

## Reviews History Of The Building - Loan

### Association Was Formed In April, Forty Years Ago

Office of the Organization Traveled Around Quite A Bit Back Yonder

Seven men, A. R. Dunning, S. A. Newell, J. G. Godard, Chas. H. Godwin, Warren Biggs, W. C. Manning and J. W. Watts, Sr., met on April 23, 1910, in the Bank of Martin County, now known as the Lawyers' Building, and subscribing to sixty shares of stock at \$100 a share, founded the Martin County Building and Loan Association, a small and humble organization destined to become a valuable institution in this county in later years.

Unfortunately the minutes of the early meetings are not in existence, but it is known that little progress was made during the first four years. In 1914, the association was re-organized and with the new officers and directors the little business began to gain momentum. From the minutes, it is found that the names of K. B. Crawford, John D. Biggs, A. D. Mizelle, J. H. Saunders, Alonza Hassell, C. D. Carstarphen, Sr., C. A. Harrison and Wheeler Martin, Jr., were among the directors and officers of the reorganized association. From 1914 to 1917, the office of Wheeler Martin, Jr., was used for the association's meetings and all records were kept there.

After 1917 the officers and directors met for some years in local banks and business houses, or wherever the records were being kept at the time. Many of those meeting places no longer exist. The records were carried to the Farmers and Merchants Bank and were kept by J. C. Anderson for a time. Later, Mr. Anderson left the bank and carried the books with him to Anderson and Crawford Company. It is reported that around 1920, Mr. J. E. Pope took charge of the books and they were carried to the Martin County Savings and Trust Co. In 1922, A. D. Mizelle took charge and all records were kept at the Dennis Simmons Lumber Company office which was located where Attorney Hugh G. Horton has his office now. Mr. Asa Tom Crawford, one of the bookkeepers for the lumber company, became the keeper of the records a few years later when Mr. Mizelle left Williamston.

In 1926, Mrs. Vella Andrews Wynne took charge of the books and was later elected treasurer of the association, a position she has held to this date. When the Branch Bank and Trust Company bought out the Farmers and Merchants Bank and moved into the old People's Bank building, an office was established there. Then, later when the Branch Bank moved into its new building, the association followed and opened an office there.

From the minutes it is shown that the association financed the first electric light plant in Williamston. It also financed the old S. R. Biggs Iron and Motor

### Slight Decline In Postal Receipts

After showing fairly consistent gains over a period of years to go into the first-class division, the local post office last quarter experienced a slight decline in its receipts, according to Postmaster W. E. Dunn.

The January business dipped a little, but February stamp sales held their own. March business dropped from \$3,211.42 in 1949 to \$2,965.88 in the same month this year, the report for the quarter showing a drop from \$9,708.51 in 1949 to \$9,121.67 for the corresponding period this year.

While the stamp sales last quarter were \$586.84 below those for the first three months in 1949, the money order business dropped from \$66,160.31 in 1949 to \$61,278.27 in the corresponding period this year, a decrease of \$4,882.04.

### ROUND-UP

An even dozen persons were rounded-up and jailed temporarily here last week-end by local county and state officers. Three were booked for drunkenness, two for indecent exposure of persons, two for investigation, and one each for issuing a worthless check, attempted forgery, breaking and entering, no operators license, and one, a young woman, for speeding and drunken driving.

### Jury Gave \$1,500 Verdict In Damage Suit Last Friday

\$15,000 Case Finally Settled After Three Trials In Superior Court

The damage suit brought by Grover Peel, administrator, to recover \$15,000 damages alleged to have resulted when his two-year-old daughter was fatally hurt when hit by an Atlantic Coast Line freight train near Dardens on September 27, 1948, was finally settled in the Martin County Superior Court last Friday afternoon at 3:35 o'clock when the jury returned a verdict allowing the plaintiff \$1,500 damages.

