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Highly Respected Citizen Passes At Bear Grass Home

Last Rites Held Monday For Mrs. Mary Jane Mobley

Mrs. Mary Jane Mobley, highly respected citizen and greatly beloved resident of the Bear Grass community, died at the home of her son, Sam Mobley, there last Saturday at midnight, her death marking the end of a long period of ill health and patient suffering. Almost 82 years old, Mrs. Mobley had been confined to her bed during a greater part of the time since last April, her condition becoming worse a few days ago when she suffered an attack of pneumonia.

The daughter of the late Mack Roberson and wife, Mrs. Mobley was born in Cross Roads Township nearly 82 years ago. When a young woman she was married to William M. Mobley who died in 1900. Seven children survive the union, five sons, Messrs. John Mobley, Sam Mobley, of Bear Grass; G. N. Mobley, of Wilson; Charles Mobley, of Williamston; Sol Mobley, of this county, and two daughters, Mrs. John Daniel Biggs, of Williamston, and Mrs. Edmond Harris, of Bear Grass. She also leaves one brother, Mr. Jesse Bynum Roberson and one sister, Mrs. Will Taylor, both of Robersonville.

Burley Growers Against Control

Growers of burley and dark-fired tobacco followed in the footsteps of eastern Carolina tobacco producers and voted against crop control for 1939, the vote standing about 50-50. A surprising feature about the farm referendum is that while a combined group of about 75 per cent voted for control, cotton was the only crop included in the government's economic planning program for next year.

Fourth Graders Exemplify The Real Christmas Spirit

The real Christmas spirit is being exemplified by the fourth graders in the local school this afternoon. The youths with their teacher, Mrs. W. H. Coburn, and grandmother, Mrs. H. G. Horton, are having a Christmas party, but they are not exchanging presents. The group will contribute to the Christmas Cheer fund, it was explained.

Former Martin Skipper Is Looking For Work

Kinston — Art Hauger wants to manage the Coastal Plain league club here in 1939. He is so anxious to return to Kinston that he has offered to "work all season for nothing" if he fails to produce a winning team. It's cold up in Springfield, Minn., where he lives, and Hauger would like to come south as early in the year as possible.

Indications Point To Record Tobacco Crop

CANTATA

The Choral Club will give a Cantata in the Memorial Baptist Church Thursday evening at 7:45 o'clock. The Cantata is in three divisions: first, The King Is Promised; second, The Incarnation; third, The King Is Born.

Everybody should be in the church promptly at 7:45. Don't miss this hour of stirring Christmas music!

A free will offering will be received and turned over to the Cheer Fund.

Directed by Mrs. Wheeler Martin with Mrs. W. C. Manning at the organ, the cantata will be rendered by the following: L. B. Wynne, Charles Leonard, Dr. R. G. McAllister, H. L. Swain, Dred Darden, J. H. Dixon, Asa Crawford, Mesdames Earl Wynne, Titus Criteher, J. S. Rhodes, Arthur White, James C. Manning, James H. Smith, James Ward, C. B. Hassell and Misses Rebecca Harrison and Jerry Humble.

Missionary Speaks In Local Church

Addressing the Sunday morning congregation in the local Baptist church, Mrs. Charles A. Leonard, Sr., vividly described the work of the missionary in China. Just home from years of services as a missionary in the great country, Mrs. Leonard stated that in the 100 years of missions in China, Christianity has gained two million converts, that the country offers the greatest mission field in the world.

"Somehow even in this terrible war, God is taking care, in a miraculous way, of the missionaries and He has not forsaken the Chinese Christians and the Chinese Empire," Mrs. Leonard said.

Whether Japan wins the war or not, it is the belief of Mrs. Leonard that Christ is to be exalted among those who are still heathen. She referred to Generalissimo Chiang Kai Shek and his wife, two devoted Christians, who are preaching and teaching the love of the Master, and who are supporting orphanages that are caring for great numbers of children whose parents have been lost in or as a result of the war. "General Chiang has started a New Life Movement among his soldiers and the meaning of the movement is 'Simple Life in Christ Jesus,'" the missionary explained.

Fund Inadequate To Meet Relief Appeals

The Christmas Cheer cash fund was slightly increased over the week-end, the treasurer, J. C. Manning, announcing a total of \$98.64 on hand last evening. The amount is far from adequate in meeting the demands, leaving the sponsors of the cheer drive in a quandary as to whether to make a personal canvass for additional funds.

SANTA CLAUS

Santa Claus is making his debut a bit early for the nearly 200 school teachers in this county, the office of the superintendent releasing today nearly \$21,000.00 in salaries. A special arrangement made it possible to pay the teachers for the fourth month a few days ahead of time. "It'll be bad to wait so long after Christmas, but if they did not pay now, there would be no Christmas for me," one teacher was quoted as saying as the checks were being distributed today.

