

Red Cross Drive Nearing Its Quota In Local Chapter

Total of \$4,255.22 Been
Raised To Date; One
District To Report

The 1953 Red Cross Fund Drive is nearing its quota in this chapter, according to a report released late yesterday by Chairman W. I. Skinner who explained that the campaign will go over the top if Jamesville (yet to be heard from) and one or two other special canvassers maintain the momentum set by others in the five townships making up the chapter.

A total of \$4,255.22 has been raised and reported to date, leaving the drive only \$293.78 short of the quota plus a small balance can however, there was a \$5,000 goal which the committee set up with the idea of supplementing the program of the Martin County Chapter of the organization. If the quota plus a small balance can be raised, the work of the organization, including the blood program, can and will be maintained another year.

The contributions, by districts and groups, follows:

Williamston special gifts, \$2,228.90; Williamston employees, \$195.92; Williamston town and township residential areas, \$689.72; Williams Township, \$106.54; Griffins Township, \$205.80; Bear Grass Township, \$192.35. The colored citizens in the chapter have exceeded their quota by about \$60. Colored citizens, under the leadership of John M. Slade, chairman, and R. T. Coles, treasurer, raised \$377.43 to carry the drive among that group over the top. The local colored citizens exceeded their quota by \$77.43. A review of the fund support in the other colored districts in the chapter shows the following totals: Dardens, \$70.31; Williams, \$51.25; Rodgers, \$72; Biggs, \$50, and Burroughs, \$40.

Individual contributions not previously acknowledged will be published next week.

During the meantime, Fund Drive Treasurer R. J. Hardison reported the following special gifts had been made since the last report:

Homer Barnhill, canvasser: B & W Tire Company, \$5; Martin-Elliott Co., \$10; Central Restaurant, \$3; Roanoke Lockers, Inc., \$15; R. L. Ward Coal and Wood Co., \$5; Dr. W. F. Coppage, \$5.

James Bulluck, canvasser: Colonial Stores, \$20; Martin General Hospital, \$50.

W. I. Skinner, canvasser: General Electric Company, \$25; Virginia Electric and Power Co., \$35.

William Everett, canvasser: Dixie Motor Co., \$50; Griffin Motor Co., \$27.50; Lindsley Ice Co., \$25; Lindsley's Checkboard Store, \$5; Home Laundry, \$20; Throwing Hardware & Appliance Co., \$10.

R. J. Hardison, canvasser: Clark's Pharmacy, Inc., \$20; Martin County Building and Loan Association, \$10; Pioneer Shoppe, \$5; Woolard Hardware Co., \$5; Zemon's Ready To Wear, \$5.

Anxious to make his final report, Fund Chairman Skinner today appealed to all canvassers who have not done so, to complete the drive and submit their reports in as soon as possible.

An unofficial report states that the Robersonville Chapter, the other Red Cross unit in the county has raised about half of its quota of approximately \$1,800.

Negro Citizens Support Drive

Serving as district chairman, Professor W. E. Honeyblu announced this week that the Negro citizens in the Robersonville Chapter are supporting the Red Cross fund drive this year. Reports to date from the other Red Cross chapter in this county show that the colored citizens are supporting the 1953 campaign fund.

Over in the Robersonville Chapter the following reports were submitted this week.

Hamilton, Mrs. R. E. Keyes, chairman, \$51; Whichard-James district, W. C. Bunch, chairman, \$45; Everetts, E. L. Owens, chairman and Edgar Gutterbridge, ex-chairman, \$33; Salisbury district, G. T. Hyman, chairman, \$21. The chairman were assisted by faculty members and patrons in raising \$150.29 in the four districts.

County's Champion Hog Raiser



Freddie Martin, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. N. Martin of Jamesville, is recognized as the champion hog raiser in Martin County. The champ, member of the Jamesville 4-H Club, exhibited his prize Duroc Jersey at the county fat stock show a short time ago and received forty cents a pound or \$76.00 for the animal which was bought by the Dixie Motor Company at the sale.

Accumulated Docket Faces County Court Here Monday

Resuming its sittings after remaining idle for two weeks while the superior tribunal was supposed to have been in session, the Martin County Recorder's Court will face a crowded docket next Monday, Clerk L. B. Wynne said early today.

Up until late yesterday, 72 cases had been placed on the docket, but all of those cases are not scheduled for trial next Monday. When it became evident that the court could not handle the large docket in one day, quite a few of the cases were scheduled for trial at later sessions.

