

Irving L. Smith Died In Hospital Here Early Today

Funeral Service Wednesday For Prominent Citizen Of Robersonville

Irving L. Smith, 49, prominent Martin County citizen and a leading Robersonville business man, died in a hospital here this morning at 12:45 o'clock following a ten-day critical illness. A victim of high blood pressure, he had been in declining health for several years, having undergone major operations in a Durham hospital. He was stricken about ten days ago when he went to his summer home at Nags Head for a rest, and was removed to the hospital here on May 11. Little hope was held for his recovery.

A son of the late Robert L. and Sallie Grimes Smith, he was born in Robersonville where he lived all his life and where he figured prominently in business, civic and the religious life of the community and section, beginning early in life and continuing almost to the end.

Mr. Smith was active in the Robersonville Merchants Association. He served his town as a member of the town board of commissioners, and was a leader in the Christian church where he was a member of the board of deacons. He was a member of the Robersonville Rotary Club and a member of the Martin County ABC Board for a number of years, and a director of the Guaranty Bank and Trust Company.

After attending school at Atlantic Christian College and the University of North Carolina, he engaged in business with his brother, Gilbert Smith, and their late father.

He was married to Miss Josephine Robertson of Robersonville in July, 1929.

Surviving besides Mrs. Smith are a son, Irving Smith, Jr., of the home; and a brother, Gilbert Smith, of Robersonville.

Funeral services will be conducted in the Robersonville Christian Church Wednesday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock. In the absence of the pastor, the Rev. J. M. Perry, who continues gravely ill, the Rev. John L. Goff, pastor of the Williamston Christian Church, will conduct the service. Interment will be in the Robersonville Cemetery.

Methodists Hold Special Service

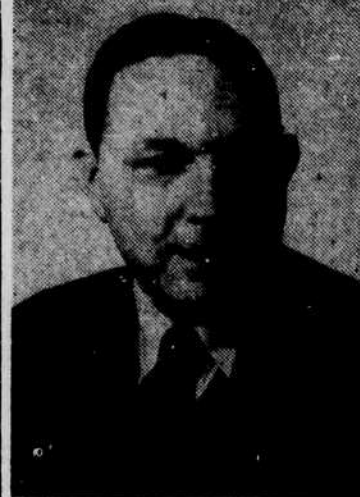
Methodists of Williamston took a look at the past and girded themselves for a more active Sunday as they observed the two hundred fourteenth anniversary of John and Charles Wesley's heart-warming experience which gave birth to Methodism. The morning sermon recalled the pattern of spiritual adventuring which preceded the re-birth of the Wesley brothers and challenged the congregation follow those same patterns of concern about their own souls and the souls of other people about them, accompanied by the diligent use of other people about them, accompanied by the diligent use of every means of grace which the church makes available.

A feature of the service was a brief history of beginnings of the Woman's Missionary Society in Williamston given by Mrs. Kate Garrett Liverman in whose home the society was organized. Mrs. Liverman was the Society's first president and she recalled the slow growth of those early years. Her brief message challenged her present Woman's Society of Christian Service to all the world. Her challenge was especially timely in view of the fact that the Society was to meet on Monday night to complete the work of its fiscal year and to effect new circle groupings for the new year.

The service ended with the presentation to Mrs. Liverman of a life membership in the Woman's Society of Christian Service. Accompanying Mrs. Liverman to Williamston for the service was her daughter, Miss Josephine Sykes, and a grandmother. Also present for the service was Mrs. L. C. Larkin, wife of a former pastor.

Elect Gray Chairman Of Party Committee

DIED EARLY TODAY



Elbert S. Peel, prominent Robersonville citizen and business man, died in a local hospital early today following a ten-day critical illness.

Hassell Over The Top In The Drive For Cancer Fund

Chairman John W. Eubanks Reports \$54.55 Raised In Small Area

Operating as a separate unit from Hamilton Township, the small town of Hassell possibly leads the county so far in the per capita support of the 1952 cancer fund drive. Making his report last week-end, Chairman John W. Eubanks said that \$54.55 had been raised, the amount exceeding the quota by \$4.55. Incidentally, Mr. Eubanks has handled the cancer fund drive as chairman for a number of years, in addition to his work in other similar drives and good causes.

