

NEARLY 4,000 COPIES OF THE ENTERPRISE GOING INTO THE HOMES OF MARTIN COUNTY AND TO COUNTY SERVICEMEN

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THE ENTERPRISE

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Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Friday, October 12, 1945

ESTABLISHED 1899

John Jas. Roberson Passes Suddenly In Griffins Wednesday

Funeral Held At Home Yesterday Afternoon For Prominent Citizen-Farmer

John James Roberson, well-known Griffins Township farmer and a leading citizen of this county, died at his home in the Farm Life Community Wednesday morning at 8:00 o'clock following a short illness. Suffering an attack of influenza the latter part of last week, Mr. Roberson was quite ill for several days but his condition was much improved early Wednesday morning. He sat up and ate his breakfast and was feeling very well until about 7:45 o'clock when he suffered a heart attack, death following about fifteen minutes later.

Mr. Roberson was born in Griffins Township on December 17, 1868, the son of the late Harmon Thomas and Clementine Coltrain Roberson. He spent his entire life in the community of his birth, farming and operating a country store and saw mill. Mr. Roberson was a member of the Primitive Baptist Church for a number of years and was held in high esteem as a leader in his community and county. He never aspired to any political office, but he was always found on the right side in the support of his government and in the promotion of worthy undertakings and high ideals. Mr. Roberson was an industrious farmer who advanced and adopted advanced methods in agriculture, and his judgment was readily recognized and accepted.

About 51 years ago he was married to Miss Sara Ada Hardison who survives with three children, David M. and Coy J. Roberson, both of Williamston, and Miss Ida F. Roberson, of the home. He is also survived by three brothers, Messrs. H. Thad Roberson, former sheriff of this county, Joseph A. and Claudius Roberson, all of Williamston; two sisters, Mrs. A. R. Corey and Mrs. Ephraim Peel, both of Griffins Township, and a half-brother, David Roberson, of California.

Funeral services were conducted at the home yesterday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock by Elders Roberts, Simmons and Ross. Interment was in the Roberson family cemetery, near the home. Hundreds were present for the last rites, attesting the high esteem in which Mr. Roberson was held by neighbors, other friends and acquaintances.

More County Youths Register For Draft

Thirty-two Martin County men registered with Selective Service in September, according to a report coming from the draft board. Twenty-two of the new registrants are white, and the number included several who had served long terms in various branches of the service, but who had never registered.

The names and addresses of the registrants follow:

White—Robert Henry Biggs, Everetts; Lester Bland, RFD 1, Robersonville; Robert Franklin Edmondson, RFD 1, Hobgood; John Benjamin Purvis, RFD 1, Bethel; Daniel Taylor Lilley, RFD 1, Williamston; John Asa Harrison, RFD 1, Robersonville; Donald Earl Bunting, Oak City; Russell Manning, Oak City; William Charlie Padgett, RFD 1, Jamesville; Giles Ervin Stallings, RFD 1, Jamesville; Leslie Thurston Fowden, Williamston; Howard Russell Taylor, Robersonville; Thad Leach Hodges, RFD 2, Williamston; Junior Manning, Parmele; Curtis Wilmer Hopkins, RFD 3, Williamston; Edward Eason Matthews, RFD 3, Williamston; Ellis Gray Keel, RFD 3, Williamston; Fredric Carson Wagstaff, Robersonville; Raymond Matthews Pope, Williamston; John Linwood Cherry, Williamston; David Clifton Roberson, RFD 3, Williamston, and Dannie Randolph Rogerson, RFD 2, Williamston.

Colored—William Turner Hoagsmith, Everetts; Cornelius Mooring, RFD 1, Hobgood; Charlie James Bell, RFD 1, Williamston; Walter Brown, Jr., RFD 2, Williamston; William Burnis Jones, RFD 1, Oak City; Claud Woolard, Jr., RFD 1, Williamston; Jesse Taylor Matthews, RFD 2, Robersonville; Peter Alonza P. Godard, Washington; Ben Biggs, Jr., Norfolk, and Ernest Lee Bryant, Oak City.

Two Suits Are Filed In Superior Court

Two suits, one for divorce and the other for \$5,000 damages, were filed in the Martin County Superior Court this week.

