

## Congress Expected By Some To Adjourn At End of This Week

### Others Say It Will Run On Through To Next Week

Congress, after sweating through a sweltering July, apparently is determined to take as much of August as possible for a vacation. The law-makers are hoping to close up shop by Saturday of this week.

Although encountering tough sledding at the moment, the administration's lending-spending program is slated for passage. Anti-administration leaders are trying desperately to beat the measure or at least to strip from it some of its more important features.

A reactionary coalition in the House is now threatening housing legislation, amendments to the Wage-Hour act and to the Walsh-Healey act, all considered vital to organized labor.

It is pretty clear that there will be no changes in the Wagner Labor act or the wage-hour act at this session.

The committee on education and labor this week urged the Senate to pass the oppressive labor practices bill, introduced by Senators Robert W. LaFollette, Jr., of Wisconsin, and Albert D. Thomas, of Utah, and designed to stop evils revealed by their three-year civil liberties probe.

These evils, as named in the report are "the use of labor spies, strike-breakers, and strike-breaking agencies," private armies, and private arsenals—composed of such "industrial munitions" as "machine guns, sawed-off shotguns and bombs containing chemical gases."

The bill also contains sections, strongly supported by the American Federation of Labor, forbidding interstate commerce in goods made by state manufacturers who engage in these "oppressive labor practices," and providing that the government shall not buy from or loan money to such employers.

The housing project is considered an integral part of the lending program, and leaders thus far have rejected any suggestion that is side-tracked to smooth the way to adjournment.

Proposed changes in the wage-hour law are another adjournment obstacle. The coalition wants to make changes which the President said would exempt 2,000,000 low-paid workers, and he has warned that he would veto such action. Even if the House passes the legislation, the Senate is not expected to act at this session.

The leaders told Mr. Roosevelt last week that the session probably could be brought to a close on August 5. At that time, however, they did not anticipate the amount of opposition which has thudded against the lending and housing measures. House Majority Leader Sam Rayburn, (Dem), Texas, and Minority Leader Joseph W. Martin, Jr., (Rep), Mass., said Friday that longer time would be required to complete the slate.

One authority has indicated that the August 5 goal could be achieved only if the administration would cast aside some of its program. Otherwise, it is thought that the session will go into another week.

## Two Martin Men Added To Patrol

Two Martin County men, Earl Parker Downs, of Hamilton, and James Douglas Mallory, of Oak City, Saturday were selected, along with 49 other North Carolina young men for jobs on the State Highway Patrol.

The selections were announced by Major John Armstrong Saturday, following a month's training for 77 candidates, at Highland Lake, Hendersonville. It is reported that Mr. Downs was considered one of the outstanding students at the school.

Major Armstrong said the 26 men not getting jobs probably will be put to work within six months. The school started out with 94 persons, but the number was reduced to 77 at the end of the first two weeks.

The addition of 50 men was authorized by the 1939 General Assembly. The extra man selected will fill a vacancy.

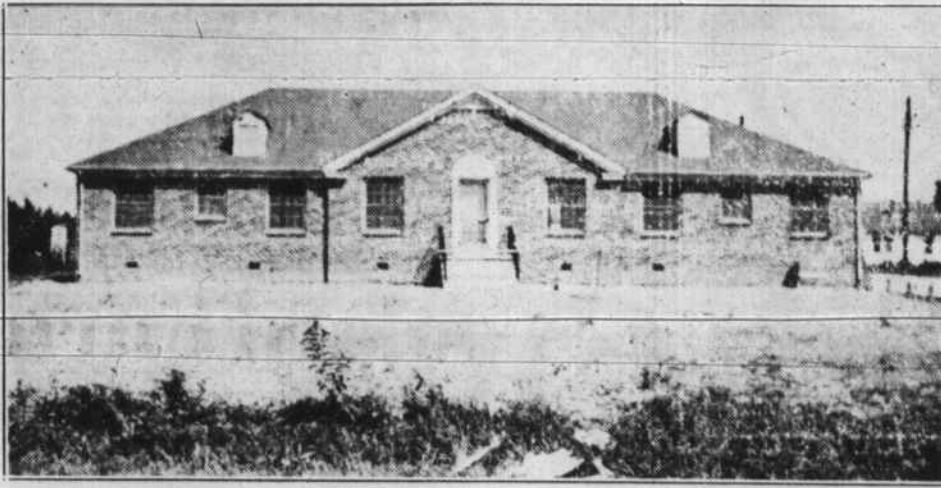
The school came to an official close Sunday. Capt. L. R. Fisher, of Charlotte, head of the Western district of the patrol, directed the school.

