

Economy Going on Big Spree At The GOP Inauguration

Inaugural Events Expected To Cost \$800,000 Next Month in Washington

Economy may be the Republican watchword for the next four years—but on Jan. 20 it takes a holiday.

The Eisenhower inaugural will be no "box lunch" affair.

It will be an inaugural celebration in keeping with Republican spirits, with joy and spending unrestrained in preparations for an \$800,000 three-day affair which is being billed by Republicans themselves as the biggest, best, and most expensive splurge of its kind in American history.

Americans will pay for it—but voluntarily—in the purchase of tickets, programs, inaugural medals, and such. In fact, they are expected to contribute so handsomely in this manner that all expenses will not be met, but exceeded—with a profit.

Republicans can take no special credit for unusual achievement in this, however, since it has been done before—by Democrats. President Truman's \$700,000 inaugural came out with a \$10,000 profit.

Republicans have very reason to expect a sellout in '53. They are figuring on meeting expenses from:

60,000 paying seats averaging \$5 apiece: \$300,000.

250,000 official programs at \$1 each: \$250,000.

10,000 medals at \$3 each: \$30,000.

200 Inaugural Ball boxes at \$300 each: \$60,000.

4,000 Inaugural Ball Tickets at \$12 each: \$48,000.

3,000 concert tickets at an average of \$7 apiece: \$21,000.

8,000 seats for an entertainment program the day before the inaugural at an average of \$7 each: \$56,000.

Income from concessions: \$25,000.

Expecting Company

This income alone will almost pay for the show. Washington stores and business firms are putting up most of the working capital on which the inaugural committee is operating.

Everyday Washington looks like a city expecting company. Stands in front of the White House already are nearly completed, with the sturdy network of golden ladders rising over the sidewalk on each side of Pennsylvania Avenue.

These are the first of 39 stands which will line the long parade route, where 60,000 will cheer the first Republican victory parade.

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Call Firemen To Oil Stove Fire

Volunteer firemen were called to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Taylor on North Haughton Street just outside the town limits at 2:45 o'clock yesterday afternoon when an oil stove went out of control. No damage was reported.

Apparently the fire, turned down to a low point, went out and the oil flooded the base of the heater and flared up when it was lighted again.

Starting in a defective flue, fire threatened the Rufus Taylor home, corner of Haughton and Pine Streets, this morning at 10:25 o'clock. Wood near the flue was burned, but damage was limited.

ALL PRESENT

For the first time in several months all members of the Martin County Board of Education were present for the December meeting held in the courthouse yesterday afternoon.

Two of the members had been on the sick list for some time and while they were not fit as a fiddle they were much improved and entered into the discussion before the group.

Present were, J. D. Woolard, chairman; Howard Gaylord, Geo Griffin, Cecil Powell and Ernest Edmondson.

Peanut Harvest In County Now Just About Completed

The peanut harvest is just about completed in this county, late reports coming from nearly every section of the county stating that between 97 and 99 percent of the crop will have been "bagged" by the end of this week. It was also stated that Martin farmers have just about completed the harvest of their largest crop in several years. While the quality of the crop did not measure up to expectations, the yield offset that factor and went on to relieve, to some extent, the reduced income received for tobacco. It has been conservatively estimated that income from the tobacco crop tumbled about two million dollars in the county this year.

While an estimated 98 percent of the peanut crop has been harvested in this county, approximately 95 percent of the harvest has been moved to the markets, including comparatively small deliveries to the Peanut Cooperative warehouses here and in Robersonville. As far as it could be learned few or no peanuts are being held in storage by the producers on the farms. It was explained, however, that a few lots of peanuts have not moved to market because the moisture content was above the limit allowed, and that the growers were forced to hold them off the market for a while.

The harvest season started off with a bang back in October, and possibly sixty percent of the crop was picked and moved to market before intermittent rains started falling. Since early November, picking operations were advanced on an uncertain schedule, but weather conditions have been perfect this week and the last of the crop is being cleared from the fields.

Music Program Elected Trustee In High School Campbell College

Dr. Victor E. Brown, local physician and surgeon, was elected a trustee of Campbell College.

Before an audience of their parents and friends, student members of the music department of Williamston High School presented their annual Christmas program last night.

Miss Mary Wallace Foy, music instructor, directed the Glee Club in three selections. Janice Manning sang a solo, "I Wonder As I Wander" and the Girls' Chorus offered Pietro Yon's "Jesu Bambino." Jean Mobley was incidental soloist in the cantata, "The King and The Star" by Noble Cain.

