

## Mrs. Joe Bunting Victim Of Attack In Part Of Home

**Sen Said To Have Accident  
Sally Shot Her Through  
Both Legs**

Mark Bunting, about 28 years of age, shot his mother through both legs near the knees in the yard of her home about two miles from Oak City on the Hobgood Highway late Tuesday afternoon. The victim, Mrs. Joe Bunting, was removed to a Tarboro hospital for treatment. Last reports stated that she was getting along very well, but it could not be learned when she would be able to leave the hospital.

Few details of the shooting could be learned immediately, officers explaining that the victim and her husband were in the hospital when the son was arrested and placed in the county jail about an hour after the attack. One report said it was accidental. Late yesterday, no warrant had been signed by either the victim or the boy's father, but a report from the sheriff's office said that charges would be preferred by officers.

Unofficial reports said that Bunting went to his father's home, a few hundred yards from his home, and asked for money, threatening him with the rifle if the request was not granted. Apparently the request was refused and the son raised the .22-caliber Stevens rifle. Mrs. Bunting stepped in between the two men and into the path of the bullet which, after tearing through both of her legs, penetrated the father's pants' leg and stopped before making much of a flesh wound.

It was said that the son was drinking, but officers said he was not intoxicated at the time of the shooting. He was also said to have requested money on previous occasions, threatening his father's life if the demands were not granted.

After the shooting, Bunting was said to have sent word to Oak City officers, advising them not to come after him. Deputies Raymond Rawls and Cecil Bullock answered the call received at the sheriff's office, and immediately

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## Little Time Left To Purchase Tags

All motorists apprehended on the highways on February 1 and thereafter without proper license plates will be subject to prosecution, the North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles today reminded all drivers who have not obtained their new plates.

The deadline for purchase of the plates, which have been on sale since December 1, is January 31.

On January 18, a total of 602,771 plates had been sold. On the corresponding date, 1950, a total of 526,633 plates had been sold. 1950 sales reached 1,171,206.

Motorists are urged by Department officials to buy their tags soon, as possible in order to avoid the last minute lines.

Reporting on the sale of Williamston vehicle tags, Treasurer Marion Cobb said this morning that 506 had been sold.

W. H. Carstaphen, reporting on the sale of State tags at the local bureau, said that 4,611 tags of the 1951 issue had been sold up until this morning, the number comparing with 3,674 sold through January 24 of last year.

### TIME IS SHORT

Little time is left for getting property listed for taxation in this county. Reviewing the annual task this morning, Supervisor M. L. Peel said that the listing is possibly more advanced this year than at the same time last January, but the last-minute rush is developing, and, no doubt, will approach the acute stage by the week-end.

Late listing is subject to penalty.

## Will Hold Farmers' School Here On February 5 and 6

Plans were announced complete today for holding a farmers' school in Williamston on Monday and Tuesday, February 5 and 6. Since the county court is to be in session on Monday, the school will be held that day in the elementary school building. The sessions are to open at 9:30 a. m. and close 4:00 o'clock p. m. with time out for lunch.

Similar schools have been held with marked success in this county in previous years, and farmers have found them beneficial. It is believed the session will be well attended. Farm agents point out that recognized specialists in various fields of agriculture will conduct the school, that the latest information on the assigned subjects will be discussed with openings for timely questions.

## Drainage Case Drags Into Its Fourth Day

### JOHNSON'S GHOST

Williamston's treasurer, Marion Cobb placed \$166,500 on time deposit in local banks this week, but he hurriedly explained that the transaction does not mean the town is rich all of a sudden. The money was borrowed to finance water-sewer expansion projects and is being placed on time deposit to draw interest at the rate of one percent.

Withdrawals will be made from time to time to finance the projects.

Charlie Johnson's ghost possibly influenced the action, the commissioners, in special session Tuesday, casually referring to the idle money in banks when Mr. Johnson, unsuccessful candidate for governor, was State Treasurer.

