

## Budget Estimates Calling For Same Tax Rate In 1946

### General Increase Of About \$29,000 Noted For All Departments

According to semi-final estimates, approximately \$303,811 will be required to finance Martin County's government for the 1946-47 fiscal year, the amount being close to \$29,000 in excess of the 1945-46 budget requirements. The increase, however, will be absorbed without an increase in the general tax rate which remains at \$1.05 per \$100 assessed property valuation. In addition to the county-wide rate, several townships will have special road tax levies, amounting to 45 cents per \$100 in Cross Roads, 30 cents in Hamilton and 25 cents in Goose Nest. At least one district, including all of Williamston and parts of Bear Grass and Williams Townships, will have a 20-cent special school tax. Robersonville is voting on a proposed special tax levy for its schools on Saturday of this week, and an election is pending in Jamesville.

According to the departmental estimates reviewed by the commissioners in their recent special session, approximately \$7,000 additional will be required to meet the general county fund needs. Nearly every activity outside the welfare department, schools and bonded indebtedness is financed from this fund, including such items as salaries, the courts, fuel, lights, etc., repairs, materials and literally hundreds of other items. Considering the increased costs of everything the increase in this department is considered quite small. However, at the same time, it is estimated that \$81,420 can be raised from sources other than general taxation, that a rate of 7 cents will suffice as compared with a rate of 14 and 1-2 cents in effect last fiscal year.

Good times is reflected in the poor fund which tumbled from \$8,745 to \$5,999, resulting in a one and three-quarter-cent drop in the rate itself. But the poor fund reduction was more than offset by an increase in public welfare administration which jumped from \$4,770 to \$9,200, the increase of \$4,430 calling for a 2-cent increase in the rate and almost \$1,000 more from sources other than general taxation.

Health fund requirements, while increased from \$9,850 to \$9,910, call for a one-half-cent rate increase. There is a slight drop in the old age assistance fund, and the amount to be appropriated for aid to dependent children remains unchanged at \$3,840.

It is estimated that an additional \$14,000 or thereabouts will be needed to operate the county schools next term, the amount including an appropriation for replacing the burned school at Everetts, one or two other minor buildings and repairs to old ones. The current expense fund needs jumped from \$56,692 to \$64,340, the increase to care for higher fuel costs and general cost increases. The \$9,395 addition to the capital outlay fund has necessitated a rate increase.

## Hit-Run Driver Taken In County

Charles E. Lytle, 36-year-old Charlotte man, was arrested in this county last week for hit-and-run driving, resulting in serious injury to Donald Martin, nine years old. Suffering a head injury and a broken leg, the child who lived with his aunt, Mrs. L. E. Doney, in Plymouth, is recovering, reports reaching here said. Lytle, charged with drunken driving and hit-and-run, is being given a hearing in the Washington County Recorder's court Tuesday.

The child was riding his bicycle when Lytle allegedly ran off the road and struck the boy. The highway patrol was notified and Cpl. Simpson picked up the call and arrested the man within thirty minutes near Dardens. It was reported that Lytle had "passed out". One report stated that the man was so drunk that he did not recall the accident. Lytle maintained that he was not drunk, that he was sleepy, but admitted that he had had a drink earlier that morning.

## Tobacco Markets In Bright Belt To Open On August 19

Eastern North Carolina tobacco markets will open the 1946 season on Monday, August 19, in accordance with an opening schedule announced by the Tobacco Association of the United States in session at Raleigh last week-end.

The opening is two days earlier than the one last year, and is not quite a month behind the first sales scheduled in Georgia on July 24. The South Carolina-Border markets will open on Thursday, August 1.

Rules and regulations for governing the sale of tobacco were formulated, and then the association named a special committee, composed of three representatives for the growers, three for the warehousemen and three for the buying companies, to handle emergencies, such as congestions. The committee was empowered to change the selling hours, or call

a holiday, if necessary. Under normal conditions, the sales will be maintained on a five-hour day, five days to the week. The sales are to open at 9:30 a. m. and continue until 3:30 p. m. with an hour for lunch.

