

## Recover Body Of Drowning Victim Saturday Morning

### John Hall Lost His Life In Devil's Gut On Saturday, March 20

The body of John H. Hall was recovered from the muddy waters of Devil's Gut near the mouth of Gardner's Creek last Saturday morning shortly after 8:00 o'clock. Taken from the water by Sheriff M. W. Holloman and Deputy Roy Peel, the body was turned over to a Rocky Mount undertaker and immediately placed in an airtight casket at Gardner's Creek bridge.

Named acting coroner in the absence of Coroner W. W. Biggs who was out of the State at the time, Sheriff Holloman made the investigation, and finding no evidence of foul play, ruled the 54-year-old man went to his death by accidental drowning. Hall, a farmer of near Whitakers, went to the creek on Saturday, March 20, with a party from the Rocky Mount area. He toppled from the boat and drowned that night. Sheriff Holloman saying that the victim's watch which was found on the body stopped at 9:45 o'clock. About six dollars in cash was found on the body which was said to have been in a state of advanced decomposition, one report stating it was almost beyond recognition.

A party from Rocky Mount, including Herman Hill, John Brake and Bill Morrison, was fishing in the stream when they heard the water bubbling. They looked and saw the body surface under a limb near the bank, or at the almost identical spot where the victim toppled out of the boat. The three men towed the body a short distance to a barge and Sheriff Holloman was notified.

It was the first drowning in the Roanoke or its tributaries in this immediate area this season and the first since 1952 when a Nash County farmer lost his life in Gardner's Creek.

Funeral services for Mr. Hall were conducted in a Rocky Mount funeral home Sunday afternoon at 1:00 o'clock by the Rev. R. E. Jones, Union Baptist Church, pastor. Interment was in the Mill Church cemetery.

He was a son of the late Charles and Margaret Frances Hall of Halifax County. Surviving are his widow, the former Miss Beatrice Lassiter; two sons, Julius Hall of Rocky Mount and Charlie Hall of the home near Hickory; three daughters, Mrs. Louise Taylor of Whitakers, Mrs. Eva Yrider of Sharpsburg and Mrs. Lena Medlin of Apex; two brothers, C. E. Hall of Rocky Mount, and H. H. Hall of Lynchburg; two sisters, Mrs. Ida Morgan of Sharpsburg and Mrs. Annie Hall of Portsmouth, and fourteen grandchildren.

According to information reaching here no trace has been found of the body of Buck Darden who is believed to have drowned in the Roanoke near Scotland Neck early last week.

## Announce Essay Contest Winners

The essay of Gail Margolis, younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Irving Margolis, has been chosen as the first place winner in the Americanism Essay Contest, sponsored by the local woman's club. Second and third place were won by Winfred Taylor and Joel Muse, all members of the seventh grade. These essays were entitled, "What America Means To Me". They were between 800-1000 words in length and contained something about "the freedoms provided by our constitution, the struggles of our forefathers for freedom preceding the signing of the Declaration of Independence, the adoption of the constitution of the United States."

Judges were Mrs. Thomas L. Hastings, Rev. Gordon Conklin, and Judge H. O. Peele. The local prize was five dollars, a gift of the woman's club. The three essays have been sent to national headquarters in Washington, D. C., to be entered in nation-wide competition for other awards.

Winners in the penny collection fund for the restoration of independence Hall in Philadelphia were Miss Grace Talton's first grade and Mrs. Sue Cowen's fifth grade. They received a book each, a gift of the woman's club.

## Thousands Expected For Fat Stock Show And Bureau Meeting

### R. Flake Shaw To Address Farmers Friday Afternoon

### Stock Show Opens In The Carolina Warehouse On Thursday Morning

Thousands of farmers and other interested citizens are expected to attend the eleventh annual fat stock show and the regular Martin County Farm Bureau barbecue here this week-end. The show, exhibiting the greatest number of beef calves and hogs yet seen at a similar event, opens Thursday morning, and the sale and Farm Bureau barbecue follow on Friday.

