

\$200,000 Bond Issue Favored In Special Election Yesterday

Authorities Will Call For Project Bids Immediately

About One-Fourth of Eligible Voters Participated In The Election

Williamston's citizens voted overwhelmingly for a "Go Forward Program" yesterday when they supported a \$200,000 bond issue to finance the construction of a large water tank and water and sewer line extensions. While the vote represents hardly one-fourth of the registration, it exceeded the most optimistic predictions, and was surprising within itself.

The \$90,000 proposed issue for water tank and water line extensions was favored 321 to 17. The \$110,000 proposed issue for the sewer project was carried 317 to 20. Registrar John E. Pope stated that 345 persons voted. It was pointed out that possibly fifteen or more reported to the polls just to learn they were registered for county-state elections but not for municipal elections. The poll holders also pointed out that the women voters really had a hand in the election in a big way, that possibly one-half or more of the votes were cast by those of the fairer sex.

Only fifteen voted outright against both propositions, a few others favoring one and opposing the other proposition. A total of 307 voted outright for both propositions; that is, they favored expanded water facilities and sewer extensions.

Voting was fairly slow throughout the day and little or no comment was heard as to the trend of the vote until the count was tabulated at 7:00 o'clock last evening.

Specifications for the proposed projects have been prepared by the engineers and bids will be asked for without delay. During the meantime a bond schedule will be prepared, looking toward the sale of the debentures.

It is quite possible that the program can encounter certain obstacles from now on out. It isn't likely that the town officials will consider exorbitant bids, or that they will accept high interest rates. If the bids are within reason and the bond interest rate is in line, then action can be expected within a matter of six or eight weeks.

The proposed projects call for a water tank of 350,000 gallon capacity, and the extension of sewer and water lines on every street in town.

Meeting with the engineers tomorrow morning at 11:00 o'clock, the commissioners will map plans for early action.

Sell 6,593,566 Pounds Of Tobacco for \$3,772,469.00

At the close of sales yesterday when a marketing holiday of indefinite duration went into effect Williamston's tobacco market had sold 6,593,566 pounds of tobacco for \$3,772,469, an average of \$57.21 per hundred pounds. Prices Tuesday and yesterday sagged a bit, especially those received for the better grades, but the general average held to a reasonably high figure. Approximately the same poundage—283,900—was sold both days, the Tuesday average falling from \$59.86 on Monday to \$55.32 on Tuesday. Yesterday, the average climbed back a bit to stand at \$56.74. Farmers are puzzled to figure out the price differential received for the inferior and the better quality grades. Some observers say that all tobaccos that can be used for domestic consumption are selling high while the export companies are pressed by dollar shortages, and some declare that the holiday will not greatly relieve that condition.

During the first 21 sale days this season the market here has sold 31,486 pounds more than it did in the corresponding period in 1949, but the growers have received \$662,789 more than they did a year ago.

The Board of Governors of the Bright Belt Warehouse Association will determine reopening dates at a meeting to be held in Raleigh next Monday. During the meantime, Martin County farmers are turning to the peanut harvest.

MASS MEETING

Plans for the organization of a Negro library to serve Williamston and Martin County will be made at a meeting to be held in the A.M.E. Methodist Church, Rhodes Street, next Monday night at 8:00 o'clock.

Representatives from each of the ten townships in the county are urged to attend. Officials will be at the meeting, and it is hoped that farmers, laborers, mill hands, club members and students will attend.

Thousands Visit Buggs Island Dam

A survey of the damage inflicted on the structures at Buggs Island by the recent high water in the Roanoke River indicates that no serious delay in construction will result. Colonel William F. Powers, District Engineer, Norfolk District stated that the high water washed out two cells of a construction cofferdam and swept away some construction materials. This will cause a delay of about three weeks in work on that portion of the dam, but will not delay the overall completion date.

