentative plans, farms in nearly every township in the county will be visited during the one-day tour. Particular attention will be centered on various fertilizer and variety tests and hog breeding. Included in the tour will be visits to two Farm Security Administration farms and two vocational agriculture projects.

Power farming will be reviewed, and other interesting projects will be visited.

The tour is open to anyone, farmers especially.

Singing Class In Church Wednesday Night

The Free Will Baptist Orphanage class, of Middlesex, will give a concert at Rose of Sharon church Wednesday night, July 12, at eight o'clock. No admission will be charged and the public is invited to attend.

Pulp Mill to Reopen in This County on Monday, July 24

The plant of the North Carolina Pulp Company in the lower part of this county, closed for the past two months by a strike of the parent mill in Delair, N. J., will reopen on Monday, July 24, according to an official announcement released yesterday afternoon by Manager Cox. Operations at the plant in this county will be advanced independently of the mill in New Jersey, an unofficial report stating that the output will be shipped to Richwood, West Virginia, for manufacture.

The reopening of the plant will place more than 300 people back to work in the county, it was estimated. Unable to effect a settlement of a strike at the New Jersey plant, approximately 700 workers continue idle there.

While proposed plans to increase the capacity of the plant in this county have been abandoned, it is understood that the company is going forward with a program to refine its output and bleach a portion of the raw pulp that is ordinarily shipped to other mills for finishing.

It is not likely that full-capacity production will be maintained by the mill upon its reopening two weeks from now, but all its employees will be put back to work in the mill or in making preparations for refining the raw pulp.

An official statement on the company's plans for future developments and operations is expected from the home office tomorrow or Thursday, it was learned here today.

FEW CALLS

Calls received by the local volunteer fire department have been few and far between this season. Yesterday morning at 8:35, the department had a call from a Marshall Avenue home, but just as the apparatus was being moved out of the station, a second call was received advising the fire was out.

The call yesterday was the first received by the department since May 15.

So far this year, the town has one of the best fire loss records in several years.

Martin Native Is Killed In Wreck In Hertford County

Funeral for Mrs. Sam Bunting Held Here Sunday Afternoon

Funeral services were conducted at the home of Mrs. Jodie Barnhill on Main Street here last Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock by Rev. James H. Smith for Mrs. Sam Bunting, victim of a truck-wagon crash near Ahoeskie, Hertford County, early last Saturday morning. Interment was in the Barnhill family cemetery, near Everetts.

Riding in a single horse wagon with Mr. and Mrs. Berry Thomas and holding her fourteen-months-old daughter in her arms, Mrs. Bunting was thrown from the wagon when it was struck from the rear by a large transfer truck. She suffered a broken back and a fractured arm, reports stating that she was killed instantly. Her daughter, Anna Lane, was removed to a Suffolk hospital for treatment of a severe head injury. However, the child's condition was not considered serious by hospital attaches. Suffering a compound leg fracture, Mrs. Thomas, also a native of this county, was reported in a serious condition in the hospital where attending doctors state that she will likely lose her leg.

Thomas, driver of the wagon, was painfully bruised but not seriously hurt, and John Lassiter, Jr., driver of the transfer truck, and Tendie Lassiter, passenger in the truck, were not hurt. At a coroner's inquest held that morning, the truck driver was ordered held under bond in the sum of \$1,000. Lassiter, a young resident of Conway, N. C., maintains the wagon was on the wrong side of the road. Thomas said that he was on his side of the road when he heard the truck. That was all he could remember.

Mrs. Bunting, 32 years old, was the daughter of the late James and Roxie Lane Bunting, of this county. Following her marriage to Mr. Bunting, she had made her home in Hertford County. Besides her husband, she leaves four children and several brothers and sisters.

Highway Accident Record

Automobile drivers in Martin County placed their names on the safety honor roll during the week ending July 9 for the first time in recent months, incomplete reports showing that travel moved in and through the county without an accident of any kind. While the splendid record of the past week does not prove that Martin County drivers attained perfection when it comes to thoughtful and careful operation of their motor vehicles, there are grounds for believing that the large number of accidents and the heavy toll during recent weeks are having their weight in awakening the motorists from the apparent lethargy surrounding the operation of their cars.

The property damage resulting in automobile accidents, is running far ahead of that for the same period a year ago, and the highway death toll to date is greater than it was for all last year.

With these cold facts staring motorists in the face, there is every reason in the world for them to stop and think more about the rules of the road.

