

## Half Dozen Cases Called In County Court Last Monday

### Case, Charging Andrew Andrews with Larceny of Tobacco, Is Not Pressed

Holding one of the shortest October sessions in years, Judge H. O. Peel cleared a half dozen cases from the Martin County Recorder's court docket last Monday in rapid order. Crime almost took a holiday during the previous week, and the court attracted few spectators during the brief session.

It was a tough day in court for Andrew Andrews, Cross Roads colored man, but even then he was released in the main case brought against him by the State. The case charging Andrews with the larceny of tobacco from the Bullock farm in Cross Roads Township was not pressed with leave. When the officers were investigating the alleged theft they learned that Andrews was supposed to have operated his automobile while his driver's license was revoked. Judge Peel, adjudging him guilty of operating an automobile without license, sentenced him to the roads for three months. While the trial was in progress, it was pointed out that Andrews had not paid all of the \$50 fine and costs, and Judge Peel added another two months to the road sentence. The court provided for the sentences to run concurrently, but the defendant was not satisfied with the judgment and he appealed to the higher courts. Judge Peel required bond in the sum of \$250.

James Hodges, charged with drunken driving, was found not guilty.

Simon Battle was sentenced to the roads for sixty days in the case charging him with larceny and receiving.

Charged with larceny and receiving, Floyd Wynne was sentenced to the roads for 60 days and taxed with the costs, the sentence to begin at the direction of the court.

The John Dixon mentioned in the court report last week was a colored man.

## Involve Local Man In Tobacco Theft

Ahoskie, Nov. 2.—C. T. Hegler, 35, of Virginia, and Grover Moore, 27, of near Williamston, are in jail in default of a \$500 bond set at a hearing before Justice of the Peace J. H. Young in Ahoskie Saturday on charges of stealing tobacco on the Ahoskie market.

It seems that the two men were operating a ring with Hegler working in Ahoskie and Moore in Williamston. Police Chief W. G. Morris said that Hegler was arrested Friday night and immediately confessed that he had been taking tobacco from the Brick warehouse in Ahoskie, selling some of it on the floor and sending some to Williamston to Moore who in turn had been sending stolen tobacco from there to the Ahoskie market for sale. After Hegler squealed on his accomplice, Chief Morris listened in on a telephone call Saturday from Moore in Williamston to Hegler. Thinking the chief was his accomplice, Moore informed him that he had about 700 pounds of tobacco to sell in Ahoskie. He was immediately arrested, and a preliminary hearing was held before Justice Young Saturday afternoon. One of them was sent to jail in Winton and the other in Jackson.

Chief Morris and Charlie Phaup, co-proprietor of the Brick warehouse, said the others in the thieving ring may be implicated. Amount of tobacco stolen was not indicated. Hegler and Moore are to be tried in the February term of Superior court.

## Wreck Injury Fatal To County Native

Mrs. Berry Thomas, a native of this county, died at her home in Hertford County, near Aulander, on Thursday from injuries received in an automobile accident near Ahoskie last July. Mrs. Thomas was riding in a horse-drawn vehicle with Mrs. Blanche Bunting and several others when a transfer truck hit the wagon and killed Mrs. Bunting instantly.

Funeral services were conducted at the home Friday by Rev. John Armfield, Ahoskie Episcopal minister, and interment was in the Baptist Cemetery here.

The daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Ace Nicholson, Mrs. Thomas was born in this county, near Williamston, 45 years ago. She and her family had lived in Hertford County for a few years. Besides Mr. Thomas, formerly of Robersonville Township, she leaves several children.

## Second Month Salaries Paid To Martin Teachers

Salaries, totaling nearly \$21,000, were paid to Martin County school employees this week, the greater portion of the amount going to the 200 white and colored teachers.

## Plans Advanced for Personal Property Sales Next Monday

Possibly gaining his idea from the livestock auctions, Sheriff C. B. Roebuck, acting in strict accordance with the law, is making preparations to conduct an auction sale at the courthouse door here next Monday. The seller, while specializing in automobiles, is planning to offer a cow or two, a few stray mules, and a few farm implements for sale. An incomplete check of the inventory this morning shows there are eight automobiles on the list, the sheriff stating that the county was principally interested in collecting taxes due on the property, that mortgages could not be given prior consideration.

