

## County Board In Regular Meeting Monday Morning

### Business Limited, More Or Less, To Routine Schedule

Discussing varied subjects, the Martin County Board of Commissioners, in regular session Monday, limited official action, more or less, to routine matters. Upon the request of interested citizens, the commissioners renewed an appeal for the completion of the Island Road over in Williams Township.

A permit was granted to George W. Edwards, disabled colored war veteran of Kinston to sell patent medicines in the county during the next six months.

A. Corey, a member of the Albenarle Association, went before the board and urged its support in the movement calling for the bridging of Alligator River. The association is to hold a meeting in Belhaven shortly and formulate plans in an effort to promote the project.

Upon the motion to Commissioner H. L. Roebuck and a second by Commissioner J. C. Gurkin, M. Luther Peel was reappointed tax collector for the next year.

An appeal for a contribution on the purchase of fire-fighting equipment for Oak City was made by a representative of the town, the board, it was unofficially learned, is considering a \$1,000 donation.

The issuance of a license to Johnson Corey to sell beer in the Farm Life section was discussed, but no final action was taken.

Plans for altering the farm program at the county home was discussed, but no action was taken at the meeting. It is proposed to clear a small tract and extend the acreage to pasture there.

In his monthly report to the commissioners, Tax Collector M. L. Peel reported \$255,342 collected in 1954 taxes.

Of the \$409,238.63 levy for 1953, \$384,109.86 has been collected. There is a balance due of \$12,710.61 due on the \$393,582.02 levy for 1952. All but \$8,319.31 of the \$375,262.71 levy for 1951 has been collected, and there is a balance of \$4,808.04 due on the \$335,462.01.

## Joseph Bennett Dies In County

Joseph Bennett, retired farmer, died at his home near Spring Green in Poplar Point Township last Thursday afternoon at 5:00 o'clock. Losing his sight in an accident 43 years ago, he was forced to give up his work. He had been an invalid for twelve years, spending the last two in bed.

He was born in Poplar Point 84 years ago on February 20, 1870, the son of the late James Thomas and Mary Anna Bennett. He lived there all his life.

The brother of Mr. C. B. Allen's step-father, he had made his home with the Allens for many years, receiving the care and attention as a regular member of the family.

Surviving is one sister, Mrs. Lydia Pierce, of Hopewell, Virginia. The funeral service was conducted in the Spring Green Primitive Baptist Church Saturday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock by Elder W. E. Grimes. Interment was in the Spring Green Cemetery.

## Louis H. Bland Dies In Hospital

Louis E. Bland, Cross Roads Township farmer, died in a Greenville hospital last Thursday night at 10:20 o'clock.

The son of Mrs. Lottie Smith Bland and the late W. S. Bland, he was born near Robertsonville 27 years ago, making his home there until about five years ago when he moved to the Cross Roads Community.

Surviving besides his mother is one brother, Luther Bland, of the home.

He was a member of the Christian Chapel Church at Cross Roads, and his pastor, the Rev. P. E. Clayton conducted the rites at the home last Friday afternoon. Interment was in the Ausbon Cemetery in Cross Roads.

## Farmers Busy Harvesting Peanuts In Martin County

Some of the prettiest goobers seen in this section in a long time. The farmer explains that the quantity is limited, but the quality is high. Several farmers are reported to have said that their crops are far below average, both in quality and quantity. Others declare their crops are better than average, that the quality is the best in years. No acreage yield estimates have been released, and since the crop is spotted, no will venture an estimate.

The price outlook is unusually favorable, and it is believed the prices will range above the support levels.

No increase in 1955 acreages is anticipated.

## Weather Review In This Section For Past Month

### Summer-like Temperature Held Right On Through Fall Opening

The summer season, by the calendar, ended two weeks ago but summer-like weather continued to hang on, the temperature asserting itself at the 100 mark during the past month.

