

## David E. Simpson Dies In Hospital, Victim Of Suicide

### Funeral Held Saturday In Robersonville For Wil- liamston Boy

David Earl Simpson, representative of the Royal Baking Company with headquarters in Williamston, fatally injured himself with a .22-caliber pistol at his home on South Haughton Street last Thursday afternoon at 5:30 o'clock. He died in a Durham hospital about eight hours later at 12:30 o'clock, Friday morning without regaining consciousness.

Making an investigation, County Coroner W. W. Biggs said it was suicide and that no formal inquest was necessary.

Using an owl head pistol, the 20-year-old youth held the barrel to his right temple and fired the bullet into his brain. He was removed to a local hospital and a short time later was transferred by ambulance with a patrol escort to the Durham institution.

Completing his work that afternoon he made a telegraphic report to his company about 3:30 o'clock. Going to his home a short time later, he was reported to have threatened his life. Mrs. Simpson had called for her mother in Robersonville, and Police Chief John Roebuck was called to the home to get the pistol from him.

Simpson told the officer there was no pistol in the house, that there was an old rifle around. The officer, finding there was nothing he could do, left. A short time later, Mrs. Simpson took her young child and was getting into a car to go to her parents home in Robersonville when the shot was heard. Officers found him slumped on the floor in a bedroom.

Coroner Biggs said Simpson had contacted others earlier in the day to make his deliveries the next day, but offered no explanation for making the request. It was also reported that the young man had been drinking rather frequently and that there had been some domestic trouble.

Simpson was born in Jamesville Township twenty years ago and spent his early life there. He married Miss Carolyn Coburn of Robersonville and located in Williamston about a year ago, driving for a cleaning establishment before going with the baking company. He had many friends in his home and adopted communities.

Surviving besides his widow are a young son, David Earl Simpson, Jr.; his mother, Mrs. Dare Dickerson; five half-sisters, Anna Liza, Mary Jo, Alice Gray, Geraldine and Linda Kay Dickerson, an ather half-brothers, James Henry Dickerson, Jr., Robert Dwayne and Charles Kent Dickerson, all of Williamston; and his maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Simpson of Williamston with whom he had made his home since early childhood.

Funeral services were conducted at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Irving Coburn in Robersonville Saturday afternoon at 4:00 o'clock by the Rev. W. B. Harrington, County Baptist minister, assisted by the Rev. J. M. Perry, pastor of the Robersonville Christian Church. Burial was in the Robersonville Cemetery.

## Duck Inn Burned Out Last Evening

Duck Inn, a hot spot for society segment during recent years, was burned out shortly before 11:00 o'clock on Washington Street next to the Throver Appliance and Hardware Company last night.

Believed to have started from a lighted cigarette butt thrown into a trash basket, the fire burned out most of the interior and sent its smoke into nearby buildings.

Using both trucks and working from two hydrants, firemen whupped out the fire in a few minutes and confined it for the most part to the interior of the small one-story frame building.

No estimate on the loss could be had immediately. It was reported that there was little stock on hand, that the beer supply had been exhausted almost in its entirety.

## Candidates For Martin County Representative



Following a period of little activity, politics is "picking up" rapidly on the home front with the three-way race for Martin County Representative possibly holding the spotlight. Going into the Democratic primary on May 31 are, left to right, E. G. Anderson, Robersonville tobacconist, A. Corey, surveyor of Jamesville, and Elmer N. Modlin, Jamesville farmer.

## Officers Strike Again At Illicit Liquor Traffic Here

Williamston police, assisted by ABC and county officers, last Saturday evening struck again at the prosperous illicit liquor traffic here, and came out with a .500 batting average.

Armed with search warrants, the officers visited six homes and found sufficient evidence in three to go into court before Justice Raymond Johnson.

Officers, explaining they are up against a mean problem, admit that the surface in the illicit business has hardly been scratched, that while they find it impossible to get evidence that will stand up in court they are fairly certain

that old violators continue in the trade and that new ones are going into the business from time to time.

Going into the home of Mary Ester on Roanoke Street, the officers found a quart of white liquor and a fairly sizable supply of beer on hand.

At Ed Brewington's place on East Church Street, the raiders found one-half gallon white liquor and a number of empty jars, apparently used in connection with his operations.

A search at the Jack Knight home on South Pearl Street netted about a pint of raw bottled-in-the-bush liquor.

