

PREACHER DIES AFTER CRASH AT UNDERPASS HERE

Rev. Heber C. Baker, of Greenville, Is Instantly Killed Early Sunday

DRIVER WAS DOZING
Car Almost Completely Demolished; Hit Concrete Center Support at Speed of 30 Miles an Hour

Rev. Heber C. Baker, Holiness preacher of Greenville, was instantly killed, and Jack Williams, 18-year-old boy of the same town, suffered cuts and bruises about the body when their car, a Ford sedan, hit the center support to the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad bridge at the highway underpass at the west end of Main Street here about 12:30 Sunday morning. The minister is believed to have suffered a broken neck when he was thrown against the car top support and windshield. He was removed from the car and placed on the ground where he died within a minute. Young Williams, driver of the car, was thrown into the steering wheel, and after receiving first-aid treatment was able to return to his home.

Offering an explanation shortly after the wreck, young Williams stated that he saw no obstruction in the road, that he must have been dozing, for he did not even see the danger signals displayed on the bridge support. While the car was a complete wreck, the driver stated that they were not going over 35 miles an hour, and probably not over 30 when it struck the concrete pillar. The car did not turn over when it struck the post, but with the front curved to fit the support, the rear of the car swung to the right. The radiator, engine, and front axle were driven almost into the body of the car, and the running gear was completely wrecked.

Examining the body of the man in a local undertaking establishment, Dr. W. E. Warren and Coroner S. R. Biggs only found two small bruises, one on the neck and another over the right eye. It was the coroner's belief that death resulted from a broken neck or he says it might have been caused by heart failure. Williams was badly cut over the left eye, suffered a broken finger and a cut on the arm. He was very badly bruised about the chest.

According to the story told here, Baker and Williams, partners in a meat market in Greenville, completed a hard day's work at 11:30 Saturday night, and when closing they decided to drive to Aulander, where they were to attend a camp meeting Sunday. It was agreed that Williams should drive to this point, while his partner slept, that they were to exchange positions upon their arrival here. Williams stated that the minister was sleeping at the time the car hit the underpass support, and it is believed that he never knew what happened.

Rev. Mr. Baker was about 30 years old. During the past few years he has served as pastor in several Holiness churches in this section. He had been here a number of times, preaching in the church of his faith on Houghton Street. He leaves a widow and five small children.

Young Williams is the son of Mrs. Bessie Williams, of Greenville. His father, the late Rev. J. B. Williams, died a year ago.

The young driver was deeply affected by the accident, stating that he wished he could have died with his partner. The accident is only one of several attributable to the location of the railroad bridge support, and it is understood that steps will be taken to have the authorities remove the obstruction. While there is only one death attributable to the location of the pillar, a number of bad wrecks have occurred at the underpass, several cars having been completely wrecked. One or two persons have been badly disfigured.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FIX TAX RATE FOR THE COMING YEAR AT \$1.34

SCHOOL BOARD MEETS TONIGHT

Final Preparation for Opening of Local Schools To Be Made at Meeting

Final preparations for the opening of the local school will be made this evening when Principal William R. Watson meets with the local school board. While the opening of the school has not been definitely decided upon, it is understood that the fall session will be started the second of next month. A definite date will be decided upon tonight by the board and other matters will be attended to, Professor Watson stated yesterday.

The two remaining vacancies in the faculty, one in the high school and another in the primary department will be filled at the meeting this evening. Appointments to these two positions were made some time ago, but the appointees tendered their resignations a few days ago to go to other schools. Equipment for the high school building will be placed within the next few days, Professor Watson stated yesterday and everything will be in readiness for the opening September 2, provided the board members favor that date for starting the fall session.

Professor Watson is stressing, at this time, the necessary compliance with the State health law requiring all children to be vaccinated against smallpox before entering school. The law will be strictly observed here this year, the school head stated, and he is urging all parents to have their children treated before school starts. "To wait for vaccination until school starts, delays the child several days," Mr. Watson pointed out, and that the school might get a splendid start right in the beginning, all parents are urged not to wait until school begins to have their children vaccinated.

