

Martin Farmers Making Ready to Transplant Crop

Outlook for Plentiful Supply of Tobacco Plants Good in This County

Martin County farmers are making ready to start transplanting the 1951 tobacco crop next week, according to reports heard here today.

The Harrison brothers out in Poplar Point are said to be preparing their land at this time with the intention of starting the transplanting task next week. Farmer S. W. Casper of the Oak City section, the Cullipher boys near Williamston and quite a few others are planning to start the transplanting work next week. However, the task is hardly expected to get under way to any great extent before week after next with the possibility that the peak will be reached on or about May 7-10.

The outlook is good for a plentiful supply of plants, but farmers are not boasting, most of them explaining that blue mold could strike and upset the schedule. Just now the outlook for plants is possibly as good as it ever was for this season of the year. Very little blue mold has been reported, but the disease is present over scattered areas, farmers explaining that it has not been very destructive to those plants where it struck a few days ago.

Discussing the farm outlook, agricultural agents said this week that while the season is a bit late in some respects, farmers are keeping up with their work. Possibly most of the corn crop has been planted, reports from various sections stating that much of it is up. Cool weather, however, has not helped the situation. Just now farmers are talking about pastures and livestock, starting out with two or three hundred acres not so long ago, farmers in this county are said to have planted an estimated 1,300 acres in Ladino clover last fall. Farmers Jim Rhodes and Bill Peel are said to have about the two prettiest pastures ever seen in this section. Leading agriculturists, visiting the pastures a few days ago, declared they were the best they had ever seen.

Two Brothers In Armed Services

Two brothers, Martin B. Hardison and Garland Lee Hardison of Hamilton, are in the armed forces. They are sons of Mr. and Mrs. Belmer Hardison.

Martin B. was recently promoted to the rank of staff sergeant at the proving grounds, Eglin Air Force Base, Florida. He has been in the service since 1948. His present address is 3203rd Supply Squadron, Eglin Air Force Base, Florida.

His brother, Garland, volunteered for service and left a few days ago for a four-year stretch of duty in the Air Force. He reported to San Antonio, Texas.

Both young men are graduates of the Oak City High School.

THE RECORD SPEAKS . . .

Death stalked the highways of this county last Sunday foring one life while the accident the first time this year, claim-toll went on to include maimed and injured victims. Until more rhyme and reason can be applied when vehicle operators turn on the gas, no law can be very effective in the preservation of life, limb and property. The record should be warning enough for all to slow down.

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.

15th Week			
Accidents In'd Killed Dam'ge	1951	1950	1949
6	5	1	\$ 2,025
1	1	0	200
Comparisons To Date			
1951	77	26	1 \$19,730
1950	41	24	0 8,940

Sizable Gain Reported In Martin County Tax Values

An increase of approximately \$1,640,000 is anticipated in Martin County tax listings for the current year, according to a preliminary report released today by County Tax Supervisor M. L. Peel. A survey of the listings has not been completed in its entirety, Mr. Peel explained, but he did point out that the gains were fairly uniform in nearly every township in the county.

There were a few reductions that are a bit puzzling, and study of those cases is being considered, according to unofficial information gained today.

The listing work has been completed and a detailed report is expected within the next week or two.

TROUBLE

Working under a special contract, an Atlanta firm is encountering all kinds of trouble in tunneling under the railroad on West Main Street for a sewer line. Up until this morning, after working night and day for about ten days, the workers have bored only about thirty feet or about half the distance through the base of the fill.

The task was virtually stopped when the soft dirt settled on the 40-inch steel pipe. Then the workers had to cut their way through large timbers that once formed a trestle for the railroad. The workers are now digging their way under, constructing a steel arch as they move forward. The job superintendent plans to complete the project about the middle of next week.

Plans Made For Concert Series

Plans for Community Concert programs to be presented in Williamston during the 1951-52 season are being completed, it was announced today by officials of the Martin County Community Concert Association, sponsors of the series. The programs are made possible by this organization and in conjunction with the Community Concert Service Division of Columbia Artists Management.

The last concert of the 1950-51 season was given recently when Genevieve Rowe was heard in a concert which was enthusiastically received. Instead of waiting until next fall to conduct the annual membership drive, it has been announced that the drive will be held during the week of April 23-28. It has been moved up for several reasons, one being to insure a better selection of artists.

On Monday evening, April 23, at 6:30 PM, the "kick-off" dinner will be held in the Woman's Club building for all officers, directors, committeemen and workers of the Association.

