

Highest Daily Average In History Recorded Here Yesterday

Citizens Ask Wider Main Street Bridge

Submit Petitions For Improvement Of Walks-Streets

Board to Make Last Appeal Before Going To Court About Underpass

After years of waiting and hoping, representative citizens, supported unanimously by the parent-teacher association, pleaded with the town commissioners in regular session here last night for action, looking toward the widening of the railroad bridge and the installation of sidewalks on West Main Street. The plea stemmed from a serious school bus accident at the highway underpass week before last, and it is quite evident that some action will follow. It was explained by the board that the problem had been repeatedly discussed with the railroad company and the highway commission, that each batted it from one to the other.

The board last night went on railroad for relief. If the plea record as favoring a last appeal to the highway authorities and railroad for relief. If the plea fails, the town will go into the courts for a ruling.

Those supporting the plea were D. L. Reynolds, speaking for the Parent-Teacher association, Attorney Wheeler Martin, Dr. and Mrs. V. E. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow Tice and Mr. Carroll Jones.

It was reported at the meeting that one of the recent accident victims, Sammy Holliday, continues critically ill in a local hospital as a direct result of injuries received when the bus crashed into one of the bridge supports. It was explained that a pint of blood had been drained from around a lung, and that more is being drained from the same spot today.

The petitioners explained that petitions had been submitted, requesting sidewalks on West Main Street, that no action had been taken since last May. It was pointed out that work on the project had been delayed, pending the settlement of the bridge problem. It is now proposed to build the sidewalks to the underpass as soon as possible.

The first petitions for paving under the Powell Bill plan reached the board last night. Curb and guttering were asked on Biggs Street between Halifax Street and Simmons Avenue, on Ray Street and on Franklin between School Drive and Woodlawn. Sidewalks were also asked on Franklin and Ray Streets.

(Continued on Page Eight)

Miss Moore Joins Vepco Staff Here

Miss Reta Elizabeth Moore, a native of Leaksville, North Carolina, has joined the Virginia Electric and Power Company organization as Home Economist for the Albemarle District. Miss Moore attended Leaksville schools and the Woman's College of the University of North Carolina in Greensboro. She majored in Home Economics and received her Home Ec. Degree in May, 1951. While in college Miss Moore was active in basketball and other campus activities. She is a member of the Cornelian Society. Since graduating in May she has been training for her position at the Virginia Electric and Power Company office in Richmond.

Miss Moore was transferred to Williamston on September 25, and is now residing with Mrs. P. H. Brown at 111 Academy Street.

Miss Moore will work throughout the Albemarle District of the Company, which includes fourteen counties in Northeastern North Carolina.

Get Requests For Better Highways In Martin County

County Commissioners In A Short Session Monday Morning

Meeting in regular session Monday, the Martin County Commissioners handled routine duties and heard several requests for improved roads.

A small delegation from Goose Nest asked the board to recommend for widening and stabilization a road running off Highway 125 about one-half mile north of Conoho Church northwest via the Buck Powell and Love Williams farms and on around to Highway 125, a distance of 4.2 miles.

A request for widening and stabilization was also received for a road in Griffins Township, beginning at a point near the E. H. Manning home and running via W. A. Manning's and R. S. Corey's to the Smithwick Creek and Farm Life Road, a distance of 1.7 miles. The petitioners pointed out that the road is traveled by RFD carriers, school busses and serves twelve farms.

The Goose Nest group also asked that three-quarters of a mile of road leading from a point near Ogleby's corner and running toward Oak City to the Claude Lynch farm be worked as a community road project. It was pointed out that the route serves four farms.

Old tax claims dating back beyond 1940 were written off when it was found that the listings had been in error.

M. L. Peel was reappointed tax collector for another year. The collector reported that \$177,318.24 of the \$370,939.90 levy for 1951 had been collected. All but \$14,318.34 of the 1950 levy has been collected. There is a balance due of \$7,238.24 on the \$313,706.69 levy for 1949, and all but \$4,827.05 of the \$284,594.80 levy for 1948 has been collected, it was reported.

Commissioners C. C. Martin of Jamesville, J. H. Edwards of Williamston, W. M. Harrison of Bear Grass and Henry S. Johnson, Jr., of Hamilton were present for the meeting. Commissioner Herbert L. Roebuck was unable to attend the session on account of illness in his family.

