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Rotarians Hear Martin County's Health Officer

Outlines Functions Of The Public Health Programs In The Country

Explaining that he had not been in the county long enough to familiarize himself with local problems, Dr. Sam Graham, Jr., briefly reviewed the functions of public health programs at the regular meeting of the local Rotary Club last Tuesday noon.

". . . . Health department functions came about mostly because of special needs in a particular area or county, needs that couldn't be solved by people working by themselves, but that could be solved when people worked together. The health department was the agency that coordinated the efforts of a lot of people as individuals to prevent diseases. Bad health of one individual often made for bad health of an entire community, because his illness might be caught by somebody else. Because new functions were added at later times, it might be best to describe public health functions as they developed historically.

"As medical specialities go, this is quite a new one, as it was only in 1911 that the first health department was established. . . . .

"Robeson County had the first truly rural health department and was started in 1912. Along about that time the Rockefeller Sanitary Commission of the Rockefeller Foundation became interested in hookworm disease that was then very common all over the South. They tried combatting the disease by local campaigns, working from central offices. Before long it was apparent that the best way of combatting hookworm was to establish full time local offices. This they did, and from many of these offices grew our local health departments as they exist today.

"Often a health department was established because of some local emergency situation (typhoid epidemics were a common one) and then the department remained as a permanent organization to deal with the many problems of epidemic diseases present in communities at that time.

"The first work of health departments mostly consisted of sanitation of the enviornment in order to coutrol the tremendous amount of intestinal disease that was then present. For instance in 1918, North Carolina had 3,461 cases of typhoid fever. Last year there were only 42 cases . . . .

"There was a great deal of communicable diseases present, and before long health departments, working with practicing doctors, began to institute measures to check these epidemics of disease—both through sanitation and through home nursing and isolation techniques. So this added another function to public health—first, environmental sanitation, and second, control of communicable disease.

"Still later it was apparent that some people could not afford or couldn't get medical care, either the people were poor or there actually weren't enough doctors to provide medical care for everybody. Health departments tried to provide some of this medical care by working with doctors, in home nursing programs, by maternal and child clinics, midwife classes and by working out arrangements for hospital care of needy people who could not afford the treatment they needed.

"As communicable diseases became less and less common, pub-

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Dry Spell Broken By Recent Rains

With the possible exception of a few areas, the dry spell in this county has been dispelled by recent rains. Reports indicate that some areas are "getting on the wet side", but as a whole, a near perfect season exists as of today. It continues dry toward Hamilton and Oak City, little rain having been reported this side of Spring Green on Highway 125.

The rains come a bit late for bumper crops, farmers declaring that the tobacco poundage has been greatly curtailed in some areas.

ASSESSED PROPERTY VALUATIONS IN MARTIN COUNTY — 1953-1954

Township	1954 Real Estate	1953 Real Estate	Gain	1954 Personal Property	1953 Personal Property	Gain	1954 Total Gain
Jamesville	$ 1,190,033	$ 1,193.782	$ *3,749	$ 2,947,519	$ 2,935,412	$ 12,107	$ 8,358
Williams	347,515	348,951	*1,436	223,054	205,719	17,335	15,899
Griffins	600,628	588,804	11,824	483,037	470,591	12,446	12,270
Bear Grass	661,881	623,536	38,345	446,820	474,249	*27,429	10,916
Williamston	3,868,715	3,656,844	211,871	2,830,764	2,751,285	79,479	291,350
Cross Roads	586,872	593,090	*6,218	311,134	340,897	*29,763	*35,981
Robersonville	2,039,741	1,990,224	49,517	1,829,285	1,826,188	3,097	52,614
Poplar Point	325,787	319,739	6,048	180,024	216,474	*36,450	*30,402
Hamilton	908,472	895,687	12,785	561,646	538,316	23,330	36,115
Goose Nest	1,025,396	1,014,869	10,527	640,048	617,146	22,902	33,429
Total (white)	$11,555,040	$11,225,526	$329,514	$10,453,331	$10,376,277	$ 77,054	$406,568
Jamesville	$ 152,276	$ 149,435	2,841	105,025	$ 98,070	$ 6,955	$ 9,796
Williams	45,119	43,890	1,229	27,106	29,748	*2,642	*1,413
Griffins	15,791	15,436	355	37,485	27,805	9,680	10,035
Bear Grass	30,493	30,138	355	45,511	47,571	*2,060	*1,705
Williamston	373,465	349,488	23,977	232,779	228,862	3,917	27,894
Cross Roads	39,595	38,284	1,311	37,397	37,313	84	1,395
Robersonville	244,510	232,740	11,770	285,281	260,718	24,563	36,333
Poplar Point	6,237	6,237	0	14,819	17,611	*2,792	*2,792
Hamilton	124,593	120,042	4,551	145,109	152,873	*7,764	*3,213
Goose Nest	211,784	206,428	5,356	160,466	169,535	*9,069	*3,713
Total (colored)	$ 1,243,863	$ 1,192,118	$ 51,745	$ 1,090,978	$ 1,070,106	$ 20,872	$ 72,617
Grand Total	$12,798,903	$12,417,644	$381,259	$11,544,309	$11,446,383	$ 97,926	$479,185

