

Hold Funeral For David W. Hardison At Holly Springs

Young Man, Fatally Wounded At Okinawa, Be Buried In Woodlawn Cemetery

Funeral services will be conducted in the Holly Springs Methodist Church Wednesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock for Pfc. David W. Hardison who was mortally wounded in the Battle for Okinawa in the Pacific on May 22, 1945. The young man died in a hospital on the island four days later. Rev. E. R. Shuller, the pastor, will conduct the service, and interment will be in Williamston's Woodlawn Cemetery.

Arriving here early this afternoon from the Atlanta Quartermaster Depot, the body will be carried to the home in Williams Township where it will lie in state until shortly before service time.

The son of Lee D. and Fannie Gurkin Hardison, he was born in Williams Township on February 25, 1925, and spent most of his life on the farm before entering the service. Following his graduation from the Williamston High School in 1941, he attended a business school in Norfolk for one year. Returning home from school he helped his father on the farm until he entered the service on September 28, 1944. At the time of his death he was a member of Company B, 307th Infantry Regiment.

The young man was a member of the church at Holly Springs since early youth. He taught a Sunday school class there for several years and was a leader of youth in his community, where he was held in high esteem.

Surviving besides his parents are two brothers, Henry Hardison of the home community and Ben Hardison of Farmville; and two sisters, Mrs. Lucy Whitehurst of Portsmouth and Mrs. Sallie Martin Bunting of the home.

William G. Leary Passes In County

William Gray Leary, young farmer and respected county citizen, died at his home in Bear Grass Township last Saturday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock of a stroke of paralysis suffered at 3:00 o'clock that morning. He had been in declining health for about a year, but was in his usual health Friday when he attended to a few duties on the farm.

A son of the late Jordan and Louisa Rogers Leary, he was born in Bear Grass 44 years ago and lived and farmed there all his life.

Surviving are his widow, the former Miss Lucy Rogerson; eight children, six sons, Joseph Leary of Beaufort County, Robert, Mack, Albert, Raymond and Elmer Leary; and two daughters, Misses Christine and Mildred Leary, all of the home; and one brother, Jesse Leary of Stokes.

Funeral services were conducted at the home Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock by Rev. Jas. I. Lowry and Rev. John P. Hodges. Interment was in the Cowin Cemetery near the home.

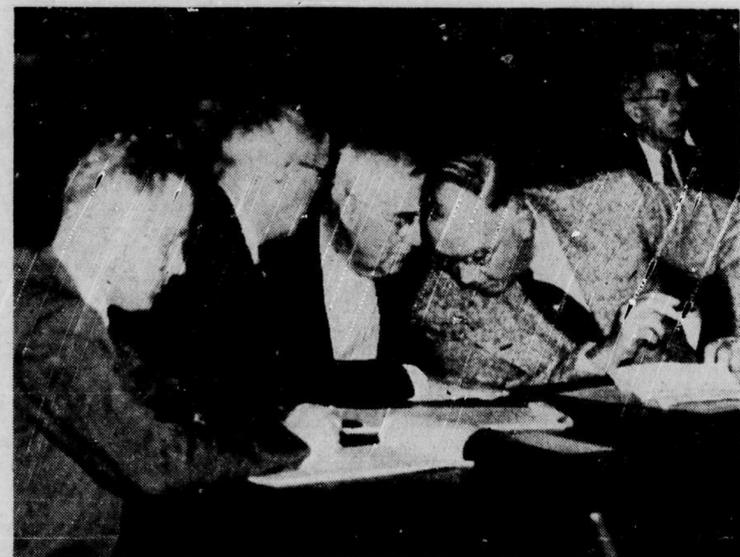
Law To Provide Special Votes

Representative A. Corey last week introduced a bill in the State House of Representatives providing for special elections in school districts in the county with a school population of less than 1,000 for the purpose of levying a tax to supplement schools in those districts of a higher standard than that provided by state support or to employ additional teachers.

