

## Launch Crop Drive In County This Week

### Name Chairmen to Carry Appeal To People Of County

Drive Will Be Climaxed By  
Final Round-Up On  
December 1

The annual "CROP" (Christian Rural Overseas Program) is being launched in the county this week. Backed by the pathetic needs of starving and ill-clad millions in other lands, the appeal is calling for ten thousand pounds of peanut butter or its equivalent in cash or other farm products.

Plans for the drive were completed Monday night in the county courthouse when County Chairman W. Mayo Hardison called in representatives from all the townships and District Chairman Fred Ferris of Chocowinity talked to the group, each humbly urging the people of this county to support the drive.

Chairmen and co-chairmen were named for the townships, as follows:

- Jamesville, Carl Griffin and V. B. Hair,
- Williams, Chas. L. Daniel, Griffins, Robert Griffin and Hugh B. Griffin,
- Bear Grass, Noah Rogerson and Marvin Cowan,
- Williamston, Noah Daniel Griffin and the Rev. Thomas L. Hastings,
- Cross Roads, Garland Forbes, Robersonville, Sam T. Everett and Reuben S. Everett,
- Poplar Point, Mayo Hardison, Hamilton, George Oglesby and J. H. Lillard,
- Goose Nest, Sidney Mallory and John Hassell.

The township chairmen are calling on others to make a house-to-house canvas, asking for cash contributions, or corn or soy beans. The shellers have agreed to prepare the corn for market without charge. Mr. Hardison explained.

In addition to the \$3,000 CROP or commodity drive, Williamston people are being asked to contribute used but serviceable clothing. Arrangements have been made to receive the clothing at the union Thanksgiving service in the Presbyterian church Thursday morning at 10:30 o'clock. A list of acceptable items appears in this paper today.

It was only a small group that met in the courthouse to make final plans for launching the drive this week, but it was a determined group. Led in prayer by Mr. S. T. Everett, the representatives of the humane movement entered upon their tasks with a pledge to support it both with their time and means.

It was pointed out that half of the world's population — one of every two persons — faces hunger as their normal lot in life; that, in Korea, three to five million hungry and starving refugees — some eating grass roots and tree bark with not enough of that even to go around — look to others for a chance to live until their economy is patched up following the devastation of war and famine.

## Fire Breaks Out In Boiler Room

Fire, starting from an overheated smoke stack, fired the boiler room timbers at the Home Laundry on West Warren Street here last Friday evening at 6:30 o'clock. Discovering the fire, Manager Herschel Miller just about knocked it out before much damage resulted to the interior of the room.

The fifty-foot stack got so hot that all the paint burned away and sparks, falling from the top, resembled a Fourth of July fireworks display.

Mr. Miller explained that shavings accumulated near the flue doors and caught fire after the plant had closed for the day. The fire department answered the call and stood by the greater part of an hour.

### ROUND-UP

There was much activity on the crime front in this county during the past week-end, according to reports released by the various enforcement agencies. Thirteen persons were arrested and jailed and others missed a trip to jail by arranging bond.

Of the thirteen, jailed, six were charged with public drunkenness, three with drunken driving, and one each with larceny, assault and motor vehicle law violation.

Three of the 13 were white, and the ages of the group ranged from 19 to 45 years.

## First In Concert Series Heard In High School Here

Artists Completed 9,000-  
Mile Tour Last Friday  
Evening

By Mrs. Ed Grady

A Friday night program before a large audience in the high school auditorium opened the local community concert series for 1953-54. Featured were James De La Fuente, violinist, and Harold Stessin, pianist, in a program which departed from the traditional format by presenting the piano in a role of importance equal with that of the violin. In a highly varied selection of numbers which presented opportunities for outstanding solo performances the artists evinced their mastery of their respective instruments. In the "Sonata in G Minor by Tartini, more popularly known as 'The Devil's Trill,'" Mr. De La Fuente proved his virtuosity with a brilliant display of technique. Due to the excessive technical difficulty of this composition the performer is allowed little opportunity for individual interpretation. However, in the slow movements Mr. De La Fuente played with such warm and vibrant tones that he brought new life to those parts lacking the musical embellishments of the fourth movement of the sonata, "Allegro Assai."

