

ADVERTISED \$15,890 TAXES NOT PAID 1928

Would Represent A Greater Amount If Other Taxes Than Land Were Included In The Total

Taxes owned by landowners and advertised as delinquent in Washington county in 1928 amounted to \$15,890 with a tax levy of 9.29 cents. Other counties in the Albemarle section including Tyrrell had delinquent taxes advertised amounting to \$3,275 with a tax levy of 4.47 while in Perquimans \$12,084 worth of taxes was advertised for the same period with a tax levy of 7.11. Only the taxes of landowners were advertised, and the amount of delinquency was somewhat greater than advertised.

This information was assembled by the State Tax Commission in connection with its study of tax administration and tax delinquency. The data was derived from the editions of newspapers carrying the tax list. There were upwards of some 400 names on the delinquent tax list of Washington county that appeared in the Beacon last summer. It appears that the farmer is no more inclined to be delinquent than the townsman, a study of the list reveals.

The criticism is some times made that the interest and the cost imposed on delinquent taxpayers equal or exceed the original tax. This may easily be so in the matter of small taxes, but it hardly follows that the penalties are excessive. It involves as much trouble to advertise and collect a small tax as a large one. The penalties could hardly be less and serve their purposes. To the contrary there is ordinarily no just reason why a tax of twenty dollars or less should become delinquent.

Most people in Washington county become delinquent not because the tax is particularly burdensome, but because there is no stigma attached to delinquency in this State and the law is to be evaded. Another cause of delinquency is the fact that taxes are not payable in a limited time as is so in some other states. The people who pay their taxes regularly are promptly are carrying an extra burden because of the delay and delinquency of others.

WOMEN AGAINST PASSAGE OF AUSTRALIAN BALLOT BILL

Some people in Washington county are keenly interested in the defeat of the proposed Australian ballot bill which is causing the Legislature so much trouble at the present time as is evidenced by the fact that three persons have taken trouble to notify solons in the Capital City of their wishes in the matter. It is not known exactly who the three persons are or what organizations they represent although it is known that they were women. Information received here verified those facts.

FUNERAL HELD FOR STEWART MARSH TUESDAY

Funeral services were held at the home Tuesday for Stewart Marsh, prominent farmer of this section, who died at his home here Monday morning. Interment was made in a cemetery near his home. Surviving him is a widow and several children.

Louis Horton and Lue Read were in Williamston Monday on business.

ALMO THEATRE

TONIGHT

Jean Crawford

"Our Dancing Daughters"

AND

TWO REEL COMEDY

Saturday Night

Clyde Cook

IN

"Day as you Enter"

Seventh Episode of Serial

"Mark of the Frog"

M. G. M. NEWS

THURSDAY & FRIDAY

Coleen Moore

IN

"Happiness Ahead"

Find Ancient Coffin In Search For Lost Money And Records

Old Coffin Found In Grace Episcopal Cemetery First Time Ten Years Ago

CASKET REBURIED YESTERDAY

Unique Coffin Was Thought To Have Contained Valuable Papers Of Church And Money Buried Around The Church Years Ago By An Eccentric Churchman; Vestrymen Order Casket And Contents Reinterred.

The unique casket which was exhumed here this week interred with its contents yesterday in accordance with an order issued by the vestry of the Grace Episcopal Church as they were afraid that action might be taken against them charging them with violation of burial statutes.

The coffin is shaped like an Indian canoe with the sides from the head part gradually coming together at the foot, and it is about four feet in length. It contained the skull with hair on it and the bones of what is thought to be a child of a wealthy family that was buried there during Colonial days or pre-Civil War days. It is thought that the coffin was buried in the cemetery about a 100 years ago. It is possible that the cemetery was in use before the church was erected on the spot.

The casket was dug up following permission given to the Rev. A. H. Marshall, rector of the local Grace Episcopal Church, from which cemetery it was derived by Bishop Darr after the minister had suggested that it might contain lost church records and money that is thought to have been buried around there years ago. The coffin was first disinterred about ten years ago when grave diggers struck it while it was deep down in the ground as they were digging a grave for the remains of a local man. Those in charge of the work would not permit the opening of the casket at that time. So it was reburied under the coffin containing the remains of the local person from where it was taken after the minister had heard tales that made him think that this was the iron chest containing money and records of the church.