The damage at the dam and the effects of the high water proved to be quite a drawing card for the residents of southern Virginia. Mr. Fred L. Geis, Resident Engineer, reported that on Sunday, September 17th, the first weekend after the high water, approximately six thousand people visited the dam site to inspect the construction and witness the recent damage. The large picnic area and the "river bank superintendents' look-out point" were overflowing most of the day. The dam and reservoir, with all the allied land acquisition and highway relocation work, is scheduled for completion in late 1952.

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Record Potato Yield Expected

The condition of North Carolina sweet potato crop as of September 1 indicated a yield of 120 bushels per acre, the highest of record. This yield, however, was equalled in 1946.

Growing conditions during August were generally favorable for the maturing crops, causing production estimates to increase slightly over the August 1 forecast. At present the crop is expected to produce 6,480,000 bushels. This is about 10 percent above last year but 12 percent below the 10-year average. The acreage for harvest in the State this year is currently estimated at 54,000, comparing with 52,000 last year and the 10-year average of 70,000 acres.

For the nation, a crop of 59,884,000 bushels is in prospect which is about 10 percent above production in 1949.

Youth Center Hours Set Up Temporarily

Although they are not definite for more than the present, the following hours are expected to apply to the Youth Center's operations here: Friday, 8:30 to 10:30; Saturday, 8:30 to 11:00; Sunday, 8:30 to 10:30. All are evening hours of course.

The future of the Youth Center has not been decided by the recreation committee but it is likely the attitude of the young people themselves will have much to do with its continuance this winter. This is especially true as far as attendance at the center is concerned.

Humber Talks To Farm Life Ruritan Club On Tuesday

Diplomacy Has Failed; World Federation Will Have To Take Over

In an able address before the Farm Life Ruritan Club on World Federation, Robert Lee Humber of Greenville declared Tuesday evening that diplomacy had failed as a solution to the problem of world peace. He cited as cases in point the advance of Japan into Manchuria, Hitler's invasion of Poland and Italy's invasion of Ethiopia. He suggested that we have world law just as we have local, state and federal law to deal with criminals, and added that we must either solve the problem of world peace through world federation or else war will destroy our civilization.

Devoting years of time to the peace problem and speaking in nearly all, if not all of the forty-eight states in behalf of world federation, Mr. Humber declared that the problems are not greater in forming a world federation than those encountered in the convention which adopted the Constitution of the United States.

Reaching his destination a bit late on account of a misunderstanding, Mr. Humber was heard by a large crowd, and his talk was greatly enjoyed. He was introduced by Attorney Clarence W. Griffin, a special guest.

Appearing without charge, Mr. Humber, an authority on international relations, has spoken in this county on numerous occasions, working for world federation.

Wreck Number Of Liquor Plants In County Recently

Twelve Stills Were Found And Torn Up During Past Month

Although taking a little time out to help run down safe robbers and assisting in the county and superior courts, liquor law enforcement officers are still making it mighty hard for illicit liquor operators in this county.

During the month of August, according to a report filed by ABC Officer J. H. Roebuck, one violator was arrested and twelve stills were destroyed. The officer and his assistants poured out 3,400 gallons of mash and confiscated twelve gallons of liquor during the period.

Aided by officers from Pitt County, Deputy Roebuck wrecked a 100-gallon submarine type still a few miles from Robersonville in the Flat Swamp area. They blew up six 50-gallon fermenters and poured out 200 gallons of mash and thirteen gallons of white liquor.

Earlier this month, Officer Roebuck assisted by Deputy Roy Peel wrecked a 50-gallon oil drum still in Cross Roads and two 50-gallon fermenters.

Grand Jury Files Brief Report In Court on Tuesday

Not Certain Who Is To Inspect Busses And Other Public Properties

Shorn of most of its inspection duties, the Martin County Grand Jury, headed by William H. Griffin, virtually completed its report the first day but was forced to return Tuesday to pass on two bills of indictment and file its quarterly report.

Explaining they found the county jail clean and in good condition, the jurymen reported that plastering in the county home needed repairing. All justices of the peace in the county had filed their reports and turned over the fines to the county treasurer, the report said.

