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Prominent County Citizen Passes At His Home Monday

Last Rites for John Bailey Are Being Held Near Everetts Today

Mr. John L. Bailey, one of the county's oldest and most highly respected citizens, died at his home in Cross Roads Township near Everetts yesterday at noon, his death marking the end of a life well spent in the service of his community, his loved ones and hosts of friends. In failing health for several years, Mr. Bailey continued active for his advanced age until about three weeks ago. Pneumonia followed a cold, and several days before the end his condition was considered grave.

The son of Warner G. and Mary Ann Gurganus Bailey, he was born near Everetts on November 22, 1856. His early boyhood was marked by trying hardships growing out of the War Between the States. Although a mere lad, his record at home during the struggle compares favorably with that of the hero in action at the front battle line. The trials and tribulations of the period made a depression upon his mind as a lad, and through life he asked no odds of any one, but he was ready and willing to minister unto others to the limit of his strength and means. It was quite evident through the years that he reaped his greatest happiness in doing for others, in making them happy.

Few men have toiled harder and more earnestly than he did to meet his obligations, to provide for his family and to create for his children the advantages that were denied him by war and reconstruction. He walked humbly before his fellowman, and his life was marked by its simplicity. He understood others and reserved criticism for himself. In the home he was a good provider, a loving husband and father. The friendship and company of others were valued, and his journey through life was not geared so high that he could not stop to offer a word of encouragement or lend a helping hand to those less fortunate than he. He valued an obligation and looked upon honesty as a first virtue. In his humble walk through life he recognized the beauties of nature as they unfurled themselves in the growing crops and in the budding trees at spring.

In early manhood, Mr. Bailey was married to Miss Susan Wynne who died 41 years, the third of this month. Four children, Mr. Gordon Bailey, of Everetts; Mrs. M. A. Price, and Mrs. W. O. Willoughby, both of Williamston, and Mrs. George W. Taylor, of Everetts, survive this union. He later married Miss Alice Bowen who survives him. He leaves by this union, four children, Messrs. Reuben and Paul Bailey, of Cross Roads Township, and Mrs. C. B. Clark, of Williamston, and Mrs. W. L. Johnson, of Belhaven.

Funeral services were conducted at the late home this afternoon at 2 o'clock by Elder B. S. Cowin. Interment was in the family cemetery near the old home in Cross Roads Township.

Much Sickness Is Reported In County

While it is hardly near anything like an epidemic, influenza is said to be spreading into various sections of the county. No estimate is available on the number of cases, reports stating that the sickness is scattered with few exceptions. Only in one or two instances have entire families fallen victims of the malady. Last week all members of the family of Mr. and Mrs. V. G. Taylor suffered attacks of influenza, but they are recovering with the exception of Mrs. Taylor's mother, Mrs. Dixon, who was said to have contracted pneumonia.

Big Improvement Is Seen In School Attendance Here

Attendance was much improved in the local schools yesterday with the return of many pupils who were absent from their class rooms during last week. Buses with one exception operated on schedule in spite of bad road conditions throughout the local district. With moderation in the weather and the drying of the roads which have been very bad for several days, school authorities are looking forward to normal attendance during the remainder of this week.

Yesterday, there were only 54 children absent, Principal Hix describing the attendance as being 93 percent of the enrollment. Today, the number of absences was slightly increased, but in the high school the number present was just four short of a perfect attendance.

Attacked by Neighbor, Man Suffers Broken Nose Friday

Toby Barber, Williams Township farmer, was brutally attacked by his neighbor, last Friday evening. The attack which resulted in a broken nose and bad face and head injuries for Barber, has not been aired in the courts. It was said that Barber cursed Barnes.

Few Farmers Complaining About Tobacco Allotments

Comparatively few complaints have been received so far from Martin County farmers following the receipt of their 1940 tobacco allotments last week, according to information coming from Mr. J. R. Winslow, a member of the committee.

"Quite a few visited the agricultural building Monday to talk over their allotments," but out of twenty farmers only one filed an appeal. Possibly forty farmers have called at the office of the agent during the past three days, but with very few exceptions the farmers stated they were satisfied when they reviewed the quotas allotted their neighbors and other farmers throughout the county.

