

## Ben F. Roberson Dies at His Home Friday Afternoon

### Prominent Griffins Farmer Suffered Heart Attack; Funeral Sunday

Benjamin Franklin Roberson, prominent Griffins Township farmer and floor manager for the New Carolina and Farmers tobacco warehouses here for eight or ten years, died suddenly at his home there last Friday afternoon at 5:15 o'clock. He had been in declining health for possibly some time, but his condition was not considered serious until last Thursday when he accompanied his wife to the hospital and, at her request, submitted to an examination. Doctors advised him to take his bed immediately and rest. During most of Friday he felt about as usual, and Mrs. Roberson left him in bed while she went to the kitchen to prepare the evening meal. Returning a few minutes later she found him in a dying condition as a result of a heart attack, the end coming before medical aid could reach him.

The son of the late Noah and Martha Whitley Roberson, he was born in Griffins Township 49 years ago on June 1, 1901, and lived and farmed there all his life, working on the Williamston tobacco market several months each year.

Mr. Roberson was first married to Miss Margaret Manning about 1923. She died in September, 1926, and several years later was married to Miss Irene Coltrane.

He was a faithful member of the Church at Maple Grove, serving as deacon for twelve years. He was a splendid neighbor and citizen, one who worked for the betterment of his community and county through the schools, church and civic organizations. Although he experienced many reverses, he accepted them without complaint, always striving to carry on for what was best for his fellowman and for the finer ideals in life. He gave in full measure to worthy causes and willingly responded to the call of everyone in need.

Surviving are his widow; six brothers, Simon, Lewis, Staton, George A., Arnold and Archie Roberson; and four sisters, Mrs. Jesse Griffin, Mrs. Dawson Griffin, Mrs. David Griffin and Mrs. Dock Hardison, all of the home community.

Funeral services were conducted in the Maple Grove Church Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock by the pastor, Rev. M. Luther Ambrose, assisted by Elder P. E. Getsinger. Burial was in the Manning Cemetery.

## Youthful Pianist Has Fine Record

Ervin Laszlo, Hungarian-born piano genius, will appear in the first series of community concerts in the Williamston High School auditorium Wednesday evening of this week at 8:30 o'clock.

The extraordinary success which Laszlo scored when he made his debut in New York had such an electrifying effect upon the audience and music critics present that the New York Herald Tribune the next day declared Laszlo to be "the most remarkable young pianist encountered in twenty years of experience in reviewing music in this city," while the New York Times immediately placed him "among the outstanding keyboard artists of the day."

Ervin Laszlo was born in Budapest in 1932. He had his first piano lessons at the age of five from his mother, and, two years later, won his first prize at the Music Academy of Budapest. His first public appearance was made when he was nine and in the ensuing years he gave numerous concerts. The boy won the Francois Liszt Prize when he was only fourteen and soon after was awarded the Artist Diploma of the Academy of Music.

Later young Laszlo won first prize in the International Music Competition at Geneva over 424 entrants from 40 countries. This led to his

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## County Man Is Missing In Northern Korea



S/Sgt. Martel Hardy, Martin County young man, is missing in Northern Korea, according to a message received last Saturday by his mother, Mrs. Nellie Hardy, of Cross Roads Township. Offering few details, the message said that the young man was missing since November 11 (November 10 our time). A veteran of World War II, was an Army Air Force mechanic, but is believed to have been on a mission when he was reported missing. His father, A. Lon Hardy, died a few years ago. The young man is the fourth Martin County man to be included in the Korean war casualty list. The above picture of the young man was taken just a few weeks ago, while the one to the right was taken during World War II.



## Six Injured In School Bus-Truck Accident

### FAIR LUCK

Hunting squirrels in the Roanoke River lowlands, Governor Kerr Scott and his party had fair luck yesterday, but no report on the second day had been received. Ben Ronney, the governor's assistant, was top man and Bob Graham of the State Agriculture Department, scored a few hits, but the Chief Executive combined his report in the plural possessive.

