

First Political Races Develops In County

A. Corey Entering Contest For Seat In State Assembly

Chas. H. Manning Announces for Judge Of Recorder's Court

Comparatively quiet for almost two years, politics began taking on life in a big way in the county this week when two contests developed over night on the strictly local front. A Corey definitely announced for a seat in the State House of Representatives from this county, Edgar Gurganus, local attorney, having tossed his hat into the ring a few days earlier. County Commissioner W. M. Harrison, representing the Griffins-Bear Grass District, filed with the board of elections this week his notice of candidacy to succeed himself, W. Tom Roberson, Griffins Township man, having filed for the office last week.

Supporters of Mr. Harrison's candidacy pointed out yesterday that Griffins had had a representative on the Martin County Board of Education for a number of years, that the present member, Mr. George Griffin, had two more years before his current term expired.

While one or two other contests are probable, no opposition has been announced and it is generally believed there'll be no competition for the major offices such as register of deeds and treasurer this year, and that Commissioner John Henry Edwards will be an unopposed candidate for commissioner from the Williamston-Poplar Point district.

Attracting little attention at first, the announced plan of Commissioner R. A. Haislip to retire as a member of the County Board at the end of the current term brought action over night when citizens in Hamilton and Oak City brought out candidates, good and able candidates, too. Meeting in Hamilton last evening, a group of interested citizens advanced the candidacy of Henry Johnson, Jr., retiring foreman of the Martin County grand jury and a well known business man of Hamilton. Aiding by the wishes of the meeting, Mr. Johnson said last night in announcing his candidacy that he would be glad to serve his county to the best of his ability. Apparently unaware of the developments in Hamilton, Oak City citizens this morning advanced the candidacy of Nat Johnson, another well-known county business man and mayor of Oak City, giving the people of the county an opportunity to vote for two candidates for county commissioner from the Goose Nest-Hamilton District.

He has made no announcement, but Forsty Martin is planning to file for county commissioner from the Jamesville-Williams District to succeed Commissioner Joshua L. Coltraine who is also planning to retire at the expiration of this, his eleventh term.

Chas. H. Manning, local attorney, filed this week with the county board of elections for

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HOLIDAY

All mercantile establishments and banks and some heavy industry will observe next Monday—Easter Monday—as a holiday, in accordance with an agreement reached by the business men at a recent meeting. The post office and other federal offices will not close for the day, since it is not a national holiday. There'll be no holiday for the schools because so much time was lost during the bad weather back in February.

Beginning the first Wednesday in April, the stores will observe each Wednesday afternoon as a holiday until the opening of the markets in late summer.

ANNOUNCES



Charles H. Manning, local attorney, this week announced his candidacy for judge of the Martin County Recorder's Court.

Will Start Seine Fishing Next Week

No official information could be had, but according to reports reaching here the operator of the Jamesville fishery plans to start operations there next week. It was said this morning that the big seine had been tarred and made ready for use, and that workmen were preparing the flats and other equipment.

During the meantime, individual fishermen are making fairly large catches with their drift nets, Hugh Martin stating this morning that they were dipping up from fifty to seventy-five each drift. Quite a few perch have been taken and some rock fish have been caught, but no shad have been trapped so far.

High water has delayed operating plans at the fishery, but the Roanoke is just about back in its banks today and it is likely that operations will get underway about the middle of next week, if not before.

Very few fishermen have been reported on the river at this point so far, but they are expected here within the next few days with their dip nets from all parts of eastern Carolina.

The last several seasons have not been very favorable for fishermen, but they are anticipating better luck this year.

Heavy Rainfall In This Section

Following the record-breaking rainfall for 1947, precipitation continues heavy in this section, according to Hugh Spruill, keeper of the official rain gauge on Roanoke River here. With the exception of February, 1939, more rain fell here last month than in any other February on record. During the first two months of this year, 9.86 inches of rain fell here, precipitation for the first 23 days in this month boosting the total to 13.62 inches.

Rain fell on twenty of the twenty-nine days in February, and on eleven of the first twenty-three days in this month.

Wreck Two Liquor Plants In County

Raiding in two townships the early part of this week, ABC Officer J. H. Roebuck and Deputy Roy Peel wrecked two liquor plants and poured out a small quantity of poor quality sugar beer.

