

Propaganda Ruled Out In Race For District Solicitor

Elbert S. Peel Says Martin Has Had No District Post In 56 Years

A short time ago Elbert S. Peel, candidate to succeed himself as solicitor of the Second Judicial District, said that Martin County had had no elective office above State legislative rank in 56 years. Peel's opponent charged that it was nothing but propaganda.

A few days ago Peel made the following reply, in part:

In Saturday's News & Observer there was a news item from my opponent charging me with using "Misleading Propaganda". I do not now and will not in the future make any charges against my opponent. He is a fine man and I consider him a friend and grant to him the right to do anything he wishes to get the office.

Lets examine the facts. I said that I had spent my political life time working for fine, outstanding Nash County citizens for office and hoped that Nash County voters would remember that on May 29th. That is true and I still say it with all the emphasis I can.

I said that this was the first time the voters of this district have had a chance to vote for a Martin County man since 1898 or for 56 years. This is true, and I say it again.

My opponent goes back beyond the Civil War and brings up the Honorable Asa Biggs who was a Congressman, Senator and Federal and Confederate judge. Asa Biggs was one of North Carolina's Great, but he held no office after the last gun was silenced at Appomattox.

He referred to the Martins. The Martin family has for 90 years been one of the leading Republican families of North Carolina. Two of them were solicitors from 1868 to 1878 and 1896 to 1898. The grandfather was Congressman, the father was Collector of Internal Revenue and the son was Referee in Bankruptcy.

He referred to Clayton Moore. Clayton Moore was an outstanding North Carolinian and was elected to the State Senate.

His office was appointive and he was not elected by the people.

But, I am talking about the 20th Century and the present. Since 1898 and for 56 years Martin County has held no elective office above State Legislature level.

I said that Now—Right this minute—Nash County has three elective officers, Congressman, Supreme Court Justice and Superior Court Judge. Now, seriously does it look right to take this one office from us and give it to the county that already has three officers.

But it is worse than that. My opponent seems to have missed the real point of my argument. Let me explain. The 4th Congressional district is comprised of the counties of Nash, Franklin, Vance, Johnson, Chatham and Randolph. From Nashville to the end of Randolph County is a distance of 128 miles. The 2nd Judicial District is comprised of the counties of Nash, Wilson, Edgecombe, Martin and Washington. From Nashville to the end of Washington County is a distance of 97 miles. These two districts stretch out for 225 miles across the heart of North Carolina. These two districts elect only 3 officers—Congressman, Judge and Solicitor. Two of these are now held by the Town of Nashville, Congressman and Judge. They are fine officers, to be sure. But, in all fairness is not asking to much to

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ROUND-UP

Law enforcement officers had a busy time last week-end when fourteen persons were arrested and temporarily jailed. Eight were charged with being drunk and disorderly, one of the arresting officers losing his shirt in making an arrest. Three others were charged with public drunkenness, and one each with assault, abandonment and violating the liquor laws.

Five of the fourteen were white, and there were four young women in the group, the ages ranging from 18 to 40 years.

Second Fatality Reported On Highway In County

The second fatality on the highways in this county so far this year was reported early last Tuesday evening when Sylvester Stallings, Jr., ran into the Flat Swamp road just outside the Robersonville town limits and into the path of a car driven by Mrs. Irving Bullock.

His head fractured when it struck the front right light, the child was removed to the Robersonville clinic where first aid was administered. The Robersonville Fire Department supplied a respirator and he was placed in an ambulance for a trip to Duke Hospital, Durham. The little victim died about two miles west of Tarboro, and a doctor at a Tarboro hospital pronounced him dead.

The victim, five years old, was returning from a neighbor's to his home across the road, accompanied by Lonray Johnson, eight years old. The child snatched away from her, jumped down about a two-foot embankment and into the path of the Bullock car which was traveling west.

A member of the Highway patrol made the investigation, and no charges were preferred. However, it was learned that a formal inquest is being planned by Coroner W. W. Biggs.

