

## Annual Drive For Members Started For Farm Bureau

President And Assistant Secretary Address Friday Meeting

Plans for launching the Martin County Farm Bureau's annual membership drive were formulated at a meeting in the courthouse last Friday night when Chas. L. Daniel, president of the organization, and Joe Williams, assistant state secretary, addressed a goodly number of farmers.

Pointing out that Martin County was being asked to sign up 2,080 members, or about 250 more than the number joining the organization last year, President Daniel stated that the Farm Bureau was needed now more than ever before with the possible exception of that depression period back in the thirties. "No body is going to do the job for us, and if it is done we will have to do it ourselves," Mr. Daniel said. "Without some control, we are doomed, fellow farmers. We must have a strong Farm Bureau to safeguard the just rights of agriculture and those living in agricultural areas. We have a good start and we have a good foundation and we must keep it up," he declared in urging the farmers there to go out and help maintain and build up the membership in this county. "Labor is acting to protect itself, and we must do the same," the president concluded.

The assistant secretary explained that a drive is being launched throughout the State to get 60,000 members to support the organization this year as against 43,000 last year. "The Farm Bureau Federation last year spent six million dollars in supporting agricultural legislation and programs. Illinois raised nearly one-sixth of that fund, and, yet, North Carolina possibly enjoyed more benefits than did Illinois," Williams pointed out in support of his plea for a large organization in this and other North Carolina counties.

Williams reviewed the tobacco stabilization program, explaining that Farm Bureau leaders had worked on the plan for three years, that it has made plans to continue operation for at least two more years. "The corporation may borrow 21 million to support tobacco prices this year, and it will be prepared to extend its activities in the future in the event the markets, for one reason or another, break," he said.

The speaker explained that the plan is very simple, that the farmer is asked to subscribe to a \$5 membership which entitles him to life membership. If he chooses to place tobacco in the corporation, he can do so without any trouble, receive his money right along with that due him from other buyers. If the price advances, he will share in the advance, but if the price drops, he loses nothing.

Williams also briefly mentioned the peanut program and declared that while prices have been pegged this year at \$170 a ton for the type generally grown in this county, quotas would have to be restored sooner or later.

Twenty farm leaders and several others interested in the success of the organization agreed to canvass the county for members. The meeting stipulated that only one delegate will be sent to the national convention, that the high

## Auto And Truck Crash In Parmele

No one was badly hurt but considerable property damage resulted when a 1938 Ford and a truck sideswiped in Parmele late last Saturday night. Jake Brown, colored of Pitt County, was driving the car in the direction of the railroad station from Highway 64 when the truck ripped off most of one side and continued on its way without stopping.

One report stated that the truck was later identified as belonging to Alton Grimes of Robersonville, but the driver was not immediately identified.

Investigating the accident, Patrolman W. E. Saunders said that damage to the car would amount to approximately \$500.

## Dawson Lilley Dies Sunday In Hospital

Indications Monday and early Tuesday pointed to a break approaching a record when the tobacco markets re-open Thursday following a forced holiday of one week. Tobacco started moving into the market here Monday and by early Tuesday some observers predicted that it would be blocked long before sale time.

A report based on the early deliveries for the market's second opening this season stated that possibly the quality was some better than that of the leaf offered during the few days before sales were suspended for the holiday. However, tips were being offered in fairly large volume.

As far as it could be learned, no marked change in price schedules is predicted when sales are resumed Thursday morning of this week at 9:00 o'clock.

## Town Board Will Consider Budget At Special Meet

Alleged Misuse of Department Automobile Mentioned at Meeting

In a regular meeting lasting less than an hour last evening, the local town commissioners took very little action on new business, but were advised that the annual audit is about completed and that a special session would be called possibly the early part of next week for a discussion of the 1946-47 budget. Two of the commissioners, V. D. Godwin and G. H. Harrison, were not present and little new business was advanced for discussion at the meeting.

Listening to a plea made by E. S. Peel, attorney for the Carolina Coach Company, the commissioners petitioned the Corporation Commission to grant the Coach Company a franchise to maintain bus service between here and Greenville and Kinston, via Robersonville and Stokes.

Treasurer N. C. Green would make no definite statement about the budget now in the making, but it is fairly certain that no material change will be made in the tax rate for the new fiscal year. However, it is evident that the town is expanding its water system and only recently added two new deep wells to bolster the water supply. Whether the program will call for an increase in the present \$2 rate could not be learned. Increased costs and future expansion programs will likely be discussed by the full board in special session before the rate is definitely adopted.

