

Report Series Of Minor Accidents In Martin County

Strict Enforcement of Motor Vehicle Laws On State Highways Seen

Swinging into action last week, the enlarged highway patrol force reported the arrests of several alleged highway law violators and investigated a series of minor accidents in various parts of the county during the period.

The first in the recent series of accidents was investigated by Patrolmen W. E. Saunders and B. W. Parker between Robersonville and Parmele last Thursday afternoon about 3:00 o'clock. Driving a 1942 Dodge toward Parmele, Charles Bland Swearingen of Norfolk encountered a slow truck. He applied his brakes, causing his car to skid to the left and into the path of a truck being driven by Marvin Layton. A wheel was torn down and a fender smashed on the Dodge. Patrolman Parker estimating the car damage at about \$100. No one was hurt and very little damage was done to the truck.

The new patrolmen assigned to the county, Rowe and Narron, drew their first field assignments last Saturday night about 9:00 o'clock when Marvin L. Warren, RFD 2, Robersonville, lost control of his car at Cross Roads Church, jumped a ditch and plowed into a field. Damage was estimated at \$50, and Warren, a college student, was not hurt. The two new patrolmen were accompanied by Patrolmen Saunders and Parker.

The third in the wreck series happened on Highway 17 near Corey's Cross Roads Saturday night about 10:00 o'clock. Donald D. Osborne, a Virginian stationed with the Marine Corps at Camp Lejeune, had stopped beside the highway and was pulling back on the road just as Willard Gray Coltrain of Washington was driving by in his 1940 Ford. A fender was damaged on the Coltrain car, patrolmen estimating the damage to the Ford at about \$25. No one was hurt.

Cpl. T. Fearing and Patrolman Narron investigated the fourth and last accident in the week-end series at Hamilton Sunday afternoon. William Linwood Whitley, RFD 1, Grimesland, was driving into Hamilton from Oak City and was rounding the corner on the main streets when he struck Jimmy Jordan Core, Jr.'s 1940 Chevrolet. No one was hurt. Damage to Whitley's 1941 Ford coach was estimated at \$75 and damage to the Chevrolet will run about \$20, Cpl. Fearing said. Whitley was temporarily detained for allegedly operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license.

Other activities handled by the patrol force last week-end included the arrests of William Perkins, senior and junior, Isaiah Perkins, for hit-run driving and transporting illicit liquors; Mack Woolard for operating a motor vehicle without a license; and James Blount for reckless driving.

Driving a pick-up truck, William Perkins, Jr., hit a vehicle in Jamesville. While Officer Paul Holiday was investigating, Perkins drove away and he and the other two were stopped by patrolmen at Gardner's Creek. The officers found two gallons of white liquor under a washtub.

Said to have been driving while in an intoxicated condition, G. M. Fisher of Virginia and Goldsboro ran his station wagon into a parked car a short distance out of Hamilton on the Oak City road.

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Leaf Sales Resumed After Brief Holiday

No Marked Change Noted In Prices Received Monday

A special safety show is being booked for showing in most of the schools of this county week after next. Rating national recognition and stressing safety, the show is being sponsored jointly by Sheriff Chas. B. Roebuck and The Enterprise, and is being brought here by the N. C. State Automobile Association.

The show, centering around Officer Ernest E. Pressley and his trained animals, will be shown without cost to the pupils.

A schedule for the shows will be released later this week.

Funeral Yesterday For Mrs. Williams

Funeral services were conducted in the Maple Grove Christian Church Monday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock for Mrs. Henry Williams who died in a local hospital Sunday morning at 12:50 o'clock. Mrs. Williams was a member of the church and her pastor, Rev. M. L. Ambrose, assisted by Rev. W. B. Harrington, conducted the service. Burial was in the Roberson cemetery in Griffins Township near Farm Life school.

Mrs. Williams had been in declining health for some time and underwent an operation about ten days ago. Her condition was very satisfactory until last week-end when she suffered a relapse and little hope was held for her recovery.