Rainfall failed to measure up to normal, the total of 1.81 inches falling 1.51 inches below the average for the month. Rain was measured on five of the thirty days and there were traces of rain on three other days. The rain was limited even in the face of two hurricanes that passed off the coast during September.

The temperature went up to ninety or above on ten of the thirty days, but fell to the nineties on the 23rd, dropping to a low of 54 degrees on the 13th, according to information released by Bridgekeeper Hugh Spruill on Roanoke River here.

The weather data, including the river gauge readings, as released by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, September follows, with the date in the first column, the river range readings in the second column, the maximum temperature reading in the third, minimum temperature reading in the fourth and the rainfall in the fifth column for each day of the month:

Date	River	H	L	Rain
1.	4.7	82	62	.02
2.	4.6	86	55	0
3.	4.5	89	56	0
4.	4.4	91	56	0
5.	4.2	93	63	0
6.	4.1	99	69	0
7.	3.6	100	67	0
8.	3.5	94	66	0
9.	4.1	90	66	0
10.	5.9	80	65	.33
11.	5.2	86	69	.82
12.	5.6	79	60	0
13.	5.0	89	54	0
14.	4.5	86	57	0
15.	4.2	80	60	0
16.	4.5	86	67	0
17.	4.6	92	62	0
18.	4.9	89	65	0
19.	4.9	92	70	0
20.	4.6	89	69	.11
21.	4.7	92	65	.53
22.	5.0	85	57	0
23.	5.4	76	55	0
24.	4.9	79	46	0
25.	4.2	83	89	0
26.	4.0	84	62	0
27.	4.0	88	59	0
28.	3.7	90	57	0
29.	3.8	88	60	0
4.0	4.0	89	64	0
Total				1.81

\* Indicates Trace Of Rain

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Mrs. Williams was said to have been injured more seriously than it was first thought she was.

They were removed to Martin General Hospital for treatment. The car, a Chevrolet, was damaged extensively, according to reports reaching here.

## Prominent Citizen Died In Hospital Here Last Night

### Mrs. Rodgeron Suffered Heart Attack Sunday, Funeral Wednesday

Mrs. Bertha McNaughton Rodgeron, prominent local citizen, died in a hospital here Monday night at 10:00 o'clock. In declining health for several years, she suffered a heart attack while visiting in the home of a neighbor Sunday evening about 9:00 o'clock and was removed to the hospital, and little hope was held for her recovery. She had suffered a heart attack some months ago, but following treatment she was able to be up until she was stricken Sunday evening.

She was born in Renova, Pennsylvania, the daughter of the late George P. and Margaret Moore McNaughton. In early girlhood she moved in 1895 with her family to Everetts where Mr. McNaughton conducted an extensive lumber mill operation for a number of years. She attended the schools in Everetts and was married to John L. Rodgeron September 21, 1904. He died in November, 1942. She located in Williamston in 1912, making her home here since that time.

She was a charter member of the Williamston Presbyterian Church, and was faithful in its service down through the years.

Surviving are two daughters, Mrs. Clinton House of Robertsonville, and Miss Mary Rodgeron of Williamston, and two grandchildren.

The funeral service will be conducted at the home Wednesday afternoon at 4:00 o'clock by her pastor, now of Graham. Interment will be in Woodlawn Cemetery.

## Mrs. Nora Bland Dies In County

Mrs. Nora Gardner Bland, 88, died at her home, RFD 1, Jamesville, last Friday morning at 3:00 o'clock following a two-year period of declining health. She was confined to bed for three months.

The daughter of the late Harvey and Ellen Ange Gardner, she was born in this county May 16, 1866, and spent all her life in this county.

She was a member of the Christian Hope Church of Christ near Plymouth, and the widow of James Eli Bland.

Surviving are two sons, Monie and Charlie Bland, both of near Jamesville; five grandchildren and fifteen great-grandchildren.

