

THE ENTERPRISE

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Motorists On Big Wreck Spree In County Recently

Only Two Injured In Ten Accidents Resulting In \$3,375 Property Loss

Motorists, using the Martin County highways, went on a wrecking spree during the past few days, a preliminary count showing one killed, two injured and a property loss conservatively estimated at \$3,500.

The fatality, pushing the highway death toll count to seven in the county so far this year, was traced to a freak accident. Paul Wynne, 40-year-old colored man, was fatally injured when he was thrown out of a car by a runaway horse near Gold Point early in the week. Wynne died in a hospital Wednesday from internal injuries suffered when a wheel of the car ran over his body. Funeral services for the victim were held Sunday.

Last Tuesday afternoon about 3:15 o'clock, Howard Johnikans of RFD 3, Hertford, stopped his 1952 Chevrolet truck for a school bus near Conoho Creek north of Oak City on Highway 125 and Virgil Homer Price of Cherry Point skidded into the truck with his 1951 Mercury. No one was hurt and no damage was done to the truck. Damage to the car was estimated at about \$100 by the investigating patrolman.

Last Friday evening at 8:15 o'clock, Charles Carraway of Parmele was driving toward Gold Point on Highway 903 when his car, a 1946 Chevrolet, was struck from the rear by Mack Manning of Robersonville. Manning said his attention was attracted to the side of the road and that he was on the Carraway car before he knew it. No damage was done to Carraway's car and damage to Manning's 1953 Chevrolet was estimated at \$100 by the investigating patrolman.

Driving a 1949 Ford pick-up truck between Robersonville and Gold Point on Highway 903 last Saturday evening at 7:45 o'clock, James Elbert Peele of RFD 3, Williamston, stopped for some unexplained reason and William Jesse Mayo of Rt. 1, Oak City plowed into the rear of the pick-up with a 1948 DeSoto. No one was hurt and the combined damage to both vehicles was estimated at about \$125 by the investigating officer of the Highway Patrol.

Saturday night at 9:30 o'clock, Calvin Bullock of Oak City was forced off the road in a sharp curve on the Poplar Point road by another motorist and lost control of his 1949 Mercury. The car turned over, causing about \$500 damage. No one was injured the investigating patrolman said.

Driving toward Hassell last Saturday night at 10:55 o'clock, Walter Lee Purvis of Bethel stopped his 1947 Chevrolet at the Highway No. 11 intersection sign and Raymond Purvis of Hassell plowed into the Chevrolet with his 1940 Pontiac. The Chevrolet was knocked across the highway but was not damaged. Damage to the Pontiac was estimated at \$150. No one was injured, according to the patrolman who made the investigation.

County Boy Home From Korean War

Completing a 30-day furlough in the county with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Belmer Hardison, after spending a year in Korea, Sgt. Garland Hardison leaves Friday for Keesler Field, Biloxi, Mississippi, where he'll draw a new assignment.

Before leaving the orient, Sgt. Hardison spent two weeks in Japan with his brother, S/Sgt. Martin B. Hardison who is stationed there with the Air Force. Sgt. Hardison said it was great to be back home, and expressed his appreciation to all those who wrote to him while he was in Korea. "The letters and mail from friends and acquaintances back home helped pass the time in Korea," Sgt. Hardison said.

Accident Victim Coming Home Later In Week

Critically wounded when accidentally shot while hunting near here on November 7, Carroll Roberson continues to respond to treatment in a Durham hospital, and is expected to be able to return home possibly on Saturday of this week. Members of his family visited him Sunday.

COMPLIANCE

Hardly had a couple of agricultural economists finished reviewing the 1954 farm prospectus and left this county last week before the U. S. Department of Agriculture announced a change in the compliance plan for next year.

A short time ago, the department explained that a farmer must comply with quotas on all crops or receive no support on any. Now, price support is based on individual crops, just as it was for years.

Illicit Liquor Traffic Big Problem In This County

The illicit liquor traffic is recognized as a serious problem in this community, according to reports coming from law enforcement officers. In addition to the crimes and troubles associated with the liquor traffic, officers explain that side issues are developing to weaken the enforcement of not only the liquor laws, but also most other laws.

