

Roy H. Gurganus Died In Hospital Early Yesterday

Funeral This Afternoon At Home For Businessman

LeRoy H. Gurganus, retired business man, died in a local hospital at 7:40 o'clock Wednesday morning following years of declining health. His condition had been serious following a cerebral hemorrhage suffered during last July. He was removed to the hospital Sunday when his condition became critical.

A son of the late Eli and Sallie Mobley Gurganus, he was born in Williamston 56 years ago on December 23, 1895, and spent all his life in Williamston. He was prominently connected with his father in business, and was closely associated with the operation of a peanut factory here for a few years. Later he represented the Planters Nut and Chocolate Company for a number of years on the local market, and was employed by local warehouse operators during the tobacco marketing season. Ill health forced his retirement several years ago. His honesty and integrity were established in the dealings he had with hundreds of farmers throughout this county and section and in his association with others. He was a member of the Skewarkey Masonic Lodge here.

Surviving are his widow, the former Miss Rose Crowell of Williamston to whom he married September 11, 1914; two daughters, Sarah Gurganus of the home, and Mrs. Hugh Baker of Washington; and a sister, Mrs. M. C. James, of Norfolk.

Funeral services are being conducted in the First Methodist Church here this afternoon at 3:00 o'clock by the Rev. E. R. Shuler, former pastor of the local Methodist Church, who is now in Conway. Interment will be in Woodlawn Cemetery.

Plan Program Of Christmas Music

The Music Department of Williamston High School will present a program of Christmas music on Wednesday, December 17, at 8:30 in the high school auditorium.

The Glee Club, under the direction of Miss Mary Wallace Foy, will render the first half of the program with the Green Wave Band, under the direction of Jack Butler performing in the last half.

The program will contain music appropriate to the season of the year including the following by the Glee Club and its soloists:

Jesu Bambino, Pietro Yon, Girls Chorus; I Wonder as I Wander, solo, Janice Manning; The King and the Star, Christmas Cantata, Noble Cain, Mixed Chorus (Jean Mobley, incidental soloist).

The band will render the following numbers: Chorale, Bach; Children's Prayer, arranged by Johnson; White Christmas, Berlin, Leizden; A Merry Christmas, Frangkiser.

The program is started late so avoid conflict with prayer services at the various churches in the city. The public is invited.

'Bloodmobile Here For Regular Stop

If all the volunteers show up and they are in good physical condition, the Red Cross bloodmobile quota can be met, according to a report coming from the center in the Legion Hut on Wats Street shortly before noon.

With late pledges coming in, the number of volunteers climbed to nearly 150 by the time the center was opened this morning, and it is possible that the 120-pint quota can be met from that group. However, drop-ins (those who signed no pledge card) are urged to visit the center before closing time at 4:00 o'clock this afternoon. So far, Martin County Red Cross Chapter has met its quotas. It was learned, however, that quite a few cancellations were being made at the last minute.

The bloodmobile will be in Plymouth tomorrow.

Soil Conservation Program Advancing In The County

Soil and water conservation practices have broken all records in Martin County this year, according to a preliminary report released this week by H. F. McKnight of the Soil Conservation Service with headquarters in Williamston.

Briefly reviewing the work, Mr. McKnight said: "By the end of the year, at the present rate, 78 farmers representing approximately 7,000 acres, will have started conservation farming in the district program, an all time high. In addition, the Soil Conservation Service has assisted PMA participants in planning and applying permanent type practices on their farms.

"There were 632 acres of pas-

tures seeded during the year on district cooperator's farms, 6 farm ponds constructed, 7.5 miles of dragline ditches dug on individual farms, 64,000 feet of farm drain tile laid and 2 miles of terraces constructed.

"In addition, the following work was done by groups of farmers, working together on larger drainage jobs; three jobs planned including 5 miles of canal, 4 jobs consisting of 17 miles of canal and 206,000 cubic yards of dirt removed. One job almost completed, 10.5 miles in length and 189,000 cubic yards of dirt removed. There is another job in the process of planning involving 25 miles of canal and approximately 496,000 cubic yards of dirt."

SANTA IN PERSON

Santa Claus is coming to Williamston for four whole days preceding Christmas.

With his visit here sponsored by the local Merchants Association, he will wander around town lending an ear to the children's wants and cheering holiday shoppers from the time of his arrival on December 20 through Christmas Eve, December 24.

His friends, young and old, are invited to visit Williamston to talk with him.

