

## Series Of Wrecks On the Highways In Martin County

No One Reported Injured,  
Property Damage Is  
Placed At \$1,750

No one was reported injured but property damage was estimated at nearly \$2,000 in a series of automobile accidents on the highways and streets in this county during the past few days. In addition to the wrecks reported in this county, several Martin County persons were involved in accidents in other sections. At least one of those was said to have been badly hurt. Jim Coffield, Robersonville man, was reported to have suffered a broken leg and other injuries when the car in which he was riding with R. B. Nelson, also of Robersonville, was wrecked between Tarboro and Bethel last Saturday. Coffield was moved to a Raleigh hospital for treatment, according to information reaching here.

Gaston James, another county man, apparently was not injured when his car was wrecked near Tarboro last Sunday.

The second in the series of motor vehicle accidents in this county was reported last Friday night about 10:30 o'clock when Burnice Douglas Adams of Hamilton turned his 1938 Chevrolet over on its side about three miles from Hamilton on the River Road. Adams, doing about \$100 damage to his car, said he lost control of his machine when he turned quickly to miss a hog loose in the highway. Patrolman Jack O. Arthur made the investigation.

Driving on Highway 903 in Gold Point, Curley Callier slowed down to make a right turn in his 1940 Pontiac about 7:00 o'clock last Friday night when Billy Edmondson struck him with his 1946 Ford. No one was hurt, according to Patrolman B. W. Parker who estimated the damage to the Ford at \$125 and that to the Pontiac at \$25.

Last Saturday afternoon about 12:15 o'clock, Roosevelt Hyman, colored, was driving on Highway 125 from Oak City toward Hamilton when Herman Everett, also colored, ran into the rear of Hyman's 1919 Ford, causing about \$250 damage to his own car and about \$200 damage to the other machine. No one was hurt, according to Patrolman J. O. Arthur who made the investigation and who explained that Everett could not be contacted immediately for questioning. Hyman said he was driving along about 25 miles an hour when his car was struck from the rear.

There was a three-car accident on Williamston's North Houghton Street last Saturday evening about 8:45 o'clock. The first car slowed down to make a left turn into White Street when the second car struck it from the rear, locking bumpers. A few minutes later and before the first two cars could be separated, the third car plowed into the rear of the second machine. Investigating the accidents, Officers Rogerson and Perry estimated the total damage at about \$350, the middle machine taking most of the damage.

Just as he was making a left turn into his driveway about a mile out of Williamston on Highway 17 in his 1947 Plymouth, L. T. Letchworth was struck by a 1951 Chevrolet driven by Miss Alice Faye Bowen. No one was hurt.

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## Changes Made In Plant Personnel

(Left out of previous edition) Ending its contract with another company, the Texas Company a few days ago started operating its own boats for the delivery of its products to the several water terminals in eastern Carolina.

Connected with the Williamston terminal since it was opened, Roland Jones and W. G. Stallings have been transferred to the company's marine department and are now serving as captains on the Texas boats.

Jack Sullivan and Earl Manning have been added to the company personnel at the local terminal. Manager Eob Gentry announced this week.

Messrs. Jones and Stallings will continue to maintain Williamston as their headquarters.

## Modern Mill Near Here



His old mill destroyed by fire last summer, Mr. W. O. Abbitt is rapidly making ready for operation of an entirely new plant close to the site of the old one near Williamston on Highway 125. No date for starting operations has been fixed, but the mill, specializing in the manufacture of top quality corn meal, will be one of the most modern in this section of the country.—Photo by Royal Studios.

## WIDE OPEN

After Joe Robertson and Daniel Peel caught a herring and marked the opening of Martin County's smokehouse for 1953, Fiserman Henry Girvin and Linwood Evans pushed the smokehouse door wide open last Friday when they dipped twenty-three sizable herring from the Roanoke at Jamesville.

Braving the elements and using a drift net, the two fishermen picked up as many as four fish at a time.

## Native Of County Dies In Beaufort

Henry Staten Hardison, native of this county, died at his home in the Free Union Community of Beaufort County Sunday morning at 1:30 o'clock of a heart ailment. He had been in declining health for almost a year.

The son of the late William and Susan Padgett Hardison, he was born in Jamesville Township 66 years ago on February 18, 1885, and when five years old moved to Beaufort County where he had since made his home.

He was married to the former Ruth Waters December 27, 1908. He was a member of the Hunter's Bridge Christian Church and served as church treasurer.

