

### Fifty-Eight Cases In The County's Court

### Reckless Drivers Lose Licenses In The Court Monday

Few Cases Continued; Tribunal Will Hold Regular Session Monday

Its docket crowded during the two weeks the superior tribunal was in session, the Martin County Recorder's Court pulled up its sleeves and went to work last Monday morning, and by late afternoon fifty-eight cases had been handled. A few other cases were continued for defendants.

Nearly half of the cases tried by the court involved speeders, Judge H. O. Peele imposing fines against the twenty-five speeders in the amount of \$145. Fines in the other 33 cases amounted to \$420.

Reckless drivers and one or two speeders voluntarily surrendered their operators' licenses when they were faced with jail or road terms.

Proceedings:

James Hawkins, charged with non-support, was sentenced to the roads for six months. The road term was suspended on condition that he pay the court costs and \$12 a month for the support of his child during the next two years. A performance bond in the amount of \$100 was required.

Charged with careless and reckless driving, Golden Williams was found not guilty.

### Plans Complete For Big Stock Show And Sale

Plans are all complete and the club boys and girls are putting the last possible pounds on their prize calves and pigs for the county's tenth annual fat stock show in the Farmers Warehouse here on Thursday and Friday of next week.

Assistant County Agent Larry Hodges and others, including Assistant Agent D. W. Brady and Riley Tew of the Roanoke Lockers, Inc., have worked untiringly to make the show one of the best. General appeals have been made to business firms and others, urging them to support the sale on Friday, and while the price trend is weak it is believed that the club members will average well above the market for their offerings.

Agent Hodges says that the show will offer a more uniform type of beef calf this year than last, and that the hogs will beat anything seen here in a long time.

Last year the 12,870 pounds of prize beef averaged \$40.72, and the 22,946 pounds of hogs averaged \$16.96.

The grand champion beef entry was sold to the Roanoke Lockers and the Roanoke Chevrolet Company for 50 cents a pound.

### Variable Weather Reported During Month Of March

Hail, Snow, Rain, Summer Temperatures All Mixed Up During Period

Releasing his review of weather conditions for the month of March, Hugh Spruill, bridgekeeper and local weather observer, stated yesterday that there were all kinds of weather during the period. There were snow flurries and hail. The temperature readings ranged up to seventy degrees or above on twelve days, reaching a high of 79 on the 17th, and were at or below the freezing point on four other days.

Rainfall, placed at 2.94 inches, fell on fourteen of the thirty-one days, but was .85 of an inch below normal for the month.

The weather data, including the river gauge readings, as released by Mr. Spruill for the month of March follow, with the date in the first column, the river gauge readings in the second column.

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### Young People To Plan Recreation

The young people of this area are being asked by the Martin County Recreation Committee to formulate plans for activities at the Youth Center (Legion Hut) in Williamston for the summer and to have representatives at the center on the night of April 10 to hold a joint meeting with the Recreation Committee's directors.

In the effort to revive the center's cleaning fund, the secretary of the committee reports that to date the Williamston Jaycees have contributed a check for \$5.00, the Order of the Eastern Star a check for \$10.00 and Williamston Rotarians have chipped in as individuals with cash donations totaling \$11.30.

The cleaning fund is used to pay a cleaning woman for service at the center each week.

### LITTLE GIRL PAINFULLY BURNED IN ACCIDENT

Little Susan Poore Mobley, three-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Mobley, was painfully burned at her home on East Church Street here early in the week. She was badly burned on the hand and left side of her face when she slipped and fell against an oil heater. She is able to be out and about and is responding to treatment.

### Red Cross Drive Going Forward In County's Chapter

Campaign As Of April 1 Is Ahead Of Report Same Time Last Year

The annual Red Cross drive continues to go forward in this chapter, the preliminary reports definitely showing it as yesterday to be well ahead of the drive at the corresponding time last year. If the tempo is maintained, and it is reasonable to believe that it will be sustained, the \$5,000 goal is certain to be reached, according to a report coming from Fund Chairman W. I. Skinner late last night.

Less than half of the final reports have been received, but preliminary figures offered up until yesterday indicate that approximately \$4,000 has been collected in all the five townships in the chapter.

Up until noon yesterday, Fund Drive Treasurer R. J. Hardison at the W. I. Skinner Company office said that \$2,374.91 had been turned over to him in actual cash, that with possibly one or two minor exceptions every one of the reports reflected a fairly sizable increase over the contributions submitted in the 1952 drive.

Mr. Hardison explained that eight canvassers of special gifts in Williamston had not submitted their reports and others were not quite complete, meaning that a fairly sizable increase is anticipated right here.

The first report from the colored citizens was received this week and it was rated most encouraging. Professor A. R. Jones, heading the drive in the Rodgers Community, submitted \$72, an amount \$22 in excess of the assigned quota. A detailed report on the good work there will be carried later.

