

Volunteer Firemen Hear Hodges And Brockwell Monday

New Firehouse Promised As Soon As Possible By Mayor John Hassell

Holding their annual dinner meeting at the Woman's club last night just two weeks before the annual observance of national fire prevention week, members of the Williamston Volunteer Fire Department, their wives and friends heard Sherwood Brockwell, state fire marshal, declare that the first three to five minutes after fire breaks out in a house is the sole responsibility of the householder.

Just a few minutes before Mayor John Hassell had assured them that a modern firehouse would be constructed as soon as possible. "No power on earth," the veteran trainer of volunteer fire departments said, "can help you during that first two and one-half to three minutes between the time the fire starts in your home and the time the volunteer firemen arrive at your residence. National statistics show that it will be approximately five minutes before the firemen, on the average, can get into your home with even so much as a chemical hose. Statistics also show that persons perishing in fires in homes are dead or have jumped and injured themselves within the first four minutes after the blaze is discovered."

These statements by the fire marshal were in support of a statement made previously by State Insurance Commissioner William P. Hodges, a native of this county, to the effect that fire prevention was to a large extent a matter of good housekeeping. Both Hodges and Brockwell emphasized the fact that houses do not catch on fire themselves unless it be as a result of the burning of a house next door. It is always, they said, the contents of the house that catch on fire and the house is in turn set afire by this blaze.

Premises should be kept free of dangerous debris and inflammable material and all possible safeguards should be taken to prevent fires and control them.

"You should be sure," he told the firemen, "that when you warn your neighbors and friends against fire hazards that there are none of the same things in your own household. Be sure that there is no trash lying around to catch on fire or to help make a big fire of a small one."

Mr. Hodges, who was described as having grown from a newspaper carrier boy in knee pants to his present place of commissioner of insurance in a few short years spoke just before Mr. Brockwell. He said that he did not know a lot about fighting fires but he did know about the cost of them. He pointed out that the difference between a small fire and a conflagration is often just a matter of five minutes.

As an illustration of this he told how odds and ends, fruit baskets, old crates, etc., such as is often found around the average home, were piled in an old government building in

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County Boy Writes From Philippines

Writing from Leyte in the Philippines, Reuben Bailey, young Martin County man, told relatives that he was glad to get away from Saipan where there were no trees for shade and it was hot as blazes. He had been down in New Caledonia for a few days, "and liberty wasn't too bad there. At least there was a good sized town there and it was the first one we had seen since leaving Pearl Harbor," he said.

"I didn't see any action, but that didn't make me unhappy at all. I wish I could tell where I am going, but I don't know, and even if I did, that's the one thing that we aren't allowed to tell. I'll let you know when we get there."

County Boy On Ship Landing In Japan

Thomas R. Harrison, Martin County young man and ship's cook on the USS Adams, was one of the first to land on the second largest of the Japanese islands, relatives were recently advised.

His ship went in to clean up mines and other obstacles to an American landing. Japanese were taken aboard to help locate and remove the mines, it was explained.

The young man has been in the service sixteen months and hopes to get his discharge about the first of next year.

His wife and son are making their home with his parents, near Robertsonville.

Court In Session Only A Short Time Here Monday

Opening the second of a two weeks term here yesterday, the Martin County Superior Court was in session only a short time handling a couple of divorce cases and clearing one or two others from the calendar by the compromise route.

Crime And Accidents Flare Up In Section

Several Persons In County Attacked; Two Badly Injured

Vandals Tear Down Mail Boxes And Wreck Tenant House Near Oak City

There was considerable action on the crime front here and throughout the county last week-end when several persons were attacked and vandals ran loose from this township to a point near Oak City. Aggravating the bad crime situation were several automobile accidents just over the county line and a suicide within the county.

His body battered and bruised, W. C. Curry, Jamesville man, continues in a painful condition at his home following an alleged attack on him by Harry Jones and Raymond Williams, also of Jamesville. Curry was said to have had both eyes closed tightly and staggered away from the scene of the attack with large knots on his head and bruises on his body. Raymond Williams, a tenant farmer on the Gaylord farm near Jamesville, is at his home with a large number of shot in his body, one report stating that he was spotted by a shot from the top of his head to his feet.

According to reports reaching here, the three were engaged in a poker game on Roanoke River just below the hill in Jamesville and an argument arose over a "pot". Jones and Williams are said to have attacked Curry, beating him unmercifully. His attending doctor was quoted as saying that he had never seen a man beaten more unmercifully. Curry went away and is alleged to have borrowed a shot gun and returned, firing two loads of shot into Williams as he stood near a ditch not far from the old bank building on Jamesville's almost deserted main street. The man fell into the ditch and remained there until about daylight Friday.