Alleging two years separation, Oliver Whaley is suing Verna Whaley for divorce. The Whaleys have three children.

Joe Boyd is suing Mack Reddick for \$5,000 damages as a result of an automobile accident. Plaintiff Boyd was hurt when the defendants car ran over his ankle at the Gulf Filling station on Washington street here last August 28.

The War Is Over! Why Launch a Campaign for \$13,232.96 At This Time In Martin County?

Here's Answer To a Timely Question

A goal of \$13,232.96 has been accepted by the United War and Community Fund of Martin County for the 1945-46 campaign, which officially began last week. Some people have asked why this campaign is necessary, now that the war is ended. Clarence Griffin, chairman of the campaign, answers this question:

"The war officially is over, but humanitarian needs continue.

"The fighting has ceased, but there will be weary, morale-breaking months of waiting for many of our boys before they are returned to civilian life. The War Department has asked the USO and USO Camp Shows not only to continue but to intensify their work for the occupation troops and those awaiting return to this country.

"Peace has returned, but there is want and hunger in the lands which bore the brunt of our common battle. The friendly hands of our foreign war relief agencies extend to our Allies some food, clothing, medicine and, above all, sympathetic encouragement.

"After V-J Day, the National War Fund, through which our funds go to USO and other war service and war relief agencies, decided to make this one last federated appeal to provide funds for the operation of some agencies to liquidation, and for the operation of others up to December 31, 1946. Budgets were reexamined and all economies made possible by the end of the war were effected. The national goal for 15 months' financing of the agencies is \$115,000,000—the amount originally intended to cover costs for 12 months only.

"We are asking the people of Martin County to shoulder our share of this, to finish a job well done during the war years. Let's make it a gift of thanksgiving for the end of the war. Be generous in victory!"

Dardens Community First Over The Top In War Fund Drive

Colored Citizens There Exceed Quota By Large Percentage In Early Report

Raising \$120.00, an amount well in excess of the assigned quota, the colored citizens of the Dardens Community were the first in the county to go over the top in the current National War Fund Drive, it was announced by the chairman, Clarence Griffin, this week.

The drive was headed by Noah Boston and W. S. Keys, and if that little community can exceed its quota every district in Martin County should be able to go over the top with flying colors.

Names of the contributors and the amounts donated follow:

Prof. John S. James, \$3; Rev. Noah Boston, \$3; Willie D. Boston, \$2; Johnnie James, \$2; Clarence Taper, \$1.50; Doris Peel, \$50; Abraham Pierce, \$50; Della James, \$50; Erma Hoover, \$50; William S. Cordon, \$50; Mittie James, \$50; Thomas Moore, \$50; Samuel James, \$50; Gladis Pierce, \$50; Edward Cordon, \$50; Leora Smith, \$50; Eddie Boston, \$50; Blanch Ruffin, \$50; Ethel Barfield, \$50; Rev. W. R. Boston, \$50; Rev. W. S. Keys, \$2; Matthew Pierce, \$2.

The following persons contributed \$1 each: Haywood James, Early Boston, Romas Peel, L. J. Cordon, Andrew Pierce, James Keys, Joseph Boston, Atis Boston, Elbert Cordon, Ethel Winstead, A. L. Wollard, Martha James, Nathaniel Brooks, Hardy Rodgers, Ebrom Pierce, W. W. Brooks, Albert Boston, George Moore, George Moore, Jr., Meredith Pierce, Dallas James, Chas. H. Peel, Julius Smith, Claven James, Naomia James, Bruce Gee, Edward Moore, Dollie Williams, John Barfield, Robert G. Sallie Keys, Mamie Keys, M. W. Whitehurst, Alverta P. Ewing, Ella P. Bryant, Maxine J. Harris, Sylvester Moore, Jimmie James, James Rodgers, Aaron Biggs, Jacob Smith, James Brooks, James Pierce, Melvin Biggs, Jeremiah Peel, Willie D. Boston, Jr., Edom James, Samuel Moore, Jr., Bernard Moore, Ionia Keys, Cleophus Rodgers, Rev. Early Whitehurst, Lizzie Whitehurst, Arthur James, Emma Whitehurst.

Mw. Whitehurst, Flossie Wollard, Mack Wollard, Minnie Butts, Enoch Peel, Nancy D. Keys, Roosevelt Keys, Christine Keys, Ivory Keys, Wilburt Keys, Hubert Keys, William H. Keys.

