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Last Rites Held For Mrs. Martha Beach Sunday Afternoon

Widow of W. A. Beach Died Friday at Her Home Near Hamilton

Last rites for Mrs. Martha Cherry Beach were conducted at the late home, near Hamilton, Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock by her pastor, Elder William E. Grimes. Interment was in the Hamilton Cemetery.

Sixty-nine years old, Mrs. Beach had been in declining health for some time, but she was able to be up until just a short time ago when she suffered an attack of pneumonia, death following a few days later on Friday.

The daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Mack Cherry, Mrs. Beach was born in this county. In early womanhood she was married to Mr. W. Abner Beach, who died several years ago. After living in the Everetts section of the county for a number of years, the family located on a farm between Hamilton and Oak City where she readily made friends and where she was held in high esteem as a good neighbor and a Christian woman. She was a firm believer in the Primitive Baptist faith and was devoted to her church. She was a good woman and a thoughtful mother.

She is survived by four daughters, Mrs. Fannie Moore, of Hamilton; Mrs. J. B. Jones, of Greensboro; Mrs. J. B. Roebuck, of Greenville, and Mrs. D. A. Whitley, of Hobgood; and seven sons, Messrs. W. J., Roy and M. D. Beach, of Hamilton; A. L. Beach, of Greensboro; Minton Beach, of Hobgood, and H. D. Beach, of Ahsokie. She also leaves one sister, Mrs. J. R. Beach, of Everetts, and four brothers, Messrs. A. D. Cherry, of Robersonville; J. W. Cherry, of Everetts; W. J. Cherry, of Conway, S. C.; and D. A. Cherry, of Springfield, W. Va. and twenty grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Illicit Manufacture Of Liquor Waning

A definite progress in curbing the illicit liquor manufacturing business in this county according to reports coming from Special Officer J. H. Roebuck, head of the enforcement bureau for the Martin Alcoholic Beverages Control Board. The business this December, the officer points out, is hardly fifty per cent of what it was a year ago.

"The old-time operators are gradually quitting the business, and few manufacturers are making any money," the officer said. Quite frequently plants are wrecked before they are used more than a week or two, and the operators just can't make the business show a profit under such conditions, the officer added.

During this week, the officers wrecked two plants, one in the Poplar Point section of Hamilton Township and one in Bear Grass. The Poplar Point plant was equipped with a 50-gallon capacity copper kettle and was well hidden. The officers poured out 100 gallons of beer. The Bear Grass plant was of the steam type. Nearly 700 gallons of beer were poured out at that plant.

Social Security To Begin Payments

A bright spot on the business horizon for 1940 is the fact that Social Security payments start on January 1. It is estimated that, throughout the nation, at least 1,000,000 elderly people—men and women over 65—will become eligible during the next year for monthly annuities to be paid them the rest of their lives. Already thousands are jamming the regional offices of the Social Security board to find out when they get their first checks.

These payments ought to filter down into trade channels pretty rapidly. They will put back into active circulation some of the money that has been held out of trade channels the last few years by the social security taxes on paychecks and payrolls. Much of the money will be spent by the oldsters for better food and clothing.

Under the changes Congress made last spring in the original social security legislation, any worker 65 years old can qualify for monthly payments for the rest of his life—even though he hasn't worked since S. S. went into effect three years ago—if he now gets a job and holds it for 18 months. If he earns \$25 a week for that period, and is married he can retire and get a monthly check of \$38.25 as long as he lives. An interesting and heartening development of this provision is that many companies now are voluntarily providing jobs for retired employees so that they can get the extra months of work needed to qualify for a monthly S. S. check.

Benefit Show for Kiddies at The Watts Theatre Friday

Cooperating with the local civic clubs in sponsoring the annual Christmas Cheer drive here this year, J. W. Watts, manager of the Watts Theatre, announces everything ready for a big benefit show on Friday morning of this week at 10 o'clock.

All children from miles around will be admitted for a toy or bag of fruit, the collection of toys and food to be distributed to the needy in the community. No one will be admitted for cash.

Mr. Watts is booking one of the greatest children's programs ever seen in this section, and hundreds of little tots are expected to attend the showing. Scheduled to be held in the

Watts Theatre, the program consists of three color cartoons, two "Our Gang" comedies, Betty Boop, Popo, two Terry Toons, Krazy Kat, Scrapy, Merry Melody and Looney Tune.