Persons are trying now to scrape the rust and dirt off in order to read any inscription that will likely be found on it.

COLUMBIA HIGH RECEIVES A BOOK

Columbia, Feb. 7.—Columbia High School was among the fifty high schools and private schools throughout the country, members of the Brooks-Bright Foundation that have just been sent copies of "Origins of the World War". The book, written by Prof. Sidney Fay of Smith College, will be used by the students in preparing their papers for competition in the annual interscholastic essay contest now progressing.

Last year more than 40,000 secondary school pupils were enrolled in the contest in this country alone. During the current season, boys and girls in England, France, Canada, and perhaps Germany will unite with American students in the study of war origins and preventives under the guidance of the Brooks-Bright Foundation. The topic this year is concerned with the psychological effect of great armed forces on the United States and other nations.

Prizes for the competition will be a year's study abroad with all expenses paid by the foundation. Minor prize winners will receive suitable awards.

START MOVE TO REPAIR LOCAL METHODIST CHURCH

Plans are being made by the Woman's Missionary Society of the local Methodist Church to expend about \$2,000 in remodeling and repairing the present church in an endeavor to make it a more adequate and comfortable plant, it was discussed and voted on in a meeting of the society at the home of Mrs. Joe Norman on Adams street Tuesday afternoon. Included in this sum is \$500 presented to the church by Nathan Toms, of New York, president of the Liggett and Myers Tobacco Company.

Before any details are announced about the remodeling of the present plant the matter will be discussed with the trustees of the church and the Board of Stewards. Special attention will be paid to the exterior improvements.

The Tuesday's meeting was scheduled to have been held at the home of Mrs. J. W. Norman, however, on account of the illness of Miss Pratt Covington, Washington county home demonstration agent, it was decided to meet with Mrs. Joe Norman. There were fourteen present at the meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Watts of Williamston were here Sunday afternoon visiting Mr. and Mrs. L. P. Hornthal.

Lower Carrying Charges Is A Feature Ford Finance Plan

J. W. Buchanan of the Buchanan Motor Company, Plymouth, Ford Dealers, returned recently from Kingston, where he received details of the new Ford finance plan.

The new finance plan will be operated by the Universal Credit Company, an affiliated specialized organization controlled by the Ford Motor Company and operating solely for the purpose of financing Ford Products on a "time" basis. The branch office serving this territory is located on the 13th floor, National Bank of Commerce Building, Norfolk, Virginia.

This is of special interest to prospective purchasers of Ford Products on a "time" basis. Under this authorized finance plan, Ford customers will have a finance service available which is sound and in keeping with Ford policies and standards. The plan is nation-wide in scope and for the exclusive use of Ford dealers.

It is another step of the Ford organization in reducing costs by controlling operations from the mine to the consumer. The cost of this service will be lower than any heretofore available to Ford customers on a national basis, and automatically reduces

the price of Ford cars purchased on a "time" payment basis. It is a further expression of the established Ford policy of giving outstanding values and complete service to the consumer at the lowest possible cost.

The plan also contemplates the purchase of Universal Credit Company sound and adequate fire and theft insurance, protecting the joint interests of the purchaser, the dealer and the company in the car.

The purchaser receives a policy of standard form insurance providing protection for one year. Such policies are issued by the Home Insurance Company of New York, the largest fire insurance company in the United States. The policies provide for settlement based on the actual cash value of the car at time of loss.

The Universal Credit Company and the Ford dealer will work together in making this new economical Ford service available to all purchasers of Ford products on a "time" basis. The Buchanan Motor Company, local Ford dealers, will be glad to explain all the details of the plan, which applies to both new and used cars purchased from Ford dealers.

LOWER RATE IN INSURANCE IS UNLIKELY

Hopes For Fire Insurance Rate Reduction Fading As City Council Prologs Period Of Silence On New Engine

Hopes for a reduced fire insurance rate in Plymouth is gradually fading for the time being as the City Council is prolonging its period of inactivity in regards to the purchasing of a new 750 gallons pumper fire engine.

For a time there was much interest and concern manifested in the decision of the City Fathers in regards to this matter. During the season of inactivity the City Council has authorized Clerk M. W. Sprull to purchase a new set of hose connections and 500 feet of improved hose. However, as concerns the new fire truck the silence in the meeting is marked.

