

JUDGE ALLEN SAYS GOD IS FORGOTTEN BY PEOPLE TODAY

He Is Presiding Over Superior Court at Winton in Place of Judge Frank Daniels of Wilson

HE CHARGES JURY ON MORALS AND RELIGION

Trial of Criminal Cases Began Monday Evening, Winding Up Wednesday Morning

"We are a God-forsaken people," is the way Judge Oliver H. Allen diagnosed the "present situation", in charging the Hertford County grand jury at Winton Monday morning, upon the convening of the regular one week term of superior court. Continuing, he said, "We just as well face the truth; we have forgotten God, and He said he would forsake us if we forsake Him. The trouble with man is that he has tried to set up standards of living based upon superficial things rather than upon the principles set forth in God's word."

Judge Allen has retired from active service on the bench, but he came to this county to act as emergency judge for Judge Frank A. Daniels whose mother is seriously ill at her home in Goldsboro. He follows Judge J. Lloyd Horton to this county. Judge Allen is perhaps the oldest superior court judge in the State in point of service, while Judge Horton is the youngest in age—a circumstance that was recently prominently displayed in news articles of State papers, upon the retirement of the veteran jurist.

In his charge Judge Allen pointed out that this was an age in which people wanted something new; that it was an age of restlessness and nervousness; and that acts of crime today were worse than in former years. "If they can't have something new, they call an old thing by a new name," he said.

In spite of the system of courts in the State, and the recent addition of juvenile courts and houses of correction, crime is on the increase. All of which, he continued, was easily traced to man's disregard of God. He told the jury that they were not there to correct that situation; that was the business of the church and other religious agencies. However he charged the jury to rid the county of crime, paying particular attention to violations of the liquor laws. Other crimes were not enumerated by him, practically all of forty-five minutes being taken up in a discussion of the present situation as regards respect for law, morals, and religion.

Court machinery started functioning in the few minutes before the dinner hour Monday, and during the past three days has been working full time. The criminal docket ran over into Wednesday, and will push some of the civil cases off the docket for this term.

All of the criminal cases were of minor importance, the most serious charge being assault with a deadly weapon against Neale Gibbs, a former member of the county chain gang. While loaded up with mean liquor, he pointed a pistol towards a young boy of Tunis and threatened to shoot. He was given six months on the roads.

H. G. Boyce, a Northampton man, pleads guilty to a charge of driving an automobile while under the influence of liquor. He was let off with the costs, judgment being suspended. He was arrested in Murfreesboro.

Two hours Monday afternoon and all of Tuesday morning was required to dispose of the cases of Claude Greene and J. D. Sessoms of Ahoskie. The former was tried upon a charge of carrying a concealed weapon, and jointly with the latter in an affray case. In the former case, he was given a minimum fine of \$50; and in the latter case, the two men split on the costs, both pleading guilty. To the charge of carrying a concealed weapon, Mr. Greene plead out guilty.

Principals in two cases of local interest have "skipped" the county, and have not been apprehended for trial. Flora Ford, under bond for possession of a still, has left the country; and so have the Holloman brothers, colored, who gave Deputy O. H. Britton and Roberts Jernigan a plenty of real excitement about two weeks ago. Eulus and R. L. Holloman who were in the county jail furnished cash bond

WILL ORGANIZE BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATION

Certificate of Incorporation Filed With Clerk Wednesday of This Week

First steps toward the formation of a building and loan association for Hertford county were taken at the regular Tuesday night meeting of the Ahoskie Chamber of Commerce directors. Every member of the board of directors attended the meeting, and each of the eight signed an application for certificate of incorporation. A total of 80 shares, with a par value of \$100 each was signed for.

The application was executed Wednesday morning and mailed to D. R. McGlohon, clerk of court, who will forward a certified copy of the charter to the State Insurance Commissioner at Raleigh. A fee of \$25 accompanied the application, which will be turned over to the county treasurer for the use of the county school fund. As soon as the insurance commissioner passes upon the application and issues license, the new association will become a body politic, and subscriptions to shares will begin. Not until then will any efforts be made to secure subscriptions.

The corporation will be known as the Hertford County Building & Loan Association, its principal office to be located in Ahoskie. The association will be capitalized at two million dollars, and each share shall be worth \$100 at maturity. Five hundred shares must be subscribed for before the association begins functioning.

Little effort is expected necessary to secure subscriptions to the shares when the books have been opened. When the license has been issued and necessary books secured for business operation, a general mass meeting of interested persons in Ahoskie and other towns in the county will be held here. At that time an out of town speaker thoroughly familiar with all phases of the building and loan organizations will be present to explain every feature of the organization and answer questions from those seeking information along any line connected with the association.