"Most of the complaints are coming from those farmers who own two or more small farms," Mr. Winslow said. "In those cases, the allotments were cut 20 per cent and left at that point. In the case of the small grower owning a single small

farm, his allotment was cut 20 per cent and then raised 20 per cent. The committee realizes that this method will work a hardship in some cases, but the committeemen point out that there is little they can do about it. Very few large-scale farmers have complained, it was learned.

Bitterly dissatisfied, several farmers were said to have visited the agricultural building Monday and entered strenuous objections to their allotments. They were invited to review the records. "If that's the way it is, I guess I can take my cut and keep my mouth shut," one of the group was quoted as saying.

Special blanks have been prepared for farmers to enter their appeals, and every farmer who thinks he had not been dealt with justly is invited and cordially urged to file his complaint in the proper channels. Every effort will be made to correct any and all errors, but it will be impossible to satisfy claims for unwarranted increases.

Lending Agencies Are Active in the County

BIRTHDAY BALL

Preliminary arrangements for holding the President's birthday ball here on Friday, January 26, are well advanced, Pete Fowden, chairman, announced today.

Paul Moore and his State College band will play for the ball, and the sale of buttons will be again handled through the several schools, Mr. Fowden added.

Church Group Has Quarterly Meeting

Dr. H. S. Hilley Addresses Interdenominational League Sunday

A large group of young people, representing various churches of the county, was present for the Young People's Interdenominational meeting in the Rosan Sharon Free Will Baptist Church Sunday afternoon at four o'clock. The following program was presented:

Prelude, by Miss Ruth Evelyn Terry, pianist; prayer, Mary E. Keel; song, "I Know Whom I Believe"; Union reading; song, "Love Divine"; devotional, Miss Mary E. Keel; special music by Bear Grass trio; introduction of speaker, Rev. John Goff; address, Dr. H. S. Hilley; song, "Faith of Our Fathers"; benediction, Willie Brown.

In spite of the downpour of rain and muddy roads, the following churches were represented: Williamston Christian Church, 10; Williamston Baptist Church, 5; Bear Grass Presbyterian Church, 10; Sweet Home Christian Church, 4; Everetts Christian, 2; Roberson Chapel Presbyterian, 12; Rosan Sharon Free Will Baptist, 16; Dardens Christian Church, 1; Bear Grass Holiness, 3, and several visitors.

The president will appoint a nominating committee, to choose new officers for the league at an early date, and this committee will give its report at the next meeting to be held the second Sunday afternoon in April at the Jamesville Christian Church. Plans are already underway for the next meeting. With the interest and cooperation of the churches of this county so greatly increased, some outstanding work is expected to be accomplished this year by the league.

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Willie T. Padgett Dies From Old Gun Shot Wound Monday

Lived More Than Two Years Without A Gall Bladder: Funeral Today

Willie T. Padgett, 27-year-old Jamesville Township white man, died at his home there late last night from an old gun shot wound, received on the evening of December 3, 1937. His gall bladder torn away by a lead shot fired from a gun in the hands of Clayton Beacham, Padgett startled leading doctors in this State when he pugnaciously held on to life week after week and month after month for more than two years. His case was one of very few of its kind ever reported, and it attracted the attention of specialists in leading hospitals.

Shot by Beacham as a climax to a quarrel at his home near Jamesville, Padgett was given only a few hours to live when he was carried to a Washington hospital. Under the care of doctors there, he showed signs of improvement, and during his stay of nine months there an attempt was made to transplant a sheep bladder in him. The tissues around the wound were so badly torn that it was impossible to graft the bladder and Padgett was returned home. After a few days' stay there he was removed to Duke where several attempts to repair the damage failed, and he was patched up and sent home after a stay of about three months in the Durham institution. Since that time he was treated at intervals in the Washington institution, his attending physicians being greatly amazed at his determination to live.

While he suffered untold pain during the long period, his condition became worse in recent days and he prayed for the end. His case received every attention possible from the county welfare department, and the hospitals virtually contributed their services and made available their equipment gratis. It has been estimated that the treatment would have cost \$25,000 or more had it been charged for at regular hospital rates. Local physicians played a humane part in offering the gun shot victim every means of relief in his last few days.

