

Williamston Tobacco Market Operators Ready For Opening

Town Officials In Two-Hour Session On Tuesday Night

Hear Library Report And An Appeal To Control Traffic During Fires

In a regular session lasting more than two hours Tuesday night, Williamston's town board discussed numerous topics in addition to handling routine matters. All members of the board were present except Commissioner K. D. Worrell who was away on business.

A representative of the Tower Clock Service submitted a bid to electrify the town clock. Certain that something should be done to relieve the aged time-piece, the commissioners were reminded of the cash shortage and the \$785 bid was held in abeyance. The representative explained that he had examined the clock and that many of the parts were badly worn.

Petitions were received, requesting the installation of street lights on West Main near the underpass and on Union Street and Plymouth Avenue near the G. and H. plant.

Pointing out the plight of the local public library, Mrs. J. C. Cooke, member of the committee, reviewed the history of the institution and pleaded for an additional appropriation. The library is to be allowed \$984 this fiscal year, and it is understood that the 10x12 building owned and recently vacated by the Civil Aeronautics Administration just back of the present library room will be made available to the library.

Representing the local fire department, Henry Griffin, a member of a special committee, pointed out that much trouble is experienced by the volunteer firemen in answering calls. One member of the department, the representative said, was forced to wait for thirty-one cars to clear out of the way before he could proceed to a fire recently. Others, most of them acting out of curiosity, follow closely behind the fire trucks, creating an added danger and delaying the volunteer firemen who could not reach the fire station in time to catch the truck and have to travel in their own vehicles, Mr. Griffin explained. The board is instructing the police department to enforce those laws governing traffic during a fire call, and the chief is to meet with the firemen and discuss plans in an effort to relieve a bad condition.

Salary schedules for town employees were discussed, but no action was taken other than to increase the pay of the keepers of the cemetery. The salary of one was increased from \$30 to \$35 a week and the other's pay was upped from \$25 to \$30 a week. Policemen who now are receiving from \$40 to \$60 a week plus uniforms, will have their salary schedule reviewed between now and the next regular meeting.

Treasurer Marion Cobb reported that the sewer tax in July amounted to \$623.15, and that the income from parking meters amounted to \$489.50. Since the meters were installed on August 4, 1948, \$7,088.59 has been paid to the manufacturers, leaving a balance due of \$3,668.56.

(Continued on page six)

MOTORCADE

A motorcade, made up of local tobaccoists and others and headed by Market Sales Supervisor Paul Page and Al Sweet of the Williamston Boosters, will tour most of the towns in the county next Monday, leaving here about 9:30 o'clock. Hamilton will be the first stop, the motorcade completing its run late that afternoon in Jamesville.

Members of the local band, including "Smirk Bones" and his outfit will furnish the entertainment. The stops will be brief and anyone is invited to make the tour, it was announced.

Pioneer In Hybrid Seed Corn Production



Enforcement Officers Were Busy During Month of July

ABC officers were busy during the past month, but in the early part of August they have found little sign of activity on the illicit liquor front. The courts acted recently to help put a crimp in the illicit business when heavy fines were imposed upon violators.

In his July report, recently filed with the Martin County ABC Board, Officer J. H. Roebuck said there were two persons arrested and charged with violating the liquor laws. The two, plus five other arrested earlier, were convicted in the courts. Road sentences added up to 27 months and the fines amounted to \$425.

SELLING SCHEDULE

Rules and regulations, governing the sale of tobacco this year, are little changed from those in effect in 1949, warehousemen explain.

Sales will be maintained five and one-half hours Monday through Friday, three hours in the morning and two and one-half hours in the afternoon. Sales will be limited to 400 piles per hour and the maximum per weight is 300 pounds.

Local warehouses will receive the first new crop tobacco Wednesday, August 16, for sale on Friday, August 18.

County Youths Report for Basic

Henry Shelton Hardison and Edward Warren Griffin, young men of Route 1, Jamesville, left recently for San Diego, California and are now taking their basic training for the U. S. Navy.

While undergoing basic training each man will be given the opportunity to qualify for any of the 80 different schools of the Navy.

The two men, who enlisted at the local recruiting station in July, are the sons of Henry Aubrey Hardison and James Thomas Griffin of Jamesville.

Thos. W. Holliday Tried A Number of Crop Experiments

Seven liquor stills, about half of them made of copper, were wrecked last month, the officers pouring out 3,900 gallons of sugar mash and confiscating about six gallons of raw liquor.

Business in the illicit field last month was about average for a July. Fairly quiet there for some months, illicit manufacturing in the Free Union section of Jamesville Township was found early this month to still have a toe hold there. ABC Officer J. H. Roebuck, assisted by Deputy Roy Peel, wrecked a 50-gallon copper still and poured out 100 gallons of sugar mash there the latter part of last week.

Fee System Nets \$3,198.10 In July

The fee system turned into the county treasury last month a total of \$3,198.10, the greater part of the amount coming from the recorder's court in the form of fines and costs.

The court reported \$1,615.00 in fines and \$943.65 in costs. In addition to the fines and costs, the court clerk reported \$158.49 in miscellaneous fees.