The association ruled that all piles must be limited to 250 pounds, and that not more than 400 piles can be sold in one hour. After September 13, the sales on the markets in this belt along with those in South Carolina and on the Border will be limited to 240 piles per hour. The reduction was ordered to help relieve congestion which is certain to follow in the plant when all the markets are operating.

The tobacco boards of trade on the several markets are to employ tabulators who will count and report the number of baskets of tobacco sold each hour for every sales day.

### NEW RECORD

According to reports coming recently from recognized sources, "We as a nation are setting new records in eating. Our per capita consumption is about 14 percent higher than in pre-war years." Despite reported shortages, the nation is producing about one-third more crops and livestock than it did in the 1935-39 period. This year, grains will be 50 percent ahead of pre-war production; truck crops, 45 percent; meat, 40 percent, and dairy products, 17 percent.

## Williamston Lions Install Officers At A Recent Meeting

### Hildreth Mobley Succeeds John Henry Edwards As President

With Lion Hildreth Mobley taking over the president's chair, the local Lions Club installed new officers for the fiscal year beginning July 1st at the regular dinner meeting of the club, last Thursday evening. Lion Mobley succeeds Lion John H. Edwards, who has guided the organization during one of its most successful years, one that saw the Activities Award trophy for District 31-C presented to the Williamston Club for the first time.

Other officers installed at this meeting were the new Tail Twister, Lion Marvin Baker, who succeeds Gene Rice, the latter having served in a very able capacity ever since the club was formed in 1937. Outgoing Secretary Wheeler Manning, after serving for the last three years, was succeeded in this capacity by Lion Ross Fronberger.

In addition to the three new officers already mentioned, other officers for the new year are as follows: 1st vice president, K. D. Worrell; 2nd vice president, Julian H. Harrell; 3rd vice president, E. M. Trahey; treasurer (succeeding himself for the fourth year), D. V. Clayton; director for one year, C. J. Goodman; directors for

## Farmers Urged To Vote For Control

Farmers and a few county business men, meeting in the courthouse last Thursday afternoon were urged to get out and work for the passage of the tobacco control program which will be submitted to a vote on Friday, July 12.

Wayland Jones, of the Triple A office in this State, addressed the group and discussed the need and plans for maintaining quotas for the next three years.

During the meantime the North Carolina Farm Bureau, lending its support to the successful passage of the measure, points out in a circular that tobacco averaged 14 cents a pound without quotas in 1939 and 43 cents a pound with quotas in 1945. It also pointed out that indifference on the part of the growers may defeat the program.

## Mrs. Erah Cobb Died Here Early Friday Morning

### Funeral Services Held In Presbyterian Church Last Sunday

Mrs. Erah Cobb, prominent local woman and one of the founders of the Presbyterian church here, died at the home of her son, Dillon Cobb, on Marshall Avenue last Friday morning at 2:30 o'clock following a long period of declining health. She had been unusually feeble during the past two years, but underwent two eye operations, one last October and the other in February of this year. However, since her last operation she had spent most of her time at home and the past several weeks in bed.

The daughter of the late John D. and Eliza Griffin Simpson, she was born in Cross Roads Township near Williamston on February 11, 1872. After attending the schools in her home community she attended the old Williams-ton Academy and taught in the Everetts Schools several years prior to her marriage to Marion Cobb. Following his death she was married to C. M. Cobb who died some years ago. She made her home in Mildred for a number of years and while there she joined the Presbyterian church in Tarboro. Moving to Williamston some over a quarter century ago, she helped form the local Presbyterian church and on down through the years as long as her health permitted she was one of its most faithful and devoted members.

