

Two Persons Lose Lives In Highway Wreck Near Here

Mrs. Clyde Dawson of The Local Employment Office One of Victims

Two persons were killed and two others were badly injured in a highway accident about five miles east of here on Highway 17 shortly before 8:00 o'clock last Friday morning. Only three days previously two young men were killed about ten miles west of here on Highway 64. The two deaths on 17 last week pushed Bertie County's highway death count so far this year to nine, most of them on the main north-south route.

Mrs. Clyde Dawson, 38, was killed almost instantly and Sandra Costello, 14, was pronounced dead upon arrival at a local hospital. Gus Costello of 44 NW 21st about five years before selling Avenue, Miami, and Philadelphia, suffered a crushed knee, rib fractures, lacerations and severe shock, and Mrs. Costello received internal injuries and lacerations and bruises about the body.

Investigating the accident which took place in the first curve beyond the river fill, Patrolman Tom Davis said apparently Mrs. Dawson ran off the right shoulder of the highway, lost control of her Chrysler car and crashed into the Costello Oldsmobile. The right front of the Chrysler hit the left front of the other car, wrecking both beyond repair.

While in shock, Costello was heard to say, "She's going to run into us. She's going to hit us." He was also quoted as saying that the Chrysler was attempting to pass another car. However, no third car has been traced, and since he was in such shock, Costello could hardly recall the details clearly. Wedged in his car for about fifteen minutes and finally freed with a crowbar, Costello, urgently pleaded with others to pay no attention to him, "but look after my little girl." He did not learn about her death until some hours later, and Mrs. Costello was not told about it until that night.

The Costellos were traveling from Miami to New Jersey and Mrs. Dawson was traveling toward Williamston. Mr. Costello had been employed in a Miami hotel for several weeks.

Mrs. Dawson, the former Miss Myrtle Byrum, was a native of Republican, Bertie County. She was first married to W. Isaac Pierce, and her second marriage was to Mr. Dawson four years ago last Thursday. She was with the local office of the N. C. Employment Commission.

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Change Made In Recruiting Plan

Cpl. Clyde L. Quinn of the Army Air Force Recruiting Station stated today that the army and Air Force will accept any number of men that have taken their pre-induction examination but have not received their call for final induction. In the past the Cpl. stated, we have not been able to enlist men that had received their pre-induction notice or pre-induction examination, but now we can accept them for either the regular Army or Air Force, provided they are otherwise qualified. This policy will remain in effect until the 1st of July—Any one that is interested in beating the dead line should contact the local U. S. Army and U. S. Air Force recruiting Station located at Williamston post office building, before June 27.

Surviving are his widow, the former Miss Della Gibbs of Belhaven; one sister, Mrs. John T. Ross of Robersonville; two brothers, Lester Edmondson of Robersonville, and Claude Edmondson of Tarboro.

He was a member of the Belhaven Methodist Church and the pastor, the Rev. L. T. Singleton, conducted the funeral service at the home Sunday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock. Interment was in the Belhaven Cemetery.

Wreck Victim's Body Goes Home

The body of Miss Sandra Costello, the attractive 14-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gus Costello of Miami and Philadelphia, who was fatally injured in an automobile accident between here and Windsor early last Friday morning, was moved from the Biggs Funeral Home in a special coach to Philadelphia last Saturday. Last rites will be conducted there.

Her parents, badly but believed not critically hurt in the accident which cost two lives, continue to improve in a hospital here, but they will not be able to attend the service. Last reports stated they possibly could leave the hospital the latter part of this or early next week.

Relatives notified of the tragedy, reached here early last Saturday morning to lend assistance.

Wreckage In Which Two Were Killed



After claiming two lives, those of James Garland Manning, formerly of Parmele, and Paul Helwer, a native of Kansas and a seaman just recently back from Korean waters, death left the accident shambles of Manning's old model car. The wreck was on Highway 64 just east of Robersonville last week when the car and a large truck were in head-on collision. Seaman Helwer's body, wrapped in a sheet, lies on the shoulder of the road near the spectators.

Native Of County Died In Belhaven Friday Afternoon

Funeral Service Conducted Sunday Afternoon For Paul T. Edmondson

Paul T. Edmondson, a native of this county, died at his home in Belhaven last Friday afternoon at 4:00 o'clock following a long period of declining health. His condition had been serious since a stroke of paralysis suffered last month.

