

## County Boy Missing In Action In Korea

### W. F. Strickland Has Been Missing Since Nov. 26th

#### Youth Enlisted In Service At Williamston Twenty-One Months Ago

Sgt. 1/c Woolard F. Strickland has been missing in action in Korea since November 26, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry T. Strickland of near Parmele were advised by the Department of the Army last week-end.

No other details were offered in the telegraphic message, but Major Edward F. Witsell, in a letter this week, pointed out that the term "missing in action" is used only to indicate that the whereabouts or status of an individual is not immediately known. He also explained that every effort is being made to clear up the status of missing personnel, but that under battle conditions the task is difficult.

The young man is the seventh from this county to be listed among the casualties in the Korean war. It is believed that he was in the Yalu River sector when he was missed from his regular assignment. He is the second youth from this county to be included among the casualties since the Americans suffered reverses in North Korea.

Sgt. Strickland, 21 years old last April, enlisted in the service at Williamston 21 months ago, and left this county last July for Korea.

Before moving with his family to the Parmele community, the young man lived with his parents on the W. B. Daniel farm between Everetts and Williamston, and attended school in Williamston, later attending the Robersonville High School.

## Man Jailed For Secret Assault

R. C. Council, 26-year-old colored man, was placed in the county jail Tuesday for alleged secret assault. Unable to arrange bond, it looks as if he'll be a guest of the county until next March.

Secreting himself behind a barn on Lester Council's farm on Highway No. 11 between Bethel and Hassell, Council allegedly shot Samuel Randolph with a shot gun. The victim was well peppered with the shot, but his condition is not serious. He was treated in the Robersonville Clinic and was discharged.

According to Deputy Dennis A. Roberson, the trouble started last Saturday night when Council went to Randolph's home and assaulted Lillie Mae Brown, a guest in the home. Asked out of the house, Council went into the yard and started shooting a shot gun. Randolph, taking his gun, retaliated, a few shot striking Council doing little damage.

Council, biding his time, secreted himself behind the barn and when Randolph went to Lester Council's home, he fired upon him from a distance of about forty yards.

Given a hearing before Justice H. S. Everett in Robersonville Council was placed under bond in the sum of \$750.

## Subscribes To Surveyor's Oath

Elected surveyor of Martin County in November 7 election, O. B. Roberson of Robersonville, this week subscribed to the oath of office. Roberson did not report and qualify on December 4 when other county officers were sworn in. The oath was administered by Judge Walter J. Bone who was presiding over the one-week term of the Martin County Superior Court.

Roberson was quoted as saying that he had not surveyor's instruments, but that he planned to purchase them.

### STORE HOURS

Beginning next Wednesday, Williamston stores will remain open until 9:00 o'clock each evening through the following Saturday.

Local merchants, carrying the greatest stocks in many, many years, are appreciative of the patronage and cooperation of all the people in this section, and cordially ask their continued patronage this season and in the seasons to come.

Shop in Williamston, save the difference and make for a better town and community.

## Congressman Are Said To Have Run Out On Nut Plan

### Ones To The South Got Their 100,000 Acres And Then Ran Out

Rep. Porter Hardy, Jr., of Virginia accused three Georgia, Alabama and Texas Congressmen of "running out" on a legislative agreement they made with the Virginia-North Carolina House delegation.

He listed the Congressmen as W. R. Poage, of Texas; Stephen Pace, of Georgia, and George Grant, of Alabama.

These representatives and others, he declared, agreed to support a peanut quota separation law sought by Virginia-Carolina farmers in return for support of legislation adding 100,000 acres to the peanut quotas in the southeast and southwest for 1950.

"They got their 100,000 acres," he said, "and they ran out on us." As a result, Hardy said in a mass meeting before about 300 Nansmond County farmers, Virginia and Carolina still are "lumped together" in peanut allotments with "the trash that is grown in the Southwest."

The Congressman, who previously has referred publicly to Georgia-Alabama peanuts as "those no-account Runners," added: "I'm so sick and tired of gadgets and compromises I don't know what to do."