Governor Scott and his party are guests of the Bill Abbits.

Unable to go to Montana for pheasants on account of weather conditions, the Governor chose this area for hunting.

## Recovering From Accidental Wound

Ben Roberson, 40-year-old Robersonville man, is recovering from an accidental bullet wound received while fishing in Gardner's Creek late Sunday afternoon. He entered the Martin General Hospital here that evening and underwent an operation, late reports stating that he was getting along very well.

While fishing from a boat, the victim saw a snake and reached around for his foreign-made .25 caliber pistol. The weapon accidentally fired, the bullet striking and lodging in his right thigh.

### Firemen Called To Grass Fire Friday Afternoon

Firemen were called to a grass fire just off Elm Street, near the Shiloh Baptist Church, last Friday afternoon at 1:35 o'clock.

## NBC Bread Truck Hits School Bus Near Jamesville

### Only One of Five Children Detained In Hospital For Treatment

Five school children and a truck driver were painfully but believed not badly hurt in a school bus-truck accident just east of Gardner's Creek near Jamesville last Thursday afternoon about 3:30 o'clock. The injured were treated in a local hospital and all but one were able to continue to their homes by early evening.

The injured: Bruce Lilley, 13, cut in forehead and bruises.

Arthur Lilley, Jr., 8, injured about the nose and mouth.

Larry Asby, 9, arm injury and face lacerations.

Jasper Barber, 12, hip injury. The lad was detained in the hospital for treatment until Sunday. He was out and in court Monday, apparently getting along all right.

Bettie Lou Griffin, 14, right eye injury.

George Allen, driver of a National Biscuit Company truck of Greenville, received an eleven-inch cut in the forehead when he butted out the windshield. He pleaded guilty of reckless driving and was fined \$100 in Court Monday.

Others in the school bus were jarred a bit, but were not listed among the injured.

Leaving the Jamesville school about the usual time with his human cargo, Fred Griffin, 17, was driving toward Williamston when he slowed down to make a stop and discharge some of his passen-

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## Initiate Deputy In Method Of Liquor Law Enforcement

### Nine Distilleries Wrecked In County During Early Part Of Month

Going with the Martin County Alcoholic Beverages Control Board's enforcement division the first of this month, Cecil Bullock, former game protector, has been thoroughly initiated in the ways of enforcing the liquor laws during that time.

Working with Enforcement Chief J. Roebuck, Bullock has helped wreck nine illicit liquor distilleries, and that is just the beginning for the full-time team. Two men were recognized at one plant and were booked for hearings.

In their first raid early in the month, the two officers wrecked two plants a short distance from N. C. Highway 11 in Robersonville Township. Each plant was equipped with a crude 50-gallon oil drum. At one plant the officers poured out 100 gallons of mash, and at the other they wrecked three 50-gallon fermenters, but found no mash.

In their second raid, they wrecked an oil drum still and poured out 150 gallons of mash. Two men were recognized at the plant.

On Monday of last week the raiders invaded Bear Grass Township and took a 50-gallon copper kettle, wrecked eight 50-gallon fermenters and poured out 250 gallons of mash.

Returning to Robersonville Township the next day, the officers destroyed a 50-gallon oil drum and wrecked five ferment-

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## Montford Griffin Is Fatally Injured Near Jamesville

### Well Known Farmer Pinned Under Tractor In Logging Accident

Montford Nelson Griffin, well known farmer of Jamesville Township, was fatally injured in a logging accident about one mile from his home at 9:00 o'clock Monday morning. His skull crushed, he died while being moved to a Washington hospital.

Mr. Griffin was pulling a load of pulp wood with a tractor and the load got caught between a stump and a tree. When he increased the speed of the engine, the front of the tractor went up and toppled over backwards, pinning his head down. No one saw the accident, but other workers in the woods heard the crash and rushed to him. Unable to free him with their rhands, his rescuers had to go for a truck and drag the machine off him. He was never conscious after he was hit.

