

## Lighted Park Set To Open Here On Saturday Night

All-Star Game and Formal Turning On of Lights On the Program

Final details were worked out last night for the program of the Martin County Athletic Association, Inc., which is this week installing lights in the Williamston ball park.

The formal opening of the park is to be held Saturday night beginning at 6:30 o'clock when the four teams from the lower end of the county will take batting practice in preparation for their game with the four teams of the upper section of the county.

From 7:00 to 7:30 the all-stars of the upper half will take batting practice and then will come the formal turning on of the lights at 7:30. Mr. Eason Lilley, a director at large of the association, will pull the switch that controls the lights and for the first time since 1940 Martin County will have a lighted athletic park.

Immediately after the turning on of the lights the all-stars will take infield practice and promptly at 8 o'clock President Ray H. Goodman of the Coastal Plain League will make a few remarks appropriate to the occasion and throw out the first ball.

The poles were moved to the ball park Monday afternoon under the direct supervision of Meyer Levin, the holes for them were being prepared Tuesday and attachments are being applied today so that Wednesday morning at 8 o'clock a drag-line from Washington can begin erecting the poles. Present plans call for the poles to be erected by noon Wednesday.

In announcing the program it was emphasized that in case of inclement weather the opening program would remain the same except that it would be delayed until Monday evening and all contests scheduled in the tournament would be pushed back one day.

Ironing out some of their problems before getting down to material things, the directors of the association decided to meet annually on the first Monday night in March for the election of directors and officers. Each participating community is to have a director, Williamston to have two. In case of a vacancy on the board of directors, the community losing the director shall supply another to take his place so that the balance of power remains the same.

In the absence of President Leroy Everett of Hamilton whose mother died Monday morning, Vice President John Eubanks of Hassell presided over the session Monday night.

A move was afoot Monday afternoon to get the merchants in the county to close their stores by 6 o'clock Saturday evening to allow all who wished to attend the activities at the ball park but its progress had not been definitely reported this morning.

Named as managers for the Williamston, Bear Grass, Everetts and Cross Roads All-Star team are Hack Gaylor of Williamston and Irving Terry of Bear Grass while John House of Hassell and J. C. Johnson of Oak City are to manage the All-Star group from Hamilton, Oak City, Hassell and Robersonville.

Each team is to supply five top players to take part in the game. Each team is required to use a minimum of three pitchers during the contest and must use at least one player from each team.

Umpires for the all-star test are Buddy Rogers and G. C. Whitley, alternating at first base and behind the plate and Willie Lassiter at 2nd base and Jesse Matthews at 3rd. Buddy Rogers starts behind the plate and moves to first after the first four and a half innings. The umpires were approved.

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## Murderer Gets Short Term In State Prison

### ORDER CHIMES

An order was mailed yesterday for the installation of a 21-note set of Deagan chimes by the local Baptist Church, the pastor, Rev. S. B. Simms stating that the chimes should be ready for use within six or eight weeks.

Purchased by pledges made by members of the congregation and several friends outside the denomination, the chimes may be used in the auditorium or placed on the loudspeaker. A demonstration set was heard here the latter part of May. Costing approximately \$2,000, the chimes include all features of the system. All but about \$300 has been pledged, and it is certain that friends will volunteer that amount long before the installation is effected.

## Robber Arrested Friday Afternoon

David Purvis, Williams Township colored farmer, was arrested

there last Friday afternoon and formally charged with breaking into Mrs. Moses Wheeler's rummage shop in the Harrison Alley the previous Tuesday evening and stealing clothes and shoes valued at approximately \$400.

Purvis first denied the charge when he was arrested by Chief of Police W. E. Saunders and Deputy Sheriff Murray Holloman, but at a hearing before Justice R. T. Johnson Friday evening the man admitted the crime.

The robbery was not discovered until Friday afternoon when Mrs. Wheeler went to the shop for the first time since Tuesday. Three hours later Purvis was arrested. Police were quick in picking up a lead in the case when they made an investigation and learned that the man had been seen loading two boxes of clothing in a taxi beside McClees' grocery Tuesday evening about 9:30 o'clock. Purvis had carefully packed two large boxes with children's and women's clothing and shoes and carried the containers one by one to the loading spot.

