

## Fonville Waives Hearing In Two Cases on Tuesday

### Killer Unable To Procure Services of Attorney Immediately

Unable to procure the services of an attorney immediately, Abram Fonville, charged with an assault with intent to kill and murder, entered no plea when he was carried before Justice of the Peace R. T. Johnson in the county courthouse here Tuesday evening. Apparently knowing little about courtroom procedure, the 30-year-old colored man, when confronted with the charges in the two cases, said he would enter no plea, that he would waive hearing. In the assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill case, bond was set at \$3,500, but it was explained that no bond could be allowed in the murder case.

The hearing tentatively scheduled for Frank Crews and Henry Williams for the brutal assault on Haywood Cherry at the basket factory here on the night of April 30 was postponed when the prosecuting witness was reported unable to attend. Badly injured about the head, the victim of the assault is still troubled with severe headaches and is confined to his home.

The courtroom was packed for the hearings by colored citizens, and it was apparent that some were disappointed when no evidence was offered in the Fonville cases and the other hearing was postponed. No date for the Crews-Williams hearing has been set. The defense has employed counsel and is ready for a hearing at any time, it was reported. As far as it could be learned no private prosecution has been employed by Cherry. Willie James Melton has employed private prosecution, but relatives of Riddick have not moved to aid the prosecution, as far as it could be learned today.

In the assault case against Fonville, the court recognized nine witnesses, Willie Melton, Brad Bagley, Lester Williams, Jimmy Melton, Ernest Stallings, W. E. Saunders, John Roebuck and Chas. R. Moore. In the murder case, four witnesses were recognized, including Oswald Spivey, Joe Brown, W. E. Saunders and John Roebuck. They were instructed to appear in court on Monday, June 14, when they'll go before the grand jury.

Fonville, son of H. D. and Bertha Fonville, came here from New Bern and worked about a year before entering the armed forces. After four years of service, including three spent in the South Pacific, he returned here and was working for the local laundry when he went on a rampage and critically injured Willie J. Melton and killed Lewis Riddick here on the morning of May 8, allegedly over a gambling debt.

## Teachers Elected To Faculty Here

Two teachers, Miss Helen Jones of Edenton, and Rex M. Best of Stantonsburg, were elected to the local faculty by the Williamston District Committee this week. Miss Jones, assistant home agent in Chowan County and a native of Craven County, will teach science, and Mr. Best will teach English and French.

Three teachers, Miss Mary Ellen Sawyer, Mrs. Ralph Gorham and Mrs. Wheeler Manning, recently resigned, the latter two leaving after serving in the high school for several years.

### VOTING HOURS

The polls for primary voting on Saturday of this week are to open in each of the thirteen precincts in this county at 6:30 o'clock that morning and close at 5:30 o'clock that evening.

In the interest of good government, all registrants are urged to visit the polls and cast their votes for the candidates of their choice. Martin County should easily cast 5,000 or more votes.

## For County Representative



J. Edgar Gurganus (left) Williamston attorney, and A. Corey, Jamesville utility man, have been active in the race to represent Martin County in the North Carolina General Assembly next term.



### MATERIALS

Materials for the construction of a new high school unit in Williamston and an addition to the Bear Grass plant are being moved to the sites this week by the contractors, C. B. Mooney and Sons of Edenton.

The contracts call for the completion of the projects on or before the first of next October. The contractors announced they would make every effort to complete the work by early September.

## Disease Destroys Farmer's Tobacco

Black shank, a destructive tobacco plant disease, struck the farm of Farmer Grover Lilley in the lower part of this county a few days ago and wiped out his tobacco plant beds and several acres of tobacco. When the disease had spent itself in the bed, the plants could have been fired and easily burned.

The farmer found it necessary to prepare his land and transplant it a second time, completing the task yesterday. New plants, said to be resistant to the disease and grown from \$2 an ounce seed, were procured in another section of the county for the second transplanting.