PATROLMEN ARREST TWO

Negro Curses and Draws Knife on Officer Near Here Sunday

Gus Purvis and Tom Scott, both colored, were placed in jail here Sunday evening when they hailed a highway patrol car between here and Skewarke on highway No. 30.

According to information received here, the two men were along the road when a third party asked them to fix a tire for him. They were to be rewarded with a drink of liquor, which the car's owner said he was on his way to get. After fixing the tire, Purvis and Scott waited a long while for the return of the man whom they had favored. During the meantime, the highway patrol car came along, and the two men hailed it. No attention was paid the two men until one of them cursed the occupants of the patrol car. The patrolmen backed their car up, and Purvis is said to have pulled his knife. The arrests followed.

Scott was released yesterday morning under bond and Purvis was held for his trial today.

Negro Shoplifter Foiled at Local Store Last Saturday

Attempting to steal a pair of trousers, an unknown negro ran out of his coat in Harrison Brothers store here last Saturday afternoon, leaving the stolen trousers and his own coat in making good his escape. He turned up the street upon leaving the store and wound his way rapidly through the usual Saturday crowds, his speed being so fast that his pursuers were disheartened and gave up the chase soon after it was started. The man, described as one with a very black skin and around 35 years of age, turned from the main street and made his escape through the vacant lot between the Atlantic Hotel and the old Farmers & Merchants Bank building.

South Georgia Sets New Tobacco Record

Atlanta, Aug. 5.—Figures compiled by the State Department of Agriculture and released today show the 22 bright leaf tobacco markets of South Georgia last week established new records for total sales and amount of money paid to growers.

A total of \$4,009,998.69 was paid to the growers during the week for 27,905,108 pounds at an average price of \$21.54 per hundred pounds which brings the season's aggregate for the first two weeks sale to \$9,519,010.40 for 44,845,771 pounds.

The season's average to date is \$20.77 per hundred pounds, nearly \$8 per hundred above the average paid in 1928.

MANY MATTERS BEFORE BOARD MEET MONDAY

Water Rates Are Reduced; Will Be Made Effective This Month

PERMIT PRIZE FIGHT
Order Hot Dog Stand Between Warehouses Removed; To Inspect Local Dairies

Bruce Payton, Washington Negro, was denied license to operate a pool room near the warehouses on Washington Street by the town commissioners here last night. Payton was represented by Mr. E. G. Weston, of Washington, and Attorney H. G. Horton, of this place.

A permit to stage a prize fight here the 16th of this month was given Thomas Wilder, promoter, and Mr. T. S. Critcher, manager of the Martin Athletic Club. It was stated that arrangements are under way to bring Eddie Wagner, of Philadelphia, and "K. O." Conway, of Durham, together here. Three other bouts and a battle royal will also be included in the program, it was stated.

An ordinance for the inspection of all dairies supplying milk in town was ordered passed.

The water department superintendent was ordered to meter the Roanoke Fair Grounds.

The "eating joint" located between the two houses near the Roanoke-Dixie and the new Planters Warehouses was ordered removed when it was learned that the stand would greatly affect insurance rates in that particular district.

To comply with insurance regulations, the commissioners ordered a general inspection of the oil engine in the town's water pumping station.

Commissioner Lindsey was appointed to investigate the repair needs of the old 1924 model-town truck and compare the repair costs with the purchase price of a new truck.

The Britt Hotel water meter was ordered tested when the proprietor entered a complaint.

With a number of complaints before them, the commissioners altered the water scale, recently adopted when a change from the quarterly to the monthly system was made. The readings for the second quarter amounted to \$1,800, while the readings for July were \$784. To make the rate more in keeping with the one in effect under the old system, the following rate was ordered:

Minimum charge per month, 3,000 gallons, \$1.75; next 2,000 gallons at 45 cents per thousand; next 5,000 gallons at 40 cents per thousand; next 10,000 gallons at 35 cents per thousand; next 25,000 gallons at 30 cents per thousand; next 50,000 gallons at 25 cents per thousand; next 100,000 gallons at 20 cents per thousand. The old rates were: Minimum charge per month, 3,000 gallons, \$2.00; next 2,000 gallons at 55 cents; next 5,000 gallons at 50 cents; next 10,000 gallons at 45 cents; next 25,000 gallons at 40 cents; next 50,000 gallons at 30 cents; next 100,000 gallons at 25 cents.

