

Twenty-nine White Men Accepted From County For Service

Status of Four Men Uncertain According to Official Audit Just Received

Reporting for pre-induction exams at an Army center on March 10th, twenty-seven Martin County white men were accepted for general military service and two others were passed for limited duty, according to an official audit just received from the center. Those men accepted have at least 21 days from Wednesday of this week before they are to report for active duty. It may be that some will not be called within ninety days, but that is not at all likely. If they are not called to report for induction before the ninety days are out, they will be subject to call any time after that for another pre-induction test. At least two of the group passing the pre-induction test on March 10 have been deferred for six months.

Fourteen men were accepted for general service in the Army as follows: Pete Ellic Cherry, Hayward Woodrow Gardner, John Clayton Davenport, Henry Stancill Manning, Joseph Hilton Forbes, Earl Vincent Tetterton, Phillip Otto Holloman, Robert Leaverson Stallings, Thomas Randolph White, Harry Jordan Smith, William Thomas Brown, Cecil Clemons Ange, John Samuel Rogerson and Vance Augustus Powell.

Two were accepted by the Army for limited service: Gorman Leslie Parrish, and Roy Zelior Braxton.

Thirteen were accepted by the Navy: Joseph Adolphus Robertson, Bernard Swain Harrison, Herman Richard Williams, Hiram Waller Ford, Charlie Irvin Terry, Weldon Jackson, Joseph Saunders Edwards, Marion Cobb, Fenner Thomas Wallace, William Waddell Gurganus, Floyd Edwin Bufflap, Durward Carl Brown, William Galette Crawford.

The status of four of the men reporting for the pre-induction test has not been determined, the report showing their records "incomplete." Their names are: William Herman Everett, James William Riddick, Asa James Manning, John Edward Boone. Just when these cases will be

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No One Injured In Minor Car-Truck Accident Here

No one was hurt but considerable property damage resulted when a large transport truck driven by Willie James Suthpin, 3210 Huntington Ave., Newport News, and a car driven by Mrs. J. A. Eason sideswiped each other at the Houghton and Washington Street intersection early last Tuesday evening. The truck was attached for damages but was later released when bond was arranged.

Damage to the car was estimated at \$200 and repairs to the truck cost \$37.50, it was learned.

Candidate For House Opens Political Front

State Ballot Likely To Hold Spotlight In Coming Primary

Terms of Fourteen County And District Officers Are Expiring

Martin County's political front, but pushed into the background by other events, showed its first sign of life this week when Clarence W. Griffin, local attorney, announced his candidacy to succeed himself in the lower house of the North Carolina General Assembly. The young man's candidacy is the first to be announced for one of the fourteen positions to be made vacant by term expirations in the latter part of this year or early in 1945.

There has been some talk of possible political contests within the county, attention for the present, at least, is centered in the gubernatorial and U. S. senatorial races. It will be recalled that some of the offices almost went begging for candidates in this county two years ago, and unless there is a marked increase in political activity between now and April 15 it is quite possible that there will be more offices than there are candidates to fill them.

The season is now open for the offices of: register of deeds, judge of the county court, solicitor of the county court, county commissioners, county treasurer, county surveyor, member of house of representatives and state senator from this, the second senatorial district, and member of the county board of education.

There has been some talk about a contest for the county's seat in the legislature, but it has not reached a head as yet, and all is quiet on other sectors of the front as far as candidates are concerned.

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GETTING READY FOR THE BIG PUSH



DURING ALLIED TANK MANEUVERS in England, two of the world's best known soldiers take time out to examine a carbine. Casting expert eyes on the rapid-fire are Gen Dwight D. Eisenhower, chief of Allied forces for the invasion of western Europe, and Gen. Bernard L. Montgomery, head of British ground forces for the big job. (International)

AWOL

Siding up to Sheriff C. B. Roebuck right in the county's old hall of justice courtroom last Monday, Pvt. Arthur Edmondson voluntarily expressed his regrets for having absented himself from service some months ago. He assured the officer that it would not happen again. The sheriff, after a fatherly fashion, expressed his pleasure and encouraged the boy in the line of duty.

Yesterday, the officer received a communication from the authorities stating that the private had been AWOL since March 14. "That boy certainly was calm to have been AWOL while he was talking to me," the officer declared.

County Native Dies In South Carolina

Roy Strawbridge, a native of this county, died suddenly in Columbia, South Carolina, last evening at 8:00 o'clock. Few details of his death could be had here immediately.

He was born in this county, the son of the late Adam Strawbridge and wife. He married in this county and moved to South Carolina about twenty years ago.

Funeral services had not been completed early this afternoon, but the body will be shipped here for burial possibly tomorrow afternoon or Sunday.

