

## Tobacco Sales Right At Thirteen Million

### Sale Here Monday One Of The Best So Far This Year

Sales Only 64,000 Pounds Short Of The Thirteen Million Pound Mark

The Williamston Tobacco Market yesterday had one of the highest sales in weeks, reports stating that it was one of the best of the season. The price average, pegged at \$59.06 per hundred pounds, was the fourth highest daily average of the season, the 73,420 pounds selling for \$43,360.

At the close of sales yesterday the market had sold 12,913,944 pounds for \$7,213,307, an average of \$56.86 for the year to date.

A general report for the entire eastern belt, as released by the Federal-State Market News Service, follows:

Steady to slightly lower average prices were paid for most grades of Eastern North Carolina flue-cured tobacco last week. Quality of offerings showed little change from the previous week reports. Volume of sales was fairly light although some markets held heavy sales on Friday.

Gross sales for the week ending October 29 amounted to 30,531,254 pounds and averaged \$55.84 per hundred—down 40 cents from the preceding week. Season sales were raised to 466,313,500 pounds for an average of \$54.96. During the same number of days last year 465,922,437 gross pounds averaged \$57.42.

Around one-third of the grade averages showed no change from the previous week. Most fluctuations were \$1.00 and \$2.00 per hundred pounds with nearly twice as many losses as gains. Decreases were more frequent for 1 per quality offerings.

The amount of leaf and ped-stem increased slightly. Cutters and leaf appeared in smaller proportions, although the ratio of good quality tobacco showed an increase. Principal marketings consisted of low to good offerings with leaf, lugs and smoking leaf predominating.

Deliveries to the Stabilization Corporation under the Government loan program amounted to around 8% of weekly gross sales. Season receipts were approximately 7.4%.

Windsor closed for the season on October 27. Clinton will hold final sales November 10. Wendell began operating with one set of buyers Monday, November 1.

## Education Board In Short Session

Holding a meeting Monday morning, members of the Martin County Board of Education discussed the gymnasium problem from every angle, but found no solution. Several requests are pending for gymnasium projects, and there is just about enough money on hand to finance one of the several projects.

It was the second time the board has discussed the problem without coming near to a solution. The board members are to meet again soon for a third discussion.

At the meeting this week the board approved the sale of the old Dardens school property to W. Jackson Holliday for \$3,000. The approval was made subject to new bids, it was explained.

## Need Permit To Install Irrigation Systems

It has been pointed out that permits are needed before irrigation systems may be installed. The permits, denied in only unusual cases, are designed to protect all parties concerned, and are issued by the State Department of Conservation, Raleigh. Application forms may be had at the office of the county farm agent or the FFA headquarters in the courthouse.

The permits make certain that no one else is damaged, that his supply of water is not affected, it was explained.

### ROUND-UP

Seven persons were ensnared in the law's net in this area last week-end, a review of the jail record showing one arrested for speeding ninety miles an hour, and two each for drunken driving, drunkenness and operating motor vehicles without drivers' licenses.

Three of the seven were white and the ages of the group ranged from 22 to 40 years.

## County Board In A Short Meeting Monday Morning

Road Requests are Handled Along With The Usual Routine Business

With little new business, on their calendar, the Martin County Commissioners completed their work in about two hours Monday morning and adjourned the regular session until the first Monday in December. It was the last full meeting scheduled for the term, but since all the board members are being elected, there'll be no change in December.

The board recommended improvements for the Ira Jones road in Griffiths Township, the board suggesting the three-quarters of a mile of road being handled as a community project.

It was requested that the State maintain in its county road system, 15 of a mile of road in Parmele, beginning at a point across the railroad from the J. T. Laughinghouse store and connecting with a dirt road. The board also recommended that the State maintain in its county road system, 15 of a mile of road in Parmele, beginning at a point across the railroad from the J. T. Laughinghouse store and connecting with a dirt road. The board also recommended that the State maintain in its county road system, 15 of a mile of road in Parmele, beginning at a point across the railroad from the J. T. Laughinghouse store and connecting with a dirt road.

The board also recommended as a community project 300 yards of road running from the Coltrair road to Mrs. W. T. Roberson's and the improvement of fifteen yards of road from Highway 171 to the Hardison Mill Cemetery.

It was also recommended that the road running from the old Keyes school on the Mill Neck road to the Ward farm be improved.

