

Record Registration Reported In County

Place Nearly Six Hundred Names On County Books

Nearly Nine Thousand Potential Electors In The County At Present

Registration books for the next Tuesday and subsequent elections were literally crowded with new names during the past three Saturdays, according to unofficial but reliable reports received from the registrars this week.

A new registration record was chalked up when approximately 700 new names were added to the books, boosting the combined or total potential voting power in the county's thirteen precincts to almost 9,000 electors. The recent registration is more marked in size when it is considered that 501 new names were added to the books just before the last May primary vote.

A complete study of the new registration could not be made since the books are in the hands of the registrars all over the county, but preliminary reports declare that the registration this month is almost unanimously Democratic. Less than 25 affiliated with the Republican Party. Less than twenty registered as independents. It would seem that more than 500 of those who registered during the recent registration period plan to vote the straight Democratic ticket next Tuesday. However, it is possible for an elector to split his vote, but the registered Democrat who votes the Republican ticket next Tuesday can be challenged should he offer to participate in a Democratic primary in 1954. The same holds for the registered Republican who votes the Democratic ticket next Tuesday and then offers to participate in the Republican primary in 1954. The registered independent voter can participate in the general elections next Tuesday, but he can't participate in either the Republican or Democratic primary in 1954.

Observers, using the new registration figure as a guide, are predicting the largest vote ever recorded in the county will be cast in the election next Tuesday. It is almost certain to run between 5,500 and 6,000. How many of those will go into the Democratic column and how many will wander into the Republican column, no one can guess with any degree of certainty. Old-time political observers are predicting the Republicans will poll between 300 and 500 votes, a few holding the figure to 200 and a few pushing it above 600.

The last time there was a Republican flare-up in this county, Herbert Hoover in 1928 polled 411 votes, 103 in Jamesville, 5 in Williams, 10 in Griffins, 66 in Williamston, 81 in Bear Grass, 16 in Cross Roads, 74 in Robersonville, 6 in Gold Point, 5 in Poplar Point, 22 in Hamilton, 23 in Goose Nest. For twenty years the Republican vote in this county could be counted on one's fingers until 1948 when Dewey went over the 100 mark to poll 162 votes. While Dewey was polling 162 votes that year, President Truman walked away with 4,632 votes. Henry Wallace got two votes.

Williams Raises Democratic Fund

Assigned a \$50 quota, Democrats in Williams Township got busy and raised \$55 for the cause within a few hours' time. Chairman Floyd Moore reported. Contributions are acknowledged, as follows: Grady Godard, Joshua L. Coltrain, Joe L. Coltrain, Floyd Moore, Lucian J. Hardison, W. W. Griffin, Charles L. Daniel, R. J. Hardison and S. J. Tetterton, \$5 each; James Perry and Marvin Hardison, \$2 each; Joe H. Perry, William (Dick) Hardison, Walter Gardner, Albert Tyre, Howard Tyre and Clarence Hopkins, \$1 each.

REGISTRATION		
The following figures show the new registration and the total number of names on the books in the several precincts in this county:		
	New	Total
Jamesville	59	815
Williams	13	297
Griffins	25	537
Bear Grass	39	584
Williamston 1	74	1178
Williamston 2	171	1584
Cross Roads	34	586
Robersonville	164	1552
Gold Point	14	303
Poplar Point	8	232
Hassell	11	226
Hamilton	28	404
Goose Nest	42	604
	683	8942

Morley - Gearhart Team In Brilliant Performance Here

First In Community Concert Series Attracts Capacity House

Morley and Gearhart, the duopianists, gave a great performance here last evening, marking the opening of the 1952-53 season of the Martin County Community Concert Association. The brilliant team played to a capacity house in the high school auditorium, attracting members from as far away as Kinston. The "concert with commentary" and without "comment" at times, was widely acclaimed, and the top-flight entertainers were forced into extra periods at intermission and again at the close of the scheduled program. Graciously, man-and-wife team responded with popular encores, including "Nola" which the two will play on television Sunday.

Masters of the keyboard, Mr. and Mrs. Gearhart held the large audience spellbound with their perfect co-ordination and musical sensitivity. The work of the artists was in such strict accord one could close his eyes and wonder of Morley and Gearhart had not been made into one. The open eyes, however, could see the nimble but certain fingers of both team members busy blending Gershwin's "American in Paris" and other numbers into something really worth listening to and talking about.