When a young man, Padgett married Miss Ruby Jackson and she with two children, Elbert, 8, and Mary Bell, 4, survives. He also leaves one brother, Dillon Padgett, of Jamesville, and two sisters, Mrs. Vera Williams, of Dardens, and Mrs. Calcia Starks, of Norfolk.

Funeral services were conducted at the late home this afternoon at 2:30 o'clock by Rev. W. B. Harrington, a special friend of the family. Interment was in the old family cemetery, near the home. Padgett was a member of the Maple Grove Christian church.

Local Student Has Unusual Record in Mathematics Work

When the records of C. B. Toxey, mathematics instructor in the Williamston High School, were examined at the close of the first semester, it was revealed that of the 152 students enrolled in mathematics courses, Evelyn Griffin, ninth grade student, had achieved the singular distinction of scoring 100 on every test coupled with 100 per cent fulfillment of all home work assigned. The record is believed to be a unique one in local school annals, and Miss Griffin is being commended highly for the quality of her work.

Evidence that daily performance pays dividends in any field was shown by the grades of the forty-seven students who passed in their home work each day. Of the 47 who allowed neither absence nor any other cause to interfere with their studies, 90 per cent scored A and B, the remaining 10 per cent falling only slightly below. Students who fulfilled home work requirements each school day and turned in completed work were as follows:

Eighth grade: Courtney Jenkins, Lenora Melson, Nancy Mercer, Della Jane Mobley, Flossie Peaks, Mary Trulah Peelle, Mildred Thomas, Julia Clyde Waters, Deloisie Gardner, Virginia Hines, Dorsyth Shaw, Frances Thomas, Mary Warren, Martha Whitley, Peggy Sunnetie, Jasper Browder, George Cunningham, Conrad Getsinger, John L. Goff, Harold Hargett, Russell Mobley, Colin Peelle, Luther Peelle, Bill Peelle, J. D. Woolard, Fred Hardison.

Ninth grade: Beatrice Cherry, Emma Belle Ward, Otis Coltrane, Theron Gurganus, Madeline Taylor, Evelyn Griffin, Rena Howard.

Tenth grade: S. C. Griffin, Elizabeth Parker, Daisy Peaks, Frank Weaver.

Eleventh grade: Arthur Anderson, J. E. Boykin, Stuart Critcher, R. J. Hardison, Jerry Manning, Janie Newton, James Daniel Nicholson, Virginia Williams, Rudolph Peol.

Farm Benefit Bloc May Cut Into U. S. Defense Program

Congress Bogs Down With Deficiency Bill To Be Handled

Washington, D. C.—Increased sentiment for diverting the administration's \$480,000,000 special defense request to restoring budget cuts in farm benefits was noted last week-end as Congress bogged down to its customary early-session pace after a spirited start.

Picking up the suggestion of Senator Adams, Colorado Democrat, that the emergency defense item be transferred to non-military activities, Senator Lucas, Illinois Democrat, said:

"It might be possible to cut several hundred million dollars from defense appropriations and use it for farm parity payments. That would make unnecessary any additional taxes for financing farm payments." The president omitted any request for 1941 parity payments in his budget, on the theory that farm prices would be maintained at a reasonably good level, but said that if the payments were needed to assure farmers 75 per cent of parity (the 1914 level), Congress should levy new taxes to pay for them. He also proposed new levies to compensate for the extra defense outlays.

Senator Reed, Kansas Republican, joined Lucas in suggesting transfer of money from defense to farm purposes. A proposed \$5,000,000 expenditure to improve the Guam harbor, he said, could be well spent for farm relief.

"I want to have an adequate defense, but I have yet to be convinced that the amounts asked by the president are necessary," Reed added.

Lucas and Reed gave their views while leaders of the American Farm Bureau Federation were telling President Roosevelt that they would demand \$607,000,000 for parity payments on wheat, cotton, tobacco, corn and rice, and \$200,000,000 additional for dairy and other products.

Edward A. O'Neal, federation head said these amounts would provide 100 per cent parity payments based on prices as of December 15. He added he was willing to have additional taxes imposed if necessary—a step Congress avoided taking in appropriating parity funds in the last two sessions.

