

## Planning To Discuss County School Needs

### Action Expected On Plans for Two School Buildings

#### Preliminary Estimates Call For \$10,000 Increase In Current Expense

A badly needed school expansion program, hanging fire in this county for about two years, is certain to gain a fairly definite status when the members of the board of education, the commissioners and one or more local committees hold a confab in the courthouse next Monday. The building program, tentatively advanced, is quite likely to be delayed, and projects, blue printed in fascinating detail by architects, are almost certain to be ruled out.

School officials, waiting for the latest figures, hesitated this week to predict any course of action, but it is quite evident that something will be done or that the officials will agree to delay action.

Virtually ruling out the Everetts school project as blue printed by an architect, the school authorities...

plans for the colored school project. New bids are tentatively expected for the Everetts building and also for one to replace the colored building recently destroyed by fire at Jamesville. If the costs are unreasonably high or if the authorities are convinced the county can handle the projects for less money, it isn't likely that contracts will be awarded.

Local school authorities are planning to carry their proposals to the board of education in the coming week. The board of education is planning to carry its problems before the commissioners.

The local committee is anxious to have a lunch room and four additional class rooms provided, but they have a secondary plan calling for the alteration of the manual arts building for a lunch room and the opening of two class rooms in the basement and in cloak rooms at the elementary building.

The county school budget is also slated for a review by the authorities during the meeting opening at 10:00 o'clock next Monday morning. The budget figure...

## Two Minor Road Wrecks Reported

Two minor accidents were reported on local streets this week, investigating officers stating that no one was hurt and that the resulting property damage would hardly exceed \$225.

The first of the accidents was reported near the underpass on West Main Street Monday afternoon about 1:00 o'clock when Home Agent Cleopatra Tyner stopped to make a left turn into the road leading to the Odd Fellows Cemetery. A Ford, driven by an unknown person, stopped without hitting the Negro home agent's car. A Moore taxi, driven by Whitfield and traveling west, also stopped, but Mrs. John B. Roberson, trailing close behind, could not stop in time to avoid plowing into the taxi. Damage to the Roberson Plymouth was estimated at \$150 by Officer Chas. Moore who made the investigation. Mrs. Christine Jenkins Quick, riding in the Roberson car, was slightly hurt on the arm, one report stated.

A school bus driven by Ralph Eugene Andrews and a 1946 Ford driven by Henry Wayne Whitley, 1144 Sunset Avenue, Rocky Mount, crashed at the intersection of the Jamesville and Washington Roads at the 2-Way Service Station early Wednesday afternoon. No one was hurt and damage to the car will hardly exceed \$75, investigating officer Chas. Moore said. No damage was done to the school bus. One report stated that Whitley did not see the stop sign on the school bus in time to avoid crashing into the vehicle. He was cited to the local mayor's court for a hearing Friday night.

### COUNTY BOARD

Holding their regular monthly meeting here next Monday, the Martin County Commissioners are likely to be in session a greater part of the day handling routine business and special matters. Budget figures for the new fiscal year will come up for preliminary review, but no final action is expected until the authorities meet in special session later in the month. The possibility of opening a hospital in the county is scheduled for discussion, and the county board of education members are planning to meet with the commissioners to discuss school needs.

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### Arrest Made In Shotgun Attack

#### Case Wednesday

#### His Condition Worse, Victim Of Assault Removed To Hospital

William Ruffin, young colored man who was shot in Jamesville late last Sunday night, has been removed from his home there to a Washington hospital and his condition is reported as serious. Ruffin, who was arrested and placed in the county jail here Wednesday afternoon, with an estimated 80 small gun shot in one foot and eight or ten in the other, was placed in the hospital when infection developed Wednesday, last reports from the institution stating that his condition was serious.

While no arrest was made immediately in the case, officers were busy piecing together the few available details. Repeated questioning disclosed threats made by Glenn Currie against persons using a path leading by his home. One person, whose name could not be learned here, was said to have walked along the path a short time before the attack, spoke to Currie and went on unmolested. Ruffin told officers a white man attacked him, but explained that he did not know his name. Currie and a brother, W. T. "Tony," were carried before Ruffin but while he could not definitely identify his assailant, the victim said he was positive it was one of the two men who stopped and shot him.

