

## Eastern Carolina Firemen Met Here Tuesday Evening

### Local Fire Chief Elected To Vice Presidency Of Association

Weather conditions and other unforeseen events ruled out just about every one of the headlines on the program, but the elements did not stop more than 150 volunteer firemen from attending the quarterly meeting of the Eastern North Carolina Firemen's Association in the Legion Hut here last Tuesday evening. State Fire Marshal Sherwood Brockwell was called to Chapel Hill at the last minute, the group was informed. State Insurance Commissioner Wm. P. Hodges was held to his office when all other members of the department were unable to report for duty on account of illness. Even President Stanley Davis of Morehead City was unable to attend.

Despite the program upset, the meeting moved ahead according to schedule with Secretary C. H. Flannagan of Farmville holding down the chair and Williamston's Fire Chief G. P. Hall serving as toastmaster. The meeting was highlighted by Professor Jack Butler and the high school band, Frank S. Weaver's Tune Toppers, a talk by Attorney H. G. Horton and a sumptuous barbecue and Brunswick stew dinner. The session, lasting about two hours, was an enjoyable event.

The preliminaries successfully handled, including the recognition of special guests, the meeting settled down to its business program. C. H. Flannagan, nominated by Chief Guthrie of Morehead City, was elected president for the current year. The election came after the association refused to be bound by a precedent providing the promotion of vice president to the higher post. A two-way contest developed for the post of vice-president. Chief Hugh Sorsley of Rocky Mount was nominated and Fire Chief G. P. Hall was placed in the race and elected by a substantial majority.

Miller Warren of the Plymouth department was nominated and unanimously elected secretary-treasurer of the organization.

Following the election of officers, the meeting heard an open discussion of the administration of firemen's relief funds. One of the delegates explained that a member of his department had fallen victim of tuberculosis and asked the opinion of the association in financing his care in a sanatorium. The issue was discussed by several delegates, but it was the expressed opinion of the entire membership that the department of which the victim was a member should finance the case, that should the department's relief fund be exhausted, then the cost should be financed from the State Association's relief fund. "No volunteer fireman in North Carolina has yet had to turn to charity, and we don't want it to

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## County Banks To Have Holiday Next Monday

The Branch Banking and Trust Company and the Guaranty Bank and Trust Company of Williamston and the Guaranty Bank and Trust Company of Robersonville will be closed Monday, January 19, to observe Lee's birthday. Patrons of the institutions are asked to remember this closing date.

## MAIL DELIVERY

City mail delivery will be extended to just about every section of the town and to several hundred patrons just outside of town just as soon as equipment is made available. Postmaster W. E. Dunn said yesterday. "We hope the equipment will reach here within the next few weeks."

Handled by a third carrier, the new route will serve all that territory back of Woodlawn Cemetery, most every one in North End and extend to the city limit on West Main Street.

## Lad Walks Again With Aid Offered By March Of Dimes

Much has been written, a great deal said and goodly sums of money have been advanced, but those who wrote, wroked and contributed to the March of Dimes have been well repaid by the virtual recovery of the bright-eyed happy little fellow pictured here. He is John Wade Coltrain, young son of Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Coltrain of Griffins Township. It is for such young fellows as John Wade and others that the annual drive for \$2,600 is being launched to finance the relentless fight against infantile paralysis.

Stricken by the disease, the lad was rendered helpless. He had no use of any of his limbs. His case, a few years ago would have been regarded as a hopeless one. But the infantile paralysis fund came to his rescue and he was removed to the foundation's hospital at Gastonia. Months of nursing and care gradually restored the youngster's health. Last summer when Patrolman W. E. Saunders took his picture, the lad hopped and skipped around the yard on his crutches. Although he could walk without the crutches he held on to them at the advice of hospital physicians who referred to him as an ideal patient.

