

Farm Bureau Still Working on Potato Market Program

Membership Drive, Just Short Of Its Goal, Extended a Few Days

The Martin County Farm Bureau is still working on a program promising a better marketing system for sweet potatoes, directors of the farm organization were told at a meeting held in the agricultural building last Friday evening.

As a member of the committee named to investigate the possibilities of establishing a regular market in the county, M. M. Levin stated that he had visited the northern markets, that he was assured dealers there would handle every No. 1 potato grown in Martin County. Mr. Levin stated that market outlook for sweet potatoes was very encouraging, that the potato of the type grown in this county was selling as high as \$3.50 per bushel.

Mr. Levin learned that the Martin County sweet potato is known in the northern markets, but that it has all but disappeared because there was no marketing program near the producers. He pointed out that under a unified program, farmers could produce from 90 to 95 percent No. 1 potatoes, convert the No. 2's to the bakeries and the jumbos into stock feed. It was also explained that certified seed are necessary and that the potatoes must be packed according to U. S. standard grades.

Local farmers at the meeting stated that they had sold some potatoes to truckers this season for \$1.25 a bushel, one grower explaining that his crop would hardly measure up to the best standards. He voiced the opinion that money could be made from sweet potatoes, but that certified seed and a marketing program are necessary.

The committee will continue its study looking forward to establishing a marketing program and (Continued on page eight)

Henry C. Crawford Passes In County

Henry Calvin Crawford, farmer-fisherman, died at his home in Bear Grass Township about 8:00 o'clock Sunday morning. He had been in declining health for some time, but was getting along as well as usual until Saturday night. When his condition became worse Sunday morning, he got up and was on his way to a doctor when he died on the porch.

He was born in Pitt County on April 5, 1896, a son of the late W. H. and Clemmie Nobles Crawford. He has spent most of his life in this county and was a World War I veteran.

Surviving are four brothers, W. F. Crawford of Everetts, A. G. Crawford of Portsmouth, G. W. Crawford of Norfolk and W. T. Crawford of New York; and three half-brothers, Henry Crawford of Rocky Mount, J. F. Crawford of Gastonia, M. A. Crawford of Washington, D. C.

Funeral services were conducted in the Biggs Funeral Home here Monday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock by Rev. John L. Goff, and interment was in Woodlawn Cemetery.

BENEFIT DANCE

In preparation for its annual benefit for underprivileged children the Junior Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a fund raising dance in the High School gymnasium tomorrow night from 10:00 'til 2:00 with music furnished by Harold Grant and his E. C. T. Orchestra.

As has been the practice of the "Jaycees" for the past number of years, a large Christmas Party will be given for over half a hundred underprivileged children. This dance and other money making projects will be used to make this the largest party

Court Opens Two Week Term To Try Civil Cases Only

Plans To Recess Not Later Than Wednesday Until Next Monday

Dispensing with all formalities including handshaking and weather discussions, Judge W. H. S. Burgwyn of Jackson opened a two-week term of the Martin County Superior Court Monday for the trial of civil cases.

All but five of the thirty jurors called for service the first week took their seats, the judge excusing several on account of illness or for other valid reasons. N. R. Roberson was excused on account of illness. W. G. Leary, it was learned, had moved out of the county. T. L. Harrell, called from Goose Nest Township, failed to answer and the court fined him \$25. Mrs. B. E. Anderson of Robersonville and Mrs. Paul Holliday of Jamesville were excused because they have children under twelve years of age. E. L. Fields, colored man of Goose Nest, submitted a doctor's certificate and it was recognized.

J. W. Garris, explaining that he was foreman of an electric line crew of fourteen men, asked to be excused. When he explained that he had never served as a juror, Judge Burgwyn said "I'm going to give you the opportunity to get a taste of it now," adding that he might consider an excuse later in the term.

"It is the duty of every citizen, rich or poor, to serve as a juror when called upon," Judge Burgwyn said.

After studying the calendar a few minutes, Judge Burgwyn explained that the trial should be planned to permit the court to recess not later than Wednesday noon for Thanksgiving. The court is to resume its work next Monday.