Only Hope Rests In Increase Rates For Soil Conservation

Big Farmers In This County Will Increase Their Crop

A marked shift in tobacco plantings by individual farmers in Martin County and others in the area is foreseen as preliminary preparations go forward for producing a record leaf crop in 1939. The only hope for heading off a billion-pound planting next spring is found in credit limitations and the possibility of increasing benefits under the soil conservation program.

The credit limitations are certain to hit the little farmer who has been dependent upon the other fellow's capital for financing his operations. If the government does not step in with a seed-feed loan fund, and it is doubtful that it will, then there will be a reduction in the crop as far as the little farmer is concerned. The trend among the larger farmers is to increase and almost double the 1938 acreage. "We planted about fifteen acres in 1938, and we plan to plant approximately 30 acres in 1939," a Martin County farmer said this week explaining that he had the necessary equipment and labor to produce the crop, that about the only additional cost would be fertilizer. To justify his plans, the farmer said, "Well, I figure tobacco will be cheaper next fall, and that quantity production will be necessary if I am to break even."

Representative Harold Cooley who has taken an active lead in behalf of the farmer is planning to seek higher benefits for tobacco growers under the soil conservation program, and to amend the law that will protect those who comply with the soil conservation program in the event a quota system is re-established in 1940 or in later years.

Viewing the national tobacco situation, R. E. Williams has the following to say:

Agricultural adjustment officials predict one of the largest flue-cured tobacco crops in history would be produced next year as a result of refusal of growers to approve quotas for the 1939 crop.

Flue-cured growers rejected the quota program in a referendum held December 10. Although 56.9 per cent of those who voted favored the quota plan, approval of two-thirds was required before the plan could be put into effect. The vote that put the quota on the 1938 crop was 86 per cent.

Latest Department of Agriculture estimates place the size of this year's crop at 780,000,000 pounds, 70,000,000 less than the 1937 production and almost 100,000,000 pounds lower than the record output of 1930. Income from the crop has averaged \$167,000,000 for each of the last five years, compared with an average of less than \$100,000,000 for the preceding five-year period.

"The is nothing to prevent the growers from doubling their planting next year," one AAA official said. "If they do, the price is almost certain to drop."

This official predicted an excess production next year would be followed by a return to the quota system for 1940.

World consumption of flue-cured tobacco, the department said, is about 750,000,000 pounds a year, and the carryover of stocks this year is approximately 954,000,000 pounds. Based on present stocks and the estimated production for 1938, the 1939 carryover would be almost 1,000,000,000 pounds.

AAA officials offered no official explanation for the defeat of the quota plan. They suggested, however, that growers, located principally in Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida, might have decided that an upward trend in consumption would enable them to sell as much tobacco as they produce next year without substantially lowering the price.

EXPECT LARGE SALE AT AUCTION MART TOMORROW

Holding its second sale tomorrow morning, the Williamston Stock yard is expecting a record offering of stock and an increased number of buyers. The sale gets underway at 10:30 o'clock on Washington Street.

Aged Resident Dies At His Home Near Here Sunday Night

Funeral Rites For George W. Griffin Held Monday Afternoon

George W. Griffin, prominent county citizen and successful farmer, died at his home in Griffins Township Sunday evening at eight o'clock following a long period of declining health. He was 84 years old.

The son of the late Alfred and Louendia Griffin, he was born in Griffins Township and lived there all his life. He first married Miss Elizabeth Manning who died a long number of years ago. Three children, Mr. Eddie Griffin and Mrs. Louis Peel, both of Griffins Township, and Mrs. John Gray Corey, of near Williamston, survive this union. He later married Miss Mary Jenkins, who died the early part of this year. He leaves one sister, Mrs. Cornelia F. Lilley, and one brother, Mr. Alonza D. Lilley, Sr., both of Griffins Township.

Mr. Griffin was highly regarded as a man and citizen throughout Martin County. He served the county as commissioner for several terms about a quarter of a century ago, and exercised his influence for the betterment of his community and county. He was a great believer in the Primitive Baptist church, and while he never affiliated himself with that or any other denomination, he was recognized as a high-toned Christian gentleman, one whose advice was valued by others and one whose daily walk exemplified the finer things in life. Mr. Griffin was a member of the old school, one who was versed in the hardships that were common during the War between the States and in the reconstruction days. He was a hard worker and valued the friendship and confidence of his fellowman. Mr. Griffin was considerate and possessed a kind character.

