

## Improved Peanut Seed Types Boost Yields In County

### Quality of Crops From The Special Seed Best Ever Found In County

The value of high grade seed has been firmly established in tests conducted by a dozen or more peanut farmers in the county this year. Complete findings are not available, but preliminary reports were said to be very encouraging, according to County Agent T. B. Brandon.

Yields were said to be averaging several bags per acre higher than the local varieties, and quality is the best ever found in this area.

Fifteen Martin farmers planted 2,350 pounds of the special hybrid-type seed known as Nos. 1 and 2. Six of the farmers reported their findings last week, the increased yield ranging up to as many as 7 bags per acre. The better quality product graded up to almost fifteen cents per pound, it was said, and all were above the grades traceable to the local or old varieties.

Most of the farmers explained they had not completed their tests, and a few had not picked their crops. However, all the farmers expressed the opinion that the new seed "definitely hold an advantage," and that the new varieties are recommended.

It is difficult to establish a definite comparison of the value of the new seed against the old varieties, the farmers explaining that yields and quality varied on the same farm for both the new and old type varieties. However, the new varieties held an advantage in just about every test.

It is proposed to turn all the peanuts produced from the new varieties back into seed. It is now possible to introduce the new varieties on a fairly general scale throughout the county, it was pointed out. No definite price schedule has been determined, but it has been suggested that the new varieties to be used for seed should sell for about 22 cents a pound in the shell and about 40

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## Holiday Liquor Trade Suffered

Illicit liquor trade planned for Thanksgiving holiday was interrupted in at least two county areas last Wednesday evening, according to a late report coming from the ABC enforcement division.

Jim Mordecai's premises were raided that evening and the officers, Deputies Cecil Bullock, Wiley Craft and Dennis A. Roberson, confiscated a gallon of the white spirits. Placed under a \$300 bond, Mordecai is scheduled for trial in the county court next Monday. The man is under a suspended sentence for a similar offense. When caught and convicted sometime in 1952, Mordecai was handling legal liquor, but he was trapped for exceeding the quantity limit. It is now claimed that he had taken over the illicit business formerly and allegedly handled by Simon Jenkins who is waiting his turn in superior court for two or more alleged liquor law violations. Mordecai was sentenced to the roads for six months, the court having suspended the sentence upon guaranteed good behavior.

Completing the raid in Robersonville, the three officers continued to Parmele where they found another gallon of illicit liquor, one-half gallon in Charlie Phillips' home and the other half gallon in Curtis Little's possession. Phillips arranged \$200 bond and Little is out under a \$100 bond. They are scheduled for trial next Monday in the recorder's court.

## Large Crowd Attends Meeting In County

Large crowds were present for the fifth Sunday meeting in the Smithwick Creek Primitive Baptist Church in this county.

Visiting ministers were present from Virginia and Maryland and participated in the services. A picnic dinner was enjoyed following the Sunday service.

The annual community Thanksgiving service was held in the church last Thursday.

## Peanut Marketing Rapidly Nears End In This County

Interrupted by rains early last week, the peanut harvest was resumed on a big scale yesterday, a few growers started threshing operations Friday, but the goobers were found to be too wet and the task was delayed in the main until yesterday.

The market is presenting a \$64 question in this area. It is fairly apparent that eighty percent of the crop in this county has been harvested, but no one seems to know where the peanuts are now. Buyers declare their purchases are behind those of a year ago. Even after the decreased acreage is taken into consideration along with the reduction in yields, buyers

can't figure out where the peanuts went to.

It is fairly certain that the crop in the county this year will fall about one-third under last year's figures. It was predicted late in the summer that production would fall at least fifty percent below 1952 total, but farmers now say their crops are turning out much better than they expected.

Marketing to date has been orderly, and prices have remained firm, averaging a gat and slightly above loan rates, plus handling.

Few peanuts have moved into government storage, the warehouse here having received none so far.

