

Prominent Farmer Died At His Home In County Sunday

Funeral Tuesday Afternoon In Cross Roads Township For Henry Daniel Peel

Henry Daniel Peel, prominent citizen and a leading farmer in this county, died at his home in Cross Roads Township Sunday morning at 12:30 o'clock of a heart attack. He had been in declining health for four or five years but continued very active until the early part of last week when he suffered another attack. His condition had been critical since that time and the end was expected. He attended to business in Williamston on Monday of last week and was in his usual health at that time, returning home to handle a few duties on the farm. He was stricken Tuesday morning.

The son of the late Stanley and Marina Peel, he was born in Cross Roads Township 73 years ago on December 3, 1875, and lived and farmed there all his life. He was married on December 2, 1896, to Miss Ida Harris who died twenty years ago. One son, Lester, was born to the union and he died six years ago.

Surviving are one sister, Mrs. Minnie Bowen of Williamston and twenty-nine nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were conducted at the home Monday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock by Elder A. B. Ayers assisted by Elder E. C. Stevenson and Rev. James I. Lowry. Interment was in the family plot in Williamston's Woodlawn Cemetery.

In addition to his farming operations, Mr. Peel was active in educational, governmental and business fields. He served several terms as a member of the Martin County Board of Commissioners and was a bank director at Williamston and Everetts. He also served as president of the old Roanoke Tobacco Warehouse Co. for many years.

Mr. Peel was best known probably as a supporter of education. When a special tax district was created some years ago for the Bear Grass School, Mr. Peel, although he lived in another township, asked that his land be included and made subject to the special tax, explaining that while he had no child of his own in school he wanted to see other children get the best advantages possible. That and many other unselfish acts marked his character. Although he walked humbly and unpretentiously through life, his good deeds live on to honor his memory. He was devoted to his home and friends and was a valued neighbor, one who always acted in behalf of his fellowman and for the finer ideals in life.

County Officers Wreck Four Stills

Raiding in two county townships last week, ABC Officer J. H. Roebuck and Deputy Roy Peel found and wrecked four liquor stills and poured out several hundred gallons of beer.

In Robersonville Township, the officers were substituting a 50-gallon capacity copper kettle for an oil drum, and the officers wrecked both along with three fermenters and equipment. They poured out 100 gallons of beer.

Not far from the first site, the officers wrecked a third plant equipped with an oil drum, oil burner and two fermenters. They poured out 100 gallons of beer.

Last Friday an oil drum and six fermenters were destroyed at a plant in Bear Grass Township, the officers pouring out three hundred gallons of sugar beer.

ROUND UP

An even dozen persons were arrested and detained in the county jail over the weekend. All the defendants were involved in liquor law cases. Six were charged with public drunkenness, three with possession of illegal liquor and three with drunken driving. Three of the twelve were white and the ages of the group ranged from eighteen to thirty-two years.

Five Generations



Pictured above are Mrs. Jessie Ann Brown, 91, holding her great-granddaughter, Little Miss Elizabeth Gurganus, and (left to right standing) her daughter, Mrs. H. A. Jackson, granddaughter, Mrs. L. J. Beddard, and great-granddaughter, Mrs. Henry C. Gurganus. Mrs. Brown was guest of honor at a family reunion held at the home of her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Brown, in Bear Grass recently. All of her five living children and most of her forty-one grandchildren, seventy-four great-grandchildren, and sixty great-great-grandchildren were present.

Wm. J. Johnson Dies In County

William J. Johnson, well-known county farmer, died at his home near Oak City last Saturday night at 11:00 o'clock. He suffered a stroke of paralysis about three weeks ago and little hope was held for his recovery.

He was born in Goose Nest Township 58 years ago, the son of the late William J. Johnson and wife. He lived and farmed all his life on the old home farm.

Surviving are his widow, the former Miss Carrie Hyman; three daughters, Mrs. A. D. Beckstrom of Oak Park, Illinois, Mrs. Jarvis Whitefield of Robersonville, and Miss Margaret Johnson of Fayetteville; two sons, Ernest H. Johnson of Robersonville, and William J. Johnson, III, of Oak City; one brother, Thomas H. Johnson; three sisters, Mrs. W. A. Praise of Charleston, S. C., Mrs. S. E. Casper of Charlotte and Mrs. James Rawls of Oak City.

