

Supervisor Points Out Importance of Agriculture Census

Names of Enumerators in This County Have Not Been Made Public

While the names of the several enumerators for this county have not been made public, plans are being advanced rapidly for handling the farm and population census, beginning April 1, D. W. Lupton, director of the First Congressional District, said this week. The business and manufacturers census is nearing completion in this county, Mr. Claude Smith, who is handling this phase of the work, stating last week-end that he would wind up the survey in Williamston in a day or two.

Stressing the importance of the agriculture census, Mr. Lupton said, "No group has a greater degree of self-interest in the success of the decennial census of 1940 than has the farmer."

"Agriculture as an industry has been in bad health for a number of years," declared Mr. Lupton. "Just as a prudent person goes to his doctor for a complete checkup the farmers will, in the census of 1940 get the most complete study of their symptoms that has ever been made. Facts to be collected on the seven million farms will provide the farmers themselves, the government, and students of the farm problems with a guide to the future."

"The nation as a whole cannot be fundamentally prosperous unless the farmer is prosperous," declared Mr. Lupton, "because the farms directly support 25 per cent of our population and the business of farming affects about half of all of our people. Besides being the producer of the nation's food supply, the farmer is one of the largest customers of the business man. The farmer's ability to purchase goods directly affects all business as well as their workers in the city. The farmer is one of the greatest suppliers of raw materials for industry."

"Vital changes throughout the world have directly affected the prosperity of the American farmer," explains Mr. Lupton. "Dislocation of world markets due to wars and the efforts of foreign nations to make themselves self-sufficient has made the American farm surplus burdensome by curtailing exports. Mechanization of farms has increased farm production while decreasing the number of consumers even on the farm. Greater mechanization in factories has reduced physical labor and the demand for staple food products. Lighter women's clothes have added to the cotton surplus, and reduction of physical labor has resulted in a per-capita decline in the consumption of wheat. The reduction of horses and mules from 27,000,000 to 15,000,000 in favor of tractors and trucks have made it necessary to find a market for cash crops from 30,000,000 acres formerly used to raise horse feed. The greatly re-

(Continued on page six)

Eight Thousand Are Killed and Injured On State Highways

Nearly 700 Persons Suffered Fractured Skulls in Road Accidents Last Year

Raleigh—Violent deaths and serious injuries are always horrible to a certain degree, but they reach their peak in highway accidents, judging from records of the Highway Safety Division.

During 1939, for example, of the 8,133 persons killed and injured on the streets and highways of North Carolina, 685 suffered fractured skulls, 189 sustained fractured spines, 3,258 suffered severe general shock with contusions and lacerations, 301 had internal injuries, and 264 suffered from concussion of the brain. Those are violent deaths in the strictest sense of the word; those are injuries more painful in some instances than those of the medieval torture chambers.

Of course, lots of the North Carolinians involved in highway accidents last year suffered no pain at all, because they were killed instantly or died without regaining consciousness and never knew what had hit them. A majority of them, however, suffered untold agony and dire torture before their ultimate death or recovery. And some will be marked or maimed for life as a result of the accidents in which they were involved last year.

The automobile, in other words, is a deadly weapon, especially in the hands of an incompetent, reckless or drunken driver. It is, in fact, the deadliest weapon now in common use. Confirmation of this statement is to be found in the fact that motor vehicle deaths in North Carolina last year were 50 per cent above all the homicides and suicides combined.

For every person shot down by gun fire in the state last year, two or more pedestrians were mowed down by automobiles. Bullets are faster than automobiles, but they don't hit as many people. For every suicide in

(Continued on page six)

Increase Cotton Parity Rate Will Be In Effect This Year

North Carolina cotton growers will receive a parity payment of 1.55 cents a pound this year for planting within their 1940 AA acreage allotment, announces E. Y. Floyd, AAA executive officer at State College. These price adjustment or parity payments, which supplement the regular agricultural conservation payments, will be made under the provisions of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 and the 1940 Department of Agriculture appropriation Act which set aside \$96,000,000 for cotton growers of the nation.

The 1940 act provided that payment be made on cotton this year if the 1939 average farm price was less than 75 per cent of parity. Since the estimated 1939 season average price for tobacco was above 75 per cent of parity, no price adjustment payments will be made on the leaf crop this year.

Three other basic crops will share in the \$225,000,000 set aside for parity

payments on this year's production. In addition to cotton, payments will be made on rice, wheat and corn. Since cotton prices improved relatively less than those for the other crops, the proportion of the parity fund going to cotton producers in 1940 will be larger than it was in 1939.