Possibly the sheriff and his deputies have levied on more than 100 lots of personal property, and in most cases the taxes have been paid since the levy was made. While it is possible that the inventory will be reduced as the owners pay the tax accounts to head off the sales, the sheriff said this morning that he believed a few owners would allow their property to be sacrificed on the auction block.

The sheriff is not planning to display the property at the courthouse and any and all sales will be made sight unseen, more or less. The properties, for the most part, will be stored in garages in various parts of the county, and livestock will be left on the farms until after the sale, according to the sheriff's present plans.

Working long hours each day, the sheriff and his forces have been able to cover portions of five townships only. The tax drive will be extended to other districts as rapidly as possible for sale on future dates.

### COMMISSIONERS

Little business awaits the attention of the Martin County commissioners at their regular meeting here next Monday. J. Sam Getsinger, clerk to the board, stating this morning that other than drawing a jury for the December court and handling routine matters he knew of nothing for the officials to do.

The publication and subsequent sale of delinquent tax lists will be handled in accordance with an order issued by the board at its last regular meeting.

While it is about time for more complaints, and just complaints, too, no petitions asking improvements to roads are expected at the meeting Monday.

## Report Contagious Diseases In County

Twenty cases of contagious diseases, many of which possibly could have been prevented, were reported in this county last month by the board of health. Diphtheria, despite repeated warnings to parents to have their children immunized, bobbed to the front when four children fell victim of the disease. One death resulted from that cause among the colored population. It is understood that none of the victims had been properly immunized against diphtheria.

Tuberculosis also bobbed up again during the month, the health department reporting four such cases, one among the white and three among the colored population. Two of the cases were reported in Robersonville Township and one each was reported among citizens in Cross Roads and Goose Nest Townships.

Whooping cough, after subsiding during the late summer months and early fall period, flared up again and attacked twelve children among Williamston's colored population. Unless a strict quarantine is observed, the spread of the cough is likely to follow.

## Special Service At Methodist Church

The choir of the local Methodist church are preparing a special musical program for the Sunday night service. The ritual of the new United Methodist church will be used. This service is considered one of the most beautiful rituals in Protestantism. It is entirely musical and liturgical and interprets the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

A large congregation is expected as it is the closing service of the conference year at the Methodist church. Dr. Maxwell gives the closing sermon Sunday morning and the night service is devoted entirely to music by the choir and the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. This service ends the feature services in dramatic worship instituted by the pastor for the last month of the conference year.

The following have leading roles in the musical ritual: Mrs. J. S. Whitley, Mrs. John Wier, Mr. H. L. Swain, Miss Jerry Humble, and Mr. M. J. Norton. The choir will render a special anthem interpreting the sacrament. Mrs. W. K. Parker will be at the organ and the pastor will officiate at the Lord's Supper.

## Halloween Damage Done To Postoffice Property

Damage done to a United States Postoffice street mail box here last Halloween night will possibly be investigated by the department, according to unofficial information gained this morning. The damage has been reported to the department, it was learned.

Using a large firecracker, the Halloween pranksters blew the cast iron box to pieces, it was said. The box was located on the corner of Park and Warren Streets.

In addition to the damage done to the mail box, the Halloween pranksters centered their attention on street lights and knocked several of them out. Very little damage was reported to other properties, it was reported.

## Marked Decrease In Illegal Manufacture Of Liquor Reported

### Only Eight Plants Wrecked In County Last Month By Special Officers

A marked decrease in the volume of business handled by illicit liquor dealers was reported in this county last month by Special Enforcement Officer J. H. Roebuck. While the business was advanced on a small scale in several districts, it was marked by complete inactivity in other districts.