Mrs. Cobb was employed in the offices of the late Dr. Jos. H. (Continued on page six)

## Mariner's Medal Awarded Locally

The War Shipping Administration has awarded the Mariner's Medal posthumously to Dennis R. Coltrane, Martin County young man who lost his life during the early part of the war, presumably off the North Carolina coast. A merchant seaman, he was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Dawse Coltrane of Williamston. His ship was overdue in Philadelphia on January 18, 1942.

The medal was presented to the young man's mother, and was one of three awarded posthumously to North Carolina seamen in recent days.

## Everetts Office Now Third Class

The Everetts post office, holding a fourth class rating for some time, was advanced to third class as of July 1 by the Post Office Department, according to information coming through the office of Congressman Herbert Bonner this week.

The department at the same time advised that the present postmaster, Mr. Dillon C. Peel, had an excellent record and that he could be advanced to third class postmaster with a non-competitive examination.

## Little Immediate Reaction Noticed When OPA Lapsed

### Shortages Continue But Some Relief Predicted Within A Few Days

There was little or no immediate reaction to the lifting of price controls when the Office of Price Administration was allowed to die a natural death by congress last week-end. Meat shortages continue, but dealers expressed the belief that larger supplies would start moving within a few days, possibly by the middle of next week. There was no marked variation in prices now that they are from under control, but an upward spiral is predicted by many.

Uncertainty and confusion followed in the wake of OPA's death, and no one is offering the slightest idea what action will be taken or what course will be followed. The district OPA office in the Martin County agricultural building is marking time, awaiting instructions.

It is believed by some that price ceilings will be renewed by special demand of the people who are bombarding Washington with telegrams and letters. In a special message, President Truman last Saturday evening voiced fears of economic disaster, but members of Congress and some businessmen cheered OPA's demise as a return to free enterprise.

The Administration is calling for a 20-day extension of the control or until a comprehensive law can be written and enacted. But the move is facing a filibuster in the senate where some of the senators are quoted as saying they would "talk to the end of time if necessary" to keep OPA from coming back to life.

Legislative leaders expressed the opinion that a price control holiday would last about three weeks.

Price increases for some items in short supply were reported in some sections of the country Monday, and rents were upped as much as 15 percent, one report said.

Labor leaders predicted a wave of unrest, demands for wage increases and buyers' strike if a threat of runaway inflation develops.

(Continued on page six)

## Farmer Uses Hoe For Many Years

Carrying the lead row, Farmer Dawson Lilley stopped long enough in his potato field a few days ago to relate a few facts about a weeding hoe he held in his hands. Its blade worn down to less than two inches, the hoe was purchased by Mr. Lilley sixteen years ago and had been reserved for his use since that time. He has chipped a course many miles long, knocking out millions of blades of grass after an expert fashion. And the operation even among potatoes was made to look very easy by the more than seventy-year-old farmer who declared he was going to quit when he wore out the hoe. No doubt, 99.44 percent of present-day farmers would have considered the hoe useless and abandoned it long ago. On the other hand, only one out of a thousand would have kept a hoe sixteen years.

Farmer Lilley did not go into detail about the worn hoe blade, and no direct question was asked as to how much of that blade was filed away or how much was actually worn away against the good earth.

As for the owner of the hoe, no middle-aged man or not even a youngster need challenge him as a chopper, for Mr. Lilley is a real artist when it comes to handling that as well as other farm tasks.

### ROUND-UP

Officers in this section rounded up and jailed nine persons over the week-end to chalk up one of their busiest periods in recent weeks.

Seven of the nine were booked for drunkenness, one for an assault with a deadly weapon and one for larceny and receiving. One of the nine was white, and the ages of the group ranged from eighteen on up to sixty-eight years.

## Tobacco Farmers To Vote On Leaf Quotas July 12th

### Two-Thirds Majority Needed To Assure Passage Of Measure

Tobacco growers will be given an opportunity to vote in a referendum Friday, July 12, to determine whether they want quotas on the 1947 crop of flue-cured tobacco.