It was later learned by Jamesville's officer, Paul Holliday, that Tony Currie had carried a gun some time after the attack to a camp on the river, and damaging evidence was revealed when "Tony" was questioned. "Tony," (Continued on page six)

## Jamesville Wins In FFA Contest

The District F. F. A. contests were held in Goldsboro Saturday, May 24. Contests held were Public Speaking, Livestock Judging, and Parliamentary Procedure. Winners of eight federations participated in each contest. Members of the Jamesville chapter participating in the contests were: Perlie Modlin, Jr., winner of the Public Speaking contest; Billy Martin, William Perry, and Perlie Modlin, Jr., livestock team that gained a position in the State Livestock Judging Contest; and the officers of the chapter, Perlie Modlin, Jr., Dorman Gaines, Billy Brewer, Fred Allen, and Marvin Perry, who participated in the Parliamentary Procedure Contest. The Jamesville Chapter was the only one in the district to place two teams in the state contest to be held during the State F. F. A. Convention in Raleigh July 8, 9, and 10.

## Williamston's Newly Elected Officials Start Term Monday



Recently elected following their nominations in a town-wide primary, a new mayor, Robert Cowen, left, and three new commissioners, left to right, K. D. Worrell, Ben D. Courtney and John Hutton Gurganus, will enter upon their new duties here next Monday evening at 8:00 o'clock when G. H. Harrison, Sr., and N. C. Green return to continue service as members of the town's board of commissioners. The appearance of the new mayor and new board members marks one of the most sweeping changes in the town's political set-up in quite a number of years. Contrary to a trend marking political activities almost throughout the state and nation, only one of the new board members, Mr. Gurganus, is a war veteran. G. H. Harrison, left bottom, and N. C. Green, right bottom, are succeeding themselves as members of the board.



## Judge J. C. Smith Has Twenty Cases In County's Court

#### Several Long Road Terms Held Out But Fines Limited to \$135

Numerically, business picked up in the county court last Monday following a bad slump the week before. However, the court made no record financially, the limited amount of fines imposed being a bit reminiscent of a "recession." Judge J. Calvin Smith, calling twenty cases and holding the court in session until 12:45 o'clock that afternoon, was long on road terms. One defendant drew a total of thirty months on the roads. Fines amounted to \$135.

Proceedings: Charged with drunken driving, Leon Brown pleaded not guilty and after hearing the evidence the court adjudged him guilty of drinking intoxicating beverages in a public place. He was fined \$15 and taxed with the costs.

Warren Griffin pleaded guilty of larceny and receiving, and the case was continued under prayer for judgment until the second Monday in next November. Bond was required in the sum of \$200. In a second case in which he was charged with receiving stolen goods, knowing them to have been stolen, Griffin also pleaded guilty. The action was continued under prayer for judgment until the second Monday in November with the defendant under an additional \$200 bond.

Thomas E. Hawkins, charged with assaulting his girl friend, pleaded not guilty, the defendant advising the court that it was a matter between him and his girl friend, that had it not been for the arresting officer, there would have been nothing to the attack. It was Hawkins' third time in court for assaulting a female and Judge Smith sentenced him to the roads for nine months.

Judgment was suspended upon the payment of the costs and a \$15 fine when James Willis Bell pleaded guilty of assaulting a female. Charged with assaulting a female and resisting arrest, Lee Davenport had his cases continued until next Monday.

Cases, charging Henry Williams and Noah F. Catanch with assaults with deadly weapons, were continued until next Monday.

Charged with an assault with a deadly weapon, James Earl Purvis pleaded not guilty. Adjudged guilty of being publicly drunk, the (Continued on page two)

## Open Daily Vacation Bible School Here Next Monday

Monday, June 2nd, at 9:00 o'clock, the annual vacation Bible School will hold its first session in the Baptist Church. Last year there were two hundred and sixty-two registered pupils, the largest number in the history of those registering in the various churches last Sunday, the school will be ever larger than that of last year.

The 1947 edition of the school is under the direction of Rev. John W. Hardy who is being assisted by all the local ministers, who are assigned to the churches where the groups are to do their work. All groups and leaders are to be present at the opening session.

## Driving West In Old Model Buggy

Driving an old motor buggy, a York, Pa., traveler stopped here overnight Wednesday to break his ride toward the West Coast. Ordered from a mail order house shortly after the turn of the century and resembling the first model motor buggies brought to this section by Mr. Herbert Peel when Hop was a little fellow, the York machine is clipping off the miles at the average rate of about 25 per running hour.