Three witnesses, failing to appear before the grand jury, were rounded up by order of the court. One, Ted Scott, was jailed overnight and held in custody until late Tuesday afternoon. Robert L. Everett and James Laughinghouse, witnesses in the robbery case against David Black, were rounded up Tuesday morning and held in custody until the completion of Black's trial late in the afternoon.

Pointing out in his charge that the grand jury had been relieved of the inspection of school buses and other public properties except the county jail and county home and work house, if there is one, Judge Walter J. Bone, presiding over the current term, said he knew of no provision that had been made calling for school bus inspections. He added, however, that possibly there is some arrangement existing with the highway patrol for regular bus inspections by the patrolmen.

Nine of the jury members will complete their one-year term in December while the other nine will work through the next June term.

Court Completed Criminal Docket Trials Yesterday

Started Working On Civil Calendar And Divorce Cases Today

Completing the criminal docket yesterday shortly before noon, the Martin County Superior Court this morning set its divorce machinery in action and before noon had torn asunder the bonds of matrimony in eight cases and made ready to hear damage suits. The court is not scheduled to sit tomorrow, but activities will be resumed next Monday when large damage suits are to be heard.

Proceedings not previously reported: After hearing the evidence Tuesday afternoon in the case charging Charlie Whitehurst with assaulting a female, the defendant changed his plea to one of guilty yesterday morning and he was sentenced to the roads for thirty days.

The case in which Chas. Jos. Peel was charged with careless driving was continued.

Pleading guilty of disorderly conduct, R. B. Spruill was fined \$25 and taxed with the costs.

Papers were issued for his arrest when Robt. Glenn Scott failed to appear and answer to liquor law charges.

The case charging Booker T. Lloyd with bastardy was continued until December when one of the state's witnesses did not appear.

A final entry was recorded in the case charging Dr. Edward L. Early, Jr., with murder. It reads, "This case abates due to the death of defendant."

Murray Boyd, charged with setting woodland on fire, failed to answer and papers were issued for his arrest.

In the case in which Tommie Taylor was charged with shooting Ted Scott, Judge Bone directed a verdict of not guilty.

The breaking and entering case against Van R. Page took an unexpected turn in court Tuesday when his attorney found a default in the warrant and the court continued it until the December term. But the "Little General's" troubles were not solved. Last reports from the court stated that the bonding company had withdrawn, leaving Page in jail. On Wednesday of last week, Page bought a \$2,000 bond, paying \$200 for five days' freedom. Officers wondered what he could do to justify \$40 a day for his freedom.

Junior Lee Grimes and Jasper Boyd pleaded guilty of accessory after the fact to larceny and receiving stolen property, and W. B. Boyd entered a plea of nolo contendere. Judge Bone considered placing the three defendants on probation, but the probation officer made an investigation and learned that the three were a bit trifling and wandered around late at night. Jasper Boyd and Grimes were sentenced to prison for not less than two and not more than three years. W. B. Boyd, the one who allegedly broke into Jake Mobbey's station, drew not less than eighteen months and not more than two years.

David Black, charged with stealing \$4.14 from the person of Nellie Gray Rogers, was found guilty and he was sentenced to the roads for four months, the sentence to be suspended upon the payment of a \$25 fine and costs.

Harvey Lee Mooring, found guilty of breaking into the home of Lee Ward in Robersonville Township, was sentenced to the roads for twelve months. Judge Walter J. Bone, presiding, ordered the defendant placed on probation for two years. Mooring is to pay the cost, remain sober and violate no other law during the two-year period.

In the case charging Linwood Speight with breaking into Price's Gulf station in Williamston last month, Judge Bone said that while the evidence against the defendant was sufficient to create a reasonable doubt and a verdict of not guilty was directed.

Charged with assaults with intent to kill, K. D. Smith pleaded guilty of an assault with a deadly weapon, and George Henry, Jesse and John Ward, all colored.