The following contributions in the Hassell Community are acknowledged, as follows:

- John W. Eubanks, \$10; Leggett Roebuck, Jr., \$1; H. J. Haislip, \$2; Clinton Etheridge, \$1; Tom Etheridge, \$1; Ezell Briley, \$1; C. F. Bland, \$1; R. H. Salsbury, \$1; Mrs. Charlie Kincaid, \$1; John David Etheridge, \$2; G. H. Leggett, \$1; W. C. Goodrick, \$1; Gordon Hinson, \$1; Mrs. R. H. Salsbury, 25c; Janie Haislip, \$1; P. C. Edmondson, \$10; John House, \$2; Leggett Roebuck, \$1; H. R. Purvis, \$1; Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Purvis, \$3; Dallas Purvis, \$1; Ed

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Successful Skit Night Held Here

Despite the fact that almost at certain time, two sponsors found it necessary to withdraw from the Kiwanis Club Skit Nite show held here on Saturday Night, the six competing acts were of a calibre that would reflect credit to any group. Bruce Wynne acted as Master of Ceremonies for the event.

The first prize of \$50.00 was won by the Williamston High School Band which sponsored several Seniors in as daffy a musical act as has ever been seen in Martin County.

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Painfully Hurt In Fall From Tree Here

Little Miss Priscilla Peele, four-year-old daughter of M. and Mrs. R. Edwin Peele, suffered a seven-inch cut in her head when she fell out of a tree at her home on East Grace Street early yesterday afternoon.

Treated in a local hospital, she was reported to be getting along very well this morning.

Prominent Minister Continues Very Ill

The Rev. James M. Perry, prominent Robersonville minister and well known throughout this section, continues critically ill at his home in Robersonville, following an attack suffered a week ago.

Elbert S. Peel Retires After A Quarter Century

County Democrats Perfect An Organization at Small Meeting Saturday

Thirty Democrats, representing six of the thirteen precincts in this county, shook up their county organization and went on to perfect another and huddled committee appointments at a meeting held in the courthouse last Saturday noon.

Elbert S. Peel, serving the Democratic Executive Committee as its chairman for twenty-five years was relieved and James H. Gray, Sr., of Robersonville, was elected to take his place. C. B. Martin, Robersonville school man, was succeeded by Mrs. Elbert S. Peel of Williamston as the committee vice chairman, and Charles G. Gurkin, RFD 1, Jamesville, succeeded F. M. Manning, ousted as secretary-treasurer after serving six years.

Only one precinct, Robersonville, entered the county meeting with its organization perfected, and the delegates, representing the other five answering the roll call, held caucuses and perfected theirs, the convention itself re-electing for the most part all the other precinct officials. The organization on the precinct level includes the following:

Jamesville got an entirely new slate, including Charlie C. Gurkin, chairman; James W. Long, vice chairman; Harry Jones, secretary and treasurer; P. M. Holliday and William Hopkins, members. They are succeeding A. Corey, Melba Martin, J. E. Knowles, Willie Mayo Gardner and G. E. Martin.

In Williams Township the old slate was re-elected as follows: Floyd Moore, Chairman; Mrs. R. J. Hardison, vice chairman; Chas. L. Daniel, secretary and treasurer; Garry Godard and J. Lawrence Coltrain, members. In Griffins, Lester Griffin was named chairman to succeed Mr. George C. Griffin who, retiring on account of his health, has ably served his party both before and after he was named to succeed Mr. Pleny Peel, the old party warrior for so many years. The other members were re-elected by the convention, as follows: Mrs. Eason Lilley, vice chairman; B. F. Lilley, secretary and treasurer; Howard Coltrain and James Harrington, members.

The Bear Grass committee remains unchanged as follows: J. D. Wynne, chairman; Gomer Harrison, vice chairman; LeRoy Harrison, secretary and treasurer. (Continued on Page Eight)

Two Minor Road Wrecks In County

Following several weeks during which time an exceedingly heavy toll of life, limb and property was exacted, accidents subsided on the highways and streets in this county last week, according to reports coming from members of the State Highway Patrol. There were only two accidents reported and no one was hurt and property damage was limited to a few hundred dollars.

Dropping asleep while returning to his base at Camp Lejeune from Port Huron, Michigan, Don Frederick Upleger ran his 1947 Oldsmobile into a ditch about five miles west of Oak City on Highway 125 at 1:15 o'clock last Thursday morning. Damage to the car was estimated at \$200 by Patrolman R. P. Narron who made the investigation.

A 1950 Ford truck driven by Guy B. Whitfield and a 1940 Chevrolet driven by Walter E. Harris crashed at a highway intersection at Downs' station near Spring Green Friday afternoon at 5:45 o'clock. Damage to the car was estimated at \$200 and that to the car at only \$15, according to a preliminary report filed by Patrolman R. P. Narron who made the investigation.