Among four presentations by the Green Wave band directed by Jack F. Butler, instructor, the audience gave most applause to the performance of the Berlin-Leiden arrangement, "White Christmas." Bach's chorale, "Sleepers Awake" opened the band's half of the program and "Children's Prayer" arranged by Johnson was the second number. Frankiser's "A Merry Christmas" was the closing selection.

The evening concert was completed with the audience, band, and glee club joining in a verse of "O Come All Ye Faithful."

Minister Speaks To Woman's Club

"The Man Who Owned the Stable" was the subject of the Christmas message, the Rev. E. Gordon Conklin, Baptist minister, gave members of the Woman's club at their meeting Tuesday night. In his talk Mr. Conklin outlined the true meaning of Christmas and what the birth of Christ has meant to the world.

In the business session the club approved three persons as new members of the club. They are Mrs. H. B. York, Mrs. J. W. Berry, and Miss Verdalee Norris.

For their Christmas cheer activity, club members decided to spend \$25 to send boxes to two girls in state institutions, one at the Caswell Training School and the other at Samaritan Manor.

Miss Mary Taylor, case worker with the Martin County Welfare department, reported there are 10 families available for the club members to provide help for at Christmas time.

After discussion, the club voted to donate \$10 to the Williamston Boy Scouts fund.

Continue Smiling Despite Troubles

Hurrying along from Florida to New York to meet her parents who were coming in by boat from her native England, the Weintraubs of Hicksville, New York, continued to smile after being detained a short time here for a minor infraction of the motor vehicle laws.

Not too long in this county, Mrs. Doris Weintraub was doing a bit of relief driving when Patrolman George Medlin, cruising Highway 17, asked to see her operator's license. Without driver's credentials, she posted bond and continued on her way with Mr. Weintraub, both smiling as they left the office of the court clerk.

While the criminal docket is crowded with cases in this county, little activity has been reported during recent weeks in the civil department.

Only two civil suits have been started in this county since October 31, Clerk of Court L. B. Wynne said yesterday. Both of those cases were of minor importance and involved claims and deliveries it was said.

Place Many Cases On Docket In The Recorder's Court

Judge R. T. Johnson Will Hold His Last Session Saturday Morning

Idle since the early part of this month, the Martin County Recorder's Court will have a crowded docket when it reconvenes on Saturday morning of this week. Up until today, right at fifty cases had been calendared for trial during the day, not to mention a number of other cases that have been continued until next year.

Judge R. T. Johnson, submitting his resignation effective as of December 31, will hold his last session this week, Clerk L. B. Wynne announcing that there'll be no court held on Saturday, the 27th, and that business will be resumed in January. After the session this week, the court will sit on Mondays instead of Saturdays, the change having been made to avoid a conflict that developed when Judge Johnson transferred to the agent's position for the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company in Washington.

The judge has been commuting since his transfer, but plans to move to Washington as soon as living quarters can be found. The court this week will be the second session he has held since qualifying on December 1 for his second term on the bench.

Appointed by the board of commissioners the first of this month, Herbert O. Peel is scheduled to hold his first term of court in the new year on Monday, January 5. Just about every type of crime—fourteen different classifications—is included in the list of approximately fifty cases already scheduled for trial Saturday morning.

Speeders, numbering fourteen lead the list with drunken drivers, numbering eight, coming second. Three are charged with issuing worthless checks and three others are booked for assault. Two are charged with careless and reckless driving, and one each with driving after his operator's license was revoked, violating the motor vehicle laws, violating the liquor laws, disposing of mortgaged property, public drunkenness, disorderly conduct, larceny, operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license, and non-support.

Additional cases are certain to be placed on the docket late today and tomorrow in time for trial Saturday. The court is likely to find it necessary to go into an afternoon session or continue some of its cases. With a two-week holiday coming up and with a number of cases already continued, the court can anticipate a big day on January 5.

When the time comes for building, he said, the right of way will be free of expensive buildings.

Consider Plans For Heating Gym

Meeting in delayed session here yesterday afternoon, the Martin County Board of Education discussed with members of the local committee plans for heating the gymnasium. No final action was taken, but the board is favorably considering the plea, and the matter will be given further study, it was learned. It is believed possible to heat the building with a system connected with the heating plant in the new building.

