THE ENTERPRISE IS READ BY OVER 3,000 MARTIN COUNTY FAMILIES TWICE EACH WEEK

THE ENTERPRISE

VOLUME LI—NUMBER 97

Tragedy Hit Home Advance Plans For Sweet County Officers In Griffins Last Potato Market In County Thursday-Morning Plans for establishing a recog- in the country, was asked to in-

day for Fenner Hardison, Jr., 11 Months

time in this county within a few days when Fenner Lesco Hardison, Jr., eleven months old, was choked to death in his crib at the home of his parents in Griffins Township last Thursday morning at 11:00 o'clock. It is not certain whether the little fellow died of a broken neck or was choked to death. He was pronounced dead when he was brought to the local hospital by his mother and Rev. W. B. Harrington, a neighbor.

Placed in his crib about 9:30 o'clock that morning, the little fellow was found sleeping soundly when Mrs. Hardison went to the room during several intervals between 9:30 and 10:30 o'clock. About 11:00 o'clock she quit her work in the kitchen and went to the room again, finding the child with his head caught between the frame and the hinged lid of the crib. Apparently just a short time previously the child had awakened, raised up and pushed up the loose end of the lid, catching his head between the lid and the frame. If he had cried the mother and his grandmother, Mrs. Della Hardison, were too far away Center This Week to have heard him. He was a large child for his age and an idol in the home.

He was the son of Fenner and Fern Peel Hardison. Surviving besides his parents are two sisters, Annie Jean and Betty Lou Hardison.

Funeral services were conducted in the Piney Grove Baptist Church last Friday afternoon at Chairmen Jesse W. Sumner and 2:30 o'clock by the family pastor, Mayo Little said Sunday follow-Rev. W. B. Harrington, assisted ing a meeting of the county comby Elder P. E. Getsinger. Inter- mittee in Robersonville Sunday ment was in the family plot in the afternoon. Hardison Mill Cemetery.

Another child, nine-teenmonth-old Roger Eugene Roberson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Roberson, was choked to death by a small piece of pecan meat the Sat- eries at once, the chairmen said. urday before.

nized sweet potato market in Mar- vestigate machinery costs and Funeral Service Held Fri- tin County were advanced an- other factors incident to establishing the market. Mr. Levin plans other step last Friday when mema trip to the south shortly and bers of a special Farm Bureau while there he will make investi-

Tragedy struck for the second Committee met and discussed the gations for the committee. purchase of certain equipment | The outlook for the sweet pota-

and the introduction of certified to market is improving and should seed. The action was taken sub- continue to improve after the ject to approval by a mass meet- holiday season, and some marketing of farmers and other interest- ing specialists are recommending packed with much feeling Moned citizens to be held in the coun- to growers to be in no hurry to ty the latter part of December or sell.

Plans for the mass meeting will early in January. It was pointed out that no huge be announced later. During the amount of money would be need- meantime farmers and others in- promptu statements as they turned to establish a market, that pos- terested in this section's economy sibly machinery necessary for are invited to consider the effect grading and packing potatoes a 22 percent reduction in peanuts could be had for a nominal sum. will have along with curtailed to-M. M. Levin, a member of the bacco acreage, and the potential committee and one of the best value sweet potatoes will offer as

Clerk Of Court Swears In Commissioners After A Formal Fashion

Informal exercises, marking the end of a long period of service for two members of the Martin County Board of Commissioners, were day morning when Messrs. R. A. Haislip and Joshua L. Coltrain sat around the table for their last meeting and made a few imed over their chairs to their two

young promising successors and

retired from the commissioners' room. Everything was in a hurry, but the last meeting of the old board, convened at 9:50 o'clock, moved along smoothly, the congenial family that had worked and **Complete Plans For** "sweated" together for so long a time, paying minute attention to the reading of the minutes of the November meeting and inspecting Friendship Offering November meeting and inspecting the November bills contracted by the old group. No old business was brought up for discussion and Messrs. Coltrain and Haislip, retiring of their own accord, withdrew.

> Chairman John Henry Edwards told them that it had been a pleasure to work with both of them, that he knew the people of the Dies In Hospital county were grateful for their work.