The funeral service was conducted at Horner's Funeral Chapel in Plymouth Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock by the Rev. J. R. Lee of Washington. Interment was in the Ange Cemetery in Jamesville Township.

## Farmer Breaks Up Big Coon Fight In County

A big coon fight was brought to an abrupt end over in Williams Township last Thursday night about 11:30 o'clock by Farmer Maurice Gardner.

The half dozen or more coons, sending up terrible cries and shrieks during the night, were fighting in the highway in front of the Gardner home. Firing into the pack of coons, Farmer Gardner wiped out two, and the others scampered away.

A restraining order was continued until November 15 in the case of Lucretia Biggs and her next friend, Sarah F. James, against Jefferson Owens, trustee, and Carolina Housing Mortgage Corporation.

The Standard Fertilizer Company, in its case against W. C. Hopkins, was awarded a judgment of \$1,176.43 plus interest.

## Civil War Diary of Docton Warren Bagley

(Shortly after the fall of Hatteras, Martin County men rallied to support the War and to protect property and life at home. In the last installment, Mr. Bagley listed the names of 114 who volunteered in the militia. Included in that group was John C. Getsinger, son of John Conrad Getsinger the late forties and who trained troops for the Confederacy during the Civil War.)

(In this, the 16th installment, Mr. Bagley lists the names of 46 men who entered the Volunteer Cavalry, as follows):

"The following is a list of the Volunteer Cavalry as of August 31, which has been tendered to an accepted by the Governor and names filed with the Adjutant General of the State:

"W. J. Whitaker, captain; W. R. Hyman, 1st lieutenant; G. W. Ward, 2nd lieutenant; J. B. Cooper, 3rd lieutenant; W. W. Anthony, John Flanagan, John W. Bryan, H. D. Wyatt, George Jenkins, J. W. Terry, W. S. Briley, William Slade, J. M. Morriset, F. A. Rhodes,

"Bennett S. Baker, W. R. Gladson, Arthur Barden, T. R. Barnhill, T. M. Purrington, R. B. Smith, J. M. Sherrard, Newsom Allsbrooks, Calvin Boyett, T. B. Slade, J. J. Ward, T. H. Coffield, J. C. Purvis, Martin Griffin, Jos. Everett, Jos. B. Powell, Lamb Weaver, John L. Ward, Asa Hurst,

"John H. Hardison, W. R. Robinson, J. L. Swain, John M. Matthews, Edward Staton, S. W. Andrews, James O. Salsbury, W. J. Moore, Thomas Knowles, Willie Hoard, W. W. Purvis, Thomas J. Walker and Bryant Wynn."

## Town Board Here In Short Session Monday Evening

### Approximately \$62,000.00 Has Been Spent On The Local Street Program

Holding their regular meeting last evening, the local town commissioners were in session only a short time. There was little business before the group other than that of a routine nature.

The street improvement program was briefly reviewed, the contractors submitting an estimate of expenditures to date. Twenty-one thousand feet of curb and gutter and 22,000 yards of asphalt have been laid at a cost of \$62,000, the figure also including drainage pipe and basins and grading. The town attorney was instructed to investigate the width and location of Harrell Street near the intersection of Main. The possibility of making a 22-foot street near the main street and widening it to 26 feet farther back was discussed, but no final action was taken.

A request for street maintenance in North End was ruled out when it was explained that the town forces haven't adequate equipment and time to handle such requests.

A contract was entered into with Contractor Harry Jones for moving a house on the cemetery property to clear a right of way for a new entrance off Haughton into the cemetery property. The contract figure was \$321.50.

Granted permission to place a sewer line under the railroad at Pearl Street, the town today is working on the project. No rental fee is attached.

Spots on Andrews, New Railroad and Hunter Streets. The need is to be determined and lights were ordered installed where needed.

Town Treasurer C. M. Cobb reported \$37,297.48 cash on hand, \$1,026.20. The treasurer also reported that \$54,182.29 had been collected in 1954 taxes.