The disease has been reported in scattered areas in past years, but this year is the first time that it has literally wiped out a plant bed and killed the young plants in a field in this county.

## Assigned Places In Party System

Several Martin County persons were assigned positions in the Democratic Party system at the state convention held a few days ago in Raleigh.

Mrs. E. S. Peel and H. G. Horton were named members of the State Democratic Executive Committee. Clarence Griffin and A. E. James were named to the first congressional executive committee and H. G. Horton was named presidential elector for the first district.

## Start Anti-Typhoid Fever Drive In County May 31st

The Martin County Health Department personnel will launch next Monday a county-wide campaign for the prevention of typhoid fever. A complete schedule of the clinics appears elsewhere in this paper, the schedule including a clinic each Wednesday morning in Robersonville from 9:30 to 11:30 a. m.

In connection with the drive, Dr. John Williams, health officer, made the following statement:

Every year we vaccinate from ten to sixteen thousand Martin County citizens with a booster shot against typhoid fever. One drop in the top layer of the skin every year will generally protect. Typhoid fever is a rarity in our county (2 cases in 3 years). To keep it out until all carriers are

## Nine Local Boys Are 'Studying' At UNC, Chapel Hill

### None Is In The Graduating Class This Year, However

By Jo Jo Thippen

There are nine Williamston boys attending the University of North Carolina this season. They have majors in a variety of subjects and range in classification from freshmen to second year law students.

The four young men that began their studies at the University this year are: Charles Siceloff, who plans to major in Regional Planning, and is a pledge in the Phi Gamma Delta social fraternity; Hugh Horton, Jr., is also a pledge in Phi Gamma Delta and is taking Pre-Law; Gilbert Woolard, who is taking Pre-Medicine; and Kenneth Lindsley, with a major in Business Administration, is an assistant student manager of the widely acclaimed Carolina football team.

R. J. Hardison and John Pope are rising seniors in the School of Commerce. R. J. is the only Williamstonian at U. N. C. that is married, and hopes to become a Certified Public Accountant, while John Pope is working on a degree in Business Administration. Both are veterans and members of Pi Kappa Alpha social fraternity.

Billy Mercer completes his requirements for Pre-Dentistry in June and expects to transfer to a dental school next year. Billy was a Marine officer during the war and is a member of Kappa Sigma social fraternity.

Elbert S. Peel, Jr., will graduate next February with a Bachelor of (Continued on page eight)

### Auxiliary Here To Sell Poppies On Saturday

Members of the John Walton Hassell Post of the American Legion will conduct the annual sale of poppies on Saturday of this week, and it is hoped that the public will support it. Proceeds are used for worthy causes for disabled veterans and their families. The poppies are made in veterans' hospitals by the patients.

## Twenty-two Cases Called In County Court On Monday

### Judge Smith Holds Tribunal In Session Little Over Three Hours

Holding the Martin County Recorder's Court in session more than three hours, Judge J. Calvin Smith called twenty-two cases last Monday, assessing fines in the sum of \$505 and meting out several road sentences. Drunkenness on the public highways was frowned down upon in realistic fashion when the jurist called for \$50 fines and ordered the defendants not to operate motor vehicles from one to three years.

Proceedings: Adjudged guilty of drunken driving, J. Carl Kelly was fined \$100, taxed with the cost and had his operator's license revoked for one year.

Charged with assaulting a female, Cornelius Thompson was adjudged guilty of simple assault and was fined \$10 and taxed with the costs.

Buck Rhodes, pleaded guilty of assaulting a female, and he was sentenced to the roads for six months, the court suspending the road term upon the payment of a \$25 fine and costs and \$5 to Evelyn Louise Williams for damage done to her clothes. The defendant is not to be convicted of violating any criminal law during the next year.

Pleading guilty of bastardy, George Locke was sentenced to the roads for six months. The road term was suspended on condition that he pay \$10 a month for one year to Annie Hurst for the benefit of his illegitimate child.

