ESTABLISHED 1899

Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Tuesday, December 31, 1940.

### Seeks \$15,000.00 For Injuries Received In Recent Accident

Suit Filed in Superior Court By G. W. Lee Against D. M. Roberson

plant a month ago.

The complaint as filed by

plaintiff's attorney, H. G. Horton, read in part, as follows:

"That the defendant in the opera-tion and conduct of his said busi-ness, the Roberson's Slaughter House, as aforesaid, and at the time of the injuries sustained by plain-tiff hereinafter set forth, had failed to qualify under the Workmen' Compensation Act and had elected not to operate thereunder, and by reason thereof of this plaintiff now avails himself of and claims benefits of the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act with reference to employers who fail to qualify and operate under said act.

"That on or about the 26th day of November, 1940, the defendant in the conduct of his business used a power driven sausage or meat grinder, the same being a dangerous ma-chine, tool or appliance, especially to persons who were not familiar herewith, and on or about the 26th day of November, 1940, the said de fendant was plaintiff's employer having plaintiff employed to do such work as he could in and about defendant's Slaughter House business and on the date complained of the defendant caused the plaintiff to work at said certain driven sausage or meat grinding machine, said plaintiff at the time being engaged in work for his employer, the defendant, and in the line of duty and while working at said machine the plaintiff's left hand was caught in said machine and four (4) of the fingers of his left hand were cut off and the ligaments of his arm torn and pulled out and his hand terribly mangled and mutilated, and the plaintiff severly injured while in the line of duty, as aforesaid, and about the work of his employer, and suffered and still suffers excruciating physical pain and torture and great mental anguish, and has had to undergo considerable medical expense, and by reason of such injur-ies plaintiff continues to suffer great pain and has been unable to re-sume work and is totally and per-

manently injured. That the defendant knew, should have known, that the plaintiff was green and ignorant concerning such machines, tools or appliances, and it was the duty of the to have instructed the plaintiff and warned and informed the plaintiff of the dangers incident to working in, around and about such machinery, tools and appliances, and to furnish the plaintiff with a safe place in which to work, but the defendant negligently failed to instruct the plaintiff about the dangers of such machinery, tools and appliances, or to in any man-

(Continued on page four)

**Methodist Church Last** Thursday

Mrs. Mamie Sineath Burden, respected Williamston citizen, died in a local hospital Christmas morning at 2:15 o'clock following an illness of only a few weeks' duration. Taken ill with pleurisy about a month ago, Mrs. Burden was forced to her bed and entered a hospital two weeks ago. Her condition improved and re-covery was expected until Sunday morning of last week when she suffered an heart attack and never ral- pair lied. Although she had been in declining health for almost three years, Mrs. Burden continued a keen in-terest in her friends and the happenings as they were reported local-ly and on a world-wide front.

born in St. Matthews, South Carolina, on September 18, 1880. She was a granddaughter of the late Dr. A. N. Wannamaker, member of a prom-N. Wannamaker, member of a prom-inent South Carolina family. In 1895 but only at the one last Saturday she was married to Mr. W. H. Burden in Orangeburg, South Carolina, where he lived until about four years ago when she moved to Williamston to make her home with her daughter, Mrs. John Wier, Jr. During her stay here she made many friendships and was highly regard ed by all those who knew her. She was a member of the Methodist Church here.

The last rites were conducted in

Besides her daughter here, Mrs. Burden is survived by her husband and a daughter, Mrs. M. B. Smith, of Columbia, South Carolina.

