

Question Several Following Thefts In Martin County

Hog Thefts Reported In Pitt County During the Past Week-End

Several persons were questioned last week-end, but no formal charges have been preferred following a series of hog thefts in this and Pitt County, officers advancing the opinion that an expert thief ring is carrying on the nefarious business. A \$100 reward was posted following the theft of a dozen hogs or more from Farmer Tom House near Robersonville, and it is likely that the reward will be upped to \$200. Officers from the sheriff's offices in this and Pitt County, aided by police and others worked night and day on the alleged ring trying to break it last week-end, but no definite lead has been established, as far as it could be learned today.

Two hogs were stolen from the Blount farm in Pitt County last week-end, sending the total to a fairly high figure in the two counties, thefts having been previously reported in and around Bethel, on the Strickland and House farms.

Among those questioned were Irving Bradley, Van R. Page, William Andrews, Jim Jenkins, Roy Brown and W. D. and Jasper Boyd, Jr.

Bradley, Page, Andrews and Jenkins were detained last week-end in connection with the theft of an electric drill from Grady Smith's garage in Robersonville several weeks ago. Officers, establishing a lead in the theft, traced the drill to a Bethel garage. Page, accompanied by the other three, drove to Smith's garage for Bradley to get his car. While Bradley was talking to the garage man, Jenkins allegedly picked up the drill. At a hearing held before Justice H. S. Everett, Robersonville, Jenkins was booked to the higher courts for larceny. Page and Andrews were booked for aiding and abetting, and no probable cause was found as to Bradley.

One report stated that there had been some evidence of chickens taken from Farmer Strickland being at the Jenkins home, but officers, investigating the report, could find no trace of the chickens.

Benefit Supper For Fire Truck

Working to provide better fire-fighting facilities for the Jamesville Community, citizens in that area are completing plans for a big fish supper in the school cafeteria and on the grounds at three Friday of this week between the hours of 5:30 and 8:00 o'clock.

The people of the community are furnishing all the food and service, and meals will be served at very reasonable prices, it was announced. Fish, including fried and stewed rock, fried perch and herring, will be served along with the trimmings with a culinary art unsurpassed anywhere in the land.

Approximately \$1,000 had been raised so far for the fire-fighting equipment, and the promoters of the supper are making plans to feed between 400 and 500 people Friday. People all over the county are invited to attend.

Recover Stolen Motor Saturday

An outdoor motor stolen from the river bank at Jamesville by two young white boys was recovered a short time later, the sheriff's office reported. The owner of the motor left the motor long enough to eat, but someone saw the boys get the motor and a chase started. The boys threw it out along a path.

Carried before Justice R. T. Johnson Monday morning, Irving Millwood and Bevell Renfrew, both of Edgecombe County, was bound over to the county court for trial. Bond in the sum of \$200 was required.

Explains Allotment Plan For The 1950 Peanut Crop

A new law, signed by the President a short time ago, makes some provision for marketing excess peanuts this year. However, it should be remembered that the 1950 allotments will continue in effect, and that there is a limit on excess plantings also.

In short, the farmer will have his allotment peanuts supported at 90 percent of parity as usual, but the excess plantings will either have to be "hogged down" or sold at prevailing market prices for oil stock, less certain estimated costs for handling. But in no case may a farmer plant in excess of his 1947 acreage. If he exceeds his 1947 acreage and digs and picks the goobers, he forfeits claim to support prices on any or all his 1950 crop. If a farmer does not recall the number of acres he planted in peanuts in 1947, he

may get the figure from the P.-M. A. office in the Martin County Agricultural building, Williams- ton. Last year the crop was cut about 21 percent, followed by a 7 percent cut this year. The new provision makes it possible for the farmer to plant the same number of acres planted before the reduction, but all plantings over and above the 1950 allotment will be regarded as excess and will have to be sold at prices prevailing for oil peanuts. That price is likely to range from three cents to five cents. Just how the plan details are to be handled is not known, but it is likely that the output will be combined with the understanding that whatever the excess percentage is, that same percentage of the crop produced will be delivered for oil.

