FAMILIES TWICE EACH WEEK

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Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Tuesday, May 18, 1954

ESTABLISHED 1899

Eight Accidents On Irvin L. Morion, Local Man, Died Highways In County At Home Of Son Of Party Committee Received in Fight At Home Last Night Highways In County

Little Girl Badly Injured On North **Haughton Street**

Property Damage Estimated At \$1,570 In Wrecks Past Few Days

One person was killed and three others were injured, one of them badly, in a series of accidents on the highways in this county during the past few days, according to reports coming from the North Carolina Highway Patrol office in the courthouse this

Little Miss Rebecca Morton, 4year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Morton of Williamston, was badly injured when struck by a car just outside the town limits on North Haughton Street last Saturday morning at 9:00 o'clock. She suffered fractures of the left arm at the elbow and just above the wrist and the left thigh. She also suffered head injuries and bruises about the body, but those Gurganus Named injuries were not believed serious. Removed by Mrs. Virginia Speller to Martin General Hospital, she was reported to be responding to treatment and will continue in the hospital for

Accompanied by her brother and Mrs. Pearl Whitfield, the litfle girl was walking south be- the North Carolina Junior Cham- Surviving are eight sons, side the road and walked or ran ber of Commerce in Raleigh, N. C. Charles Morton of Raleigh, Luthinto the path of a car driven by Milton Harrison who was going of strong campaigning by the lo- Morton of Washington, D. C. out of town. Said to have been cal Jaycees, Edgar Gurganus was Red Morton of Florence, S. C., driving at a moderate speed, Hared her to the hospital.

a curve and the car crashed into position from a Town as small as many years. the man and mule. Neither of the Williamston. men was injured, but the animal was battered up a bit and dam- the Inaugural Banquet Saturday age to the car was estimated at

liam Bland and the other by Mrs. dent" of the ten that served dur-Motlie Ray Oakley, crashed at ing the past year. The presentathe intersection of Highway 64 tion was made by Jimmy Wallace, and the McCaskey Road about retiring National Director from 1:40 o'clock last Thursday after- Morehead City, N. C. poon. Damage to the Bland car, a 1949 Chrysler, was estimated at will serve on the National Board \$250 and that to the Oakley car, at its June meeting in Colorado

About two hours later and gue's car was estimated at \$200 and that to the Forbes auto, a 1952 Plymouth, was placed at \$300.

Last Friday afternoon, Thoing west on Highway 64 about one-quarter mile out of Oak City and slowed down to pick up a Association will present their of the band appeared on the TV outlook next fall and winter. his 1953 Dodge on the wet pave- ment, "Master Shoe's Kindergar- on the festival. ing about \$50 damage to his ma-

chine and none to the truck. Palmyra-Hamilton road about the First Methodist Church. 11:36 o'clock last Friday night, Wm. O. Griffin, Jr., lost control (Continued on Page Two)

SCHOOL FINALS

Following is the schedule for the finals in the Williamston High School, as announced today by Principal B. G.

Sunday night, 8:00 o'clock, commencement Sermon by Rev. Robert Walston, Williamston Methodist Church; Music by Glee Club.

Thursday 9:30 a. Awards Day Program, high school auditorium

Thursday night, 8:00 o'clock, Graduation Exercises: Music by Band. Address by Rev. James Lowry, South Norfolk Presbyterian Church. Examination Schedule, May 21, 24, 25.

BOND REGISTRATION

The registration for the

coming bond election (June

4) here was off to a good

start last week-end when 65

new names were added to the

books. Ten of the names

were those of colored citizens,

according to a report released

by Mrs. Eva Grimes, regis-

The books, opened last Fri-

day will remain open each

day from 9:00 a. m., until

5:00 p. m., through Friday

of this week at the regis-

trar's office on Baltimore

street near W. G. Peele's in-

surance office. Those persons

whose names are already on

the books will not find it ne-

cessary to register again to

participate in the bond elec-

The June 4 town bond elec-

tion is not to be confused

with Democratic primary

Jaycee Director

The second honor came during

night in the Memorial Auditorium

when Edgar was presented the

As National Director, Edgar

L. Sidney Christian

tion on June 4.