# Prizes Awarded for Holiday Prominent Citizen Decorations Here Last Week

Admittedly finding their task a prize in the tree decoration con-difficult one, the judges in Williamston's greatest Christmas holiday decoration contest awarded the prizes and made favorable com-A \$15,000 damage suit has been filed in the superior court of this ever, as a whole, and added cheer his city hall decoration in the public ever, as a whole, and added cheer his city hall decoration in the public ever. rounty by G. W. Lee against D. M. ever, as a whole, and added cheer his city hall decoration in the public building group Second prize moval of the lights and decorations after tonight will more clearly deleging he was injured to that extent in an accident at the defendant's leging he was injured to that extent in an accident at the defendant's leging he was injured to that extent in an accident at the defendant's leging he was injured to that extent in an accident at the defendant's leging he was injured to that extent in an accident at the defendant's leging he was injured to that extent in an accident at the defendant's leging he was injured to that extent in an accident at the defendant's leging he was injured to that extent in an accident at the defendant's leging he was injured to that extent in an accident at the defendant's leging he was injured to that extent in an accident at the defendant's leging he was injured to that extent in an accident at the defendant's leging he was injured to that extent in an accident at the defendant's leging he was injured to that extent in an accident at the defendant's leging he was injured to that extent in an accident at the defendant's leging he was injured to that extent in an accident at the defendant's leging he was injured to that extent in an accident at the defendant's leging he was injured to that extent in an accident at the defendant's leging he was injured to that extent in an accident at the defendant's leging he was injured to that extent in an accident at the defendant's leging he was injured to that extent in an accident at the defendant's leging he was injured to that extent in an accident at the defendant's leging he was injured to that extent in an accident at the defendant's leging he was injured to that extent in an accident at the defendant's leging he was injured to that extent in an accident in the leging he was injured to that extent in a leging he was injured to that extent in a leging he was injured to that extent in a leging he was injured t contrast.

The awards were made only after a close and thorough inspection of every competing decoration, the judges. Mesdames Charles Davenjudges. Mesdames Charles Daven-port, J. L. Uzzle and Oscar Daven-port, all of Jamesville, announcing

Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Peel won first in a new way.

T. Fowden and Pete; Mr. and Mrs. Jodie Woolard won third, and Mr.

Belk-Tyler's and Clark's stores, and Peel's and Margolis' store windows were rated best in the window dec-

oration contest. Possibly the decorative scheme advanced by P. P. Peel was the most the following winners:
Doorways: Mr. and Mrs. N. C. ington Street merchant stating that he had more people in his store durtalked about in town and attracted Green, first, Mrs. Joseph A. Eason, second, Mr. and Mrs. John A. Maning and Reginald, third, and Mrs. S. C. Peel, fourth.

Ingular Street Increman statog during the holiday season than in any previous year. Mr. Peel is all ready to wish everyone a happy new year.

### NO HOLIDAY

Listed as a legal holiday, to-morrow—New Year's Day—will not be observed generally as such by business here and in this section. The postoffice, banks, WPA and VEP offices, liquor stores and possibly a few other firms will suspend busi-ness activities for the day, but business will be carried on as usual by the auto license bureau and general stores.

After enjoying a two-day hol iday last week, business opera-tors and workers here are ready to settle down to business for another year.

# Local Warehouse Stockholders In Meeting Saturday

committee Named To Rent Or Sell Planters Warehouse before March 19

Holding their first meeting in four years, stockholders of the Planters 2, and Hubert Dossie Griffin, of Ev-Warehouse last Saturday morning elected officers and directors and named a rental committee. No dividend was declared, the treasurer stating that the 1940 rent had been applied on the outstanding indebtedness which had been reduced to

\$1,600. Twenty stockholders, representing 224 of the 419 shares of stock, in-structed the rental committee to advertise the house for rent or sale on March 19, 1941. It was the opinion of the meeting that the house should be rented for the next season provided a favorable rent is guaranteed. Otherwise, the meeting suggested a sale of the property. In

his report, Secretary-Treasurer W. H. Carstarphen explained that the Mrs. W. H. Burden
Passes In Hospital
Christmas Morning

ago when the size of the building was damaged in the winter of 1935-36 when the roof caved in under a heavy snow.
Sealed bids for rent or the purchase of the building will be received until March 19, this year by Julian Rochuel. \$4,600 debt incurred several years ago when the size of the building

Funeral Services Are Held in the special rental committee, the meeting authorizing the group to sell or rent the building on the basis of bids received or to reject all bids. The present lease on the build-ing expires the first of next August. It was pointed out in the meeting last Saturday that several parties had inquired if the building would be available this coming season, and it is believed that the structure can

be rented for a fair consideration. Unofficial reports state that one or two parties are interessed in the purchase of the house which is considered now in a good state of re-

the office of president made vacant by the death of C. O. Moore. Mr. ly and on a world-wide front.

