

M. G. Mann Speaks To FCX Patrons In High School Here

Approximately 850 Attended Annual Meeting On Wednesday Afternoon

Speaking before 850 stockholders and patrons of the Martin FCX Service at their annual county meeting and picnic held yesterday afternoon in the Williamston High School, M. G. Mann, general manager of the Farmers Cooperative Exchange, declared that all phases of agriculture must be organized if this country hopes to have a balanced economy.

"The records plainly show," Mann said, "that both labor and industry have been growing stronger and stronger through organization, while agriculture has been growing weaker due to the lack of organization until our entire economy is about to collapse."

Describing agriculture, labor and industry as the foundation stones of our economic structure, Mann said that it was an absolute necessity for agriculture to keep step with labor and industry in order to maintain economic balance.

"Our entire economy depends on agriculture," Mann declared, "when it fails both labor and industry suffer as a result."

Mann praised the wisdom and foresight of the industry and labor leaders, adding, "But I deplore the fact that the agricultural leadership of 100 years ago did not have the vision and wisdom to organize the farmers for the protection of their groups."

"Business and labor have built a sound foundation while agriculture has deteriorated and until we can get all phases of agriculture as well organized we will not realize economic security."

In showing how the farmers could definitely profit through organization, Mann cited the record of the North Carolina Cotton Growers Cooperative Association with its 15,000 members. He said that in the last three years alone, it had saved the farmers of North Carolina more than ten million dollars through its classing on a grade and staple basis and through scientific marketing.

"Farmers are also reaping many rewards through their FCX which is owned by over 80,000 farmers in the two Carolinas," Mann stated. "Today the FCX has a net worth of more than \$3,500,000 and last year did a record volume of business of over \$28,000,000."

He said that farmers in the two Carolinas had purchased and marketed more than 125 million dollars through their FCX since it was organized 14 years ago.

"In addition to these services," Mann added, "the farmers also own 36 seed-cleaning plants; manufacturing plants for feeds; fertilizers; insecticides; farm machinery; paint; a hybrid-corn processing plant (and is building another); grain elevators; farm machinery distribution units; various marketing facilities; three wholesale warehouses; and 48 retail FCX services."

"These," he concluded, "are a economic necessity, because individuals are not willing to invest the large sums of money necessary."

Hamilton Firm To Reopen Business

Sixty-three days after fire wrecked his store and wiped out an unusually large stock of merchandise in Hamilton, Henry S. Johnson, Jr., is reopening for business in a new and modern structure with another large and all-new stock of goods there.

The opening has been scheduled for Wednesday of next week when a special program will be offered, including a free show and valuable prizes. The owner, surviving his second disastrous fire in the course of about three years, is planning for a record number of visits from patrons and other friends in the county and section.

WALLACE GETS ARMED AID AFTER EGG BARRAGE



AFTER BEING GREETED by egg-hurling hecklers who left him with a spattered shirt (left) as he toured four North Carolina towns, Henry Wallace is given armed protection upon his arrival in Durham, N. C. At right, a National Guardsman, pistol in hand, makes a path through the crowd as the Progressive Party presidential candidate (arrow) reached Durham to attend a state convention of his party. Gov. Gregg Cherry depicted the violence of the reception given Wallace in some sections. (International Soundphoto)

Over 400 Register For The Draft In First Three Days

Four hundred and twenty-two young men registered in this county for the draft during the first three days of the registration, Draft Board Chairman Eugene Rice explaining that if the ratio is maintained the total registration will exceed the 2,088 estimated by State draft officials a short time ago.

There will be no registration next Monday, Labor Day, it was announced by the board chairman, but registrations will be resumed the following day and continue each day except Sunday through September 18. After that date the registration of 18-year-olds will be handled in the draft board offices on the third floor of Williamston's city hall. The current registrations are being handled by volunteers, headed by

LIMITED HOLIDAY

Next Monday, Labor Day, will be observed as a limited holiday here. There will be no tobacco sales on any of the markets. The post office, liquor store, and a few offices, including federal and state, will be closed for the day.

Mercantile establishments and most professional business and offices will carry on business as usual, it was learned today.