Unable to arrange bond in the sum of \$750, Purvis was returned to jail and his case is scheduled to be tried in the current term of the superior court.

## Pleads Guilty of Attacking Cherry

Frank Albert Crews, young colored man, pleading guilty at a preliminary hearing held before Justice R. T. Johnson in the county courthouse last Friday evening of assaulting Haywood Cherry, basket factory night watchman, with a deadly weapon on the night of April 30. He denied the intent to kill. Very little evidence was heard, the justice ruling that bond was not permissible.

Henry Williams, implicated by Crews, pleaded not guilty. Crews, turning state witness, said that Williams had discussed the hold-up with him as long as ninety days, that on the night of the attack, Williams contacted him and he (Crews) said he was not interested right then. "He saw me later and we went to the plant together," Crews said. According to Crews, Williams crawled under the storage house and watched, giving him (Crews) the signal to attack.

After striking the watchman

## Few Other Cases Are Cleared From Criminal Docket

### Oak City Robbers Sentenced To Four and One-Half To Eight Years

Charles H. Daniel, 42-year-old colored man, was sentenced to State's Prison, Raleigh, for not less than five and not more than eight years when he pleaded guilty of manslaughter before Judge R. Hunt Parker in the Martin County Superior Court late Monday afternoon. Earlier in the day the judge sentenced Willie Taylor, James Daniel and Thurman (Peewe) Harrell of Oak City to not less than four and one-half years and not more than eight years for three robberies they admittedly committed in the Oak City section a week ago last Saturday night. Several other cases were cleared from the criminal docket the first day, but a climax in the proceedings is scheduled for tomorrow morning when Abram Fonville, colored man, goes on trial for his life as a result of the fatal shooting of Louis Riddick in Williamston last May 8.

In the Chas. H. Daniel case, the grand jury returned a true bill without delay, charging the defendant with first-degree murder. Solicitor George Fountain announced that he would not ask for a verdict in the first degree, and then, at the conclusion of the State's evidence a plea of guilty to manslaughter was accepted.

That the evidence did not support a first-degree charge is certain, but apparently much evidence was lost when it appeared that the defendant was so drunk at the time of the killing that he hardly knew what he did or what happened.

Martha Gray, 38-year-old colored woman, was the first witness called by the State. She said she cooked for Sim Quinerly, the man who was shot and killed in Jamesville by Daniel on last April 10, and Quinerly's step-son, the killer. She said that he had been going with Daniel but "broke up" about a month before the killing. On the day of the murder she said she went to Sim's house at 7:00 o'clock, prepared breakfast and returned to her home, going back to Sim's house later. Quinerly, she continued, was sick but he got up and went up town early that afternoon. While Quinerly was away, George Frank Green came along, and Daniel continued plowing in a field not far away.

When Quinerly returned home he found the witness and Green in bed. He, according to the witness, excused himself and went to his room. A short time later the Gray woman said she went to Quinerly's room, declared that he was angry with her for abusing his home and that he slapped her two or three times. She then went to Daniel's room and found him sitting in a rocking chair, not knowing before hand that he was there. The witness said she told him he should be ashamed of himself, that he was so drunk that Mr. Gardner (the man for whom Daniel was plowing) had to take him off the tractor and send him home. She said that she talked with Daniel about five minutes, that Daniel got up and went to Quinerly's room, and that she left to go to her own home. She had gone only a short distance when she heard Daniel yell and say, "I done it this time and I'm going to give myself up."

She told the court that she cried when Quinerly slapped her, but that she did not tell Daniel, and apparently Daniel did not notice her tears. There was some discrepancy in the testimony she offered at the trial and the story she told Officer Paul Holliday when he questioned her soon after the killing. Holliday pointed out that she told him that she had told Daniel about Quinerly slapping her.