Outstanding among Mr. Stessin's selections for the program was "Berceuse" by Chopin. This composition, while not affording the pianist a chance to create musical fireworks, demands complete control of the keyboard. In Friday night's performance chaplain's work was played with the utmost in precision, but Mr. Stessin brought also, in addition to his

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## Funeral for Father Of Local Resident

Funeral services were conducted yesterday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock in the Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church near Godwin for Herbert C. Ivey, 52, father of Mrs. Charles Hawley of Williamston. The Rev. R. M. Brown and the Rev. Earl Edwards conducted the rites. Interment was in the church cemetery.

Mr. Ivey, prominent community leader and well known farmer and merchant, was in his store last Saturday morning when he was fatally attacked by a hold-up man from Indiana. He died before reaching a hospital.

Besides his daughter in Williamston he is survived by his widow, the former Miss Vilona Matthews; his mother, Mrs. Flora W. Ivey of RFD 3, Dunn; a son, M. L. Ivey, also of RFD 3, Dunn; two daughters, Mrs. Gene Shell of Forest City and Miss Edna Ivey of Greensboro; four brothers and three sisters.

## Suffers Injury In Hay Baler Accident

Bennie Wallace, young colored man, suffered a painful arm injury in a hay baler accident on the Barnhill farm near Everetts last Saturday afternoon. He was able to return to his home following treatment in a local hospital.

## Methodist Church Observes Its 125 Anniversary Here

Bishop Paul N. Garber Was  
In the Pulpit; Large  
Crowd Present

With several hundred in attendance, the local Methodist church observed its 125th anniversary in its remodeled and enlarged sanctuary, corner of Watts and Church Streets here Sunday.

Bishop Paul N. Garber retraced by car that morning the route from Washington to Williamston which Bishop Francis Asbury traveled on horseback one hundred and fifty years ago. Bishop Asbury recorded in his Journal that in 1803 that he preached in the court house to a congregation so large that many had to stand in the lobby. Bishop Asbury expressed a desire that the congregation led by the Reverend John Watts have a house of their own to worship in.

Last Sunday morning Bishop Garber preached to an overflow congregation in the sanctuary which Asbury had envisioned a century and a half ago. The local congregation was celebrating the one hundred twenty-fifth anniversary of worship and church activity on the lot on which First Methodist church is located.

Choosing for his text, "Remove Not the Ancient Landmarks that Our Forefathers Have Set for Us," Bishop Garber reviewed the landmarks of Methodism. The first Methodist church was opened in London, England, by John Wesley in an old cannon factory, called the foundry.

A second landmark is a simple and sane theology, the minister asking, "Is thy heart right?"

As a third landmark, Bishop Garber explained that to be good Methodists, "We must do no harm to anyone; must go to church and support the church; do all the good we can and witness for Christ daily; and attend the ordinances of the church."

Democracy must prevail in the church, the Bishop said, listing that as a fourth landmark. He pointed out that there should be paid pews for certain members of other special considerations. The work of the laymen was mentioned as a fifth landmark, the visiting preacher pointing out that laymen had saved the Methodist Church by filling the pulpits when preachers were not available.

Another landmark of the first church was the establishment of an "employment office" in one room of "The Foundry." It was there that the unemployed were found jobs, social conditions improved and direct aid was extended to the poor.

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## County Clubs In Meeting Spotlight

Several Martin County Ruritan clubs received recognition at a banquet session of Roanoke District Convention of Ruritan National held in Creswell a few days ago.

