

Williamston Native Drowned In James River Last Monday

H. M. Burras, Jr., Funeral This Afternoon at Wife's Home in Tennessee

Hugh M. Burras, Jr., native of Williamston and an employee of the Southern Material Company, was drowned in the James River about fifty miles from Norfolk late last Monday night. The body was recovered Wednesday noon.

After the young man was reported missing Tuesday morning, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Burras and sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Macon, left here immediately for Virginia, and Mr. Burras was present when the body was recovered. Friends of the family were advised here yesterday that funeral services would be conducted this afternoon at his wife's home in Fayetteville, Tenn. The funeral party left Norfolk by train yesterday for Tennessee.

Few details of the young man's untimely death could be had here immediately. One report stated that he had been assigned a special task on a sand barge in the James River Monday evening. Mrs. Burras delivered his bathing suit to the company's office in Norfolk that evening, and he continued up the James River. Completing his work he started swimming to shore, one report stating that workmen on the barge held a spotlight on him until he was seen wading in about three feet of water near the shore. He was not seen after that time. The car with his clothes in it was found on the bank and he was reported missing.

Mr. Burras was born in Williamston 34 years ago next month. Spending his early life here he attended the local schools and Buies Creek College. Some years ago he entered the employ of the Roberts Paving Company and later went with the Southern Materials Corporation. At the time of his death he was the firm's operating superintendent. While working in Tennessee, he married in a prominent family at Fayetteville about four years ago. Besides his parents and sister here, he leaves his wife, Miss Rachel Dryden before marriage. No children were born to the union.

Sheriff Elbert G. Cokes, of Surry County, said that Mr. Burras was swimming to shore from a barge operated by the company for which he worked. The body was recovered by Coast Guardsmen in six feet of water about 250 feet from shore.

Dr. Ray Parker, of Smithfield, acting for the Surry coroner, declared death due to accidental drowning, and the body was turned over to a Smithfield funeral home, Sheriff Cokes said.

The officer said a gravel barge was grounded Saturday near Hog Island, and Burras came Monday to direct a tug's operations in freeing it. He swam to the barge, and when the job was completed, he left about 9 p. m. to swim ashore. Cokes said the tug master held a spotlight on him in the water until he seemed to be safely near shore.

A perfect specimen of young manhood, Hugh, Jr., was hard-working and industrious. He had many friends here, and was held in high esteem by his employers and his fellow employees as well as by all others who knew him. News of his untimely death came as a shock to members of the family and his many friends here.

Peanut Prices Up To New High Level

Peanut prices, hovering around the figure stabilized by the government during most of the selling season, are now approaching a new high peak. But, with one or two exceptions, there are few or no peanuts in the hands of producers for sale in this section.

The market today was offering five cents a pound for the best grades. Records are not available, but the price is about the highest, if not the highest, reported in recent years.

The price advance is traceable to several causes which were created principally by war conditions. Consumer demand has mounted steadily since last January with an increase of purchasing power in the hands of the common laborer. Competition offered by certain types of nuts produced in other countries has been limited by a shortage in shipping facilities. And then there is the production control program to be considered during the coming three seasons.

Stocks are virtually depleted in government warehouses and on the farms, a recent report stating that only 37,000 tons of the goobers had been crushed by the oil mills in this State and Virginia.

Present indications point to fair prices for the goober crop this fall.

While weather conditions can have much to do with it during the next two or three months, the condition of the peanut crop at the present time is not very promising. Much of the crop was replanted in some cases as many as two and three times, meaning that the goobers will not be uniform in maturing and that the crop will possibly be light.

Grand Jury Will Hear About Cases Alleging Tax Evasion

Preliminary arrangements for rounding up alleged tax dodgers in Martin County are virtually complete, and the cases will be placed before the grand jury meeting here next Monday. A last check of the tax books is being completed today by Commissioner C. D. Carstarphen and Tax Supervisor S. H. Grimes, and the names will be submitted to the jury for whatever action is deemed necessary. Indictments are expected in possibly 750 cases.