The referendum has been called by the Secretary of Agriculture in connection with the law which provides for quotas in 1947 on flue-cured tobacco. However, quotas will not be in effect for 1947 unless approved by at least two thirds of all flue-cured tobacco growers voting in the referendum. Mr. J. F. Crisp, chairman of the County Agricultural Conservation Committee, said that, "Any person who has an interest in the 1946 crop of flue-cured tobacco as owner, tenant, or share cropper is eligible to vote in the referendum being held July 12." No person, he added, is entitled to cast more than one vote even though he may be engaged in producing flue-cured tobacco in two or more communities, counties, or States.

At the present time, flue-cured tobacco growers are producing above world consumption levels to build up depleted stocks in foreign countries. Marketing quotas afford the opportunity to adjust this supply to meet demand.

Marketing quotas furnish growers with a method of adjusting supply to demand and can help to provide fair prices to growers for the tobacco they produce.

As in the past, Mr. Crisp pointed out, growers will vote on three propositions: (1) do you favor marketing quotas for three years 1947, 1948, and 1949? (2) are you opposed to quotas for three years but favor the quota for one year? or (3) are you opposed to any quotas?

If quotas are approved, acreage allotments, will be set and there will be small acreages available for adjusting old allotments and establishing allotments for farms on which no tobacco has been grown during the past five years. Individual farm acreage allotments for 1947 will not be less than 80 percent of the 1946 allotment for any farm which has grown up to 75 percent of its allotted acreage in any one of the past three years. Allotments may be increased any time up to March 1, 1947, if the supply and demand situation warrants.

The legislation authorizing (Continued on page six)

## Damage Suit Still In State Courts

A hearing was held before Clerk of Court W. M. Darden in Plymouth last week in connection with the \$30,000 damage suit instituted by W. R. Hampton against the North Carolina Pulp Company. The hearing attracted a number of lawyers, including J. C. B. Ehringhaus, M. K. White, general counsel for the Kieckhefer Container Corporation of Milwaukee, Wis., W. B. Rodman, Carl L. Bailey and Z. V. Norman.

Former Governor Ehringhaus and Mr. Bailey represented Mr. Hampton at the hearing, while Mr. White, Mr. Rodman and Mr. Norman appeared for the pulp company. The hearing was held to examine testimony and allegations of Mr. Hampton in preparation for trial of the case in federal and state courts, set for trial later this year.

The suit already been through state courts, including the supreme court; and it also has been through district Federal court and the circuit court of appeals, with decisions in favor of first one side and then the other on the issues then presented. The higher courts have remanded the case for trial in superior and district courts. It has never been heard by a jury, and previous rulings have been made on motions, points of law and appeals from decisions by lower court judges.

The suit originated in 1941, when Mr. Hampton entered claim for \$30,000 as a result of losses in the operation of his fisheries over a three-year period, due to alleged pollution of Roanoke River by the defendant company.

## Sportsmen Oppose Game Law Changes

### Proposed Changes Stir Up Opposition At Meeting Here

#### More Than One Hundred Men From Ten Counties Enter Into Discussions

Proposing changes in the 1946 game laws, the North Carolina Department of Conservation and Development encountered vigorous and plain-spoken opposition at a district meeting held in the Martin County courthouse Monday afternoon. The meeting, attracting delegations from about twelve of the eastern Carolina counties, was just about unanimous in its desire to hold the game rules and regulations as they now are. The meeting also voted unanimously for the continuance of lay days for quail.

Representatives of the conservation department proposed that the deer season be reduced from ninety to 47 days and recommended that the season open on October 14 and close November 30, that the bag limit be held to one deer per person each season. The representative admitted that recent surveys show no scarcity of deer in the Roanoke River area. The quail season, if the department proposal is accepted, will open on December 2 and close January 15. A bag limit of eight quail a day would be allowed with no season limit. It was pointed out that only a shorter season could solve the problem.