The little victim's body was moved to its former home in Warsaw for the funeral and interment yesterday.

CANCER DRIVE

The current cancer drive is making progress in this immediate area, it was reported today. Some over \$400 has been raised and reported to date, and it is certain that complete reports will boost that amount considerably.

Workers are earnestly urged to complete the canvass and make their reports to Treasurer D. V. Clayton at the Guaranty Bank. "We hope to complete the drive and have all the reports in by the end of this week," the chairman for Williamston said today.

No reports have been received from other areas in the county on the drive.

Caravan Did Not Tarry Long Here

Alton Lennon's political caravan, made up of nine vehicles and about sixteen people, did not tarry long here last Saturday morning.

Running about thirty minutes late, the caravan, finding no assemblance, traveled through Main Street, down Washington and around on Haughton, back down Main and on around to Smithwick, Church and Haughton, turning to continue its run west on 64. No stop was made, but a loud speaker shouted the candidate's name and eastern Carolina repeatedly. A few leaflets were strewn on the streets.

Touring several counties in this part of the State, the caravan originated in New Hanover County Thursday.

Although no arrangements had been made for a stop, local officials and a few others gathered at the town hall to extend the visitors the courtesies of the town, and the two or three followers expressed disappointment when the motorecade rolled on by with only a hand wave.

Mr. Lennon was not with the group, and he has made no official visit to this county during the current campaign.

Cold Weather Damages Crop

A prolonged cold snap with the mercury reading dropping to the low forties, has damaged crops in this area. Farmers have been busy resetting their tobacco and much difficulty has been encountered in getting good stands. Wire worms have staged a meaningful attack on the young plants. However, only in a few instances have farmers found it necessary to transplant an individual crop in its entirety.

One Jamesville Township farmer deserted his tobacco field and the high-cost fertilizers when disease attacked the plants. He moved over to another field, it was reported.

While it is fairly certain that fumigation will not control wire worms, Farmer Paul Dixon said yesterday that he believed it held infestation to a low point on his farm. Quite a few plants wither and die during cold, windy days, but the trouble is traceable to plants bruised when pulled from the beds or when they are transplanted, according to Farmer Dixon.

Despite the weather, worms and other obstacles, some farmers say their crops are growing, that cultivation is getting under way on a fairly large scale throughout the county.

Burns Are Fatal For Little Girl In Duke Hospital

Mary Patsy Roberson, seven years, old, died in Duke Hospital Durham, last Thursday noon of burns received in an accident at the home of her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Holliday, near Williamston on Easter Monday, April 19. The little girl, apologizing for the accident, valiantly fought for life for seventeen days, suffering intensely from third-degree burns that covered much of her body.

Accompanied by her mother, sister and brother, she came to the county from Newport News to spend Easter with her grandparents about four miles from here on the Prison Camp road. They were making ready to return home Easter Monday afternoon when she spilled some water on her dress. She went to the gas stove in the kitchen and tried to dry her dress and it caught fire. She ran into the back yard and when other children screamed, Mr. Holliday rushed out of the house and tried to beat out the fire with his hands, suffering severe burns himself. Following first aid treatment in a local hospital she was removed to Durham. Her condition showed some improvement week before last, but she suffered a relapse last Tuesday and members of the family were called to her bedside.

The daughter of the late Mark and Martha Staton Hodges, she was born in Halifax County March 28, 1881. Her father died when she was quite young and her mother brought the family to this county, locating on the Cherry farm near Williamston. On April 16, 1903, she was married to Marcellus Stubbs who died in 1924. After making her home near Jamesville a short time following her marriage, she moved to Williamston. After her husband's death she had lived in this and Halifax Counties before entering the hospital. She was a member of the Methodist church.

