

## Residential Area Over The Top In Red Cross Drive

Mrs. W. H. Abernathy, The Chairman, Reports Liberal Contributions

Reviewing the recent Red Cross drive in this chapter, Fund Chairman Hugh Martin pointed out that Mrs. W. H. Abernathy and her co-workers did a splendid canvass in the residential areas of Williamston Township. The canvass exceeded the goal, and materially aided the chapter in nearing its goal.

A report on the house-to-house canvass follows:

Mrs. Al Pleasant, \$50; Mrs. W. O. White, 1.00; Mrs. Charlie Harris, 1.00; Mrs. Arthur White, 1.00; Mrs. J. T. Llewellyn, 1.00; Mrs. Irving Margolis, 1.00; Mrs. Eli M. Taylor, 2.00; Mrs. Liza Carstarphen, 1.00; Mrs. Asa Crawford, 1.00; Anna Crawford, 1.00; John E. Manning, 1.00; Dale Barnes, 1.00; Morton Critcher, 1.00; Mrs. Steve Clary, 2.00; Mrs. Frank Margolis, 1.00; Mrs. Titus Critcher, 1.00; Mrs. K. B. Crawford, 1.00; Mr. Henry Winslow, 1.00; Mrs. B. G. Stewart, 1.00; Mrs. J. S. Whitley, 1.00; Ella Martin Gaylord, 1.00; Mrs. Hattie E. Edmonson, 5.00; Mrs. Elton Hardy, 1.00; Lillian Manning, 2.00; Mrs. Tom Barnhill, 1.00; Mrs. C. B. Cavanaugh, 1.00; Mrs. Gordon Conklin, 1.00; Mrs. G. H. Godwin.

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## Revival Services In Local Church

The Reverend H. B. Baum preached on Sunday evening to an audience which almost filled the sanctuary of First Methodist Church in the opening service of a week of revival preaching. Other churches in downtown Williamston were closed for the evening and members of other congregations worshipped with the local Methodists.

Reading as a scripture lesson the opening verses of the twelfth chapter of Romans, Mr. Baum chose as his text the words: "Be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed." Being a Christian, said Mr. Baum, was not a matter of conforming harmoniously to the life of the world about us; nor was it a matter of practicing isolated Christian habits like prayer, tithing, helping others in time of need, and the like. Christianity is rather (1) a Way of Life, (2) a Quality of Mind, and (3) a Quality of Heart. Such a life with Christian qualities of mind and heart makes one a transformed and transforming person in today's world.

The services will continue throughout the week with Mr. Baum preaching each night and at the morning worship on Sunday. A feature of the services each evening is the special music by First Church's excellent choir or by guests. The music for the services is arranged by Mrs. W. H. Abernathy, choir director, and Miss Mary Elizabeth Britton, organist. On Friday the Melody Masters, a male choral group under the direction of Mrs. Ed Grady will present two numbers.

## Joint Recital In High School Here May 5th

Mrs. J. M. Ward and Mrs. Ed Grady will present their music pupils in a joint recital in the high school auditorium here Wednesday evening, May 5, at 8:00 o'clock. It was announced today. In the list of pupils are several from out of town. The public is invited to attend.

## RESPONSE

The early response to the appeal for the cancer fund in Williamston was said to be very encouraging. Just about all the canvassing assignments were readily accepted, and the early solicitations were described as very generous.

No organization has been announced for any other part of the county, and the chairmen in Williamston hope to complete the canvass within the next week or ten days.

## Martin Farmers Busy With Tobacco Transplanting Job

Started in one or two isolated instances week before last, tobacco transplanting is rapidly gaining momentum in this county, according to reports reaching here this week.

A few farmers completed the task last week, and a few other farmers are making ready to cultivate for the first time some of the early transplantings.

A favorable rain last Saturday and hot weather made the plants literally jump in their beds, and farmers declare that the plants are about to get ahead of them. It was explained that soil fumigants were placed in the ground only a few days ago and that sufficient time has not passed for the chemical to disintegrate. Some

farmers are taking a chance by following with the transplanting operation before the recommended time has lapsed for the chemical to react. Some who had planned to use the fumigant now realize they have waited too late and are going ahead with the crop without using the chemical.

