

Leaf Cooperative Paying Dividend In Martin County

Payments Based On The 1948-49 Crops Are Being Made

A thousand or more Martin County farmers are receiving dividends on their 1948 and 1949 tobacco crops from the North Carolina offices of the Flue Cured Tobacco Cooperative Stabilization Corporation. Just how much money is being distributed to the growers in this county by the cooperative could not be learned, but it is expected to run well into the thousands of dollars. The individual checks range in amount from a few cents to several hundred dollars, it was learned.

This distribution of net gains has been made possible by selling all 1948 and 1949 crop tobaccos to dealers and manufacturers, L. T. Weeks, former Martin County assistant farm agent and general manager of the cooperative, said. After all expenses were paid which included principal and interest on money borrowed to make payment of support price to farmers, handling charges, and overhead and administrative costs, a total of \$2,076,623.53 in net gains was realized from the 1948 crop and \$4,950,702.05 in net gains was realized from the 1949 crop. The net gains on both crops total \$6,127,325.58 which is being paid to the growers who placed tobacco in Stabilization in 1948 and 1949. Mr. Weeks explained. The amount each grower will receive is based on the value of his tobacco which the cooperative received during those two years.

Beginning last Friday, the cooperative started mailing 279,620 checks to members of the corporation. No doubt there are many farmers who have moved to a new address since 1948 and 1949. To help facilitate the distribution of the checks, farmers who do not in a reasonable time receive a check and who delivered tobacco to stabilization in either 1948 or 1949 or both, are asked to forward the following information:

1. Give name and address, and numbers as shown on identification card;
 2. Enclose copy of 1948 or 1949 settlement memorandums and warehouse bills;
 3. Your 1948 or 1949 landlord's or tenant's names;
 4. Number of pink membership agreement and receipt;
 5. Your present address.
- By resolution of the Board of Directors, an amount equal to 1-2 of 1 percent of the original support price value has been deducted in arriving at the amount of each distribution check in order to create a revolving fund reserve. Mr. Weeks said. This reserve is credited to each grower's account and will be distributed within a reasonable time if its use is not necessary otherwise. Each grower is urged to examine his check stub carefully as it gives a detailed analysis of his account for the 1948 and 1949 crops. The total net gain including deduction for a reserve should be considered as income

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Patrol Reviews November Work

State Highway Patrol headquarters today reported 11,908 arrests for traffic violations in November including 749 for drunken driving.

Another 7,903 Tar Heel motorists were handed citations and ordered to appear in court.

During the month the patrol activity report showed 2,352 accident investigations, 82,300 vehicle inspections and 135,945 spot drivers license inspections.

Men of the patrol traveled 1,852,334 miles in the performance of their duties and used 130,273 gallons of gasoline. They recovered and returned to their owners cars and property valued at \$71,800.

In addition to enforcement work the patrolmen performed 18,632 acts of courtesy for motorists they encountered in line of duty.

And of the number of violators taken to court, 11,167 were found guilty the report concluded.

Roanoke River Yields Key To Smokehouse In County

While searching for something none is found before about the middle of the month and there have been years when none was seen before the middle of February.

It has been said that when the first herring is trapped in the Roanoke, spring can't be too far behind.

The catch, even though it was limited to a lone herring, is certain to turn the fishermen's attention to the Roanoke. Already Mr. C. C. Fleming, operator of the fishery at Jamesville, is eyeing his large seine with intentions to start operations during the month of March. Individual fishermen are also said to be making ready for the coming season.

There was a time when the herring occupied a prominent place in the economy of this section, and the fish can come back into its own anytime.

U. S. Spies Are Working Behind The Iron Curtain

West Germany Economically On Its Own Feet, Reports Say

Washington.—Though little information is available to the press here in Washington, there are increasing signs that U. S. spies are causing concern in the Balkans and eastern Europe. Recently the Polish government issued a statement which, in effect, told the United States government that one million dollars spent for spy work in Poland had been largely wasted.

No reply, of course, came from Washington. In Czechoslovakia charges have repeatedly been made by Prague commies about U. S. spies. Only silence has been Washington's answer. And in the Balkans the Reds are getting touchy over the work of U. S. spies. All this attention indicates spies are doing their job well.

The major reason for current concern behind the Iron Curtain is thought to be the strain through which the satellite countries' economies are now passing. In Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary and other satellites production totals are being missed. Workers are showing increased unrest as living conditions fail to improve, or improve too slowly.