Surviving are a son, Jesse Stubbs, of Rogersville, Tenn.; a daughter, Mrs. J. L. McGill, of Raleigh; one step-son, Walter Stubbs, of Richmond; two step-daughters, Mrs. George W. Sprague, Jr., of Cleveland, Ohio, and Mrs. J. J. Gardner of Macclesfield; and four grandchildren.

The last rites are being conducted in the Biggs Funeral Chapel at 11 o'clock this morning, presided over by the Rev. E. W. Walston, pastor of the local Methodist church assisted by the Rev. J. Don Skinner, Presbyterian minister. Interment will be in the family plot in the Skewarkey Church Cemetery.

Former Resident Dies In Hospital

Mrs. Maggie Hodges Stubbs, a resident of this county for a number of years, died in Butner Hospital, Durham, last Saturday evening at 6:00 o'clock. She had been in feeble health for many years.

The daughter of the late Mark and Martha Staton Hodges, she was born in Halifax County March 28, 1881. Her father died when she was quite young and her mother brought the family to this county, locating on the Cherry farm near Williamston. On April 16, 1903, she was married to Marcellus Stubbs who died in 1924. After making her home near Jamesville a short time following her marriage, she moved to Williamston. After her husband's death she had lived in this and Halifax Counties before entering the hospital. She was a member of the Methodist church.

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Peak Reached In Jobless Benefits

Washington.—The Labor Department has reported the states paid out a record \$53 million dollars in unemployment compensation benefits during the first quarter of this year.

It was the largest amount spent on jobless workers in any previous three-month period. However, the compensation fund credited to the states in the federal treasury on April 1 totaled \$8,627,500,000.

During the first quarter of this year \$52,950,329 was spent in payments to an average weekly number of 1,807,000 unemployed. The average payment was \$24.65. Some states paying more, some less.

This compared with the previous quarterly high for the first three months in 1950 when a total of \$540,861,000 was paid to an average weekly number of 2,016,000 beneficiaries. The average weekly payment then, however, was \$21.02.

Total unemployment has been higher than spring 1950. It was in 1950, but the states have increased the amount and duration of payments since then. About 36 million out of the approximately 60 million workers are covered by the jobless insurance program.

Much Interest In Little League

Interest in the Little Baseball League here continues to mount, the public having turned out more than 400 strong for a barbecue supper in the Farmers Warehouse last Friday evening.

Funeral Service Held For Mary Patsy Roberson Saturday Afternoon

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Funeral Held For Native Of County

Funeral services were conducted in Plymouth last Thursday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock for Mrs. Ida Lilley Pritchard who died at her home there last Wednesday afternoon at 4:00 o'clock. The service was conducted by the Rev. W. B. Harrington, Baptist minister of this county, assisted by the Rev. Paul B. Nickens, pastor of the Plymouth Baptist Church. Interment was in the Hamilton Cemetery.

The daughter of the late Robert and Mary Woolard Lilley, she was born in Griffins Township, this county, 78 years ago. After spending her early life in Griffins she moved to Williamston, and following her marriage to W. Thomas Pritchard she located in Hamilton where she lived twenty years. For the past fifteen years she had made her home with her children in Plymouth.

In early girlhood she joined the Christian Church at Macedonia, but changed to the Baptist Church when she moved to Hamilton.

Surviving are a daughter, Miss Beulah Pritchard and two sons, Robert and Jack Pritchard, all of Plymouth; two sisters, Mrs. Fannie Haislip of Roper and Mrs. J. E. Edmondson of Williamston, and eight grandchildren.

Lad Walks Away With Hat Guessing Contest

Aaron Davenport, 12 years old, walked away with the straw hat guessing contest at Bulluck's last Saturday.

The store owner had a straw hat frozen in a block of ice, and the public was asked to guess how much of the ice would be left at 5:00 o'clock that afternoon. About 90 guessed, but young Davenport came through with a guess of 37 1-2 pounds. The ice that was left weighed 86 1-2 pounds. The winner gets the pick of a straw hat.

