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ESTABLISHED 1898

ROBERSONVILLE VITAL STATISTICS FOR PAST YEAR

Fifty-nine Deaths and 161 Births Reported in That Township Last Year

DROP IN DEATH RATE

Both the Death and Birth Rate for the Township Are Below State Average

There were 161 births and 59 deaths in Robersonville township during the past year, according to records filed in the register of deeds office here last week, a decrease in deaths of about 27 per cent and an increase in births of about sixteen and one-half per cent in births.

While the statistics show that there has been a gradual decline in the percentage of deaths in the township, they show an irregular trend in births. According to birth statistics recorded for 1928 there were 168 births that year in the district. In 1929, the number of births dropped to 135. The number of births last year was one greater than the number recorded in 1928. In three years time, the number of deaths in the township has been lessened by more than half, there being only 59 last year as compared with 124 in 1928. There were 81 deaths there in 1929.

Illegitimate births, numbering 21 and all colored, were two greater than the 1929 number. Twelve of the such births were reported in the country, seven in the town of Robersonville and two in Parmele.

A close study of the statistics reveals many interesting facts, among them being the ages at death. While there have been very few records filed, it is hardly possible that the age record reported for Lucy Briley, colored of the district, will be surpassed. She was 95 years old at her death last September, the records show.

From a health standpoint, Robersonville Township commands a very favorable position, that is judging health by the State and township death rate. The township rate, 8.7 per thousand population, less by nearly four from a prolific standpoint, the particular township lags behind the State average, the township average being 23.84 births per thousand population, and that of the State being 25.9.

The report for the town of Robersonville, township, and Parmele, is listed separately, in detail, as follows:

Town of Robersonville

White	Colored	White	Colored
6	3	20	13

Town of Parmele

White	Colored	White	Colored
1	3	5	7

Outside of Two Towns

Deaths	Births
20	26
41	75

Very few of the vital statistics taken in the various townships have been filed with the office of the register of deeds, but they are expected this week.

J. L. Swain Dies at Home In Cross Roads District

J. L. Swain, farmer of Cross Roads township, died at his home there last Saturday morning of pneumonia. He had been sick about a week.

The son of the late John R. Swain and wife, Mr. Swain was about 40 years old and had farmed practically all his life. In early manhood he married Miss Vespe Biggs, of this county, who with two children, survives.

Funeral services were held at the home Sunday afternoon by Louis T. Holliday. Interment was made in the Mobley graveyard, near Bear Grass.

Farmers To Meet Again At Cooper's Thursday

A meeting of farmers in the Jamesville section will meet in the Cooper's school house Thursday evening of this week, it was announced yesterday by Professor W. T. Overby, leader of the discussions brought before the meetings. The importance of a good pasture will be the theme for discussion, Mr. Overby stated.

These meetings have been held regularly during the past several weeks, and are now looked upon as a part of the farm program in that part of the county.

Scouts Inspecting Fire House When Call Comes

Williamston's fire fighting apparatus, call signals and alarm were demonstrated to the local Boy Scouts last Friday evening. Chief Harrison and the Scouts were busily engaged looking over the mechanism of the equipment when a call was phoned in. The chief answered the call, told the boys about the fire and demonstrated the use of the alarm buttons. Lining up to one side, the youths watched the volunteers file into the engine room, one, two and three at a time.

A small grass fire was burning back of the new school building, and fearing that it might spread, near-by residents reported it.

Manslaughter Case Against W. W. Brazil Nolprossed

WAS ACCUSED OF KILLING SCHLON ON RIVER FILL

Found Guilty of Driving a Car Drunk Early Part Of December

SENTENCED TO ROADS

Given 12 Months on Roads To Be Discharged Upon Payment of Costs and \$500. Fine

The manslaughter charge preferred against W. W. Brazil, sewing machine salesman, of Columbus county, N. C., and resulting from the death of a scissor grinder whose name was believed to have been Chas. Schlön, on the river fill near here early in December, was nolprossed in the Bertie Superior court in Windsor yesterday. Brazil, however, was found guilty of driving an automobile while he was under the influence of whiskey, and Judge Cranmer sentenced him to the roads for a period of twelve months to be discharged upon the payment of the costs and a five hundred dollar fine. In the advent Brazil pays the fine, he is not to drive an automobile in North Carolina during the next twelve months.