Joseph B. Cherry Died At His Home Near Here Today

Funeral Service For Well Known Citizen at 3:00 O'Clock Wednesday

Joseph B. Cherry, well-known farmer and retired business man, died at the home of a cousin, Mrs. J. R. Gordon, in West End this morning at 6:45 o'clock following a period of declining health. His condition had been serious since last October when he suffered an attack of pneumonia. He was taken worse last Saturday when complications developed, resulting in his death.

The son of the late John E. and Henrietta Howell Cherry, he was born near Williamston 86 years ago on January 22, 1866, and lived and farmed all his life at the old home near Williamston on Highway 125. More recently he had made his home with his cousin in West End.

In addition to his farming activities, he engaged in the timber business for a few years and more recently operated a furniture store here. For a number of years, he was a progressive farmer, adopting new methods and handling various farm experiments.

In early manhood he was married to Elizabeth L. Harris who died in 1909. His second marriage was to Mrs. Sarah Peel Hardison who died March 15, 1930. No children were born of either union, and Mr. Cherry was the last member of his immediate family. A brother, J. Brinkley Cherry, died May 2, 1928.

His forebears, three brothers, Wiley, Stephen and John Cherry, came to this country from England to fight in the Revolutionary War, and they located in this section, one in Halifax, another in Edgecombe and still another in this county.

In addition to an injury received in a logging accident, Mr. Cherry was run down by two automobiles, but by sheer will power, he held on to life, finally succumbing to infirmities of age.

Funeral services will be conducted Wednesday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock in the Biggs Funeral Chapel and interment will be in the family plot in Woodlawn Cemetery. The Rev. R. E. Walston, pastor of the local Methodist Church, will conduct the service.

Jaycees Sponsor Beauty Contest

Again this year, the Williamston Jaycees are to sponsor the beauty pageant from which the most beautiful girl from around these parts will be chosen to reign as Miss Williamston of 1952. Miss Williamston this year will get a trip to Winston-Salem, where she will compete with other contestants from other towns for the title of Miss North Carolina.

Last year Miss Lou Long Ogburn of Smithfield, was chosen as Miss North Carolina. At the Miss America Beauty Pageant, Miss Ogburn was chosen as third place winner and won a \$2500 college scholarship.

The Williamston Jaycees are (Continued on Page Five)

Local Man Reported Quite Ill In Hospital

Mr. Sam C. Ray, in declining health for several months, continues quite ill in Brown's Community Hospital here, late reports stating that he was holding his own.

ROUND-UP

There was a marked let-down in activities on the crime front in this county last week-end. Certain it was not just the quiet before a storm, officers declared that it was about time for a let-up.

Only three persons were rounded up and jailed during the period, one each for drunkenness, larceny and operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license.

All were colored and the ages of the group ranged from 25 to 54 years.

Candidates Reserve Stands On Issues Advanced By Committee

Kefauver Appeals To The Democrats In Martin County

Last Saturday Convention Takes No Stand On The Presidential Race

Taking no definite stand on any issue, the Martin County Democratic Convention, holding its biennial session in the courthouse last Saturday afternoon, is sending its 31-delegate representation uninstructed to the State meeting in Raleigh on Thursday of this week. No delegates were elected, but the convention ruled that all Democrats "in good standing" may represent the county at the Raleigh convention. Possibly a few will go to Raleigh to represent the county there.

The convention was given an opportunity to voice its preference in the Presidential race after it was noted that Estes Kefauver, the coon cap candidate from Tennessee, had wired felicitations to the convention from his temporary headquarters in Greensboro.

Kefauver, one of the leading candidates at the moment for the Presidential nomination, said, in his telegram addressed to E. S. Peel, the retiring chairman:

"My best wishes to you and all Democrats attending your county convention which is the bedrock of our Democratic way of life. I do not mean to imply that I think it of primary importance whom your delegates support for the high office of President, but I am sure you agree with me that it is fundamentally important that each delegate you send to represent you at the State convention vote for the candidate he deeply and sincerely believes to be best qualified to achieve and carry on the principles of our democratic government. I will, of course, deeply appreciate the support of any Democrat and hope that you will call by our headquarters at the Sir Walter Hotel when you are in Raleigh on May 22. . . ."

Congressman Herbert Bonner also addressed a telegram to the chairman, saying, "Greetings and best wishes to the Democrats of Martin County gathered in convention today. Such gatherings as this will perpetuate good government in our State and nation."