## Agent Stresses Proper Feeding Of Swine Herds

### Balanced Ration Important When Hogs Are In The Peanut Fields

By D. W. Brady  
Assistant Farm Agent

Looking at the hog situation in Martin County, hog prices have been good and are holding up well. There has been a good margin in feeding out hogs this year. In fact, there is still a good margin for feeding out hogs at \$20.00 to \$22.00 per cent with \$1.50 corn if they continue to hold up in price.

Good feeder pigs are scarce and high in price. Many farmers have or soon will be turning their hogs into the fields to utilize the surplus feeds. Soon after this, especially after Christmas, many farmers run into trouble. These hogs get sick and the losses often are great. Due reason for this is believed to be dietary trouble. The feed in the field often is very unbalanced, sometimes it consists of only peanuts or only soybeans or just corn. Many times this feed stuff becomes partially decayed. In addition to this unbalanced feeding or the feed being of an inferior nature, weather conditions become adverse. The weather may be interchangeably cold and hot and rainy making conditions favorable for colds, pneumonia or other types of sickness.

To help correct this situation it is suggested and recommended that a balanced ration be fed even though the hogs are in the fields getting the surplus feed. To balance this ration different farmers may have different situations and requirements and to meet these needs for balancing a ration information may be had at the county farm agent's office. In general the hogs should have carbohydrates for energy that is found in corn and other small grains, some animal and plant protein that may be found in tankage, fishmeal, soybean plant, cottonseed meal and others and also minerals that may consist of lime, steamed bonemeal or deflorinated phosphate and salt. A source of Vitamin A should also be provided that may be found in green grazing or green alfalfa leafmeal and yellow corn.

The question is often asked what is the difference in yellow corn and white. Vitamin A content is the difference, yellow corn carrying some Vitamin A and white corn not carrying any. Where a good tender green grazing is available, white corn should be as good as yellow corn.

I might mention before turning these pigs into the fields, it will pay dividends to deworm and de-louse them if they are troubled with these parasites.

## On French Leave From Prison Camp

Serving time at the State Highway prison camp near Williamston, George Braswell, 38, decided to take French leave last week. Working as a trusty in the garage there, Braswell "borrowed" Willie D. Rogers' car, wiring it around the switch. Driving into town, he visited friends, loaded up on liquor and returned to the camp about three hours later.

Charged with temporary larceny and escaping from prison, Braswell is being booked for trial in the county court next Monday.

## BOARD MEETING

Meeting in special session last evening, members of the Martin County Board of Education discussed potential sites for locating a Negro high school in or near Robersonville. A committee was named to study several possible sites and report to a full meeting of the board, it was learned.

A Greenville architect went before the board, but a discussion of building plans was delayed, pending the selection of a site.

## Firemen Called To Rural Areas

Williamston's volunteer firemen were called to two fires in rural areas last week-end.

The first call was received Friday afternoon about 3:30 o'clock when fire destroyed the stables and barn on the farm of Mrs. Wm. Dave Manning in the Piney Grove section of Griffins Township. Catching from a pile of burning leaves, the fire destroyed the building and approximately 150 bales of hay, resulting in a loss estimated at between \$1,500 and \$2,000.

No general alarm was sounded, but firemen went to the Cullipher home on the Penny Slade farm near here on the Hamilton Road Saturday afternoon when a pile of wood burned and the fire threatened nearby buildings. Damage was slight there, it was reported.

## Assistant Home Agent's Successor Not Named

So far no one has been named to succeed Miss Ruby Lee Spencer as assistant home agent in this county. Miss Spencer resigned a short time ago to be with her father in Ayden.

## Clear Four Cases From The Docket In Superior Court

### Three Reach The Jury And A Fourth Settled By Agreement Monday

Resuming its work following the Thanksgiving holiday, the Martin County Superior Court Monday cleared four cases from the docket and continued several others.

Today the court is working on the \$500 suit brought by Henry F. Thomas against the Coastal Plain Life Insurance Company. The defendant claims the party insured was ill at the time the policy was issued. The plaintiff, not denying that defense, maintains that the death of the insured was attributable to another cause, and that the benefit should be paid.

