

WESTON FREED WHISKEY COUNT

Jury Decides Local Service Station Man Is Not Guilty Of Possessing Booze

HISTORY OF THE CASE

Ray Weston, proprietor of Three Point Service Station, was found guilty in the bill of indictment charging him with possessing whiskey for the purpose of sale, when he was tried by a jury in Recorder's court on Monday morning.

John Kerr Jr., attorney for the defendant, set up the claim that the booze was not the property of his client. "Even if it had been," said Mr. Kerr in his argument to the jury, "you could not convict Mr. Weston for the law of the state of North Carolina permits a man to have whiskey in his home for his own purpose and for his bona fide guests and there is no evidence here that Mr. Weston has sold any whiskey."

The jury, composed of John Daniel, Lewis Hawks, Faulk Alston, Leonard Hairthcock, John Powell and Ed Stegall, was with the case less than fifteen minutes in arriving at a verdict.

The case opened with Sheriff Pinnell testifying. The officer said that as a result of reports that had come to him, he secreted himself in woods a short distance from the morning of March 6, and that he visited negro employees of the service station going back and forth from a little shack across the road as cars stopped at the service station.

Later that day, Sheriff Pinnell said, he and Deputy L. D. Robertson went to the service station for a search. No whiskey was found in the service station, other than a drop or two in one bottle or jar, but a number of half gallon jars and other containers were found there, he said.

A search was made of the little building across the road from the service station. There the officers found two trunks, one containing clothes of Mr. Weston and the other locked. Unable to find a key that would fit the locked trunk, the officers placed it in a car and brought it to Warrenton. Later it was brought into the sheriff's office and opened. Six half-gallon jars full of liquor, several empty jars, some cigarettes, a sock, and a small piece of cloth was found therein.

On cross examination, Sheriff Pinnell told Mr. Kerr that he had looked for whiskey on one man who he had seen leaving the service station after being waited on by the negroes who went back and forth to the shanty but failed to find any whiskey.

The officer also stated that Mr. Weston told him that one of the trunks was his and that he was welcomed to search it but that the other one had been left there by a negro who used to work at the service station. Sheriff Pinnell said that the keys Mr. Weston had on his bunch would not fit the locked trunk.

The defense attorney also drew forth the testimony that a negro was cooking in the little building at the time of the search and that the bottles and jars found in the service station were not concealed.

W. G. Pruitt, who was connected with the Centre warehouse during the past tobacco season, said that some time ago when he was at Mr. Weston's service station a negro named Vanderbilt gave him \$20 and asked him to purchase him a trunk. Mr. Pruitt said he bought the trunk, which he identified as being the same one that was in court, at Henderson for \$16 and delivered it to Vanderbilt. He also testified that he knew it to be a fact that the men who worked at the service station cook in the little building across the road and that they leave whatever they are doing and come across the road when cars drive to the service station for service.

Willis Neal, a sawmill man, said that he was back and forth at the service station frequently and that he had seen the men come back and forth from the building but he had never seen them deliver any whiskey.

After the verdict had been returned, Judge Taylor ordered the whiskey destroyed and the trunk held. The jurist suggested that it be advertised and sold to help pay some of the cost of the case, but no order to this effect was given in court.

Clifton Pope, negro, was found of

Women Enter Into Political Swim Of Warren County

The temporary embarrassment caused a few of the old time politicians when a couple of the fairer sex of Warren county launched into the political swimming pool this week has passed and the whole crowd is swimming, paddling about and ducking—mostly ducking—while new arrivals on the banks are making short shift of plunging in.

Mrs. Alex Baxter of Ridgeway, with the announcement that she did not know how the men would feel with a woman in their pool, said she was entering the race for Register of Deeds.

Miss Delma Bobbitt of Littleton went in with little comment other than that she was seeking the prize of Register of Deeds.

John A. Dowtin, political veteran, may have competition in his race for the House of Representatives. Looked for a while like the Warrenton citizen was going to have things his own way, but Haywood Aycock of Elberon, Superintendent of the Warren Prison Camp, announced this week that he was contemplating running for the House of Representatives. Mr. Aycock said that he had not yet definitely made up his mind about becoming a candidate but that he would arrive at a decision by next week. In the event that Mr. Aycock does run, the race to see who goes to Raleigh from Warren county will be even, — that is, two out for each place: Judge T. O. Rodwell and Mayor Frank H. Gibbs for the Senate and Messrs. Dowtin and Aycock for the House. In this regard it might be well to correct a slight error of omission in our write up two weeks ago of Mayor Gibbs' announcement. This newspaper stated that he came to Warrenton after finishing Trinity College and began the practice of law. The facts were that His Honor served in Uncle Sam's Army after finishing college, in the Aviation Corps, and came here after his discharge. Don't know that it matters greatly to Mayor Gibbs, but as a matter of record, and because some people take this war business pretty seriously.

Rumors, long heard, developed in a fact this week when Arthur L. Nicholson of Macon definitely announced that he would be a candidate for Clerk of Superior Court. Rumors concerning another citizen of Macon persist in regard to Macon Thornton becoming a candidate for the position of High Sheriff in opposition to Sheriff W. J. Pinnell, but to date Mr. Thornton has told this newspaper just exactly nothing.