## Prices Of Land Climb In County

Climbing to record levels since World War II, land prices continue to climb in this county, according to reports on recent farm transfers.

The W. B. Daniel farm about three-quarters of a mile off Highway 64 between Everetts and Williamston recently sold for \$20,800. The farm was bid in by J. C. McDaniel, transferred to Wesley Peel and J. R. P. Griffin.

The A. L. Roebuck home farm in Cross Roads sold this week for \$25,980. Wilson Wynne, a neighbor, purchased the property.

Abandoned school property was sold recently, but prices did not come up to expectations in every case. The Oak City teacherage was sold for \$2,400. A \$700 bid on the Old Jones school in Goose Nest Township, was boosted to \$1,000.

The property sales were approved by the Board of Education in special session Tuesday evening along with the sale of an acre of land known as the old Manning school site in Williams Township, to Major Gardner for \$100.

It was explained that bids had been raised on Corey's school in Griffins and the abandoned Bear Grass Negro school building. The original bids were \$310 and \$870, respectively, and were raised by ten percent.

## Report from Camp Atterbury Youths

A brief report from Ret. Harper M. Peel, Jr., today stated that several Martin County boys at Camp Atterbury, Indiana, were doing all right with the exception of Ret. Dalton Jones who went to the base hospital last Monday for treatment. Ret. Jones, a Williamston boy, was reported improving.

Ret. Peel arranged a week-end maneuver and saw the stage production, "Diamond Lil," starring Mae West in Person at Indianapolis.

jects will be discussed with openings for timely questions. John Sawyer, director, opens the school Monday, February 5, with a lecture on dairy cattle. Other events on the Monday schedule include talks by Brice Ratchford, farm management, at 10:45 o'clock; Jack Kelley, swine, at 2:00 o'clock; and J. S. Buchanan, beef cattle, at 3:15 o'clock.

Opening the second day of the school in the courthouse at 9:30 o'clock, Dr. E. R. Collins will talk on peanuts and corn. Others to appear on the program are: Sam H. Dobson, pastures, at 10:45 o'clock; Roy R. Bennett, tobacco, at 2:00 o'clock; and George Jones, insect control in cotton and other field crops, at 3:15 o'clock.

## Trial Not Likely To Be Completed Before Saturday

**Jury Scheduled To Inspect  
Lands In District  
Friday Morning**

The long, drawn-out trial of the Martin County Drainage District case is "dragging" through its fourth day in a special term of the Martin County Superior Court with the prospect that it will not be completed before sometime Saturday.

Several more witnesses, between 40 and 80, one attorney said, are to be offered by the respondents or defendants. It could not be learned if the petitioners would offer additional evidence.

It was explained to the court that most of the respondents' witnesses would not require much time to offer their evidence, but that several of the defendants probably would require some little time.

Shortly after court was opened this morning, attorneys and several of the litigants held a 20-minute conference. The nature of the discussion could not be learned, friends of both sides expressing the hope that an amicable settlement could come out of the conference.

An unexpected turn could alter the time table of the trial but all hands involved are settling down in anticipation of a tortoise finish Saturday afternoon or night.

After clearing the formalities Monday morning and hearing recognized witnesses during the remainder of the day, the petitioners placed O. J. Peevey, State forester of New Bern on the stand the first thing Tuesday morning. Peevey, it was reported, made an able witness for the petitioners during the slightly more than one hour he was on the stand. J. W. Hanna, soil conservationist, was recalled to the stand at 10:40 o'clock and continued there for about two hours before the court recessed at 12:50 o'clock for lunch.

Reuben S. Everett and J. Linwood Knowles, the project viewers who were forbidden to enter upon some of the lands in the district last Friday, were on the stand for about 30 minutes each, relating their findings.

The petitioners then called in fairly quick order the following witnesses: W. Oscar Peel, Jas. D. Bowen, Henry Wynne, A. B. Ayers, H. M. Ayers, Noah Rogers, Calvin Ayers, W. B. Gaylord, Jr., C. U. Rogers, J. Russell Rogers and Luther Hardison. A recess for the day was ordered by the court at 5:10 o'clock.

