

## Board Classifies Fifty-Three Men For Draft Calls

### Thirty-one Placed In The 1-A Group and Twenty-one in 3-A Group

Fifty-three Martin County men were classified for potential service in the armed forces by the draft board at a meeting held last Wednesday night. Most of those classified were in the 22- and 23-year-old group. Thirty-one were classified 1-A and twenty-one were placed in 4-F, and one in the 3-A classification.

The names of those placed in 1-A and their addresses follow: Alton Frederick Cargile, white, Parme; Ernest Williams, col., Oak City; Charlie Bernard Speller, col., Williamston; Jesse Matthews, col., RFD 2, Robersonville; Jim Noah Jenkins, col., RFD 1, Bethel; James Thomas Mobley, white, RFD 1, Oak City; Leo Reddick, col., RFD 1, Williamston; Garland Bunting, white, Oak City; George Harries Purvis, col., Williamston; Eugene Linton Roebuck, white, Williamston; Melvin Godard, white, Williamston; Clarence Bogle Gainer, col., RFD 1, Robersonville; James Clifton Manning, white, RFD 3, Williamston; Harper Marshall Peel, Jr., white, Hamilton; Willie James Bryant, col., RFD 2, Williamston; Harry Calvin Ayers, w, RFD 2, Williamston; Floyd Spruill, col., RFD 1, Williamston; Etne Claude Mobley, w, RFD 1, Jamesville; Crawford E. Lane, col., Williamston; Hallet Swinson Davis, w, RFD 1, Jamesville; Oliver Lynch, col., RFD 1, Oak City; Burnett Webb, col., Robersonville; Vernon Randolph Moore, w, Williamston; Floyd Brown, col., Williamston; LeRoy Vance Peel, Jr., w, RFD 3, Williamston; Gene Wayland Taylor, w, Robersonville and Davidson; Francis D. Taylor, Everetts; Gordon Ray Hinson, w, Oak City; Oscar Lewis, col., RFD 2, Williamston; George Lester Land, col., RFD 3, Williamston; and Calvin Lafayette Warren, w, RFD 2, Robersonville.

Those placed in 4-F and their addresses follow:

Ernest Daniel, col., RFD 2, Williamston; Russell Sherrod, col., Oak City; William Thurston Lawrence, col., RFD 2, Robersonville; Henry Hoyt Barber, w, RFD 1, Williamston; James Warren Taylor, w, RFD 1, Robersonville; John Sharpe, col., RFD 2, Robersonville; Robert Latham, col., RFD 3, Williamston; David Lee Parker, col., RFD 1, Robersonville; Ponce DeLeon Bullock, col., RFD 3, Williamston; William Bud Taylor, col., RFD 1, Bethel; Clyde Best, col., RFD 1, Bethel; Leo Carr, col., RFD 1, Oak City; Columbus Worsley, col., RFD 1, Oak City; Alexander Crandall, Jr., col., RFD 1, Robersonville; Raymond Albritton, col., RFD 1, Bethel; Junior Jones, col., Robersonville; Elmer Lee Griffin, col., RFD 3, Williamston; James Albert Coltrain, w, RFD 1, Jamesville; James Thigpen, Jr., col., RFD 1, Oak City; Odell Marvin Harrell, w, RFD 1, Oak City; Johnnie Savage, col., Oak City.

## Funeral Held Yesterday For Roberson Infant

Funeral services were conducted yesterday morning at 11:30 o'clock at the graveside in Woodlawn Cemetery here for the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Roberson. Rev. Jas. I. Lowry, Presbyterian minister, conducted the rites.

Mrs. Roberson continues quite ill in a Washington hospital.

## HIGH WATER

The Roanoke, on a small rampage off and on for weeks, continues in flood stage here, Bridgekeeper Hugh Spruill stating yesterday that the stream is now one foot and three inches in flood with the prospect that it will hold to about that point for a week or ten days.

