

Farm Bureau Begins Membership Drive

State President And Others Talk To Group Friday

Important Legislation Relative To Tobacco Prices Gets Bureau's Attention

Firmly convinced that a strong farmer's organization is needed now more than ever, 25 Martin County farmers met here last Friday evening to formulate final plans for bolstering the organization's strength and to support important tobacco legislation now before the National Congress. The meeting, striking at the basic problems as they relate to the future of agriculture, was regarded as the most successful ever held here.

Opening the special session for the membership committee, county president, Charles L. Daniel, recognized the value of the work done by those who have never reaped any direct remuneration and who continue to work for the good of agriculture, as a whole. Mr. Daniel asked the farmers and business men of this county to rally behind the organization and help agriculture gain its rightful place along with other industry.

J. E. Winslow, president of the State Farm Bureau, addressing the meeting said that a strong farm organization is needed now more than ever. He quoted J. B. Hutson, of the AAA, as saying that the Farm Bureau can't afford to slacken its work if tobacco is to continue to hold its own. Mr. Winslow also pointed out that a momentous problem is facing the peanut farmer, that there must be some legislation another season if the peanut farmer is to survive. Single commodity groups can't do much, but collectively they can demand and get just legislation along with other industry which has enjoyed prosperity through tariffs and concessions.

Keeping in close touch with farm legislation in Congress, Mr. Winslow explained the status of the Flanagan tobacco bill which will raise the parity price of tobacco from around 17 to 22 1-2 cents. "If this bill can be passed, it will mean twenty million dollars more to the farmers for the current crop of tobacco," he said. Explaining the status of the bill, Mr. Winslow stated that it had already passed the Senate, that it had been approved by the House Agriculture Committee and that there was hope of passing the measure after the election. "But, my friends, it will take a strong organization in this county and State working in close cooperation with a strong organization throughout the Nation to get action, to maintain respect and confidence in Washington," Mr. Winslow declared.

The Bureau president stated that the United States Chamber of Commerce, in its work for the interest of big business had spent two and one-half million dollars in Washington last year. The Farm Bureau with comparatively little money to spend had held its own in Congress because of its far-flung organization in nearly every one of the forty-eight states. The Farm Bureau is recognized as a reliable organization, and its data and recommendations have a definite ranking in Washington. "We must continue that reputation by rallying to the support of the organization," Mr. Winslow said. In conclusion he said that the State Bureau was fortunate in pro-

(Continued on page four)

Places Are Listed For Registrations

While the selective service registration will be handled at the usual voting places in a number of county precincts, several shifts were necessary to avoid conflicts. As far as it could be learned today, the registrations will be handled in the following places:

Jamesville Precinct: Town House.
Williams Precinct: Township or County House.
Griffins Precinct: Township House and Piney Grove.
Bear Grass Precinct: School House.
Williamston Precincts Nos. 1 and 2: American Legion Hut.
Cross Roads: Everetts School house.
Robersonville Precinct: Old C and W. Motor Company building between postoffice and Texaco Service Station, Main Street.
Gold Point Precinct: School house.
Poplar Point Precinct: Tenant house on Mayo Hardison's farm.
Hamilton Precinct: "Courthouse."
Hassell Precinct: School house.
Goose Nest Precinct: Oak City school gymnasium.

The list is a tentative one, and last-minute changes are possible in one or two instances. But all men in the 21-35 age group can follow the crowds between the hours of 7 a. m. and 9 p. m. and find the registration places without difficulty.

Tobacco Prices In Williamston Higher Than Market Level

All Markets Will Close For Registration Day Tomorrow

The official figures, released by the United States Department of Agriculture through its marketing service, are out, showing the tobacco sales and prices received by the growers for the month of September. Boiled down to rock bottom, the official figures hardly come up to the published reports. But taking the cold figures at their own value, tobacco is selling almost four cents a pound higher than it did a year ago, and according to the same figures, Williamston sold tobacco higher than the market level—about forty cents a hundred higher, to be exact. Williamston averaged \$16.66 as compared with \$16.26, the State average. The last month average of \$16.26 is \$3.70 higher than the figure reported for September of last year.

Yesterday, the Williamston market had another good sale day. While the quality of the tobacco was hardly as good as it was last week, the 181,726 pounds sold for \$44,795.46, a resulting average of \$24.65. There are about 80,000 pounds on the floors here today and the prices are holding to about the same level reported for the sales here yesterday.

So far this season, the market has sold 4,647,504 pounds for a total of \$868,754.94, a resulting average of \$18.69.

Estimates vary, but it is generally believed that at least 75 per cent of the crop in this immediate section has been marketed already, that a greater portion of the best quality leaf has been sold.