Native Of Town Died In Atlanta Friday Evening

Graveside services were conducted in Woodlawn Cemetery here yesterday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock for Ernest A. Brown, native of this county, who died in an Atlanta hospital last Saturday morning at 6:45 o'clock. He had been ill only a short time, and death was attributed to a heart ailment.

The son of Mrs. Ida Augusta Mizelle Brown and the late Walter A. Brown, he was born near Williamston 53 years ago on March 17, 1901. After completing the local schools he studied at Christ School at Arden, and moved from Williamston to Petersburg in 1917. After a stay there of six years he moved with his family to Baltimore, locating about four years later in Atlanta where he headed the southeastern auditing division for the A. and P. Tea Company. He was prominently connected with the business and civic life of that city and served as master of the Masonic Lodge there.

He joined the Memorial Baptist Church here when he was a young boy, and is well remembered in this section as a promising youth, one who was kind and thoughtful of others.

It was reported that he had looked forward to his retirement within the next few years and returning to his boyhood home. One of his last requests was to be buried in his home town.

Surviving besides his widow, the former Miss Annie Laurie Bates of Birmingham, are his mother, Mrs. W. A. Brown of Wilson; a sister, Mrs. Albert Sabatell of Baltimore; a brother, Clarence Brown of Wilson, and one niece and one nephew. A brother, Carroll Brown, was killed by lightning while the family lived in Petersburg, and another brother, Dr. Walter Brown, lost his life in the Pacific theater during World War II.

The Rev. Mr. Crowe, Presbyterian minister, conducted the funeral services at 11 o'clock this morning in the Woodlawn Cemetery.

Band Will Travel Again Saturday

Having made a successful and enjoyable long trip to Greensboro a few weeks ago as a concert band the Green Wave Marching Band will travel again Saturday of this week. The 75 member group will take part in the big Potato Festival Parade at Elizabeth City along with some 30 other bands from North Carolina and Virginia.

Present plans call for the band to leave Williamston at 8:00 a. m. The parade is scheduled for 11:00 and the band will return during the afternoon.

Among the bands from North Carolina will be several from the Piedmont area, High Point, Asheboro, etc., while those from Norfolk will include the Navy band of the "Commander-in-Chief United Fleet" stationed in Norfolk.

While details on accommodations and arrangements were not released yesterday it was deemed likely that the Williamston band along with the others will be provided with the noon-time meal at one of the armed forces facilities in the Elizabeth City area as was done on the last visit of the local group.

Practice for the parade appearance was upped somewhat by the recent Junior-Senior events but the band is to get stiff workouts this week to work up to its usual standard of effort.

Local Man Named To Board Of Association In The State

H. C. Miller, Home Laundry & Cleaners, Williamston, was elected to the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Association of Launderers and Cleaners at the association's annual convention recently concluded in Asheville. Directors terms run for three years. Miller succeeds R. Gaylor Harrison, Alpha Cleaners of Williamston who has just completed a term on the State Association's Board of Directors.

Red Cross Fund Drive Few Dollars Short In Chapter

A final report released this week by Fund Chairman Hugh M. Martin shows the annual Red Cross drive just a few dollars short of the 1954 goal. Although the drive fell short \$26.62 below the quota, the campaign this year is recognized as a very successful one. A total of \$4,361.38 was raised in the five townships comprising the Martin County chapter, including Jamesville, Williams, Griffins, Bear Grass and Williamston.

Making his final report today, Chairman Martin expressed his appreciation to all those who handled the canvass or assisted in any way. He also extended his thanks to all those who contributed to the cause, including those who tendered a few pennies.

The work of the Red Cross, including the blood program, is assured for another year in the

chapter, and the people of the five townships can be proud of the achievement, for it was admitted that the task was no easy one this year.