Although the drive is not yet complete, Mrs. Edna Bondurant, heading the drive in the residential areas in this district, reported a total collection of \$161.72, an amount considerably larger than the sum raised in 1952.

Williams Township, the first rural district to complete its canvass, exceeded its \$100 quota by \$6.54. Chairman Floyd Moore said, the success of the work there indicating that the townships will measure up to the challenge.

Of the amount raised and reported to date, \$1,555.90 is traceable to special gifts in Williamston's business districts. The eight other canvassers who have not yet reported are almost certain to carry the special gifts drive over the top. Special gifts not previously acknowledged, include the following:

George Corey, canvasser: Williamston Furniture Co., \$5; Corey Plumbing Co., \$15; Critcher Lumber Co., \$30; Harris Furniture Exchange, \$25; R. & H. Furniture Co., \$5; Red Front Grocery, \$5; Two Way Service Station, \$2; Horton Cleaners, \$5; total \$69.50.

H. P. Mobley, canvasser: Ann's Specialty Shop, \$12.50; Western

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### Mrs. Bowen Dies At Home Of Son

Mrs. Josephine Mason Bowen, 81, died at the home of her son, W. T. Bowen, on Beech Street here Wednesday afternoon at 5:15 o'clock following several months of ill health.

A native of Beaufort County, she had made her home here only a comparatively short time.

She was a daughter of Shanklin and Amanda White Mason, and was married to Theodore Bowen on March 4, 1888.

Mrs. Bowen was a member of St. Clair's Christian Church in Beaufort County, and the Rev. John L. Goff, local minister, is conducting the funeral service in the Oden Funeral Home in Washington this afternoon at 3:00 o'clock. Interment will be in the family cemetery at Bayview.

Surviving besides her son here are three sons, Walter J. Frank T. and Otis Bowen, all of Washington; two daughters, Mrs. R. T. Hawkins of Petersburg and Mrs. Alee Gaskill of Washington; two sisters, Mrs. John Woolard of Washington and Mrs. Nora Poole of Newport News; a brother, Andrew Mason of Baltimore; seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

### Representatives Plead For Small Rural High Schools

Joining with several hundred other citizens from all parts of North Carolina, representatives from Farm Life and Bear Grass pleaded the cause of small rural high schools before a legislative committee in Raleigh yesterday. Attorney Clarence W. Griffin was the spokesman for the group from this county.

In his plea before the committee, Attorney Griffin said, "We believe consolidation has reached the saturation point. We also believe it is time to take education to the people instead of away from the people."

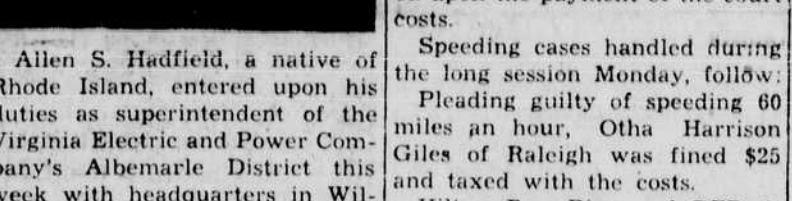
The representatives from this county strongly supported Bill No. 1073 which would allow high schools with an average daily attendance between 45 and 60 to continue in existence, provided the local districts accepted one-sixth of the operating costs. The present law calls for consolidation when the average daily attendance figure falls below sixty. Under the provisions of the proposed law, Farm Life could reopen its high school. Although it has an average daily attendance above the minimum presently required, Bear Grass is looking ahead, and joined the proponents of the bill.

Proponents and opponents were allowed 45 minutes to the side to present their arguments which were heard in the new highway building.

No action is expected immediately on the bill, one report stating that the committee will hardy vote on it before next week.

Representatives from this county included, Messrs. E. C. Harrison, LeRoy Harrison, Worth Mobley, H. V. Parker, Frank Lilley, Carlyle Cox, Lester Griffin, Archie Coltrain, Nathan Roberson, Hugh B. Griffin, Raleigh Lilley, William Peel and Clarence Griffin.

### Superintendent



Allen S. Hadfield, a native of Rhode Island, entered upon his duties as superintendent of the Virginia Electric and Power Company's Albemarle District this week with headquarters in Williamston. He succeeds Robert Monteith who transfers to Richmond.

Mr. Hadfield was born and reared in Rhode Island and graduated from Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, with a degree in Electrical Engineering. He came to Virginia in 1940, where he worked for a short time before entering the U. S. Army. He served five years in the Military Service and was released from active duty with the rank of Major. He worked three years in the planning section of the Potomac District in Alexandria, Virginia, three years in the System Operating Department in Richmond, and has held the position as District Engineer of the Roanoke District, with headquarters at Roanoke Rapids, for the past year.