The former Miss Frances Geneva Hardison, she was born in Williams Township 39 years ago on February 13, 1908, the daughter of the late Levi and Fannie (Cotton) Hardison. She was married to Mr. Williams on October 9, 1929, and continued to live in Williams Township for several years before locating in the Jamesville section.

Surviving are her husband; three children, Clifton, Dorothy, and James Matthews Williams, all of the home; two sisters, Mrs. Roland Moore of Jamesville and Miss Bertha Hardison of the old home in Williams Township; and four brothers, Alexander Hardison of Rocky Mount, Velmer Hardison of Hamilton, and Haulcy and Kelly Hardison, both of Williams.

Plan Junior Red Cross Campaign

Plans are underway to enroll in the Junior Red Cross all schools in the Martin County Chapter of the American Red Cross. Junior Red Cross is nothing more or less than Red Cross in the schools.

The program which was started this week calls for the organization of a student council by Miss Ida Roberts and Julia Laughinghouse in the Williamston high school and soon the Junior Red Cross hopes to establish councils in all the county schools.

The enrollment period began November 1 and will continue through November 15th.

All parents are urged to cooperate with their children in this educational program which is operating on a county, state and national scale. Two thousand two hundred were enrolled in the county last year and Mrs. Victor Brown, speaking for the organization, stated yesterday that they hoped to make the enrollment 100 percent this year.

Suffers Broken Leg In Accident At Oak City

Johnnie Brown, Oak City white man, suffered a broken leg there last Saturday morning when he was caught between two cars. Brown was standing against one car when Ben Cross backed one out of Woodrow Tyson's garage and caught the victim in between the two.

Killer Of Martin Native Sentenced

Frank Black, Kinston colored man and an ex-convict, was sentenced by Judge Henry Grady in the Lenoir County Superior Court last week to die in the gas chamber for the brutal axe murder of William Lester Corey near Kinston on October 4. The execution date fixed by the judge is January 2, 1948.

Corey, a native of this county, had made his home in Kinston for several years, operating a taxi there. He received a call on October 4 and picked up Black, who using an axe with a sawed-off handle, fatally injured and robbed him victoriously.

The trial of the case required only a short time, and the jury deliberated hardly ten minutes before returning a verdict.

Passing sentence on the man, Judge Grady was quoted as saying, "Crime does not pay and the wages of sin are death."

No appeal was noted in the case, and Black was transferred to State's Prison last Thursday afternoon to take his place on Death Row.

MEETING

A public meeting at which the proposed extension of the town limits are to be discussed has been tentatively scheduled for Wednesday evening at 8:00 o'clock, November 19, in the courthouse.

No program was outlined for the meeting; the town commissioners, in session last evening, pointing out that such a gathering would provide an opportunity to go over the proposal and frankly discuss the advantages and disadvantages.

Town Authorities Discuss A Varied Business Calendar

Get Paving Report; Purchase Police Car and Grant Bus Permit

Meeting in regular session last evening, Williamston's town commissioners discussed a varied business calendar, touching on paving costs, new police car, gasoline bids, a bus line for the town, stray dogs, sewer lines and streets. Nothing was said about the alleyway problem which is dormant now except for the sprouting of some brittle whiskers.

The recent paving project, extended following the submission of preliminary estimates, cost \$10,113.75. After the cost is distributed between adjoining property owners, the town will be called upon to finance approximately half of the project.

Calling for bids for a new police car, the board received only two, the Chevrolet dealers offering a tudor sedan job for \$1,394 and immediate delivery, and the Ford dealer offering a four-door sedan Ford for \$1,505. The Chevrolet bid was approved.

Calling for gas and oil bills, the board found the local five oil companies holding to the same price figure, 19.7 cents per gallon for gasoline. The price was quoted before the recent advance. In fairness to all, the board ordered the business divided among the dealers.

John S. Gurganus, local man, was given permission to operate a bus line here, subject to regular franchise rules and regulations. He is to take some action within the next ninety days. The franchise question, pending for some time, came up again this week when two outside representatives came here to investigate the possibility of providing the service.

