

## Plan Special Term Of Superior Court

### County Board In Regular Session Monday Morning

#### Commissioners To Review Budgets In Meeting Next Tuesday

Meeting in regular session Monday morning, the Martin County commissioners handled routine duties along with special requests and recessed until next Tuesday when they will plunge into budgetary problems.

At the request of Attorney Robt. L. Coburn, the commissioners made provision for holding a special term of the Martin County Superior Court in July. The date had been tentatively set for July 5, but that date will not be definite until a judge is assigned and an agreement with attorneys can be reached, it was said. July 5 is already marked down as a holiday since the Fourth falls on Sunday, meaning that if the term is set for that week, no sessions are likely to be held until Tuesday, July 6. The term is being arranged to clear from the docket the litigations centered in the No. 3 Martin County Drainage District, attorneys declaring it will require a week to hear the evidence and handle the trial.

Carl Hodges, 32, of Cumberland County was named assistant Negro farm agent in this county. Succeeding David L. Simmons, resigned, Hodges is to enter upon his new duties on June 16.

Albert L. Smith of Goose Nest was appointed constable for that township, the young man having been named chief of police for Oak City a short time ago.

Clyde H. Bunting, recently nominated for constable of Robersonville Township, was appointed to the position by the board until December, following his election.

Upon request from a large number of petitioners, the board recommended for black topping nine-tenths of a mile of road in Jamesville Township, running from Highway 64 near the Glasgow farm to connect with the Poplar Chapel-Angetown road. It was pointed out that the road serves sixteen families.

Tax Supervisor, M. L. Peel was authorized and directed to proceed with the proper listing of motor vehicles where discrepancies in the lists are found. Some gross irregularities, intentional or unintentional, are being uncovered as tax office workers check the lists against registrations. Several hundred apparent discrepancies have already been found, it was learned. In quite a few cases, the owners did not even list their vehicles. In other cases, the owners represented

### Jamesville Boy Gets Promotion

Stewart Ralph Hardison, a native of Jamesville and the son of Mr. and Mrs. Luther Hardison, was recently named Regional Residential Mortgage Supervisor of the southern department of the Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States.

Mr. Hardison was employed by the Society as a Cashier trainee after graduating from Duke University in 1929. In 1930 he was transferred to the Home Office in New York to fill a position in the Cashier's Department. He joined the Mortgage Loan Department in 1934 as a field man in Charlotte. During World War II he served several years as a Lieutenant in the United States Navy, and after his discharge he was re-employed as Residential Mortgage Supervisor in Raleigh.

In his new position as Regional Supervisor, Mr. Hardison will continue to make his headquarters in Raleigh. He will have the responsibility of improving the service now rendered by the various supervisors' offices throughout the southern territory.

Mr. Hardison is married to the former Miss Marietta Horner of Henderson. They have two children.

#### PRESIDENT



A. J. Manning was installed president of the Boosters at a meeting of the organization held in the Scout Hut on South Smithwick Street here last Friday evening. He succeeds W. M. Baker.

### Jim Knox Died In Hospital Monday

James H. Knox, native of the Robersonville community, died in the North Carolina Cancer Institute Hospital at Lumberton at 1:00 o'clock Monday morning. He had been in poor health for several years, but continued fairly active until a comparatively short time ago. He was a patient in N. C. Memorial Hospital for awhile and was transferred to the Lumberton hospital by ambulance last Sunday.

The son of the late William A. and Martha Manning Knox, he was born in this county 61 years ago and spent his early life on the farm. In the early thirties he located in Hamilton where he engaged in the mercantile business, later moving to Hamilton where he had made his home for many years, engaging in building work and handling other tasks.

Surviving are his widow, the former Miss Mae D. Robinson; two sons, J. W. Knox, Hamilton merchant, and William Jesse Knox of Fort Wayne, Indiana; two daughters, Mrs. Zelbert Cox of Grifton and Mrs. Mabel Dean White of Norfolk; one brother, W. R. Knox, of Clayton, and eight grandchildren.