Funeral services were conducted at the home Monday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock by the Rev. C. J. Heines, Baptist minister of Oak City and Hobgood, assisted by Rev. J. P. Harris, Bethel Baptist minister, and Rev. J. M. Perry, pastor of the Robersonville Christian Church. Burial was in the Oak City Cemetery.

Former Resident Dies In Georgia

Mrs. L. A. Slade, former Williamston resident, died at her home in Roberta, Ga., yesterday morning following a lingering illness. Funeral services will be held there at 3:00 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, friends were advised here today.

Mrs. Slade came to North Carolina with her husband who was engaged in the lumber business in this section for several years during the early thirties. She was a member of the Baptist Church here.

Glee Clubs Plan Special Program

The Williamston High School Junior and Senior Glee Clubs will present a program of Christmas music in the high school auditorium Wednesday morning at 10:30. The Senior Glee Club will sing numbers from the Christmas cantata "Chimes of the Holy Night." Parents and other members of the community are invited to hear the program.

VOTES FOR TRUMAN

Following up the mandate of the people advanced in the November election, Presidential Elector Hugh G. Horton, local man representing the first Congressional District, cast this district's electoral vote for President Harry S. Truman yesterday when the State's fourteen electors met in the hall of the house of representatives in Raleigh.

Mr. Horton returned home last night.

Christmas Story Given at P.-T. A.

"The Story of the First Christmas" was presented by the combined first grades to a large audience at the P.-T.A. meeting held last night in the high school auditorium at 7:30.

The program was opened with the signing of "Silent Night" followed by the invocation led by Rev. John L. Goff. After the Christmas program the business meeting was held. Miss Baker's first grade was awarded the attendance prize. Various committee chairmen made their reports. President Spivey expressed appreciation for the cooperation evidenced in planting shrubbery for the grammar school building. The meeting was then adjourned.

The following students took part in the Christmas program which was directed by Misses Lamma Baker, Grace Talton and Mrs. Rudolph Saunders: Herbert Whitley, announcer; Cherry Garis, poet; Hannah Jane Glenn, Mary; Douglas Etheridge, Joseph; Meivin Bowen, Lela Frances Harrell, Joe Griffin and Carolyn Coltrain, readers; Jimmy Bullock, Randy Allen, Griffin Ross, Easley Pace, Burton Jenkins, Earl Umphlett, shepherds; William Harrison, Russell Bland, James Copeland, kings; Polly Bunting, Barbara Roberson, Andrea Edwards, Joyce Moore, June Carroll Beecham, Betty Moore, Barbara Harden, Katherine Johnson, Sharon Harrison, Frances Moore, Frances Peed, Ann Edmundson, angels; Priscilla Daigle, Lillie Mae Delamar, Wil-

Mrs. Roebuck Quite Ill at Hamilton Home

Mrs. Dan Roebuck has been quite ill at her home in Hamilton, late reports stating that possibly her condition is slightly improved. She has been ill with pneumonia.

Superior Court Hears Few Cases Here Yesterday

Murder Charge Against Dave Brooks Being Heard Today

Called for trial of both criminal and civil cases, the Martin County Superior Court cleared only a few cases from the docket yesterday, the first day of a one-week term. The court attracted comparatively few spectators, the small group including the civics class from the Bear Grass School.

Today, the court is working on two capital cases, one charging Dave Brooks with the fatal stabbing of his son, George Brooks, and the other charging Clarence Earl Stevenson with rape. Trial of the criminal docket is to be completed possibly late today and the court is expected to handle a few civil matters, including three or four divorces tomorrow.

No true bills were found by the grand jury in the cases charging R. H. Moore with breaking and entering, and Martha Gray with larceny.

Charged with drunken driving, Wm. L. Hollis was found not guilty. The defendant admitted he was guilty when arrested at his home but maintained he was not guilty when he wrecked his car forty-five minutes before his arrest.

Pleading guilty of breaking and entering and larceny, Samuel Gorham was sentenced to the roads for twelve months.

Lee Rollins, charged with larceny, was found not guilty.

Charged with carnal knowledge of a girl sixteen years of age or under, James Wesley Ormond failed to answer when called. The court ordered that papers be issued for his arrest and continued the case until next March. It was revealed that the defendant was in the army.

