

To Hold Nominating Meetings In County

Nine Conventions Will Be Held On Thursday Night

Election of Community Committee Will Follow A Week Later

Meeting in their respective districts on Thursday evening of this week at 7:30 o'clock, Martin County farmers will nominate their "Triple A" or Production and Marketing Administration community committee members and delegates to the county convention. Following the nominations on Thursday of this week, the farmers will vote on the nominees the same day of the cotton referendum a week later.

At the meetings Thursday of this week, the farmers are to nominate for their community groups, a chairman, vice chairman, regular member and two alternates, and then name a delegate and an alternate to the county convention which will be held after the day of the referendum. The county committee will be chosen from the delegates to the county convention.

The nominating conventions, all scheduled the same day, Thursday, December 8, and the same hour, are scheduled, as follows:

Bear Grass, school house; Cross Roads, Everetts school house; Goose Nest 1 and 2, school house; Griffins, Farm Life School; Hamilton, Hamilton School; Jamesville, 1 and 2, high school; Robertsonville 1 and 2, high school; Williams, county house; and Poplar Point - Williamston, agricultural building.

The county P. M. A. committee is now composed of Messrs. Geo. C. Griffin, chairman; Elmer Modlin, vice chairman, and D. R. Edmondson, regular member. Mr. Edmondson moved up from first alternate to regular member on the county committee when Mr. J. T. Moore resigned to accept a position in the P. M. A. office in Bertie.

Names of the community committees, including chairman, vice chairman and regular member, now serving are as follows:

Bear Grass: H. U. Peele, E. C. Harrison and Elmer Griffin. Cross Roads: H. L. Roebuck, G. H. Forbes and J. F. Bailey. Goose Nest 1: H. A. Early, M. E. Hyman and Julian Mizel. Goose Nest 2: Jack Smith, Milton Beach, Jr., and H. H. Worsley. Griffins: D. Clarence Gurkin, S. E. Manning, and Lester J. Griffin. Hamilton: L. R. Beach, J. H. Lillard and J. D. Etheridge. Jamesville 1: Howard Hardison.

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Nucleus Formed For Reserve Unit

short time ago, the 3474 Induction Station Army Reserve Unit is now rapidly pulling up to authorized strength, Major Neil N. Ripley, commanding officer, announced following a meeting of reservists held in the city hall last evening. The officer explained that approximately sixteen men, or about one-third of the authorized strength, had joined, and that full recognition was expected within a short time. Veterans may enter the unit with their old service ratings, and membership is open to those irrespective of the branch of the armed forces they served in and regardless of age. New recruits, however, must be between the ages of 17 and 35, inclusive.

The officer personnel is about completed, including Major Ripley, Major Thomas W. Crockett, Major S. P. Woolford, Captain D. W. Brady, 2nd Lt. Richard M. Fowler, M/Sgt. Leslie Y. (Pete) Fowden.

Young men or veterans interested in joining the unit are invited to meet with the leaders at the next meeting on Monday, December 19, at 8 p. m.

HOLIDAY LIGHTS

Hung on an entirely different pattern, Williamston's holiday lights, turned on last Thursday evening for the first time this season, have received very favorable comment. It is possible that one or two more stars would add to the set-up, but the official decorators, J. S. Ayers and Ben D. Courtney, explain that limited funds were available, that the project would be added to next year.

Officials Discuss Baffling Problem Here Last Night

Application Pending For Loan To Finance Addition To The Sewer System

Limited sewer lines, constituting the town's most baffling problems, were up for a full force discussion at a regular meeting of the local commissioners last evening.

Appearing before the board, Drs. Harris, Rhodes and Llewellyn discussed the possibilities of connecting the new hospital with the town system, and offered to contribute the cost of an individual system or possibly \$2,000 or more on a project sponsored by the town.

Reviewing preliminary surveys, the board pointed out that a system to meet the needs of the hospital and at the same time serve North Smithwick, Franklin, Liberty, Lee, Vance, Jackson and several other streets in that area would cost approximately \$12,500. It was explained that other sections were in need of the facilities, and that the town has an application pending for a loan or indirect grant from the federal government to finance a detailed survey of the proposed system and its cost. It has been roughly estimated that \$89,750 will put sewer facilities in reach of just about all the people within the town as it is now incorporated.

The old problem of extending the town limits and promoting an improvement program designed to take care of the two communities just north and west of the present limits came up for discussion. While the entire board expressed the wish to have the two areas included within the town, most of the members intimated that it should be left entirely with the people in those sections.