Hardy dwelt principally on efforts to obtain legislation separating peanut quotas into three types—Runners, grown chiefly in Georgia and Alabama; Spanish, produced in Texas and Oklahoma and Virginia, grown in Virginia and North Carolina. Legislation to that effect is now pending in the Senate, but unless some changes are put into law, all peanut quotas for 1951 will be cut 16 1-2 per cent in 1951.

Another bill, which originally had the type provision, has passed the House, but that measure, said Hardy has been severely amended through the efforts of Southeastern Congressmen.

He decried the fact that Virginia growers already cannot supply the demand for their type peanut, yet face a reduction in acreage next year.

## Father Attacks Son In County

Pleading with his father in behalf of his daughters, James Langley, young colored man, was attacked by the elderly Langley man at their home in Cross Roads last week-end.

The father, using a large pocket knife, cut the muscle in his son's right arm and then cut him across the left arm. Langley, 77 years old, early this week swore out a warrant for his son, and Deputy D. A. Roberson learned how badly the boy had been hurt and that he received no medical attention. After the son was treated in a local hospital, a hearing was held before Justice H. S. Everett who placed the father under bond in the sum of \$100.

The case will be tried in the recorder's court.

## Clear Few Civil Cases Wednesday In Superior Court

### Three Divorces Granted In Short Time Before Adjournment

After clearing the criminal docket Wednesday, the Martin County Superior Court, working on a mixed docket, granted three divorces in quick order and approved judgments reached by agreement.

Three divorces, based on two-year separation grounds, were granted in the following cases: C. M. Burden against Estelle Burden; John Dam Moore against Rosa V. (Sprull) Moore; and Vinoo Woolard against Willie Woolard.

The court approved the sale of certain property owned by the Edward L. Early estate, as follows: a house and lot on Washington Street to John Wier for \$3,750; and the Crystal Grill on the same street to Frances G. Early for \$7,500.

A judgment, allowing the plaintiff \$500, was entered in the case of Johnnie L. Marslender by his next friend, W. H. Marslender, against J. M. Heath, when the defendant failed to file answer. The suit grew out of an accident on Highway 17 near Williamston last July 4.

In the case of W. L. Manning against N. P. Roberson, the court appointed W. C. Rodman, Jr., surveyor, to make a plat of certain lands in contention.

Two lawyers in the case of Walter Bailey et al against Velma Bailey et al were allowed \$50 fees each.

The Cowen versus Jenkins case, involving a boundary line and pending in the courts for several years and around which voluminous evidence had been heard, was finally entered in the records. The court sustained the findings of the referee, declaring the defendant the owner of the land in dispute. The court ordered the line be properly marked at corners "A" and "B" and in the middle with concrete markers, the cost borne equally by the litigants. The referee was allowed the further sum of \$65, and the two surveyors were allowed \$30 each.

While the court consumed hardly half its allotted time, arrangements were advanced this week for a special term to be held in January to hear cases pertaining to a county drainage project in Bear Grass and Cross Roads.

## Special Program Sunday Evening

Religious worship, for the most part, will be centered in a special Christmas program by the high school music department Sunday evening at 8:00 o'clock in the high school auditorium. There'll be no regular services in most of the churches at that time, and a large attendance upon the special program is certain.

Following the Scripture reading and invocation by Rev. E. R. Shuller, the audience will sing several of the well known carols. Part II includes several numbers, featured by soprano soloist, Miss Jean Mobley.

The band will render several Christmas selections, and the glee club and band, under the direction of Miss Royster and Mr. Butler, have been assigned numbers in part four of the program.

## Jaycees Install Nativity Scene

Braving freezing weather and other obstacles, members of the local Junior Chamber of Commerce have about completed the installation of the Nativity scene in the Presbyterian church yard on Main Street. The lights will be turned on shortly.

Prepared by German prisoners of war while they were in camp here in the middle forties, the scene, rated among the most impressive to be found, was placed in the care of local Jaycees who have successfully struggled with its installation each year.

## Favorable Rate of Interest On \$200,000 Town Bonds

The last hurdle in the town's improvement program for its water and sewer systems was successfully negotiated Tuesday when \$200,000 worth of bonds were sold at a very favorable interest rate.

