

Seven Members Of School Faculties Resign Jobs Here

Five New Teachers Elected; Thea Positions Remain To Be Filled

A fairly large turnover in faculty personnel for the local high school has been reported, but members of the five-man school committee explained that five of the positions made vacant by resignations had been filled, that applications had been received for the three positions now open.

Most of the seven faculty members resigning their posts are quitting the profession for various reasons, it was learned. Mrs. Jessie H. White, trying to withdraw from the profession for some time after years of devoted service in the local schools, has resigned. She has been repeatedly drafted for service, and responded to help relieve the teacher shortage. Miss Estelle Crawford, a faithful member of the faculty for years, is being given a leave of absence on account of illness. Miss Betty Sue Tilley, French-English teacher, resigned to study at the University in Chapel Hill next term. Others resigning are, Miss Ida Roberts, Mrs. W. H. Harrison, Mrs. E. R. Shuller and Mrs. Jesse Sumner.

The faculty, headed again by B. G. Stewart, principal, includes: First grade: Miss Lamina Baker, Mrs. Miriam Saunders and Miss Grace Talton.

Second grade: Mrs. Mary B. Carstarphen, Mrs. Rosalie Fronberger, Mrs. D. W. Brady.

Third grade: Mrs. Elise Kimball, Miss Ruth Manning, Mrs. Mary E. Gaylord.

Fourth grade: Mrs. Alma Fuschell, Miss Frances Jenkins. One position in this grade is to be filled.

Fifth grade: Mrs. Charlotte Abernathy, Miss Dora Bailey, Mrs. Velma Coburn.

Sixth grade: Misses Irma Benson, Marian Rogerson and Martha Whitehurst.

Seventh grade: Miss Mildred Byrum, Mrs. Evelyn Baker Moore, Mrs. Mildred Crawford.

Eighth grade: Miss Anne Carson, Mrs. Anne Corey, Miss Mary Whitley.

High school: Jack Butler, civics and band; Stuart Maynard, physical education and coach; Norwood Smith, English; Miss Anna Belle Privott, mathematics; Miss Peggy Hopkins, commercial subjects; Carlyle Cox, history and social studies; Mrs. Beecher Patterson, public school music; A. J. Abdalla, science.

There are three teaching positions to be filled, one fourth grade section, and home economics and French-English in the high school. The new members of the faculty are:

Mrs. D. W. Brady of Williamston who has been teaching in the county and who will have one section of the second grade;

Mrs. Evelyn B. Moore of Williamston, a former teacher in the local schools and who has been relief teaching this term, will have one of the seventh grade sections. Mrs. Mildred Crawford of Williamston who taught at Farm Life during the term just closed and a former member of the local faculty will have a seventh grade section.

Miss Anne Carson of Bethel and a 1949 East Carolina Teachers College graduate, has been elected to teach one of the three eighth grades.

A. J. Abdalla, native of Selma, a war veteran and a graduate of East Carolina Teachers College, Greenville, has been elected to

(Continued on page eight)

DEATH ON SNAKES

Mrs. Octavious Barber, farm woman of near Jamesville, has no use for snakes. Over a period of five days she killed five of the reptiles, including a rattler and four moccasins. For the attack on the moccasins, Mrs. Barber used any weapon at hand, including a weeding hoe and a poker, but she took greater precaution in battling the rattler and brought into use a shot gun.

Winner At Stock Show



Mary Jane Rogers, Williamston 4-H club member, walked away with honors for the second time in three years when her white faced Hereford was judged the grand champion of the recently held Martin County Fat Stock Show.

STREETS

Approximately \$16,000 has been set aside from the town's allotment for street improvements here, it was learned this week.

The street improvement program calls for the surfacing of two blocks on Smithwick Street in front of the high school and Liberty Street from Smithwick to Haughton.

Highway 17 is to be surfaced either from the bridge over the river hill to the town limits at Sunny Side Inn and from the intersection of Haughton and Main to the town limits on Highway 64 just beyond the hospital. An asphalt plant is to be placed in Windsor and work is to get under way some time in July.

Hamilton Native Dies in Edgecombe

J. T. Lawrence, native of Hamilton and member of a family prominent in the religious life in this county for a number of years, died at his home in Edgecombe County last Thursday night after a long illness.