As the matter stands now, public opinion within the town will be measured and if there is sufficient demand to support the action, the board will push for an immediate survey and propose a bond issue subject to a vote of the people, explaining that the town has already reached that point where it must expand or contract. While outstanding bonds do not mature in their entirety until about 1950, the total debt is being retired fairly rapidly now, and a new bond issue of reasonable size will not necessarily throw the taxation program

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Recapture Former County Prisoner

Glenn Albert Chase, former resident of this county, was recaptured early last Friday night near Franklin, Va., following his escape along with five other prisoners from a Northampton prison camp earlier in the week.

Chase, found guilty of breaking into Pittman's clothing store and two other business establishments in Williamston, was sentenced to the roads for six years in the Martin County Superior Court back in March, 1947.

When spotted walking along the Virginia highway, Chase and two of the other five escaping from the camp, were still wearing their prison uniforms.

Holding Two For Alleged Larceny Of Gun, Money

Two Virginians Alleged To Have Stole From Home Of W. H. Taylor

Donald Eugene Gaddis, 29, and Jesse Hilleald, 30, working for a painting contractor out of Alexandria, Va., were arrested here early last Friday morning for allegedly breaking into the home of W. H. Taylor about three miles from Williamston on the Prison Camp Road and stealing a shot gun and \$3.47 cash. Given a preliminary hearing before Justice Chas. R. Mobley Friday afternoon, the two men were placed under \$1,000 bond each when probable cause of guilt was found. Unable to arrange bond immediately, the two men were returned to jail.

About 2:00 o'clock last Thursday afternoon, the two men allegedly went to the Taylor home. Finding no one there, they went to the near-by home of Mr. Taylor's sister-in-law, Mrs. Annie Bell Modlin, and called, but Mrs. Modlin would not answer. Thinking no one was in sight, the two men returned to the Taylor home and while Hilleald maintained a watch from the truck, Gaddis allegedly entered the house. The gun was stolen from its rack over a bed, and the cash was taken from a pocketbook in a bureau drawer. They were there about thirty minutes.

When Mr. Taylor returned home that evening about 9:00 o'clock, his sister-in-law told him that two men had been to his home and the robbery was discovered. He reported to officers and they, with a description of the truck, started a search. The truck was found parked on Smithwick Street, but no one was near it. The gun was found and identified by the owner. Maintaining a watch all night, officers arrested the two men when they started to drive the truck away at 7:00 o'clock Friday morning.

Following the hearing, Gaddis admitted going to the home, but denied breaking into the house, declaring that he found the gun on the back porch.

Farm Packhouse Damaged By Fire

Its origin not definitely known, fire burned down a small barn and badly scorched the stables and large packhouse on the S. C. Griffin farm just off Williams Street here last Sunday afternoon. The loss was estimated by Fire Chief G. P. Hall at \$1,230, including \$750 on the buildings, \$80 worth of hay, \$100 worth of corn and \$300 farm implements. The property was insured.

Eating its way into approximately 400 bales of hay, the fire spread rapidly, and by the time firemen reached there the flames were pouring from windows and through the side of the large barn. Residents in the neighborhood had turned out the stock. Both of the town's fire trucks were used and laid, firemen wrestling with the fire for almost two hours before bringing the blaze under complete control.

Starting at an hour when most of the population was riding in and around town, the fire attracted a capacity crowd of onlookers, and several of the firemen found it necessary to run a block or more to get to their stations.

No Trace Of Hog Thief In County

Using underhand tactics similar to those employed by one Whit Salsbury more than a year ago, a thief stole into Farmer Herbert Manning's hog pen early one night last week, knocked a 400-pound sow in the head and carried the carcass away. Officers have been working on the case, but have established no lead so far.

Salsbury operated in this county more than a year ago on a rather extensive scale, finally falling into the hands of the law.

Santa All But Mobbed On Visit Here Last Thursday

Mr. Santa Claus was almost mobbed when he made his pre-Christmas visit here last Thursday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock, the adults joining the kiddies in big numbers to postle the jolly old fellow as he alighted from a fire truck and made his way to Attorney H. C. Horton's law office porch. It was thought the porch would break under the load, and police moved in to help relieve the old fellow and thin out the crowd, estimated conservatively at 1,500 to 2,000.

Marching down the roped off street, the high school band appeared in a brief concert, playing several of the popular Christmas numbers. But when the fire truck pulled up, the kiddies turned their attention to old Santa and the

rush was on. A larger concentrated crowd had never been seen here. There were so many that Santa exhausted his favors before getting around to all the little folks. And those youngsters who could not get near Santa are assured that their letters finally reached their destination.

