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

THE ENTERPRISE

VOLUME LII—NUMBER 23

Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Tuesday, March 22, 1949

Veteran Of World

War One Passes In

Hospital Saturday

and Lenorah Mills Stubbs, he was

THE ENTERPRISE IS READ BY

OVER 3,000 MARTIN COUNTY

MILIES TWICE EACH WEEK

Stresses Service And Secrecy In Address To Jury

Judge Chester Morris Appeals To Jurymen To **Help Check Crime**

that all deliberations in the jury room should be kept secret.

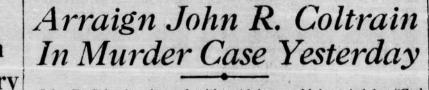
this county's more or less permanent grand jury system, Judge Morris said that some people say the grand jury is outmoded, "but adding that it had been tried time and again, that people should not shun duty on the jury, that service there is a position of honor and trust. "The jury is the guardian of the people, upholding their wel-fare and the peace and dignity of Call 76 Witnesses In your county," he said.

Continuing, the jurist said, "You have been designated as men of good moral character and of mental ability, and you should recognize the confidence placed in you."

The jurist, explaining that they came from every section of the county, pleaded with the jurors to aid the sheriff and other officers in cracking down on criminals, and help maintain law and order and decency. "You are obligated to report to the sheriff any violations of the law that escape the attention of officers, and it is expected of you." he declared.

The oath a juryman subscribes to was listed among the most solemn, "and if you remember that oath. Martin County will benefit when you have completed your work," Judge Morris said.

Stressing secrecy in the grand jury room, the jurist said he had known instances where good men hesitated to bring out facts about law violations because they were afraid their action would be revealed. "I hope you will report any law violations that have es-



John R. Coltrain, charged with said he would be tried by "God the murder of W. Thomas Rober- and country." Coltrain did not son last January 26, was arraign- quiver and stood upright as he ed in the Martin County Superior heard the indictment read. He ap-Court Monday at noon a few min- peared normally interested as the utes after the grand jury, headed names of a two-hundred man-wo-Presiding over his first term of by Foreman I. Jessup Harrison, man venire were drawn and read superior court in this county, returned a true bill charging the in open court.

Judge Chester Morris of Elizabeth defendant with murder in the first The court will start examining ty Commissioners Monday receiv-City Monday in a 45-minute ad- degree. Simon Roberson, brother members of the venire this after- ed very few complaints and movdress to the grand jury stressed of the murder victim and a mem- noon at 2:30 o'clock, or slightly duty as members of both the ber of the grand jury, was dis-grand and petit juries as a moral missed, but seventeen members Where the trial will go from there obligation and went on to declare returned the bill of indictment in is anybody's guess. Some think open court after questioning two the venire will be exhausted todefendants, H. G. Roberson and day without getting a jury and Declaring he was pleased with Henry Roberson, a matter of ten that a call will be issued for a ven-

ire from another county. Others or twelve minutes. Judge Chester Morris, presiding think a jury can be had from the over the term, directed the pris- group by some time tomorrow and oner to stand and raise his right that the trial will be well under I can't conform to that theory," hand while Clerk L. B. Wynne way by noon Wednesday, with the read the indictment. Asked how possibility that it will continue he pleaded, Coltrain, through his until the latter part of the week, counsel, pleaded not guilty and probably Saturday.

Meet As A Board

For April In County

Meeting as a board of equalization and review, the Martin Couned on to handle other business. Crowded out of their quarters by the grand jury, the commissioners met in the clerk of court's vault and did very well in their cramped quarters. The construction of an addition to the courthouse will be completed shortly and the board will not find it necessary to pital at Oteen last Saturday mornscamper into a hole to carry on its ing at 9:05 o'clock after a long business.