There is no assurance that polio will not strike again this summer. It may hit your home or mine, but

wherever it hits let's be prepared to fight it by helping Charman



L. B. Wynne carry the current fund drive over the \$2,600 goal. All that's been done and contributed, we've been well repaid by the near miracles performed with John Wade and several other children right here in Martin County. Let us be prepared for whatever the future may offer.

## TAX LISTING

Tax listing for the year 1948 was announced about forty percent complete in most of the ten townships today by Tax Supervisor M. L. Peel. Time for listing property is half spent, and while the task is not yet half complete, the supervisor pointed out that the work is considerably ahead of the schedule followed in years past.

The list takers are handling the task without much delay, but if property owners delay in reporting there'll be a last-minute rush and long waits.

## Willie Beacham Dies In County

Willie Maton Beacham, native of Beaufort County, died at his home, RFD 1, Jamesville, at 7:00 o'clock Wednesday morning of a stroke of paralysis suffered a few days previously.

Mr. Beacham was born in Beaufort County 74 years ago, the son of the late William and Jane Lilley Beacham. He was married to Miss Allie Moore of Beaufort County in 1906 and moved to this county forty years ago. He was a member of the Jamesville Christian Church.

Surviving are his widow, seven daughters Mrs. Annie Bell Modlin, Mrs. George Hopkins, Mrs. Lloyd Price, Mrs. Vester Coltrain and Mrs. Wilbur Gurganus, all of Jamesville, and Mrs. Stella Sawyer of Norfolk; three sons, Elsworth, William and Evan Beacham of Jamesville; and 26 grandchildren.

Funeral services are being conducted at the home this afternoon at 2:30 by Rev. W. B. Harrington. Interment will be in the family cemetery near the home.

## Justice Hassell Has Four Cases

Justice John L. Hassell handled four cases in his court during the early part of the week. Fines in the amount of \$20 were imposed.

Charged with running through a red stop light, Jack Dixon was fined \$10 and taxed with \$7.50 costs.

Will Council was fined \$5 and required to pay \$7.00 costs when he was caught into court for allegedly entering a highway without stopping.

Publicly drunk, Cecil Pippen was fined \$5 and taxed with \$9.50 costs.

Judgment was suspended upon the payment of \$6.50 costs in the case charging Clarence Roberts with disorderly conduct.

## Many Tenants Are Moving About The County This Year

### School Reports Indicate The County Is Gaining In Number of Students

The annual airing of furniture, other household goods and little children is progressing rapidly and on a larger scale this year than last in this county, according to preliminary reports coming from several county departments. Unfortunately quite a few of the shifts were made at the insistence of the law, the sheriff's department declaring that more ejection proceedings had been instituted during the past several years than in any other similar period since before the war.

While there has been much moving among non-farmers during recent weeks, the more-or-less annual task for many is being confined to tenant families. In quite a few instances, places are being swapped, the first reports maintaining that few tenants are being pushed out on account of the proposed drastic reduction in tobacco acreage for 1948. Had the peanut reduction program been maintained, the story for the tenant may not have had such a favorable ending.

It is fairly evident now that the farm population will about maintain itself in the county this year. Most of the moving is traceable to adverse farm and financial conditions, the landlords calling for changes in most of those instances where the tenants did not "pay out." On the other hand, a few tenants are moving out voluntarily, claiming in some cases that the landlords were delaying settlement or exacting contracts of a more stringent nature for the current year.

One report maintains that three times as many families are moving this year as last. During the war years and the period immediately following the war there was very little moving reported in the county, the renters and landlords agreeing to make the best of the situation as it existed.

It was fairly evident in recent reports received on enrollment figures in several schools that this county is gaining in population. Jamesville, Bear Grass and Hamilton have already placed orders for additional school desks to care for expanding enrollments. Other schools are said to have reported from one to ten or fifteen additional pupils, but called for no more equipment to care for them.