William S. Clagon, of Plymouth, was also among the 51 chosen.

## July Is Dull Month In County Police Circle

A new low record in the number of arrests was reported in this county for the month just ended, Sheriff C. B. Roebuck stating that only 28 persons were jailed during the period. A year ago, 43 persons were jailed in the county, the jail population reaching an all-time high last April when 108 persons were held behind the bars. During the month of June, 46 persons were arrested and jailed in this county.

## BROWN COMMUNITY HOSPITAL OPENS HERE



The Brown Community Hospital will hold its formal opening here next Friday, the owner-operator extending to the general public a cordial invitation to visit the institution and inspect the equipment. Fulfilling a great need in the county, the hospital was conceived and promoted by Dr. Victor E. Brown, who is to be commended for the forward step. The hospital is located on West Main Street, near Martin Heights.

## Liquor Sales in County Decrease Last Quarter

### PROBABLE CAUSE

Finding probable cause of guilt, Justice J. L. Hassell early this afternoon sent the case charging L. B. McCormick with the operation of slot machines without proper state licenses to the county court for trial. The case will be docketed for trial before Judge H. O. Peel on Monday, August 14.

McCormick, represented by Attorney Worthington, maintained that he had applied for licenses for all his machines in Martin County, but had not received them.

## New Marriage Law Doesn't Seriously Curb License Rate

### Six White, Four Colored Couples Get Licenses in July

Despite the new State law requiring health examinations before issuance of marriage licenses, the marital rate in Martin County is holding up pretty well, according to reports from the office of Register of Deeds J. Sam Getsinger.

During July of this year, ten licenses were issued, as compared with 19 last year. Six white couples obtained licenses in July both years, but only four licenses went to colored couples this July, whereas in the same month of last year there were 13.

So far, the main effect the health requirements seem to be having is in number of colored licenses issued.

Through July, 35 licenses had been issued this year to white couples, and 42 had gone for colored splittings. Following are the names of the white couples to whom licenses were issued during July:

Noah Woolard Leggett and Florence Wiggins, both of Martin County.

James O. Winborne and Alma Flanagan, both of Martin County.

W. Eli Roberson and Effie Cook, both of Martin County.

William A. Knox and Fannie Dail, both of Martin County.

Clarence William Vernon, of Stoneville, and Thelma Edmundson, of Martin County.

The four Negro licenses were issued to:

John Elbert Spruill and Bertha Brown, both of Martin County.

Cleveland Ernest Clark and Ernestine Davis, both of Martin County.

Jesse Andrews and Lizzie Little, both of Pitt County.

Caesar Gorham and Ruth Brown, both of Martin County.

## Norfolk Negro Likes Luxury of Local Jail

The Williamston and Martin County jail is considered one of the most modern in the State, and the fame of its luxury is spreading.

Sunday night a watch was stolen from a Negro woman in Robersonville. She reported it to Sheriff Roebuck's office. Elizabeth City police were called, asked to meet the Norfolk bus and pick up a Negro man, James Henry Jackson, of Norfolk, suspected of watch stealing.

Jim Henry spent three hours in the Elizabeth City jail, before Officer J. H. Allbrooks, of Williamston, called for him. The officer was pinching for the sheriff, whose car, at the moment, was acting up.

Jim Henry, taking his arrest philosophically, made no complaint about the Elizabeth City jail, but told the officers calling for him "Ah sho' will be glad to get to that hotel in Williamston."

## Total Of \$509,988.57 Since Stores Opened Is Spent In County

### Last Quarter Sales Show a Continued Decline in Consumption

During the first four years that legal liquor stores operated in Martin County, more than half a million dollars' worth of "fire water" has trickled down the throats of the populace, according to the second quarter audit released by V. J. Spivey, chairman of the Martin County Alcoholic Beverage Control Board.