While drunken driving and speeding cases lead the count, worthless check and larceny charges are beginning to appear in greater numbers, an enforcement officer stating that the in-

GOOD RESPONSE

With approximately 800 delinquent accounts on the county tax books, Collector M. L. Peel made special appeals to the property owners earlier in the month and the response to those appeals has been very encouraging. It was declared today. One-fourth of the group cleared their accounts, and others explained they would act before the early part of May.

Science Teacher For Local School

Joseph Lassiter of Conway has been appointed a member of the Williamston High School faculty to fill the position made vacant by the death of Professor Whitaker last fall. He is to enter upon his new duties next fall, it was announced.

In addition to his duties as a teacher in the science department, he will assist the athletic coach.

Mr. Lassiter was graduated from East Carolina College where he earned his master of arts degree. He majored in science and physical education. Following his studies at the college he taught two years in the Clinton city schools, and is completing his second year in the Ahsokie schools.

Speaking Contest Friday Afternoon

A declamation contest, sponsored by the Patriotic Order Sons of America, will be held in the Martin County courtroom tomorrow afternoon at 1:30 o'clock, it was announced by the president of the Order this week.

Participants, one from Washington County, another from Pitt County and still another from this county, will compete, it was learned. Jamesville is supplying the contestant for this county.

Presbytery Has All-Day Meeting

Approximately 75 ministers and laymen of Albemarle Presbytery met in all-day session in the First Presbyterian Church here Tuesday. These represented the north and central counties of Eastern North Carolina. Rev. J. Don Skinner was host to the assembly.

Among a number of important matters on the docket was the election of moderator. Rev. W. P. Burns, pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Washington, was chosen to this office.

Five ministerial candidates appeared for examination and ordination. These men will assume duties with the Presbytery beginning June 1st and will serve the following churches: Messrs. Vernon McGehee, the Wayside-Wanocá group, Washington; Yorke Pharr, Rivermont in Kinston; Dan Norman, Johnson and Cobb Memorial Churches, Tarboro; James MacKenzie, Edenton and Swan Quarter; and Herbert W. Dale, the West Greenville-Ballards group.

Committee reports registered notable progress in accessions of membership, building operations, income and the opening of new fields during the fiscal year, 1952-53. The Presbytery organized lately its 50th church.

An unusual feature of the meeting was the announcement of independence of financial subsidy from April 1, 1953, of three former Home Mission organizations. These churches are West Haven, Rocky Mount, of which Rev. Russell B. Fleming is pastor; Neuse Forest, New Bern, under the leadership of Rev. Denver S. Blewins; and Meadowbrook, Greenville, Rev. C. D. Patterson, pastor.

The Presbytery Church U. S., of which Albemarle Presbytery is an integral part has recently launched a campaign to raise \$2,000,000 for the enlargement of its work among the negroes of the South.

Presbytery confirmed the purchase of a Conference Grounds Site, located on Bogue Sound near Morehead City. This beautiful piece of property will be open this summer. Its use will be chiefly by Presbytery's youth fellowships, but it will be available also for men's and women's groups.

Presbytery will meet in the First Presbyterian Church, New Bern, Rev. J. Murphy Smith, pastor, in July for its next regular session.

The following representatives were present from Williamston: Rev. J. Don Skinner, F. L. Fussell, Dillon Cobb, Sidney Beacham and W. T. Martin.

EISENHOWER IN '56?

Senator Robert A. Taft (R) of Ohio has forecast that President Eisenhower will run again in 1956 and be reelected.

Persistent, although unverified, reports have circulated in Washington that Mr. Eisenhower wants only one term.

Senator Taft, Senate Majority Leader, said in an interview he never had heard any one-term suggestion from the President or his intimates. The senator said that in any event he firmly believes Mr. Eisenhower will be convinced he ought to seek a second term when the time comes.

Peace Officers To Form Association In Two Counties

To Share In Officers' Relief
Plan In Washington
and Martin Counties

Supported by a special act of the North Carolina General Assembly, thirty-four peace officers in Martin and Washington Counties, will form an association early in May for administering the newly created Peace Officers' Relief Fund in the two counties.

The officers—24 from this and 11 from Washington County—are scheduled to meet in the Martin County courthouse on the night of May 5 to perfect their organization, it was learned.

The bill, paving the way for the creation of the association and providing the relief fund, follows in detail as passed and ratified by the legislature a short time ago:

Section 1. Short Title. This Act shall be known and may be cited as the Martin and Washington Counties Peace Officers' Relief Act.