Jasper Shearin of Churchill announced that he would be a candidate for Coroner, a job already being sought by Frank Allen of Warrenton.

Zollie Newman of Norlina is in the race for Register of Deeds, according to a pretty straight tip, and it has also been reported that Tom B. Gardner of Warrenton, has been seen once or twice dipping an experiential finger into the water near the bank and is apt to take a high dive in Warren's old political pool and join Joe Powell, Mrs. Baxter, Miss Bobbitt, Mr. Newman, and others, perhaps, in the race for Register of Deeds.

The organ at Emmanuel Episcopal Church is being cleaned and adjusted this week. The work is being done by F. T. N. Tallman of Buffalo, N. Y.

Mr. Tallman installed the organ in the Episcopal church here 42 years ago and since that time has returned to Warrenton on several occasions to make repairs and adjustments when the sacred music box failed to function properly. While here he is a guest of friends of the parish.

Hotel Warren has already been covered by a new roof, and the job of painting the building is expected to begin next week. Plastering is underway at present.

The job of putting a new roof over the hotel was done by the Tanner Roofing Co. of Henderson, and the painting contract was awarded to B. C. Carpenter of Warrenton. The building is to be painted white.

Mode Henderson, negro, is at present busy plastering damaged walls and ceilings in the rooms.

Contracts for all these improvements which the town-owned property is at present undergoing were awarded on a competitive bid basis, it is understood.

ORGAN BEING REPAIRED
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Lindbergh in Washington for Air Conference



WASHINGTON . . . Upon the invitation of Secretary of War, George H. Dern, Colonel Charles Lindbergh came to Washington to confer with the Secretary concerning army aviation matters and also the airmail flying, it was reported. Photo shows Secretary Dern greeting Colonel Lindbergh when the tall flyer arrived at the Army building, hatless and without overcoat.

Polk Writes of Long Poker Game Held Here And Relates Incident of Man Being Knocked Across County In Fist Fight

Doings in Warren county having become of interest to one Mr. Nash Johnston of Durham, N. C., he writes to William T. Polk for confirmation of what he, Johnston, considers a bit of the unusual. Mr. Polk answered the Durham seeker after knowledge this week and was so kind as to let this newspaper have a copy of his letter, which is printed as follows:

"Warrenton, N. C.
"March 21st, 1934.

"Dear Mr. Johnston,
"Durham, N. C.,
"Dear Mr. Johnston:

"I have your letter of the 15th instant, stating that you have been informed that there is a poker game now being played in Warrenton which began just after the Civil War and has been played continuously ever since, and inquiring whether I can give you any information about this unusual affair.

"You also ask whether I have heard anything about a fight in Littleton in which a man was knocked from Warren County to Halifax County.

"Answering your second question first, I beg to say that so many fights have occurred in or near Littleton in which one of the combatants has been knocked from Warren into Halifax County and vice versa that I have no means of telling to which you refer.

"A more interesting example of a man being knocked from one jurisdiction into another, I think, was the fight that took place near Ransom's Bridge, at the South-eastern corner of Warren County, in which one of the fighters was knocked from Warren County through Halifax County into Nash County. This, however, is nothing derogatory to the pugilistic ability of the gentleman so knocked, because immediately after alighting upon Nash County soil he picked himself up and knocked his opponent, who had followed him, into Franklin County. This may sound far-fetched, but it can be substantiated by Mr. W. E. Twitty of Warrenton, a gentleman of unquestioned veracity, who was present at the square dance at the old Ransom's Bridge Hotel when the difficulty above mentioned started in the course of which, as Mr. Twitty puts it, the combatants 'skirmished' over four counties. Their names are withheld because of the embarrassment attendant upon publicity.

"As to your second question, it is unfortunate that we have no eye-witness or participant in the poker game, as we have in the matter of the Ransom's Bridge Battle, — that is, none whose testimony goes back beyond 1880.

"That a poker game is now in progress in Warrenton, that its origin is clouded in antiquity, and that it has been continuous for a long period is unquestioned.

"But that it started in 1866 and has been going on continuously ever since is more than any man now living can say of his own knowledge. This conclusion must be based on history, — and what is history, as Raleigh and Napoleon said, 'but a fable generally agreed on' or as Henry Ford more succinctly put it, 'bunk.'

"However, when we get beyond the memory of living men, history is all we have to go by. It would be easy to say that the game has been going on continuously ever since 1866, and this would make a nice story. But the historical evidence is to the contrary. The student of history is forced to the conclusion that the game was introduced into the county by a man who was knocked from one jurisdiction into another, I think, was the fight that took place near Ransom's Bridge, at the South-eastern corner of Warren County, in which one of the fighters was knocked from Warren County through Halifax County into Nash County. This, however, is nothing derogatory to the pugilistic ability of the gentleman so knocked, because immediately after alighting upon Nash County soil he picked himself up and knocked his opponent, who had followed him, into Franklin County. This may sound far-fetched, but it can be substantiated by Mr. W. E. Twitty of Warrenton, a gentleman of unquestioned veracity, who was present at the square dance at the old Ransom's Bridge Hotel when the difficulty above mentioned started in the course of which, as Mr. Twitty puts it, the combatants 'skirmished' over four counties. Their names are withheld because of the embarrassment attendant upon publicity.