Man Faces Trial For Starting Woods Fire

TO THE RESCUE

Their economic status reduced to a low point by fire, several colored families in this section were given a helpful lift by white citizens during the past few days.

When the home of Noah and Virginia Spruill, aged couple, was damaged by fire over in Williams Township, Stewart Tetterton got busy, raised \$37.50 in cash and he with several others made up the difference to make necessary repairs.

When fire destroyed the Essie Clemmons home here last Saturday and put nineteen out of doors, the Red Cross and Woman's Club rounded up enough clothing to outfit every member, Willard's Shoe Shop fitting most of the shoes free.

Candidates Paid \$317 Filing Fees

The thirty-three candidates filing for offices in Martin County and several of its townships, paid fees in the sum of \$317. A minimum fee of \$5 was charged for all offices paying \$500 or less, and a fee of one percent was charged for all offices paying \$500 or more.

Those paying \$5 each were, members of the board of education, board of commissioners, coroner, surveyor, and constable. Based on the one percent of the salary paid, fees were charged as follows, House of Representatives, \$6; sheriff, \$40; judge of county court, \$21; State Senate, \$6; solicitor of county court, \$18; treasurer, \$12; and clerk of court, \$36.

Red Cross Names Group Chairmen

Meeting in special session last Thursday noon, Red Cross officials, headed by Chapter Chairman W. H. Carstarphen and Mrs. Edna Bondurant, secretary, named Miss Ruth Manning to head the chapter's first aid program and Grady Luffman to direct a water safety plan.

Ellis Fysal, Red Cross first aid instructor, addressed the group and urged the leaders to extend its services to all parts of the county. Fysal, sent here by the Red Cross area office, completed a special course of first aid instruction last Friday. During his stay here he made safety talks in most of the schools in the county, pleading with the youngsters to recognize the growing dangers and take some action to prevent them.

Another meeting of Red Cross leaders is to be held shortly, and persons from every township in the chapter are being urged to attend.

H. H. Cowen, Sr., Died In Hospital Monday Morning

Funeral Is Being Held In Baptist Church Here This Afternoon

Henry H. Cowen, Sr., retired business man and well known farmer, died in a Washington hospital at 9:10 o'clock yesterday morning following a long period of declining health. He had been confined to his bed for about six weeks, spending much of that time in the hospital. His condition had been critical since Monday of last week when he suffered another heart attack.

The son of the late Henry and Roxanna Boyette Cowen, he was born near Williamston 72 years ago on August 25, 1877. In early life he moved with his family to Williamston, but continued to farm until his last illness. In addition to farming interests, he engaged in business over a long period of years. With the late Dr. J. H. Saunders and Leslie T. Fowden, Sr., he pioneered in the peanut cleaning business, erecting the first factory of that type in this section, and buying farmers' stock for millers over a long period. He was also interested in the garage business for about twenty years. In later years he had confined his interests to farming.

Mr. Cowen served as a member of the first Triple A committee in this county and was one of the members of the first board of directors of the Washington Production Credit Association which he helped organize.

In early manhood he was married to Miss Jeannette Mobley, who survives with two sons, Robert Henry and Henry Herbert Cowen, Jr., all of Williamston; a daughter, Mrs. J. L. Parker, Jr., of Colerain; and a brother, Charles Cowen of near Greenville.

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Thirty - Three Candidates File For County - District Offices

Voters To Decide Six Contests In May 27 Primary

Last-Minute Contest Develops For Judge Of The Recorder's Court

At least thirty-four candidates, paying a total of \$317 in filing fees, got their names in the county-district political pot before closing time at 6:00 o'clock p. m. last Saturday. The exact number of names to go on the county-district ballot cannot be determined until reports are received from the six other counties in the second Senatorial District. It is known that four—H. G. Horton, Martin; Sam M. Campen, Pamlico, and O. L. Williams, Hyde, had filed, but there is a possibility that others entered the race at the last minute.

Last-minute activity on the filing front developed a sixth county contest and brought a big surprise, not to mention "hot" prospective races for township constable jobs.