Sec. 2. Definitions. Peace officers shall be deemed to include all peace officers of the Counties of Martin and Washington, North Carolina, or subdivisions thereof including all cities and towns and members of the State Highway Patrol and game wardens, who are required by the terms of their employment or elections to give their full time to the preservation of public order, the protection of life and property, and the detection of crime; and all special officers or citizens who are injured or killed while aiding or assisting regular peace officers or while acting as such peace officers.

Sec. 3. Creation of Association. An association to be known and designated as the Martin and Washington Counties Peace Officers' Protective Association shall be formed, the membership of which shall include all peace officers and game wardens in Martin Counties and the members of the State Highway Patrol as defined above.

Sec. 4. Registration. Peace officers who are entitled to membership in the association, in order to share in the benefits provided for in this Act, shall make application for membership in the association on blanks to be furnished for that purpose, giving such information as may be required by said association, and shall pay an initiation fee and annual dues to be fixed by the executive board; however, such initiation fee shall not exceed \$5 and such dues shall not exceed \$12 per annum. Provided further that the provisions of this Section shall not apply to special officers or citizens who have not had a reasonable time from date they were appointed, summoned or deputized, to register with said association. And further provided that said reasonable time shall not exceed thirty days.

Sec. 5. Creation of Executive Board. The executive board shall consist of five members of the association, in good standing, to be elected by majority vote of said association at the last regular meeting in December of each calendar year, such board members to hold office until their successors are elected and qualify. The said board shall elect a chairman, secretary and treasurer at its first meeting in each year. A majority of members of said executive board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Sec. 6. Treasurer. The treasurer shall give bond in the amount specified by the executive board in some approved bonding company, approved by the board.

Sec. 7. Sources of Revenue. In all criminal actions in Martin and Washington Counties, North Carolina, brought into courts of justices of the peace, mayor's, recorder's and superior courts, wherein the defendant shall enter a plea of nolo contendere, a plea of guilty, or shall be adjudged guilty by a jury, a fee of one dollar, to be known as the Officers' Emergency Fee, shall be collected as all other costs in criminal cases are collected, by the justice of peace, clerk or other officer of the court authorized to receive costs; and such funds so received shall be accounted for monthly, and turned over to the association.

Sizable Gain In Property Values Certain In County

A sizable gain in 1953 Martin County property values is certain, according to a preliminary report released a few days ago by Tax Supervisor M. Luther Peel. Two townships—Jamesville and Hamilton—have not submitted reports, and the figures for all the other eight townships are not final, it was explained. However, it is now believed that the listings this year will reflect a gain of at least three-quarters of a million dollars over those recorded for the tax year of 1952.

Small gains were recorded in one or two townships and one, Poplar, reported a loss of \$11,712 in its values, including \$7,557 in real and \$4,155 in personal property holdings.

The figure is not complete, but a gain of approximately \$300,000 and possibly more is expected in Williamston Township, aside from

Locusts About To Return Following 17-Year Absence

Pest Is No Serious Threat
To Crop But May Damage
Trees Slightly

Washington.—Some soft may night soon millions of crayfishlike cicada nymphs—the "17-year locusts"—will begin to crawl stealthily out of the soil.

Twenty thousand or more may climb from beneath a single tree, where they have been developing for 17 years. Then will come the spectacular individual struggles in which the cicadas burst from their old shells and emerge as soft, milky-pale winged adults, says the National Geographic Society.

They will harden by morning into active 1-4 inch black insects with transparent, orange-veined wings and fiery red eyes. Soon they will begin their resounding daytime wailing. They feed harmlessly on plant fluids and mate during the month before they die. They will also be fed on by birds, insects and animals.

These creatures, Brood X of the periodical cicadas are cousins of the harvest fly. Scientists designate the 17-year broods by Roman Numerals from I to XVII. Brood X (1936, 1953, 1970) is the largest. It will appear throughout the eastern United States from New England to Wisconsin and down through Georgia, with heavy concentrations in the middle Atlantic seaboard states, Indiana and adjacent areas of eastern Tennessee. A dwarf variety will emerge at the same time.

Indians regarded the mysterious appearance of the cicadas with awe as did early European settlers. When the Pilgrims at Plymouth Colony first heard the cicadas keening in 1634, they mistook them for crop-devouring locusts and feared a plague such as ravaged Pharaoh's Egypt in Biblical times. Thus the popular misnomer "locust" originated, though cicadas are in no way related to those hungry-jawed grasshoppers.

Seventeen year cicadas wear a dark "W" marked on each wing. Early settlers, noting that several conflict closely followed cicada visits, regarded the insect as an omen of war. The creatures have no sting, but another superstition arose that they would sting babies to death.

The only serious harm done by cicadas is during their egg-laying process. The female chisels gashes in tree twigs with her long...