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TOBACCO SALES

With entire sales averaging beyond \$46 per hundred, tobacco prices on the local market reached their highest peak of the season this week. The price trend was noticeably upward on the better grades, and there was possibly the smallest quantity of damaged tobacco on the floors than at any other time in recent weeks. While poor quality tobacco was selling for about the same price, there wasn't as much of that type as there had been, and averages pointed upward.

Up until this morning, the local market had sold 8,757,930 pounds for an average price close to \$44 per hundred.

The floors have been cleared, and while the rush is definitely over, sales have held up unusually well on the market this week.

NO BASEBALL PLANS

Williamston will not be represented when baseball officials meet in Greenville Sunday afternoon to map plans for the reorganization of the Coastal Plain League. While it is fairly certain that Williamston will not maintain its berth in the Coastal Plain circuit, there is a possibility that a semi-pro organization will be perfected by towns in the Roanoke-Albemarle area.

Over Hundred Tires Allotted By Board Last Friday Night

Certificate Holders State That They Are Unable To Find New Car Tires

One hundred and nineteen tires—92 for cars and 17 for trucks—were rationed by the Martin County board last Friday evening. Now that the certificates are being issued, the holders are finding it next to impossible to get the tires. Stocks are at a low level, reports stating that there are fewer tires to be had than at any other time during or since the war.

Unofficial reports seem to indicate that the tire manufacturers are giving first consideration to car manufacturers, that a large part of current production is going to equip new vehicles rather than for replacements.

Passenger tires were issued to the following:

Robert H. Cowen, Joe H. Hopkins, Geo. L. Cooper, Roland Harrison, Benjamin L. Harrell, William Purvis, Wheeler Station, Archie Daniel Coltrain, Hubert M. Pope, Irene McClaren, M. L. Peel, A. C. Roberson, Ernest L. Owens, Alonza Revels, E. E. Brown, F. C. Williams, Roy Godard, J. F. Martin, J. D. Knox, Silas House, Velma Bailey, Claudie Rawls, J. B. Barnhill, Jr., H. W. Leggett, Wheeler Martin, Ira F. Griffin, Standard Fertilizer Co., Marvin M. Everett, L. B. Brown, J. D. Etheridge, Elmo Bullock, L. A. Croom, H. L. House, R. H. Edmondson, Wm. C. Griffin, R. N. Turner, Lucy Bailey, J. R. Leggett, Hewitt Edwards, J. H. Perry, N. C. Highway Patrol, Arthur Ange, G. H. Wilson, Nathan Bullock, Jim C. Gurkin, C. C. Parker, Elmer Chesson.

J. C. Rawls, J. T. Holliday, Mamie Clyde Taylor, Ernest Wynne, Alonza R. Jones, Robert Griffin, H. C. Roberson, J. C. Norris, Mrs. W. F. Peaks, H. R. Smith, Pender Lock, Paul Harrington, Geo. E. Peel, William W. Davis, Sr., Robert E. Lytle, W. J. Johnson, R. L. Ward Coal Yard.

Truck tires were issued to the following:

R. L. Ward Coal Yard, F. F. Pollard, Harrison Oil Co., Taylor Mill and Gin Co., Williamston Supply Co., Roberson Slaughter House, Town of Williamston, Tilmont Coltrain, Williamston Package Manufacturing Co., Freeman and Derrickson Co., Mrs. Kate York and J. R. Pierce.

Funeral Monday For Mrs. R. W. Chesson

Funeral services were conducted in the Oak City Baptist church last Monday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock for Mrs. Richard Worsley Chesson who died in a Norfolk hospital last Saturday following a short illness.

A native of Pennsylvania she met and married Mr. Chesson in Norfolk where they made their home.

Besides her husband, a native of Oak City, she leaves a child about three weeks of age.

Probable Cause In Manslaughter Case

Charged with operating a motor vehicle with improper brakes resulting in the death of B. K. Taylor, young Martin County white man in Bear Grass Township on September 24, Lester Gray Ward was bound over to the Martin County Superior Court last Tuesday evening under bond in the sum of \$500. Probable cause was found in support of the charge at a hearing held before Justice John L. Hassell. Taylor was driving a wagon team into a dirt road at the Harris farm when he was struck and instantly killed.