Pupil Injured In School Bus Wreck

A young school girl was painfully but not seriously hurt when a school bus skidded on a dirt road and struck a tree at the Will Mallory farm near Oak City last Friday afternoon. The pupil, a Miss Holliday, received a bad cut on her forehead, reports stating that five stitches were required to close the wound.

Billie Thompson, driver of the truck who was completing a trip for another truck that was stuck on one of North Carolina's "better" roads, was driving a hill late that afternoon when the truck started skidding and went out of control. The body sidwiped a tree, and damage estimated at \$150, resulted to the machine.

The wreck victim, able to return to school without missing a day, was reported to be getting along very well.

It was the first accident of any consequence reported among the fleet of 36 school buses in the county this term.

Lee Gravely Out For Governorship

Lee Gravely, Rocky Mount man, last week-end entered the race for governor, increasing the number of announced candidates for the office to four. W. P. Horton, A. J. Maxwell and J. M. Broughton hopped on the wagon previously.

Advocating a strict collection of taxes and mentioning the possibility of a reduction and possible elimination of the sales tax, Gravely was immediately charged following his announcement as being "a good man, but just another corporation lawyer." The charge was directed by Tom Cooper, Wilmington lawyer who has been talking about entering the race.

The race for governor is attracting much attention in that it is about as interesting to watch the line-up in the making as it will be to watch the activities in the primary.

There are yet several men who are considering entering the contest which is already crowded after a record fashion.

Everetts Citizen Slowly Recovering From Injury

Badly injured when a pair of mules ran away with him near Everetts last July, Mr. Oscar Daniel continues to improve slowly, reports reaching here stating that he sat up Sunday for the first time since the accident. He continues quite feeble, however.

Clad Only In 'Undies', Man Startles Crowds In Dash Thru Village

ACCOMMODATING

A special representative of the government will be located in the Williamston postoffice on Wednesday, February 28, to assist federal income taxpayers in filing their returns, according to a schedule released this week by C. H. Robertson, collector for the district of North Carolina.

The government is at least accommodating when it comes to relieving citizens of their cash.

A representative of the North Carolina Department of Revenue is in the courthouse each Monday and Saturday morning and will be glad to assist citizens in preparing their income tax returns.

Dr. Bill J. Kilpatrick Funeral Here Today

Interment in Wilson Family Plot in the Local Cemetery

Last rites for Dr. Bill John Kilpatrick were held in the home of his uncle, Mr. M. D. Wilson on Hatton Street here this afternoon at two o'clock. Interment was in the Wilson family plot in the Baptist Cemetery here. Rev. John Hardy and Rev. James H. Smith conducted the funeral services.

Dr. Kilpatrick, son of the late Frank and Emma Wilson Kilpatrick, died at Sanatorium late Sunday night following a long period of declining health.

He was born in Pitt County, near Grifton, 43 years ago. In early manhood he married in Smithfield and a daughter, Mrs. Allen Bell, of Fayetteville, survives that union. A little over twenty years ago he moved to Nevada, studied and practiced medicine there until some over two years ago when his health failed. He returned to this State and made his home with a sister in Elizabeth City until he entered a Fayetteville hospital for treatment. After a stay there he entered the Sanatorium.

The body was removed to the late home in Elizabeth City, late yesterday and brought here today for the last rites.

Besides his wife, he leaves three brothers, Messrs. James Kilpatrick, of Ayden, Leslie Kilpatrick, of Cincinnati, and Dr. J. M. Kilpatrick, of Robersonville, and three sisters, Mrs. Will Borden, of Ayden; Mrs. Bill Gibbs, of Elizabeth City, and Mrs. Harry Fagan, of Fort Myers, Fla.

Fire Burns Tenant House In County

Its origin unknown, fire destroyed a five-room tenant house on the farm of Mrs. Mamie Roberson in Bear Grass Township late last Friday night. Vacated just a short time before Christmas by Mr. and Mrs. Eli Roberson, the building was almost burned down when the fire was discovered. Valued at about \$750 the building was only partially covered by insurance.

Mrs. Roberson, the owner, said she heard the yard dog barking and that when she looked out the window she saw the light of the fire. She rang the farm bell and summoned neighbors, but they were unable to render much assistance.