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## Mrs. O. T. Everett Dies Suddenly At Home In Hamilton

Funeral There Today At 3:30 O'clock by Elders Grimes and Stevenson

Mrs. Mattie Mizelle Everett, highly respected and greatly beloved citizen of Hamilton, died suddenly at the home of her son, Mr. LeRoy Everett, there Monday morning at 8:55 o'clock of a heart attack suffered just a few minutes before. Mrs. Everett suffered a stroke of paralysis in November, 1943, partially recovering in the following months. She suffered a second stroke in May, 1944, leaving her an invalid. She was getting along as well as usual until about light yesterday morning when she complained of feeling ill. Her nurse gave her medicine and she rested very easily until just before 9:00 o'clock when she suffered the heart attack, death following almost immediately.

Mrs. Everett was born in Pitt County 72 years ago on August 10, 1876, and spent her early life there. Following her marriage to Mr. O. T. Everett on February 22, 1898, she moved to this county, locating on a farm near Hamilton where she lived until about fifteen years ago when she moved into Hamilton, spending the last four years in the home of her son. She was a daughter of the late Eli and Mary James Mizelle.

Mrs. Everett joined the Primitive Baptist Church at Spring Green about thirty years ago, and as long as her health permitted, she was faithful in attendance upon its services and in its support. In her affliction a true Christian character was maintained in her thoughtfulness of others, always greeting members of the family, neighbors and other friends with a smile. She was interested in all that which was good and noble, keeping up with the events of the day with her daily papers and showing always a keen interest in the welfare and activities of others.

Funeral services are being conducted from the home of her son this afternoon at 3:30 o'clock by Elder W. E. Grimes, assisted by Elder E. C. Stevenson. Interment will be in the Hamilton Cemetery.

## Former Resident Dies In Hospital

Mrs. Lorena Gurganus, 59, former resident of Williamston, died last Saturday morning at 9:30 o'clock in a Washington hospital following a long period of declining health. She had been confined to her bed since April.

The daughter of the late Martin Jackson of Beaufort County and the late Margaret M. Jackson of Washington County, Mrs. Gurganus was born in Beaufort County on October 17, 1888. She moved from Williamston to Plymouth about six years ago. She was a member of the Christian Hope Disciple Church near Plymouth.

She is survived by her husband, Robert H. Gurganus of Plymouth; five sons, Aubrey Gurganus of Williamston, Edward Ray Gurganus of Williamston, Bill D. Gurganus of Plymouth, Bobby Gurganus of Plymouth; three daughters, Mrs. Margaret Amamchuck of Plymouth, Mrs. Della Roebuck of Plymouth, Mrs. Hazel Brown of Durham; one sister, Mrs. Peie Price of Plymouth; one brother, Mr. Ed Jackson of Plymouth, and sixteen grandchildren.

## Calling Special Fifty-Member Venire In Murder Case Here

### Plant Lice Attack Tobacco Crop In County This Week

Plant lice, causing serious concern for tobacco farmers in Georgia, have made their appearance in this county, according to a report coming today from the office of the farm agent. Inspecting the crop on the Mizelle farm on the Hamilton Highway near Williamston, Bill Harrison found the lice in numbers. One small hill of tobacco, made up of six very small leaves, had an estimated 1,000 lice on it.

According to reports reaching here late Monday, there is an infestation in several parts of the county. Farmer Tom Roberson reported the plant lice in numbers in his tobacco out in Farm Life. Farmer J. D. Wynne said they were in his, the Bear Grass

area, and reports indicate that the infestation is fairly heavy in the upper part of the county. Very little is known about the lice in this area, and reports from Georgia state that the pest is difficult to control or destroy. One report states that very little damage is done to the growing plant, that the trouble comes at curing time. A small honey-looking substance is left on the leaf, causing it to cure out black in the curing barn.

The lice are said to multiply rapidly, that one mating creates five to fifty offspring. No actual tests have been made in this section, but the farmer is being advised to spray his crop with tetraethyl pyrophosphate either in a dust or liquid form.

## SMALL VOTE

Comparatively few citizens are participating in the \$100,000 bond election here today. By noon-morning less than fifty votes had been cast, and it was fairly certain at that time that no sizable vote would be recorded before the polls close at 6:30 this evening.

The election was ordered to finance a \$100,000 improvement program for the town's water system which is described as dangerously inadequate.

The polls are being held open in the City Hall.