Tax Collector M. L. Peel submitted his books for 1953 and the auditor's report was accepted. The report shows that the original levy was \$408,077.83, that \$826.73 was added by late listing and penalties boosted the total by \$1,160.80, making a total of \$410,065.36. On the credit side, the report shows \$375,442.07 paid in cash to the treasurer. Discounts amounted to \$4,155.48. Relief orders accounted for \$501.10. The

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## W. L. James Dies In Rocky Mount

W. L. (Fate) James, retired business man-farmer and well known citizen of this county, died in a Rocky Mount hospital Monday afternoon at 4:40 o'clock.

He was born in Pitt County 72 years ago and when a young man located in Robersonville where he engaged in business for a number of years.

Surviving are his widow, the former Miss Nina Roberson; two daughters, Mrs. Jesse Taylor and Mrs. E. B. Whichard, both of Robersonville; two brothers, J. R. James of Stokes and D. A. James of Robersonville; one sister, Mrs. Fannie Edmonds of Scotland Neck, and four grandchildren.

He was a member of the Robersonville Christian Church, and the funeral will be conducted there at 3:00 o'clock Wednesday afternoon by his pastor, the Rev. Wilbur Wallace, assisted by the Rev. J. B. Hurley, Methodist minister. Interment will be in the Robersonville Cemetery. The body will be moved to the church one hour prior to the service.

Reliable news from below Plymouth on the sound says there was no steamer in the sound as far as seen.

February 16, 1862  
2:00 p. m.  
Mr. Fagan is just up from Plymouth and reports no steamer in the river. The picket is just up also and he reports all quiet be-

## Paving Petitions Are Submitted To Local Town Board

Officials Handle Little New Business at Regular Session Last Night

Even before the quarter million dollar street paving program is half completed petitions for additional paving are pouring into the town clerk's office. Some of the petitions are being supported by delegations who at a regular meeting of the town officials last night pleaded for consideration of their streets. One delegation was headed by Professor G. T. Hill, and he had eight or ten staunch supporters.

The latest petitions call for more paving on White Street and three additional blocks on Sycamore. Other petitions, coming in after the original program was launched, are also before the board.

Today, officials are making a personal survey of the streets with the promise to the petitioners that all possible will be done to expand the program. It was explained, however, that the petitions will be recognized in the order in which they were received, that every penny of the bond and note issues will be used in advancing the program.

Just now the program is not quite half complete, and it is evident that more streets will be surfaced than were first specified in the original plans. Up until the first of this month, \$104,326.68 of the \$225,000 appropriated for street improvements had been spent.

A contract was entered into with the Harry Jones Construction Company for remodeling the keeper's home at Woodlawn Cemetery, the project to cost approximately \$2,800, exclusive of the plumbing and wiring.

Before the short meeting was concluded and after all routine business had been handled, complaints directed against the carnival at the fair here last week were discussed. Only a few of the complaints came from members of the sponsoring organizations, and were directed

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## Enters Upon New Duties In School

Professor George Sturgeon entered upon his new duties as teacher of vocational agriculture in the local high school yesterday. He and Mrs. Sturgeon are now at home in the teaching on North Smithwick Street.

A native of Kentucky, Mr. Sturgeon taught in the high school at Saratoga before returning to his native state to superintend a large orphanage farm near Louisville.

He is succeeding Chas. Hawley who has accepted a position as assistant farm agent in Pasquotank County. He and Mrs. Hawley moved during the week-end to Elizabeth City.

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## Civil War Diary of Docton Warren Bagley

Installment 24

The coastal defense having fallen (Roanoke Island on February 8, 1862), the people in this section feared the enemy would approach up the sounds and rivers. Picket duty was assigned and runners were provided to warn of the approach of the enemy. In the current installment, Mr. Bagley, the old Civil War Patriot who lived on the site where the post office now stands, hints about "high spirits" among Union men in Washington County and tells about the movement of troops to Washington, N. C.)

Picket Duty, Dispatches, Etc. Williamston, N. C. February 15, 1862

Mr. J. A. Daniel, Dear Sir:

Reliable news from below Plymouth on the sound says there was no steamer in the sound as far as seen.

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2:00 p. m.  
Mr. Fagan is just up from Plymouth and reports no steamer in the river. The picket is just up also and he reports all quiet be-

## Revive Community Concert Series For Another Year

After canceling the series for this year, sponsors received numerous appeals and support pledges from various citizens throughout this year, urging the continuation of the Community Concerts here this year. With the renewed support pledges, the sponsors have agreed to arrange the 1954-55 series, and the membership drive is scheduled to get underway here and in several surrounding towns and communities on Tuesday, November 9, it was announced today by Mrs. Jos. W. Griffin, secretary.