## Art Workshop In County Next Week

An exhibit of art work done by children in the Martin County Schools will be featured in connection with the art workshop to be held in Williamston next week. Representative art work of children from the first to the twelfth grades will be on display on the first floor of the Williamston Grammar School Building. Hours for the exhibit are from 3:00 to 6:00 p. m. and from 7:00 to 9:00 p. m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, January 19, 20, 21. The exhibit will be open to the public. Sixth grade children will serve as guides.

The art workshop for the white teachers of Martin County will be held on January 19, 20, 21 in the Williamston Grammar School Luncheon. Reports from the various schools are that the number of teachers wishing to participate will far exceed the maximum number of fifty allowed. Participation in the workshop is voluntary.

Miss Lillian V. Nunn, art education representative of the Biney and Smith Company, will conduct the workshop. On successive days the sessions will include demonstrations of crayon and chalk techniques, design, light and shade stenciling, figure work, brush painting, finger painting, color mixing and blending, texture compositions and discussions. After the demonstrations there will be experimental work periods for the teachers.

A similar workshop will be held for the Negro teachers on January 22, 23, 24 in the Williamston Colored School Auditorium.

## Preliminary Plans Completed For TB Survey In County

### Start Taking X-ray Pictures In Several Districts Week After Next

Preliminary plans for advancing one of the greatest movements to stamp out tuberculosis ever launched in Martin County have been completed. Dr. J. W. Williams, health officer, announced this week. "We are all set and about ready to go," the health official said, explaining that the first X-ray pictures would be made in several districts on Tuesday, January 27. The program calls for every person, white and colored, rich and poor 15 years or older to be X-rayed during the mass TB survey. The project will not be complete unless every eligible person avails himself or herself of the important service which is being made available absolutely free to the individual.

The preliminary plans for the survey were handled by Miss Frances Kornogay of the North Carolina State Board of Health's Bureau of Tuberculosis Control. Coming here in early December, Miss Kornogay advanced plans for the survey. Under her direction, posters have been printed, advertising the project. Thousands of letters, outlining the purpose of the survey and announcing the schedule, were prepared. They were addressed by students in the white and colored high schools where the task was handled promptly and willingly. Sites for locating the mobile X-ray equipment were selected subject to power facilities and inspection by an electrician from headquarters.

Pictures, tying in with the survey, have been shown in various schools and before the several civic organizations. Special meetings were held with group leaders and with the Ruritan, Rotarian, Jaycees, Lions and Kiwanians and parent teacher associations.

Just before leaving the county to continue her work in Fayetteville, Miss Kornogay expressed her appreciation to all those who had aided her work, and expressed the opinion that the people of this county will take full advantage of the service.

It has been pointed out that the service is not limited to any one group, that it is being provided for every person in the county fifteen years old or older. Dr. Williams explained this week that X-rays of children under 15 years of age

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## Bishop Wright To Preach In County

The Rt. Rev. Thomas H. Wright, Bishop of the Diocese of East Carolina, will make his annual visit to Martin County this week-end. Bishop Wright will preach at the 11 o'clock service in the Church of the Advent, Williamston, Sunday morning and at 7:30 that evening at St. Martin's Church in Hamilton. At the morning service the rector, Rev. John W. Hardy, will present several persons to the Bishop to be received into the Episcopal church by the rite of confirmation.

Even though he is one of the youngest bishops of the Episcopal church, Bishop Wright is widely known throughout the country. He was born and reared in Wilmington, where he now lives. When he was elected Bishop three years ago he was rector of one of the largest Episcopal churches in this country, St. Mark's Church, San Antonio, Texas. Before that he had served as head, and full time worker, of the Department for College work for the National church. For several years he was the rector of the Robert E. Lee Memorial church at Lexington, Va., where he did excellent work with the students of the two colleges there. Following this he was dean of the Cathedral of Los Angeles, California. Bishop Wright is in great demand as a speaker. Recently he was elected a delegate to the Lambeth conference which meets in England this summer, and has been asked to give a series of lectures at Cambridge University while in England.