The department would allow wild turkey to be taken between December 2 and December 21, and the bag limit would be limited to one per person during the season. "We must have drastic regulations if we are to save the wild turkey," the department spokesman said, adding that he believed it advisable to maintain a closed season in some sections.

Dates for hunting rabbit would be fixed from November 20 to January 15 with a bag limit of ten per day. The department proposed to open the squirrel season fifteen days later on October 14 and close it on January 15. The bear season, it is proposed, is to open on October 1 and close January 1.

Representing a Martin County delegation and submitting a petition favoring no changes in the present regulations, Hugh G. Horton said he could see no reason for reducing the deer and squirrel season.

Carl Bailey, Washington County delegation spokesman, addressed the meeting at length and declared, "We know what we have and what we haven't, and we don't like for others to come here and tell us what to do." He submitted five petitions, carrying 561 names, favoring no changes in the present regulations. Bailey charged that hunters in the west were trying to dictate the regulations for the east. He expressed the opinion that better enforcement of the present laws would help solve the problem.

R. M. Harris of Pamlico, L. H. Johnson of Beaufort, William Hackett, one of Beaufort, W. H. Woolard of Pitt, P. M. Peel of Bertie, Fred Latham of Beaufort, G. W. Bland of Perquimans and others addressed the meeting and pleaded with the board's game committee not to change the present regulations.

Sheriff C. B. Roebuck said that to shorten the season would cause an increase in game law violation. (Continued on page six)

### SHORT SESSION

In one of their shortest sessions in recent months, the Martin County commissioners Monday awarded a contract to F. B. Birmingham for repairing and painting the courthouse. The contract was let in the sum of \$1,978.85, and calls for extensive repairs, including some to the brick work, windows, roof and the painting of the building. Very little business other than that of a routine nature was placed before the meeting.

## Release Reports On Atomic Bomb Tests This Week

### Damage Not As Bad As Some Had Expected In Bikini Experiments

Off Bikini Atoll, July 1.—The fourth atom bomb of history exploded with a flash 10 times brighter than the light of the sun over a 73-ship "guinea pig" fleet today, capsizing one destroyer, sinking two transports, and damaging 10 other ships.

A broadcast from the flagship of Joint Task Force One some three hours after the bomb sent a column of fire and smoke 50,000 feet into the air quaked a spokesman for Vice-Adm. W. H. P. Blandy that the German cruiser Prince Eugen and the submarine Skate had been heavily damaged. The Japanese battleship Nagato and the old American battleship Nevada lightly damaged, and two transports sunk.

Evidently this was in addition to the damage Blandy himself reported a little more than an hour after the explosion. He told of the American destroyer Lamson being capsized and of "moderately small" fire aboard the ancient aircraft carrier Saratoga, the carrier Indefatigable, the Japanese cruiser Sakawa, one transport and a concrete oil barge.

But Admiral Blandy and his spokesman indicated that the damage had not been as heavy as expected. Blandy warned, however, against a hasty judge of results.

The latest broadcast from the flagship Mt. McKinley said the heavy damage to the Prince Eugen caused surprise since it had been anchored on the other edge of the tethered fleet. But the damage to the old battleship Nevada, bulls-eye for the superforce which dropped the bomb, was said to be "light."

"From what we could see aboard the Mt. McKinley, (his flagship, 10 miles from the blast) and on the basis of preliminary reports now coming into an intelligence center here the bomb developed possibly about the same efficiency as the Nagasaki type bomb—a bomb like that exploded over Nagasaki."

(The bomb dropped on Nagasaki killed 35,000 to 40,000 persons and injured 40,000.)

"It is safe to say at this time that this able day operation has been highly successful from the point of view of an operation and a test," Blandy continued. "We expect to learn facts of great value."

The bomb, he added, had been dropped with "very good accuracy." The performance of his task force "could not have been better."