Funeral services were conducted from the home yesterday afternoon at two o'clock by Elders B. S. Cowin and A. B. Ayers. Interment was in the Manning cemetery in the Farm Life section of Griffins Township.

Officers Wreck Still In County

Headed by Sheriff C. B. Roebuck, a raiding party wrecked an unusually large illicit liquor plant in the Hassell section of Hamilton Township last Friday. Three men were arrested and five thousand gallons of beer and 78 gallons of liquor were poured out. Two of the men, Ben Fleming, colored, and Jasper Woolard, young white man, were jailed. The case is scheduled for trial in the county court on the ninth of next month.

The plant was one of the largest wrecked in this county in recent weeks, and was said to have been in operation only a few weeks. Assisted by Deputy Bill Haislip and Jailor Roy Peel, Sheriff Roebuck broke the steam boiler with an axe and wrecked the manufacturing equipment.

Small Child Dies At Everetts Home Friday

Roland Ward Peaks, three weeks old, died at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thurman Peaks in Everetts last Friday morning at 9:15 o'clock.

Funeral services were conducted Saturday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock by Rev. J. M. Perry, Robersonville minister. Interment was in the White Cemetery, near Bear Grass.

SCHEDULE

The Enterprise will close shop Thursday following the issuance of its last paper of the week, and following a custom of long standing it will forego the next Tuesday issue and reopen on Wednesday, December 28. Some members of the force will be occupied in assisting the Christmas cheer movement while others will start for the old home fires in Pennsylvania and across the State.

Announcements and other articles for publication in the last issue of the week should be in this office not later than tomorrow noon.

Events Crowd Calendar In Local Schools and Churches This Week

An Appeal

Appeals, pitiful as can be and disquieting in this section of plenty and self-claimed humanity, are coming in rapidly daily, the appealers pleading their cases before the Christmas Joy Campaign workers, and expressing earnest hope that their little children will be remembered this Christmas time. Pathetic falls short in describing the pleading heard by the sponsors of the joy movement. At the present time, cash contributions are far from adequate to meet, even in a small way, the actual needs existing in this community.

There are nearly 100 people living in this county who receive \$2 or \$3 a month, and they live on that amount, plus what a gracious people may be inclined to give them. For them the fast approaching Christmas season is just another period of the year, a period devoid of all hope and happiness.

There are many fatherless homes with many children entirely dependent upon others. There are those who are mentally deficient, and who are denied a place in institutions. There are those who are afflicted and who bear their sufferings without complaint, hoping against a hope long gone that they may enjoy the blessings that you and I enjoy.

A growing list of appeals is taking form day by day, the list carrying the names of nearly 200 little children, not to mention older people who are entirely dependent. Most of the cases are not subject to direct relief.

Sufficient toys have been received, it is believed, to go around, but the people of this community have not responded even halfheartedly with cash contributions, and the last appeal is being made today. If you have not already made a contribution, and you think it humanly possible to participate, won't you leave a small donation for the cause at The Enterprise office today or turn it over to James C. Manning, fund treasurer?

Pleas for old clothes are also being heard, and while the Joy Campaign sponsors did not plan to include the collection and distribution of any wearing apparel, the need is so great that the original task has been enlarged. If you have any old clothes that can be spared and you wish to spare them, just call The Enterprise and a messenger will be sent for the bundle.

Urges Sympathy For Persecuted

Meeting here yesterday afternoon, women of the Episcopal church heartily approved a resolution by the executive board of the Woman's Auxiliary to the National Council to "celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ by showing in simple friendly ways their sympathy with their Jewish neighbors."

"We, the executive board of the Woman's Auxiliary to the National Council, representing the women of the Episcopal Church all over the world, desire to express our grief and dismay at the persecution of the Jewish people in central Europe.

"At this Christmas season when we remember a Jewish family for whom there was no room in the inn at Bethlehem, we are sorrowfully aware of the countless numbers of their race who are today seeking shelter for themselves and their children.

"We call upon the women throughout the church to celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ by showing in simple friendly ways their Jewish neighbors and by making welcome into their communities, schools and homes, refugees who have come to this country. We also urge them to promote international government action for the relief of refugees and to work for a larger measure of justice and consideration for all Jews and other minority groups in our national life."

People Turning To Decorations

Starting a bit late, local people are now busily engaged in trimming Christmas trees and arranging doorway decorations. The work, however, is running behind the schedule followed a year ago when 71 homes and yards were aglow with holiday lights.

The bachelors down East Main Street way have done themselves proud with an unusual lighting scheme. The courthouse gang has given up and will not compete with the town hall group, and the old hall of justice is one gloomy spot to behold.

