

Local Firm Switches To War-Time Work

Marvil Package Firm Made Last Baskets Friday

Scheduled To Make Plywood for Indefinite Period, Reports Say

The Marvil Package Company, operators of the large basket factory on Roanoke River here, made its last baskets Friday, presumably to switch over to the manufacture of plywood to meet war and defense orders.

No official announcement has been released by the company and complete details could not be learned. Approximately one-half of the labor force has been "laid off", leaving less than one hundred workers with jobs when plywood manufacturing operations are started.

One report said that the basket-making machinery would be left intact, indicating that a switch-back is possible if and when conditions demand it.

It is understood that the present equipment is ample to cut the veneer, but machinery will be added to glue and pack the plywood. Just how long the change-over will require could not be learned, but production is believed possible within the course of a few weeks. The product will be prepared and packed for shipment to other plants of the Atlas Plywood Corporation for manufacture into packing cases.

M. M. Levin, salesman for the company, tendered his resignation some months ago but he agreed to continue in its service until the first of next month when he plans to devote his entire time to sweet potato marketing and the operation of the Martin County Yam Growers Association.

Few other changes are anticipated in the management personnel, but it is likely that additions will be made to the present staff from the company's plywood divisions.

It was learned yesterday that the package company has more

Levin Leaving Marvil Company

Effective November 1st, Meyer M. Levin will leave the services of the Marvil Package Company, with whom he has been connected for the past three years.

He came here when the plant was first built by the Goldman Package Company, of which he was Vice President in charge of sales. The plant later was sold to local interests and operated as the Williamston Package Co., and then resold by them to the Marvil Package Co.

Mr. Levin intends to devote his time to the rapid growing sweet potato business, which he believes will play an important part in the agricultural interests in this community. He is Secretary-Treasurer of the Martin County Yam Growers, who have made rapid strides in gaining acceptance and recognition of a quality product encouraging growers to grow better yams.

Mr. Levin has had years of marketing and selling experience in produce and is acquainted with the entire industry, and will devote his time to selling and marketing for growers throughout this area.

SPECIAL ORDER

Mr. Eugene Rice, Chairman of Local Board No. 60, Martin County, N. C. requests that all men who registered with the local board in Williamston, N. C. during the month of September, 1950 report to the local board office, City Hall, Williamston, N. C. not later than October 23, 1950. All men reporting are directed to bring their Registration Certificates with them.

Three Injured In Recent Accidents On County Roads

Patrol Busy Sunday Hauling Drunken Drivers and Drunks To Jail

Three persons were hurt, painfully but not critically, in a series of four motor vehicle accidents on highways in this county during the past few days.

In addition to investigating the accidents, members of the highway patrol were kept busy hauling drunken drivers and highway drunks to the jail in Robersonville and to the county hoosegow. About a dozen persons were jailed for liquor law violations of one type or another, a member of the patrol said.

Mr. J. W. Grimes of Robersonville and Etta Little of Parmele were injured when the car in which they were riding with Edward B. Simmons, No. 1, Tryon Palace, Portsmouth, was struck head on by a 1941 Buick sedan owned and driven by Harry C. Walker of Hertford. Mrs. Grimes suffered a broken left arm and shoulder, and the Little woman suffered a broken right arm. They were treated in the Ward Clinic.

(Continued on page eight)

Local Church To Observe 100th Anniversary Friday

Observing its one hundredth anniversary on Friday of this week, the Church of the Advent has prepared a timely program under the direction of the rector, the Rev. Mr. Thomas L. Hastings. Several former rectors, including Rev. John Hardy, rector of St. John's Church, Wilmington, and Rev. Edwin F. Moseley, rector of St. Mary's Church, Kinston, will have parts on the program along with the Rt. Rev. Thomas H. Wright, Bishop of the Diocese; Rev. Edwin Spruill, rector of Grace Church, Plymouth.

Mr. Norman Cordon, grandson of the late Rev. Thomas B. Haughton, beloved rector of the church for a number of years, will be guest soloist at the 11:00 o'clock service. Mr. Cordon is a noted singer.

At 1:00 o'clock that afternoon a luncheon will be served the members and special guests in the Woman's club, and Bishop Wright will speak. That evening at 8:00 o'clock, the Rev. Mr. Moseley will be the guest preacher.

In connection with the observance, the rector, Rev. Hastings has written an interesting history of the church, and Senior Warden N. C. Green will read it as part of the morning program. The historical sketch, reflecting much study and research, has been preserved in booklet form, but since it is certain to prove of interest to members of other denominations, it is being published in this paper. The first installment appears today and the second will follow Thursday.

History Of The Church Of The Advent

By Thomas L. Hastings, Rector

James L. Wilson was a resident of Williamston in 1784. In the court house records today we find that he witnessed the will of one Kenneth McKenzie in that year.