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### Easter Monday Fish Fry Planned At Jamesville

An Easter Monday fish fry on the rivershore at Jamesville was announced early this week, to be sponsored by the Woman's Club and Ruritan of Jamesville.

Plans call for entertainment including a string band and the affair is to last practically all day or as long as there are fish to fry and people to eat them.

### Town's Primary Election Filing Deadline Tomorrow

As the deadline for filing candidates for mayor and places on the town commission board rapidly draws near, only rumors have been advanced pointing to a political contest in the town on Monday, April 13. Candidates who would have their names on the primary election ballot must file with Town Clerk C. Marion Cobb at the treasurer's office not later than 6:00 o'clock tomorrow evening.

The incumbents, R. H. Cowen, mayor, and N. C. Green, K. D. Worrell, David Moore, W. O. Griffin, and Leman Barnhill, have already filed to succeed themselves and posted the \$5 filing fee.

No other candidacies have been openly advanced, but it was rumored that two or three citizens, including a member of the fairer sex, are considering entering the primary contest. It was also rumored that sectional representation is being advanced with the possibility that the newly annexed territory in West End will offer a candidate for a place on the board.

The rumors have not been very loud, and little interest has been evident in town politics so far this season. The current registration has attracted very few names, it was learned.

Saturday of this week is the last day the books will be open to potential electors. Registrar S. H. Grimes is holding the books open in his office on Baltimore Street.

### Call Thirty-Eight Men For Induction Tuesday, April 7th

About One-Third of Group Passed Physical Tests Last Month

Thirty-eight Martin County young men, including twenty-two white and sixteen colored, are being called to report for final induction into the armed forces next Tuesday. Scheduled to report at 6:30 o'clock that morning, the men will travel by special bus to Raleigh where they will draw assignments.

The call draws heavily or almost entirely from the 19-year-old group, an unofficial report stating that thirty-six of those being called are nineteen years old. Not since February, 1951, has such a large number of men been called from this county. About two years ago forty were summoned for final induction.

It was learned unofficially that thirteen of the thirty-four men reporting for their pre-induction examinations early last month were rejected, that three of those who passed their preliminary examinations in February were rejected last Friday when they reported for final induction.

The names of those scheduled to answer the call next Tuesday follow:

White  
Wilmer Gray Medlin, RFD 1, Williamston  
Ernest Wilson Bunting, Oak City  
Roy Franklin Moore, RFD 1, Jamesville

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### Special Show In High School Here

Grass Roots Opera will appear in Williamston on Tuesday, April 7, at 8:00 p. m. in two performances of Don Pasquale. This unique traveling organization, formed in 1949 by A. J. Fletcher, Raleigh attorney, to give aspiring singers a chance to appear in operatic productions and at the same time give the public an opportunity to hear opera in English, was last heard here in the opera School for Lovers. As a result of the success of over one hundred performances in the past two seasons, the Company has gained international fame, feature articles having appeared in eight national publications and one book. The State Department announced its intention of reprinting an article which appeared in Etude last December in a publication which will be distributed to all foreign countries.

Last season Grass Roots Opera, which is administered by the Extension Division of the University of North Carolina, presented seventy nine performances throughout the Tar Heel state and Virginia. For the first time a plan was worked out with the public schools whereby training in opera listening was integrated into the music appreciation courses. Approximately forty five thousand school children received this training, twenty eight thousand of which saw for the first time an actual opera performance. The idea of opera in English, performed in a logical manner, was soundly approved by the students, and their elders, as evidenced by countless letters written by the children.

The fact that North Carolina is the only place in the nation where students of singing can sing from ten to twenty performances of several different operas in one season has attracted young vocalists from all over the country. The dozen singers from this state represent Murphy, Wilmington, Wake Forest, Elon College, High Point, Greensboro and Raleigh.

The Williamston High School Music Department, sponsor of the local performances hopes that the public will not miss the opportunity to see an entertaining, well staged musical performed by singing actors of professional caliber.

In keeping with Grass Roots Opera's plan to give school children a chance to see staged operatic productions, a matinee will be given at 1:15 o'clock at the Williamston High School. The children will learn the story of the opera from classroom teaching material supplied the teachers by the opera company.

### HOLIDAY

Easter Monday will be observed as a general holiday. With the exception of heavy industry and a few public functions such as the county court and county and town commissioners' meetings, stores and offices will be closed for the day. All county schools are observing the day as a holiday.

The post office will not close, and neither will other federal offices, but personnel in county and town offices will have the day off, it was learned.

### Officer Retires After Quarter Of Century

RETIRES

Joe H. Roebuck, following twenty-seven years service in law enforcement work in this county, went on the retired list yesterday, turning the duties of the ABC office over to his successor, Cecil Bullock.

