

Town Officials In Regular Meeting Here Last Night

Special Session Held Friday And Another Scheduled This Afternoon

Williamston town officials are going into regular and special huddles day after day, tackling special problems and handling routine duties. Little in the way of concrete action has been reported so far at any of the sessions.

Following a special session last Friday, the commissioners held their regular monthly meeting last night and handled routine business. This afternoon at 3:30 o'clock, the authorities are scheduled to meet again to consider a special problem relating to the town's water supply. Representatives of a well company and geologists are tentatively scheduled to meet with the board, it was learned.

At the meeting last evening, the officials were advised that the paving program is creating new problems as it advances. Convinced that water, moving rapidly off Smithwick Street, Halifax Street and School Drive is washing private property, the officials agreed to share the cost of filling a ditch near the intersection of Simmons Avenue and School Drive.

Fenner Respass, retiring on account of declining health after thirty-five years in the business, surrendered his taxi franchise at the meeting, and a franchise was granted James Everett. The board agreed to open the taxi field to one more operator provided action is taking on a pending application. Just now there are twelve taxis operating here.

Treasurer C. M. Cobb reported \$12,521.79 cash on hand, including \$5,509.75 in the sewer rental fund. Parking meters and the sewer rentals added up to \$1,026.20, the treasurer explained. So far \$32,389.95 has been collected in 1954 town taxes.

Pointing out that the block on Main Street between Haughton and Elm Streets is rapidly developing into a business district, Mrs. J. G. Staton suggested that the main thoroughfare be widened and trees cut down in that block. It was also suggested that a block on South Haughton from Main to Railroad Street be widened.

The promiscuous use of rifles in town was pointed out, a property owner declaring that windows in her home had been shot out.

The board renewed a \$5-a-year rental agreement with the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company. It was again pointed out that about twenty feet of the municipal

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File Large Suit In Federal Court

Operators of the New Deal tobacco warehouse here went into federal court at Washington last Friday, asking trouble damage in the sum of \$300,000 and injunctive relief alleged due them by the operators of the Carolina, Farmers, Roanoke-Dixie and Planters warehouses.

A hearing in the case is scheduled before Judge Don Gilliam in chambers at Tarboro Friday morning at 10:30 o'clock.

The plaintiffs, Bethel, Marson and Eugene Reynolds and J. M. and Garland Smothers, allege a restraint of trade, and are asking that they be allotted 37 1-2 percent

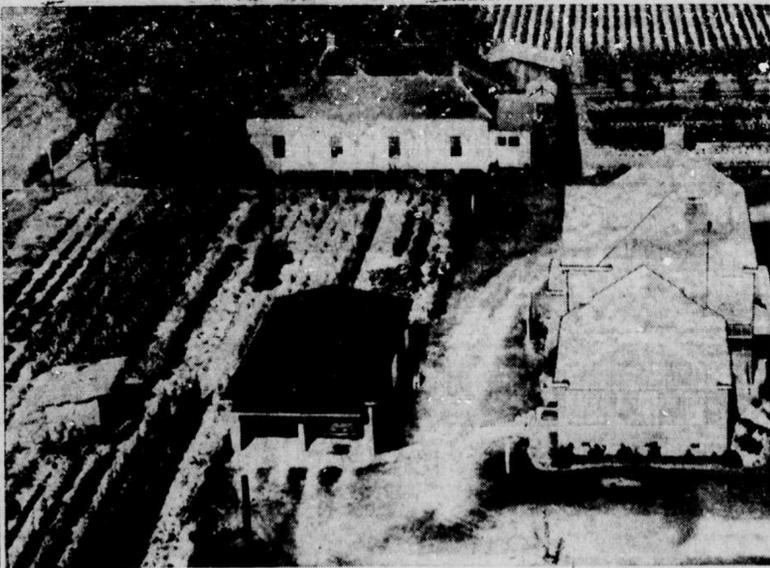
of the first and second sales, based on floor space. At the present time, the new house is allotted one-fifth of the selling time and a first sale every fifth day, the selling time and sale schedule being based on the unit system.