The 4-H club members and Future Farmers of America are to place their beef calves in the warehouse by 10:00 a. m. Thursday morning immediately after they are weighed in at the Williamston Packing Company plant on McCaskey Road. The swine are to be checked in not later than 6:00 o'clock that evening.

Designed to create and develop a greater interest in the production of quality meat animals in this county and to prove to the general public that beef cattle can be raised in this section, the show this year is offering its best exhibit of beef calves. The club members have learned much about the industry during recent years and the foundation is being carefully laid for expanding cattle raising, agricultural leaders say. It is expected that most of the entries will qualify for high grades.

The beef calves are to be judged Thursday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock and the hogs are to be judged Friday morning at 8:30 o'clock.

The sale gets underway Friday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock. Friday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock the annual Farm Bureau meeting and barbecue will be held at the high school where the show exhibitors will be the special guests.

R. Flake Shaw of the North Carolina Farm Bureau and Congressman Herbert C. Bonner are to address the meeting which will be presided over by President Chas. L. Daniel.

The committee, named at a special meeting of the Farm Bureau a short time ago, announces all arrangements have been completed for the annual event. Thirty pigs are to be barbecued and expert cooks in the Jamesville community will prepare the bread and trimmings and serve the meal.

A cordial invitation is being extended the public to attend the fat stock show and a large majority of the more than 2,000 members are expected to attend

## Special Service Held In The County Home

A special prayer service was conducted in the Martin County Home last Friday by members of the Cross Roads Home Demonstration Club. Following the service which was featured by several solos by Mrs. Herman Rawls of Richmond, the club members served ice cream and all kinds of cake.

Mesdames Pete Wynne, Lillie Wynne, Herbert Roebuck, Stator Whitehurst, Martha Leggett, Helen Wynne, and Ella Mobley visited and talked with each patient.

## DEMONSTRATION

A practical meat demonstration will be an added feature at the annual fat stock show on Friday of this week at 10:00 o'clock. Assistant Agent D. W. Brady and Jim Butler, swine specialist of Raleigh, will take two fat and two lean hogs and kill one of each. The demonstrators will then cut up one-half of each hog, comparing it with the live one and showing the type of meat coming out of the particular type of animal.

The demonstration will be held in the Carolina warehouse.

## OPEN ALL DAY

To better serve their patrons during the pre-Easter season, Williamston stores will be open all day during the next two Wednesdays—April 7 and 14. The half-holiday schedule will be back in effect on Wednesday, April 21, following Easter.

The agreement to dispense with the half holidays on the two Wednesdays before Easter was reached when the holiday schedule was adopted some months ago.

## Capacity Crowd Enjoys Concert Of School Band

### Annual Birthday Party Follows In Cafeteria With Cake And Punch

Before a capacity crowd that gave them rapt attention and liberal applause, the Williamston High School Concert Band presented its annual Spring concert in the high school auditorium last Thursday evening and then was entertained at a birthday party in the high school cafeteria.

The tonal quality and musicianship of this year's concert band was the best to date although the program as a whole was not as lively as last year's production.

While the first part of the program, beginning with a march, "Hail Miami" by J. J. Richards, was one to display skill and interest in their craft, the last portion of the program had the greatest appeal for the audience as a whole, especially the Mississippi Suite, Broadcast from Brazil and Aranger's Holiday, the latter number taking Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star out of the one-night stand.

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The second number on the program, Dorian, provided the only overture on the list. This was followed by Huldigungsmarsch, a triumphal march, and then came an excellent solo number featuring Miss Mary Elizabeth Britton on the cornet, Valse Lynnette. A skillful performance drew approval and admiration for the young musician from the responsive audience.

Since it was to be included in the two numbers which Director Herbert Carter of the East Carolina College band was to direct as guest conductor for the evening, Director Jack Butler of the local band announced that King Cotton, a lively march, was being moved to a later spot on the program and intermission followed the cornet solo number.

