

FEWER DEATHS, MORE BIRTHS IN COUNTY IN 1927

Total of 764 Births and 257 Deaths in County Last Year

ROBERSONVILLE LED

Had Greatest Number of Births and Deaths; Williamston Second in Births, Third in Deaths

According to vital statistics recorded in the office of the Registrar of Deeds here, Martin county had a higher birth rate last year than it has had since 1922.

In 1927 there were recorded by the list takers of vital statistics throughout the county 764 births and approximately 257 deaths, as compared with 651 births and 340 deaths in 1926.

Robersonville township led the list in both the number of births and deaths recorded during last year. There were 60 deaths, 40 among the Negroes and 20 among the whites in that township.

While Williamston township was second in the number of births recorded, it was third in the number of deaths listed, Goose Nest having one more death than did this township.

Goose Nest township recorded 110 births, 19 of which were listed in Oak City. Thirty-one of that township's forty-six deaths were among the colored.

Griffins township was low with 21 births and eight deaths. This township was the only one without a death in the colored column.

The other townships varied in their numbers of births and deaths as follows:

Jamesville had 58 births, and 20 deaths. Eleven of the deaths were among the colored and nine were among the whites.

Williams recorded ten deaths, six colored and four whites and 41 births.

In Bear Grass there were 60 births and 22 deaths, seven colored and 15 white. Outside of Griffins township, Bear Grass was the only township that recorded more deaths among the whites than among the colored.

There were 53 births in Cross Roads township, seven being recorded in the town of Everetts. Twenty-four deaths were listed, 17 among the colored and seven among the whites.

Thirty births as compared with 18 deaths were listed in Poplar Point township, nine of the births being among the Negroes and seven among the whites.

Hamilton township reported 33 deaths and 96 births. Twenty of the births were recorded in the town of Hamilton and 21 of the 33 deaths were among the colored throughout the township.

Board Education Names New School Board

Messrs. Haywood Rogers, John Daniel Biggs were appointed members of the local school committee by the Martin County Board of Education in a meeting here last Tuesday.

CHURCH WOMEN TO MEET MAY 2-3

Annual Meeting of Episcopal Women at St. Peter's, in Washington

In recent letters sent out by Mrs. James Grist Stoton, of Williamston, treasurer of the United Thank Offering for the Diocese of East Carolina, attention of all local treasurers is called to the annual meeting of the women of East Carolina, which will be held in St. Peter's parish, Washington, May 2 and 3.

These offerings, kept during the year in individual little blue boxes by all willing women of the various parishes, are presented twice a year at a special service, often with the celebration of the Holy Communion. The entire amount received from various churches in the world will be presented through the Woman's Auxiliary October 11, 1928, in the Cathedral of Sts. Peter and Paul, Washington, D. C.

Mrs. Stoton is making an earnest effort to have every girl and woman over 18 years old in the Episcopal Church in the Diocese to make an offering, no matter how small. Any parish or mission that has an offering from every woman member is put on an honor roll.

Twelve such churches of the Diocese were on the 1927 honor roll: The Ascension, Wilmington; St. Gabriels, at Faison; St. Marys, at Burgaw; St. Johns Mission, at Wilmington; St. Marks, at Roxobel; Grace Church, at Plymouth; Holy Trinity Mission, at Williamston; St. Andrews, at Columbia; St. James, at Ayden; Holy Innocents, at Avoca; Church of the Holy Cross, at Aurora; Calvary Church, at Swan Quarter.

This fund comes from free-will offerings, not from assessments. It is supposed to be given by self-denying women of the church for blessings received, to be used for the support of women missionaries and for those who are sick and disabled. It also pays the salary of Bishop Rowe. It trains, equips, and maintains evangelists, teachers, nurses, and social-service workers.

At present it is providing for 84 workers in the home field, 133 abroad, and caring for 23 who are on the disabled list and training 9. Miss Lona Bell Weatherly, who is doing such wonderful work at Lake Phelps, Washington County, is supported by the United Thank Offering. Miss Venetia Cox, another East Carolina girl, is supported by this offering and is now working in China.

Since 1889 the women of the Episcopal Church have given over \$3,600,000 for the United Thank Offering. The entire amount has been increased from \$2,188.64 in the nation in 1889 to \$912,841.30 in 1925. Every year the national receipts have shown marked increases over the preceding year's figures.