Commenting on the decrease in the illicit liquor business, Officer Roebuck stated that the manufacturers had encountered an economic wall which they could not scale. "In September, three large-scale plants were wrecked before they were ever put into use, and when the manufacturers experience such economic setbacks they find it difficult to recover and continue in the business," the officer explained. The officer would offer no comment as to any possible decrease in the actual consumption of liquor in the county. However, the third quarterly report recently released by the Martin County Alcoholic Beverages Control Board reflects a decrease in liquor consumption, and it is evident that the enforcement division's report reflects a similar decrease in the consumption of the outlawed brands.

During the past month, the enforcement division wrecked eight liquor manufacturing plants in the county as compared with seventeen in September. The number destroyed last month was considerably less than the number wrecked in October of last year. More than 4,100 gallons of beer and eight gallons of liquor were poured out during the past month. Five persons were arrested and that many were convicted and sentenced to the roads for alleged violation of the liquor laws during the month. The enforcement division officers traveled 1,114 miles making investigations, tearing up liquor manufacturing plants, pouring out beer and effecting arrests of the alleged liquor law violators.

The eight stills were scattered in Robersonville, Hamilton, Williamston, Bear Grass and Jamesville Townships.

During the past month, the enforcement division wrecked eight liquor manufacturing plants in the county as compared with seventeen in September. The number destroyed last month was considerably less than the number wrecked in October of last year. More than 4,100 gallons of beer and eight gallons of liquor were poured out during the past month. Five persons were arrested and that many were convicted and sentenced to the roads for alleged violation of the liquor laws during the month. The enforcement division officers traveled 1,114 miles making investigations, tearing up liquor manufacturing plants, pouring out beer and effecting arrests of the alleged liquor law violators.

## Local People Will Attend P.T.A. Meet

A number of men and women of Williamston are planning to attend the annual conference, district number nine, of the North Carolina Congress of Parents and Teachers, which will be held in Ahoskie, Tuesday, November 7th.

This district comprises 12 counties and the congress is headed by Mrs. I. A. Ward, of Hertford.

Mrs. Jimmy Taylor, president of the local parent-teacher association, said this morning she was trying to get a large delegation from Williamston to attend the congress. A number of prominent and interesting speakers are scheduled to address the meeting.

## Former Local Man Hurt In Georgia Auto Wreck

Charles Whitley, former local young man, was badly hurt a few days ago when his automobile was sideswiped by a truck near Ringgold, Ga. Riding along with his arm resting in the car window, Whitley was said to have suffered a triple fracture of the limb, twice above the elbow. It was first reported that he would lose his arm, but later reports stated that he was improving rapidly and would be able to return to his home in Atlanta.

## Missionary Circles To Hold Joint Meeting On Monday

There will be a joint meeting of the Woman's Missionary circles of the local Methodist church at the home of Mrs. C. E. Jenkins, Monday afternoon at 3:30. Mrs. E. P. Rhodes, of Washington, will speak to the circle and all members are requested to attend.

## Howard Williams Is Seriously Injured In Automobile Wreck

### O. R. Harris, Second Victim Of Wreck, Released From Local Hospital

Howard Williams-Hoard, young Williams Township white man, was critically injured, and O. R. Harris, of Kitty Hawk, was painfully bruised and cut last Tuesday night when their car went out of control, ripped away about 50 feet of heavy fences and numerous posts on the Sweet Water Creek fill and plunged down a 12 or 14 foot embankment into the swamp, about one and one-half miles from here on U. S. Highway No. 64.

Williams was not expected to live when entered in the Brown Community hospital, but after fourteen hours of treatment he regained consciousness and he was reported to be getting along as well as could be expected today. A partial list of injuries includes a broken arm, a crushed leg, concussion of the brain, an ear partially cut off, a puncture in the back, abrasions and a chest injury. Williams, an employee of the State Highway and Public Works Commission, was able to talk some yesterday, but he could not recall details of the accident or how it happened.

Harris, driver of the car, was knocked unconscious by a heavy blow on the head. There were several bruises and cuts on his body, but he was able to leave the hospital yesterday afternoon. He and Williams were working on a highway near Robersonville, and were on their way to visit friends in Williams Township.