There has been and is now a general demand for a building and loan association in Hertford County, one of the very few North Carolina counties having no such organization. The problem of building homes and providing houses for persons living here and others who desire to move in has never yet been solved in Ahoskie or other towns of the county. The same situation has faced other small towns, as well as cities, and in every instance the building and loan association has been the one big solution.

KADER CURTIS WISE TO MODERN FLAPPER

It has been left up to a former Ahoskie man to diagnose the case of the 1923 flapper, who has been somewhat neglected lately. Professor Kader E. Curtis, principal of the Kinston schools, says "mental attitude" makes the flapper. It has been his boast for two or three years that his school trustees had assembled the "best looking" teaching staff in North Carolina, and folks around Kinston think Mr. Curtis ought to be a good judge of what it takes to make the flapper.

His idea is that just because a teacher happens to be good looking, and attires herself in the styles of today does not necessarily stamp her to be a flapper. He has declared to newspaper men of his adopted city that the old notion that a teacher had to be lacking in pulchritude, at least 35 years of age, and attire herself in styles of a previous decade, has been discarded by school executives everywhere.

We "check" to you, Superintendent Curtis. You ought to know.

through their attorney, C. Wallace Jones, last week. B. R. Holloman, the third brother, was already out on bail. All have skipped.

BILLS INTRODUCED BY LAWRENCE ARE AWAITING ACTION

Hertford Representative Outlines Measures That Are Pending Further Action in General Assembly

THERE WILL BE NO NEW COUNTY COURT

Removes Conflict Between Superior Courts in Hertford and Northampton Counties

Like many another local bill, as well as many measures of more or less state-wide importance, several bills introduced in the General Assembly by Representative Loyd J. Lawrence of Hertford County may not reach final passage before the session is adjourned and the legislators are back home. At the present time, there are five bills "lying in wait" in the Assembly that were introduced by Representative Lawrence. They may not become laws.

In one of the bills, the time of holding the August term of Superior court has been so adjusted as to remove conflict with superior court in Northampton county. Lawyers in this section usually appear in each of these courts, and the conflict delays trials in some cases.

In this connection, the Hertford county representative has also announced that he will probably ask that his bill creating Recorder's Court in the county be tabled without further action. He says he has concluded after talking with persons from counties that have such courts, that the creation of a Recorder's Court would avail little or nothing.

Mr. Lawrence has furnished the HERALD with a summary of the bills now pending and of which he is author. His statements follow:

Recent bills introduced by Representative Lawrence, and an explanation of the same are as follows, (1) relating to court procedure, (2) relating to jury fees, (3) relating to courts of Hertford County, (4) amending the charter of Murfreesboro, and (5) authorizing Como School district to borrow money.

Taking these up in the order named, changes the time when judgments on debts may be recovered in actions before the Clerk of Court. The present law provides that judgments may be recovered, in actions of this nature, on the first and third Monday of each month.

The new bill, if enacted into a law, will enable a judgment to be recovered on any Monday in any month.

This bill has passed the House. When it reached the Senate Senator Varner had an amendment tacked on it authorizing the Supreme Court to fix and publish rules of practice in the Superior Court. The Senator had a very good reason for so doing. He had introduced a separate and independent bill some ten days or two weeks ago providing for the making and publishing rules of practice in the superior courts by the Supreme Court. His bill passed the Senate, but was killed in the House. He saw a second chance to get his measure enacted into a law by amendment to the bill of the Hertford representative. When this bill came back to the House with the Senate amendment, the motion prevailed. This time of Hertford that the "House do not concur in the Senate amendment," the motion prevailed. This means that a conference committee has to be appointed by the Speaker of the House and President of the Senate. The speaker has already appointed, as the House committee, the Hertford representative, Mr. Connor of Wilson and Mr. Brown of Pitt. The senate conferees at the time of this writing, have not been named, as action by the House was only taken on Saturday of last week. It is likely that conference will reach some agreement, and would readily do so were it not for the fact that Senator Varner's amendment had before, in a previous bill, been rejected by the House.

Bill (2), relating to jury fees, simply changes the compensation of jurors in courts of justices of the peace. The present law only pays

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Brisk Voting On Queen This Week

Miss Earle Lawrence is way out ahead of her nearest competitor for "Queen Ahoskie." When a count was made Wednesday night Miss Lawrence was the choice of 96 persons. Her nearest rival for the honor is Mrs. J. N. Vann with 41 votes. Miss Sybil Cullens has gone into third place, having 16 votes. Miss Nancy Howard is next with nine.

