

Two Fatally Hurt In Train-Auto Accident

Brother and Sister Killed Instantly Near Williamston

Head of One Victim Cut Off In Grade Crossing Crash Sunday

Two persons, their bodies terribly mangled, were killed instantly when their car was struck by an east bound A. C. L. freight train at a grade crossing over in Williams Township at 1:03 o'clock last Sunday afternoon. Death struck so quickly that witnesses said they never heard a scream.

Accompanied by his sister, Marie Rodgers, 22, Jas. Willis (Bill) Rodgers, 19, was driving toward Holly Springs on the Farm Life road, one report stating they were returning home from some religious meeting to their home on the Taylor Brothers' farm near Williamston. A light rain was falling and the road was wet at the time, witnesses declaring that the driver apparently exercised little precaution as he approached the railroad which is referred to as Hardison's Crossing.

Frank Williams, nine-year-old colored boy, was within about thirty feet of the track when the car passed him. He said the car driver struck the brakes just before reaching the tracks, released them and then applied them just about the time the car was on the track.

The coupling on the diesel engine tore the left front door of the car loose, and drove the steering wheel and most of the panel board against Rodgers' chest. He also suffered a head injury, and it is believed one and possibly both legs were broken. The back rest of the front seat was jammed against the back seat. Embedded around the engine coupling and other parts of the

(Continued on Page Eight)

Three Sentenced In Peanut Theft Case Last Friday

Additional Evidence Begins To Leak Out From An Unofficial Source

Three young colored men—Oscar Burnette, William Henry Brown and Charles B. (Candy) Williams were found guilty and sentenced to the roads by Judge Walter J. Bone in the superior court last Friday afternoon in the big-time peanut larceny case dating back to last January when 71 bags of peanuts were stolen from the Roanoke-Dixie Warehouse in Williamston.

Found guilty only of larceny and receiving stolen goods, Williams and Brown were sentenced to the roads for not less than two and not more than three years. Williams, apparently a victim of circumstances, was found guilty of breaking and entering and larceny and drew not less than three and not more than five years in prison. The action, it is generally believed, was the result of a plea-bargain only partially solved. It has been established that between five and six hundred bags of peanuts were stolen last winter from the Roanoke-Dixie and Planters Warehouses, but only 71 bags have been accounted for. When the trial of the case was completed and sentences were imposed last Friday, all witnesses' names were heard floating around in the anterooms. Some names were mentioned, but even then some of the story is yet to be told, officers believe.

Just before passing sentence at 10:35 last Friday morning, Judge Bone called for a showing. The State called Officer Chas. R. Moore to the stand and he said that it was known that Brown and Burnette worked little, that Brown packed balls in a pool room and had been indicted but not convicted of gambling. The officer said he knew little about Williams, that he had never

(Continued on Page Seven)

STATION PERMIT

A permit was issued last night by Building Inspector G. P. Hall to Robert L. Coburn for the erection of a \$7,500 bus terminal on North Smithwick Street, just back of the Hotel George Reynolds. The structure, measuring 30 by 40 feet, is to be of concrete block and brick construction, and is to be located about 30 feet from the street. The bus companies are now using a station that is a disgrace to the town.

Intruder Turned Back By 14-Year-Old Girl Friday

Ulysses Harrell Died In Hospital At Tarboro Sunday Night

Ulysses Harrell, 18-year-old colored youth, was shot and fatally wounded by a 14-year-old girl, Hilda Dolberry, at the Dolberry home near Oak City about 10:00 o'clock last Friday night. Harrell died early Sunday night in a Tarboro hospital.

Struck by a 22 caliber rifle bullet, the man's brain was pierced by the pellet which lodged in the rear of the skull. X-ray pictures, according to information released by Sheriff M. W. Holloman who made the investigation, show that bone and brains were mixed inside the man's skull, and that possibly some of the man's brains leaked out the opening made by the bullet.

Harrell was carried to the hospital soon after the attack by Officer Garland Bunting of Oak City and Patrolman Jack Arthur. Harrell, accompanied by Clarence Myrick and Columbus Williams, and three Hobgood girls, Mattie Harrell, Eva Station and Rea Hill, went to the Dolberry home and tried to break through the front door. Unable to gain an entrance there, he went to a side window and when he refused to leave, the girl got the rifle and fired through the window. The bullet went through the right eye and lodged near the left back of the man's head.

Following his investigation, Sheriff Holloman said that Harrell had been going with one of the Dolberry girls, that the man had caused trouble and had been ordered to stay away. The girl using the rifle was one of ten brothers and sisters at home that night while their parents went to Oak City, about three miles away. No action has been taken against prepared, and a preliminary hearing is to be held before Justice Edmund Early in Oak City later this week, Sheriff Holloman said.