Shortly after dark, the evening of December 6, last year the scissor grinder was found fatally injured on the highway fill, one mile from the river bridge. He was rushed here for medical attention, but died a few minutes after his arrival. His body was buried in Potter's field several days later after authorities failed in their diligent efforts to locate relatives of the man.

Brazil was arrested three miles from here on the Washington road when he ran his truck into a Sunday school bus. Facts established by a Bertie County jury connected him with the fatal accident and he was placed in the Bertie County jail. Bond was arranged at a preliminary hearing in Windsor, and he was given temporary freedom a few days later.

At the trial yesterday, Brazil stated that he could remember no accident on the river fill, that he did not run over the man with the push cart. He said that the hole in his car radiator was made when he ran into a lightning rod protruding from a truck in Rocky Mount a few days before he came here. Glass found at the spot where Schlön was fatally injured was not compared with that found on Brazil's car, it was stated by those attending the trial yesterday.

Several witnesses from this county were summoned in the case and offered testimony during the trial procedure.

ROBBERS ENTER FILLING STATION

Arrest Made in Connection With Robber of W. L. Taylor's Store

Robbers, bursting through a door, entered the filling station store of Mr. W. L. Taylor, on the Washington road near here last Friday night and carried off goods valued at about \$25. Very few articles of food were removed, the robber centering hands, on snuff, cigarettes, socks and overalls.

Will Worley, recently from the Edgecombe roads, was arrested early yesterday morning by Sheriff Roebuck in connection with the robbery and is now being held in jail here. Worley was playing the role of peddler last Saturday, offering snuff and socks at bargain prices to residents in the neighborhood. Investigating the merchandise sold, Mr. Taylor and officers learned that it compared with articles missed from the store. Worley denied entering the store, explaining that he gained possession of the goods when he found them along the highway. Several of the stolen articles had not been recovered late yesterday.

Officers Arrest Two Men At Liquor Still Near Here

John Fenner Bonds, Jr. and John Beacham, young white boys, were arrested at a liquor still in Williamston township near the county home last Friday afternoon by Deputy S. H. Grimes and Chief W. B. Daniel. Four other white boys, Mervin Bonds, Dallas Price, Bob Price, Jr., and Archie Carraway, were arrested yesterday by Deputy Grimes for connection with the still. The four were at the still when the officers made the raid but escaped.

In jail here the case was investigated, and there was very little operating equipment used in turning out the poison liquor. The case is scheduled for hearing before Judge Bailey in recorder's court today.

JAMESVILLE BOY PRIZE WINNER IN A CORN CONTEST

Earl Tetterton Wins \$10 in Gold; Boys Attend Big Banquet in Kinston

THREE IN CONTEST

Earl Tetterton Raises More Than Three Times As Much Corn Per Acre Than Average Farmer

Competing in the corn growing contest conducted by the division of vocational agriculture of the State Department of Public Instruction, farmers and farm boys from all over Eastern Carolina met in Kinston last Friday when prizes were announced and when the young farmers were guests at a luncheon in the new Kinston hotel.

Many prizes were offered and there were many contestants competing for the prizes, Earl Tetterton, of the Jamesville agriculture class, walking off with second prize, \$10 in gold offered by the Chilean Nitrate Bureau. Arthur Marlow, Columbus county boy, won the first prize.

Entering the contest last summer, the boys set out to make three bushels of corn grow where one had grown before. That was the first requirement to even rate in the contest. Earl Tetterton, Charles Martin and Sherwood Davis, under the direction of Professor W. T. Overby were off to a good start. For a while Young Davis, of near Dardens, was leading the group, but dry weather burned his crop, but even then he raised 232 bushels of corn on his three-acre plot, or more than three times the average yield for the county. His cost was \$104, that amount including labor and all other items.