In the Diocese of East Carolina the amount raised in 1901 was \$380.04; in 1904, \$610.70; in 1907, \$1,684.57; in 1910, \$2,524.05; in 1913, \$3,571.50; in 1916, \$3,735.04; in 1919, \$4,257.25; in 1922, \$8,154.28; and in 1925, \$7,780.31. Mrs. Stoton and her assistants in the Diocese are hoping that the Triennial Offering of 1928 will break all previous records with a large amount and with many additional donors.

The record for Williamston is as follows—according to Mrs. Fannie Carstarphen, local treasurer: 1907, \$25; in 1910, \$127.93; in 1913, \$152.02; in 1916, \$123.55; in 1919, \$185.84; in 1922, \$183.34; in 1925, \$160.21; and towards the offering to be presented in Washington, D. C., in October, 1928, \$343.43.

MANY ATTEND MEETING HERE

Presbyterian Services to Be Continued Through Next Week

The Presbyterian services, started last Sunday evening in a special tent here, have been attended by goodly numbers practically every night. According to present plans, the meeting will continue through the next week, but the definite closing date has not yet been announced.

Last evening, Dr. E. E. Gillespie preached a strong sermon, his text, "Prepare to Meet Thy God" was chosen from a portion of the 12th verse, fourth chapter of Amos.

NEW SCHOOL BOARD HOLDS FIRST MEETING

Haywood Rogers, C.A. Harrison, C. D. Carstarphen, A. Anderson Members

FACULTY REELECTED

Applications for Positions Will Be Received At Meeting To Be Held On May 8

Meeting for the first time, the new school board, composed of Messrs. Haywood Rogers and C. A. Harrison, new members, and Messrs. C. D. Carstarphen and A. Anderson, old members, re-elected the entire school faculty here last night for the term 1928-29. Whether or not all the teachers will return to their posts will not be definitely known until May 7, the last day that contracts may be returned.

After electing the teachers, the members of the board entered whole-heartedly into the working out of plans for the school's operation during the coming year. In preparing the budget, the board members considered the operation of two buildings, and fitted the allotments to needs of the next term.

Using the two buildings next term, the grammar and high schools will have seventeen teachers. Miss Mildred Darden was made assistant principal by the committee, and she will have charge of the grammar grade building.

The local school officials are looking forward to one of the school's best years during 1928-29, and they are assuring the patrons that an undivided interest will be given in its operation.

LOCALS DEFEAT ROBERSONVILLE

Take Advantage of Breaks and Win By Bunting; Score, 6 to 5

Taking advantage of every break in the sixth frame, the local high school baseball team defeated that of Robersonville here last Tuesday afternoon, 6 to 5. While the game was marred by many errors, fans were treated when the locals started a bunting attack that resulted in five runs in the sixth inning.

Barnhill started in the box for Williamston and during his stay in the box the visitors made the majority of their hits, but errors played a part in all of Robersonville's runs with the exception of one, it was stated. Up until the fifth inning, James, star pitcher for Robersonville, fed the locals out of his own hands and allowed no hits until the sixth frame. The locals bunted well, but Roberson aided them by making untimely errors.

Hardison, relieving Barnhill, held the visitors hitless and in the seventh, he retired three visitors with as many pitched balls. The locals go to Robersonville Wednesday night where they will play a return game.

Favorable Report on Improving Roanoke

The Rivers and Harbor Committee has reported favorably the project for improving the mouth of Roanoke river, according to a special wire from Congressman Lindsay C. Warren, received here today.

The telegram, while it does not mention any particular project, is understood to refer to the recommendations recently made by the Chief of Engineers of the Army who recommends an expenditure of \$46,500 for dredging purposes and \$1,000 each year for maintenance.

The telegram received, reads: "Rivers and Harbor committee today favorably reported the project for improvement of the mouth of Roanoke river, and ordered it, same including in general bill soon to be passed by the House."

Christian Church Program for Sunday

Sunday school, 9:45 a. m. Baptismal certificates will be given to those who were baptized Easter Sunday. A large attendance is desired. Morning worship, 11 o'clock. "Open-eyed Eyes" will be the topic for the service. There will be no night service and the members of the congregation are urged to attend the night service at the tent. On account of the services of the Presbyterians in their tent, there will be no prayer service in the church Wednesday evening.

IS CONDUCTING TOBACCO TEST

John E. Griffin Holds Test; County Agent and Expert Assisting

Mr. John E. Griffin, of Griffin's township, with the assistance of Mr. J. B. Floyd, of the Tobacco Experiment Station, and County Agent T. B. Brandon, is conducting a tobacco test this year. Mr. Griffin made such a test last year, and while the results were considered good, it was decided to make a second test this year. The dry season had something to do with the results last year.