Register of Deeds J. Sam Getzinger reported \$397.40 raised from the issuance of marriage licenses, certificates and the recording of various types of papers. The sheriff's office reported \$56.56 in fees paid for serving papers and handling other papers.

LAST ON SCHEDULE

The last half-holiday on the schedule was observed yesterday afternoon, managers of stores and other business houses having agreed to return to a full-time schedule on the Wednesday before the opening of the markets.

The half-holidays have been greatly enjoyed and beneficial to clerks and other employees and to the managers, too, but the poor fish bore the brunt of the holiday schedule.

Big Increase In Court Business In Past Few Days

Dozen or More Cases Heard By Two Justices Of Peace Here

Almost idle during the past few weeks, local justice of the peace courts reported a big increase in business during the past few days. The spurt in the court business followed sixteen or more arrests during the past week-end. Most of the cases were of a minor nature, but several were sent to the higher courts for trial.

Apparently penniless and a stranger in this section, J. T. Howard, charged with being drunk and disorderly, was sentenced to the roads for thirty days in Justice J. S. Ayres' court.

Justice R. T. Johnson handled the following cases in his court this week:

Frank Simmons, drunk and disorderly, was fined \$10 and taxed with \$6.85 costs.

Roosevelt Wiggins, drunk and disorderly, was sentenced to the roads for thirty days.

Charged with being drunk and disorderly and trespassing, Elmer Rogers was fined \$10 and taxed with \$8.85 costs, the court suspending a 30-day road sentence.

Ida Ree Williams and Corinne McIntosh were each taxed with \$5.85 costs for disorderly conduct.

A 30-day road sentence was suspended upon the payment of the costs in the case charging Clyde Silverthorne with disorderly conduct.

Charged with public drunkenness, John Bradley and Ananias Thompson were each fined \$5, plus \$6.85 costs.

Charlie Bullock, Jr., (colored), was required to pay \$5.85 costs for being drunk.

Charged with attempted assault with a deadly weapon on Tim Taylor, Edward (Ted) Scott was bound over to the county court.

(Continued on page six)

Poundage Trails On Border Markets

Delayed by a late harvest, sales on the border tobacco markets are hardly half what they were a year ago, according to government reports.

During the first week of sales, the markets there handled 17,471,620 pounds for an average price of \$55.50 as compared with 35,133,306 pounds handled for an average of \$50.20 in the corresponding period in 1949.

Through last week, the Georgia markets had handled 83,773,060 pounds for an average price of \$51.23. The government had purchased up until that time right at four million pounds or about five percent of the crop. Last year the government handled more than 15 percent of the crop in Georgia. In a corresponding period last year, Georgia markets handled 103.7 million pounds for an average price of \$42.69 per hundred pounds.

Local Patrol Members On Winning Pistol Team

Cpl. T. Fearing and Patrolman John T. Rowe, members of the N. C. Highway Troop A. Pistol Team, figured prominently in their team's win in the state pistol matches held recently in Asheville.

The local representatives did not remember the scores exactly, but they explained they were right in their shooting with 'em.

MARKETING CARDS

Although quite a few farmers have called for them, tobacco marketing cards will be placed in the mails for tobacco farmers in this county on Friday of this week. Approximately 1,600 cards have been prepared.

Very few red marketing cards will be distributed, and they are to be delivered at the office of the county agent.

Same Proprietors Will Again Operate The Town's Four Big Tobacco Warehouses This Year

Elements Cost Farmers In County Millions of Dollars

For about the fifth or sixth year in a row, Martin County tobacco farmers have taken a costly beating administered by the elements. It is roughly estimated that the rains, hail, fire and disease exacted a damage toll in excess of two millions of dollars this year. However, farmers are still hopeful that where they are certain to lose in weight, they will gain in quality and a resulting price increase.

Hail struck during the season to cause damage estimated by reliable sources at between \$60,000 and \$65,000. Part of that loss was offset by insurance. Fire followed to claim at least sixteen curing barns and cause damage estimated at \$28,000.

Call Dozen Cases In The Recorder's Court On Monday

Fines Imposed At Session By Judge C. H. Manning Amount to \$425

Illicit liquor dealers held the spotlight in the county court last Monday when an even dozen cases were handled and fines, amounting to \$425, were imposed by Judge Chas. H. Manning. The court, in session until noon, attracted very few spectators.

Proceedings: Charged with an assault, Joe Bell pleaded guilty of simple assault, the plea was accepted and judgement was suspended upon the payment of costs.

Pleading guilty of violating the liquor laws, Minnie V. Gainer was sentenced to Woman's Prison in Raleigh for six months. The prison term was suspended upon the payment of a \$50 fine and no liquor law during the next year. The defendant is to violate five years.

Judgement was suspended upon the payment of the costs in the case in which Walter Clyde Helms was charged with speeding. The defendant pleaded guilty.

Adjudged guilty over his plea of innocence Elbert Jones, charged with violating the liquor laws, was sentenced to the roads for six months. The road term was suspended upon the payment of a \$100 fine and costs, and the defendant is to violate no liquor law during the next five years.

