

Complete TB Survey In County Last Week

Nearly Four Out Of Five Eligible Persons X-rayed

Downward Trend In TB Cases Is Apparent, Doc- tor Bell Declares

The mass TB survey, under way in this county for four weeks, was brought to a close last Friday, the Martin County Health Department announcing late yesterday that 12,609 persons, most of them fifteen years old or older, had their chests X-rayed.

Commenting on the survey, Dr. R. F. Bell, of the North Carolina State Health Department, stated that the percentage of eligible persons reporting for X-rays during the survey was about an average for a rural county, that nearly four of every five eligible persons participated in the survey. Considering the weather and bad road conditions, the survey can be rated very successful. Its findings were well worth the cost, and proved that tuberculosis is gradually declining.

Most of the personnel handling the survey equipment left yesterday for Fayetteville where they will conduct a similar survey during the next six or eight weeks. Dr. and Mrs. Bell, remaining over until all the clinics could be held and further examinations made, left today.

The people of Martin County cooperated in the survey, and while it is possible that some of those who did not report for X-rays have TB, it stands to reason that the number of such cases is small, that tuberculosis is well under control in this county. The downward trend in the diseases is traceable to several factors, Dr. Bell pointed out. The standard of living has been improved, and doctors and health authorities have been able to isolate cases of TB and keep it from spreading.

A review of the findings will be released later.

Relief Agencies Met Last Night

Heads of the various relief and unemployment agencies led an open forum on human needs and resources in Martin County at a meeting held in the courthouse last night. The forum was well attended, quite a few coming from other parts of the county.

In short, the meeting agreed that the agencies cannot meet all the relief demands and solve all the problems. Each agency head explained his or her agency's limitations, explaining that funds were not sufficient, that applications were piling up.

Miss Mary Taylor spoke for the welfare department, Mrs. Edna Laughinghouse for the Red Cross in the Martin County Chapter, Mrs. Lina Taylor for the Robersonville Red Cross Chapter, Kelly Gray for the unemployment office, and Mrs. Ethel Ward for the American Legion Auxiliary.

Fire Alarm Test Disturbs Meetings

Burned out when it froze during the first snow back in January, the town's fire siren was repaired and placed back on its perch atop the town hall. The siren wails have not yet come up to their former pitch, and firemen, unable to hear it in the late hours of the night, decided to limber up the gadget without ceremony or previous announcement.

Most of the volunteers were at a regular meeting of the company last night and the limbering process was launched at 8:20 o'clock. Three meetings, one in the courthouse, another in the high school and still another in the agricultural building were interrupted and the town population was puzzled until individual calls and in-

was a phony.

OVER THE TOP

The 1948 drive for the infantile paralysis fund in Martin County went over the top last week-end when final reports reached the chairman, L. B. Wynne, who stated that the campaign exceeded its \$2,600 goal by \$93.72.

Late reports included three white school donations, Hamilton, \$61.49; Bear Grass, \$60.00; and Everetts, \$52.60; and the following colored schools, Bear Grass, \$5; Parmele, \$20; Oak City, \$12.07; and Cross Roads, \$5.

The fund is being called upon to help finance the infantile paralysis case of Naomi Little, 22-month-old colored child of Cross Roads Township. The child, daughter of Fernando Little and wife, has been in Duke hospital since January 21, and is to be transferred shortly to a foundation hospital, Chairman Wynne said.

Count Gives Six Thousand Pounds Of Old Clothing

Sixty Bags of Articles Are Packed In Club Hall Here Last Week

Approximately six thousand pounds of old clothing, bedding, and other articles were contributed by the people of this county for overseas relief, Mrs. R. H. Goodmon, chairman of the Woman's Club committee sponsoring the collection, announced last week-end.

The quality of the articles was unusually good, Mrs. Goodmon said, pointing out that quite a few new items were contributed by merchants and shops. "In most instances the goods or articles, while serviceable, were out of date and hardly worth the effort of even relief cases," the chairman explained.

Included in the list of articles donated were about fifty Bibles, a number of other books and a few toys, including a well equipped electric train.

The drive for old clothing was delayed several weeks in this county by unfavorable weather conditions. Only a few counties in the State have completed the drive, but others are going ahead with the task of "Filling a Ship with Friendship."