The rates adopted last night will not apply to the July readings, it was stated.

Delinquent Subscribers Have Few More Days

Statements having been mailed to a number of delinquent subscribers, the management of this paper is making an urgent appeal to those in arrears to make their remittances at once. August 10 is the dead line, and on that date the lists will be altered and old accounts will be removed. The manager pleads for prompt attention that no copies will be missed.

It was pointed out that all accounts unpaid by August 10 will be placed on the books and all future subscriptions will be taken subject to an offset.

Pamlico County Poor May Be Sent Here

The county commissioners in session here yesterday entered into an agreement with those of Pamlico county to care for the inmates of that district in the home near here. For the care of the inmates Martin is to receive \$27.50 per month for each one, medicine and other incidentals will be added to the regular charge. The number to be cared for in the home was limited to ten.

It was not stated just when the inmates will be received here. William Jones, colored of this county, was admitted to the home yesterday.

Bertie Negro Is Hurt In Automobile Wreck

Dan Speller, 25-year-old negro of Bertie County, was badly cut about the head and several of his companions were hurt when he ran his car into a telephone pole last Saturday night. Speller was carried to Dr. W. E. Warren's office for medical attention. His car was badly damaged, according to reports.

Commissioners Decide Not To Pave Any Streets At Present

BADLY HURT AS CAR HITS TRAIN

Guy Cooper, of Washington, Victim of Accident Near Jamesville Monday

Guy Cooper, employee of the Macia Ice Cream Company, of Washington, was badly injured and his car completely wrecked yesterday morning when he ran into an Atlantic Coast Line Railroad passenger train nine miles below Jamesville on Highway No. 90. He was cut and bruised about the body and suffered a broken collar bone and bad burns when his car, a Dodge, caught fire from the impact.

Mr. Cooper was traveling toward Plymouth and unable to see the train on account of a field of high corn, he was on the train before he realized it. In an effort to miss the engine he turned his car sharply throwing the rear part of the machine into the train. The car was knocked aside and before the train could be stopped and the train attendants could remove him, the car caught fire and badly burned his back. He was given first aid treatment by Dr. J. E. Smithwick, of Jamesville, who advised his removal to a hospital where he will be confined several days, it is thought.

MONKS NOSE OUT BULLS MONDAY

One of Most Thrilling Contests Played in League; Score 3 to 2

"It was one of the most thrilling games yet played in the Bright Leaf Belt League," is the way the fans described the contest between Bertie and Martin at Windsor yesterday afternoon when the Monks registered a 3 to 2 win over the Bulls. Cherry, for the Monks, and White, for the Bulls, each pitched a splendid game.

In the third frame, the locals pushed over two runs, one counting on a wild throw to third, and the other being driven across by hits. Another marker in the third brought the Martin aggregation's scoring to a close, Bertie coming up in the fifth to make two runs, one on an error and the second on hits.

Bertie threatened to tie and even win the game in the eighth when a man was on second and another on third with no outs. Cherry tightened and fanned three men in a row to feature the day's play. Martin threatened to score in the ninth when Hood singled and Jimmie Brown walked. White, Bertie's moundman, followed Cherry's style and struck out Carroll Brown and Whitehurst. Gaylord was out on a high fly to center.

These two teams meet here tomorrow in a double bill, the first game being called at 2:30.

Liquor Not Cause of Many Wrecks Over Week End

A loss of one life and a property damage of several thousand dollars were recorded in this county over the week end, when one of the largest number of accidents ever to occur in the county in so short a time was reported over the week end.

While two or three of these wrecks were attributable to fast driving, only one was attributable to whiskey: Dan Speller, colored, was said to have been drinking when he ran his car into a telephone pole near the Atlantic Coast Line Station here.