The audit showed a gross sale of \$24,174.25, and a net profit of \$5,456.40, for the quarter ending June 30 last. The gross sales showed a decrease of \$2,792.10 from the figure for the second quarter of 1939, and a decrease of \$397.42 in profits.

The last quarter's sales ran the total sale in the county since the opening of the first store in July, 1935, to \$509,988.57, and increased the net profit to \$112,345.00.

Thus the sales during the first four years averaged about \$125,000 a year. The county's population is about 23,000. So the average liquor expenditure for every resident has been something over \$5 a year.

The latter figure would easily take care of the average man's medicinal need for liquor during a year. However, some people would not use that much "medicine" in a year's time. Then there are more than a few who had rather die in the first place than to take such medicine.

All of which indicates that there are some residents who are using the beverage for reasons other than medical — or maybe they require more medicine than others. Occasionally, somebody gets an overdose, becomes dizzy and winds up behind the bars. In such cases, the judge usually administers a different kind of "medicine."

The gross sales for the quarter just ended were the lowest for a second quarter of the year since the first year the stores were in operation. The net profits were lower than last year, but higher than for any other similar quarter since the ABC law went into effect.

Of the \$24,174.25 gross sales during last quarter, \$15,467.26 went to liquor manufacturers for purchase of liquor, leaving a gross profit on sales of \$8,706.99. From this amount was deducted \$3,277.57 for operating expenses. After additions to and deductions from income, the net profit was \$5,456.40.

Of this amount, Martin County got \$2,507.96, and the State received \$1,909.88. Into the reserve for law enforcement went \$354.65. The store-towns received the following amounts: Williamston, \$426.76; Robersonville, \$150.42; Oak City, \$58.11; and Jamesville, \$48.62.

Sales, by stores, for last quarter (Continued on page six)

## New Bern Minister Is Called To Dardens

Rev. Preston Cayton was called to serve as pastor of the Dardens Christian church Sunday at a brief business session, presided over by Mr. Jimmie Taylor. Rev. Cayton succeeds Rev. Garland Bland, who resigned, following his transfer to the Baptist church in Williamston.

Rev. Cayton is from New Bern. He preached the morning sermon at Dardens Sunday morning and following the service the church by a unanimous vote called him as pastor. It was also voted to change the date of the regular preaching service from the second Sundays to third Sundays due to the fact that Rev. Cayton could not serve on any other Sunday.

## Weed Prices Might Be Aided By Joint Action, Says Floyd

### State AAA Executive Says Producers, Buyers Must Cooperate

Unless buyers and producers reach an agreement on reduced acreage for next year, tobacco in North Carolina will bring only about 15 or 16 cents, in the opinion of E. Y. Floyd, State AAA executive.

Mr. Floyd believes that a price of 18 or 20 cents might be obtained, if an agreement similar to the one of 1933 is reached. Mr. Floyd is the first State agricultural official this year to estimate the price on the North Carolina markets.

The Border Belt, with markets at Chadbourn, Clarkton, Tabor City and Whiteville, will open Thursday. Prices obtained there are expected to be a barometer for judging the probable opening prices when the Bright Belt opens August 22.

Last year, North Carolina farmers sold 498,343,000 pounds of tobacco at an average of 22.96 cents, and received a total of \$114,439,956, according to W. P. Hedrick, of the State Department of Agriculture. This year, after scrapping crop control, Tar Heel growers increased their acreage by 21 per cent, and a record-breaking crop is expected.

In Martin County, approximately nine million pounds were produced last year, bringing an average of 23 1-2 cents. This year's county production is expected about 11 million pounds. A 15-cent price would mean a drop of one-third in the price.

The low prices in Georgia last week—the average was only 14 1/2 cents, compared with 25-56 cents last year—indicate low prices for North Carolina. Both Mr. Hedrick and Mr. Floyd point out, however, that North Carolina tobacco usually commands a higher price than Georgia and Florida weed, because growers in this State carefully sort and grade their crop.

Four farm leaders have gone to Washington for a conference with AAA officials on methods to boost tobacco prices. They are C. T. Hall, of Wooddale, member of the State Board of Agriculture; E. F. Arnold, of Raleigh, secretary of the State Farm Bureau; J. E. Winslow, of Greenville, president of the bureau, and Mr. Floyd.