Delivered to the Williamston Woman's Club building last week, the clothing has been packed in sixty peanut bags for shipment to New Windsor, Maryland, where it will be sorted and repacked for shipment to Europe.

The chairman, assisted by members of the club, worked several days preparing the collection for

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Little Symphony Offering Two Concerts Here Today

Its schedule interrupted earlier in the month when the musicians became snowbound in Warrenton, the North Carolina Symphony is appearing in two concerts here this afternoon and evening, it was announced over the week-end.

The orchestra is giving its first concert here in the high school auditorium at 2:30 o'clock before school pupils. The seventh and eighth grades in the county are represented at the concert this afternoon. Robersonville, helping underwrite the engagement, is sending pupils from the fifth, sixth and seventh grades, and the local school is being represented by pupils from grades four through the eighth. It was explained that the free concert this afternoon had to be limited to certain grades because the auditorium would not care for a larger

Special prices are being fixed

Four Accidents On County Highways In Past Few Days

Two Persons Hurt, One Badly, In Series of Car- Bike Accidents

Two persons were hurt, one of them badly, and considerable property damage was done in a series of four motor vehicle accidents on Martin County highways during the past few days. One victim, Mitchell Pilgreen, eight years old, suffered a broken hip when he ran his bicycle into a car driven by Durward Williams on the Robersonville-Stokes highway last Saturday noon. Mrs. Nathaniel W. Worsley suffered shock and bruises in a crash between Hamilton and Oak City late last Friday afternoon.

Williams was driving his 1941 Plymouth from Wallace's store toward Robersonville when the Pilgreen boy, meeting Williams, turned his bicycle to his left and into the path of the Williams car. Williams ran off the road to his right and into a ditch in an effort to avoid striking the lad, it was reported. Knocked off his bicycle the boy fell on the car fender, fracturing his hip. He was removed to a Greenville hospital for treatment. The bicycle was badly battered but the car was little damaged. Patrolman B. W. Parker, investigating the accident, said:

Last Friday about 5:40 p. m., James Ernest Peterson was driving his 1941 GMC pick-up truck toward Oak City and a dog ran into the road. Turning to his left to miss the dog, Peterson steered into the path of a 1946 Plymouth owned and driven by Nathaniel Wilbur Worsley who cut to his left. The right sides of the two vehicles were damaged, Patrolman Parker, making the investigation, estimating the damage to the Plymouth at \$250 and that to the pick-up at \$100. Mrs. Worsley was dismissed from an Oak City doctor's office after receiving treatment there for bruises and shock.

Driving from Williamston toward Hamilton last Saturday evening about 8:30 o'clock, Samuel Morris lost control of his brother's 1942 Ford coupe and turned it over one and one-half times. The car went into the ditch on the left side of the road, swerved back to the road shoulder, plunged back into the ditch and continued into Farmer Roy Taylor's field after clipping off five fence posts. Greatly disturbed by the accident, but unhurt, Morris returned to his home in Bethel to face what he called "the music." The young man said he almost wished he had been killed, thinking apparently that death would have been preferable to the "music" he anticipated. Investigating the accident, Patrolmen J. T. Rowe and W. E. Saunders estimated that it would run about \$250.

Driving toward Williamston from the direction of Washington at 11:30 Sunday morning, J. D. Gurganus started to make a left turn into the Rogers town road at the R. L. Perry farm in Bear Grass just as Stanley W. Bobskill, 14

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Start Digging Deep Well Here Within Thirty Days

Awarded a contract last Thursday, the Carolina Drilling and Equipment Company of Sanford plans to start digging a deep well for the town of Williamston within the next thirty days. H. N. Butler, president, said.

Submitting a base bid of \$6,500, exclusive of screens and pumping equipment, the company will sink a test well on the town lot between Sycamore Street and the Plymouth branch of the Coast Line railroad.

"If we find that site favorable, we should complete the well in about four or six weeks after our drilling equipment is set up," Mr. Butler said. The company spokesman, owner and operator of equipment used in sinking oil wells, stated that there should be no delay in getting pipe, pumping equipment and other materials, that the town's present

B & H Willys Co. Reopens Business In Supply Garage

Burned Out Short Time Ago Firm Continues Sales And Services Near Here

Its plant in West End burned out a short time ago at a terrific loss to the owners, W. R. Banks and H. G. Horton, the B and H Willys Company has reopened for business, sharing the building housing the Welch Auto Supply next to the Riddick Equipment Company and near the Martin County home on U. S. Highway 64.