Tetterton, planting on a soil offering greater resistance to dry weather, forged ahead, and he raised 287 bushels on three acres at a cost of \$133.54. Dry weather, however, limited his yield. The young farmer used fertilizer at planting time, and made two applications of nitrate of soda during the season. He cultivated the crop extensively.

Martin, with the smallest cost, \$81, raised 210 bushels on his three acres.

MARTIN NATIVE DIES IN ILLINOIS

George Ollie Roberson Is Laid To Final Rest In Arlington Cemetery

George Ollie Roberson, a native of this county, died last Friday at the United States Army hospital at Fort Sheridan, Illinois, of peritonitis. The son of the late George L. Roberson and wife, Mr. Roberson was born in 1895 near Robersonville. He attended the schools of the county, and was a student in the Williamston high school for some time. In 1918 he joined the air service and was given his first training at Rockwell Field, California. At the time the Armistice was signed he was preparing to leave for service overseas. After the war he continued in the service, and received training at Kelly Field, Texas and Luke Field, Honolulu before going to Chanute Field, Rantoul, Illinois, where he died.

Mr. Roberson is survived by his widow, who was before her marriage Miss Hazel Dail, of Kansas City, one daughter, Miss Ollie Marie Roberson, a student at North Carolina College for Women, and his mother, two brothers, C. A. and W. H. Roberson, of Robersonville, and one sister, Mrs. Theodore Roberson, of Williamston.

The funeral services were held in Washington City yesterday, interment following in Arlington Cemetery there.

Interesting Programs at the Watts All This Week

"The Man Who Came Back", playing tonight at the Watts theatre, was declared this morning by those who have witnessed the picture to be the best they had seen in months. Janet Gaynor and Charles Farrell, star favorites of many theatre goers, have leading parts, and play them well. The Watts continues throughout the week with a splendid program. Tomorrow night and Thursday, Clara Bow appears in "Her Wedding Night." Friday, "Madonna of the Streets," is booked for that day only.

Kiwanians In Regular Meet Here Tomorrow

The Kiwanis Club will meet at its usual hour tomorrow at the Woman's Club. The President Mr. W. H. Carstarphen, is anxious that a large membership be present.

LOCAL SCOUTS OBSERVE 21ST ANNIVERSARY

Twenty-seven Young Boys Attend Service In the Baptist Church

UNION SERVICE HELD

"Where Can Youth Find God" Sermon on Topic of Rev. John Barclay At Sunday Evening Service

The twenty-first anniversary of the Boy Scout movement in America was fittingly observed by Williamston Troop No. 27 last Sunday evening at a special service held in the Baptist church here, all other denominations suspending worship in their own edifices to join in the celebration. The service, centered around twenty-seven young boys, grouped for the occasion, was an impressive one. Scoutmaster Wheeler Martin and Assistant Scoutmaster Hallman took part in the service, Mr. Martin accepting the charter for the local troop from the Kiwanis club, which organization is sponsoring the movement here. The Kiwanians were represented by W. H. Carstarphen, president of the club.

Coming here from Wilson, Rev. John Barclay, scoutmaster of that town, preached to the boys and their friends assembled for the evening worship, "Where Can You Find God?" the sermon subject, was answered the minister telling of five places to seek the Divine. He explained to the boys and their friends that the difference between youth and old age was only a few years, that in every period from Job on down, the old folks extolled the virtues of the youth of their age and found fault with the youth of the current age. However, in every age, man has had the quest of finding God. Some people, the Wilson pastor and scout leader, find God in their intellectual pursuits. Einstein and James, great scientists found God as they toiled in the laboratory. Their minute discoveries leading to great revelations only proved to them that back of it all there was an eternal mind controlling the mechanism.