The commissioners briefly mentioned reports of alleged misuse

## Bus Companies Seek Franchise

Representatives of the Carolina Coach Company and the Norfolk Southern Bus Corporation will carry their appeals to the State Corporation Commission in Raleigh on Thursday of this week in support of claims to a franchise for the operation of a bus line from Williamston to Greenville and from Williamston to Kinston.

The local town board of commissioners last evening recommended that the franchise be awarded the Carolina Coach Company, the town officials expressing the opinion that the Coach Company could offer a better service in the way of connections.

The Carolina Coach Company, it was pointed out by their local attorney E. S. Peel, plans to operate three trips from Williamston via Robersonville, Stokes and Greenville to Kinston daily. The Norfolk Southern Bus Corporation proposes to run busses from here over the same route to Greenville and return.

## Prominent County Citizen Is Fatally Hurt In Accident

Funeral Held Monday At Home In Griffins Township

Fatally injured in a logging accident in Griffins Township about 5:00 o'clock last Friday afternoon, Mr. John Dawson Lilley, prominent county citizen and well-known business man, died in a Washington hospital Sunday morning at 2:40 o'clock. His skull fractured in five places, Mr. Lilley died without regaining consciousness.

Operating one of two tractors, Mr. Lilley was pulling a log to a loading ramp when two workers, Russell Perry and Garfield Manning, felled a large pine. The first tractor, driven by Mr. J. Easton Lilley, had gone ahead and Mr. Dawson moved up just as the tree fell, a limb striking him on the head. The tractor choked down and when workers reached him he was still on the machine in a slumped position. His brother and workmen carried him in their arms out of the woods a distance of about 200 yards, placed him in an automobile and had him in the hospital within a very short time.

One report stated that the two workers heard he first tractor pass near them and possibly thought that both of the brothers had moved on out and that the path was clear. It was also reported that the length of the tree had been estimated and its location from the path checked, the workers thinking that the top would not reach the path.

Mr. Lilley was born in Griffins Township 71 years ago the 21st of this month, the son of the late Kader and Mary Griffin Lilley. He lived on the farm all his life, and few men worked harder or enjoyed work any more than he did. He was a good business man and attained success as a farmer, timberman and mill operator. But he did not find peace, refuge and happiness in his successes alone; his great satisfaction was in his daily work, in living with his fellowman and in doing for others. Although the end came suddenly and as a great shock to numerous friends throughout this section, his humble and friendly manner of living had enabled him to enjoy the fullness of life. Only a short time ago he had expressed two wishes, one of which he had already planned to put into effect.

A member of the Riddick's Grove Baptist Church for about twenty years and one of its most loyal supporters, he had planned to add two Sunday school rooms to the building. Interested in progressive moves, he had hoped to see the road by his home surfaced.

Mr. Lilley was a great friend of his fellowman, and he seemed to get great satisfaction in helping others. Despite his advanced years, he worked in his fields, not so much for the prices he would receive for his crops, but for the satisfaction of knowing that a row of sweet potatoes chopped by his worn weeding hoe would help ward off hunger for someone somewhere. And there is little or no doubt but what he was working in the logwoods last Friday mainly to help produce lumber for those who were without homes.

His walk through life, however humble it may have been, characterized him as a benefactor of mankind, and a friend to all. Mr. Lilley was a lover of sports and while he seldom engaged in them he did operate with his brother for several years the Williamston franchise in the Coastal Plain League before it was reorganized.

When a young man he was married to Miss Charlie Anne Hopkins who died about nine years ago.

Surviving are two sons, Kader and Benjamin Lilley of the home; six daughters, Mrs. Gilbert Peel of Greenville, Mrs. James Crabtree, Mrs. Paul Harrington, Mrs. Jessup Harrison, all of Williamston; Mrs. Clayton Revels of Norfolk; and Miss Ola Lee Lilley of (Continued on page six)

## Short Session Of County Board Is Held On Monday

Recommend More Roads For Improvement; Reports Are Received

Members of the Martin County Board of Commissioners—Joshua L. Coltrain, Robt. Lee Perry, John H. Edwards, C. Abram Roberson and R. A. Haislip—held a short and uneventful session on Monday. The group made a few recommendations for road improvements, handled routine business, including reviews of various departmental reports, and adjourned before noon.