He was born in Hamilton 65 years ago, a son of the late Elder M. T. and Linda House Lawrence. He moved to Leggett when a young man and became a successful merchant and farmer there. He was married to Mary Lillian Fountain in 1908. Mr. Lawrence was active in religious and civic life of his community. He was a member and presiding elder of William and Mary Hart Presbyterian Church and served as Sunday School superintendent for many years. He served on the Edgecombe County school board and was chairman when the present Leggett High School was erected and consolidated. He was a member of the board of trustees of Edgecombe General Hospital in Tarboro, served one full term and part of another on the Edgecombe County Board of Commissioners.

Surviving are his wife, a son, J. T. Lawrence, Jr.; three daughters, Mrs. W. J. Edmondson and Mrs. O. Graham Gully of Leggett, and Mrs. Thomas E. Page of Westover Field, Mass.; two sisters, Mrs. A. L. Harrison of Front Royal, Va., and Mrs. A. V. Cuthbertson of Charlotte; a brother, W. B. Lawrence of Whitakers; and 10 grandchildren. Funeral services were held from William and Mary Hart Presbyterian Church at Leggett Saturday at 4 p. m., conducted by the Rev. L. W. Kessler, assisted by the Rev. Norman Johnson. Burial was in the church cemetery.

(Continued on page eight)

Tom Thumb Wedding Set for 8:00 Thursday

The Wesleyan Guild of the local Methodist Church are presenting a Tom Thumb Wedding at the Williamston high school Thursday night of this week with over 100 of the tiny folks taking part, it has been announced.

Plans for the big affair for the little people have already been completed. The event is scheduled for 7:45 p. m. and a small admission charge will be made, 50c for grownups and 25c for children.

COMMISSIONER

District Highway Commissioner Henry G. Shelton of Tarboro will address the regular meeting of the Lions Club here Thursday evening at the regular meeting hour, it was announced yesterday by a club official.

Making his first public appearance in this county as a member of the State Highway and Public Works Commission, Mr. Shelton is expected to discuss the \$200 million road program, and answer any questions pertinent to that program, it was learned.

Continues Critically Ill In The Hospital

Removed to a Washington hospital last Saturday, Mrs. Simon Perry of West End continued gravely ill in a Washington hospital this morning. Reports reaching here stated that she had seven or more blood transfusions in two days, that doctors this morning were planning an operation.

Congressman From Missouri Rejects Invitation to Party

Congressman Magee Demands "Greatest Good for Greatest Number"

Faces of some Missouri business "bigwigs" may be red, but a lot of other people are going to cheer a remarkable letter just sent by Congressman Clare Magee, "freshman" Democrat from the "Show Me" state, to President George C. Smith of the St. Louis Chamber of Commerce.

Magee was invited to attend a "cocktail party and dinner" to be held at the Statler Hotel in Washington on May 2, with delegates present from local Chambers of Commerce all over Missouri. It was to be a typical lobbyists' attempt to induce solons to keep the Taft-Hartley bill on the statute books and defeat all the rest of President Truman's "Fair Deal" program. The congressman's letter follows in full:

"To George C. Smith, President, St. Louis Chamber of Commerce: "Dear Mr. Smith: Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of April 6, in which you invite me to a cocktail party and dinner to be held at the Hotel Statler here in Washington on May 2nd. You state that the St. Louis, Kansas City and other Missouri Chambers of Commerce will be here attending the annual meeting of the United States Chamber of Commerce.

"I must decline this invitation. Even the inducement of one hour of cocktails is not sufficient. In fact you would not be able to get enough cocktails down me in sixty minutes to make me agree with what you and the United States Chamber of Commerce stand for.

"You may recall that soon after the election of last fall, you invited the newly elected Missouri Congressman to a dinner at St. Louis. Only three of us were foolish enough to attend. I had some idea of what we would hear; but it exceeded all expectations.

"We were not given a chance to say a word; but we were only expected to, and did sit meekly by while you and an officer of the Missouri Chamber of Commerce heaped every conceivable insult upon those of us who were elected by the support of liberal elements.

"You charged that we would probably witness the first 'Labor Government' in America when the 81st Congress convened. Yours was the most exhorting and reactionary speech that I have ever heard or read.

"I am not a rubber-stamp politician, and perhaps cannot agree with every proposal of this Administration; but I believe that we have enough wealth and resources in this great country of ours, that no one need be in want.