To Modernize Hotel Building Here For Five And Ten Store

Let Contract Today for \$20,000 Remodeling Project On Old Atlantic Hotel

Leased to the Eagle Stores Company, incorporated, the old Atlantic Hotel building, corner Main and Washington Streets here, will undergo an extensive modernization program immediately, according to Mr. G. H. Harrison who with Mr. N. C. Green owns the property. A contract for the \$20,000 modernization project is being let today by the owners, and work is slated to get underway on the structure possibly tomorrow or Thursday.

The Eagle Stores Company, operating units in numerous towns and cities in western North Carolina and South Carolina, will occupy the street floor, and the property owners will convert the second floor into apartments. Plans for remodeling the building call for the removal of the center wall and throwing the entire lower floor into one room. Six apartments, three 3-room and three 2-room apartments will be arranged on the second floor. A storage room, 15 by 60 feet, will be constructed to the rear of the building for housing the heating plant and general storage for the store operators. Entrance to the second floor will be gained by two stairways, one leading up from Washington Street and one leading up from the rear of the building. The contract calls for the completion of the remodeling work for the store by December 15, and occupancy of the apartments is guaranteed by January 1.

The new home of the 5c- to \$1.00 store will be one of the most modern in this section of the State. The lease is to run for ten years.

Idle for the past several months, the building was used by one of the leading hotels in this section for a long number of years. It was built by the Hadley brothers.

Purchasing the property early last summer, the owners have had several opportunities to lease it for a general store, hotel and moving picture house.

Gives Figures On Church Attendance

By REV. S. J. STARNES, Pastor, Methodist Church

With morning preaching services in five of the six churches in Williamston Sunday the attendance figure failed to reach the figure of last week. The Holiness Church did not have a service at the morning hour. Had they held a service it is possible the attendance figure would have gone beyond the previous week.

Sunday School, while far from what it should be in numbers, led again in attendance.

The figures for all white churches follow:

Church	S.S.	Y.P.	A.M.	P.M.
Baptist	107	15	82	67
Christian	113	11	120	46
Episcopal	16		36	18
Holiness	112			80
Methodist	85	26	68	31
Presbyterian	26		25	
Total	459	52	331	242

Machinery Ready For Handling Registrations For Selective Service In County Tomorrow

Prominent Farmer Critically Injured When Hit by Wheel

M. Daney Taylor Removed to Hospital With Skull Fracture

Mr. M. Daney Taylor, prominent Martin County farmer, was critically hurt last Friday evening about 8 o'clock when he was run down by a hit-and-run bicycle rider in the town of Bear Grass. Removed to a Washington hospital, the 57-year-old farmer was reported to be getting along as well as could be expected today, but his condition was said to be serious.

Starting across the surfaced road in front of Irving Terry's store, Mr. Taylor was struck by Joseph Whitley, 16-year-old colored boy, who was racing another colored youth with bicycles. Mr. Taylor's feet were knocked from under him and he fell to the pavement, landing on his elbows and head. Both elbows were bruised and he suffered a fracture of the skull. Rendered unconscious, he was brought to a local doctor's office and given treatment. He regained consciousness and his condition was not thought to be serious at that time. He became worse Sunday and he was removed to a Washington hospital.

When arrested Sunday, the young colored boy declared that he was afraid to stop after striking Mr. Taylor. "They could have beat me up," he was quoted by officers as saying. He did not bother to tell anyone else he had struck the man, but he readily admitted the deed when officers approached him Sunday noon. Whitley is being held in the county jail, a hearing being delayed pending the outcome of Mr. Taylor's condition. He was arrested at the home of his uncle, Claude Williams, not far from Bear Grass, by Patgoman Whit Saunders and Sheriff C. B. Roebuck.

The accident, although involving no motor vehicle, was the most dangerous one reported on a county highway during the past week.

Reorganization Of Local High School Band Is Underway

Call for Old Instruments and Financial Aid Sounded by School Authorities

The reorganization of a high school band here is meeting with a marked interest by both school pupils and patrons. Professor Jack F. Butler, the new band instructor and teacher, stating today that more than fifty students had already expressed a desire to participate in the new band set-up.

Commenting on the new program, Mr. Butler said:

"There are two things that the school wishes to bring to the attention of the parents and the town people: (1) that there is absolutely no tuition charge for lessons as has been the practice in the past. The school is developing this instrumental program so that every pupil who may wish to learn, will have the chance. (2) the band is in dire need of instruments."

(Continued on page four)

Cover Crops Are Planted on Large Scale in County

The conservation of the soil is rapidly pushing its way to the front as one of the new and big factors in Martin County farming, according to Farm Agent Tom Brandon. More acres are being planted to cover crops this fall than ever before, Agent Brandon stating that green grasses and legumes will be seen on several thousand acres of land in the county this fall and winter.