Mrs. Laura Modlin Dies In Hospital

Mrs. Laura Stubbs Modlin, a resident of Jamesville for almost a quarter century, died in a Washington hospital Sunday morning at 8:25 o'clock.

She was born in Beaufort County 66 years ago, the daughter of the late Henry and Laura Jackson Stubbs. She spent her early life in Beaufort County near Pinetown, and was married in early womanhood to L. G. Modlin of Jamesville.

Funeral services were conducted at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Samuel Henry Modlin, in Jamesville Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. Interment was in the Jackson family cemetery near Pinetown.

She was a member of the Mount Olive Free Will Baptist Church near Pinetown. Surviving are her husband; two sons, Elbert Modlin of Conecote and Henry Modlin of Rocky Mount; three daughters, Mrs. Willie Logan of Belhaven, Mrs. Hilton Squires of Tarboro, and Mrs. Sam Henry Holliday of Jamesville; 20 grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren; and a brother, Arthur Stubbs of Washington, N. C.

Oscar Anderson Died In Hospital Early Saturday

Last Rites Conducted In Biggs Funeral Home Sunday Afternoon

Oscar S. Anderson, retired business man, died in a local hospital at 2:00 o'clock last Saturday morning following a long period of declining health. Undergoing a throat operation more than two years ago, he was able to be up and attended to various duties until late last fall. Since that time he had been confined to his bed, spending the past several weeks in the hospital.

The son of the late Arthur (Lad) Anderson and Lula Hardison Anderson, he was born in Williamston 56 years ago on November 30, 1896, and spent all his life here. Following his graduation from the local high school, he attended the University of North Carolina and a business school in Poughkeepsie, N. Y. He was associated with the mercantile firm of Anderson and Crawford for a number of years and more recently handled the tax lists in this township for the county and town. During the marketing season he was with the Production-Marketing Administration on the local tobacco market and adjusted hail losses for a number of leading insurance companies.

He was married in 1917 to Miss Fannie Biggs Martin who died in 1937. His second marriage was in 1940 to Miss Gertrude Rodgers of Columbus, Ga., and Williamston. Mr. Anderson was a member of the Memorial Baptist Church, a Skewarkey Mason and a Shriner. He was active in the civic affairs of the town and community and a leader in the business field for a number of years.

Surviving besides his widow are four sons by his first marriage, Lt. Col. Oscar S. Anderson, Jr., of Arlington, Va., Captain Arthur Anderson of Tampa, Fla., Capt. Martin Anderson, U. S. Air Force, now stationed in Korea, and Edward Ransome of Birmingham, Ala., and five grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted in the Biggs Funeral Chapel on West Main Street Sunday afternoon at 4:00 o'clock by the Rev. E. Gordon Conklin, pastor of the Memorial Baptist Church. Interment was in Woodlawn Cemetery where Skewarkey Lodge Masons conducted the last rites.

Good Attendance At P.-T. A. Meet

The Williamston Parents Teachers Association held its first meeting of the new school year last evening in the High School auditorium with President Asa Crawford presiding and a goodly number of parents present.

The association heard Sherwood Roberson, member of the County Board of Education, explain the importance of getting a good vote Saturday on the State School and Mental Institutions bond issue and later joined in a social hour during which teachers and parents became acquainted with each other.

Signing 194 members the group awarded a door prize to Shep Holliday and Mrs. Smith's First Grade won the attendance banner and accompanying \$1.00 prize.

Tobacco Sales Pass Nine Million Pounds

County Farmers To Name Community Fair on Friday

Meeting in various places, Martin County farmers on Thursday evening of this week at 7:30 o'clock will name nominees for their Production-Marketing Administration community and county committees, it was announced by the P. M. A. office this week. The meetings, open to all farmers, are to nominate a chairman, vice chairman, regular member and a first and second alternate for the community committees, and a delegate and alternate to the county convention to be held later. The meetings are to nominate not less than ten and not more than fifteen for the community committee posts, it was

The names of those nominated will be voted on later in elections to be held in various parts of the county on dates to be announced. Meetings for the nominations on Thursday of this week have been scheduled as follows: School auditorium, Bear Grass; Taylor's Service Station, Cross; Roads; school auditorium, Goose nest one and two; Farm Life school, Griffins; P. C. Edmondson's store, Hamilton and Hassell; Ernest White's Store, Poplar Point; City Hall, Robersonville one and two; school auditorium, Jamesville one and two; county house, Williams; and agriculture building, Williamston.