Roy Roberson, charged with an assault with a deadly weapon, pleaded not guilty. Adjudged guilty, he was fined \$25, plus costs.

Arthur Lee Fairer, pleading guilty of speeding, was required to pay the court costs.

Charged with violating the liquor laws, (Continued from Page Three)

Funeral Friday For Infant Son

Funeral services will be held at the graveside in the Manning Cemetery in Griffins Township Friday afternoon at 5:00 o'clock for the infant son of Cpl. and Mrs. David A. Windisch. The child, one day old, died in Bossier City, La., Monday. Its maternal grandmother, accompanying the body and is due to reach Rocky Mount tomorrow afternoon at 3:00 o'clock.

Mrs. Windisch is the former Miss Shirley Browning, daughter of Mrs. Carrie Browning Hughey of Raleigh and the late Henry Browning. She made her home in this county for a short time, locating later in Raleigh.

POSSIBLE DELAY

The possibility of a delay in opening the tobacco markets in this belt loomed today when it was pointed out that the Georgia markets were running behind, and that many of the buyers could not complete their work there and get to this belt in time for the scheduled opening on Friday, August 18.

It is now likely that the opening will be postponed until Monday, August 21 or possibly Tuesday, August 22, or even later.

"In any eventuality, we'll do the very best we can, working to protect our customers' tobacco," local warrenmen said. Final action is anticipated at a meeting in Raleigh Saturday night of this week.

Fatally Hurt In Logging Accident

Willie Purvis, 32 year-old colored man, was fatally injured in a logging accident in Pitt County near Stokes yesterday morning about 11:30 o'clock. He died in a hospital here about three hours later at 2:00 o'clock. His left shoulder was crushed and his arm and a rib were broken, one report stating that blood from a damaged artery apparently applied pressure on his heart and resulted in death. Given first aid in the local hospital, he was to have been transferred to a bone specialist at Duke, but his condition grew worse rapidly and he died before he could be moved.

Purvis, who resided on Washington Street near Council's garage, had just accepted employment with Earl Whitaker, logging contractor, last Monday. A limb was torn from a falling tree and lodged in another. Purvis and other workers were making ready to cut down the tree in which the limb had lodged. All were warned to be careful and when the limb started to fall the other men moved back to safety. The limb, measuring about six inches in diameter, struck the man on the shoulder, and he was removed immediately to the hospital here, remaining conscious until just a few minutes before he died.

He was born in Bear Grass Township and lived in this county all his life except about four years spent in the armed forces. He returned here last Friday after a stay of several months in New York. He was married to Laura Webb of near Robersonville and she survives with a small son, Willie Earl Purvis, and several brothers and sisters, and his mother Bessie Purvis Brown.

Funeral arrangements were not completed immediately.

Paul Page Is To Supervise Sales And Handle Radio

Most of the Old Buyers Are Returning To the Local Market This Season

Williamston's Tobacco Market, headed by eight experienced tobaccoists, is all set for a big opening on Friday, August 18. The four big houses will be opened to receive tobacco Wednesday for sale on the opening.

With Urbin and J. Russell Rogers, Carlyle Langley and Johnny Gurkin at the Roanoke-Dixie and Planters houses, and Elmo Lilley, Leman Barnhill, Jimmy B. Taylor and S. Claude Griffin at the Farmers and Carolina houses, the market is squarely in line for the best season in all its history. All the proprietors were at the helm last year and the year before, and the farmers recognize them as able friends who are in a position to sell tobacco at an advantage.

The proprietors have made every arrangement possible to make the season the most successful for their patrons in all the market's history.

Paul Page, Tennessee man who has had considerable experience in the tobacco business and as a public radio announcer, has been named to supervise the sales and the radio program originating on the floors of the warehouses. Mr. Page is reporting for duty this week.

Most of the old buyers will return to the market here this season, but they'll just have time to clear out of Georgia and report here for the opening. The buyers are slated to leave Georgia next Wednesday and reach here late Thursday for sales the next morning.

Don Case is succeeding A. B. Ayers, Jr., as buyer for Liggett-Meyers. While the market regrets losing Mr. Ayers, it is fortunate in having Mr. Case replace him. Mr. Case is planning to bring his family here for the season.

Mack Lamb for the American, Chas. Sawyer for the Export, Norwood Thomas for Taylor, Dixie Moore for Reynolds, Arthur Beale for Washington, Jesse James for Skinner, are returning to the market and there will be several independent buyers. While the Imperial will be represented, the name of the buyer could not be learned immediately.

Harold Hutcheson of Boydton, Virginia, is returning as auctioneer for the Farmers - Carolina houses. This will be his third year here, and he is well known to the farmers throughout this section.

Al Waddford, also from Virginia, comes here for his first year with the local market. He auctioneered on markets in Virginia and Tennessee before going to Durham where he was located for several years. He will be with the Roanoke-Dixie and Planters houses. (Continued from Page Six)

POSTAL DIRECTORY

The local post office is working on a rural patrons' directory and those patrons are being asked to cooperate in making it accurate and complete.

The rural free delivery carriers are leaving special forms in each box, and the head of the family is being asked to fill in the desired information. A complete list will make possible better mail service in the rural areas, it was explained.