Apparently traveling at a fast rate of speed, the car was said to have run off the road on the right while meeting another machine. The driver turned sharply to the left and mowed down the fence posts in rapid order for a distance of more than fifty feet before the car made a final plunge and went down the embankment.

Williams, his mother just released from a Washington hospital where she underwent a major operation a few weeks ago, is given an even chance to recover if complications do not develop, according to information coming from the hospital doctors.

## October Issuance Of Marriage Licenses Reaches Low Point

### Eleven Licenses Are Sold In County During Month Just Ended

The issuance of marriage licenses in this county last month reached a record low point for the month of October, the number of marriages falling below even the depression month of October, 1931, when twelve licenses were sold by the license bureau in the county. In October of last year, there were twenty-nine marriage licenses issued, eleven to white and eighteen to colored couples.

Since the marriage health law became effective last spring, the number of licenses to colored couples has shown a steady decrease, while there has been very little variation in the number of licenses issued to white couples in comparative months. Last year, the number of licenses issued to colored couples was greater in seven of the eight months from March through October than was the number of licenses issued to white couples. This year, the number of licenses issued to white couples has been greater in seven out of the same eight months than the number issued to colored couples. It is apparent then that the health law has effected a decrease in the number of marriages among the colored population and had little or no effect on the number of marriages among the white population. During the months of April to October, inclusive, last year there were 53 licenses issued to white couples in this county as compared with 39 licenses issued during the same period this year. There were 75 licenses issued to colored couples in the months of April-October, inclusive, last year as compared with thirty issued in the same period, this year. The most marked decrease in the comparative numbers is noted in the month of October.

(Continued on page six)

## Infant Dies At Home Of Parents Near Jamesville

Robert Coburn Barber, two and one-half months old, died at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elbert W. Barber, near Jamesville yesterday morning at 2:30 o'clock following an illness of about two weeks. Colitis was given as the cause of his death.

The last rites were held yesterday afternoon and interment was in the family plot in the Barber cemetery, near Jamesville.

Besides his parents, he is survived by two brothers, James Colleen, his twin, and Elbert Earl.

## Local Market Sales Nearing Nine Million - Pound Mark

With prices fairly firm, the Williamston Tobacco Market today was nearing the nine-million-pound mark. Supervisor of Sales K. B. Crawford announcing that up to last night the market had sold 8,830,080 pounds for a general average of about 15 cents. At the close of the selling period today, the sales will stand right at the nine-million-pound mark. Mr. Crawford stated. The average for the week will range right around eighteen cents.

The market will clear its floors early this afternoon and make ready for a heavy sale next Monday. It is now estimated that 85 per cent of the crop has been sold in this section, that possibly with one exception, there'll be no more block sales this season.

Reported earlier in the season to be of good quality, the crop is not showing up as well as was generally predicted it would. While there have been some good tobaccos sold here and at fairly high prices, the offerings, as a whole, have been of only medium quality.

Sales have ranged well into the 40-to-50-cent class, and averages of 30 to 38 cents have been reported on the local market this season, but the types of tobacco that command such attention and prices have been limited. Grade for grade, the local market, according to comparative tests carefully made, is holding a high rank with any other market, a tobaccoist said here this morning following a survey of a number of houses in the belt this week. While a few have turned their tags, farmers, as a whole, have recognized their sales here to equal those on other markets, and the market patronage here is holding up well.

## Serious Problems Continue To Face Farmers Of East

### Strong Farmer Organization Offers About The Only Solution

While a planned production is assured agriculture for the coming year, there are two serious problems facing the farmers of eastern North Carolina, according to reliable reports coming from farm leaders.

Speaking in Wilson this week, J. E. Winslow, president of the North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation, pointed out that there was a movement underway to "take much of eastern North Carolina's tobacco acreage away and move it further south." The movement, just recently uncovered, has made no marked progress, but it is apparent that the Farm Bureau in this section is accepting the challenge and will doggedly stick up for the rights of eastern tobacco growers.