The case charging Lollie Williams with drunken driving was continued until next March for the defendant.

Out of respect for the memory of Mr. Henry Daniel Peel, Judge Walter J. Bone, presiding, recessed the court Monday at 1:00 o'clock.

Charged with the theft of an overcoat from Jim Jenkins, Wannamaker James was found not guilty.

Open Short Term Of Superior Court

Judge Walter J. Bone of Nashville, returning to the county after an absence of nearly five years, opened the one-week term of the Martin County Superior Court on Monday morning. While the tribunal was off to a fairly early start, it soon encountered a snag in the trial of W. L. Hollis who was charged with drunken driving.

Commending the county for maintaining a more or less permanent grand jury, Judge Bone told the grand jury that he would make no address or offer instructions, that the court would be glad to give the jury any needed and upon request.

Failing to appear for jury duty, Ernest C. Jones, RFD 1, Williams, was fined \$20. C. H. Beach was excused on account of illness in the family, and Mrs. John Eubanks and Mrs. Johnny Gurkin were excused by the clerk. Other excuses were offered, but none was recognized by the court immediately.

County Man Will Serve Road Term

Sentenced to serve twelve months on the roads by Judge R. Hunt Parker in the superior court last March, Early May Boston was placed on probation for five years at that time. Alleged to have violated the terms of probation, Boston was arrested and he is now starting the term, Probation Officer Gay said.

Boston drew the road sentence for beating his wife. Since that time he has been in court twice and, according to reports, has been drunk several times.

Food And Farm Products Pour In For The Friendship Train

Sees Suffering Among Europe's Needy Children

Newspaper Reporter Declares Children Are In Desperate Need

Returning from Europe a short time ago, Gertrude Samuels wrote in the New York Times the following:

"For the past three months I have toured countries on both sides of the Iron Curtain and I have seen children suffering as children were never meant to suffer. The aftermath of war against the youngest generation is still huge and terrifying. Three years after the war, millions of children are still on hunger rations. Many hardly remember what a hot, nourishing meal tastes like save as a brief luxury of UNRRA-liberation days. Many have never known what milk looks like. Their thin, undersized bodies and pale, patient faces reflect the cruel logic of the occupation and war years. For these are the youngsters who suffered first from systematic malnutrition for at least six years before peace came; then, after the war, took the same pot-luck as their families, living where and how they could. Thus thousands of children, ragged and barefoot, still live in wartime bunkers, bombed-out houses, and dank cellars. . . . Hundreds of thousands are orphans who live in make-shift institutions, little old wise people. . . . Uncounted thousands wait in special centers for artificial limbs which have never come to replace arms, hands and legs. Others are perhaps worse off. . . . the homeless and abandoned who travel a dozen kilometers a day to wherever they hear of food or a bed. . . . The obvious needs are food, milk, coal, liver oil, clothes, shoes, the basic necessities — but who will supply them adequately?"

Dr. Albert B. Coe, noted churchman of Illinois, returned from Europe a few days ago. He declared that millions are still dependent upon church relief for a bare existence. He added, "It is a tragedy to find American people getting tired of helping when millions of refugees, needy orphans and sick are facing acute starvation over there."

It has been said that we in Martin County will all better enjoy Christmas here when we've sent food over there. If you have not contributed to the Friendship Train, see your chairman today or deliver your gift to the center depot in Williamston.

Names of the community committees follows, the name of the chairman, vice chairman, regular member, first alternate and second alternate, appearing in that order:

Bear Grass: H. U. Peel, E. C. Harrison, Elmer Griffin, Ophus B. . . . Cross Roads: H. L. Roebuck, G. H. Forbes, J. F. Bailey, J. Marion Griffin, and G. W. Taylor. Goose Nest 1: H. A. Early, M. E. Hyman, Julian Mizell, Milton Bennett, and R. E. Turner. Goose Nest 2: Jack Smith, Minton Beach, Jr., H. H. Worsley, F. B. Worsley and N. L. Hyman. Griffins: D. C. Gurkin, S. E. Manning, Lester J. Griffin, John A. Griffin, and James B. Harrison.