In working to place the names of all property owners on the tax books, the representatives of the county do not charge anyone with non-tax listing. They are reporting to the grand jury that the names of certain citizens cannot be found, leaving the court to issue formal warrants and prosecute any and all cases.

It was learned unofficially that the list of non-listers includes citizens from all walks of life, white and colored, poor and well-to-do, school teachers and in one or two instances ministers of the Gospel.

The list of non-listers was created by checking the draft registration, the election poll books and the automobile registration against the tax books. Indictments will be in order when the grand jury meets. It is understood that the warrants will be turned over to the sheriff's office with instructions to serve the papers and have the defendants appear for trial at the September term of superior court. If the court follows the same procedure employed in a number of other counties, the defendants who are found guilty will be required to list for taxation, pay all past due taxes and the case costs.

Superior Court Opens Regular Term Monday



Joseph Brake Roberson, left, and Marion Oscar Hyman, leaving this county a short time ago, are now working for Country as members of Uncle Sam's armed forces. William Ernest Davis and Cushing Biggs Bailey were rejected on account of physical disabilities.

Pleased With USO Drive In County

State officials of the United Service Organizations this week expressed keen appreciation to R. H. Goodman, chairman of the campaign in this county, for the quick and responsive drive advanced in support of the organizations. Martin County's share of the national quota was \$350. That amount has been forwarded, but the drive is short of the \$700 goal, the extra \$350 to be used within the county. Others wishing to contribute are directed to send their donations direct to Treasurer John W. Hardy. A final report on the campaign in this county is expected at a meeting next Monday night in the Legion Hut at 8 o'clock.

In his letter to Mr. Goodman, State Chairman R. M. Haynes said, in part: "My hearty congratulations and sincerest thanks on the grand job you and your people did in raising Martin County's quota among the very first of the counties in the State."

"We are all deeply indebted to you for the fine job you did and know you get great satisfaction from a job well done."

Robert L. Coons, State director of the organizations, said in part: "This is a grand job done in a short while, and I am sure that Martin County will be an inspiration to many of the other counties."

To Open All Streets To Traffic Here Tomorrow

While not measuring up to general expectations, all of the several recently surfaced streets here will be opened to traffic tomorrow. A small application of sand is being placed on the streets to keep the tar off cars. About half of the streets have already been opened to traffic, and there is some sign of dust on them.

ALIVE

According to information received here this week, Ned Laughinghouse, former Williamston resident, is still alive and getting along "as well as could be expected." The information was released through the International Red Cross, but details as to his whereabouts and general condition were not revealed. It is believed that he continues in German hands.

Mr. Laughinghouse was on his way to Africa to work on the tobacco market at Salisbury when the ship on which he was a passenger was attacked and sunk by a German raider. He suffered a brain injury.

Non-Tax Lister Is Expected To Have His Day In Court

Few of 16 Cases On Superior Court Calendar Considered Very Important

Sixteen cases charging violations of the criminal laws have been placed on the docket for trial in the one-week term of Martin County Superior Court convening next Monday with Judge W. C. Harris on the bench. Scheduled to run for a week, the court is likely to clear the criminal cases from the docket, try one or two minor civil cases and adjourn.

None of the criminal cases is considered of any great importance, and it is quite likely that a busy season on the farm will hold the number of spectators to a minimum. The term, however, is expected to attract more than passing interest as action by the grand jury is expected in several hundred cases charging owners and citizens with evading or otherwise failing to list their properties and polls for taxation. Indictments are expected, but it is not expected that the cases will be called for trial before the term convening next September.

The following cases had been placed on the docket up until this morning.

Roosevelt Fagan is charged with the larceny of an automobile from Bennie Griffin. Fagan was on the roads last March and the case was continued.

Continued last March, the case charging Garland Bailey with assaulting his brother, Walter, with intent to kill, is slated for trial next week. The defendant is at liberty under a \$500 bond.

Ernest Johnson, young white man, is defendant in four cases, all of which charge him with forgery. He continues in jail in default of a \$200 bond and three \$100 bonds. Beginning about the middle of last April, Johnson is alleged to have forged the name of R. R. Alexander on the checks. One was cashed by H. G. Norman for \$3.75, another was cashed for \$8.00 by the E. and W. Grocery in Williamston, another by the Robersonville Oil Company in the sum of \$3.50 and another by L. T. Johnson in the sum of \$4.50.