There were several drunks arrested, but each of them was making his way around on foot.

Standing of Clubs

| Club | W | L | Pct. |
|----------|---|---|------|
| MARTIN | 6 | 2 | .750 |
| Bertie | 5 | 3 | .625 |
| Hertford | 3 | 5 | .375 |
| Beaufort | 2 | 6 | .250 |

Results

FRIDAY, AUGUST 2
All games rained out.

MONDAY, AUGUST 5
Martin, 3; Bertie, 2.
Hertford, 0; Beaufort, 1.

Where They Play

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7
Bertie vs. Martin at Williamston—Double-header. First game at 2:30. Beaufort vs. Hertford at Ahoskie.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 9
Beaufort vs. Martin at Williamston. Hertford vs. Bertie at Windsor.

FORMER CITIZEN COMMITS SUICIDE

James Mack Jones Shoots Himself at Hopewell Sunday

James Mack Jones, formerly of this place but a resident of Hopewell, Va. for the past few years, committed suicide at the home of his father-in-law, Henry W. Mizelle, there last Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Jones, 32 years of age, shot himself with a pistol, firing the ball into his right temple, the shot passing through his head and coming out just over the left ear.

A coroner's inquest was held at the scene of the killing yesterday morning, the jury stating that Jones died at his own hand.

The body will arrive here this evening and interment will be made tomorrow in Riddick's Grove cemetery. Jones left Williamston Saturday at 3:00 o'clock with N. Shelley, of Nashville, by automobile. They were planning to return here when Jones walked into his father-in-law's house where his wife and three children were and killed himself in their presence. He died instantly.

According to information received here, the shooting is believed to have followed family troubles over which the man had been brooding for several days. Rumor holds that Jones became suspicious of his wife some months ago and trouble starting then, he came to Williamston to work. Before leaving Saturday he made several peculiar remarks which were not noticed at that time but which later seemed to indicate that he was depressed.

About 11 o'clock Saturday night, Jones went to the home where his family was stopping. He remained in the house a short while and came out crying. He spent the remainder of the night with his uncle. The following morning he returned to see his family and played with the children for a while. At two in the afternoon he returned again to his father-in-law's, apparently going there to tell his family good-bye before returning here. At the door he held one of his children in his arms and kissed it. Going into the room he pulled a pistol from his pocket and killed himself in the presence of his wife, children and several others, one of whom was the man Jones claimed was the cause of the trouble.

Jones was the son of the late Joseph F. Jones and Mrs. Vannie Jones. He married Miss Mattie Mizelle, of Jamesville, ten years ago and she with three small boys, one 8 years old the others twins, 5 years old survives. He also leaves five brothers, Oscar, Claude, Jay, Proctor and Harry Jones. He was a World War veteran and was badly wounded while in action.

Price for Tobacco Shows An Increase

Chadbourn, Aug. 5.—The Chadbourn tobacco market today sold 76,694 pounds. One warehouse having completed a check of the day's business reports an average of \$18.10 per hundred pounds. The better grades of primings were in evidence on the market which resulted in an increased average price over the offerings of the first week's sales.

Indications point to heavier deliveries and better prices during the remainder of the week.

Business Increases 100 Per Cent at Jail Over Week End

"Business is certainly increasing down our way," Sheriff C. B. Roebuck stated last night. The officer explained that business increased 100 per cent from Saturday night to Monday morning with eight prisoners; yesterday morning we opened up with sixteen behind the bars," the sheriff said.

The charges varied in their nature and were, as a whole, of minor consequence. Several were released yesterday morning under bond to appear before Judge Bailey in recorder's court here today.

Market Boosters Hold Meeting Here Friday

Continuing to boost the local tobacco market farmers, warehousemen and others interested in a successful tobacco season here met in the town hall auditorium and further discussed last Friday evening plans for handling the season's crop.

The spirit of the meeting was marked, all present agreeing to cooperate to the fullest and in every way possible in boosting the market.

