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Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Friday, December 15, 1939.

ESTABLISHED 1899

Increased Activity On Political Front In State and Nation

Horton Announced for State Governor; Dewey For President

The political front is beginning to buzz with activity in State and Nation, the last few days hearing the opening guns of candidates for the office of president and governor...

With the eyes of at least half a dozen aspirants eagerly focused on the State Capitol, the race for governor started shaping up a few days ago when Wilkins Perryman Horton...

Although at least five other Democrats have told friends they intend to run, Horton's announcement was the first in the gubernatorial race.

Other avowed, but unannounced candidates include Mayor Thomas E. Cooper, of Wilmington; A. J. Maxwell, of Raleigh, and Willis Smith, of Raleigh.

Horton, a slim, ruddy-faced man who was born in Kansas and moved to North Carolina at the age of three, handed his announcement to newspaper men at a press conference in a suite at a Raleigh hotel.

Reginald Harris, well-known Roxboro man, has announced his candidacy for lieutenant governor to succeed Horton; Erskine Smith, of Albemarle, has been prominently mentioned as a possible candidate for lieutenant governor...

Walter Murphy, of Salisbury, veteran of fourteen legislative terms in the State Legislature, formally announced his candidacy last week for Secretary of State in the 1940 primaries.

Murphy said he had been receiving many letters urging him to run for the job.

Thad Eure, the incumbent, had made it plain that he intends to seek re-election but has not formally announced.

Murphy, widely known to his friends as "Pete," was born at Salisbury in October, 1872. He attended the University of North Carolina, where he won his law degree in 1894. Since 1903 he has been a member of the board of trustees of the university.

Back in 1897, Murphy came to the legislature for his first term. He was speaker of the house for a special session in 1914 and for the regular session of 1917. He served as reading clerk of the Senate, sandwiching it in between terms in the House. He was representative in the 1939 legislature.

Murphy is also active in fraternal circles and in the alumni organization of the University of North Carolina, in which he has served as president and secretary.

Thomas E. Dewey, the New York prosecutor who has been in the limelight during the past months, is out for the Republican nomination for President. His candidacy is not attracting very much attention, however.

Woman's Club Holds Meeting Wednesday

The Woman's club held its December meeting last Wednesday in the club rooms. Before business matters were discussed, a Christmas program was enjoyed by all. Under the direction of Miss Katherine Mewborn, a boys' vocal trio, Jasper Browder, Bill Peele, Luther Peele, presented "We Three Kings" and a girls' trio, composed of Elizabeth Parker, Marjorie Dunn and Catherine Manning, sang "Joy to the World" and "The Carol of the Shepherds."

Following the program, Mrs. Wheeler Martin, president, presented Dr. Frank Wilson, Martin County health officer, who brought to the attention of the members some startling facts concerning illegitimate births in the county and maternity death rates. He asked the club to consider sponsoring a birth control clinic in the county which would be carried on in connection with the state and national birth control programs.

In discussing business matters the cemetery committee reported that the deed to the local cemetery is now ready to be turned over to the town and that a landscape architect will be here in January to plan improvement of the property. The club members voted to undertake as a year's project the furnishing of a room in the new community hospital.

Christmas Cheer Movement Here Faces Enormous Task

Literally overrun with appeals, and pitiful appeals they are, and financial support lagging, the sponsors of the Christmas Cheer movement are apparently perplexed today as time for handling the task fast draws to a close. There's no thought of giving up in despair as people of moderate means in making liberal donations explained that if more was needed they could be counted on later. It is apparent, however, that unless a thoughtful people rallies to the cause, quite a few homes will experience a barren Christmas morning and numerous little tots will question in this land of plenty our boasted humanity and the spirit of Santa Claus.

To date, a total of \$54 has been contributed as compared with \$70 on the same day a year ago. Rev. John L. Goff has been named by the Kiwanis club to carry the appeal for funds forward, but everyone is asked to remember that the Christmas Cheer movement is based strictly upon voluntary donations.

The collection of toys, slightly larger than it was last year, will possibly suffice, but there is a need for clothing, a study of the list of needy discloses. Any one wishing to donate discarded toys and clothing are asked to call No. 46, the Enterprise, and a messenger will be sent. The time is short as the committee plans to allot the collections the early part of next week for distribution later in the week.