Charged with drunken driving, James Josh Meeks pleaded not guilty. Adjudged guilty of being drunk and disorderly on a public highway, he was sentenced to the roads for four months, the court suspending the road term upon the payment of a \$50 fine and costs. The court also ordered the defendant to operate no motor vehicle on the highways for one year.

Leo Mc Glenn Warren pleaded not guilty when charged with drunken driving. He was found guilty of being drunk and disorderly on a public highway and possessing illicit liquor. A nine-month road sentence was suspended upon the payment of a (Continued on page eight)

### Cancer Fund Boosted By Late Contributions

Late contributions—\$10.30 from the Oak City colored school, and \$5 from the Colonial stores—boosted the Martin County cancer fund drive to \$1,664.56. Mrs. Chas. I. Harris, county commander, announced this week. The drive in this county exceeded the goal by \$164.56.

### Benefit For The Colored High School Band Here

Working with comparatively few funds, the local colored high school band has made much progress this year, and its efforts will be recognized next Monday night when the Household of Ruth, G. U. O. F., presents an adult May Pole drill and fashion show at the school. Some of the funds will be shared with the colored Boy Scouts. The public is invited. Only a small admission charge will be asked.

### GOOD RAIN

A general rain, carrying great value, fell in this section Wednesday afternoon, relieving dry conditions existing over a wide area. Limited to a drizzle at times, the rain fell during the greater part of three hours here.

Lower Griffins and the upper part of the county reported very little rain, but sections of Robersonville and Cross Roads Township reported a downpour, one report stating that more than two inches of rain fell in the Frank Bailey neighborhood.

Cloudy skies prevailed today and crops took on a "new look."

## Mrs. Ella Rooks Died at Her Home Early Wednesday

### Last Rites At Biggs Funeral Home Here This Afternoon at 3 O'clock

Mrs. Ella Beasley Rooks, highly respected Jamesville resident, died at her home there yesterday morning at 1:30 o'clock after a long period of declining health. During the past six months she had received treatment at intervals in several hospitals and had returned from a Rocky Mount hospital only last week. Her condition had been critical since that time.

Mrs. Rooks, the daughter of the late Alfred and Martha Perry Beasley, was 77 years old on the 13th of this month. She was born and reared in the islands section of Williams Township, but spent most of her life in Jamesville. She was married in 1894 to James Rooks who was employed by the old Dennis Simmons Lumber Co. at its Astoria mill for a number of years. He died in 1926.

She was the last member of her immediate family of brothers and sisters, and is survived by one daughter, Miss Stella Rooks, bookkeeper for the Lindsley Ice Company here.

Mrs. Rooks enjoyed the quiet and comfort of her home, finding peace and contentment in handling the minor duties there as long as her health permitted.

The body was removed to the Biggs Funeral here to lie in state until 3:00 o'clock this afternoon when Rev. J. M. Perry, Robersonville minister, and Rev. W. B. Harrington, county Baptist minister, will conduct the last rites in the funeral home chapel. Interment will be in the family plot in Woodlawn Cemetery here.

## Graduating From Woman's College

Among the approximately 450 candidates for degrees awaiting the fifty-sixth commencement exercises at Woman's College, U. N. C., Greensboro, are two students from Williamston. Woman's College's finals program will get underway Saturday with holding of the annual Alumnae Day events. On Sunday the baccalaureate sermon will be preached by Dr. Paul J. Braisted of New Haven, Conn. The graduating exercises will be held Monday morning, May 31, with Governor R. Gregg Cherry, President Frank P. Graham, and Chancellor W. C. Jackson as the principal speakers.

Among the candidates for degrees from Williamston are Misses Martha Anne Meador and Alberta Swain.

## Special Jurymen Drawn For Court

Nine Martin County citizens were drawn for special jury duty in the Martin County Recorder's Court next Monday. Six of the nine are to sit and hear the case charging Leon Wynne with drunken driving.