Prisoner Of War Presented New Automobile



S/Sgt. Martel Hardy, just recently returned after a stay of nearly three years in a communist prisoner of war camp, was presented a new car by the people of this county at a special celebration held in Williamston last Thursday. The young man, all dressed up in a new uniform, embraces his mother, Mrs. Nelma Hardy, as Henry A. Johnson and Wm. Everett present him with the car and other gifts immediately after the special exercises held on Washington Street.

Jamesville Opens Annual Committeemen This Week

Plans have been completed and all is in readiness for holding Jamesville's annual community fair, it was announced today. And it will be bigger and better than ever, a spokesman for the Ruritan Club, the sponsoring organization, declared.

A big parade, led by the Williamston High School Band, will open the annual event at 1:15 o'clock on Friday of this week. The parade, forming near the A. C. L. freight station, will follow an indirect route to the school grounds where Secretary of State Thad Eure will make the principal address.

The exhibit halls will be open earlier in the day and will remain open all that day and certain hours until 10:00 o'clock Sunday night. The Saturday hours at the exhibit hall will be from 1:00

FIRST MISTRIAL

Good Attendance At P.-T. A. Meet

The first mistrial recorded in the Martin County Superior Court in years on account of a "hung" jury was reported last Friday afternoon when the twelve men filed out of their room and explained to Judge Walter J. Bone, presiding, that they were hopelessly deadlocked, that they believed an all-night sitting would not break the knot.

Seven stood for the conviction of Simon Jenkins, notorious bootlegger, who had appealed from the county court when he was fined \$1,000 road sentence.

Jurors had been withdrawn in other cases, but not because of a "hung" jury. The case remains on the docket and is likely to be called for trial at the next term of court to be held in December.

Son Shoots Father For Attacking His Mother In County

Jake Downs confined to a hospital with 200 shot in his body. Explaining that his intoxication was the cause of it all, a father pleaded in a Plymouth hospital that his son be not jailed for a shot-gun attack upon him at their home in Jamesville Township last Sunday afternoon about 3:00 o'clock.

During the meantime, the father, Jake Carroll Downs, 55-year-old white man, continues in a serious condition in the hospital with 200 bird shot in his body. His right arm broken by the main load, Downs is peppered in the face, shoulder, chest and right side with shot—200 by actual count, Sheriff M. W. Holloman said. However, he is expected to recover if no complications develop, it was learned early today. Said to have been drinking

The people of Jamesville are extending a cordial welcome to the public to visit with them and "take in" the fair this week-end.

Suffer Eye Injuries In Freak Mishaps

Tim, 7-month-old of the Rev. and Mrs. Gordon Conklin, and Thomas Jackson Rhodes, son of Dr. and Mrs. J. S. Rhodes, Jr., suffered eye injuries in freak accidents at their home here Sunday afternoon and yesterday afternoon.

The infant was playing with a newspaper and struck himself in the eye, cutting the eye ball. He was treated in a Greenville hospital and is getting along fairly well.

Tommy, six years old, was beating on a bottle with a hatchet in his backyard and cut himself rather severely in the corner of his eye when the bottle broke and a piece of glass flew up and struck him. He was removed to a Washington hospital where seven stitches were taken to close the cut. The outcome of the injury will not be known for three days.

New Price Record Set By Market On Yesterday's Sale

Up Until Today Market Had Sold 8,868,840 Pounds For \$58.71 Average

High price records, chalked up during recent weeks, have toppled one after the other, but the greatest in the history of the local tobacco market was officially reported yesterday when \$348,016 pounds were sold for \$229,924, an average of \$66.06. Nothing to compare with the sale yesterday has ever been seen on this market, and the record will rate

Seven were booked for public drunkenness, three for drunken driving, two for larceny and one each for violating the liquor laws and breaking and entering. Nine of the fifteen were white men and ages of the group ranged from 19 to 52 years.

Martel Hardy Given A Big Homecoming

CONCERT PLANS

Plans are shaping up rapidly for launching the Martin County Community Concert Association membership drive, it was announced today by Mrs. Tom Skinner and Mrs. Chas. H. Manning, co-chairmen. The drive is to be launched October 19.

Mrs. Ben D. Courtney, Mrs. J. T. Llewellyn and Mrs. J. Paul Simpson have been named division leaders, and details for advancing the concert series will be discussed at a meeting of the association board this afternoon at 5:00 o'clock.

Special Venire Is Drawn In County In Murder Case

One Hundred and Twenty-Six Left For Today Wilson Superior Court

One hundred and fifty Martin County Citizens were called yesterday afternoon to report in Wilson County Superior Court this morning at 9:30 o'clock as potential jurors in the murder case against Mrs. Doris Crocker, young white woman who stands charged with the shooting of her husband, John L. Crocker, at their home in Stantonsburg August 26, 1952. The case was called for trial last May but was called off when several jurors became involved in a drunken brawl.