The hearing was one of several cases reviewed by the trial justice in recent days.

Charged with an assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill, Nettie Parker, explaining that she just wanted to kill a "nigger" attacked Will Biggs with a knife. Aiming at the man's throat, she missed and gashed him badly across the face and shoulder. She was placed under bond in the sum of \$200.

Earl Green, drunk and down, was fined \$2.50 and taxed with the cost.

Charged with operating a motor vehicle with improper brakes, James Henry Rogers was fined \$10 and taxed with \$6 costs.

Paul McKee, drunk and down, was fined \$2.50 and required to pay \$7.50 costs. Facing a similar charge, Wilton Sheppard was fined \$2.50 and taxed with \$8.50 costs.

S. Sears, Hyde County man charged with shoplifting in a local store, was bound over to the higher courts under bond in the sum of \$100.

County Young Man Discharged By Army

Although he was not in the service so mightily long, Pvt. Winford Mobley, Martin County young man, got a pretty good taste of war before he was honorably discharged by the Army at McGuire General Hospital, Richmond, last Sunday.

Entering the service July 20, 1944, the young man went overseas last January 3 and moved right in to participate in the German, Belgium and Northern France campaigns. An heavy weapons crewman, Pvt. Mobley was carrying ammunition for machine guns to the front at Vitzel, Germany, on the Roer River, February 23, when a mortar shell tore through his right shoulder, breaking his collar bone. He underwent two operations in Belgium and was removed a short time later to England. After a short stay there he was returned to the States last March and spent a few days at home before going to Finney Hospital, Thomasville, Ga., and later to McGuire General Hospital, for treatment.

Holding the Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman's Badge and the EAME Ribbon with three bronze stars, the young man is getting along very well and improving all the while before making any definite plans for the future.

Speaks To Students On Fire Prevention

Addressing local school children last Tuesday, Mayor John L. Hassell stressed the need for fire prevention and called upon the pupils to cooperate in reducing fire costs both as to human life and property.

Fire drills were held in the two schools, the high school pupils filing from the building in 65 seconds. A drill was held and the building was cleared in fifty seconds. At the elementary school, the children left the building in 85 seconds.

Supporting the fire prevention movement, questionnaires were carried home by the children, and the parents were asked to list fire conditions in and around their households.

THE RECORD SPEAKS . . .

Accidents started piling up in ever increasing numbers on the highways and streets in this county last week, patrolmen and town officers reporting five during the period ending last Sunday. Only one person was badly hurt, the reports stating that a 11-year-old boy was badly injured when he was run down by a car in Robersonville. There were five accidents reported, the property damage amounting to approximately \$500.

The following tabulations offer a comparison of the accident trend: first, by corresponding weeks in this year and last and for each year to the present time.

Fortieth Week				
1945	5	1	0	\$ 450
1944	2	1	3	150
Comparisons To Date				
1945	53	27	6	10,450
1944	54	25	4	9,200

Proposed For Schools Construction Program

TEST WELL

In the first tangible move to improve the town's water supply, specialists of the Layne-Atlathe Company yesterday started digging a test well on North Houghton Street. Machinery set up for the operation earlier in the day and by night fall drilling was well under way. It is proposed to carry the well down around 300 feet, if necessary.

If a sufficient water source can be found, the officials will close the well near the courthouse except for emergency use. The action is being taken to reduce the salt content in the water here.

Tri-County Library Celebrates Fourth Birthday Recently

Over 150,000 Books Circulated In Three Counties During The Past Year

By PAULINE WORTHY

The Beaufort, Hyde, Martin Regional Library recently celebrated its fourth birthday. Its most prized birthday present was the pleasant discovery that it had become a model regional set-up, observed and copied by other states.

Last week Miss Shirley Brothers, Supervisor of Rural Libraries in Alabama, came all the way to North Carolina to see the BHM Library in action, and to learn how to go about setting up regional libraries in Alabama. The state of Alabama paid Miss Brothers' expenses here to observe this particular library because of its efficient functioning has gone abroad in the library world.