These benefit shows have been held with marked success in past years, and a great time is anticipated at the one on Friday of this week. All the kiddies are invited and urged to attend the show. A bag of fruit or a small toy will admit each child to the theatre.

The collection of fruit and toys will be added to the list of articles already on hand and made ready for distribution that afternoon and the following morning.

CASE LIST

A list of needy cases in this community is being prepared by a special committee working in cooperation with the sponsors of the Christmas Cheer movement. It is possible that some cases will escape the attention of the committee and the general public is asked to point out needy families to either James C. Manning or David N. Hix. The committee is anxious to include every needy family in the list, and the general public can render an important service in pointing out such cases.

Poe Offers Seven-Point Program As Political Feeler

Opinion Is That Agriculturist Would Make Good Run For Governor

Raleigh—General mobilization of all North Carolinians to make this a rich state is the supreme need of the next four years, Dr. Clarence Poe, editor of the Progressive Farmer, agricultural expert and one of the many Tar Heels prominently mentioned as gubernatorial candidates, said last week in a statement regarded everywhere as something of a trial balloon regarding his chances.

In order to accomplish best results from this mobilization, he pointed out North Carolinians must "for four years forget the factions and schisms that so easily beset us." To the task of making North Carolina rich, Dr. Poe pledged his best efforts for the next five years "whether as governor or private citizen." In his formal statement he repeatedly returned to the theme of a "rich state," pointing out that nature has blessed North Carolina with all the assets necessary to make it so.

He envisions a state not only rich in the national sense, but "in increased intellectual and cultural values." The statement falls something short of what had generally been thought would be its bearing on Dr. Poe's possible candidacy. At no point, except in the opening sentence did he indicate even remotely his intention to run for governor. The whole tenor is that of a "feeler" to learn which way the political winds blow.

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Series of Cases Are Handled by Mayor

Activities in the court of Justice John L. Hassell here during the past few days reflect a pre-Christmas rush, the court handling eight or nine cases in a short time.

Charged with hunting without a license, Jimmie James was fined \$5 and taxed with the costs. James Wynn and View Nicholson, charged with public drunkenness, were sentenced to jail for thirty days, the court suspending the sentence upon good behavior and payment of the case costs.

Doris Pike, charged with being drunk, was taxed with the case costs, \$5.50.

Jim Dixon was taxed with the cost in the case charging him with being drunk and disorderly. Charged with disorderly conduct in Jamesville, Jack Neal and Jesse Askew were each fined \$50 and taxed with the cost.

B. F. Davis was fined \$5 and taxed with the cost in the case charging him with public drunkenness.

Board Of Health To Hold Meeting

Meeting in special session here tomorrow afternoon at two o'clock, the Martin County Board of Health is slated to name a successor to Dr. F. E. Wilson, who is tendering his resignation as health officer for the county. Chairman John E. Pope explained that it may not be convenient to hold the meeting at that hour, but that he was issuing a call to the members to be present if possible.

Several candidates for the position were in the county yesterday and today looking over the field.

Dr. Wilson is resigning the position in this county to head the Edgecombe-Greene district health department.

No Session County Court Held Monday; Judge Sick

Held at his home in the Tar Heel Apartments by illness, Judge H. O. Peel was unable to occupy his seat on the bench and no session of the county court was held Monday. There were comparatively few new cases on the docket for trial.

According to an announcement coming from the courthouse, the tribunal will hold its next session on Monday, January 1.

County Dairymen Hold Meeting On Friday Afternoon

Plan Group Organization In The County in the Future

Realizing the dairy industry in Martin County is rapidly coming to the front, and that the dairymen are becoming more interested in the production and distribution of the best milk obtainable, a meeting was called Friday afternoon by Dr. F. E. Wilson and Mr. Charles A. Leonard, of the health department.

Dr. Wilson acted as temporary chairman and took up the problems of the dairymen from the health standpoint. It was shown that 16 per cent of the American diet is composed of milk and milk products, and that milk is the only thing in nature intended solely for food. Milk is also the hardest of all foodstuffs to harvest, handle, transport and deliver, and is the only standard article of diet of animal origin that is taken raw. There is also a problem because there is a constant supply of milk needed, and yet it cannot be stored for future use.