Harvard's Dean Of Law Cites Danger In Tax Proposals

Proposed Change Is Almost Certain To Open Way For National Sales Tax

Washington, D. C.—It's time to wake up to what is going on and to fight hard against this foolhardy plan, warns an "Atlantic Monthly" magazine article on the "Millionaire's Amendment." The article was written by Erwin N. Griswold, Dean of the Harvard University Law School, who "has made an extended study of Federal taxation."

The "Millionaire's Amendment," as Griswold explains, would put a top limit of 25 per cent on Federal taxes on personal incomes, corporation profits, and the estate and gifts of the wealthy.

"Knowing that Congress would never adopt such a plan," Griswold points out, the "Rich Men's Lobby" is trying to put the amendment into the Constitution in a new way, by first slipping it through state legislatures. "Something like 27 legislatures have already adopted, in one form or another, a resolution asking Congress to call a 'Constitutional Convention' to act on the amendment."

As Griswold says, the situation is somewhat confused, but "it is plain" that the backers of the amendment "are close to the total" of 32 states required to start it on its way into the Constitution.

Then Griswold proceeds to point out the "inescapable consequences."

Few Tenants Seek Places In County

Unfavorable weather is believed to have kept many farmers and farm tenants away from the first Farm Employment Day held last Friday by the local offices of the Employment Security Commission.

Only ten farmers sought farm employment and tenants applied for places at the offices during the hours set aside, especially for farm employment, officials said.

Another of the farm employment days when applicants for places and landlords meet in the employment offices in the Tar Heel building will be held on Friday of this week from 9:00 a. m. until 3:00 p. m. Farm tenants will be interviewed and farm owners will place their orders for next year's helpers or tenants. After matching farm orders with applications, employment personnel will give tenants and farmers an opportunity to talk to each other, it was explained.

Grand Jury Files A Routine Report In Superior Court

County School Buses Said To Be In Good Mechanical Condition

Completing their work in a single day, members of the Martin County Grand Jury, after passing on bills of indictment made their customary inspections, filed a routine report and recessed late Monday afternoon for the term.

The report, signed by W. H. Carstarphen, foreman, stated that all the county school buses were found in good mechanical condition.

Following is the detailed report as submitted to Judge Clawson L. Williams:

All bills of indictment were passed upon.

Reports of the justices of the peace were checked and found filed with the clerk of court, and all fines paid to the county treasurer with the exception of fines from the Court of Justice of the Peace O. P. Wolfe.

We inspected the county jail and found eight colored male, one colored female and three white male inmates. The jail was found in exceptionally good condition.

We inspected the county home and found it in good condition. There were two white men, four white females, one colored female and three colored male inmates in the county home, and two white male, six colored male and seven colored female patients in the tuberculosis wards.

Patrolman B. W. Parker reported to the jury that all school buses had been inspected in the county and that they were found

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School Buses In Minor Accident

No one was even bruised or shaken and comparatively little damage resulted in a minor school bus accident on the Ballard Bridge Road about one-half mile off Highway 125 yesterday afternoon at 4:15 o'clock.

Frederick Earl Holliday, 16, had stopped his 1951 International school bus and was waiting for James Arthur Gainer to pass in his 1952 International school bus. The dirt road was narrow and slippery, and Gainer's bus skidded into the left front fender of the other machine, the rear end of the 1952 machine sliding into a machine ditch.

Investigating the accident, Patrolman M. F. Powers who was pinch-hitting in this territory while other members of the patrol were away for an inspection, estimated the combined damage to the busses at about \$100.

Joins Crusade For Freedom Committee

Mr. LeRoy Harrison, representing Bear Grass Township, yesterday joined the Crusade for Freedom Committee in this county, it was announced today by County Chairman Carlyle Cox.

Martin County citizens are being asked to support the Crusade by making contributions to be used in piercing the Iron Curtain with facts and other information and in the furtherance of peace.

Twenty In Court For Driving Too Fast In County

Judge Johnson Held Court In Session Until 1 P. M. To Clear Docket

Adjudged guilty or pleading guilty without formal trial, twenty alleged speed law violators were fined a total of \$285 in the Martin County Recorder's Court last Saturday morning by Judge R. T. Johnson.

Joe Mobley of Williamston, charged with traveling eighty miles an hour, pleaded not guilty. Adjudged guilty, he was fined \$100, plus costs. He appealed and bond was required in the sum of \$200.

Archie Brown of Robersonville was fined \$25, plus costs, for speeding.

Charged with scooting along at 75 miles per hour, Willie Tayloe Woolard of Washington was fined \$35, plus costs.