The date and hour for judging the decorations will be announced shortly, and it is believed that the competition will have become keen by that time.

Decorations on the town hall and municipal water tank have attracted much attention for tourists going south at night.

Christmas Programs Are Added Features In Schools, Churches

Parties Underway in Elementary School This Afternoon

A series of gay Christmas parties underway in the schools this afternoon and others scheduled during the week by the several churches are claiming the undivided attention of little folks throughout the town and community.

Room parties with the grade mothers assisting in handling the programs are being held in the elementary school here this afternoon. The Parents-Teachers organization is lending the program a helping hand and merriment is reigning supreme as the children enjoy the exchange of gifts and make ready to begin the Christmas holidays which will continue to Monday, January 2.

The first of the church programs was held in the Methodist church last Sunday evening when the young people under the direction of Mrs. James Ward, gave a pageant interpreting the nativity and associated events. Tomorrow evening the Sunday school will give a special program featuring the spirit of sharing. A tree is being planned for the young folks there.

Special pictures will be an added feature on the programs in the several Presbyterian churches during the week. The pictures portray the birth and childhood of Jesus. The schedule of special Christmas programs was announced for the several points by Rev. Z. T. Piephoff, as follows: Poplar Point, Wednesday at 7 p. m.; Harrison's, Thursday afternoon at 5:30 o'clock; Roberson's Chapel, 7 p. m. Thursday; Bear Grass, Friday at 7 p. m.; Williamston, Friday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock; Gold Point, Sunday, Christmas Day, at 3 p. m.

The Christmas program in the Church of the Advent will center in three services, a tree for the children Saturday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock, the celebration of the Holy Communion at 8 o'clock Christmas morning and again at 11. A special Christmas service will be held in St. Martin's, Hamilton, Christmas evening at 7:30 o'clock.

The Holiness church will hold a special Christmas service Sunday night at 7:30 o'clock.

On Friday night, the Bethany Church Sunday school will have a Christmas program.

The Christian Sunday School will hold its tree program Friday evening at seven o'clock.

One of the main features in the series of Christmas programs will be the cantata by the local choral club in the Baptist church Thursday evening at 7:45 o'clock. The Baptist Sunday school will have its tree for the children Friday evening at 7:30 o'clock.

Santa in person is planning to be present and participate in many of the programs.

Wm. Wood Dies In Kinston Hospital

William Wood, brother of Mrs. Leman Barnhill, of Williamston, died suddenly in a Kinston hospital last Saturday evening at six o'clock of pneumonia. He was 50 years old and had visited here on frequent occasions.

Funeral services were conducted from the home of a sister, Mrs. Ray Adams, in LaGrange Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock by Rev. Perry Case.

Among those attending the funeral from here were Mrs. G. H. Harrison, Mrs. J. C. Manning and Miss Lela Brown Barnhill.

Special Christmas Services At Sweet Home Church

The Sweet Home Church of Christ will observe Christmas with special services. Special music by the choir and several duet numbers will be rendered. Rev. Garland Bland will preach the sermon at eleven a. m., using as his subject, "The Uncrowned King." All members of the choir are requested to meet at the church Thursday night at seven o'clock. Mr. Bland will assist in the practice.

FOUR MORE DAYS

There are just four more days before Christmas—a long time possibly for the kiddies, but a mighty short time to complete the holiday purchases and make them ready for scheduled delivery.

Here's a tip for the late shopper: Additional goods are being placed in Williamston stores in anticipation of meeting the needs of the last-minute shopper. It is yet time to complete the shopping task, and you'll find prices in Williamston stores very reasonable.

Market For Sweet Potatoes Constant

Despite heavy deliveries during the past few days, prices for sweet potatoes continue to hold firm at 75 cents a bushel on the local market. Fairly heavy shipments are moving from this point to northern centers, the market sending out a dozen carloads in the past few days.

The market will suspend activities at the end of this week until next Tuesday, W. H. Corbett, of Corbett Package Company, announced today.

Sales of inferior grades made direct by farmers to truckers have been as low as 25 cents a bushel, it was unofficially learned today. Most farmers, however, believe the market will continue to hold at 75 cents and possibly go higher after the holidays and they are not offering their potatoes for sale just now.

Eleven Are Jailed In County Over Week-end

Eleven persons were jailed in this county last week-end, officers expressing the sincere hope that the holiday crime wave will peter out before the week is spent.

The defendants were faced with various charges, none of them being of a serious nature.

LIBERAL

Members of the colored race are proving themselves a liberal group despite uncertain economic conditions now facing this section. In the drive for Red Cross support, the colored schools in the county raised \$44 and in addition to that sum paid \$41.92 for tuberculosis seals.