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Plans Completed For Opening Radio Station Here In October

Back In Jail After Only A Few Hours Of Freedom

Linwood Speight, deaf mute, was returned to the county jail late Tuesday night after enjoying a few hours of freedom.

In court Tuesday afternoon, Speight was tried for breaking into Price's filling station here, and was found not guilty by directed verdict. Calling for cigarettes, allegedly stolen from the station, Speight walked out of jail, enjoying the fresh air and, during the meantime, mapped plans for a raid that night. He went to the old Mad White home on South Sycamore Street and ransacked a room. The tenant was away, but three persons were said to have seen him. Before midnight, local officers had him back in jail. He is being charged with breaking and entering, and it is likely that he'll continue in jail until the next term of superior court in December.

Specializing in breaking and entering, larceny and assaults on females, Speight has been in the courts at least ten times during the past fourteen years. In 1936, he was bound over by the county recorder for larceny and receiving and was found not guilty in the superior court. In January, 1937, he drew two years on the roads for assaulting a female. Just back from the roads, he was sentenced to serve eight months for breaking and entering. In March, 1940, he drew 24 months on the roads for attempted rape. On November 9, 1942, he was fined \$25 for assaulting a female. A week later he was sentenced to the roads for six months on a larceny charge. Charged with breaking and entering he was found not guilty in September, 1943, and in December, 1949, and again in the current court. Charged with larceny he was found not guilty in January of last year.

Speight's record recalls the times he worked for the late Gus Rigas in a local cafe. Speight would steal from his employer and go to jail. Rigas would furnish bond, and after serving sentence, Speight would return to his employ. Speight has a habit of breaking into the pieces of business belonging to those for whom he has worked and stealing from them. In every case he took very little.

Handle Ten Cases In Justice Courts In Past Few Days

Breaking and Entering Case Sent To Superior Court For December Trial

Justices R. T. Johnson and Chas. R. Mobbey handled ten cases in their courts during the past few days. One defendant, John Bradley charged with being drunk and disorderly and attempted breaking and entering, was bound over to the superior court by Justice Johnson for trial in December. Unable to arrange bond in the sum of \$500, the defendant continues in the county jail.

Charged with assault with a deadly weapon, Sarah Edmonds was booked for trial in the county court by Justice Mobbey. Bond was required in the sum of \$50.

Cases handled by Justice Johnson:

Emmett Saunders was taxed with the cost for operating a motor vehicle with improper brakes. Charged with improper parking, Willie Owens was fined \$5, plus costs.

The case charging Willie Ward with assaulting a female was not pressed. The prosecuting witness was taxed with the costs when she chose not to prosecute the charge.

Charged with operating a motor vehicle without town tags, Eddie Sheppard was directed to buy tags and pay the costs.

Alexander Savage, drunk on the highway, was sentenced to the roads for thirty days, Justice Johnson suspending the road term upon the payment of the costs.

Booker T. Wynne, charged with operating a motor vehicle with improper brakes, was found not guilty.

Publicly drunk, John Philpott was fined \$5, plus costs.

Plan Call For Station To Go Into Operation In About Four Weeks

Plans were announced complete yesterday for opening Williamston's new radio station, WIAM, the management explaining that work will be rushed in an effort to have the unit in operation for the annual harvest festival on October 17. Much of the equipment has been received and Mason and Dixon Engineering Company, Washington, D. C., is to dispatch its engineers here soon to handle the installation and construct the broadcasting tower.

Marshall Pack, experienced in radio, has been named to manage the station, and he and Mrs. Pack are now handling the preliminary details at the studios which will be located in the Saunders Building recently occupied by Drs. Rhodes and Harris on Smithwick Street. Both Mr. and Mrs. Pack are natives of South Carolina, and he has been associated with radio for a number of years, first in his home town, Spartanburg, and more recently with the Continental Network, Washington, D. C. He opened the 1000-watt station in Kinston, says he likes eastern North Carolina, and looks forward to a pleasant stay in Williamston.