A comparison of accident records for the past week and for the first months of the year follows:

	Accidents	Injured	Killed	Property Damage
Last Week's Record	0	0	0	\$ 000.00
Prior Record	24	22	7	\$6,800.00
TOTALS	24	22	7	\$6,800.00

Review Of Forest Fire Service In the County Last Year

Sixty Fires Cause Damage Estimated at More Than 7,000.00

Reviewing the activities of the State-County forest fire service in this county for the past year, District Forester P. W. Tillman pointed out in a recent report that a damage estimated at \$7,008.00 resulted to the forests in this county as a result of sixty fires during the period. Scattered all over the county, the sixty fires burned over 4,403 acres, it was estimated. The report further shows that 926 acres of merchantable timber were partially or wholly damaged.

Forester Tillman pointed out that there were 166,500 acres of forest land in the county, that the fires damaged 2.6 per cent of the acreage, averaging 73.39 acres per fire.

Most of the fires were caused by brush burning and by careless smokers, the report pointing out that eight parties were prosecuted in the courts for alleged violation of the forest fire laws. Judgment was apparently suspended in all the cases, the report showing that only court costs were collected. The costs were negligible, averaging less than \$5 for each of the eight cases. Suppression costs collected following thirteen fires amounted to \$70.27.

While the service had the general cooperation of landowners and farmers, only \$42.10 worth of labor was volunteered free in fighting the fires.

The report gives the county warden, S. J. Tetterton, resigned, credit for working 2,500 hours, and shows that he traveled 10,267 miles during the period in promoting the service and in handling fires. The warden interviewed 220 persons and personally participated in fighting twenty-seven of the sixty fires. He also inspected saw mills, visited the schools and posted signs warning against forest fires.

During the year, the district wardens and other men in the organization traveled 3,243 miles and worked 5,146 hours in promoting the service and combating fires.

At their recent meeting, the county commissioners appropriated \$1,000 as the county's part in promoting the forest protection program during the current fiscal year under the local direction of Warden Marvin Leggett, of Griffins Township.

Farmers To Hold Field Day Events At Test Station

Thousands Expected To Be Present At Wenona Thursday

Sponsored by the State Department of Agriculture, the annual field day will be held at the Blackland Test Farm in Washington county at Wenona on Thursday of this week. Presided over by former Senator R. L. Coburn, of Williamston, the field day program is expected to attract thousands of farmers from several counties including a goodly number from Martin.

The program carries a number of prominent state speakers including Senator W. B. Rodman, of Washington; Commissioner of Agriculture Kerr Scott; Prof. R. H. Ryffner, of the animal industry division, N. C. State College; D. S. Coltrane, assistant to the commissioner of agriculture; Dr. R. E. Collins of the N. C. State College Agronomy Division.

Interesting features to which special attention will be directed are:

Percheron horses, quality of meat studies—beef cattle, improvements in native cattle by use of pure-bred sire, value of native reeds as a pasture for beef cattle, gleanings studies with beef cattle, cost of raising pigs to weaning age, cost of carrying breeding herd of hogs, peanut meal as a supplement to corn for fattening hogs, improvement of the family cow; the farm flock of sheep, fertilizer and crop rotation studies, lime tests, manganese and copper sulphate studies, pasture-grass fertilizer test seed corn selections, soybean variety test, hybrid corn test, effects of sharing on summering lambs.

In addition to the men's program, the ladies have mapped a program of their own.

Several contests are included in the program, and interesting demonstrations have been scheduled.

Spot Sites For Inspection By Hospital Committeemen

A special committee, named by legislative act to select a site for a tuberculosis sanatorium in eastern North Carolina, will be a sked to inspect an even dozen farms in this community, it was learned today.

Meeting in Raleigh yesterday, the committee, headed by O. M. Mull, is inspecting possible sites in other counties today. It could not be learned just when the group is planning on visiting this county. "They will probably be in here late today or early tomorrow," Mr. G. H. Harrison said this morning.

Postal Receipts at the Local Office Show Fairly Large Gain

After experiencing a small loss in the first quarter of this year as compared with the first quarter in 1938, the local post office came forward with a gain last quarter to establish a new record for the six months period.

Stamp sales for the first quarter of this year dropped to \$4,643.65 from \$4,723.61 in the first quarter of last year. During the months of April, May and June of this year, the stamp income amounted to \$5,295.02 against \$5,005.31 for the second quarter in 1938, a gain of \$289.71. After deducting the small loss experienced in the first quarter of this year, the local

office showed a gain of \$208.75 for the first six months of this year over the first six months of last year.