W. Clarence Wallace, Jamesville Township constable for a long number of terms, tendered his resignation to the board, explaining that ill health made it impossible for him to carry on the work. J. Paul Holliday, Navy veteran, was appointed to complete the unexpired term. Action on a permanent appointment is expected before next December.

Williamston's Lions Club and Robersonville's Rotary Club were exempted of county taxes on carnivals sponsored by the two organizations in the two towns this month.

The board recommended that the roads near the W. C. Wallace farm and the one leading from Poplar Chapel to L. P. Holliday's farm in Jamesville Township be drained. It was also pointed out that the old Williamston-Everetts Road needed bushing and repairs.

It was also recommended that the old Mill Neck Road from the old Keyes school house at Tar Landing to M. T. Gardner's, a distance of three-quarters of a mile, be worked as a community road.

In his report to the commissioners, Tax Collector M. Luther Peel stated that all but \$5,810.37 of the \$189,051.80 tax levy for 1945 had been collected.

Fines, forfeitures and costs turned over to the county treasurer from the recorder's court amounted to \$1,705.89 for the month of August, Clerk of Court L. B. Wynne reported. Of the amount, \$1,365.50 was collected in fines. The superior court reported \$132.45 collected during the period.

## Father of Local Resident Passes

Mr. E. L. Gatling, father of Mrs. W. G. Peel of Williamston and a prominent citizen of Windsor, died suddenly at his home there last Thursday evening shortly after 8:00 o'clock. He was 76 years of age.

Mr. Gatling, formerly a cooperage manufacturer and merchant, lately had devoted his time to farming, timber and real estate. He had served two terms as mayor of Windsor and also had been a member of the Bertie County Board of Commissioners. He was a deacon in the Cashie Baptist Church and for 42 years had been teacher of the Women's Bible Class in the church Sunday school. He was born in Hertford County December 25, 1869, and moved to Windsor in 1897.

Funeral services were conducted in the Cashie Baptist Church Sunday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock and burial was in the family plot in Windsor's Edgewood Cemetery.

Besides his daughter here he is survived by his widow, Mrs. Ella Maurice Gatling; three sons, J. M. Gatling of Washington, D. C., and R. J. Gatling and E. L. Gatling, Jr., of Windsor; two daughters, Mrs. R. W. Shepherd of Columbus, Ohio, and Mrs. H. W. Lyon of Windsor; and 13 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

## No Reduction In Fine For Drunken Driving

In the drunken driving case against Haywood Johnson in the county court last week it was stated that the defendant was fined \$10 and taxed with the cost. The report was in error and Judge J. C. Smith explained in open court this week that the fine for drunken driving had not been reduced, that Johnson, in court a second time for alleged drunken driving, was fined \$100, taxed with the cost and had his license revoked for another year.

## Enrollment Figures Are Back To Normal In County Schools

### Schools Pick Up 263 Pupils Over Last-Year Count

Most of Gain Traceable To Hold-Over 11th Grade In High Schools

For the first time since before the war, enrollment figures in the nine Martin County white schools are about normal, according to late reports reaching the office of the county superintendent this week. Reports for the colored schools are far from complete, but according to the best information now available a marked increase has followed in most of those schools.

Conditions were said to be crowded in most of the schools, but the twelfth grade is absorbing the gain in the high schools and teacher loads, as a rule, have not been increased materially. Adjustments have been effected in most cases and the superintendent's office announced that the term was progressing smoothly Monday. However, a few positions have not been filled permanently, but substitutes are carrying on the work in those grades.

After reaching a low point of 2,984 last year, the total enrollment in the nine white schools last week bounced up to 3,247, a gain of 263 pupils. Most of the increase is traceable to the six white schools where the eleventh grade was held over to start the twelfth grade for the first time on a regular schedule. The high school enrollment jumped from 505 last fall to 663. It was unofficially reported that eighteen pupils from the Hobgood district are included in the latest figures.

Arrangements were made to send the pupils to Scotland Neck, but the patrons furnished transportation for their children and sent them to Oak City.

Enrollment by individual schools varies in the elementary department, but maintains a steady gain in the high school. Jamesville's elementary school lost 24, but the high school gained 24, showing an overall increase of one.

Farm Life lost one in the lower grades but gained thirteen in the high school for an over-all gain of an even dozen.

Bear Grass gained 42 in the elementary and 18 in the high school to boost its total enrollment increase to 60.

Williamston reported an increase of 32 in its elementary grades and 31 in the high school, making for the largest enrollment ever reported.