A feature of the convention was an address by Mrs. Chas. E. Meakin who declared that it was distressing because few women attended the meetings. "It is more important to think about who is going to represent us than it is to think about bridge clubs," Mrs. Meakin said, adding that politics figures in rearing our children, the schools, taxes and so many other things. She expressed the hope that a goodly number of Martin County women would attend the Raleigh convention. (Continued on Page Five)

Graduated At E. C. College Monday

Five Martin County young men and women were graduated from East Carolina College, Greenville, on Monday of this week.

Receiving the bachelor of arts degree were, Burke H. Parker of Williamston, Harcum M. Roebuck of Robersonville. The bachelor of science degree went to Misses Mattie Faye and Mavis Lee Brown, sisters of Bear Grass, and Lucy Robertson of Williamston.

A county boy, Hilton Biggs of Williamston, received the James Fenly Spear, Jr., Memorial Award as an outstanding student majoring in the department of science.

Farm Life Committee Appointments Thursday

The president of the Farm Life Parent-Teacher Association announced yesterday that the committee appointments will be announced Thursday night prior to the musical recital.

All parents are urged to attend.

REGISTRATION

According to incomplete reports, a fairly large registration was chalked up in this county during the three-week period ending last Saturday. Five precincts, including two of the largest and two of the smallest, reported 275 new names added to the books, including those of 49 colored electors.

Williamston No. 1 had 65 new registrations, including seventeen colored, and Williamston No. 2 reported 160 new names, including 25 colored.

Little Girl Loses Life In Freakish Accident Sunday

Anise Haislip Fatally Hurt By Falling Tomb Stone Near Gold Point

Little Miss Anise Darnel Haislip, six-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Haislip, was fatally injured in a freakish accident near Gold Point Sunday morning about 10:00 o'clock. Suffering a skull fracture, the little victim was pronounced dead when her father carried her in his arms into their home a few minutes after the accident.

Investigating the tragedy, Coroner W. W. Biggs found it was accidental and ruled an inquest unnecessary.

Playing with her sister, Margaret, 12, and Jesse Everett, 10, in a small cemetery three hundred yards or more from the Haislip home on the Keel farm owned by F. E. Boone, Little Anise apparently climbed on a grave stone and it toppled over on her. Pinning her head to the ground, the stone was lifted away by her playmates who then hurried to the house for help. Coroner Biggs said the comparatively small stone was loose on its double base and toppled over by weak force.

Surviving are her parents, James and Ruby Vaughn Haislip; five brothers, Billy of near Robersonville, Marvin of the Gold Point Community, and Benny, Jesse and Tony Haislip, all of the home; two sisters, Mrs. Jack Goff and Margaret Joyce Haislip, also (Continued on Page Seven)

Washington Lions Set Up A White Cane Gift Shop

Unable to get the Plymouth club to cooperate in the establishment of a White Cane Gift Shop on Highway 32 between Washington and Plymouth, the Washington Lions have set up the shop on their own. The shop was opened Saturday with Philip Bowen as its operator.

The shop will carry articles made by blind persons throughout this section of the State, and the patronage of the public is invited.

Suffers Hand Injury In Fall On Piece Of Glass

Don Ray Bellflower, eight-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Bellflower, cut his left hand painfully late yesterday afternoon when he fell on a piece of glass at his home in Oak City. Brought to a local hospital for treatment, he was patched up with several stitches. The shot for tetanus brought a few tears, but he wiped them away and departed chewing lustily on a piece of gum.

SPECIAL DINNER

Ninety-six years old on Friday of this week, Mr. Roger S. Critcher was honor guest at a special dinner in the home of his grandson, Burras A. Critcher, Jr., and Mrs. Critcher, on West Franklin Street Sunday.

A turkey dinner was served to the honor guest and Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Critcher, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Harrington and son

Anderson Refutes Rumors That Are Being Circulated

Little Interest In The Democratic Assembly Friday Evening

Expertly playing the role of the old-time politician, candidates for various offices in this county at a Democratic assembly held in the courthouse last Friday evening, said little and promised less, the contenders for county representative positions reserving their positions on various issues advanced by several groups and committees.

There were only 37 in attendance upon the meeting, and although little interest was manifested, politics started warming up when Representative E. G. Anderson politely declared that rumors being circulated in the campaign were without foundation. Then there were a few personal questions advanced, but the high light of the session came when each of the candidates gracefully and politely sidestepped such issues as a bonus referendum, the gag rule and a referendum on the liquor question.

Unable to attend in person, Elmer N. Modlin, candidate for a seat in the House of Representatives from this county, had his platform read. The Jamesville farmer, outlining his platform, declared he favored giving the people an opportunity to vote in a veterans' bonus referendum, but nothing was said about the other issues grouped into a, more or less, controversial category.