The Russians have responded to the trouble by increasing workers' quotas, for the same pay, and this is causing unrest. The entire satellite population is experiencing a wave of unrest—as western Europe steadily recovers economically and enjoys more of the luxuries of life. Thus U. S. spies have an increasingly good opportunity to enlist the aid of defectors and disillusioned citizens in these countries.

The extent of concern and publicity given our spy-work abroad indicates serious concern on the part of the Communists. The U. S.—which has never maintained much of a spy system in peacetime, until now—seems to have

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THE RECORD SPEAKS . . .

Complete reports from members of the N. C. Highway Patrol in this county show there were 300 motor vehicle accidents in this county last year, taking one life, that of Luther Reason the latter part of April near Ward's Bridge. The property loss was conservatively estimated at \$96,325, and 126 persons were injured, quite a few of them for life.

The last of the accidents in the old year was reported on Highway 125 near Oak City late last Wednesday.

A comparison of accident figures for the past several years follows:

Accidents Inj'd Kill'd	D'm'g'd
1952—300 126 1	\$96,325
1951—262 138 7	61,840
1950—200 87 4	44,560
1949—142 64 8	31,175
1948—150 84 2	37,750
1947—139 82 3	30,115
1946—126 105 7	27,775
1945—87 47 6	17,475

RESIGNS

After serving as chief deputy in the sheriff's department in this county for more than two years, Raymond Rawls tendered his resignation last Saturday, effective the fourth.

Mr. Rawls has made no announcement, but it is understood that he plans to expand his farming operations this year.

Sheriff M. W. Holloman said no replacement had been named, that he would handle the duties of the office himself for a while.

Governor Lost On His Road System

North Carolina's rural road system is so large that it almost staggers the imagination. Viewed on the drawing board and measured in cost figures and miles, the system is really impressive. But its magnitude was really brought into its true perspective last night when Governor Scott, the master builder, and his congenial and able highway commissioner, Henry G. Shelton, got lost over the way.

"We simply wheezed by a road where a turn should have been made," Commissioner Shelton, the pilot, declared, explaining that it was dark and that he was almost lost inside the No. 1 car.

The party soon got its bearings and went on to Winfall where Governor Scott addressed a Ruritan group.

Upon reaching Williamston, the party stopped and Governor Scott Commissioner Shelton and Chauffeur Adams were seen searching the road maps for the short-cut to Raleigh.

Following a luncheon in the home of Commissioner and Mrs. Shelton at Mapleton over in Edgecombe County yesterday afternoon, Governor Scott moved over into Gates and Perquimans County to tell as many of his constituents as possible good-bye. Before leaving here shortly after 10:00 o'clock last night, the retiring chief executive explained that the trip was the last he would make in the State as Governor.

Explaining he would go on relief on Thursday of this week, Governor Scott, in a most solemn manner, called for a bag or two of Martin County peanuts with delivery scheduled at Haw River.

Production Gains In War Airplanes

A recent estimate placed 1952 warplane production at approximately 9,000. The same report estimated 1953 production at about 12,000 planes a year, or an increase of roughly 3,000 aircraft. This estimate came from DeWitt C. Ramsey, president of the Aircraft Industries Association.

The Association-President reveals that 95 percent of 1952's aircraft production in the United States was military production. Despite the fact that aircraft production will increase by only about one-third this year, Ramsey believes that the nation's air arm will be "noticeably" improved in both quantity and quality

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Make Plans For Extensive Street Paving Program

Traffic Snarled and People Mad About Railroad Right Of Way

Tentative plans were made by the town commissioners in their regular meeting here last evening for advancing an extensive paving program during the course of the next few months. Cost figures are not complete, but it is proposed to spend approximately \$30,000 for drainage, curb and gutter and paving.

Before the paving program can be advanced, a \$10,000 drainage project is to be handled in that area between Elm and Sycamore Streets. Plans are complete for curbing and paving of Sycamore Street from Main to Washington Street. The authorities approved curb and gutter for Elm Street either from Main to Washington Street or from the Railroad to Washington Street with the possibility that it will be paved later. Railroad street is to have curb and gutter and paving from Washington Street to Smithwick.

Petitions have been placed before the board, calling for curb and gutter and paving on Sycamore and Elm Streets.

The Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company snarled traffic and made many people mad when it declared its right-of-way from Washington Street to Smithwick a few days ago and then went on to stake off and close the triangle to parking near the freight station.

The company staked its claim fifteen feet from the center of the track, leaving little more than enough room for one-way traffic. It had been orally agreed that the company would permit the town to utilize the right-of-way to a point eight feet from the center of the track. Officials are meeting with representatives of the Coast Line today in an effort to solve the acute problem.