## Reports Increase In Illicit Liquor Trade

### One Hundred And Forty-two Stills Taken Last Year

Following warm weather and heavy rains earlier in the week, Ole Man Winter struck with force yesterday and last night, turning loose a bit of snow and sending the mercury zooming down into the teens.

Snow tried to break through several times Wednesday but never succeeded. Late Wednesday night enough of the white flakes fell to form a thin blanket over flat roofs.

With the mercury hovering around 12 degrees, last night was the coldest of the winter so far.

## American Marines Are Being Moved To Mediterranean

### Movement Seen In Conflict With Hope For Decent Peace Plan

Two shiploads of United States Marines are moving to the Mediterranean area, presumably to intervene in the civil war in Greece. The movement is seen by some to be in conflict with any hope for a decent peace plan.

An interesting story on Greece was written by Joseph P. Lyford in a recent issue of the New Republic, and throws light on the situation there, as follows:

Colonel A. W. Sheppard is an Australian army officer who thinks that the present US-supported Greek government is manufacturing communists faster than it can kill them off. He speaks from firsthand observation.

A little, mustached "regular," who looks like someone out of a Kipling story, the colonel served two and a half years in Greece at different times—in 1941 as a member of an Aussie combat team, in 1945 as administrator of several UNRRA refugee camps, and finally as head of the British Economic Mission to northern Greece.

While fighting in Greece, Sheppard was wounded. He was shot by a German Nazi, not a Greek one, which he claims differentiates him from thousands of Greeks who have been killed by their own government since the "liberation" in 1944.

His experience has convinced him that the Royalist government, polluted with nazism, cannot defeat the rebels, and that its incredible brutality is gradually driving all democratic opposition into the extreme leftist camp.

Sheppard outlined his position while in New York recently on his way home. With the London Times and the accounts of US and British correspondents in Athens at the time to back him, the colonel described how Royalist troops machine-gunned a peaceful ELAS demonstration in December, 1944, to start the civil war.

"For 23 days the enraged people of Athens battled lend-lease tanks and government troops to a standstill."

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## Making Repairs At Factory Here

An extensive repair and alteration program continues to make progress at the basket factory recently purchased here by the Marvel Package Company of Delaware. That portion of the plant where basket bottoms are made was placed in operation a few days ago, but no definite date for opening the main factory has been fixed.

Chief Engineer Senecal, spending most of this week at the local plant, stated this morning that the work was progressing rapidly but that the task is requiring more time than had been originally allotted to it. An unofficial report indicated the plant would possibly start operating in about ten days or two weeks.

## One Hundred And Forty-two Stills Taken Last Year

### Nearly 19,000 Gallons Of Mash Poured Out By Enforcement Group

In the face of the legal stores and one of the most effective enforcement organizations in the State, the illicit liquor business continued to gain in volume in this county last year, according to the annual report recently filed by ABC Enforcement Officer J. H. Roebuck.

Submitted without comment, the report shows that the illicit liquor business continues to hold a place in the economic life of the county. It is fairly evident, however, that the increase in the illicit business is trailing by a considerable margin the phenomenal gain in the legal sale of intoxicating beverages.

After struggling along with inferior equipment forced upon it by wartime shortages, the illicit business is gradually replacing its plant with better equipment. More copper stills were captured last year than in any period since before the war, and sugar has replaced almost entirely the old common molasses.

No official figures are to be had, but it is estimated that the property confiscated and destroyed by the enforcement officers was worth in excess of \$20,000. Despite that economic blow, the manufacturers were able to charge exorbitant prices for their product and it is possible that the business netted the more fortunate operators a sizable net profit. However, in those cases where plants were wrecked soon after they were placed in operation, the manufacturers lost money.

Officer Roebuck, assisted in the main by Deputy Roy Peel, wrecked 142 plants last year as compared with 133 in 1946. They poured out 18,850 gallons of mash or beer in 1947 as compared with 15,930 the previous year. In 1947 the officers confiscated 420 gallons of liquor as compared with 120 gallons taken in 1946.