Going to Raleigh as representative in early 1951, Mr. Anderson said he went to represent Martin County and North Carolina, that he did the best he could and worked with the administration and not against it. Reporting that he spent \$800 of his own money in behalf of the road and school program, Anderson, speaking informally, declared he listened to every plea and went out of his way to help every case that he could. "My record is open to all," he said.

Condemning no one, Anderson went on to emphatically refute the rumors, declaring that he had proposed legislation that would increase the commissions for tobacco warehouses. "Since my main source of income is the warehouse business, I would be cutting my own throat to even consider such action," he said, offering letters from Miss Annie Cooper, chief clerk of the House, Secretary of State Thad Eure and A. C. Edwards, member of the House, showing that he had had no part in the alleged action.

Mr. Anderson then denied the rumor which said he had hired Farmer Elmer Modlin of Jamesville to enter the race in order to divide the vote. "Mr. Modlin can throw the contest into a second primary," he said adding that it was Mr. Modlin's or anyone else's right to run for whatever office he wanted to.

Referring to the questions about the veterans' bonus and liquor referendums, the candidate explained that it was hard to commit oneself now and then follow those commitments six or eight months later. "If I am returned to the legislature, it will be my policy to abide by the wishes of the people," he said, adding that one loses his bargaining power to go on record ahead of time.

In an open forum, Anderson said he would not resign following the election. (Continued on Page Eight)

Heading Cancer Drive In Jamesville District

Mrs. F. Clarence Stallings agreed last week-end to head the cancer fund drive in Jamesville Township, and it is certain that she will receive an able support throughout the area.

Although a bit late, the organization for advancing the campaign in the county, has been completed in its entirety and things are looking good for a successful drive.

P. T. A. Installed Here Last Night

Membership During Past At Record High; Active Program Promised

Officers for the 1952-1953 scholastic year were installed by the Williamston Parents-Teachers Association in its final meeting of the current year last night in the Grammar School auditorium. The new officers are: Fletcher Thomas, president; Asa Crawford, vice president; Miss Sue Henderson, secretary, and Mrs. Hoke Roberson, treasurer. Mrs. Roberson is serving her second term.

Rev. John L. Goff conducted the devotional and offered a prayer as a representative of the Ministerial Association.

The association had one of its best years financially as it closed with a balance of \$379.91 after contributing to many community and school projects during the year but will need an active finance committee next year when the school moves into a new cafeteria which will be needing supplies and equipment according to a report by Principal B. G. Stewart. He did not give any details of what he plans to ask the association to do but added that the library will also need help.

Membership wise, the past year was the best on record as Mrs. Jim Cooke reported a total of 461 for the year.

During the business session the president called attention to the new flag poles on the grounds at the two schools. The one at the grammar school was donated by the Sixth Grade of 1943 while the one at the high school was given by the Beta Club. Both were recently placed in use with appropriate ceremonies by the band.

A letter from the State Department of Education reported on an inspection by Mr. Lassiter in the schools here some weeks ago. He said the school was assured an accredited rating and that a rating was under consideration. He praised the work being done but noted grammar school housing facilities were still a bit on the needy side.

President Lee Reynolds, who completed two years of service in this final session urged the parents and teachers of the school to do their best to make the high school boys and girls of Farm Life welcome and at home here in the event the consolidation of the school is carried through. Pointing out that many of the parents in Williamston were well acquainted with the school. (Continued on Page Five)

Band Parents Club Pays for Overcoats

The final meeting of the Williamston Band Parents Club for the current school year was held last evening with all reports indicating a successful year.

A nominating committee for the officers for next year was named: Mrs. W. T. Ross, Mrs. Irving Margolis and Mrs. Marvin Britton. The group is to report at the annual picnic in August.

The picnic committee will be: A. J. Manning, Jim Cooke, Joe Griffin and Connie B. Clark.

Mrs. Harrell Everett reported that the overcoat committee had collected enough money to pay for the overcoats for the band and was turning in a few extra dollars.

Band Director Jack Butler reported that the summer program would get under way on June 9th with the summer concert coming in July.

Reporting on the Weldon trip, Director Butler said the people there were greatly impressed with the band in all respects and that the youngsters were great ambassadors of goodwill. He said he had received a number of letters of praise from the Weldon people. The band and individuals or groups from its ranks took part in twenty-two activities in town and out during the past scholastic year and did well in all of its appearances.

The post war band has sent a number of its graduates on to join college bands and orchestras and this fall will be sending perhaps the largest number of all.