

County Board Of Commissioners In Session Monday

List Of Hog Vaccinators Is Submitted To Board At Meeting

The Martin County Commissioners, in a short but fast-moving session, Monday handled numerous new business items in addition to routine duties. All members of the board were present, including Messrs. C. C. Martin, W. M. Harrison, J. H. Edwards, C. A. Roberson and Henry S. Johnson.

The following persons were recommended to handle hog vaccinations in the county:

C. A. Whichard, J. E. Mullens, W. H. Vanderford, Troy Warren and J. H. Dixon, all of Robersonville and community.

Bill Abbott, R. G. Slade, Fate Gurganus, Will Griffin, Willie Modlin, D. W. Brady, T. B. Brandon, Arthur Revels, Paul Harrington, Dewey Perry, Ralph Taylor, Sidney Beacham and R. M. Edwards, all of Williamston and Williamston RFD.

D. G. Matthews, Jr., J. H. Lillard, H. A. Haislip, W. F. Thomas, A. P. Hyman and George Oglesby, all of the Hamilton section.

J. J. Pierce, John Hassell and R. A. Haislip, Jr., all of Oak City and section.

V. B. Hairr, J. A. Ellis, Bennie Gray Lilley and Leonard Holliday, all of Jamesville and section.

Ralph Davenport of Dardens. Oliver Carter of Parmele.

The board recommended that the following roads be taken over by the State Highway Commission:

Road in Williams Township leading from Williams Lower School to W. Frank Barber's residence, a distance of two miles and serving ten or twelve families.

Road in Griffins Township, running by Ira Jones's.

Road leading from the Jamesville-Manning Road in Griffins Township near N. R. Manning home place to residence of M. H. Leggett, a distance of about three miles.

Road in Williams Township leading off Highway 64 at Henderson Jones's place southerly and westerly to Hardison's store or old Bell Town Road, a distance of 1-1/2 miles, and serving eight families.

Special tax elections were ordered held in Goose Nest and Bear Grass school districts. The elections will be held sometime in May.

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Slightly Hurt In Highway Accident

Henry Ray Oakley, nine years old, was slightly bruised and suffered some shock when he was struck by an auto and knocked about twelve feet to the side of the road in front of Dennis Hardy's store in West End yesterday morning about 7:30 o'clock.

He was bruised slightly on his back and one leg, but no bones were broken and there were no skin abrasions, Patrolman J. T. Rowe, making the investigation, reported.

Stationed by the U. S. Marine Corps in Raleigh, was driving west on Highway 64 when the boy darted into the road back of a truck. Lane, applying the brakes on his car, had almost stopped when the machine struck the boy. He called for an ambulance and the boy was treated in a doctor's office here and released a short time later. Lane suffered some shock but was able to continue his trip after the victim was discharged from the doctor's office.

ROUND-UP

Five persons were rounded up in the law's dragnet here over the week-end by local, county and state officers. Two were charged with public drunkenness and one each with non-support, larceny and liquor law violations.

Two of the five were white and the ages of the group ranged from 28 to 48 years.

Young Farmer Loses Life In An Explosion

Hold Funeral In Macedonia Church For S. P. Revels

Nine of the ten townships in the county have reported a combined gain of \$1,352,414 in assessed property values, Supervisor M. L. Peel announcing yesterday that a report from Jamesville is being delayed by the North Carolina Pulp Company.

Valuation gains were reported in every instance except three in the nine townships. Listings by colored property owners in Bear Grass and Poplar Point fell \$1,288 below the 1948 figures and personal property listings in Robersonville topped downward by \$69,658, but the township went ahead with a \$201,116 gain in real values to show a net increase of \$131,458.

It is believed that Jamesville will report a sizable increase, that the combined gain for the county will exceed one and one-half million dollars.

German Seeks To Recover A Cross Lost In The War

Says It Fell Into Possession Of Soldier Named Smith From Williamston

Writing to Williamston's mayor, Robt. Cowen, a few days ago, a former German soldier solicited the mayor's aid in helping recover a religious token, a small silver cross.

The soldier explains that he was captured and that he surrendered his arms and personal effects, and that the small silver cross fell into the hands of an American soldier from Williamston whose name is Smith. The letter follows:

"Very Honorable Mayor, I am taking the liberty of making this request of you.