May 29.

Funeral Service Being Held In Wilson Today At 3:00 o'clock

Irving L. Morton, retired horticulturist, and a resident of Williamston for the past three and one-half years, died at the home of his son, Patrolman Earl Morton, in Roper Sunday morning at 1:30 o'clock, the victim of a heart attack. Although he had been in feeble health for quite some time, he was fairly active up until Saturday. He had suffered with a heart condition, and it is believed that his condition was aggravated when his five-year-old grandchild was injured in a street accident here Saturday morning. He left that afternoon to visit in Roper a few days while his daughter-in-law was busy with the grandchild in a local hospital. Apparently he was getting along as well as usual when he retired, suffering the attack late in the night and dying a short time lat-

He was born in Newport, Carteret County, 81 years ago on February 18, 1873, and spent his early life there. Moving to Wilson, he lived there about 45 years before locating in Williamston Construction Of with his son, W. Edward Morton. In early manhood he was married Edgar J. Gurganus, local at- to Miss Ellen Johnson who died torney, and the Williamston Jun- in 1949.

ior Chamber of Commerce were During his stay here he made doubly honored this past week- many friends and was held in

end at the State Convention of high esteem. Climaxing two days and nights er Morton of Greenville, I. L. Chamber of Commerce from Morton of Wilson and Edward North Carolina, Saturday after- Morton of Williamston; one

the Thomas-Yelverton Funeral from others. Cemetery, Wilson.

Band Makes A Good

Director Jack F. Butler reported a 1954 Dodge, was figured at \$200. Springs, Colorado, its August yesterday that the trip the Wilmeeting in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and liamston High School Band made about two blocks from the Mc- its next June meeting in Atlan- to Elizabeth City Saturday to take Caskey Road, Beulah Forbes be- ta, Georgia. In addition to his part in the Potato Festival Parade gan making a left turn into the duties on the National level he was a successful one although the Brady drive just as Levi Teague will serve on the Executive Com- weather was damp. The band started to pass in a 1953 Mercury. mittee of the North Carolina Jay- made a good showing and Direc- determined. cees during the coming year .- tor Butler said the majorette date in group performances.

ment and struck the pick-up, do- ten", under the direction of Mrs. The band will make its last ap-R. E. Tarkington and Mrs. R. L. pearance of the scholastic year on Bowling on May 25, 1954 at 7:30 Thursday afternoon when it leads Driving a 1951 DeSoto on the o'clock in the fellowship hall of a parade in connection with the Former Resident Little League opening program.

Town Considers Purchase Of Church Property Here

for future expansion of town tions would be necessary.

the commissioners explaining that the town. a library and that if the citizens of the building in early July.

on South Smithwick Street. The While no price figures were in this area today. special meeting was called so the mentioned, several of the com- The son of Mrs. J. W. Montieth town could have first refusal of missioners declared that the cost and the late Mr. Montieth, he was the property, it was explained. appeared to be reasonable, that born in Low Moor, Virginia. Re-It was pointed out at the meet- it would be a good buy for a lib- ceiving his engineering degrees.

needs, the commissioners explain- The commissioners expressed served as district superintendent ing that it is about the only site the belief that private citizens here for almost six years.

the property is more suitable for The church plans to abandon Funeral arrangement could not

CLEAN-UP

Prompted by the mothers of the little leaguers, volunteers turned out in numbers last Saturday and cleaned up a big disgrace in and around the high school athletic field.

It was no little task, but the band of workers held to their positions until the task was completed. Today, the park is presentable, but not free of all obstacles. Since responsibility for the upkeep of the park is not certain. some tasks that need to be done will just have to wait bleachers are dangerous, but the grandstand is clean and usable.

