

No One Injured In Three Wrecks In This County

Property Damage Limited To Figure Under \$1,000 In Past Few Days

No one was injured and property losses were limited to a figure less than \$1,000, according to reports coming from the county office of the State Highway Patrol. At least one of the accident victims miraculously escaped, the report declared.

The first in the accident series was on a secondary road near Bear Grass last Wednesday afternoon. Driving a truck-trailer loaded with lumber, Russell Darrell Roberson found the vehicle brakes had failed just as he was entering the Bear Grass-Everetts road. The vehicle, literally running wild but with all its power cut off, continued across the highway, jumped two ditches and crashed through a fence. Roberson escaped injury when the cab veered to the right a little bit and the load of lumber instead of crashing into the cab fell over to the left. Members of the patrol estimated the damage to the vehicle at about \$500.

At about 5:15 o'clock last Saturday evening, Alton A. Thompson of Oak City was backing his 1952 Chevrolet from a parking place in front of Slade, Rhodes and Company's store in Hamilton, and was hit by a 1953 Ford driven by Leggett Roebuck of Hamilton. Investigating the accident, Patrolman J. O. Arthur said no one was injured and damage was estimated at \$50 to each vehicle.

After driving about thirty-five years without even as much as scratching a fender, Mrs. Rebecca Mills Mills of RFD 3, Greenville, crashed into the side of a 1951 Ford driven by Ralph Strickland of RFD 5, Greenville at the intersection of Highway 125 and the Spring Green Road near Downs station Sunday afternoon at 12:30 o'clock. No one was injured. Damage to the Mills 1950 Pontiac was estimated at \$100 and that to the Strickland car at \$200, according to a report gained from Patrolman J. O. Arthur who made the investigation.

Patrolman Berry W. Parker reported no accidents in his territory, declared everything was under control in his section during the past few days. Patrolman Carl Gilchrist, patrolling U. S. 64 out of Plymouth, declared that the fishermen were keeping the route hot, but that traffic moved without incident there.

State Roads Get Wide Attention

The largest periodical of the American Automobile Association, "Motor News" of Detroit, praised North Carolina's road-building record in the lead editorial of its March issue and suggested that "Some other states could profitably send delegations down to see how this is being done."

A writer photographer team from "Life" magazine made two trips to Ansonville, March 10 and 16, for a picture story on Gaddy's Geese which is scheduled for publication in April.

Other North Carolina stories appearing recently in national publications or scheduled for early appearance include:

April issue of "Friends", publication going to all Chevrolet owners, has feature on Dismal Swamp illustrated in color.

ROUND-UP

While all was reasonably quiet in nearly every quarter in the county, the crime front was cluttered up with minor infractions of the law during the past week-end.

Thirteen persons were arrested and placed in the county jail, five for public drunkenness, two for drunken driving, three for violating the liquor laws, and one each for operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license and non-support. A thirteenth fellow was detained for investigation.

Four of the thirteen were white and the ages of the group ranged from 19 to 56 years.

New Education Board Will Hold Meeting Next Tuesday

With the expected passage of the omnibus bill in the State Legislature, Martin County's newly constituted Board of Education will hold its first meeting possibly next Tuesday when its reorganization will be effected and plans advanced for the future. The exact date depends upon the final passage of the bill in Raleigh this week, it was explained.

Adhering to the wishes of the people as expressed in the last May primary, the legislature is naming Messrs. C. Urban Rogers of Williamston, LeRoy Harrison of Bear Grass and Cecil Powell of Gold Point, to the board, Rogers and Harrison for their first terms. They are being named for four-year terms, along with Powell who is just now completing his

UNCERTAIN

Old Man River has them guessing, and just now no one will offer a prediction as to what the stream will do. The river is in flood stage at this point, standing at 10.7 feet, or almost one foot above the banks. It was about one and one-half feet short of the predicted crest Sunday, but the stream continues to rise gradually, gaining two-tenths of a foot during the past twenty-four hours.