Divorces, based on two-year-separation grounds, were granted Robert Williams, Jr., from Ella Mae Williams, and Otelia Lee Mitchell from Theodore Mitchell of New York City. The latter couple was married April 14, 1951, and separated August 14, that year. No children were born of the union. In the first case it was said the couple married in 1950 and separated after Christmas that same year, that one child born of the union is living with the plaintiff's people and is being supported by the plaintiff.

The case of Standard Fertilizer (Continued on Page Eight)

## AUTO TAGS

The new 1954 automobile tags—black letters and numerals on a yellow background—went on sale in the insurance offices of Harrison and Carstarphen here next to Ann's Specialty Shop on Main Street this morning, the first of the 1954 issuance going to G. H. Moore of Williamston. The tags in this area bear the letter N and start at 8,501.

The Carolina Motor Club for the 32nd year is agent for the State in the sale of the tags, and Harrison and Carstarphen has represented the club for years, maintaining one of the most efficient and accommodating license bureaus in the State.

Last year the office in this county handled approximately 8,000 tags, one of the last going to County Commissioner Herbert L. Roebuck. Motor vehicle owners have until January 31, 1954, to display their tags, but the early purchase will eliminate the old last-minute rush.

## Slight Increase In Tobacco Crop For Coming Year

### Little Change Predicted In The Acreage In This Section

Ignoring the expressed wishes of farmers, Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson last week-end ordered a slight increase in 1954 flue-cured tobacco. The added acreage will be limited to about 13,500, and most of the increase will go to fringe-producing areas, according to the announcement. It is possible a few additional acres will be allotted to farmers in this county, but the increase will hardly come as a blanket percentage gain. Rather, any additional acreage allotted this and other main tobacco producing counties will be limited possibly to new growers or for making adjustments in some cases. The allotment taken by Mr. Benson has not been officially announced.

This year 1,044,500 acres were planted to tobacco in the flue-cured producing sections. The allotment has been increased, according to the unofficial announcement, to 1,057,000 acres in 1954, a gain of 13,500 acres.

The preliminary announcement is not quite clear in that the secretary was quoted as saying the increase would be nearly seventy-five million pounds. The poundage does not correspond with the announced acreage increase. Hardly more than fifteen million pounds can be expected from the 13,500 additional acres allotted for 1954.

Congressman Harold Cooley, former chairman of the House Agriculture committee, commented that he had rather trust the judgment of the farmers and their organizations which supported a decrease in acres of not less than five percent.

W. P. Hedrick, tobacco marketing specialist for the North Carolina State Department of Agriculture, was quoted as saying the action of the United States Department of Agriculture was all right.

While Mr. Benson increased tobacco slightly, he cut peanuts about four percent and just about wiped out cotton production.

The over-all decrease in cotton acreage will run, around 30 percent, but the reduction will run considerably higher than that figure in many cases.

## WINNER

Johnny Wayne Peelle of RFD 2, Williamston, won the Dixie suit given away last Saturday by Bullock's here. The award marked the observance of the firm's fourth anniversary.

## Name Directors For Local Country Club

### PROGRESSING

Fairly complete reports point to an all-out campaign to raise \$3,000 or its equivalent to finance the purchase of ten thousand pounds of peanut butter for Korean war orphans, Chairman Mayo Hardison said last night. The district chairman are lining up helpers to make a whirlwind drive on Friday of this week, Mr. Hardison explained. While some of the chairmen are receiving only limited encouragement, they are still plugging away at the task, "and we are hopeful the goal can be reached," Mr. Hardison said.

Last year, Martin County was second in the list of 100 offering the greatest aid for the hungry and ill clad in other lands.

## Slightly Hurt In Saturday Wreck

Mrs. Clinton House, the former Miss Margaret Rogerson of Williamston, was slightly injured in an automobile-ambulance accident at the Main Street stoplight in Robersonville last Saturday afternoon. Suffering a bruise on her forehead, she was able to continue to her home following treatment in the Ward Clinic here.