Surviving are his wife; three sons, Wade Hardison of Roper, Hubert S. Hardison of Roanoke Rapids, Wilbur C. Hardison of Route 1, Pinetown; three daughters, Mrs. Leroy Harris of Washington, Mrs. Grady Cooper of Shady Banks, Route 2, Mrs. L. E. Tuten of Oxford; two sisters, Mrs. Leada F. Waters of Roanoke Rapids, Mrs. Emma Rowland of Hampton, Va.

Funeral services were held at the Hunter's Bridge Christian Church Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock, conducted by Rev. George W. Bondurant and the Rev. Wilbur Bennett. Burial followed in Oakdale Cemetery, Washington.

## New Car Models On Display Here

Martin County citizens liked the new automobile models that went on display here last week. The new Chevrolet, Buick and Oldsmobile were unveiled to the public Friday and dealers for all three report the response to the 1953 models enthusiastic.

John Henry Edwards, manager of the Roanoke Chevrolet Company, reported approximately 1500 persons viewed the 1953 Chevrolts at his business on Friday and Saturday. He reported they seemed to like the Bel Air series in particular, and that the models of all the cars he had on display were sold.

At the Charles H. Jerkins Motor Company, James Bailey Peele termed their showing "mighty good." He said their visitors liked both cars very much and the new v-type engine in the Buick claimed much attention. As for the Oldsmobile the new styling seemed to be pleasing to all.

Mr. Peele reported that more people came to see the two new models than had ever called at his establishment in any two-day period. He also said all the models he had on display have been sold.

## Two Held In Jail Following Double Assault Saturday

Victim Of Brick Attack,  
Man Retaliates With  
Rifle Fire

James Bell, 21-year-old colored man, and William Earl (Chester) Ballance, 28-year-old colored man, were jailed here early last Sunday morning following a double assault in which Ballance was stunned by a brick and Bell was shot in the thigh with a .22-caliber rifle.

At a preliminary hearing before Justice Chas. R. Mobley shortly after the double assault, Ballance was ordered held in \$200 bond, and Ballance was placed under a \$500 bond. Unable to arrange bonds, both men were placed in the county jail. Ballance, charged with an assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill, is being booked for trial in the superior court in March.

According to reports, Bell and Ballance quarreled late Saturday night over a fight which Bell was supposed to have had with another party the night before. Taking a whole brick, Bell planted it in Ballance's face, cutting the man's lip and gashing his forehead. Knocked down and almost out, Ballance, once recovered from the blow, went to his home about seven blocks away, got his rifle and returned to Washington street where he found Bell.

Ballance was said to have fired twice, but only one shot took effect. "If I had not been so mad, I would have killed him," Ballance, once a sharpshooter in the Marines, was said to have told arresting officers Tom Chesson and Clayton Rogerson.

Bell was removed to a local hospital where the bullet was removed. Patched up, he was given a hearing and placed in jail. Arrested at his home, Ballance was carried to the hospital where his wounds were treated. While at the hospital, Bell and Ballance quarreled, Officer Chesson declaring that they would have engaged in a fight there if they had not been held apart.

Ballance arranged bond and was released from jail yesterday.

## Unbalanced Diets Cause Hog Deaths

By D. W. Brady

At this time of year most farmers have their hogs in the fields getting what feed they can find. During this time many hogs get sick and die, creating a loss that runs well into thousands of dollars. In many cases these hogs are getting a very unbalanced ration. Many times all they find to eat is weather damaged peanuts and probably some soybeans. Both these feeds at their best are not a balanced ration. They are protein feeds containing a high percentage of oil.

Hogs eating such a ration often times may reach a weakened condition and when cold weather and other unfavorable weather conditions occur their resistance may become lower and they may become highly susceptible to various diseases that may come along. It is believed that this condition of improper diet especially during the winter months accounts for a considerable amount of the losses in hogs. It is believed that hogs should have enough other variety of feeds to balance these rations even while the hogs are cleaning the fields for scrap feed. It is true that this will be some additional cost, but when hogs die from this cause money can be lost rapidly.

## Chase Intruder From Front Door

For about the third time in recent weeks, William Earl Harris chased an intruder from the front door of his home on North Houghton Street, corner of Pine Street, last Friday morning at 1:00 o'clock.

The intruder tried to force the door. Hearing the noise, Mr. Harris got up and went to the door, the man running away. Mr. Harris offered a description of the man but officers said he could not definitely identify him. Officers said arrangements were being made to give the intruder a warm welcome should he make another visit there.

## Leaders Optimistic Despite Uncertainty

"While there are uncertainties, there is still cause to be optimistic over the outlook for agriculture," Chas. L. Daniel, president of the Martin County Farm Bureau, said in reporting on the national federation convention at a meeting held in the county courthouse last Friday evening.