## Aged Woman Died Saturday Morning In Poplar Point

Funeral Held in the Spring Green Church for Mrs. Vicie H. Edmondson

Mrs. Vicie Howell Edmondson, highly respected resident of Poplar Point Township, died at her home here last Saturday morning at 6:30 o'clock. She had been in declining health for some time, and her condition had been serious for about three weeks. She was born in Nash County 82 years ago on July 5, 1866, the daughter of the late Zeph Howell of Wayne County and the late Sallie Thomas Howell of Poplar Point. She lived all her life in Nash and Martin Counties, residing the past thirty years in the Poplar Point section.

Mrs. Edmondson was a faithful member of the Primitive Baptist Church at Spring Green for a long number of years. Surviving are four sons, John Edmondson, with whom she made her home, Kannie, Richard and Zana Edmondson, all of Poplar Point; four daughters, Mrs. Sallie Warren of Washington County, Mrs. Hettie Hollis and Mrs. Lola Mobley, both of RFD 3, Williamston, and Mrs. Katie Hollis of Oak City; one brother, John Howell of Greenville, and several grandchildren.

In early womanhood she was married to John Edmondson who died a number of years ago. Funeral services were conducted in the church at Spring Green Sunday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock by Elder W. E. Grimes and interment was in the church cemetery.

## 'Falls Out' In Middle Of Road In County

Harvey Mooreing, 28-year-old colored man, got a little too much to drink sometime during Sunday night and "passed out" in the middle of a dirt road near Gold Point. Drawn into a knot, the man was thought to be dead by a passerby, and Patrolman B. W. Parker was called to make an investigation. It was first thought that he had been run down, but an examination revealed his drunken condition.

Surviving are Mr. Moore and two sisters, Mrs. H. G. Farnell of Bainbridge, Georgia, and Mrs. Corone Salts of Texas.

## ROUND-UP

Even though the stage is being set for a show-down in court for law violators at the time, officers continued to round up the wayward last week-end, a report stating that seven persons were arrested and detained in the

## Officers Wrecked Still Last Sunday

Raiding in Goose Nest Township early last Sunday morning

ABC Officer Joe H. Roebuck and Deputies Roy Peel and Buck Holman found and wrecked a crude liquor distillery. The plant was equipped with a fifty-gallon capacity oil drum which was used for a kettle and three filthy fermenters. The officers poured out 150 gallons of nasty sugar beer and confiscated one-half gallon of white liquor.

## Mrs. J. E. Moore Dies in Hospital

Mrs. Julius E. Moore, 67, died in a local hospital last Sunday evening at 8:50 o'clock following a long period of declining health. She had suffered three strokes of paralysis, the first about two years ago. She had partially recovered from that and a second one and was getting along very well until the last of April when she suffered another. Her condition had been critical since that time and she was removed to the hospital two weeks ago for treatment. Little hope was held for her recovery, however she remained conscious up until about twelve hours before she died.

The daughter of the late J. L. Ingram and wife, Mary Wilkerson Ingram, she was born in Beirbridge, Georgia, on August 31, 1881, and spent her early life there. Following her marriage to Mr. Moore they located in this county, living in the Bear Grass, Jamesville and Williamston sections. While here Mr. Moore operated the Red Front grocery on Washington Street. They located in Plymouth for a while, but had made their home near Jamesville for the past several years.

Funeral services are being conducted this afternoon from the Cedar Branch Baptist Church and burial will be in the Martin cemetery near her late home. Rev. W. B. Harrington is conducting the last rites.

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## Firemen Called To Pine Street Home

Local firemen were called out shortly before 2:00 o'clock last Friday afternoon when fire threatened the home of Mrs. Clyde Silverthorn on Pine Street. Very little damage was done by the fire and water, but the furniture, moved out to just about the last piece when the firemen reached there,

was battered a bit. The origin of the fire could not be determined, but it is believed that someone, possibly a thoughtless child, dropped a match or cigarette or burning match into a knothole in a partition and started the fire. A small piece of ceiling was ripped away and the fire was put out with a gallon or two of water.