Scientific parties were appraising the radio activity present, and "damage control and fire fighting parties are standing by to receive word that it is safe to enter the target area to combat damage which followed the blast."

"I hope the public will adopt the same attitude as we do in joint task force one—not be too hasty in judging results. There's much more to learn," Blandy said.

The gigantic explosion, mushroomed. (Continued on page six)

## Uninvited Guest In Home Sunday

Wandering aimlessly around in the Abbott Mill community and in a drunken condition, Floyd Taylor, 32-year-old colored man, entered the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dock Whitaker some time during last Saturday night, pulled off his clothes and went to bed.

Mr. and Mrs. Whitaker did not hear the man and did not know anyone was in their home until Sunday morning when Mr. Whitaker saw the stranger's clothes lying in the middle of the floor. Going to the bedroom he found Taylor wrapped head and foot and snoring. Angered by the presence of the uninvited guest, Mr. Whitaker started for his gun, but changed his mind and called for Sheriff Roebuck who found Taylor still sleeping.

Before waking up his man, the sheriff placed handcuffs on him. Taylor was booked for disorderly conduct, drunkenness and trespassing.

### LONG HOLIDAY

Thursday, July 4, will be observed as a general holiday throughout this section. Locally, it will follow the usual half holiday observed by business houses each Wednesday, making a longer holiday for clerks and others. In a few instances, business will close for the fourth and remain closed until next Monday. The Enterprise is contemplating such a schedule, but will issue its two editions before closing.

## Two Men Arrested At Liquor Plant In County Friday

### Several Still Are Wrecked By Officers During Recent Days

Two men, Charlie Lyons and James Leathers, were arrested at a liquor still in Goose Nest Township near the Edgecombe boundary last Friday, the arrests climaxing a series of raids carried on against the illicit business by Officers J. H. Roebuck and Roy Peel during recent days. A third man at the plant escaped, but he was recognized and a warrant was issued. The man, Cleopheus Leathers, is a brother to James Leathers.

Assisted by Constable Edmond Early, Officers Roebuck and Peel were on their way to the still when they met Lyons leaving with two gallons of white liquor on his back. Lyons was unable to warn the others. The officers wrecked the 50-gallon capacity oil drum which the operators used for a still and poured out one hundred gallons of beer. Six gallons of liquor were confiscated.

Week before last Officers Roebuck and Peel captured a 100-gallon capacity copper kettle in Bear Grass Township and poured out four barrels of beer. At a second plant in that section, the raiders found and wrecked a 30-gallon capacity oil drum and poured out one barrel of beer.

On Thursday of last week a partial distillery was torn down in the same township, the officers (Continued on page six)

## Tax Rates Range From 40c to \$2.20

County-wide tax rates in North Carolina ranged from a low of 40 cents on the \$100 valuation in New Hanover to \$2.20 in Pamlico County last year according to information revealed in a study of these tax rates made by the North Carolina Citizens Association and its magazine WE THE PEOPLE. Comparing the tax rates of last year with the previous tax levying period, the report shows that 18 counties in the State lowered their rates from 2 cents in Rowan to 40 cents per hundred in Tyrrell. County Commissioners found it necessary to raise tax rates in 16 counties. These increases ranged from 2 cents in Scotland to 30 cents in Harnett. In the other 66 counties the rates remained the same.

## Ship Carload Of Wool Last Week

Farmers in several eastern Carolina counties delivered 16,333 pounds of wool to the cooperative pool maintained for one day here last Thursday. There were 151 lots and the first cash payment amounted to \$5,393.18, the office of the farm agent announcing that a second payment would be made later.

Only one grower, Mr. D. M. Roberson, in this county delivered wool to the pool. Mr. Roberson sold 29 bags and received approximately \$300, it was learned. H. L. Meacham and H. M. Stamey of the extension service, Raleigh, graded the wool which was shipped out Friday to Boston.