Introduced by A. Corey, Roanoke District Governor who presided over the meeting, the main speaker was Representative Carroll R. Holmes of Hertford. The Jamesville Ruritan Club held the attendance honors with a record of 86.3 percent. Oak City was close behind with an attendance figure of 94.9 percent, and Farm Life was right up there with an attendance record of 93.5 percent. The Community Service Award again went to the Farm Life Club.

## Youth Wins Twice In Turkey Shoot

A winner in both of two previous annual turkey shoots, sponsored by the local Kiwanis Club, David Modlin, Jr., 10 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. D. G. Modlin, of Williamston, was the winner of two birds at last night's shoot held near the river bridge. Other winners during the evening were David Holliday, Jack Sullivan, Johnnie Raper, Russell Rogers, Trailer Modlin, Charlie Hoell, J. C. Manning, and C. T. Roberson.

Another shoot will get under way tonight at 7:00 o'clock. Proceeds from the shoot will be used to finance underprivileged child work projects of the club.

## Low National Guard Armory Bids Opened

### SERVICES

Special services will feature the observance of Thanksgiving in various churches throughout the county Thursday. In Williamston, the observance will be centered in a union service to be held at 10:30 o'clock that morning in the Presbyterian church. Other religious programs will be held Wednesday evening and Thursday in the several communities, it was learned.

The opening of the quail season is expected to attract numerous hunters to the fields and woods that day, reports declaring that there are many birds this season.

## Peele President Of Kiwanis Club

Officers for the year 1954 were elected at the Thursday night meeting of the local Kiwanis Club held at the "Switch." Wendell Peele was named president-elect to succeed R. Vernon Bunting who will become an ex-officio member of the club's Board of Directors. The following were re-elected to their 1953 offices: John Hatton Gurganus, vice president; J. B. Bell, treasurer; and T. B. Brandon, Jr., secretary.

Elected as directors for the club were E. S. Peel, Jr., Dr. J. S. Rhodes, Jr., W. J. Bridgen, George Nicely, Ben Hopkins, C. B. Clark Jr., and Hugh Wyatt. Retiring directors are W. R. Bender, David Davis, W. W. Biggs, G. C. Mahler and James Manning.

President R. Vernon Bunting presided over the meeting which opened with the singing of one verse of "America" led by L. Bruce Wynne and the invocation by J. Sam Getsinger.

Wilbur Stewart was again recognized as the Kiwanian of the month as one of the most outstanding seniors of the 1954 graduating class. Tom Brandon, Sr., won the attendance prize for the night.

## Large Attendance At P.-T. A. Meet

Attendance was at or above record figures last evening for the November meeting of the Williamston Parents-Teachers Association and a program presented by students of the public school music department under the direction of Miss Mary Wallace Foy was well received. The Junior Glee Club, various individuals and members of Mrs. Christine B. Mangum's Second Grade had parts in the program.

During a business meeting of the organization it was decided not to have a December meeting and thus the next meeting will be held on Monday evening, January 25.

The door prize was won by Mrs. Julian Harrell. Mrs. Mangum's 2nd grade won the attendance prize and Mrs. E. C. Lilley occupied the lucky seat in the center section to win a \$1.00 prize. President Asa Crawford stated this morning that not only was attendance very good last night but that he was pleased with the support given the organization all year.

## Two Subscribe To Deputies' Oaths

Two young Martin County men subscribe to oaths before Clerk of Court L. B. Wynne last Saturday morning and are now serving with the sheriff's department as deputies. It was announced by Sheriff M. W. Holloman. William J. Etheridge of Gold Point and Alton McLahorn of Hassell are the two latest deputies to be added to the sheriff's department personnel, and now gives each district in the county one or more local law enforcement officers.

The deputies are not on salary, and while they will not devote full time to their jobs, they stand ready to hear complaints and answer calls in emergency, it was explained.

