

Record Amount Is Raised For Dimes March In County

Nearly \$6,000 Contributed
To Paralysis Fund In
Recent Drive

Martin County this year raised a record amount for the infantile paralysis fund, according to a report released jointly by Co-Chairmen W. Marvin Baker and L. B. Wynne and R. McK Edwards, chairman of the Negro division.

The recent drive netted \$5,919.25, a figure \$494.66 larger than the amount raised in the 1953 campaign, Chairman Baker said.

The success of the drive is attributable to a large extent to the schools, both white and colored in the county, it was pointed out.

A review of the fund campaign by chairman and districts and schools follows:

R. McK Edwards, Martin County Negro Schools, \$864.00.

W. Marvin Baker and L. Bruce Wynne, Martin County Direct Mail and Business district in Williamston, \$1,337.92.

Williamston High School, B. G. Stewart, \$44.89; Williamston Elementary School, Ruth Manning, \$74.64; Robersonville High School, C. B. Martin, \$7.64; Robersonville Elementary School, M. M. Everett, \$182.50; Everett School, E. F. Murrow, \$7.55; Oak City High School, Geo. P. Cullipher, \$13.87; Hamilton School, Geo. S. Haislip, \$6.32; Jamesville High School, William C. Gay, \$12.72; Farm Life School, A. H. Braswell, \$1.31; Bear Grass School, H. V. Parker Jr., \$215.96.

Coin Collectors, Geo. W. Corey Williamston, N. C., \$78.75.

I. M. Little, C. Robersonville, \$30.51; N. L. Hyman, C. Oak City, \$7.70; Norman Everett, C. Hamilton, \$7.46; P. C. Blount, C. Jamesville, \$4.09; Mrs. Bruce Peel, Ch. Griffins Township, \$22.00.

(Continued on Page Eight)

Baptists Plan Special Rallies

The Rev. E. Gordon Conklin, of Williamston, Association Sunday School Superintendent of the Roanoke Baptist Association, has announced plans for three "Half-Million Rallies" to be held on the following dates: Monday night, March 15th, at the First Baptist Church of Washington; Tuesday night, March 16th, at the First Baptist Church of Roanoke Rapids; and Thursday night, March 18th, at the First Baptist Church of Wilson. Each of the rallies will begin at 7:30 p. m., it was announced by Miss Hilda Mayo, Director of Christian Education for the association.

The Rev. Ellis E. O'Neal, pastor of the Hillsboro Baptist Church, Yancey Mills, Virginia, will bring the principal address in each of the meetings. His topic will be "Why Go On?" Rev. O'Neal is a graduate of the Andover Newton Seminary, Boston, and while taking his seminary training there served on a Boston hospital staff in the capacity of chaplain. Throughout his ministry he has been noted for his work among young people.

Others appearing on the program of the rallies will be Miss Emily Wagner, Williamston; Rev. James Coggin, Tarboro; Miss Imogene Douglas, Rocky Mount; Mr. C. B. Carowan, Jr., Washington; and Mrs. Ed L. Grady, Williamston. Each of the hostess churches will provide special music.

April is being designated by Southern Baptists as "Half Million Month" in their special campaign for "A Million More in '54". In the Association Half-Million Rallies emphasis will be given to checking up on progress already made and planning for enlistment of others. Each Sunday School within the Roanoke Baptist Association is urged to have a good representation at one of the rallies.

Firemen Called Out Yesterday Afternoon

Williamston firemen were called out at 2:55 o'clock yesterday afternoon when a woods fire threatened the home of Dan Jones about three miles from here and just off Highway 17 at Conway's. Pigs in a pen were released just ahead of the fire. No great damage resulted, firemen said.

Dismiss Exceptions In Drainage Cases

BUSY DAY

Monday promises to be a busy day in and around the Martin County courthouse. Superior Court opens a two-week term. The Martin County Commissioners are meeting as a board of equalization and review. The grand jury, adding on nine new members, will be in quarterly session. The income tax boys will have a corner for the last-minute round-up. The driver's license examiner will be in his office, and routine schedules will be in force in the various offices and departments.

