

## County Property Valuations Reach Highest Peak On Record

### Increase In 1949 Is Just A Little Under \$2,000,000

#### Total Personal and Real Property Holdings Listed at \$21,520,091

Real and personal property values, assessed for general taxation in this county at \$21,520,091, this year reached the highest value peak in history, according to figures recently released by County Tax Supervisor M. L. Peel. The values, boosted this year by a horizontal increase of ten percent in real property and a fair-sized expansion in home and industry, are greater by almost two million dollars than they were in 1948, the tax supervisor pointed out.

Listings exclusive of corporation property holdings, show a value of \$19,376,212. The supervisor pointed out that the corporation listings had not been certified. If they stand at the 1948 figure of \$2,143,879, then the 1949 total valuation will go on the books at \$21,520,091. Corporation listings, including corporation excess, last year were made as follows: Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company, \$1,864,219; Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company, \$145,082; Western Union Telegraph Company, \$68,016; Branch Banking and Trust Company, \$3,582; Guaranty Bank and Trust Company, Williamston, \$22,070; Guaranty Bank and Trust Company, Robersonville, \$28,886; Guaranty Bank and Trust Company, Hamilton, \$4,219; Edgecombe Bank and Trust Company, \$7,805.

The Coast Line Railroad Company, for many years the largest single property owner in the county, surrendered first place this year to the North Carolina Pulp Company. Showing an increase of more than \$400,000 in its assessed property valuations, the pulp company's holdings, exclusive of its many tracts of land, are now listed at \$2,129,185. The company's plant real estate is booked at \$268,150, and its personal property is listed at \$1,861,035.

The gain in values was fairly uniform except in two or three instances. Personal property dropped in Robersonville by over \$78,000, while the personal property listings by colored owners dropped slightly in Williams, Bear Grass, and Goose Nest.

The largest single increase is traceable to the pulp company in Jamesville Township where the total gain for both white and colored exceeded \$600,000. Williamston Township reported an increase of well over half a million dollars.

The over-all increase; that is, gain in personal and real property values as listed by both white and colored owners, follows by townships: Jamesville, \$600,603; Williams, \$38,209; Griffins, \$79,876; Bear Grass, \$66,717; Williamston, \$559,777; Cross Roads, \$99,881; Robersonville, \$152,369; Poplar Point, \$2,751; Hamilton, \$141,971.

(Continued on page eight)

## Resigns Post In Jamesville School

Professor Woodrow Suggs, popular principal of the Jamesville schools for several terms, has tendered his resignation to go with the Gastonia school system, it was learned this week. The professor, who holds a master's degree and who had his teaching career interrupted by the war, will serve as principal of Arlington Junior High School, one of two such schools in Gastonia.

Mr. Suggs plans to move his family from Jamesville within the next few weeks. It could not be learned officially, but it was reported that John L. Goff, Jr., a recent A. C. College graduate, had been employed to teach in the Gastonia schools next term and that another county young man had applied for a position there.

## Britishers Express Thanks For Aid Sent By Red Cross

Though a bit late, appreciation was recently expressed by the British Government for help rendered its subject in World War II. The note, forwarded to Chapter Chairman W. H. Carstarphen reads:

"His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland most warmly thank the members of the Chapter of the American Red Cross in Martin County, North Carolina, for the valuable help which they have given towards the relief of suffering in the United Kingdom caused by enemy action during the war of 1939-1945.

## THE RECORD SPEAKS . . .

Motorists on Martin County highways continued to smash 'em up, but they were most considerate of life, limb and property last week, according to reports coming from members of the highway patrol and police departments.

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.

Table with 2 columns: Year, Accidents In'd Killed Dam'ge. Rows for 1949 and 1948.

## Full Recreation Program To Be Conducted Here

### John L. Goff, Jr., To Direct Full Time Effort To Entertain Youngsters

A complete recreation program is being planned for Williamston youngsters this summer by John L. Goff, Jr., who has been named to direct the activities at the playground, the municipal swimming pool and the recreation center.

The swimming pool opened yesterday afternoon, the recreation center will continue to operate on Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings and the playground will be opened just as soon the union Bible school course is completed.

Assistant director and life guard at the swimming pool will be Bill Corbett of Zebulon. Louise Griffin will have charge of the baby pool and the recreation center at the Legion Hut with Rachel Chesson and Rush Bondurant assistant in all phases of the work where their services are needed.

Emphasis is again being placed on the fact that those who purchased tickets for the swimming pool.