"Through our emotions we find God," the minister continued, explaining that though some failed to find God there, others found Him at every turn and every day. And then in the sense of the esthetic man find God. Mentioning Wordsworth and Shelley, Rev. Barclay told of the beauty resting in the landscape just as the day comes to a close, but even there some fail to see the power behind it all.

As a fourth place, the preacher stated that youth could find God in imagination, that therein lies one of the main sources where the young boy or girl might find the Divine. "Imagine what it would mean if 'Thy kingdom come on earth as it is in Heaven' were in effect in your town," he continued.

"And lastly, we can find God in our Wills, for men who have willed to serve God even if they die, always found Him. The man who loves soul above body always find God," Mr. Barclay declared.

In conclusion, Rev. Barclay urged the boys to always be true to the principles of their organization, to be good, true and helpful to all people.

Schoolmasters' Club Hold Regular Meet Tomorrow

The Martin County Schoolmasters' club will hold its fifth monthly meeting of the current school term with tomorrow evening, it was announced Principal A. E. Mercer at Farm Life yesterday. As the meetings are open to informal discussions, no definite program was announced.

Practically all the male teachers attend the club meetings monthly, and many interesting phases of school work are placed before the body for discussion at each gathering. Principal Mercer is expecting a representative attendance at the meeting tomorrow evening.

ANSWER BOX

- Q. What is the area of Martin county in square miles?
A. 438 square miles.
- Q. How many incorporated towns in Martin county?
A. Ten. Bear Grass, 131; Everetts, 270; Oak City, 481; Hamilton, 508; Hassell, 169; Jamesville, 344; Gold Point, 121; Parmele, 341; Robersonville, 1,181; Williamston, 2,731; Gold Point, 121.
- Q. What is the population of Martin county according to the 1930 census?
A. 23,400.
- Q. How many miles long is the Roanoke River?
A. 240 miles.
- Q. How many rivers are there in Martin county?
A. None. The Bertie county boundary line reaches to the river's edge on the Martin side.

Interest Centers Around Road Bill In Raleigh This Week

JOHN M. BOWEN DIES SATURDAY IN WASHINGTON

Funeral Held at Home On Main Street Here Sunday Afternoon 2:30

PROMINENT CITIZEN

Burial Took Place In the Family Cemetery on the Old Home Farm, Near Here

John M. Bowen, one of Martin county's most substantial citizens, died in a Washington hospital last Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock of peritonitis following an illness of about two weeks. Prior to an attack of appendicitis about two weeks ago, Mr. Bowen had enjoyed good health, attending daily to his farms and mercantile business here.

Fifty-two years old the fourth of this month, Mr. Bowen was born in Williamston township, five miles from here, the son of Molotha and Fannie Bowen. Reared on a farm, he tilled the soil within his own labor until a few years ago when he moved here and built a home, later entering the mercantile business with his brother, Mr. James Bowen. Since that time he personally supervised his farm work and directed the Bowen Brothers mercantile establishment on Washington Street here. In addition to his farm and mercantile connections, he was elected a member of the Williamston Township Road commission, serving there until he fell ill.

Noted for his quiet and unassuming manner, Mr. Bowen made many friends in his home community, the number greatly increasing when he established himself in the mercantile business here. In his community, he was a recognized leader, undertaking and promoting any measure that promised advancement.

He is survived by his widow, Miss Minnie L. Peef before marriage, and three children, two sons, Herman and James D., and one daughter, Frances, all of Williamston. He also leaves two brothers, Mr. James Bowen, of Williamston, and Mr. Willie Bowen, of near here; and two sisters, Mrs. R. S. Price, and Mrs. Lida Rogerson, both of near here.

Funeral services were conducted at the home on Main Street Sunday afternoon at 2:30 by his life-long friend and spiritual advisor, Elder B. S. Cowin, assisted by Elder John N. Rogerson, of Bear Grass, and Rev. Chas. H. Dickey, of the local Baptist church. Burial took place in the family cemetery on the old home farm, five miles from here.