Taking leave of absence thirty minutes later, Santa started his return trip north via Conoho in a municipal vehicle, thoroughly convinced that he is still just about the most popular man in all the world.

Writing after returning to his home, Santa said he was sorry he could not talk with all the little folks last Thursday, but assured them that he would make every effort to get around on Christmas Eve.

ROUND-UP

Eleven persons were arrested and temporarily detained in the county jail last week-end, the round-up being the largest reported by Jailer Roy Peel in recent weeks.

Five were detained for public drunkenness, two for breaking and entering, and one each for non-support, violating liquor laws, aiding and abetting breaking and entering, and an eleventh one was booked under an old charge.

Five of the group were white and the ages of the eleven ranged from 19 to 42 years.

Accident Victim Buried Thursday In Martin County

Highway Patrol Reports More Vehicle Accidents Over Past Week-end

One highway accident victim, Isaiah Roberson, was buried and one or two others were hurt in motor vehicle accidents last week-end, according to reports coming from the office of the Highway Patrol in this county Monday.

Suffering a broken back in a car accident at the Sherrod farm on Highway 125 last October 9, Roberson, 46-year-old tenant, died at his home in the Hassell section last Tuesday and was buried near Hamilton on Thursday. Given first-aid treatment in Brown's hospital soon after the accident, Roberson was removed to a Durham hospital. When cash funds were exhausted, reports said he was returned to his home several weeks ago, presumably to die.

Roberson's nephew, Herman Roberson, 26, is now serving a road term for drunken driving. He is being recalled and is to go into the courts, possibly next week, to face a manslaughter charge.

The man's death boosts the total highway fatalities to seven in the county so far this year.

Early last Wednesday morning a 1928 Ford driven by Joe Ball and a 1938 Ford driven by M. E. Whitehurst, sideswiped each other on the newly paved Bear Grass-Williamston road. The Ball car made a complete turn in the highway and the Whitehurst car scooted off the road and came to a stop in a field. Damage to both cars was estimated at \$125 by Patrolman M. F. Powers who made the investigation.

Driving on a dirt road in the direction of Cross Roads about 6:00 o'clock Sunday evening, Willie James Mizelle lost control of his 1938 Plymouth sedan and the machine turned over at least four times, according to Patrolmen B. W. Parker and M. F. Powers who made the investigation.

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Expected Home From Hospital In Day or Two

Quite ill in a Washington hospital for several days, Mr. V. D. Godwin, Sr., was reported much improved this morning and if he suffers no relapse his return home is expected within a day or two.

Chas. Davenport Died In Hospital Sunday Morning

Funeral Monday Afternoon In Jamesville For Well-Known County Citizen

Charles Davenport, well-known county citizen and Jamesville business man, died in a Washington hospital Sunday morning after a long period of declining health. Taken worse rather suddenly on November 26, he was removed to the hospital that day and his condition had been critical since that time. During the past eighteen months or more, he had been under the constant care of doctors, spending some time in hospitals.

A son of the late J. L. Davenport and wife, he was born in Jamesville fifty-three years ago, and spent all his life there. He was a member of the Skewarkey Masonic Lodge in Williamston and was a Shriner, taking unusual interest in the activities of both. A veteran of World War I, he was a member of the John Walton Hassell Post of the American Legion. For a number of years he was associated with his brother-in-law, O. W. Hamilton, in the operation of a mercantile business in Jamesville. Mr. Davenport was active in various fields, acting for years as a leader of his political party in the county, and serving as a poll official. Friendly and most accommodating, he numbered his friends by the hundreds throughout the county and section. He was a citizen well met wherever he went, and despite his infirmities during recent months, he remained cheerful almost until the end.

Surviving are his widow, the former Miss Vera Hairr; seven sisters, Mrs. W. W. Walters, Mrs. C. T. Blount, Sr., Mrs. Lillian E. Griffin, Mrs. O. W. Hamilton, Mrs. Herbert Sexton, all of Jamesville; Mrs. Harvey Manning of Bethel, and Mrs. Ernest Edmondson of Hassell; two brothers, Zeno L. Davenport of Gumberry, and J. Oscar Davenport of Jamesville and Williamston.

Funeral services were conducted at the graveside in the Methodist Church Cemetery in Jamesville Monday afternoon at 4:00 o'clock. A chaplain from the army post at Fort Bragg officiated.