*Denotes Loss.

Plans Going Forward For All-Out Clean-Up Drive

Plans are going forward rapidly for an all-out clean-up, and fix-up campaign in Williamston during the four-week period from July 5 through July 30. Committees have been named to head up the various phases of the drive, but the sponsors, including all the civic clubs and other agencies, are looking eagerly to individuals to help put the project across in a big way, to be a part of the civic improvement group.

Some of the projects already advanced for attention include: the clearing of sites formerly occupied by industry, the cleaning of back lots and all vacant lots, the painting of unsightly buildings, covers for garbage cans, screens for doors and windows, incenerators for business houses, the removal of hog pens from within the town limits.

Appeals are to be directed to all citizens, especially younger ones, urging them to refrain from throwing paper cups and other littler on the streets and into private yards and lots. Owners will be asked to care for their vacant lots and to cooperate with the street and sanitary departments, looking toward a cleaner and neater town.

Nothing has been said about calling in the town enforcement agencies to support the drive, the committee advancing the opinion that voluntary cooperation will pay off. However, it is possible that stubborn cases or gross violations will be referred to the authorities for action.

SERIOUSLY SHORT

Volunteers are still seriously short and unless there is a quick and sizable response, the Red Cross bloodmobile will not get its quota next Thursday, it was frankly explained today.

At least sixty additional volunteers are needed if the quota is to be approached.

During the meantime, this chapter is drawing more blood out of the regional blood bank than it is giving. Citizens in this section are urged to respond to the call and donate blood next Thursday at the Legion Hut in Williamston.

Open House In New Locations

The Teen-Age and Misses Shop and the McLawhorn Furniture Store and Lullaby Shop are planning open house in their new locations tomorrow evening at 7:45 o'clock.

The Teen-Age and Misses Shop, Mrs. Ruth Barnhill, owner-operator moved into the building formerly occupied by the Lullaby Shop Roanoke Chevrolet Company building on Washington Street, and the Lullaby Shop are now in the old George Reynolds Hotel building which has been remodeled with special arrangements for display on two floors.

The owners are extending cordial invitations to the public to visit them in their new locations.

Operating under the plural name of McLawhorns', Mr. and Mrs. D. C. McLawhorn are offering special prizes during their open house Friday evening and there will be refreshments, it was announced today.

Undergoes Operation In Duke Hospital

Garland Woolard local business man, was reported to be getting along as well as could be expected this morning following a major operation in Duke Hospital yesterday morning.

It is exepected that he will be in the hospital for some time.

Local Teacher Elections Made

All teacher positions in the local schools have been filled except one, and applications for that place are being considered, Principal B. G. Stewart announces.

Miss Juanita Ipock of Ernul has been elected to teach the eighth grade. She has had one year of experience in the profssion.

Thurston Callahan, a 1954 graduate of East Carolina College and who did practice teaching during the recent spring term and assisted Coach Thrift, will teach social subjects. His wife, Mrs. Sarah Jackson Callahan, who has one year of experience in the Fayetteville city schools, is to teach the third grade. They are from Whiteville.

Miss Ella Mae Starling of Rose Hill, will teach French and English. A graduate of Wake Forest, she taught in the Pine Level School, Johnston County, for two years.

Miss Frances Holloway of Fayetteville has been elected to succeed Miss Hines as English teacher. Miss Holloway is a 1954 graduate of Duke University.

A new position has been created in the science department, and Robert Jones of Edward, N. C., has been elected to fill the place. A graduate of Atlantic Christian College, he has been a member of the Pantego faculty for the past one and one-half years.

New Home Construction Getting Under Way Here

Held to a low point in recent months, new home construction is getting under way here.

Mr. and Mrs. Billy Griffin have started work on an eight-room brick vener home on Woodlawn Drive. Mr. and Mrs. James E. Griffin are making plans to start construction on a new home shortly in the same community.