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## Athletic Letters Issued In School

The following received awards for their parts in various athletic events in the local school during the recent term:

Girls: Nancy Roberson, Jean Bailey, Edna Coltrain, Alice Peaks, Priscilla Roberson, Verle Leggett, Rachel Chesson, Rhoda Fay Peel, Louise Corey, Grace Cullipher.

Boys: Landy Griffin, Bobby Rogers, Guy Carrow, David Gurganus, David Carson, David McLawhorn, Billy Edwards, Paul Peel, Warron Goff, Charles Carver, Rush Bondurant, Bobby Carter, Jimmy Myers, Asa Manning, Jack Edwards, Clayton Hadley, Norwood Keel, Pritchard Lindsley, Howard Moore, Billy Bob Peel, Julian Mason, Jerry Forehand, Bobby Taylor, Joe Roberson, Jack Ross and Shelton Bailey.

## Call Nine Cases In County Court

### Proceedings Attracted Very Little Attention

After breaking all records for numbers and income, the Martin County Recorder's Court dived head first into a pre-summer slump last Monday morning.

Judge Chas. H. Manning called nine cases and cleared the docket in less than two hours. Very few spectators were present, and the proceedings attracted very little attention.

Proceedings: William E. Barringer, pleading guilty of allowing a non-licensed driver to operate a motor vehicle, was fined \$25 and taxed with the costs.

Charged with violating the health laws, Charlie Anthony was sentenced to the roads for thirty days, the court suspending the road term on condition that he pay the costs and take treatment prescribed by health authorities.

John Riddick, charged with allowing a non-licensed operator to drive a motor vehicle, was found not guilty.

Edward T. Rosenberg, Philadelphia jewelry salesman, was fined \$15 and taxed with the costs for speeding. He pleaded guilty of the charge.

Tom Armistead, charged with bastardy and found guilty at the April 4 session, withdrew his appeal to the higher courts and accepted the April 4 judgment.

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## Vote On Road-School Bonds In State-Wide Election Saturday

## Preliminary Study Of The County Budget To Be Made

While no final action is likely, the county commissioners are expected to make a preliminary study of the 1949-50 fiscal year budget figures at their regular meeting next Monday. Only one department—the welfare department—has submitted complete figures, but preliminary estimates for the other departments will come up for preliminary review.

The school budget is not yet ready, and when all the figures are compiled for all the departments it is quite likely that the commission will be asked to devote all of one day or more in special session to approve the estimates for the next fiscal year.

## Fewer Marriages Reported In The County Recently

### Fifteen Marriage Licenses Issued During The Past Month

The issuance of marriage licenses continues to maintain a downward trend in this county, according to a review of the marriage registry in the office of J. Sam Getsinger, register of deeds. So far this year, 74 licenses have been issued, 38 to white and 36 to colored couples, as compared with 119 issued in the first four months of last year, 46 to white and 73 to colored couples.

Last month there were 15 licenses to marry issued in the county, nine below the issuance for May of last year. The May issuance was the smallest for the particular month in four years.

Licenses were issued last month, seven to white and eight to colored couples, as follows:

White: Floyd Wilson Bland and Annie Bet Scott, both of Hamilton.

Wayne Leggett and Edna Hardy, both of Robersonville.

Earnie C. Mobley and Helen Marie O'Neal, both of Jamesville.

Robert Graham Leggett and Helen Louise Morris, both of Windsor.

Marvin Winberry and Peggy Lois Roebuck, both of Robersonville.

Dewey Paul Asbell of Windsor and Verna Lee Leggett of Williamston.

Maurice S. Moore, Jr., and Jane Johnson Goff, both of Williamston.

Colored: (Continued on page eight)

(Continued on page eight)

## RETURNS

To accommodate the State press and to make the results available as quickly as possible to our own people. The Enterprise is making arrangements to tabulate the road-school referendum returns Saturday evening. A special appeal is being directed to the election officials to telephone in the returns just as soon as the vote is counted.

The polls open for the election Saturday morning at 6:30 o'clock and will close that evening at 6:30 o'clock.

Very little new business is scheduled for the meeting next Monday, but if the road bond is approved on Saturday, it is likely that the board will be petitioned Monday for better roads. As far as it can be learned, the road program, provided it is approved at the polls on Saturday, will provide first attention to school and mail routes with paving promised on the most important links. The program calls for widening of all roads and all that cannot be surfaced are to be put in condition to accommodate travel the year around.