The daughter of the late J. R.
Sineath and wife, Mrs. Burden was born in St. Matthews, South Caroborn in St. Matthews, South Ca

Several meetings of the stockholdwas there a quorum present.

#### Local Firemen Called To Food Store Today

Fire, starting from an oil stove in store room, smoked the A and P Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock in the food store on Main Street here this Kelford church, and interment was morning at 10 o'clock. There was liting the family cemetery, near there. tle fire loss, and the extent of the smoke damage could not be deter-she made her home, Mrs. Doughtie

days.

# Martin County Is Sending More Men To Army Monday

Possibly From List of

The Martin County Draft Board oday is preparing to bundle up another group of young men for service in the Army, Chairman R. H. filled from the volunteer list, the righteousness. board chairman stating that if all

son, both of Williamston R.F.D. eretts, volunteered their services Several of those scheduled to quit the county for the fort next week have already been examined, leaving only five to undergo examination.

No colored men are being called from this county at the present time and no date for a third call has been determined. The county has a quota of 147 to fill before July. So far four men, two white and two colored, have reported for duty. After the 16 leave next Monday, the county will be called upon to send 127 more men before July, meaning that the next calls will ask for greater numbers of men. The draft board is now turning its eyes of the draft list.

The sixteen white men scheduled to leave next Monday will be taken

roof caved in under a heavy snow.

Sealed bids for rent or the purchase of the building will be received until March 19, this year, by the special rental committee. It is a special rental committee. Charles L. Bullock, Dennis Harding Whichard, Paul Cleveland VanLandingham, View Vister Nicholson, James Oliver Wynne and Claude El-mer Jenkins, all of Williamston Route 3: Grover Raymond Moore, of Williamston Route 1, and Robert Claiborn Harris, of Hamilton.

# Mrs. Doughtie Dies At Daughter's Home

Mrs. Fannie Doughtie, highly redered now in a good state of respected citizen of Batts' Cross Roads on Williamston R.F.D. No. 2, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. N. M. Mobley, there Christmas day at 5:45 o'clock p. m. She had been quite Joshua L. Coltrain was re-elected ill during the past three months, and chaser, M. D. Wilson.

there and moved to Kelford following her marriage to Mr. Raleigh Doughtie who died some years ago. Three years ago she moved to this section to make her home with her daughter. Possessed of a Christian character, she made many friends during her stay in this section. She was a member of the Baptist church at Kelford for half a century.

the church by her pastor, Rev. B. mined immediately. Mr. Ellis is survived by the following children. T. Hurley, last Thursday afternoon at 3 o'clock. Interment was in the local cemetery.

The last the work of the following children and assistants quickly smothers. Mrs. O'llie Vick, of Kelford; Mrs. Verlie Gardner, of Norfolk; when the fire-fighting apparation willie Doughtie, of Bethel; Mrs. Lucy tus was carried to the scene. Myers, of Hamilton; Raleigh Doughtie, of Tarboro; Mrs. Minnie Miles, by the volunteer firemen in four of Murfreesboro, and Mrs. Blanice Heath, of Hamilton.

# Of County Dies At His Home Sunday

Coltrain

James L. Coltrain, a leading county citizen and highly respected citieen of the Farm Life section of Griffins Township, died at his home there Sunday morning shortly after 5 o'clock, his passing marking the end of a long period of intense suffering. He had been in ill health for almost two years, and had spent most of the past six months in bed. His condition had been critical for some time and the end was expected from day to day over a period of weeks.