While voting has been pretty brisk during the last week, there are still several hundred who have not made a choice. Only 171 votes have been cast to date, out of a possible total of about two thousand. The sensation of the week was the entrance of Miss Lawrence in the race, and the rapidity with which she went ahead of all competitors.

It is a little too early to predict, but it looks like last week's HERALD knew its "stuff" when it said the thing would be fought out between the marrieds and the unmarrieds.

Poor married men! They are afraid to vote, for haven't they got a "queen" at home. Judging by their absence from the list of voters, they are afraid to vote for any one else than the "boss", and, because of their embarrassing situation, they refuse to vote at all. Don't be afraid to vote, 'poor married men', the HERALD promises to keep your choice a dark secret.

The contest closes Saturday night, March 10. The next seven days is going to be wide open to all contestants, but after Wednesday night, March 7 voting will be confined to the four leaders in the race. If you want your favorite to stay in for the garrison finish, you'd better get busy between now and next Wednesday. This thing lacks a long ways being decided; it has just started good. The next week is going to decide who will keep in the race until the end. Remember, only the four highest candidates will be voted on after Wednesday, March 7th.

The winner will get a free trip to Wilson, upon the occasion of the Eastern Carolina Exposition; and will have her picture displayed in the HERALD and Norfolk papers.

Results of Voting

Miss Earle Lawrence	96
Mrs. J. N. Vann	41
Miss Sybil Cullens	16
Miss Nancy Howard	9
Miss Blanche Holloman	4
Mrs. Howard Basnight	2
Mrs. A. W. Greene	1
Mrs. J. S. Vinson	1
Mrs. Jno. E. Mitchell	1

LEGISLATURE WORKS HARD AT END

The General Assembly is in high gear this week, its members working over time in an effort to pass upon the major legislation, and effect passage of the hundreds of local bills still on the calendars of one or the other branches. There is little chance for cleaning the slate of the minor bills, although the more important measures have been made special orders, and will probably be enacted into law or defeated on the floors of the two houses.

The appropriation measure, calling for a fund of a little more than ten million dollars for state institutions, has passed all three readings in the House, and goes to the Senate with every indication that it will become law within a day or two. Only 11 members voted against the appropriation bill in the House.

The Turlington Prohibition Bill, embodying the provisions of the Volstead Act, passed the Senate Tuesday by a vote of 47 to 2. The House is expected to pass it with little or no debate.

Bowie's bill authorizing the State to invest \$10,000,000 in acquiring 49 per cent of the stock of a railroad to build five branch lines of railroads to the "Lost Provinces" of North Carolina, Ashe, Alleghany and Watauga counties has passed the House, and gone to the Senate, where it has been reported favorably by the committee. It is expected to have easy sledding when it comes upon the floor for action.

The Senate is still wrestling with the Ku Klux bills. It will probably pass a bill with less teeth in it than the House Milliken bill. The Giles Farm Loan bill, taxation bill, and other bills of statewide interest remain to be disposed of within the next few days.

AHOSKIE POSTOFFICE ON VERGE OF SECOND CLASS

Sales of Stamps During 1923 May Determine Future Classification

"Buy government stamps," is going to be the slogan in Ahoskie during the year 1923. Not War Savings Stamps, but postage stamps is what Ahoskie people are urged to buy, for upon the total sales in 1923 depends the classification of the Ahoskie postoffice. It is right now on the verge of becoming a second class postoffice, according to Mr. A. T. Willoughby, postmaster.

During the last six months of 1922 sufficient stamp sales were sold to put this office one notch higher, but, according to rules of the department, the sales must come up to the requirements for a solid calendar year, beginning with January.

Mr. Hadfield, postoffice inspector, spent several days in Ahoskie last week, checking up the records of Mr. Willoughby which were found to be in good shape. He also spent some time interviewing business persons and firms in the town and interrogating them upon the service rendered at the local office. While here, he stated to a HERALD representative that Ahoskie lacked but very little entering the second class division.

Additional clerk help will be available if the office advances to second class, and a government building may eventually be erected here.

Postmaster Willoughby has shaken up things around the office within the last week or two. The office will not be closed hereafter during the noon hour, and the general delivery window will be closed only twenty minutes after the arrival of each mail train, with one exception: It will be closed, for the distribution of mail, for thirty minutes after the north bound morning train. This schedule will be strictly adhered to, and if any mails remain to be distributed after that time one of the office clerks will distribute it while the window is up. Under this plan, the first class mail and daily papers can be "worked up" during the 20-minute period; and the second class mail and parcels attended to while the general delivery window is open for business.