"In 1945, during the war, I was fighting in Detmold against the American troops, when on Easter I was wounded and the next day was taken prisoner by the Americans. We had to surrender our arms and personal belongings.

Among them was a small silver cross, five centimeters high, with black onyx. It was a family remembrance and very dear to me.

When I was transferred to the hospital in Detmold, through a U. S. Guard, I found out that a soldier from Williamston had taken possession of it.

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Parmele Citizen Dies In Maryland

Mrs. Elizabeth Smith Bullock, a resident of Parmele for many years, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. J. B. Weichert, in Baltimore Monday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock after a long period of declining health. She entered a Baltimore hospital about six months ago for treatment, but was visiting in the home of her daughter when she was taken worse and death followed.

The daughter of the late H. J. and Mary Taylor Smith, she was born in Martin County near Robersonville on June 18, 1883. Following her marriage to Mr. R. S. Bullock she located in Parmele where she was active in church affairs for years.

Surviving besides Mr. Bullock and their daughter in Baltimore, are a daughter, Mrs. Silas Leggett of Robersonville; a sister, Mrs. J. B. Coburn of Williamston; two brothers, H. B. and Grady E. Smith, both of Robersonville, and seven grandchildren.

The body will be returned to the county late tonight and will lie in state at the Wilkerson Funeral Home in Robersonville until 2:00 o'clock Thursday afternoon when the last rites will be conducted. Interment will be in the Bethel Cemetery.

Legislators May Quit And Return Home For Easter

Big Problems are Yet To Be Solved; So Far Little Been Accomplished

Late reports from Raleigh state that the members of the State Legislature may get home by Easter. However, the lawmakers have been there since early January and accomplished little; so, if they are to make any progress at all, which is doubtful, they'll be in Raleigh until Christmas; that is if it requires as long to do something as it has required them to do little or nothing.

Nothing has been heard about action to relieve the pitiful situation in the mental institutions of the State. During the meantime, the mentally ill continue tied to bed posts as one would tie a common dog to a tree.

Other important matters to be considered by the legislators are blocking immediate adjournment. Schools, roads, and appropriations are still to be cleared. The boys who are dead set against Scott's "Go Forward Program" are on a sit-down strike, patiently waiting for the Scott followers to give in or starve out.

Some of them are getting hungry, and just as soon as they agree to surrender unconditionally, the session will not be long closing.

While the all-wise legislators say by their acts that there is money to be had to finance race tracks and legalized gambling they say there isn't enough money to provide school houses for the youth of the State or to build roads to get over half the State out of the mud.

They admit, by their acts, that there is money to finance liquor stores in hamlets, towns and cities, but say there isn't enough money there to finance education on a respectable basis.

The legislature last week refused to change its 1947 labor law. Some of those who stood pat against any change, spoke eloquently of the three introducers of the bill, declaring they were sweating it out in the Pacific theatre while labor was striking at home.

The strikes in North Carolina are not recalled, and it is a known fact that one of the introducers of the bill in 1947 spent most of his time at Fort Bragg. Another stand-patter allegedly stored sugar and other scarce articles in quantities in his pantry during the war.

Others who are against any change in the labor law, piled up profits and ran helters skelters during the war while someone else's boy was sweating it out in the Pacific.

They are the ones who can raise their voices so eloquently when it comes to putting a foot on the neck of the common man, but so far few if any of their number have raised their voices in behalf of the unfortunate on and around Dix Hill, in the crowded school rooms, or the fellow out in the mud. They tell the people that they have improved the lot of the school teacher, but the promise of a 20 percent salary increase turned out to be a pipe dream.

A little spark of life twinkled yesterday in the House when that body passed a \$72,000,000 measure providing permanent improvements. But the measure goes to the Senate. Today, the House is considering the biennial appropriations bill.

To Present Jaycee Minstrel Again

Chairman Nelson Leggett of the Junior Chamber of Commerce Minstrel Committee, announced today that a repeat performance of the minstrel presented at the Williamston High School auditorium last Friday night will be given this coming Friday night in the same place.

Declaring the minstrel last Friday night was a decided success and that many calls had been received demanding a repeat performance, Leggett said the group had decided to present the show again with new jokes added. The repeat performance will start at 8 o'clock.