Work is progressing on the new home for Mr. and Mrs. Jack Hardison on West Main Street, and Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Carstarphen are moving soon to their new home on East Grace Street.

Work is about complete on the New Deal Warehouse and continues on the Martin Tractor and Truck Company's new home.

THE RECORD SPEAKS . . .

Following a perfect record established the previous week, motorists on the highways in this county piled up the wrecks during the period ending last Sunday. A preliminary report lists no fatalities in five accidents and only two injured. The property loss was conservatively estimated at $1,605 for the past week.

The following tabulations offer a comparison of the accident trend: first, by corresponding weeks in this year and last and for each year to the present time

23rd Week

	Wrecks	Inj'd	Killed	Damage
1954	5	2	0	$ 1,605
1953	4	5	2	3,015
Comparisons To Date				
1954	105	40	3	$39,480
1953	102	32	3	27,850

The 23rd week in 1953 was the most costly during last year on the highways in this county.

Issue County Tax Relief Orders

Tax relief orders, adding up to $636.17, were granted by the Martin County Commissioners in a special session on Tuesday of this week. The relief was granted when errors were found in the listings to the following:

For 1953: J. H. Langley, $3.38 and Andrew Marriner, $12, both of Jamesville; LeRoy Reid, $7.75;; John M. Leggett, $2; Jasper Cowen, $2, all of Bear Grass; Mrs. Annie Roebuck, $11.44, of Williams; LeRoy Godard, $2; C. F. Harris, $58.12; C. F. Harris and Gurkin, $38.47; Robert S. Gurganus, $3.10; James H. Edwards, $2; J. B. Cherry Estate, $131.45; J. H. Rogers, $31.00, Jesse W. Summerlin, $5.12; Haywood Cherry, $17.05; J. D. Harrison Estate, $33.42; Bert Gorham, $2; Walter Griffin, $3.10; O'Neal Peel, $2; William Clay Brown, $4.65; Magdoline Speller, $6.82; Lewis T. Bond, $2, and N. S. Godard Estate, $16.20, all of Williamston; Jesse Kerney, $6.42; Rufus E. Brown, 85 cents, and Earl Brown, 85 cents, all of Robersonville; Gus Lynch, $1.83, of Hamilton; J. B. Leggett, $2, of Cross Roads; L. W. Hardison, $76.58, of Jamesville.

For 1952: L. W. Hardison, $75.58 of Jamesville; J. O. Keel, $2, of Cross Roads; John R. Stevenson, $3.17, and Walter Keel, $25.56, both of Robersonville.

For 1951: J. B. Leggett, $2, and J. O. Keel, $2, both of Cross Roads; Richmond Melton, $2, and Walter Keel, $21.76, both of Robersonville.

Tax authorities are still checking tax listings against motor vehicle registrations, but no report has been released.

Open Retail Produce Market On West Main

Mrs. Dolores Beaird and Miss Daisy Whitley have opened a retail produce market on West Main Street near Brown's Community Hospital. They are carrying supplies of fruits, vegetables and other produce items.

Christian Church About Completed

This week at the First Christian Church has seen the completed installation of the Moller Organ with its additional stops, consisting of an eight foot Oboe and an inside set of Degan Chimes. The carpeting of the entire sanctuary, the ladies parlor and the assembly room of the junior department, the latter two rooms to take care of overflows in the church services, has been completed. New furniture is arriving steadily and next week should see the delivery of the pews and the chancel furniture.

Final grading of the grounds is well underway and plans are going forward for the dedication on Sunday July 11th at eleven o'clock with Dr. J. Warren Hastings, pastor of the National City Christian Church, Washington, D. C., delivering the messages on Sunday and through the following Friday night. The music will be under the direction of the Rev. Howard G. James, pastor of the First Christian Church, Elizabeth City.

Plan Addition To County Building

Supported by an appropriation made this week by the Martin County Board of Commissioners, plans are now being rapidly advanced for the construction of an addition to the agriculture building. Costing between $30,000 and $40,000, the addition will measure 32 by 70 feet and have a basement.

The commissioners are calling for bids at their next meeting which is to be held on Tuesday, July 6. Plans for the project are about complete, it was pointed out.

Designed to make more room for the present occupants, the building will also house other agriculture agencies, including the Farmers Home Administration, it was said.

The present building will be altered to restore the auditorium to use as a meeting place for farm groups.

Continue Plans For New Store

Plans are going forward for the construction of a new building for Colonial Stores on the corner of Main and Elm Streets. No contract has been let, but a formal agreement has been drawn, it was learned this week, by the property owners and the Colonial management.