Several hundred bags of Austrian winter peas have been delivered already and an extra shipment is expected the latter part of this week. Applications are being received from an increasing number of farmers who are following the course of their neighbors in planting cover crops. More than 105 bags of vetch seed are being distributed this week, the agent explaining that the supply was limited and that the entire allotment was assigned a few days after the first application was received. In addition to the seed handled by the agent's office in connection with the grant-of-aid program, independent seedsmen report record sales here this season.

Ministers and Laymen Group To Discuss Church Attendance

Recognizing a problem in the small attendance upon the various religious services in local churches, ministers and laymen are meeting in the Baptist Church this evening at 7:30 o'clock when plans will be formulated in an effort to create an increased interest in church services and other religious meetings.

The session this evening is being called at the direction of Mr. Hugh G. Horton who was named to head the temporary organization at a meeting held in the Christian Church last Friday evening. Mr. W. O. Griffin was named secretary of the organization.

Dwindling attendances upon all religious services in the town are causing much concern not only among the ministry but also among many laymen. Commenting on the attendance records, Rev. John W. Hardy, rector of the Church of the Advent, said, "The problem is not peculiar to any one church, so it is hoped that by discussing this matter together we can pool our suggestions and work together to make our congregations larger."

The ministers and laymen group leaders are urging all people who are interested in seeing the attendance of local churches increase to attend the meeting in the Baptist Church at 7:30 o'clock this evening. Mr. Horton will preside over the discussion which will be open to anyone who wishes to participate.

Little Crime Wave Is Reported In County

Thirteen Jailed In Local Jail During The Past Week-end

A little crime wave struck the county during the past week-end, resulting in a record number of arrests and one of the busiest periods experienced by county, local and special officers in many, many months.

"They just about filled up the county jail," Jailer Roy Peel commented late Sunday afternoon when a semblance of law and order displaced rowdiness, fighting and drinking.

For a while it was a race between the jailer and the doctors, but a final count late Sunday gave the jailer undisputed victory. At the start the doctors received two victims to the jailer's one, but helpless drunks turned the tide late Saturday night when officers started carrying them in on improvised stretchers of bagging and in groups.

From Oak City to Jamesville, the officers worked as rapidly as possible to keep up with the calls, and in Jamesville it looked as if rowdiness would win out over law and order, one report stated. Peace and quiet were restored, however, when Sheriff C. B. Roebuck brought in a load of drunks and fighters. James Holliday was dangerously cut by Alton Lilley, and Leon Rhodes went on a rampage in his own home. When Rhodes completed his work he had broken his wife's shoulder and an arm for his mother-in-law, Ethel Gilmore. The mother-in-law just recently completed serving a 90-day jail sentence for alleged violation of the liquor laws.

In addition to making 13 arrests, the officers flushed several homes where the occupants were alleged to have been retailing illegal liquor. Several, charged with gambling, were arrested, but the liquor traffic after a brief interruption was resumed according to schedule. "I counted 11 white men coming from a Negro home on Railroad Street where liquor is reported sold at retail on a big sale," an officer was quoted as saying.

(Continued on page four)

Mother Dies On Way To Hospital

Mrs. Daisy Cowen Mendenhall, wife of Spencer Mendenhall, died while on the way from her home near Bear Grass to a Washington hospital yesterday afternoon at five o'clock. Her child, just a few hours old, died at 4 o'clock.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Daney-Cowen, she was born in Bear Grass Township 31 years ago. In early womanhood she was married to Mr. Mendenhall—who survives with three children, Ralph, Lorraine and James. She also leaves her parent and two brothers, Garland and Linwood Cowen and two sisters, Mrs. C. Forbes and Mrs. Rawls, all of Robersonville Township.

Mrs. Mendenhall's condition was not considered at all serious yesterday morning, but she became suddenly worse and the end was near before medical aid could be extended.

She was a member of the Free Will Baptist Church at Rose of Sharon and her pastor, Rev. Mr. Adams, assisted by Rev. Z. T. Piephoff, Presbyterian minister, is conducting the last rites at the home this afternoon at 3:30 o'clock. Interment will follow in the Cowin Cemetery in Bear Grass.

Forty Volunteers Prepare To Handle Registration Here

All Men in 21-35 Age Group, Inclusive, To Register Wednesday

Machinery for handling the Selective Service registration in this county is ready to go into action tomorrow morning, most of the officials stating that able volunteers were reporting in numbers and that very little difficulty was anticipated in handling the work. Plans for handling the first step in the draft program are complete, the officials in the Williamston precincts having held a school of instruction in the agricultural building last evening to acquaint the volunteers with the registration cards and certificates.

Registration is slated to get underway in the legion hut on Watts Street here tomorrow morning at 7 o'clock. All men in the 21-35 age group, inclusive, will be required to register between that hour and 9 o'clock Wednesday evening, October 16. Draft boards, advanced reports state, are skeptical about excuses and those who fail to register are subject to a five-year prison term or a \$10,000 fine or both.