Fifteen Enter Town Primary For Commissioners And Mayor

Politics Getting Hot With Primary Only Week Away

Thirteen Candidates Seeking Five Places on Board; Two For Mayor

Hardly simmering for weeks, the old political pot in Williamston started boiling over on the last day for filing last Friday when the number of candidacies jumped to fifteen—thirteen of the candidates filing for the five places on the board of town commissioners and two for mayor. The primary, the second held under the 1947 law, has one more candidate than the number recorded in the election two years ago.

After holding to a figure hardly large enough to fill all the positions, the number of candidates started jumping the middle of last week and reached a climax just before the filing deadline at 6:00 o'clock that evening when L. Cross Roberson had his name entered in the race for town commissioner. J. S. Ayers arranged the filing details for the candidate.

The list of candidates: For Mayor: Robert H. Cowen and W. Iverson Skinner. For Town Commissioners: Ben D. Courtney, K. D. Worrell, John H. Gurganus, Roy Ward, Leman Barnhill, C. H. Godwin, Sr., Julian Harrell, David Moore, W. O. Griffin, N. C. Green, David Davis, L. Cross Roberson and M. M. Levin.

With little time left before the primary next Monday, the candidates, for the most part, are waging whirlwind campaigns. Appeals, direct mail, public and personal, are being made, but up until early this morning few cigars or campaign favors had been passed out. Apparently there is no clique operating, but one or two candidates, reports state, have suggested vote swapping in the pinches.

For the most part the campaigns are being conducted on a high plane, the candidates declaring they are primarily interested in one thing—good government for the town.

The candidate outside the present four board members polling the largest number of votes will be appointed immediately to fill the position made vacant on the town board by the death of Commissioner G. H. Harrison.

Few guesses have been advanced as to the expected outcome of the next Monday vote. Some are of the opinion that it will be a close contest, that some of the candidates will be nominated by a minority vote. There is no provision for a second primary, and the outcome next Monday is tantamount to election since no opposition party ticket is anticipated for the regular election in May. The candidate outside the present four board members polling the largest number of votes will be appointed immediately to fill the position made vacant on the town board by the death of Commissioner G. H. Harrison.

Home In West End Damaged By Fire

Apparently starting when a pipe to a wood stove toppled down in the kitchen, fire did considerable damage to the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Harrison in West End yesterday afternoon at 1:50 o'clock. A sizable hole was burned in the kitchen ceiling and a large portion of the roof and many of the rafters were damaged. Answering the call, the local fire department did an effective job in checking the fire.

No official estimate on the loss could be had, but the damage possibly will exceed \$1,000, according to one report.

No water line is near the home and a few minutes later they would have been unable to check the fire with the equipment.

Mr. and Mrs. Harrison were in the front part of the house when a neighbor came in and asked where all the smoke was coming from. Mr. Harrison investigated, but could not reach the kitchen until he went out the front and around the house.

REGISTRATION

One of the largest primary registrations ever recorded here was reported following the close of the registrations books last Saturday by Registrar John E. Pope. Acting to make themselves eligible to participate in the town primary here next Monday, 239 persons added their names to the registration list, including 139 colored citizens. It is estimated that between 1,450 and 1,500 persons are eligible to participate in the primary.

Ask County To Contribute \$1,500 to the Cancer Fund

Martin County is being asked to contribute \$1,500 to the American Cancer Society Drive Fund during this month.

Mrs. Harris with the aid of Thad F. Harrison is completing plans for the drive in this county, and since the quota is reasonably small and the work to be done is so important, it is quite certain that the goal will be reached easily and without delay. The personnel for the campaign in this county will be announced shortly.

The chairman stated that the Society is raising \$14,500,000 in the nation to carry on the fight against cancer. The chairman pointed out that the April 16 issue of Colliers carries one of the most complete statements ever offered on cancer. Headed "101 Answers To Cancer", the article should be read and studied by everyone without fail.

Advancing Plans For Sweet Potato Market

Import More Than Thousand Bushels Of The Best Seed

OVER THE TOP

The Red Cross fund drive is over the top in the Martin County Chapter and a few more canvassers are yet to report. Fund Drive Chairman Garland Woolard announced yesterday that \$2,869.57 had been contributed and reported, the amount exceeding the quota by \$169.57.

The drive went over the top last week-end when canvassers among the colored citizens reported \$331.35, the chairman explaining that one or two canvassers are to report tomorrow or Thursday, that a detailed report would be released on the drive as soon as possible.