The bill, designed primarily to meet a request in the Bear Grass district, would require the county board of education and board of commissioners and the State board of education to approve an election petition before an election could be called. Of course, the final action would rest with the voters.

Today, the representative introduced a bill calling for a change in the distribution of liquor profits to county towns, and another calling for enabling legislation for setting up drainage districts.

Preliminary Hearing Held In Murder Case



Going into a huddle, defense counsel and defendant discuss Justice R. T. Johnson's findings at a preliminary hearing held in the county courthouse last Wednesday afternoon when John R. Coltrain was denied bond in the case in which he stands charged with the murder of W. Tom Roberson, neighbor farmer, in Griffins Township on January 26. Pictured in the foreground are, left to right, Attorneys Edgar Gurganus and B. A. Critcher; Coltrain, the defendant, and Attorney Albion Dunn. Several of the large crowd attending the hearing can be seen in the background, including J. E. Pope, far right, and Tom Cooke's eye shield top left.

Aged Street Problem Here Finally Solved Last Week

The century-old problem surrounding the condition of South Smithwick Street between the railroad and Marshall Avenue has been solved. All paved and gutted with a concrete sidewalk on one side, the street was opened to traffic last Friday evening. Unfortunately, the solution was reached too late for Miss Hattie Thrower and many other old-timers who wended their way around washouts and rotten planks in the old boardwalk year after year, going to and from their homes in New Town, but surely they can now look down on the completed project with sublime approval.

Crossing a large ditch, the street continued in a bad way for years. The town authorities would every now and then build a board walk across the ravine, but time and weather conditions exacted their toll in a matter of months. During repair times, Miss Thrower, as editor of her Eastern Carolina News and later as a member of

The Enterprise staff, would lambast and roast the town fathers for not doing something about the street.

The link was a part of the old post road from Plymouth to Scotland Neck and dates back nearly 200 years. The old road entered the town across the property where Mrs. Kate B. York now lives, continued down Hassell Street, on across the property about where the Guaranty Bank now stands and finally going across the property where Roses' store now stands to enter Smithwick Street at the railroad.

While Miss Thrower and many of the others have passed away, Mr. Joe Godard plans to memorialize the street opening with fitting ceremonies. Details have not yet been announced, but Mr. Godard is looking around for a beaver hat and clothes more fitting than a zoot suit for such an event. The exercises will be brief before the whacking of a pink ribbon.

March Of Dimes Almost Over Top In Martin County

Chairman Reports Total of \$4,435.35 Raised For Paralysis Fund

Submitting a final report this week, Chairman L. Bruce Wynne stated that the infantile paralysis fund drive had gone almost over the top, that possibly a few late contributions will wipe out the fund deficit.

The drive has raised a total of \$4,435.35 had been raised and reported, leaving the drive \$263.65 short of the \$4,700 quota.

The latest tabulation shows that \$1,361.70 was received by direct mail, \$749.86 from 21 colored schools, \$1,778.18 from the nine white schools, \$117.20 from the coin collectors and \$429.41 from three theaters.

While the drive now stands a little short of its goal, there was much good work advanced in handling the drive. Williamston's elementary school led the list with over \$600, but the three-teacher colored Salsbury School reported \$77.00 to make a splendid showing for so small a unit. Nearly all the schools broke the past records. Macedonia's Sunday School contributed \$25 to the fund, and several large individual contributions, some ranging up to \$100, were received.

A detailed report, prepared by the chairman, follows:

Direct mail, \$1,361.70; Colored schools—Hamilton, \$36.60; White Oak Springs, \$22.26; Everetts,

(Continued on page six)

Books Added To Library Shelves

The Williamston Public Library has recently added to its permanent collection a group of books whose subject matter covers a wide range of interests. These books were donated through the Woman's Club by its individual past presidents. The authors, titles, and donors are as follows:

Wise—275, in the short story. Mrs. Jennie S. Moore; Gunther—Inside U. S. A., Mrs. Louie P. Martin; van Doren—The Great Rehearsal, Mrs. Corrie D. Cunningham; Wyck-Mason—Eagle in the Sky, Mrs. Lucy Dunn Biggs; Morse—Book of the White Mountains, Mrs. Evelyn Goodmon; Schoonover—Burnished Blade, Mrs. Arline M. Harrison; Fletcher—Roanoke Hundred, Mrs. Sallie F. Cone; Bradford—Ol' Man Adam and his Chillun, Sharp-Nutmeg Tree, Feuchtwanger-Proud Destiny, Mrs. Fannie C. Staton.