## ROUND-UP

Nine persons were arrested and detained in the county jail last week-end, the group facing eight different charges. Two were booked for drunk driving, and one each for assault, speeding, drunkenness, larceny, breaking and entering. A ninth person was jailed where she was held until she could be removed Saturday to an asylum for the insane.

Two of the nine were white, and the ages of the group ranged from 18 to 56 years.

## Graduating With Honors Monday

Misses Mattie Faye and Mavis Lee Brown, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Brown of Bear Grass, will be graduated with honors from East Carolina College, Greenville, next Monday.

Miss Mattie Faye Brown has earned the service award in the Department of Business Education and would have graduated last Thanksgiving, but she took up extra curricular work so that she might graduate with her sister, Mavis Lee, who has just completed four years of work in only 11 quarters.

Both sisters have earned a majority of their tuition by doing extra work outside their regular studies.

## Finishes Basic At Lackland Base

Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.—Airman Robert E. Turner, 21, son of Mr. and Mrs. Rue E. Turner of Oak City, N. C., has completed his AF basic airman indoctrination course at Lackland Air Force Base, the "Gateway to the Air Force."

Lackland, situated near San Antonio, is the world's largest air force base, site of Air Force basic training, for men and women, headquarters of the Human Resource Center, and home of AF's Officer Candidate School.

His basic training is preparing him for entrance into Air Force technical training and for assignment in specialized work. The course includes a scientific evaluation of his aptitude and inclination for following a particular vocation and career.

## Buyer On Local Market Passes

Mr. Norwood Thomas, popular buyer on the Williamston Tobacco Market for the J. P. Taylor Company during the past fifteen years, died suddenly of a heart attack at his home in Wilson last Sunday evening at 8:00 o'clock. Apparently in his usual health, Mr. Thomas was sitting in a chair when he suffered the attack and died a short time later.

Few tobacco buyers ever made more lasting friendships among the farmers and market operators than Mr. Thomas did. He was interested in the market and its patrons and made lasting friendships during his stay here.

A son of the late N. B. Thomas and wife, he was born in Henderson 54 years ago on December 17, 1897 and had made his home in Wilson for a number of years.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Ella Hackney Thomas of Wilson; one daughter, Mrs. Harold P. Stuart of Verona, N. J.; one granddaughter; one brother, T. P. Thomas, an official of the James I. Miller Tobacco Company of Wilson; and four sisters, Mrs. J. W. Jenkins, Mrs. R. C. Cary, Mrs. Frank B. Robards and Miss Rosa Long Thomas, all of Henderson. Mr. Thomas was long a member of the First Methodist Church in Wilson, and for years a member of the official board of stewards, and was active in civic movements in Wilson. Funeral services were held at the First Methodist Church in Wilson this morning at 11 o'clock, conducted by the pastor, the Rev. Robert W. Bradshaw, and burial was in Wilson.

## Officers Wreck Large Distillery

Raiding in Bear Grass Township early Sunday morning, ABC Officers J. H. Roebuck and Cecil Bullock and Deputy Raymond Rawls wrecked a large illicit liquor distillery.

It was a case of the early birds getting the worm (still worm), but they did not get their man because they were too early. The officers reached the still at 5:00 o'clock or before the operators cranked up for a run.

They wrecked the 150-gallon oil tank still and poured out about 300 gallons of mash.

## Public Nuisance Charge Dismissed In Court Friday

### Justice Rules Evidence Was Insufficient To Support A Conviction

Ruling there was insufficient evidence to warrant a conviction, Justice Charles R. Mobley in his court here last Friday evening dismissed the case in which D. Price and Randolph Moore, young white men, were charged with using boisterous and obscene language in public. The defendants did not testify.

Mrs. Roger Roberts told the court that there was whooping and yelling and loud radio playing on the corner of Main and Washington Streets at 2:20 o'clock last Thursday morning. She explained that a call was made to Bruce Holloman, operator of the Central Service Station. Holloman was then quoted as saying he called the station to talk with the attendant, James Holliday, that Holloman said he could hardly hear the attendant because there was so much noise there. Asked who was making the noise, Holliday was quoted as saying that it was Price and Moore. The witness, Mrs. Roberts, stated that she could not identify the defendants.