A brief review of the canvass in the districts follows:

District	Quota	Amt Raised
Jamesville	\$ 300	\$ 290.60
Williams	100	103.00
Griffins	250	220.10
Bear Grass	250	193.16
Williamston		
Special Gifts	2,250	1,739.25
Residential	500	602.06
Employees	200	493.81
Col. Citizens	740	719.40
Totals	\$4,388	\$4,361.38

The colored citizens reported by school districts, as follows: Hayes, \$412.70; Dardens, \$70.57; Burroughs, \$34.26; Williams, \$52.25; Jamesville, \$34.62; Rodgers, \$75; and Biggs, \$40.

'Dick' Woodward Died Early Today

Richard Delvis (Dick) Woodward, former Williamston resident, died at his home in Virginia Beach this morning at 4:15 o'clock following a long period of declining health. He had been critically ill for several months.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Woodward, Jr., he was born in Suffolk 43 years ago and spent his early life there. He was associated with the Farmville-Woodward Lumber Company in Williamston for several years in the thirties, marrying Miss Myrtle Brown here and moving two years later to Ashland, Virginia, about 1939. Later he located in Virginia Beach where he operated a lumber and supply business.

Surviving besides his parents and Mrs. Woodward are four children, Dickie Ann, Myrtle Brown, Jennie and Richard Woodward, all of Virginia Beach, and three brothers.

Graveside services are being conducted in the Suffolk cemetery this afternoon at 5:00 o'clock.

Thirty Thousand Rule Violations

Raleigh.—Over 30,000 Tar Heel motorists suffered penalties for traffic violations during the four months ending with April. In a regular monthly summary of moving violations the Motor Department said today speeding over the state limit of 55 mph alone resulted in 20,606 convictions during the period.

Reckless driving (one offense) resulted in 4,038 arrests and subsequent convictions to take second place and driving without an operator's permit was third with 3,452.

Miscellaneous violations were given as follows: faulty equipment 1,072, failing to give right of way 605, following too closely 438, and passing school bus 114.

The report showed a total of 34,618 convictions, not counting an additional 11,185 out of states.

Local Boy Recently Returned From Overseas

After a long tour of duty in Europe with the 70th A. F. A. Battalion, Cpl. Reginald C. Williams recently returned home and is spending his leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Williams, on North Biggs Street.

After a brief processing period he will be reassigned to some post in this country.

His wife is Christa Williams of Gabelsberger Streets, Nurnburg, Bremen. She plans to join him in this country shortly.

Police Put Stolen Property To Use Here

They are ready to surrender it to the rightful owners at any time, but until the rightful owners can be determined, local police are putting to use a school safety sign to good use here.

The sign was found in the middle of Highway 17 on the river fill near here a few nights ago, apparently having been placed there by pranksters. It was delivered to the police department and Chief John Roebuck had it placed on Watts Street near the grammar school.

Mathieson Plans Merger With The Olin Industries

Company With A Factory Here To Be Half-Billion Dollar Corporation

The boards of directors of Mathieson Chemical Corporation and Olin Industries, Inc., yesterday voted unanimously to submit to their stockholders at a special meeting to be held in June 29, a proposal to merge the two companies, according to information released by Mr. C. G. Crockett of Mathieson's division plant here.

The announcement was made jointly by John M. Olin, president of Olin Industries, and Thomas S. Nichols, president and chairman of Mathieson. The name of the new company will be Olin-Mathieson Chemical Corporation. Following the merger Mr. Olin will become chairman of the board of Olin-Mathieson and Mr. Nichols will become chairman of the finance committee.

Based on 1953 figures the combined corporation will have total assets of about \$500,000,000, and sales of over \$500,000,000, including sales of non-consolidated subsidiaries and licenses.

When the merger becomes effective, each outstanding share of Mathieson preferred stock and each outstanding share of Olin preferred stock will be one share of Olin-Mathieson \$4.25 convertible preferred stock, and each outstanding share of Mathieson common stock and each outstanding share of Olin common stock will be one share of Olin-Mathieson common stock. When the merger is approved and carried out, a five percent stock dividend on the Mathieson common stock will be paid prior to the effective date.