Hurt Trying To Retrieve Money

Verna Bell Bell, 11-year-old local colored girl, was painfully and possibly seriously hurt in a fall from a farm truck on Highway 64 between Williamston and Everetts about noon Monday. She suffered a head injury and was badly bruised about the body.

Her sister, Lona Ree Bell, 17, according to one report, lost a dollar bill out of her pocket and the young sister tried to retrieve it, either jumping or falling from the truck. The truck was said to have been traveling about 30 or 35 miles an hour at the time, witnesses stating that she struck the concrete and rolled like a ball.

She was removed to a local hospital where she was reported in a semi-conscious condition, hospital attendants stating that it was impossible to determine the extent of her injuries immediately.

Furniture Show Contest Winners

Winners in the Home Fashion Time contest drawing held Saturday evening in the local furniture stores were James White of Jamesville, winner of an Ezra Storm mattress at B. S. Courtney and Son; Mrs. Tom Forehand of Williamston, winner of an occasional chair upholstered in Boltaflex at Helig-Meyers Furniture Company; Miss Anna Crawford, winner of an old world maple chair, with Grandma Moses cover at Woolard Furniture Company and Sue Peelle of Route 2, winner of a Kingsdown box springs from McLawhorn Furniture Company.

Williamston Boys Shine At San Diego Training Center

Williamston boys have been shining out at the U. S. Naval Training Center in San Diego, Calif., according to delayed reports reaching here. Jack H. Welch is the latest to be singled out for the distinct honor by commanding officers at the center. Hilton Peel established the precedent quite some time ago. He was followed by Warren Goff, Bobby Harrison was next and now Seaman Welch comes along to annex the title of Honorman.

In a letter to Seaman Welch's parents, Captain T. H. Copeman, U. S. Navy, commanding officer, said: "As your son's Commanding Officer, it gives me great pleasure to inform you that he has been selected Honorman of his company."

"The Honorman is selected by those outstanding work in recruit training has been recognized by the company commander. Factors considered for the Honorman are leadership, sportsmanship, military bearing, initiative, response to orders, cleanliness, a good shipmate, and an outstanding individual in all phases of recruit training.

"The Honorman certificate is awarded with appropriate naval ceremony at the brigade parade by the Commanding Officer or visiting dignitary."

"I know you must feel a justifiable pride in your son's achievement and I wish to extend to you my personal congratulations. Your son has proven that he has all the qualities of a good citizen and is a credit to the Naval service and his country."

Man Loses Life In Flight From Officers

Jumps Into Creek And Drowns Near Dardens on Friday

Body of Ebron James Dragged from Creek; Second Man Made His Escape

In a bold flight from the law, Ebron James, 40-year-old Negro of Jamesville Township, plunged into Welch's Creek near Dardens last Friday morning and drowned. A companion, leading the way into the water and from the officers, made it safely across the stream and escaped.

Raiding in the area that morning, ABC Officers J. H. Roebuck and Cecil Bullock turned off Highway 64 a short distance this side of Welch's Creek Bridge and moved up the stream almost a mile where they found an old model pickup truck parked. Officer Bullock continued up the stream several hundred yards and saw James and his companion moving down the stream in a boat with a cargo of liquor. He hid himself from the couple and worked his way back to the truck, meeting Officer Roebuck along the way. As the officers closed in the two men had transferred the fifteen gallons of liquor to the truck and were making ready to leave when they saw the officers.

The companion, instead of choosing a land route, ran to the creek and plunged in, James following a few feet behind. Following them to the water's edge, the officers saw the first man make it across the stream without delay. James waded a bit cautiously, the officers pleading with him to turn around. When he was in the water almost to his shoulders, he turned and looked at the officers, said nothing and continued toward the Washington County shore. Officers again pleaded with him to turn back, but he waded on toward the other shore. About that time he stepped into a hole, the officers stating that the last they saw of the man at the time was one

Witnesses, traveling up Main Street, said that the Ramsey car speeded by them near the foot of the river hill, that they saw the car swerve just about the time it hit Mrs. Hawes. Two New Jersey marines, traveling into Williamston, said that the Ramsey car would speed up to them and then fall back, that they pulled over to the side of the road and allowed it to pass.