Alfred Williams is in the county jail awaiting trial for allegedly attacking Jeremiah and Sadie Wallace with a shotgun with intent to kill. The attack took place in Everetts last April, and Williams was ordered to jail in default of bond.

Onnie Hopkins, charged with breaking into Harry Adler's wine store in Robersonville, week before last, is in jail awaiting trial. He was unable to raise a \$300 bond.

James Curtis Nicholson, arrested and jailed following a wild ride in a car stolen from Mrs. Joseph A. Eason in Williamston on May 24, is in jail awaiting trial in default of bond in the sum of \$300.

Critically attacking Kelly Purvis (Continued on page six)

Searches For Blood Relations In County

Separated "for some reason" from her parents and adopted into another home, Miss Viola Bennett is anxious to locate her blood relations.

The young lady explains that she was born in or around Williamston several years ago, that her parents were the late Mr. and Mrs. George R. Bowers. Her mother before marriage was Laura Hyde.

Miss Bennett explained that she liked her adopted home very much, but that she was mighty anxious to contact some of her blood relations, and asks that they please contact her at once at her home, 48 Hudson Drive, Wilmington, N. C. (Continued on page six)

British Determined To Fight To Finish Against Barbarism

Puppet Government at Vichy Says Allies Are Repulsed In Drive Into Syria

A new and stirring determination to fight to a finish the war against Hitler and his ne worder of barbarism was expressed by Winston Churchill, British Prime Minister, yesterday, the declaration having the full support of representatives from fifteen allied governments.

They met—these agents of government of the British Empire and of other governments exiled by the march of German troops across Europe—behind the scarred and gloomy brownstone walls of St. James' Palace and promised to stand together in the war ahead and to work together after the peace for "economic and social security."

Their resolution to this effect, along with Churchill's keynote speech, was regarded as a new statement of Allied war aims and as giving the lie to rumors of a negotiated peace.

They gathered, as Churchill put it, not alone to express their mutual resolve, but to "cheer the hopes of free men and free peoples throughout the world" to promise that the sword drawn in the Allied cause would never fall "till life is gone or victory is won."

Reading off a long catalogue of Nazi "horrors and crimes," he told his strange, mixed audience.

"It is upon this foundation that Hitler with his tattered lackey Mussolini at his tail and Admiral Darlan (the Vichy vice-premier) frisking by his side pretends to build out of hatred, appetite and racial assertion a new order for Europe."

"Never did so mocking a fantasy obsess the mind of mortal man. We cannot tell what the course of this fell war will be as it spreads remorselessly through even wider regions."

"(But) it will not be by German hands that the structure of Europe will be built or union of the European family achieved. In every country into which the German armies and Nazi police have broken there has sprung from the soil a hatred of the German name and contempt for the Nazi creed which the passage of hundreds of years will not efface from human memory."

"We cannot yet see how deliverance will come or when it will come, but nothing is more certain than that every trace of Hitler's footsteps, every stain of his infected, corroded fingers, will be sponged and purged and, if need be, blasted from the surface of the earth."

Again, he went on, Britain and her Allies pledged themselves to "that ceaseless and unwearied effort which must be made if the captive peoples are to be set free."

Britain, he said, had travelled far since the dark and "breathless" days of last June—when her army was "almost weaponless"—after the disaster in Flanders—and now

"Our solid, stubborn strength has stood the awful test. We are masters of our own air and now reach out in ever-growing retribution upon the enemy. The Royal Navy holds the seas. The Italian fleet covers diminished in harbor, the German Navy is largely crippled or sunk."

Food and arms from across (Continued on page six)

Farm Bureau Group Has Successful Meet In High School Here

President Chas. Daniel Presides; E. B. Garrett Speaks On Soil Erosion

The power and strength of the Martin County Farm Bureau was asserted successfully at the organization's annual meeting held in the high school here last evening. The program, centering around Congressman Herbert C. Bonner's address, included an appetizing barbecue supper and free admittance to the ball game.