It is conservatively estimated that there are fifty-five retail liquor outlets within the limits of the town, that many of the operators of the joints act boldly and apparently with accepted immunity. Officers have been attacked bodily in the performance of their duties, and their efforts have been blocked in many ways on numerous occasions. Even outside agencies have moved in to question the law enforcement rather than to condemn a practice that is sapping the life out of hundreds of victims in the area and causing

JUST TWICE

Deploping the assault made by another on a female as he heard the evidence related in the county court this week, a spectator, following the trial, insisted the defendant should be ashamed of himself. "Why, I never beat my wife but twice in my life," the spectator declared, bubbling over with pride as he related his "noble" record.

Christmas Seal Sale Under Way

Your 1953 Christmas Seals are in the mail says Paul Simpson, seal sale chairman. They are sent to you in time for use on your Christmas packages and letters and perhaps in time for you to prevent a case of tuberculosis with your contribution to the Martin County Tuberculosis Committee. A special appeal is directed to the people to support the sale in their usual generous manner and help carry it over the top. The drive has a goal of \$2500,000 but additional funds will greatly aid in advancing the tuberculosis program in the county. When you buy seals you buy case-finding (through chest X-rays) rehabilitation and medical research. Mr. Simpson further stated that during a five year period—1948 through 1952, forty three persons died from tuberculosis in Martin County and at present there are twenty six victims of tuberculosis hospitalized in sanatoriums and probably many unknown cases still at large endangering their own lives and those with whom they come in contact. With your help we hope to locate these cases by furnishing the Health Department ample films for X-rays.

In the interest of the colored citizens of the County, George Hyman and William Bunch are ably assisting the Chairman to help raise funds.

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First In Concert Series Scheduled For November 20

James de la Fuente and Herbert Stessin Team To Appear

Violinist James de la Fuente and pianist Herbert Stessin will appear in the first of a series of concerts scheduled by the Martin County Community Concert Association in the Williamston High School auditorium Friday evening, November 20. Curtain time is 8:15 o'clock. Tickets are to be mailed to membership receipt holders within the next few days, it is planned.

When Fuente and Stessin merged their talents to form this instrumental ensemble three seasons ago, there was an immediate response by the musical public. Their debut tour was quickly and solidly booked. This is a strong indication that the concert duo—with its great variety of tonal offerings and the wide range of compositions written for these two instruments—fills a definite need in the musical life of our country. The concert duo offers violin solos, piano solos and the rewarding combination of the two instruments in ensemble. The large number of cities that has continued to engage these two young artists—and to call them back for repeat performances—is proof of the impact of their playing on the American audiences.

Wreck Distillery In County Friday

Raiding about one-half mile from the Beaufort-Martin boundary in Griffins Township last Friday morning, Officers Ray Peele, Wiley Craft and Cecil Bullock found and wrecked a large distillery.

The plant was equipped with about a 100-gallon capacity copper kettle and fourteen 200-gallon vats. A super heater or charger was used by the operators. Part of the equipment, including a water pump and the burners, had been removed and could not be found. The officers poured out approximately 2,800 gallons of mash, and dynamited the plant.

It is believed that the plant had been in operation only a few weeks.

The first in Bear Grass was equipped with a 50-gallon copper kettle and six fermenters. The other plant in that district was equipped with a 200-gallon capacity tin still and eight fermenters. The officers poured out 700 gallons of beer at the plants.

The Cross Roads plant was equipped with a 100-gallon submarine type still. The officers poured out 400 gallons of beer and twelve gallons of raw liquor. This plant was hot, the operators having abandoned it just ahead of the raid.

There has been comparatively little activity on the illicit manufacturing front in this county during recent months, and officers believe that white liquor is being imported to supply the numerous retail outlets, in and around Williamston.

Shoots Brother Near Oak City

Climaxing an argument over a dog, Jesse B. Jones, 37, shot and slightly wounded his brother, Vernon Jones, on their father's farm near Oak City Monday morning. Using a shot gun, the older brother fired three loads at the younger one from a distance of about 75 yards, the shot doing little more than stinging the victim, officers said.