L. Bruce Wynne is heading the Martin County Community Concert Association as president. Mrs. Griffin continues as secretary, and Mrs. Vella A. Wynne will serve again as treasurer.

Mrs. Abner Brown is heading the membership drive as chairman with Mrs. R. E. Manning and Mrs. Irving Margolis as co-chairmen.

Miss Ruth Woodman, representative of the national association, is coming here next Monday to assist in the membership drive, and a dinner meeting will be held in the Christian Church fellowship hall that evening at 7:00 o'clock for the officers, membership group and workers.

This is the fifth year the concerts have been scheduled here, and a general appeal is being made to the public to support the 1954-55 series.

## Emergency Loans Now Available

Martin County has been designated by Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson as an area where eligible farmers can obtain emergency loans from the Farmers Home Administration to repair damage caused by the recent hurricane. Details of the emergency loan program were explained by Mr. James C. Eubanks, FHA County Supervisor today.

Any established farm owner or farm operator in Martin County, whose crops, buildings, or other farm property were damaged by the hurricane, and who is unable to obtain from other lenders the credit needed to continue normal operations may be eligible for a loan.

Applications are made at the county office of the Farmers Home Administration. The office for Martin County is located at Williamston.

Eligibility of applicants is determined by the county committees of the Farmers Home Administration, composed of men familiar with local conditions. The committees for Martin County are:

Mr. Gariand H. Forbes, RFD 3, Williamston,  
Mr. B. Frank Lilley, RFD 1, Williamston,  
Mr. Fred S. Barrett, RFD 1, Oak City.

Loans may be obtained for the purchase of feed, seed, fertilizer, replacement livestock and equipment, replacement or repair of buildings, and for other essential farm and home operating expenses. Loans may not be made to pay existing debts, to compensate applicants for their losses, or to expand operations.

The loans bear 3 percent interest on the unpaid principal, and are scheduled for repayment over the minimum period of time consistent with the borrower's ability to repay. Ordinarily loans secured by liens on chattel property are scheduled for repayment within one to five years and loans for repair or improvement of real estate are scheduled for repayment within one to ten years.

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## National Guard's Armory Dedicated Friday Afternoon

Major General Claude Bowers Delivers Address Before Small Crowd Here

Before a small but interested group of Martin County citizens, prominent military and civilian leaders from various sections of eastern North Carolina, the \$100,000 National Guard Armory, home of Battery C, 150th AAA Gun Bn., was dedicated here last Friday evening, the event being followed by a big barbecue supper and a dance in the modern building.

Following the invocation by the Rev. John L. Goff and a special concert by Professor Clyde Wade and his band from the local high school, Captain Elbert S. Peel, Jr., welcomed the group, Mayor Robt. H. Cowen responding. Lt. Hugh G. Horton, Jr., gave a history of the battery, and distinguished guests were recognized.

General John Hall Manning was unable to attend and participate in the program, and Major General Claude T. Bowers, introduced by Capt. Peel, made the dedicatory address. Long in the National Guard service, General Bowers, a native of Warrenton, declared, in his address, that the National Guard is vital to the future of America, and said the private citizen can do much by supporting the Guard and its program. "You have something here to be proud of, and you should visit the Armory and see what the guardsmen are doing."

"Everyone of us must realize that the defense of America is everyone's duty," the officer said, explaining that indifference on the part of the American people between wars was largely responsible for the many casualties. He explained that improper training costs lives.

If the National Guard is to prosper and carry out its functions it must have the support of private citizens, and if the people support it the security of America will have been enhanced, the speaker said.

General Bowers went on to explain the tremendous savings made possible by the National Guard. "We must have a large standing army, but for every million men the National Guard can replace, the taxpayers save thirteen million dollars a day," he said.

The officer reviewed briefly the introduction of nuclear weapons, and pointed out that Russia has about everything we have, that she has the capacity to deliver those weapons. While he does not believe war is imminent, he mentioned the possibility that Russia might strike it and when she thinks it possible to knock out our major cities. "We need the National Guard, and it needs our support," General Bowers said, paying tribute to the fighting ability of the 30th Division in past wars.