Presiding over the meeting, Chas. L. Daniel, forceful president of the County Farm Bureau, reviewed the organization of the unit in this county and briefly outlined the results gained through collective action. Mr. Daniel, speaking over a special radio hook-up, introduced Attorney Hugh G. Horton who, in turn, introduced the main speaker with a few well chosen words that paid high tribute to the First District's representative.

Mr. Bonner's speech was about the first, if not the first, public address to go on a radio hook-up here.

Following the representative's speech, Mr. E. B. Garrett, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, addressed the nearly 500 farmers, his topic centering around the soil conservation service. "The erosion problem is so vast that it is impossible to get the true facts," he said. Continuing he said, "It is estimated that 100 million acres of good farm land have been washed away in this country, equalling about 1,250,000 80-acre farms. That land has gone (Continued on page six)

Congressman Herbert C. Bonner Addresses Farm Bureau in Annual Meeting at High School Last Night

COUNTY YOUNG MEN IN ARMY



The best-looking, as a whole, and the nearest perfect physically of any group to leave this county for service in Uncle Sam's Army, the nine young men left last week for Fort Bragg. Eight of the nine "stuck," James Robert Sawyer gaining a return ticket on account of physical disabilities. They are, front row, left to right: Garland Warren, Simon Stalls, Elver Roberson, Charlie Gilbert, Mobley, back row, left to right, James Guskie Rogerson, Sawyer, Gilbert Mobley, William Atwood Gurganus and Eulis Raynor Vanderford.

Judge W.H. Coburn Calls Three Cases In County's Court

Tribunal in Session Hardly An Hour Last Monday Morning

It was another uneventful and short session for the Martin County Recorder's Court last Monday when Judge W. H. Coburn called three cases. The court held forth hardly an hour and there was a very small number of spectators present for the proceedings. Quite a few witnesses were called in one case, but the others required few witnesses.

No session of the court will be held next Monday as the superior tribunal will have the courtroom. Judge Coburn, Solicitor D. E. Johnson and Clerk L. B. Wynne will be on the job the following Monday to dispatch any business that is likely to accumulate during the meantime. Proceedings of the court last Monday.

The case charging Kelly Bailey with being drunk and disorderly was continued for judgment until Monday, June 23rd.

Several witnesses were called in the case charging Clyde Silverthorne with drunkenness, disorderly conduct and an assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill. While the evidence was damaging as far as the minor charges were concerned, the court granted a defense motion at the conclusion of the State's evidence asking for a verdict of not guilty as to the assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill. Adjudged guilty of being drunk and disorderly and assaulting his sick wife, Silverthorne was sentenced to the roads for twelve months. Silverthorne was said to have thrown or knocked a box of snuff in Sheriff Roebuck's face when the officer was making the arrest last week.

Probable cause appearing in the case charging assault and robbery, the court bound Willie B. Jackson over to the superior court for trial next week. Bond in the sum of \$300 was required.

Farm Bureau Group Seriously Injured In Fall From Depot

G. M. Cargile, Farm Bureau Man, Was Seriously Injured In Fall From the Roof of the Atlantic Coast Line Station Here Early Tuesday Afternoon

He suffered a severe gash on his forehead, two broken ribs and a fracture of the back and a sprained ankle. Given first-aid treatment in a local doctor's office, he was later removed to a Tarboro hospital.

Linesman for the Western Union Telegraph Company, Mr. Cargile was working on some wires on top of the building. He started down and the ladder slipped, throwing him to the ground.

While on the way to the hospital, the ambulance was in a minor accident but the patient received no further injury. The ambulance was only slightly damaged when struck in the side by a car at Bethel, and continued the trip.

Thirteen Volumes Added To Library

Thirteen volumes were added to the local public library this week, it was announced today by Mrs. Ethel Anderson, librarian. The books are for adults.

The titles are: Van Loon's Geography, Marigold, Code of the West, Quo Vadis, Rulers of the World, Royal Road to Romance, Story of Man-kind, Black Narcissus, Show Boat, All Quiet on the Western Front, The Secret Garden, Historic Americans, American Industry in the War.