R. T. Johnson, justice of the peace and railroad employe, filed Saturday, getting into the race with Chas. H. Manning for judge of the recorder's court. All other announced candidates got their names on the dotted line and the cash filing fees on the barrel head in ample time to get in line for office positions. The big surprise came at noon Saturday when O. B. Roberson, Robersonville, filed for county surveyor. The office, if it can be called an office, has been begging for some time. No

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Cancer Fund Drive Going Forward In Martin County

The annual cancer fund drive is every support and do everything in our power to work for its prevention and cure," the drive leaders said.

Only a few canvassers have reported so far, but most of them met with a ready response on the part of the public. The drive is to last through next week, but the leaders are anxious to complete it as soon as possible.

The nation is raising nearly fifteen million dollars in the crusade. Indications are that much progress is being made in the uphill fight against the disease, and the public is earnestly urged not to relax in its support and encouragement.

E. G. Anderson, House Candidate, Makes Statement

Declares He Has No Political Axes To Grind; Admits Strong Opposition

Officially filing his candidacy for Martin County Representative in the North Carolina General Assembly last week, E. G. Anderson, Robersonville business man and tobaccoist, released the following statement:

"First, let me say that I have no political axes to grind, and propose to abide by the wishes of the people at all times. I enter the race with a thorough knowledge that the opposition will be strong. However, that is nothing more than I have been faced with for the past several years in everyday life. At the same time I do feel that I am entering the race with a fair knowledge of good moral and business administration.

"I think we are all agreed that it is now time for more serious thoughts and actions with reference to the moral, educational and business administration of all public offices from our local communities right on through the nation's capital.

"If I am elected to represent Martin County in the coming legislature, I assure all the people that I shall perform to the best of my ability the duties of the position of trust and to safeguard and promote their every interest.

"I was encouraged to make the race by a number of people, all of whom are residents of Martin County, and their support along with that of all others prior to and during the May 27 primary will be greatly appreciated."

Victims Of Auto Wreck Improving

Injured in a serious automobile accident at a highway intersection between Wake Forest and Durham last Tuesday, four local people were reported improving late yesterday.

Mrs. Jos. G. Corey, suffering multiple bruises and shock, was able to return to her home here on Ray Street last Friday, and is getting along very well.

Mrs. Jesse Lilley, who lives near Williamston and who suffered a compound leg fracture, was able to be up in a rolling chair in a Raleigh hospital where she was carried with her daughter, Mrs. Marvin Coltrain, and Mrs. Ben Roberson for treatment.

Mrs. Coltrain, suffering a grave head injury, showed much improvement late Sunday when she was able to talk with relatives. She was also able to take a little nourishment at that time, and was reported to be holding her own today.

Mrs. Roberson, suffering fractures of seven ribs and other injuries, was reported to be getting along as well as could be expected, reports stating that there was some pleurisy, and that a cast had been placed around one knee.

SAFETY COUNCIL

"Preaching" safety in addresses to thousands of pupils in the county schools during the past two weeks, Ellis Fysal, Red Cross first aid instructor, declared that there was an urgent need for a safety program to be advanced among the young people.

"There is a striking need for accident prevention on the highways, on the farms, in the homes, at the swimming ponds and pools," the Red Cross man said, adding that the organization is prepared to provide the services of instructors both for accident prevention and first aid.

John Cowan Died This Morning At West End Home

Funeral at Home of Daughter In West End Tomorrow at 3:00 P. M.

John W. Cowan, retired farmer, died at his home in West End this morning at 4:30 o'clock after a long period of declining health. His condition had been serious almost since the death of his wife on February 6. He had been confined to his bed for about six weeks and experienced ill health for years.

The son of the late John A. and Cashie Mizelle Cowan, he was born in Bear Grass 78 years ago on October 3, 1871, and spent nearly all his life on the farm there. Retiring on account of feeble health, he moved to Williamston eight years ago. In addition to his farming interests he engaged in watch repairing to occupy his time.