Mr. Holloman, taking the stand, said that he called the station and had to "pick" Holliday for facts about the disturbance, that the defendants had made slang remarks. Explaining that he tried to cooperate in maintaining peace and quiet on the corner, Mr. Holloman asked the court about keeping the defendants off the station premises.

James Holliday, the station attendant, a bit shaky in the presence of the defendants and uncertain about just what happened, said that Price and Moore went to the station, bought gas and drinks and left their car parked across the street and the radio was playing, the witness claiming that neither Moore nor Price, turned it on. After a plea was received for quiet, Holliday said he went across the street and asked them to turn the radio off.

The defendants then allegedly drove off, yelling and skidding the car tires as they turned the corner. Holliday said he was inside the station at the time and could not swear it was the defendants. The evidence was ruled out.

Repeated appeals have been made to eliminate the unnecessary noise, but no effective way has been proposed as yet to control it. Leaving the pool room on Washington Street at closing time, several young men have made a practice of gathering around the Main and Washington Street corner, and intentionally or

## Continues Quite Ill In A Local Hospital

Suffering an attack last Saturday while spending a few days at his beach cottage in Nags Head, Mr. Irving Smith, prominent Robersonville business man, continues seriously ill in a hospital here.

Brought here by ambulance early Sunday afternoon, he was reported this morning to be about the same.

## Murder-Suicide Pact In County Saturday Night

### James C. Council Ends His Life After Killing His Wife

After fatally shooting his wife, Rachel Ebron Council, 27, at the home of her mother on the Hamilton-Palmyra Road shortly after 9:00 o'clock last Saturday night, James Clinton Council, 22, killed himself about an hour later by firing a load of gun shot into his heart at his home on the P. E. Manning farm, not far from the Ebron residence.

It was believed to have been the second murder-suicide pact ever reported among the colored population in this county, and the suicide was the second reported in the county in a three-day period.

The double tragedy, according to Coroner W. W. Biggs, had its origin a week previously when the wife, beaten and her life threatened, took their two small children, one two years old and the other six months old, and went to her mother's, about one-half mile away. Council talked with her during the week, urging her to return home. Friday night he told Ernest Wooten who had married his wife's sister, that if Rachel did not return home she would be no good for anyone else, that he (Council) would kill her and then kill himself.

The threat was not taken seriously, Wooten saying that Council had been drinking.

Saturday night, the wife was sitting with her mother, Roxanna Ebron on the Ebron porch when Council slipped up behind her and fired a load of No. 8 shot from a 12-gauge shot gun into her back, most of the shot striking her in the left shoulder. Coroner Biggs is of the opinion that the shot was fired when Council was not more than ten or twelve feet away. The victim was pronounced dead when she was delivered to the Bethel Clinic.

While at the Bethel Clinic making his investigation of the murder, Coroner Biggs was advised that Council had killed himself back home in Martin County. Switching the investigation there, the coroner ruled that it was a case of murder and suicide, and that no formal inquest was considered necessary.

After killing his wife, Council returned to his home and put up his gun and went out again. A short time later he was seen running back home. Hamlet officers were notified and Cmet Dick Everett and Constable Pete Leggett and Deputy Wiley Craft and Special Deputy Paul Wooruff went to the Council home. The house was dark and no one was

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## Funeral Friday For Infant Son

Funeral services were conducted at the home in Farm Life last Friday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock for Roger Simon Coltrain, 20-day-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Simon Coltrain, the victim of an attack of pneumonia, the infant was removed from its home to the hospital early last week and died at 5:30 o'clock Thursday afternoon.

The Rev. W. B. Harrington and Elder P. E. Getsinger conducted the service, and interment was in the Cowen Cemetery in Bear Grass.

Surviving are his parents, Simon and Rachel Harrison Coltrain; and a sister, Brenda Coltrain.

## BANQUET

Skewarkey Masons will hold their annual ladies' night banquet in the high school gym tomorrow evening at 7:30 o'clock. Master George Hutton Gurganus announced that more than 200 Masons and special guests were expected for the event.

Silas Lucas, prominent figure in the organization, will come here from Wilson to address the event.

## Final Action Pending In School Consolidation Plan

Final action for the consolidation of the Farm Life High School is being delayed pending the outcome of new appeals to be made to the State Board of Education, according to a report released Monday afternoon following a meeting of the county education board.

One or more representatives of the Farm Life Community will go before the board in Raleigh, possibly tomorrow, with a renewed appeal to hold the school intact.