He was a member of the Hamilton Baptist Church for a long time, and the funeral is being conducted there this afternoon at 3:00 o'clock by the pastor, the Rev. C. L. Gatlin. Interment will be in the Hamilton Cemetery.

### Funeral Sunday For Mrs. Tallon

Funeral services were conducted in the Suffolk Episcopal Church Sunday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock for Mrs. Mary Louise Carstarphen Tallon, Williamston native, who died suddenly at her home in the Virginia city last Thursday morning. The pastor, the Rev. Mr. Winslow, conducted the rites. Interment was in the Suffolk cemetery.

Among those from here who attended the funeral were Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Carstarphen, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Carstarphen and children, Bettie Fagan and Frank, Jr., and Messrs. C. D. and Sutton Carstarphen.

### Asking Jaycees To Answer Call

All members of the local Junior Chamber of Commerce are urged to be at the playground site Wednesday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock. Much work has already been accomplished on the worthy project and now is the time for completion. Equipment is ready to be placed and unless the weeds are cleaned-up now all previous work will have been to no avail. Once again, the Jaycees are being urged to finish this project and give the kids of Williamston a playground they can be proud of.

### Boosters Met In Annual Session Friday Evening

#### Jerry Albright Of Raleigh Addressed Sixty Mem- bers of Organization

The Williamston Boosters, Inc., met last Friday night at 7:30 in the Scout Hut on Smithwick Street for the 5th annual meeting. Dinner was served by the Christian Church women, with special servings by a local dairy concern in observance of National Dairy Month.

President W. M. Baker presided over the meeting, and after Wheeler Manning pronounced the invocation, the Melody Masters, a Martin County singing group directed by Mrs. Ed L. Grady, sang four songs.

The speaker for the evening was a member of the staff of the North Carolina Department of Conservation and Development, Mr. Jerry Albright. Mr. Albright was formerly on the public relations staff of radio station WNAO in Raleigh, and became associated with the Department of Conservation a few years ago. He spoke on the necessity for organization in a community in order to capitalize on the industrial expansion which is going on in the south at this time. Concerted effort, all-out work on inducing desirable industry, are must for community growth. Speaking from a wealth of personal experience in negotiating with industries in the North who desire to relocate in the South, Albright pointed out that sometimes work goes on for several years before the industry finally decides to move. A town's appearance to a prospect, as he rides through, is very important in attracting outsiders. Quality of the schools, recreational facilities for the children, community outlook, all these must be considered. Finally, a community must be willing to help finance some part of the industrial program itself.

Through erecting a building to lease to the industry, or for helping provide the necessary land locations so vital to the success of the operation, Mr. Albright paid tribute to the cooperation he has received in his work, from officials of the town of Williamston, and he offered, in closing, his services as a representative of the department of Conservation and Development, in helping forward the progress of any plans made here for raising money for organization on which could use it as a means of negotiating with industry for possible location.

President Baker thanked Mr. Albright for his kindness in coming to speak to the group, and then he introduced the directors of the Williamston Boosters: Le-man Barnhill, Ben Courtney, William Everett, George Corey, Jay Griffin, D. R. Davis, Urban Rogers, and the three newly elected directors, Ernest Mears, Exum Ward, and James Bulluck.

Appreciation was extended to the retiring vice-president, R. E. Peele, who along with Wheeler Manning and John Henry Edwards, has served on the board for the past three years. The new president of the boosters, to serve for the coming year, (Continued on Page Eight)

While the people held a knock down and drag-out scrap to put a man in nomination for the United States Senate, Governor Wm. B. Umstead quietly picked Sam Ervin, Jr., associate justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court, to fill the position made vacant in the August body by the death of Clyde R. Hoey a short time ago. The appointment came as a surprise, and for the most part was well received. It is fairly certain that the State Democratic Executive Committee will concur in the action and nominate Mr. Ervin, a Morganton man, for the position.

The appointment holds until the November election when the people, in all likelihood, will support the appointment and nomination at the polls.