This year seven plats have been prepared and the transplanting will take place the early part of next week. In the first plat, the experimenters are using an 8-3-5 fertilizer with fifty per cent mineral nitrate derived from nitrate of sulphate and sulphur ammonia, fifty per cent organic, cotton seed meal and fish potash, two per cent muriate of potash and three per cent sulphate of potash and three per cent sulphate of magnesium. In a second plat, a 10-4-6 fertilizer, made up of same proportions of materials used in the first plat will be tried.

The third plat has an 8-4-6 fertilizer with same proportion of materials as in the other two. Number four plat with 8-4-6 fertilizer, has one-third mineral nitrate of the same matter as that used in the other two plats and two-thirds organic of the same material. The fifth plat has two-thirds mineral made up of same matter, and one-third organic. Plats six and seven will be used in testing those brands of fertilizers that the experimenters are already acquainted with.

Mr. Floyd stated Wednesday that the experiments would be of particular interest in that by using sulphate of potash and sulphate of magnesium, that if used in a fertilizer mixture of six per cent, potash, one would get enough magnesium there to take care of a crop on average soils.

In the test, Messrs Griffin, Brandon and Floyd are also trying different proportions of ammonia in an effort to tell definitely whether to use one-third inorganic fifty per cent, or two-thirds most profitably in growing tobacco of superior quality.

Mr. Griffin or Mr. Brandon either will be glad to give the exact results of the test, and all farmers interested in the test this year are at liberty to keep in touch with the facts as they develop.

CLUB MEETINGS OF HOME AGENT

Parmele Club To Present Play at Their School Commencement

By LORA E. SLEEPER Monday of this week, Miss Sleeper met with the girls of Parmele and Gold Point. The Parmele club requested a play for their school commencement and a simple play entitled the "Sewing Bee" has been placed in the hands of the club members and parts assigned. All club members will have a part in the play which will be given Monday night, May 14.

The women of Holly Springs met with Mrs. Fannie B. Hardison and had a demonstration upon "milk dishes." One leader of this club, Mrs. Hardison, gave a very good demonstration of a "baked custard."

The girls of Farm Life had their regular meeting Wednesday morning, many of the girls driving five or six miles in order to continue their club work.

The women of Poplar Point held their regular club meeting Wednesday afternoon at Mrs. Florence Edwards'. The agent gave a demonstration in making cottage cheese.

The girls of Williamston held their meeting yesterday morning. Yesterday afternoon, Miss Bess Oglesby gave an interesting talk on "Child Health" as the highest conception of the Better Homes movement.

The regular meetings of the Hamilton girls and women will be held this afternoon. Tomorrow the agent will be in Washington planning for the girls' camp which has been scheduled for July.

Catch Distiller in Dardens Section

Messrs. E. H. Gaylord and E. G. Waters caught Early May James, a colored man, last Tuesday in the Dardens section as he was firing a liquor still. James attempted an escape, but the officers outwitted him. The still was of 60 gallon capacity. There were 150 gallons of beer and five gallons of liquor on hand. James, admitting the ownership of the plant, was held under bond for recorder's court here Tuesday, May 1.

AGED MANDIES AFTER BEING HIT BY AUTO

No Blame For Driver of Car, Miss Louvenia Hopkins

CAR RUNNING SLOWLY

Accident Occurred Last Night Near Lilly's Hall; Victim Died This Morning; Was 70 Years Old

Hit by an automobile driven by Miss Louvenia Hopkins last night while returning home from a commencement exercise at Lilly's Hall, near here, Jim Brown, aged 70, died at the home of Mr. Albert Gurkin this morning shortly after 7 o'clock.

The old gentleman, who worked with Mr. Claude Mendenhall in Griffins township, had gone only a short distance from the school when he walked directly in front of the Hopkins car and was hit. Both of his legs and collar bone were broken, and while it is not certain, it is thought that he suffered internal injuries. He was removed to the home of Mr. Gurkin where a doctor was called. So badly was he hurt that he never regained consciousness, and his condition was such that it was considered useless to remove him to a hospital.

Describing the accident, Miss Hopkins stated that she was driving a Chevrolet car with her mother and several friends, that they had gone only a short distance when they saw Mr. Brown walking in the right-hand wheel track. She sounded the horn and turned to the left to miss him, and instead of his turning to the right as she expected he would do, he moved to the left suddenly and walked into the front wheel of the machine. Driving very slowly at the time, Miss Hopkins stopped the car before the rear wheel touched him. Miss Hopkins stated she backed the car off him but it is thought his death resulted from the injuries when he was first hit.