Right or wrong, it looks as if the streets are about to be taken over by individuals. Ben Frank Little has moved several feet into Slade Street at the corner of Andrews Avenue, and he has papers to support his claim. Created by poor surveying, the problem is being tackled by town officials.

A petition was presented to the board for curb and gutter on Liberty Street from School Drive to Woodland Drive.

The Roanoke Chevrolet Company was low bidder on a car for the police department, the bid amounting to \$1,417.89. Other bids ranged up to \$1,927.35.

Citizen Lee Glenn appealed to the board for tile for draining the large ditch back of his home on East Main Street. Uncertain about whose land the ditch was on, the board delayed action on the request. The petitioner explained his land went to the railroad, leaving some doubt as to where the exact line is located.

Treasurer C. M. Cobb reported \$62,443.62 cash in banks, including \$1,348.86 in the sewer rental fund, and \$30,812.90 in the street account. The income from sewer rentals last month amounted to \$1,079.50, and parking meter

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County Boy Gets Korean Promotion

With the 25th Infantry Div. in Korea.—Noah S. Bennett, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard C. Bennett, Route 2, Williamston, N. C., was recently promoted to private first class while serving in Korea with the 25th Infantry Division.

His outfit has been in Korea longer than any other American division. It entered the fighting in July 1950 shortly after the Communist attack on South Korea.

World War II veterans will remember this same division drove across central Luzon of the Philippine Islands in early 1945 and destroyed most of the Japanese armor there.

Bennett, a machine gunner in the 35th Regiment's Company M, arrived in Korea last June and has been in the Army since November 1951.

He was graduated from Bear Grass High School.

County Board In Uneventful Meet Monday Morning

Discuss Leasing Property At Prison Camp To The State

Although they were in session until 1:00 o'clock Monday afternoon, the Martin County Commissioners handled mostly routine business and discussed a few other matters, including the leasing of property near the prison camp to the State Highway and Public Works Commission. The State is in the market for additional land near the camp, but no action was taken, the board asking the State to submit an offer.

All members of the board except Commissioner J. C. Gurkin were present for the meeting. James S. Ayers was appointed Hamilton Township constable for a term of two years.

The board recommended to the highway commission the widening and stabilizing of the Roberson Chapel Road in Williamston and Bear Grass Townships.

Making his monthly report, Tax Collector M. L. Peel said that \$298,785.06 of the \$393,582.02 levy for 1952 had been collected. He also reported that \$356,737.71 of the 372,268.32 levy for 1951 had been collected. All but \$7,114.41 of the \$337,123.44 levy for 1950 has been paid, and a balance of only \$4,504.65 remains due on the \$314,098.95 levy for the year 1949.

Tax relief order, based on errors for the most part, were allowed as follows:

- For 1950 tax year: Magallen Duggins, Williams Township, \$2; Jimmie Roberson, Williamston, \$1; Thurman James, Williamston, \$2; Howard Williams, Williamston, \$1; Laura Moore, Williamston, 85 cents; and Bill Brown, Williamston, \$1.
- For 1951 tax year: Herbert M. Moore, Williams Township, \$2; William Henry Price, Williams, 78 cents; Archie L. Perry, \$2; Verlin Griffin, Griffins, \$2; Raymond Hodges, Griffins, \$2; Dennis Bowen, Williamston, \$1.55; Henry Hollis, Robersonville, \$1; W. B. Martin, Robersonville, \$3.60; James Davis, Robersonville, \$2; Kenneth Roberson, Robersonville, \$2; Calvin Roebuck, Hamilton, \$2; Laura Moore, Williamston, 85 cents.
- For 1952 tax year: Melvin Price, Jamesville, \$2; A. T. Whitley, Griffins, \$2; R. S. Cletcher, Williamston, \$100.56; LeRoy Godard, Williamston, \$2; Herbert Jackson, Williamston, \$2; Louis Bonds, Williamston, \$2; Mary Hyman, Williamston, \$1.55; Laura Moore, Williamston, 85 cents; G. and S. Motor Company, Robersonville, \$27.90; A. D. Griffin, Robersonville, \$3.10; S. E. Taylor, Poplar Point, \$3.38; Riverside Manufacturing Company, Hamilton, \$33.22.

Senator Taft For Shorter Sessions

Senator Robert A. Taft, the prospective Republican leader in the Senate, has set as one of his goals the timely adjournment of Congress every other year. The Ohio senator said today that it is as the deadline for Congressional adjournment every even year.