Pledges Continued Efforts For Good Farm Legislation

Looks To His Constituency For Support of Vote for Aid To Britain

Nearly 300 Martin County Farm Bureau members and special guests from this and adjoining counties heard Congressman Herbert C. Bonner briefly explain his stand on the all-out program to Britain and deal at length with agriculture's place in our economic system.

His introductory remarks dealt with the war, the burning question of today. We have stood by and watched the rape of Europe and checked off one democracy after another. We are seeing the next to the last leg democracy fighting and if it fails, heaven help us," Mr. Bonner said. He told the group of Farm Bureau members in their annual meeting that he had voted for the continued flow of arms and ammunition to Britain, that while he favored organization for labor he was not for the strikes that are threatening our defense. Mr. Bonner explained that he would continue in Washington close to his duties, and leave his political future in the hands of the voters in his district.

The text of the Congressman's speech follows:

With the enactment of tariff legislation some 120 years ago, the Congress of the United States began a series of legislative actions for the benefit of various groups in society. Since that time the tariff has been broadened and raised on numerous occasions. National and State Legislatures have enacted child labor laws, maximum hour laws, governing working conditions, compensation laws for labor, and our present important statutes covering minimum wages and maximum hours. All these law affecting labor were designed for the benefit of those people who work for others to improve the condition of the laboring man and to stop or prevent the exploitation of labor. In fact much of our earlier legislation has been designed to benefit some specific group in the nation, the immigration laws were primarily for the protection of labor, just as the tariff was to give special benefits to industry.

Labor has not been the only group to benefit from Federal or State legislation. However, business interests have also been long recognized and protected by our legislative bodies. The corporation laws enabled business and industry to control prices through the limiting of production; a practice which industry and business have followed for years. The Interstate Commerce laws were for the protection and benefit of certain groups, and we could go on naming a number of other laws that have been enacted for other groups.

It has been only recently that the Congress of the United States has taken cognizance of the disadvantageous position of agriculture because of the privileges extended to other groups.

John C. Calhoun recognized the effect of a tariff on agriculture when he stated 113 years ago: "So partial are the effects of this (protective) system, that its burdens are exclusively on one side and its benefits on the other. It imposes on the agricultural interest of the South, including the Southwest, the burden not only of sustaining the system itself, but that also of the Government."

"We are the serfs of the system out of whose labor is raised, not only the money paid into the Treasury, but the funds out of which are drawn out rich rewards of the manufacturer and his associates in interest. Their encouragement is our discouragement."

For a hundred years after Calhoun made this statement there was an almost continuous increase in the tariff rates, which placed farmers of the South at an increasing disadvantage with most other groups in the nation. When the world trade and other economic conditions were changed so drastically following the World War, the cumulative effects of our long-time tariff policy began to be felt in earnest by American farmers.

It was not until 1933, when the present democratic administration came in, that laws were passed to give direct assistance to farmers and to accord them some of the benefits through national legislation that many other groups had enjoyed for a long time.

It is true that prior to the farm programs of this administration, some national legislation had been passed to benefit farmers. These included setting up the national extension service, vocational education service, and the Farm Credit Administration, and the Federal Farm Board. As (Continued on page six)

New Agent Is Initiated In The Ways Of Raiding

Reporting for service here a few days ago, Special Investigator E. E. Webster was initiated in the ways of raiding, Martin County style, by the Veteran ABC officer, J. H. Roebuck this week. The officers wrecked two plants down in Free Union Tuesday, capturing a 60-gallon capacity popper kettle and pouring out 700 gallons of beer. The officers will be joined soon by Investigator Felix O'Reilly.

COTTON STAMPS

All Martin County merchants interested in participating in the cotton stamp program for removing the surplus staple, are invited to attend the public meeting in the agricultural building here tonight at eight o'clock. Program plans and other details will be explained at the meeting.

It is estimated that \$15,000 worth of cotton stamps will be distributed among approximately 450 cotton farmers in this county, beginning some time in July. The stamps will serve as money with a corresponding value for the purchase of cotton goods.