Several donated materials, painters volunteered, and others went there with vehicles to haul away trash and refuse by the truckload. It was a job well done, and the little leaguers are all set to open their season Thursday afternoon at 3:15 o'clock.

Potato Storage Is Planned Here

New House To Hold About Forty Thousand Bushels Of Sweet Potatoes

Plans are being advanced for of the United States Junior Earl Morton of Roper, Vernon sweet potato storage house here, and Howard Gaylord, cent accidents was reported early noon in the Hall of the House of daughter, Miss Louise Morton, of meeting of the stockholders and dy Godard and Joe Lawrence wet Marslender's pants. in the week on the Palmyra- Representatives of the State Capi- Wilson; a brother, Clim Manly directors of the Martin County Coltrain, ander who was driving a mule Jaycees in the State, led the vot- and eight great-grandchildren. company is planning the con- rington. The body was removed from bushels, will increase the com- rison, the Biggs Funeral Home here pany's capacity to almost 75,000 ... Williamston No. 1: C. H Cor

> Interment will be in Maplewood heating and cooling, it was ex- ry A. Johnson, ties of the company next to the Roebuck and J. F. Bailey, Dixie Peanut Company plant on Robersonville: C. B. Martin, R. Showing Saturday Washington Street. Work on the S. Everett, Paul D. Roberson, A. project is to get under way with- E. James and H. S. Everett, specifications can be prepared Britton, Hassell Warren, Jarvis and bids are submitted.

space in the new house, may con- L. G. Taylor, Herman Harrison, two men tied up and fell to the along the present pattern with the Boy Scout movement gained tact M. M. Levin, secretary of the Mayo Hardison and Luther Leg- ground, Hardison biting Marassociation, and priorities will be gett,

group did one of the best jobs to nesday night, discussed the pros- Clayton House and L. D. Roe- into his house, got some warm pects for the 1954 crop. While the buck, Kindergarten Pupils In Observers rated the Williamston market cannot be predicted with Hassell: D. R. Edmondson, Mrs. slender's face. Stedman also statmas Jefferson Roberson was driv- Commencement May 25th band as one of the top ones there any degree of uncertainty, it is D. R. Edmondson, J. W. Eubanks, ed that Hardison offered medicine and Saturday night the color fairly certain that production will Geo. W. Ayers and W. E. Purvis. The Williamston Ministerial guard, majorettes and first rank be reduced, making for a better Goose Nest: J. F. Crisp, Mrs.

hitch-hiker. Following behind, Community Kindergarten pupils 11th Hour Final over a Norfolk Farmers, going in the business man, J. A. Everett, Jr., and E. N. Fred Beatty of Hobgood skidded in their second annual commence- station in connection with a report for the first time and in many Harrell. cases on an over-extended scale The convention, the precinct

(Continued on Page Eight)

Dies In Richmond

of Williamston from August 1, 1947, until April 1, 1953, died committee for another two years suddenly at his home in Rich-Meeting in special session yes- the town would make a bid the mond early last evening. Making terday afternoon, Williamston's town would look elsewhere for a ready to go to a ball game with tin, prominently mentioned for board of town commissioners dis- site. The owners are being asked Mrs. Montieth, he suffered a to delay action for another few heart attack and died minutes cussed the possibility of purchas- days, possibly until the next re- later. He was 42 years old yesing the Christian church property gular meeting of the town board. terday and had planned to visit

ing that the property is needed brary since no extensive altera- he went with the Virginia Electric and Power Company and

conveniently located for a fire could underwrite the purchase Surviving besides his mother and establish a library that would are his widow, Mrs. Frances Mon-No definite action was taken, be adequate to meet the needs of tieth; one daughter, Fran, and a sister, all of Richmond.

be learned immediately.