Absorbing the Gold Point School after the term began last fall, Robersonville came up with a healthy increase this year. Gold Point, it is estimated, turned 43 pupils to the school, but without that number there was an increase of 35 pupils in the elementary department, and the high school figures jumped from 152 to 180, a gain of 28 pupils in that department and an overall increase of 106.

Hassell, with 65 pupils, was short three of its last year total. Hamilton, with 166 enrolled, gained eleven pupils.

Oak City more than held its own in the elementary school, but led the county with the largest high school enrollment gain. Fourteen pupils were added in the lower grades and in the high school the figure jumped from 98 to 141.

Few details could be had about the opening day sessions, but more than one principal was tugging at his hair trying to locate those pupils who had been away attending school in a goodly number of states during the war years.

Books shortages were fairly general, indicating that the free distribution of texts is not proving very satisfactory or that conservatism in Raleigh is proving costly to the pupil.

It has been announced that attendance records will be closely checked in the schools this year, that the enforcement of the compulsory attendance law is to be expected in the county, especially in the three districts where sup-

## Enrollment Comparison

A comparison of enrollment for the first days of the 1945-46 and 1946-47 terms in the nine white schools follows:

	1945		1946	
	Ele.	H.S. Total	Ele.	H.S. Total
Jamesville	349	60	409	325
Farm Life	152	32	184	151
Bear Grass	240	38	278	282
Williamston	665	125	790	697
Everetts	221		221	220
Robersonville	342	152	494	420
Gold Point	43		43	
Hassell	68		68	65
Hamilton	155		155	166
Oak City	244	98	342	258
	2479	505	2984	2584

\*Consolidated with Robersonville after the opening of the 1945-46 term.

## Number Marriage Licenses Increase In Martin County

Issuance Sets Record Last Month and Exceeds Total For All 1945

The number of marriage licenses issued in this county continues to climb steadily, the issuance reported by J. Sam Getsinger last month exceeding the count on record for August. In the eight months of this year, the number of licenses is greater than the total issued during all of 1945. Up until the first of this month, 218 licenses had been issued in this county as compared with 209 in the twelve months of 1945, 190 in 1944, and 203 in 1945.

Twenty-three licenses were issued last month, eleven to white and twelve to colored couples, as follows:

**White.**  
Dr. William Foster of Asheville and Veria P. J. Naron of Williamston and Kenly.

Grover Lee Terry and Doris Donaldson, both of Williamston. Grady T. Davis of Windsor and (Continued on page six)

John Rossell Rogers and Daisy Lena Whitley, both of Williamston.

Earl Taylor of RFD 1, Robersonville, and Nellie M. Roberson, of RFD 1, Williamston.

Jesse Taylor and Christine Taylor, both of RFD 1, Robersonville. John William Purvis, Jr., of Rocky Mount and Mary Ward Slade, of Hamilton.

Andrew House of RFD 1, Hobgood, and Nellie P. Cooper of Scotland Neck.

James Stalls and Dorothy Scott, both of RFD, Robersonville. Kenneth Buckley and Jean Buckland, both of Columbia, S. C.

D. C. Young, Jr., of Salisbury, N. C., and Lois Rogerson of Robersonville.

**Colored.**  
Benjamin Little of Newark, N. J., and Carrie Taylor of Robersonville.

Dallas R. Briley and Bernice Roberson, both of Robersonville. John H. Davis and Clata Jones, both of Williamston.

Oscar Lorenzo Roberson of Robersonville and Orlen Bynum (Continued on page six)

## Badly Hurt When Run Down By Car

Leon Brown, slaughter house worker, was painfully but not seriously hurt when he was run down by a car in front of Brown's grocery on Washington Street here last Saturday night about 10 o'clock. The victim suffered an eight-stitch gash in one leg and was painfully bruised on the shoulder and face. One report stated that the car knocked Brown down and that the wheels ran over him, but no bones were broken as far as it could be learned.

James Clark, driving out Washington Street, was quoted as saying that Brown stepped into the street, that he could not miss him.

## ROUND-UP

Fourteen persons were arrested and temporarily detained in the county jail during the week-end. For the first time in months the drunks were in a minority.

Three were charged with flim-flamming, four with drunkenness, one with operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license, two with disorderly conduct, two with assault, and one was booked on an old charge.

Four of the fourteen were white, and the ages of the group ranged from 22 to 49 years.