Monday morning the officers destroyed a 30-gallon oil drum used for a still at a plant in Bear Grass Township and poured out 100 gallons of beer. That afternoon the officers poured out fifty gallons of beer at a plant in Williams Township, but they were unable to find the still.

Proposing Cancer Control Clinics In Ten Districts

Dr. I. M. Proctor Chosen To Head New Division State Health Board

A cancer control program unexcelled in any other state got well underway with the appointment of Dr. Ivan M. Proctor, Raleigh gynecologist, as director of the cancer control division of the North Carolina State Board of Health. His associate is Mildred Schram, Ph. D., Philadelphia.

Announcement of the appointments was made by Dr. Carl V. Reynolds, secretary of the State Board of Health. He said the new members of his staff have been given offices in the Health Building in Raleigh and reported for duty on March 1.

The new director of the cancer control division is a specialist in obstetrics and gynecology, a field of medicine in which he has practiced in Raleigh for more than a quarter of a century. He has been interested in the problem of cancer control in all its aspects for a long time and, for the past five or six years, has given much of his time to making an extensive study of cancer. This has included visits to Georgia, Virginia, Pennsylvania, and New York where he observed the work done in their clinics. Prior to the war, he did post-graduate work in London, Berlin, Prague, and Vienna. He has published numerous articles on cancer of the breast and cancer of the uterus.

Dr. Schram, formerly of St. Louis, comes to North Carolina with many achievements to her credit. From June, 1932, to January of this year, she served as an executive officer of the Donner Cancer Foundation of Philadelphia, which was formerly the International Institute of Cancer Research. The Foundation sponsored projects in several parts of the world before the war interfered with its work. Dr. Schram achieved considerable renown for her work in planning and organizing a series of cancer prevention clinics in Philadelphia. These were tested first in five teaching hospitals and then increased to 11 in number and introduced into a group of non-teaching hospitals.

Dr. Schram was a delegate to the International Cancer Congress in Madrid in 1933, a guest of the Research Institute in the Royal Cancer Hospital in London, and one of 11 American women cited by the American Cancer Society for notable service in the war to bring cancer under control. She arrived in Raleigh the first of the month and expressed herself as being highly pleased with the North Carolina program.

The financing of the cancer control division's program is a cooperative effort. Funds have been made available from three sources, an appropriation by the 1947 General Assembly, an appropriation by Congress and allocated by the United States Public Health Service, and a grant from the North Carolina Division of the American Cancer Society, of which Dr. Thomas Leslie Lee, Kinston, is chairman, and Mrs. George E. Marshall, Mount Airy, is commander.

Creation of the cancer control division was authorized by a bill enacted by the 1945 General Assembly. It remained, however, for the 1947 General Assembly to appropriate funds for a cancer control program. The program is to

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VALUATIONS

Preliminary estimates advanced this week by Tax Supervisor M. Luther Peel point to an assessed property valuation increase of more than one and one-half million dollars. Nine of the ten townships reported gains, Williamston showing some over half a million dollar increase in its listings over those for 1947.

Most of the increase in several townships outside Jamesville and Williamston is traceable to new automobile listings, the tax man said.

Post Office Almost Ready To Extend Carrier Service

Postmaster W. E. Dunn announced late yesterday that the local office is just about ready to extend its delivery service to just about every street in town and to the expanding development on and just off North Houghton Street. "In fact we are ready to inaugurate the expanded service, but all the homes have not been numbered and only a few of the patrons to be served on the extensions have provided receptacles," Postmaster Dunn said, explaining that the expanded service would be delayed until the houses are properly numbered and containers are provided for the mail. Equipment for handling the mail has been placed in the post office and a carrier has been employed, it was learned.

It is Postmaster Dunn's understanding that the town is to number the houses, including those outside the town, but the work has been delayed, he said yesterday. Some months ago the town agreed to mark the streets outside town along with those inside and most of them now have markers, but as far as it could be learned, no action has been taken to number all the houses. The postmaster said that the houses must be numbered and receptacles placed before the service could be extended, that possibly the patrons on the extensions could handle the house numbering themselves or have it done.