Floyd indicated that estimated increases in participation in 1940 as compared with 1939 estimates are responsible for the somewhat lower rates of the parity payments for this year.

Besides the parity payments, farmers who cooperate in the 1940 AAA program and plant within their acreage allotments will receive agricultural conservation payments. The conservation payment for cotton has been set at 1.6 cents for 1940. This added to the parity payment of 1.55 cents would give farmers a total government payment of 3.15 cents a pound.

Last Quarter Liquor Sales Second Largest

POLITICS

County politics, quiet these many months, will be coming out of hibernation within the next few days if all the report whippers burst into audible sound. No announced candidacies have been officially advanced, but several are eyeing the treasurer's job, one reliable report stating that John R. Peel along with possibly several others is making plans to enter the race.

Representative H. G. Horton is awaiting developments before announcing his intentions as they relate to the State House or Senate. It has been suggested that Martin and possibly Beaufort would concede the senatorial nomination to one of the smaller counties in the district, and reports state that correspondence has been carried on to that effect. These plans, however, are indefinite.

Mrs. B. F. Copeland, County Native, Dies At Guilford College

Funeral Services Conducted In Guilford County, Yesterday Afternoon

Mrs. Josephine Nolan Copeland, a native of this county, died at her home in Guilford County just outside of Guilford College last Saturday afternoon following a long illness.

The daughter of the late Henry and Maria Fisher Nolan, she was born in old Dymond City, this county, about 60 years ago. Mrs. Copeland was the granddaughter of Abram Fisher, manager of the old Jamesville and Washington Railroad Company and pioneer who came to this county from Ireland. Mrs. Copeland's father also came to this country from Ireland and was prominently connected with the old J. and W. Land Company and its holdings in this county back in the early eighties.

Mrs. Copeland lived with her mother at Dymond City until the settlement had all but disappeared. She assisted her mother in keeping the postoffice in that community until it was moved to Amherst, near Hardison's Mill about forty years ago. The family migrated to Northampton County, several of the members later locating in Pennsylvania.

(Continued on page six)

Enterprise Named To Receive Gifts For Finnish Fund

Recognizing the pitiful appeals coming from a gallant Finnish people from across the Atlantic and upon the urgent request of George Watts Hill, State Chairman of the "Fighting Funds for Finland," The Enterprise has agreed to head the drive for funds in this county. Martin is among the last to organize machinery for handling the drive, and an immediate response is urged.

No general solicitation is being considered, but everyone interested in humanity is cordially directed to forward cash donations to The Enterprise for immediate transfer to the State Chairman in Durham. "I sincerely hope you may be able to join us in aiding the Finns in defense of their country," Mr. Hill said in his letter urging the people of this county to participate in the worthy cause.

Skewarkey Masons Hold Entertaining Meet Here Friday

Picture of Late Enterprise Editor and Past Master Presented to Lodge

Climaxing a several months' attendance contest, the annual banquet of Skewarkey Lodge Masons was held in the Woman's Club Hall here last Friday evening with the membership well represented and a goodly number of special guests in attendance. The meeting, recognized as a high spot in the Masons' annual program of events, was greatly enjoyed with members of the organization from several sections of the county participating in the program.

The attendance contest, ended week before last, was won by the Whites under the generalship of Ben Courtney assisted by J. W. Manning, his lieutenant, Rev. J. H. Smith, captain, and S. H. Grimes, his lieutenant, offered competition but lost by a few points, the losers paying for the turkey dinners which were served by the local Parent-Teacher Association.

Serving the lodge as Worshipful Master, Mr. R. H. Goodman presided over the evening program. He presented Past Masters A. T. Perry, R. H. Smith and Charles Davenport with jewels in recognition for their faithful service to the organization in past years. An enlarged picture of the late W. C. Manning for thirty years editor of The Enterprise and an active Mason of the Skewarkey Lodge for a number of years during which time he served as Worshipful Master, was presented to the organization. Attorney Hugh G. Horton made the presentation speech, briefly reviewing Mr. Manning's activities in the community and county and his interest in the fraternal organization as well as in civic and religious activities. Master Goodman accepted the picture on behalf of the lodge.

Total Of \$589,009.20 Is Spent For Spirits Since Stores Opened

Last Quarter Sales Are Larger By \$8,000 Than They Were Year Ago

After showing a downward trend since the latter part of 1938, legal liquor sales in Martin County staged a strong comeback last quarter to approach the all-time high record of \$56,179.40 established in the fourth quarter of 1937. Falling behind the high record by almost \$8,000, the sales last quarter were almost \$8,000 greater than they were for the fourth period of 1938. Bolstered by \$48,481.05 last quarter, the total sales now stand at \$589,009.20, the figures representing the activities of the four legal stores from the time they were opened in July, 1935, through last quarter. Profits, increased by \$10,809.60 last quarter, now stand at \$129,881.64.