Club Supporting Church Activity

The Support of Churches activities of the Kiwanis Club of Williamston, in conjunction with similar work done by other Kiwanis clubs across the continent, have been recognized by a Distinguished Service Scroll and a \$50.00 cash award by the Freedoms Foundation Wendell Peele club president, announced today.

This award was won by Kiwanis. This award was won by Kiwanis hundreds of entries to the wards of the Freedoms Foundation of Valley Forge, Pa. The Freedoms Foundation Award given to Kiwanis the distinction of being recognized by this organization for the fourth year for its meritorious community services. The Foundation is a non-political, and non-sectarian organization that is actively working to promote more personal participation in citizenship functions and the furthering of the American way of life.

Kiwanians firmly believe that in the church lies the strength of the country, the community and the individual, and their Support of Churches program is dedicated to encouraging in every way possible the more active participation of all the members of the communities in the affairs of the churches of their own choosing. Kiwanians are striving to raise the moral standards in the country by stressing such themes as: "Regular attendance at Church should be a lifetime habit," "The best investment of time and effort you can make is in the young people of your community," and "Don't wait until Easter—Start Going to Church Now!" Some 225,000 Kiwanians are actively working to support these themes.

At their last meeting the Williamston Kiwanis Club planned to give its fullest support to this "Go To Church" movement. The club plans to place local church meeting schedules in tourist courts in and around town. They not only are urging others to attend church but the club is planning to attend some church in a group once a month. This program was presented to the club by Reg Simpson, Chairman of the Committee for the support of churches in our spiritual aims. Other members of this committee are J. Sam Gelsinger, George Nicely, Dr. W. C. Mercer, R. J. Peele, Jr., Tom Brandon, Jr., and J. D. Woolard.

Masons To Hold Banquet Tuesday

Climaxing a spirited attendance contest beginning last November and ending last month, Skewarkey Masons will hold a big banquet in the local high school auditorium next Tuesday evening at 7:00 o'clock. Lester H. Gillikin, Grand Steward of Grand Lodge of Masons of North Carolina, of Goldsboro, will address the meeting.

The Masons are having their wives and the widows of Masons as special guests, it was announced.

The team captained by Rupert Cowen and J. Paul Simpson won the attendance contests which averaged 115 members during the six meetings. Approximately \$1,000 was raised for the Masonic Orphanage at Oxford and for the Masonic and Eastern Star Home at Greensboro during the contest, it was learned.

All-Day Hearing Held By Clerk Of Court Yesterday

Fairly Certain Case Will
Be Carried To The
Superior Court

Martin County Drainage District No. 3, following an all-day hearing held in the county courthouse here yesterday by Clerk L. B. Wynne, is now believed headed for the superior court. Judge Wynne overruled all exceptions after making a few minor corrections in the petitioners' findings.

The argument was advanced by twenty-one complainants, the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company and the North Carolina Pulp Company taking the leading role in the opposition. The two companies took up just about all the time allotted, starting their argument at 9:30 yesterday morning and holding the floor until 4:45 o'clock in the afternoon with only an hour off for lunch. Several of the differences in the individual complaints were ironed out after that time, but it could not be learned how many would finally appeal to the superior court. One report indicated that errors had been made in acreage measurements and that classifications were questioned by the individuals.

The two companies, picking out technicalities, questioned the project from beginning to end, but Judge Wynne held a consistent course and overruled the opposition in about twenty instances. The opposition questioned the boundaries of the drainage district, one of the largest ever proposed in this immediate section. The opposition questioned the right of the Town of Robersonville as represented by the board as a unit to participate in the project to the tune of several thousand dollars. The validity of legal papers was questioned, but only about 200 acres were ruled out on account of improper service or similar technicalities.

The pulp company questioned the location of their lands, maintaining that much of their acreage was not in the proposed district as best as could be determined by an indefinite boundary description. Late in the afternoon, the railroad questioned Engineer Tom Rivers and Mr. G. A. Oglesby, a member of the board of viewers, about the correctness of the \$2,500 assessment against its approximately 200 acres of land on its seventeen miles of right-of-way. Mr. J. H. Lillard, another member of the board of viewers for the district, was briefly questioned.