Logging and other activities on the Roanoke have been hampered for some time.

## Seek \$4,700 In County For Paralysis Fund This Year

Its treasury funds depleted by heavy demands during the past year, the Martin County Infantile Paralysis Fund is launching a drive to raise \$4,700 on the 14th of this month, Drive Chairman L. B. Wynne announces.

The amount, it was explained, is needed to pay a current debt of nearly \$1,000, insure treatment of post-infantile paralysis cases and build up a reserve for future emergencies.

Treasurer W. Clyde Griffin announces that the fund spent \$2,059.40 in 1948 for the treatment of new and old cases of the disease. There were two new cases in the county last year and it is likely that costs for continued treatment will run into fairly big figures. Considerable money was also spent last year caring for cases having their origin previous to 1948, it was explained.

## GOES TO WILMINGTON



## Sam P. Woolford Heads Kiwanians During New Year

### Installed Along With Other Officers At Meeting Last Thursday

Samuel P. Woolford was officially installed as the 1949 President of the Williamston Kiwanis Club at the regular club meeting held in the Woman's Club building last Thursday evening, January 6.

Fitzhugh Fussell, Robert P. Monteth and George C. Mahler were inducted into the club offices of Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, respectively. John H. Gurganus, Marvin Britton, Walter Martin, J. T. Llewellyn, John Reginald Simpson, James Bell, Herbert Taylor and Gene Kimball, immediate past president, were installed in office as club directors.

Sam Woolford, manager of the Albemarle District of the Virginia Electric and Power Company, is a graduate of V. P. I. of Blacksburg, Virginia. Immediately following his graduation with a B. S. degree in Electrical Engineering he was employed by the Virginia Electric and Power Company in Norfolk, transferring later to the Suffolk office and on February 15, 1937, he became district superintendent of the Williamston area. Except for about 3 1/2 years absence during the last war while he was engaged by the Armed Services, he has resided in Williamston since 1937.

When accepting the office of president of the local Kiwanis Club Mr. Woolford assured the members that he had no intention of making decisions for the club in directing its policies during 1949. He stated that all matters would be referred to standing committees for their action and recommendations. In this connection he urged all club members to give him their whole-hearted cooperation in making 1949 a successful Kiwanis year in Williamston.

The new club officers were most impressively inducted into office by George Hayes, who is the 1949 Lieutenant Governor of the Sixth Division of Carolinas District of Kiwanis International. Mr. Hayes is a member of the Roanoke. (Continued on page eight)

## Extended Call By Episcopal Church

Rev. Richard L. Sturgis of Williamston has been extended a call by the Church of the Advent here, but no definite answer has been received from the minister.

Said to be giving the call consideration, the young minister explained that he wanted to make certain that his work with ten missions along the Inland Waterway would be supplied before he could reach a final decision.

The minister, a native of South Carolina, is rector of St. Andrew's Church at Wrightsville Beach and serves ten mission points. He was a chaplain in the Army Air Corps for about four years. Before entering the armed service, he served churches in Texas.

## Fewer Marriages Reported In 1948 In Martin County

### Marked Decrease In Licenses Issued To Colored Couples During 1948

The issuance of marriage licenses after hitting an all-time high of 335 in 1946 continued to dwindle last year in this county, dropping from 306 in 1947 to 271 last year. Despite a marked decrease in the number of white marriages last month the total issued to white couples last year was four greater than the count in 1947. The issuance to colored couples dropped from 178 in 1947 to 139 last year. The December issuance was the smallest for that month in three years.

Licenses were issued last month to the following:

**White**  
George T. Ward and Lucille Davis, both of Hamilton.  
Spencer Bullock and Ruth Evelyn Martin, both of Robersonville.  
William David Moore of Hopeville, Va., and Leyta Ozell Taylor of Robersonville.  
Clarence W. Forbes of Robersonville and Doris Marie Hollis of Williamston.  
Simon Daniel Moore of Williamston and Carrie Elizabeth Wiggins, RFD 1, Williamston.  
Ervin Jefferson Manning, RFD 1, Williamston, and Annie Louise Davis, Plymouth.