## Superintendent Of State Schools Pays Dr. Wilson Tribute

### Says Martin County Health Report Was Best Received

Dr. F. E. Wilson, Martin County health officer, received a fine compliment last week from Clyde A. Erwin, State superintendent of schools. In a letter to Dr. Wilson, Mr. Erwin stated that the recent Martin County health report was the "best that has come to my office."

Mr. Erwin's letter continued: "I want to congratulate you on the very excellent manner in which you are cooperating with the school program."

The superintendent further referred to Dr. Wilson's report as "a fine indication of the splendid work that is being done in the schools."

In the report to which Mr. Erwin referred, Dr. Wilson presented figures showing that the county is put to much expense each year when students have to repeat grades because of physical defects.

The report also showed that, with proper care, many of the defective students, who make up 67 per cent of the county's school enrollment, can be put into good health, thus enabling them to pass their school work and save the county thousands of dollars.

## Marked Decrease In Illicit Liquor Traffic In County

### No Stills Captured in Bear Grass During Month Of July

The illicit liquor manufacturing business is apparently on the decrease in Martin County, reports this week from the enforcement division of the alcoholic beverages control board stating that fewer stills were captured during the month of July than in any other period since last January.

Releasing the report, Enforcement Officer J. H. Roebuck stated that it was the first time in many months that no stills were captured in Bear Grass Township, the officer adding that he considered that feature the high spot in all his reports combined. "It is fairly evident that the Bear Grass section is losing its wide reputation as a center for the manufacture of illicit liquor," the special officer concluded.

During last month, the enforcement division captured eight stills in the county, and poured out 3,050 gallons of beer and fourteen gallons of liquor. Most of the plants were located in the Free Union section of Jamesville Township and in the Goose Nest sector.

Eleven persons were arrested, the enforcement division scoring less than 50 per cent in its convictions in the courts. Five of the eleven defendants facing the court last month drew jail sentences.

Commenting further on the illicit liquor situation in the county, Officer J. H. Roebuck stated that he believed the manufacturing business was fast losing ground, but that the bootleggers were apparently enjoying an increasing trade. The manufacturers, according to the special officer, are busily engaged in harvesting a record tobacco production, and those who are not busy with tobacco are unable to finance manufacturing operations even on a small scale. The five- and ten-cent trade, more common when the economic situation is pinching, is generally increased during the summer months, but the officer is of the opinion that the increase this summer is above normal.

During the past month, the special officer and his assistants, Roy Peel and Bill Haislip, traveled 803 miles investigating the illicit business and effecting arrests and making raids.

## July Has Heaviest Rainfall This Year Shows Most Precipitation Since June of Last Year

### Williamston Had Its Heaviest Rainfall of the Year During July, According to Hugh Spruill, Bridge Keeper, who Registered a Precipitation of 7.65 Inches. This Was Also Higher than the Rainfall of Any Month Last Year, with the Exception of June, which Had 9.71 Inches.

The most rain recorded on any single day was on July 10, when the rainfall amounted to 1.98 inches. The smallest actual recorded was on July 20, when the precipitation was .02 inches.

Altogether it rained on 16 of the 31 days, but only on 13 of the days was there any actual recording. Three other days saw traces of rain, but not enough for a recording. July's rainfall was considerably above that of July, 1939, when there were only 6.49 inches.

## Highway Accident Record

For the first time in three weeks, a traffic accident involving injury and damage to property was recorded in the county last week.

The only accident reported last week, however, did not cause serious injury. Thomas Lawrence Roberson suffered a bruised right arm in an auto-truck smash-up at the western edge of Williamston.

The automobile crashed into the rear of a truck which was about to turn from the highway into a side road. The damage to the car was estimated at \$300.

Many drivers in Martin County have been riding the luck that seems to hang over the Martin County roads right now. They apparently think that danger is not existent because there have been but few accidents lately.

However, the records show that seven have been killed in the county already this year. And, since luck runs in cycles, there is bound to be a turn of bad luck before much longer.

A successful gambler plays closely when his luck is bad, then rides high, wide and handsome when it turns his way. But the money gambler is counting on his own luck and skill against the same two elements in his opponents.

The gambler on the highway is not playing against merely the luck and skill of other drivers. He is playing against a hundred and one other elements over which neither he nor the other driver has any control.