Appearing before the board, W. condition had been serious for B. Cannon of/Goose Nest asked some time. He entered the hosabout the valuation increase. He pital near Asheville in 1940 and was advised that there was a hori- continued a patient there until his zontal increase throughout the death. county, and the explanation was The son of the late William Asa acceptable. • Suggesting that his store on born near Jamesville on Novem-

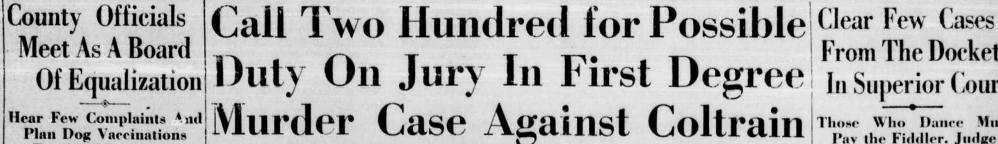
somewhat out of line.

higher in proportion to other life there. During World War I buildings, John Wier was allowed he served with Company B, 306 a \$1,000 reduction from \$6,000 to Engineers. After two months Fifty-two Called \$5.000. A small reduction was allowed 31, 1918, and continued there un Frank Garstarphen on his home til June 11, 1919. Following his **By Defendant and**

The fifteen vocational 24 by Prosecution teachers in the Martin schools who are paid entirely from county funds will share along with the state-paid teachers Several Witnesses Hesitate an increase in salaries, the To Answer Calls And county board of education Ask To Be Excused members decided in a special

meeting held Monday night. That the trial of John R. Col-The increase, approximating train, Griffins Township man who about 15 percent of the anshot and killed his neighbor farmnual salary, will call for an er, W. Thomas Roberson last Janadditional \$3,000, it was uary 26, will be hard fought in the Martin County Superior Court

Several insurance agents this week was given further emappeared before the meeting phasis last week-end when the deand discussed the state-profense called thirty-one additional posed plan to insure school properties. The board took ty-two. Twenty-four have been



SERVICE

Some Expressing

Doubt If Jury Can

The Night for Special

Venire Members

Judge Chester Morris, presiding

over the current term of the Mar-

a jury to hear the case.

Ultra superior service in summoning a venireman for the trial of John Coltrain in the superior court was reported vesterday. The slow task of calling names out in open court had been going on for some time when the name of Walter Slade, Colored, of Robersonville Township came up. Spotting the man in the audience, Sheriff Roebuck called out and instructed him to be present Tuesday after-

Reports this morning stated that the county had been combed in rounding-up the veniremen, but the success of the search could not be learned immediately. One report did state that quite a few persons whose names were on

ior Glee Club Rated Excellent; Seniors Good

Representatives of the Williams- Judge Morris compromised and weapon, was continued until the ton High School drew one Super- directed that 250 be called. or, two Excellent and one Good After Little Miss Carolina Marratings at the district music festi- tin had pulled approximately 200 vide support for a minor child, val at Greenville last Saturday. The Superior rating was won by ris said stop right there, if a jury tenced to the roads for two years, Mary Lou Lee, majorette of the could not be had from that num- the court suspending the road Green Wave Band in a twirling ber it wouldn't be likely that an term upon the payment of the exhibition that thrilled judges and additional fifty would help relieve costs and the sum of \$25 on the spectators alike. She was one of the situation, that if no jury can first of each month until the 9-

three instrumentalists to get a be had from the 200 a venire year-old child attains the age of uperior rating, the other two be- would be called from another eighteen years. Bond was requir-

From The Docket In Superior Court Those Who Dance Must

Pay the Fiddler, Judge **Chester Morris Warns**

After clearing away grand jury formalities and spending some time setting up machinery for trying the Roberson murder case, the Be Had from List Martin County Superior Court managed to handle a few criminal cases during the first day of the Officers Search Late Into two-week term. Judge Chester Morris of Elizabeth City is presid-

The proceedings, other than the arraignment of John R. Coltrain for the murder of W. Thomas Roberson, attracted very little attentin County Superior Court, Mon- tion.