By means of an experiment it was shown how much mud a bottle of milk could contain without any noticeable change in color. Another experiment was carried out to determine if the dairymen could detect the difference in taste between Grade A raw milk and pasteurized milk. Most of the dairymen were able to determine the difference, but all were agreed that the difference was negligible and that one was as good as the other, but that pasteurized milk was the safest.

The problem of pasteurizing milk was brought up but it was decided that the milk market in the county was not sufficient yet to establish a plant, however, it was hoped that a plant could be built here in a few years.

It was the unanimous opinion of all present that a permanent organization of dairymen and others interested in milk and milk products be formed and meet quarterly. Mr. Charles Leonard, sanitary officer, was appointed to call the next meeting at which time an election of officers will be held. Mr. Tom Brandon, county agent, offered the facilities of the agriculture building and all possible help in getting experts of all phases of the dairy business on future programs. It was believed that the formation of such an organization will be of mutual benefit to all milk producers, and will stimulate an even closer fellowship among the dairymen.

Milk is the most important single article of diet, and from a health standpoint it should be advertised in preference to the many soft drinks which have no food value. Children and adults should drink more milk.

Santa Will See Martin Teachers Tomorrow

Santa Claus will make his debut a bit early for the nearly 200 Martin County teachers tomorrow, the office of the superintendent announcing today that special arrangements had been made to release the fourth month salary checks a few days ahead of time. Approximately \$21,000 will be released.

"It'll be a long time to wait for the next check, but without one before Christmas we'll find the holiday season a dull one," a teacher was quoted as saying.

Cantata Is Well Received Here Sunday Evening

The Christmas Cantata in the Church of the Advent here last Sunday evening was well received by a record-size crowd. The choir was made up by representatives of the various religious and civic organizations and appeared under the direction of Mrs. Wheeler Martin.

Hold Young Men For Alleged Theft Of Car

Hubert Page, Paul Dennis Terry and Dennis Crisp were placed under \$200 bond by Justice J. L. Hassell Monday for the alleged theft of Jasper Roebuck's Ford car in Robersonville last Saturday night. The car was recovered by Deputy Bill Haislip and Patrolman Whit Saunders in Bear Grass later that night.

APPLICATIONS

Approximately eight per cent of those Martin County farmers participating in the soil conservation program have filed their applications for benefit payments, according to T. B. Slade, assistant in the office of the county agent. The applications were received in the field, the agent explaining that late applications will be handled in the agricultural building. The soil conservation checks will be ready for distribution some time during next February or March.

Series Of Robberies Reported To Police Over Past Week-end

Critcher and Manning Suffer Loss Estimated at About \$500.00

Entering a rest room window, robbers made a sizable haul at the Standard Filling Station, corner of Main and Houghton Streets, here early last Saturday morning, the proprietors, Roger Critcher and Jack Manning, estimating the loss at about \$500.

Thirteen tires, four of them for large trucks, were stolen along with six storage batteries. The robbers also took ten cartons of cigarettes and quantities of candies, chewing gum and a fruit cake.

Gaining an entrance through the rest room, the robbers opened the front door and loaded down their car. Reports state that a Standard station was robbed last week-end in Washington County under similar circumstances. Officers, unable to establish a clue in the case, are of the opinion that the robbers were from outside the State.

No insurance was carried on the goods, and the two young men suffered the loss with little hope of recovering any of their property.

About 2 o'clock yesterday morning the station was re-entered, officers stating that they were not sure but that it was possible the robbers were the same ones who entered the station two nights before. Yesterday, the robbers entered the front door possibly with a pass-key. No glass was broken and no goods were stolen on the second visit. Officers Ramie and Gurganus running the intruders away. The officers were unable to get the number of the car license, but the car was believed to have been a Chevrolet.

The robbery was the most costly reported here in recent months.

Sometimes during late last night or early this morning, robbers entered the Jack Daniel service station at the Jamesville and Washington Road intersection and crashed the back door of Darden's Department Store here on Main Street. An entrance to the filling station was forced through a window, the robbers stealing a quantity of cigarettes and possibly a few other articles. Knocking a sizable hole in the back door of the Darden store, the robbers are said to have stole an overcoat and a suit of clothes.