Ranging from 2.25 to 3.25 percent, the interest average was 2.3012 percent. While the rate for Williamston's bonds is about three-quarters of one percent above the interest figure for nearly \$6,000,000 worth of Charlotte bonds, it is more than one percent below the percentage fee for bonds sold by two or three other towns in the State at the same time.

Williamston has issued quite a few bonds in the past forty years, but the rate the recent issue carries is the lowest on record. Most of the bonds issued in the past carried six percent interest, but they are rapidly being retired, and it isn't likely that the new issue will materially alter the tax rate.

The bond sale was handled by the Local Government Commission in Raleigh, and R. S. Dickson and Company of Raleigh and Charlotte were the successful bidders.

Contracts for the expanded water and sewer systems were closed some time ago, and work on both projects is well advanced.

### FORCED

Increased paper costs and "jumping" operating costs is forcing a slight increase in The Enterprise subscription rate, the management explained this week.

The new rate, carrying only a 50-cent increase on a year's subscription, is effective January 1. Until that time, subscriptions may be renewed at the old price and advanced for any length period desired. If a subscription expired in January, February or in any month next year, the subscriber may renew now at the old price and have the subscription advanced from the expiration date.

The management regrets that such action is necessary, but after battling against an increase for years despite war and rising costs, action is necessary. It is taken with the understanding that a reduction will follow when other costs come down.

## County Receives \$3,361 In Fees

Martin County received \$3,361.07 in court fines and costs and special fees last month, according to reports filed with the board of commissioners at their regular December meeting.

A large portion of the income was derived from the county court, fines amounting to \$755 and costs adding up to \$555.35. The superior court accounted for \$167.65, and miscellaneous items in the clerk's office added \$255.32.

The register of deeds turned in \$412.25, including \$330 for recording papers. The remainder was derived from the issuance of marriage licenses, certificates and handling other types of papers.

The sheriff's office collected and turned in to the treasury \$215.50 in fees.

### MEETING

The local Parent-Teacher Association will meet in the grammar school auditorium next Monday evening at 7:30 o'clock.

A goodly number of the primary pupils, under the direction of Miss Lamina Baker, will present a Christmas program.

## Holiday Schedule Planned For The Christmas Season

A holiday schedule for Christmas and New Year's has been announced by the Williamston Boosters, the executive secretary explaining that while the schedule may not fit all cases, a majority of the business operators had favored it.

Including Sunday, the schedule provides a three-day Christmas holiday—Christmas Day and the day after Christmas. New Year's Day will also be observed as a holiday here. The post office will close Christmas Day but will be open the day after Christmas, and New Year's Day will be observed as a holiday by the postal service.

All schools in the county are

## John D. Ward, Jr. Died In Hospital

John D. Ward, Jr., died in a local hospital yesterday morning at 10:00 o'clock after years of declining health. Suffering with a heart condition, he had received treatment at intervals during the past year and entered the hospital here several weeks ago. His condition had been critical for some time.

The son of the late John D. and Sabrina Gurganus Ward, he was born in Williamston 50 years ago. After completing the local schools he attended a business college in Poughkeepsie, New York, and was employed as a bookkeeper for J. L. Hassell and Company here for several years before locating in Norfolk. He later operated a filling station in Bertie County, but had made his home in Bear Grass Township in recent years, ill health having forced his retirement.

Funeral services will be conducted at the Biggs Funeral home here this afternoon at 3:30 o'clock. Interment will be in the family plot in Woodlawn Cemetery. Rev. E. R. Shuller, local Methodist minister, will conduct the rites.

Surviving are two sisters, Mrs. John Nancek of New York City and Miss Lucille Ward of Bear Grass; three brothers, Wheeler M. Ward of Williamston, Norman Ward of New Bern and Evan Ward of Richmond.

## Regular Report By Grand Jury

Completing their work Tuesday, members of the Martin County Grand Jury filed their quarterly report and left for home. Nine of the eighteen, completing their year of service as members of the jury, will be replaced by nine others.

The report, filed over the signature of Billy Griffin, foreman, was routine in its findings. All justices of the peace had filed reports and accounted to the treasurer for fines collected. The county jail and home were found in good condition. The county home, according to the report, has two colored male, one colored female, five white female and two white male inmates. The county TB sanatorium has seven patients now, two white men, two colored men and three colored women.