The special venire was ordered in Wilson Superior Court by Judge W. H. S. Burgwyn yesterday when it was shown that the case had been too widely publicized there for the court to get a jury in that county.

Wilson court officials, accompanied by the defendant, attorneys and the dead man's father, came here soon after lunch and spent more than an hour while little Miss Shirley Daniels drew 150 names from the jury box.

Sheriff M. W. Holloman and six deputies, Harry Jones, Cecil Bullock, Roy Peel, Dennis A. Roberson, J. S. Ayers and Wiley Craft immediately started the county-wide search, and late last night they had served notice on 126 of the 150.

Of the twenty-four not making the trip this morning, several presented medical certificates showing they were physically unable to serve. Others were out of the county, a few others could not be found and in one case the name was typed in error, leaving the particular venireman to escape by the skin of his teeth.

The 124 making the trip from central points in the county, traveling in private cars. Only one, realizing that he could be "cornered" in Wilson for several days, went prepared. C. Anderson carried his suit case.

The names of those not making the trip include, Robert Hollis, Mrs. D. R. Everett, Mrs. Walter Wynne, George B. Ange, Wil-

(Continued on Page Eight)

Handle Operation Saturation on 17

No official report could be had immediately but it is believed that operation "saturation" handled by the North Carolina State Highway Patrol on U. S. Highway 17 over the week-end was most satisfactory.

Few details could be learned here, but it was understood that a goodly number of patrolmen were assigned to the route last Friday evening at 6:00 o'clock that they patrolled the road from the Virginia to the South Carolina line from that hour until midnight Sunday.

No fatal accidents were reported on the route during the period, and few if any minor accidents were listed. Speeders and other traffic law violators were cited to the courts in numbers, it was unofficially learned.

Sensing the saturation tactics, motorists by late Sunday were exercising great care in operating their vehicles on the route.

Two Thousand Or More Present At Celebration Here

Young Man and His Mother Showered With Gifts Including Auto

S/Sgt. Martel Hardy, just recently back from Korea where he spent nearly three years in a prisoner of war camp, was given a warm homecoming here last Thursday afternoon when he and his mother, Mrs. Nelma Hardy, were showered with gifts, including a new 4-door Plymouth automobile. Approximately 2,000 persons gathered here for the event which was centered on Washington Street following a parade.

Delayed a short time, the parade, led by the Williamston High School Band, moved on Smithwick to Main and thence to the speakers' stand. Sgt. Hardy and his mother occupied the first car, followed by other members of his family. Mayor H. S. Everett of Robersonville, Mayor James Hope Ayers of Oak City, Sherwood L. Roberson, member of the Martin County Board of Education, members of the Martin County Board of Commissioners, Attorney Clarence Griffin, the main speaker, and members of the local board of commissioners. Mayor Robt. L. Cowen was detained in court and could not participate in the event as planned.

Master of Ceremonies Henry A. Johnson was on the stand to receive the former prisoner of war, his mother and the dignitaries. Mr. Johnson, on behalf of the mayor, welcomed Sgt. Hardy home and the visitors, and after recognizing the special guests, introduced Mr. Griffin.

Called upon for a few words, the honored guest said he was not much of a speaker, but his

(Continued on page eight)

Court Quits With Twenty-Six Cases Left On Calendar

Liquor Law Violator Sentenced To Roads For Four Months

After clearing twenty five cases from its criminal docket, the Martin County Superior Court at 4:20 o'clock last Friday afternoon folded its tent for the week-end, leaving twenty-six cases to be docketed again for trial at the one-week December term. The tribunal was reconvened yesterday for the trial of civil cases only.

After getting off to a slow start the early part of last week, the court made splendid progress in clearing twenty cases from the docket, but it encountered another snag last Friday in the trial of Simon Jenkins, notorious bootlegger who was charged with violating the liquor laws for about the fourth or fifth time in recent years.

During the trial of the case, the 23-year-old bootlegger, moved in to take the rap for Jenkins. Battle claimed that the seven pints of illicit liquor found under Jenkins' bed pillow last July 17 belonged to him (Battle). It was pointed out that Battle's claim did not necessarily give Jenkins a clean bill of health, but the jury could not agree apparently on that issue. The case was called at 9:40 last Friday morning and the jury filed out its room at 4:20 that afternoon declaring it was hopelessly deadlocked, standing 7 to 5 for conviction. The court ordered a juror withdrawn and a mistrial entered in the records.

During the meantime and while the jury was out an hour arguing the issues in the Jenkins case, Battle was called to account and he pleaded guilty of transporting and possession of illicit liquor. Judge Bone sentenced him to the roads for four months.

Anthony Lanier, charged with

(Continued from Page Six)