

Curtailed Mail Service Is Now In Effect Here

Last Daily Deliveries From The West Reach Here At 1:00 P. M.

A curtailed mail service for this section went into effect this week, the action of the Post Office Department reducing schedules to a bare minimum for some offices.

While postal authorities maintain that the service actually has been improved, it now takes almost two days for a letter to reach this point from the Charlotte area. However, at the same time, parcel post has been speeded up a few hours, one report pointing out that the mail order houses are now in a better position to make deliveries than ever before.

Possibly some delay was unavoidable during the first day or two of the change, and better connections may be expected later on. However, the schedule is so arranged that no mail is to be expected here daily after 1:00 p. m. in the afternoon.

The last mail from the west leaves Rocky Mount about 11:00 o'clock a. m., and the next delivery from that direction comes the following morning at 5:30 a. m. In other words, mail destined for this section apparently is to be held over in Rocky Mount from about 11:00 a. m. one day until early the next morning. But when the mail highway post offices and parcel trucks start running the next morning about 2:00 o'clock they'll bring the mail order packages and other parcel post.

According to a schedule released by Postmaster W. E. Dunn, local patrons can expect mail about as follows:

From Rocky Mount and other points west, 5:30 a. m. and 1:00 p. m.; from Plymouth at 7:00 a. m., 4:00 p. m. and 6:30 p. m.; from Elizabeth City and other points east, 5:00 p. m. and 6:30 p. m.

Outgoing mail schedules are as follows: Mail for Jamesville, Plymouth, Elizabeth City, Windsor and Edenton will be made ready at 10:00 p. m. for dispatch the next morning at 5:30 o'clock. Mail destined for Everetts, Robertsonville, Parmele and on in Rocky Mount will be tied up at 8:30 a. m. for dispatch thirty minutes later, and again at 5:00 o'clock p. m. for dispatch at 5:30 p. m. Mail for Washington is tied up at 6:00 p. m. and made ready for dispatch at 6:30 p. m. Parcel post will be handled on just about

(Continued on Page Eight)

Butler Employed By Company Here

Retiring from the profession after a successful career as director of the Williamston High School Band, Professor Jack Butler is now in the employ of the Dixie Motor Company here, it was officially announced this week.

A native of New York state, Mr. Butler planned to quit the profession last year and enter the business field. He reconsidered and continued for another term. When a definite decision had been reached some weeks ago, and it looked as if the popular professor and Mrs. Butler might leave, an offer was made by the local company. Mr. Butler has now entered upon his new duties with the motor firm and he and Mrs. Butler will continue to make their home here.

Child Struck By Car Here Friday

Frank F. Purvis, two and one-half year-old child, was painfully but not seriously hurt when he was struck by a car at the intersection of Pearl and Wilson Streets here last Friday evening at 8:30 o'clock. Suffering a head injury and a sprained ankle, he was able to leave the hospital following over-night treatment.

According to Officer Verbie Jones the child ran into the street and into a path of a car driven by LeRoy Puckett, saw mill worker of Plymouth. Puckett had slowed his car down for a mud puddle and stopped with the front wheel a few inches from the child's body.

Aerial View Of Farm Home In County



The above picture is the fourth in a series of aerial photos taken at random in the air over this county for this paper. Our readers are asked to help identify it. The picture last week was quickly identified by Clayton McKeel and others as that of the John A. Roberson home on the Smith farm between Williamston and Everetts on Highway 64.

Jim Brown Holliday Recognized Inventor

Manufacturer Is Busy Preparing For Next Season

Jim Brown Holliday Contributes To Machine Age With Leaf Harvester

The hard backbreaking task of harvesting tobacco started Jim Brown Holliday, young Jamesville Township farmer, thinking several years ago. In due time he came through with a mechanical harvester that is meeting drastic tests and winning wide acclaim in tobacco fields in several states. Plans are going forward to introduce the machine in other countries.

Working in Browder's Machine Shop on West Church Street in Williamston, Holliday and his brother started work on the first machine more than two years ago. Year before last he used it to sucker and top tobacco. Last season he put the machine to exacting tests, and it measured up to expectations.

Its operations limited to the Holliday farms and a few others in the Jamesville area, the machine attracted considerable attention. Interested persons from miles away visited the farm to see the machine in operation. There were so many crowding around the machine that operations were delayed at times.

Convinced he had a practical machine, Young Holliday contracted with a manufacturer in Lewiston, and the machines are now being turned out after assembly line fashion.

Representing the company in this area, Mr. Fitzhugh Fussell of the Williamston Tractor and Implement Company states that production was not able to keep up with demand this year. It is predicted that the machine will be widely used next year and the years to follow.