## Await Approval Of Headquarters In Washington

Exclusive of Site, Armory  
Here To Cost Right  
At \$96,698.00

Low bids, adding up to \$96,698.50, were opened in the courthouse here last Thursday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock for the construction of a National Guard Armory. Ranging slightly below the average cost figures on similar construction in other towns in North Carolina, the low bids are subject to approval by National Guard Headquarters in Washington, D. C. Adjutant General John Hall Manning and Captain Shelton of the North Carolina National Guard were here from Raleigh and received the bids submitted by twenty-two contracting firms. Bids were opened individually and jointly on two armories, one here and the other in Ahoskie. In all phases of the contract, joint bids were low with one exception. The total cost of the Ahoskie unit was placed at \$96,968.50.

W. G. Dunn of Greenville was low in the list of ten general contractors with a joint bid of \$157,130. He was about \$11,000 below the next lowest bid submitted in the sum of \$166,528 by I. B. Smith Construction Company of Whiteville. General contract bids submitted by Dunn were submitted individually in the sum of \$79,600, the joint bid reducing the cost over \$2,000. Offering to contract for only the Williamston unit, J. T. Hardison and Son of Washington was high with a \$97,000 bid.

Lovette Electric Company of Durham was low bidder on the electrical work on the armory here, the firm bidding \$5,545. The low on the Ahoskie electrical work was submitted in the sum of \$5,815 by White and Woodley of Ahoskie.

The plumbing contract went to C. L. Russ Plumbing and Heating Company of Greenville for \$7,500, an amount \$50 under the next low bid submitted by Ted Poovey of Granite Falls. Bids on the plumbing ran as high as \$8,690.00.

A joint bid of \$17,677 on the heating was submitted by the Sneed Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Company of Wilmington. The high bid on the heating was submitted by W. M. Wiggins of Wilson in the amount of \$20,860.

It is believed that the Washington office will approve the bids since they are about average. Approval is anticipated in about ten days or two weeks.

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## Critically Hurt In An Accident

Roy Hubert Bland, 34-year-old employe of the Williamston Hardware Company, was critically injured in an unusual accident over in Williams Township last Saturday afternoon. Removed to a local hospital in a Biggs ambulance for treatment, Mr. Bland was reported early today to be improving.

Working on a deep well, the young man was stooping over the hole in the ground when a block at the top of the rigging broke and struck him a glancing blow on the head and shoulder. His skull was fractured and the shoulder was badly bruised, it was reported.

## Local Store Rendering Service For Little Tots

The Western Auto Associate Store is rendering a new service in Williamston this year for the benefit of all the little tots expecting Santa Claus. They have several different type letters already written and signed by Santa Claus that can be purchased at small cost to the parents. The parents address the letters to their own child and drop them into the huge mail box in the Western Auto Store and each week Mr. John Miller will send the letters to Santa Claus, Indiana, where they will be postmarked. Charges for the postmarks will be taken care of by the firm.

## Clear Five Cases From The Docket In Superior Court

Death Keeps Witness Away  
And Case Continued  
First Day

Presiding over his first term of court in this county, Judge Malcolm Paul of Washington Monday cleared five cases from the calendar and ordered a recess about noon until this morning. The jurist, recently appointed to the bench, was here on time and the court was off to a good start, but the proceedings were thrown off schedule when a chief witness advised that a death in his family would keep him away from court this week. The case, Mrs. Annie Roberson against D. C. Williams, was continued for the term. The plaintiff, alleging fraud, is asking \$15,000 damages.

A non-suit was taken in the divorce case brought by Burtis C. Nelson against Mildred Frances Nelson, the plaintiff having failed to appear to prosecute the case.

Four divorces, all based on grounds of two years of separation, were granted in the following cases:

Henry Rowson from Anna Rowson, Aria Lyons Moore from James Ray Moore, Sarah E. Wynne from Daniel S. Wynne, and W. H. Gilliam from Minnie L. Gilliam.