The proposed combination will be one of America's important diversified processing and manufacturing enterprises. Both companies were founded in 1892, generally are of the same size and each has approximately 18,000 employees.

Mathieson is a leading producer of industrial and agricultural chemicals, petrochemicals, and division, drugs and pharmaceuticals. Its operations are worldwide and include twenty-five plants in the United States and sixteen foreign countries.

Olin Industries is a large producer of metals and fabricated parts, industrial explosives, military and sporting firearms and ammunition, cellophane, polyethylene, fine specialty papers, forest products, powder-actuated fasteners and tools, and electrical products and maintains a large research staff to develop new and improved products. Olin operates eighteen plants, all in the United States.

The proposal to merge Mathieson and Olin is the result of extended negotiations and studies by the boards of directors and managements of both corporations. Each of the corporations has, since World War II, engaged in an aggressive program of expansion and diversification along traditional lines of its own business or in lines closely and naturally related to its own business.

In June, 1953, Mathieson and Olin entered into an agreement to form the jointly-owned Matholin Corporation to manufacture, sell and conduct research of hydrazine, a new industrial chemical of great promise.

Mathieson and Olin have been considered "growth" companies (Continued on page eight)

TOWN REGISTRATION

Not to be confused with the county or State registration for the May 29 primary, books will be open in the town of Williamston on Friday of this week for the registration of voters who would participate in the special street bond election to be held on June 4. No new registration has been ordered, meaning that those who voted in the last town election (May 5, 1953) or those whose names are on the books prior to that time will not have to register again to take part in the special June 4 election.

Mrs. S. H. Grimes, registrar, will have the books open in her office on Baltimore Street just back of the Central Restaurant, beginning May 14 and continuing through May 21, 1954.

Minor Accidents On County Roads

No one was badly injured and property damage was limited to about \$800 in two minor automobile accidents on the highways in this county over the week-end.

Charlie Cherry, Jr., 28-year-old colored man of RFD 3, Williamston, lost control of his 1950 Chevrolet in a curve on the Poplar Point highway last Saturday evening at 6:30 o'clock and turned it over about one and one-half times. Cherry was thrown out of the vehicle and one leg was pinned under a rear fender. He was cut on the arm and his leg was painfully bruised, but the injury was not believed to be serious. Damage to the car was estimated at \$350 by the investigating patrolman.

Monday morning at 7:50 a. m., Marvin Slade Cherry was driving about one mile west of Bear Grass on the Stokes road and stopped for a school bus that was loading passengers. James Harrison Gaylor IV, of Roper was following and plowed into the rear of Cherry's 1948 Ford pickup truck, causing about \$25 damage to the truck and about \$125 damage to his 1949 Pontiac. No one was hurt, the investigating patrolman said.

The county had its second fatal accident last week.

Patrol Runs Two Million Miles

Raleigh.—State highway troopers, while patting their cars well over two million miles in March, arrested 15,087 traffic law violators and cited 6,835 others to court.

A patrol activity report, issued today, showed troopers inspected 158,877 driver's licenses, investigated 1,804 accidents, issued 8,328 warning tickets, inspected 91,540 vehicles, and investigated 7,611 complaints during March.

They recovered 66 stolen cars and weighed 961 vehicles. In addition to enforcement troopers extended 17,821 courtesies and put out two fires.

The report covered the activities of patrolmen under the command of Troop Commanders S. H. Mitchell, Greenville; C. R. Williams, Fayetteville; A. W. Welch, Greensboro; W. E. Bailey, Salisbury; and D. G. Lewis, Asheville.

ALL SET

Unofficial but reliable reports declare that bids will be received on or about the second Tuesday in June for the construction of a new railroad bridge across West Main Street.

Scheduled to be let to contract in April, the project was delayed when errors were found in the specifications prepared by Coast Line engineers, according to unofficial reports received here.

It was also learned that the railroad company is to purchase the creosoted piling, and the highway is to buy the structural steel, the labor to be let to contract.