Farandole from L'Arlesienne opened the second half of the program, then followed a scheduled solo number and an encore which presented both composer and player. Billy Glover, accompanied by Wilber Stewart at the piano played a trombone solo. The Holy City, which was so well-received that he came back with his own composition, Spring Fever, again accompanied by Wilber Stewart. This time he drew applause for both his composition and the rendition of it.

Mississippi Suite, selections, by Grofé-Bennett, included Father of Waters, Huckleberry Finn, Old Creole Days, and Mardi Gras. At

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## Suffers Broken Limb In Fall At Norfolk

Mrs. B. C. Swain, the former Miss Margaret Everett of Williamston, was badly hurt last Friday when she fell in the yard of her home, 2609 Villa Circle, Norfolk, and broke her left thigh near the hip. Just recovering from an operation she was returned to Norfolk General Hospital where she was reported yesterday to be getting along as well as could be expected.

## Delinquent Tax Accounts To Be Sold In County

### County Commissioners In Short Regular Meeting Monday Morning

With little new business on their schedule, the Martin County Commissioners held a short regular meeting Monday, adjourning before lunch.

In accordance with the law, all 1953 delinquent tax accounts were ordered advertised the first Monday in May for sale the first Monday in June. In his report to the commissioners, Tax Collector, M. L. Peel explained that \$52,568.49 of the \$408,077.83 tax levy for 1953 was unpaid. It was also pointed out that collections up to the first of April this year were slightly larger than they were for the corresponding period a year ago. However, the number of delinquent accounts as of date is believed to be some larger than it was a year ago. Mr. Peel advanced the opinion that the \$52,568.34 balance would be greatly reduced before the delinquent list is advertised next month.

The collector also reported to the board that there was a balance of \$15,078.18 due on the \$395,431.83 levy for 1952, that \$9,311.47 was due on the \$373,026.88 levy for 1952. On the 1950 levy of \$332,389.89 there is due \$5,185.28.

A delegation, headed by Mr. Dan Fagan of Dardens, asked the board to recommend the blacktopping of the old Jamesville-Plymouth river road, running from Dardens westwardly about three miles back to Highway 64.

The board also recommended the 300 yards of road leading to the residence of H. J. Etheridge in Goose Nest Township be worked as a community project, the petitioners explaining that the road serves four families.

It was also requested that 1.4 miles of road known as the Bill Jones road in Goose Nest Township be added to the road map.

Among the monthly reports filed with the board at the Monday meeting as one from the welfare department, showing an expenditure of approximately \$20,359.43 of which amount the county paid \$4,759.02. The report shows that aid in the amount to \$8,300 or an average of \$20.50 per person was extended to 310 aged in the county last month. The 101 aid to dependent children cases, representing 327 children, received \$5,765.00 or an average of \$57.07. The 64 partially or totally disabled persons received \$1,965 and the 21 blind cases were given \$726.00, or an average of \$34.57. Hospitalization costs amounted to \$1,459.09, and administrative costs added up to approximately \$1,644.34.

All members of the board, Messrs. C. C. Martin, J. H. Edwards, J. C. Gurkin, H. L. Roebuck and H. S. Johnson, were present.

## Father Of Local Resident Passes

Dr. Thomas Shelton McMullen, father of Mrs. S. Harcum Grimes of Williamston, died in an Elizabeth City hospital Sunday afternoon following a long period of declining health. The son of the late William Thomas and Sally Wood McMullen, he was born in Hertford 85 years ago. Graduated in medicine from the University of New York, he practiced in Edenton and Hertford before serving in the medical corps during World War I. Since that time he had practiced medicine in Elizabeth City. He served as chairman of the North Carolina State Board of Health and was a past president of the N. C. Medical Society.

Surviving besides his widow, the former Lydia Palir, and their daughter here are two daughters, Mrs. W. C. Evans of Washington and Mrs. J. L. Tucker of Norfolk; two sons, Thomas S. McMullen, Jr., and William Palin McMullen, both of Elizabeth City; three half-sisters, Mrs. Ben Koonce, Mrs. Whit Wright and Mrs. Thomas Summer, all of Hertford; two half-brothers, Roulac McMullen of Washington; and Edwin McMullen of Greenville; ten grandchildren and fifteen great-grandchildren.