White Cane Sale Under Way Here

Opening their annual White Cane Drive yesterday, the members of the local Lions Club are soliciting both residential and business sections of Williamston this week in an effort to help raise the \$30,000 which is the goal of the state-wide campaign.

The drive is the one state-wide fund raising project sponsored by the North Carolina State Association for the Blind. Aid to blind people, where no other resources are available, is rendered by this association. First created in 1934 by Lions and other interested individuals, the association's first purpose was to work for a State agency for the blind which would have trained personnel to devote all its time working for and with the blind. The association has continued its work state-wide answering wherever there is need and no funds.

For a number of years this state has led the nation in finding employment for the blind. In 1950 308 blind persons were placed in jobs. Among the many services rendered by the combined efforts of the Lions, the Association and the North Carolina State Commission for the Blind, are eye clinics at several points throughout the state, pre-school clinics for blind babies and their mothers, medical treatment and surgery when needed.

Mrs. Exum Ward of the Lions Club is heading the White Cane sales.

Critically Hurt In Accident On East Main Street

Six Accidents Reported On County Highways And Streets Past Week-End

Mrs. Mary Roberson Hawes was critically injured and one or two others were hurt in a series of vehicle accidents on county highways and streets last week-end, according to reports coming from the highway patrol office and police.

Mrs. Roberson, returning to Williamston about a year ago to make her home after a long residence in Lanham, Maryland, was run down on East Main Street near the Biggs Street intersection about 8:15 o'clock Saturday evening. She was said to have suffered compound fractures of both legs, a head injury and was cut on one hand. Her condition continues serious in a local hospital where she was carried for treatment.

Police, assisted by Patrolman B. W. Parker, said Mrs. Hawes was run down by James Ramsey, Jr., 23-year-old colored man of Williams Township, who was driving a new 1951 Plymouth car, Ramsey, accompanied by a man named Lanier, was driving up the main street, and was quoted as saying that Mrs. Hawes was walking across the street and turned and started back. She was said to have been almost in the middle of the street when she was struck and knocked about twelve or fifteen feet. Officers said the car skidded its tires a distance of forty-eight feet. Mrs. Hawes has been unable to tell about the accident, and as far as it could be learned there were few eye witnesses. No direct report has been released on the accident by police and a hearing is being delayed, pending the outcome of the victim's condition.

Witnesses, traveling up Main Street, said that the Ramsey car speeded by them near the foot of the river hill, that they saw the car swerve just about the time it hit Mrs. Hawes. Two New Jersey marines, traveling into Williamston, said that the Ramsey car would speed up to them and then fall back, that they pulled over to the side of the road and allowed it to pass.

Ramsey, charged with an assault with a deadly weapon, an automobile, was detained.

The first in the series of accidents reported during the past several days was on Highway 125 near Conoho Creek between Oak City and Hamilton last Wednesday night. Howard Garland Bundy of Elizabeth City, traveling toward Hamilton, lost control of his 1951 Studebaker on a curve, and the machine skidded seventy

(Continued on page eight)

Stolen Car Found Burned Saturday

A 1947 Oldsmobile, stolen from its parking place on Washington Street in Williamston last Saturday night about 10:00 o'clock, was found burned on a dirt road near Hobbgood by Patrolman B. W. Parker.

A report from Oak City said that the thief stopped there and had the car gassed up. The driver, a colored boy, was accompanied by others, the patrolman said, but their identity has not yet been determined.

The car was owned by Jos. L. Godard of Williamston. It could not be learned if the vehicle was insured against theft or fire.

Pool Room Closed By Owner Last Saturday

The pool room, operated over the Critcher Shoe Company store on Main Street for the past several years, was closed by the owner, G. P. Hughes, last Saturday. The fixtures are being offered for sale by W. R. Banks.

Mr. Hughes plans to go with the construction contractors on DuPont project near Kinston.

Tobacco Sales Pass Eight Million Mark

Official Average Of More Than \$62 Is Listed Monday

The highest daily price average ever recorded in the history of the Williamston Tobacco Market was chalked up yesterday when 307,726 pounds of the golden leaf were sold for an official average of \$62.19 per hundred pounds. The price peak zoomed right on past everything, including the top figures recorded back in the 1919 hey-day period.

After holding to a figure slightly above the \$50 mark for most of the season, the market started climbing a week ago after a determined fashion. By last Friday the price average had pulled right upto \$60 per hundred and then plunged upward again for another gain of more than \$2.00 per hundred.