Firemen have answered two alarms in the last two or three days that have been sent in for protection against the spreading of conflagrations. So far these alarms have proved to be of no material danger and immediate spreading and consequently the loss has been comparatively small or nothing.

In order to adequately afford the citizens and their property protection and to obtain a reduction in the fire insurance rates certain requirements have to be met if the Southeastern Underwriters Association endorses the lowering of the insurance rates.

Some of these rules as pointed out by correspondence with Chief L. W. Gurkin, of the Fire Department, are that an approved triple combination pumper, chemical and hose truck with pumping capacity of at least 750 gallons a minute at 120 pounds pressure, loaded with a thousand feet of hose must be installed. The present truck must be retained as a hose carrier.

A full time operator must be on duty day and night and in charge and responsible for the truck and equipment. Records must be kept of inspections made, conditions found, and of fires and losses by a member of the Fire Department. Regular drills must be held and the members trained and drilled in the use and care of the equipment. A minimum of 2,000 feet of hose must be kept in service at all times. A telephone must be installed in the fire station for fire call only.

If these specifications could be met it would mean an annual saving of many thousands of dollars to citizens that are paying high premiums on fire insurance. This would be one step toward the preparation for fighting the impending menace of fire. Interest in this matter will more than likely be revived at a future meeting during the administration of the local members of the City Council.

COUNTY FORCE HELPING IMPROVE WENONA ROAD

Citizens in the Wenona section are getting the cooperation of the Washington county Board of Commissioners in their endeavor to rebuild and improve the road from the turnpike road to the home of H. J. Furbee as the result of a meeting here with the commissioners Monday.

Already Mr. Basnight has rounded up the shoulders of the road and dirt is being hauled on it for a top soil cover. The inclement weather has retarded the progress on the road immensely, however, as soon as the weather permits the Wenona people with the aid of representatives of the county force will continue work.

In some sections turnpike road wood is being given free to the persons that will cut it. This is being done in order to get the timber cut and hauled away so that it will be removed when the force goes in to build a road.

SAW CUTS ENDS OF MAN'S FINGERS OFF

Gus Atkinson had the ends of all the fingers on one hand severed when they were caught in a saw at a planing mill near here Wednesday afternoon. Each one of the fingers, excluding the thumb, were cut at the ends below the first joint near the nails. For some time Mr. Atkinson has worked at this place.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Raymon Leggett, Wednesday afternoon, a boy.

Transport Children To County Schools At Very Low Cost

TWENTY WOMEN AT LEADERS SCHOOL

More than twenty women were present at the leader's school held here in the office of Miss Pratt Covington, Washington county home demonstration agent last Wednesday with Miss Mary E. Thomas, nutrition specialist of State College, Raleigh, as the chief speaker of the occasion.

Miss Thomas spoke at length on the kinds of foods for the body, the production of foods, improved methods of preparation, and balanced meals. In discussing nutrition, she stated that food, water, fresh air, rest, sleep, recreation, sunshine and cleanliness were necessary factors for a healthy body. Wrong diet, wrong food and irregular meals were given as causes of constipation, by the speaker.

In explaining the need of food, she pointed out, that food builds and repairs body tissues, gives energy and heat, regulates the internal organs and promotes growth and health. Red corpuscles are necessary where red meats, yolks of eggs, dried beans, leafy vegetables and molasses are eaten, the speaker continued.

Guides to meal planning were given to each leader and carefully gone over with and explained. After this the song of "The Six Best Doctors" was sung.

Those present were Mrs. Hilda Robinson, Chapel Hill; Mrs. L. E. Hassell and Mrs. R. L. Stillman, Roper; Mrs. Davenport, Mrs. Bowen and Mrs. Addie Robinson, Alba; Mrs. Norman and Mrs. Sprull, Scuppernon; Mrs. Ida Brickhouse, Albemarle; Miss Corinne Belle, Pleasant Grove; Mrs. Swain, Mrs. Dick Cheson and Mrs. W. B. Davenport, Mackeys; Mrs. R. C. Jackson and Miss Martha Pierce, Hoke; Mrs. Browning, Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. R. C. Heynen and Mrs. Harris, Wenona; Mrs. Alexander, Miss Matilda Alexander and Mrs. Davenport, Creswell; Mrs. Joe Reid and Miss Pierce were visitors.