Continuing its work yesterday morning at 9:40 o'clock, the court heard the following witnesses: W. M. Hardison, Clyde Revels, Curtis Mobley, and Jack Scott.

All the witnesses were of the opinion that the drainage project would benefit the section, Witness Gaylord explaining that it would enhance the public health and benefit everybody.

No date for the hearing was fixed, but the hearing to determine if the defendants should be allowed bond, likely will be held sometime next week.

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## Farm Leaders Ask That Coliseum Be Built for State Fair

**Hearing Held In General  
Assembly At Raleigh  
This Week**

Raleigh—Agriculture leaders from over the State descended on Raleigh today and told a special legislative committee that the \$1,347,000 N. C. State Fair coliseum is necessary for the future of North Carolina, particularly the livestock industry.

More than 250 persons crowded into a hearing room of the special committee investigating the advisability of building the coliseum. Three senators—J. Hawley Poole of Moore, Sam Campen of Pamlico, and James H. Pou Bailey of Wake—and five representatives—Edwin Pou of Wake, Tom Allen of Granville, J. K. Dougherty of Alleghany—make up the investigating group.

Bailey presided over the session, at which both those for and against the building of the coliseum were to have been heard. The meeting turned into a one-sided affair, with all speakers favoring the building. If opponents of the coliseum attended the well-advertised meeting, they kept quiet.

Grange Master Harry Caldwell, Farm Bureau Leaders R. Flake Shaw and Alonzo Edwards, heads of cattle breeders' organizations, swine and poultry organization brass and some just plain folks said the coliseum is needed to promote:

1. Interest of young folks in cattle raising—the state's future money crop.
2. A decent place to judge big cattle shows, poultry and swine exhibits.
3. A place for industrial exhibits.
4. Raise the State Fair out of the "county fair" level, make it a place where young and old alike could swap notes and learn about livestock breeding and raising.
5. Industry through huge shows; international trade mark where foreign country representatives could see what is being manufactured in North Carolina; and use generally the year round to promote agriculture and industry in the State.

Senator Bailey told reporters (Continued on Page Eight)

## Parents-Scouts To Have Dinner

The Martin County district of Boy Scouts will give a Parent-Scout dinner Monday evening, February 12, at seven o'clock in the Legion Hut.

The dinner is a part of the national celebration of Boy Scout Week, February 6-12. All Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, their parents and all scout committeemen and leaders from all the county units will attend the banquet.

The program will consist of a Court of Honor, some brief talks by scouts who attended the National Jamboree at Valley Forge last year and stunts by a number of troops and dens.

This is the first event of its kind to be staged in this county but the enthusiasm of the boys and parents is high. An attendance of from 300 to 500 is expected. Although each community is making donations of food there will be a small admission charge of 25 cents to help defray expenses.

### ORDER

Judge W. I. Halstead, presiding over the current special session of the Martin County Superior Court, today is signing an order referring the habeas corpus proceedings in the attack case against Samuel and James Hardison and Clarence McCool for a hearing before Judge W. J. Bone, resident judge, in Nashville.

No date for the hearing was fixed, but the hearing to determine if the defendants should be allowed bond, likely will be held sometime next week.

## County School Program Gets Final Approval Last Evening

## Bill Would Abolish Jury Trials In County's Court

Acting in accordance with the wishes expressed by the Martin County Board of Commissioners in their last regular meeting, Representative E. G. Anderson this week introduced in the State Legislature a bill, abolishing jury trial in the Martin County Recorder's Court. The measure was referred to the Committee on Courts and Judicial Districts for preliminary consideration.

Said to be unopposed by members of the bar association, the bill, it is understood, has encountered opposition in some quarters, according to Representative Anderson. Following conferences with county officials during last week-end, Mr. Anderson returned to Raleigh Monday and immediately made plans to have the bill introduced.