The son of the late Charles C. and

Mary Elizabeth Hardison Coltrain, he was born in Griffins Township 67 years ago next February. His early life was spent on the farm where he learned the rudiments of country life. In early manhood he accepted a job with the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company, and was serving that organization as a conductor when his father died and he returned home to take over the farm and help care for the family. A few years later he was married to Miss Bessie Brown, of Jamesville, the event marking the beginning of a period in his life that was thought-Second Quota Will Be Filled | period in his life that was thought-fully devoted to his family. Mr. Col- Instructions For train was recognized as a valuable citizen to his community and county. He was a progressive farmer and was instrumental in the formation of the Martin County Branch of the Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Association which organization he faithfully served until his death. An Goodmon announcing today that 16 faithfully served until his death. An young white men will leave next Monday morning for Fort Bragg. It is possible that the quota can be While he was closely associated

but one of the seventeen volunteers with a fertilizer manufacturer for a pass the physical examinations today, no men will have to be drafted ed to his farm and home. His agriinto service. Out of the 22 men ex-amined so far in this county only two have failed to pass the physical tests, and it is likely that only reservists will be called from the actual draft list. Ist.

A call upon the draft list for men was delayed only yesterday when three additional young men. Heber Riddick Taylor and Hildreth Rogering recent months was accepted without complaint, and greetings changed with friends and members of his family until a short time before his death were marked by a friendliness that endeared him everyone whose pleasure it was to have known him.

Besides his wife he leaves sever children, Miss Mattie Coltrain, Mrs. Marie Manning, Mrs. Hugh Daniel, Mrs. J. R. P. Griffin and Archie Coltrain, all of Griffins Township; Roy Coltrain, of Williamston, and Mrs. Ashley Wynne, of Everetts. He also leaves a brother, Mr. C. C. Coltrain, of Griffins Township, and two ters, Mrs. Lewis T. Holliday, of Bear Grass Township, and Mrs. Henry

Roberson, of Griffins Township. Funeral services were conducted at the home yesterday afternoon at 2 o'clock by Rev. D. W. Arnold, as-sisted by Rev. W. B. Harrington and Elder P. E. Getsinger. Interment was in the family plot in the Hardison Mill Cemetery.

### **Build Filling Station** In Warehouse District dent.

Construction work on a new fill ing station-the town's 'twentieth one-will get underway wtihin the next-few days in the tobacco warehouse district, it was learned today following the formal execution of the contract late yesterday. The station will be located on Washington Street between the Farmers Ware-house and Norris' Tin Shop. The cost of the station was not disclos-ed, but the contract price will ap-proximate \$5,000, it was unofficial-ly learned.

The station is being built by Le-man Barnhill for the Gulf Oil Company. No operator for the station has been mamed as far as it could be

Harry Jones is moving the old house from the lot and will locate it on Marshall Avenue for the pur-

### RECORD

The Williamston ABC store established a new high record with its sales on Christmas Eve day this year, according to an unofficial report coming from the board chairman today. Sales for the day totaled \$1,818.60. While a new record was chalk-ed up here, sales in the county as a whole were slightly under those of a year ago, Robersonville reporting a fairly sizable decrease in its receipts. The sales last year and this year on De-cember 24 were nearly \$1,000 greater than they were for the same day in 1938.

A comparison of sales, by stores, for December 24, 1939, and 1940, follows: Williamston \$1,753.10 \$1,818.60 Robersonville 1,132.45 Oak City 390.20 Oak City 241.95 325.00

# Authorities Determine Schedule Of Values For Listing Personal Last Rites Held Yesterday Afternoon For James L. Property In County Next Month

# Christmas Cheer Movement Is Fair-Size Gains In Declared Success In Section

The Christmas Cheer Movement, sponsored annually, by local civic ters state that the relief load for the movement was not quite as great as people, was declared a success by those in charge. More than 100 families, representing 412 weeds

were greeted with wide-open eyes fund could have visited just a few and appreciative hearts, and in of the needy homes last Christmas nearly every one of the 103 humble eve an open appeal in behalf of the homes where the doors were closed less fortunate would not be necessary by want and almost dire poverty the spirit of the Christmas holiday mediately rally to their support. season was made to appear. Some of those handling the distribution was quoted as saying, thetic, and all were appreciative to "Some of those who were remembered to be distribution with the saying allowed to be distribution." the cases were described as trdiy pathetic, and all were appreciative to an almost unbelievable extent. It is the experience gained by visits into the needy homes at one Christmas that the fund is re-established the following Christmas.