## Three Car Wrecks In County During Past Several Days

Two Persons Hurt, Non Critically In The Highway Wrecks

One person was painfully but not badly hurt and another was slightly injured in two highway accidents in this county last week. Property damage was estimated at about \$500. Roy Hollingshead, Box 177, RFD 1, Daphne, Alabama, suffered a three-stitch cut on his lip last Friday night about 11:30 o'clock when his car plowed into a field over in Williams Township. The Alabama man, visiting the Pates in the county, was driving out of a side road when he learned his brakes had gone back. Unable to make the turn at the speed he was traveling, he chose to maintain a straight course and wrecked his car, doing about \$40 damage to it, according to Patrolman Mike Powers who made the investigation.

Last Wednesday morning, Thomas Griffin, taxi driver, was driving into Robersonville on the Stokes road and lost control of his car. Going off the left side of the hardsurface, he traveled about 300 feet on the shoulders, pulled the machine back to the right and plowed into a ditch, doing about \$400 damage to his car. Patrolman B. W. Parker reported following the investigation.

Over in Beaufort County Sunday afternoon, Mrs. Marshall Kilpatrick was slightly bruised when the car in which she was riding with her husband, Dr. Kilpatrick, was in collision with another machine. She was able to continue to her home. Not much damage was done to the Kilpatrick car, according to reports reaching here.

Clarence Earl Biggs, 11-year-old colored child, suffered a broken arm and minor bruises when he was struck by an automobile near Corey's Cross Roads on U. S. Highway 17 shortly after 5:00 o'clock last Thursday afternoon. He was taken to the hospital where he was treated in a local doctor's office and last reports stated he was getting along very well.

The boy, according to witnesses, was standing beside the highway waiting for a car traveling south to pass. As soon as that car went by he dashed into the highway and into the path of a car driven by John Archie Hodges, white man of RFD 2, Williamston. Hodges, traveling north, said that he was running about 45 miles when he saw the child, that he slowed down and was running hardly 15 miles an hour when he struck the victim. Hodges, all four wheels skidding, ran off the right side of the road in an effort to miss the child.

Witnesses verified Hodges' story. Mrs. Evelyn Hunt stating that he was not speeding at the time of the accident. No charges were lodged against the driver by Patrolmen J. T. Rowe and B. W. Parker who made the investigation.

## Court Working On Two Cases Today

With the Fonville murder case set for trial tomorrow and most of the other criminal cases already cleared from the docket, the current term of the Martin County Superior Court today is working on the Percy Brown murder case and the one charging Frank Crews and Henry Williams with assaulting Haywood Cherry, factory night watchman.

Several hours before court was opened this morning, colored citizens started filing into the courthouse to hear the Percy Brown case. Brown shot and killed William (Lus) Midgette here on May 14, claiming that it was a case of

Midgette was William Brown who, he alleges, was "after him."

## CORRECTION

In report on the proceedings in the county court last week, this paper stated that Mayo Beacham was charged with non-support. The young man was charged with trespassing and was found not guilty.

## System In The Viccar

Its installation delayed by a week, the system of modern cooling systems is being installed today in the Viccar Theater. Special workmen are handling the installation and they plan to have the system in operation shortly.

thinking he had killed the man, ran away, leaving Williams tangled in some wire under the house. Crews, who was not in the car, of \$5,000, Williams was returned to jail along with Crews. Quite a few persons were present for the hearing. The case is being called in the superior court here this week.

her tears. There was some discrepancy in the testimony she offered at the trial and the story she told Officer Paul Holliday when he questioned her soon after the killing. Holliday pointed out that she told him that she had told Daniel about Quinerly slapping her.

Funeral services were conducted Sunday at 3:30 p. m. at the Christian Hope church by the Rev. Robert Lee, her pastor of Williamston. She was also buried in the Hamilton cemetery. B. Nickens, pastor of Ludford Memorial Baptist Church of Plymouth and the Rev. W. B. Harrington of this county. Interment followed in the family plot in the church cemetery.

common jail. Two were booked for assaults, two for public drunkenness, one for breaking and entering, one for operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license and one was detained when his bondsmen withdrew. Three of the seven were white and the ages of the group ranged from 23 to 47 years.

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