Appoint Members Education Board

Two appointments to the Martin County Board of Education were made by the North Carolina State Legislature last week. J. D. Woolard, completing six years on the board, was appointed for another six years to succeed himself, and Cecil Powell, young Gold Point man, was appointed to succeed Henry C. Norman, Robersonville man who has ably served as a member of the board for twelve years.

The two appointments were made subject to the wishes of the voters of Martin County in the May, 1948, primary. Powell's appointment calls for a two-year term, the term of the representative, A. Corey, staggering the terms in accordance with custom which is designed to block a complete turn-over of the board personnel at any one time.

Other members of the board were appointed to the board by Geo. C. Griffin and Ernest Edmondson who have four more years to serve on their current terms, and Ferd W. Holliday who is now completing two years of a four-year term as a member of the board.

The two new members, Messrs. Powell and Woolard subscribed to the oath of office administered by Clerk of Court L. B. Wynne Monday morning at 9:30 o'clock, and both entered upon their duties in a meeting of the body.

Former Resident Touring Greece

Miss Bernice Perry, formerly of Williamston, sailed from New York a short time ago for Greece and other European countries during the next three months. She is being accompanied on the tour by Miss Van Kerous, her roommate at the D. Paul Hospital, Norfolk.

Miss Perry, a sister of Mrs. A. P. Coltrain, also formerly of Williamston, attended high school here, and three and one-half years ago entered the D. Paul Hospital School of Nursing and was graduated last September with honors. She made the highest average in the group taking Virginia's State Board of Nursing examination.

Badly Cut In Affray Here Friday Evening

Annie Purvis, young colored woman, was dangerously cut on her neck and back by Mary Glenn Taylor in front of the Cotton Club on Washington Street here last Friday night about 11:00 o'clock. Thirty-seven stitches were taken to close the wounds.

No official report could be had, but it was thought that the attacker was fighting over her husband.

Court Adjourned Thursday After Hectic Sessions

Few Criminal Cases Handled and Several Divorces Are Granted

The Martin County Superior Court after clearing the Coltrain murder case from the docket in hectic sessions lasting nine days, went on to handle a few criminal cases and grant several divorces before adjourning for the term early Thursday afternoon. The civil calendar was crowded right out of the picture, but the cases scheduled to be called last week will be heard during a special term of the superior tribunal opening on the eighteenth of this month for a run of two weeks.

One or two civil judgments were entered in the records, but most of the time the court was in session after the Coltrain case was cleared was spent hearing the case charging Joe Clark, Henderson Moore, Grover Peel, Leaman James and Dave Leonard James with the theft of twelve bags of peanuts from D. D. and R. G. Coburn. Leaman James pleaded guilty and was sentenced to the roads for three years. The case was not pressed as to Dave Leonard James. A verdict of not guilty was directed as to Joe Clark and Grover Peel. Found guilty by the jury, Henderson Moore was sentenced to the roads for not less than eight and not more than twelve months.

The case in which L. L. Britt was charged with trespass, was continued under prayer for judgment until the June term.

In the civil action brought by Donald Frank against Jasper Harrell and involving a landlord-tenant settlement, a judgment was entered showing an agreement had been reached.

In the case of C. B. Savage against G. H. Manning, the court issued an order further restraining the defendant from cutting timber on the lands of R. T. Purvis. R. H. Cowen was named receiver to take over control of timber on the Purvis land against which the plaintiff held a paper. The receiver was required to give bond in the sum of \$1,000 and Critcher and Gurganus were named attorneys for the receiver.

Based on two-year separation grounds, divorces were allowed

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Goes To Jail In "Freedom" Search

Willie Manson, young colored man, went into the Martin County Superior Court last week, seeking a divorce, but in his search for marital "freedom" he landed in jail.

Manson allegedly deserted his wife and two children some over two years ago. He was indicted for non-support and his arrest followed in Norfolk. Bond was given and he skipped from under it. Manson was trailed to Philadelphia but was never apprehended. Last Thursday he "sneaked" into the county court, claiming a divorce. His divorce case was called and after he had offered his testimony, Judge Chester D. Morgan, presiding withdrew a jurymen and ordered a mistrial, the court declining to submit the issues in the divorce action when the plaintiff was charged in a criminal action with willful failure to support his two children.

He was booked for trial in the county court.

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