"Some of those who were remembered last week will hardly be here next Christmas as the infirmtiles of age are rapidly closing in upon them," another person who visited the homes said

ilies, representing 412 needy ones, were remembered by the fund sponsors on Christmas eve.

The distributors of the bundles

The distributors of the bundles

# Listing Personal Property Offered

Tax Supervisor States That Non-listers Will Be Prosecuted

Working for a fair and equitable ersonal property valuation in this county for the 1941 tax year, Tax Supervisor S. H. Grimes offered the list-takers in a meeting here yesterday certain instructions for handling the work. In his instructions he eplained that all owners who refuse or fail to list their properties will be made subject to prosecution in the courts of the county. Unofficial reports state that the Martin County Board of Commissioners is likely to order an investigation of the tax books at the close of the listing period to make certain that all person subject to taxation have their name on the books.

Mr. Grimes' instruction to the list-takers: Get true full name, not nickname

Place nickname in parenthesis where early is known by that name. Street number and R.F.D. number, also name of farm or name of employer.

Make every person sign abstract in 196 in own hand if possible. If by mark verse

coming from other townships giving township to which they went or ords in yields per acre. from which they came.
Immediately at end of listing per-

Get correct age, last birthday, in-

Make every effort to list and value Corn

Local police today were said to be on the trail of robbers who en-tered several homes here during the Christmas season and disturbed gift lists and cash. Part of the loot, including a pistol stolen from the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Leggett on Warren Street, has been recover-ed, one report stated. Other details on the police check-up are being withheld temporarily. Considerable work has been spent by local police in an attempt to round up the thieves and while no arrest is considered likely at this time, officers are of the opinion the thefts have been solved.

After going into the Peel homes on Academy Street a few days before Christmas, thieves struck back on Christmas eve when they broke

## WARNING

No extension of time for the purchase and display of 1941 automobile license tags has been granted by North Carolina, and owners who venture out after today with their cars bearing old tags are warned that they will be subject to arrest and prosecution in the

The sale of tags, lagging at the local license bureau during most of this month, is increasing rapidly. Yesterday, the bureau sold almost 1,000 of the tin plates to increase the total for the month to 2,334 or about half the total number ordinarily sold

# Final State Farm **Crop Summary for**

For Most Crops During The Period

North Carolina farmers produced figures forming a basic schedule for record high yields of many crops other refrigerators, in 1940 in spite of somewhat adin own hand if possible. If by mark properly witness same. Do not list poll and personal property in ab-Know that every person listed is acre yields well above previous rec. No. 1 mule, the meeting agreed, your township.

ords and decidedly higher than pre- an animal not over seven years ok

Make a list of parties going to harvest expectations. Wheat, oats and weighs around 1,100 pounds other townships. Also list of those and barley, in spite of an unusually severe winter, set new all-time re yield of corn, hay, sweet potatoes and lespedeza seed, however, were low iod forward me a list of all delin-quents. er than last year due to the drought in late July and early August.

Total production of most crops in dicate fully race, sex and non-resi-dent. 1940 was higher than in 1939; how-ever, tobacco production was cut Itemize well all things that might sharply as a result of farmers com plying with the A.A.A. program automobiles correctly.

Pay particular attention to dogs el but were considerably above the informing all tax payers that they ten-year (1929-38) average harvest are responsible for all dogs at their Sweet potatoes, lespedeza seed and omes owned by minors and must commercial apples are the only othlist them in their names.

Do not hesitate to list all property at what you think is a fair value even though the taxpayer may not agree with you. You are the judge.

In all cases complete abstract as even though the taxpayer may not agree with you. You are the judge. In all cases complete abstract as fully as possible.