FCX In County Names Officers

Patrons of the Martin FCX Service, meeting in the high school here yesterday afternoon, named their directors for the coming year, as follows: W. M. Hardison, RFD 3, Williamston; T. B. Slade, Hamilton; W. L. Taylor, RFD 2, Williamston; J. Carl Griffin, Jamesville; and L. A. Clark, Everetts.

Mrs. Hugh Bennett of Goose Nest Township won the \$15 prize in the dress contest. Mrs. Jasper Woolard, RFD 1, Williamston, won second (\$10); Mrs. Lester Bryant, RFD 3, Williamston, won third prize (\$5); and Mrs. F. G. Bowen, RFD 2, Williamston, won fourth (dress material).

Mrs. Zack Cowin, RFD 2, Williamston was awarded \$5 for guessing the amount of volume of business handled by the local FCX last year.

Herman Dickerson, Jamesville, and Verble Jones, Williamston, won the horse-shoe contest.



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W. Ben Weaver Died Wednesday Near Gold Point

Funeral Friday Afternoon Here For Prominent County Farmer

William Benjamin Weaver, well-known county citizen and prominent farmer, died at his home near Gold Point Wednesday afternoon at 4:00 o'clock following a long period of declining health. Suffering a broken shoulder in a fall about a year ago, he had been an invalid since that time. His condition had been critical for several weeks.

Mr. Weaver was born in the Gold Point section 77 years ago on October 29, 1871. With the exception of about three years spent in Washington County he lived and farmed all his life in Martin, making his home near Williamston for about twenty years. He was an industrious farmer, one who found enjoyment and contentment in his daily work. His walk through life was humble in that his own welfare was made secondary to that and to the happiness of others.

He was a member of the Baptist Church here for about thirty years, and was faithful in attendance upon its services.

He was married in 1895 to Miss Maggie Rawls and she survives with six children, three sons, J. Frank Weaver of Williamston, William Jasper Weaver of Plymouth, and Lewis A. Weaver of the home; three daughters, Mrs. G. A. Burroughs of Norfolk, Mrs. O. S. Cowan of Williamston, and Mrs. (Continued on page eight)

Schools Report Enrollment Gain

Opening the new term yesterday afternoon, Williamston's white elementary and high schools reported a slight gain in enrollment figures over those recorded for the first day last year. Principal B. G. Stewart, explaining that the enrollment never reached a maximum the first day, stated that the count in the primary-elementary departments jumped from 746 to 750, and that the high school enrollment went from 166 to 177, making for a grand enrollment of 927 compared with 912 a year ago.

The faculty has been announced complete with the employment of Mrs. W. H. Abernathy as fifth grade teacher. Mrs. Abernathy, a graduate of ECTC, Greenville, has had seven years' teaching experience and volunteered to relieve the teaching shortage.

First-day enrollment figures, by grades, follow: First, 101; second, 98; third, 95; fourth, 100; fifth, 98; sixth, 102; seventh, 96; eighth, 70; ninth, 56; tenth, 53; eleventh, 38; and twelfth, 30.

No report has been received from any of the other schools, but as far as it could be learned all of the nine white and twenty-one colored schools opened the term yesterday.

Local Market Has Substantial Lead Over 1947 Sales

Through Yesterday 2,483,532 Pounds Had Yielded \$47.50 Average

During the end of the first ten sale days, Williamston's tobacco market had sold through yesterday 2,483,532 pounds for \$1,178,410.40 or an average of \$47.45 per 100 pounds. Compared with last year's figures, the market sold nearly half million pounds more in the first ten days of this season than it did in the comparative period a year ago. The market this year is holding a \$3.76 price advantage over the average recorded for the first ten days of the 1947 season. Last year the market sold 1,807,604 pounds for an average price of \$43.69.

The section is supposed to have a better quality crop this year than it had last, but apparently the price differential shows no marked change for the better in the face of production costs and inflationary prices for other items.

The price trend this past five sales days has been fairly regular, reaching a high of \$46.87 day before yesterday and hitting the lowest point—\$44.71—of the season last Friday. Yesterday the market averaged right at \$46.00 for 239,596 pounds.