The names of the special jurymen are: Jamesville Township, Paul W. Allen and T. H. Brown, Jr.; Williams, Marion Hardison and Lillian R. Long; Griffins, Urban Lilley and L. Elbert Tice; Williamston, Linton Roebuck; Hamilton, W. E. Purvis and Thomas L. Etheridge.

## Colored School Closes Tomorrow

The local colored school is closing a successful term tomorrow afternoon at 2:00 o'clock when W. M. Green, executive secretary of the North Carolina Negro Teachers Association, Raleigh, delivers the commencement address to the 23 graduates, nine boys and fourteen girls.

The graduation exercises tomorrow afternoon, are the last in a series of special events held during the course of one week in the school, with the several grades and clubs participating.

## Medium Size Vote Expected Saturday

### Nearly 500 Names Placed On Books In Recent Weeks

### Local Contests Certain To Boost Vote Over That Of Two Years Ago

Despite local contests and more or less hot campaigns for governor and U. S. senator, the political dopsters are predicting no large vote will be cast in this county on Saturday of this week. Observers won't be pinned down, but they are of the opinion that the total vote will approximate hardly more than 3,500. Some say that it won't exceed 3,000, but considerable interest has been added in several fields during the past few days and, after all, the number of contestants is sufficiently large to invite out more than the usual number of voters.

There are the races for representative, judge, board of education, all of which are of county-wide interest, to say nothing of the State and U. S. Senatorial, gubernatorial and other State contests. It is a mighty good line-up to attract the voters, and one need not be surprised if the vote does not exceed 3,500 when two districts, Griffins-Bear Grass and Hamilton-Goose Nest, turn out in big numbers to boost their favorites for county commissioner. The race for commissioner rests between the candidates in each district but they are voted on county-wide, and the two contests are expected to attract just as much interest in all precincts as any of the others.

Nothing has been said about it, but free transportation is to be expected if the vote holds to a low figure by early afternoon.

The lone Republican contest in which Willard and Gragg are running for their party's nomination for agriculture commissioner is not expected to influence the size of the vote very much, some predicting that less than a dozen Republicans will visit the polling places.

The 1948 primary election comes when the approximated voting strength of the county stands right at 7,000 potential voters. The recent registration, unchallenged last Saturday, is believed to have broken all records. Twelve of the thirteen precincts reported 448 new registrants. No report could be had from Hassell, but it is estimated that ten new names were added to the books there, boosting the total new registration this year to 458, and the over-all registration to 7,127.

A review of the old and recent (Continued on page eight)

## High School Band Gives Thrilling Parade and Drill

The Williamston High School Band, just a month over a year old, put on a thrilling and impressive parade and drill on Main Street in Williamston yesterday evening before a large crowd that had braved the threatening weather to see the youngsters perform.

Wearing their new uniforms of gray and green the unit turned the corner of Smithwick and Main a few minutes after 7 o'clock and marched up Main to Haughton. Returning to a cleared space in front of the two banks, the band put on its first big show for the home folks and the home folks were pleasantly surprised despite the fact that word had come back from the unit's out of town performances that the young musicians were "sharp."

Lasting about a half hour, the drills were topped by the execution of the intricate "pinwheel" number. Bobby Clayton led the band in the parade and drills as drum major while Lucy Apperson performed as the leader of the group of majorettes.

The band marched and drilled in eight rows of six abreast. In the gathering darkness the neon

### ELECTION RETURNS

In keeping with its record of service, The Enterprise is making plans for tabulating the primary election returns Saturday evening. Blackboard charts will be placed in the office widows and special telephones are to be installed by the telephone company to expedite the flow of calls from the various precincts.

