

Farm Life Votes "To Make Effort" For High School

Hundred and Fifty Citizens Join In Discussion Of Problem Last Friday

Meeting in the school building there last Friday night friends and patrons of the Farm Life School cast about one hundred and fifty ballots on the question of whether or not to "make an effort" to get the high school department of the school returned to the community next year and a great majority favored the action. The high school has been consolidated with Williamston high school for the 1952-53 scholastic year now drawing to a close.

Reports coming from the meeting said the patrons were apparently agreed on two points—there was no dissatisfaction with the treatment accorded the students in the Williamston schools this term and if a trial reopening of the school fails to endure they want to return the children to Williamston the next time. Speakers declared that the citizens of the community need the school, that it is a vital factor in the maintenance of community spirit and cohesion. Those favoring the move to seek return of the school pointed out that the school was one of the three important factors in the building and maintaining of a good community—the other two being good homes and good churches.

While the majority of votes were cast in favor of the movement to seek return of the school under the terms of the new consolidation act passed by the recent General Assembly, there were a few who opposed moving the children from their new school home and some were "undecided." The meeting was free of any dissension or acrimony. The Farm Life school committee held a free and open discussion of the matter and presented as many facts as possible. A copy of the new law was at hand and its provisions were explained. Principal B. G. Stewart of Williamston had provided figures for the Farm Life students at Williamston. These figures are understood to have shown 49 students enrolled with average daily attendance for the past four months running as follows: January 45, February 44.5, March 44.5, and April 44.

Recent reports indicate that eleven Farm Life students are members of the senior class and that nine students will move from the eighth grade at Farm Life into the ninth grade (first year of high school). This would make an enrollment of forty-seven next school year. To this figure would be added those who declare they

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Jaycees Fete Boy On His Birthday

The heavy rains last Thursday afternoon did not dampen the spirit of the local Jaycees for at 5:00 p. m. that day four automobiles of Jaycees left Williamston to travel about five miles to a rural home to give a Birthday Party for a young boy suffering from an incurable disease.

Laden with birthday-wrapped gifts of all kinds, a cake with 13 candles, baked by the wife of one of the Jaycees, and plenty of ice cream, they arrived at the lad's home about five-thirty. After lighting the candles and singing Happy Birthday, the youth cut the first slice of cake, and then his brother and sisters joined the Jaycees in a cake and ice cream party.

At five forty-five the radio was turned on for a special program arranged for this party. During the radio program, Jaycee President Exum Ward handed the many presents to the boy, who with wild-eyed anticipation opened them one by one.

After all the gifts were opened the young man joined his mother in expressing their thanks to the Jaycees for this party on his thirteenth birthday, and the Jaycees returned to Williamston happy in the knowledge that they had brought cheer to one who had known nothing but suffering for so long.

New President Takes Over



On Monday evening, May 4, the Williamston Boosters held their annual meeting and banquet and heard an address by State Treasurer Brandon Hodges of North Carolina. New officers were also installed at the meeting, including those pictured above with the visiting state officials. From left to right they are, Director Lemman Barnhill, Past President and Director R. Edwin Peele, President W. Marvin Baker, State Treasurer Brandon Hodges and Dick Mauney, Administrative assistant to Treasurer Hodges. Mr. Barnhill continues as treasurer of the Williamston Boosters, Inc.

Five Accidents In County During the Past Several Days

Girl Jumped From Car To Sustain Only Injury In Series of Mishaps

Although approximately \$625.00 property damage was caused in four of the five accidents reported in the county during the past several days the only bodily injury was sustained in the fifth mishap where no property damage was recorded.

Three of the accidents were on Williamston streets and one on the streets of Robersonville and the fifth in a farm yard on RFD 2 Williamston.

The only injury reported by the Highway Patrol was to Shirley Pritchette, 17 year old white girl, who is reported to have jumped from the rear seat of a 1953 Pontiac as it was being driven on Highway 64 through Robersonville at 10:30 last Saturday morning by Cleveland S. VanLandingham of Williamston. Sustaining bruises on her hands, face and feet, the girl was placed in Brown Community Hospital in Williamston for treatment. She told investigating officers she jumped from the car because she was despondent over difficulties she was having with her boy friend.