Using the old type Prest-o-lite, the motorist dares not travel by night, explaining that he was in no great big hurry to get to California, that he wanted to see the country as he traveled along.

The two-cylinder engine and running gear are built into a regular buggy with minor alterations. The vehicle, equipped with small, solid rubber tires, is steered with a hand rod. During the overnight stop here, the contraption attracted much attention.

## Oil Company's Office Robbed

Prizing open a window, a robber or robbers entered the office of the Baker Oil Company near the river here sometime during last Tuesday night and carried away two pistols, a small radio and a camera, valued at about \$150.

The robbers worked on the iron safe door with a hammer and chisel but failed to get the door open. They knocked off the combination and handle but did not reach near the valuables.

One of the pistols, owned by Theodore Gurganus, was a P-38 and was brought back by him from Germany as a souvenir. The other weapon was a Colt .45 caliber weapon.

Officers investigated the robbery but have been unable to establish a lead in the case.

## Plan For Issuing Drivers' Licenses Under 1947 Laws

#### In Re-examining All Drivers' Alphabetically, Beginning With A and B

In accordance with the law passed by the 1947 General Assembly of North Carolina requiring the re-issuance of Motor Vehicle driver licenses, the schedule has been made: the period beginning July 1, 1947, and ending on December 31, 1947, is the time for all driver license holders, whose surnames begin with the letters A or B to apply for new licenses. Persons whose names do not begin with one of the above letters cannot apply for re-issuance of license in this period.

The period beginning January 1, 1948, and ending on June 30, 1948, will be the time for all operators whose surnames begin with either the letters C or D to apply for re-issuance of licenses. All Motor Vehicle drivers whose surnames begin with a letter other than A, B, C or D will be notified by press releases at the proper time as to when they should appear for the re-examination.

The operator's license issued under the 1947 Safety Act shall automatically expire on the birthday of the licensee in the fourth year following the year of issuance, and no license shall be issued to any operator after the expiration of his license until such operator has again passed the required examination.

Everyone will get a complete examination. The examination is made up of four parts. These parts are: (1) An Eye test (2) Highway Sign test (3) Driving Rules test (4) Road test. The poorest visual reading that will permit passing with glasses is 20/50. This may be with both eyes together, or it may be with best eye alone. The sign test consists of the showing to the applicant several pictures containing Highway Warning signs. The applicant will be requested to tell what a driver should do when he comes to such a sign. Inability to read is not grounds for denying a driver license. The Rule section of the examination consists of twenty-five simple questions that deal with the safe operation of a motor vehicle. The Road test will consist of a drive of some twelve to fifteen city blocks. In the past some applicants have begun road tests with the understanding that the Examiner would (Continued on page three)

## Crowds Attending Typhoid Clinics

After getting off to a slow start, the typhoid clinics in the county are attracting unusually large crowds. The health department reported that 496 were immunized against the fever at Everetts.

The Cross Roads appointment was accidentally left off the annual campaign schedule posted recently; however, Dr. Williams has announced that he will meet at the usual place at Cross Roads, June 5, Thursday, from 2:00 to 4:00 p. m.

The clinic will meet at Hamilton every Friday morning and evening for the four week period. A clinic will be held at Oak City Tuesday, June 3, from 10:00 to 12:00.

## Class Program Well Received

The seniors' class program last Tuesday evening in the high school auditorium here was well received by a large group. Features on the program were, salutatory by Louise Hines, class poem by Trulah Ward Bailey, class history by Lucy Andrews, gitorian, Alice Wynne; class prophecy by Elizabeth Taylor, last will and testament of class of 1947 by Elizabeth Manning, presentation of gifts to the school by Louise Hines, class president. "Among Their Souvenirs", with a southern garden setting, was presented. Louise Griffin was program chairman.

## SEEK AIRFORCE RECRUITS

An Army Air Force recruiting unit made up of several trucks with loud speakers and various Air Force equipment displays has been here for two days in front of B. S. Courtney Furniture store across from the post office. No apparent response to the call had been noticed yesterday.

## Town Board To Start New Term June 2nd

### STILL DARK

Tobacco crop prospects were described as still dark in quite a few sections of the county as late as mid afternoon on Thursday of this week. Transplanting is just about complete, but dry weather is playing havoc with the young plants and quite a few farmers are plowing up the dead plants and transplanting for the second time. Some sections of the county have had fairly good seasons, but in others little or no rain has fallen in recent weeks, and conditions were described as next to impossible for starting the crop.