One report said that the cost will approximate \$2,000 or \$2,500. The board bought 1.2 acres of land from Hannibal Purvis, Jr., for the Salisbury school for \$200.

After gradually changing over a period of two years, the board will switch all its insurance from the old line companies to the State's master plan, making a sizable saving possible in insurance premiums.

Light Vote Cast In Farm Election

Complete reports could not be had early today, but the first returns pointed to a light vote cast in the Production-Marketing Administration elections in this county yesterday. The returns are to be filed before the day is spent, and the delegates are to meet here tomorrow morning and elect a county committee for the new year.

Williamston-Poplar Point, casting 93 votes, elected Roy Griffin, chairman; Claydon, vice chairman, and Willie Modlin of near Williamston, for regular member on the community committee. M. L. Peel was elected delegate to the county convention.

Hamilton farmers cast 75 votes and 80 votes were recorded in Goose Nest, according to the early reports.

The comparatively light vote indicates the farmers are well satisfied with the program personnel in this county.

November Fairly Wet Month Here

Last month, 4.84 inches of rain fell here, according to Hugh Spruill, keeper of the gauge and official thermometers. Since the first of this month rain fell on seven days, adding up to 1.24 inches. Rain fell on ten of the thirty days in November, the 1.88 inches falling on the 20th, climaxing the fall during last month.

Increase Reported In County Liquor Sales

\$6,472,734.90 Spent For Liquor During The Past 17 Years

STORE HOURS

Beginning this evening, Williamston stores will remain open until 9:00 o'clock p. m. right on through Christmas Eve.

Additional shipments of merchandise, ordered especially for gifts of definite value, are arriving here daily, and Williamston merchants are better prepared than ever to meet the Christmas shopper's needs.

Current Fall Been Rather Chilly One

Unlike those in recent years, this fall has been a rather chilly one in this area, according to official thermometer reading released by Weather Observer Hugh Spruill here.

Up until the present time, the mercury has dipped below the freezing point on eleven mornings, reaching a low Tuesday morning of this week when the mercury shivered at 22 degrees.

There have been quite a few balmy days, too, the mercury climbing to 76 degrees only last Wednesday.

The daily thermometer readings from the time the new equipment was installed by Weatherman Carney up until today, follow:

| Date | High | Low |
|-----------------|------|-----|
| October | | |
| Tuesday, 28th | 87 | 44 |
| Wednesday, 29th | 82 | 33 |
| Thursday, 30th | 81 | 24 |
| Friday, 31st | 75 | 29 |
| November | | |
| Saturday, 1st | 78 | 39 |
| Sunday, 2nd | 81 | 36 |
| Monday, 3rd | 82 | 44 |
| Tuesday, 4th | 65 | 41 |
| Wednesday, 5th | 67 | 28 |
| Thursday, 6th | 72 | 39 |
| Friday, 7th | 58 | 34 |
| Saturday, 8th | 59 | 23 |
| Sunday, 9th | 74 | 29 |
| Monday, 10th | 67 | 48 |
| Tuesday, 11th | 51 | 46 |
| Wednesday, 12th | 60 | 41 |
| Thursday, 13th | 66 | 29 |
| Friday, 14th | 74 | 32 |
| Saturday, 15th | 67 | 49 |
| Sunday, 16th | 74 | 38 |
| Monday, 17th | 78 | 38 |
| Tuesday, 18th | 72 | 48 |
| Wednesday, 19th | 63 | 51 |
| Thursday, 20th | 65 | 60 |
| Friday, 21st | 65 | 51 |
| Saturday, 22nd | 56 | 41 |
| Sunday, 23rd | 65 | 36 |
| Monday, 24th | 61 | 36 |
| Tuesday, 25th | 64 | 36 |
| Wednesday, 26th | 75 | 45 |
| Thursday, 27th | 65 | 55 |
| Friday, 28th | 60 | 40 |
| Saturday, 29th | 68 | 40 |
| Sunday, 30th | 49 | 33 |
| December | | |
| Monday, 1st | 46 | 28 |
| Tuesday, 2nd | 43 | 29 |
| Wednesday, 3rd | 47 | 34 |
| Thursday, 4th | 51 | 40 |
| Friday, 5th | 51 | 46 |
| Saturday, 6th | 57 | 33 |
| Sunday, 7th | 65 | 28 |
| Monday, 8th | 68 | 34 |
| Tuesday, 9th | 73 | 37 |
| Wednesday, 10th | 76 | 42 |
| Thursday, 11th | 65 | 44 |
| Friday, 12th | 57 | 27 |
| Saturday, 13th | 51 | 29 |
| Sunday, 14th | 43 | 25 |
| Monday, 15th | 40 | 29 |
| Tuesday, 16th | 48 | 38 |
| Wednesday, 17th | 58 | 26 |
| Thursday, 18th | 31 | 60* |

*Reading at 1:30 p. m.