The complaint, naming operators of the other four houses and members of the tobacco board of trade, was filed by Attorneys Critcher and Gurganus.

UNDERGOES OPERATION

Although he was resting better late yesterday, Mr. Joe Godard continues quite ill following an operation performed in Duke Hospital last Friday. He is expected home within the next ten days or two weeks.

Aerial Photo Of Martin Farm Home



The aerial photo, the seventh in a series of mystery pictures taken for this paper by an aviator photographer working on a special assignment, is a bit puzzling and could be hard to identify. It looks a bit familiar, but the photographer did not know the owner and our readers are asked to help identify it. The picture appearing last week showed the home and premises of Farmer James R. Williams on Highway 64 near Gardner's Creek in Jamesville Township. Original photographs may be had by the property owners at the newspaper office at cost. The Williams picture was identified by Little Miss Marie Bland, Messrs. Floyd Moore, LeRoy Godard and quite a few others.

Large Drop In Enrollment In County Colored Schools

A marked decrease and one authority are at a loss to immediately explain was reported in enrollment figures reported in the fourteen colored schools in this county for the current term as compared with early figures reported for last term. According to preliminary reports, enrollment figures in the colored elementary schools are 289 below the county average. Enrollment in the three colored high schools from 638 to 693, a gain of 55. As of Monday, this week, there were 3,889 children enrolled in the colored schools as

	1953-54	1954-55
Williamston	753	284
Oak City	355	161
Parmele	250	163
Biggs	166	166
Rodgers	149	149
Williams	85	95
Burroughs	97	97
Robersonville	442	442
Everetts	251	251
Gold Point	121	121
Hamilton	220	220
Salsbury	214	214
Whichard	140	140
Jamesville	118	118
Dardens	114	114

*Dardens consolidated with Jamesville at close of 1953-54 term.

ROUND-UP

The crime front was packed with activity in this county during the past week-end, the jail record showing fifteen arrests during the period. Eight were booked for public drunkenness, two for speeding, and one each for drunken driving, assault, larceny, bad check and investigation.

Noted Minister Will Speak Here

Dr. Donald F. Ackland, Editor of The Southern Baptist Magazine, will be the featured speaker at the Memorial Baptist Church tomorrow night at 8:00 p. m. He will speak on "How Southern Baptists Appear To a British Baptist."

Dr. Ackland was born in London, England and from his earliest years was associated with the Baptists of that city. In 1928 he became the Editorial Secretary of The Christian, an old established religious magazine. In 1946 he resigned and made his first visit to the United States. In 1949 he returned to accept his present position.

Dr. Ackland is here as the featured speaker for the Roanoke Association Sunday School Victory Rallies, and the public is urged to hear him speak.

County Board In In Short Meeting Monday Morning

Other than handling routine business, the Martin County Commissioners had very little business on their calendar for consideration at the regular monthly meeting Monday. Tax Collector M. L. Peel made the big news when he reported that approximately two-fifths of the current fiscal year taxes had been collected, that the collections were running between \$15,000 and \$20,000 ahead of collections for the corresponding period of 1953.

The collector said that about one thousand or about one-eighth of the taxpayers had paid their accounts for the current year. According to the report filed with the commissioners, \$179,829.25 has been paid on 1954 tax accounts. For the tax year of 1953 there is a balance due of \$26,801.74 due on the \$408,077.83 levy. The 1952 tax report shows \$13,316.86 due on the \$393,582.02 levy. There's an unpaid balance of \$8,705.89 due on the \$370,939.90 levy for 1951, and \$4,108.10 remains unpaid on the \$335,462.01 levy for 1950.

Acting on a petition presented them, the commissioners recommended for black topping a road in Griffins Township, beginning near Smithwick Creek Church and running southerly to the Beaufort County line via the home of Mrs. Mary Bet Hodges and others.