Pointing out that he had served as a member of the board twice as long as any other man, Mr. Coltrain said he had served to the best of his ability, that it was good to know the people appreciated those efforts. "I'm going out with the feeling that I did the best retired postal employee and a I could. And while there were a few things I did I now regret, I guess it all worked out for the hospital at 11:30 o'clock Sunday best," Mr. Coltrain said. Conclud- night after a long period of deing his timely and impressive remarks, the retiring official plead- he had received treatment in vari-

Presiding over his first session of the Martin County Re-

NEW JUDGE

Uniform Increase Substituted Start New Term Monday Morning For Revaluation of Real Estate

NEW COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS To Increase Real **Estate Values 10**

Messrs. Henry S. Johnson of Hamilton and C. C. (Frosty) Martin of Jamesville, two of Martin County's promising young men, entered upon their duties as members of the County Board of Commissioners Monday, succeeding Messrs. R. A. Haislip and Joshua L. Coltrain.

HOLIDAY CHANGE

A change in the boliday schedule for all Martin County schools was ordered by the board of education in session Monday. Instead of closing on the 17th and reopening on

ESTABLISHED 1899 **Bernice Rogerson**

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OVER 3.000 MARTIN COUNTY FAMILIES TWICE EACH WEEK

Funeral Thursday In County Church

Young Man Made Supreme Sacrifice In Drive On Rome In May, 1944

Funeral services will be con-Percent For 1949 ducted in the Beaz Grass Primitive Baptist Church Thursday af-County Commissioners In ternoon at 3:00 o'clock for Pfc. Bernice L. Rogerson, young county man who made the supreme sacrifice for his country in Italy Martin County's two new com- on May 26, 1944. The pastor, Eldmissioners, Messrs. C. C. Martin er A. B. Ayers, assisted by Elder Elmer Stevenson and Rev. W. B. ated in the way of local govern-service. Interment will be in Wil-Harrington, will conducted the liamston's Woodlawn Cemetery where a detail from Robersonplexing problems and disposing of Legion Post will be in charge of ville's Murray Cargile American

Long Session Monday

Handling Duties

and Henry S. Johnson, were initi-

ment Monday when the board re-

mained in session until dark, re-

ceiving delegations, handling per-

More than two hours were spent

discussing the advisability of ord-

ering a revaluation of all real es-

Municipal governments had point-

discussing the problem from

a horizontal increase of ten per-

cent on all real properties for 1949

ers and not subject to taxation.

at \$1,100 in 1949.

routine matters.

the military rites. The young man's body, accompanied by military escort, will be tate in the county for taxation. Home in Williamston Wednesday delivered to the Biggs Funeral where it will lie in state until ed out that rising costs were shortly before 2:00 o'clock Wedpressing heavily, that unless there nesday afternoon when it will be were increased values tax rates carried to the church in Bear would have to be upped. After Grass.

every angle, the board voted Bear Grass High School, entered against a revaluation but ordered the service on August 19, 1943, and received his basic training at Ft. McClelland, Alabama. He taxation purposes. In taking the went overseas in January, 1944, action, the board reasoned that it and was killed less than four would make possible some relief months later when the American for automobile owners. It was also forces broke out of the Anzio pointed out that a goodly portion Beachhead and started the big of the current peanut crop would push toward Rome. It was said still be in the hands of the farm- that when the push was launched Under the new provision, a piece weather conditions were affected so many guns were fired that of real estate valued at \$1,000 this and that rain fell for duration of year will be placed on the books the thirty-minute attack and

while the sun was shining bright-Reappointed tax supervisor, M. Iy. The young man was a mem-L. Peel was instructed to proceed ber of Company B, 15th Infantry, on that basis. The supervisor is Third Division of the Fifth Army. to name his township list-takers The division in the course of five soon and they will meet later in months lost approximately 10,the month for their instructions. 000 men, including young Roger-Following the rush, marked by son's neighbor and playmate, Asa the change from an old to a new J. Taylor, who also made the suyear for county personnel, the preme sacrifice during the drive board heard Martin County Re- on Rome.

presentative A. Corey discuss a Pfc. Rogerson, a son of C. Gilfew legislative problems. Mr. bert and Ethel Mizelle Rogerson,



aging, But United Effort

Plans have been completed for filling a box car with food and farm products in this county for starving war victims overseas,

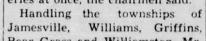
Jamesville, Williams, Griffins, Bear Grass and Williamston, Mr Sumner said that his committees are complete and are working. In several of these townships, the reports stating that he really canvassers will tour designated

Food And Products

posted authorities on marketing a commercial crop.