Mrs. Mae Edwards Died Monday At Jamesville Home

Funeral Services Are Being Conducted There This Afternoon

Mrs. Mae Mizelle Edwards, member of an old county family, died at the home of her niece, Mrs. C. C. Fleming, in Jamesville Monday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock following a long period of declining health. She had been in an invalid since May and her condition had been critical for about six weeks.

The daughter of the late John Riddick Mizelle and Emily Bates Mizelle, she was born in Jamesville 74 years ago on October 24, 1875. Following her marriage to Boswell S. Edwards she continued to make her home in Jamesville for a while, but moved to Baltimore in 1918 where her husband was a prominent mechanical engineer for almost thirty years. Following his death in 1948, she returned to Jamesville to make her home with the Flemings.

Mrs. Edwards was a devoted member of the Jamesville Christian Church for more than forty years, and Rev. J. M. Perry, pastor of the Robertsonville Christian Church, and Rev. W. B. Harrington, county Baptist minister, are conducting the funeral service at the home in Jamesville this afternoon at 4:00 o'clock. Interment will be in the Wallace family cemetery on a high bluff overlooking the Roanoke near the old family home.

Mrs. Edwards was the last member of her immediate family, and is survived by her niece with whom she made her home, a great niece and a great nephew.

Load Friendship Car With Corn in County

WARNING

Hearing complaints from various citizens, the town commissioners in session here last evening took no action, but made it quite clear that unless waste papers are brought under control, an ordinance with biting teeth could be expected.

Too many are scattering their waste papers, making it next to impossible for the street department workers to gather it all up. It has been suggested that waste paper be placed in containers or arrangements be made to burn it.

County Board In A Short Meeting Monday Morning

Reorganization Results In No Changes In The Official Family

Starting the second of their two-year term, the Martin County Commissioners Monday handled all their business in short order and recessed before noon. A reorganization was effected without a single change in the official family set-up. Mr. John Henry Edwards of Williamston continues as chairman, a post he has held since the death of R. L. Perry who served in that capacity for many years. Elbert S. Peel was reappointed county attorney, the spot carrying a \$150 retainer's fee. John W. Bland was reappointed superintendent of the county home for the aged and infirm, and M. Luther Peel was reappointed tax supervisor. Mr. Peel has not yet announced his township list-takers, but he is expected to do so shortly and meet later in the month and make plans for handling the 1950 listings. During the meantime, the supervisor will attend a special tax listing school at the Institute of Government in Chapel Hill, beginning next Tuesday.

Routine reports were heard and current business matters were handled. Tax relief orders were issued on account of errors to the following: 1948 taxes, G. H. Haislip, Jamesville, \$2; Woodrow Holliday, Williams, \$2; Augustus Riddick, John M. Whitaker and John M. Leggett, all of Bear Grass, \$2 each; D. C. Keel, Robertsonville, \$2, and Willie B. Jackson, Robertsonville, \$2. For 1949: Adrian Hardison, Williams, \$2.65; Chas. Williams, Williams, \$2; John M. Whitaker, Williams, \$2; Mrs. F. F. Carstarphen, Williamston, \$10.78; Kenneth H. Roberson, Robertsonville, \$2, and Willie B. Jackson, Robertsonville, \$2, a combined total of \$37.43.

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Improving After Heart Operation

Undergoing A Delicate Heart Operation In Duke Hospital Almost Two Weeks Ago, Jack Harris, 12-Year-Old Son Of Mrs. Estelle Harris Of Bear Grass, Was Reported Yesterday To Be Gradually Improving With The Prospect That He'll Be Able To Make It Home For Christmas. But There Is Some Doubt If He'll Be Able To Ride A Bike By The Time, Provided, Of Course, Old Santa Delivers A Bike.

The lad's case was said to have been one of the most aggravated ever handled, that he could not have lived much longer without the operation. He was under an oxygen tent for an entire week, and while his condition still is serious, he was reported Monday to be improving. Special nurses have been in continuous attendance at his bedside and his mother has been with him every minute possible.

Many Voting In District Election

While there is no mad rush to get to the polling places, early reports received this morning indicated that quite a few county citizens were voting in the current soil district election.

The names of two candidates, Messrs. C. L. Green and C. Abram Roberson, both of Robertsonville, are on the ballot and one is to be elected to serve as a member of the Martin County Board of Supervisors for the Coastal Plain Soil Conservation District — without remuneration other than travel allowance when attending meetings outside the county. Ballot boxes are located in Ayers' store, Oak City; Grimes Drug Store, Robertsonville; Rogers Brothers' store, Bear Grass; Hardison's Farm Supply, Jamesville, and agricultural building, Williamston. Any citizen in the county may vote.