

### Jamesville Club Holds Meeting

The Jamesville Ruritan Club held its regular meeting Monday night, Feb. 4.

The meeting was called to order by the president, Mr. Carl Griffin. Then the club sang America.

Chair, Mr. Floyd Moore, the ladies' Secretary, Synder warns of high of the Sileam Methodist Church tax level for a long time to come.

served a delicious meal.

Mr. Giles Stallings, scout master and his scouts were special guests. Mr. Wheeler Martin and Mr. K. P. Lindsley were the guest speakers and gave some very interesting facts pertaining to scouting.

Mr. Hair, the program chairman announced that the next meeting would be Ladies Night.

Don C. Peele, Reporter

## Grass Roots Opera Proves Big Success

### Large Audience Gives 'School For Lovers' Big Hand

#### Raleigh Group Also Pleas-ed At Warmth of Their Reception Here

**By Gene Allen Thomas**

The Grass Roots Opera Company, headquarters of which are in Raleigh, yesterday most effectively proved that their campaign to bring opera to all parts of the state is a laudable one which merits the enthusiastic support of all.

The audiences at the matinee and evening performances, presented at Williamston High School by the P. T. A. and Music Department, were large and appreciative. Because the evening performance was attended mostly by adults and somewhat subdued children, the audience was more attentive to the pleasant intricacies of Mozart's light and gay "School For Lovers."

The contrapuntal pattern of the

opera, while light and flowing, are still demanding of the performers. The cast of six rose adorned the stage, and the solo and ensemble parts were a delight to the ear.

In addition, the troupe was not lacking in dramatic ability. They threw themselves into their respective roles with almost too much abandon at times. The comedy enthralled the younger members of the audience, but a bit more restraint would have prevented losing some of the music in the laughter the clowning precipitated.

When some of the youthful singers realize that they possess excellent voices, they should go far. All six have voices of rich timber and tone quality. Confidence would make one or two of them surer and steadier.

Robert Bird, baritone, and director of the company, and Alec Dantre, baritone, are superior singers and actors, displaying professional ability. Nora Sands, lovely lyric soprano was a pleasure to hear, while Deborah Alden proved a versatile singer and actress. William Alden, tenor, and Anna Applewhite, soprano, have most pleasing voices and carried off their roles nicely.

The accompanist, Aileen Lynn, is a great asset to the company.

The explanation of the opera on the program, while cleverly done, seemed to imply that there is an appalling lack of interest in or knowledge of cultural things in the "hinterland" of small towns, and that most of us are still in the "Turkey in the Straw" stage. The fact that a large number of school children in Williamston, for one example, have been well trained musically and play concert type music belies this. There are a number of good singers and musicians here, and in many other small cities.

If this writer may be allowed to pass on a humble suggestion to the Grass Roots Company, it is this: Please don't talk down to small town citizens. Give them both barrels of the real McCoy, as though you were in New York City. They can take it, understand it, and will enjoy it more.

Officials of the Parents-Teachers Association and the Music De-

### Thinks Rotation Forced on Farmer

Speaking briefly before nearly a hundred farmers, oil dealers and friends at a banquet in the Williamston Woman's Club last night, County Agent Tom Brandon told the farmers that in his opinion a four-year rotation plan is being forced upon them.

Discussing the farming situation in the county and remarking upon its diversification, Mr. Brandon told of the pernicious work of the nematodes and how they were intensified by the planting of the same crop in the same plot of land year after year. Those which affect one crop will not live on others, he said, and so rotation kills them off.

A moving picture was also offered the gathering by officials of the Colonial Oil Company who staged the banquet. Door prizes and special gifts were also given those attending.

Here from the Norfolk office of the company were Harry Stinson, sales manager, and D. M. Manning, sales promotion man. Others connected with the company were Charlie Terrell, district sales manager, of Washington, T. B. Sitterson, distributor, of Windsor, and W. T. Crawford, Williamston distributor of the company which handles Pure Oil Company products.

### Patients In The Martin General

Listed among the patients in the Martin General Hospital this morning were the following:

Mrs. Raymond Cherry, R. L. Pate, W. B. Watts, Mrs. Charlie Roberson, J. E. King, Mrs. Elton Hardy, the Gurganov twins, all of Williamston, Victor Kravitz, Ossining, New York, man, who was taken ill while traveling through here Sunday; Mrs. Bob Harris of RFD 2, Williamston; C. F. Stanich, Washington; Mrs. H. M. Robuck, Robersonville; Mrs. L. J. Mills, RFD 3, Williamston; Mrs. Baby Grimes and infant daughter of Oak City, and Mrs. James A. Wynne of RFD 3, Williamston.

James Oden of Belhaven and Robert King of Windsor, injured in an automobile accident a week ago, continue quite ill. Annie Rhodes who was shot ten days ago, is improving. Ada Perkins who was almost beaten to death by her husband in early January and who was without medical attention for about two weeks, is being discharged today. Other patients are Bredda Mae Biggs of Jamesville, Narcissus Biggs of Williamston and Mary Purvis and infant son of RFD 4, Windsor.

Mr. Pate underwent a major operation early this morning.

### Two Persons Are Painfully Cut

Two persons were painfully cut, one by a knife and the other by an axe in this section yesterday.

Said to have been called a liar, Lola Lee assaulted Hazel Spruill with a pocket knife near the Lee farm last night.

Edward ... was injured by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, carries approximately 62 per cent arm. Given a preliminary hearing before Justice Chas. Mobley, ...

the attacker was bound over to the county court under bond in the sum of \$100.

Willie Gus Smith of RFD 2, Williamston, suffered a bad accidental cut on his knee while cutting wood yesterday afternoon.

Both victims were able to return to their homes after receiving hospital treatment.

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### Local Boy Edits 'The Drydocket'

Elmo D. Mims, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Mims was recently selected as Editor of USS AFDB-1's ship's newspaper, "The Drydocket."

The USS AFDB-1 is the Navy's largest floating drydock. It can handle any ship in the fleet including our largest carriers.

Mims, who joined the Navy in May is now stationed in Guam where the temperature never falls below 90 degrees. He would like to visit the home port of his ship in the near future.

The performers were delighted with the warmth of the audience and declared it was a pleasure to work before such a group.

### Umstead Names State Manager

William B. Umstead, candidate for governor, today announced Carlisle W. Higgins of Winston-Salem to manage his campaign.

Higgins, a former United States attorney, practices law in the Forsyth capital.

Luther Hodges of Leaksville yesterday announced his candidacy for lieutenant governor. He is the third to enter that race.



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## Taxes Will Carry Two And One-Half Per Cent Penalty On MARCH FIRST, 1952

This Penalty Will Be Added To All Taxes Unpaid and Increase Each Month Thereafter.

### SPECIAL NOTICE

ALL LANDS ON WHICH 1951 TAXES HAVE NOT BEEN PAID WILL BE ADVERTISED FIRST MONDAY IN MAY, FOR SALE FIRST MONDAY IN JUNE.

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