Vitally Necessary

Plans have been made to store the food and farm products in the depot at Williamston, and some of the solicitors are making arrangements to start making deliv-



Herbert Benjamin Here Late Sunday **Funeral Service Is Being** Held In Presbyterian

Church Today at 3 Herbert Cleveland Benjamin, resident of Williamston for a number of years, died in the local

clining health. In recent months ed with the new members to ous hospitals and was getting work in harmony with the others along very well until about three and urged the entire board to weeks ago when his condition bework in harmony with others in came serious and he entered the

the county, especially the board of education, an agency which Mr. Coltrain and the old board had Coltrain and the old board had the county, especially the board hospital here.

the 30th of this month. the schools will close for Christmas at noon on Wednesday, the 22nd, and reopen on January 3. The change was ordered to make it possible for the schools to complete a full fourth month before Christ-

The board purchased 5 1-4 acres of Stevenson land in Robersonville for a playground and athletic field, paying \$10,000 for the property, including a tenant house.

Superior Court **Quits Thursday**

Scheduled to sit for two weeks for the trial of civil cases only, the Martin County Superior Court folded its tent for the term last Thursday afternoon, scheduling those cases on the Friday calendar for trial during the regular term of the court next week.

Proceedings not previously reported in the special two-week term which actually was in action less than three days the first week and hardly four days last week, follow:

In the case of Milton James against Willie D. Boston, the jury said that Boston was the owner of the steers, but that he was to pay the plaintiff the remainder of the alleged contract purchase price plus interest from 1944.

The case of Joseph Smallwood against George M. Stevenson was placed in the hands of a referee. Claims in the ing involving land lord-tenant will be heard by Befcree E. S. Peel.

A judgment in the sum of \$94.24 of W. M. Baker against R. J. Brock.



Defying the rules of the road, a loose mule, belonging to Clarence Williams, ran head on into the 1942 Studebaker car being driven by William G. Matthews of Robersonville on the Robersonville-Gold Point Highway last Thursday evening at 8:00 o'clock. His head badly cut, the animal fled to the woods and could not be found until the following morning. Patrolman R. P. Narron, investigating the accident, said they looked for the animal three hours that night. Matthews was meeting another car and could not turn out of the mule's way.

No one was hurt but \$65 damage was done to the car.

roads, collect peanuts, corn, pecans and other non-perishable farm food products, and carry them to a township center for delivery in larger trucks to the main depot in Williamston. The canvassers are being asked to keep a record of the gifts and the names of the donors, and turn them in when delivery is made to the

main receiving center. With Mrs. W. C. Wynne and Sidney Beacham as chairmen in

Bear Grass, the work there is pro-Dave Brooks, 75-year-old colorgressing rapidly. Reports from nearly every district in the coun- ed man of the Free Union section ty are very encouraging, but unit- of this county, was ordered held ed effort and hard work will be under bond in the sum of \$5,000

necessary if Martin County is to by Justice R. T. Johnson at a prerank along with seventy other liminary hearing held in the councounties in the State and be re- ty courthouse last Friday evening. presented by banners when the Charged with the fatal stabbing of that Commissioner Edwards was Friendship Train pulls into Nor- his son, George Brooks, on the folk.

It was announced that T. L. Ro- man, a retired seaman, pleaded sioner Martin seconded the Edberson, Eimer Griffin, Lucian not guilty. Represented by At- wards nomination and election Peek maph soules, Delmus nog- torney R. L. Coburn, the accused ers, Lucille Council, H. G. Harri- offered no testimony and smiled was given the plaintiff in the case son, L. A. Bullock, Mrs. Luther at times when the state's witness-Britter, there illie Brown, E. C. es hestatingty onered testimony. Harrison, Mrs. Cecil Leggett and Unable to arrange bond, the old. Irvin Terry are busy in Bear man was returned to jail to await Grass. Other Township chairmen trial in the superior court next have named assistants and there week.

have been quite a few volunteers Deputy Sheriff Murray Hollobut the lists were not immedi- man took the stand first for the ately available. state, and recalled the conflicting