Democrats Met In

Strict Harmony Prevails As Party Members Perfect Organization

Biennial Session

Perfect harmony prevailed for another two years.

the memory of Senator Clyde R. five days after the fracas. Hoey, the convention immediatehand and all bills paid.

been perfected at the party level, bill of indictment. arranged caucuses in various The hearing disclosed very lit parts of the courthouse.

line-up with only a few changes was ruled out by every witness. have been made in the committee Preston Stedman, the first witthe vice chairman, and the next, ing on the Roanoke and were re-

mas of Palmyra was driving north cipating in the election, "Red", sister, Mrs. Annie Tuggwell, of tails for the expansion program Eason Lilley, B. F. Lilley, Hobe held this fall to determine the ured prominently in the North as ne is better known by the Charlotte; sixteen grandchildren have not been completed, but the ward Coltrain and James Har- them. Reaching Hardison's home

storage for approximately 40,000 son, T. L. Roberson and Roy Hardis in told Marslender that he bushels, will increase the comprison,

this morning to Wilson where the bushels, it was announced. The win, Sr., J. Sam Getsinger, M. L. don. Hardison then told Marslendlast rites are being conducted in firm has been leasing storage Peel, M. W. Holloman and W. O. er to leave. Griffin.

No one was injured when two Cou Browne Trophy Award as the Chapel this afternoon at 3:00 o'- The new unit is to be construct- Williamston No. 2: C. H. God- point Marslender hit Hardison, analysis, it will prove detrimen- ous conventions as a delegate. He tars, one driven by Myrtle Wil- "Outstanding State Vice-Presi- clock by Dr. Cecil Jarman, pas- ed on a strictly modern pattern, win, Jr., R. H. Cowen, H. O. that Hardison returned the blow. tor of the Christian church there, providing accurate controls for Peele, Mrs. Paul Jones and Hen- Stedman said that he and Grif-

plained. The new unit will be lo- Cross Roads: Geo. W. Taylor, cated next to the present proper- H. M. Ayers, W. L. Ausbon, H. L. Hardison picked up a piece of nor Wm. B. Umstead is not be- this district.

in a short time, or just as soon as Gold Point: J. R. Winslow, Jake er he would drown them.

Perkins and J. E. Johnson. Growers, interested in utilizing Peplar Point: W. S. White, Mrs.

Hamilton: LeRoy Everett, Mrs. The meeting, held last Wed- W. F. Thomas, J. S. Johnson, Jr., a second time, and Hardison went

Wilbur Barrett, Lawrence Hy-

organizations having been perfected, resumed its work, and although he announced that he was not a candidate, Chairman J. H. Gray, Sr., was placed in nomination and unanimously reelected. "I had good reason not to continue for a second term," Robert P. Montieth, a resident Mr. Gray explained, accepting the chairmanship of the executive after the meeting insisted upon

his re-election. the position prior to the convention, was not a candidate, Mr. Martin explaining that he was not interested in the post because of the trying task aessociated with Thompson, Osborne was said to county; two children, Frances and have been driving toward Wil- Bill, of the Rocky Mount home; party, locally and on State and liamston on Highway 125, that two sisters, Mrs. Jack Frost of national levels.

after rounding the curve near Kinston and Mrs. Claude Win-Mrs. Elbert S. Peel was unani-Nicholson's store he lost control chester of Williamston; and his mously elected vice chairman of and ditched the car, a 1949 Mer- step-mother, Mrs. W. A. Osborne the committee, succeeding C. B. cury. After running down the of near Robersonville. Martin who made the nomina-Martin who made the nomina-tion. C. G. Gurkin was re-elected feet, the car turned over, Pa- at the home of his step-mother secretary and treasurer, the actrolman J. O. Arthur stating that Wednesday afternoon at 3:00 o'the machine made at least four clock by the Rev. Ralph Ferguson, Clarence Griffin was re-electturns before coming to a stop. Baptist minister. Interment will

ed a member of the judicial com-(Continued on page eight)