Mr. and Mrs. H. F. McKnight and family vacated the old Everett home on the property this week, and are now at home in the Leggett apartments on Smithwick Street. Mr. and Mrs. Walter Speller and family vacated the Everett apartments a short time ago, and they are also at home on Smithwick Street in the old Ewell home.

Contractor Harry Jones is scheduled to start dismantling the old Everett home next week.

Propose Changes In Mail Routes In This Section

Post Office Department Is Offering Busses For Sale to Individuals

According to unofficial information reaching here, the Post Office Department is proposing to make extensive changes in its operations in this section of the State during the near future.

It was said that the department will offer its large highway post office busses for sale and let the deliveries to private contract as of July 1.

No definite schedule has been advanced, but it is proposed to discontinue the operation of the two highway post office busses between Raleigh and Norfolk and maintain a round-trip schedule bewteen Rocky Mount and Elizabeth City. At the same time the department will maintain operations between Rocky Mount and Suffolk, serving Tarboro, Speed, Hobgood, Scotland Neck, Rich Square, George, Woodland, Aulander, Winton, Eure, Gatesville, Roduco, and Gates in this State and Whaleville in Virginia. Leaving Rocky Mount in the early morning, the highway post office bus is tentatively scheduled to reach Williamston at 6:00 o'clock a. m., and reach here in the afternoon on the return trip.

Now Government owned, the four vehicles, all of which have been driven 300,000 miles or more, will be sold to the highest bidder.

A Post Office Department spokesman said the Highway Post offices—similar to the Railway Mail Service in which clerks sort the mail as the vehicle travels—may be owned either by the government or the private contractor awarded the bid for making the hauls.

In the planned changeover from public to private ownership, postal authorities feel that the latter is more economical in this particular case.

Government employed clerks on each truck will continue to sort the mail picked up at points along the way, the announcement said.

The post office's notice asks bids on the vehicles and, in addition, bids by haulers on a four-year contract covering their operation. Sealed proposals will be received at the office of the Assistant Postmaster General, Bureau of Transportation, Washington, until 5:15 p. m., July 1.

Bible School In Macedonia Church

Daily Vacation Bible School was conducted for the first time at the Macedonia Church of Christ beginning June 7th through June 11th, under the direction of Noah Daniel Griffin. There was a daily average attendance of about 140, and there were around 100 who received certificates for perfect attendance.

The departments and teachers were as follows: Intermediates—Mrs. Ethel Lilley and Noah Daniel Griffin, Juniors—Mrs. Evan Lilley and Mrs. Ralph Holliday, Primary—Mrs. Elbert Griffin and Mrs. Pugh Roberson, Nursery—Mrs. Harmon Rogerson and Mrs. Hoyt Coltrain. Refreshments were served each day by Mrs. Marvin Coltrain, Mrs. J. S. Holliday and Mrs. N. L. Coltrain. Several other mothers helped out by bringing car-loads of children and working in various class-rooms. It was reported the Sunday School gained several new students that were not attending anywhere, and that the week was a most profitable one.—Mrs. Ralph Holliday, chairman.

Special Term Of Court On July 6

Tentatively planned by the county commissioners in their regular monthly meeting, a special term of the Martin County Superior Court is to be held beginning Tuesday, July 6, it was learned this week.

Judge Malcolm Paul of Washington is to preside over the term. No criminal cases will be called, the term having been arranged to hear two or three cases centered in Martin County Drainage District No. 3.

Board Adopts $1.45 Tax Rate For County

STILL IN RECESS

After operating one day last Monday, the Martin County Superior Court continues in recess while Judge Chester Morris nurses a stubborn cold. Unable to return yesterday after taking a holiday Tuesday, Judge Morris advised the clerk that he would try to be on the bench Friday morning. No late word has been received from the jurist, and early this afternoon it could not be learned if he'll be able to resume work tomorrow morning.

Comparatively few cases remain on the docket following the work of the court last Monday.

Cucumbers Move To Local Marts

Delayed by weather conditions, cucumbers are beginning to move to local markets in fairly large quantities.

Operating a grading station, a few miles from here on the Hamilton road, Messrs. Thurman Nicholson and Leo Roberson, handled 56,100 pounds last Saturday and Monday, and deliveries are showing a gradual increase, according to a report gained yesterday.

Representing the Anna Myers Pure Foods, Inc., the two men have been shipping direct to the company in Garfield, New Jersey, using special express trucks to handle the cargoes.