After conferring with the Regional Librarian, Miss Elizabeth House, in her office in the Brown Library at Washington, Miss Brothers toured the tri-county set-up with Miss Marjorie Beal, Director of the North Carolina Library Commission, and Mrs. Ford S. Worthy, a trustee of the BHM Library.

A few short years ago the seventy-odd thousand residents of the rural areas of Beaufort, Hyde, and Martin Counties had no rural library service whatever. Today people in the most remote country districts have access to the finest available books. The story of the growth of library service in these three counties of eastern North Carolina is little short of miraculous.

The story behind that story would record the efforts of those library conscious citizens who struggled and fought for a legislative appropriation which would grant State Aid for library service in this state. Specifically, in this instance, it would recognize that devoted little group in Beaufort, Hyde, and Martin Counties who believed in the gospel of good books and pooled their energy and their resources in order to make books available to every citizen in the three counties.

Four years ago the BHM Regional Library began from scratch. It owned neither books, bookmobile, nor equipment of any type. It had only the promise of the State Aid Fund, which was made available by the legislature of 1941. The county commissioners generously did their part in matching promised state funds. Nine trustees were appointed, three from each county.

Acting on the advice of the State Library Commission, those trustees selected Miss Elizabeth House of Robersonville, N. C., as librarian. An experienced librarian with a degree in Library Science from George Pea-

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Local Naval Officer Highly Commended

Completing seventeen months' service on the USS Destroyer Preston, Lt. Russell T. Roebuck, son of Sheriff and Mrs. C. B. Roebuck, was highly commended by his commanding officer when the young man recently transferred to another ship for a visit home.

The commanding officer, Commander G. Serrpell Patrick, USN, said, in part:

"His (Lt. Roebuck) initiative and industry combined with the best qualities of leadership inspired a high degree of cooperation from all he worked with. His frankness and honesty in aiding and advising others has been a true measure to those that served under him. His keen judgment and harmonious working with others demonstrates his ability to fill any administrative job. As a naval officer he was outstanding."

Cost Figures For Proposed Projects Not Yet Available

Lunchrooms For Schools And Negro High School Building Part of Program

Meeting in special session here this week, members of the Martin County Board of Education canvassed requests and reviewed needs for a school building expansion program. No cost figures could be had immediately, but the proposed program will likely exceed over \$100,000.

The board members instructed the superintendent to prepare cost estimates, but no immediate action on the building program is to be expected. Reports declare that dealers will be unable to deliver material within three to four months, that no brick could be made available within six months.

No definite options have been taken where additional property will be needed to accommodate the expansion program, it was learned. The board at its recent meeting did not designate the order in which the units would be constructed, but two of the officials explained that the needs would be carefully reviewed and studied and the most urgent would have priority rating in the list.

In addition to the new construction program proposed by the board, badly needed repairs are being considered for several of the school plants.

Asked about financing the program, school officials declared they were of the opinion that the costs could be met without increasing tax rates, that some obligations were being retired and that the tax structure would remain virtually unchanged as far as financing the program is concerned.

It was also pointed out that there is a possibility that the federal government will participate in financing the cost. However, no such aid is likely unless there is mass unemployment.

No definite type of construction has been determined, and it is likely that alternate plans will be prepared for some of the proposed structures.

Included in the program are: A teacherage, and a lunch room with vocational shop combined under one roof are planned for Jamesville.

Buildings to house the home economic departments and lunch rooms at Farm Life and Bear Grass are proposed.

A lunch room is proposed for Everetts, and at Robersonville the program calls for the construction of a building to house the home economics department and the lunch room.

In Williamston a new high school building of about six or seven rooms is proposed for the colored school. A building to house the home economics department and a lunch room is proposed for the Williamston white high school.

Homes for the principals in Williamston and Robersonville are also proposed, the officials pointing out that these two projects along with the Jamesville teacherage would be self-supporting units.

Repairs to old buildings will be handled as rapidly as possible.

Patrons in several communities have already started raising funds to equip the new buildings, but it isn't likely that construction will get under way on any appreciable scale before next year.

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Makes Second Trip Home From The Pacific Theater

Lt. Billy Watts, just back from the Pacific following his second period of service in that theater, arrived last night to visit his father. He was accompanied here by his sister, Mrs. W. A. Thomason, the former Miss Gwen Watts, and Mr. Thomason, of Alexandria, Va.