No action was taken on a request for an increase in policemen's salaries.

## County Farmers Name Committees

Meeting in various communities throughout the county last week Martin farmers nominated slates for Agricultural Stabilization Conservation posts. Ten farmers were nominated for the places of community committeemen and delegates to the county convention which is to be held later this month.

The election is to be handled by mail ballots, it was explained. All the nominating conventions were held without incident except in the No. 2 district at Jamesville, where a second convention was ordered and held last Friday night. The slates as nominated at the conventions last week will be announced shortly, and farmers will have several days to get their election ballots into the office of ASC at Williamston.

## Hassell Street Paving Project

The town of Hassell with its Powell bill funds, is advancing a fairly extensive street paving program. Mr. John W. Eubanks said last weekend.

Portions of five streets, covering the greater part of one-half mile, is included in the program. The project is of the bituminous asphalt type and is being handled by State Highway and Public Works Commission forces.

## Former Resident Died Saturday

Herbert Mason Clark, former Williamston resident, died at his home in Burlington at 6:00 o'clock last Saturday morning. He had been in declining health for almost two years, but early last week he was reported to have been getting along very well.

A son of the late Joseph Albert and Julia Whitaker Clark, he was born in Durham 52 years ago, and spent his early life there. Entering the drug business, he made his home in Quantico for a short time before moving to Williamston about twenty-five years ago. He was associated with Clark's Drug Store here for a number of years, moving to Burlington in early 1942 where he was employed as a druggist by the Acme Drug Company.

Surviving are his widow, the former Miss Mamie Carden of Durham; one son, Herbert M. (Jerry) Clark, Jr., of Chapel Hill; one daughter, Mrs. J. Forrest Barnwell of Burlington; one sister, Mrs. J. A. Swope of Waco, Texas; one brother, C. C. Clark, and one grandchild of Chapel Hill.

The funeral service was conducted in a Burlington funeral chapel at Burlington Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock by Dr. Chester Alexander, Presbyterian minister. Interment was in Maplewood Cemetery, Durham.

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Mrs. Williams was said to have been injured more seriously than it was first thought she was.

They were removed to Martin General Hospital for treatment. The car, a Chevrolet, was damaged extensively, according to reports reaching here.

## Tobacco Sales Pass Ten Million Figure

### Sale Monday One Of Largest And Highest Of Year

Official Average Placed At \$59.80 For More Than 400,000 Pounds

Williamston's tobacco market skooted right over the ten million-pound mark yesterday when one of the largest and highest sales of the year was entered in the official records. According to an official report, the market yesterday had the biggest sale in its more than half century of history. The report listed 429,816 pounds which sold for \$257,064, an average of \$59.80. The average was the second highest reported this season, and was only about \$1 below the record figure reported on September 27.

The sales yesterday boosted the total for the season to 10,044,864 pounds. Up until this morning the market had paid out \$5,570,863, the general average being \$55.46 per hundred pounds.

Average prices were higher and the volume heavy on the Eastern North Carolina flue-cured tobacco markets. According to the Federal-State Market News Service gains from the previous week ranged from \$1.00 to \$5.00 per hundred. Most increases, however, were \$1.00 and \$2.00. A few grades showed small losses.

A weekly high for the season was set when 58,447,389 pounds sold for an average of \$57.08. This was \$1.69 per hundred higher than the previous week and the highest weekly average of the season.

William H. Modlin, Jamesville Township citizen, died in McGuire's Veterans Hospital, Richmond, Tuesday morning at 5:30 o'clock. He had been in declining health for almost twenty-five years, spending much of that time in various hospitals. He had spent the past year in the Richmond hospital except for about five weeks he was home during the summer.

He was born in Jamesville Township 57 years ago on April 25, 1897, the son of the late Harmon and Mary Harris Modlin, and farmed there until declining health forced his retirement. He was married to Miss S. J. Hardison who died in 1921. His second marriage was to Miss S. J. Hardison.