The Coast Line also discussed the cost of enlarging, rebuilding or repairing its trestles over five outlets for drainage laterals. It was estimated by the company that the cost would run as high as \$13,000, and that no benefit would accrue to the company. It was ruled that the company should bear the cost, and the \$2,500 assessment was ruled as fair. The company's attorney then questioned the validity of the statutes, leaving little doubt but what the case will be fought through the courts.

The clerk is to submit a written report of his findings. During the meantime, the project will be held in abeyance with the possibility that nothing more will or can be done until action is taken by the courts.

Return Stolen Car To Owner

A 1947 Buick convertible, stolen in Norfolk last Monday afternoon and recovered here later that day, was returned to its owner, Mrs. Lucy M. Colonna, 1338 Graydon Avenue, Norfolk, yesterday morning. The owner's son, Jack C. Colonna, drove the car away.

Robert Hawe, 14-year-old boy from Waukegan, Illinois, who was arrested and charged with the theft, is now in the custody of the FBI.

County Boy Wins District Debate Here This Week

Charles Johnson To Compete
For State Winner
In Raleigh March 30

Competing in a field of five contestants from Martin, Perquimans, Bertie, Greene and Beaufort counties Charles Johnson, 17-year-old youth of RFD 1, Robersonville, won the district finals in the Farmers Cooperative Exchange oratorical contest held in the Williamston High School Tuesday afternoon. The topic of the debate was, "The Government's Place in Agriculture." The Rev. R. E. Walston and Messrs. B. G. Stewart and Chas. Gaylord judged the contest.

Young Johnson, awarded a \$25 prize for taking top position in the district contest, will go to Raleigh on March 30 to compete for a college scholarship and an additional cash prize. Bobby Smith of Belvidere and Wilbur Russell of Windsor won second and third places in the contest and received \$15 and \$10 prizes respectively. Miss Eleanor Mitchell of Snow Hill and Miss Beulah Waters of Bath were the other contestants to compete in the district finals.

Johnson's talk on the debate subject follows: What is considered to be the backbone of our world today? The backbone is the supporting element on which everything depends. The stronger the backbone—the greater is the constitution on which every need rests. Since the world began, agriculture has been the base of life. Someone had to produce food to keep the people alive. Until recently nearly all people were considered farmers. If not full-time farmers, they at least produced part of their food. As the world became more civilized, people became discontented with their way of life and, therefore, went out to seek new ways of earning a living. New fields of work impressed them. Mining, manufacturing, lumbering, commerce, and numerous other occupations lured them to the city. This left a great field open in agriculture. So far, the city population gave the rural inhabitants a wonderful opportunity to compete with these other industries. This group left on the farm were the superior workers because they had the desire to stay and work on the farm. They wanted to improve farm conditions in general as well as the standard of living. With this desire, they set out to achieve their goal, but something was missing. They produced good crops but markets failed. Unemployment increased. The farmers really took a beating and many lost their farms. How could they improve their situation? What was the answer to their problems?

For many decades, neither the officials of the state or federal governments nor the public generally seemed to realize that either the state or the federal government had any place in agriculture. Agricultural workers were the forgotten men and women of America. Until 1932 when the nation came to a brink of bankruptcy and with great shock and impact the American people and high governmental officials suddenly realized that our

(Continued on Page Six)

The first report on the current Red Cross fund drive in the Martin County Chapter is very encouraging, and if the tempo is maintained the goal is certain to be reached. The report, limited to a part of the local residential area, is incomplete, Mrs. Charlotte Abernathy, chairman, explained. The first reports were submitted, as follows by the listed captains: Mrs. Herman Bowen and Mrs. Chas. Manning, \$57.25; Mrs. J. Paul Simpson and Mrs. Jessup Harrison, \$78.50; Mrs. Roger Critcher, \$13; Mrs. Mary Crofton, \$3.25; Mrs. Pearl Ross, \$12; Mrs. Thomas Speller, \$13.09; "Slim" Davis, \$6.

First Report On Red Cross Drive

Mrs. Abernathy is appealing to the captains and other workers to complete the canvass just as soon as possible.