The first accident in the series occurred about 8:00 a. m. Thursday when Miss Susan Frances Griffin failed to see Jodie Peaks 1952 Pontiac when she backed up hill into the yard to turn around. The body of the school bus went up over the trunk of the automobile, damaging it an estimated \$75.00.

The second accident came at 12:45 p. m. Thursday at the corner of Houghton and Main Streets in Williamston where Lottie Teel Highsmith, colored, drove her 1948 Dodge into the side of Thomas Edison Jernigan's 1953 Dodge doing damage estimated at \$150 to the right side door and fender. The Highsmith car was not damaged.

Friday afternoon at 12:25, Henry Wobblen was driving a 1953 Dodge pick-up truck belonging to Miller Gas Company on West Main Street in a westerly direction and started to make a left hand turn just as a 1950 Dodge sedan, also going west and driven by Miss Elizabeth Hasty Midgett of Manteo, started to pass. The car sideswiped the truck with resulting damage of \$125 to the right side of the car and \$25 to the left fender of the pick-up.

The last of the series of accidents, chronologically, was reported by Williamston police and the Highway Patrol at 3:30 Saturday morning when Charles Edward Bullock of New Bern is reported to have fallen asleep leaving his car to create some havoc near the Sunnyside market. Declaring he was not speeding when he dozed off, Bullock's foot on the accelerator must have been as heavy as his eyelids for the 1950 Buick left the road about Sunnyside, ripped off part of a steel sign, ran across a field, through two wire fences and literally tore the whole back portion of Joe Peele's blacksmith shop to pieces. Damage to the car

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HELP WANTED

Marvin Baker, local Esso dealer and newly elected President of the Williamston Boosters, Inc., stated yesterday several advertisements had been placed in the larger dailies of the State for a successor to Alford Sweatt, managing director who recently resigned.

Just recently placed, Mr. Baker said no replies had been received from the advertisements but if and when a reply is received, a special meeting of the directors will be called to consider all applicants.

The new president stated local applicants will also be given serious consideration should a local or county man seek the position.

Colored Barber Knifing Victim

Ella Mae Williams, colored, displayed the magnitude of her temper and the skill of her hands when she stabbed Gilford Brown, also colored, in front of his barber shop here on Washington Street late Saturday night.

The injury produced blood in large quantities but the knife did not penetrate deep enough to create a serious wound. Treated by local physicians Brown is recuperating in the Martin General Hospital.

Ella Mae did not stop with inflicting a chest wound on Brown. She either broke or knocked out the windows of the barber shop and windows in Brown's car.

Officers said Brown was shaving himself when the girl came in to begin her operations.

The colored woman's bond of \$500 was signed by Eddie Watts Brown and she was ordered to appear before Judge H. O. Peele in Recorder's Court at an early date.

Kiwanians Hear Scout Executive

"Of all the organizations in North Carolina Kiwanis contributes more in personal work and financial support in the promotion of Scouting than all other civic or municipal organizations," District Scout Executive Jerry Ashwill said last Thursday night when speaking before the local Kiwanis Club. Mr. Ashwill was introduced by Vice-President John H. Gurganus.

Interestingly and humorously the Scout executive pointed out the many advantages young boys receive through Scouting. Before paying special tribute to Wheeler Martin for his many, and unselfish contributions in this particular work, Mr. Ashwill closed his remarks in saying, "It is the real boy of today who judges the adult of today."

Among those recognized at the meeting were: W. R. Bender, chairman, James McBrayer, Scoutmaster and Rev. John Goff, Dr. J. T. Llewellyn and Wendell Peel, members of the Scout Committee. Russell Cowen, high school Kiwanian for the month of May was introduced by Bruce Wynn.

Draw Thirty For Jury Duty In The June Court Term

Judge Joseph Parker Of Windsor To Return To The County

Thirty Martin County citizens were drawn recently by the board of commissioners for jury duty during the one-week term of superior court beginning June 15. The list includes the names of two or three women.

Judge Joseph Parker, appointed to the bench a few months ago, will preside over the term. The Windsor jurist handled the last March term of court in this county, and made a very good impression.

Quite a few cases are piling up on the docket for trial during the term which will center its attention principally on criminal actions. One murder case is already on the docket and numerous drunken driving cases are going up from the lower court on appeal.