Property Owners Are Getting Busy With Annual Job

Rightly anticipating a last-minute rush during the few remaining days of January, property owners are turning to the old annual task of listing their valuables. List-taker H. M. Buras stating that he had a busy day in this township yesterday. Other list-takers are reporting increased activities.

While the listing work is possibly more advanced than is ordinarily the case during the first half of the listing period, there is much work yet to be done, according to Lister Buras. "With the month-over-half gone, only 350 out of 2,100 persons have listed here," he said. Each list must be finished and signed by a taxpayer before February 1, and it can't be accomplished in a single day. "If you fail to list in January, don't forget to bring a dollar with you as it will be needed to get your name on the list in February, and more if you do not get your name on at all," Mr. Buras warns all taxpayers.

Beaten By Intruder, County Man Dashes From His Own Home

Charges Are Brought Against Mrs. Bunting and Her 'Friend'

Badly beaten and frightened out of his wits, Reuben Bunting created next to a sensation when he dashed through the little village of Gold Point last Friday morning attired only in his long underwear, the rear of which was not at all securely fastened according to authentic reports reaching here. Rushing from danger in his humble two-room home, Bunting carried two old socks in his hand, and made a two-mile dash in near-freezing weather to the home of a brother, Gary Bunting. He looked oddly at people along the route, and they looked oddly at him as he trotted along the muddy road. The climax was reached when he jogged across the highway in the heart of Gold Point, reports stating that a crowd far larger than usual had gathered there apparently in anticipation of some such of an event that was to create more excitement than any other happening there in years.

Bunting's run climaxed a sordid tale baek home, common decency ruling the details out of print and causing men to blush when they heard them.

Last Thursday evening about dark LeRoy Dunning, young white man, went to the humble Bunting home about one mile west of the little town of Gold Point. He shared the hospitality of the home, but when bedtime rolled around about ten o'clock an argument was started. Things began to happen fast, so fast, in fact, that Bunting could hardly describe them to Justice J. L. Hassell at a hearing in the county courthouse Saturday morning. In a round-about way, Bunting told the court that Dunning assaulted him with his fist, pulled off all his clothes for him except his long underwear and put him to bed. He did it with the hearty approval of Mrs. Bunting. The intruder and Mrs. Bunting then prepared for the night, both retiring in the same bed with Bunting's seven-year-old stepson, Robert Lee Morgan. Voicing strenuous objection, Bunting, who attempted to raise up from his bed in the same little room, was thrown back and assaulted, Dunning using a leather strap effectively in strategic spots. The main damage was not displayed to the court, but there was still a little sign of blood on the man's nose and a slight scar on his forehead.

Wanting no interference from outsiders, the intruder and Mrs. Bunting placed her husband's clothes in a bureau drawer and pushed their bed against the bureau. "I did not sleep a wink all night," Bunting told the court in directing serious accusations against Dunning. "I started to slip out during the night and get help, but it was dark, and I couldn't get my clothes," he said.

The little group was late getting up Friday morning, but when Dunning and Mrs. Bunting went into the adjoining room, Bunting jumped out of bed and started his two mile run. Neighbors, seeing the white object bobbing up and down from a distance, tried to stop him, and some offered him clothes, but, apparently scared half to death, he paid no one any attention and continued to the home of his brother. The man's feet were nearly frozen, and although the skin peeled from his feet, he walked all right when he reported for the hearing before Justice Hassell.

(Continued on page six)

Pneumonia Attack Is Fatal To Infant

George Martin Hardison, three and one-half months old, died at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. Willford Hardison, near Holly Springs in Williams Township last Saturday morning at 6 o'clock of an attack of pneumonia. The child had been sickly since birth, and while he was beginning to respond to extensive medical treatment he suffered an attack of pneumonia last Tuesday. It was the third attack in less than three months.

Funeral services were conducted Sunday afternoon at two o'clock by Rev. S. J. Starnes, Methodist minister. Interment was in the Pate Cemetery in Williams Township.

Besides his parents he is survived by twelve brothers and sisters: Mrs. C. B. Roberson, Marjorie, Reba, Ed, James, Herbert Lee, Sarah Frances, Dolly Pearl, Sammy Roosevelt, Johnnie Gilbert, Bobbie Saunders and Kenneth Williford, all of Williams Township.