PACKAGES

Not certain where their sons or brothers will be Christmas, relatives in this section are not mailing holidays packages to servicemen in numbers this year, according to information coming from the local post office. Only in those cases where the servicemen are in the occupation forces are relatives mailing packages.

Last year at this time packages were being mailed at the rate of possibly 100 a day. Now the mailings are limited to ten or a dozen daily.

Next Monday, October 15, is the last day for mailing Christmas packages overseas, and where it is known that a serviceman will be overseas Christmas day, every effort should be made to have a remembrance from home for him on that day.

Judge Calvin Smith Called Forty Cases In Court On Monday

Road Sentences Meted Out And Fines Collected Total Nearly \$800

Holding the county court in session until dark last Monday, Judge J. Calvin Smith established possibly a new record when he called forty cases. Several road sentences were meted out and fines, amounting to \$790, were collected during the day. The court room was crowded in the early part of the day, and except for an empty jury box the court resembled the superior tribunal.

Proceedings:

Charged with being drunk and disorderly and resisting arrest, Thurman Edmondson pleaded guilty and drew six months on the roads. The road term was suspended for one year upon payment of a \$100 fine and costs, and on the further condition that the defendant have no intoxicating liquor in his possession during the next year.

The case charging Lester Brown with cruelty to animals was not pressed.

Charged with an assault, Henry Pitt pleaded guilty of simple assault and was fined \$10 and taxed with the cost.

Delwood Earl Woolard, charged with speeding, was fined \$15 and required to pay the costs.

The case charging Floyd Spruill with non-support was continued until the first Monday in January upon the payment of the cost.

The cases, charging Jack A. Farmer, Jake Downs, Elie Armstead with drunken driving were continued until October 22. A similar case brought against Robert Herbert Edmondson was continued until December 3.

Gordon Ray Hinton was required to pay the costs in the case charging him with operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license, the court recommending that no license be issued him for six months.

Pleading guilty in the case charging him with operating a motor vehicle without brakes, LeRoy Rogers was fined \$10 and required to pay the costs. His operator's license was revoked for 30 days.

Andrew Hudgins was fined \$10 and required to pay the costs and had his license revoked for fifteen days.

Charged with operating a motor vehicle with improper brakes and lights, Haywood Strickland was fined \$20 and required to pay the costs.

Joe Lee Durham, operating a motor vehicle with no brakes, was fined \$10 and taxed with the costs.

Charged with operating a motor vehicle with no brakes, Charlie James Carney was fined \$20 and taxed with the cost.

James Williams, charged with operating a motor vehicle with improper brakes and lights, was fined \$10, taxed with the cost and had his operator's license suspended for ten days.

Charged with allowing an unlicensed driver to operate a motor vehicle, Warren Wade Hinson was fined \$20 and taxed with the cost.

Charged with operating a motor vehicle equipped with inadequate brakes, Charlie Andrews was fined \$20 and taxed with the cost.

King Latham pleaded not guilty in the case charging him with reckless driving. The court adjudged him guilty of operating a car on left of center of highway, and he was fined \$10 and taxed with the cost.

Adjudged guilty over his own plea of innocence in the case charging him with speeding, Edward Matthews was fined \$20 and taxed with the cost.

Charged with reckless driving, Octavious Manning, colored, pleaded not guilty. Adjudged guilty, he was sentenced to the roads for four months. In a second case, Manning was adjudged guilty of an assault with a deadly weapon, and he was sentenced to the roads for sixty days the sentence to begin at the expiration of the first.

William Augustus Keel was fined \$20 and taxed with the cost in the case charging him with operating a car.

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Miss Mary Holliday Dies In Hamilton

Miss Mary Tina Holliday died at her home in Hamilton early Tuesday morning following a long period of declining health. She had received hospital treatment during the past several months.

The daughter of the late Henry and Mary Jane Wynne Holliday, she was born in Cross Roads Township 68 years ago and spent her early life in that community, moving to Hamilton about forty years ago.

She is survived by a brother, J. D. Holliday of Hamilton, and a sister, Mrs. Susan Everett of Norfolk.

Miss Holliday was a member of the Everetts Christian Church and her pastor, Rev. J. M. Perry conducted the last rites at the home yesterday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. Interment was in the Wynne family cemetery, near Everetts.