The county board, in a scheduled meeting Monday, agreed to the postponement. However, it was agreed that should the State Board refuse to relent and rescind its consolidation order, then the Farm Life School would be joined with the one in Williamston. No

formal petition was filed with the board, but it was learned from the district committee that the matter had been discussed with individual members of the county education body and that in the event of consolidation, the school would be joined with the one in Williamston. As far as it could be learned there was no expressed opposition to the plan which is to be effected only when and if consolidation is finally ordered.

The board spent considerable time studying the proposed budget for the new term. The figures are only tentative and are to be submitted to the county commissioners before adoption. However, there is a possibility of a reduction of about eight cents in the school rate for the next fiscal year.

## Lloyd Price Held Without Bond for Attack on Family

### Several Stitches Required To Close Wound In Little Child's Forehead

Lloyd Price, logwoods worker of Jamesville, was bound over by Justice Chas. R. Mobley at a preliminary hearing Monday morning without privilege of bond for allegedly breaking into his estranged wife's home and attacking members of his family about 12:30 o'clock Sunday morning in Jamesville.

Price, 36, is booked for trial in the Martin County Superior Court during the term, beginning June 16, on a capital offense charge.

Said to have been drinking, Price, separated from his family for almost two years, went to the home where his wife and several small children were living. He kicked out a screen in the window and entered. Mrs. Price tried to turn him back with a fire stick, but he took the stick out of her hands and assaulted her, reports stating that there were many bruises about her body. A five-year-old daughter was struck in the head, and several stitches were needed to close the wound.

While Price was attacking his wife, a 12-year old son ran to a neighbor's home for help. The neighbors chased Price away and carried the wounded to a doctor for treatment.

At the hearing, Price, explaining he just went to the house to see his children, that he did not

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## Kiwanis Club To Stage Skit Show

A variety of entertainment seldom seen on the local stage is forecast by Billy Biggs and Byrum Smith, co-chairmen of a special projects committee of the Kiwanis Club, when a Skit Nite program is presented here on Saturday night, May 17. The show, which will consist of a maximum of ten 15-minute acts, will display talent sponsored by the Bear Grass and Jamesville Kiwanis Clubs, the local Lions and Rotary Clubs, the Jaycees, the Williamston High School Band and Glee Club, and other organizations to be announced later.

One hundred dollars in performance prizes will be awarded to the sponsors of the competing units. The top award will be \$50 with second and third place prizes of \$30 and \$20. The primary entrance requirements are that all performers must pay the established admission price, and that the performers must be amateurs. The determination of the amateur status will rest with the individual sponsors.

Bruce Wynne, Clerk of the Martin County Superior Court, will act as master of ceremonies for the event which will be staged at the local high school auditorium at 7:30 p. m.

Net proceeds from the show will be used by the Kiwanis Club for boys and girls and underprivileged child work activities. Further details of the Skit Nite program will be announced later.

## Five Injured In Four Car Wrecks During Week-end

### Williamston Man Suffered Broken Hip In Sunday Afternoon Wreck

At least five persons were injured, one of them seriously, in a series of automobile accidents on the highways in this county last week-end. Property damage was conservatively estimated at \$1,950 by members of the North Carolina Highway Patrol.

The first in the series of accidents was reported on a dirt road between Bear Grass and Cross Roads at the home of Mrs. Annie Ayers. Mrs. Ayers had her 1951 Plymouth parked in her yard beside the road facing Alonza Revel's 1941 Ford which was also parked. David Wallace, Jr., driving a 1942 Ford, said the accelerator on his machine got caught and that he lost control. After swerving from ditch to ditch 120 feet, the Wallace car plowed into the rear of the parked Plymouth, knocking it about twenty-one feet into the Revels car, making an accordion almost out of the Plymouth. The Revels Ford was knocked thirty-six feet across the road and into a tobacco rack. No one was hurt. Investigating the accident, Patrolman B. W. Parker and R. P. Narron estimated the damage: \$650 to the Plymouth, \$100 to the Revels Ford and \$100 to the Wallace Ford. Wallace was booked for careless and reckless driving.

Driving on Highway 125 near the Everett Farm in Poplar Point Township Saturday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock, William Henry Bridges of RFD 1, Oak City, lost control of his 1950 Ford on the wet-slippery blacktop in a curve and the machine turned over. No one was hurt and damage to the machine was estimated at \$200 by Patrolman R. P. Narron and B. W. Parker who made the investigation.