The divorce cases of Cleveland Godard against Eliza Godard, Ruth Baker against Frank Baker, William A. Davis against Emma Davis, and Lonnie Brown, Jr., against Viola Brown were continued.

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## Native Of County Dies In Tarboro

Jesse L. Jenkins, a native of this county, died at his home in Tarboro last Thursday morning at 11:45 o'clock. He was born in the Parmele community of this county 86 years ago last May, and moved to Edgecombe County about forty years ago.

Funeral services were conducted in the Pentecostal Holiness Church, Tarboro, Friday afternoon at 4:00 o'clock by the Rev. Harvey Morris. Interment was in Tarboro's Greenwood Cemetery.

He is survived by his wife and five daughters, Mrs. G. E. Brown, Mrs. Hugh Carpenter, Mrs. Howard Walters, all of Tarboro, Mrs. J. P. Daughtridge of Rocky Mount and Mrs. Ivey Moore of Jacksonville; one son, Earl E. Jenkins of Tarboro; 16 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

## Superintendent To Speak Tonight

A DeLeon Gray, superintendent of Oxford Orphanage, will address Skewarkey Masons at a regular meeting in the lodge hall here this evening at 7:30 o'clock. A special appeal is being directed to all members, urging them to attend the meeting and hear Mr. Gray.

The superintendent will make an interesting talk on the orphanage, reviewing its work and other pertinent facts relating to its operation.

## Cancer Clinics Held 1st-3rd Wednesdays

Cancer detection clinics, sponsored by the various cancer societies, are being held each first and third Wednesday in Rocky Mount. Conducted by the physicians of Edgecombe and Nash counties, the clinics are held in the Rocky Mount municipal building at 9:00 o'clock on the first and third Wednesday in each month.

Quite a few people from this county have been attending the clinics, and others forty years or older are invited to attend free of cost.

## Continues Quite Ill In Local Hospital

Suffering a severe heart attack at his home in Williams Township near here last Saturday morning, Mr. N. S. Cherry, prominent county farmer-citizen, was removed to a local hospital for treatment in an ambulance. His condition continues critical, it was learned this morning.

## Seriously Injured In Accident Near Here

### HOLIDAY

Thursday — Thanksgiving Day—will be observed as a general holiday in this area. All business firms will suspend operations for the day along with offices and other establishments. There'll be no mail deliveries either in the town or rural areas. It is possible that some farm work will be handled, weather permitting, but even in the rural areas the population is expected to take time out and attend special religious services in the various churches.

## Christian Rural Overseas Program Working Wonders

CROP Week Being Observed  
By Martin County  
People This Week

The Christian Rural Overseas Program (CROP) is not only keeping the bodies and souls of men alive, but building a bridge of friendship between America and Europe. The Rev. Cecil W. Robbins of Greensboro, treasurer of the State CROP Committee, declares:

The Rev. Mr. Robbins, editor and manager of the North Carolina Christian Advocate, sailed on the Queen Mary June 24, and returned September 4. He made the trip as counselor for 12 young people sent out by the North Carolina Methodist Conference to work with churches of their denomination in Austria and Germany.

"We've tried military force and power politics, and they haven't worked," said the editor. "The common people must get to know the common people over there. When you know people, you can't hate them."

"The world situation is out of the hand of its leaders. They're muddying the waters. In my opinion, if a groundswell comes from the common people demanding that their leaders work out their problems, we'll get peace. Deep down, the common people are the same everywhere you go. They want peace, jobs, homes, families and friends."

CROP, Church World Service, and individual denominational relief programs are cementing a bond between the common people of this nation and the needy countries of the world, the Rev. Robbins said.

CROP is a program to ship food to the needy of Europe and Asia. North Carolina sent \$30,000 worth of food-stuff to the continent and to Korea in 1952. Rev. Robbins said, and has collected approximately \$10,000 worth this year thus far. In addition 72,000 pounds of used clothing has been sent through Church World Service to Korea, Palestine and Europe in July and August.