Five years later Mr. Wilson was called to Philadelphia where he was ordained by the Right Reverend William White, the first Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church in America. The Reverend James L. Wilson returned to Williamston and from the first federal census in 1790 we learn this much about his family: he had "one boy under sixteen years of age and there were two white females in his household including the head of the family". Within seven years he had purchased lots number 14 and 18 on the south side of Main Street between Biggs and Harrell Streets. Sometime in the year 1797 Mr. Wilson moved from here to Halifax County from where our history loses sight of him. Between the years 1790 and 1797, however, Mr. Wilson will be seen as one of most influential leaders of the Episcopal Church in North Carolina.

By the year 1790 the Episcopal Church in all of America had but shortly been organized; the first General Convention being held in 1785. Yet only five years later in 1790 we find Mr. Wilson and the Reverend Charles Pettigrew of Edenton, N. C., meeting in Tarboro and holding the first convention in an effort to organize the Church in the State of North Carolina. The following passage is from the "History of Edgecombe County." "Dr. William White, an eminent figure in the Episcopal Church after the Revolution, in 1789, wrote Governor Samuel Johnston of his desire to inaugurate a movement for the reorganization of the Church. Governor Johnston, being a layman of the church, referred the letter to the Reverend Charles Pettigrew. Governor Johnston and Mr. Pettigrew had for sometime been intimate friends, he being a member of Mr. Pettigrew's congregation at St. Paul's Church in Edenton. The contents of the letter voiced a desire to select some convenient place for the clergymen to meet and consult as to procedure to reawaken an interest in the Church.

After the matter was referred to Mr. Pettigrew, he wrote letters to Dr. Cutting, rector at New Bern; the Rev. Mr. Wilson, of Martin County, and the Rev. Mr. Blount, residing on Tar River, expressing a desire that they meet at Tarboro on the second Thursday of May, 1790. He mentions this place as a central and convenient location. Accordingly, Mr. Pettigrew and Mr. Wilson met in Tarboro on June 5, 1790, and held the first convention of the Episcopal Church in North Carolina. These two gentlemen were met in Tarboro by Dr. John Leigh and Mr. William Clements, who were residents and staunch churchmen. Mr. Pettigrew, in a letter addressed to Bishop White, regretted the fact that no more were in attendance, and that he had expected that as many as six clergymen would be present.

Two years later (after 1791), the third convention met in Tarboro. Mr. Wilson was president and Mr. Clements was again secretary. This convention made considerable more progress in the movement for a church reorganization. A State committee was appointed, and a circular was published calling a fourth convention to be held in Tarboro in May, 1794. The convention of 1793 was the largest held since the Revolution, but consisted of only six persons: Dr. Halling, of New Bern; the Rev. Mr. Gurley of Murfreesboro; the Rev. Mr. Wilson of Williamston; Mr. Wm. Clements, Dr. Leigh of Tarboro, and Mr. F. Green of Craven County. (The convention of 1794 elected Mr. Pettigrew to be the first bishop of North Carolina, but his early death prevented him from ever being consecrated.

The Rev. Mr. Wilson had been a

(Continued on page eight)

Great Day Expected In The Ole Home Town Tomorrow

Pupils Are Impressed By Special School Program

A special program, pointing out the evils of alcohol, is receiving a splendid response in the high schools of this county, a member of the ministerial association, the sponsoring organization, said this morning. "The pupils, impressed by the picture, 'The Effect of Alcohol on the Human Body', were attentive but a bit hesitant to participate in the open forum," the association member, one of seven making the tour of several schools yesterday, said.

Rev. Stewart B. Simms, president of the Martin County Ministerial Association, outlined the program planned to educate the youth in the dangers of alcoholic beverages, discussed the special essay contest. Rev. E. R. Shuller conducted the open forum, and while they were limited in number, some timely questions were asked. For example one youngster in one of the schools wanted

to know if alcohol was so injurious to the human mind and body, why did the State license the sale of it. S. K. Procter, executive director of the alcoholic rehabilitation program of Raleigh who brought the special film to this county, had a part on the program, explaining what was being done to rehabilitate alcoholism victims.

Literature and books on the subject were left in the schools, and the ministerial group believe the young people will give the material serious study.

The program was carried into the Williamston, Jamesville and Farm Life Schools yesterday. Today, the group, including seven ministers, will be at Bear Grass, Robersonville and Oak City. On Wednesday the group will be in the colored high schools here and at Parmele.

The program will be followed by another series in January and March of next year.

Marines Setting Up Equipment on The Main Street

Big Parade Starts At 2:00; Governor To Speak At 2:45 O'Clock

Plans were announced complete this morning for Williamston's third annual Harvest Festival, Executive Director Al Sweatt of the Boosters, Inc., declaring that all indications point to the biggest event of its kind ever held here.