During the second five-day selling period ending yesterday, the market sold 1,438,682 pounds for \$657,317.68, an average of \$45.69, a figure just \$3.20 per hundred higher than the average reported for sales in the comparative period of 1947.

Fairly large quantities of tips are being offered and the prices for those inferior types are holding the general average down, but farmers do not hesitate to point out that they are disappointed in current prices. Good tobaccos are selling all right, and quite a few individual farmers are averaging above 60 cents a pound, but those farmers are comparatively few in number.

The \$45 and \$46 averages reported here this week compare with \$42 averages reported on other markets.

Sales are running very smoothly and with the exception of one or two days the selling organizations completed their work in the allotted time, eliminating any great delay for the patrons.

Wrecks Auto In County Tuesday

Apparently driving too fast around a curve, Richard Earl O'Mary of Greenville turned over the 1936 Ford he had borrowed from A. W. Williams of Raleigh last Tuesday evening in the Cross Roads section of this county.

Checking the wreck, Patrolman Powers and Parker said the car first somersaulted and then rolled over twice on the dirt road.

No accurate estimate of the damage could be had immediately but the loss will run into several hundred dollars, it is believed.

O'Mary is thought to have been injured but he could not be reached immediately by the officers and the extent of his injuries could not be determined. The patrolmen are holding the car in Robersonville.

THE RECORD SPEAKS . . .

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.

Year	Week	Accidents	Inj'd	Killed	Damage
1948	2	1	0	0	\$ 200
1947	4	6	0	1	1,310
Comparisons To Date					
1948	66	45	2	2	\$19,250
1947	69	43	3	3	19,755

Inspection Lane Handles 600 Vehicles In Two Days

Moving to meet the inspection deadline, owners converged on the mechanical inspection station here this week and carried approximately 600 vehicles through the lane in two days. Chief Inspector Porter stated late yesterday that 250 vehicles were inspected Tuesday, the rain that afternoon limiting the work. Yesterday, 350 vehicles were inspected and a fairly long line took form early this morning.

Crowded conditions existed where the line formed and while there were a few arguments, there were no untoward incidents and the inspection work progressed very rapidly. A few owners parked their cars in the line Tuesday night and went through the lane without delay. By late yesterday afternoon the rush had been cleared, but more vehicles started moving to the lane on Warren Street early today and it was fairly apparent that another record number of machines would be inspected before 5:00 o'clock today.

During the big rush Tuesday, cars and trucks were packed from the lane near the intersection of Warren and Park Streets, east on Hutton, across Watts, on by Biggs Street and down to and around on Harrell, nearly to Ray Street. The last car was out of sight of the lane.

A ten-day period of grace has been allowed, but owners of vehicles not yet inspected are subject to be stopped by patrolmen and directed to the inspection lane. The lane will be open here through next Monday and will move Tuesday to Plymouth. Inspector Porter stated that the lane is to be kept open by a skeleton crew Labor Day.

Justices Of Peace Handle Ten Cases In Past Few Days

Drunks Dominate Docket In Justices Hassell's and Johnson's Courts

Justices of the Peace John L. Hassell and R. T. Johnson handled ten cases in their courts here during the past few days. The drunks all but took over, they were so numerous.

Justice Hassell handled the following cases: Drunk and disorderly, John Luke was sentenced to the roads for thirty days, the trial justice suspending the term upon pledged good behavior for one year and the payment of \$8.50 costs.

John Henry White, drunk and down, was sentenced to the roads for thirty days. The road term was suspended upon the payment of \$9.50 costs and guaranteed good behavior for one year.

Jesse Rascoe was fined \$5 and taxed with \$8.50 costs for being drunk and down.

Zenia Williams was bound over to the county court for an assault with a deadly weapon.

Willie Gorham, charged with assaulting a female, was bound over to the county court for trial.

Justice Johnson handled the following cases: Charged with non-support, Milton Otterbridge was adjudged (Continued on page eight)

Farm Bureau Asks For New Members

The Martin County Farm Bureau launched its 1948-49 membership drive Wednesday evening when fifteen directors and canvassers met in the courthouse and agreed to go down the line again for the organization as the only hope for agriculture in a changing world.