The striking feature of the fourth quarter audit just released by Greathouse and Butler, certified public accountants, is the ratio of profits to sales. While the sales during the period were the second largest on record, profits dropped to fourth place in the quarterly listings. The apparent loss in profits is directly traceable to the increased sales tax assessed against gross sales by the State of North Carolina. During the past quarter, Martin County paid the great State almost \$1,400 a month in the form of sales tax on its legal liquor sales. Accounting for \$1,120.22 for the law enforcement reserve fund, the audit places the gross profits at \$15,236.89 for the last four months' period. The sales by stores and apportionment of profits are, as follows:

	Sales	Apportionment
Jamesville	3,424.85	121.53
Martin County	7,920.09	7,920.09
N.C. Sales Tax Enforcement	1,120.22	1,120.22
Williamston	\$22,619.50	\$ 1,040.05
Robersonville	17,419.80	797.60
Oak City	5,016.90	202.73
	\$48,481.05	\$15,236.89

Of the \$48,481.05 spent for liquor in the four legal stores last quarter.

(Continued on page six)

Mrs. Jno. R. Rogers Passes In Hospital

Mrs. Nora Ann Rogers, widow of John R. Rogers, and highly respected citizen of Bear Grass Township, died in the local hospital Sunday morning at 5:30 o'clock following a stroke of paralysis while attending a hog killing at the home of Romulus Griffin in Griffins Township last Thursday. She was removed to the hospital here in a semi-conscious condition the following day. She gradually became worse, the end coming peacefully Sunday morning. Mrs. Rogers had been in fairly good health up until she was taken suddenly and critically ill.

The daughter of the late William and Sara Peel Hadley, Mrs. Rogers was born in Bear Grass Township on May 20, 1882, making her almost 58 years old. In early womanhood she was married to Mr. Rogers who died in 1934. She made her home in Bear Grass Township all her life. She was a member of the Macedonia Church for more than twenty years.

Two sons, Jesse and Wizie Rogers, both of Bear Grass Township, survive. She was the last member of her immediate family. Funeral services were conducted yesterday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock in the Macedonia church by Rev. Gilbert Davis, of Washington. Interment was in the Rogers Cemetery, near the Slade Peel home in Bear Grass Township.

Harrison Wholesale Firm Is Dissolved By Death Of Partner

Messrs. Martin and Elliott To Assume Management On March First

Recently purchasing the Harrison Wholesale Company here, Messrs. W. T. Martin and R. D. Elliott, Jr., will assume active management of the firm March 1, it was announced here today. Inventories are being completed this week preparatory to the business transfer which will be handled without inconvenience to the company's large number of customers throughout this section.

To be operated under the name of Martin and Elliott Wholesale Company, the firm will continue to maintain the able, efficient and extensive service as offered by the Harrison firm for nearly a quarter of a century. The new owners are recognized business leaders and are well experienced in the wholesale business. Mr. Elliott has traveled extensively for a large manufacturing firm in this section of the State for a number of years where he is held in high regard by hundreds of business men.

Mr. Martin, formerly of Houston, Texas, has had a number of years' experience in the wholesale business in that state. He is also well known in this section where he married and looks forward to locating in this territory. Both men will be actively connected with the business and they will be assisted by an efficient corps of workers. The new owners and operators of the firm possess pleasing personalities, and they will be heartily welcomed here as business men and citizens. Definite plans for locating here have not been announced.

In announcing the sale of the firm, Mr. G. H. Harrison, surviving partner, stated that it was impossible for him to give the required attention to both the wholesale and Harrison Oil Company and handle the numerous other duties he has so willingly and unselfishly handled in the civic and material interest of the town and section.

Poplar Point Man Accidentally Shot

Joe Moore, Poplar Point colored man, was shot in the leg by Floyd Williams, also colored, near the Log Cabin filling station in Poplar Point Township last Sunday afternoon. Moore was painfully hurt, but he is expected to recover.

No report of the shooting has been filed in the office of the sheriff, and details of the attack are not definitely known here. One report stated that the two men were playing and the gun was fired accidentally. Another report maintains that the two men had been arguing, and that the shooting was possibly intentional. No arrests have been made in the case. Moore was treated by local doctors, and he is reported to be getting along very well.