Announcing the arrangement last week-end, Manager Banks said that no definite plans for the future had been made. There is some doubt if the plant will be rebuilt any time soon.

"We were very fortunate in making arrangements with the owner of the Welch Auto Supply Company, where we will be able to handle our sales and offer a general repair service," Mr. Banks said.

"We are building up our supply of parts as rapidly as possible and will make every effort to properly service equipment in this section," Mr. Banks added.

Contacting the state agents a few days ago, Mr. Banks was assured that new equipment would be made available to the company as soon as possible.

Their apartment and just about all their earthly belongings destroyed in the fire that leveled the motor company building on February 3. Mr. and Mrs. Banks and children are moving into a new home just completed by D. M. Roberson on the Slaughter House Road, Mrs. Banks and two sons returning yesterday from a visit with relatives in Lynchburg.

Chief Of Police Resigning Here

W. T. Simpson, Williamston's chief of police, tendered his resignation to Mayor Robt. Cowen last week-end, the officer explaining that he is re-entering the armed forces. The resignation becomes effective March 20, Chief Simpson stating that he would go back into the service immediately thereafter.

The officer is eligible for retirement from the armed forces in about six and one-half years, and he re-enlisted when an opening presented itself recently.

The resignation came as a surprise and town officials stated that no action had been taken to fill the position. However, it was pointed out that several persons had asked in recent months to have their applications considered if and when there was an opening on the police force.

Firemen Answer Call Late Friday Night

Firemen were called to the Eli Rogerson home on West Main Street here at 11:00 o'clock last Friday night when a chimney

was burned out and threatened to fall on the house. No damage resulted.

water supply should be supplemented by late spring and certainly by early summer or in time to meet the increased demand.

Since the big snow week before last water consumption has been materially increased, the department head stating last week-end that daily consumption went over a quarter million gallons, that just about every pump in the system, including the one at the salty well near the courthouse, was placed in operation to maintain the supply.

No action has been taken as yet, but it is likely that the courthouse well will be abandoned if the new one proves adequate. If the big courthouse well is abandoned, the machinery, including pumps and auxiliary unit, can be switched to the new well, saving the town between \$3,000 and \$3,500.

ROUND-UP

With better weather prevailing, crime flared up a bit in this county last week, but even then peace and quiet held their own fairly well.

Six persons were arrested and jailed, one for larceny and receiving, three for being drunk and disorderly, and one each for speeding and drunk driving.

One of the six was white and the ages of the group ranged from 19 to 37 years.

Commerce Group Met Last Friday

At their regular dinner meeting, held last Friday evening at the Woman's club, the members of the local Junior Chamber of Commerce voted to support the continuance of Passion Week services again this year. The Jaycees who are proprietors of business places pledged their cooperation with other merchants in closing their places of business from ten to thirty each morning the services are held.

Jaycee State Director Ernest Mears reported on the recent third quarter directors' meeting held in Durham, and he also announced that plans were being formulated towards the sponsorship of Junior Chamber of Commerce in Plymouth. A delegation of local Jaycees will confer with prospective members in Plymouth this evening.

President Wheeler Manning announced that Jaycee W. Dan Peel has agreed to serve as county chairman of the annual cancer drive to be held in this county during April of this year.

In order to augment the Jaycee treasury, it was voted to hold a dance sometime in the near future, possibly the Monday after Easter. This project is to be handled by the money-making projects committee.

Jaycees Jarl Bowers, Jim Hackney and Max Roebuck of the Washington Junior Chamber were guests at the meeting, along with Ben Hopkins and Ronald R. Johnson of Williamston. The fellowship prize, awarded by Jaycee Lewis Pippin, was won by Ben Hopkins.

A delicious country ham dinner was served by the ladies of the Cross Roads Christian Church. Invocation was pronounced by Clarence Griffin.