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BROADCAST

Russell Roberson, Williamston 4-H Club member and son of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Roberson of near Williamston, will broadcast over Station WPTF, Raleigh, at 12:45 o'clock Saturday afternoon. The youth will discuss the various phases of soil conservation, it was announced. He will be introduced by Assistant County Agent Larry Hodges.

The broadcast is a part of a regular club program on the Raleigh station.

James E. Harrison Died In Hospital Here Early Today

Funeral For Prominent Local
Citizen Will Be Held
Friday Afternoon

James Eli Harrison, prominent local citizen, died in a hospital here this morning at 3:00 o'clock following a several-day illness. Apparently in his usual health a week ago, he was taken ill suddenly last Thursday night and was removed to the hospital a short time later. Death was attributable to a heart attack. Despite his advanced years, he continued unusually active after retiring from the farm some years ago.

A son of the late Cushing Biggs Harrison and Martha Elizabeth Taylor Harrison, he was born in Bear Grass Township 83 years ago on October 21, 1871, and spent his early life there. Following his marriage to Miss Henrietta Swain in 1892 he located on a farm in Edgecombe County near Tarboro in 1900, returning to this county in 1910 and making his home for a number of years on the old Whitaker farm near Williamston. In recent years he had made his home here.

Possessed of a friendly spirit, he had a ready smile for everyone, and always extended a willing hand to help others along the way, supporting worthy causes and taking a definite stand for the nobler things in life.

Mr. Harrison was a member of the local Christian church and his pastor, the Rev. John L. Goff, will conduct the funeral service Friday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock in interment will be in Woodlawn Cemetery.

Surviving besides Mrs. Harrison are three daughters, Mrs. Katie Wynne, Mrs. Mary H. Coltrain, Williamston, and Mrs. Norman Conrad of Miami; seven sons, Henry D., James E., Jr., Ira and Bernard Harrison, all of Williamston; C. B. Harrison of Rocky Mount, Robert Harrison of Tarboro and Lewis Harrison of Pulaski, Virginia; one brother, Robt. G. Harrison, of Henderson; a sister, Mrs. Della Green, of Williamston; twenty-four grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren.

Education Board Plans Inspections

Its organization perfected only last Monday, the newly constituted Martin County Board of Education—Ernest Edmondson, chairman; Urban Rogers, vice chairman; Howard Gaylord, LeRoy Harrison and Cecil Powell—is rapidly moving to give education in this county what might well be a shot in the arm.

The several members apparently have agreed to give of their time and efforts to size up the educational plant and to work for an effective administration of the school system. Beginning next Monday the board members will start an extensive survey of the physical properties in every one of the several districts. The inspections, getting under way following a brief meeting at 9:00 o'clock that morning at the courthouse, will be centered first in the local district, it is understood with the possibility that they will be extended into the Bear Grass district before the day is spent.

Principal B. G. Stewart said the number reporting for the preliminary examinations was about ten percent greater than the previous record, that possibly twenty-five others expected to enter the school next fall were unable to attend the scheduled clinics this week.

No report on the clinic findings could be had immediately.

Local Man Facing New Court Charge

Walter (Little) Bud Freeman, 34-year-old colored man, is in the hands of the law, this time for allegedly assaulting Emma Minns and breaking into her home on White Street last Sunday night about 10:00 o'clock.

At a hearing held before Justice Chas. R. Mobley last evening, probable cause of guilt was established and Freeman was returned to the county jail in default of a \$1,000 bond.

The prosecuting witness said that Freeman had chased her away from her home Sunday morning, and that he returned that night, bursting through a locked door. She ran away again. Freeman claims he was drunk when he allegedly broke into the home, that he remembered nothing about it.

Freeman, often in the courts as a defendant, was arrested Tuesday. The prosecuting witness wanted to know how it was he could not remember the alleged crime and yet was able to evade officers for more than two days.

Beginners' Band On PTA Program

Band Director Jack Butler of Williamston High School is scheduled to present the beginners' group of his band in a brief program at the Parents-Teachers Association meeting Monday evening, April 27, in the high school auditorium.

The meeting opens at 7:45 with President Fletcher Thomas presiding. It was not announced whether the band program will precede or follow the brief business session.

Included in the program will be two numbers by the Junior Band, clarinet trios of the 6th and 8th grades, Clarinet quartet from the 7th grade, flute duet from the 7th grade, flute trio from the 6th and 7th grades, bass solo, 7th grader, cornet ensemble from 6th grade, and clarinet duet from the 6th grade.

These are the groups from which recruits for the senior band will come and their work indicates stronger bands for the future.