James Taylor of RFD 1, Trenton, N. C., was charged with speeding seventy miles an hour and he was fined \$25, plus costs.

Arnold Ernest Fredericks of Detroit was fined \$50 and taxed with the costs for traveling 75 miles per hour.

Frank Micalizzi, Jr., of Highlands, N. J., and William W. Stiles of Roselle, New Jersey, were each fined \$25 for speeding seventy miles per hour.

The following, charged with driving more than 55 miles per hour and not more than 65 miles an hour, were each taxed with the \$22.05 court costs:

Elmer M. Leggett of Williamston, Avont Howard of RFD 2, Robersonville, James Parker of Stokes, Ernest Earl Judge of RFD 1, Palmyra, Raymond Dixon of Williamston, Edward Leon Roberson of Tarboro, Charles Henry Gibson of Rocky Mount, Rev. Mose Dickerson of Southampton, Virginia, Harold R. Adler of Peoria, Illinois, David Glucksman of New York City, Ivan Eugene Meyer and William David Connor, both of Camp Lejeune.

Grand Jury Solves Law Flaw Tangle

The Martin County Grand Jury this week solved a flaw in the law that provided the automatic transfer of cases from the county to the superior court when the defendants wanted a trial by jury.

The supreme court had ruled that such a transfer was illegal, that defendants were being tried in the superior courts without the advantage of proper indictment.

Drunken driving cases, placed on the docket for trial in the superior court this week after being docketed in the county court and after the defendants had asked for jury trials, were placed in good standing when the grand jury investigated and returned true bills of indictment in all of them.

Completing Training At Lackland Air Force Base

Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.—George G. Corey, 20, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry H. Corey, Williamston, N. C., is completing his AF basic airman indoctrination course at Lackland Air Force Base, the "Gateway to the Air Force."

Patronize The Home Folks For A Happier Christmas

Reports declare Williamston merchants are carrying the most varied and largest stocks this Christmas season than at any other time in history, that the extensive goods display is supported by price advantages and a friendly service.

Already comparisons have been made and it is found that Williamston shoppers are finding better bargains, that hundreds of new customers are being added to local store lists.

All Williamston stores will be open until 9:00 o'clock p. m. on Friday of this week, and beginning next Thursday, December 18, and continuing through Christmas Eve, the business houses will remain open each night until 9:00 o'clock. The extra hours will give patrons more time for leisurely

Twenty-Five Get Licenses To Wed In Martin County

Issuance Last Month Slightly Above Average For The Month Of November

Twenty-five marriage licenses were issued in this county last month by Register of Deeds J. Sam Getsinger, the issuance holding to a figure slightly above the average for November. The issuance was the second largest for any month this year, dropping three behind the figure for last June.

White

James Patrick Wynne and Agnes Rogers, both of Williamston.

Roy Watson of Pantego and Iva Jean Lilley of Williamston.

Edward Earl Mobley of Hamilton and Sally Biggs of Everetts.

Simon Lilley, Jr., and Alice Peak, both of Williamston.

Clarence Mayo Weathersby of RFD 1, Bethel, and Dorothy Harrell of Palmyra.

Samuel Mansfield Fishel of Vaughan and Dorothy Ruth Everett of Robersonville.

Julius T. Sadler of Tarboro and Beatrice Turner of Palmyra.

Asa Harris of Williamston and Eleanor Phippen of Philadelphia.

William Harold Wynn and Shirley Louise Rogers, both of Williamston.

William Oscar Peele, Jr., and Mary Ola Lilley, both of Williamston.

Colored

Ernest Lawrence, Jr., and Josephine Dixon, both of Williamston.

Lee Jackson Pugh of RFD 4, Windsor, and Dorothy Mae Brown of Williamston.

Ulysses Brown and Doris Whitfield, both of Robersonville.

Wheeler Brown, Jr., and Aletha Black, both of Williamston.

William Randolph and Ruby Harris, both of Bethel.

Charlie B. Speller and Ruth Jones, both of Williamston.

Willie James Wesson and Florence Perry, both of RFD 2, Whitakers.

Julius C. Hargett and Norvella Brown, both of Williamston.

Roosevelt Evans and Avon Howard, both of Williamston.

George H. Purvis, Jr., and Viola Whitley, both of Williamston.

Harold Grant and Survilla Watson, both of Windsor.

Jesse Parker of RFD 1, Robersonville, and Ernestine Lynch of RFD 1, Oak City.

Elmer Lee Griffin and Naomi Wilkins, both of Williamston.

Willie Warren Moore and Veranita Teel, both of Robersonville.