Several other books are on order and will be made available for circulation as soon as possible.

Install Organ In Funeral Home

The Biggs Funeral Home last week installed a Minshall-Estey organ in its chapel here on West Main Street, and renovated its building to seat approximately 125 persons for funeral services. In addition to the seating capacity in the chapel, the owners of the funeral home have set apart a room for those attending services there for a member of the family.

Report Increase In Illicit Liquor Traffic Recently

Seven Manufacturing Units Wrecked In County Last Week

After holding to what was considered normal operations, illicit liquor manufacturing flared up in this county last week, according to a report released this week by ABC Enforcement Officer Joe H. Röebuck.

During the month of January, the enforcement officers wrecked seven illicit distilleries and poured out 2,800 gallons of mash.

The first few days of the current months netted little, but last week an effective drive developed and by early Sunday morning, seven plants had been wrecked. The first in the series was wrecked in Hamilton Township, about four miles from Hassell, where the officers destroyed a 30-gallon oil drum still and poured out 200 gallons of beer. A second plant, equipped with a 30-gallon oil drum, was wrecked in the same section that day. The officers poured out 100 gallons of sugar beer there.

Last Thursday the officers wrecked a 50-gallon capacity oil drum still and poured out 200 gallons of beer in Cross Roads Township on what is known as Gus Lane.

On Friday, the officers invaded Bear Grass and wrecked a 50-gallon capacity copper still and much equipment. There was no beer at the plant.

Going into the Free Union section of JAMESVILLE Township last Saturday, the officers found a brand new plant, equipped with a 50-gallon oil drum still and seven 50-gallon casks. The raiders found 300 pounds of corn meal, but the operators had not had time to mix a brew.

Gaining a lead on other activities that day, the enforcement officer and his assistant, Deputy Roy Peel, returned to the area the next morning about 5:00 o'clock. At the first plant, the operators had finished their brewing activities for the day and departed, leaving a bright bed of coals. The still had been moved, but the officers found part of the equipment and poured out 400 gallons of beer.

At the second plant, the officers found one operator busy firing the still, but he ran right out of his hip boots when Deputy Peel gave chase. The officers wrecked the 50-gallon oil drum still, poured out 100 gallons of beer and confiscated one and one-half gallons of white liquor.

Suspecting an increase in the illicit retail business, local officers have recently conducted several raids on shops and homes, but the raids did not prove successful.

Brief Review Of Work Handled By The Legislature

Very Little Has Been Accomplished, But Increased Activity Is Expected

This is the fifth of a series of weekly summaries of the work of the 1949 session of the General Assembly of North Carolina. The summaries are not intended as a report on all legislation, but are confined to discussions of matters of general interest or of major importance.

It isn't that the legislators have found their chairs too hard yet, for during the early part of any session the daily meetings in the capitol are short. That complaint might apply to the committee room chairs for they have been rendering increasing service during the fifth full week of the 1949 session. It's just that the chairs in the House and Senate chambers are sighing and giving up the ghost after bearing the legislative burden for 101 these many years. Feeling it unseemly that the very seat of North Carolina's government should be falling apart, legislators last week introduced HB 335 appropriating \$4,225 for rebuilding those venerable chairs.

It would be a good thing if this work could be done now, for there is a growing likelihood that debate will be lengthy before this session is over. The committees have been busy and will become busier. The Joint Appropriations Committee will complete its public hearings this week and then go into executive session, probably to bring out its report earlier than did its 1947 predecessor. Since requests before the committee for urgently needed public services far exceed foreseeable revenue, sharp floor debate on its recommendations can be anticipated.