The humorous comment, offered mostly by Gearhart, filled the brief gaps, with Morley holding the figure to 200 and a few pushing it above 600.

Paper To Canvass Election Returns

With the cooperation of the thirteen precinct officials, The Enterprise will canvass the election returns next Tuesday night, but no election party is planned. Not one of the local or county offices is being contested, and the election of the Democrats on the township and county tickets is generally accepted. Only the size of the vote on those tickets will be of interest and the returns for those offices will await the official canvass by the registrars on Thursday of next week.

Very little interest is being centered in the three proposed amendments to the State Constitution, and the vote canvass on those will be held on Thursday of next week.

Interest is being focused on the national ticket along with the contests for State offices. It is proposed to canvass those returns for this county, turn them over to the press association for use as a part of the State-wide picture. Martin County returns will be on the air over a State-wide hook-up, and every interested person may have an election party around individual radios.

No prediction is offered, but it could be some little time, possibly Wednesday morning, before the national returns are conclusive.

Grim Reminder Of Other Days



Driving a grey mule, fattened under Democratic administrations, and a "Hoover Cart," a relic resurrected from the depression period. A Corey, nominee for the State House of Representatives from this county, reminded between 12,000 and 15,000 people of other days when he marched in the annual harvest festival parade in Williamston last Wednesday afternoon. —Photo by Royal Studio.

Plan To Add Equipment To Weather Station Here

Additional equipment, including a gadget for official temperature readings, is to be installed at the Williamston Weather Bureau station, according to information released by Charles B. Carney, meteorologist in charge of the U. S. Department of Commerce Weather Bureau in Raleigh. The weather station here has been limited to rainfall reports and river readings for the past twenty years. During that time Mr. Hugh Spruill has ably served through his efforts and cooperation that the facilities of the local station are being expanded.

In a letter to the editor of The Enterprise, Mr. Carney said: "Perhaps you will recall that when I visited Williamston last year to present a 20-year service button to our observer, Mr. C. H. Spruill, you told me you were very interested in having equipment for Mr. Spruill to take temperature readings. At that time the outlook was not very bright for us to put such equipment at Williamston, but now I am pleased to let you know that we can do so. "Within the next month or so, we plan to install the temperature equipment at Mr. Spruill's place. Williamston will then be an official Weather Bureau temperature station, as well as river and rainfall station."

TICKETS

The sale of tickets for the current series of community concerts went over the top this week, it was announced yesterday by the secretary. A total of 513 tickets were handled by the Martin County Community Concert Association, the number including 149 students' tickets.

Amendments Get Little Attention

Overshadowed by the hot political campaign, the three proposed amendments to the North Carolina State Constitution have received only passing attention in any quarter, and it is likely that many voters will take no stand for or against the proposals in the election next Tuesday. In reality the proposals carry no great meaning, and their passage is not expected to upset the State government as it is now constituted.

The first amendment would permit the increase of the 15-cent general tax levy to 20 cents on the \$100 assessed valuation. It is found in several counties that the valuation is so low that the 15-cent levy for general county purposes is not sufficient to run the government, forcing the "juggling" of the rates. The proposal is not expected to make any difference in this county.

The No. 2 amendment empowers the Governor to fill a position made vacant in the General Assembly by immediate appointment, upon the recommendation of the executive committee of the county in which the deceased or resigned member was a resident.

No. 3 proposal provides a uniform method of filling positions becoming vacant in certain State offices.

Little Business Before County Board Monday

Clerk to the board, J. Sam Getzinger announced today that the Martin County Commissioners have little business on their schedule for consideration next Monday. Other than routine business, the commissioners are to draw jurors for the one-week term of superior court convening in December.

Predict Victory For Democrats In Tuesday Election

Leaders Urge Party Members Not To Relax Until Polls Are Closed

North Carolina Democratic Party leaders have called the general election next Tuesday "one of the most important in history and have urged every registered voter in the State to exercise his ballot right.

B. Everett Jordan, State Democratic Executive Committee Chairman, and William B. Umstead, Democratic nominee for Governor, issued the statements and called on voters to get to the polls early in view of heavy registrations.

Jordan's statement is as follows:

"Every report we have received from throughout North Carolina in the last few days indicates the growing popularity of the Democratic cause and I predict that the Democratic Party will achieve an outstanding victory for Governor Stevenson, our Presidential candidate; Senator Sparkman, our Vice Presidential candidate, and William B. Umstead, our nominee for Governor, as well as for all other candidates on the Party's ticket.