After more than a quarter century of faithful service, ABC Officer Joe H. Roebuck went on the retired list yesterday, the popular officer vigorously pointing out that he continues active despite retirement from the position of chief enforcement officer for the Martin County Alcoholic Beverages Control Board, his seventy years notwithstanding.

Asked what he planned to do now that he has been retired, Mr. Roebuck said he did not know, that he was looking for a job.

Completing a busy schedule during the month of March, Officer Roebuck late Tuesday turned over the task to his successor, Cecil Bullock, his assistant for the past few years and who was promoted to the chief position this week by the county ABC board.

The retired officer first entered law enforcement work back in December, 1926, when the late A. L. Roebuck took over the duties of sheriff. He was made a deputy sheriff and later headed the county's liquor law enforcement program as chief ABC officer. He specialized in the enforcement of the liquor laws and developing a technique that proved highly effective. He trained other agents, including many from the federal department.

A detailed record of the officer's activities is not available just now, but it is estimated that he wrecked more than 3,500 illicit liquor distilleries and poured out several hundred thousands of gallons of mash. Several thousand gallons of illicit liquor were confiscated during his nearly twenty-seven years in the law enforcement business.

Recalling briefly his period of service, Officer Roebuck said he encountered very little serious trouble, that he and his raiding party were fired on only one time, that no one was hit or hurt. Only on two occasions did he have to use force, and the incidents did not prove serious, the officer explained.

Going night and day and often on Sundays, the officer possibly knows more woods paths and locations than any other man in the county. During all his years in the service of the law, he enjoyed the friendship and cooperation of the public.

### Williams District Over The Top In Red Cross Drive

Smallest Community In The Chapter Raised \$106.54, And Is First To Report

Williams Township, the smallest district in the chapter, completed its canvass and went over the top this week in the current Red Cross Fund Drive, Chairman Floyd Moore announced yesterday. Assigned a quota of \$100, the communities within the district accepted it and went to work, raising 106.54 without any trouble.

The response was encouraging, and Chairman Moore and his co-workers express their appreciation to all those who lent a helping hand.

Individual contributions are acknowledged along with the co-workers, as follows:

Mrs. Ann Whittington, Siloam Community—Hardie Parrisher, I; Mrs. Floyd Moore, \$2; Millard Holliday, \$1; Arthur Lilley, 25c; Wendell Griffin, \$1; Will Griffin, \$1; Major Barber, \$1; Henry H. Barber, 30c; W. F. Barber, \$2; Charlie Williams, 25c; R. L. Mansau, \$1; Mrs. Jim Coltrain, 25c; A friend, 10c; John Moore, \$2; J. H. Revels, \$1; Herbert Moore, \$1; Robert Parrisher, \$1; Arnold Gardner, 35c; James Gardner, 50c; Wheeler Gardner, \$2; Lelon Roberson, \$1; Harry Jones, Jr., 50c; Monroe Whittington, \$2; John Whittington, \$1; Frank Wells, \$1; Asa Moore, \$1; Siloam Sunday School, \$5; total, \$29.50.

Mrs. Pauline Goddard, Holly Springs Community—Grady Goddard, \$2; R. J. Hardison, \$3; Arthur Green, \$1; Henry H. Barber, 50c; S. J. Tertetter, 50c; Sam Andrews, 50c; Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Daniel, \$2.50; Charles Pate, 25c; Percy Cherry, 25c; Sara Goddard, 15c; Mr. and Mrs. Julius Andrews, \$1; Mrs. Lucy Weaver, 50c; Henry L. Hardison, \$1; Mr. and Mrs. Billy Gurganus, \$2; Mrs. Elizabeth Bailey, \$1; Oscar Jones, 25c; Mrs. Williford Hardison,

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### Rotarians Elect Officers Tuesday

In their regular meeting Tuesday, members of the local Rotary Club elected officers for the new year, beginning in July. Robert H. Cowen was moved up from the vice presidency to president, succeeding Edgar Gurganus. A. L. Jameson was elected vice president, and N. K. Harrison was re-elected secretary-treasurer. The elections were by acclamation.

Rudolph Saunders was continued as sergeant-at-arms, and two new members, William Everett and Bill Tertetter, were added to the board of directors. Dan Sharpe and F. M. Manning were re-elected as members of the board.

The club is transferring its meeting place from the educational building of the First Methodist Church to the Switch, beginning next week.

### Admits Robbery, Man Is Released In \$300 Bond

Denying he entered the PowWow, snack bar just outside the western limits of Robersonville, more than once, John R. Gray, young Robersonville man, was released in \$300 bond, following a hearing held before Justice H. S. Everett a few days ago.

Gray said he found the door open, walked in and took \$12 or \$15 in change from the piccolo. He is to face trial in superior court next June.

### Retired But Still Active At Age Of 70, Roebuck Says

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