Suggests Material For Stopping Mold In Tobacco Plants

Fermate Proved Successful Where Properly Used, Agent Sumner Says

Pointing out the importance of having plants ready at the right season, Assistant County Agent Jesse Sumner is advising farmers to be ready to combat the blue mold in their plant beds this season. Fermate, possibly the most successful agent in warding off blue mold, is available in sufficient quantity to meet all needs this year, it was learned.

The agent suggests the following plan for combatting the mold: There are several materials used to fight Blue Mold. The most recommended material is Fermate.

Fermate may be applied as a spray or as a dust. At current prices, the cost of the material for the spray treatment will be from \$1.50 to \$2.00 per 100 square yards for the season. The dust treatment will cost about 3 times as much. The spray is simple to prepare but takes longer for mixing and applying than for applying the dust.

When Should Treatments Begin? Either treatment is a preventative rather than a cure and should begin before blue mold appears in the plant bed. Make the first application when the plants are about the size of a dime.

How Often Should the Treatment Be Applied? Twice a week until plants free of blue mold are assured for transplanting (usually 8-12 applications. Applications of spray or dust that are washed off by rain should be repeated as soon as weather will permit.

How Much Fermate is Needed for Spraying? About 2 pounds per hundred square yards.

Preparing the Spray. Use 1 pound of Fermate to 25 gallons of water (5 level tablespoons per gallon). Place the required amount of Fermate in a fruit jar, add a little water, close lid and shake until the Fermate powder is thoroughly wet, stir the wetted Fermate into the full amount of water and the spray is ready to use, keep the spray mixture well stirred while spraying, mix a fresh batch of spray for each application.

How much Spray Mixture Required to Cover Plants? First 4 applications about 3 1-2 gallons per 100 square yards, increasing

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Father Allowed To See His Child

In a Norfolk, Virginia, circuit court Monday, Robert B. Nelson was permitted custody of his child at short intervals during two of the summer months.

It has been customary for the child to visit in the home of its grandmother in an adjoining county two months each summer. Judge Taylor granted Mr. Nelson custody of the child each week from 12 noon on Saturday until 7 o'clock p. m. the following day.

standing that the town is to number the houses, including those outside the town, but the work has been delayed, he said yesterday. Some months ago the town agreed to mark the streets outside town along with those inside and most of them now have markers, but as far as it could be learned, no action has been taken to number all the houses. The postmaster said that the houses must be numbered and receptacles placed before the service could be extended, that possibly the patrons on the extensions could handle the house numbering themselves or have it done.

It is estimated that the proposed extension, calling for a third carrier in the delivery system, will serve approximately 1,500 patrons.

CANDIDATE



William M. Harrison, Bear Grass farmer, this week filed to succeed himself as a member of the Martin County Board of Commissioners from the Griffins-Bear Grass District. W. Tom Roberson, Griffins farmer, filed for the position a few days ago.

Installing Heavy Rails On Branch

Owing to the heavy traffic now moving over the Tarboro-Plymouth branch of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, the company is replacing the light rail which has been used on the branch for many years with heavier rails. The old rail weighs only 70 pounds per yard while the new rail weighs 100 pounds.

Although the appropriation, created recently for the improvement of the road running from Tarboro to Plymouth, was not large enough to install new rails over the entire route, 100-pound rails are now being laid from Parmele to Williamston. A second appropriation will be made just as soon as the rails are available and the heavier rails will be installed from Williamston to Plymouth.

A construction crew has installed the heavier rails from Parmele to the city limits of Robersonville and a representative of the Coast Line said yesterday the entire project would be completed as quickly as possible.

River Now About Within Its Banks

After holding to flood stage since February 10, the Roanoke River is now gradually dropping to a point within its banks, Bridgekeeper Hugh Spruill stating yesterday that all indications at that time pointed to a falling stream.

The high water has interrupted the fishing industry to some extent for about two weeks, and logging interests have been greatly handicapped by high water.

The stream, reaching a high point of about 13.5 feet at one time last month, has ranged from a point just above flood stage of ten feet to eleven feet since February 10.