Contributions are graciously acknowledged, as follows:

Table listing donors and amounts: Previously reported \$14.00, Mary Taylor 1.00, Kiwanis Club 7.50, L. B. Wynne 2.50, Junior Woman's Club 13.00, Mrs. W. E. Old 1.00, Margolis Brothers 2.00, Norman Harrison 2.00, C. W. Bazemore 1.00, J. L. Hassell 3.00, Williamston Cafe 1.00, Nat Israel 1.50, Charles Bowers 3.00, Mrs. Betty Eason 1.50, Total \$54.00

Supervisor Grimes Reappoints All Of The 10 List-Takers

Schedule of Values Will Be Determined at Meeting After Christmas

Plans are being advanced for listing all real and personal property in Martin County as of January 1, 1940. Tax Supervisor S. H. Grimes announcing this week the group of list-takers who will handle the task in the ten townships.

The names of the list-takers and the townships in which they will handle the listings are, as follows: O. W. Hamilton, Jamesville; Lucian J. Hardison, Williams; George C. Griffin, Griffins; A. B. Ayers, Bear Grass; H. M. Burras, Williamson; G. G. Bailey, Cross Roads; H. S. Everett, Robersonville; L. G. Taylor, Poplar Point; L. R. Everett, Hamilton; J. A. Rawls, Goose Nest. No changes were made in the list-taking personnel, Supervisor S. H. Grimes said in announcing the appointments.

The tax supervisor is attending a state meeting for tax-listing authorities in Chapel Hill this week when a complete study of the methods will be made. Plans for handling the listing task in this county will be complete at a meeting of the list-takers, supervisor, and J. E. Pope, chairman of the county board of commissioners, at a meeting to be held some time between Christmas and January 1. Several of the list-takers have already started work preparing the farm survey records which will be filled in when farmers in the several townships list their properties. Recognizing the importance of a detailed farm census, the county commissioners in a recent session passed the following resolution:

"In consideration of the North Carolina Farm Census survey law, the special need for maximum farm information to compare with the 1940 census; and the proven need, reliability and usefulness of such information, the Martin County board of commissioners in regular session assembled, insist that each official connected with the 1940 tax list-taking duties, shall give maximum effort toward obtaining 100 per cent farm reports as a part of their required duties. That each lister shall submit a report for the March meeting showing: (1) the number of such farm reports secured; (2) the number not reported; and the principal reasons why not obtained.

Properties will be listed next year as of January 1 instead as of April 1, the authorities pointing out that stock inventories will be more accurate and that farmers and other property owners, as a whole, will find it more convenient to handle the task at that time than in the busy farming season during the month of April.

Public notices, including those of the several churches, and other happenings of public interest should be filed early in the week if publication is to be assured.

Dr. F. E. Wilson Is Offered Position By District Department

Expected to Tender Resignation to Martin Board At An Early Meeting

Receiving unexpectedly an appointment to head the Edgecombe-Greene District Health Department, Dr. F. E. Wilson, local health officer, is planning to tender his resignation to the Martin County Board of Health at a meeting to be held at an early date. The appointment, subject to action by the State Health Department and released by the Martin Health Board, is effective January 1.

Dr. Parks, head of the Edgecombe-Greene District, resigned just a few days ago to accept a position with the Florida State Board of Health and the appointment of Dr. Wilson as his successor came unexpectedly and before the local department head could discuss the plans with his board.

The offer by the district board is recognized as a promotion, and according to a member of the Martin County Board of Health no action to block the promotion will be taken. "Dr. Wilson's work has been ably and efficiently handled, and he has made us a good man. While we hate to see him leave, we would hardly think it fair and right to refuse to accept his resignation," the board of health member added.

Dr. Wilson has ably advanced several important health projects in the county since entering upon his work the early part of this year, and has increased the public health service throughout the county especially in the schools and clinics.

Dr. Wilson this week was appointed chairman of the Section on Public Health and Education by Dr. William Allan, president of the North Carolina Medical Society.

It could not be learned this morning just when the county board will meet and consider Dr. Wilson's successor, but action is expected shortly.

Superior Court Of This County Ends Final Term of Year

Judge Leo Carr Completes Work and Adjourns Court Tuesday

Completing scheduled work on the calendar, Judge Leo Carr, of Burlington, adjourned the final term of Martin County Superior court on Tuesday afternoon after disposing of the criminal docket of the day before and handling several civil cases the following day.

The term was the shortest held in this county since December, 1937, when Judge Clawson Williams cleared the docket, handled a few civil cases and checked out in the early afternoon of the first day.