Hamilton: L. R. Beach, J. H. Lillard, D. R. Edmondson, J. D. Etheridge, and John L. House. . . . Arthur Modlin, H. A. Sexton, G. E. Martin and J. R. Williams. Jamesville 2: R. G. Coburn, R. C. Sexton, Marvin Jones, Seth Davis, and Murry C. Davis. Robersonville 1: S. T. Everett, J. R. Daniels, R. S. Everett, T. L. Roebuck and Hugh Roberson. Robersonville 2: Clifton Keel, R. H. Taylor, H. H. Roberson, J. H. Ross and J. Perkins. Williams: C. L. Daniel, R. J. Hardison, Joe L. Coltrain, Floyd Moore and Paul Harrington. Williamston and Poplar Point: Fisher Harris, V. Urnie Bunting, Roy T. Griffin, M. L. Peel and Mayo Hardison.

Dr. John D. Biggs, the owner, recently modernized the front of the Virginia Electric and Power Company building, and R. Edwin Peel is completing the modernization of Peele's Jewelers' front. The Peele store front is equipped with an all-glass door, the first of its kind installed here.

Car Turns Over Near Oak City

Damage estimated at \$350 resulted, according to an estimate by Patrolman R. P. Norton, resulted when Arthur Morgan's Mercury turned over near the ball park in Oak City last Friday about 9:30 o'clock p. m. No one was hurt and no charges were preferred.

Morgan, driving toward Oak City from the direction of Hamilton, started to make a left turn just as William Johnson, driving a 1940 DeSoto, started to pass. The Johnson car struck the rear fender of the Morgan car, causing the Mercury to turn over on its side.

Fronts On Local Stores Improved

Williamston's main street got its face lifted in two spots recently, the improvements adding greatly to the appearance of the thoroughfare.

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TB SEAL SALE

The annual sale of Christmas TB seals is progressing very well in this county, according to a preliminary report released this week by Seal Sale Chairman Chas. H. Manning.

No reports have been received as yet from the township chairman, but Manning said that the sale of TB bonds and seals in Williamston Township had exceeded \$1,000. He expressed the belief that the county would reach and possibly pass its \$2,000 quota without any trouble. Answers to the direct mail appeals are cordially asked.

Farmers Elected Committeemen In County on Friday

County Group Retained; Few Changes Made In District Committeemen

In a rather listless election held

in the various townships early this month, Martin County farmers elected their Triple A community committeemen, making few changes in the personnel. The duly elected delegates to the county convention, re-elected the Triple A county committee, including Elmer Modlin of Jamesville, Geo. C. Griffin of Griffins, and J. T. Moore of Goose Nest. D. R. Edmondson of Hassell is first alternate and H. L. Roebuck of Cross Roads is second alternate of the county committee.

The district election attracted comparatively few farmers to the polls, the small vote being recognized as endorsement of the leadership. One or two community committees had tendered their resignations and others willingly withdrew.

For the past several years, the committees have had comparatively little to do in establishing quotas, but with a reduction in the peanut acreage promised, the work is certain to increase next year.

The collection center for Williams is being maintained at No. 90 Station, the leaders there stating that they planned to come through on Thursday and Friday of this week.

"We are making good progress in our section," Rev. W. B. Harrington said, speaking for Griffins. Mr. George Griffin, co-chairman in that district, could not be reached for a report, but it was reliably learned that the boys in his side of the district are working, that Griffins will meet the challenge at a fight.

Collection centers in Bear Grass and at Macedonia are active, the leaders there stating that if the other sections of the county do as well as Bear Grass, the box car

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Issues Warning To His Friends

Declaring he was caught fair and square for hunting within 500 yards of high water, Farmer Don Johnson yesterday issued a public warning against the practice. "I hereby warn all my relatives, interested parties and other friends that I looked up the law and found that it prohibits hunting within that distance of highwater, and that means creeks as well as river," Mr. Johnson said.

Officers Ben James and Cecil Bullock in performing their duty, were very courteous and fair, Farmer Johnson said, adding that he wanted to thank them publicly.

Has Major Operation In Richmond Hospital

Mr. Jesse Ambers, for many years city mail carrier here, underwent a major operation in MeQuire's Veterans Hospital in Richmond yesterday. Visiting him there Sunday, Messrs. Clyde D. Anderson, H. H. Cowen, Harry Jones and Robt. Cowen were advised that one of his lungs was to be removed.