Desiring an early May transplanting quite a few farmers are opening their beds to others, instructing them to get the large plants. Still others are removing the larger plants from the beds and throwing them away.

It is expected that the peak of the transplanting season will be reached in the county the latter part of this or early next week, weather conditions considered.

## ROUND-UP

Eight persons were rounded up and temporarily detained in the county jail last weekend. Three were booked for public drunkenness, and one each for drunken driving, assault, breaking and entering, possession of stolen goods and trespassing.

The ages of the group ranged from 20 to 47 years. Only one of the eight was white.

## Two FHA Offices Combined Monday

Mr. James C. Eubanks and Miss Mary E. Rodgers, County Supervisor and County Office Clerk, respectively officially took over the work of the Farmers Home Administration in Bertie county Monday of this week. The office there will be open on Tuesday and Wednesday of each week, and open in Williamston on Monday, Thursday, and Friday of each week.

Mr. Eubanks said "I realize that Mr. Bryan and Miss Gillam of that county have built up a good program, and it is going to be very difficult to maintain that standard over there, but my promise to the Bertie people is that I will do my best to maintain it."

Bertie county has a work load of approximately 64 units and Martin has approximately 91 units giving a total for the two counties of 155 points. This will give for the two counties a good work load, and will require hard work to maintain this record.

People who wish to transact business with the two FHA offices are requested to remember the days the personnel will be in each office and go to the office only on those days.

## Two Minor Car Wrecks Reported

No one was injured and property damage was limited to about \$500 in two minor automobile accidents on the highways in this county last week, according to a late report coming from the highway patrol office in the courthouse.

Driving on the old Parmele Robertsonville road about 7:00 o'clock Wednesday evening, Shelton Dilow Perkins, 17-year-old colored youth, lost control of his 1953 Ford in a sand bed and turned it over in a curve. Damage was estimated at \$300.

Forced off the road between Corey's Cross Roads and Bear Grass, John David French, white man of RFD 2, Williamston, lost control of his 1954 Ford and ditched it, causing about \$200 damage. The accident was reported about 7:40 o'clock Wednesday evening.

## Escape Injury In Texas Accident Last Friday

Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Roberson and children escaped injury in an automobile accident in Texas last Friday. However, their new car was badly damaged, according to reports reaching here. It was said that the car hit a soft shoulder and turned over.

Mr. and Mrs. Roberson and children were returning to their home in Long Beach, California, following a visit here with his mother, Mrs. Annie Roberson. They continued the trip home from Texas by train.

## Start Work On Foundation For New Warehouse

Plan To Pour First Concrete For The Large Structure Tomorrow

Hardly machines have completed leveling the lot, work is being started on the foundation for a new tobacco warehouse just off Highway 17 near Skewarkey Primitive Baptist Church here.

The first scoop of dirt was moved at 2:00 o'clock yesterday afternoon as one of the owners, Mr. King Roberts, looked on and directed the operation. There was no fanfare as two of the owners took their places at the transit and went about staking off the property for the foundation. Weather permitting, the first concrete for the foundation will be poured tomorrow.

To be operated under the name of New Deal Warehouse, the structure is to be made ready for use when the market opens the 1954 season.

Lumber was being placed on the lot yesterday by the Williams-ton Supply Company, and orders for other materials have been placed. While only a few workers were on the job yesterday, the owners, who are handling the construction project themselves, state that thirty or more builders will be employed just as soon as the foundation work is completed within the next few days.

The building which is to be approximately 296 by 360 feet, will add about one-third to the floor space on the local market. It is planned to place a fire wall about midway of the building.

The structure will be of frame construction with iron siding and block front. The floor is to be of concrete.

Mr. Roberts said he and the Smothers Brothers of Reidsville will operate the house. Members of a firm with extensive operations already in progress, the three men are interested in the construction of three new houses in Georgia and the operation of others in several states, it was learned.

No details were released, but it was learned that present plans for the construction of the house could be altered without too much trouble.

As work was getting underway on the warehouse here, farmers on the Martin farm were transplanting tobacco right next to the lot.