Asked for sewer lines in the street or alley between Rose's and Darden's stores and running to the railroad, the board reasoned that the property had not been divided the town. It was recalled that attorneys in the case had explained that a street across the property would be given the town if the town would pave it without cost to the property owners on it. There's no record that the offer was accepted.

Fire Destroys Farm Packhouse

Fire of undetermined origin destroyed a one-story packback and between 2,000 and 2,500 pounds of tobacco on the Joe Cherry farm near here on the Hamilton road early yesterday morning. When discovered the first had just about burned the walls down.

Very little if any insurance was carried on the barn and none on the tobacco. The insurance on the tobacco had expired only a few days previously. The tobacco belonged to Mr. Cherry and his tenants.

NO SCRAP BUYER

According to unofficial information going the rounds here yesterday, there'll be no local market for scrap tobacco this season. Several million pounds of scrap were handled here last season, but the market will be unable to operate in the face of rising costs, it was explained.

The market withdrawal will eliminate employment for quite a number of workers, one report said.

To Observe Next Week As County Farm Bureau Week

Pointing out that the organization's annual membership drive is lagging and that conditions demand organized action now more than ever, Martin County farm leaders in a meeting held in the county courthouse last Friday evening renewed an appeal to all farmers and business men to support the Martin County Farm Bureau by observing next week as County Farm Bureau Week. "We want to carry the appeal to every farmer, white and colored, landlord and tenant and to all business men whose livelihood depends upon the progressive march of agriculture during that period," Farm Bureau president Chas. L. Daniel said.

"On November 1, a year ago, we had 1,700 members signed up," Mr. Daniel said. "This year we have only 1,515 signed, leaving the drive about 800 short of its goal," he added.

Although lagging for several weeks, the drive is gaining momentum, the canvassers adding several hundred names to the membership last week. The drive ends the latter part of next week, and the thirty-five canvassers are asked to work just a little harder and the public is asked to support the movement. Reporting on recent drive activities, a canvasser said last Friday that Farmer Calvin Ayers is following Farmer Billy Cratt a close second in supporting the organization. Mr. Cratt signed up five members of his family, and Mr. Ayers signed four in his.

Several communities in the county have been signed up 100 percent in the drive, but in two or three others the drive is lagging badly. "We hope the people in those areas will get into the drive and help carry the county across," President Daniel said, adding that Martin had never failed the organization in the past and that now was the time to follow through.

Issue Twenty-two Marriage Licenses In Martin County

Issuance About Normal For The Month of October

Twenty two marriage licenses were issued in this county last month, the issuance holding to just about an average for the past ten-year period.

Licenses were issued, seven to white and fifteen to colored couples, during the past month, as follows:

White

Jesse T. Moore and Betty Gray Griffin, both of Williamston.

Dallas Ward Gurganus and Della Hunter Jones, both of Williamston.

James Stator Whitehurst and Evelyn Louise Ayers, both of Williamston.

Joseph D. Liverman and Katie Mae Jones, both of Williamston.

Edward G. Cannon of Stokes and Susie Gray Leggett of Williamston.

Carey Bryant, Jr., RFD 1, Bethel, and Hazel Thomas, RFD 2, Robersonville.

George Tilghman Lilley, RFD 1, Williamston, Nellie Gray Baker, RFD 2, Windsor.

Colored

Siomon Hardy and Willie Mae Stator, both of Hassell.

William Grimes, RFD 1, Oak City, and Ella Mae Salsbury of Robersonville.

William David Brown of Williamston and Annie Elizabeth Smith, RFD 1, Williamston.

Augustus James and Della Stator, both of Williamston.

Golden Williams and Mandy Rose Jones, both of Williamston.

Willie J. Parker and Mildred Stator, both of RFD 1, Oak City.

Rudolph Jordan and Joyce Askew, both of Colerain.

Otis Jackson Veale and Maggie Parker, both of Windsor.

Collin Green of Hamilton and Velma Brown of Oak City.

Quite At Home Here On Park Street

Suffering a severe attack Sunday morning, H. Thad Roberson, former sheriff of this county, continues quite ill at his home here on Park Street.