Levy Council and Edna Louise Moore, both of Robersonville.

Borrows Truck And Wrecks It

"Borrowing" a pick-up truck from the yards of the R. L. Ward Coal and Wood Company on Pearl Street here last night, an unknown driver wrecked it shortly after 10:00 o'clock last night at the corner of Houghton and Academy Streets. Driving toward Main Street, the "borrower" tried to make a right turn into Academy Street and crashed into a pick-up truck belonging to the Nello Teer Company and parked in Mrs. W. E. Warren's yard.

The driver ran from the scene and officers are continuing their investigation.

Truck Accident At Jamesville

No one was injured but a potential danger of great proportions was present when a pulp wood truck crashed into the side of a large Texaco highway tanker at a street intersection in Jamesville at 1:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

John Sidney Raper, 32, was driving the loaded tanker toward Plymouth when Horace Lee Hall, 19, of Jamesville drove the International pulp wood truck from Robersonville's service station into the side of the tanker.

According to a report released by Patrolman J. O. Arthur who made the investigation, Hall was given a clear signal by a passenger riding to his right on the front seat, and drove into the highway without seeing for himself if all was clear.

Patrolman Arthur estimated the damage to the International truck at \$350 and that to the Diamond T tanker at \$100.

Give Drunk Drivers Road Term In Court

Superior Court In Final Session Of Term Wednesday

Record Fine For Speeding In County Imposed By Judge Williams

Although adjournment came a bit prematurely, the Martin County Superior Court ended a regular criminal term here last evening at the stroke of 10 o'clock with a bang. A few cases were continued, but a review of the work handled by the court during the three days it was in session shows six persons in prison, four others on the roads and fines collected in the sum of approximately \$600.

Presiding over the short term, Judge Clawson L. Williams hit a soft spot now and then, but he hardened when it came to drunken driving cases. The jurist went on to establish a new high record in fines for speeding in this county.

When he was in the county last September, Judge Williams sentenced drunken drivers tried and convicted in his court to three months on the roads. He increased the time from three to six months on his visit this week. Pleading for the chance to spend Christmas at home, one defendant was instructed to post a \$1,000 bond and start serving his sentence January 1. The bond arrangements were not made immediately. Three defendants, charged with drunken driving, went into court and pleaded guilty, and they were each fined \$100 and taxed with the court costs. One defendant, Julius Peel, colored, gambled and won. He pleaded not guilty and was found not guilty by the jury. The three defendants, Elmer Rogers, Esel Winbush and Floyd Grimes, pleaded not guilty. Found guilty, they were sentenced to the roads for six months for drunken driving.

The record fine for speeding was imposed on Joe Mobley, who, in addition to the \$300 fine and about \$56 court costs, lost his license to operate a motor vehicle for sixty days. Charged with speeding eighty miles an hour, Mobley pleaded not guilty. Taking the stand in his own behalf, he admitted driving between 65 and 70 miles an hour and at the conclusion of the evidence, he entered a plea of guilty.

When the trial of that case was completed, the court was adjourned for the term.

Other proceedings in the court not previously reported:

Found guilty of issuing worthless checks, G. B. Whitfield was sentenced to the roads for from 12 to 18 months on each of two counts, the second sentence to begin at the expiration of the first. The road terms were suspended upon the condition that the court costs were paid immediately and the amount of the checks paid within sixty days. The defendant is to issue no worthless checks or violate any criminal law. Just before pronouncing sentence, Judge Williams said the biggest nuisance there is today is flooding of the country with worthless checks. "The practice destroys confidence in trade and commerce," he added.

O. C. Johnson, charged with breaking and entering, was sentenced to the roads for not less than twelve and not more than eighteen months.

Pete Pritchett and Bryant Scott, charged with breaking into and robbing Earl Jones' station near Hamilton were each sentenced to the roads for twelve months. The road terms were suspended and defendants placed on probation for three years. They are to reimburse Jones \$15 for goods stolen.

Ide Walter Harry Davis drew three to five years, Charlie Lester Lyons got eighteen months to three years and James Miles was given two to three years for the robbery of Lindsley's store in Williamston a few weeks ago. Miles pleaded not guilty in the case.

The case charging Earl Columbus

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INTERRUPTED

After getting off to a splendid start early in the season, the peanut harvest has been interrupted several times by unfavorable weather, leaving a fairly sizable percentage of the crop still in the fields in this county. Even then the harvest is much more advanced in this area than in many of the counties in the producing area. Rains yesterday again interrupted the harvest.

Except for a rush during the early part of the season, marketing has gone forward in an orderly fashion with no price fluctuations.