The first series of concerts held here during the past year proved to be very popular. Many who failed to get seasonal memberships last year have expressed the desire to do so this year. This is a welcome indication that the concerts will be even better this coming season as an increased membership insures a better selection of artists.

Officials of the Association are urging those who held memberships last year to renew them this year, and to those who were not fortunate enough to have been a member this past season, the invitation is issued to join the Association when the worker contacts them.

Farm Groups Will Meet On Monday

Meeting in the Williamston High School auditorium next Monday morning at 9:00 o'clock, representatives of the various agricultural agencies in Martin County will map a program for the Production-Marketing Administration for 1952, according to an announcement released today by the county office.

All farm leaders, including heads of the various organizations, county and community P.-M. A. committeemen are to attend.

Shortages Delay School Building Work In County

Unable to get delivery on structural steel, J. N. Bryant and Son, Raleigh contractors, have done little or no work on three school building projects in the county. Deliveries have been promised from week to week, but last reports received here stated that no definite assurance had been given when the steel would be delivered.

Certain materials have been placed on the sites for a gymnasium in Robersonville, an addition to Williamston's white high school, and a new plant near the present colored high school in Williamston. Tool houses and offices have been constructed at each site, and the contractors are ready to start work just as soon as the steel arrives.

State Patrol Has Openings For 105 Under New Plan

New Men To Attend Special School From May 7th Through June 16

Raleigh—The 105 additional State highway patrolmen authorized at the recent session of the General Assembly will receive training in the Highway Patrol Training School at the Institute of Government, Chapel Hill, May 7 through June 16, Col. James R. Smith, commanding officer of the Patrol reported today.

This addition will bring the Patrol up to its newly-authorized strength of 528 men.

Qualified men interested in becoming highway patrolmen and in attending the six-week school submit their applications immediately to Col. Smith. The present starting salary for patrolmen is \$2,508 a year.

The increase in Patrol personnel was authorized by the General Assembly to help meet present traffic problems on North Carolina highways, brought about by increases in motor vehicle registrations, drivers and in paved road mileage.

Col. Smith stated that candidates must be citizens of the United States and residents of North Carolina for the past five years; be between 21 and 31 years of age and not subject to induction into the armed forces under present selective service regulations; must weigh at least 160 pounds; be at least five feet 10 inches in height; have completed a high school education or the equivalent; be of good moral character and have no criminal record; and have no relative now employed by the De-

(Continued on page eight)

Auxiliary Will Sponsor Project

As a part of the National American Legion's community service program, the John Walton Hassell American Legion Post Auxiliary is sponsoring a memorial bookshelf in Williamston's public library. To support the project, a committee, composed of Mesdames John A. Ward, Arthur White and Mack W. Ange, this week turned over to the library \$100 for the purchase of primary, junior and high school books which will be placed in circulation as soon as they are received from the publishers. Other books of different types will be added later by the Auxiliary.

The gift, coinciding with the library's thirteenth anniversary, will mean much in advancing the service of the institution. It has been declared that the auxiliary could find fewer projects that would offer more than the investment in books for the young people of today.

PAPER DRIVE

A paper drive sponsored and conducted by Boy Scout troop No. 27 will be made here Saturday morning and evening. Housewives are asked to place paper on front porches of their homes, and the canvassers would appreciate bundles being tied.

Labor Available For Industry In Martin County

Survey Shows 2,300 Workers Could Be Recruited In The County

Raleigh—A modest increase in overall recruitable labor for industrial development in North Carolina, involving a fairly large increase in white women and a decrease in white men, is shown in a completion made of reports from local office managers as of March 15, as compared with a similar report for January 15.

This bi-monthly survey, compiled in the office of Hugh M. Rapier, director of the Bureau of Research and Statistics, and announced by Chairman Henry E. Kendall, of the Employment Security Commission of North Carolina, indicates that almost 166,000 workers could be recruited from among those now employed or partially employed if employment conditions somewhat more favorable should develop. Of these, more than 54,000 are white males, almost 53,000 are white females and about 28,000 are non-white males.

More than 61,000 of the recruitable workers are classed as skilled and semi-skilled, while more than 59,000 under 45 years of age are deemed to be trainable for jobs requiring skills.

This survey is general in nature and is not as complete as the Commission is in position to make for specified industries and in specific areas, upon request.