Much of the tobacco transplanted last week and the early part of this week is dying, reports said. Farmer Clarence Wallace stated that the greater part of large leaves were parching in his crop near Jamesville.

Expect Wholesale Resignations In All Departments

Williamston's official governing family—a new mayor, three new commissioners and two old members of the board—will meet in the board's room in the town hall next Monday evening at 8 o'clock for the first session in a new two-year term.

The new board includes a new mayor, Robert Cowen; three new commissioners, Ben D. Courtney, John Hutton Gurganus and K. D. Worrell, and two old commissioners, N. C. Green and G. H. Harrison, the set-up giving a clear majority to the newly elected members.

Holding no recognition position as yet in the town's official governing body, the newly elected board would be a bit forward on their part to predict a definite course of action, however, it was intimated by one source that wholesale (Continued on page six)

## Schools Here End Successful Term Wednesday Night

#### Diplomas Presented To Twenty-eight Graduates By School Chairman

Williamston's high school ended a successful term last Wednesday evening when Hugh G. Horton, local attorney addressed more than one paper and petition to the high school authorities and diplomas were presented to twenty-eight candidates, twenty young ladies and eight boys. Added features were the special award presentations and the delivery of a war memorial plaque, a gift of the junior class to the school.

Following the main address, R. L. Coburn, chairman of the school district committee, presented diplomas to the graduates: Jeanette Rhodes Andrews, Lucy Marie Andrews, Sally Rhodes Bailey, Trulah Ward Bailey, Eleanor Jane Banks, Daniel Molotha Bowen, Evelyn Lawrence Bowen, Thomas Burris Brandon, Jr., Thelma Louise Carrow, Joseph Colunab, Selma Catherine Deane, Robert Mortimer Everett, Mary Louise Griffin, Evelyn Louise Hines, Mary Elizabeth Hopkins, Hugh Glenn Horton, Jr., Dorothy Louise Leggett, Mary Neel Lindsay, Elizabeth Taylor Manning, Jeanette Lanier Myers, Irene Elizabeth Parker, Reginald Davis Peelle, William Henry Rogers, Charles Briggs Sicehoff, Jr., Sally Elizabeth Taylor, Joyce Sylvia (Continued on page six)

## Retiring After Years Of Service

Three of Williamston's town commissioners—L. P. Lindsley, V. D. Godwin and R. T. Griffin—and Mayor John L. Hassell, are retiring from the public positions after years of service. Commissioner Lawrence P. Lindsley has been a member of the board for twenty-two years, serving as mayor pro-tem several terms. He seldom pinch-hit in the mayor's position until last year when he recognized head of the town government was taken ill.

Mayor John L. Hassell is completing his seventh consecutive term, having served previously one term. During his last tenure of office he never missed a regular meeting of the board for more than thirteen years. He is relinquishing the post with the knowledge of having ably served as the titular head of the town for so long a time and looks forward to his retirement from politics.

Commissioner V. D. Godwin, Sr., is completing fourteen years of service and Commissioner R. T. Griffin is winding up his third term. Commissioner G. H. Harrison is beginning his fifteenth term, and Commissioner N. C. Green is starting his eleventh term next Monday.

It will be the first term for Mayor Robert Cowen and Commissioners Ben D. Courtney, John Hutton Gurganus and K. D. Worrell.

## Native Of County Buried Wednesday

Mrs. Nora Lanier Taylor, native of this county, died in a Greenville hospital last Tuesday morning at 9:10 o'clock following a long period of declining health. Funeral services were conducted in Greenville's Jarvis Memorial Methodist Church Wednesday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock by her pastor, Rev. Robert W. Bradshaw, and interment was in Greenwood Cemetery, Greenville.

The daughter of D. E. Lanier of this county and his late wife, Mrs. Allie Wynne Lanier, Mrs. Taylor was born in Everetts 49 years ago. She spent more of her life there and in the Bear Grass Community before locating in Greenville about 11 years ago.

Surviving are three daughters, Mrs. J. H. Jones of Norfolk and Elsie and Doris Lou Taylor of the home; two sons, Marvin D. Taylor of Norfolk, and Bobbie Taylor of the home; three sisters, Mrs. Pattie Clark Mizelle and Mrs. Edward Ricks of Greenville and Mrs. W. H. Grimmer of Petersburg, Va.; one brother, J. D. Lanier of Newport News, and two grandchildren.