Names of the jurors follow, by townships: Jamesville: J. H. Dickerson, Milton W. Griffin, Henry C. Price, C. W. Moore, Enoch Gardner and Calvin Gregory.

Williams: Noah Saunders Roberson.

Griffins: Carlyle Manning, Bear Grass, W. L. Mobley, Mrs. Estelle Harris and Mrs. Sarah Brown Peel.

Williamston: Wheeler Martin Ward, Charles T. Roberson, Henderson Norfleet, O. L. Willard, Ben C. Peel, Haywood E. Wynne, J. D.

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Removed To Hospital In Ambulance Last Night

Taken quite ill suddenly last night, Mrs. William Price was removed from her home in Jamesville to a local hospital about 9:15 o'clock. She made the trip in a Biggs ambulance.

Suggestion Box

From time to time, individual citizens of Williamston, with no direct voice in town government, have asked to be heard. These columns are open to any and all who have suggestions, supporting a march toward a better town and community.

Suggestions are welcome when signed and offered in good faith.

We've been requested to air our complaints or criticism regarding our nice little town of Williamston.

First of all, regarding the parking meters—several are broken and when one deposits coins, they do not register correctly. For instance, when one penny is deposited, it sometimes register 6 minutes or whatever it is inclined to at the moment. Then, Mr. Policeman comes along and puts a ticket on your car, requiring you to appear at the station within 24 hours. This should be corrected without delay.

Regarding mosquito control, the pests are worse than they've ever been and to try and contact someone who will do something about it is impossible, as I've sat at the phone for one hour today, but to no avail.

Malaria should be a thing of the past now with all the new spays available, and since the welfare of a town's citizens rests on its health, why not see that stagnant water, weeds, etc., are controlled now before it's too late?
A Citizen.

VEP Employees And Executives Will Meet Here

One Hundred and Twenty- Five Expected At Legion Hut Tomorrow

The annual meeting of Virginia Electric and Power Company employees with executives of the company will be held tomorrow at 9:00 a. m. at the American Legion Hut. Approximately 125 Vepcovians from Williamston, Elizabeth City and Ahoskie will attend to meet with the company executives.

This meeting is an annual affair at which the company executives bring all employees up to date on recent happenings within the company. Also there is ample time allotted during the meeting for a general discussion period and the answering of any questions individual employees may choose to ask the visitors.

Those Vepco executives who will conduct the meeting, together with visitors from other areas, include: W. E. Wood, Executive Vice-President; M. C. Smith, Vice President and General Manager; E. H. Will, Vice President in charge of operations; A. E. Ratcliffe, treasurer; R. G. Schneider, assistant treasurer; J. M. Wilson, Vice President Western Division; J. B. Hawkins, Assistant Vice President Eastern Division; G. Fred Cook, director employee information; W. I. Dolbear, director industrial development; O. V. Sessoms, district manager Allegheny District; R. C. Hopkins, district manager Potomac District; A. J. Young, district manager, Rappahannock district; R. H. Goodmon, Vice President Southern Division, and A. L. Jameson, district manager, Albemarle District are hosts to the visiting group.

May Day Program For Robersonville Wednesday

Postponed from last Wednesday afternoon because of rain, the big May Day program of Robersonville Schools will be presented tomorrow afternoon at 5 o'clock exactly as it had been planned for the previous Wednesday.

"A Mother Goose May Day" is the theme of the program with Miss Betty Ann Rogerson animating Old Mother Goose.

The various phases of Mother Goose rhymes will follow the professional and coronation of the May Queen, Miss Jean Wynne, and her attendants.

NO COMPANY

Members of the local unit of the National Guard were all dressed up last night and ready for visiting officials to put them through an inspection, but they had no company to view them in their splendor.

No reason was announced as to why the expected visit did not materialize but it was reported an official would be at battery headquarters in the water plant this morning.

Hertford Man Chosen Head Of First Highway Division

J. Emmett Winslow of Hertford was chosen commissioner for the newly arranged No. 1 division of the North Carolina State Highway and Public Works Commission, according to reliable but unofficial information released this week.

The selection rested between N. C. Green of Williamston, Joe Conger of Edenton and several others in the district. All the o.a. members of the commission were ruled out. A. H. "Sandy" Graham, formerly with the commission, was called back to head the new 14-division set-up. It was explained that Governor Umstead had picked men with "business experience," that there would be changes in the engineering personnel as well as additions to fill the newly created divisions.