"The program did a wonderful job immediately following the war," he continued, "When the people were in such need. On our trip to Europe we saw hundreds of people who frankly said they wouldn't be alive today if it had not been for CROP, Church World Service, and individual denominational relief programs."

The situation, The Rev. Mr. Robbins said.

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## Bird Sanctuary Signs Installed

Following official action, declaring Williamston a bird sanctuary, the North Carolina State Highway Commission this week posted signs at the several town entrances.

Sponsored by the local Woman's Club the ordinance declaring the town a bird sanctuary makes shooting of birds inside the limits a misdemeanor, punishable by fine or imprisonment.

The club, now that the killing of birds inside town has been ruled out by law, is anxious for residents to make their premises inviting to birds by installing bird baths and providing feeding places.

## One Other Person Injured in Conny In Ten Accidents

Property Damage About  
The Highest For Any  
Week So Far This Year

One person, a four-year-old child, was seriously injured, and another person, a young man, suffered minor injuries in ten motor vehicle accidents reported on the highways and streets in this county over the week-end.

Jack L. Stanley, son of Mrs. Lucille Jones Stanley, continues in a hospital here without regaining consciousness following an accident on the Prison Camp road just off Highway 64 at 2:20 o'clock Monday afternoon. Visiting in the Lee home, the little four-year-old started to follow his older sister across the highway to the Jones home and ran into a pick-up truck being driven by Leslie Wilson Bullock, of RFD 3, Williamston. The truck had been brought almost to a stop and it is believed that the little fellow suffered the several-inch skull fracture when he was knocked to the pavement.

Other motorists, using the streets and highways in this county, went on another wrecking spree during the past week-end, police and the patrol office listing nine accidents. Only one person was listed as injured, and his injuries were not believed serious. The spree was a costly one, preliminary estimates placing the property loss at \$3,575, a figure believed to be about the highest for any week so far this year.

There were three accidents early in the week when two persons were injured, but the big wrecking spree got under way only last Friday and by late Sunday the count had reached nine.

The first in the series was reported at 11:45 o'clock last Friday morning when Oliver Gray Whitaker of RFD 2, Williamston, lost control of a 1946 Chevrolet on the Bear Grass-Everetts road near the Elmer Harris home. The car plunged into a deep ditch, coming to a stop some little distance away cutting all kinds of capers. The young man suffered chest injuries and bruises and possibly a broken rib. Damage to his car was estimated at \$400.

Lester Roberson, Georgia colored man who had been working for a lumber mill at Stokes, decided to go on a rampage last Friday night. He bought half gallon of white liquor and at 11:30 o'clock he stole a 1948 Ford log truck from H. C. Cole in Stokes.

After traveling the roads in the Stokes area and about one quart later, he drove into Martin County and buried the front of the truck in a ditch bank on the old Robersonville-Everetts road, not far out of Robersonville. The trailer was torn loose from the tractor and crashed into the cab, causing about \$500 damage. Roberson, 24, suffered only a minor cut on his tongue. Booked for drunken driving, he was placed in jail. About light Saturday morning Roberson was quoted as saying that he got up to light the kitchen stove and saw nothing but bars around him. Unable to arrange \$800 bond, he continues in jail.

Saturday evening Bill Atkinson, colored of Oak City planned a joy ride. Stealing Pete Parker's (Continued on Page Six)

## Tobacco Taxes In This Country

A statement release by the Commissioner of Internal Revenue shows that the Federal Government's collections from tobacco taxes reached a new peak of \$1,654,911,000 in the fiscal year ended June 30, 1953—\$89,749,000 (5.7 percent) above the previous peak established in the fiscal year ended June 30, 1952.

The increase was primarily attributed to small cigarettes, the revenue from which was \$112,715,000 (7.6 percent) greater than in the previous fiscal year. All other categories, except large cigars, which were up \$1,516,000 (3.4 percent), showed a decline.