Money order business last quarter was slightly under that for the same quarter a year ago, but the volume of mail, carrying the frank, about held its own to make the postoffice a busy place.

Stamp sales for the past two fiscal years by quarters are, as follows:

Quarter	1937-'38	1938-'39
First	\$ 4,807.10	\$ 4,889.37
Second	6,043.43	6,102.47
Third	4,724.61	4,643.65
Fourth	5,005.31	5,295.02
Totals	\$20,580.45	\$20,930.51

Farm Security Makes Record in This County

Eleven Farms Are Purchased Under Security Farm Plan

Program Is Moving Forward Rapidly in the County, Modlin Says

Created by the present National Administration to convert tenants into independent farm owners and operators, the Farm Security Administration is meeting with a marked success in this county. David Modlin, head of the local district, said this week. "Martin County led the entire region of five Southern States in the purchase of farms for tenants," Modlin explained. It has been a slow process, no doubt, but the rapid trend from land owner to tenant has apparently been checked and the pendulum is swinging in the other direction.

Not all of the eleven purchases have been consummated, but the plans are complete with the exception of a few legal technicalities that must be handled before the actual transfer of ownership can be effected.

Martin County tenants have shown a marked interest in the rehabilitation program, more than 150 having applied for farms under the special program last year. No definite allotment has been assigned this county for the new fiscal year, but the Farm Security Administration recently received an increased appropriation at the hands of Congress and it is possible that the farm purchase movement will gain momentum this year throughout the country. In addition to around 150 applications brought over from last year, the office of the administration in this county has received twenty additional ones within recent weeks. Other applications will be considered, and any tenant in the county who wishes to start out on his own is invited to file his application in Modlin's office at the county courthouse.

In promoting the farm purchase plan, it is planned to handle the applications and place the new owners in a position to start farming for the 1940 season. Those wishing to participate in the program and who have not already done so are directed to get their applications in immediately.

The greatest trouble in advancing the program in this county is the limited number of farms for sale. More tenants could have been placed on farms of their own had there been more farms for sale in the county last year.

Reporting on the activities carried on those farms recently purchased through the Farm Security Administration, D. G. Modlin states that he is more than pleased with the progress made to date. "Proof has been advanced by everyone of those farmers that the Farm Security Plan is sound, that it offers one solid and sure approach to the farm tenant problem," he added.

Last Round Up of Dogs Draws To A Close in Martin County

The enforcement of that State law requiring the vaccination of dogs against rabies is nearing 100 per cent effective this week as officers continue plans to carry alleged violators into the courts on Saturday, July 15.

Armed with criminal warrants, officers invaded four townships last week and left little doubt in the minds of twenty-two dog owners that the law would be enforced in this county. Ten of the warrants were issued in error, and in those cases the defendants will be dismissed by the courts, no doubt. Twelve other defendants have been ordered to appear before Justice J. L. Hassell for trial on Saturday of this week. Additional warrants are now being issued in Robersonville, Goose Nest and Hamilton Townships and it is likely that two dozen or more persons will be called upon to explain

ATTENTION

Delayed for some unannounced reason, a representative of the La Cooperative des Tabacs Laurentiens, of Joliette, Quebec, will be here about the first or the middle of next week to sign up farmers to go to Canada and cure tobacco late this summer. It was learned last week-end. It is expected that C. D. Groves, a former buyer on the Williamston market, will come here to sign the curers.

Nearly 100 Martin County farmers have shown an interest in the curing jobs and it is highly probable that a goodly number will be signed for the task when the representative of the cooperative tobacco firm comes here.

83 Young People In Church Meeting At Dardens Sunday

Cooperation of Every Church In Martin County Is Urged

A group of 83 young people representing various churches of the county assembled in the Dardens Christian church Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock for the regular interdenominational league meeting with Mary E. Keel, president, presiding. The meeting was opened with a short song service. Miss Naomi Brown, of the Bear Grass Holiness church, led a very interesting and inspiring devotional which was followed with prayer by Garland C. Bland. The topic of the program, "Youth Action in Personal Religious Living" was introduced and those participating on this program were, Miss Sally Gray Gurkin, Miss Amanda Wynne, Miss Annie Mae Bailey and Miss Carrie Dell Terry. Some very inspiring talks were made by each speaker. Rev. Jack Vinson, of the Bear Grass Presbyterian church, rendered special music, singing a bass solo.