The older brother was said by officers to have accused the young one of trying to take a dog. Vernon Jones came down from his home in Philadelphia to visit his father, Owen Jones, but before he arrived, the older brother was said to have feuded with other members of the family.

Arrested later in the day, Jesse Jones was given a preliminary hearing before Justice J. B. Whitfield in Oak City and booked for trial in the county court on December 7. Bond was required in the sum of \$300.

Aged Colored Resident Died In Hamilton Monday

Bettie Gaskins, respected colored citizen, died suddenly at her home in Hamilton early Monday evening. Suffering a stroke, the 83-year-old woman was said to have almost fallen into the fire, but that her husband, Henry, caught her. She had been married 64 years and lived in and around Hamilton all her life. The funeral will be conducted Thursday.

Recreation Group To Meet Tonight

A meeting of the local Recreation Committee is scheduled for tonight at 8:00 o'clock in the Episcopal Parish House. Rev. T. L. Hastings, chairman, is anxious to have all members present and as many other interested persons as care to attend.

The committee has some problems to work out as well as to make plans for its future operation. Although a recreation survey was made here this summer, no report has as yet been received from the recreation commission. It is hoped that this will be in soon and throw some light on the problems and possibilities of recreation work here.

Funeral Held For Mrs. Coltrain In Church Near Here

Jamesville Native Died At Her Home Here On Pine Street Last Friday

Funeral services were conducted in the Community Christian Church near here Sunday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock for Mrs. Myrtle Louvenia Griffin Coltrain who died suddenly at her home on Pine Street last Friday morning at 8:30 o'clock. The Rev. W. B. Harrington, pastor of Cedar Branch Baptist Church, assisted by the Rev. Dallas Ayers, conducted the rites. Interment was in Woodlawn Cemetery.

Mrs. Coltrain had been troubled with high blood pressure for some time, but feeling as well as usual, she got up Friday morning and was attending to her household duties when she suffered a heart attack and died on a couch in the living room, before medical aid could reach her.

The daughter of the late Alfred and Carolyn Griffin, she was born in Jamesville 73 years ago on May 24, 1880, and spent her early life there. She joined the church at Cedar Branch 58 years ago.

She was married on February 3, 1901, to John Dawson Coltrain who died in 1947. Following her marriage she moved to the Whitely farm near Williamston, and later located in Everetts for a several-year period before returning to Williamston about twenty years ago.

Despite many heart-rending reverses, including the loss of a son, Dennis, at sea off the North Carolina coast during World War II and another in an automobile accident in Virginia, she never gave up, but lived from day to day, trying to search out the brighter things in life.

Surviving are three daughters, Mrs. Thurman Nicholson and Mrs. Woodard Harris, both of Williamston and Mrs. Mary Anderson of Chicago; two sons, Moses Coltrain of Norfolk and Johnny Coltrain of New York; a brother, Eddie Griffin of Andrews, South Carolina; thirteen grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren.

Father Of Local Resident Passes

Funeral services were conducted last Friday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock in the Pinner's Methodist Church, Rich Square, for John Ernest Carter who died at his home there last Thursday morning. He was the father of Mr. Hobson D. Carter of Williamston. The Rev. T. N. Cooper, pastor of the Rich Square Baptist Church, conducted the rites, and interment was in the Cedar Lawn Cemetery, Rich Square.

The son of the late Jerry and Matilda Carter, he was 82 years old and a life-long resident of Rich Square.

Surviving besides his son here, his widow, Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Carter; two daughters, Mrs. Aaron Bradshaw of Newsome, Va., and Mrs. Floyd Edwards of Rich Square; five stepchildren and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Firemen Called To Rural Section

Local firemen were called out shortly after 1:00 o'clock last Saturday morning when fire destroyed a chicken brooder house and threatened other buildings on the Will Taylor farm about three miles south of Williamston on Highway 17. The fire was confined to the small house, a structure measuring about 10 by 10 feet.

Believed to have started from a short circuit in the brooder, the fire burned about sixty small fryers and the equipment.

CLEARING

The right-of-way for the truck route around Williamston is being cleared by the contractor, making ready for grading machinery.

The route has been cleared from a point near Skewarkey to a point across the Jamesville Highway excepting a few trees near the G and H Lumber Company mill.