### Outlines Profit Sharing Program

J. B. Simpson, executive secretary of the profit sharing and retirement committee for Belk Stores, outlined the provisions of the program to employees of the local store yesterday, and delivered the first check to William T. Purvis, the first to retire here.

Mr. Simpson explained that the plan was established in 1942 at the direction of the late Wm. Henry Belk, that the fund now totals \$5,800,000 in the 336 stores operated by the organization in fourteen states. Contributions to the fund, it was pointed out, are made by the stores only, and each one maintains a separate trust fund. The contributions are extended to the participating employees on the basis of the annual compensation received by the employee, and disbursements are made to those who retire or otherwise serve their connections with the organization. The organization, Mr. Simpson said, is paying out between \$150,000 and \$200,000 annually in special benefits.

### Civic Improvement Council Plans Big Clean-Up Drive

Advanced by the Jaycees with the support of all civic organizations and hundreds of individuals, a Civic Improvement Council was organized at a meeting of club representatives and others held at the Switch last Thursday noon. Keen interest in the council and its proposed work was shown at the organizational meeting and "the fur is expected to fly," beginning sometime in July, it was said.

Elbert S. Peel, Jr., president of the Jaycees, was named to head the organization, and six special committees and numerous individuals are to participate in advancing the projects. On the projects committee are W. M. Tetterton, Exum Ward and Mrs. Herbert Taylor; the Sanitation projects committee is composed of

W. B. Gaylord, Dr. Sam Graham and Mrs. M. M. Levin; city co-ordination committee is made up of Dick Bender and Mrs. W. H. Abernathy; property owners committee is composed of Hugh B. Wyatt, N. C. Green and Mayor Robt. H. Cowen; prize committee includes Fletcher Thomas and Mrs. Herbert Whitley; and on the publicity committee are Ed Grady, Chas. Gaylord and F. M. Manning.

Proposing a far-reaching, town wide clean-up and paint-up campaign, the council is holding a special meeting on Thursday of this week to oil up plans for the project. During the meantime, the council is appealing to all—men, women and children—to get behind the movement and make it the most effective one ever advanced in the town.

#### BOND VOTE

Supported by the women of the town, the proposed street improvement program last Friday received one of the largest majority votes ever given a similar project in the town. Of the 366 votes cast, 352 of them favored the program. Eleven voiced opposition and three ballots were spoiled.

While interest in the project stemmed from those citizens living on dirt streets, people with paved thoroughfares joined hands with them to push the proposal over the top.

The vote last Friday supports a \$225,000 project to be financed by advanced payments, short-term notes and finally bonds.

### Call For Bids On New High School

Meeting in special session last Saturday night, the Martin County Board of Education on the recommendation of the State Board of Education, called for bids on the construction of a quarter-million-dollar high school in Robersonville. The bids are to be opened on Monday, June 28. The plans have been completed and the money appropriated, mostly from State funds, it was learned.

The plans call for seven class rooms, a science room, library, ship, home economics rooms, kitchen, and gymnasium. At the special meeting, the board prepared plans for expansion program for plants over the county. The proposed program is to be submitted to the county commissioners in a special meeting to be held next Tuesday.

### Ervin Gets Seat In U. S. Senate

While the people held a knock down and drag-out scrap to put a man in nomination for the United States Senate, Governor Wm. B. Umstead quietly picked Sam Ervin, Jr., associate justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court, to fill the position made vacant in the August body by the death of Clyde R. Hoey a short time ago. The appointment came as a surprise, and for the most part was well received. It is fairly certain that the State Democratic Executive Committee will concur in the action and nominate Mr. Ervin, a Morganton man, for the position.

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### Special County Taxes Are Due

Special county taxes, including beer and wine and privilege, are now due. Retailers handling beer and wine are violating the law if they have not procured their special permits, it was pointed out. Up until this week, approximately \$850 had been collected in special taxes, according to a report released by the sheriff's office where the special taxes are collected.