day morning ordered a special ve-Lonnie Lee, charged with basnire of Martin citizens be called tardy and non-support in two casfor possible duty as members of es, pleaded guilty in one and the jury to hear the first degree maintained that he had been supmurder charge against John R. porting the first child Denving Coltrain, Griffins Township man ownership of a second child, Lee who fatally shot his neighbor far- went to the jury with his case and mer, W. Thomas Roberson, in the was adjudged guilty. Imposing Farm Life section on last January sentence late Monday afternoon, 26. The order directs members of Judge Morris said that he who the venire to be in the courthouse dances must pay the fiddler, and this afternoon at 2:30 o'clock "in this case apparently the dewhen the court will start selecting fendant has been doing a lot of fiddlin'." Placed under a six-Doubt was expressed if a jury month road sentence, the defendcould be had even from the 200ant was directed to pay the court member venire, but the defense costs, \$15 to the midwife and \$6 a said that a selection was possible. week for the support of his two Solicitor Geo. Fountain, suggest- children.

Pleading guilty of forgery, Wilside the county would expedite liam Luther Knight was sentencthe trial, said that if it should be ed to the roads for not less than 200 and 300 persons likely would months.

The case charging Charlie Bell ed that 200 would be enough. with an assault with a deadly June term.

Pleading guilty of failing to pronames from the box, Judge Mor- William Robert Gaines was sen-

Charged with drunken driving,

ed in the sum of \$500.

Funeral Wednesday Afternoon At Graveside In **Roberson Cemetery** Charles T. Stubbs, World War I veteran/ died in Veterans' Hosperiod of declining health. His

noon at 2:30 o'clock.

the list had left the county.

Mary Lou Lee Is training he went overseas on July **Top Twirler At** Greenville Event Solicitor Geo. Fountain, suggest-ing that a venire called from out-

Green Wave Band And Jun- called in the county that between twelve and not more than fifteen be needed. The defense suggest-

on Williams Street, the board discharge on June 20, 1919, he reasoning that the assessment was went with a construction force of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Final arrangements for the vac- Company, moving from place to cination of all dogs in the county place throughout the district. were completed. The task was He was a member of the James

assigned to Dr. W. F. Coppage, and ville Christian Church. he is to furnish complete records The body is scheduled to reach of all vaccinations, and the county Williamston this afternoon at 5:00 is to withhold \$100 instead of \$500 o'clock and will remain at the until all records are entered on Biggs Funeral Home until 3:00 the county tax books. The vacci- o'clock Wednesday when it will be nations will be handled without carried to the Roberson Cemetery direct cost to the dog owners. near Jamesville for graveside ser-

Washington Street was listed ber 4, 1892 and spent his early

The board received several in- vices at 3:30 o'clock. Rev. John surance agents who discussed the L. Goff, pastor of the local Chrisproposal to have the State insure tian Church, and Rev. W. B. Harschool buildings in the face of a rington, county Baptist minister, witnesses, boosting its total to fif- 25 percent increase in rates on will conduct the last rites.

such properties. W. H. Carstar- Surviving are his widow, the

(Continued on page six) **Native Of Town Dies In Hospital**

Funeral services were held in St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Washington last Friday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock for Charles Urguhart Hill, native of Williamston, April. who died in a Charlotte hospital last Thursday morning after an lot of trick legislation will be inillness of three months. Rev. Stephen Gardner conducted the service.

A son of the late Whitmel John thrown into the hopper from here Hill and Josephine Bryan Nicholls Hill, he was born in Williamston heavily loaded calendars. on January 31, 1891, in the home of his aunt, the late Mrs. Walter for only a short time.

Mount and Washington and at- moving so swiftly, almost anytended Trinity College, Durham, thing con horn. He served as a lieutenant in World Farmers visiti War. Laften employment with the made manager of the Rogers Paint walks in circles. Store in Charlotte.

Surviving are his widow, a son, Chas. U. Hill, Jr., of Belton, S. C.; credit Governor Kerr Scott in the two sisters, Mrs. W. A. Blount, Jr., and Mrs. J. E. Matthews, and him, it is apparent that agriculan aunt, Miss Bettie Hill of Washington.

SPECIAL WEEKS-DAYS

According to the U.S. Department of Commerce Reference Service:

We are now in the middle of Hobby Week and National Wildlife Restoration Week. Marylanders have declared a holiday for observance of Maryland Day & Fiday. Energial Events get comparatively little attention this week, but beginning Sunday there'll be plenty of 'em.

any law violations that have es-caped the attention of your of- Time For Trick Legislation In State Assembly defense counsel to be allowed an Big Payday For Some State

learned.

no action.