Public hearings will be held during the next ten days on the proposed liquor referendums, and there will be disappointments whatever action the committee takes. Last week, however, the spotlight played on roads and schools.

The identical bills calling for a referendum on the proposed \$200 million bond issue for secondary roads caused great commotion last week though they still lie in the Roads committee. Answering Governor Scott's broadcast appeal, well over a thousand people thronged to the Joint Roads Committee hearing Wednesday afternoon to voice their support of the Governor's program. When the people who live on dirt roads, whose trade comes from those who live on dirt roads, and who buy products for resale from those who live on dirt roads overflowed the House chamber, the Joint Committee was forced to move to the City Auditorium. Those who spoke before the Committee asserted that the only question was whether to submit the bond issue to the people, and in saying so, left little doubt as to how they would vote in the referendum even if it meant increasing the gas tax. Only two bills in the long session opposed the bills, one saying that he was against debt-financing and the other, former Highway Commissioner, F. W. Burroughs, that he thought the present highway building program was progressing fast enough with expenditures from current revenue alone. Their voices may have been mere whispers in the storm, but the effect of the hearing will not be known until the committee reports on the bill.

On Friday morning the House Roads Committee met to consider three bills dealing with the motor vehicle inspection program: HB 5 abolishing the present system, and HB 130 and SE 59, the identical bills reducing the number of inspections to one a year. After considerable juggling, HB 5, offering the clean sweep, was reported favorably and placed on the calendar for February 18. Oddly enough after this decision the other two bills were handed to a subcommittee for further study. Whether HB 5 passes or not, the chances are good that some substitute program will be forthcoming.

In a special message on Thursday night the Governor asked the General Assembly to make the \$30

(Continued on page eight)

Corey Declares Car Inspection A Racket

Says He'll Favor Modified Measure For Vehicle Lane

ROUND-UP

There was comparatively little activity on the crime front in the county over the week-end, the various officers stating that they detained only six persons during the period. Two were jailed for drunken driving, two for public drunkenness, and one each for assault and violating the health laws.

Four of the six were white and the ages of the group ranged from 23 to 51 years.

Hassell Section Has An Unusual Community Club

Affiliated With No National Group, Club Handles A Unique Work

By Robert Haislip, Reporter
The Hassell Community Club met Friday night, February 3, 1949, at seven o'clock in the lunch room of the Hassell school building. This meeting was the seventh since the club was formed in July of 1948.

This club, formed by the men of the Hassell community is unique in that it is not affiliated with any national civic organization.

It was formed last July when a group of men from the Hassell community met in the Town Hall of Hassell to discuss the plight of the "Spuds," Hassell's entry in the Martin County Baseball league. At this meeting the financial condition of the "Spuds" was discussed and the baseball club did receive some financial support. The most noteworthy result of the meeting, however, was that the men of Hassell realized a need for a club which would hold regular meetings to discuss community affairs.

Officers were then elected and a committee appointed to draw up by-laws for the club. The by-laws that were drawn up and adopted at the next meeting of the club were not taken from any national organization. They are rather by-laws which the committee thought were applicable to a club interested solely in community affairs and advancement.

The heart of the club is its Worthy Cause Committee. This committee investigates any cause in the community which it feels should receive attention from the club. The committee then makes recommendations to the club as to what they feel should be done. The club then discusses what action should be taken and a committee is appointed to handle the details. This method has proven a very satisfactory way of helping and contributing help to any worthy cause in the community.

One of the most important of the club's accomplishments are: The club sponsored a boy scout troop in Hassell. The troop has been organized with C. E. Burroughs, superintendent of the Sunday School of the Hassell Christian Church as Scoutmaster.

The Worthy Cause Committee prepared baskets and presented them to the needy families in the community at Christmas.

A pump and the necessary pipe was donated by members of the club to put down a pump for one of the residents of the community who had to carry her water from a distant house. A committee was appointed to put down the pump. Due to the sandy sub-soil and the amount of water in the ground, the committee's first attempt was not successful.