Superior Court Closes Two-week Term Wednesday

Only Three Cases Reached The Jury During The Second Week

Most of its cases having been continued for one reason or another, the Martin County Superior Court closed a two-week term shortly before noon yesterday. Comparatively few cases were removed from the calendar, and only three cases reached the jury this week.

The big damage suits growing out of automobile accidents, were continued for the term when Attorney James, representing the insurance company, could not appear on account of illness. Several other cases were continued on account of the illness of Attorney R. L. Coburn.

The cases of Dalton A. Brown and wife against D. L. James, and D. L. James against D. A. and S. J. Brown were settled by agreement. In the first case it was agreed for the defendant to pay the plaintiff \$525.69 rent for certain property for the years, 1946, 1947 and 1948. In the second case it was agreed to sell the land for partition on October 2 of this year. As soon as the consent judgments were signed by the litigants, Judge R. Hunt Parker of Roanoke Rapids, ordered adjournment for the term, the jury having been dismissed a short time before.

Giving notice of appeal in the damage suit brought by Mildred Ray against Grace Maynard, the defendant was required to post a \$1,200 appeal bond and a cost bond in the sum of \$200. The defense was allowed sixty days to perfect the appeal, and forty-five days were allowed for the counter appeal, the \$500 judgment allowed by jury last Monday to bear interest at the rate of five percent.

In his suit to recover wages from E. L. Early, Jasper Rogers was given a judgment in the sum of \$24.05. The case was called and the defendant went out to get a witness. When he returned Judge Hunt Parker, presiding, was charging the jury.

In the case of Roy Lee Vanderford against Verble Jones, an agreement was reached, the plaintiff recovering \$150 as his share in the proceeds from the sale of 26 barrels of corn, less \$35 allowed for attorney's fee.

A compromise was noted in the case of William N. Taylor against C. S. VanLandingham, the court dismissing the action and taxing the defendant with the costs.

A referee was appointed in the case of R. S. Critcher against Andrew Roberson, the issue concerning the dividing line between two lots. C. W. Griffin was appointed referee by the court and each of the parties to the action are to pay \$50 to pay the referee and stenographer. The referee is to submit his findings to the court not later than June of this year.

Considerable time was spent hearing a motion in the case of Lyla J. Taylor against C. C. Taylor, the plaintiff appealing to the court for appointment of a referee. The proposal was opposed by defendant's attorney, Paul D. Roberson, who explained that all the facts were available. Judge Parker listened attentively to the arguments and suggested that the case be placed in the hands of a referee

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BUSY

Despite unfavorable weather and flood waters existing for nearly two months, there has been much activity on the Roanoke River during the current month. Bridgekeeper Hugh Spruill said yesterday that he had opened the bridge for eighty boats up until early that morning.

Most of the openings were for log barges and tug boats, the bridgekeeper stating that quite a few oil boats were included in the number. As far as it can be learned the openings this month will set a new record.

Downward Trend In Legal Whiskey Sales

CANDIDATE



A. Corey, Jamesville man and county surveyor, yesterday announced his candidacy for the State House of Representatives from this county.

Senior Class To Present A Play

The senior class of the local high school will bring the Ozarks to town on Tuesday, March 30, in a three-act comedy called "Hill-billy Courtship."

The play appears to hold a great deal of fun in store for all. It is the story of a flower of the Ozarks, her "feller" and their matrimony crazed parents. When Ma Peppin and Pappy Stilsby, feudists of the old school, have Wash Jeddo, the mountain nitwit, to "writ" to the "weddin' buree" for mates, things really start popping. Complications set in for good when the Triffet "gals", Hog Mountain's contribution (?) to radio, bring their manager home with them to sign up more hill-billies for his radio torture (parade) show and Ma sets her "head fer that man"—Louis Cattorio is "yoost-a-in-love with a love" and sur-re "tis Bridget O'Flannigan who is after getting a man. (These poor specimens are from the wedding "Buree.")