Chairman Little announced yes- stories told by Brooks. The old terday that most of his workers in man first claimed that two men Cross Roads, Robersonville, Pop- brought the son home and threw lar Point, Hamilton and Goose him into the house. The father Nest were busy, that they were said that the son went to bed after canvassing their territory and get- pulling off part of his lothes, that ting a list of gifts. Later in the the son then staggered and fell week they will cover the territory dead. The accused declared that and pick up the food and products the son had crawled to the bed. for delivery directly to the Wil- Following Brooks' arrest on liamston center. Chairman Mayo November 29, a new story was of-Hardison is being assisted in Pop- fered, the old man saying that he part of the car plowed into the lar Point by Mrs. Ben James and and the son had guarreled about ditch, the rear swung around, Mrs. LeRoy Taylor. In Hamilton, food after they had drunk some Chairman Nat W. Johnson is be- liquor, that he (the father) got ing aided in the initial work by J. mad and rushed toward his son. B. Harrington, Melvin Crisp and Something was said about a par-Minton Beach, Jr. Up in Hassell, ing knife, but if the old man had

(Continued on page eight) (Continued on page eight)

corder's Court Monday, Judge ble for them to do so in behalf of spent his early life there, marry-Chas. H. Manning handled a the county's youth. near-record number of cases,

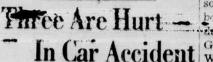
"bore down" on 'em. Under \$5000 Bond In Case Charging hands.'

Him With Murder Father Pleads Not Guilty At Hearing Held Last Friday Evening

son and Martin.

working organization. Commissioner Edwards nominated Commissioner Roberson for chairman, but Commissioner Roberson, countering with the argument more conveniently located, tossed night of November 24, the old the nomination back. Commis-

(Continued on page eight)



Three persons were hurt, none David Whitley. believed very badly, when their car, a 1940 Chevrolet, went out of control and was ditched one-half mile west of Jamesville on U.S. 64 about 12:15 o'clock last Satur-

day morning. Driving toward Jamesville, Joshua Lawrence Williams ran off the right side of the road and the car went out of control, swerving across the road two times before going into a ditch. Patrolman Rowe said that when the front causing about \$500 damage to the machine. Patrolman E. P. Simmons assisted in the investigation Williams was accompanied by Ernie Claude Mobley and Melvin Ray O'Neal, each of them suffering bruises and shock.

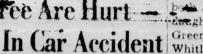
ing in early manhood, Miss Ger-Declaring that it had been trude Elizabeth Murray in 1895. pleasant to work with the board He was a son of the late Julio Home Yesterday members, Mr. Haislip, with a Buell Benjamin and wife, Alice cheery smile, said there is a great Grant Benjamin. He was an en-

that he and Mr. Coltrain were entered government service, loturning their chairs over to "good cating in Lake Village, Arkansas, where the family made its home

until about three and one-half At 10:10 o'clock, Clerk of Court L. B. Wynne swore in the recently elected members, including John Henry Edwards of Wil-Whitley. Mamston, W. M. Harrison of Bear Grass and C. Abram Roberson of

Robersonville, the old members, and the two new members, John-

The board soon perfected its



In Car Accident Greenwood, Mass., and Elizabeth Navy in 1944. He served in the Whitley of Williamston; and two Pacific Theater and was discharg-

Fed by heavy throughout the basin in recent days, the Roanoke River reached 12.4 feet-2.4 feet in flood-at noon yesterday, a report stating that it had dropped one-tenth of an inch but apparently was on a stand shortly before noon today. A second rise is predicted. one report stating that it is likely to reach fifteen feet at this point next Monday. Since the first prediction fell short by more than one and onehalf feet, it is anticipated by some that the second rise will fall a little short '

Dead In Bed At the people of the county as to de-on the farm there.

Robert Clayton Price In Cross Roads

Robert Clayton Price, 35, was years ago when he and Mrs. Ben- found dead in bed at his rooming jamin came here to make their house here on Warren Street yeshome with a daughter, Mrs. Jesse terday morning at 7:30 o'clock deeds-elect, subscribed to the oath His body is the twentith of a

when a member of the family During his stay here he made went to the room to change the Edwards, and entered upon a new have been returned home for many friends and greatly enjoyed bed linens. He is believed to have four-year term. Treasurer-elect burial in native soil. fishing and getting out of doors, died about 9:30 o'clock Sunday R. H. Smith subscribed to Despite declining health, he re- night, the apparent victim of a oath of office that afternoon.

mained cheerful until the end. heart attack. After working much He was a member of the Pres- of the day, he went to his room were inspected and approved, and byterian Church here and his pas- about 6:00 o'clock that evening departmental reports were studitor, Rev. James I. Lowry, assisted and went to bed. He was heard ed.