**Colored**  
Simon Peter Brown and Bessie Mae Hilliard, both of Oak City.  
Richard McNair of Plymouth and Rena Gee of Jamesville.  
Frank Johnson and Elizabeth Anthony, both of Robersonville.  
Woodrow Ruffin and Gertrude Harrell, both of Palmyra.  
Jesse James Clark, RFD 3, Williamston and Clydie Mae Goddard, RFD 2, Williamston.  
Randolph Hugh Ormond and Lillian May Ringgold, both of Williamston.

Charlie Rhodes and Henrietta Walton, both of Robersonville.  
Linwood Russell Parker and Rosa Lee Hardy, both of Robersonville.  
James Bryant and Annie Williams, both of Palmyra.  
David Andrews and Jodie Bell Parker, both of Robersonville.  
Paul Melton Wynne, RFD 2, Robersonville, and Lee Verna Gaynor, RFD 1, Robersonville.  
Elex Smith and Lottie Mae Knight, both of Palmyra.  
Johnny L. Bond and Emma Thelma Mebane, both of Windsor.  
Preston Spruill of Williamston and Estella Andrews of Robersonville.

Gröver C. Williams and Naomi Rascoe, both of Williamston.  
Elijah Spruill and Callie Mae Lloyd, both of Robersonville.  
Lonnie R. Parker and Hattie Sanderlin, both of Windsor.  
Jesse Rankins and Etta Baze. (Continued on page eight)

## Special Program At County Home

The Martin County Home Demonstration Clubs visited the County Home Sunday afternoon, January 9th and conducted an Old Christmas program for the inmates. This has been the custom in the Home Demonstration Clubs for a number of years.

Rev. J. M. Perry, Christian minister of Robersonville, led the group in singing requested hymns. He also gave a talk that was inspiring both to the inmates and the visitors. Approximately 100 people attended.

The home agent, on behalf of the club women, presented to the county home two chairs, one end table, 1 floor lamp, and one magazine rack for use in the sun parlor. A bed lamp was presented to Bill Gardner, brother of one of the club women. Magazines were given by some of the women.

Room to room visits were made and songs and prayers were sung and said as requested. Fruit was distributed to the patients. On the whole this was the most successful program of this type ever held in Martin County.—Reported.

## County Resident Fatally Hurt In Highway Mishap

### Richard Davis Walks Into The Side of Patrol Car At Conetoe Saturday

Richard Davis, young white man of the Gold Point section of this county, was fatally injured when he walked into the highway patrol car at Conetoe at 6:30 o'clock Saturday evening. He died in a Tarboro hospital early Sunday night.

Highway patrol officials are investigating the accident but no formal report was released immediately.

Davis, about 35 years of age, had been to Rocky Mount to see a relative in a hospital there. He got off the bus presumably to spend the night with relatives in or near Conetoe. According to witnesses, Davis, said to have been drinking, started across the highway just as the patrol car driven by Patrolman R. P. Narron approached from the east and another car approached from the west. Narron, accompanied by Patrolman B. W. Parker and another party, said he saw Davis, applied the brakes on the patrol car and pulled to the right. Both of the right wheels of the patrol car were on the dirt when Davis walked into the left front fender near the door. The victim was picked up and crashed into the windshield, apparently suffering a skull fracture and other injuries.

Patrolman Narron suffered a seven-stitch gash on his left hand, and was treated in a Tarboro hospital. Driving at a moderate speed, the patrolmen were en route to Smithfield to pick up a man who allegedly had obtained a new car from a Robersonville motor company under false pretense. The man had been arrested in Smithfield a short time earlier or just before he was to leave for New Mexico, reports reaching here stated.