The other problem facing the eastern Carolina farmers, especially those in this and other nearby counties, centers around the lowly peanut. With production increasing over a wide front and with a breakdown almost certain to follow next season in the diversion or stabilization plan, farm leaders are eagerly trying to do something about the problem. The Farm Bureau is conducting a series of meetings in the peanut belt at this time in an effort to have the goober included in the soil conservation program.

These and similar problems will be discussed at a meeting of the Martin County Farm Bureau membership at a meeting to be held in the agricultural building on Friday, November 10. R. G. Arnold, southeastern director of the American Farm Bureau Federation, will address the meeting and point out the need for a strong organization to tackle these two major problems and others of allied importance.

Recognizing the need for a strong farm organization, Martin County farmers are now in the midst of a membership drive. No official report has been released in connection with the drive, but reliable information received here points to an active drive in nearly every section of the county. The campaign is slated to end on Thursday, November 16, when the winners of the campaign will feast on turkey at the expense of the losers. Captain Charlie Daniel and Captain J. R. Winslow, heading up the competing membership teams, aren't doing much talking but each of them is expecting the other to pay for the supper on the 16th.

Plans have not been completed in their entirety, but the officials of the organization are planning a big barbecue for the entire membership within the next several weeks.

## Recovering From Mouth Wound In Local Hospital

Pleasant Allen, aged employee of the State Highway and Public Works Commission who suffered a severe lip injury while working on the Conine Creek bridge last week, is getting along very well in Brown Community hospital here. He will be released from the institution within the next two or three days.

Mr. Allen, a resident of Washington County, had his lip cut almost through and his chin injured when struck by a piece of timber he was sawing while working on the bridge project.

## Services At Jamesville Primitive Baptist Church

Services will be held tomorrow morning at 11 o'clock and again on Sunday at the same hour in the Jamesville Primitive Baptist church, an officer of the church announced today. Elder P. E. Getsinger, the pastor, assisted by Elder S. B. Denney, of Wilson, and other prominent leaders in the church will conduct the services.

"The old church extends a cordial invitation and a hearty welcome to everyone to be present for one or both of the services."

## The Farmer's Share In A Rising Market Held To Minimum

### Data Shows Uneven Price Increases in Retail and Farm Prices

Writing recently on the agricultural situation, R. O. Been of the United States Department of Agriculture, reviews the price factor as it is applicable to produce as it moves from the farm to ultimate consumer. Been writes, as follows:

Since the recent outbreak of hostilities in Europe prices of many food products have increased sharply. For those foods produced by the American farmer, both producers and consumers are interested in finding out to what extent the increase in retail prices is associated with increases in prices received by farmers for their products. A small amount of scattered price information now available permits the making of certain rough comparisons among changes from mid-August to mid-September in farm, wholesale and retail prices for several important food products.

Some of the most spectacular advances in retail prices occurred in sugar, lard, fresh pork and navy beans. Both retail and wholesale sugar prices advanced more than a cent a pound from August to September, but it is too early in the season to appraise the effect of this gain upon prices paid to growers of sugar beets and sugar cane.

Among meat products, sharp retail price increases were chiefly confined to lard and to a few fresh pork cuts, with cured products, beef, and lamb, showing moderate increases. Considering composites of all meat cuts it appears that wholesale meat prices advanced more rapidly than either retail or farm prices. The disparity between increases in retail and wholesale prices is most noticeable in pork products. In general, the livestock producer appears to have shared to the full extent of the retail price increase, but his price did not keep pace with wholesale meat prices.

Bread price at retail have not changed although the retail price of flour is about 10 per cent higher. The increase in retail flour price is somewhat below the rise in wholesale quotations from \$4.60 to \$5.65 a barrel. The farmers' wheat price seems to be maintaining a normal relation to the advancing wholesale price of flour.

Retail and wholesale prices of butter each rose almost 4 cents a pound while the advance in the price paid the farmer for the butter fat equivalent was less than half this amount.

While the price received by farmers for potatoes showed a negligible change from August to September and prices increased moderately, the level of wholesale potato quotations in New York and Chicago rose sharply by more than 30 per cent.