The training of young men was stressed, the speaker adding that the National Guard can and will

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## Report Fifth Road Fatality In County

FLEECERS

Representing themselves as pest control experts, a party giving a Greenville address, was said to have fleeced several home owners in this county last week.

In Griffiths Township the pest control "experts" were said to have overcharged a widow for their questionable services. Others are said to have been fleeced.

Learning of the alleged racket, Sheriff M. W. Holloman checked the group and learned there was no such address in Greenville, that the group apparently is a fly-by-night outfit, fleecing victims and moving out ahead of the law.

Pest control is needed, but property owners are warned to make certain that they are dealing with reputable firms before contracting jobs.

## Weather Review For This Area In Past Month

Temperatures Held to High Side; Rainfall Continued On The Low Side

Just about all kinds of weather were experienced in this area during the past month, according to a monthly review released yesterday by Hugh Spruill, bridgekeeper and tender of weather instruments on Roanoke River.

Temperatures held to an abnormally high level during most of the month, and the 1.15 inches of rain fell 1.65 inches below normal.

Hurricane Hazel, one of the worst ever known in this immediate area, brought only .08 of an inch of rain, but it fanned up a "breeze," estimated at times as high as 75 and 80 miles an hour. The weather observer explained that the wind started from the southeast on the morning of the 15th at 6:00 a. m., shifting to the south at 2:30 o'clock that afternoon, and then to southwest thirty minutes later. The barometer fell to 28.80. The wind, it was told, shifted box cars at the siding of the Standard Fertilizer Company.

The weather data, including the river gauge readings, as released by Mr. Spruill for the month of October 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.	4.5	89	64	0
2.	4.9	90	60	0
3.	4.7	90	59	0
4.	4.0	93	68	0
5.	3.5	95	65	0
6.	3.3	97	71	0
7.	4.9	77	51	*
8.	4.6	73	44	0
9.	4.1	81	50	0
10.	3.8	85	50	0
11.	3.7	87	53	0
12.	3.7	88	51	0
13.	3.7	89	60	0
14.	4.0	83	65	0
15.	5.3	78	65	.58
16.	5.8	68	41	.40
17.	5.6	67	40	0
18.	5.8	73	36	0
19.	5.7	67	44	0
20.	5.8	62	46	0
21.	6.2	62	38	0
22.	6.5	68	36	*

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## Seven Wrecks On County Highways In Recent Days

Three-Year-Old Child Dies En Route To Hospital Sunday Evening

A three-year-old child was fatally injured and at least three others were badly hurt in a series of motor vehicle accidents on the highways and streets in this county during the past few days. According to preliminary reports, property damage exceeded \$3,000 in the seven accidents.

The series included a hit-and-run accident in which a man had his right leg mangled on a Williamston street late last Saturday night.

Virgil Earl Willis of 407 East Church Street, Williamston, died en route to a Durham hospital late Sunday evening of injuries received in an accident on Highway 64 between Williamston's town limits and Sweet Water Creek. His mother, Sarah Willis, and his seven-month-old sister, Vera Yvonne Willis, were painfully bruised but believed not seriously injured in the accident, the fifth fatal one reported on the highways in this county so far in 1954.

The three-year-old was playing with the handle when the door came open and he toppled out. His mother reached after him, lost her balance and fell out, carrying the baby with her.

Apparently the boy was not too badly injured in the fall to the highway, for he raised up just ahead of a car driven by John Richard Rice of 2529 Rosalind Avenue, Roanoke, Va. The car bumper struck his head, fracturing it and breaking a leg. Following first aid treatment in a local hospital, the victim was placed in a Blair-Towson ambulance for the trip to Durham. He died when they reached a point near Bunn in Franklin County.

Investigating the accident, Cpl. M. C. Byrum of the Highway Patrol, said the mother and children were riding in the back seat of a car driven by Chester Lester Lee of Williamston. Lee had just passed a car a short distance back and was driving possibly between 45 and 50 miles an hour when the door flew open and the trio fell out. The car swerved, and Fred Hardison, driving behind Lee, swerved and missed them. Rice, also driving toward Williamston just behind the Hardison car, was quoted as saying he saw an object in his lane of traffic and slowed down. Just as he reached the boy, the little fellow raised himself to a sitting position. The car, its speed greatly reduced by that time, was stopped within its length, plus six feet, the investigating officer said. The mother and infant daughter were not not struck by the car, it was explained.

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