Miss Josephine Gurganus, secretary, called the roll of all the churches in the county and those having delegates present were Dardens Baptist church, Macedonia Christian church, Bear Grass Holiness church, Roberson Chapel Presbyterian church, Sweet Home Christian church, Dardens Methodist, Rosen Sharon Free Will Baptist Church, Jamesville Christian church, Williamston Methodist church, Dardens Christian church, Williamston Baptist church and Bear Grass Presbyterian church. This was one of the largest and finest meetings of the interdenominational league since its organization in January, 1939, and every young person went back

(Continued on page four)

Indications Point To Billion Pound Crop Of Tobacco

Estimate of Crop Reporting Board Is Said To Be Conservative

The federal crop reporting board in a report released yesterday predicts a tobacco crop in excess of one billion pounds this season, the estimate being regarded by many as being very conservative. The more liberal guessers are of the opinion that the crop now in production will approximate a billion and one quarter pounds, the latter guess depending upon weather conditions to a great extent.

A preliminary survey of crop conditions in the eastern North Carolina belt during the past few days indicates that a considerable poundage will be lost in harvesting, one authority pointing out that much of the crop was already burning up in the fields and that following the recent rains the stage is set for rapid ripening.

The crop reporting service report reads, in part, as follows: With all belts showing a marked increase, the largest step up in production coming from the old tobacco-producing areas of North Carolina the board reported 1,103,000 acres planted to flue-cured tobacco and an indicated production of 1,022,995,000 pounds.

The record-breaking crop, which is the first produced without production control since passage of the AAA act in 1933, is the result of not only increased planting, but an estimated larger yield per acre. In 1938 the 912,100 acres planted to flue-cured yielded an average of 861 pounds. The estimated acreage yield for the 1939 crop is placed at 927 pounds as compared to the 1928-37 average of 760 pounds.

The crop reporting board estimated a total tobacco crop, including all classes, of 1,654,222,000 pounds as compared to the 1938 crop of 1,378,534,000 pounds.

The 1939 flue-cured crop is expected to exceed consumption by around a quarter of a billion pounds. The present indicated consumption is between 740 and 750 million pounds. The quotas fixed by Secretary of Agriculture Wallace which failed to receive the necessary two-thirds support of growers in the referendum last fall called for a crop of 754,000,000 pounds. This would have lined production with consumption as is the purpose of the AAA program.

The April 1 report on tobacco stocks showed 909,718,000 pounds of flue-cured tobacco on hand. This is more than a year's supply at present consumption levels.

Another factor which clouded the flue-cured tobacco picture today was a report from the office of foreign agricultural relations in London stating that American exporters of tobacco may expect to find market prospects in European countries for flue-cured "somewhat less favorable" than during the last two seasons. This was attributed to the larger stocks now on hand in Europe.

The Eastern North Carolina belt will continue most to the increase in 1939 flue-cured production, according to the crop reporting board report which places the indicated yield at 366,000,000 pounds. This compares to a production in this belt of 251,980,000 pounds last year and the 1928-37 average of 262,540,000 pounds. In 1938 the growers in the eastern belt planted 293,000 acres and this year increased their acreage to 366,000 acres. Last year the average yield in the belt was 860 pounds and the indicated yield this year 1,000 pounds.

Although Georgia growers this year increased their planting from 87,000 to 104,000 acres, their indicat-

(Continued on page four)

Gold Point Church Opens Bible School

Beginning Wednesday morning at 9 a. m. the second Daily Vacation Bible school will get underway in the Gold Point school. The first school was held last summer and was attended by a small but interested group of the children of the community.

All children five years old and above are urged to attend the school. The school will be in session each morning except Saturday and Sunday from 9 a. m. through 11:30 p. m. The school will run through the 21st of July and a commencement program will be given on the Fourth Sunday.

The school will be under the direction of Rev. Z. T. Piephoff, who will be assisted by Rev. Jack W. Vinson, Jr., and Miss Louise Paschall.

Nightly Prayer Services Being Held In Church Here

Started three weeks ago, the series of nightly prayer services in the local Holiness church continue to hold a marked interest. B. D. Wynn, an officer in the church, said today. "We are praying for a revival not only in our own little church but in all churches," Mr. Wynn added. The public is cordially invited to meet in the church for thirty minutes of prayer each evening.