## Asking Support For The March Of Dimes

## Appeal By Direct Mail Falls Short Of Expectations

Various Events Are Being  
Scheduled Early Part  
Of Next Week

Again pointing out that the fund had been depleted in this county, Chairman Hoke Roberson and Dr. Bill Gray today renewed appeals for support of the March of Dimes Fund, explaining that some phases of the drive apparently, were not measuring up to expectations and that only a few more days were left in which to reach the \$6,000 quota.

It was explained that reports from several areas are most encouraging, that the returns to date are more than double those received in the same number of days last year. However, the replies to direct mail appeals are few and far between. The chairman sent out 2,000 letters appealing for substantial contributions. Up until late yesterday, only 85 letters had been returned, the contributions ranging from \$1 to \$100, and totaling slightly under \$500. The chairmen were hopeful the letters would bring in more than \$2,500.

The chairmen are pleading with the school leaders to renew the appeal to the children in behalf of the drive. Treasurer W. C. Griffin reported a few days ago that more than \$3,000 was spent on two cases of infantile paralysis right here in Martin County last year, that the need this year could prove serious in the face of limited funds.

There were more infantile paralysis cases in the past three years than there were in the previous ten.

Two youthful victims, aided by the fund in past years, carried the appeal to the public on Williamston's main street last Saturday, and they made a big hit.

Master Johnny Wade Coltrain of Griffins Township "worked" one side of the street, and Master Chas. Goodrich of Oak City took care of the other side. Members of the Jaycees, sponsoring the drive worked with the lads, and they, the boys and the contributors seemed to enjoy their parts in promoting the drive. The contributions were placed in the coin collectors. Several of the containers were filled, but none was opened and the actual amount raised is not known, but the money will count up into three figures all right.

Weather permitting, the Coltrain lad will return to renew the appeal on local streets Saturday, and Master Goodrich is planning to carry the appeal to the public on the streets in Robersonville at the same time. Master Wade Coltrain will be a mother about next June, it was reported.

## Man Charged With Carnal Knowledge

Arthur Manning, Jr., young Oak City white man, was charged with carnal knowledge of a female over twelve and under sixteen years of age in a warrant issued yesterday afternoon by Justice Chas. R. Mobley.

A hearing was scheduled in the case for next Wednesday evening at 7:00 o'clock before Justice Mobley. During the meantime, the defendant is at liberty under bond in the sum of \$750.

The crime is alleged to have taken place last September, and the 15-year-old girl is expected to become a mother about next June, it was reported.

## Contractor Gets Signal To Start Work on Projects

**Proposed Projects To Cost  
Right At One-Half  
Million Dollars**

Hanging fire for more than two weeks, Martin County's proposed school building program was given final approval by the Board of Education in a three-hour special meeting here last evening, and work on the projects is to get under way without further delay. Orders for materials have already been placed for two of the projects by the contractors, J. N. Bryan and Son, of Raleigh. Following the meeting last evening, the contractor was advised that the three projects would be handled as a combined undertaking, placing the over-all cost about \$7,000 below the individual bids.

The program as designed is to cost approximately \$480,000, including \$137,944 for a Negro elementary building in Williamston, \$160,350 for a gymnasium, cafeteria and band room in Robersonville, and \$113,189 for a cafeteria and band room for the Williamston white high school.

A delegation from Robersonville appearing before the special meeting of the board Tuesday evening, requested that \$22,000 be allotted for the restoration of a band room in the project there. The request was given approval last night and the way was cleared for the program.

The \$73,000 of the \$458,000 fund provided by the State, plus a county appropriation of about \$25,000, will be used for the construction of a Negro high school in Oak City. Plans for the project are being prepared.

Reaching a decision, the board heard a delegation from Williamston present the local school's case. R. L. Coburn, chairman of the local committee, declared, "I cannot help but feel that we have not been dealt with fairly."