Advise Caution In Farming Next Year

Farm Outlook Is Not Encouraging, Neither Hopeless

Agricultural Economists In County Meeting Friday Discuss Situation

Declaring the situation is not hopeless, but, at the same time, offering very little encouragement, Agricultural Economists Atkinson and Williamston from State College discussed the farm outlook with farm and home agents, vocational teachers and others in a meeting held in the Martin County Courthouse last Friday afternoon.

Other than advising caution, the farm leaders offered few recommendations without reservation, Mr. Atkinson explaining that all-out peace could have effect on the economy. He also explained that what we do right here in Martin County has to be done in the light of what happening in other parts of the nation and the world.

Before going into a study of the various phases of the farm economy, Mr. Atkinson said that corn quotas are almost certain to be invoked next January, that while there will be no penalties for excess corn plantings, the farmer will find it necessary to comply with the allotments if he is to participate in the tobacco, peanut or other programs. It is quite likely, according to the extension service economist, that the West will divert many of its acres to the production of soybeans.

In this area, possibly farmers will find it advisable to grow more soybeans, and possibly add to their sweet potato and oat acreages.

The prospectus for tobacco and peanuts follows:

Tobacco

Total production of flue-cured is expected to be 10 per cent below 1952. Large carry-over means total supply only slightly below last year.

In 1953 cigarette manufacture went up and domestic use set a new high. But exports were down. This drop more than offset the increase in domestic use. Total demand for 1952-53 was slightly below previous year. With short 1953 crop, prices averaged moderately higher than for 1952.

Burley production was down 11 per cent and carry-over down 9 per cent. Total supply was about 2 per cent above 1952-53. Exports were about the same as for 1951-52.

Outlook

Flue-cured domestic use will be 3 to 5 per cent higher in 1954. Exports are expected to be slightly higher. Total disappearance will be around 1,300 million pounds. With normal growing conditions, prices will be moderately lower than for '53.

Domestic uses of burley should be up slightly in 1954, mainly going into cigarettes. Exports are expected to be about the same as for 1952-53. Supplies of burley are large, even with smaller 1953 crop. Strong demand for 1953 and 1954 should mean prices slightly above 1952.

Recommendations

Use the best practices—good way to lower costs per pound of tobacco produced. Explore the possibility of reducing labor requirements—new labor-saving methods may be the answer to rising costs. Many of new methods as yet unproved—don't go "overboard" for gadgets. Consider irrigation.

Diseases and insects cut many dollars from profits—rotate crops and use resistant varieties where needed. Some of new fertilizers may be another way to keep costs down.

High yields mean profits. Space

(Continued on Page Eight)

Removed To Hospital Saturday For Treatment

Confined to his bed following an attack suffered months ago, Mr. J. T. Price, former local postmaster experienced a minor relapse last Saturday and was removed from his home on West Main Street to a local hospital for treatment.

Thirteen Divorce Cases On Calendar In Superior Court

Two-Year Separation, Indiscretion and Cruelty Grounds For Actions

Thirteen divorce cases have been placed on the calendar next trial in the Martin County Superior Court, eleven next Monday and two the following week. Most of the cases are based on grounds of two years of separation, but in one the plaintiff charges cruelty and in another indiscretion is offered as grounds for absolute divorce. Only one of the actions is being contested.

The divorces calendared for trial next Monday when Judge Malcolm Paul comes to hold his first term of court in this county, include the following:

Burtis C. Nelson against Mildred Frances Nelson. The plaintiff says they were married in Pitt County on January 18, 1951, and separated about three weeks later on February 5. No children were born of the union.

In his case against Anna Rowson, the plaintiff, Henry Rowson of Washington County, says the defendant is now a resident of Mt. Vernon, N. Y., that they were married April 4, 1928, and separated March 28, 1951, and that six children were born of the union, ages 22, 19, 18, 14, 10 and 4 years. The plaintiff further says that following the separation his wife returned and carried the children to New York and never permitted them to return to North Carolina to live with him.

Suing James Ray Moore for a divorce, Aria Lyons Moore says they were married May 28, 1939, and separated October 26, 1945 that three children, ages 13, 12 and 11, were born of the union and are now living with and supported by her. The defendant is now living in New York.