The funeral service is being conducted at the home in Elizabeth City this afternoon at 3:00 o'clock by the Rev. George Frank, rector of Christ Episcopal Church. Interment will be in Cedarwood Cemetery, Hertford.

## Bond Issue For Street Paving Board Authorizes \$225,000.00

### Weather Review In This Section For Past Month

### Mercury Ranged From A Low Of 22 To 84 Degrees During Period

This section experienced just about all kinds of weather during the past month, according to a review released today by Hugh Spruill, State Highway Bridgekeeper on Roanoke river here. There was no snow or sleet, but the rains came and the thunder storms struck. Mr. Spruill reporting three during the period.

The mercury ranged from a low of 22 on March 7 to a high of 84 degrees on March 25, with temperatures ranging below freezing on seven days.

No new record was established, but the rainfall last month was considerably above normal, the 4.98 inches holding a 1.19-inch advantage above the average. It will be recalled that January was unusually dry. On the first of this month the combined rainfall for January, February and March was 4.3 of an inch above the average for the first quarter.

There was a five-foot variation in the river gage readings, but the Roanoke held within its banks last month, ranging from a low of 4.5 to a high reading of 9.5. Ten feet is flood stage on the gage.

The weather data, including the river gage readings, as released by Mr. Spruill for the month of March follows, with the date in the first column, the river gage readings in the second column, the maximum temperature reading in the third, minimum temperature reading in the fourth, and the rainfall in the fifth column for each day of the month:

Date	River	H	L	Rain
1.	5.6	70	46	1.14
2.	4.5	60	28	.02
3.	5.4	62	36	*
4.	8.0	54	30	.54
5.	8.9	49	27	0
6.	8.4	47	26	0
7.	8.4	59	22	0
8.	7.5	67	49	0
9.	6.2	63	40	0
10.	5.1	73	35	0
11.	5.0	69	41	0
12.	4.9	59	44	0
13.	4.6	72	45	.01
14.	4.6	70	57	.29
15.	4.5	59	34	.12
16.	4.5	51	29	0
17.	8.1	55	28	0
18.	9.0	63	33	0
19.	9.2	69	35	0
20.	9.4	71	56	.40
21.	9.5	64	45	0
22.	9.3	56	38	0
23.	8.5	62	41	.94
24.	7.8	65	46	.05
25.	7.3	84	48	*
26.	7.1	73	63	.02
27.	7.2	65	45	*
28.	7.3	58	44	.30
29.	7.1	75	41	.02
30.	6.9	80	56	1.29
31.	7.4	61	46	.24
Total				4.98

\* Indicates Trace Of Rain

## About To Wipe Out Bluebirds

The bluebird, one of the most valuable friends the farmer has, is just about to be wiped out, according

No intentional action is being taken to eliminate the little creature, but tobacco barns with certain types of oil curers are trapping the birds in what is said to be great numbers. The small smoke stacks used in the operation of certain curing systems are proving to be a trap for the blue bird, one farmer stating that he found thirty-seven when he cleaned his burners. The birds get into the stack or ventilator and can't get out.

Since the bird is a valuable as well as a pretty creature, it has been suggested that farmers leave the doors to the curers open. When the doors are left open the bird can get out and make his way to safety through the barn ventilators.

An interesting story on the subject appears in the current issue of the North Carolina Wildlife magazine.

## EXCEPTIONS

Taking exceptions to the findings carried in a report prepared by Clerk of Court L. B. Wynne in the Martin County No. 3 Drainage District case, attorneys for the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company and the North Carolina Pulp Company are going into the superior court, it was learned following a hearing on the report last Thursday afternoon.

The case has been calendared for trial next week, but the companies are expected to ask for a continuance, and there is a possibility that a special term of superior court will be asked to bring the case to early trial. During the meantime, plans are being made to push the project, one of the largest ever undertaken in this county.