The son of Mrs. Lottie Ange Griffin and her late husband, John H. Griffin, he was born in Jamesville Township 47 years ago on December 14, 1902. An industrious worker, he lived and farmed at the old family home all his life. A faithful attendant upon its services, he was a member of the Mt. Olive Free Will Baptist Church in Washington County for a long time, and never hesitated to answer a neighbor's call for assistance. Devoted to his family and friends, he spent nearly all his time at home and on his farm. He was married to Miss Narcissie Ange twenty-nine years ago.

Surviving besides his widow and mother, are a son, C. D. Griffin of the home; two daughters, Mrs. Leon R. Basye and Mrs. Charles Hardison, both of Washington, D. C.; one brother, Earl W. Griffin of Greensboro, and a sister, Mrs. Belmer Hardison of Poplar Point.

Funeral services will be conducted at the home on Highway 171 Wednesday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock by his pastor, Rev. F. A. Lilley, and burial will be in the family cemetery near the home.

## Report Downward Trend In Peanut Prices Recently

Peanut prices, after holding for a short time to the highest level on record, started weakening last week and today are hovering near or right at government support figures. One or two farmers said they were receiving small premiums for their offerings, but the market, for the most part, remained a bit bearish with no certain trend noticeable in any direction.

The market asserted itself early last week, but early Thursday several of the larger buyers virtually went off the market with the unofficial declaration that 13 and 13 and one-half cents was too much for peanuts. Prices tumbled about one cent by the last of the week, and yesterday few sales were made above twelve cents. Other sales, grading around eleven

cents, were reported in limited quantities.

Buyers, searching fields for peanuts the early part of last week, were said to be holding closer to home base at the beginning of this week. Deliveries, after climbing up to a peak of about 10,000 bags daily at this point, were decidedly smaller.

Rains, falling last Saturday, delayed some farmers, but most growers were operating their pickers early Monday.

Asked for a report on the market, a representative of the cleaners said he hardly knew what to say, that possibly the market would adjust itself within a few days. But he would not venture a guess on the size of the adjustment figure.

## Report Twelve Road Accidents In County

### LAST COURT

Judge Chas. H. Manning and Solicitor Paul D. Roberson held their last session of the Martin County Recorder's Court Monday, and both appeared unusually happy when they cleared the docket at 4:45 o'clock and told members of the bar, the clerk and a few friends good bye. Neither offered any comment, but explained they hoped to be back as counsel instead of as officials.

While their terms do not expire until December 4, the two officials closed the court down Monday to make way for a special two-week term of the superior court. On December 4, R. T. Johnson will take the judge's seat, and Clarence Griffin will take the prosecutor's chair.

## School Band Has A Busy Week-end

Starting with a parade Friday afternoon for the district American Legion meeting and ending in a trip to Durham for the Wake Forest-Duke football game, the Williamston High School Green Wave Band had a busy time of it last week-end.

After the parade Friday afternoon they went to the high school grounds and at 6:00 o'clock joined the Ahoskie band in practicing for the half-time show to be given that night at the Ahoskie-Williamston football game. Then followed the big picnic supper with the visiting band members as special guests. The half-time show was next and after the game a victory celebration. Saturday morning they were up about 5 o'clock and left for Durham about 6:00. They returned home about 9:00 on Saturday night.

Local folks saw the fine half-time show at the game here and reports from Durham are that the band gave an excellent account of itself at the big game there. It had a larger part this year than in its last appearance there and in the words of Director Jack Butler "The kids were great all the way."

### ROUND-UP

Attention, for the most part, shifted from plain ole crime to accidents in the county, but officers, representing the State, county and towns, said they found four drunks and a suspicious character. The five arrests were the smallest for any week-end patrol period in the county during the past month.

Two of the five were white, and the ages of the group ranged from 31 to 37 years.

## Receive Bids On Drainage Project On November 29th

Bids on an extensive drainage project in parts of Bear Grass and Cross Roads Townships will be received and opened in the office of the clerk of the Martin County Superior Court at 10:00 o'clock, a. m., on Wednesday, November 29, according to information released this week.