The estimates are not confined to those seeking jobs or those now unemployed, but include potential workers from such groups as: (1) housewives who would take jobs under more favorable working conditions than now exist in their lives; (2) workers now commuting to other areas who would remain in their local communities; (3) youths who are expected to join the labor force; (4) older and handicapped employables not now at work; (5) migrant groups; (6) new entrants from

(Continued on Page Eight)

Plan Observance Of Cancer Sunday

Worshippers at the various churches here will be asked to observe Cancer Sunday, April 22, it was announced by Mrs. H. S. Whitley, Chairman of the American Cancer Society's 1951 Cancer Crusade.

The clergy of all churches have been asked to participate by devoting a portion of the Sunday services to prayers for cancer control.

In commenting on plans for observance of Cancer Sunday, Rev. E. R. Shuller, minister of First Methodist Church in Williamston, said, "Religion has a definite place in the campaign for cancer control. Certainly the objective of saving lives—of making it possible to live out our allotted span—and alleviating the suffering that cancer inflicts upon all ages, is God's work, and it needs the blessing of the Almighty."

"More than that too, these people who are using the knowledge of science to find means of controlling cancer, need the prayers of everyone of us, to the end that their efforts may be truly inspired by the Supreme Intelligence."

"I think Cancer Sunday presents an opportunity for all of us to pause and reflect upon our personal lives and remember the challenge of two thousand years ago: 'A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another.'"

Soil Conservation Meeting Friday

A unit meeting of the Coastal Plain Soil Conservation District will be held tomorrow evening at 7:30 o'clock in the Martin County courthouse. Activities of the work handled will be reviewed and committees will be named for the next year, it was reported. The public is invited to attend and participate in the meeting.

First Quarter Post Office Receipts Set New Record

Postal income at the local office is believed to have reached a new high figure for the first quarter, according to a report released a few days ago by Postmaster W. E. Dunn. The income for the three months ended last March 31 was placed at \$10,234.12, exceeding the \$9,121.67 reported a year ago.

In the month of February of this year, the income showed a slight decrease, but receipts for January and March forged ahead with about a \$600 gain each to take up the slack and push total this year considerably ahead of that reported a year ago.

No one cause was given for the increase, the postmaster explaining that possibly the soldiers' mail accounted for part of the gain. While income from the sale of stamps was increased by more than \$1,100 money order business for the first quarter this year was just about \$10,000 greater than it was in the corresponding period last year. The money order business reached a peak for the period in March when \$28,154.76 passed through the money order window. The money order business jumped from \$61,278.27 in the first quarter of last year to \$71,109.96 in the first three months of this year.

Farm Agency Is Serving Martin County Farmers

Improvements and New Construction on County Farms To Be Financed

Farm owners as well as farm tenants are now being served in the farm ownership program of the Farmers Home Administration, says James C. Eubanks, FHA County Supervisor.

Martin County farmers who own farms too small to round out a good family size operation, or who own farms that need construction and development work done, may make these essential improvements on their land and buildings with farm development loans made or insured by this agency, Eubanks explained.

This development can include, among other things, ditching, tile drainage, terracing, land clearing, fencing, basic land treatment, and building repairs and construction. Repayment schedules are set up for 40-year periods, but borrowers may refinance their loans as soon as they can do so on satisfactory terms. The interest rate is 4 percent.

In developing their farms, Eubanks explained, borrowers are encouraged to do as much of their own work as possible and to use their own materials whenever they can. He said the Farmers Home Administration cooperates in its development program with other agencies, including the State College of Agriculture, Extension Service, Production and Marketing Association, Soil Conservation Service, and others.

"We can include funds in the development loans," he said, "to refinance indebtedness the farmer may have against his farm". All applications go before the Martin County FHA Committee with R. J. Hardison, chairman, and Clifton L. Keel and Milton E. Bennett, members. This committee is responsible for deciding whether a farmer is eligible for

(Continued on page eight)

County Native Is Grand Master Of Virginia Masons

Rudolph R. Cooke, native of Jamesville and a son of Mrs. Donie Cooke Sexton of Jamesville and the late Henry B. Cooke, was recently elected to the office of grand master of the Grand Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Virginia, and assumed office a few days ago at the 173rd annual meeting of the order in Richmond. More than 1,300 Masons, representing most of the 320 local lodges in Virginia, attended the meeting. Mr. Cooke succeeds Enoch D. Flewers of Richmond.

One of the grand master's first duties was to appoint officers to eleven Grand Lodge Posts. Mr. Cooke was born in this county 54 years ago. After spending his early life in this county, he went to Portsmouth in 1916 to work in the navy yard. Fourteen years later, after studying at night school, he was licensed to practice law. He is now back in Navy employ as an assistant to the industrial manager of the Fifth Naval District.