During each of the two days comparatively few spectators were in the auditorium for the proceedings, and the term passed virtually unnoticed by the general public. Charged with violating his parole, William Nelson Bland, Robersonville Negro, was sentenced to the roads for a period of ninety days. In September of last year, Bland, charged with breaking and entering, was placed on probation for five years by Judge Walter Bone. In February of this year, Bland faced the court for alleged larceny and he was sentenced to the roads for twelve months. Completing that sentence a few days ago, he was transferred to the county jail to await action by the court on the parole violation.

In the matter of the will of Gus Coffield, the court ordered the executor, Paul D. Roberson, to pay Attorneys Coburn and Coburn, \$375 and Pete Bell \$125 for legal services rendered for the caveators in the case.

A consent judgment was entered in the case of Martha Piland and others against Annie Belflower and others, the parties to the action accepting the commissioner's report with certain exceptions. As to the issues involving personal property, new evidence had been uncovered and the court ordered a further hearing by B. A. Critcher, as referee.

In the case of Jonah Council against Matilda Wooten, the defendant received a judgment in the sum of \$294.87.

In the case of Guaranty Bank and Trust Co. against W. J. Johnson, the court ruled that L. L. Davenport held no valid lien on certain property in Oak City.

Delay Action In Sponsoring Birth Control Clinic Here

Plans for establishing a birth control clinic here in cooperation with the Birth Control Federation of America were held in abeyance by the local Woman's Club at a regular meeting of the organization Wednesday afternoon.

Town Taking on Gala Attire; Prizes For Best Decorations

The spirit of the holiday season is beginning to burst forth in thousands of vari-colored lights here this week, as the decorative work spreads rapidly to streets, homes, yards and public buildings. A marked increase in yard and porch decorations is certain over the week-end and indications point to a really bright Christmas season here.

R. E. Manning and his waterworks boys and the police, headed by Officer J. H. Allsbrooks, applied the ole artistic touch to the water tower and the clock dome yesterday, and the two structures cast a cheery glow into the chilled air of last night. The decorative schemes were slightly changed this year, and the boys are really to be complimented for their able efforts.

A joint committee of the several civic clubs posted a total of \$28.00 in cash prizes today for the best store and window displays and exterior and yard decorations, the first winners in each group to receive \$5 and the second winners, \$2 each. Christmas trees are already moving out of local stores into the various homes and quite a few are being brought in from the country for sale. Yards and porches, decorated on an extensive scale last year, attracted considerable comment along with the lighting effects on the public buildings. The array will be equally as large this year. No word has been received from the courthouse gang, but with the sheriff out of town, Hustlers Roy Peel and Joe Roebuck are said to be doing some figuring along decorative lines.

New Automobile Firm Is Incorporated Here

Dixie Motors, Inc., Will Handle Dodge And Plymouth Cars

Organized at a meeting last night, the Dixie Motors, Incorporated, will open a Dodge-Plymouth automobile agency in the North Carolina Equipment building on Washington Street here the early part of next week, it was announced this morning by William H. Everett, the new firm's manager. Following the final organization meeting last evening, the management immediately advanced plans to have new model cars ready for display on or about January 1. Mr. Everett stating that the company would also stock a complete list of parts and maintain an efficient service department.

Completing their organization last evening, the stockholders, Messrs. Asa J. Manning, S. Claud Griffin, Irving C. Griffin, W. H. Harrison, John Gurkin, William Everett and Norman K. Harrison, named Mr. Everett secretary-treasurer and general manager. Mr. Irving Griffin will be associated with the firm as salesman. Other members of the firm will serve as silent partners, it was learned.

The organization of the firm was perfected immediately following the completion of plans for leasing the comparatively new and spacious building of the North Carolina Equipment Company on Washington Street. Several outside automobile firms had tried to rent the building and establish agencies here but the new owners of the building reserved it for local citizens, a member of the firm said. The building with a large lot for the storage of second-hand cars is well suited to the requirements of the new firm.

An official announcement, giving opening dates and other information of public interest is expected from the management of the firm the early part of next week.

Limestone Available To Martin Farmers

Limestone in limited quantities will be made available to Martin County farmers within a short time, T. B. Slade, assistant in the office of the county agent, told a gathering of Farm Bureau members in meeting here last evening. Prices ranged from \$2.65 to \$2.90 a ton delivered. Mr. Slade stating that no cash payment is required. Farmers can apply 90 per cent of the amount they receive for soil building practices under the soil conservation program. Applications for the lime will be received shortly.

Speaking briefly on the tobacco allotments, Mr. Slade stated that there was an apparent misunderstanding among some farmers. "Reports state that some farmers will receive increased allotments, but that is not the case," Mr. Slade explained. The method of determining allotments was reviewed, and the agent and assistant agent urged the farmers to cooperate in advancing the program.