Work contemplated will include construction of approximately fifteen and one-half miles of canals. The project anticipates the removal of 273,204 cubic yards of dirt and the clearing of slightly more than 112 acres of land.

The project is one of the most extensive of its kind ever pro-

posed in this county. While there has been some expressed opposition with the possibility that some differences will be aired in the court, the project has strong support. The interested parties, headed by Chairman Sydney Beacham, recognize the need for the project and they have worked diligently to have it promoted.

Known as Martin County Drainage District No. 1, the project will be centered in Bear Grass Township, but it will extend into Cross Roads.

Several similar projects are being proposed in other parts of the county.

## Jos. R. Harrison Died Suddenly at His Home Friday

### Well-Known Farmer Of Poplar Point Had Been Feeble For Some Time

Joseph R. Harrison, well-known Martin County farmer, died suddenly of a heart attack at his home in Poplar Point Township last Friday evening at 5:30 o'clock. He had been in declining health for some months, but following hospital treatment he was thought to be getting along as well as usual. While sitting on the porch Friday afternoon enjoying the warm sun, he was cheerful and active. A short time later he was walking in the back porch, suffered the attack and fell. He was able to walk to his room with the help of others, but weakened rapidly and died before medical aid could reach him.

The son of the late John and Miranda Rawls, he was born in Bear Grass Township 30 years ago on January 9, 1870, and lived and farmed there until 1910 when he purchased a farm and located in Poplar Point Township where he had since made his home.

Mr. Harrison was a kind neighbor and friend, one who found pleasure in growing crops. He did not care so much for his tobacco, but he got real delight in producing good corn and other food and feed crops. He cherished the friendship of his fellowman, and few men could have walked more humbly and sincerely through life than he did. His simple way of life was attractive and appealing, and he could be counted on the right side when things good and noble were at stake.

In 1892 he was married to Miss Amanda White who died in October, 1918. His second marriage was to Mrs. Annie Edmondson in 1920.

Surviving are his widow and by his first marriage, five sons, Norman K. Harrison of Williamsston, Chester Harrison of Ft. Wayne, Indiana, Herman C. Raymond and Milton Harrison, all of the home community; two daughters, Mrs. Rose Peaks of Everetts, Mrs. Buck Howell of Poplar Point; one brother, Orlander Harrison of Beaufort County; two sisters, Mrs. Nora B. Whitehurst of Washington and Mrs. Nellie Hadley of Bear Grass Township; seventeen grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren.

Mr. Harrison was a faithful member of the Everetts Christian Church, having affiliated with the church at Macedonia more than sixty years ago. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. J. M. Perry, pastor of the Robersonville Christian Church, assisted by Rev. Olin Fox, Christian minister of Hassell, and Rev. E. R. Stewart, Baptist minister of Hamilton. Interment was in Williamsston's Woodlawn Cemetery.

## Man Found Dead At Jamesville

Vance Brooks, Jr., 40-year-old Negro, was found dead in a field near the Gaines and Kirkman lumber mill at Jamesville late Monday afternoon, Acting Coroner Billy Biggs stating that the man apparently died of exposure.

Brooks, employed by Leslie Hardison, was last seen about 7:00 o'clock Saturday evening walking toward his home near the lumber mill. Said to have been in a drunken condition, he turned off Highway 64 at the old hotel in Jamesville and walked several blocks down the street. Instead of turning to his right after crossing the railroad and continuing to his home, he wandered straight ahead and apparently became lost. He fell into a shallow ditch beside the path where according to Sheriff M. W. Holloman, he apparently struggled to get out.

Going to his hog pasture Monday afternoon for the first time since last Saturday, Farmer Arthur Wallace Lilley found the body and notified officers.

Examined in Everett's Funeral Home, the body showed no scars or bruises, and Acting Coroner Biggs ruled that the death was accidental and that no formal inquest would be held.

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