Under this plan, the members of both Houses would not be caught in the pull of two responsibilities, one involving re-election or a presidential election, and the other involving Congressional duties. It is interesting to note that the legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 contemplated July 31st as the latest adjournment date every year.

ROUND-UP

The crime front was unusually quiet in the county last week-end, the jail record showing that only four persons were arrested and detained during the period.

All four of the persons arrested and jailed were white, including a 30-year-old white woman. They were charged with being drunk and disorderly. There were a few other arrests reported, but bond was arranged in each of those, it was learned.

Starts Marathon For The March Of Dimes

Pianist Offering Free Service For Fund Drive Here

Jerry Ball To Pay Dollar If He Fails To Play Tune Request

At 10:30 o'clock this morning, Jerry Hall sat down at a piano on the front porch of the Security Life and Trust Company's office on Main Street here and began his eight-hour show for the March of Dimes fund in Martin County. A last minute plan to move across the street to the Williamston Booster's office was cancelled when it was found to be impractical.

Mr. Ball, known as the marathon pianist of Charlotte, is spending the day playing popular tunes for each dollar given to the Martin County March of Dimes show. For each one dollar contribution, Mr. Ball tinkles off whatever popular tune the contributor requests. If Mr. Ball cannot play the tune, he adds a dollar of his own to the fund and plays a substitute, thereby increasing the polio fund by two dollars. There were those during this morning trying to "stump" the marathon player, but up until shortly before noon he was holding his own.

An employe of the Esso Standard Oil Company, Mr. Ball has attracted wide attention for his generous donation of time and talent to the polio fund campaign each year for several years. Most of those watching his enthusiastic performances today did not realize that Mr. Ball was making a greater sacrifice than usual in his Williamston show. He has been ill since his arrival here from Charlotte Sunday afternoon, but despite that he gave a twenty-minute concert for the children in the Williamston Elementary School yesterday afternoon. Bolstered by penicillin, he went on with the show this morning, braving the weather and appealing for support for the current March of Dimes campaign.

Gifts Presented Home Inmates

A gift of 14 dining room chairs was presented to patients at the Martin County Home as part of the Martin Home Demonstration Clubs' traditional Old Christmas program Sunday.

The Rev. W. B. Harrington, county minister, presented a message using the Christmas story from Matthew as his theme, and the club women led a program of Christmas songs and familiar hymns for the patients.

After the program, Mrs. Thad Harrison, home agent, presented the chairs on behalf of the 14 clubs and John Bland, superintendent of the home, accepted the gift.

Ice cream was served to the patients in the county home and tuberculosis section of the home after the program.

The 50 club women present for the event also visited the tuberculosis patients and held a short devotional for them.

Two Injured On Construction Job

Two persons were hurt in accidents on a construction job at Standard Fertilizer Plant on New Year's Day. Frank Holliday, who lives on RFD Williamston, lost his little finger when his hand became jammed in a cable wheel. The little finger was crushed and the finger next to it was badly mangled.

Hollins Griffin received a head injury Thursday afternoon when a wrench fell from a scaffold and struck him in the forehead.

Both men were released from a local hospital after receiving medical treatment.

Five Accidents In First Three Days Of The New Year

One Person Slightly Hurt And Property Damage Placed At \$720

The New Year was hardly an hour old before motorists, traveling Martin County highways and streets, started building up an accident record for 1953. No one was badly injured and property damage was limited to an estimated \$720 in motor vehicle accidents reported during the past few days on the highways and streets in this county.

Returning to his home near Oak City about 1:00 o'clock New Year's morning, Robert Lee Dolberry, colored man, started to turn into his driveway on Highway 44 and the brakes on his 1939 Chevrolet locked. The machine turned over and tore down his mail box. Dolberry was not injured. Investigating the accident, Patrolman B. W. Parker estimated the damage at \$50.

Just before the New Year record was started, Lt. Lee Reams Johnson, stationed at Camp Lejeune, capped the 1952 reports when his 1950 Oldsmobile went out of control on Highway 125 about three miles north of Oak City last Wednesday evening at 8:30 o'clock. Striking a slick place in the road, the car turned over, causing about \$200 damage to the car, according to Patrolman B. W. Parker who made the investigation. The lieutenant was not injured.

Friday afternoon at 1:40 o'clock a 1949 Dodge driven by Dock Taylor and a 1951 Chevrolet pick-up driven by Arthur Simpson crashed at the intersection of Warren and Park Streets in Williamston, causing about \$150 damage to the Dodge and about \$20 to the truck. No one was hurt and each of the owners accepted the damage to his vehicle. Officer Bill Haislip said following his investigation.