SALARIES

Employes This Week: Later for Teachers

It now looks as if the Legislature will be here until well into

During the next few weeks, a troduced. When the bills are rolling fast, the table gets those which come along last. Any measure

on out will have to compete with

If you as an individual-or your county or city-are afraid some Hassell, but made his home here detrimental legislation is going to He spent his early life in Rocky be on your guard. With the bills be introduced, now is the time to

Farmers visiting Raleigh say

in magee: black mari 1.81 Murchison Hardware Company in the State now is in tractors. With Wilmington. After the war he Northern dealers getting their full went with the C. A. Nash Com- allotment, but more of the small pany in Norfolk and while there tractors than needed, N. C. sharphe was married to Miss Helen sters are having a fine time buy-Tait. In 1938 they moved to ing them and selling them while Greensboro and in 1942 he was the legitimate dealer up the street

Although attempts are now beeyes of the people who elected ture, labor, and the school people are still with him.

With Gov. Kerr Scott waving a big stock over the heads of the budgeteers and the State paymas-

ters, it now seems certain that all State employees, including teachchecks within the next two weeks. The big day for employees other than teachers will fall Friday.

(Continued on page eight) ers, will receive outsized pay Taken Critically Ill At Home Last Friday Taken critically ill last Friday March 25. All these people will morning, Mr. Claudius Roberson receive their regular pay, plus a was treated in the local hospital the back and beat her with an 20 percent increase for each month and removed an hour or two later staning last October 2. Thinks

ense of xomoney - as we hey stated this morning that doctors might-for this increase has been were planning to amputate his tor's office and he was placed in due a long time-now is the time right leg. His left leg was rei to see them. moved several years ago.

M. Peel

phen, John Pope, Hildreth Mob- former Miss Elma Jernigan, who ummoned by the prosecution. Reliable reports heard over the ley, Nat Johnson and E. B. Which- is now employed by the Carolina ard discussed the proposal and Telephone and Telegraph Comweek-end indicated that quite a few witnesses hesitated in recoglater carried their appeal in op- pany in its Williamston office; a nizing the summons served upon position to the plan before a spec-(Continued on page six) them in person by the sheriff and ial meeting of the county board his deputies. Others pleaded with of education last evening. The

county board took no action, the Up For Violating excuse to have no part in the trial. spokesman explaining that his Although seventy-six witnesses body would cooperate with the are being called, the case has only board of education.

two principal ones. Several of Commissioners C. C. Martin, W. the others can offer material evi-M. Harrison, John H. Edwards, C. dence, but it is apparent that most Abram Roberson and Henry S. of those summoned can only play Johnson were present for the the role of character witnesses. board of equalization meeting.

Witnesses called by the State include: Rufus, Ben Ira, Ira, W. G. **Attack Follows** and Charlie Hardison, Tommie Bland, Dr. V. E. Brown, Archie Money Argument Coltrain, Ottis Coltrain, Carlyle Manning, Lee Griffin, Sam

Brooks, William Henry (Bill) Said to have argued over a dol-Peel, N. R. Daniel, C. C. Coltrain, lar, Henry Davis launched a tell-Mat Bissell, Oscar Roberson, ing knife attack against James Arthur C. Roberson, Nathan E. Holley, both colored, in an old Roberson, Whit Saunders, Henry shanty car near the North Caro-Roberson, Gabe Roberson, James lina Pulp Company plant in this county late Sunday night.

Names of witnesses called by The dollar argument turned into the defense: Herman Bowen, L. P. about a \$30 slicing, reports stating Anos Anos that between 20 and to Sucches Perry, Ira Jones, Arthur Modlin, were necessary to close the knife Lunimy James, Bill Abbitt, Elbert wounds on his back and around N. Manning, Fred Chesson, A. E. | the neck.