The broadcasting tower is to be located on the Wilson farm, near the river and close to the Standard Fertilizer Company. This station having 1,000-watt power, is to operate on 900 frequency and will operate from sunrise until sunset seven days a week.

The new station will employ five or six persons, including the manager, three announcers, receptionist and an engineer.

Mr. Pack stated that the station is to be opened to the public at all times, that visitors will be welcomed to inspect the studios at their convenience.

A permit for the station was granted by the Federal Communications Commission some time ago, but many obstacles were encountered during the meantime. All problems have been solved and no further delays are anticipated. The Saunders building, providing very suitable for the studios and operators' quarters, was leased this week and the engineers have been advised to report to handle the installation of the equipment and construct the tower. During the meantime, Mr. and Mrs. Pack are filing records and arranging the studios.

Williamston and community have depended upon radio stations in other centers for a number of years. Mr. Pack feels certain WIAM can and will meet the radio needs of the people in this and surrounding counties, and that the new business will contribute to the material growth and well-being of the area.

Marshall Pack To Manage WIAM, New Radio Station

Plans Call For Station To Go Into Operation In About Four Weeks

Williamston's Parent-Teacher Association will hold its first meeting of the new term next Monday evening at 7:30 o'clock in the grammar school.

The meeting will discuss plans and projects for the new year, and an informal social period will follow. Parents and patrons of the school are urged to be present.

Fumigate Potato Storage Houses

By J. W. Sumner, Assistant County Agent

Sweet potatoes are expected to be somewhat cheaper this fall than last year. As a result, many farmers will be storing their potatoes for higher prices. They must be aware of some of the dangers of storage. One of the greatest dangers is storage rots. Many of the disease organisms live over from year to year in the storage house and on used baskets. The chief ones are Soft Rot, and Jarva Black Rot. These disease organisms can be killed in the storage house by fumigating the storage house before the potatoes are put in.

A chemical called Chlorpicrin is used for the purpose and sold under the trade name of Larvacide.

Larvacide is a liquid which evaporates into a powerful fungicidal gas. It kills the disease organisms which live over the summer in the house and on the used crates or baskets. It cannot control diseases on the potatoes themselves or make up for improper storage conditions. At recommended dosages it also kills rats and mice, as well as most insects. Application takes only a minute or so for the average size house. No special equipment is needed except for large houses (say over 10,000 bu.) where a gas mask may be needed. There is no fire or explosion hazard.

The storage house must be air tight or capable of being made so by covering cracks with gummed paper or other suitable material. Postpone fumigation if there is wind blowing that may dissipate gas from house. It should be done when the temperature is 70 degrees or higher, choosing a rainy or humid period is helpful. If rainy day is not convenient, one can hose down room and contents with a fine spray at the rate of at least 1 gallon per 1000 cubic feet and apply Larvacide 4 - 8 hours later. If hose is not available, soak burlap bags and suspend them in the air.

Digging operations are now under way in several areas, but will hardly be completed before sometime in October.

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PEANUTS

Started last week, peanut digging is getting under way rapidly now and is expected to reach a climax next week in this county.

Digging about 50 acres so far this week, Farmer N. C. Everett says that he is finding his crop better than he expected it would be. The quantity is estimated to be about the same as it was last year when the average was between 15 and 16 bags on his farms in Robersonville Township. The quality is better, Mr. Everett said.

The quantity and quality are certain to vary from area to area, but, as a whole, this county is expected to harvest a better and larger crop of the goobers than it did last year.

COURT REPORTER

Mrs. Sara Sugg of Greenville is reporting the current term of the Martin County Superior Court.

THE RECORD SPEAKS . . .

While still piling up the wrecks, motorists on Martin County highways continue fairly considerate of human life; that is, when the record is compared with that of last year.

Only two lives have been snuffed out so far as against five a year ago.

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.

37th Week			
Accidents In'd Killed Dam'ge			
1950	2	1	0
1949	3	0	1
Comparisons To Date			
1950	102	45	2
1949	87	34	5
			19,280