The son of the late George and Della Johnson Edmondson, he was born near Gold Point 63 years ago. After spending his early life on the farm there, he moved to Washington and entered the employ of the Norfolk-Southern Railroad, later building a home in Chocowinity where he lived about fifteen years. He was a locomotive engineer for the Norfolk-Southern for a long time and retired on account of declining health. Returning to his old home in this county he lived there about five years before selling out and locating in Belhaven seven or eight years ago.

He is remembered by friends here and throughout the county as a cheerful friend and an entertaining conversationalist. Surviving are his widow, the former Miss Della Gibbs of Belhaven; one sister, Mrs. John T. Ross of Robersonville; two brothers, Lester Edmondson of Robersonville, and Claude Edmondson of Tarboro.

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SINGLE TAG

Raleigh, June 13—The family flivver gets but one State license tag next year.

That was the word yesterday from motor vehicle officials. It's all in the interest of steel conservation, they explained.

Work already is underway at Central Prison on the 1952 tags, which will have white numerals on a red background. By abandoning the front license plate, the State will have enough steel to turn out one tag for each of the 1,300,000 vehicles expected to be registered next year.

Several other states are following similar conservation plans.

Richard E. Nelson Dies In Hospital

Richard E. Nelson, father of Mrs. James C. Cooke of Williamston, died in a Kinston hospital Sunday morning at 3:30 o'clock. He had been in declining health for several months, but his condition was critical only following a fall about the middle of last week.

A native of Lenoir County he moved in 1913 to Grifton where he became a prominent merchant and civic leader. He was 73 years old, the son of the late Robert and Allie Abbott Nelson.

Surviving besides his daughter here are his widow, the former Miss Blanche McLawhorn; a daughter, Mrs. J. W. Overton of Greenville; two sons, Richard A. and Sam Nelson of Grifton; three sisters, Mrs. Ellen Dixon, Mrs. S. M. Gilbert and Mrs. Guy Phillips, all of Grifton.

He was a member of the Grifton Methodist Church and funeral services were conducted there yesterday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock by the pastor, the Rev. E. W. Bownum, assisted by the Rev. Horace A. Quigley. Interment was in the Grifton Cemetery.

Package Company Fire Last Friday

While little damage was done, fire threatened the large plant of the Marvel Package Company near Roanoke River here at 12:25 o'clock last Friday afternoon.

Started by a spark from one of the trimmer saws, the fire got into a conveyor duct and smoke from the burning saw dust forced its way out of the pipes. Workmen turned a small hose into the pipes and firemen, answering the call, forced water into the ducts. Several of the pipes were removed and emptied before the fire could be brought under control.

Clear Seven Cases In Superior Court First Day Of Term

Solicitor George Fountain Sees Possibility Finishing Trials Thursday

Opening a one-week term of the Martin County Superior Court yesterday morning, Judge W. C. Harris of Raleigh cleared seven cases from the docket before ordering a recess at 4:30 o'clock. The court caught up with its calendar by lunch time and then started working on a case originally scheduled for trial today. At least two cases, scheduled for trial yesterday, were placed on the calendar for today when it was learned that the defendants were serving time on the roads and could not be brought into court the first day. One defendant, Luther W. Respass, charged with breaking and entering and larceny of a truck and load of lumber, was returned late last night from Wilmington. Marvin Brantley is being returned from a Hertford road camp for trial in two forgery cases.

While it is not yet certain, Solicitor Geo. Fountain said this morning that possibly the criminal cases could be cleared by Thursday, the solicitor explaining that some unforeseen developments could follow and either delay or speed up the completion of the criminal trials.

It is likely that some of the charges in one or two cases will be altered to meet changed conditions, but no details could be had immediately.

It was also considered likely that the State will consider a plea of second degree murder in the case against James Evans, colored man who shot and killed William Henry Everett in the home of Dave Melton on May 6. The grand jury returned a true bill, indicting Evans for murder in the first degree.

Other true bills of indictment were returned in the following cases:

Robert Savage, robbery of person.

Eugene Straughter alias Eugene Stator, breaking and entering and larceny. The 17-year-old colored boy pleaded guilty and it was recommended that the boy be placed on probation. However, Probation Officer Gay, after talking with the lad, is to discuss the boy's plight with the court before further action is taken.

Luther W. Respass, breaking and entering and larceny. James Leo Cullipher, seduction. Proceedings in the court:

Just about all of Monday was spent hearing drunken driving cases, and more are scheduled for today. Contrary to expectations, the defendants in the drunken driving cases pleaded guilty to

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Prominent County Farmer Died At His Home Sunday

Funeral Service At Home In Bear Grass Today For Calvin Ayers

Calvin Ayers, prominent Martin County farmer, a leading citizen and active church leader, died at his home in Bear Grass Sunday evening at 8:30 o'clock following a sixth heart attack.