Mr. Daniel explained that while all leaders were not agreed on policies, all were interested in the cause of agriculture. He quoted the president of the national federation as saying that agriculture had a glorious past and a promising future, that it is now entering an educational period, and that there is no need for anyone in this country to starve to death.

National farm leaders are adopting a watchful-waiting policy, he declared, explaining that if all does not go well with agriculture, something will be done about it. Mr. Daniel said that President Kline of the national federation favors flexible supports, but Kline was further quoted as saying that if such supports do not prove successful other plans would be made. While Kline favors flexible supports

## President Wishes Success For The President - Elect

Truman Delivers His Last  
Major Message To  
The Congress

Washington.—As his last major message from the White House to Congress and the American people, President Truman last week submitted his report on the "State of the Union."

In it, he reviewed the nation's situation as he found it when the burdens of the world's mightiest office fell on him nearly eight years ago, the developments since then, the country's condition now, and the problems which the Eisenhower administration will face, both here at home and on the world front.

"The President-elect," Truman said, "is about to take up the greatest responsibilities given to any man, I wish all Americans, I wish him all possible success in undertaking the tasks which will soon be his. No President can master his responsibilities unless his fellow citizens comprehend the challenge of our times."

Truman recalled that, a month after he became President in April, 1945, "the Nazis surrendered." Then, in July the same year, "that great white flash of light at Alamogordo heralded swift and final victory in World War II—and opened the doorway to the atomic age."

After that war, Truman said, people were asking whether "the American economy would collapse. Would there be another depression here—a repetition of 1921 or 1929. The free world feared and dreaded it. We answered that question with a resounding 'No'."

"Our economy has grown tremendously. Free enterprise has flourished as never before. Sixty-two million people are employed, compared with 51 million seven years ago. Private business men and farmers have invested more than \$200 billion in new plant and equipment since World War II."

Moreover Truman said, "this live and vital economy of ours has shown remarkable capacity to sustain a great program for defense, a vast outpouring of aid to friends and allies all around the world, and still produce more goods and services for peaceful use at home than we have ever known before."

**Social Welfare**

On top of all that, "we have carried forward great projects of social welfare. We have doubled old-age insurance benefits and extended them to ten million more people. We have increased the minimum wage. We have helped finance three million privately constructed homes, and put under construction 155 thousand units of low-rent public housing."

"We have helped eight million veterans of World War II to obtain education, and helped far-

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## ROUND-UP

Nine persons were arrested and temporarily detained in the county jail last week-end.

Five were booked for public drunkenness, two for assaults, one for an assault with a deadly weapon and robbery, and another as a material witness.

Five of the nine were white, and the ages of the group ranged from 21 to 45 years.

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## Crowd Court House For Tobacco School

Specialist Urges  
Farmers To Grow  
Quality Tobacco

Nematode Moves In As The  
Most Serious Threat To  
Tobacco Crop

Less than a week ago hardly forty farmers were present when food, feed and fiber crops were discussed at a special farm school held in the Martin County courthouse. But last night when tobacco was the topic for discussion at a special school, nearly five hundred farmers crowded into the auditorium, filling the aisles, windows and stairs to overflowing.

And it was time well spent, for Specialist S. N. Hawks of State College really gave the group the low down on tobacco culture. A representative briefly explained the Flue-Cured Tobacco Cooperative Corporation, discussing the delivery of "dividend" checks, the corporation as an independent agency, government grading and "nesting" of tobacco.

For more than ninety minutes, Mr. Hawks, substituting for Professors Bennett and Nau, reviewed the tobacco culture and prospects for the crop.

He frankly stated that the price prospects were not too encouraging, that they are likely to be a shade lower than they were a year ago, that parity might be dropped a fraction, meaning that the grower must plan and work to offset the price differential. He stressed quality, explaining that because of its quality, flue-cured tobacco up to about forty percent was being exported. He added that if quality is not maintained, other countries can and will step in to gain the export market.

Mr. Hawks did not dwell at length on markets and prices, but devoted most of his time to tobacco culture and diseases, discussing the nematode, plant beet, insect control, spacing and other problems connected with tobacco production.

He devoted considerable time to the nematode, declaring that the low animal was causing more concern and exacting a greater damage than all other diseases combined. He expressed the opinion that just about every field has nematodes, the crop damaging varying from a small percent to total loss.

It is evident that tobacco culture has moved into the advanced scientific realm, and unless growers are quick to catch up on the latest methods and apply those methods, tobacco is right now a lost art for them.