He was married to Bettie Bullock 51 years ago. She died on last February 6.

Surviving are three sons, Oniley S. Cowan and Cole Cowan, both of West End, and C. C. Cowan of Bear Grass; a daughter, Mrs. H. O. Gurganus of West End; one brother, D. C. Cowan of Bear Grass; ten grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be conducted at the home of his daughter Wednesday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock by Elder A. B. Ayers, Primitive Baptist minister of Bear Grass. Interment will be in the Cowan family cemetery in Bear Grass Township.

Accident Victim Still In Hospital

Suffering a broken back and internal injuries, Oliver Harrison, Jr., young Bear Grass farmer, continues quite ill in a Washington hospital, late reports stating that he was getting along as well as could be expected. The young man was injured in a freak accident near the home of Mr. and Mrs. Gomer Harrison late in the afternoon of April 7.

Doctors are planning to place him in a cast today, one report said.

Fourteen Couples Are Married Last Month In County

Issuance Smallest for Any Month Since August Of Last Year

Fourteen marriage licenses were issued by Register of Deeds J. Sam Getsinger in this county last month, the issuance being the smallest for any month since last August. The issuance was also the smallest for any February since 1940.

The number of white marriages increased from two in February to five in March while the number of licenses issued to colored couples decreased from 16 to 9.

Licenses were issued last month as follows:

White
William Wood Biggs to Julia Harrison, both of Williamston.
W. Vascoe Greene, Ahsokie, to Sylvia Angela McLawhorn, Williamston.

Cecil C. Ange, Jamesville, to Ellen Louise Griffin, Williamston.
James Alton Whitehurst, Jr., Hobgood, to Margaret Dolores Barrett, Oak City.

James Dawson Rogerson to Gladys Elvin Thomas, both of Williamston.

Colored
Clarence Coffield to Retta Mae Perkins, both of Williamston.
Lester Griffin to Adelle Beach, both of Robersonville.
Sylvester Woolard to Frances Everett, both of Williamston.
Marvin Lloyd to Sarah Bellamy, both of Robersonville.
Joe Wilkins, Jr., to Fannie Manning, both of Williamston.

Lonnie Gilliam to Fannie Gibbs, both of Williamston.
Jim Outerbridge, Jr., to Pearl-ine Brown, both of Williamston.
Willie C. Hassell RFD 2, Williamston, to Martha Ricks, Williamston.

Willie Spencer to Dorothy Mae Spruill, both of Williamston.

Badly Injured In Truck Accident

Zeno Beddard, Poplar Point farmer, was badly injured in a truck accident last Saturday morning when the vehicle turned over on the hill near W. G. Peel's fish pond between Whitley's Bridge and Highway 125. Following first aid treatment, he was removed to a Washington hospital where it was found he had suffered a shoulder fracture, seven broken ribs and chest injuries.

Walter Rogers, driving a log truck owned by Roland Bunting and carrying a load of lumber, was not hurt. Driving hardy more than 10 or 15 miles an hour, Rogers met a car on the narrow hill. When he tried to avoid a crash with the car, Rogers turned too near a ditch and the truck turned over. Beddard was caught in the cab which was smashed almost level with the hood.

No estimate of the property damage could be had. Patrolman R. P. Narron investigated the accident.

Red Cross First Aid Instructors

Fourteen persons completed training for first aid instructors in the Red Cross First Aid school conducted here during the two-week period ending last Friday night. They are qualified to offer first aid instruction to others, and the Red Cross, under the chairmanship of Miss Ruth Manning, will be glad to make the services available to any group at any time. Classes may be arranged through the secretary or Miss Manning, it was announced.

Those completing the first aid instructor's course include, James Oscar Daniel, Stuart Ma-nard, Mollie Ray Oakley, Elizabeth Parker and Vernon J. Spivey, Vida Mae Gordon, Doretha Slade Chance, Annie M. Hassell, Alonza R. Jones, Nora Cherry Slade, John M. Slade, and Herbert W. Whitfield. Those receiving advanced first aid certificates were James Staton Leggett and Fred C. Brown.