Arrangements for the funeral and burial had not been made this morning, and it is not known where the body will be buried.

During the past twenty or more years, Mr. Brown farmed in various sections of the county. He lost his wife a number of years ago and is survived by one son, J. T. Brown, of Texas, and two daughters, Mrs. Lettie Stalls, who is now in the State hospital at Raleigh and Mrs. Martha Bland, of Greenville. A daughter, Mrs. Reubin Keel and a young son, William Brown, died some time ago.

Local Team Won Yesterday, 18 To 2

The local high school team with two town recruits journeyed to Everetts yesterday afternoon where it defeated a picked team from that town and Gold Point, 18 to 2. It was a slug fest for the locals according to spectators, errors having something to do with the large score, however.

Coach Hood stated that the locals had their hitting clothes on yesterday and that they sent the ball to all corners of the field.

James Lafayette Cross Dies at County Home

James Lafayette Cross, aged 74, died in the County Home here last Wednesday morning from a stroke of paralysis two weeks ago.

He had only one son, J. L. Cross, Jr., who left the county seven years ago and has not been heard from since. Ignored in his declining years, the old gentleman was forced to the County Home where his passing was practically unnoticed save by the keeper and a few old friends. He leaves several grand children and a sister who now lives in Tarboro.

The funeral was conducted by Rev. C. H. Dickey assisted by Rev. J. H. Hale. The burial was at the old home place in the Biggs school section.

Over Five Tons Poultry Shipped From County

A fraction, over five tons of poultry was shipped from the county this week cooperatively by farmers.

The car arrived here Wednesday morning and during the remainder of that day and part of Thursday, 7,221 pounds were sold for \$1,541.03. The car was carried to Robersonville yesterday morning where 2,731 pounds of chickens sold for \$1,541.03. The two loadings weighed 10,050 pounds and sold for a total of \$2,119.16.

The most marked sale was that of an old hen for \$1.87. Mr. George E. Roberson made the largest sale which was a little less than a hundred dollars.

County Agent T. B. Brandon is not in a position to say just now whether there will be a fourth car to be shipped from the county this year or not.

Will Put New School On Rhodes Property

WOODMEN HOLD DISTRICT MEET AT EVERETTS

Three or Four Hundred Delegates Attend Meeting Thursday

STATE DEPUTY TALKS

Rev. A. Corey Elected District President; Paul Bailey, Secretary; Next Meeting At Farmville

Everetts, April 27.—Delegates from the several camps of the Modern Woodmen of America, comprising the thirteenth district, and embracing the counties of Wilson, Nash, Edgecombe, Pitt, Martin, Beaufort, Washington, Tyrrell, and Hyde, met with the camp at Everetts today. The meeting was called to order by Rev. A. Corey, State lecturer, and the morning session was an open meeting, as the school auditorium was being used for the school work. The meeting was held in the Baptist Church. Paul Bailey, clerk of the local camp, made the address of welcome, and after these well-chosen words F. M. Brown, district deputy, of Greensboro, replied and introduced Hon. M. L. Tremain, the State deputy, who made the address of the hour. The house was filled with people and his address was well delivered, and appreciated by all.

After the morning session the three or four hundred delegates and visitors retired to the rear of the church, where a long roll of wire had been stretched and loaded with barbecue and such other good things that a Martin County community can arrange. It did not take any spoken words to explain the appreciation that was manifest, for action is louder than words, and it would be safe to vouch for the entire satisfaction of all present.

After the feast of good things that had been so well enjoyed and an hours exchange of fellowship, the members of the camps represented met in the Woodmen Hall and perfected the district organization by electing Rev. A. Corey, of Jamesville, president; Paul Bailey, of Everetts, secretary and treasurer; and L. M. Barnes, Rocky Mount, W. G. Craft, Greenville, G. L. Bent, of Wilson, H. A. Taylor, of Battleboro, E. L. Roper, of Washington, vice presidents. They will also constitute the executive committee. L. F. Lane, the deputy of the district, was elected chairman of the program committee with authority to call in the officers of the camp where the next meeting was to be held, with assistance of the president and secretary of the district, to make the program for the next meeting. There were a number of suggestions made that will be helpful to the work of woodcraft and this organization promises to be very helpful to the work of the society in this district.

These meetings will be held semi-annually, and the next one will meet with the Farmville camp on Thursday, September 20th, 1928. Programs will be made and this will be a full demonstration of the real good that may be accomplished by such an organization.