Driving his 1952 Chevrolet pick-up truck in heavy traffic on Williamston's main street about 6:00 o'clock last Saturday evening, Wilbert L. Long of near Robersonville struck the rear of a 1952 Dodge being driven by Ronnie Peaks of RFD 2, Williamston. There was little or no property damage, but Mrs. Long, thrown against the windshield, suffered cuts on the forehead and nose. She was treated in a local hospital and continued to her home. A four-month-old baby, held by Mrs. Long, was not injured. Officers John Roebuck and Bill Haislip said following their investigation.

Driving west on East Main Street in Williamston last Saturday evening at 7:00 o'clock, Jesse Lawrence Brown plowed into the rear of a freight truck parked in front of the Martin Apartments across the street from the county courthouse. Brown was not injured, but Officers Moore and Rogers, making the investigation, estimated the damage to Brown's 1949 Mercury at \$300. Brown, booked for drunken driving, told officers he had stopped to get a drink of water. No damage was done to the truck, the officers said.

Raid Nets Large Quantity Liqueur

Raiding the home of James Graham on Martin Street here last Saturday night, ABC Officer Cecil Bullock and John Roebuck, Tom Chesson and Chas. R. Moore of the police department confiscated eight and one-half gallons, plus a bottled pint of white liqueur.

Said to have maintained wholesale operation, Graham and his wife were booked for trial in the county court. Bond was required in the sum of \$100 for each of the defendants. Checking the territory the following morning, officers said there was a dry time for quite a few imbibers.

County Farmer Suffered Attack Last Thursday

Suffering a stroke of paralysis while at his store in the Farm Life Community late last Thursday afternoon, Mr. Lewis Roberson, well-known Griffins Township farmer, was removed to a Rocky Mount hospital yesterday following treatment in Brown's Community Hospital here.

FARM SCHOOL

The first session of two special farm schools got under way in the courthouse here this morning. Quite a few interested farmers were in attendance, but the number of "students" did not measure up to expectations.

The school today is dealing with a number of allied farm subjects. Next Monday night, January 12, a special school for tobacco farmers will be held in the courthouse at 7:30 o'clock.

Fatally Injured In Logging Accident In County Monday

Funeral Wednesday Afternoon In Belhaven Church For Wm. C. Berry, Jr.

William C. Berry, Jr., a resident of Pantego, was fatally injured in a logging accident in the Farm Life section of Griffins Township Monday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock. Suffering head injuries and a broken back, the 17-year-old youth died before he could be moved from the woods. Investigating the accident, Coroner Wm. W. Biggs ruled no inquest was necessary.

Leaving their home in Pantego with his father early that morning, the youth had completed the loading of a truck and reached down to pick up the end of a binder chain. A log rolled off the truck and knocked him face down into the mud. Before he could get up or others could help him a second log rolled from the truck, fatally injuring him. He appealed to helpers to free him, and they pulled him away from the truck. He died ten minutes later, Coroner Biggs said. The father, working about one-half mile away in the swamp, was called and he ran all the way to the scene, finding his son dead.

The victim was born on Cooney's Ride about eight miles from Lake Landing in Hyde County on May 20, 1935, the son of William C. and Ina Gibbs Berry. After spending about ten years in Hyde he moved with the family to Belhaven, later moving to Pantego. He was a member of the West End Church of Christ in Belhaven, and at the time of the accident was employed by Newsum Harris, logging contractor for the North Carolina Pulp Company.

Surviving besides his parents are two brothers, James Berry of Belhaven and Charles Thompson Berry of the home, and a sister, Mrs. Wade Woolard, of Pantego. Funeral services will be conducted in the Belhaven church Wednesday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock by the Rev. Herman Shaffner, pastor. Interment will be in the Belhaven cemetery.

Early Morning Fire Call Here

A general fire alarm was sounded here this morning at 6:25 o'clock when fire threatened the home on the Fred J. Roebuck farm between Williamston and Hamilton.

Volunteer firemen were making ready to move out of the station when a second call was received, explaining that the fire was confined to a chimney.

Blocked by those calling in to learn about the fire, the call, advising the firemen it was unnecessary for them to make the run, just did get through in time to keep them from making the eight-mile run.

County Minister Much Improved In Hospital

A patient in North Carolina Memorial Hospital, Chapel Hill, for about ten days, Elder E. C. Stevenson, county minister, was reported much improved yesterday. He plans to return home the latter part of this week.