Quite a few cases were continued, including three divorce actions, Cloman against Cloman, Chance against Chance and Howard against Howard. Members of the bar explained that several civil actions had been settled by agreement or were nearing settlement. It is apparent that the court proceedings will attract very little attention. Very few spectators were in the courtroom for the first sessions. When the jurors were called to their seats, one side of the court room was left almost empty.

Five divorces were granted before noon, two to white and three to colored plaintiffs, as follows:

Chas. Rhodes from Rose Lee Rhodes, Mandy Eborn from Julius Eborn, Lolla V. Phelps from Claude J. Phelps, Jr., Mary Elizabeth Cherry from Elijah Cherry, Jr., Betsy A. Harrell from David R. Harrell, Jr. All the divorce actions were granted by Judge Burgwyn.

(Continued on page eight)

Volunteer Firemen Called Out Early This Morning

Volunteer firemen were called out at 4:00 o'clock this morning when a motor on a refrigerator in an upstairs apartment in the M. S. Moore home here on Simmons Avenue caught fire and filled the house with smoke.

The fire itself did very little damage, but it is thought that the smoke will run the total loss up.

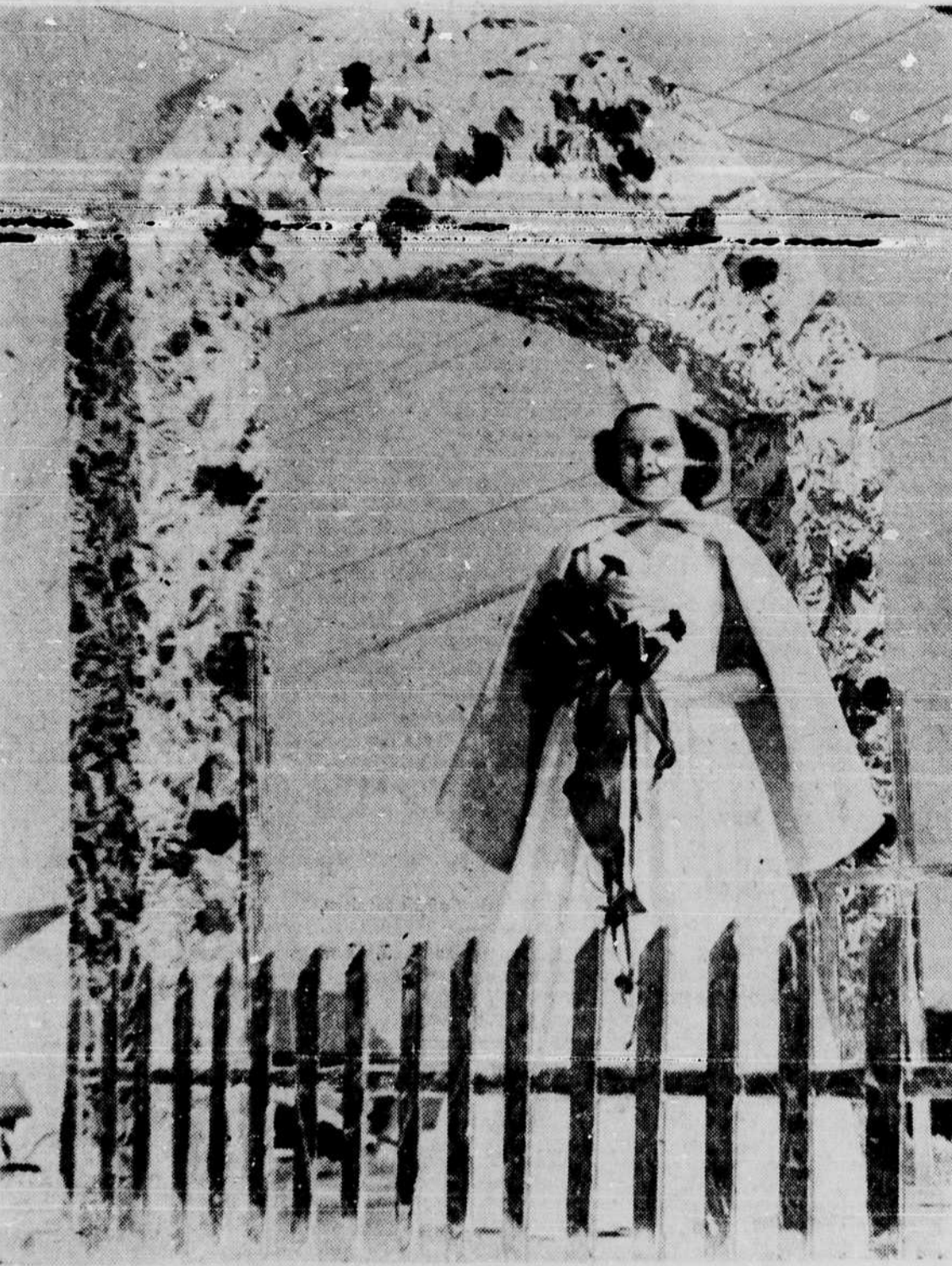
Thanksgiving A General Holiday

Thanksgiving day will be observed as a general holiday. All business activities with the possible exception of heavy industry will be suspended for the day.

No public program has been planned for the day other than a union worship service which is to be held in the Presbyterian church that morning at 10:00 o'clock. Rev. Stewart B. Simms, pastor of the Memorial Baptist Church, will deliver the message, and the public is invited to worship there.

The season opens for taking quail and rabbit and individual hunters are expected to turn to the fields and woods in this section in large numbers.

Senior Queen Of Peanut Festival Here



(Photo by courtesy Royal Photographic Center)

Miss Katie Leggett, member of the Martin County Welfare Department office staff, was senior queen of Williamston's first annual Peanut Festival. She is pictured above standing in the archway of the float entered in the parade of more than a mile by the Williamston Boosters.

Intruder Enters Gold Point Home

No one was hurt and no great damage was done, but the little town of Gold Point was greatly disturbed last Saturday night and early Sunday morning when intruders entered two homes there.

An intruder was seen leaving the Pauline Bennett home that night about 8:00 o'clock. No one was at home at the time and an investigation revealed that nothing had been stolen.