The board appropriated \$1,000 (Continued on Page Eight)

Four Accidents On County Roads In Recent Days

No one was badly hurt and property damage was limited to an estimated \$1,600 in a series of automobile accidents on the highways in this county during the past several days.

Driving west on Highway 64 between Parmele and the Pitt County line, Edward L. Clayton, assistant postmaster at Tarboro, lost control of his 1949 Plymouth and the machine turned over. Clayton and three passengers were not even bruised, the investigating patrolman said. Damage to the car was estimated at \$300.

Driving east on Highway 64, Lt. Gordon Roger Jacky of Durham lost control of a 1952 International carry-all truck and the machine turned over, coming to a stop on its wheels. He suffered a few bruises but was discharged soon after an examination in Brown's Community Hospital. Damage to the truck was estimated at \$500.

Bill Mobley of RFD 1, Oak City, was driving north on Highway 125 toward Hobgood last Friday afternoon and was making a left turn just as Demetrios Pappopoulos, Marine, started to pass in his 1946 Buick. No one was hurt. Damage to the Buick was estimated at \$150 and repairs to Mobley's 1951 Ford pick-up will cost about \$150, according to an estimate offered by the investigating patrolman.

Sunday morning about 11:00 o'clock, Clarence Pate lost control of his 1949 Chevrolet at the Daniel-Staton Mill road intersection on the route running from Holly Springs to Farm Life. The machine turned over and no one was hurt. Damage to the car was estimated at \$500.

Boys Hold Numerical Advantage In School

The boys hold a numerical advantage in the local schools, but the advantage is mighty small. A report lists 457 boys and 430 girls in the elementary school, and 146 boys and 169 girls in the high school, giving the boys a four-man lead over-all.

The first grade has 126 pupils, a gain of one over last year.

Civil War Diary of Docton Warren Bagley

"Our Company stands C of the Martin Volunteers and is known by the distinctive title of The Bagley Guards."

"We have this day elected our officers which resulted in the choice of, 'Richard W. Rieves, captain; J. R. Mizell, second lieutenant; J. R. Mizell, third lieutenant; Eugene Burras, first sergeant; T. A. Pollard, second sergeant; Joseph Taylor, third sergeant; John Taylor, fourth sergeant; and 'And pray you receive us and commission the same at once.'"

Enrollment In White Schools

A slight downward trend was reported in the early enrollment figures in the eight white schools in this county, according to preliminary reports filed with the board of education office. Most of the decrease is centered in the elementary schools while most of the larger units reported gains in their elementary totals with one exception.

	1953-54	1954-55
Jamesville	326	114
Bear Grass	231	83
Williamston	865	301
Robersonville	471	242
Oak City	222	134
Farm Life	131	131
Everetts	189	189
Hamilton	164	164

Elmo Bennett, 50, Died Last Friday

Elmo Bennett died in Duke Hospital last Friday evening at 5:30 o'clock following a long period of declining health. His condition worsened about three weeks ago and he entered the hospital week before last for treatment.

The son of the late James and Sude Harris Bennett, he was born near Williamston fifty years ago, and lived in this county all his life. He spent most of his life on the farm, engaging in logging work much of the time. He had made his home with the Jones boys in recent years, and was with Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Jones near Jamesville until he entered the hospital.

Services were conducted at the graveside in the old Bennett cemetery near Williamston Sunday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock by the Rev. Grover Everett, pastor of the Lewiston Baptist Church.

Surviving are four sisters, Mrs. Eva Myrick of Roanoke Rapids, Mrs. Charlotte Chambers of Petersburg, Va.; Mrs. Cecil Britton of Lewiston, and Mrs. F. O. Causey of Elizabeth City; two brothers, Jimmy Bennett of Norfolk, Va. and Irvin Bennett of Lewiston.

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Jamesville Calls Fire Department

Williamston's fire department volunteers were called out at 4:25 Monday afternoon when fire destroyed a storage house and threatened other buildings, including the Walter Brown home in Jamesville.