### Eli R. Edmondson Died At His Home In County Monday

#### Funeral For Prominent Cit- izen Being Held Near Hassell Today

Elie Roscoe Edmondson, prominent county citizen and a leader in education and religious work for many years, died at his home near Hassell Monday morning at 5:00 o'clock. He had been in declining health for several years, but he was fairly active until about ten days ago when he suffered a stroke after attending Sunday School in Hassell. His condition had been critical since that time, but he maintained his usual smile and was conscious almost until the last.

The son of the late James Roscoe and Mary Hurst Edmondson he was born in Opler Point Township 85 years ago on September 25, 1868. After spending his early life there he located in the Hassell community where he completed his schooling and launched a successful farming career. He helped build the Weldon-Kinston rail line, and engaged in timbering a few years in addition to his farm operations.

He was married about 1892 to Miss Susan Powell who died in February, 1936. Mr. Edmondson figured prominently in the march of progress in his adopted community and county. He championed the cause of education down through the years, serving as a member of his school committee term in and term out. He was one of the organizers of the Hassell Christian Church, and was a member of the church for about sixty years, serving it in various capacities and lending it a liberal and willing support. He was made an honorary elder about a year ago.

Possessed of a jolly nature, he played the role of friend to everyone, helping those in need and encouraging others along the way. He was interested in good government, and was active in supporting those candidates who held the greater promise in supporting good government. He put a great deal of life into his noble heritage for the enrichment of his community and its people.

Surviving are five sons, Messrs. Paul C. Edmondson, Sr., Dewey R. Edmondson, Elmer R. Edmondson, Ernest C. Edmondson and Elie K. Edmondson, all of the home community; one sister, Mrs. Ella Lawrence, of Whitaker, and six grandchildren.

The funeral is being conducted at the late home this afternoon at 3:00 o'clock by his pastor, the Rev. H. C. Hilliard, Sr. Interment will be in the Robersonville Cemetery.

### Denied Bond In Rape Case Here

Charged with raping his nine-year-old niece, William Augustus Wiggins, 21-year-old Negro, was denied bond at a preliminary hearing held by Justice Chas. R. Mobley here last evening. The case is being docketed for trial in superior court next week.

The crime is alleged to have been committed at the girl's home here on May 28, but it was only last Saturday that the accused's father and grandfather of the victim swore out a warrant against his son.

A doctor's report stated the child had been injured.

At the preliminary hearing last night the victim, apparently unimpaired, charged her story, accusing another of the attack. Evidence offered at the time the warrant was procured was accepted and it was supported by testimony of other witnesses at the hearing last night, Justice Mobley said.

#### ROUND-UP

Six persons were rounded up and temporarily detained in the county jail during the past week-end. One of the six was booked for rape. Three others were charged with public drunkenness, and two with violating the liquor laws.

Five of the six were colored, and the ages of the group ranged from 21 to 58 years.

## Asking For Bids On Street Paving Here

#### GRADUATED



Jimmy Leggett, popular son of Mr. and Mrs. James A. Leggett of Williamston, was graduated with the degree of doctor of dental surgery from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, yesterday. Dr. Leggett was one of the first to be graduated from the School of Dentistry. He plans to continue his studies in the University and serve as a part-time instructor.

### Fire Damages Home Saturday

Fire starting between the ceiling and attic floor, apparently from defective wiring, damaged the Stettin home on West Main Street at 1:40 o'clock last Saturday afternoon. No official estimate could be had immediately, but the loss will range between \$1,500 and \$2,000, it is believed.

The fire was confined to a relatively small area, but stifling smoke filled the attic and damaged much furniture and other articles stored there. Mirrors, stored some distance from the spot where the fire was located, were badly cracked, and upholstery in chairs was literally cooked by the smoke.

The fire was just before spreading to all the attic when volunteer firemen reached the home. Ripping away part of the ceiling in one room, the fire fighters brought the blaze under control with a small hose line.

Mr. W. T. Stettin, owner of the home, said he discovered smoke in the house, but could not locate the fire until far from electric wiring dropped on his arm as he passed through one of the rooms.