The trial of the case, first scheduled to last a little over a day, developed into a three-day event featured by extensive evidence, prolonged argument and a long charge to the jury by Judge W. H. S. Burgwyn that sent the trial into a third day. The plaintiffs finished their evidence in time for the defense to offer some of its main witnesses Wednesday afternoon. Testimony was continued Thursday morning and a brief time was spent in rebuttal before Attorney H. S. Ward opened the argument for the plaintiff. Judge Burgwyn started his charge to the jury Friday morning after Attorney Robinson, Coburn and Junie Peel carried additional argument to the jury. Taking the case at 10:45 o'clock Friday morning, the jury deliberated the issues about three and one-half hours before reaching a verdict.

The case was first tried last September when a \$6,000 judgment was awarded the plaintiff, Judge Leo Carr, presiding over the term, set the verdict aside as being contrary to the weight of

(Continued on page six)

### Firemen Called Out Three Times

Williamston volunteer firemen were called out three times during the week-end, the fire-fighters going out of town twice.

The first of the calls came Saturday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock when fire got away from a group of small picknickers a short distance off the Washington Highway and threatened a large wooded area about two miles from town.

They were called next to the A. E. Lewis home about three miles from here on the Prison Camp Road. Centered in the attic of the one-story home, the fire did considerable damage before it was brought under control. Had it not been for effective work on the part of neighbors and the firemen, the small home would have been burned. Furniture was damaged some when it was moved hurriedly from the house. No estimate on the damage could be had immediately.

Two of three small boys, playing with fire, started a fire in the town water system and checked the fire after it had burned over a very small area.

## Children Placed In The Custody Of Mother Here

Father Ordered To Provide \$50 Monthly Support And Pay Attorneys

Three small children, the oldest not quite seven years of age, were placed in the custody of their mother, Frances G. Early, and Judge W. H. S. Burgwyn, presiding over the second of a two-week special term of the Martin Superior Court, directed the father, Dr. Edward Early, Jr., to provide \$50 monthly support and pay his wife's attorneys \$500 in fees. Taken out of school, the oldest of the three children was turned over to the mother in open court Monday afternoon.

The judgment, coming in consent form, after the plaintiff had offered its evidence in the court Monday morning, climaxes nine years of stormy marital relations, according to the plaintiff who sought alimony without divorce.

The litigants were virtually agreed on terms before the case was ordered for trial, but the presiding jurist said such a proposal was contrary to the ways of civilization. The preliminary terms were not made public, but it was unofficially learned that given sole custody of the children, she would not ask the defendant for support for herself or the children. Judge Burgwyn insisted that the defendant should help support his children, and ordered the case aired in open court.

Taking the stand, the doctor's wife declared that the defendant charged her husband with brutal and barbarous treatment. She said that he had assaulted her with his fists, sticks and pistol and threatened her life, that when she left him for the last time in April of last year, he said he was going to show the people how much he hated her. The trouble at that time, according to the witness, started when she answered the telephone and did not say the "right thing". It seems the doctor had a headache and did not want to be troubled with patients' calls. She said she had been forced to leave him at least thirteen times since they were married in July, 1941. She declared that he had been critical of her ever since she came here in September, 1943, that he did not like her cooking, the plaintiff explaining that she did not know how to "cook too good", that she was not experienced.

The witness said that she had told her husband he could not go with the office girl and treat her (office girl) nice, and treat her (plaintiff) bad. She told how he had forced her into the car and carried her to a lonely spot in Bertie and knocked her down.

Telling about another break in family relations during Thanksgiving, 1948, the witness broke and cried, but soon regained her composure and continued with her story. She told how she jumped out of his moving car near her mother's home in Edgecombe County, fell into a ditch and found refuge in a farm home. She reported to an Halifax officer, but the trouble blew over and she returned home where peace reigned for a short while.

The next trouble started when he accused her of losing an income tax report. She escaped by reporting to and remaining at the police station the remainder of that night.

"In general, I had no satisfaction in living with him," the witness said, declaring that she had never done anything to cause him to "fly off" (the handle). On cross examination, the witness said that she moved to Williamston.

### Wreck Victims Are Improving

Injured in a bad automobile accident between Wake Forest and Durham three weeks ago, Mrs. Jesse Lilley, Mrs. Ben Roberson and Mrs. Marvin Coltrain, all of this county, were reported yesterday to be improving in a Raleigh hospital.

If they continue to show improvement, they are expected to leave the hospital within the next week or ten days.