## Local Girl Gets Fulbright Award

Elizabeth C. Muse Tornquist, local girl, has been awarded a Fulbright scholarship for study abroad during 1954-55. Dean William C. Archie, Duke University Fulbright program adviser, announced this week. Mrs. Tornquist, a graduating senior at Duke, is one of two North Carolina young women, to receive the award, Dean Archie said.

Mrs. Tornquist, who is majoring in English at Duke, will do graduate work in comparative literature at the University of Aix-Marseille in France under the terms of her grant. The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joel Muse of Williamston and wife of David A. Tornquist of Durham, she is an Angler Duke Scholarship student, member of Phi Beta Kappa, and editor of Duke's "Archive" literary magazine.

Accompanied by her husband she will leave in late September or early October for France.

## Continues Gravely Ill In Hospital At Durham

Little Miss Patsy Roberson, 7-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elbert Holliday of Newport News, who was burned at the home of her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Holliday, near here on Easter Monday, continues gravely ill in Duke Hospital. Last reports stated that just about all hope for her recovery had been abandoned. Members of the family continue at her bedside.

Spending Easter in the home of her grandparents, the little girl spilled water on her dress, and turned on the gas stove in the kitchen to dry it. The dress caught fire and she suffered third degree burns on a sizable portion of her body.

## Holding Funeral In Church Today For Mrs. Spruill

Aged Resident Died Sunday Night At Daughter's Home Here

Mrs. Pattie C. Spruill, highly respected local resident and widow of E. Rowland Spruill, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. D. V. Clayton, Sr., here on Warren Street Sunday evening at 8:40 o'clock. She had been in declining health for some time, but her condition had been serious only for the past six or eight weeks.

The daughter of the late William Gray Chaplin and Martha E. Chaplin, she was born in Tyrrell County 86 years ago on May 12, 1867, and spent her early life there. In young womanhood she was married to Mr. Spruill and located in Washington County, moving to Williamston in 1935 to make her home with her daughter.

She was a life-long member of the Methodist Church, and was a regular attendant upon its services down through the years. She adhered to its teachings, and her life was marked for its true Christian character. She was active in the work of the church and its societies until declining health forced her retirement about two months ago. A devoted mother, Mrs. Spruill was a thoughtful neighbor and friend.

Surviving besides her daughter here, are two sons, Henry S. Spruill of Aulander and Jimmie C. Spruill of Roper; seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Two others sons, Edward C. Spruill of Windsor died in 1953, and Leon C. Spruill of Roper died in 1951.

Funeral services are being conducted in the First Methodist Church here this afternoon at 3:00 o'clock by the pastor, the Rev. R. E. Walston. Interment will be in the family cemetery at her old home in Washington County.

## Minstrel At Bear Grass This Week

Staging one of the most successful shows of its kind ever seen in the county at Farm Life last Thursday evening, the Ruritan Club, by popular request, will offer a repeat performance of "Minstrel Parade", in the Bear Grass school auditorium Thursday night of this week, it was announced yesterday. Patrons were turned away at the performance last week, it was said.

The show in Bear Grass is being sponsored by the Bear Grass Explorer Scouts, and a capacity audience is anticipated.

Included in the cast of 45 are quite a few with professional ratings, and the show is being contacted for repeat performances in various places, it was learned.

In addition to the minstrel, a special attraction will be little four-year-old Freddie Griffin's interpretation of "What It Was, Was Football".

The show starts promptly at 8:00 o'clock and the proceeds from the 35 and 60-cent admission charges will go to the Bear Grass Scouts.

## County Represented At Cancer Detection Clinic

Martin County was again represented at the cancer detection clinic held in Rocky Mount last Wednesday, it was announced by Dr. A. L. Daughtridge, chairman. The clinics are conducted each 1st and third Wednesday in the municipal building at Rocky Mount, and are free to any one. They are conducted by the Edgecombe-Nash Medical Society, in cooperation with the State Board of Health and the Cancer Societies.

## STORE SITE

Subject to certain conditions, the Everett property, corner of Elm and Main streets, has been approved as a site for a new Colonial store, according to unofficial but reliable information heard here yesterday. A final decision is expected within the next few days, it was said.