"I believe the prime aim of this government, under the leadership of our distinguished fellow Missourian, is to grant the greatest good to the greatest number. I believe we can have a controlled economy within our democracy.

"Free enterprise and individual liberty become hollow terms when all wealth is aggregated in the hands of a few people.

"I thank you for the invitation; but those cocktails might cause me to forget the usual amenities that a guest should display to his host.

"Very truly yours, Clare Magee, M. C."

Soldier's Body on Its Way Home

The body of Sgt. Samuel Leo Andrews is on its way home for burial in native soil, relatives were advised last week. No date of arrival has been mentioned, but the body is expected to reach here sometime the latter part of June.

A son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Luther Andrews of Williams Township, the young man was killed in action in Italy on April 16, 1945.

Relatives have also been advised that the body of Pfc. John G. Stalls is on its way home. The son of John G. Stalls, Sr., and Bettie Brown Stalls Clifton, he was killed in action in Italy on October 10, 1943.

Twenty-six Boys And Girls Finish High School Here

Special Awards Announced At Closing Exercises Held Last Evening

Twenty-six—thirteen boys and thirteen girls—out of a starting class in 1937 of 115, were graduated from the local high school at appropriate exercises held in the high school auditorium last evening. The exercises, featuring an address by Dr. James Slay of the Duke University faculty and the presentation of special awards, were largely attended.

Principal B. G. Stewart introduced the special guests and W. I. Skinner, a member of the local school committee, introduced the main speaker.

Following Dr. Slay's address, the band offered two selections, and R. L. Coburn, committee chairman, presented diplomas to the following:

Elmer Guy Carrow, David Samuel Carson, Charles Alton Cowan, Doris Lee Cullipher, William Hewett Edwards, Jr., Marilyn Winifred Fussell, William Orlando Griffin, Jr., Clayton Laffitte Hadley, Sally Elizabeth Hardison, Helen Martin Howard, Vivian Jean Hudson, Edna Julia Laughinghouse, Winnie Mae Lillie, Jessie Estelle Long, Polly Janice Manning, Julian Dewey Mason, Jr., Tillie Margaret Mizelle, Paul Hassell Peel, Jr., Joan Peele, Doris Jean Rogers, Robert Earl Rogers, Edna Ray Thomas, Clayton Grant Savage, Robert Alonzo Taylor, Jr., King Edward White, John Rogers Wobblenton.

The presentation of special awards attracted particular attention. Julian Mason was presented the W. C. Manning valedictorian cup by County Superintendent of Schools J. C. Manning. Jean Melahorn, the outstanding student in the department, was awarded the Sarah M. Manning home economics cup by her teacher, Miss Ida Roberts. The Woman's Club civics cup was awarded to Mrs. Beecher Patterson's Glee Club by Mrs. Wheeler Martin, Jr., club president. The R. H. Goodman athletic trophy went to Bobby Rogers, the presentation being made by Sam Woolford. The Junior Woman's Club scholarship cup was awarded to Sallie Roberson by her teacher, Miss Mary Whitley, and the Commercial Club award was made to Sallie Hardison by Professor Norwood Smith.

Submits Report On Cancer Fund

Assigned a quota of \$1,500, Martin County citizens raised a total of \$1,695.51 for the cancer fund during the recent drive, Mrs. Chas. I. Harris, county commander, and Thad F. Harrison, fund drive chairman, announced last week.

The following report lists the districts, chairmen, quota and amount raised, in order: Jamesville, Mrs. Leslie Hardison, \$100.00; \$50.44; Williams, C. L. Daniel, \$35.00; \$55.43; Griffins, B. R. Manning, \$75.00; \$122.38; Bear Grass, A. B. Ayers, Jr., \$75.00; \$78.65; Cross Roads, Buck Ayers, \$75.00; \$65.10; Robersonville, Mrs. W. B. Rogerson, \$300.00; \$261.50; Goose Nest, Nancy Worley, \$100.00; \$55; Hamilton, Mrs. E. R. Stewart, \$75.00; \$100.10; Poplar Point, Mrs. Herman Harrison, \$30.00; \$41.69; Hassell, John W. Eubanks, \$35.00; \$36.90; Williamston, Mrs. Wheeler Martin, Jr., \$600.00; \$758.29.

The colored citizen of the county raised \$68.97 with Mary Gray as chairman. No quota was assigned.