Old No. 1 had its lines altered rather drastically, the new unit being enlarged to include fourteen counties. Edgecombe and Halifax Counties were moved over into No. 4, and Washington, Tyrrell and Hyde were moved into District 1. The No. 1 district as now constituted includes Bertie, Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hertford, Hyde, Martin, Northampton, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Tyrrell and Washington. The change in the district shortens the actual road mileage, but it adds more streams for bridges.

The new district commissioner, Mr. Winslow, is well known here, and is a prominent business man and leader in Hertford over in Perquimans County.

Twenty Marriage Licenses Issued In This County

Issuance Last Month Largest For Any April In Seven Years

Twenty marriage licenses were issued by Register of Deeds J. Sam Getzinger in this county last month. The issuance was the largest for any April since 1946 when seventeen marriage licenses were sold to white and sixteen went to colored couples. The issuance also was the largest for any month so far this year.

Licenses were issued to eight white and twelve colored couples last month as follows:

White
James R. Ross and Mary A. Manning, both of Greenville.

Nathan Junior Perry and Elva Marie Pate, both of Williamston. William Earl Orr of St. Louis, Mo., and Hilda O'Neal Bailey of Williamston.

Raymond Bennett of Williams- ton and Betty Lou Hardison of RFD 1, Jamesville.

Rankin Dancy Dowdy of Farmville, Va., and Susie Griffin Manning of Williamston.

Ralph Augustus Keel of Robersonville and Marjorie Modlin of Jamesville.

Jack H. Welch and Berry Jean McLawhorn, both of Williamston. James Henry Jones and Esther Edwards, both of Washington.

Colored
Rufus Andrews of Robersonville and Gertie Moe Roberson of Parmele.

Johnny Lee and Irma Harts, both of Williamston.

Robert Earl Simmons and Ollie Ruth Staniel, both of Jamesville. Walter Lee Perkins and Grace Griffin, both of Everetts.

Walter Junior Higgs of Hamilton and Everlene Carr of Oak City.

Abe Spruill, Jr., and Minnie Pearl Manning, both of Robersonville.

Willie Frank Deans and Colleen Huff, both of Williamston.

Willie Lee Andrews of Farm 13 and Lillie Mae Morning, of Bethel. Esaw Armstrong of Plymouth and Dollie James of Dardens.

Essix Wilson of Williamston and Ia Mae Baker of New Bern. Joe Williams and Zeorah Gray, both of RFD 1, Jamesville.

Thief Caught At Roanoke Garage

Troubled with thefts and attempted break-ins in recent weeks, the Roanoke Chevrolet was the victim of another crime Saturday night but this time the culprit was caught in the act by a passing employee of the company and police took him into custody.

Luther July, colored, was busily draining gasoline from a pump at the garage when he was caught by Officers Perry and Chesson who had been called by an employee of the garage. July was given two years on the roads in Recorder's Court yesterday but Judge H. O. Peele later changed this so that he might get out by paying a \$25 fine and the costs. July arranged to pay up and was released late yesterday.

Formerly a cook for the Wier Coffee Shop, July has been employed in recent weeks by the North Carolina Pulp Company.

Shortage of White Teachers In The Elementary Units

Surplus Of High School Instructors Appears Cer- tain For Coming Year

North Carolina Facts, the bulletin of the North Carolina Research Institute which each week turns the spotlight on some North Carolina subject, this week presents an analysis of the shortage of white elementary public school teachers in North Carolina. The current issue, out today, cites what it describes as an "alarming" shortage.

The picture presented, a picture which is equally bad all over the United States, indicates that teaching as a profession simple does not appeal to college students who are equipped for such work.

"It is a most unusual coincidence," said Felix A. Griset, editor of the publication, "that we find further evidence of this lack of interest in teaching in the form of legislation to eliminate the word 'teachers' from the title of Western Carolina Teachers College at Cullowhee. Two years ago East Carolina eliminated the word from its title, thus leaving Appalachian in Boone as the only white college or university in the State willing to have the word 'teacher' as a part of its name."