Loggers have deserted the swamps, but seine fishing continues at Jamesville. A few rock and shad are being taken now and the herring catches continue fairly large, it was stated this morning.

Jamesville Has Big Registration

According to unofficial reports reaching here, Jamesville citizens are taking a great deal of interest in their forthcoming municipal primary election scheduled for the 13th of April. It was reported that more than 100 had registered during the past two Saturdays, including 69 last Saturday. Approximately one-fourth of the registered electors are colored, it was learned.

Resigning on account of his health, Registrar Alfred Ellis was succeeded last Saturday by Mrs. Alice Manning.

A new registration is in the making there, and the books will be held open until sunset next Saturday for additional names.

Notices of candidacy are to be filed not later than 6:00 o'clock p. m. on Friday of this week. As far as it could be learned here today, no candidates had signed, but it is reported that there'll be candidates to spare.

Local Boy Injured In Auto Accident

John Watts, local young man and a student at the University, Chapel Hill, was painfully but not seriously injured in an automobile accident between Raleigh and Durham last Wednesday night.

Turning off the main highway near the Durham-Raleigh airport, he was rounding a curve when he lost control of his Ford. The car jumped a creek and buried its nose in the opposite bank, throwing the engine clear of the frame and coming to a stop on its side. Suffering a bad cut on his head, another on his lip and still another on his hip and receiving multiple bruises about the body, the young man never did lose consciousness. He was removed to North Carolina Memorial Hospital, Chapel Hill, following first aid treatment in a Durham hospital.

Assistant Manager For Corey Company Named

George Corey, owner and operator of the Corey Plumbing Company here, announced yesterday that Mr. William Cherry was recently employed as assistant manager of the plumbing and heating firm on Washington Street.

Mr. Cherry was formerly employed by the Firestone Home and Auto Supply Company here.

Brief Summary Of Activities In The Legislature

Public Denied Right To Hear What Appropriations Group Is Doing

(This is the eleventh of a series of weekly summaries prepared by the legislative staff of the Institute of Government on the work of the North Carolina General Assembly of 1953. It is confined to discussions of matters of general interest and major importance.)

Although the actual volume of work accomplished last week fell far below normal for the closing weeks of a legislative session, the one issue met and solved may make it possible to step up the pace.

Earlier in the week capitol newsmen, relying on existing law to the effect that committee hearings on the budget must be in open session, clashed with the appropriations subcommittee which had voted to hold closed sessions to speed up consideration of controversial budget items. On two occasions meetings were adjourned without transacting any business when newsmen refused to leave, and on Wednesday afternoon it appeared that an impasse had been reached. Things were brought to a head on Thursday with the introduction in both houses of a bill to permit the joint appropriations committee or any subcommittee thereof to hold sessions at which only committee or subcommittee members and those designated by them might attend. Under suspension of the rules and after heated debate, the measure will be to expedite the work of the subcommittee; the ultimate effect on legislative methods and public reaction is a question which legislators and observers are pondering.

Representative A. Corey from this county, and Senator Hugh Horton of this district supported the secrecy plan, while Senator Paul, also of this district, voted for open sessions.

Appropriations and Finance

In its last open meeting before its clash with the press, the appropriations subcommittee on Monday tentatively approved over \$1 million above recommendations of the Advisory Budget Commission for the University of North Carolina. As full scale meetings are resumed, its deliberations will be affected by possible downward revision of anticipated revenues. In a report based on partial income tax returns, the Commissioner of Revenue on Thursday predicted that income tax revenues will be \$3 million less than estimated by the Advisory Budget Commission.

On Monday night bills proposing bond issues were introduced to implement Governor Umstead's permanent improvement program outlined in his budget message.

At an election sometime this year, the people would vote on \$50 million for school facilities and \$22 million for mental hospitals. Bond proceeds for schools would be allocated \$100,000 to each county and \$15 million on a per capita basis in proportion to 1951-52 average daily memberships (but no county is to receive more than "valid need" as determined by State Board of Education), and \$25 million by State Board according to need formula approved by the Governor. Thirteen million dollars would be authorized by the General Assembly for State institutions, but there is no provision for \$2 million request.