The characters are: Luke Stilsby, in love with a mountain flower, Ben Bunting; Emmy Peppin, the flower, Lola Peelle; Ma Peppin, mother of the flower, Mary Lou Coltraine; Lulu and Seecie Triffet, hillbilly canaries, Lucy Roberson and Margaret Ward; Sol Silverstein, their manager, D. B. Rogerson; Wash Jeddo, the mountain nitwit, Eugene Corey; Louis Cattorio, temperamental Italian, John Wobbleton; Pappy Stilsby, father of Luke, John Gurgin; Bridget O'Flannigan, a wild Irish rose, Dorothy Peelle and Reverend Bosewell, the preacher-man, Clayton Savage.

Charge Man With Larceny of Auto

Harmon Roberson, 19-year-old Williams Township man, was bound over to the Martin County Superior Court for the alleged temporary larceny of a 1937 Chevrolet car belonging to James Daniel Lilley. Justice John L. Haislip, holding the preliminary hearing, required bond in the sum of \$100.

At the preliminary hearing, the defendant maintained that Lilley lent him the car, that Lilley gave him the car keys and that he drove it away from in front of a local theater last Sunday night.

County Boy To Broadcast With University Choir

Bill Peel, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Oscar Peel of this county, will broadcast over the national hook-up Friday evening of this week with the Down University Choir, it was learned here yesterday.

The choir, offering a special program, will feature the Chesterfield Supper Club broadcast beginning at 7:00 o'clock Friday evening.

Total of \$4,083,630 Spent For Liquor Since July In 1935

Sales In Fourth Quarter of Last Year \$62,675.60 Less Than In 1946

Legal liquor sales, while holding to large figures in the fourth quarter of last year, are decreasing sharply in this county, according to an audit report released just a few days ago by the Martin County Alcoholic Beverage Control Board. Handling \$279,578.90 in sales during the quarter ending December 31, 1946, the four legal liquor stores in the corresponding months of 1947 handled sales in the sum of \$216,903.30, a decrease of \$62,675.60, and unofficial reports point to a fairly steady decline in recent months.

While the sales reflect nothing like a depression, the decrease in income from liquor sales clearly indicate that things are tightening up a bit on the economic front in this section. Profits for the fourth quarter of 1947 dropped to \$49,944.28 as compared with \$65,803.36 reported in the last quarter of 1946, a reduction of \$15,859.09 in net income.

Reports for the first quarter of this year will not be available for several weeks, but up until this quarter the decrease in October, November and December show the biggest downward trend in liquor sales since the stores were opened in July, 1935. But even with the drop, the sales in the last three months of 1947 were about five times greater than they were in the corresponding months of 1935. It is now fairly evident that the peak in sales was reached in the last quarter of 1946.

There is a possibility that the economic situation caused a shift from store liquors to the moonshine brands, reports from the ABC Enforcement Bureau stating that illicit liquor manufacturing flared up a bit during the period, and apparently is on the increase now.

At the end of last year, the ABC board had total assets of \$134,387.59, including \$59,414.28 in cash, \$74,959.66 in inventories, and \$13.65 in fixed assets. Liabilities were listed as follows: accounts payable, \$70,014.38, including \$62,438.04 due distillers, \$7,128.59 accrued sales tax; \$29,932.12 due the county and liquor store towns; \$22,441.09 for law enforcement; and \$12,000 surplus.

Of the \$216,903.30 sales, \$161,369.01 was spent for the liquor. Expenses, including \$3,960.00 for direct store expenses such as salaries of employees and \$1,897.01 for administrative costs, amounted to \$55,857.01 or 2.69 percent of the total gross income.

The profits pie, figured at \$49,944.28 for the last 1947 quarter, was divided as follows: Martin County, \$23,945.70; State of North Carolina, \$18,436.78; reserve for law enforcement, \$1,575.33; Town of Williamston, \$3,207.10; Town of Robersonville, \$1,690.73; Town of Oak City, \$719.05; and Town of Jamesville, \$369.54.

Profits for the fourth quarter in 1946 and those in the corresponding

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BLAST VICTIM

Mack Davis, well-known Jamesville farmer, was badly hurt in a dynamite blast on his farm last Saturday. Few details of the blast could be learned here, but one report stated that the farmer was blowing out a ditch with dynamite, that he laid several sticks near a stump. He then planted several sticks of explosive in the ditch, went back to the stump and sat down. The three sticks at the stump went off with those planted in the ditch, blowing the farmer into the air, injuring his leg and eyes and face.