The display of canned foods, sponsored as the first feature of the two-day festival, attracted attention in the Planters Warehouse this morning and the ground display by the U. S. Marines from Cherry Point is creating much interest on the main street in front of the Dunning home. The first of the large crowds is expected this evening when a street dance gets under way on Washington Street.

Frank Saunders Weaver and his band will furnish the music for the round dances with spaces allotted for both white and colored dancers. Farther down the street, Otho Willard and his string band will play for the square dancers.

Headed by Major E. P. Dunn, the Marine detachment is arranging a special display of guns and rockets, jet engine models and aerial pictures of the town and section.

The big show tomorrow is scheduled to start shaping up at noon when the main street is cleared from Watts to Washington and Washington to the warehouses. The clowns, numbering nearly a dozen and including a professional, are to take over for about an hour beginning at 1:00 o'clock. The parade, led by Governor Kerr Scott and Congressman Herbert Bonner and other dignitaries is to start moving promptly at 2:00 o'clock.

The parade, forming on the streets north of Main, will include about fifty units. Twelve decorated

(Continued from page five)

Open Bids Here On Bond Projects

Bids, received from five contracting firms, exceeded the estimates for extensions to the town's water and sewer systems by a goodly margin. A complete study of the bids opened by the town commissioners in a special meeting at 10:45 o'clock this morning was not made immediately, and action on the bids had not been taken shortly before noon.

The bids on the two projects combined exceeded estimates by about \$16,000, according to an unofficial report. Barnhill and Long of Tarboro submitted a bid of \$151,005.00 on the sewer project, and the Chicago Bridge and Iron Company with offices in Atlanta were low with a \$50,390 bid on the 300,000-gallon water tank.

The commissioners are studying the conditions and the over-all picture, but no decision had been reached about noon today.

SCOUTS

It was learned unofficially that nearly every circus, that is circuses of any size, will have scouts at the harvest festival here tomorrow afternoon, searching for clowns. One of the clowns, a professional who was with one of the largest in the world for several years, declares he can not be bought, giving the amateurs a better chance. And then Mr. J. Lawrence Peelle since he prefers an amateur's standing with professional ability.

Director Eugene Rice said today that he has a large bag of tricks and that he'll have his bevy of clowns shake the bag just before the parade tomorrow.

Tobacco Sales Pass Nine Million Pounds

ABSENTEES

Absentee voting, allowed only in general elections, may be arranged in this county by submitting written applications to C. D. Carstarphen, chairman of the Martin County Board of Elections. Application forms may be had from the registrars in the several precincts.

A number of absentee ballots were prepared for members of the armed forces, but so far no applications have been received for ballots. Little interest is being shown in the off-year election in this county, and a miserably small vote is expected.

Native Of County Died Late Sunday In Wilson County

Funeral This Afternoon for Mrs. Vernon C. Langley Of St. Lewis

Mrs. Mary Amelia Langley, native of this county and member of a family prominent in the affairs of this section, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Leon Griffin, in St. Lewis, Wilson County, Sunday night at 11:30 o'clock. She had been in declining health for several years and had been confined to her home following a

(Continued on page six)

FARM BUREAU

Nearly 1,300 members have been signed and reported by the Farm Bureau in this county, according to a report released following a meeting of the membership committee in the American Legion hut last Friday evening.

Another meeting of the committee is scheduled for Friday, October 27, when the president, Mr. C. L. Daniel, hopes the drive will be right at its 2,000 member goal.

Native Of County Died Saturday At Home in Beaufort

Funeral Sunday At The Cedar Branch Church for James H. L. Peel

James Henry Lawrence Peel, native of this county and retired farmer-teacher, died at his home near Pinetown in Beaufort County last Saturday morning at 6:00 o'clock after a long period of declining health. He suffered a stroke of paralysis six years ago and had been an invalid since that time.

The son of the late Henry Peel and wife, Frances Peel, he was born in Griffins Township 72 years ago on October 10, 1878, and

(Continued on page six)

Five Of Twelve Princesses Who Will Ride In Parade Wednesday



Pictured above are five of the princesses who will compete for the title, "Queen of the Harvest." Reading from left to right they are Joyce Harrell, Oak City; Jean Carol Griffin, Farm Life; Lib Charry, Bear Grass; Frances Perry, Windsor, and Bessie Pearce, Williamston. Princesses not pictured are Hannah Early, Ahoskie; Joyce Beverly, Bethel; Hazel Leary, Edenton; Margaret Perry, Jamesville; Shelton Owens, Plymouth; Janie Griffin, Robersonville and Kay Tankard, Washington. With private chauffeurs, the princesses will ride in the big festival parade here tomorrow (Wednesday), beginning at 2:00 o'clock P. M.