Observers said the price increase was traceable to two factors. Tobacco that had been selling for \$89 moved up to \$70, and the quality of the offerings was far better than it had been. Very little inferior quality leaf has been offered during the past several days, and prices have ranged from 50 to 90 cents a pound. Individual averages have been recorded at \$78 or more per hundred.

So far this season, the Williams-ton market has sold 3,085,348 pounds for \$4,209,732, a resulting average of \$52.07. The sales today are almost certain to carry the total to almost 8,400,000 pounds, a report from the market shortly before noon declaring that prices were holding firm.

Block sales continue to grip the market, but the selling organization is gradually catching up with the possibility that little or no tobacco will be left unsold tomorrow. Farmers from about twenty counties have been delivering tobacco a day ahead of the sales, and the operations have attracted attention from over a wide area.

Up until today, the highest average of the season stood at \$59.44, the 279,664 pounds averaging that amount last Friday.

Until the record was broken yesterday, the highest average ever recorded on the local market was on September 1, 1950, when 338,014 pounds sold for an average of \$60.14.

While a new daily average record was made yesterday, the market this year is trailing the over-all price of last season by a little more than \$5 per hundred. If the present trend can be maintained, much of the difference can be wiped out. However, the current crop is disappearing rapidly, some observers declaring that 75 to 80 percent is already marketed.

When a young man he joined the Macedonia church, and attended Williams Chapel M. E. Church regularly during his residence in the upper part of the county.

Surviving are three sons, Noah Perry of Hopewell, Va., Joseph Perry of Peoria, Ill., and Evans Perry of Griffins Township; three daughters, Mrs. Mary Rawls of Williamston and Mrs. Myrtle Perry Weaver and Mrs. Fannie Jacobson of Brooklyn; four brothers, Albert T. and Arthur Perry of Williamston, Perle Perry of Gadsden, Alabama, and W. H. Perry of Dardens; one sister, Mrs. Bertha Tetterton of Williamston; three step-sons, J. W. Roberson of Palmyra, and Tommie and Milton Roberson, both of RFD 1, Palmyra, and three step-daughters, Mrs. Emily Thompson of RFD 1, Oak City, Mrs. Jacob Vaughn of Scotland Neck and Mrs. W. F. Ley of Wyoming.

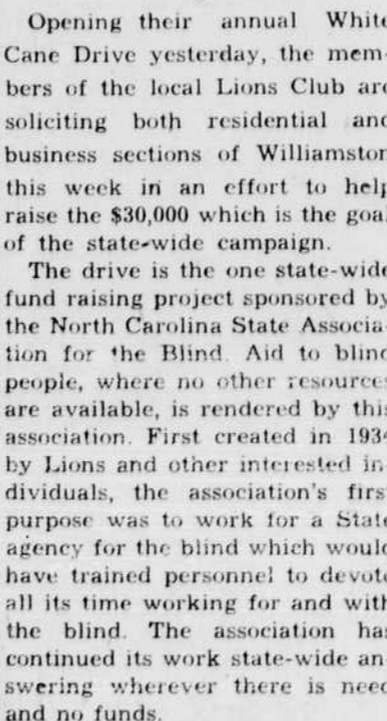
Funeral services are being conducted in the Biggs Funeral Home here this afternoon at 3:30 o'clock by the Rev. Woolard Sherman, pastor of the Williams Chapel M. E. Church. Interment will be in the family plot in Woodlawn Cemetery here.

Local Youth Breaks Arm While Playing

Robert Weston, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Weston of Marshall Avenue, is able to be back in school after receiving treatment for a fractured arm. Robert fractured the bone of his left arm last week while playing at school.



Wounded in both legs by enemy machine gun bullets, S/FC Edward Earl Mobley, son of Mrs. Mary Thomas of near Hamilton, and the late Charles Mobley, was reported improving in a hospital in Japan last week-end. In Korea for about a year, the 23-year-old sergeant was wounded in action there September 11.



Seven persons were rounded up and placed in the county jail by local county and State officers last week-end. Five of the seven were charged with assaults, including one with an automobile. One each was booked for carrying a concealed weapon and one with careless and reckless driving. One of the seven was white, and the ages of the group ranged from 20 to 35 years.