Poplar Point Is Promising 5,000 Pounds of Foods

Every District Reporting So Far Very Encouraging, Chairmen Declare

Food and farm produce for the Friendship Train car are literally pouring into the receiving center at Williamston, and if the movement maintains its momentum for a few more days this county will pack a box car solid, Chairmen Jesse Sumner and Mayo Little said yesterday. Reports have been meager, but it is now certain that the township chairmen and their able volunteers have been working and not talking.

Plans are all set for the carload of food and food stuffs to move out of the county next Monday. But there is much work to be done in making the food ready for shipment. Chairman Sumner is calling for volunteers to report to the Coast Line Station in Williamston Thursday evening about 7:30 o'clock and lend a hand in sorting and packing the food and produce. The chairman plans to call on the Jaycees to lend a hand the following night. Mr. Sumner said that he was counting on members of the Lions Club to help Thursday night along with individual volunteers both nights.

The chairman plan to load the last of the food Friday night, meaning that the canvassers are to make all deliveries to the county center not later than Friday of this week.

Township reports are indeed encouraging. Chairman V. B. Hairr at Jamesville announces that over 1,200 pounds of food and farm produce had already been delivered, that his people could be counted on to deliver another 500 pounds by Friday. Mr. Hairr announced that food and produce is being delivered to Sexton's store in Jamesville by those who could not be reached by the canvassers.

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Funeral Service Here Wednesday For Col. Martin

Graveside Rites In Woodlawn Cemetery for Local Young Man

Funeral services will be conducted at the graveside in Woodlawn Cemetery here tomorrow afternoon for Lt. Colonel Wheeler Martin, Jr., who was killed in action over Tokyo, Japan, on March 9, 1945. Rev. Stewart B. Simms, pastor of the Memorial Baptist Church, and Rev. John W. Hardy, Episcopal minister will officiate. The family requests that no flowers be sent.

Colonel Martin was born in Williamston on April 5, 1917, the son of Wheeler and Louie Potat Martin. As a youth he showed much interest in scouting and became the county's first Eagle Scout. Following his graduation from the local high school he attended the Stanton Preparatory School in New York and earned his bachelor of arts degree at Wake Forest College, graduating with the class of 1938. He was a member of Kappa Alpha fraternity. He was associated with the tobacco firm of Cunningham and Staples in Smithfield until March 1, 1939, when he volunteered for service in the U. S. Army Air Corps. His training completed in Texas, he was transferred to the Canal Zone in November of that year, participating in the defense of the Canal until July, 1943. While there he met and married Miss Joanna Cory, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Cory of Lafayette, Indiana, on April 4, 1942.

Returning to the States in July, 1943, he was stationed in Kansas where he trained for participation in the massive air attack against Japan. He left the States for the Pacific Theater in February, 1945, and was stationed on Guam in the Marianas. His B-29 was one of 300 ships that participated in the first low-level fire raid on Tokyo March 9, 1945.

Col. Martin attained the highest rank ever held by a Martin County young man in the Army Air Corps, his interest in progressive air power gaining for him rapid promotions in the service. Surviving are his widow, two daughters, Caroline and Victoria Martin; and his parents, Col. Martin was a grandson of the late W. L. Potat, noted educator in the South for many years, and of the late Wheeler Martin, noted lawyer of this county and Collector of Internal Revenue.

County Young Man Goes To Germany

Pfc. Macel B. Griffin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Griffin of Williams-ton, Route 2, is home for 5 days before going overseas.

Discharged at Fort Warren, Wyo., on Feb. 11, 1947, Pfc. Griffin re-enlisted on July 7, 1948, and was sent to Langley Field, Va. Later he was sent to Kelly Field, San Antonio, Texas, to attend welding school. Having successfully completed his course he is on his way to Camp Kilmer, N. J., and from there he will go to Rhine-Main A. F. Base, Frankfurt, Germany.

When asked what he thinks of the A. F. Pfc. Griffin says he thinks he will be a 20 year man.

SOIL PAYMENTS

The office of the county agent is preparing applications for 1948 soil conservation payments, and are forwarding cards to farmers directing them to report to the office and sign the claims without delay. Quite a few farmers in the county did not qualify for any payments this year, it was explained. Those farmers receiving cards, directing them to report and sign the claims, are asked not to delay since little time is allowed for getting the claims into the state office.

No estimate of the amount earned under the program in the county this year could be learned.