Superior Court In Recess Until Monday Morning

Work Came To An Unexpected Close Tuesday After Hearing Few Cases

After disposing of six divorce cases and hearing a damage suit Monday, the Martin County Superior Court caught up with its calendar and ordered an unexpected recess Tuesday. Judge Henry A. Grady, presiding over the first of the two-week term packed his gavel and left for his home in New Bern, turning over the remainder of the term to Judge W. I. Halstead who will open the second week next Monday morning.

Only two or three cases reached the jury during the two days the court was in session. Several actions were settled by agreement, and when the court saw that a session would be necessary Wednesday, a case was set peremptory for trial next week.

Proceedings: In the case of D. M. Hardison against L. H. Hamm the plaintiff was declared the owner of certain property and was entitled to recover \$313.32, plus interest from March 2, 1949. Attorney Paul D. Roberson was appointed commissioner of the court and he is to sell the property in May.

The case of W. W. Griffin against Lindsley Ice Company was settled by agreement, the plaintiff, granted a voluntary non-suit, being taxed with the costs. A voluntary non-suit was taken by the plaintiff in the case of Jack Daniel against Harry Jones, the plaintiff being taxed with the costs.

In her \$1,200 suit against Frank D. Cherry, administrator of Johnnie Jones' estate, the plaintiff, Lucy Bryant, was awarded a judgment in the sum of \$200.

The case of Simon D. Moore against A. T. Whitley, scheduled for trial on Wednesday, was continued until Thursday of next week. The court reasoned that it would be better to continue the case until then rather than have the jury return for a day just to hear the action.

Mr. Clayton, father of Dick Clayton of Williamston, was a prominent farmer and a leader in the South Hill Methodist Church, serving it as a deacon for half century.

Surviving besides his son are Mrs. Clayton, two sons and six daughters. Funeral services will be conducted in the South Hill Methodist Church tomorrow afternoon at 4:00 o'clock by his pastor, and burial will be in the cemetery there.

Mr. and Mrs. Clayton and son Dickie, are in South Hill and Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Cooke and Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Page will leave tomorrow morning to attend the funeral.

R. H. Clayton, Sr. Dies In Virginia

R. H. Clayton, Sr., 82 years old, died at his home in South Hill, Virginia, yesterday morning at 2:00 o'clock. He had been in declining health for a year or more, but his condition was critical for only a few days.

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May Draft Call Been Cancelled

The call for five Martin County men to report for final induction in May has been cancelled, it was learned this week. It was also learned that no instructions had been received for men to report next month for pre-induction examinations. According to unofficial reports, reservists in all branches of the service are receiving more consideration with the possibility that those recalled to active duty will not have to serve as long as they were once scheduled to serve.

During the meantime, seventy-five Martin County men are leaving next Monday for pre-induction examinations at Fort Bragg.

From April 19th through May 1st all books belonging to the Williamston Public Library may be returned free of fines and charges regardless of length of time overdue. Please check your book shelves this week.

Population Count In County Towns

Census figures for all ten Martin County towns were announced complete this week by Mrs. Bettie L. Coltrane, assistant secretary in Congressman Herbert C. Bonner's office in Washington.

Five of the ten show gains, the losses in the other five ranging from 10 to 21.

The complete report for the towns:

	Gain or Loss	
	1940	1950
Jamesville	499	531
Bear Grass	114	128
Williamston	3,996	4,978
Everetts	265	244
Robersonville	1,407	1,409
Parrale	417	406
Gold Point	142	132
Hassell	150	136
Hamilton	524	513
Oak City	512	515
	7,996	8,992

*Denotes decrease. Slightly more than one-half of the population gain of 1,861 is centered in the towns. The total population for the county, including towns, was 27,972 last year as compared with 26,111 in 1940. The over-all increase was 1,861 of which 996 is centered in the towns, the strictly rural population showing a gain of 865 during the past ten years.

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OPENINGS

There are still a few openings for volunteers in the local unit of the National Guard the commanding officer explaining that several failed to pass their physicals and that recruits would be taken during the next few days to fill those positions. Those interested in joining the guard are asked to contact Capt. Elbert S. Peel, Jr. as soon as possible. Call him at the municipal water plant, phone 2027, or at his home, phone 2718.

Any one holding accounts against the local guard unit is asked to present bills as soon as possible, certainly not later than May 1 when the books will be closed, it was announced.