Boy's Finger Is Torn Off By Home-Made Merry-Go-Round

Asa Daniel Taylor, five years old, had the little finger on his right hand nearly smashed off last Sunday afternoon when he caught it between a plank and a post on a home-made merry-go-round near his home on the old Greenville Road.

THE RECORD SPEAKS . . .

Martin County motorists directed a telling attack on slow-traffic last week, official records of Sergeant Jackson and Patrolman Saunders of the Highway Patrol showing where one mule was killed and thrown from the highway and—a wagon was smashed and knocked from the highway. A minor wreck was reported on Williamston's Washington Street for the week. Odd as it may seem no one was hurt, not even slightly, but the property damage picked up to hold a considerable lead over the damage reported during the first eight weeks of 1939.

With the number of wrecks totaling three times as many as were reported in the first eight weeks of 1939 and with the number injured being more than three times greater, it is apparent that Martin motorists have thrown safety to the winds so far this season.

The following tabulations offer a comparison of the accident trend: first, by corresponding weeks in this year and last and for each year to the present time.

Eighth Week Comparison			
Accidents	Inj'd	Killed	Dam'ge
1940	3	0	\$ 600
1939	1	0	25
Comparison To Date			
1940	18	13	\$1935
1939	6	4	875

Martin and Elliott Buy Local Wholesale Firm

Harrison Wholesale Firm Is Dissolved By Death Of Partner

Recently purchasing the Harrison Wholesale Company here, Messrs. W. T. Martin and R. D. Elliott, Jr., will assume active management of the firm March 1, it was announced here today. Inventories are being completed this week preparatory to the business transfer which will be handled without inconvenience to the company's large number of customers throughout this section.

To be operated under the name of Martin and Elliott Wholesale Company, the firm will continue to maintain the able, efficient and extensive service as offered by the Harrison firm for nearly a quarter of a century. The new owners are recognized business leaders and are well experienced in the wholesale business. Mr. Elliott has traveled extensively for a large manufacturing firm in this section of the State for a number of years where he is held in high regard by hundreds of business men.

Mr. Martin, formerly of Houston, Texas, has had a number of years' experience in the wholesale business in that state. He is also well known in this section where he married and looks forward to locating in this territory. Both men will be actively connected with the business and they will be assisted by an efficient corps of workers. The new owners and operators of the firm possess pleasing personalities, and they will be heartily welcomed here as business men and citizens. Definite plans for locating here have not been announced.

In announcing the sale of the firm, Mr. G. H. Harrison, surviving partner, stated that it was impossible for him to give the required attention to both the wholesale and Harrison Oil Company and handle the numerous other duties he has so willingly and unselfishly handled in the civic and material interest of the town and section.

Two Shops Opening On East Main Street

The march of business into the postoffice area is being noted this week with the opening of the Harrison Shoppe and the announced plans for opening of a modern floral shop two doors away by Mrs. J. A. Eason and Mrs. Henry D. Harrison.

Mrs. Anna Harrison has already opened a modern ladies' shop in the building recently vacated by Dr. C. J. Sawyer, next door to the postoffice. Handling a recognized line of millinery, ladies' wearing apparel and accessories, the shop is receiving additional shipments daily. Mrs. Harrison, the owner-operator, announced today.

Making Extensive Plans For Dollar Days, March 7, 8, 9

With a large number of local merchants cooperating, the dollar-day trade festival scheduled in Williamston on Thursday, Friday and Saturday of next week is being advanced on an extensive scale. Billie Clark, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, the sponsoring organization, stating today that some of the greatest values ever offered by local merchants will be made available to thousands of people in several counties during the three dollar days.

A complete schedule of bargains will be released on an extensive scale next week, and thrifty shoppers are cordially directed to bear in mind the dates—March 7, 8 and 9—and look for the list of bargains that will be made available on the three days only.

Little Crime Wave Reported In County During Recent Days

Week-End Robberies Here Boost Total To 11 Since First of the Year

Continued robberies, most of them set unsolved, have developed a little crime wave here and in several parts of the county, the hold work of the robbers being recognized as a threat to the safety of property irrespective of location and law-enforcement agencies.

The robbery count for the current year in the county was boosted to eleven during the latter part of last week when property was attacked in the town of Williamston and in Jamesville Township. Robberies were centered last week-end on the colored school building, the Brown Beer Garden (colored), and the Martin Supply Company, all in Williamston, and Farmer Modlin's peanut storage on the Fleming farm near Jamesville. Other robberies in the county so far this year were scattered over six townships as follows: Griffins' filling station in Griffins Township; Anderson's filling station in Jamesville; Johnson-Matthews store in Hamilton; Smith's filling station in Oak City; Jenkins garage and J. S. Getsinger's home in Williamston, and the Bullock home in Cross Roads Township. These robberies followed closely those at the Critcher and Manning filling station in Williamston.