Police stated this morning that they believed the last two robberies were the work of local talent.

Mrs. Battle Dies In Halifax County

Mrs. Pattie Pope Battle, mother of Mrs. Garland Coltraine, of Williamston, died at her home in Halifax County, near Tillery, last Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock. Funeral services were conducted at the late home yesterday afternoon at two o'clock and interment followed in the Scotland Neck cemetery. The pastor of the Scotland Neck Baptist church conducted the last rites.

Mrs. Battle was the daughter of the late George and Pattie Spires Pope. She lived in Halifax County all her life and was a member of a family long prominent in the affairs of that county. Sixty-one years of age, Mrs. Battle had been in feeble health for some time, the end coming gradually.

Besides her daughter here she is survived by a daughter, Miss Pattie Battle, of Halifax County, and a brother and sister, both of near Tillery.

Rainbow Family Unable To Fill Scheduled Appointment

The Rainbow Family, a group of Russians scheduled to appear in a program at the Baptist church here this evening will be unable to fill the appointment. Rev. J. H. Smith announced this morning.

Two Lives Are Lost In Highway Accidents

CHEER FUND

Receiving an increased support from individuals, civic and religious groups, the Christmas Cheer fund is now approximating \$130, the sponsors pointing out, however, that this amount is far from adequate in meeting the needs of the less fortunate. A last appeal is being directed to a thoughtful people today.

Names of contributors:	
Previously reported	\$ 54.00
Harry Biggs	20.00
Dred Darden	1.00
James Manning	2.00
Silver offering	22.30
Men's class, Baptist ch.	16.00
Christian Endeavor Soc.	
Christian Church	1.00
P. P. Peel	1.00
J. S. Whitley	5.00
Total	\$127.30

Roll Of Honor For The Second Period In Local Schools

Names of One Hundred and Sixty Pupils Are On Latest List

The names of 162 pupils—112 in the elementary and an even half hundred in the high school department—appear on the local school honor roll for the second six-week period recently ended. Principal D. N. Hix reported this week as follows:

First grade: Bobby Davis, Helen Chesson, Louise Corey, Elizabeth Griffin, Betsy Page Horton, Jane King, Mary Carolyn Leggett, Sarah Manning, Jean McLaughlin, Harriet Peole, Ruby Dare Savage, Harriet Ward, Ann Page Woodard, Carroll Barber, Cecil Bowen, Charlie Culipher, Lizzie Godard, Bobby Gurganus, Joseph Nicholson, Bob Swain, Haywood Williams, Joyce Andrews, Marie Griffin, Betty Sue Gurganus, Alice Mae Hardison, Mycel Holiday, Alice Peakes, Nellie Perry, Betty Lou Wobblenton, Nellie Faye Wynne.

Second grade: Rush Bondurant, Charles Carver, Asa Manning, Frank Wynne, Shirley Ann Beacham, Rachel Chesson, Elizabeth Whitley, Madeline Chesson, Martha Mackenzie, Nancy Robertson, Alice Andrews, Marvin Cherry, Henry Gray Corey, Jimmy Hoarl, Norwood Keel, Benjamin Moore.

Third grade: Sallie Bet Hardison, Polly Manning, Jack Booker, Billy Edwards, David Griffin, James Comer, Julian Mason, Paul Peale, Zack Piephoff, Bobby Taylor.

Fourth grade: Eunice Britton, Mary Lou Coltraine, Edna Hadley, Barbara Margolis, Gertrude McLaughlin, Carrie Dell Peake, Laura Peole, Lucy Robertson, Doris Savage, Margaret Ward, John Gurkin, Gilbert Hopkins, Harry Jarman, Dennis Moore, William Rogers, Sally Hardison, Magdelaine Bowen.

Fifth grade: Dan Bowen, Melbin Godard, Charles Siedloff, Lucy Andrews, Gloria Hayman, Elizabeth Hopkins, Elizabeth Manning, Jeanette Myers, Elizabeth Parker, Maxine Phelps, Melba Revels, Elizabeth Taylor, Hugh Horton, Louise Griffin, Louise Hines, Joyce Taylor, Vernon Whitfield.