Mr. Roberson was reported to have rested fairly well last night, and his condition possibly was slightly improved this morning.

Condemn School Auditorium Here

Acting before safety authorities could condemn it, Martin County officials, meeting in regular session here yesterday, closed the Williamston grammar school auditorium and ordered repairs be made to it as soon as possible. It was just recently discovered that the ceiling in the auditorium is weakening, and the action calling for the closing of the room was taken as a safety measure.

A new built-up roof was ordered placed on the Hamilton School by the meeting which was attended by Messrs. F. W. Holliday of Jamesville, Geo. Griffin of Griffins, J. D. Woolard of Williams, and H. C. Norman of Robersonville. Member Ernest Edmondson of Hassell was ill with influenza and could not attend the meeting.

Reporting to the board, the superintendent said that the new Negro school building at Jamesville and Everetts should be ready for occupancy on or about the first of December, that a new lunch room is to be opened in the Jamesville white school soon.

Add New Patrolmen To Force In County

New Recruits Get First Work-outs During Week-end

Two new patrolmen, Messrs. J. T. Rowe and R. P. Narron, were added to the State Highway Patrol force in this county last week-end, the assignment of the two rookies boosting the highway law enforcement group to five and preparing the state for a strict enforcement of motor vehicle laws.

Following a sixty-day training in the field under the direction of Cpl. T. Fearing and Patrolman W. E. Saunders with the assistance of Patrolman B. W. Parker who joined the force not so long ago, the young men will draw definite assignments. Patrolman Parker is scheduled to locate in Robersonville shortly. Patrolman Narron is going to Oak City and Patrolman Rowe is to be stationed permanently in Williamston, according to a report released by headquarters.

Patrolman Rowe, accompanied by Mrs. Rowe, came here from Rocky Mount and are making their home with Mrs. John L. Rodgers until they can find an apartment. Patrolman Narron, young single man, is from Simms in Wilson County and is on the lookout for living quarters in Oak City.

While the individual patrol members will be assigned definite territory, they will be subject to call for service most anywhere by their superiors. It is fairly apparent that the force is now approaching that size where highway law violations can be prevented, and that a strict enforcement of the laws will reduce some of the wrecking, maiming and killing on the highways of this county.

The two new recruits had hardly reported for field service before they were being put through the paces by the old hands of the patrol. Some of those who have been taking the law possibly a little too lightly were a bit surprised when the enlarged force went into action over the week-end. Several persons were detained for transporting illicit liquors on the highways and another was surprised when the officers found him pouring white liquor for friends parked in a car right in the highway. Others were detained for reckless driving and operating motor vehicles with improper brakes.

Messrs. Rowe and Narron are two of 110 new recruits to be assigned to the State Highway Patrol system last week-end. Unlabeled photo.

Louis Holliday Funeral Friday

Funeral services for MM 1/C Louis Thomas Holliday, who gave his life for his country in the Pacific Theatre the first year of World War II, were held in the Robersonville Christian Church last Friday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock. Friends, joining with relatives, filled the church to overflowing to pay tribute to the memory of the young Martin County man whose body was the first to be returned from foreign soil for burial.

Rev. J. M. Perry, pastor of the church, conducted the service, assisted by Rev. J. R. Everett, Baptist minister, and Rev. Sidney Boone of the Robersonville Methodist Church. Rev. Mr. Perry read letters from the young man's comrades in arms who spoke highly of him as a young man, friend and defender of his homeland. The Rev. Mr. Everett said in part, "Louis Holliday one of the heroes of World War II honored Robersonville, Martin County, our State and Nation. May we honor his faith in peace." Rev. Mr. Boone read the Scripture and offered a timely prayer, and the church choir sang two selections.

Members of the Murray Cargile Post of the American Legion had charge of the graveside service where a three-shot volley was fired and taps were sounded. The American flag for which the young man gave his life, was removed from the steel casket and delivered to Louis' sister, Mrs. H. E. Baker, by Rev. Everett, chaplain in World War II.