So it would be a pretty sound idea for the motorist to keep in mind always that the highway is no place to depend upon luck. An unofficial comparison of accident records in the county for the past week and for previous weeks in the year follows:

|                    | Accidents Injured | Killed | Property Damage |
|--------------------|-------------------|--------|-----------------|
| Last Week's Record | 1                 | 0      | \$ 300.00       |
| Prior Record       | 26                | 7      | \$6,950.00      |
| TOTALS             | 27                | 7      | \$7,250.00      |

## To Formally Open New Hospital Here Friday

### POSTOFFICE

Making a personal survey this morning, Postmaster Pete Fowden announced that he hoped to move into the new postoffice about the middle of this month. He explained, however, that the date for the move cannot be determined until the front door to the building is received. The structure is virtually complete, and the door was to have been shipped last week.

Postmaster Fowden stated that Fourth Assistant Postmaster Purdum was planning to attend the dedication this fall.

## Primitive Baptists Hold Services At Smithwicks Creek

### Two-Day Service Schedule Is Largely Attended Last Week-end

By HUGH B. JOHNSTON, Jr.

On Saturday morning July 29, 1939, the Primitive Baptist Correspondence of Eastern North Carolina met with the church at Smithwicks Creek, in Martin County, to hold their second regular meeting. This church is situated a few miles from Williamston, and three miles to the left of the highway leading to Washington. The large, unornamented, rectangular building is painted white, and the green shingle roof blends pleasantly with the grove of tall, long-leaf pines that decorate the extensive grounds. The preacher's stand inside the church was decorated with a multitude of beautiful flowers of several varieties. Elder Denny referred to them fittingly in the language of Christ, as is found in Matthew VI, 28, 29: "Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin. And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like any one of these."

Services were opened by the singing of a number of the old Gospel hymns. There is no choir at Smithwicks Creek, but the congregation really knows how to "make a joyful noise unto the Lord." After the singing came a prayer by Elder P. E. Getsinger, pastor of the church. It was a wonderful prayer, the like of which was never heard read out of a prayer book. The morning sermon was delivered by Elder R. Price Vass, of Woodlawn, Va. He came from the New River association, which holds thirty-four churches and is said to be the largest Primitive Baptist association in the United States. Elder Vass preached from Revelations XXII, 10: "Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book, for the time is at hand. It is to be regretted that only half a household were present to hear this able address. Elder Vass emphasized the present need of the people to follow the teachings of the Bible, which are higher than the law of the land because they require more of a man or a woman. The sincere conscientious Christian never goes in fear of the law or of those who represent the law. He also spoke of the duty of young people to honor their parents, and the even greater duty of the parents to instruct and watch over the children.

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There is a strong possibility that the Brown Community Hospital will become truly a "community" project. Dr. Brown said he had offered other physicians of the county the use of the hospital. He added that several physicians had indicated their intention of taking advantage of his offer.

Miss Myrtle Daniels, a trained nurse, is now in charge of the hospital when Dr. Brown is not present. The physician said it is his intention ultimately to have a trained nurse on active duty at all times, and that nurses will be added to the staff as the need arises.

For the time being only white patients will be treated at the hospital due to limited space. However, it is Dr. Brown's plan to build an addition, as soon as practicable, to care for colored patients.

The hospital head is a graduate of Syracuse University, where he worked for a time after finishing medical school. Then he served for a time on the staff of the Baptist Hospital at Winston-Salem, before going to the Taylor Hospital in Washington.

After two years in Washington, Dr. Brown came to Williamston, and for the last year and a half has practiced with Dr. J. H. Saunders, veteran physician. He will continue his association with Dr. Saunders.

## Negro Loses Thumb In Sawmill Accident

John Watson Barnes, Negro, of Elm Street, had his left thumb cut off Friday afternoon by a saw while working at Norton's Mill, on the Plymouth highway near Williams-ton.

Barnes, spending his first day on the job, got his hand tangled in the saw while making tobacco sticks. The whole thumb and a small portion of the lower wrist were taken off by the saw.

The injured man was rushed to Williamston, where Dr. V. E. Brown treated the ragged wound and sewed it up. Due to the terrific shock which Barnes had already gone through, Dr. Brown felt it unsafe to give him an anesthetic. He was kept at the office of Dr. Brown and Dr. Saunders for several hours, until the shock of the accident had worn off.