## Mrs. M. H. Ayers Fatally Stricken On Hassell Street

Dies While Being Removed To A Hospital In Tarboro

Fatally stricken, apparently by a heart attack while walking from her husband's filling station, store in Hassell to her home a short distance away early last Saturday evening, Mrs. Mill H. Ayers died while being removed to a Tarboro hospital. Found unconscious on the street, Mrs. Ayers was first believed to have been struck by a motor vehicle. Highway patrolmen were called and it was later learned that she had suffered some kind of an attack. Few details of her sudden and untimely passing could be learned immediately.

The daughter of the late John W. House and wife, Mrs. Ayers was born in Halifax County 55

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## Youth Dies In Hospital Here

Thomas Hardison, ten years old and a most promising little fellow, died suddenly in the local hospital this morning at 12:40 o'clock, the victim of a stomach ailment. He had not enjoyed the best of health for possibly a month or more, and it was first thought he had malaria. Monday morning his blood count increased rapidly and he was operated on for appendicitis and the other ailment was discovered. Special doctors were called in, but the trouble had advanced too far to be successfully combated.

The son of Jack and Lala Griffin Hardison, Thomas was born on March 2, 1936, at the home of his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Griffin in Griffins Township. He moved with his parents to Williamston six years ago and was living on Park Street. A bright and cheery little fellow, he was an apt pupil in the local schools and was to have entered the fifth grade this term.

Surviving besides his parents are two brothers, James and Samuel.

Funeral arrangements had not been completed early this morning, but the services are tentatively scheduled for Wednesday afternoon.

## Thousands of Bills Were Introduced In 79th Congress

Review of Most Important Legislation Enacted Into Law

Since January of last year, nineteen thousand bills were introduced in the 79th United States Congress—3,000 in the Senate and 16,000 in the House. It was indeed a weary session that ended last month.

A review of the principal legislation enacted into law follows:

1. Appropriated \$600,000,000 for an emergency housing program, designed particularly to meet needs of returned servicemen and their families.

2. Liberalized the GI Bill of Rights to encourage greater use of the schooling provisions.

3. Broadened the provisions of the GI insurance legislation.

4. Appropriated about \$95,000,000 for the federal establishment. (Later, however, about \$64,000,000,000 of this was retracted, when the war ended.)

5. Cut the national debt limit from \$300,000,000,000 to \$275,000,000,000.

6. Extended the life of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation until next January, instead of for five years, as asked by the President.

7. Increased pay of members of Congress from \$10,000 to \$12,500 yearly plus a \$2,500 tax-free expense allowance (Mr. Truman recommended a \$20,000 salary); increased the pay of federal judges from \$10,000 to \$15,000 and of federal workers 14 percent. Also made members of Congress eligible for contributory pensions.

8. Set up a three-member Economic Council to recommend ways to maintain maximum employment and avoid depressions.

9. Cut income taxes and repealed the excess profits tax.

10. Made the federal-aid school lunch program permanent.

11. Established a program of federal aid to encourage national development and improvement of airports.

12. Authorized expenditure of \$75,000,000,000 by the government for five years to build new hospitals and improve old ones.

13. Gave the President broad power to reorganize federal agencies, although not as sweeping as the war-time act.

14. Accepted two reorganization proposals the President submitted. One was to centralize welfare activities in the Federal Security Agency as a preliminary step to making it a new cabinet post. The other involved transfer of more than a score of functions between various agencies.

15. Provided for reorganization and streamlining of Congress.

16. Called for return of the United States Employment Services to the States next November, instead of delaying it until next June, as asked by the President.

17. Extended the "anti-racketeering" laws to cover labor unions, in a measure known as the Hobbs bill. It would make it a felony to interfere by "robbery or extortion" or by threats of violence with movement of goods in interstate commerce.

In the closing hours of the Congress action was taken "freezing" the Social Security tax at one percent for another year from January 1, 1947 (had this action not been taken the tax would automatically have increased on January 1 to 2.5 percent from both the employe and the employer). The

(Continued on page one)

## Flim-Flammers Out Under Bond

John Doyle and Smith Wilson, colored men charged with an attempt to "pull" the old pocket-book game here last week, were released Sunday under cash bonds in the sum of \$200 each.

Raymond Williams, a third defendant in the case who maintains that he was driving the other two around under contract, has not been able to raise bond and continues in the county jail.

No complete report on the records has been received from the Federal Bureau of Investigation, but the two making bond are alleged to have practiced the flim-flam business for a goodly number of years.