The most serious in the series of accidents was reported on Highway 125, a few miles out of Williamston, about 1:30 o'clock Sunday afternoon when Charlie Bert Wynne, Williamston man, suffered a broken hip and lacerations. Frank Edwards, Jr., of Norfolk, was thrown out of his 1947 Hudson, suffering bad cuts on the shoulder and hands. Mrs. Edwards was also injured, but apparently not badly. Driving toward Hamilton, Edwards saw James Harvey Freeman making a turn in a 1941 Plymouth at Nicholson's store. Freeman stopped his right front wheel on the highway, and Edwards, meeting another car and not knowing what Freeman was planning to do, pulled into the store grounds and stopped in a cucumber patch, but not until part of the sides of both cars were torn away. Wynne continues in the hospital. Investigating the accident, Patrolman R. P. Narron and B. W. Parker estimated the damage at, \$300 to the Plymouth and \$250 to the Hudson.

Said to have been flying low in his 1940 Chevrolet, Thomas Eugene Stalon, lost control of the machine Sunday evening about 6:46 o'clock on a dirt road about one and one-half miles from Highway 903 in Robersonville Township. After swerving from side to side over a distance about 400 feet, the car turned over and skidded about twenty more feet before striking a tree. Stalon was not hurt, but Clyde Williams, 22-year-old colored man, was cut on the side of the head and lost considerable blood. About half dozen stitches were necessary to close the cut. Ed Pittman suffered minor cuts on his right arm, and James Ed Andrews was cut on the left arm and on the head, but not badly. Damage to the machine was estimated at \$300. Patrolman B. W. Parker and Cpl. M. C. Byrum made the investigation.

## Lad Is Recovering From Bike-Car Wreck Injuries

Reginald, young son of Mr. and Mrs. Reg Simpson, is getting along very well following treatment for injuries received in a bicycle-car crash, corner of School Drive and Halifax Street about ten days ago.

Five or more stitches were necessary to close a cut on his knee. He returned to school the latter part of last week.

## NO MEETINGS

As far as it could be learned, members of the Democratic party held only one precinct meeting last Saturday. It has been the custom in this county for all Democrats in good standing—and it is readily admitted one is in good standing as long as he can drag himself to the polls and cast a ballot—to attend the county convention, perfect their local organizations and participate in the county convention all at one and the same time.

Five loyal Democrats met in Robersonville and perfected an organization.

The county convention will be held in the Martin County courthouse Saturday of this week at 12:00 o'clock noon.

## Twenty-Five Are Called For Exams

Twenty-five young Martin County men have been called to report tomorrow for a trip to Raleigh where they are to undergo preliminary service examinations. About one-half the group has been to the pre-induction centers in months past. The group is to travel by regular bus schedule.

Included in the list are five white and twenty colored men, as follows:

White: James Darrell Wynne, David Earl Purvis, Raymond Douglas Bennett, Guilford Herman Hollis and William Daryl Peede. Lee Wallace was transferred to the Greene County board in Snow Hill.

Colored: Ulysses Brown, Webebird Williams, Charlie Everett, Jr., Charles Lindbergh Clemons, Robert Earl Bowen, John Ben Roberson, Robert Lewis, William Davis Rogers, Askew Council, Rudolph Perkins, Roosevelt Andrews, Barber Columbus James, William Little, Jr., Matthew Herbert Williams, James Bailey, Demora Ray Ford, William David Brown, LeRoy Andrews, Dallas Lee James and Walter Bland, Calvin Jones was transferred to Norfolk and Andrew Fields was transferred to New York.

## Fees Add Up To \$4,484 In County

The Martin County treasury received \$4,484.68 from the fee system during the month of April, according to reports filed with the auditor's office a few days ago.

A greater portion of the income was reported by the clerk of the recorder's court. The total there was \$3,458.90, including \$2,255.00 in fines. The superior court listed \$227.05 in fees, and miscellaneous fees in the clerk's office added up to \$257.23.

The register of deeds' office reported an income of \$541.50 for the month.

## County Boy Member Of College's Glee Club

Fred McDaniel, Martin County boy who is attending Presbyterian Junior College at Maxton, is a member of the glee club there, and is appearing in a concert there this evening.