He had been in declining health for some time and had spent more than three months in bed, two of them in the hospital. Although his condition was known to have been serious, he was getting along as well as usual when he suffered the sixth and fatal attack, dying a few minutes later. Since his illness, he had been able to take short automobile rides, returning to Williamston about two weeks ago for a check-up. Just before he was fatally stricken he had just finished smoking a cigar and had told members of the family only a short time before that he was feeling exceptionally well.

Mr. Ayers was born in Bear Grass Township 70 years ago on August 26, 1880, and lived and farmed there all his life. He was an industrious farmer, taking the lead in many projects designed for the improvement of his community and county. A member of the Primitive Baptist Church for nearly half a century, he adhered to its teachings and doctrines and possibly attended more religious meetings than anyone outside the ministry. Mr. Ayers, a great fisherman, loved the out-of-doors and was a valued friend and neighbor.

He was the son of the late John and Courtney Rogers Ayers.

He was married in 1908 to Miss Mary Rawls and she survives with four sons, J. Tennyson Ayers of Charlottesville, Fred Ayers of Elizabeth City, Simon and Harry Ayers of the home; two daughters, Mrs. William Bowen and Mrs. J. H. Wynne, both of Bear Grass Township; two brothers, Elder A. B. Ayers of Bear Grass, and Lewis Ayers of Bethel; one sister, Mrs. Claude E. Jenkins of Williamston.

Funeral services are being conducted in the Bear Grass Primitive Baptist Church this afternoon at 3:00 o'clock by Elders E. C. Stevenson and W. E. Grimes. Interment will be in the family cemetery on the farm.

Painfully Hurt In Car Accident

An employee of the Eastern Carolina Plywood Corporation who makes his home in Edenton and works in Hobgood, was painfully hurt in an automobile accident near here Sunday night.

It was reported that the rear seat door came open and that the man was pulled out when he tried to catch the door. Most of his clothing was torn away and it was reported that he was skinned from head to foot. He was able to continue on his way after receiving treatment in a local hospital.

The accident was one of four reported in this immediate section during the past week-end. None of them was fatal, however.

Mistake Hog For A Plain Bullfrog

While fishermen have all but taken over the place for free, now bullfrog killers are invading Bill Abbott's mill pond with rifles and mistaking hogs for plain frogs.

Some time ago one of Mr. Abbott's large hogs was killed. Last Saturday morning a 260-pound hog was found dead, a shot through its nose and head.

Mr. Abbott explains that he would like to keep the frogs around since they destroy mosquito larvae, and that he would like to save his hogs. In other words, the mill pond owner is accommodating the public by allowing fishing in the pond, but he would like to save his frogs and hogs, and he is asking that the public refrain from shooting the little animals.

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Semi-Final Report Released On \$200,000 Bond Program

Annexation Plans Is Being Delayed By Town Officials

Plans, looking toward the annexation of certain areas to the town, are being delayed, possibly temporarily or for an indefinite period. The delay was considered advisable by the local town commissioners in a special meeting last Thursday afternoon when it was pointed out that special funds might not be available to extend public services to the areas immediately.

The commissioners explained that while they strongly favored the annexation proposals they did not consider it fair to have the areas annexed and then be unable to extend water and sewer lines to the property of the new residents.

The commissioners had approved a program, calling for the annexation a part of Martin Heights to the west of the present boundary, but no legal steps actually have been taken to incorporate the area. Owners in other areas had approached the town, seeking to have their property included in the annexation program.

If the town's present improvement program can be handled and there is sufficient money available to extend the lines to those areas mentioned for annexation, then the town's corporate limits are likely to be changed. If that is not possible, then annexation likely will be delayed.

Three Accidents On County Roads During Week-end

Several Hurt But Not Very Badly In Last Series Of Accidents

Three persons were hurt, none of them seriously, in as many highway accidents in this county during the past week-end. The three wrecks followed one in which two young men lost their lives earlier in the week near Robersonville.

James Jennings, Jr., 16-year-old youth of RFD 1, Jamesville, suffered a broken hand when his 1937 model Chevrolet went out of control in a curve on a dirt road near Jamesville early last Thursday afternoon. Damage to the machine was estimated at \$50 by Patrolman M. F. Powers who made the investigation.

Following the two-death accident across Roanoke River last Friday morning, it was rumored that there had been other accidents. One rumor that two persons were killed when their car ran into a log truck near Oak City. The location of the accident shifted from there to the Spring Green section, then to Poplar Point and then to the Hamilton-Palmira Road before it simply disappeared in thin air. Until now it has not been learned how the rumor about the car-log truck wreck got started. But the report, rumor or no rumor, traveled fast, and newspaper offices received numerous calls before the misinformation began to subside.