Seal Sale Return Is Running Light; Response Needed

Only \$1,258 Brought In By Campaign In This County

The returns from the Christmas Seal letters mailed out to residents of Martin County now amounts to \$1,258, Mr. W. G. Peele, County Seal Sale chairman, announced today.

Although early returns are light, Mr. Peele said, it was hoped the public response to the Christmas Seal Sale would be as generous as in past years. He pointed out that 80 percent of the Christmas Seal fund remains in the county to buy specific services for the health of our whole community. This fund supports the fight against tuberculosis in Martin County through health education, rehabilitation and casefinding.

Casefinding is a most important function for unless tuberculosis is located in the people there is little need for a tuberculosis program.

Since 1948, the Health Department has emphasized mass chest X-ray service through the medium of county-wide mobile units. The two mass X-ray surveys were conducted by the Martin County Health Department and financed by money contributed by Martin County citizens through the purchase of Christmas Seals and Tuberculosis Bonds. In addition to this the little seals and bonds furnish film to the health department all year-round for free X-rays.

Dr. Williams stated that while we continue to make headway in ridding our county of tuberculosis there are still hidden cases of the disease in this community and we need to buy seals and bonds to rebuild a fund which was greatly depleted by the casefinding program. The total cost of the two mass surveys amounted to \$2,635.63 and 23,327 free X-rays were taken. Now more films are needed for more X-rays.

The Christmas Seal Sale will continue until December 25.

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Final Report On Rural Overseas Relief Program

Total of 1,214 Bushels Of Corn Donated. Chairman Hardison Reported

Martin County shipped 1214 bushels of corn to the needy overseas last month, W. M. Hardison, county chairman of the Christian Rural Overseas Program said in his final report on the 1952 drive this week.

In expressing his appreciation to the participants, Mr. Hardison declared, "I am well pleased with the response to the appeal for corn, considering the fact that adverse weather conditions had seriously depleted Martin County's crop. I am sure we are all proud of the donations made in the six-day drive and I should like to express by personal appreciation to the participants."

Pointing out that donations were made in cash as well as corn, Mr. Hardison said the total of 1214 bushels was arrived at by figuring the rice of corn at \$1.80 per bushel. He added that miscellaneous expenses of \$29.50 for bags and labor were deducted in completing the report.

A break-down of donations by townships show the following figures: Robersonville, S. T. Everett, chairman—\$364.50; Bear Grass, Noah Rogers, chairman—\$274.30; Williamston, D. V. Clayton and J. W. Snead, chairman—\$248.95; Jamesville, V. B. Hairy, chairman—\$221.30; Hamilton, J. H. Lillard and George Oglesby, chairman—\$180.95; Poplar Point, W. M. Hardison and Mrs. Ben James, chairman—\$127.60; Grifins, Hugh B. Griffin, chairman—\$109.45; Williams, C. L. Daniel, chairman—\$107.10; Cross Roads, Garland Fox, chairman—\$108; and Oak City, Sidney Mallory and John L. Hassell, chairman—\$214.50.

Others who aided in the drive were Larry Hodges, commodity chairman, Mrs. Thad Harrison, secretary, and the Rev. John L. Goff, ministerial secretary.

Department Will Aid Cheer Plans

"The Department of Public Welfare will be glad to cooperate with any group or organization which wishes to make gifts to people in need of Christmas cheer in our county," said Miss Mary W. Taylor, superintendent of public welfare of Martin County.

"There is value in having a clearing house which is available to help organizations select with care the people who are to receive the Christmas gifts of the group. All organizations will wish to avoid duplication, and nobody would want any needy person to be left out if it can be helped. Our department will stand ready to assist in planning projects to aid people who will not have enough for a Christmas 'extra'."

"The department will gladly channel gifts of money or articles of food, clothing, etc., in accordance with the wishes of the individual or group which makes the gifts. We suggest that whoever is responsible for Christmas projects get in touch with the department early if he wishes its cooperation. We can render better service if we have sufficient time to work in accordance with the wishes of the organization."

Seal Sale Opens In Colored Areas

Beginning this week, the Christmas Seal Sale for the colored citizens of the county will start with William C. Bunch, George T. Hyman and Ernest L. Owens in charge of the drive.

These men stated that they were sure of the same fine cooperation from the people of their race as had been received in the past. There is a large amount of tuberculosis among the colored population and this fact coupled with the fact that they are concerned with community health should stimulate interest in the drive. Bunch, Owens and Hyman will be assisted by other teachers and the people living in the various colored school districts.