Firemen were called out again Sunday afternoon shortly after 3:00 o'clock when a grass fire along the Coast Line tracks was about to spread to the Williamston Peanut Company properties just off Washington Street.

### Name Abernathy Lions President

At a recent meeting of the Williamston Lions Club, W. H. (Shag) Abernathy was elected president to succeed Fletcher Thomas. Other officers elected for the coming year were, J. D. Page, 1st vice president; Clyde Griffin, 2nd vice president; Joe Snead, 3rd vice president; Joe Griffin, Treasurer; Irving Margolis, Lion Tamer; Charles Gaylord, Tail Twister; D. V. Clayton and W. A. Williams were elected to the Board of Directors. Incoming president Abernathy appointed Larry Hodges secretary.

The Board of Directors of the Lions Club unanimously endorsed the newly organized civic improvement council. The board also approved a motion to cooperate with the Kiwanis Club in staging the Martin County fair this fall. No date has been set for the event. The purchase of six additional gum machines was approved by the board. These dispensers will be placed at heavy traffic points around the town. The proceeds from these machines are used in the Lions' Blind work.

The new club officers are to be installed at the first meeting in July.

### To Open Bids On \$225,000 Project The Last Of June

#### Town Board In Long Meet- ing Last Night Hand- ling Business

Supported by an overwhelming majority in the bond election last Friday, Williamston's town commissioners in a long meeting last night called for bids on a \$225,000 paving program. To be opened on June 30, the bids call for 40,000 lineal feet of curb and gutter, 25,000 cubic yards of excavation, 500 cubic yards of select material, 78,000 square yards of two-inch asphalt surface and 1,500 tons of course aggregate base course.

Plans completed for handling the program, the town officials delved into a calendar loaded with varied problems.

Commissioner David Moore, acting for the town, bought property at Woodlawn Cemetery for \$3,240 with the view of establishing a new entrance to the cemetery from Houghton at or near the Liberty Street intersection.

Jesse Rogers, local contractor, petitioned the town to open a 30-foot street across the property between Elm and Ridick Streets, beginning at the end of West Academy. Since thirty-foot streets are not acceptable, the mayor and street superintendent were instructed to investigate the possibility of obtaining a 40-foot street across the property.

Appearing before the board, the Messrs. Smothers Brothers and King Rogers asked for water to their new warehouse on the new truck route around the town. It was agreed to install a six-inch line, the warehouse owners to pay for the project with the understanding that they are to be reimbursed if and when the property incorporated as a part of the town.

Owners of the property on North Smithwick Street just back of the Sinclair Service Station offered it for sale to the town for a new fire station at a little less than \$200 per foot, or \$12,000 for 65 feet frontage.

Answering a plea for help in making the National Guard Armory ready for occupancy, the board agreed to hook up the water lines, and help with the sewer system installation and landscaping.

The town was asked to cooperate in a town-wide clean-up campaign to be launched next month. The mayor was instructed to address an appeal to the owners of the old Wells-Oates company site near the river and to appeal to owners to place bids on all garbage piles.

Sewer line connections are to be made on the Jamesville road and a section of Washington Street for new customers.

The officials read with disgust a rental charge proposed by the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company for laying sewer lines along and under its tracks in town. The company maintained that \$22.50 annual rent is necessary to offset bookkeeping, etc. It is a right big rental compared with the \$12.50 the company paid for a 30-foot right of way some years ago.

At the present time, the town has \$24,164.39 in the banks, including \$4,536.33 in the sewer fund. (Continued on Page Eight)

### Special Honor For Local Girl

Mrs. Elizabeth Chadwick Muse Torquist, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joel Muse of Williamston, received special honors at the Duke University commencement in Durham yesterday. She was graduated Magna Cum Laude, and was one of twelve to gain the special honor.

She was an Angier B. Duke scholar during her four years at Duke, and participated in various literary societies. Awarded a Fulbright Scholarship, she leaves next October for a year of study in France.