James Willard Frazier, driver, and Lester E. Shaw, young sailors off the USS Cambria, were cut and bruised about the face but not badly hurt about 2:30 o'clock Saturday morning when their car, a 1939 Chevrolet, was forced off the highway at Old Mill Inn and lunged into Little Creek. The car was damaged about \$350, according to Cpl. T. Fearing who made the investigation.

Frazier and his companion, en route to Wilmington, said a car came out of the Griffins Township road and held to the wrong side of Highway 17. Frazier said he started slowing down and edging off to his right. "When the approaching car continued on its wrong side of the road, I drove onto the shoulder and about that time I saw the concrete bridge. Then it was that we hit the swamp," Frazier said.

Although slightly cut and bruised, the sailors, after looking around with no idea where they were, crawled back into the wrecked car and went to sleep. Finding them about 5:30 o'clock with dried blood on their faces and not knowing if they were seriously hurt or dead, Worth Mobley notified the highway patrol, and an investigation followed immediately.

The last in the week-end three-wreck series was reported about 9:00 o'clock Sunday evening when Robert Edwin Perry, 16-year-old white boy of RFD 1, Williamston, lost control of his 1949 Plymouth

and struck a tree near here. The car was damaged about \$300, according to Cpl. T. Fearing who made the investigation.

Charles Henry Bagley, Sr., 47, died suddenly of a heart attack at Tarkington's Station in Washington County Sunday afternoon at 3:45 o'clock. He lived only a minute or two after suffering the attack.

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To Complete Work Contractor Plans Around July 15th

Indications Are Program Is Likely To Exceed Estimates By \$1,000

Meeting in special session with the local town commissioners last Thursday afternoon, Engineer Henry L. Rivers submitted a semi-final report on the expenditures provided by a \$200,000 bond program for a water tank and sewer line extensions.

The program, according to the engineer's fairly definite estimate, will cost right at \$204,000, an amount about \$4,000 in excess of the original estimates. The bond money is limited to \$200,000, but at the special meeting, the commissioners agreed to divert about \$4,000 from the fund accumulated from sewer rental fees.

The engineer explained that 38,000 feet of eight-inch sewer pipe had been laid at a contract price of \$1.37 per foot or a total of \$52,060. These lines have been laid just about all over town, leaving lines to be laid on Washington Street. It is planned to lay about 3,500 additional feet of eight-inch lines.

It was pointed out that the big out-fall line, running from the highway underpass on West Main Street and following Skewarkey Gut to the river, ran up the cost beyond expectations. The 12,389 feet of 15-inch pipe cost \$42,742.05 or \$3.45 per foot. To complete the line, 18-inch pipe was specified and the 1,745 feet of that size pipe cost \$7,416.25, or \$4.25 per foot.

In addition to the pipe lines, 83 manholes were built at a cost of \$7,055 or \$85 each. Sixty other manholes cost 5,400 or \$90 each. Eight others cost \$880 or \$110 each, and two cost \$300, or \$150 each. The cost varied according to depth.

Engineering fees were figured at \$10,000, the amount including the cost of the preliminary surveys. The bond sale, including legal fees and other incidentals, cost \$2,030.

It is estimated that \$21,750 is necessary to complete the program as outlined, but even then the lines will not be available to all property within the town. The commissioners are reserving several thousand dollars to extend the lines to those areas when and if the service is demanded.

The engineer explained that \$3,351.51 had been spent building a foundation for the 300,000-gallon water tank, and that the tank itself is costing \$49,000. The combined program, including work already handled, the cost of the tank and remainder of the sewer

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Local Young Man Gets M. D. Degree

Graduating from the Western Reserve Medical Center, Cleveland, Ohio, Richard Margolis returned home last Friday. Dr. Margolis will leave on or about July 1, for Baltimore where he will serve his rotating internship in the Baltimore City hospitals. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Margolis, and other relatives from New York attended the graduating exercises.

FATHER'S DAY GIFT

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Loudon, a daughter, Nina Katherine, on Sunday, June 17 in the Martin General Hospital here. The Father's Day gift weighed seven pounds and three ounces. Mrs. Loudon is the former Miss Nina Bunch. Mr. Loudon's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Loudon, sister, Miss Babe, and brother, Loren Loudon, of Los Angeles, California, will arrive here over the week-end to visit their son and brother for several days.