Williams, already under indictment for allegedly attacking his landlord, W. B. Gaylord, is now charged along with Jones with assaulting Curry. Curry is charged with assaulting Williams with a deadly weapon. Asked if he shot Williams, Curry was quoted as saying that if he did he did not remember it. Jones' gun was found on the main street with the barrel ripped open, one report maintaining that possibly the three started a shooting bee among them and that Jones gun went out of commission early in the game.

No motive has been definitely established for a shot-gun attack by Lester Morgan, colored man, on his brother-in-law Emanuel Saunders at the Sherrod farm near Hamilton early last Saturday night. One report stated that Morgan wanted to have some fun, but the attack is proving quite painful for Saunders who is walking around with six shot in his left leg and several in his rump.

Saunders, riding in Ernest Jones' car, was accompanying his sister, Mary Lee, home with her groceries. When they reached the Morgan home, Morgan came out and advised Saunders that he was going to shoot him. Saunders was said to have dismissed the threat, but when Jones explained that Morgan was taking the gun from its rack in the house, Saunders started running down the highway. Saunders admitted that he lost little time in leaving, one report stating that he kicked the fire out of the pavement, that he increased his speed when he was struck. Morgan, with twenty-five acres of peanuts to be harvested, was placed in jail and bond was not arranged immediately.

Two persons, Lonnie Bullock and Tommie Bland, were assaulted on local streets Saturday night, and the life of another was threatened. Large numbers congregated on the streets, and some mighty loose talk

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HIGH WATER

Rising about seven inches in the 12-hour period ending at 11 o'clock this morning, the Roanoke River was believed to be nearing a crest slightly below fifteen feet, flood stage, at this point. At 8 o'clock this morning the official reading was 14.7 feet, meaning the stream was almost five feet over its banks at this point.

The rise was fairly rapid last night, but the rate of increase since that time has been rather slow.

It was first predicted that the river would rise to about thirteen feet at this point. The additional rise has cost farmers in the lowlands much money in crop losses and the war prisoner camp maintained details all last night working on a dike to keep the water from flooding the camp from the rear.

Victim Of Accident Passes In Hospital Monday Afternoon

Funeral Near Bethel Today For Perlie Leo Bullock; Of Norfolk

Perlie Leo Bullock, native of Pitt County and for the past four years engaged in business in Norfolk, died in a local hospital yesterday afternoon at 2:25 o'clock of injuries received in a motorcycle-automobile crash near the eastern end of the Roanoke River fill last Saturday night at 9:30 o'clock. Suffering a fractured skull and other injuries, Mr. Bullock never regained consciousness.

Riding on a motorcycle with Don Reubincam, of Potsdam, New Jersey, and U. S. Naval Air Station, Edenton, Mr. Bullock was on his way to Greenville to spend the week-end with his family. The motorcycle, believed to have been driven by the young seaman at the time, struck a car being driven by Joe Bell of Williamston. The front wheel of the car was torn off and Mr. Bullock was thrown about thirty feet, falling on his head on the concrete. Seaman Reubincam, suffering a compound fracture of the left leg and other injuries, was given first aid treatment in the local hospital and later removed to a base hospital in Norfolk. Mr. Bullock borrowed the motorcycle from a friend in Norfolk and picked up the seaman in Edenton. It is believed that they exchanged seats and that Reubincam was driving at the time.

The son of J. H. Bullock of near Bethel and the late Mrs. Viola Whitfield Bullock, Mr. Bullock was born in Pitt County on June 12, 1902. He spent the early part of his life on the farm and was married to Miss Grace Wilson of Ayden in December, 1919. He lived in Pitt County most of his life, going to Norfolk four years ago to enter business.

Surviving are his father, widow and four children, Mrs. Martha E. Hicks of Norfolk; Jarvis Bullock of Greenville, Mrs. Oakley Johnson of El Centro, California, and Raymond Earl Bullock of Greenville; one brother, Raymond Bullock of Greenville, and a sister, Mrs. W. C. Bryant of Robertsonville; two half brothers, Larry Bunting of Williamston, and Paul Bunting of Tarboro; five half-sisters, Mrs. Clarence Mazingo of Bethel, Mrs. Powell Satterthwaite of Tarboro, Mrs. Fabian Roberts of Tarboro, and Miss Bernice Bullock of Bethel.