Call Firemen Out Sunday Morning

Volunteer firemen were called out at 2:45 o'clock Sunday morning when fire threatened the home of Mary Clark on Perry Street near the Sunny Side market.

An incubator burner went out of control and fired the side of the house. A neighbor happened to wake up and gave the alarm after seeing the fire light. Very little damage was done.

Robbers Active Here Last Friday Evening

Amateurs Entered Wholesale Store And Supply Firm

Cigarettes and Little Money Missed from Martin-Elliott Store

Activities on the crime front made the headlines here when robbers, believed to have been amateurs, robbed the Williamston Supply Company and Martin-Elliott Wholesale store sometime during last Friday night or early Saturday morning. Officers, working on the cases, said early today they had exhausted every lead and got no where, but that they were still investigating.

Forcing a window on Railroad Street, the robbers entered the Williamston Supply Company building and then broke the glass door leading to the office. They ransacked the desk drawers, but nothing was missed there.

Crawling up on some old oil storage tanks, the robbers reached the roof of the wholesale store at the rear and got into the store by removing a skylight and tearing through some mesh wire. Several dollars in change were missed from the shipping room along with a quantity of cigarettes. Nothing else was missed. The robbers entered the office and ransacked the place and possibly took a little change from the stamp box.

Doors to the wholesale firm were locked, and after failing to force an opening through a door the robbers had to leave through the skylight. It is fairly certain that the effectiveness of the break-in was limited when the robbers could not gain an easy way to get the loot out. It is thought that the robbers used a rope to lower themselves down into the wholesale house, but no rope was found.

Local officers called for bloodhounds from the prison camp near here. The dogs picked up a track quickly and ran it to a deadend in the street where the robbers are believed to have boarded a car and departed.

The robberies here were two in a series reported in the county recently. No leads have been established in any of them, including the four reported in Jamesville a few days earlier. Reports from Jamesville state that robbers attempted to enter the pressing club there last Friday night but were frightened away.

No attempts were made to open an iron safe in any of the places entered, the officers are of the opinion that the robbers were amateurs in the business.

Sheriff Roebuck Enters Hospital for Treatment

Sheriff C. B. Roebuck entered a Washington hospital yesterday for a check-up and doctors ordered him to bed for treatment. He was said to have rested very well last night.

MY GOODNESS!

In New York recently a Yale geologist predicted that the streets of Chicago will one day be canals like those of Venice, Niagara Falls will be a dry precipice, and the St. Lawrence valley an empty canyon. But all this won't happen for thousands of years.

Dr. Richard Forester Flint assured his listeners. He said the changes will be caused by "settling" of the earth. The southern shores of Lakes Michigan, Erie and Superior are now sinking one inch every ten years. As a result, the Great Lakes will ultimately flow into the Mississippi Valley. The Yale professor didn't mention it, but it has been reported in geological circles that the coast of North Carolina is sinking at an even more rapid rate than the shores of the Great Lakes.

NARROW ESCAPE

Making her last trip to school during the 1948-49 term, a little girl, about ten years of age and whose name could not be learned, narrowly escaped injury when she crashed a red light at the corner of Main and Watts Street yesterday morning. A Florida car, traveling west on the main street, turned as far as it could in an effort to miss the child but did not quite succeed. The car struck the little rider off. Fortunately the victim wasn't hurt. She got up and moved away about half crying.

The couple in the car, badly frightened, continued on their way after learning the child was not hurt.

Roots Of Grasses Are Important In Soil Conservation

Roots Of Grass When Sown With Clover Weigh 5,000 Pounds Per Acre

The importance of the roots of grass crops in conservation often is not appreciated, in the opinion of Geo. C. Griffin, chairman of the Martin County Agricultural Conservation Committee. Since roots are below ground it is not apparent how completely they occupy the soil.

To check up on this, scientists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture have washed out the roots of a number of mixed crops. When sweet clover was grown alone it produced 1900 pounds of roots to the acre. When grass was grown with the sweet clover, 3000 pounds of roots were produced to the acre. Alfalfa alone produced 2300 pounds of roots to the acre. When grass was sown with the alfalfa, the roots amounted to 5000 pounds to the acre and in some cases up to 9000 lbs. It is these unseen characteristics of grass which make it such a valuable conservation crop, the chairman points out.