A coroner's inquest will be held in Edgecombe County this evening at 7:30 o'clock, it was learned here today.

## Accident Victim Funeral Today

Funeral services are being conducted this afternoon at the home near Gold Point for Richard Davis, young man who died in a Tarboro hospital at 8:00 Sunday evening of injuries received in a highway accident at Conetoe the evening before. Rev. J. M. Perry is conducting the service and interment will be in the Strickland Cemetery near Palmyra.

Mr. Davis was born in this county 33 years ago and farmed most of his life. He served in World War II, sustaining a leg wound while fighting in Germany.

Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Ernestine Strickland Davis; a step-daughter, Ruby Gray; one sister, Miss Agnes Davis of Robersonville; and a brother, Bill Davis of Hamilton.

## SMOKEHOUSE KEY

Possibly it doesn't mean a lot, but the key to Martin County's smokehouse, was found in Roanoke River Sunday afternoon when Joe Smith, game warden, dipped a large roe herring out of the stream near the wharf here. It was the first herring catch of the season, meaning that spring can't be so terribly far away.

It was the first time on record that a Williamston fisherman found the key ahead of fishermen at Jamesville. Henry Holliday and Lee Moore dipped the first herring from the stream last year at Jamesville on February 16. Smith decided to try his luck when he saw several fish "strike" near the surface of the water. Using a large dip net he felt three "strikes" before landing the herring.

## Sizable Peanut Deliveries Made To Market Recently

Hampered for months by unfavorable weather conditions, the peanut harvest is now rapidly approaching a climax in the county, unofficial estimates indicating that more than 85 percent of the crop has been threshed and possibly 75 percent marketed.

Deliveries are believed to have reached a new high peak for the season last Friday when an estimated 25,000 bags were handled by the local market. More than one hundred truck loads were handled yesterday at the two cleaning plants and individual bayers' and government warehouses. The streets were blocked during short periods when the peanut trucks became jammed. Twenty-five large loads of the goobers were counted on the yards at the two plants at one time, and unloading operations were continued well into last night. It is reported that just about all the crop can be threshed in three more days, but the weather continues uncertain, and in a few extreme cases there'll be peanuts in the field weeks from now.

While some peanuts are acceptable for the edible trade, most of them are going into oil stock. At one of the plants here pickers were relieved and no effort was made to grade the goobers. Peanuts were dumped into the elevator hoppers, run through the shellers and cleaners and bagged without the help of human hands.

The market is holding firm to government grades, but some of the growers are of the opinion that grading is very strict, possibly more so than it was a short time ago.

## Fund Raising Plans Studied

The local Junior Chamber of Commerce held one of its most enthusiastic dinner meetings last Friday evening, when forty of its members met at the Macedonia Community building and enjoyed a delicious dinner prepared and served by the ladies of the Christian church there.

Following the dinner, the various items of business were handled, the first being the passing of a motion to sponsor a Cub pack in Williamston. President Ward appointed a committee of Jaycees Jack Butler, Jim Edens and Charles Manning to serve in this connection.

A motion was passed that the club president serve as a member of the board of directors of the Williamston Youth Recreation Committee. A report by the chairman of the club's Christmas party for underprivileged children indicated that the program this season was possible the best yet and the local club has been highly complimented by State Chairman Harry Stewart of Raleigh.

A discussion of some potential money-making projects for the club was held. The possibility of a black-face minstrel, with members of the club taking a part, was considered and a committee of Nelson Leggett, Blue Manning and Rex Best was named to investigate and report. Jaycees Frank S. Weaver and James Bullock were named co-chairmen of a dance committee for the next dance to be promoted by the club, possibly around Valentine.

An announcement was made concerning the recognition recently awarded Jaycee Jesse W. Sumner for his outstanding work during the past year in leading Martin County to the top position in the 4-H Clubs Better Methods Electrical Program contest sponsored by various light companies throughout the state.