Police On Trail

Solution Trail

Represent the taxpayer may not its history in 1500, cent over 1939. Total production was 12 per cent above the ten-year (1929-38) average crop although the acreage harvested was 27 per cent under the ten-year average. Peanuts, soy beans, cowpeas, wheat, and oats all made substantial increases in conduction during 1940, with the Of Local Robbers production during 1940, with the first three named reaching new records. Production of all fruits in creased over 1939 with the exception of commercial apples.

Tobacco The final estimate of North Caro lina's 1940 tobacco crop of 506,820, 000 is 38 per cent under the 811,675. 000 pounds crop produced in 1939 and 2 per cent above the ten-year average (1929-38) production. Un-der the control program this year, North Carolina farmers harvested 511,800 acres compared with 864,100 grown last year and a ten-year av

(Continued on page four)

### Lone Fire Call Received During Holiday Season

A lone fire call was received by into the Leggett home and stole a the local fire department during number of presents. "It wasn't the Christmas week. It was the first actual loss, but the fact that it was time in nearly twelve years that the the night before Christmas that mativolunteers had not received at least speech a "parallel" to her own poltered so much," one member of the household was quoted as saying. The following day a \$50 cash Christmas lost his car by fire on Railroad present from a brother was stolen Street, just off Sycamore, shortly bepresent from a brother was stolen from Mrs. Mary Bell Osborne's pecketbook left in her apartment home on Main Street.

# Total Values Now **Expected in County**

Real Estate Assessors To Start Work Following Meeting On Thursday

Schedules for listing personal property for 1941 in Martin County were determined at a meeting of

unty tax authorities held in the Re-adjusting the property value schedules, the tax authorities are apparently working for an increase in the total county assessed valuation. In the meeting yesterday, Tax Supervisor S. H. Grimes pointed out that a gain in real property values could be expected, and that the personal property listings should be kept in line as near as possible with

that expected gain.

That there are discrepancies in values as determined by the list-takrs at their meeting certain, and apparently there is variation in the schedule as compared with the proposed plan for sessing real properties. Arbitrary values were placed on the various types of real properties, but an ironclad rule will be followed in listing automobiles. It was pointed out at the meeting that some of the list-takers had been listing wearing apparel and that others had not. One's personal effects will be included in the taxable objects in the future, the

meeting agreed Following is a tentative schedule of values every one of the list-takers is supposed to follow in fixing personal property values

Store stocks and merchandise are to be listed at 60 per cent of their actual inventory cost. If a merchant bought an item and placed it into his stock for \$1 he is to list it at the rate of 60 cents.

Rough lumber will be valued at \$15 per 1,000 feet. Dressed lumber will be listed at \$20 per 1,000 feet Year Is Released and logs on the mill yard are to carry a value of \$10 per 1,000 feet.

Record High Yields Reported of \$50 with the scale downward.

A standard value of \$25 was fix ed for pianos. Refrigerators, costing \$150 a year ago, are to be listed at \$100, these

ords and decidedly higher than pre- an animal not over seven years old

Sheep were assessed at the rate of (Continued on page four)

### Victims Of War Are Cheered By Promise Of Additional Aid

Hitler Is Said To Be Moving Men Against Gallant Greeks in Albania

The souls of war-weary people in Britain and Greece were cheered by President Roosevelt last Sunday night when he declared in a fireside chat that the United States was teartily in favor of an all out aid to Britain.

From bomb-blasted and firegouged London came cheers for the President's message of hope—crackling across the air waves at an hour when the British capital was undergoing its worst ordeal of death and

A British spokesman said confi dence now ran high that the United States would make good the President's promise to turn the United States into a vast "arsenal of democracy," and that Britain, in turn, could give a promise that she will fight on to final victory.

In the streets of Athens demon strating crowds rejoiced over the speech, citing it as proof that "America will never let us down," and

shouting:
"Now that the United States is on

our side, we are bound to win.' Japan, which came in for blunt criticism from the President because of her "unholy alliance" with the Italo-German Axis, said, as Germany and Italy, that the speech was "no surprise" and that it appeared to be

Turkey called the President's speech a "parallel" to her own policy of aid to Britain, Nazi-dominat