Late reports indicate that both proposals will receive a majority at the polls, but the opposition, active only in certain quarters, can break out on a much more pretentious scale at the last minute. It has been reliably learned that opposition literature has been placed in the hands of certain agencies, but it remains to be seen if the opposition literature will be distributed.

For the most part indifference to both plans, especially as far as the road program is concerned, prevails. It is calculated that those persons living on dirt roads or "later ridges will make an effort to support the program, while those living on improved roads will take little part in the Saturday voting.

Martin County, under the plan, will receive approximately \$1,876,742—\$1,667,000 for roads and \$209,742 for schools. It is admitted that the amount will not pave every rural road or build new structures for every school in the county. The program will, however, pave almost 100 miles of rural roads, widen and improve others. The school congestion can be relieved.

If the program is rejected, the county can expect little relief for roads, and the county will have to float bonds of its own to finance badly needed school additions.

Very few meetings of the county commissioners are held but what one, two and sometimes half a dozen or more petitions are presented to the authorities, pleading with them for better roads. The program, as outlined by State leaders and others, offers about the only solution to the problem.

Last appeals are being directed to the people to get out and vote in the Saturday referendum. No matter how one stands on the program, he should participate in the voting. The polls will open at 6:30 o'clock that morning and remain open until 6:30 that evening. During those twelve hours the people of North Carolina will decide if they want to continue along with an inadequate road-school system or "Go Forward."

The bond issues this week received the endorsement of J. Y. Joyner of La Grange.

Senior class president medal: Sallie Hardison.

High school scholarship medal: Julian Mason.

A year's subscription to the Reader's Digest went to Julian Mason as class valedictorian.

Billy Bob Peel was recognized for his public speaking, and Julian Mason gained additional recognition for his work on the student council.

New Beta club members include: Jean Bailey, Bobby Clayton, Helen Louise Corey, Elizabeth Griffin, Betsy Horton, Barbara Jackson, Mary Carolyn Leggett, Verle Leggett, Jean McLawhorn, Sarah Manning, Alice Peaks, Rhoda Faye Peel, Ruby Savage and Harriet Ward.

Shelton To Address Bear Grass Ruritan

District Highway Commissioner Henry Gray Shelton of Tarboro, will speak to the members of the Bear Grass Ruritan Club Monday night, June 6th.

This will be the second speaking engagement he has filled in Martin County since his appointment to the state roads body. He addressed the Williamston Lions last week to explain why he favored the roads-school bond issue to be voted on this coming Saturday.

## Martin County To Get \$1,876,742.00 For Schools-Roads

### Small Vote Anticipated In Most Of The Thirteen County Precincts

North Carolina voters will decide the fate of a \$225,000,000 road-school bond issue in a State-wide referendum on Saturday of this week, but present indications point to a small vote. The \$200 million road bond plan and the \$25 million school program are independent of each other, meaning that one can pass without the other, or both pass or both go down in defeat.

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While ABC Officer J. H. Roebuck was ill at his home a few days last week, Deputy Roy Peel teamed up with Beaufort County ABC officers and maintained the relentless attack on illicit liquor operations in this county. Raiding along the Beaufort boundary in Griffins Township last Thursday, the officers wrecked a submarine type still and poured out 600 gallons of sugar beer. Accompanied by Capt. A. H. Sessoms that afternoon, the deputy destroyed a 50-gallon oil drum still in the Gold Point section of Robersonville Township and poured out fifty gallons of filthy slops. Returning to his work Monday, the ABC officer with Deputy Peel captured a 50-gallon copper kettle complete except for the cap and poured out 100 gallons of sugar beer. The plant was located in Cross Roads Township.

## 1948 and 1949 Property Valuations In Martin County

Listed below are the assessed property valuations exclusive of corporation listings for 1948 and 1949 in Martin County, showing gains and losses by townships for white and colored owners. Corporation listings last year were \$2,143,879 and it is expected they'll be about the same for 1949. The total property valuation as assessed for public taxation will go on the books this year right at \$21,520,090, the highest figure on record.

Table with 10 columns: Township, 1948 Personal, 1948 Real Est., 1949 Personal, 1949 Real Est., Gain, 1948 Real Est., 1948 Personal, Gain, Tot. Gain. Rows for Jamesville, Williams, Griffins, Bear Grass, Williamston, Cross Roads, Robersonville, Poplar Point, Hamilton, Goose Nest, and Totals.