Funeral services are being held in the Johnson Presbyterian Memorial church near the old family home in Pitt County this afternoon at 3:30 o'clock by the Rev. J. W. Walkup, pastor. Interment will be in the Whitfield family cemetery, near Bethel.

Youth Home After Long Stay Overseas

T/5 James E. Stalls recently returned home after spending three and one-half years in foreign service. The county young man, a member of the 38th Engineers Regiment, was inducted on March 21, 1941, and served with that outfit until just a few months before he was discharged.

He received his basic training at Fort Belvoir and Fort Jackson, and left Charleston on March 14, 1942, for service on the Ascension Islands, going from there to Africa. He later went to England where he received his pre-invasion training and moved into France with the first invasion forces, driving a truck most of the time while on the continent.

The young man sailed for home on September 3, and arrived in New York on September 12, going from there to Fort Bragg where he was honorably discharged.

He holds the Good Conduct Medal, the American Defense Medal, European-Mediterranean Campaign Medal with two Bronze Service Stars, one Bronze Star arrowhead and the Croix de Guerre.

County Youth In Army University

The U. S. Army University Center in England, designed to give soldiers a chance to get college instruction while waiting to return to the United States, has started its first semester here with an enrollment of 3,611 students, including S/Sgt. Tyree Bryan Tyson, 20, of Oak City.

Sergeant Tyson, a member of the First Infantry Division is studying accounting, business typing, business engineering. He attended Oak City High school. His parents are residing in Oak City. A selection of 300 courses is offered in the fields of liberal arts, science, engineering, fine arts, journalism, education and commerce. Each student is allowed to register for three courses, and his hours of instruction will be equivalent to a summer semester at a civilian institution. Courses are taught for the most part by civilian educators from the United States authorities in their respective fields.

Peanut Harvest Is Expected To Relieve Tobacco Market Block

Getting under way on a fairly early start, today will harvest the crop in this county and in the surrounding counties. It is considered that the harvest is likely to relieve to some extent, at least, the glut experienced on the tobacco market since the opening last month. While there is more than a million pounds on the floors at the present time, deliveries are not as rushed as they were a week ago, and farmers are finding it possible to place their tobacco on local floors only a few days ahead of the buyers.

Since the opening of the season the 21st of last month, the market here has sold a record poundage at what possibly is the highest price average ever reported. Through last Friday, the market here had sold 5,665,766 pounds for nearly two and one-half million dollars or an average of right at \$44 per hundred pounds. Sales

Young Man Killed In Truck-Wagon Mishap

B. K. Taylor Loses Life In Bear Grass Monday Afternoon

B. K. Taylor, young Martin County farmer, was instantly killed in a truck-wagon accident not far from Sweet Home Church in Bear Grass Township yesterday afternoon at 1:00 o'clock. Driving a wagon team out of the yard at Clybert Whitaker's home on the Harris farm, Young Taylor had just reached the road when a truck, driven by Lester Gray Ward and loaded with green lumber, struck the wagon near the left front wheel and the tongue hitch. The wagon was knocked around and Taylor was thrown to the ground, the rear right dual wheels running over and crushing his head. Taylor was turning into the road to go toward the church and the truck driver was traveling from the church.

Details of the accident could not be learned immediately, but patrolmen, investigating the tragedy, were quoted as saying that the motor vehicle was not properly equipped with brakes, but it could not be learned if the mechanical fault contributed to the accident. No charges have been brought in the case against the truck driver as far as it could be learned here today.

The young man attended the Bear Grass schools and is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bonnie Taylor, and eight brothers and sisters, Bonnie Taylor, U. S. Army, now believed to be on his way home from the European theater; William, Catherine, Christine, Hazel, Elsie, James and Alton Taylor, all of the home.

Funeral services are being conducted at the home on RFD 2, Williamston, this afternoon at 3 o'clock by the Rev. D. W. Alexander, Free Will Baptist minister of Bethel. Interment will follow in the Jackson family cemetery.

Attend District Jaycee Meeting In Wilmington

Attending a district meeting of Jaycees at Carolina Beach last week-end, representatives of the newly organized club here reported on its activities. President Clarence W. Griffin offered the report.

Entertained by the Wilmington club, Clarence Griffin, Ernest Mears, Exum Ward, Jr., Wheeler Manning, N. R. Manning, Carroll Jones, H. D. Harrison, Jr., and John Miller attended the meeting as representatives of the local organization.