(Continued on Page Eight)

Engineer Joins Station's Staff

A complete change in radio station WIAM's engineer personnel has been effected, it was announced last week-end by Manager Rufus Armstrong.

J. L. McFarland has succeeded James Kitchings, Jr., as chief engineer, and all third class members of the engineering staff are being replaced, the station manager said.

Mr. McFarland, chief engineer of Station WMIT on Mt. Mitchell for five years, has already effected changes in the local station, improving the tone quality of the station 100 percent, it was pointed out. The Mt. Mitchell station is one of the world's greatest FM radio outlets, having 325,000-watt power.

Mr. and Mrs. McFarland are at home, 212 Marshall Avenue.

Jamesville Paves Several Streets

Drawing heavily on its Powell Bill money, the Town of Jamesville is advancing an extensive street paving program.

Firemen Called To Home Near The River Friday

Little damage resulted when fire, starting in a sofa, smoked the home of Sallie Little near the river here last Friday afternoon at 5:45 o'clock. The origin of the fire could not be determined immediately.

No one was at home and neighbors, their attention attracted by smoke seeping through the old house, forced an entrance and carried the burning sofa into the street. The fire was out by the time firemen reached there. The house belongs to F. U. Barnes.

Capacity Audience Hears Concert By School Band Here

Birthday Party Follows In New School Cafeteria For Youngsters

flowed into the hallways and gave them rapt attention, the Williams-ton High School Concert Band last Thursday night gave what is generally rated as the best Spring Concert in their history. Not only the performance under Director Jack F. Butler but the arrangement and choice of selections of the program were rated tops.

From the opening march, Shenandoah by Goldman, to the encore march, "On The Square", the program was lively varied and interesting for the audience which included babes in arms, grandparents and visitors from half a dozen towns in this section.

The second number, Stratosphere, an overture by Frankis-sphere, drew applause but the post-concert comments centered on the "desert number" Safari, and the "walking number", Night Beat, a musical tour of New York. The cornet trio—"Jim Dandies"—featuring Mary Lib Britton, Joyce Manning and Ralph Parker, drew much favorable comment while visiting musicians recognized in the tone poem, King John, a difficult number well done by an amateur group. Bobby Coburn's solo clarinet was featured in "Introduction and Tarantella" and was roundly applauded.

Perennial favorites of all band music lovers are the familiar folk songs and the compositions of George Gershwin. Filling this portion of the program were two numbers—"Kentucky Babe" and "George Gershwin Selection." Of course, these appealed to all the audience, old, young, skilled and unskilled.

Band directors were here from Scotland Neck, Greenville, Washington, Windsor and perhaps other towns along with from one to three score of their young musicians.

The band is graduating 10 members this year. Eight of these—Sallie Roberson, Ernest Carraway, Jean Holloman, Nannette Harrison, Jo Ann McLawhorn, Ann McLawhorn, Mary Ann Manning, Marie Peele, and Jean Mobley are in the concert band and took part in the concert. Two are members of the marching band's color guard—Buddy Fussell and Carolina Bullock.

Following the concert, the band held its annual birthday party at the new high school cafeteria with their parents, visiting band directors and band members and friends in attendance. The large

(Continued on Page Eight)

Remove Speakers Of Theater Here

Thoughtless persons, possibly with or without a criminal inclination, are causing the owner-operators of the Twilight Theater just west of here much concern and trouble, according to a report coming from the Sheriff's office.

Twelve of the loudspeakers used in the cars on the theater grounds have been cut loose from the wires and carried away, it was reported. Four of the speakers were carried away last Saturday night. So far only one of the recovered, but officers are working to establish a trail on others, it was learned.