Speeders In The County Court In Numbers Monday

Fines Add Up To \$108.00
And One Or Two Lose
Their Licenses

Speeders on the highways and streets in this area were back in the Martin County Recorder's Court in numbers last Monday. Twenty-one cases were called and fines were imposed in the total amount of \$108. One or two of the defendants will lose their drivers' licenses for a while.

A problem presented itself when two Canucks, charged with speeding, could offer only Canadian money in payment of their fines. Arrangements were made with the banks for exchange through New York, and the two men from different parts of Montreal continued on their way.

The case in which James F. Sheffington of Norfolk was charged with speeding 65 miles an hour, was not pressed, subject to be re-opened at a later date.

Taylor J. McLafferty of Clifton, New Jersey, was fined \$20 and taxed with the costs for speeding 75 miles an hour.

Martin B. Kane of Virginia Beach and Francis B. Howard each were fined \$10, plus costs, for speeding 70 miles an hour.

The 65-mile-an-hour speeding charge against Everett Hill of Little Creek, Va., was not pressed with leave.

Pleading guilty of speeding 65 miles an hour, Walter A. Radwick of Seymour, Connecticut, was fined \$10 and taxed with the costs.

Charged with speeding 68 miles an hour, George A. Payne of New Hyde Park, N. Y., pleaded guilty and was fined \$13, plus costs.

Pleading guilty of speeding 70 miles an hour, Rodolphe Michaud of Montreal was fined \$15 and taxed with the costs.

Edward F. Witkowski of Norwalk, Connecticut, was fined \$20, plus costs, for speeding 75 miles an hour.

Charged with speeding 65 miles an hour, Cornelius Campbell of

(Continued on Page Eight)

Schools Support March Of Dimes

Williamston's school children, led by their teachers, did a noble job in supporting the 1954 March of Dimes, according to a report released this week by Mr. Marvin Baker, co-chairman of the drive.

The high school building raised \$544.89 and the elementary school building reported \$661.29, making a total of \$1,206.18.

A review of the solicitations by grades, follows:

Elementary School

Mrs. Cowen, 101.75; Miss Manning, 78.10; Mrs. Froneberger, 60.77; Mrs. Mangum, 58.76; Mrs. Saunders, 53.59; Miss Jernigan, 51.57; Mrs. Carstarphen, 48.30; Miss Talton, 46.30; Mrs. Sherman, 38.10; Mrs. Wynn, 30.00; Miss Saunders, 27.80; Mrs. Smith, 26.63; Miss Warren, 20.35; Mrs. Coburn, 17.29.

High School

Mrs. Taylor, 48.02; Miss Hines, 11.43; Mrs. Bunting, 51.11; Mrs. Nichols, 1.50; Mrs. Adkins, 1.60; Mr. Hawley, 2.20; Mr. Thrift, 3.65; Mrs. Winslow, 67.27; Miss Whitely, 11.46; Mrs. Crawford, 26.13; Mrs. Critcher, 37.15; Mrs. Roberson, 25.50; Miss Guthrie, 33.52; Mrs. Manning, 22.16; Mrs. Everett, 28.68; Miss Jernigan, 19.00; Miss Privott, 3.71; Mrs. Whitaker, 2.50; Mrs. Gray, 3.74; Miss Thomas, 13.19; Miss Lucas, 65.46; Mrs. Griffin, 27.76; Miss Byrum, 32.19.

(Continued on Page Eight)

UNDER WAY

Delayed when it was found necessary to change the plans for the foundation, construction work got under way on a \$200,000 store for Belk-Tyler on West Main Street here yesterday. The Hand Construction Company of Charlotte is making ready today for the foundation and materials are now being placed on the site next to the Tar Heel building.

With favorable weather, Mr. Hand stated this morning that completion of the store is planned by early September.

Murder Case Placed On Docket For Trial

Crowded Criminal Docket Ready For Court Next Week

Judge Chester Morris Will
Preside At Mixed Term
Opening Monday

Fifty criminal cases have been placed on the docket for trial during the first week of a two-week term of the Martin County Superior Court opening here next Monday with Judge Chester Morris of Coimjock presiding. The entire first week has been set aside for the trial of the criminal cases, including a murder charge. Divorces and civil cases are on the calendar for trial during the second week of the term.