SEES ONE SIDE ONLY

Emphasizing the need for a new firehouse here, State Fire Marshal Sherwood Brockwell last night told the annual dinner meeting of the Williamston Firemen and their guests how State Insurance Commissioner William P. Hodges rushed down to the fire department on his arrival in town Monday to take a look at the new fire truck only to find that he could see but half of it.

"There was just room for him to walk down one side of the new truck," Brockwell said, "and just room also to walk down one side of the old truck which is to be rebuilt. It was embarrassing. These firemen need a place to keep their equipment and a place to meet and entertain themselves and their friends. Not only is it necessary that they have good equipment but they must also have something that will help to keep their morale high. Morale is a mighty important factor in a fire fighting unit."

Marriage licenses were issued in this county last Saturday to Rufus S. Gurganum and Sybil Peel, both of Williamston, and to Joseph Henry Chorley, U. S. N., of Chicago, and Laura E. Lilley, of Williamston.

Mrs. J. R. Corey Ends Her Life In Griffins Township

Funeral In Wake Field Their Last Saturday Afternoon For Respected Citizen

Experiencing declining health and greatly depressed since the death of her husband last February a year ago, Mrs. Apha Gertrude Corey ended her life at her home in the Farm Life section of Griffins Township last Friday afternoon at 2:35 o'clock. Taking a shot gun, Mrs. Corey went to the wash shed in the back yard and fired a load of No. 6 shot into her stomach, the load ranging upward and striking her heart and causing instant death.

Several days previously Mrs. Corey had suggested that she saw no reason for not ending her life. Members of the family removed all gun shells from the house, but while no one was at home she went to her daughter's home nearby and got a shell.

Mrs. Corey was alone that afternoon and when members of the family and neighbors just across the road heard the report of the gun, Messrs. Tom Roberson, J. W. Williams and J. R. Pierce ran to the wash house and found her dead.

The daughter of the late William Riley and Susan Ann Griffin Revels, Mrs. Corey was born in Griffins Township 65 years ago. In early womanhood she was married to J. Rome Corey and spent her entire life in Griffins Township, living peacefully with her neighbors and holding the respect of all who knew her. She was a devoted and faithful member of the Primitive Baptist Church at Smithwicks Creek for forty-one years.

Surviving are three daughters, Mrs. Rufus Hardison, Mrs. Garland Tice and Mrs. Bruce Coltrain, all of Griffins Township; two brothers, John Alfred Revels, of Griffins, and Staton Revels of Bear Grass, and five sisters, Mrs. W. B. Harrington and Mrs. James Revels of Griffins, and Mrs. Alonza Rogerson and Mrs. Ben Ward of Bear Grass Township, and Mrs. Slade Stallings of Scotland Neck. A son, Willie Corey, was accidentally killed by a falling tree some years ago.

Farm Security To Hold School Here

Approximately eighty Farm Security Administration Committeesmen from twenty-one eastern North Carolina counties will meet here tomorrow for a one day school of instruction which will be held in the grammar school auditorium.

In each county there is a committee of three regular members for FSA work, and one additional member for considering application for returning veterans. This committee has the power and authority to steer the program within its county. However, they must stay within the bounds of limits set up by congress. At this meeting the committee members will be instructed on the laws and limits of the 1946 program in order that they may intelligently guide the county personnel with their work.

The meeting will be conducted by Mr. S. E. Wilson, district FSA supervisor, from Raleigh, and other district and state personnel whose names have not yet been revealed.

Oak City Students Hold Class Meeting

Meeting recently, the Oak City tenth grade pupils perfected their class organization with the election of officers under the leadership of their home-room teacher, Miss Frances Eakes.

Officers are: Lundy Hudgins, president; Inez Smith, vice president; Elwood Boyd, secretary; Dolores Barrett, treasurer; Alice Edmondson, news reporter; Frances Bryant, Sybil Tyson, Gladys Thomas and Lundy Hudgins, program committee; Gaynelle Briley, Eleanor Eubanks, Coy Bryant and Vernon Suits, entertainment committee.

The class colors are blue and gold and the class flower is the hyacinth.

Local Man In Auto Wreck In Bertie

No one was hurt but considerable damage resulted when two cars crashed on U. S. Highway No. 17 near Windsor last Saturday night about 10:30 o'clock.

Carl M. Mobley, driving from Norfolk where he is stationed in the Navy, reported damage in the sum of about \$150 to his car. John A. Freeman, colored man of Windsor, operator of the other car, reported damage of about \$50. Details of the accident could not be learned here immediately. Cpl. W. S. Hunt and Patrolman W. E. Saunders of the State Highway Patrol investigated the accident.