REAPPOINTED

Members of the Martin County Board of Elections were reappointed for another term by the State Board in session at Raleigh last week-end. Mr. Sylvester Peel of Griffins Township who has served as chairman of the county board for fourteen years, was reappointed along with Mr. J. R. Winslow, Democrat of Robersonville, and Wade Vick, Republican, also of Robersonville.

The newly appointed board will meet in this county during the early part of next month to set up election machinery for the May 27th primary.

Draft Delinquent Is Arrested Here

Said to have been delinquent with his draft board back in Detroit, Harold Frederick Grant, 35, was arrested by local officers last Tuesday afternoon after roaming around the country for about two years. His arrest followed a two-blow fight in a local cafe, the man admitting to officers that he was delinquent. The case was turned over to the FBI here a short time later, and Grant continues in the county jail.

Said to have been drinking, the man was sitting in the cafe when Charlie Thomas walked up. The actual developments leading up to the fight could not be learned, one report stating that Thomas, intoxicated himself, struck Grant and that Grant retaliated with a damaging blow to the nose. Grant broke his thumb and several stitches were necessary to close Thomas' wound.

Grant, a roof worker, came here the evening before from Houston, Texas.

S. David Matthews Died Last Evening After Short Illness

Funeral Services in Hamilton For Prominent Citizen This Afternoon

Samuel David Matthews, prominent county citizen and one of Hamilton's oldest residents, died in the local hospital last evening at 6:30 o'clock following a short illness. He had been in feeble health for some time, but through sheer determination he continued unusually active for one of his age up until last Saturday. A victim of uremic poisoning, he was taken critically ill that morning about 11 o'clock and when he did not respond to treatment at his home he was removed to the hospital Wednesday. Mr. Matthews underwent hospital treatment about two years ago and his condition was much improved at that time, but when he suffered the relapse last week he lost and never regained consciousness and little hope was held for his recovery.

The son of the late Dillard and Emily Johnson Matthews, he was born September 9, 1867 not so far from Hamilton where he located with his parents when a youth. Just before his marriage to Miss Minnie Ransom 62 years ago the 23rd of last October, he designed and constructed a home and had lived there since that time. Following his early life on the farm, Mr. Matthews studied architecture and was one of the first blueprint building contractors in this section. His main interest, however, was in apiaries and for many years he was recognized as a leading authority in the industry. He made a minute study of the honey bee and its habits, and no doubt, it was partly through his efforts that the Roanoke River basin in this territory became widely known as one of the most ideal honey-producing areas in the country. He maintained large apiaries, and his products won coveted awards at world fairs held in Jamestown, St. Louis, Chicago and New York. He enjoyed a thriving business for many years, but more recently he confined his activities to retired about five years ago to enjoy

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\$7,242.61 Is Reported In Red Cross Drive In Chapter To Date

Campaign In Support of War Fund Is Nearly Complete In Most Districts

The Martin County Chapter of the American Red Cross had up until late yesterday raised \$7,242.61 for the organization's 1944 war fund, according to a report released by Fund Chairman V. J. Spivey, who still believed that total will approximate \$7,700 when the colored citizens complete their canvass and a few other scattered reports are included.

The drive, except among the colored population in the five townships, is virtually complete, the chairman said. One canvasser in Jamesville Township declared that the roads were impassable in her district, that the canvass would be completed just as soon as possible. Williams has not yet made a complete report, and one or two contributions in Williams are yet to be received, it was stated. Bear Grass and Griffins have completed the canvass and they are safely over the top. Several colored district chairmen have reported and their reports were very encouraging and indicated that the \$800 quota would be raised.

The results of the canvass is summarized by districts, as follows: Williams, \$5,122.73; Bear Grass, \$533.85; Griffins, \$542.35; Jamesville, \$692.70; Williams, \$118.00; Colored citizens, \$232.98.

Contributions made in Williams and not previously acknowledged, follow:

- Dr. and Mrs. J. F. Thigpen, \$5; Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Perry, \$1; Lindsey Ice Co., \$35; Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Ross, \$2; R. C. Davis Mule Co., \$5; Margaret Muse, \$2; Mrs. Abner Brown, \$2.50; Mrs. J. H. Saunders, \$1; Mrs. W. C. Manning, \$1; Mrs. W. O. White, \$1; Dr. W. R. Burrell, \$10; John W. Manning, \$5; John Peel, \$5; Milton

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Mrs. Katie Mayo Dies In Pitt County

Mrs. Katie Mayo died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. L. R. Mills, Greenville, RFD 2, last Tuesday. Mrs. Mayo, 84 years old, was one of Pitt County's most prominent citizens and was very active, despite her age, until a few days prior to her death.

She is survived by two sons, C. A. and Johnny Mayo, of Grimesland; five daughters, Mrs. W. L. Lee, of Williams; Mrs. Sam Ezelle, of Newport News; Mrs. W. E. Berry, Aurora; Mrs. Levi McGowan, of Robersonville, and Mrs. L. R. Mills, of Pitt County. Interment was in the Cherry Hill cemetery, Greenville, Wednesday.