Special appeals are being made to the precinct election officials, cordially urging them to submit the returns as rapidly as possible. There are quite a few contests, but the first returns should start coming in between 7:30 and 8:00 o'clock. The public can materially aid the vote canvass by not calling the office until the election officials have had time to submit the returns.

## Committeemen Measuring Land

The annual task of measuring tobacco lands under the support program is progressing very rapidly in this county, a report from the office of the farm agent yesterday stating that it should be completed by the second week in next month. The work, started last week, is being handled mostly by the community committeemen.

A minimum fee of 25 cents an acre is being charged to help defray expenses.

None of the measurements has been checked against the allotments, but it is believed that the acreages are well within the quota limits.

## Officers Capture Big Liquor Still

ABC Officer J. H. Roebuck and Deputy Roy Peel yesterday captured one of the largest liquor stills in many months. Raiding just off Highway 17 in Bear Grass Township, the two officers found an old plant, equipped with a 200-gallon capacity copper kettle and extensive materials. They poured out six barrels of sugar beer.

Beating the bushes over a two- or three-hundred yard radius, the officers found ten gallons of white liquor. The plant was not in operation at the time, but it is believed the liquor had been made only a short time.

## Recreation Group Names Maynard to Supervise Program

### Open Pool Next Tuesday To Maintain Playground And Center

Williamston's recreation committee, John L. Goff, chairman, this week advanced an extensive program and named Stewart Maynard, athletic director, to supervise the operation of the swimming pool and a general recreational program. Complete details have not been announced, but tentative plans call for a full schedule which will be centered around the pool, the recreation center in the legion hut and a playground at the high school. Mrs. Frank Hitch will continue at the center, but the activities there will be fitted into an over-all recreation picture, it was explained.

Supervisor Maynard today is completing arrangements for opening the swimming pool next Tuesday, but the opening date is not definite. "We plan to open it at that time, if needed work can be completed," Maynard said.

The committee is looking for reliable help, including several youths who can help handle the activities.

The present playground program calls for the organization of a knee-pants baseball league. Organization and practice schedules will be held Tuesday and Thursday, in preparation for league games on Saturdays. The playground will be held open on those days from 9:00 a. m. until noon.

The schedule for the swimming pool follows:

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 10:00 a. m. until noon; Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 2 p. m. to 6 p. m.; and 7 p. m. to 9 p. m.; Sundays, 2 to 6 p. m.

During the summer months the recreation center will be held open from 8 p. m. until 10 p. m. on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays, and from 10 to 11 p. m. on Saturdays.

## Former Resident Dies In Wayne

Mr. Charles Augustus Fisher, 51, died at his home near Pikeville Monday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock following four months of illness. Funeral services will be conducted at the Church of God at Patetown Wednesday afternoon at 3:00 by the pastor and burial will follow in the Foreham family cemetery near Pikeville.

Mr. Fisher was born and reared in Virginia and came to North Carolina in 1933. He lived near Williamston until 1947 when he moved to Pikeville. Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Cora Denny Fisher, four sons, Charles A. Fisher, Jr., of New York City, Gilmer M. Fisher of Goldsboro, Austin R. Fisher and C. A. Fisher of Pikeville, nine daughters, Miss Agnes Fisher of Richmond, Va., Misses Betty Mae, Margaret, Nelly Jane, Waynell, Wilma, Wanda and Patsy Ann Fisher of Pikeville, a brother, Virgie Fisher of Florida and one grandchild.

## Accident Victim Reported Improving In Hospital

His neck broken in two places in a truck accident at Parmele last Sunday morning, Charlie Bullock, Williamston man, was reported improving in a Tarboro hospital yesterday. He is expected to be able to return home within the next four or five weeks.

### FINALS

With examinations behind them, local high school students are looking forward to the graduation exercises in the auditorium Friday evening of this week at 8:00 o'clock. Special awards will be announced and presented at that time, and Dr. W. E. T. C. Greenville, will deliver the principal address.

A large number of patrons and other friends is expected to attend the closing event.