## Budapest Native Will Speak Here

Dr. Bela Udvarnoki, who will be the guest minister next Sunday morning for the Youth Week Service to be held in Memorial Baptist Church, has led a full and exciting life as a Baptist minister.

Dr. Udvarnoki was born in Budapest, Hungary, where his father was a pioneer Baptist minister who founded the Baptist Seminary in 1906. He received his undergraduate training there. He also attended the University of Budapest and the University of Hamburg, Germany.

His theological training was received from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky, with a Ph. D. in Greek.

After his American training, Dr. Udvarnoki returned to Hungary where he taught at the Seminary and became the president of that institution in 1938. He was the pastor of a church in Kispest during that time. He was also the president of the Hungarian Baptist Convention from 1938 until 1940.

His first wife was Miss Gladys Smith of Mississippi and she was killed in World War II by a bomb explosion. Dr. Udvarnoki's home as well as the Seminary of Budapest was destroyed at the same time.

Dr. Udvarnoki came to America the last time in 1947 and married the present Mrs. Udvarnoki in that year. She is the former Ruby Daniel of Stem, a small community near Oxford, N. C.

The Udvarnokis were planning to return to Hungary in 1948, but were unable to do so and delayed the trip until late that year. They were leaving for New York to catch a ship when they received a warning from friends in that country telling them that the Communists would arrest the minister the minute he set foot in his motherland so plans were changed and they have never returned.

Dr. Udvarnoki is now a teacher at Chowan College, Murfreesboro.

The public is invited to hear Dr. Udvarnoki. He will also be the guest minister Sunday evening for the Worship Service.

## Consolidate Two County FHA Units

In accordance with instructions from Washington, the Farmers Home Administration offices in Martin and Bertie counties are being consolidated, effective April 25, according to official information received here this week.

The consolidation, rated an economy move, is likely to impair the effectiveness of the program, it is believed in some quarters. The work in the two counties will be handled by the office in Williamston, but a part-time office is to be maintained in Windsor, according to the report received here this week.

Windsor citizens and other interested parties have taken steps in an effort to retain the office there, it was learned.

## Peanut Butter Is Shipped To Needy In Foreign Lands

### Martin and Other Counties In This Area Financed The 10-Ton Purchase

Peanut butter—nearly ten tons of it—was shipped from a manufacturer at Cary yesterday to the needy in Salzburg, Athens, Naples and a refugee camp in Trieste. The butter, packed in 22-pound tins, was purchased with contributions made mainly in this and several other counties in this section.

All told, 880 tins were shipped. Athens receives 136. Naples gets 182. Salzburg is assigned 455 tins. Trieste gets 107. Located in these cities are relief centers from which food and clothing supplies are sent out to points of distribution to refugees and other needy people.

Church people, both farm and town residents, from Bertie, Gates, Halifax, Hertford and Northampton counties gave cash and peanuts to make this shipment possible. The gift was presented to State CROP Chairman L. Y. Ballentine, Commissioner of Agriculture, by W. Mayo Hardison of Williamston, chairman of Martin County, and Guy Revelle of Conway, chairman of Northampton County. Ballentine thanked "all those in these counties who shared so generously." He also stated that "the refugees of the Naples area, Trieste, Austria and Greece will be grateful recipients of our gifts."

The Rev. E. R. Shuller of Conway, a CROP district supervisor and a former pastor of the Williamston Methodist Church, led the litany of dedication. The Rev. J. L. Walter Moore of Gatesville, also a supervisor, gave the benediction.

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## Minor Accidents In This County

Only three minor accidents were reported on the streets and highways in this county during the past few days, according to reports coming from the sheriff's patrol office and police departments. No one was injured and property damage was limited to approximately \$600.

Driving west on Main Street during a rain last Wednesday evening at 8:30 o'clock, Chester Emmett Mims struck a parked car near the Elm Street intersection. Damage to his 1938 Ford was estimated at \$60, and damage to J. A. Glenn's 1938 Ford was placed at \$15. Glenn is from Rock Hill, S. C.