Going to the James Johnson home about 4:00 o'clock Sunday morning, a burglar cut the screen wire on a back door, unlatched the hook and entered, going to Mrs. Johnson's bed room. Awakened by the light of a flashlight, Mrs. Johnson screamed and the intruder ran out the back door before other members of the family could get up. The intruder, wearing a large brown, checked cap pulled well down over his face, ran around the house, down the highway about 100 yards and got into an old model car, driving away in the direction of Robersonville.

The sheriff's office is investigating the case, but they declared there was little to work on, that even the tracks of the intruder had been almost wiped out by the children playing in the yard.

MEETING

A large number is expected to hear Dr. John D. Messick, East Carolina Teachers College president, when he speaks in the local high school auditorium tonight at 8:00 o'clock.

Numbered among the State's leading educators, Dr. Messick is certain to bring a timely and informative message.

Bill Spivey, president of the local P.-T. A. pointed out that the meeting tonight is taking the place of the regular November meeting of the organization.

PRIZE WINNER



Dressed as a Gypsy, Little Miss Willie Jane White, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. O. White of Williamston, won first prize for the cutest child over three years of age in the Peanut Festival baby parade here last month. Her prize, a bag of peanuts donated by the Williamston Peanut Company, netted her \$15.

G. H. Harrison Improving In Rocky Mount Hospital

Removed to a Rocky Mount hospital last Thursday evening, Mr. G. H. Harrison, Sr., was reported early today to be responding to treatment. It was stated that his condition was much improved. However, it could not be learned when he'll be allowed to return home.

Firemen Called To Home On Pine Street

Firemen were called out last Saturday afternoon at 3:45 o'clock when a fire, starting from a spark, threatened the home of Mrs. Maggie Daniel on Pine Street. Very little damage was done to the roof.

Family Reunion In Bear Grass

Five Generations Represented at Dinner Honoring Mrs. Brown, 91

It was a happy time Sunday when five children and most of forty-one grandchildren, seventy-four great-grandchildren and six great-great-grandchildren of Mrs. Jessie Ann Brown held a reunion planned especially to honor her upon her 91st birthday. The event, held under ideal weather conditions at the home of Mrs. Brown's son, Mr. W. A. Brown and family, attracted more than one hundred descendants from quite a few counties in North Carolina and two or three in Virginia.