Home Destroyed By Fire Today

Starting when kerosene was poured on live coals in a kitchen stove, fire destroyed a five-room tenant house on the Pennie Slade farm owned by Chas. Cullipher shortly after 8:00 o'clock this morning. No general alarm was sounded, but the town sent one of its fire trucks there but the house had just about burned down when firemen reached the place, a few miles out on the Hamilton highway.

The fire spread so rapidly that the occupants had time to get out of the rear part of the house. Only a sofa and a small portable oil stove were saved.

Neighbors, rushing there, went into the house to get some of the furniture and found it necessary to jump out a window when the fire blocked other exits.

It was reported that the owner had insurance on the building, but there was no coverage on the contents.

Suffers Broken Neck In Logging Accident

Ed Laughinghouse, 50-year-old colored man, suffered a broken neck in a logging accident near here yesterday. It was reported that a limb of a falling tree struck him. He was removed to a local hospital where his condition continues serious.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY

The Martin County schools are closing tomorrow at 12:00 o'clock, noon, for one of their longest Christmas holidays.

Classes will be reopened on Monday, January 5, it was announced. Other than a brief Easter holiday, the schools will be in session constantly after January 5 until the close of the term next spring.

Predicting 1,300 Deaths On Roads During Holidays

Fatalities Expected To Run Fourth Higher Than In Any Other Period

Bad driving conditions plus unusual circumstances add up to plenty of trouble for holiday drivers.

In a study of year-end holiday accidents over the past three years, the Institute for Safer Living of the American Mutual Liability Insurance Company concludes that there will be a minimum of 1300 highway fatalities during the period from December 24 of this year through January 1. Fatalities during this period will run an estimated 22% higher than for any other nine day period during December.

A further analysis by the Institute attributes a major portion of the increase to these specifically hazardous holiday driving activities: (1) Driving to or from local community dances and parties; (2) Driving to or from office and business parties; (3) Using the car for hurried last minute Christmas shopping; (4) Unusually heavy use of the family car by young people home for holidays; (5) Taking holiday motor trips to and from distant points.

While these destinations themselves are not any more hazardous than at any other time of the year, it is the combination of holiday circumstances that makes these trips real tests of driving sense. Such circumstances that makes these trips real tests of driving sense. Such circumstances include: more parties and gatherings where liquor is served; seasonal bad weather conditions with increased probability of skids and crashes; heavily congested holiday traffic; more driving distractions due to the general holiday spirit; general relaxation of judgement.

The following rules are offered by the Institute for avoiding this often fatal combination of conditions and circumstances:

1. Plan to keep your driving at a minimum during the holiday season. Use train, bus, taxi or trolley when you can and especially when your good sense tells you that you should not drive.

2. Watch those drinks if you drive to parties and social gatherings: the driver must let someone else do his drinking, he must abstain.

3. Properly caution younger drivers using the family car and make certain that their training and practice are sufficient to meet the season's demands.

4. Travel at carefully reduced speeds when visibility is poor, or the roads slippery.

5. Use your skid chains when road conditions demand them.

6. Allow plenty of time for those longer trips. Don't hurry and don't allow yourself to become tired or sleepy, especially in bad driving weather.

7. Watch out for the actions of other drivers.

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Contributions To The Rectory Fund

Contributions totaling \$2,000 have been turned in for new Episcopal rectory here, as announced this week.

Mrs. Earle Wyrme, treasurer of the rectory building fund, asks that any persons who wish to donate to the fund contact her at the office of the Martin County Building and Loan Association.

Ground will be broken soon for the new building.

SCHEDULE

To give the force the longest Christmas holiday possible, The Enterprise will make its appearance slightly ahead of schedule next week. In keeping with a custom, dating back more than a quarter century the management will issue no second edition Christmas week.

The early submission of announcements and other items and material for publication in the next edition will be greatly appreciated.