The price of dry beans increased more than a cent a pound at retail and this entire increase was passed back to the farmer. The New York wholesale price of pea beans rose nearly 2 cents a pound during the same period.

The few data available at this time show uneven price increases in retail, wholesale and farm prices. Farm price increases seem to have maintained a normal relationship to retail prices, but wholesale prices appear to be on a higher level. It is impossible to determine which agency initiates the price increase, or which makes the greatest gain through mark-up of inventory stocks.

With adequate supplies of food-stuffs the flurry in food prices should give way to readjustment to normal price relationships.

## Equipment Firm Sells Building Here

The large building of the North Carolina Equipment Company on Washington Street here and a sizable lot adjoining the structure were sold at public auction yesterday afternoon to J. B. Drewry, Washington man. The property was said to have been sold for \$8,500.

No announcement was offered immediately by the purchaser who, it is understood, represents a motor firm.

L. M. Warring, former Wake County coroner, was the auctioneer and the selling, starting from a low of \$6,500, was completed within four minutes.

The equipment company, locating here for the sale of farm equipment, about two years ago withdrew from the implement field and suspended operations at this point.

Reports state that the company had had numerous inquiries from possible renters, and several had offered to purchase the property at private sale.

## C. A. Harrison Reported Much Better In Hospital

Late reports today from his bed side state that Mr. C. A. Harrison, popular local man, is improving in a Richmond hospital. He was reported to have rested very comfortably during much of yesterday and the day before, and that he was looking fine.

### CANVASS

In answer to pitiful pleas coming from war-stricken victims and refugees, an extensive canvass of the residential and business sections of the town will be made by members of the Woman's Club and by representatives of the Kiwanis Club next week. The canvass is one of thousands being conducted by the United Appeal for Refugees.

The Woman's Club members will canvass the residential areas, and the Kiwanians will solicit donations in the business districts. There is a great need for the help of our people, and all contributions, large or small, will be appreciated.

## October Is A Busy Month For Sheriff

Following a quiet and fairly peaceful period while the tobacco markets were closed during the early part of October, the office of the county sheriff began to buzz with activity during the close of the month.

Tax collections in the latter part of the period claimed much attention, the officer, in his regular monthly report, stating that \$13,341.42 in 1938 taxes were passed over the county. More than 100 papers of one kind or another were served, the representatives of the office going after the people with criminal warrants, capias, court orders, claim and delivery papers, and orders of ejectment.

In addition to that work, the office investigated six cases in which nine persons were charged with violating various laws. Fifty-one persons were arrested and jailed in the county during the period to set up a new record for the latter part of the year to date.

## County Native Dies In South Carolina

L. W. Davis, native of this county, died in a Charleston, S. C., hospital last Friday evening following an illness of about six weeks' duration. Mr. Davis, 63 years old, was visiting relatives in this county last September when he was taken ill with cancer. He immediately returned to his home, his condition becoming worse rapidly. Death followed a week after he underwent an operation.

The son of the late W. W. and Malinda Holliday Davis, he was born in Jamesville Township. When a young man he moved to South Carolina where he remained two years. Returning to this state, he located and married in Roper and later went back to Charleston to make his home permanently there. He was associated with extensive lumber and milling interests, and was a highly regarded citizen in the South Carolina city. When a young man he joined the Christian church and remained loyal to its teachings until the end.

His recent visit to this county was the first in about eighteen years, and he had planned to return next spring for a lengthy stay with relatives and his many friends.

Funeral services were conducted at the late home Sunday afternoon, and interment was in the family plot in the Charleston cemetery.

Besides his wife who was the former Miss Mattie Ball, of Roper, he leaves two children, Mrs. Eloise Abram and Mrs. Dorothy Tovey, and four grandchildren, all of Charleston. He is also survived by one sister, Mrs. L. P. Holliday, of this county.

## County Board Education Planning Meet Monday

A monthly meeting of the Martin County Board of Education has been conditionally scheduled for next Monday, it was learned this morning from the office of the superintendent. Plans for an addition to the Parmele colored school will be discussed by the board, the superintendent said.