Seventeen persons were arrested each year for allegedly violating the liquor laws. Sixteen were convicted last year and drew twelve and one-half years on the roads. In 1947 fourteen of the seventeen arrested were convicted in the courts and they drew a total of nine years on the roads. Fines imposed last year amounted to \$915 as compared with \$1,600 imposed in 1946.

The officers traveled 12,927 miles in the performance of their duties last year. In 1946 they

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## Skewarkey Lodge Installs Officers

With 102 master Masons in attendance, new officers for the year 1948 were installed in an impressive ceremony in Skewarkey Lodge here Tuesday night. Bill Spivey, past master of the Lodge, conducted the installation service with the assistance of James Manning, also a past master of Skewarkey Lodge.

The following officers were installed: Henry Griffin, master; Roy Ward, senior warden; Paul Bailey, junior warden; Clyde Manning, senior deacon; Eddie Trahey, junior deacon; Julian Anderson, secretary; Rupert Cowan, tyler; H. P. Mobley, senior steward and Julian Harrell, junior steward.

Following the installation services snort talks were made by all the new officers. Mr. Griffin paid special tribute to George Harrison, Jr., the retiring master. "Although he was ill most of last year Mr. Harrison retained his interest in the Lodge and while he was active he gave liberally of his time and contributed in every way possible to the progress and growth of the 'fraternity,' the new master stated.

## Auto Inspection Service Planned For All Counties

### No Date Set For Inspections In Martin County Or The District

Arthur T. Moore, head of the State's Mechanical Inspection Program, said today that a great portion of the State's citizens were needlessly upset over plans for the inspection program.

He added that many had the idea they would have to drive several hundred miles to lane headquarters for their inspection this year. Moore said: "There is absolutely no need to worry, for we have emphasized over and over again that the lanes are portable, and that they will be transported from county to county in order to reach all motorists in the State."

He said he had had numerous queries from vehicle-owners in this and other counties, who believed that just because headquarters had been set up in Washington that everyone in those counties would have to drive to Washington for an inspection.

Moore added that headquarters for each of the State's 36 inspection lanes were set up on the basis of motor vehicle population, and each lane was planned to take care of 20,000 vehicles twice a year. In some counties there are 20,000 or more vehicles within a given county, and in such cases there is one lane to service that county. However, in cases where there were not 20,000 registered vehicles within a given county, then adjoining counties were taken in until the required 20,000 vehicles could be found.

Headquarters were set up, therefore, in counties with the heaviest vehicle population, but this does not mean that the lane will remain there all the time. It merely means that for administrative purposes the headquarters were established there, but the lanes will be transported from county to county in order to reach all vehicle owners. And Moore added that no car or truck owner should worry, for a lane will visit each county several times during the year, regardless of whether headquarters are set up there or not.

Citizens in some areas, particularly in the East, have become so upset, Moore said, that he had been besieged with letters and phone calls from irate citizens, and has even had letters from some Congressmen on the matter. Moore added that he had not anticipated that there would be so much confusion and misunderstanding when he released to the papers the headquarters and the

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## Funeral In Hamilton For Edward A. Council

Funeral services were conducted in St. Martin's Episcopal Church, Hamilton, Tuesday afternoon for Mr. Edward A. Council, native of this county, who died at Morehead City last Monday afternoon. Rev. John Drake, rector of Scotland Neck's Holy Trinity Church, officiated, and interment was in the Hamilton Cemetery.

## BIG DOCKET

Idle this week when Judge J. C. Smith was out of the county, the recorder's court can expect a fairly sizable docket when it resumes its work next Monday morning. Up until late Wednesday twenty-two cases had been scheduled for trial next Monday. Quite a few additional cases are certain to be docketed during the remainder of the week.

Five of the first case docketed charge non-support, four drunken driving, three speeding and reckless driving, three assaults with deadly weapons, and one each charges removing crops without permission of landlord, assault, drunk and disorderly and resisting arrest, no operator's license, bad check, depositing of mortgaged property and intoxication and driving.