"However, it will not do to relax our vigilance or energy. A political victory is not won in pre-election exuberance or statements but by the votes actually put in the ballot box. I, therefore, urge every North Carolinian who has the best interest of his state and nation at heart to go to the polls and vote the Democratic ticket throughout.

"May I urge upon all citizens the necessity for voting early. The polls open at 6:30 a. m. and close at 6:30 p. m., and this is only 720 minutes of voting time. In some of our precincts, due to a very heavy new registration, there are between 1500 and 2000 names on the registration books and this means that each voter will have one-half minute or less to do his voting. If the voting does not start very early in the morning and continue at a rapid rate throughout the day, there is a great danger.

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Big Halloween Party Tonight

Working to raise money for the local library and the Girl Scouts, the Williamston Woman's Club is sponsoring a big halloween carnival in the Planters Warehouse here tonight, beginning promptly at 7:00 o'clock. Delicious refreshments, including plate lunches, will be served.

The entertainment will center around several planned events, including pony ride, cake walk, costume parade, bingo games, house of horrors, fortune telling, apple bobbing, fish pond, to mention a few.

Young and old are invited and urged to participate in and support the worthy causes.

Leaders Urge Straight Vote For The Democratic Party Tuesday

Marketing Of Peanut Crop Goes Into High Gear Here

Following a slow start last week and with ideal weather conditions prevailing during the past few days, peanut marketing is rapidly moving into high gear here.

A preliminary report released late yesterday indicated that between seven and eight thousand bags of the goobers were marketed at this point and a few other thousand bags were handled at other centers in the county.

Farmers' trucks were lined up yesterday waiting miller's turn to unload. With a continuation of current weather conditions, the market is expected to move right on up to the 13,000-to-15,000-bag pace daily within another week or ten days.

Threshers were operating in all parts of the county yesterday, and they are expected to reach 100 percent capacity by the early part of next week, weather conditions permitting.

Prices are holding strictly to government loan rates on the open market, and with orderly marketing they are expected to hold to that level. Farmers are finding it advisable to have their peanuts government graded, and the grading service is providing ample men to handle the work.

Farmers are finding that the peanut kernels have thicker hull this year than at any time in recent years. As a result the weights are falling off as much as 10 percent per bag.

Yields are holding up well with the average holding right close to twenty bags per acre, with some exceptions, of course.

Starting threshing operations yesterday, Farmer Joshua L. Coltrain said they picked an average of twenty bags in one field, sixteen in another and twenty-five bags in a third field.

Forty-Five Names Placed On Three Election Tickets

No Splitting The Presidential Ticket At Polls Next Tuesday

The five thousand or more Martin County voters will have forty-five candidates to choose from when they go to their respective polling places next Tuesday to vote for national, State and county officers. Four of the names appear on the national or Presidential ticket, twenty-nine on the State ballot and twelve on the county ticket.

Election officials point out that the national ticket cannot be split, meaning that the voter must vote for both the Republican nominees or both the Democratic nominees. There is no provision for a split vote on the national ticket. It is believed that the voters in this county will vote a straight ticket with just a few exceptions, meaning they will mark an "X" in the circle at the top of the party they wish to vote for and quit there.

On the eve of what has the promise of being the biggest election ever held in this county, State and nation, Martin County Democratic leaders are addressing an appeal to loyal Democrats, pleading with them to go to the polls in large number and vote the straight ticket from President right on down to constable.

In addition to the national, State and county tickets, two townships—Jamesville and Williamston—are offering the Democratic nominees for constable for election. The vote on the constables will be limited to the two respective townships.

On one side of the national ticket appear the names of the nominees for President and Vice President, Adlai E. Stevenson and John J. Sparkman. Just to the right of the Democratic slate appear the names of the Republican nominees for the same offices, Dwight D. Eisenhower and Richard M. Nixon.

The State Democratic ticket carries sixteen names with opposition appearing on the same ticket in all but three places—short term for superintendent of public instruction, short term for associate justice of the State Supreme Court, and for member of congress.

Names of the party nominees follow with the "D" standing for Democrats and the "R" for Republicans.

For Governor—William B. Umstead, (D); H. F. Seawell, Jr., (R).

For Lieutenant Governor—Luther H. Hodges, (D); Warren H. Pritchard, (R).

For Secretary of State—Thad. Eure, (D); Frank G. Carr, (R).

For State Auditor—Henry L. Bridges, (D); J. A. Maulsby, Sr., (R).