A new bulletin board has been installed in the lobby of the office and time of closing mails and other information about the schedule of the office have been written upon the blackboard. Another late improvement is a rack for parcels, which was installed several weeks ago.

Efforts are still being made to secure a village mail delivery service here. A petition has been forwarded to Congressman Ward of this district and he has advised that he will make an attempt to secure the service for Ahoskie.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE DIRECTORS ON THE JOB

One hundred per cent attendance upon Tuesday night's meeting indicates pretty thoroughly that the directors of the local Chamber of Commerce are not laying down on the job. Since the secretaryship became vacant a few weeks ago, the principal effort has been to secure a competent person to fill the job, and right at this time the signs would seem to indicate the employment of a secretary within a week or two.

Correspondence with the president of the State Secretarial Association and other secretaries has brought forward several applications, and in other ways the directors are seeking applications. Those now in possession of the directors and others expected within the next few days will be considered at the regular meeting next Tuesday night.

In the meantime, the chamber is throwing its full force behind the building and loan association and the hotel project.

MISS WHITESIDES HERE

Miss Agnes Whitesides, of the East Carolina Teachers College at Greenville was in Ahoskie Tuesday afternoon. She observed the work done in the first grade of the local school.

CUSTODY OF CHILD RAISES IMPORTANT QUESTION OF LAW

Young Son of Paul Williams Was Kidnapped by Mother and Latter Will Be Given Hearing March 7

BOTH LIVED HERE UNTIL SEPARATION

Portsmouth Court May Decide Whether Parents Can Be Guilty of Kidnap

"A little child shall lead them" is about to be exemplified in the case of little Joseph Braxton Williams, 4 year old son of Paul Williams of Ahoskie, and Mrs. Lucy Williams, lately of Ahoskie but now of Portsmouth, Va.

From Portsmouth comes the news, widely heralded in the daily papers of Norfolk, that an important point of law may be decided from a kidnapping charge lodged against the little boy's mother by his father. Three times the boy has "changed hands," first the father having him at Ahoskie, only to be "kidnapped" by his mother and carried back to Portsmouth. They have not lived together for several months, and during their estrangement each has sought to get possession of the child.

Mrs. Williams employed a chauffeur to bring her to Ahoskie a few weeks ago. She came to town secretly, located her young son, and it is alleged by her husband, kidnapped him. It was then Paul Williams, the father, resolved to take legal steps for the restoration of his young son. Attorney R. C. Bridger is his counsel.

Mrs. Williams and her chauffeur, Willie Kellam were arrested for kidnapping the boy, and extradition papers were sought from the Governor of Virginia, to bring them back to Hertford County for trial. Deputy sheriff O. H. Britton of Ahoskie went to Richmond last week and secured the extradition papers, coming back to Norfolk Friday evening.

Early Saturday morning the deputy sheriff, accompanied by local officers in Portsmouth, sought out the defendants in Portsmouth, preparatory to bringing them back to Ahoskie. But, in the meantime, counsel for Mrs. Williams and Kellam had secured a writ of habeas corpus for the release of his clients, and in Hastings Court Judge K. A. Bain ordered their release under \$750 bonds each. The Hastings Court at Portsmouth will hear arguments in the case March 7, and at that time will be asked to determine whether the defendants have been guilty of a crime.

Portsmouth right at this time has another case exactly parallel, and the principals are likewise named Williams. Last Wednesday Mrs. Ethelyn Williams, who was living apart from her husband, staged an alleged kidnapping performance and secured the custody of a young child. In this as in the case of Mrs. Lucy Williams, the child was left in possession of the father, and the mother abducted it. When Mrs. Lucy Williams is arraigned in Portsmouth Hastings court next Wednesday, the father or mother of a child can be guilty or even charged with kidnapping their own child will be the point decided.

In that case, if the court says "No", Paul Williams of Ahoskie will probably have to resort to a little ingenuity as once before, and "steal" his young son. It is alleged that he "stole" him once before, and has been also threatened with a kidnapping charge.

Paul is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George Williams of this town, and is local agent for the Virginian-Pilot, a Norfolk newspaper. He and his parents are well known here, and much interest is centered about the efforts of mother and father to secure the young boy.

The estranged couple were married in Portsmouth about five years ago, and until a few months ago lived in Ahoskie in apparent tranquility. What caused the separation is another much mooted question hereabouts.

U. D. C. WILL MEET

The Ahoskie Chapter of the U. D. C. will meet with Mrs. J. N. Vann next Tuesday afternoon at 3 o'clock.