Manning, Noah T. Daniel, Coy One blow reached the neck and Roberson, John Edwin Manning. noved downward to the, man's Bill Manning, of Jamesville, Geo. belt, parting the man's clothes and Barber, Clarence Barbes, Simon opening a straight furrow in the Barber, Luther Taylor, Kager skin.

Perry, Grady Godard, J. Lawrence Davis was arrested about 1:00 Coltrain, Willie Mayo Gardner, o'clock Monday morning by Sher-Mrs. Marvin H. Leggett, Georgie iff C. B. Roebuck and placed in Martin, Frosty Martin, B. S. the county jail.

Courtney, P. E. Getsinger, W. B Harrington, Asa J. Hardison, C. D. Man Beats Wife Carstarphen, Sam Godard, Oscar Jones, R. J. Hardison, Calvin Ay-**Along Highway** ers, Gilbert Rogerson, Adrian

Hardison, Mrs. Adrian Hardison, Howard Hopkins, J. T. Heath, Fussing and a feudin' over little or nothing, Ed Pilgreen, while drinking, badly beat his wife along the highway turning off U. S. 17 at the old Mill Inn last Sunday afternoon.

The husband tore his wife's clothes partly off, stabbed her in abandoned car exhaust pipe and an iron hoop >reports

She was treated in a local doc jail in default of a \$100 bond, Patrolman M. F. Powers said.

ing pianists. county.

The Green Wave Band itself got The case has been widely disa rating of excellent in its rendi- cussed and since the drawing was Lollie Williams failed to answer tion of three numbers in Grade I. not sectionalized, relatives, when called and the court ordered In its program on the stage and in friends, acquaintances, witnesses his arrest and his \$200 bond forthe big parade that followed the are being called. Even the name feited. local band maintained its reputa- of the defendant, and those of two Charged with speeding. Frank tion for discipline and orderli- of his sons and a few relatives Williams was adjudged not guilty, ness and Director Jack Butler re- were drawn, but the court order- the jury deliberating the issue for ceived many compliments from ed them set aside. The name of about forty minutes. the other band directors present, a brother of the murder victim James Wesley Ormond, charged

Two colored men, Columbus The judges, offering written criti- was also drawn but it was set with carnal knowledge, failed to Ward and Henry Howell, of near cisms of all performances noted aside. At first names of witnesses Hassell, were arrested by ABC Of- that the Green Wave Band did passed, but Judge Morris ruled ficer J. H. Roebuck and Deputy very well for such a young or- later in the drawing which took Roy Peel early Sunday morning ganization and for its first entry the greater part of an hour that for allegedly possessing a quantity in such an event.

for allegedly possessing a quantity in such an event. The Junior Girls' Glee club un- the box be pushed aside. of low-grade illicit liquor. About der the direction of Mrs. Beecher four gallons of the white liquid was found in the Ward home, and Patterson also drew an excellent follow, by townships:

Howell allegedly carried one-half rating despite the fact that the Jamesville Township: Mrs. Edpint on his person, the officers ex- group has been organized but a gar Brown, C. N. Martin, L. C. died at the home of her parents plaining that they found a still worm and other manufacturing ing serious work for two months. ganus, A. W. Ange, Church Mob- etts at 3:00 o'clock last Saturday The group sang two numbers. cquipment in Howell's barn. Given a hearing before Justice R. T. Johnson, the two men were

bound over to the county court (Continued on page eight) Officers Elected By Woman's Clab

kettle and poured out 300 gallons The regular monthly meeting of

the Williamston Woman's Clubbuilding

The meeting was called to order

Red Cross Fund Drive.

said.

this week.

names of witnesses drawn from

Names of the venire members Little Miss Rebecca Van Donald

few months and has only been do- Brown, Bruce Fagan, Royal Gur- on U. S. Highway 64 near Everley, W. M. Davis, G. M. Anderson, morning after months of declining

The Senior Glee Club of mixed P. M. Ange, L. W. Hardison, Car- health. voices drew a rating of good. Also roll Brown, D. D. Coburn, S. L. Suffering with concer, she had Ellis, R. L. Waters, Thomas E. received treatment in hospitals in Martin, Henderson Mizelle, H. S. this State and in Virginia during Hardison, G. W. Sawyer, R. L. intervals since last October. Her Stallings, P. C. Blount, Jr., Edwin condition was critical for some time before the end. Hassell.