Local Man Booked For Manslaughter

Walter Harper, 55-year-old Williamston colored man, is being held in the Halifax County jail for drunken driving and manslaughter, reports reaching here stating that bond was being denied the man.

Harper, plasterer and brick mason, was driving in South Weldon last Saturday evening when he lost control of his car and ran down two boys. Jackie Ray Etheridge, nine years old, died in a Roanoke Rapids hospital a short time later.

Harper was said to have been working in Warrenton and was on his way home.

Red Cross Worker On Short Leave

Mrs. Edna Laughinghouse, home service director for the Martin County Red Cross Chapter, left early yesterday for Miami, Fla., on a nine-day leave. Mrs. Laughinghouse is the National Children's Cardiac Home in Miami and explained that Mrs. John W. Hardy, president of the chapter, would handle any emergency Red Cross cases that might arise during her ten-day leave of absence.

A victim of rheumatic fever and a heart ailment, her son is expected to spend about two years in the cardiac center.

ROUND-UP

Aided by two patrol recruits, local, county and state officers rounded up and jailed fourteen alleged law violators last week-end, most of them on Saturday.

Seven were charged with public drunkenness, three with possession of illicit liquor, two for assault, one for reckless driving and one for drunken driving.

Three of the fourteen were white and the ages of the group ranged from 23 to 58 years.

County Board Of Commissioners In Meeting Monday

Routine Reports Received And Tax Errors Are Corrected

Routine reports from the department heads and old tax errors held the attention of Martin County's five commissioners in regular session here yesterday. The authorities after listening to the reports and studying the tax records managed to find time to draw two juries, one for the December term of the superior court and a six-member body for duty in the county court next Monday, and make a lone road recommendation before adjourning at 1:00 o'clock in the afternoon.

Tax relief orders were issued, as follows:

J. Paul Holliday taxes on \$1,000 valuation incorrectly listed for 1947 in Jamesville.

H. E. Ellison estate, 1938 taxes listed in error on \$545 valuation.

Thad Newsome, Jr., 1937 taxes listed in the sum of \$7.60 in Williamston Township.

John Andrews, Sr., 1928 taxes on \$300 valuation listed in error in Robersonville Township.

Lucy Bryant, 1939 taxes on \$300 valuation listed in error in Williamston Township.

Mack Latham, 1930-1939 taxes listed in error on lots in Parmele.

F. W. Williams, 1939 taxes on \$200 valuation in Goose Nest.

Johnny Williams, 1938 taxes on \$109 valuation in Goose Nest.

Mark Lyons, 1932, 1934-1936 taxes on \$65 valuation listed in error in Jamesville Township.

Nellie Wynne, 1938-39 taxes on \$150 valuation in Robersonville Township.

James Osborne, 1939 taxes on \$65 valuation listed in error in Robersonville Township.

Annie Bell Perry, 1928 taxes on \$25 valuation or 47 cents listed in error.

Since the property could not be located, William Powell was relieved of taxes due in the years, 1929-35.

The total amount of the taxes amount to very little, but the county is clearing out all of its old tax accounts and relief orders are necessary when payment is not made.

Appearing before the board, Mrs. Kate York appealed for the opening of the Warren Neck Road all the way from Dardens to the pulp mill. Most of the road is usable now, it was explained, and if about a mile can be worked the road could be used for carrying a large volume of traffic. Recognizing the importance of the road, the commissioners are appealing to the highway commission to have it included in the road system. The special jury for an assignment in the county court next Monday includes nine citizens, including one woman, as follows:

Mack L. Roberson, Mrs. J. Easton Luffey, J. Stator, Griffin, Roy Ward of Bear Grass, Claude Rawls, R. Leo Roberson, C. U. Rogers, W. W. Taylor, Jr., and H. L. Hopkins.

The board ordered \$200 transferred from the poor fund to the appropriation for aid to dependent children. By transferring that amount, dependent children in the county will be able to participate in an additional \$1,000 to be appropriated by the State and federal governments. North Carolina's "poverty-stricken" treasury was opened up when the pathetic Hobson case was aired down in Harnett County a few weeks ago. The State decided to make available.

ROUND-UP

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