Sixth grade: John Daniel, Hal Dickens, Charles Hines, Billy Myers, Edwood Old, Dolly Bowen, Sylvia Green, Frances Griffin, Pearl Newbern, Dora Twiddy, Irene Peel, Jesse Gurganus, Mollie Peakes, Leila Fay Wynne.

Seventh grade: Curtis Hopkins.

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Ten People Killed By Vehicles in the County This Year

Fred Keys Is Instantly Killed Near Dardens Friday Afternoon

Two persons, both colored, were killed on the highways in this county last week-end, running the total number of road casualties so far this year to ten in the county. One other person was hurt and considerable property damage resulted in a series of accidents reported by Patrolman Whit Saunders during the week-end.

Frank Keys, colored farmer in Jamesville Township, was killed instantly about 3:30 o'clock last Friday afternoon when he got off a truck near Dardens and walked into the path of another one. Keys, about 50 years old, caught a ride in Jamesville and had started to the Free Union section. He got off the truck, walked around the back of the machine and stepped into the highway directly in the path of a big truck traveling from Plymouth to Jamesville. Patrolmen investigating the killing held it was unavoidable on the part of the driver. Keys leaves a large family of small children.

John Howard Fleming, 17-year-old colored boy was fatally injured when he ran his bicycle into the path of a car driven by Johnnie Andrews near Gold Point last Thursday. He died a few minutes after reaching a doctor's office in Robersonville, finally quitting the business, and few James Clayton Yancey, South Boston, Va., man, escaped injury when his car skidded and turned over near Mobley's Mill early last Friday morning. Damage was estimated at \$150, the man janking the car and purchasing a new one.

Mrs. Della Anderson, 89 years old, was painfully cut on the forehead and suffered bruises on her leg and arm last week when the car in which she was riding crashed into another driven by William Wynne in the Spring Green section of the county. Mrs. Anderson was riding with Wiley Waters. Damage to the cars was estimated in excess of \$250.

One or two other minor accidents were reported during the week-end, but no one was hurt and the damage was said to be negligible in those cases.

Plan Community Christmas Event

The recreational council for local colored children will hold a community Christmas tree and program at the recreational center near the cemetery Friday evening at six o'clock. It was announced by welfare workers today. Toys and small articles for the less fortunate children in the community will be placed on the tree, and an interesting program has been arranged.

Several of the local colored lodges have already advanced fairly sizable donations, and others are cordially urged to participate in the undertaking.

The general public is invited to witness the program and participate in the exercise.

Business Prospects Continue Bright

In trying to gauge not only the current state of business, but also the prospects for weeks and months ahead, retail sales volume is perhaps the best single source of enlightenment. For the degree of looseness of John Public's purse strings gives a reliable clue to the earnings of workers—and the prospects they see for themselves of steady or improving incomes.

So there is grounds for optimism in the report of the National Retail Dry Goods Association, based on a telegraphic poll of members, that department store sales for the first 10 shopping days of December showed a 4 per cent gain over the same period of 1938. Unseasonable weather in some sections, naturally, accounted for some lagging spots in the picture, but in a number of instances stores reported they were exceeding not only their 1929 records, but were having the best early-December rush in their history. Some southern cities reported "phenomenal" increases; on the west coast stores were breaking a little better than even with 1938 and, as in New England where decreases were still frequent, a last-minute flood of customers was expected in the Middle Atlantic States the December showing was fair, but improving fast.

Highway Accident Record

Idle in the county for several months, the Grim Reaper went into action surely and swiftly last week on the highways of this county and claimed two lives, pushing the total number of road casualties to ten for the year to date. The victims, both colored, were said to have gotten into the paths of the vehicles and death was sudden in both cases. For several months the highways of this county had been free of death, but the happenings last week came to the front to mar the records and place the county in line to equal if not surpass the old figure of thirteen killed just a few years ago.

It was a bad week on the county highways, Patrolman Saunders stating that several others were hurt in wrecks and that the property damage figure was materially increased. With a marked increase already evident in highway traffic, safety authorities are again directing appeals to all motorists to exercise greater care in operating cars and trucks on the highways this Christmas season.

A comparison of highway accident records for the past week and for the period prior to that time follows.

	Accidents Injured	Killed	Property Damage
Week ending December 17	4	1	2
Prior Period	67	59	8
TOTALS	71	60	10