Mrs. House was riding with Mrs. Wallace Roberson in the Robersons' new 1954 Dodge, traveling south on Highway 903. Just as the Roberson car entered the intersection on a green light, the ambulance, operated by Charlie West, Jr., and owned by a Greenville firm, bore down on them. By swerving the 1942 Chevrolet ambulance, the driver missed hitting the Dodge a direct blow. However, the front of the car was badly damaged and the left side of the ambulance was battered. One estimate placed the car damage at about \$500 and that to the ambulance at about \$300.

The ambulance was moving a victim of a heart attack from Bethel to a local hospital. He was not injured in the accident, and it could not be learned immediately if his condition was aggravated by the crash. The patient was transferred to another ambulance and continued the trip.

West was charged with operating a motor vehicle without a license, and he has been booked for trial in the county court next Monday.

## Nineteen Men To Choose Site And Promote Project

### Tentative Cost Figures Are Mentioned At Meeting Held Last Night

Expressing a keen interest, approximately fifty local citizens, meeting in the courthouse last evening, elected a board of directors for the proposed country club in this community and heard tentative cost figures on the project.

Given the name of Roanoke Country Club, the project is headed by Dr. Chas. I. Everett, vice president, William H. Everett, president, and W. L. Howell, secretary. The board of directors elected at the meeting last night includes, John Henry Edwards, N. C. Green, H. L. Barnhill, W. I. Skinner, C. G. Crockett, Fisher Harris, Geo. Harrison, Jr., Edward Corey, Herbert Whitley, Don Matthews, Jr., Vance Roberson, J. C. White, J. S. Rhodes, Jr., Sherwood Roberson, Robert Cowen and G. Woolard. The group is to meet Friday evening of this week, select one of several potential sites on Highway 17 between Williamston and the Old Mill Inn, and map plans for advancing the project. The land committee, named at a previous meeting of an interested group, explained that options had been taken on several sites, any one of which would be suitable for the project.

Definite cost figures were limited to the golf course, Dr. Harris explaining that complete figures could not be advanced until a definite site is selected and plans for the club house are prepared.

Ellis Maples, a professional golfer and an authority on golf course projects, inspected several of the sites yesterday afternoon, and recommended that the project be limited to a nine-hole course, explaining that approximately seventy acres would be sufficient. He estimated that \$25,000 would be needed to prepare an A-1 course, that figure including blue prints, land preparation, seeding and a water system.

The meeting expressed much interest in an adequate club with sufficient facilities to care for social events and accommodate community activities. It was also pointed out that arrangements could be made for tennis courts and other sports.

A certificate of incorporation was prepared by Attorney Robt. H. Cowen, and nearly \$50,000 in stock has already been pledged. It is estimated that the project will represent an investment of between \$150,000 and \$175,000, that if work can be started within the next few weeks, the golf course would be ready for use about late spring or early summer.

It was clearly pointed out that the future of the proposed project depends entirely on the support it receives. Residents throughout the county have expressed interest in it, and while it is believed the project can be handled, no tangible results are to be expected until at least another \$50,000 or \$75,000 in stock is pledged.

If present interest is sustained, and there is every indication that it will, the project will be advanced, then the officials and directorate will prepare stock of \$100 par value for public subscription.

Memberships and due will be discussed later as the project advances, it was explained at the meeting.

## Bond Skipper Is Placed In Jail

Failing to appear in court on November 16, David Purvis was arrested in Greenville Monday afternoon and returned to this county. He is now in jail awaiting trial next Monday.

Purvis is charged with speeding 75 miles an hour and operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license.

When arrested, Purvis said he was short of money and thought it best not to go into court short of cash.

## Four Injured In Car-Truck Wreck Friday Evening

### Several Other Accidents Are Reported During The Past Week-End

Four persons were injured, two of them badly, in an automobile-truck accident just inside the town limits on Washington Street about 7:30 o'clock last Friday evening. The accident was one of several reported in the town during the week-end.