County Soldier Seriously Wounded In Korea War

Cpl. Joseph Henry Lanier, son of Floyd and Inez Lanier of Williams Township, was seriously wounded in Korea on March 23, according to a message received last Friday afternoon. It was explained that young Lanier was struck in the lower part of both legs by artillery shells during a heavy enemy barrage. No other details were mentioned.

The casualty was the first listed among enlisted men from this county in the Korean conflict since July.

He was the twenty-second casualty victim of the war. So far

five Martin County young men have lost their lives in the war in Korea. Fourteen others have been wounded and three reported missing. Two of the missing later returned to their stations, but one S/Sgt. Martel Hardy continues a prisoner of war of the Chinese who are holding him somewhere in China.

The latest casualty was reported following the heaviest attack made by the enemy this year.

Lanier, when 17 years of age, volunteered for service in September, 1951, and has been in Korea since last June. He was in the regular army.

Holy Week Service Now In Progress In Local Church

Starting off with comparatively few in attendance, special Holy Week services are now attracting more attention and interest, and religious leaders are expecting the series to approach a record climax at the sunrise service to be held in Woodlawn Cemetery Sunday at 5:30 o'clock. The week- day services are being held each morning at 10:00 o'clock in the Methodist church with all the church leaders and followers partic- ipating.

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Yesterday morning, the Rev. E. Gordon Conklin opened the series, using the topic, "The Two Sons," based on the theme, "Parable of Passion Week". This morning, the Rev. John L. Goff had for his topic, "The Crucifixion".

The Rev. Thomas L. Hastings will base his talk on Mathew, 22:2-14, tomorrow morning. Thursday morning at the usual hour, the Rev. W. C. Medlin will lead the service, speaking on the 25th chapter of Mathew, verses one to thirteen.

The Rev. Don Skinner is the Friday morning speaker, and he will also center his remarks on the 25th chapter of Mathew, verses 14 to 30.

The Rev. J. W. Berry will be the speaker for the sunrise service Sunday, it was announced. A special invitation is being extended to the public to attend the special services.

Feeling Running High on Proposed Nurse Act Change

Fierce Battle Now Raging In The North Carolina Legislature

By Kidd Brewer

One of the fiercest battles now raging around the General Assembly is over proposed changes in the State's present Nurse Practice Act. Apparently everybody agrees that it ought to be revised, or better still completely rewritten. But there the agreement ends and at last three different proposals are being championed by one group and assailed by other groups. So far, the lines of battle have not reached beyond the Senate Health Committee, but unless a compromise which now seems unlikely is soon reached they will doubtless be extended to the floor of both the Senate and the House.

This battle was probably made inevitable as long ago as 1949 when the present Board of Nurse Examiners and the Committee on Standardization, acting jointly to take action against the Nursing School operated by Dr. James Davis at his hospital in Statesville for not meeting the standards which they had set up for such schools. Dr. Davis brought an injunction against the joint agency which was later upheld by the State Supreme Court, but only after his school had met the requirements. A like case, and with like results, involved the Hamlet Hospital School of Nursing in 1951.

In this latter case, Mr. Justice Johnson, in the State Supreme Court's majority opinion, said that neither the constitutionality of the statute nor the validity of the regulations was involved. But Mr. Justice Barnhill, in a concurring opinion, criticized the Act as unconstitutional in that it does not set any standards or minimum requirements for the conduct of schools of nursing but undertakes to delegate authority for doing so to the Joint Committee.

State Nurses' Association

The North Carolina State Nurses' Association, disturbed by the implications of Judge Barnhill's opinion, began immediately to plan for revision of the Act. It's legal counsel, William C. Lassiter of Raleigh, advised that the changes needed were so numerous that an entirely new Act was indicated. A proposed bill was then drawn, but no firm decision was made to have it introduced at this session of the General Assembly unless from some other source came efforts to rewrite the law.

Other Organizations

The State Nurses' Association invited representatives of the State Medical Society and the State Hospital Association to meet with its own representatives to consider the situation and the provisions of its proposed bill. The meeting was held in October 1952.