Unusually active and ignoring the aid of even a walking stick, Mrs. Brown who gladly delayed the celebration of her 91st birthday from the Tuesday before until Sunday when more of the family could be present, got around, possibly more sprightly than some of the members of the third generation, and she greatly enjoyed herself as well as all the others there.

No program was planned for the day, but members of the family, many of them meeting for the first time in many months, had a great time exchanging greetings and talking over events of the past and present. Mrs. Brown, referred to lovingly by all as Grandma, still offered a firm handshake when the last relative or friend greeted her. She was all about the place, stopping just long

(Continued on page eight)

Funeral Saturday For H. O. Jarman

Funeral services were held at the home on Williams Street last Saturday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock for Harry O. Jarman, well-known local citizen, who died suddenly in his sleep early last Thursday morning. Rev. John L. Goff, his pastor, conducted the last rites and interment was in Woodlawn Cemetery.

On The Increase In Martin County

Four Liquor Plants Wrecked And Liquor Confiscated In Raids Last Week

Anticipating a stronger demand during the holiday seasons, operators of illicit liquor manufacturing plants resumed operations on a much larger scale than usual in this county last week.

Four plants were wrecked and a small quantity of the illicit product was found by Officers J. H. Roebuck and Roy Peel.

Starting their clean-up drive last Tuesday, the officers wrecked two plants in Bear Grass Township. Each was equipped with a 50-gallon oil drum still. The raiders poured out 100 gallons of beer at one plant and 150 gallons of sugar mash at the other.

Striking in Griffins Township Thursday, the officers wrecked a large plant equipped with two 200-gallon capacity wood stills of the submarine type, 10-gallon keg caps, a 250-gallon doubler, a 100-gallon cooling box, twenty 50-gallon fermenters and one 300-gallon box. The operators had 100 pounds of rye meal, fifty gallons of oil, sixteen 5-gallon jugs and two sets of oil burners.

That afternoon the officers raided along the Martin-Beaufort boundary and found and destroyed a partial plant which was equipped with two 50-gallon fermenters.

Saturday evening the officers visited the old park near Parmele and found about five pints of white lightning hid in the bushes just back of the filling station store. The owner was not around at the time and no arrest was made.

Zeffinah Roberson Died On Thursday

Zeffinah Roberson, retired Martin County farmer, died last Thursday evening at 10:30 o'clock while visiting in the home of his son, Walter Roberson, in Washington County. He had been in declining health for several years and his condition had been critical since Monday of last week.

The son of the late Willie Roberson and wife, he was born near Jamesville 75 years ago on October 6, 1873, and farmed and lived in this county all his life until ill health forced his retirement some years ago. Since that time he had made his home with his children in Martin and just across the line in Washington County.

Mr. Roberson was a member of Siloam Methodist Church for many years, an earnest worker and friend.

In early manhood he was married to Ann Williams. His second marriage was to Florence Jane Williams.

Surviving are his widow and five children by his first marriage, four sons, Will Roberson of near Hamilton, Leiland Roberson of Jamesville, Dempsey Roberson of Plymouth, and Walter Roberson of Washington County; one daughter, Mrs. Allie Wells of Plymouth; fifty-one grandchildren and fifteen great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held in the Siloam Church Sunday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock by the Rev. Mr. Bingham assisted by Rev. W. B. Harrington, county Baptist minister. Interment will be in the Williams Cemetery in Williams Township.

ROUND-UP

Nine persons were arrested and detained and one or two other alleged law violators evaded officers in the county during the past week-end, the jail records show.

Six of those arrested and jailed were charged with public drunkenness and two with drunken driving. One, Raleigh Speller, convicted rapist in Bertie, was held in the jail during the latter part of the week.

One of the nine was white and the ages of the group ranged from 19 to 48 years.

Buy Tract Of Land For Local Cemetery

RESIGNS



Rev. John W. Hardy, rector of the Church of the Advent and popular citizen of the town for the past eleven years, tendered his resignation at a meeting of the vestry Sunday morning to accept a call to St. John's, Wilmington's second largest Episcopal church. The resignation, reluctantly accepted, is effective as of January 15.