## Wells-Oates Company Will Reopen Lumber Mill Here

Idle for the past sixteen months, the large lumber plant on East Main Street here is being reopened by the owners, Wells-Oates Company, this week. No details were officially announced, but workmen, reconditioning the machinery, said late yesterday that steam likely will be raised in the boilers late this afternoon, that tests would follow possibly tomorrow morning.

The plant is being forced into operation here to take care of more than a million feet of timber that was scheduled to have been manufactured into lumber at the company's plants in Cove City, near New Bern, and at Bel-

haven. Those plants burned down a short time ago, and the operations here were said to have been planned to relieve the emergency. One report stated that present plans call for the operation of the plant here for about two months, that the company has announced no plans for the future. It is possible the plant here will be continued in operation or plants at the other two locations will be rebuilt to supplant the activities now getting under way here. The plant will employ about twenty workers here, but several, if not most of the needed workers, will be imported from Belhaven.

## First Reports On Cancer Drive For County Released

Williamston Has Raised \$358 of Its \$500 Quota; Other Areas Lagging

Preliminary reports on the \$1,500 cancer fund drive in this county are encouraging in some areas, but it is fairly apparent that the campaign is lagging in other sections, according to Mrs. Neil Ripley, co-commander of the drive. Williamston, on the basis of incomplete reports, last evening had raised \$358 of its \$500 quota. The colored citizens of the county, accepting a \$150 quota, reported \$35 in hand, and good prospects of meeting the challenge.

Continued progress in cancer control is dependent on success of the 1950 Cancer Crusade now under way, C. B. Martin of Robersonville, American Cancer Society campaign chairman, declared today.

"Our quota is very small compared with the \$14,565,000 minimum amount needed to carry on the relentless fight against the disease. "The attack on cancer," he said, "has made definite progress during the past five years."

Mr. Martin pointed out that progress had been in three directions: 1) the building of a nationwide machine for cancer control; 2) the greatest peacetime research effort in history; 3) the beginning of a program to alert people to cancer while it is still curable.

"From 1945 to 1949 inclusive, American Cancer Society raised by public subscription about \$53,000,000 compared with only \$2,000,000 given by the public during that period."

(Continued on page six)

### TAX SALES

In accordance with the law, county and town tax collectors are preparing the names of property owners delinquent in their tax payments for advertising the early part of May for sale in June.

While the list does not compare in size with those in years past, there are several hundred delinquents in the county, the collectors said.

## Lions Begin Work On Plan To Send Band To Charlotte

"On to Charlotte!" Having sent the Williamston High School Band to Goldsboro where it picked up first prize at the district Lions convention recently, the Williamston Lions Club and other friends of the Green Wave Band have begun efforts to raise enough money to send the band "on to Charlotte" for the State Lion's convention in June.

A finance committee last night virtually completed arrangements for financing the promotion, the main source of the funds expected to be the sale of tickets to a drill and concert in the Williamston Athletic Park on the night of June 13. If the sales of these tickets reach the expected proportions no other sources of revenue will have to be touched, al-

### WATER

Their tobacco plants dying in the extremely dry weather, farmers in this section last week hauled approximately 50,000 gallons of water from the municipal water plant here for their plant beds.

Rain fell in minute quantities here Sunday evening, but other sections were said to have had helpful showers. Some farmers are making plans to start transplanting their crops the latter part of this and early next week.

## Slightly Injured In Car Accident

Joseph Fernando Griffin, 37-year-old taxi driver of 1346 W 37 Street, Norfolk, suffered a slight back injury when his 1940 DeSoto went out of control and turned over on "Dead Man's Curve", just this side of Gardner's Creek, on Highway 64 last Saturday morning about 8:30 o'clock. Treated in a Williamston doctor's office, the victim was released a short time later.

Traveling toward Jamesville, the man ran off the right shoulder and lost control when he tried to regain the road. The car swerved, skidded into a ditch bank on the left side of the road and turned over, rolling to a stop 87 feet farther away. Damage to the car was estimated at \$500 by Patrolman John T. Rowe who made the investigation.

## Man Is Fined \$250 In Federal Court

John Lee James, Martin County man, was fined \$250 and placed on probation by Judge Donald Gilliam in federal court at Washington yesterday for violating the liquor laws.