The secretary-treasurer reported that at the last meeting in May, the organization spent \$1,438.60 to feed the membership at the annual barbecue, leaving a cash balance of \$131.90.

Pointing out that the county had been asked to enroll 2,300 members for the new year, President C. L. Daniel expressed the belief that "unless we get a big membership throughout the land we stand to lose many of the gains made in recent years." He pointed out that tobacco parity was voted in the recent congress by only a one-vote margin, that without parity tobacco prices today could be averaging around 25 cents.

"I sincerely believe that if farmers and others in the farming sections could recognize the need for a strong organization, we would get 2,300 members and more without any trouble," Mr. Daniel said.

Most of those at the meeting have championed the cause of the organization down through the years, and while they are ready to return the task over to others they are not content to stand idle and allow the movement to go by default.

Judge J. C. Smith Has Sixteen Cases In County's Court

Fines Imposed During Three - Hour Session Monday Total \$455

Judge J. Calvin Smith handled sixteen cases in the Martin County Recorder's Court last Monday, the docket including one jury trial. Fines in the sum of \$455 were imposed during the three-hour session. Solicitor Paul D. Roberson prosecuted the docket.

His case having been continued under prayer for judgment at a previous session, Chester Mooring, charged with larceny, was sentenced to jail to serve a five-day term and pay a \$25 fine, plus costs.

Charged with drunken driving, Willard Whitley pleaded guilty and his case was continued under prayer for judgment until next Monday.

Having pleaded guilty at the session held on Monday of last week, Thomas William Stanley, charged with non-support, was sentenced to the roads for twelve months. The road term was suspended upon the payment of the costs and \$100 into the court for his wife, Lucille Stanley, and their child. The defendant is to pay \$20 a month for two years, and if he does not meet the terms of the judgment he is to serve the sentence.

Pleading guilty of an assault, Vance Price was sentenced to the roads for twelve months, the court suspending the road term upon the payment of the costs and on the further condition that he remains sober and violates no criminal law during the next two years.

Anthony Lanier, charged with larceny, was adjudged not guilty.

Pleading guilty of an assault with a deadly weapon, Timothy Towns was sentenced to the roads for ninety days. The court suspended the road term upon the payment of a \$25 fine and costs.

James Willis Rogers, pleading guilty of operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license, was fined \$25 and taxed with the costs.

Dean Gordon Bunting was fined \$15 and taxed with the costs when he pleaded guilty of speeding.

Charged with the possession of materials for the manufacture of illicit liquors and eight gallons of illicit liquor, Joe Mobley pleaded guilty of possessing illegal liquors and was fined \$150 and taxed with the costs. The case charging Mrs. Mobley with a similar offense was dismissed.

Charged with being drunk and disorderly and interfering with an officer, Jesse J. Marlow and Charles Russell Roberts pleaded guilty and they were sentenced to the roads for ninety days. The road terms were suspended upon the payment of a \$30 fine each and the court costs.

Adjudged guilty of speeding, William Gray Whitley, Jr., of Wilson, was fined \$15 and required to pay the costs.

Charged with larceny by trick, William M. Sherman pleaded guilty. (Continued on page eight)

Farmers In Martin Held Annual Tour

The annual Negro farm and home tour in Martin County was an outstanding success this year, with a total of 35 farm men and women in attendance, reports R. M. Edwards, Negro county agent for the State College Extension Service.

Three homes and three farms were visited. Persons touring the farms were able to observe tobacco, peanut, corn, and soybean demonstrations, permanent pastures, purebred dairy cattle, a fine herd of purebred Duroc hogs, and one and a half acres of certified sweet potatoes being produced for seed.

In addition to observing the improved practices being used in production of crops and livestock, members of the group saw the need for further improvements at some places, and many helpful recommendations were made.

Little Business Slated for County Commissioners

Very little business other than that of a routine nature is scheduled for consideration at the regular meeting of the Martin County Board of Commissioners next Monday, Clerk J. Sam Getsinger said yesterday.