At the last meeting of the club, the purebred hog sale to be held in the county March 4, was discussed. The club decided to buy a pure-bred gilt to be presented to the son of one of the club members. This boy would give the club two gilts from the first litter and a pig chain would be started.

The Hassell Community Club meets once a month, on the first Friday night of each month. At

(Continued on page eight)

Jurors Drawn For Regular Term Of Court Next Month

Almost Certain Special Venire Will Be Drawn For Murder Case

The board of commissioners in their regular February meeting drew thirty persons, including several women and one or two colored citizens, for jury duty during the first week of the regular term of Martin County Superior Court convening the third Monday in March. No jury was drawn for the second week of the term, but the commissioners will get a list at their next meeting in March.

It is almost certain that a special venire will be asked in the Roberson murder case, but there is some doubt if the special group will be selected in this or one of the adjoining counties. The special venire question will hardly be settled until the court is opened on March 21.

Judge Chester Morris of Elizabeth City is scheduled to preside over the two-week term. It will be his first official visit to the county as a member of the superior court judiciary, and the murder case will be one of the few scheduled in his court.

The jury list for the first week of the term includes the names of two women and one colored citizen.

The list follows, by townships: Jamesville: Mrs. Tom Gaines, J. Carl Griffin, Mrs. Leslie Hardison and P. J. Modlin.

Williams: Wesley Hardison, Melburn Hardison and Clinton Jones (colored).

Griffins: Noah Tom Daniel, J. Eason Revels and N. G. Ellis.

Bear Grass: LeRoy Harrison, Warner Bailey, Leamon (Red) Taylor, Willie Hadley and Frank Holliday.

Williamston: Chas. P. Roberson, L. C. Moore, J. W. Hollowell, Jr., Paul V. Jones, Eurus R. Vanderford, W. R. Banks, Marion Cobb and F. Lester Rogers.

Robersonville: Leo Warren, Hassell Warren, Andrew Modlin and Wiley B. Rogerson.

Poplar Point: Willie Weathers, Hamilton: Richard G. Slade and H. A. Haislip.

Former Minister A Feature Writer

Nashville, Tenn.—The Rev. S. J. Starnes, former Williamston minister and now pastor of Davis Street Methodist Church, Burlington, North Carolina, is a featured writer in the February issue of The Pastor, a specialized magazine for ministers of every faith.

Writing under the title "Visiting the Unchurched," Dr. Starnes relates some of the experiences he has had with visitation evangelism. He believes that the visitation-evangelism method frequently wins to the church many persons who ordinarily are not reached or converted by revivals.

He says: "Wherever the visitation method has been properly used, satisfactory results have been realized. Some pastors who have looked upon visitation evangelism with misgivings have become enthusiastic converts to the method once they have given it a fair trial.

"Visitation evangelism is not intended to take the place of the revival in the program of the church. There is a great need for both. But it has been demonstrated that the visitation method is a strong support to the revival in reaching new people. This method, like any other, requires careful preparation, a firm belief in its value and tact in carrying it out."

The Pastor is published at Nashville by the Methodist Publishing House under the editorship of Newman S. Cryer, Jr.

To Assist Taxpayers File Income Tax Returns

A United States deputy collector will be in the local post office on February 21, 23, 24 and 25 to assist taxpayers prepare their federal income tax returns.

He will be in the Robersonville post office on February 21, it was announced.

Minor Wreck On Hamilton Street

No one was hurt and little damage resulted when a car driven by Ellis Burnette of Oak City crashed into one driven by Clifton Hollis on Hamilton's main street at 10:20 last Saturday evening.

Investigating the accident, Patrolman R. P. Naron said he was driving on the street toward Williamston just ahead of Hollis, that he had to run off the pavement to keep Burnette from hitting his car. Before he could turn around, the patrolman said Burnette struck the Hollis car, that it would have been a head-on crash if Hollis had not scampered to his right.

CONTRAST

A year ago this section was digging out of a 15-inch snow, one of the largest recorded in years. Just a year later, the mercury is holding to the high seventies, and there's evidence of springtime on every hand. Some contrast.