James was alleged to have been transporting one-half gallon of illicit liquor and to have had about 900 gallons of brew-mash in his possession for the purpose of manufacturing illicit liquor when he was arrested by ABC Officer J. H. Roebuck and ATU agents in this county.

Another defendant, a man by the name of Whitehurst, was scheduled to have been tried in the court, but he did not report.

## Shooting Victim Leaves Hospital

K. D. Smith, young Pitt County colored man who was shot and badly beaten near Cross Roads in this county on Easter Sunday, left a Greenville hospital for his home near Grimesland Monday afternoon. In a cast, he will have to continue in bed for four weeks or more.

Smith, asked about the payment of an old \$10 debt, shot George Henry Ward, and Ward returned the fire, striking him in the hip and knocking him down. Ward with his two brothers, John and George Ward, sailed on the man and stomped him, breaking the man's hip. All the participants in the attacks are colored. They will be given a hearing just as soon as Smith is able to attend court, Sheriff Holloman said yesterday.

## Plant Shortages Serious In Many Sections Of State

Suggested That Farmers In County Continue Blue Mold Treatment

The tobacco plant situation is serious in many areas of the state, according to a recent survey by the Department of Agriculture. The plant scarcity is most evident in the eastern sections because it is now clear that the present stand on the beds is all there will be this year in time to do any good. County Agent T. B. Brandon says that there are some farmers here and there who will have enough for their own needs but the section around Whiteville is the only one he knows which is in fair shape with regard to plant supply.

He points out that every effort should be made by the growers to nurse and protect the plants they have left against dry weather, blue mold and insects.

As to what should be done now the following is listed by the experts:

Water beds where the plants are small or just coming up at least every other day. The equivalent of 1-4 to 1-2 inch of water at each application is fine on beds at this stage. Plants that are well set should be watered two or three times per week with 1-2 to 1 inch of water to keep the plants growing. (It will take a little over 5 barrels, 280 gallons of water, to supply 1-2 inch to 100 square yards). Apply water just ahead of the blue mold treatment insofar as possible. Many growers have underestimated the dry conditions of the soil with strong winds taking the moisture up immediately after each shower. In many cases light showers fell immediately after the seed were sown and some of the plants came up, others that were sprouted dried out and died.

Blue mold has been unusually active in view of the dry weather. As water is applied or when rain comes, efforts to control blue mold will need to be intensified. Many growers have confused cold injury with blue mold and have consequently been discouraged in continuing the treatment.

Good results with FERMATE Dithane Z-78 and Parzate are in evidence everywhere that the growers are applying the treatment liberally, carefully, frequently enough and with the right equipment. Growers are strongly urged to continue their blue mold control program, strive to get the best coverage possible and use liberal applications of material, especially when conditions are favorable for blue mold development.

The midge and crane larvae, flea beetle and white grub have contributed to poor stands in many cases. They are still active in certain areas. The midge larvae, flea beetle, and crane fly larvae can be controlled with DDT. The white grub can be controlled with the use of Parathion (observe precautions in applying this). Keep a close look for the vegetable weevil worm that feeds on the leaves and apply DDT for control. Keep on the look out for

(Continued from Page Six)

## Open New Chemical Plant Here Today

### FISHING

Experiencing ill luck season after season for several years, operators of the fishery at Jamesville were said to have hit the jackpot last Friday and Saturday when large catches were made.

One report said as many as 18,000 herring were taken in a single haul, that shad catches have been larger this season than in several years.

The big herring run disappeared over the week-end, and only a few hundred were being taken at a haul yesterday. However, rock were plentiful, the catches running up to about 75 per haul with the weight varying from about three to 25 pounds per fish.

## Plans Go Forward For County's Fat Stock Show - Sale

Nineteen Club Boys and Girls To Exhibit Twenty-Two Baby Bees

Plans are just about complete for holding the county's annual fat stock show and sale, Assistant County Agent Sam Tuten said this week.

The show, the seventh of its kind held in this county, will open in the New Carolina Warehouse Williamston, on Thursday, May 4, followed by the sale the following day. Farm Bureau day is to be observed on Friday, May 5.