The market yesterday was paying five cents a pound for No. 1 grade, two cents a pound for No. 2 and one cent a pound for the No. 3 grades.

Dry weather has materially affected the crop in the county, but following recent rains in the Jamesville section and one or two other areas, the crop is moving [illegible] and prices [illegible] much improved.

No accurate income estimates can be had at this time, but one farmer in the Free Union community of Jamesville Township is anticipating to gross $500 on an acre of the cukes.

Farmer Monroe Holliday delivered a small load of the cukes yesterday afternoon, the graders describing the quality of his offerings as the best of the season.

The station, opening about two weeks ago but receiving few cucumbers before last Saturday, plans to remain open four or five more weeks, it was announced.

Work Resumed On Truck Route

Idle for several weeks while the roadbed settled, contractors this week resumed work on the truck route around the town.

The raising of the railroad leading to the fertilizer plant has been completed, and surfacing work on the route is scheduled to get under way early next week, weather permitting. The contract calls for a certain soil base on certain portions of the route, followed by ten inches of stone. The stone will be capped by about an inch of bituminus surface treatment with sand asphalt covering to be laid sometime within the next two years, more or less.

The contractors are digging a conditioning pit near the new building of the Martin Tractor and Truck Company on the bypass. They plan to complete the route and turn traffic on it by early September.

The Sanford Construction Company, low bidders, are scheduled to start work on the new railroad bridge over West Main Street about the middle of next month, it was unofficially learned today.

Victim Of Snake Bite Leaves Hospital Here

Bitten by a moccasin while visiting relatives near here last Sunday, Allen Moore, eight-year-old Wilson lad, left a local hospital yesterday following treatment. He is getting along all right.

10-Cent Increase Allowed For New School Buildings

Appropriation Made For An Addition To Agriculture Building

Meeting most of Tuesday the Martin County Board of Commissioners battled budget figures for the new fiscal year and finally established the new tax rate at $1.45 per $100 assessed property valuation, a figure ten cents higher than the 1953 levy. While the rate increase is traceable to proposed new school construction, the budget includes a fairly sizable appropriation for an addition to the county agriculture building.

The levy is based on a total valuation of $26,400,000, a figure which is subject to be altered by late certification of corporation listings.

For the most part, the budget remains about like it was last year. No major salary increases were allowed, the commissioners making a few adjustments to bring some of the lesser salaries into line with others.

The officials are looking to general taxation for approximately $387,700 to finance the 1954-54 operations, including all departments and the schools.

A brief review of the budget follows, by departments:

The general fund carries appropriations amounting to $146,695, of which amount $44,425 is to be raised by general taxation or a rate of 19 cents as compared with a 20-cent rate now in effect.

With a rate of 4 cents, the board proposes to raise $9,786.00 for the operation of the county home. The poor fund, its rate left unchanged at 5 cents, is to receive $13,600 from taxation, plus $3,400 from sources other than general taxation.

Given an appropriation of $19,631.75, the health fund is to be supported by a rate of 8 cents as compared with a rate of nine and one-half cents for the fiscal year ending the 30th of this month.

The interest and sinking fund account calls for an appropriation of $37,055, a rate of thirteen and one-half cents to raise $33,955 of that amount. Last year the rate for the particular fund was twelve and six-tenths cents.

The welfare department budget calls for $45,967.00 from taxes plus income from sources other than general taxation. It is proposed to raise $38,500 for the department from general taxation, including $14,333 for administration based on a rate of five and one-half cents which is unchanged. Old age assistance, based on a rate of five cents as compared with four and three-quarter cents for 1953-54, will run up to $12,225. Upped from one and three-quarter cents, a two-cent rate is expected to raise $5,300 for aid to dependent children. The aid to the blind, based on a one-cent rate as compared with seven-tenths of one cent for the current year, will cost approximately $2,142. Aid to the partially and totally disabled will cost an estimated $4,500 and calls for a rate of two cents as compared with a rate of one and two-tenths cents for 1953-54. The department is calling for an increase of 1.6 cents in the general tax rate.

A heavy blow was felt in the budget when the commissioners reached the capital outlay fund for schools, but the blow was softened when [illegible] six cents was lopped off the current expense for schools and debt service was curtailed by one and eight-tenths cents. To operate the schools, meet debt service requirements and finance new school construction, an estimated $270,069 will be needed during the coming fiscal year. It is proposed to raise $199,338 of the amount by general taxation, the board members advancing the theory that it would be better to gear the school expansion program to a slight tax rate increase rather than resort to a bond issue. Current school expenses for the new term will approximate $132,200, of which amount $61,469 is to be

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