Opening of River Smokehouse Here

After diligent search George Harris, Jr., and Francis Leggett found the key to Williamston's river smokehouse last Thursday. The key, in the form of a nice size herring, has not been used much since that time on account of the high water and cold weather, but like the old saying, "There's gold in dem dar hills," it indicates that fish are in the river, that it won't be long before relief from high meat costs will come to many in this section.

Few catfish have been reported since last week.

Large Audience Hears Concert By High School Band

P. T. A. and Band Parents Meet In High School For Short Sessions

The Williamston High School Band presented its first public concert before a large appreciative audience at the P.T.A. meeting held last night in the high school auditorium at 8 o'clock.

Hildreth Mobley, president, called the meeting to order. After the singing of "America" the Reverend E. R. Schular gave the invocation. Two committee reports were given stating that the steam table for the grammar school had come and that the band equipment was to be set out from Rocky Mount today. Mrs. Manning's tenth grade won the attendance prize.

Following the business session the band presented the following program under the direction of Professor Jack Butler: "Chorale"; "Military Escort," March, by Bennett; "Evening Idyll," Reverie, DeLamater; "The Gypsy Festival," overture, Hayes; "Little Grey Church," Tone Poem, Bennett; "School Song," band arrangement by Miss Mary Neil Ward; and the "Victory March," O'Shea.

During the "Victory March" the drum majorettes were featured at which time a specialty with a lighted twirling baton was given by Lucy Roberson, head majorette. The other majorettes included Julia Laughinghouse, Patricia Taylor, Mary Lou Lee, Jo Ann Peel, Edna Rae Thomas and Lucille Quinn.

"The Star Spangled Banner" was the final number after which refreshments were served.

The new uniforms which were ordered last year only recently arrived and this was the first opportunity Professor Butler had to bring out his complete band in full dress.

Immediately following the program the Band Parents Club held a brief session during which plans to have the Elizabeth City High School Band, one of the outstanding organizations of its kind in the nation, to come here for a concert on the night of March 19 were approved. The band will appear in concert at 8 o'clock in the high school auditorium. It will arrive during the day and be guests of the band parents for the evening meal to be served in the school cafeteria.

When contacted about coming here next month only a part of the band was asked for by Miles Clark, sponsor of the band, declared that the Elizabeth City unit would come as a whole and furnish their own transportation if the local band would guarantee them a "feed". This the band parents readily agreed to do.

The visiting band contains almost a hundred musicians and has been honored guest at many outstanding functions in the nation. Several years ago the band was given considerable publicity by Life Magazine.

The Williamston High School

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Ambrose Fund \$200 Short of Urgent Need

PROLIFIC

A red Jersey sow gave birth to seventeen pigs on Farmer Crawford Coltrain's farm in Griffin's Township last Friday, the litter approaching if not setting a record for size in this part of the county.

"They can cut my tobacco acreage, but they can't do much about my old sow," Farmer Coltrain said, admitting that such production records could influence the price of meat.

"I'm 74 years old and I have never seen such a litter of fine pigs," Farmer Harmon Roberson, a neighbor of Coltrain's said.

It was the third litter for the sow, she having farrowed nine the first time and eleven the second.

Officers Wrecked Several Stills In County Last Week

Poured Out Nearly 2,000 Gallons of Beer At Five Illicit Plants

Raiding in several Martin County townships and along the Martin-Beaufort boundary in Beaufort County last week-end, ABC officers and deputies wrecked five illicit liquor plants and poured out 1,750 gallons of cheap sugar beer.

Joining ABC officers from Pitt and Beaufort Counties last Friday morning, Officers Joe H. Roebuck and Roy Peel wrecked a 200-gallon capacity wood still along the Beaufort - Martin boundary and poured out 1,000 gallons of beer stored in three 200-gallon and four 100-gallon capacity vats.

Swinging over into Bear Grass Township later that day, the same seven officers destroyed another illicit plant, equipped with a 100-gallon capacity wood still. They poured out 350 gallons of sugar beer. Before leaving that territory, the officers founds and confiscated a doubler and cooler and poured out 100 gallons of beer at a plant site, but they could not find the kettle.

ABC Officer Roebuck and Deputy Roy Peel invaded the Dardens section of Jamesville Township last Saturday morning and captured an 80-gallon capacity copper kettle. Only one of the fifty-gallon fermenters was filled with beer at the time and the officers poured the juice out.