The roots fill the soil and hold the particles together. When the grass is turned under, it is these roots which make the soil work easier. As the roots decay they make the native fertility of the soil available and add to the sponge-like ability of the soil to absorb water. It is for this reason, the chairman explains, that grass is such an important conservation crop.

Poppy Sale In County Saturday

Plans have been completed for handling the sale of several thousand poppies in this county on Saturday of this week. Made by disabled veterans, the poppies will be sold in nearly every section of the county and the proceeds will be used for the benefit of the disabled and their families.

The following have volunteered to handle the sale, Mrs. J. B. Taylor, general chairman, announced: Williamston: Mesadems J. M. Ward, R. H. Goodman, Rush Bondurant, Arthur White, W. E. Dunn, J. B. Barnhill, Clyde Anderson, J. Sam Getsinger, W. W. Beard, W. O. Griffin, Roy Ward, Dean Speight, J. D. Baldree, H. D. Taylor, Exum Ward, Jr., J. B. Sullivan, J. A. Wynne, Carlyle Langley, Joe Johnson, Robert T. Taylor, J. A. Wynn, and Miss Clyde Hassell.

Farm Life: Mrs. J. A. Hardison and Mrs. A. C. Roberson.

Robersonville: Philip Keel, chairman.

Hamilton: Mrs. M. L. White and Mrs. W. J. Beach.

Jamesville: Mrs. J. A. Ellis, Mrs. N. R. Daniel, Mrs. P. M. Holliday, Mrs. Raleigh Harrington and Miss Brownie Holliday.

Peanuts Moving Out Of Storage Here To The Mills

Most of the 1948 Crop Has Been Prepared For Manufacturers

Peanuts, stored here by the government last fall, are beginning to move to the oil mills, while most of the 1948 crop has been prepared for regular trade channels.

Approximately 30,000 of the more than 100,000 bags of peanuts stored here by the government are moving to a plant in Suffolk to be converted into oil for regular trade use. No price figure was divulged, but it was learned that the government had rejected a bid of about six cents for the goobers. Nine large trucks moved about 2,250 bags from the Roanoke-Dixie Warehouse here yesterday and the others will be moved as rapidly as possible. The government plans to move several hundred tons of peanuts out of storage at Darlington, South Carolina, and Washington within the next few days, one report stating that they will go to an oil mill in Wilson.

It could not be learned when the remainder of the crop stored here would be moved. Local millers, while not interested in peanuts for oil, are expected to bid on shelling peanuts for shipment abroad, a few having been already shelled at one or two small plants in this section in recent weeks.

According to unofficial reports, the government stored approximately 1,100,000 bags of peanuts from the 1948 crop in four states, and about one-tenth of them or 102,000 bags were stored here.

Except for the small mill which is being used to shell seed peanuts for farmers, the Williamston Peanut Company suspended operations yesterday for about two or three weeks or until some of the cleaned goods can be moved. "We have a few thousand bags still on hand, and we plan to reopen the plant just as soon as the market can take them," one of the plant owners said yesterday. It is estimated that the company has enough peanuts on hand to supply the plant for about two or three weeks.

If the government needs any peanuts shelled and local firms can get the contract, the labor condition here will have been greatly relieved. "If bids are asked we plan to submit an attractive one," a company official said.

Including the peanuts stored by the government, the market here handled nearly half million bags of peanuts from the 1948 crop.

(Continued on page eight)

To Hold Union At Smithwicks Creek

The Eastern Carolina Primitive Baptist Association will hold a union at Smithwicks Creek this week-end, it was announced yesterday by the pastor, Elder P. E. Getsinger. Services will be held Saturday morning at 10:30 o'clock and that night at 8:00 o'clock. The Sunday service will be held at 10:30 o'clock, followed by dinner on the grounds.

Elders J. A. Fagg of Winston-Salem, J. H. Dally of Sperryville, Va., and F. R. Moore of Kernersville have advised the church that they plan to be present and others are expected.

A cordial invitation is being extended the public to attend the services and enjoy the fellowship. The host church and its friends are making preparations to entertain hundreds of visitors.

ROUND-UP

There was right much activity on the crime front in this section, but very few alleged law violators found their way into the county jail during the week-end.

Only two persons were jailed, one for failing to comply with a court judgment while the other was detained for investigation. Both were colored. One was 23 and the other was 65 years of age.