URGE ATTENDANCE AT HIGHWAY MEETING

Committeemen from the chamber of commerce are visiting towns in Perquimans, Bertie, Martin, Tyrrell, Washington and other surrounding counties asking them to have delegates at the meeting of the State Highway Commission in Raleigh on February 19 at which time a hearing on the matter of the bridges to cross the Roanoke, Middle and Cashie rivers and Broad Creek and the construction of a causeway linking the bridges together thus connecting Washington and Bertie counties.

At this meeting the fate of the movement for the bridges will be written. The pressure brought to bear at this meeting will be used in deciding the question and the commercialists are urging the towns to have a large delegation present. Also the outcome will depend largely on the report of the traffic survey made by highway engineers.

WILL REORGANIZE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN COLUMBIA

Columbia, Feb. 7.—Interest in the reorganization of a chamber of commerce here is steadily increasing as the time draws near for the first meeting which it is thought will be held here early in next week. The new organization will be perfected out of the remains that are left of the former commercial organization which functioned very effectively for a time. Lack of interest finally resulted in the suspension of meetings by the old chamber.

THREE MEN INJURED IN WRECK NEAR MACKEYS

Mackeys, Feb. 7.—Three men were injured near here today when the steering wheel of an automobile came off the handle and the car struck a tree by the side of the road. In the car with Mr. Newsome, of Wallace were two Negroes. One of the Negroes received several minor injuries while Mr. Newsome and a second Negro escaped with only scratches.

Total Expenditure For The Period On Transportation Was Only \$1,203.18

MAKE GOOD RECORD IN ATTENDANCE

Eight Trucks Traveled 16,788 Miles During Four Months Expenditures Contained In Report; Minimum Amount Of Gas And Oil Used; 371 Pupils Ride Trucks Every Day; Replacements And Repairs Only \$312.42

Transportation costs for rural school children that have been coming into the towns of Roper, Creswell, Mackeys and Plymouth, in which are high schools, has been kept at a minimum for the first four months of the current school term as only \$1,203.18 has been expended for this purpose, it was learned here today from statistics compiled in the office of J. W. Norman, county superintendent of public instruction.

There are eight trucks that are operated on runs in the New Lands, Scuppernon, Westover, Long Acre, Wenona, Swain, Mt. Tabor and Long Ridge sections of the county. Included among these trucks are four Chevrolets, two Model T Fords, one International, and one Model A Ford. Some of these runs are rough while others are routed over roads that are kept in good condition.

These eight trucks have traveled 247 miles daily for the first four months of this school year, and have been in operation for a total of 543 school days, and during this time they have traveled about 16,788 miles. About 204 quarts of cylinder oil and 1,935 gallons of gasoline were used in the eight motor vehicles during this time. The truck operated on the Westover route has a total of 2,780 miles of traveling to its credit which is the largest total amount of miles traveled by any of the trucks.

An average of 371 pupils rode these buses every day. During the four months every child in the New Lands route rode 21 miles daily to and from school. Children on the Wenona route rode the shortest distance of only 30 miles every day, while those on the Westover route rode the longest distance of over 38 miles a day to and from school.

Repairs and replacements on the trucks during the period cost only \$312.42. The highest cost per mile was expended on the truck on the Wenona route which was an average of 9 cents during the period. The lowest per mile cost on the trucks was the one used on the Westover route which called for an expenditure of 5 cents a mile.

White School Attendance

The attendance report of the white elementary schools in the county revealed some interesting facts in regards to the schools as it shows that there has been a 2 percent increase in attendance over last year. The thirteen schools in the county, which excludes Plymouth, show a continued gain in enrollment and attendance in the county schools. The white high schools had an increased enrollment of 10 per cent and an increase in attendance over last year. The 13 average per cent of attendance in 1927-28 was 91, while in 1928-29 term the increase is 92 per cent.

Colored Schools Report

There are twelve colored elementary schools in the county which have a gain in enrollment of 8.7 per cent, and a gain in attendance of 5.5 per cent. The attendance in 1927-28 was 82.2 per cent, and while they had a 77.3 per cent of attendance in 1928-29.

Mrs. E. H. Liverman, Misses Virginia Cahoon, Neva Liverman, Eolien Overton and Leslie Darden were in Williamston Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Lucas of Durham are here visiting relatives.