Accompanied by Officer Edmond Early of Oak City, the two officers raided in Goose Nest Township Saturday afternoon and wrecked a plant, destroying a 55-gallon oil drum used for a still and pouring out fifty gallons of beer.

The business flared up during the recent bad weather.

To Inspect Motor Vehicles In the County Next Month

Equipment and personnel for the inspection of motor vehicles in Martin County will be stationed in Williamston the week of March 14, it was officially announced by the Department of Motor Vehicles in Raleigh, last week.

No definite or permanent site has been selected, but it is likely that one of the town's little used surface streets will be chosen for the first inspections, with the possibility that a lane will be depoured near the highway patrol radio station for later use.

The equipment, according to the schedule announced last week-end, will be brought into this county on March 12. Two days will be allowed for adjustment and orientation, and the lane will be opened to the public on Monday, March 15. The lane is being opened in Washington

Following the one week of in-

spection in this county, the equipment will be moved to Plymouth and later to other towns in this part of the State, returning to this county for another week, beginning May 14.

In accordance with the motor vehicle mechanical program, each motor vehicle registered in North Carolina must be inspected once during this year and twice every twelve months after this year.

The inspection program is designed not necessarily to force old-model cars off the highways, but to correct mechanical troubles and make the roads safe for travel. Last year, 836 persons were killed on North Carolina highways, not to mention the injured list and a staggering property loss. Of the 909 motor vehicles figuring in the fatal accidents, 653 were "old" models,

many of which were not equipped with mechanical condition.

Building Program Delayed Pending Donation Receipts

Voluntary Contributions Now Total 221; Volun- teers To Build House

After battling the elements during the coldest winter this section has experienced in several years, Ammie Ambrose, aged grandmother and her brood of orphaned grandchildren have an even chance to move into winter quarters within the next few days. Plans are all complete for building the family a small house on their little three-quarter acre site on the old Williamston-Everetts Road, but no final action can be taken until approximately \$180 is added to the emergency fund.

Few appeals have received a warmer response than the one advanced in the name of the aged grandmother and the eight members of her family, seven of them children whose ages range from three to fifteen years. No direct solicitations were considered, and the response has been spontaneous and voluntary on the part of both white and colored, local and non-county residents. "I am enclosing a check for \$5 for the Ambrose family. If that isn't enough let me know," a contributor in Henderson wrote in a letter received last Friday. Individuals, inspecting the condition first hand, left with a greater determination to take a part in the movement to get the family of nine out of the weather. But the main offer was made unpretentiously by James Stevenson, colored carpenter and builder, when he reported to Sheriff C. B. Roebuck last Saturday. "I have five or six men working with me. If you people are interested enough to try and do something for the aged grandmother and her family and can get the materials together, I will take my men and go and build her a small house without charging anyone a cent."

Stevenson got the construction contract. The G and H Builders Supply Company has agreed to furnish most of the materials at and below cost and render other assistance. Henry Griffin, inspecting the property last Sunday, said that the old shack is beyond repair, that the timbers are so rotten that none can be used in building another structure. Suggesting that a structure 14 by 24 feet would be better than what is now available, the builders supply man figured the material bill at and below cost, agreeing to give the order every priority and place it on the lot without delivery charges.

Marvin Seed, saw mill operator, said he would saw a bill of lumber for the new house, but logs are not available and that would cause delay. The conditions demand immediate action, for there is a very good possibility that the present shack will fall down on the heads of the grandmother and her brood.

It is estimated that the actual cost of the material for the structure will cost right at \$400. Up until late yesterday, \$221 had been contributed, leaving the fund \$179

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J. H. Roebuck On ABC Committee

Martin County Alcoholic Beverages Control Officer Joe H. Roebuck was named last Thursday to serve as a member of the legislative committee of the North Carolina Association of ABC enforcement officers.

The ABC officers from nearly every wet county in the State attended a meeting in Raleigh last Thursday, perfected an organization of their own, and advanced a program, Mr. Roebuck said, looking to a more effective enforcement of the liquor laws.

Deputy Roy Peel and ABC Officer J. H. Roebuck represented the county at the meeting. The meeting was held in the Sir Walter hotel.