Store At Gardners Creek Padlocked By Order Of Judge

Officers Believe Action Will Eliminate Source of Much Trouble

The small store operated at Gardners Creek by Leland Roberson was ordered permanently padlocked by Judge H. O. Peel in county court here yesterday, the judge basing his action on complaints rating the spot as a public nuisance. The action came as a result of a raid by Enforcement Officer J. H. Roebuck and assistants more than a week ago when a small quantity of liquor was found on the premises.

Experiencing much trouble there is years gone by, officers heartily approved the action by the court. It was pointed out that it had been a trouble spot long before Roberson took over its operation some time ago. Charged with possession, Roberson pleaded guilty in the case. Judge Peel suspended a road sentence upon the payment of a \$25 fine and the case costs.

Roberson, pointing out that he had only a small quantity of liquor, on hand, maintained that he had purchased the spirits for distribution at a wood cutting. The state maintained that Roberson operated no farm, that he had no wood to cut and that there was little need for wood that a community wood-cutting would produce.

The North Carolina Beer Distributors Committee is asking the revocation of a retailer's license in the county, and action is pending in a second case indicating that a movement is well underway to effect a strict enforcement of the alcoholic beverage control law.

Better Speech Week Prize Awards Made

Mrs. A. J. Osteen, Mrs. Ernest Etheridge and Rev. Z. T. Piephoff, judges in the Better Speech Contest, sponsored by the Woman's Club, announced today that the prizes were won by Rose Leggett, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Leggett, and sixth grade student, and William Peele, son of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Peele, and eighth grade student. The sponsors are awarding prizes of one dollar each to the winners for preparing the outstanding posters on the theme of Better English. Considerable difficulty was reported by the judges in choosing from the fine collection of posters prepared by students in grades four through eleven.

Attendance Figures For Sunday Services In Local Churches

Limited Representation Upon Services Indicated By First Figures

By REV. J. H. SMITH
Last Wednesday evening the music of the bells in the Williamston churches was making a special effort to remind people of the hour for mid-week worship, and 93 heard and went into the House of the Lord, 50 at the Holiness Church, 14 at the Christian, 24 at the Episcopal and 5 at the Baptist. No doubt those who were in worship were in prayer to bring added blessings to our town. "The prayer of the righteous availeth much." Listen to the bells tomorrow evening!

The Church Bells On Sunday
In spite of the rain and wind more than 300 people were in our churches this last Sunday. The following figures may be of interest to you:

Number attending Sunday School: Baptist, 100; Christian, 73; Episcopal, 12; Holiness, 95; Methodist, 65; Presbyterian, 24.

Number attending morning worship services: Baptist, 66; Christian, 70; Episcopal, 50; Holiness, 95; Methodist, 53; Presbyterian, 28.

Number attending evening services: Baptist, 73; Christian, 15; Holiness, 55; Methodist, 47.

Twenty-eight young people in all the church were in the young people's meetings at 6:30. In the Baptist Church, at 6:30, four young men and the pastor met to begin an organization for young men and ladies. Mr. Arthur Bertolet is to be the leader in the open forum discussion to be held for young people in their search for God and Truth. The meetings, to begin with, will be held each Sunday evening at 6:30 o'clock. Jessup Harstone in Hamilton; Smith's filling station in Williamston; Smith's filling station in Oak City; Jenkins garage and J. S. Getsinger's home in Williamston, and the Bullock home in Cross Roads Township. These robberies followed closely those at the Critcher and Manning filling station in Williamston.

Only one of the eleven robberies has been solved, officers admitting that while they have marked long and hard they had made little or no progress in the other cases.

During the latter part of last week, some one entered the colored school building and allegedly stole approximately \$50 cash from the athletic and general expense fund.

On Thursday night some one broke into Brown's beer garden on Washington Street and stole a few cats, leaving other articles untouched.

Last Friday night, robbers entered the Martin Supply Company's store on Washington Street and stole two pairs of shoes and two boxes of dress shirts. Size No. 11, the shoes were for work and dress purposes. No other articles were missed. Mr. Ed Trahey, manager, told police. An entrance was gained through a back window.

Seven bags of seed peanuts were stolen from Farmer Modlin, near Jamesville, officers stating that all they had been able to learn was that the goobers were hauled away some time during Wednesday night or early Thursday morning on a car or truck.