Origin of the fire and the damage could not be determined immediately, but the loss will run only into a few hundred dollars, according to one report.

Neighbors and other friends rushed to the home and kept the fire from spreading. A fire engine mounted tank and special pump could be moved from the Gaines and Kirkman mill to the scene by a tractor. The special equipment was used in knocking out the fire which was under control when the Williamston fire-fighting equipment reached there.

It was reported that mechanical trouble delayed the Jamesville fire truck in reaching the fire. Robersonville's fire department was called out last Friday morning when a trash fire went out of control and caught an out-building on the Best Fleming farm near Hassell. The firemen saved an adjoining building but one structure with a car shelter attached was burned. No estimate on the damage could be had.

Report Heavy Sales On The Market Here

Prices Stronger Today Following Downward Trend

Smoking Leaf Of Orange Type Showing From \$1 To \$4 Increase

Sales on the local tobacco market, following a holiday yesterday, are pushing on toward the three and one-half million-pound mark today. It is estimated that right at 400,000 pounds of tobacco are on the floors here today, reports from the early sales pointing to a stronger price structure over last Friday when some grades were down as much as \$1.00 per hundred pounds.

William Roebuck Died At His Home Saturday Morning

Funeral Held Sunday In West End For Well-Known Farmer-Citizen

William Robert Roebuck, well-known retired farmer-citizen, died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Ophus Price, on Park Drive in West End here last Saturday morning at 9:30 o'clock. He had been in declining health about three years and seriously ill following a stroke suffered two weeks ago.

The son of the late Edward Baker and Mary Elizabeth Leggett Roebuck, he was born in Cross Roads Township 74 years ago on April 11, 1880. After spending his early life there on the farm, he moved into Bear Grass where he continued to farm until he retired three years ago. He had made his home here with his daughter for about one year. In early manhood he was married to Miss Dora Corey who died in 1944.

He was a member of the Cross Roads Christian Church for many years, and was held in high esteem by all who knew him. He led a noble life and was a thoughtful neighbor, playing the role of a true friend to his fellowman.

Besides his daughter with whom he made his home, he is survived by three daughters, Mrs. Marvin Cowin and Mrs. Elbert Rawls of Williamston and Mrs. Miles Poland of Bluefield, West Virginia; one son, Vernon Roebuck, of Rocky Mount; four brothers, Lewellyn Roebuck of Tillery, Dan Roebuck of Hamilton, Leon Roebuck of Washington and Leggett Roebuck of Hassell; three sisters, Mrs. John W. Green of near Williamston, Mrs. Bud James of Parmele and Miss Marie Roebuck of Robersonville, and five grandchildren.

Truck Caravan To Come Here Friday

As stated by Williamston's International Harvester dealer, manager Harvey Baggett of Martin Tractor and Truck Company, the International Better Living Motor Truck Caravan will arrive at Williamston Friday morning September 10th.

The program will begin at 10:00 a. m., with a parade through the city to be followed by an all day open house, during which time the entire Caravan will be on public display at Martin Tractor Truck Company on the new highway truck route.

According to Mr. Baggett the Caravan is made up of a cross section of the most complete line of motor trucks and refrigeration equipment in the world. There will be a transcontinental freighter which towers eleven feet in the air, dump trucks from the smallest to the largest, fire trucks, six-wheelers, giant moving vans, mobile, trucks with automatic transmissions, and many others plus a complete line of household refrigeration and air conditioning units.

The star of the Caravan is the new International R-100 PickUp. Everyone is invited to drive this truck in the R-100 driving contest. Valuable prizes will be awarded to those who can drive the farthest distance on 1-10 gallon of gas, as checked by electric gas meters. There will be door prizes, refreshments, music, and helium-filled balloons for the children. Martin Tractor & Truck Company manager cordially invites everyone to attend the Caravan showing Friday of this week.