## In Commissioner's Race



Interest in the race for county commissioner from the Jamesville-Williams district is mounting with two young men bidding for the place. The candidates are Joe Lawrence Coltraine (left) of Williams Township and C. C. (Frosty) Martin (right) of Jamesville. The other candidates, without opposition, have been declared nominees for the other four positions on the board. The contest is subject to county-wide vote.

## Employees Give Strong Support To The Red Cross

Nearly \$500 Contributed by Individuals During Recent Drive

Employees, plus a few gifts from business firms, gave a strong support to the Red Cross during the recent fund drive, according to a statement released by Fund Chairman Hugh M. Martin. The total contribution from the Williamston employee group added up to almost \$500. Mrs. Irving Margolis chaired the drive among to particular group.

The list shows just about all the employees in the town, especially in the main business area, and it is a rather formidable list. Contributions are recognized, as follows:

Burnice Warren, \$50; Ducey Simpson, \$50; Cecil Pierce, \$50; Johnnie Pollard, \$50; Lewis White, \$50; Mayo Harrison, \$50; Oscar Tice, 1.00; Sarah Wynn, 25; Thelma Mayo, 25; Huseel Miller, 5.00; Ruby VanLandingham, 25; Gussie Wynne, 50; R. E. Cowan, 5.00; W. B. Watts, 5.00; A. D. Angg, 3.00; Leona Decata, 1.00; W. B. Gaylord, 1.00; Ruth Wheeler, 1.00; LeRoy Savage, 1.00; Mrs. LeRoy Savage, 1.00; T. F. Davenport, 2.00; Hugh Hines, 1.00; C. A. James, 1.00; J. R. Carnell, 25; J. H. Harrell, 2.00; W. H. Bazemore, \$50; Mrs. Tom Parker, 1.00; Dred Darden, 1.00; Bill Harrison, 1.00; Mrs. Jesse Nelson, 1.00; Mrs. Rosalee Harrison, 1.00; Mrs. Walter, 1.00; Dock Taylor, 1.00; Miss Sarah Harrison, 50; Mrs. Betty Mobley, 25; Mrs. Garland Andrews, 25; J. Reg Simpson, 1.00; Helen Manning, 1.00; Bob Morris, 10; F. U. Barnes, 1.00; Mrs. Elma V. Stubbs, 25; Mrs. Lemon Keel, 10; Bobby Manning, 50; Tom Davis, 25; Mrs. Bessie Brown, 10; Mrs. Stubbs, 10; Delma Bailey, 10; Peeles Jewelers, 5.00; Halls Barber Shop, \$2.00; Pioneer Shop, 3.00; Proctor Shop, 5.00; Elizabeth Jackson, 50; Mrs. Exum Ward, 50; Pauline Savage, 50; Mrs. Mary B. Gurganus, 1.00.

Mildred Gurganus, \$50; Annie B. Edwards, 50; Mrs. Napier, 50; Paul Peele, 1.00; Mrs. Leslie Jones, 1.00; H. L. Austin, 2.00; Melvin Griffin, 1.00; Jimmy Rodgers, 1.00; Mrs. Clarence Forbes, 50; Mrs. John S. Cooke, 50; Mrs. Bruce Edwards, 50; Reba Matthews, 50; Mrs. Henry Oakley, 50; George Moore, 1.00; Mrs. James Moore, 1.00; Ernest Mears, 2.00; G. C. Lilley, 1.00; Myrtle A. Nicholson, 25; Mrs. Raymond Roberson, 1.00; Thelma C. Page, 1.00; Johnny Beacham, 50; Irving Bland, 50; William Butler, 50; Sherrill Gurganus, 25; Essie Griffin, 50; Ruth Barber, 25; Mrs. Mack Nicholson, 50; Marie Modlin, 50; William Brown, 1.00; Melvin Wynne, 1.00.

Robert Purvis, \$1.00; Jane Hopkins, 50; Walter Jones, 1.00; Bennie Williams, 1.00; Clabon Sumner, 1.00; H. H. Taylor, 1.00; H. C. Mobley, 25; R. E. Tarkington, 1.00; Luther Stallings, 10; James Williamson, 25; Margaret Nicholson, 50; Paul Van Landingham, 1.00; Dalton Jones, 1.00; R. L. Bowling, 1.00; Rodney Lilley, 40; Archie Coltraine, 49; Helen Hopkins, 50; Mildred Carraway, 1.00; Dolly Roberson, 1.00; Elizabeth VanLandingham, 1.00; Julia A. Manning, 1.00; J. B. Bell, 2.00; M. J. Tarkington, 50; Edna S.