Chief Registrars O. S. Anderson and S. H. Grimes will have between 30 and 40 volunteers to assist them in handling the work in the two precincts which are being combined for the event. In addition to that number, a special group will handle registrations for men employed in numbers by large industrial plants. The special registration group will maintain headquarters in the courthouse auditorium and certain hours will be assigned to those men employed in the various industrial plants. Registrations will not be allowed on the plant properties. The special group will greatly relieve the rush that is expected at the legion hut.

No complicated questions will be asked the registrants tomorrow. If a man in the specified age group can give his name, age, address, place of birth, name of a person who will likely know his address at all times, the address of that person, name of employer and employer's address, he will have no trouble in registering.

While plans are complete for handling the registration and while the registration machinery is certain to operate smoothly tomorrow, the draft program itself is getting off to a slow start. The three men on the draft board, Dr. Jesse Ward, of Robersonville; Joe H. Ayers, of Oak City, and Ray H. Goodman, of Williamston, have not received their official appointment. They cannot perfect their organization and make ready for handling their duties until they receive official notification of their appointments.

It is apparent that the schedule the draft board will follow is already two or three days behind. Possibly the members will receive their official appointment by tomorrow and that an organization can be perfected and arrangements completed for receiving the registration cards by Thursday morning. The schedule of draft board duties call for action on Thursday when the registration cards are to be received and serially numbered. A complete list of the registrants' names is to be made out in triplicate and one list forwarded to Raleigh. On October 26 the first drawing will be effected in Washington. Questionnaires will be sent out on October 29 to those whose names were drawn on the 26th. Classification of registrants will get underway on November 3, and on November 4 all Class 1 registrants will be notified to report for physical examinations.

While members of the Martin draft board have not yet received their official appointments they are being flooded with instructions. R. H. Goodman, local member, sat up until the early hours of the morning studying the instructions coming in six volumes and in lengthy typed sheets.

It isn't likely that any of the schools will be called upon to close tomorrow that the teachers might aid in the draft registration. However,

(Continued on page four)

Fire Prevention In Local Schools

Fire prevention was observed in the local schools last week when Mayor J. L. Hassell and Fire Chief G. P. Hall visited the several plants, checked fire drills and made short talks.

The 520 grammar-grade pupils filed out of the building in 57 seconds and in perfect order. Burdened with added years, the 280 pupils in the high school were 58 seconds in clearing the building. Crowded and cramped, the 550 colored children were 70 seconds getting out of their building.

PEANUTS

Hardly before the last of the crop has been dug, a few Martin County farmers are making preparations to start picking peanuts. A few farmers will place pickers in operation in the Cross Roads and Robersonville sections this week, according to reports reaching here late yesterday.

Along with the plans for beginning the peanut harvest, comes a warning from buyers urging farmers to be absolutely certain that the goobers are thoroughly dry before starting picking operations.

Opposition Looms For The Nazis In The Balkan Areas

Bombs Hail London and Berlin in Fiercest Air Attacks of the War

Running high, wide and handsome over entire nations and over a greater part of the European Continent, Germany is now about to face a serious opposition in the Balkans. No definite pacts have been entered into, but the threat of the Nazis to overrun Greece and Turkey is causing great alarm in Russia, and Turkey is now virtually assured that she can depend upon Russian aid if Hitler continues his drive into the Balkan territory. It is also virtually assured that Turkey will aid Greece in the event of an attack there. Hitler's next move is not known, but it he should attempt to march on the Dardanelles he will have to answer to Russia, and that the showdown will come long before he moves directly toward the Dardanelles.

The long awaited break between Rumania and London has not developed, but the trouble between the two countries only awaits formal announcement. Oil wells have been destroyed in Rumania and it is apparent that all is not well there for Hitler and his hordes.

The fiercest air warfare ever reported struck both London and Berlin last night. London was bombed at 56 different points last night, and German invaders moved over England with clock-like regularity. Day break this morning failed to relieve the situation. German airmen said that London offered a picture of near destruction, that extensive fires were burning from one end of the city to the other.

Germany admitted heavy damage to industrial plants and to Berlin itself. Nearly every hospital in Berlin has been damaged or wrecked, the events of the past 24 hours pointing to a total warfare between the Britons and Germans in the air.

Prime Minister Churchill, in an address of the House of Commons, said this morning that world opinion was shaping up rapidly and firmly behind Britain and her fight for democracy. His remarks are believed to have been directed at events centering around a possible pact between Russia and Turkey against Germany.

The Petain government is still having its troubles. Siam has pre-

(Continued on page four)

Farm Office Force To Aid Draft Registration

The county agent's office will be closed all day Wednesday in cooperation with the registration or draft board.

Several of the clerks are being assigned to duties in the precincts over the county, Agent Brandon said.