Mr. Modlin enlisted for service during World War I on August 5, 1918, and served overseas from September 1918 to June 1919, and returned to his home.

He was a member of the Cedar Branch Baptist Church since boyhood, attending his last services there during a revival meeting while he was home from the hospital this summer.

Surviving besides Mrs. Modlin are one son, Carrol Modlin, by his first marriage; and by his second marriage, three daughters, Mrs. Augustus Hocker of Agawan, Massachusetts, Mrs. James Jackson of Newport News, and Miss Mary Modlin of the home; two grandsons, one in the Navy and one in the Air Force.

Interment will be in the Hamilton Cemetery. The body will be moved from the home of her daughter, Mrs. Walter Roberson, to the Hamilton Church one hour before the service.

## Attorneys Tangle In County Court

Following a word battle, two attorneys working to settle an assault with a deadly weapon case in the Martin County Recorder's Court Monday morning, engaged in an assault case of their own, but were separated by officers before physical blows could be exchanged.

Sheppard Lynch was charged with assaulting M. L. Shearin with a deadly weapon up in Goose Nest Township a few days ago. Attorney H. L. Swain was defending and Attorney Wade Dickens of Scotland Neck was the private prosecutor. During the course of the trial, objections were noted on numerous occasions, and the prosecutor was sustained. When the defendant took the stand, Attorney Dickens rapped down on him. Lynch's attorney objected, and the private prosecutor asked why he objected. Something was said about a bellowing bull, and the defense attorney threw the law into the air, what he suggested that the prosecutor ask questions as a gentleman.

Attorney Dickens hopped and went for Attorney Swain, snatching off the man's glasses. The two clinched and officers parted them.

Attorney Dickens apologized to the court, the spectators and the citizens of the county advising Judge H. O. Peele that he would follow it up with a written apology. Dickens said he was ashamed of his act, adding that the defense counsel had aggravated him, and that he lost himself.

Attorney Swain, maintaining his position, apologized but never retracted the comment about the private prosecutor acting like a gentleman in asking questions.

Judge Peele called for written apologies and directed the clerk to enter them in the court minutes. The written apologies are expected shortly.

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## Hamilton Native Died In Hospital Monday Evening

### Funeral In Hamilton Episcopal Church Wednesday For Mrs. Davenport

Mrs. Helen Martin Davenport, a native of Hamilton, died in a Greenville hospital Monday evening at 8:30 o'clock. She had been in declining health several years, and her condition had been critical following an operation about ten days ago.

The daughter of the late David and Margaret Jarvis Martin, she was born in Hamilton 78 years ago, and spent most of her life there. She was married to John Davenport in 1897 and continued to make her home in Hamilton. Following his death she had made her home with her children in Hassell, Robertsonville and Hamilton.

Mrs. Davenport was a member of St. Martin's Episcopal Church in Hamilton for many years. She was active in the church for years, and was interested in the betterment of her community.

Since her death Monday evening many fine tributes have been paid Mrs. Davenport. She was recognized as one of the finest women ever to be reared in Hamilton. A devoted mother, a kind and considerate person to every one, her passing is being keenly felt by a large circle of friends and neighbors.

Surviving are four daughters, Mrs. Walter Roberson with whom she had recently made her home in Robertsonville, Mrs. Helen Everett of Hamilton, Mrs. Elmer Edmondson of Hassell and Mrs. Banks Cozart of Greenville, and one son, Clayton Davenport, of Robertsonville; eighteen grandchildren and fourteen great-grandchildren.

The funeral service will be conducted in the Episcopal Church at Hamilton Wednesday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock by the Rev. Sidney Matthews, a former rector of the church and now of Winton, the Rev. Thos. L. Hastings, the present rector and the Rev. C. L. Gatt-

Interment will be in the Hamilton Cemetery. The body will be moved from the home of her daughter, Mrs. Walter Roberson, to the Hamilton Church one hour before the service.

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