The docket, as a whole, carried no great interest, and even the murder case against James Hawkins is expected to attract very little attention outside the local colored population. Hawkins is alleged to have fatally stabbed James Augustus Hodges to death in a home on Martin Street here the 20th of last month. The case is mired down in what described by officers as a drunken brawl, and the evidence offered at the preliminary hearing left much to be told, possibly some facts of a startling nature. Hawkins, 29, continues in jail without privilege of bond.

Eighteen of the cases on the docket were continued from previous sessions, some dating back as far as last June. Ten of the fifteen drunken driving cases on the docket were continued at previous terms.

A brief review of the criminal docket follows: Walter Freeman, charged with assaulting Ina Mae Bazemore in Williamston on the night of February 15 of last year, and breaking into the home of Emma Minns last April 19, is again booked for trial. Under a \$300 bond in one case and \$750 bond in the other, Freeman chose to leave his bondsman holding the bag, his trial pending in the first case since March of last year.

Edward Harrison is booked for the robbery of person, allegedly having taken \$3.50 in cash from the person of John Henry Lynch last July 31. He is also alleged to have taken Lynch's red baseball cap.

His trial pending since last June, William Quinterly Carraway failed to answer at the September term to the charge of stealing \$160 worth of clothes from the Wilson Hotel in Robersonville last May 20.

Joe Brown is booked for trial for an assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill. He is charged with striking Eddie Coffield, Sr., over the head with a piece of lumber in Oak City last June 26.

Eugene Whitley is in the "big" court on appeal from the county tribunal where he was found guilty of non-support. His trial has been pending since last September.

Appealing from a judgment in the county court, Frederick W. Harrison is booked for trial for allegedly speeding in excess of 90 miles an hour last October 10. His case was continued at the last term of court.

William Brantley is all mixed up with women and the courts. Charged with bigamy he is alleged on last September 21 to have married Elizabeth Keel, knowing he had two living wives, Nollie Purseport Brantley and Nollie Faulkner Brantley. He failed to

(Continued on page eight)

Special Fence Post Demonstration Planned

J. H. Phillips, Jr., Extension Forestry Specialist, will conduct a fence post peeling and treating demonstration at Council's Service Station, Hassell, Tuesday, March 16, at 1:30 P. M.

Several methods of treating fence posts along with the construction of a post peeler that can be built on the average farm will be included in the demonstration.

All interested farmers are urged to attend, it was announced by R. McK Edwards, Negro County Agent.

REVIEW BOARD

Meeting as a board of equalization and review, the Martin County Commissioners are expected to have very little business to handle next Monday morning at 10:00 o'clock.

There was real estate over-all change in real estate values, and the actual listing in some townships has not been completed. It is possible the officials will invoke a ten percent penalty on late listers.

Any one having a legitimate complaint against his 1954 assessed property valuation is invited to appear before the board and air his complaint.

W. A. Ross Died At Home Tuesday Near Gold Point

Funeral For Prominent Farmer
Held At Spring
Green Yesterday

W. A. Ross, prominent Martin County farmer, died at his home near Gold Point Tuesday morning at 12:15 o'clock following a heart attack suffered a short time before. He had been in feeble health only a few days and was about as well as usual when he retired Monday night.

A son of the late Lamb and Johnnie Grimes Ross, he was born in Robersonville Township 74 years ago, and lived and farmed in the Gold Point section all his life. He was a member of the Spring Green Primitive Baptist Church for forty years, and was numbered among its most faithful members. He was a splendid citizen, thoughtful neighbor and valuable friend, giving of his time and means to others. He was an industrious farmer.

In early manhood he was married to Miss Lillian Hyman of Oak City.

Surviving besides Mrs. Ross are three daughters, Mrs. Rufus Taylor of RFD, Robersonville, Mrs. Milton Bennett of Oak City and Miss Hazel Ross of Newport News, Va.; three sons, W. T. Ross of Williamston, Bennie Ross, stationed

(Continued on Page Eight)

Two Diphtheria Cases In County

Two diphtheria cases have been reported in the county recently, and there is a suspicion of one scarlet fever case. However, no official report on the scarlet fever case has been released.