He urged the farmers to study their individual problems, to determine the amount of infestation and take proper action. "You can tell if nematodes are present," the specialist said, explaining that if the plant dies soon after harvest and the suckers stop growing then nematodes are present and should be combatted by fumigating the soil.

He pointed out that the root knot type nematode is more prevalent in this section than the meadow type which causes roots to rot off. He also explained that the nematode multiplies rapidly, that there are four to six generations in a single season and that in a short time they increase to six trillion.

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## Arrest And Jail Desperate Robber Here Last Friday

Frederick Bailey Wanted  
In Maryland For Skip-  
ping Bond, Assault

Frederick John Bailey, rated one of the most desperate and dangerous characters arrested by local police in years, is being held in the county jail for highway robbery, assault with a deadly weapon and resisting arrest. Unable to arrange a \$5,000 bond required by Justice Chas. R. Mobley at a hearing held soon after his arrest last Friday, Bailey continues in jail. He is scheduled for trial in superior court in March. Checking the man's record, officers learned that he is wanted in Baltimore for assault and skipping bond. It was also learned that he had been banished from Carteret County. Officers are extending their investigation with the belief that the 36-year-old Maryland Negro is involved in other crimes.

The daring robbery near the intersection of Pearl and Church Streets here early last Friday afternoon is believed to have been planned by Bailey when he saw Charlie Brooks, worker on a power line construction project, cash a check in Washington. Brooks, after cashing the check, boarded a bus for Williamston where he has been making his home for several weeks, and Bailey followed him. Bailey trailed Brooks to the main street liquor store, down Smithwick Street, back to Main, up Main to Pearl and over to Church Street where the attack took place.

Brooks said Bailey knocked him down and attempted to kill him with a butcher knife. Officers found places where the blade of the knife had been driven into the ground. Brooks declared that he dodged the knife ever so many times before the blade struck him and cut away part of his lip. Brooks, during the meantime, had surrendered approximately \$24 in cash.

Officer Bill Haislip answered the call and following the arrest was returning to the police station with Bailey. Traveling down Church Street, Bailey opened the car door and rolled out. Officer Chas. R. Moore answered a radio call and the two officers ran Bailey down on White Street after he had raided a small grocery in that area.

Bailey threatened Officer Moore who declared that the man was one of the roughest characters he had ever attempted to arrest. Patrolman J. O. Arthur offered reserve relief, and Bailey was arrested and jailed without serious trouble.

Following treatment in a local hospital, Brooks was placed in jail where he is being held as a material witness.

## Oak City Ruritans Install Officers

The Oak City Ruritan Club held its regular monthly meeting last Thursday night in the agriculture building of the school. The meeting was called to order by the new president, N. L. Hyman. The secretary lead the club in singing America. The invocation was given by the chaplain, after which the secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting.

The club had as their guests, Messrs. Curtis Olds and Charles Eason of Hickory, Va.; Thurman Forehand of South Mills, and Noel Lee of Pactolus. Mr. Olds is a past president of Ruritan National and Mr. Lee is a past treasurer. Mr. Olds addressed the club briefly about the importance of a civic club in a community and the duties of a citizen to make it a better place in which to live.

The highlight of the meeting was the installation of officers for the new year by Mr. Olds. The new officers are: President, N. L. Hyman; vice president, Bill Mallory; secretary, H. M. Ainsley; treasurer, Jack Smith; Chaplain, Sidney Mallory; sergeant at arms, Tom Pearson; directors, J. F. Crisp, J. H. Ayers, and Z. D. Cox.

The food committee, Hurford Smith Hassell Worsley, and Nat Johnson served the club steamed oysters and fried fish. The club had 98% in attendance and a grand time of fellowship was enjoyed by all.

## Youth Run Down By Automobile

Andy Summerlin, young son of Mr. and Mrs. Claiborn Summerlin, was painfully but believed not seriously hurt when he was run down by an automobile in front of his home on South Smithwick Street here last Thursday evening about 5:30 o'clock.

Looking both directions, the lad said he saw no approaching vehicles and started across the street in the direction of the telephone office. About that time Bernice Warren drove into the street from the telephone company drive way and struck the boy.

Andy lost four teeth and suffered a three-stitch gash in his chin, abrasions and bruises about the body. Warren picked the youthful victim up and carried him to a hospital where he was treated and discharged a short time later.

## Washing Bible To Be Used By Eisenhower

General Eisenhower will take the oath of office on the same Bible that George Washington used when he was sworn in as the first President. The Bible is said to be over two hundred years old. It has been in possession of St. John's Masonic Lodge Number 1, New York City, for the past 195 years.