The county delegate to the national convention of the American Farm Bureau Federation in Chicago last week reported on the activities of the meeting.

Continue Campaign On Illicit Beverages

Special Officer J. H. Roebuck and his assistants, Roy Peel and Julian Roebuck, are continuing an unremitting campaign against the illicit liquor traffic in this county. The officer stated today that he had the manufacturing business well under control, but that the small retail bootlegger was proving one big nuisance on the enforcement front.

Seven plants were wrecked by the officers during the first four days of this week and 3,400 gallons of beer and fifteen gallons of liquor were poured out. Four of the plants were in the Bear Grass section, one in the Poplar Point community of Hamilton Township, and two near Williamson. Two men, John Bullock and John Roberson, of Poplar Point, were charged with violating the liquor laws, and the old model car belonging to Bullock was confiscated.

Parents-Teachers To Hold Meeting Here On Tuesday

The Williamson Parent-Teacher Association will hold its December meeting in the grammar school auditorium next Tuesday afternoon at 3:30 a fine Christmas program featuring the first grade children in "Mother Goose Visits Santa Claus" being arranged.

Grand Jury Files Quarterly Report In Court Tuesday

Handle Numerous Duties and Adjourn in Record Time That Day

The December Martin County grand jury handled a multitude of duties in record time this week and adjourned Tuesday morning, the high spot of the report being a recommendation to close a Williamson beer garden.

Signed by John R. Peel, foreman, the report reads, as follows: All bills have been disposed that came into our hands. We find that all justices of the peace, filed their reports and all fines paid to the county treasurer with the exception of C. M. Hurst, Robersonville; C. L. Nelson, Hassell; and George Leggett, Hassell.

We find that all guardians have filed reports as required. We inspected the offices of the sheriff, clerk of court and register of deeds and found same in good order and general conditions very good. We recommend that a door be cut in the wall between register of deeds office and grand jury room, so that register of deeds can use the room for office when not used for other purposes.

We have inspected the jail and find same in good condition. We examined the county home and went over it with the keeper and found same in good condition, and talked with several of the inmates and they were well satisfied as being cared for as well as could expect. We also visited prison camp and found same in good condition.

We have inspected all school buses of the county and beg leave to report the following: Parmele—Only one truck and in good condition except front tires are worn out. Robersonville—Trucks are in good condition except there were found 11 glasses out which need to be repaired. Everetts—Truck No. 15 has bad brakes, engine in bad condition, part of lights are out and doors will not stay closed. Had State Patrolman to inspect this truck and he said it was a total wreck. Truck No. 23 has bad brakes. Hamilton—All trucks in good condition. Hassell—All trucks in good condition. Oak City—All trucks in good condition except No. 25, gas tank leaks. No. 2 steering arm tied up with wire. No. 4 could not turn to right. Found that these trucks were carrying about 50 children to the truck and No. 2 was carrying 65.

Farm left—All trucks in good condition, except truck headlights should be put on the trucks, as one of them makes two trips and has to start so early and get in so late and very little delay would make lights necessary. We think No. 24 should have dual wheels. Jamesville—All trucks in good condition except No. 19 needs the radiator repaired and No. 13 the tires are badly worn and Nos. 27 and 30 need brakes adjusted. Bear Grass—All trucks in good condition, but recommend that road in front of school building be fixed. Williamson (colored)—Bus practically new and in good condition. We have received complaint about the beer garden located next to Mr. J. C. Norris. Tin shop among the complaints are the loud and vulgar talking going on there, also the people who congregate there block the sidewalk and part of the street, also lots of fights and cuttings and shootings take place there. We recommend that the court order it closed.

Using a tractor, the men righted the truck and the mules were re-loaded and returned to the Evans stables here. Damage to the truck will hardly exceed \$25. Mr. Cochran stated.

The road is geared to one-way steer traffic, travelers say.

Sweet Potatoes Moving To Northern Markets

Sweet potatoes started moving from Martin County farms to northern markets in large quantities, reports stating that at least seven cars of the sweets had been received and made ready for shipment since last Monday. Prices are ranging from 80 to 90 cents. Most farmers are selling subject to delivery prices, out-right sales averaging around 80 cents net to the farmer FOB this point.

While the peanut market is holding fairly firm at three and one-half cents, few of the goobers are moving at this time.

Openings In CCC Camps For Martin County Boys

Openings for nine Martin County youths in CCC camps were announced today by Miss Mary Taylor, of the Welfare Department. Applications are now being received by the office.

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CANTATA

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