He explained that the school had an agriculture class, that it was being held in a wood shed, wrapped in tar paper. R. H. Goodman, member of the local committee, commented briefly, declaring that Williamston was not trying to block any project, that his group felt as if the agriculture shop should be included in the program.

Others spoke briefly, pointing out that the local schools had just caught up with its classroom needs, that for ten years classes had been held in the grammar school basement, in altered cloak rooms, in the auditoriums, in the small stage dressing rooms, and for several years in the wooden building now being used as a cafeteria. "If our classroom needs had been met back yonder, there would have been no accumulated need to be met, but someone goes back and charges all that to the plus the \$137,944 for the local Negro school, plus the cost of the proposed auxiliary building and shouts that we are running away with all the money," one of the delegation said.

"Match the classroom needs and then see where the money is going," another member of the group suggested.

Still another member of the 15-member delegation said they appreciated what had been done, and it was again pointed out that there was no intention of trying to block any project or need, that the members only wanted to present the local school's case and say how they felt about the program.

The final action was taken in executive session, and just how the money to finance the \$22,000 project restored last night is to be had, was not disclosed. It is fairly certain it will be "borrowed" from other funds controlled by the education board.

When the education board met

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## Legislator Calls For Increase In Teacher Salaries

**Proposed Law Calls For  
Uniform Costs In Road  
Law Violations**

Raleigh—A bill calling for a \$2,400 to \$5,400 annual salary for school teachers holding Grade A certificates was introduced in the General Assembly this week.

Senator Thomas B. Sawyer of Durham tossed this measure into the hopper.

It calls for "A" certificate teachers to get a beginning salary of \$2,400 a year. The present minimum is \$2,061, but has been brought up to \$2,200 under the contingency pay raise.

An annual raise of \$100 for each year of service would be added until an "A" certificate teacher with 30 years service would get \$5,400. All other teachers would receive proportionate raises.

The Sawyer bill would take effect for the 1951-52 school year, but the measure does not appropriate any money for its operation. The bill calls for the salaries to be paid on a twelve-month basis.

Unofficial guesses as to the total cost of such a bill if it were passed—which is considered unlikely, to say the least—run anywhere from \$20,000,000 to \$50,000,000 above current expenditures. Just raising the minimum to \$2,200 to \$3,100 for "A" certificate teachers would cost \$8,000,000 per year.

The House passed and sent to the Senate two bills. One authorized boards of county commissioners to put county records on microfilm, if they desired, in order to conserve storage space. The other authorized the Division of Purchase and Contract to set up specifications and ask for bids on \$2,000,000 worth of school busses for the 1951-52 school year. This bill was introduced, Rep. Larry Moore of Wilson said, so that bids could be accepted for some 600 replacement busses.

Other new bills introduced were:

**Senate**  
By Senator A. B. Stoney of Burke, a bill to "promote safety" (Continued on page four)

## Library Group Holds Meeting

The Colored Library group held its regular monthly meeting in the Bethlehem Methodist Church on Monday night January 22. The group decided on a plan to raise \$2,000.00 on its tentative budget for the coming year.

The Colored Odd Fellows Lodge has made available to the group the first floor of its building to be used for the library for one year or until the group can find other quarters. This lodge is composed of over one hundred and fifty men and this will be their main contribution toward this project.

The group also decided to put on a drive for five hundred books. People through out the county are asked to donate a book toward this drive. Book stations for receiving the books will be located in every community in Martin County. The time and place of this drive will be announced at a latter date. It was decided to ask all principals to speed up their job of telling the people in their communities of the very grave need of the library. Each principal is asked to raise \$50.00 and report it at the February meeting. The opening of the library has been set for February 12, the beginning of National Negro History Week.

The next meeting will be held at the Mount Shiloh Baptist Church on Sunday February 11, at 3:30 o'clock.

## MEETING

The Martin County Red Cross Chapter executive committee is to meet here tomorrow afternoon to make plans for the operation of a bloodmobile into this area the latter part of March. Mrs. Edna Bondurant, secretary, announced this morning.