by Rev. E. R. Shuller, Rev. John snoring a short time later and was Road delegations were received Hardy and Rev. Stewart B. apparently in his usual health. from several sections of the coun-Simms, conducted the funeral The son of Ben and Mamie ty, but before they had hardly service there this afternoon at White Price, he was born in Bear reached home, the board was ad-3:00 o'clock. Interment will be in Grass Township in November, vised by the State Highway and 1913, nad spent his early life on Public Works Commission that Woodlawn Cemetery. Surviving are Mrs. Benjamin, a the farm there and attended previous requests for roads White Martine White provide the service both of Williamston; two grand- seventeen years of age, he moved

sons, Herbert and John Whitley, to Danville, Virginia, marrying ed that the road running off 903 bein of Williamston, two grand- Tillie. Thompson and maxing his at George Ward's honorethence larghters, Eleanor Persons of home there is to entered the east to Old Everett Mill Road via Greenwood, Mass., and Elizabeth Navy in 1944. He served in the (Continued on page eight)

great-grandsons, Herbert, Jr., and ed in early 1946, locating in Williamston where he had since been Slightly Hurt In associated with his brother, Opheus, in the operation of a filling station on Washington Street.

Surviving are two children, Nancy and Bobby Price, of Dan- driver, suffered slight chest in- baby seat in the front, made the ville; his mother, Mrs. H. P. Wob- juries, when the machine he was flip without moving from the spebleton; two brothers, Opheus driving went out of control and cial seat. Mrs. Sandler suffered Price of Williamston, and Dallas turned over near here on U. S. slight bruises and shock. Price of Danville; a half-brother, 64 last Thursday afternoon short-Virgil Wobbleton of Cross Roads; ly after 5:00 o'clock. and a half-sister, Mrs. Calvin Broomfield of Danville.

ducted at the home of his mother out of control. The trailer jack- toward their home in Brooklyn. Tuesday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock knifed and turned over, the load by Elder A. B. Ayers and Rev. W. of logs falling on and damaging B. Harrington. Interment will be the truck about \$800 according to in Woodlawn Cemetery here. His death was the second trace- J. T. Rowe and E. P. Simmons Sr., mayor of West End with

able to heart trouble among com- who made the investigation. paratively young men of the town The truck was owned by Wil- at his home there, it was learn in recent days, liamaton Lamber Company.

Corey asked that he be instructed was born in Bear Grass on March as to the wishes of the board and 25, 1923, and spent most of his life sired legislation in the next Gen-

Surviving besides his parents, eral Assembly. He briefly touch- are six sisters, Mrs. J. A. Lilley ed on proposed changes in the hog and Mrs. Elbert Griffin of Wilvaccination law, the ABC system, liamston, Mrs. D. E. Whitehurst deal of satisfaction in knowing gineer as a young man, and then Funeral This Afternoon for pay for jurors and commissioners. of Norfolk, and Misses Grace, No suggestions were definitely Janie and Louvenie Rogerson of advanced, but the county asked the home; four brothers, Mack G. that a law be passed empowering Rogerson of Bethel, Samuel M. the board to revalue real proper- Rogerson of Williamston and Carties either in 1950, 1951 or 1952. roll G. and John P. Rogerson, J. Sam Getsinger, register of both of the home.

of office before Chairman J. H. Martin County young man to

Bonds of the various officers Auto Turns Over **Near Here Sunday**

One person was slightly bruised and shocked, but three others escaped without a scratch when their car, a 1947 Oldsmobile, turned over on U. S. Highway, two miles south of here Sunday short-

iy before noon. Jos. Sandler, accompanied by A Robersonville delegation ask-his wife and two children, was driving north on the road when the children willed off the back scar and a foor of the She screamed and Sandler looked back to see what was the matter. During the meantime the car ran onto the left shoulder of the road. Truck Accident He applied brakes and the car skidded to the right side and turn-He applied brakes and the car ed over, stopping right side up. Willie James Melton, log truck The Sandler baby, occupying a

> Patrolman B. W. Parker investigated the accident and estimat-

The truck, loaded with logs, ran ed the car damage at \$250. The off the right side of the road and Sandlers, their car battered and Funeral services will be con- then swerved to the left and went bent, were able to continue in it

IMPROVING

Suffering with a heart condition estimates furnished by Patrolmen for four weeks, Mr. Exum Ward portfolio, is improving right along late vesterday.

ROANOKE FLOOD rains