For State Treasurer—Brandon P. Hodges, (D); S. C. Eggers, (R).

For Attorney General—Harry McMullan, (D); Avalon E. Hall, (R).

For Superintendent of Public Instruction, (short term)—Chas. F. Carroll, (D). No Republican.

For Superintendent of Public Instruction, (long term)—(Continued on Page Eight)

Drainage Bonds Bring A Premium

Bonds for financing Martin County Drainage Project No. 2, located in Robersonville Township, were sold a few days ago at a \$275 premium, according to bearing five percent interest, the eleven \$1,000 bonds sold for \$1,275, and were purchased by D. G. Matthews, county man.

The project, now about complete, cost \$52,992, but all but \$11,069 has been paid by the property owners in the district. Bearing interest as of July 1, this year, the bonds run for ten years, but no payments on the principal are due during the first three years, it was reported.

County Fair Opens Here Next Monday

High School Band Will Lead Parade To 'Fair Grounds'

Entertainment Program For Fair All Next Week Outlined Today

The Martin County Agricultural Fair will be officially opened in Williamston at 2:30 next Monday afternoon, November 3, when the Williamston High School Band leads a parade on Main Street. Several numbers will be played by the band at the close of the parade. Large crowds are expected not only for the opening but also for each program scheduled during the week.

A program of outstanding entertainment is assured patrons of the fair, which is to be held here next week. W. R. Bender, entertainment committee chairman, stated today that excellent acts would be staged each evening at the New Carolina Warehouse which will be the exhibition headquarters.

The climaxing program will be presented on Saturday night, November 1, when an amateur talent contest will be staged. Seventy-five dollars will be awarded at the conclusion of the contest in units of \$30, \$20, \$15, and \$10 as performance prizes. All interested individuals or groups, who are qualified amateurs, are requested to contact L. B. Wynne, Martin County Superior Court Clerk, for further details.

Other acts to be staged during the week include the following: Tuesday night; a comedy skit staged by a local group of business men.

Wednesday night; A double feature consisting of the Rogerson Girls—Misses Janie, Louvenia and Grace of Williamston, Route 2, and the Bear Grass Trio made up of Kneezor Harrison, LeRoy Harrison and Lester Terry with Mrs. Virgil Wobblenton, accompanist.

Thursday night; "The Laringitis Five."

Friday night; A song fest staged by the following colored vocal groups:

"The Willing Five," managed by William Chandler, P. O. Box 61, Williamston, and made up of the following: Leroy Smith Fletcher Jones, Wheeler Brown, Jr., and Fred Hassell.

"The Silver Lairs," managed by George W. Jones, 322 Sycamore Street, Williamston, with the following members: Langston Peterson, Ray Ebron, Geron Jones, William Plew, and Clarence Simpson.

"The Diamond Fire," managed by (Continued on Page Eight)

EXHAUSTED

Anxious to do their bit, Martin County Democrats bought up all the \$5 Stevenson certificates in a short time. A new supply has been received in the county and the \$5 certificates are being sold here by Mrs. E. S. Peel. Democratic Chairman Jim Gray also has a few books left from the second supply. To show her position in the battle of ballots, one Democrat bought twenty of the \$5 certificates. It isn't too late to contribute for the money will be wired to national headquarters where it will be used to offset the millions being spent by the opposition. Reports declare that the Republicans are spending at least three million dollars in Pennsylvania alone.

Designate Polling Places In County

While most of the polling places will be maintained next Tuesday in their usual spots, voters in other precincts will go to other locations, it was announced today by Elections Board Chairman C. D. Carstarphen.

The voting places are to be established as follows: Jamesville—Gymnasium. Williams—County House. Griffins—County House. Bear Grass—LeRoy Harrison's garage.

Williamston I—Courthouse. Williamston II—Woman's Club. Cross Roads—School building at Everetts.

Robersonville—Masonic Hall. Gold Point—Powell's garage. Poplar Point—Old Harris Filling Station.

Hassell—Old post office building.

Hamilton—Town Hall. Goose Nest—Next building.

The polls will be open from 6:30 a. m. until 6:30 p. m. Changes in some of the voting places were made on account of the cold weather, it was explained.

Vice President Of Peanut Group

Rupert Cowen of the Williamston Peanut Company has been named first vice president of the Virginia-Carolina Peanut Association, it was announced this week.

Mr. Cowen, prominent in the business, was elected at a meeting of the association members held in Suffolk last week.