Coroner Held Inquest Friday In Connection With The Marslender Death

After hearing several witness-Saturday Morning es and a review of a pathologist's autopsy report, a special jury at a coroner's inquest held in the county courthouse last Friday evening ruled that Lawrence Branch Marslender went to his death as a result of injuries received in a fight with George when Martin County Democrats Hardiason near the old county got together in their biennial con- wharf on Roanoke River. The vention in the courthouse last jury went on to recommend that Saturday morning at 10:30 o'clock "no further action be taken and perfected their organization against Hardison who had been under \$10,000 bond since Mr. Mar-After paying silent tribute to slender's death on last April 8,

Now that the cause of the man's ly settled down to business, death has been definitely estab-Chairman J. H. Gray, Sr., calling lished, further action in the case for a report from Secretary- rests with the grand jury, At-Treasurer C. G. Gurkin. Explain- torney Carter, representing the ing that he got away in a hurry family, stating soon after the inand left his records at home, the quest that he did not know whetreasury reported \$187 cash on ther the prosecution would be pursued. It has been pointed out Calling the roll, the secretary that, irrespective of the recomreported forty party leaders pres- mendations by the coroner's jury, ent from seven of the thirteen the prosecution could carry its precincts, and the chairman, ad- case before the grand jury, or the vised that no organizations had grand jury itself could consider a

tle new evidence, and intent to The following is the precinct kill on the part of the defendant

personnel, the first named being ness questioned, said that he and the chairman; the second being Marslender had been herring fish- Court, by unanimous decision, his father for the practice of law. the secretary-treasurer, and the turning up the river when Hardilate two being regular members: son passed them between their constitutional, leaving the nation Poteat of Wake Forest in August, Jamesville: Harry Jones, C. G. boat and the Bertie shore near the in a state of shock and with no 1912. elected to the office of Director Ottis Morton of Fort Lauderdale, the construction of an additional Gurkin, Marvin Corey, A. Corey Fertilizer plant, that the swells clear pattern for future action on was instrumental in reorganizfrom Hardison's boat which was the part of the states. Williams: Floyd Moore, Mr. R. running at a rapid speed, caused it was announced following a J. Hardison, Chas. L. Daniel, Gra- their boat to dip water twice and

After reaching shore, Marslendtol. With some 500 Jaycees parti- Morton, of Ft. Lauderdale; one Yam Growers Association. De- Griffins: John A. Griffin, Mrs. er decided to visit Hardison and and cart. Alexander started to make a left turn with his mule in the first Jaycee to hold the high and cart. Alexander started to make a left turn with his mule in the first Jaycee to hold the high action supporting and cart. Alexander started to make a left turn with his mule in the first Jaycee to hold the high action supporting radical changes in the State, led the vot- and cart. Alexander started to make a left turn with his mule in the first Jaycee to hold the high action supporting radical changes ing a close association with offilearly grown, and beg

The witness said that at that fin (Johnnie) separated them. Stedman then told the jury that pipe and told them to get the hell away, Hardison adding, according to the witness, that the next time he saw the in the riv-

There was much cursing, the witness continued, and Marslender hit Hardison a second time. The slender on the right cheek and shoulder. The two were separated water and a rag to wash Marto doctor the man's wounds.

Griffin helped place Marslender in a car and Stedman said he

Fatally Injured In Auto

Accident Late Last Night

Lindwood Russell Osborne, 49, juries, died before he could be

was fatally injured and Joe removed to a hospital. Thompson,

near the Poplar Point road inter- ternally. However, he is expect-

here at 11:00 o'clock Monday A native of this county, Mr.

Complete details of the acci- ville until a few years ago when

dent, the third fatal one on the he located in Rocky Mount and

highways in the county so far this engaged in the tobacco business.

year, could not be learned im- Surviving are his widow, the

section about four miles from ed to recover.

Osborne suffering internal in- tery.