TEACHERS MEET HERE SATURDAY

Commissioner Griffin Tells of Financial Condition In Martin County

Holding their regular monthly meeting of the term here last Saturday afternoon, Martin county's teachers were warned by Commissioner T. C. Griffin to exercise economy as far as it might be a delay in making salary settlements next month. Mr. Griffin told the teachers that funds were available for salaries this month, that settlements would be effected Friday of this week. "We are making every effort to meet our obligations, but we are not sure that we can, and we want to advise you to that end now, the commissioner said. Voluntary salary reductions were not mentioned.

Rev. W. B. Harrington opened the meeting with devotional worship, and Miss Sleeper appeared before the group in behalf of garden contests and gardening in general. She referred the teachers to certain pamphlets, and assured them her assistance.

The meeting was the fifth of the 1930-31 term.

Twenty Cases On Court's Docket Here This Morning

In session here for the first time this month, the county recorder's court had 20 cases on its docket for trial today, the largest number facing the court in several weeks. One-fourth of the cases prefer charges of larceny and eight others have to do with assaults with deadly weapons. The court was handling the cases rapidly this morning, but the number of cases made afternoon work necessary. Judge Bailey was out of town last Tuesday, the number of cases accumulating. However, a majority was docketed since that time. Several important causes are before the body, attracting larger crowds to the spectator boxes.

CORN BREAD AND HERRINGS SOON TO BE POPULAR

Grist Mills Operating Day and Night; Herrings Begin To Run

Present indications are that the diet, corn bread and herrings, so popular in Martin county during the spring and part of the summer months last year, will be even more popular during the same months of this spring and summer. The few catches of herrings have turned the attention of many to the biblical story "two fishes and loaf of bread." There have been hardly more than a dozen of the herring caught in the Roanoke so far this year, but they will be multiplied many thousand times within the next few weeks.

As for the cornbread, it now looks as if there'll be more corn bread than herrings, and those who have been limited to small rations are hopeful that there be ample supplies of each. Jamesville opened a new grist mill last week, and it is believed that that town will be one of the main food centers for hundreds of Martin County people during the next few months. The Hardison mill has been operating its two heavy stones, turning out corn meal day and night practically every since the rains fell a few weeks ago. The Mobley or Everett mill is understood to be operating steadily, and numerous other gasoline turned grists are, in operation in various parts of the county, all contributing to furnish the meal supply which has been greatly increased during the past few months. The owner of the old Daniel and Staton mill met with adverse play, but the installation of a gasoline unit is being considered, and in the advent that the unit is installed, the supply of corn meal will be added to.

Few fishermen are skimming on the Roanoke at the present time, but there are a sufficient number to spread the news telling of the arrival of the herring, shad and later the rock.

INTERCROPPING LIMITS YIELDS

Tests Disprove the System Practiced By Most Good Farmers In the Past

Tests made by G. M. Garren, cereal agronomist of the North Carolina Experiment Station, at the mountain and coastal plain branch station farms last season indicate that intercropping corn with soybeans depresses the yield of corn and cuts the yield of soybeans as compared with yields secured when either of the two crops is grown alone. Mr. Garren reports that this is a rather startling statement to make since most good farmers have practiced the intercropping of cowpeas or soybeans with corn but he presents facts to back up his statement.

In making the tests on the two farms last year, Mr. Garren measured his land into one-tenth acre plots. In the first, he planted corn alone; in the second, he planted soybeans between the hills of corn; in the third, he planted a row of soybeans alternately with the rows of corn, and in the fourth, he planted soybeans alone.

Results secured on the mountain farm will give a fair example of what yields were secured. Taking round figures, he secured a yield of 56 bushels of corn per acre when the corn was planted alone. Where soybeans were planted between the hills, he harvested 50 bushels of corn an acre and where the soybeans were planted in alternate rows, he harvested 37 bushels of corn an acre.