Driving west on a secondary road in Hamilton Township last Saturday evening at 8:00 o'clock, Chrisious Thompson of Oak City was struck from the rear by John D. Williams, Thompson, driving a 1951 Ford, said he was traveling 35 miles an hour, and Williams said he was driving his 1951 Ford at the same speed, leaving the investigating patrolman a hard problem to figure out just how the rear vehicle overtook the first one. Damage to Williams' car was estimated at \$300 and that to the Thompson car at \$25.

At 8:00 o'clock Sunday morning, Jesse Edmondson last control of his 1946 Ford on the Robersonville-Gold Point road and ditched it, causing about \$200 damage to his machine.

Whether the program is approved or not in the June 4 election, the town instructed the superintendent of the water and sanitary departments to extend water and sewer lines where needed without further delay.

Additional petitions for paving are reaching the clerk's office fairly regularly, and it is planned to keep them in numerical order and extend the program just as far as possible.

Among the new petitions recorded at the meeting last night were requests for curb and gutter and paving on:

Woodlawn Drive from Franklin

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## Ten Million Are Accident Victims

Last year, 9,700,000 Americans (over 1,200 every hour) suffered a disabling accident. Three hundred and fifty thousand were disabled permanently and 96,000 died as a result of accidents. Approximately 16 per cent of these accidents were in industry. Nearly three times as many were in the homes, generally regarded as the safest place on earth.

And for every accident, there were 5 or 6 illnesses. Forty-three thousand new patients were hospitalized every day for an average of 12 days. Sixty per cent of them had some type of operation, 1 out of 4 being a major, costly one.

On a per capita basis, every man, woman, and child on the average suffered annually at least 10 days of incapacity due to illness or injury.

## Proposing A New Plan To Finance The Cost of Project

### Bond Election Tentatively Scheduled For Friday, June Fourth

A \$225,000 bond issue for financing an extensive street improvement and paving program was authorized by the town board of commissioners in regular meeting here last night, the final decision to rest with the voters in a special election tentatively scheduled for Friday, June 4.

The authorization was given by the commissioners after they heard a report from Mr. Easterling of the Local Government Commission in Raleigh. Explaining the report Treasurer C. M. Cobb and Town Attorney Chas. H. Manning said the town could handle a \$225,000 issuance with a safe margin. They also explained a plan recommended by the local Government Commission representative for financing the paving program. It was suggested that once the program is approved it could be financed by temporary notes to be sold in anticipation of settlements by property owners within a five-year period or the payment of assessment by the property owners immediately after the program is completed. At the end of five years, the bonds could be sold in a much smaller denomination to be financed by Powell Bill monies.

The advantage of the note plan lies in the lower rate of interest which usually averages less than half the interest bonds would ordinarily carry.

It was pointed out that the paving program is being designed without resorting to general taxation as a means of financing the cost.

To give the property owners an idea of what the paving, including curb and gutter and black top, would cost, the following example was given:

On a 100-foot lot, it would cost the property owner approximately \$177.50 on the basis of a 100-foot lot. The cost could run slightly higher where a sub base for the black top is found necessary. On an average, the property owner would pay \$35.50 per year plus interest to have curb and gutter and paving in front of his 100-foot lot.

S. H. Grimes was named registrar and Chas. R. Mobley and J. W. Andrews were named judges for the June 4 election. Registration books are to be open for new registrants during the period of May 14 and 21. No special registration is necessary, meaning that those whose names are on the books now will not have to register again to participate in the bond election.

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## UNUSUAL ROUND-UP

The week-end round-up by law enforcement officers in this county was unusual in that all the alleged violators were white. Jailer Roy Peel said it was the first time since he had been jailed that one or more colored inmates had not been in the jail during a seven-day period.

Six white persons were arrested and jailed, five for public drunkenness and one for speeding and operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license. The ages of the group ranged from 19 to 43 years.