North Carolina Facts shows that there will be a need next fall for 1,537 white elementary teachers for replacements of those who resign or retire, without taking into account any normal increase made necessary by increased enrollment or decreased teacher load. The total number of students trained to teach who are expected to graduate from the colleges and universities of the State this year is 628, leaving a shortage of 909 white elementary teachers for replacements alone. There are an additional 1,900 white elementary school teachers now at work who hold inferior certificates and who should be replaced with new teachers holding A certificates, or better. If this 1,900 shortage be added to the 909, the total exceeds 2,800.

This shortage could be reduced somewhat if students trained to teach in high schools could be persuaded to accept positions in elementary schools. Total high school replacement demands will be 852, whereas, 1,211 college graduates planning to teach in high school is indicated, thus indicating a surplus of 359. If all these high school teachers could be shifted to elementary jobs, the elementary replacement shortage would be reduced to 550.

There are an additional 200 white high school teachers with inferior certificates who ought to be replaced. This total added to the total shortage of 2,800 white elementary teachers totals 3,000 minus any possible transfers of the high school surplus to elementary work.

The publication illustrates the seriousness of the situation by pointing out that the shortage of 909 white elementary teachers for

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Fathers-Sons To Attend Banquet

Honoring all boys who participated in the three sports at Williamston High School this scholastic year, a father-son banquet is to be held at the High School cafeteria tonight at 7:30 with an address by Horace "Bones" McKinney as a special feature.

Announcement of the plans is being made by Principal B. G. Stewart and Coach Carroll Blackberry. Approximately 120 are expected to attend. In addition to making his talk to the group Mr. McKinney hopes to bring films of the State-Wake Forest championship basketball game along to show the fathers, sons and friends. He will be introduced by Principal Stewart, an old acquaintance.

In addition to the young men and their fathers, gate-keepers, doctors who helped with physical examinations and this year and other who helped the various teams are being invited.

David Davis, Jr., will give the welcome and his father will give the response.

ROUND-UP

Nine persons were arrested and placed in jail here over the Mother's Day week-end, liquor figuring in all but two of them. Five were held for public drunkenness, one for driving while drunk and another for possession of illicit liquor. One arrest for driving after license had been revoked and another for larceny completed the round-up.

The ages of the group ranged from 22 to 44 years.

There was a little blood-letting on Washington Street but the practitioner of the art was able to arrange bond.

Overflow Crowd At Music Festival

An audience that overflowed into the aisles and hall from the Williamston High School auditorium last Friday night heard and watched as the Music Department of Williamston schools presented its Spring Music Festival.

The program was a most enjoyable one from beginning to end as the Rhythm Band of the first grades played Amaryllis by Ghyss as the opening number and the high school mixed chorus closed with Oklahoma by Rogers and Hammerstein. In between came folk dances and folk songs and other numbers by the rhythm band and the high school mixed chorus.

Under the overall direction of Miss Mary Wallace Foy the children gave an excellent presentation to give parents and friends an opportunity to learn at first hand the training the music department is providing. Following the opening number, the rhythm band rendered Rendezvous by Aletter, The Syncope Clock by Anderson and the Washington Post March by Sousa.

Grades one through five appeared in folk dances—Danish Dance of Greeting, German Schotische, Hansel and Gretel, Virginia Reel and Patty-Cake Polka. Folk Songs were rendered by the sixth grades—Song of Praise by Hohman; Listen to the Mockingbird by Hawthorne; Th. Lovely Meadows (Czechoslovakian); and Gum Tree Canoe (American).

Besides the closing number of Oklahoma, the mixed chorus sang Jesus Walked this Lonesome Valley, Dawson; to the Moon Goddess, Beethoven; The Kerry Dance and Let's Dance (a paraphrase on Chop Sticks).

Comment on the arrangement and presentation of the program was very favorable.

Local Jaycee To Seek State Vice-Presidency

Reuben Williams, Pete Rogers, Bernard Harrison and Edgar Gurganus will attend the State Convention of the North Carolina Junior Chamber of Commerce in Asheville Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Mr. Gurganus, who is now North Carolina Chairman of the Distinguished Service Award Committee, will be a candidate for State Vice-President at the convention.

P. T. A. IN FARM LIFE TO MEET THURSDAY NIGHT

The final meeting of the regular school term for the Farm Life Parents-Teachers Association will be held at the school Thursday evening at 7:30.