## Marriage License Issuance At New Low In November

### Fourteen Couples Marry In County Against Average Of Twenty-four

Marriages hit a new low in number for November in this county last month when only fourteen licenses to wed were issued by Register of Deeds J. Sam Getsinger. There have been as many as forty-four licenses issued in November during the past twenty years, and only once did the number fall as low as fifteen. However, the bottom fell out in November of this year, Cupid apparently finding it quite difficult to meet living costs individually without taking on a mate. During the past twenty years, an average of 24 marriage licenses were issued during the month of November in this county.

Marriage licenses were issued last month, nine to white and five to colored couples, as follows:

White

Gilbert L. Ange and Lula Dean Napier, both of Jamesville.

Charles M. Bowers of Washington, D. C., and Patricia Ellen King of Williamston.

James Bunch and Elvie Jeanette Bowen, both of Williamston.

Mayhew Taylor and Zula Marie Silverthorne, both of Williamston.

James Roy Hoggard and Nettie Ruth Byrum, both of Ahoskie.

Vernon Elliot Brown and Edna Louise Warren, both of Robersonville.

Milton P. Bennett of Palmyra and Beulah Evelyn Gardner of Williamston.

Robert Eugene Hamilton of Plymouth and Frances Elizabeth Griffin of Jamesville.

James Fenton Mizelle of Windsor and Sibil Miland Holder of Merry Hill.

### Colored

Claro Dickens and Doris Jones, both of Oak City.

John Little of Williamston and Lydia Ford of Everetts.

John Robert May and Ethel May Outlaw, both of Stokes.

Lowell Purvis, Jr., and Charlie Mae Bell, both of Robersonville.

Cleophus Bell of Williamston and Nancy Ann Butler of Washington.

## Home Lighting Contest Planned

Williamston's annual home lighting contest is again being sponsored by the Williamston Boosters this year, according to Al Sweat, managing director of that organization. Plans are going forward and early next week, a full list of prizes will be announced, as will rules governing the contest.

Indications are that the contest will be conducted along similar lines as the one last year, but there will be a grand prize for the best decorated home, regardless of whatever type of decoration it is. This grand prize will be a Westinghouse pop-up toaster, given by the Worrell Appliance Company. The contest will be judged by out of town persons, so that there will be absolutely no chances for favoritism.

Everyone is invited to enter into the contest.

## Numerous Cases In County Court

While the county court was idle during the time the superior court was in session this week, quite a few cases accumulated. However, up until this morning only twenty-five had been placed on the docket for trial next Monday. Quite a few were set for trial the early part and middle of January.

The defendants stand charged with violations of at least ten different types of crimes, including one traffic violation, five assault, two drunken driving, four speeding, two careless and reckless driving, one bastardy, two non-support, three public drunkenness, one affray and two hit-and-run cases.

## Superior Court Ends Regular Term Here

### FOR THE NEEDY

The Goodwill Club of Williamston, N. C. is sponsoring a drive to see that Santa comes to see all the children in Williamston whose parents are not able to pay for the visit. The colored citizens, and other interested groups are asked to bring toys, money or whatever they would like to give, to the office of the supervisor, or to the home of L. M. Jackson, who is chairman of the drive.

Anyone who knows of such families are to report them to Mrs. A. D. Williams, P. O. Box 48, Williamston, N. C.

## Disease Resistant Seed For Tobacco Needed In County

### Seed Selection Can Mean Success or Failure With 1951 Crop

Because Black Shank and Granville wilt are now prevalent to some extent in every major tobacco-producing county in the State, it will be more of a problem than ever for Tar Heel growers to choose the right variety of tobacco for next year.

Tobacco Specialists R. R. Bennett of the State College Extension Service and C. J. Nusbaum of the Agricultural Experiment Station say that rotation and use of resistant varieties are the two measures being used to fight these dread diseases. Rotation, they point out, helps by reducing infestation in the soil and giving support to resistant varieties.