Make Plans For Friendship Train In Martin County

All Interested Citizens Are Asked To Meet In Courthouse Next Monday

Martin County will make plans for participation in the North Carolina Friendship Train on Monday, November 29, at 7:30 in the courthouse. Working through the Christian Rural Overseas Program (CROP), counties throughout North Carolina will in the next few weeks appeal to farm people for gifts of food and farm products for the needy overseas.

The Martin County meeting will choose a county chairman and other officers to set up the organization necessary for the collection, decide dates for canvassing and collection, and the types of food to be sought in the county. Among those invited are leading farmers, rural and urban ministers, leaders of the Grange and Farm Bureau, representatives from civic organizations, the radio and press, school principals, the county school superintendent, agricultural teachers, home demonstration club leaders, and county and home agents. The county agent and home demonstration agent are acting as convenors for the meeting.

Present plans call for the North Carolina Friendship Train to be assembled in Salisbury the first week in December and then travel eastward through Greensboro, Raleigh and Wilson, N. C., thence to Norfolk, Va. Freight cars will be placed on sidings in the various counties of the state and will be shipped to points along this route to become a part of this Friendship Train.

CROP, sponsored nationally by Church World Service, has in one year of operation been responsible for the collection of nearly a dozen trainloads of food stuffs for the hungry people abroad.

Slightly Injured In Intersection Wreck

Norman Hopkins, young white man, was slightly hurt about his hands and leg when his motorbike and a 1948 Kaiser, driven by Hezekiah Price, crashed at the Main and Haughton Street intersection last Wednesday night. No definite estimate on the damage could be had, but repairs, according to one report, are likely to cost more than \$100 to the two vehicles.

Price, driving east on the street, started to make a left turn and the motorbike crashed into the side of the car.

Program Will Add Fifteen Acres To Present Property

Contract Let For Pumping Equipment For New Deep Well

Meeting in special session last Friday morning, Williamston's town commissioners purchased fifteen acres of land from Mrs. Walter Halberstadt and will incorporate the tract as a part of Woodlawn Cemetery. The sale price was fixed at \$12,000 for the entire tract, the town to pay one-fourth down and the remainder over a period of years. The debt is to carry an interest rate of about three and one-half percent.

The four commissioners present at the meeting favored the purchase, but some of them expressed the opinion that the price was too high. However, it was agreed that possibly the price was a fair one, that condemnation proceedings and court costs would boost the price even higher.

The action was taken when the board was advised that just about every available lot in the old cemetery had been purchased, that nearly 100 applications had been filed for lots in the cemetery, many by people living outside town.

At the present time lots are being sold for \$30 to \$40 but it is fairly certain that the sale price will be boosted possibly to \$80 or \$100 for 20x20 plots. It is estimated that the new addition will provide between 950 and 1,000 plots.

Just as soon as the papers are cleared, engineers will map and plan the cemetery. The house on the property will likely be used for a caretaker's home, it was explained.

With only a very limited number of plots available, the town (Continued on page eight)

Two Accidents In County Last Week

Several persons were hurt, one believed seriously, in one of two accidents reported on the highways in this county last week-end. Damage was estimated at \$900 by Patrolman B. W. Parker.

Billie Boyd, colored, and his companion passenger were only slightly hurt when the 1936 Ford borrowed from William Paige and driven by Boyd, turned over on the newly surfaced road running by the prison camp to Highway 903 in front of the Dewey Mobley home last Thursday night about 10:30 o'clock. Damage to the car was estimated at \$200.

Three Marines, traveling in a 1941 Buick to spend the weekend at their homes in Maryland, were injured, one believed seriously, when their car skidded off Highway 125 between Oak City and Hobgood last Friday evening at 6:00 o'clock. The car plowed into a ditch and most of the car top was torn away. Treated in a Greenville hospital, the injured were later removed to a Marine Corps hospital. Damage to the car was estimated at \$700.

ELECTIONS

Meeting in their respective communities on Friday evening of this week at 7:30 o'clock, Martin County farmers will nominate men from their own groups for positions on the Triple A Community Committees and delegates to the county convention which will select the county committee for the coming year.

All farmers are eligible to attend and participate in the nominating conventions.

The nominees will be voted on in an election to be held on Thursday, December 2. The delegates to the county convention will elect the county committee on December 2.