Where the soybeans were grown alone, he harvested 30 bushels of the beans an acre; where the beans were planted between the hills of corn, he harvested only 7.5 bushels an acre and where the soybeans were planted in alternate rows, he harvested 26.6 bushels of the beans an acre.

In this test, of course, no account was taken of the soil-improving qualities of the soybeans nor of the value of the value of the beans as compared with the corn yield that was cut down.

"Spiced Banana Receipt" Offered By C. G. Morris

In this issue of the Enterprise the C. G. Morris and Company, fruit and Produce dealers of Washington are running a novel advertisement, asking that cooks and house wives interested in cooking write them for receipts for spiced bananas. Mr. Morris, says these receipts will be mailed at their expense and every subscriber of the Enterprise that ask for a receipt will receive one by mail.

THE GOVERNOR MAKES APPEAL TO THE PEOPLE

Little Hope For Relief If Measure Fails, Governor Declares in Radio Talk

\$8,000,000.00 INVOLVED

Road Machinery Men Oppose Bill Because It Will Limit Yearly Sales Now About \$1,000,000

The outstanding matter before the general assembly this week is undoubtedly going to be the administration road bill, which provides for the state to take over the entire maintenance of all county roads and for a reorganization of the State Highway commission on a state-wide basis instead of a district basis.

The first public hearing on the administration bill was held this morning at 9:30 before the house roads committee. The Kirkpatrick-Hill Murphy-Fountain coalition against the bill is expected to continue its fight against the bill to the bitter end, although the general consensus of opinion here is that Governor O. Max Gardner has strong support back of him in both houses for the bill.

"If this measure is not enacted, with its assurance of genuine tax relief to every taxpayer in North Carolina, then there is little hope for any tax relief of any sort from the general assembly," Governor Gardner said today. "For this measure not only provides for removing more than \$8,000,000 in taxes from property at one time, but also provides the machinery for taking care of what additional revenue is needed for the state to maintain the roads."

One of the principal objections being raised to the bill by those opposing it is that it will center too much power in the Highway commission in Raleigh, but instead of centralizing power, it tends rather to diffuse authority back through the counties, according to the advocates of the measure. For under this bill, the entire Highway commission is authorized to sit in the various counties to hear complaints or petitions, while under the present system delegations must either go before their district commissioner or come to Raleigh to appear before the Highway commission.

"There could not be a more autocratic or absolute highway system than now exists, with every highway commissioner being virtually absolute and all-powerful in his district, so that the surest way for any county to defeat its purpose is to go over the head of the district highway commissioner and appeal to the entire commission in Raleigh," said Representative E. B. Jeffress of Guilford county. "But under the new system set up in this new bill, any man from any county may come to Raleigh and take his case or complaint either to the chairman of the Highway commission or to the governor and be assured of an unprejudiced hearing and of fair consideration."

"The bill further provides that the Highway commission shall sit in the various counties and hear the requests of these counties; and if the Highway commission does not maintain the roads as the people in the counties think they should be, they can demand and get an immediate hearing. The law further stipulates that no road in any county shall be changed or abandoned by the State Highway commission without the consent and approval of the board of county commissioners in any county."

In case any county is not satisfied with the adjustment of any question between itself and the Highway commission, it may, through its board of county commissioners, appeal directly to the governor of the state to adjust the difference, the act stipulates.

There is no doubt that the principal opposition to the bill is coming from road machinery manufacturers and dealers, who are maintaining one of the largest lobbies ever seen here. Several senators have said that they have been approached by members of this road machinery lobby, while Representative Ed Flannagan of Pitt county has announced that if they keep on worrying him anymore he is going to start calling some names. Other members of the house say they have never seen such an insistent lobby such as that working against this bill.

One of the reasons the road machinery men are opposing the bill so bitterly is that it prohibits counties from purchasing any additional road machinery and for the past several years the counties have been buying more than \$1,000,000 worth of new road machinery every year.