The resistant varieties, all released by the Experiment Station a year ago, are Dixie Bright 101 and 102, which have resistance to both black shank and Granville wilt, and Dixie Bright 27, which has resistance to Granville wilt only.

Dixie Bright 101 has shown moderate resistance to black shank and high resistance to Granville wilt, and Dixie Bright 27, which has resistance to Granville wilt only.

Dixie Bright 101 has shown moderate resistance to black shank and high resistance to Granville wilt. It yields about like 400 and Yellow Special, is of good quality, and cures to a bright lemon color. The leaves are spaced moderately wide apart on the stalk and are somewhat tender under very favorable growing conditions. Plants should be spaced about 18 to 20 inches in the drill and topped high. The variety seems to be adapted to a wide range of soils and growing conditions.

Dixie Bright 102 has shown high resistance to both black shank and Granville wilt in North Carolina. It is a moderate yielder, about like Oxford 26, is thinner than Oxford 26 and of high quality. The leaves are spaced wide apart on the stalk. Plants should be set about 18 inches in the drill and topped high. Dixie Bright 102 dries easily during curing needs to dry rather rapidly for best lemon color.

The third new variety, Dixie Bright 27, is not resistant to black shank but has resistance to Granville wilt about equal to that of Oxford 26. A strong feeder, its yield is greater than that of Oxford 26, especially on light soils. It is not as brittle as Oxford 26 and its leaves are close spaced on the stalk. Spacing of 20 to 22 inches in the drill is advised.

Bennett and Nusbaum point out that many growers have experienced heavy losses with the first appearance of black shank in cases where non-resistant varieties were being used. They urge growers to consider the use of a resistant variety in communities where black shank or Granville wilt is prevalent even though the

## Van R. Page Goes To Supreme Court In Robbery Case

### Few Civil Cases Cleared From Docket Before Court Quits

Opening a one-week mixed term last Monday, the Martin County Superior Court yesterday afternoon folded its tent and quietly stole away after clearing the criminal docket and handling a few civil matters. After hearing repeated appeals from his mother, wife and sister, one defendant was given until January 2 to start serving a road term. Judge Walter J. Bone, presiding over the term, heard the requests for leniency, but the road term was unchanged except its beginning date.

The Van R. Page case in which the defendant is charged with conspiracy to break into and rob the Jake Mobley filling station and store near Robersonville, is to be aired in the North Carolina Supreme Court provided Page raises a \$100 appeal bond within the next few days. After he does that he'll then have to raise a \$2,500 bond before he can get out of jail. No bond had been arranged early today. Convicted by jury following a trial that lasted parts of two days, Page was sentenced by Judge Bone to serve not less than three and not more than five years on the roads.

Page, it will be recalled, had his case delayed at the September term on a legal technicality, but he was unable to arrange bond and he continued in the county jail. Since September he had changed lawyers. Should the appeal be provided and the appearance bond is not granted then Page will have to wait the high court's decision next spring.

Murray Boyd, charged with setting woods on fire, did not report for trial and the court ordered papers issued for his arrest.

The case charging James A. Warren with violating the liquor laws, continued until the March term.

James Woolard, convicted in the

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## Voting Slow In Farm Elections

Voting was off to a slow start in the farm elections in this county this morning, according to preliminary reports received from several of the balloting places. Williamston and Poplar Point combined had cast less than 100 votes shortly before noon today, and the size of the vote was proportionately the same in several other districts. However, the vote is expected to pick up during the remainder of the day, and between 1,500 and 2,000 votes are anticipated. As far as it could be learned peanut quotas were receiving a strong support.

In addition to the peanut vote, the farmers are choosing their community committeemen for next year. Tomorrow, a county convention will be held for the election of the county P.-M. A. committee.

## Car-Truck Wreck On River Road

No one was hurt but damage estimated at \$250 resulted in a car-log truck accident about three miles this side of the Halifax County line on the River Road shortly before noon Tuesday.

Mr. Eary T. Smith drove his 1930 Dodge out of his driveway and was driving slowly to the side of the road when the log truck driven by Irving Coleman of Scotland Neck, struck from the rear. The \$250 damage was confined to the automobile. Patrolman M. F. Powers, making the investigation, reported.

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