Married on February 10, 1939, and separated on August 1, 1951, Delzora Hardison in her case against James Hardison, says no children were born of the union. In the case of Sarah E. Wynne against Daniel S. Wynne, the plaintiff charges cruelty, declaring that her husband had become an habitual drunkard, that he would not work and that he threatened her life. They were married April 12, 1941, and separated April 4, 1953.

William A. Davis in his case against Emma Davis, says they were married in January, 1946, and separated in January, 1948.

In the case of Lonnie Brown, Jr., against Viola Brown, the plaintiff said at the time of institution of the suit they had been married three years, that they separated in the spring of this year. He alleges that the defendant committed adultery with one Griffin and others whose names are unknown to him, that the defendant gave birth to two children while he was in the army. Contesting the action, the defendant says they were married about three years ago, that when the complainant returned from the army in April, 1953, they lived as man and wife until June, 1953, when he left her. The defendant admits she committed an indiscretion with one Griffin on or about January 1, 1953, but maintains that she told plaintiff of the indiscretion upon his return last April, and points out in her answer that he forgave her, that he lived with her and that by his own words and actions toward her and their children, condoned the indiscretion. She also pointed out that the plaintiff furnished food, clothing and other necessities, and asks that no divorce be granted.

The case of Lyna James Taylor against Grover C. Taylor is (Continued on Page Five)

Man Found Dead In Saw Dust Pile

John Robert Hassell, about 65 years of age, was found dead in a saw dust pile at the Taylor Mill and Gin Company in Robersonville Monday morning between 10 and 11 o'clock, the apparent victim of foul play.

A fireman for the mill, Hassell went to the boiler room about 5:30 o'clock and started a fire under the boiler. He had arranged a pile of fuel near the furnace before he is believed to have been attacked by a robber. A small hole about the size of a large nail was found in his head, and his pocket-book was missing. Hassell ordinarily carried about \$100 in cash on his person. A gold watch was found in his pocket.

Investigating the death, Coroner W. W. Biggs advanced the opinion that after Hassell was attacked the robber moved him to the saw dust pile in another room and covered him up. The coroner is continuing his investigation, but late findings have not been made public.

When other employees reached the mill they found the fire in the furnace and thought Hassell had gone away. They took over his duties, and it was not until three hours later that his body was accidentally found in the saw dust.

A report released later by Coroner Biggs stated that Hassell, a faithful employee of the Robersonville firm, for half a century, was shot and killed by a bullet fired from a .22-caliber weapon. An X-ray placed the pellet in the brain along with bone fragments, it was stated. It is now fairly certain that the man was murdered and robbed.

It was unofficially learned that one or two suspects had been questioned, but no charges have been brought in the case. Officers are now searching for the weapon that was used, according to information released late last night by Chief Wm. Smith and Sheriff M. W. Holloman.

Club Plans "Help A Home" Project

The Williamston Woman's Club, cooperating with the Martin County Welfare Department, will sponsor a "Help A Home" project this year, according to an announcement yesterday by Mrs. Meyer Levin, the club president.

"This is a newly adopted project of the North Carolina Federation of Women's Clubs," said Mrs. Levin. "The purpose of the 'Help A Home' project is to provide household items for use in homes where families are in need. These items will be from among the 'extras' not needed in the homes of the club members and others. Such items as cooking utensils, chairs, lamps, beds, etc., will fill a need which it is now impossible to meet because of limited welfare funds.

Public assistance grants for families in need are not sufficient to secure the items generally associated with home improvement and many needs for the rehabilitation of individuals and families can not be met by the welfare department. It is a recognition of these needs, according to Mrs. Levin, which led the Women's Clubs to adopt the "Help A Home" project.

"A community chairman to lead the drive will be appointed soon," Mrs. Levin said.

ROUND-UP

All was reasonable quite on the crime front in this area during the past week-end, according to reports coming from the police departments and sheriff's office. Only six persons were arrested and jailed during the period. Two were booked for public drunkenness, and one each for larceny, resisting arrest, assault and drunken driving.

Two of the six were young white men and the ages of the group ranged from 19 to 31 years.

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