The fellowship prize, awarded by Jack Mobley was won by Alonza Bland. Hubert Bland was a guest and was recognized for his help at the recent Christmas party. Invocation was pronounced by T. F. Davenport.

## Bear Grass Club Reports Program

At the January meeting of the Bear Grass Ruritan Club, Mr. E. C. Harrison reported the following food, materials, and cash were collected and delivered to several needy families at Christmas.

Fifty-two dollars in cash, nine bags of flour, 4 boxes of oranges, 1 case and 1 bag of apples, 13 lbs of candy, 9 lbs of walnuts, 9 lbs of raisins, 65 lbs. of sugar, 1 case and 12 cans of milk, 10 cans of coffee, 11 boxes of washing powder, 1 load of wood, 1 side of meat, 4 lbs of cheese, 6 qts. of canned vegetables, 6 bars of soap, 5 bushels of Irish potatoes, 4 pairs of socks, and 1 bushel of sweet potatoes.

The Bear Grass Ruritan Club wishes to thank the citizens of Martin County who contributed to this worthy cause. Without their help this drive could not have been a success.

## Pleny Peel Dies At His Home In Griffins Friday

### Funeral Service For Prominent Farmer - Citizen Held On Sunday

Pleny Peel, a leading farmer and prominent county citizen, died at his home in Griffins Township last Friday evening at 7:30 o'clock following a long period of declining health. Suffering a slight stroke several years ago, he partially recovered and was getting along very well until the early part of last week when he suffered a second stroke. His condition had been critical since that time. Making his last visit here a day or two before Christmas, Mr. Peel, 85 years old, was very active and greeted old friends with great pleasure.

The son of the late Noah and Millie Roberson Peel, he was born in Griffins Township on November 20, 1863, and spent all his life on the farm there, working with and for his fellowman and serving his community in various ways. He was a justice of the peace and registrar for many years, but he is remembered best for his untiring work for and loyalty to the Democratic Party. Few men in this county worked more faithfully for the basic principles of Democracy than he did down through the years. He was loyal to his friends and there was always a welcome awaiting them in his home. In addition to his progressiveness in agriculture he was active in religious, civic and political affairs, always doing his bit in an unpretentious way to better his community and county and promote the finer ideals of life. In his humble way he contributed much and demanded little.

His first marriage was to Miss Ida Corey in 1895 and eight children were born to the union, five of whom survive. Gilbert Peel of Greenville, Wesley, Williams and Wendell Peel, all of Williamston. Following the death of his first wife in 1915, he was married to Mrs. Rena Jackson Hardison on September 1, 1918, and she survives with three sons, James, Joseph and Harry Peel, all of Williamston. Also surviving are two step-sons, Jack Hardison of Atlanta; ten grandchildren and a brother, Sylvester Peel, of Williamston.

Funeral services were conducted in the Hayes Swamp Primitive Baptist Church Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock by Elders A. B. Ayers, E. C. Stevenson and W. E. Grimes and Rev. W. B. Harrington. Interment was in the Tice Community Cemetery in Griffins Township.

## Has Close Gamble At Pistol Point

McLloyd Wallace, young local colored man, had a close gamble with death early Sunday evening when Queen Esther Mackie got after him with a .32 caliber Owls Head pistol.

Details of the trouble leading to the assault could not be learned immediately, but officers said that the woman pulled the trigger three times, the barrel of the gun aimed directly at Wallace. There were two bullets in the chamber of the revolver, but it so happened that only one was pulled into the firing chamber.

The Mackie Woman was arrested and charged with carrying a concealed weapon.

The assault took place near and in the Cotton Club on Washington Street.

## ROUND-UP

Seven persons were rounded-up and detained temporarily, at least, in the county jail by various officers over the week-end. The round-up included four drunks, and one each for larceny and receiving, carrying a concealed weapon and issuing a worthless check.

Four of the seven were white and the ages of the group ranged from a low of seventeen to fifty-eight years.