Coming here with a party of friends from Kelford, Mrs. Robert Lassiter suffered fractures of nine ribs, Mrs. Russell Bazemore suffered three fractures of the pelvis bone, Mr. Lassiter was hurt in the chest and Mr. Bazemore was bruised about the forehead. G. A. Outland, driver of the 1950 Buick, suffered a bruised nose and Mrs. Outland received minor chest injuries. All the victims except Mrs. Bazemore and Mrs. Lassiter were able to return to their homes following hospital treatment.

James Woodard, driver of the truck figuring in the accident, and a companion were not injured, police, investigating the accident, said.

Mrs. Lassiter is responding to treatment in a local hospital and Mrs. Bazemore, removed to a Rocky Mount hospital following first aid treatment here, was reported to be getting along as well as could be expected.

Driving south on Highway 17, Outland started to make a left turn into Mrs. Mary Coltrin's driveway and continue to the Sunny Side oyster bar. Finding the driveway blocked by another car, he apparently turned back into the highway and met the truck, driven by Woodard and owned by the Eastern Distributors of Goldsboro. The truck, heavily loaded with acetylene gas and oxygen tanks, hooked into the right side of the car and carried it down the road and down a several-foot embankment. The crash was not a direct one, and had it been, the toll could have been much worse, officers said.

Woodard said he tried to run around the car to his left, but another one was meeting him.

Police and ambulance sirens attracted a large crowd to the scene of the wreck which was not cleared of the wreckage until almost midnight. Traffic was blocked on the busy route during long periods for considerable distances in each direction.

Damage to the car was unofficially estimated at \$1,250 and (Continued on Page Eight)

## Appoint Counsel In Stalon Case

Attorneys Hugh Martin and Clarence Griffin of the Martin County Bar Association, were appointed last week to defend Ernest Everett Stalon, colored man who stands charged with the brutal murder of John Robert Hassell, aged mill worker, in Robersonville on November 16. Judge Walter J. Bone, second district jurist, made the appointments.

Stalon is expected to enter a plea in the case, meaning that he is in line for a life sentence.

As far as it could be learned no private counsel has been employed to assist Solicitor Elbert S. Peelle in the prosecution of the case.

Stalon who reportedly wants the gas chamber, is to go on trial during the week of December 14 when Judge Bone returns to the county.

## ROUND-UP

There was so little activity on the crime front in this county that law enforcement officers, too, had a holiday Thanksgiving and during the week-end. Some suggested that the cold weather ran crime indoors.

Only two persons were arrested during the period from last Tuesday until Monday morning. Both, a young white man and a young colored man, were charged with assaults.

It was the quietest week-end on the crime front in this county in almost a year.

## Santa Claus Is Coming To Town Friday Afternoon

**SANTAGRAM**

WESTERN UNION

RA47-N.A355 DL RD=WUX NORTH POLE, NORTH AMERICA 23 233PME

WILLIAMSTON BOOSTERS INC

WILLIAMSTON NCAR

PLEASE TELL ALL THE CHILDREN IN WILLIAMSTON AND MARTIN COUNTY THAT I AM COMING TO TOWN ON FRIDAY DECEMBER 4TH TO SEE THEM AND FIND OUT WHAT THEY WOULD LIKE FOR CHRISTMAS. RUDOLPH THE RED-NOSED SENDS HIS BEST WISHES. WE HOPE TO SEE ALL THE CHILDREN MADE HAPPY AT CHRISTMAS TIME. SO LONG TILL DECEMBER 4TH

SANTA CLAUS=..

In a special telegram to the Williamston Boosters, Santa Claus stated that he would be in Williamston Friday afternoon of this week at 4:00 o'clock. Remaining here until 6:00 o'clock that evening, in front of the Boosters' office, he will receive letters from the little folks and then take leave of absence until Friday, the 18th. He'll have no special favors on his first trip, but there will be special favors during his subsequent visits on the 18th and during Christmas week. All the little folks are invited to get their letters ready as soon as possible.