The first approach to solving the problem was made when

Jamesville To Close Cannery

The Jamesville cannery, operated as a community project, will close its most successful season on Thursday of next week, it was announced today. Produce will be received between the hours of 12:00 noon, until 3:00 p. m., on Thursday of this week, and on Monday and Thursday of next week.

The cannery has served 150 families and handled between thirteen and fourteen thousand cans of produce, including just about every kind of vegetable and fruit.

Three More Barns Burned In County

Three more tobacco curing barns were destroyed by fire in this county over the week-end, pushing the count to nine so far this year.

J. C. Johnson lost a barn on the Higgs farm a few miles out of Hamilton last Saturday afternoon. Williamston's fire department was called there when it looked as if the fire would spread to another barn.

Sunday afternoon at 2:24 o'clock Williamston's fire department was called to the Willie Gurkin farm over in Williams Township when a barn caught fire and burned. A storage tank exploded and scattered fire all around, threatening spectators. Only a limited amount of tobacco was in the barn.

Paul Hyman lost a barn on the farm of Mrs. Clara Everett near Hamilton shortly after 3:00 o'clock Monday morning. The barn was heated with oil burners and no insurance was carried on the tobacco.

Civil War Diary Of Docton Warren Bagley

Installment II
Pledged support by the people of the town and county, military leaders within a matter of a few days settled down to prepare for war. Mr. Bagley, one of the section's greatest patriots, wrote in his diary under date of Saturday, April 27, 1861, as follows:

Samuel W. Watts, Colonel Commandant, having ordered out the Regiment for drill, etc., after which he formed them around the academy from the back porch which Hon. Asa Biggs again addressed them together by the Rev. C. B. Hassell and others.

The following preamble and resolutions were then read and offered by Judge Biggs, viz: At a meeting of the citizens of Martin County at the academy in Williamston on Saturday, the 27th of April, 1861, the Martin County Regiment being on parade, the following resolutions were adopted:

- Resolved that the people of this county ought at once to form at least two volunteer companies of 100 each for active service who should be armed and equipped at the earliest moment and ready to respond to the call of the Governor.
- Resolved that all the citizens of the county in proportion to their means ought to contribute liberally at once to a fund to support and equip the volunteers and to provide for the comfortable support of the families of volunteers during their absence in active service.
- Resolved that out of said

Suffers Attack At Home In Hamilton

George Haislip, principal of the Hamilton school, suffered an attack at his home in Hamilton Sunday morning about 4:00 o'clock.

Williamston Little League Stars



Although they were edged out by the Greenville Little Leaguers in a one-game play-off at Greenville recently, the Williamston Little League All-Star team did a fine job of representing the Little League teams here. It is difficult to get all members of a large group together on short notice so two of the players are missing from the picture above. Those present include: Left to right, front row: Cecil Edmondson, Durwood Hughes, Billy Matkins, Hugh Raynor, Billy Windley, Robert Sullivan, and Phil Rawls, second row, Coach Bobby Carter, Jerry Rawls, Billy Wynne, Hoke Roberson, Arlen Mizelle, Kenneth Mobley, and Coach Roger Thrift. Absent when the picture was taken were Gordon Cowan and Nicky Hardison. The emblems not showing are of Rotarians.

Several Are Hurt In Car Accidents In Past Few Days

Property Loss Placed At \$2,750 In Four Motor Vehicle Wrecks

At least four persons were injured and a property damage estimated at \$2,750 resulted in a series of motor vehicle accidents on the highways in this county during the past few days, according to reports coming from the office of the State Highway Patrol. Other accidents were reported on town streets by the police.

James Everett, Jr., farmer of RFD 3, Williamston, was believed to have been badly injured when the car in which he was riding went out of control and crashed into another between Robertsonville and Parmele about 6:15 o'clock Sunday evening. Suffering a head injury and rendered unconscious, the victim was removed to Martin General Hospital for treatment, late reports stating his condition was improved. Riley Everett was driving a 1942 Chevrolet east on Highway 64 and started to pass "Hawk" Leggett's car. Everett lost control of the car running about 50 miles an hour. The machine skidded and the rear end turned and struck the front end of a 1949 Chevrolet being driven west on the route by Raymond Collins Battle of Grif-

(Continued on Page Eight)

Williamston's Tobacco Market Had Successful Opening With An Average Of \$54.15 Monday

Tobacco Sold For \$1.30 Per Pound on The Market Here

As far as it can be determined, a record high price for tobacco was paid for a sizable pile of tobacco on a local warehouse floor yesterday morning. Needing tobacco to decorate its windows for the fall harvest, the Belk-Tyler Company paid \$1.30 a pound for fifty pounds of tobacco.