Three Small Children Lose Their Lives In Shack Fire On East Main Street Here Early This Morning

Local Draft Board Handles Forty-one Deferment Appeals

Little Consideration Possible For Registrants in 18-25 Age Group

Meeting in special session last Tuesday night, the Martin County Draft Board handled forty-one deferment appeals or claims. Acting in accordance with recent instructions, the meeting found it out of the question to give much consideration to those claims coming from single men and non-fathers in the 18-25 age group.

The session was possibly the most serious ever held by the board, for in some cases the draft officials saw the stark possibility of severe hardships and costly sacrifices for some families. There is little doubt but what some farming activities will be suspended as a result of recent Selective Service rulings. In one or two cases handled this week, deferments were granted but for short periods only when the facts supported claims almost involving life and death. The board members have recognized all along the seriousness of the draft situation, but the recent rulings, it is quite apparent, are causing more serious concern than at any previous time.

In handling the cases before them this week, the board members adhered to the essential and critical lists of occupations for registrants over 25 years of age, and followed recent instructions in handling cases of those registrants 18 to 25, inclusive. Replacement schedules were not touched, but it is likely that instructions will be clarified at a meeting of the authorities in Washington next Wednesday. It is fairly apparent that no inductions in this section maintaining replacement schedules are included in the vital list mentioned by the President a few days ago, and indications are that men between 18 and 25 years, inclusive, and deferred under replacement schedules, will be made subject to call.

The following cases were handled: Phillip Otto Holloman, w, Williams, 1-A; Joseph Hilton Forbes, w, Williams, 2-A, deferred six months; Joseph Adolphus Robertson, w, Williams, 2-A, deferred six months; Walter Woodrow Tyson, w, Oak City, 2-A, deferred six months; Murray Climmans Liverman, w, Oak City, 1-A;

Whitney Everett Saunders, w, Williams, 2-A, deferred six months; David Daniel Stalls, w, Williams, 2-A, deferred six months; Winston Elwood Holliday, w, Jamesville, 1-A;

Joseph Alfred Hardison, w, RFD 1, Jamesville, 1-A; Daniel Wallace Fleming, w, Jamesville and Newport News, 2-A, deferred six months;

Henry Lee Hardison, w, RFD 1, Williams, 2-A, deferred six months;

David Jasper Langley, w, Robersonville, 2-A, deferred six months; John Thomas Williams, w, RFD 2, Williams, 1-A;

Joseph Elton Andrews, w, Williams, 2-A, deferred six months; Andrew Jackson Osteen, w, Williams, 2-A, deferred six months; James Lawson Spencer, w, Williams and Portsmouth, referred

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Consolidate Two Warehouses Here

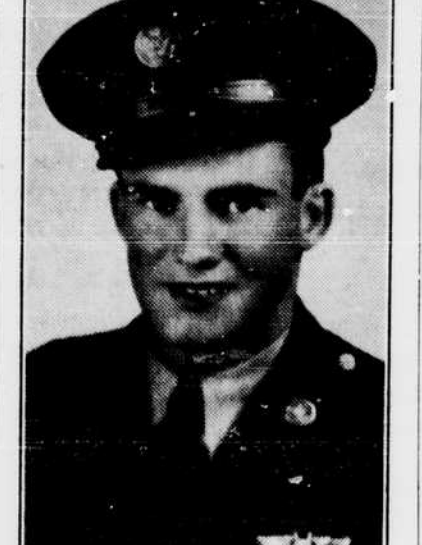
Forming a new partnership this week, Messrs. Leman Barnhill, Jimmy Taylor and S. Claude Griffin consolidated the operation of the Roanoke-Dixie and Farmers tobacco warehouses for the coming season. Under the old plan, each of the two houses handled a sale only every four days, making it difficult for the individual group of operators to meet their fixed charges during the curtailed selling day and short marketing season.

The combined partnership will make it possible for the operators to better cope with the labor shortage and at the same time afford their patrons a better service.

Woman Escapee Returned To Institution In Raleigh

Escaping from the State Hospital, Raleigh, last Thursday, Mrs. Lucy Whitehurst, former resident of this county, was arrested by Corporal W. S. Hunt of the N. C. Highway Patrol in Robersonville Tuesday afternoon. She was returned to the institution that evening. Two other women inmates, making their escape with the Whitehurst woman, have been recaptured, also.

MISSING



St. Sgt. Henry Wesley Allen, Jr., son of Mrs. Bettie Gray Jackson of near Jamesville, was reported missing in a raid over Germany on the fifth of last January.