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## Band Wins Rating Of "Excellent" In Greensboro Event

Enjoyable Trip Reported By The Director; Eight Singers Also Attend

The Williamston High School Concert Band won a rating of "Excellent" in its first appearance in the State Music Festival at Greensboro last Thursday afternoon and both Director Jack Butler and the group of chaperones reported a fine trip.

The young musicians maintained their fine reputation for discipline and excellent behavior and the uniforms of the band are reported to have impressed the big audience before which the band appeared in the contest.

Leaving here shortly after noon Wednesday, the band reached the Woman's College campus about 6:00 o'clock. The girls spent the night in a dormitory there and the boys had quarters in the town, all of them reporting an enjoyable time. The trip back was made through Chapel Hill and the evening meal stop was in Raleigh. The group reached Williamston again about 11:30 Thursday evening.

The band used the King Cotton march by Sousa as a warm up number, then as their choice played Broadcast from Brazil, a samba by Bennett. Although the judges had been expected to select a Bach number If Thou Be Near, they chose instead an overture, Dorian, by Whitney. The band played in group three. With the heavy dark-colored drapes as a back-ground, the audience caught its breath as the curtains were drawn apart on the Williamston band, the chaperones and Director Butler reported, adding that the Williamston uniforms were the most attractive there.

Director Butler reported that the State Highway Patrol gave excellent escort service and the cooperation of everyone involved left nothing to be desired.

Earlier in the week Miss Mary Wallace Foy, public school music instructor and director of the glee clubs here took a group of eight students to participate in the festival at Greensboro and training. They were merged into one of two choral groups which performed during the event. The local group included five freshmen—Emma Jean Goddard, Ann Darden, Mary Lou Cox, Betsy Riddick and Kay Taylor, one sophomore—Ed Laughinghouse, and two juniors—Philip Coltraine and Benny Taylor.

## Farmer Sets Out Sweet Potatoes

While most Martin County farmers were busy preparing land for tobacco, J. T. Griffin centered his attention on sweet potatoes. He is believed to be among the first if not the first farmer in this county to transplant the crop on any large scale.

During the past week, Mr. Griffin of the Farm Life section set out an acre of sweet potatoes off his electrically heated hotbed. This year Mr. Griffin tried a hotbed 3 feet by 40 feet on an experimental basis, at a cost of about \$50. He first started setting potatoes on March 19 and by keeping the electricity turned on during the night when it was cool, he is now getting a good pulling of plants about twice a week. He says: "If a farmer is interested in raising sweet potatoes for an early market, when the prices are high, an electric hotbed is a good investment. Next year I am planning to increase my acreage of early sweet potatoes by building a larger electric hotbed."

## Opening For Club Members

There are still a few openings for Martin County 4-H club boys and girls who want to attend a summer camp between June 14 and 19, Club Leader Larry Hodgess said this morning. Applications will be received through this week, it was explained, and all club members who plan to attend the camp should get their names in the pot without further delay.

The summer outing will be centered in the mountains at Camp Schaub, about twenty miles beyond Asheville. The trip will offer the youth of this county a great opportunity to survey the marvels of the western mountains.

The \$26 fee finances transportation, room and board and other expenses, it was explained.

## Suffers Attack While In Huston, Texas

Mr. Bob Johnson, popular chemist for the Mathieson Chemical Corporation and who made his home here for several months, suffered an attack while on an assignment in Huston, Texas, for his company last week. Mrs. Johnson and son were called from their home in Nira-gara Falls, N. Y., to be with him.

## 20 PERCENT DROP

Raleigh.—In 110 days since the first of the year fatalities on North Carolina highways have dropped 20 percent the Motor Vehicles Department said today. Figures compiled through the Easter holidays ending at midnight April 19 showed 240 traffic deaths for this year as compared to 300 for the identical period of 1953.

"This decrease represents an encouraging trend," said highway patrol commander James R. Smith. "We are appealing to every Tar Heel driver to help keep this trend downward in the months ahead."