(Continued on Page Seven)

Reorganizing The Guard Unit Here

Plans are well advanced for reorganizing the National Guard unit in this area, it was announced following a preliminary organizational meeting held last Thursday night. Several new recruits were added to the roster and quite a few of the old members signed up again at that time, it was learned.

A regular meeting will be held in the American Legion hut on South Watts Street Thursday evening of this week at 8:00 o'clock to complete the reorganization of the unit.

It has been pointed out that young men who are not yet eighteen and one-half years of age who join the National Guard will not be subject to the draft as long as they remain of good standing. Those young men over that age, while subject to the draft, may join the National Guard and gain an advantage by their military experience. Any promotion gained while in the National Guard would be credited to him when he is drafted.

Those young men interested in joining the unit are asked to meet at the municipal water plant on Sycamore Street Thursday evening at the water plan Thursday night.

Firemen Called To Home On Henderson Street

Volunteer firemen were called out at 4:15 o'clock yesterday afternoon when an oil cook stove went out of control and threatened the Ben Johnson home on Henderson Street. The wall near the stove got mighty hot, but there was no damage other than that caused by smoke.

Issues Statement About the County Rabies Inspector

Health Officer Advises It Is Possible To Change the System Next Year

The immunization of dogs in this county against rabies has come a long way since it was inaugurated some years ago, but the program got a snarl up this year, possibly through a misunderstanding and hurried action.

In a statement issued this week, Dr. John W. Williams, county health officer who appointed the rabies inspector or inspectors, explained that possibly the system can be changed next year. During the meantime, only authorized vaccination receipts will be recognized by the county tax office. The owner pays a dollar when he has his dog vaccinated and then he is credited with that when the tax account is settled.

Dr. Williams explains his position in the following statement: "We have not had two Veterinarians in the County in a long time. I called on Dr. Peele and him if there was anything I could do for him I would be glad to do it. Nothing was said about County Veterinarian."

"I wrote Dr. Rollins, State Veterinarian and told him that if it was up to me, I was appointing Dr. Coppage, since he was furnishing the County with a "Pound" and boarding all dogs that had been bitten until all danger signs had passed and had been doing the work satisfactorily. I do not know how much he gets paid for his services, nor do I care how many veterinarians can be appointed in this county. Some one had to be in charge and responsible and no other had asked for it."

"Dr. Peele seemed to be in a hurry to get his schedule in the paper, so I told him I would write Dr. Rollins and get his opinion in writing but he said he could not wait and had to have his answer right then."

"I thought that maybe the two Veterinarians could get together and divide the County, for I believe that any scheduled for anything has to have a head so that any error in the work could be definitely pointed out and the one in charge be held responsible."

"Dr. Peele published his schedule and signed it "Dr. A. R. Peele, Martin County Veterinarian." I agree that he is a Martin County boy but I have often wondered why the Martin County Veterinarian had to be handled in such a manner as to puzzle some people."

"It is immaterial to me how many are appointed but if it is strictly up to me, then I appoint Dr. Coppage. He can divide the work if he wants to or vaccinate for nothing, I don't care, but I am holding Dr. Coppage responsible for anything that happens in the Clinics they are setting up. Next year a different system can change the program."

Machine Gunner At Korean Front

With the 25th Infantry Div. in Korea—Noah S. Bennett, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard C. Bennett, RFD 2, Williamston, N. C., recently was promoted to corporal while serving in Korea with the 25th Infantry Division.

The 25th has been in Korea longer than any other American division. It entered the fighting in July 1950 shortly after the Communist attack on South Korea.

Corporal Bennett, a machine gunner in the 35th Infantry Regiment's Company M, entered the Army in November 1951 and arrived in Korea last June.

He is a 1950 graduate of Bear Grass High School.

In civilian life, Bennett was engaged in farming.

TIME KEEPER

Recently returned from overseas, Henry Leggett, Griffins Township young man, kept a close tab on time while away from home.

He spent thirteen months, five days and five hours in Korea. "Just forget about the minutes," he suggested, adding that it was great to be back home.