Plan Inspection Of Pressure Canners

Plans have been completed for a pressure canner clinic to be held in the Home Demonstration Agent's laboratory in the Agricultural Building, Williamston, on Tuesday, April 4th. The purpose of the clinic is to check on pressure canner gauges to see if they are accurate and to clean and test all petcocks.

Miss Mildred Pigg and Miss Ida Roberts announce that all canners to be checked must be in the home agent's office not later than Monday, April 3, 1944, at 5 p. m. We urge the homemakers who own pressure canners to have them in for checking by this time.

On Wednesday the canners will be checked by engineers from the Extension Department of State College. This will be the only opportunity for this work to be done free for the duration. Many canners in use in the county are in need of repair.

All women who enter canners in the clinic are urged to be present for a demonstration on the care and operation of a canner. This demonstration will be given by Miss Pigg, home agent, at 3:30 p. m., Thursday, April 6th. After the demonstration each owner may take her canner home with her.

Making Plans For Fat Livestock Show Here

GETTIN' GOOD

General behavior of people in this section is almost beyond reproach, at least it is as far as court and jail records are concerned.

According to a review of the jail record, only one person was arrested and jailed during the past few days, and only one case was called by Justice J. L. Hester in his court this week. Eddie Watson Brown, charged with allowing stock to run at large, was sentenced to the roads for thirty days. The sentence was suspended upon the payment of \$5.50 costs and by assuring the court he would keep his stock penned.

Series Of Easter Services Planned

In a call meeting of the Williams-Ministerial Association Wednesday morning plans were about completed for the services that will be held during the week of April 3-9. Services will be held each morning at the Watts Theater at 10:30. Some event in the life of our Lord will be the subject discussed by a representative woman from each church. At 8:00 each evening services will be held in one of the churches with the pastor of another local church doing the preaching. On Thursday evening a Unika Communion Service will be held.

Merchants of the city will be approached about cooperating with the services during Passion Week, by working a skeleton force and permitting every possible person to attend.

Mother Was Visiting In Neighbor's Home When Fire Started

Crowded Quarters in Hovel Made Humble Home Fire And Death Trap

Three colored children, ten months, two and three years old, lost their lives when their humble lumber camp home burned on Williamston's East Main Street at 9 o'clock this morning. Two of the little charred bodies were found on the bed and a third was found in a corner, a few feet away. Apparently the fire spread so rapidly that the two on the bed never woke up in time to move. The baby was sleeping in a crib in a corner, just a few feet away. All three of the bodies were burned beyond recognition.

The mother, Edith Daniel, said she built a fire in the heater, that a pile of wood was near the heater and that it is possible the wood caught fire and fired the little two-room hovel. After building the fire, she went to the hut of a neighbor, leaving the door unfastened. In less than five minutes fire was burning through the door and it was impossible for one to enter. No screams from the children were heard, and it is believed that they were overcome so quickly they never realized what was happening.

The inside of the hut was charred, but the frame structure was saved, firemen stating that the children had possibly been burned to death before the alarm was sounded. Part of the mattress was left along with a few broken pieces of furniture.

Coroner S. R. Biggs, investigating the tragedy, announced there was no evidence of foul play and that no inquest would be held. While no blame for the death of the three little tots was fixed, carelessness and

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Plunges Into Pender Swamp Last Tuesday

Losing control of his car, a 1941 Plymouth, Norwood Lee Alcocke, owner of the Rocky Mount Textile Co., plunged into several feet of water in Pender Swamp between Robersonville and Spring Green last Tuesday afternoon. The man was thrown into the water almost to his shoulders, and while he came out unharmed it is believed he would have been drowned had the water been as high as it was the day before. Very little damage was done to his car.

Civic Organizations And Farm Bureau to Sponsor First Show

Splendid Opportunity in This Section To Build Up Big Show

Meeting with Assistant County Agent L. L. McLendon here this week, representatives of the various civic organizations in the county formulated plans for holding Martin County's first independent fat livestock show in Williamston on April 27. The outlook is bright for a successful show," Agent McLendon said following the meeting.

Sponsored by the civic organizations and Farm Bureau, the show will not be held for profit and will stand on its own merits. McLendon is pointing out that it should afford a splendid opportunity to promote livestock raising and that it could be developed into a big thing for this section. The show is the only one to be established east of Rocky Mount. Talking with interested parties some time ago, Mr. McLendon was convinced that such a show would attract much attention, that the 199 4-H club boys, Future Farmers of America, general farmers and even the 250 4-H club girls are much interested in the project. Just now there are very few calf clubs in this county, but it is believed that the show will stimulate interest and that farm youths and farmers, in general, will give livestock raising more time and thought.

The show, according to present plans, will offer prizes for fat beef cattle and hogs this year, but quite a few farmers have agreed to enter other stock, including cows, bulls, milk goats and home-raised colts. It

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