The bid attracted considerable attention immediately, and the sale was temporarily stopped while company representatives crowded around the pile of tobacco to examine it after a minute fashion. News of the sale was sounded from wall to wall and spectators gathered around in numbers. Realizing that many wanted samples of the high-price tobacco, floor managers for the warehouse had the tobacco picked up and moved away for safe keeping.

The tobacco, grown on the old Perry farm in Bear Grass Township, was sold by Carl Garrett and Johnny Rogers. Pepped up by a brief program

Quality Of Crop Better Than It Was Last Season

Prices for Medium and The Poorer Quality Grades Reported Lower

Operating with a full buyer complement, the Williamston Tobacco Market had a very successful opening yesterday with a general price average of \$53.00. But the large crowds, ordinarily on hand for the big annual event, were not present and the quantity of leaf was sufficient to match the selling time which was limited to sixty percent of normal.

The market yesterday sold 190,788 pounds for \$103,320.35 or an official average of \$54.15 per hundred pounds. On opening day last year the market sold 365,596 pounds for \$195,968, an average of \$53.60. The 5-cent average advantage per hundred pounds this year over last is traceable to better quality leaf, it was pointed out.

Former Rector Of Church Here Died Early On Monday

The Rev. Morrison Bethea, beloved rector of the Church of the Advent here for a number of years, died yesterday morning at 12:30 o'clock at his home in Reidsville. He had been an invalid for many years.

He was born in Marion County, South Carolina, 81 years ago on November 27, 1872, and was married in 1892 to Gertrude Curtis who died some years ago. He was the son of the late William and Sallie Morrison Bethea.

Completing his college and ministerial training, he served as rector of the Auburn, Alabama Episcopal Church from 1907 to 1911, coming to Williamston in 1911. Following a five-year rectorship here, he served St. Timothy's Church, Wilson, from 1916 until 1922, going to Reidsville in the latter year and serving St. Thomas' Church there until his retirement in 1941. Mr. Bethea, well remembered here, held several high positions in the church both in the East Carolina and North Carolina Dioceses.

Funeral services are being conducted in the Reidsville Church this afternoon at 3:00 o'clock by the Right Rev. Edwin A. Penick, bishop of North Carolina. Interment will be in the cemetery there.

Surviving are three brothers, Dr. O. W. Bethea of New Orleans, La.; Dr. James B. Bethea of Austin, Texas; and Theodore Bethea of Orlando, Fla.; two sisters, Mrs. Vivian Ward of Timmonsville, S. C., and Mrs. Earl Chammess of Bennettsville, S. C.; six children, William Curtis Bethea of Louisville, Ky., Eugene Bethea of Winston-Salem, the Rev. J. E. Bethea of Blacksburg, Va., Mrs. John Satterfield and T. C. Bethea of Reidsville and Oscar Bethea of Blacksburg, Va.

During his stay in Williamston, Mr. Bethea exercised a lasting influence in the Skewarkey Lodge and in the community, irrespective of denomination. He was a friend to every one and was liked and admired by all.

Will Hold Fair Here October 25

The Martin County Agricultural Fair, sponsored annually by the local Lions and Kiwanis Clubs, will be held this year during the week of October 25th through 30th, it was announced today by John Hatton Gurganus, manager Gurganus was named as manager by the Board of Directors of the fair, which is made up of representatives of both clubs, when they met recently to prepare preliminary plans for the event which is becoming widely known as one of the finest exhibitions of its type in Eastern North Carolina.

Gurganus stated that preliminary book advertisement space is now being sold.

Report By Club In Poplar Point

Members of the Poplar Point Home Demonstration Club donated \$9.50 to the 1954 cancer fund, as follows:

- Mesdames C. E. Jenkins, 1.00;
- Thurman Ange, .50; M. D. Corey, .50; Robert Moore, .40; Perlie Moore, .50; Ben Moore, .50; Earl Moore, .45; Willie Lassiter, 1.00; Dennis Modlin, 1.15; Willie H. Modlin, 1.00; Reddin Tyre, 1.00; Clyde Roberson, .50; J. B. James, 1.00.

It was reported that Stabilization was active during the day, taking as much as 15 or twenty percent of the tobacco during certain periods of the day.

The first 3,566 pounds sold brought \$1,970.80 or an average of \$55.26.

A late harvest held many farmers at home, and only a few thousand pounds were available for sale.

(Continued on Page Six)

Jack Manning With New Firm

Jack Manning, local business man and farmer, is associated with the New Deal Tobacco Warehouse here, it was announced by the management last week.

In publishing the warehouse personnel last Thursday, this paper, through error, left Mr. Manning's name out of the personnel group.