The days this and Wi Perry, Jasper Jones, W. L. Man- Mattie Moore Donald, she was ning, Jr., Roy Hudson, Frank Hop- born on May 4, 1944.

kins, John T. Heath. Surviving besides her parents Griffins Township: E. H. Man-lare two brothers, William O. and was held March 15, in the club ning, Jr., Leslie E. Hardison, Rob- Whitmore Donald, and three sisert E. Peel, W. Rufus Hardison, ters, Nancy, Elizabeth and Mar-

Leon Earl Griffin, Henry H. guerite Donald, all of the home. by the president, Mrs. Joanna Corey, Geo. W. Hodges, John A. Funeral services were conduct-Martin, the collect was repeated Lilley, H. L. Manning, R. H. Peel, ed in the Everetts Baptist Church Roy S. Hardison, Mrs. Howard Sunday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock Coltrain, B. R. Manning, John E. by Rev. J. M. Perry, pastor of the The nominating committee re- Griffin, Leslie J. Griffin, Maurice Robersonville Christian Church, ported newly elected officers as E. Roberson, Mrs. Raymond Gur- in the absence of the pastor, Rev.

E. R. Stewart. Burial was in the Bear Grass: J. S. Holliday, Noah **Everetts Cemeterv**

ROUND-UP

Comparatively few arrests were made by local, county and state officers last weekend, the jail record showing that only five persons were

Three were booked for public drunkenness and two for deadly weapon assaults-Twp of the five were white and the ages of the group ranged from 27 to 47 years.

(Continued on page six)

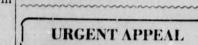


for trial on April 4. Bond was required of each in the sum of \$300. Last Saturday, the officers raid-ed in a woods about two miles Babersonville a tured a 100-gallon capacity copper

> of beer. Monday morning they wrecked a cheaply equipped plant in

The Liquor Laws

Jamesville Township, destroying the oil urum still and pouring out fifty gallons of beer of filthy and mediocre quality



Reporting some over \$2,000 in hand and about \$700 needed to reach the goal, Chair-

Fairly complete reports are

ing were read and approved. follows: Mrs. H. L. Swain, presi- kin. dent; Miss Marjorie Brady, recording secretary, Mrs. W. H. Car- Gardner, A. L. Williams, Mrs. H

not to let up in the current

Several districts have not

yet met their quotas, "but if the drive can maintain its momentum we'll not fall down on the job." Mr. Woolard

and the minutes of the last meet-

man G. G. Woolard today issued an appeal cordially urging all canvassers who have not yet completed their work

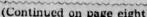
expected from all districts

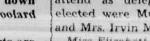
starphen, corresponding secretary, and Mrs. Ross Froneberger, 2nd son, Dee Bowen, Wm. D. Hardison, vice president. An acceptance Jesse Terry, Cecil Brown, Ben

Goldsboro was discussed and Mrs. W. Green, H. N. Bailey, Dennis H. L. Swain, Mrs. P. B. Cone and L. Peel, J. B. Rogerson, Wheeler Mrs. Urbin Rogers were elected to Rogerson, William LeRoy Hadley. attend as delegates. Alternates James S. Bailey, Lance Hardy, Si-

elected were Mrs. Ray Goodmon mon Harrison, Electer Harrison, A and Mrs. Irvin Margolis. L. Williams and Theodore Men-Miss Elizabeth Patker, program denhall, chairman, gave an interesting talk

(Continued on page eight)





on "Better Citizenship."

speech was made by Mrs. Swain. Whitehurst, John A. Bland, Ar-The State Convention of the thur Peaks, W. Worth Mobley.

Federation of Woman's Clubs John L. Rogers, Ralph B. Holliday which will be held this year at Jap Lilley, Jasper C. Griffin, J.

U. Peel, W. V. Ward, J. T. Hardi-

detained in the hoosegow.