A representative of the health department, commenting on the diphtheria cases, said, "The diphtheria cases are regrettable in that it is preventable." The representatives added, "Doctors recommend that each child be started on its three injections for whooping cough, diphtheria and tetanus at the age of three months. Yet we continue to find children in school or just starting school who have not had the injections."

Nurses are in the health department each afternoon between 4:00 to 5:00 o'clock and on Thursday afternoon from 1:00 to 5:00 o'clock and each Saturday morning to give the injections.

Pre-school clinics are to be held in the county, within the near future, but parents will find it advisable to have their children protected against diphtheria and other communicable diseases, including smallpox, without delay.

Artists Are Impressed With Local Hospitality

The Mauney twins, Ernest and Miles, were impressed with the hospitality accorded them during their recent stay in Williamston, according to a letter received here this week by Ed Grady, executive secretary of the Boosters. Appearing in one of the community concert programs, Ernest wrote, in part: "Miles and I both were very impressed with the hospitality showed us in Williamston and we hoped to get back there some day."

Calls Thirty-Six Cases Monday In The County Court

Fines Assessed In Amount
Of \$518; Long Road
Sentence Imposed

Working right on through most of the lunch hour, Judge H. O. Peele and Solicitor Clarence W. Griffin handled thirty-six cases in the Martin County Recorder's Court Monday. Twenty-one cases involved speeding. Total fines added up to \$518, including \$108 in the twenty-one speeding cases. An eighteen-month road sentence was imposed in one case.

Proceedings: The case in which Shady Strickland was charged with operating a motor vehicle while his driver's license was revoked, was not pressed.

Charged with assaulting a female, William B. (Bud) Lilley was found not guilty.

Pleading not guilty, LeRoy Roberson was adjudged guilty of shooting William David House and he drew eighteen months on the roads. He appealed and bond was required in the sum of \$500.

James Earl Randolph, charged with issuing a worthless check, pleaded not guilty. He was adjudged guilty and the court directed him to pay the amount of the check and the court costs. Notice of appeal was given and bond was required in the sum of \$50.

Maintaining he was innocent, Russell Andrews, charged with an assault with a deadly weapon, was unable to support his plea and he was sentenced to the roads for sixty days. The court suspended the road term for two years upon the payment of a \$25 fine and court costs.

Pleading guilty of violating the liquor laws, John Henry Jones was sentenced to the roads for ninety days. The court suspended the road term upon the payment of a \$25 fine and court costs.

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Adjudged guilty over his plea of innocent, John D. Skinner, charged with statutory, was sentenced to the roads for six months, suspended upon the payment of the court costs and \$10 a month for the support of his child.

Mary Esties, charged with violating the liquor laws, pleaded guilty and was sentenced to woman's prison for six months, the term to begin at the direction of the court at any time during the next two years. She was fined \$50 and taxed with the court costs.

The case, charging Champ Scott with operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license, was not pressed, subject to be reopened at a later date.

Columbus Sheppard was found not guilty of larceny.

Pleading guilty of violating the liquor laws, Lonnie M. Keel was fined \$25, plus costs.

Judgment was suspended in the case in which Leo Creasy was charged with vagrancy.

Grady Thomas pleaded guilty and was fined \$200, plus costs.

Pleading guilty of issuing a worthless check, Moses Lee Williams had his case continued until prayer for judgment until the first Monday in August.

Charged with operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of opiates, L. B. Whichard pleaded guilty and was fined \$10, plus costs.

Nine Volunteer In The Services

Nine Martin County young men volunteered for service in the armed forces last month, according to a report released this week by Sfc. A. G. Atwood, recruiter for this district. Sgt. Atwood is in this county each Tuesday, maintaining an office on the third floor of the city hall in Williamston.

Four of the nine—Henry Bellflower of Oak City, and Theodore Coker, Jr., William B. Hodges and Lloyd Williams, all of Williamston, volunteered for duty in the army. Exil D. Harper and Robert H. Gurganus, Jr., both of Jamesville, and William S. Price, Rayton C. McLawhorn and Allen L. Wilson, all of Williamston, enlisted in the air force.