(Continued on Page Two)

DIES SUDDENLY



Funeral services for Wheeler Martin, a leading citizen and attorney, who died suddenly at his home here last evening shortly after 9:00 o'clock, will be conducted at the home tomorrow afternoon at 3:00 o'clock.

Segregation Held

The United States Supreme yesterday held segregation un- and was married to Miss Louie

mentous handed down by the building it into one of the strongcourt since the Civil War, the de- est and most effective financial cision does not abolish segrega- organizations of its type in this tion immediately. Hearings are to section of the State. He also figcourse of action, it was stated. Carolina Building and Loan Leanear the old wharf, Marslender During the meantime, several of gue, serving it as president dur-

The ruling has attracted bit- and Loan League. vancing the opinion that it will publican Party in North Carolina be a stumbling block in race re- he was active in its affairs down lations and that, in the final through the years, attending varital, especially to the Negro. Oth- served as Assistant District Aters upheld the ruling, declaring torney during the Hoover Adit a sound one.

Terribly disappointed, Gover- pointed referee in bankruptcy in session of the General Assembly ties, Mr. Martin was active in all in this State. It was pointed out civic and community undertakthat the regular session will be ings. He instituted the Boy Scout under way in ample time to tackle work in this county, serving as the problem.

lations are expected to continue movement at all times. His part in sensibly.

Osborne lived near Roberson-

be in the Robersonville Ceme-

Funeral At Main Street Home For **Prominent Citizen**

Suffered Heart Attack And **Died Few Minutes Later** At 9:05 O'Clock

Wheeler Martin, prominent local citizen and a leading attorney in this section of the State, died suddenly at his home here on East Main Street last evening shortly after 9:00 o'clock. After viewing a television program, Mr. Martin made ready to retire and suffered the attack, the end coming minutes later.

A victim of a heart condition for a number of years, Mr. Martin had taken very good care of his health and continued fairly active. He was about his regular duties yesterday, greeting friends on the streets with his usual smile, and apparently was getting along all right.

The son of the late Wheeler and Caroline Ransom Martin, he was born in Williamston 63 years ago on August 18, 1890. After attending the local schools he was graduated from Warrenton Preparatory School and entered Unconstitutional Wake Forest College where he was graduated with the law degree in 1912. He returned home

A leader in the community, he Recognized as one of the mo- ing and Loan Association in 1914,

ministration, and later was ap-

lieved to be considering a special Aside from his professional du-Scoutmaster for years and main-During the meantime, race re- taining an active interest in the leaders of both races choosing to him recognition not only in this tackle the problem sanely and county but also throughout Eastern North Carolina. It was his Governor Herman Talmadge special request that no flowers and Governor James Byrnes were be sent, that contributions be usbitterly critical of the decision, ed for the furtherance of Boy Byrnes stating that he was shock- Scout work in Martin County, Mr. ed to learn that the court had re- W. Clyde Griffin has been named versed itself after holding that as treasurer of the fund, and inthe separate but equal doctrine stead of sending flowers friends was not violative of the Constitu- will forward their memorial gifts to him at the Branch Bank in Williamston. The request is in keeping with Mr. Martin's devoted interest in youth here and throughout the county.

He was a past president of the Kiwanis Club, and was active in every movement designed for the promotion of his town and county. Surviving besides Mrs. Martin Thompson of Parmele suffered rendered unconscious for several are two grandchildren, Caroline painful cuts and bruises in an au- hours, suffered a bad cut over one and Victoria Martin of Lafayette,

tomobile accident on Highway 125 eye and possibly was hurt in- Indiana; and four nephews. A (Continued on Page Two)

ROUND-UP

The crime front was comparatively quiet in this county last week-end, a report from the sheriff's office showing only a few arrests. Four persons were detained in the county jail, two for public drunkenness and one each for drunken driving and issuing a worthless check.

One of the four was white, and the ages of the group ranged from 31 to 65 years. The number of arrests was

the smallest for any weekend period in the county in the county in months.