While it was not definitely decided upon at the last meeting, it is understood that a third meeting will be held next Friday evening. All are welcome and are urged to attend.

ACTION IS TAKEN AFTER LONG DEBATE LAST NIGHT

Decide to Stop After Present Sidewalk Program Is Completed

BIG CROWD PRESENT
Four of the Five Commissioners Vote Against Extending Paving Program Any Further

Turning conservative, strictly conservative, a majority of the board of town commissioners here last night voted to stop all paving activities as soon as the present program is completed, the action following a two and one-half hour meeting of a number of citizens and the town officials. The motion to "quit" resulted when several of the board members joined in a coalition, resenting the "push-over" methods which they accused the other members of following. Mr. C. O. Moore amended his motion to include the construction of a walk to the new school building, and Commissioner Meadows, who seconded the original motion, accepted the amended, thus ending what many believed at the meeting last night to be a splendid opportunity to pave several of the town's principal streets.

When the commissioners met at 8 o'clock last night meeting room was crowded with water customers waiting to register complaints. The paving question was called first and all water complaints were forgotten save one, the particular customer waiting until late in the evening to present his cause. A change in water rates was ordered. Several other matters were called, but they were left open until the open forum had spent itself.

Unable to accommodate the crowd in the mayor's office, the officials ordered the meeting continued in the auditorium. Mayor R. L. Coburn briefly proposed a street-paving program, stating that a bond issue of around \$60,000 added to what is held in the treasury at the present time would be sufficient to pave Houghton, Smithwick, Church, Watts, Williams, Academy, and Smithwick Streets and Simmons Avenue. Engineer George Brooks talked on the costs of the proposed program, stating that the contract figure was as low as could ever be expected. Contractor Clark made a few remarks relative to the work, but offered no suggestions, stating that his company would assure good work.

The individual citizens were then called upon to express their views. Mr. Roger Critcher stated that every property owner except one had signed a petition asking for the paving of North Watts Street. Mr. Frank J. Margolis stated that he had seen practically all the property owners on Smithwick Street and the undertaking was heartily endorsed. Attorney Hugh G. Horton took the floor next and directed an attack against paving Watts Street, stating that the town had best stop the work right now.

Lawyer B. A. Critcher was next up, and he made a splendid plea in behalf of continuing the paving program. He pointed out that when the town's main street was paved several years ago approximately \$12,000 was left in the town's treasury, and it was suggested at that time to use that amount toward paving the sidewalks. He opposed the step, stating then that the town should hold the \$12,000 in reserve. Last night, the attorney stated that he realized his mistake, for the \$12,000 gradually dwindled until it was all gone, and there were no permanent improvements to show for the money spent. He censured no one for the outcome and pointed out a similar fate for the \$20,000 the commissioners put on ice last night.

W. C. Manning, the editor, suggested the paving of Houghton Street and the construction of a sidewalk from the railroad to J. K. Coltrain's store. He launched a bitter attack against additional paving, stating that our enthusiasm was about to run away with us. He was "called" for his stand by B. A. Critcher, who pointed out a selfish spirit upon the part of the editor, who lives on Houghton Street. Mr. Critcher pointed out that the street he lived on was an important one, and that the people were practically unanimous in their desire to have it paved. Mr. K. B. Crawford took a similar stand as did Mr. Critcher when he stated that Smithwick ranks with Houghton in importance.

Mayor R. L. Coburn took the floor again, pointing out that a bond issue would be offset by assessments due from sidewalk paving and that the proposed issued would not affect the tax rate. It was stated this morning that the mayor is planning to make a statement within the next few days pertaining to the street paving program.

(Continued on back page)

WATTS
THEATRE

Wednesday August 7
WM. S. HART
in
"O'MALLEY OF THE MOUNTED"
Also COMEDY

Thursday-Friday August 8-9
Don Alvarado and Lily Damita in
"THE BRIDGE OF SAN LUIS REY"
From the Novel Which Won the Pulitzer Prize in 1928
Also NEWS AND COMEDY

MUSIC BY PHOTOPHONE