Memorial Baptist Announcements

The pastor will open the doors of the church again next Sunday morning at 11 o'clock for the reception of members. The church has been highly gratified, in recent days, by the number of those who have come into its fellowship. We welcome them and hope to be of constant service to them.

It is felt, however, that there are still others who should take this important step, and the pastor will give them the opportunity Sunday morning. We welcome to our community and church the several new people who have recently come to Williamston. We invite all of them who are not otherwise affiliated to worship with us. Millions of the world's best people believe that the churches have something which men, women, and children can not afford to neglect.

This church welcomes into this community the representatives of the Presbyterian church who are holding a series of services. We trust that they may have gracious meetings. And this church places at their disposal its commodious building, if and whenever they should find the weather conditions such as to make their tent meetings impracticable.

Because of the religious services which they are holding this church will not hold its regular service Sunday evening but will join with them at their Sunday evening hour.

Sunday morning the pastor will have for his sermon-subject "The things that lead to repentance; and the text will be found in Romans 2:4, and reads, 'The goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance.'"

BOARD SELECTS SITE TUESDAY

Two Streets To Be Opened Leading To School Grounds

SIX ACRES IN SITE

Understood That Price for Land Was \$4,000, or Little Less Than \$700 Per Acre

After no little argument and discussion, a site for the proposed new high school building here was selected this week by the Martin County Board of Education. Five blocks, or their equivalent, from the Main street, the building will be erected on the Rhodes property, and will front a street extended from Simmons avenue, near the end of Smithwick street. From the best information possible, it could not be learned whether the street will be given a new name, or be known as Smithwick street, extended. Two blocks from Simmons avenue, the building will face the end of a street that will be constructed from the school across the Rhodes field to Haughton street. Facing the west, the building will be almost back of the present structure where the grammar and high schools are housed.

Although it could not be learned definitely, it is understood that \$1,000 was the price agreed upon for the six acres, or as one member of the County Education Board said, "a little less than \$700 an acre."

Dr. J. S. Rhodes, owner of the property, it is understood, will open three streets, one perpendicular to Simmons avenue and two parallel to Simmons avenue. It was not stated by school authorities whether the agreement called for the construction or just the opening of the streets.

RECORDER HAS EIGHT CASES

Clears Docket; Not Single Case Is Continued; All Found Guilty

Judge Bailey cleared the docket in the recorder's court here last Tuesday, trying eight cases of little or no importance. It was the first time that no case or several cases were not continued for one or two weeks. Five defendants plead guilty to the charges brought against them, and two of the other three defendants maintaining their innocence, were found guilty by the court.

Sam Taylor, operating a car while intoxicated, was fined \$50 and required to pay the cost of the action. His driving license was revoked for a period of four months. Entering home in the sum of \$75, Taylor was allowed ninety days in which to pay the fine and costs.

Mack Roberson plead guilty of simple assault, and judgment was suspended upon his paying the costs of the action.

Judgment was suspended in the case charging Duffy Bright with larceny and receiving after his pleading guilty and paying the costs of the action.

The court agreed with Will Smallwood when he plead not guilty of carrying a concealed weapon.

In the case of Bill Latham, the court did not agree with him when he plead not guilty to a drunk and disorderly charge, an \$10 fine was imposed. He also paid the costs.

Tom Hardison plead not guilty of assault with a deadly weapon, and after hearing the evidence, the court found that he was guilty of simple assault. Judgment was suspended upon the payment of the costs.

Perlie Williams, charged with carrying a concealed weapon, plead guilty of affray, which plea was accepted by Solicitor Hugh G. Horton for the State. Williams was fined \$25 and required to pay one-third the costs in his case and one-third the costs in the case of State against John Sam Moore and Robert Crowell.

John Sam Moore and Robert Crowell, plead guilty of an affray, which plea was accepted by the court. The defendants were required to pay \$25 each and one-third each of the costs in their case and that of State against Perlie Williams.

Make Change in Schedule of Train

Beginning Sunday morning, the Coast Line train running from Plymouth to Rocky Mount will operate on an earlier schedule. Instead of arriving here at 7:50, it will reach here forty minutes earlier, leaving here at 7:10. The change was made in order to afford a connection with a train from the South to Richmond at Weldon.

STRAND THEATRE SATURDAY KEN MAYNARD in "GUN GOSPEL" Also 2-REEL COMEDY And Serial "Blake of Scotland Yard"