Nineteen club boys and girls will exhibit twenty-two fine baby bees, and forty-five boys and girls will exhibit 90 hogs. In addition to the entries exhibited by 4-H Club and Future Farmers of America members, adult farmers will exhibit 198 choice hogs, but will not be in competition with those exhibited by the club members.

The steers will be in place by noon on Thursday of next week, and the hogs are to be in their pens by 8:00 o'clock that evening.

Sam Buchanan, animal husband.

(Continued on page six)

## Youngsters Give P.-T. A. Program

The Elementary Glee Club and Mrs. Lamina Baker's First Grade last night presented what was generally acclaimed the top program of the year before the Williamston Parents-Teachers Association in the Grammar School auditorium.

Wearing green vestments with white trim, Mrs. Beecher Patterson's young singers, nearly half a hundred strong, gave a good account of themselves in the opening half of the program when they sang several numbers with clearness and harmony that bespoke excellent and careful training on the part of their instructor and patient work on the part of the youngsters.

But it remained for the first grade pupils of Miss Baker to take not only the attendance prize but the hearts of all those present as they presented a program built around the Easter theme. Opening with church services as realistic as it possibly could be made, the Easter Parade was next depicted and finally "Easter Bunny" came "hippy-hopping" along with Easter eggs and there was a solo, "Alice Blue Gown." There was not time to list all the names of the performers this morning before press time.

It was announced that the next P.-T. A. meeting, and the final one for this school year, will be held on Monday night, May 15.

Committees were named to help with the pre-school clinics at the Grammar School on Monday, May 1, at 9:15 and on Tuesday, May 2, at the same hour.

## Company Officials From Home Office Here For Opening

Insecticide Plant of Standard Fertilizer Company Is A Modern One

Acting to meet a growing agricultural need in this section of the country, the Standard Fertilizer Company is opening a modern insecticide mixing plant here today for operation along with its extensive fertilizer business on Roanoke River. The event is attracting officials of the Matheson Chemical Corporation who left the home office in Baltimore by special plane yesterday and continued to the district plant here from Rocky Mount early today.

Making the trip down from the home office are, John C. Leppart, executive vice president; Dr. Carl F. Prutton, vice president and director of operations and research; S. deJ. Osborne, treasurer; S. L. Nevins, vice president and director of agricultural chemical sales; and D. R. Stoneleigh, director of agricultural specialties division for the parent company, Matheson Chemical Corporation.

Although coming here especially for the opening of the new chemical mixing plant, the officials, most of them making their first trip to Williamston, will inspect the entire plant with the possibility of inaugurating a general plant inspection program. However, no official announcement could be had immediately in that connection, the officials busying themselves with plant inspections and getting acquainted with the personnel and town.

Engineers, discussing the new plant, declared this morning that it was the most modern in this section of the country, that the machines were built by the Waldron Company in Pennsylvania according to specifications prepared by the nation's foremost authorities on pest control.

With an hourly capacity of about two tons, the mills is equipped with a storage, pre-mixer, blender and conditioner, the materials going into bags on conveyors where they are automatically weighed and the bags automatically sealed.

Chemical engineers point out that proper mixing is the secret to effectiveness of insecticides. Some of the ingredients are so potent that the mix ratio runs in some instances twenty to five. If the mix is not thorough, some of the dust will have a concentrated amount of poison while other portions will be without effective poison.

Several carloads of ingredients have been placed in the plant.

(Continued from Page Three)

## Charge Man With Entering Home

Johnnie Savage, young colored man, was arrested in the upper part of the county last Saturday night and jailed for allegedly entering the Francis Worsley home near Oak City a short time earlier.

No members of the family were at home when the house was entered. When the Worsleys returned they saw someone jump over a fence, and they found a light burning in the kitchen, but nothing missing.

Deputy Sheriff Raymond Rawls and Captain John Delbridge and his bloodhounds at the prison camp were joined in Oak City by Officers Wiley Craft and Garland Bunting and they started a search. The dogs picked up a trail where the man was reported to have jumped over the fence and followed the track to the Savage home. Tracks of his shoes compared with those found at the Worsley home.

Investigating the case further, officers considered the evidence insufficient to hold the man, and he was released late yesterday.