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NICHOLSON QUILTS CONGRESS RACE

Enfield Man Says He Loves Practice of Medicine Better Than Politics

DICKERSON IN THE FIELD

Enfield, March 20.—Dr. B. M. Nicholson, in a statement issued here tonight, withdrew from the race for the Democratic nomination for Congress from the Second district, declaring that he has decided that he loves the practice of medicine more than he does the game of politics. His statement follows:

"To my friends and supporters of the Second Congressional District of North Carolina:

"This is to advise you that after mature and careful consideration, I am thoroughly convinced beyond the shadow of a doubt that I love the practice of medicine, which has been my profession for the past 24 years, more than I do the game of politics. I have therefore definitely decided to withdraw from this campaign. I cannot begin to express to you my appreciation of your kind expressions of support and cooperation in behalf of my candidacy during the past few months. With best wishes, I am most sincerely yours,

"B. M. Nicholson."

Dr. Nicholson's retirement leaves in the race in the Second, Judge John H. Kerr, incumbent, and A. O. Dickens, of Wilson. Fred I. Sutton of Kinston and Don Gilliam of Tarboro are among those who have been mentioned as potential candidates.

FRED I. SUTTON OF KINSTON IN CONGRESSIONAL RACE

Kinston, March 21.—Stepping into the breach left by the withdrawal of Dr. B. M. Nicholson from the race, Fred I. Sutton today announced his candidacy for the Democratic nomination for Congress from the Second District. With A. O. Dickens, Wilson attorney, who had previously announced, he aspires to the seat now held by Representative John H. Kerr.

Negro Hurt When Struck By Car With White Driver

Frank Watson Jr., negro barber, received a broken leg and had his elbow knocked out of place last Saturday when he was struck by an automobile driven by Ed Weldon, white man of Norlina.

Following the accident the negro was given medical attention by Dr. C. H. Peete, placed on a truck and carried to his home where he is reported to be improving.

The accident occurred about a quarter of a mile from Warrenton on the road leading to Macon and Liberia. It was said that a truck was parked on the side of the road and that when the automobile driver and pedestrian saw one another each started dodging back and forth across the road in an effort to get out of the other's way but that neither Weldon or Watson were able to calculate the other's next move.

The second of the Square dances sponsored by Miss Lucy Leach for the benefit of destitute citizens of Warren county turned out so well when held in the armory here on last Friday night that another of these dances has been announced for the night of March 30, next Friday.

A large crowd attended the dance here on last Friday night and put in a well evening of fun tipping the light fantastic to the music of Will Ball's band, which will be on hand next Friday night.

Square Dance To Be Held March 30

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MUST'NT USE ANOTHER'S MILK BOTTLES, SAYS SERLS

"It is illegal to use milk bottles belonging to another for delivery of milk or for any other purpose," Frank Serls, manager of the Warrenton Dairy, said yesterday. He asked this newspaper to call the public's attention to this fact in order that he may not have to swear out warrants against those using his bottles.

Mr. Serls asks that any citizens having Warrenton Dairy bottles to notify him and he will call for them.

Mr. Signal Jones was a visitor at Chapel Hill on Sunday.

Naughty Dogs

Fourteen dogs, according to information furnished this newspaper by a reliable source, the property of Austin Allen, Confederate Veteran of Axtele, disappeared from his home one night this week.

They returned home the next morning, every last one of them staggering, pie-eyed drunk. It is believed that the dogs raided the mash box of a moonshine distiller only a few hours before he was ready to make his run.

John Williams, Veteran Of 1861, Dies On Tuesday

John Willie Williams, a Confederate veteran, died at his home here early Tuesday morning at the age of 88 years. A cerebral hemorrhage was given as the cause of death.

Funeral services were conducted from the home Wednesday afternoon at 1 o'clock by the Rev. B. C. Thompson and the Rev. O. I. Hinson, Methodist ministers serving the Warren and Warrenton circuits. Burial took place in Nash county at the old home of the deceased.

Mr. Williams came to Warrenton about five years ago from Nashville. He lived in a house on the street running from Mr. A. A. Williams' home to the home of the Misses Dameron's. Due to his health, which had been bad for some time, it was seldom that he was seen away from his home.

The deceased is survived by his wife, one daughter, Mrs. Minnie Hollandsworth of Bunn, and two sons, Eugene Garland Williams of Norlina and Winston Williams of Warrenton.

Charity Cases Are Listed By Welfare Officer

Six charity cases are this week listed by Miss Lucy Leach, Welfare Officer of Warren county, with a request that any citizen interested in any of the cases contact her. She pointed out that by helping these cases not only would the benefactor be relieving suffering but would also be spending money to do constructive relief work.

If not interested in any specific case, Miss Leach asked that contributions be made to the Charity Chest as a sinking fund for emergency cases. The six cases listed by Miss Leach follows:

Case 1.—Money needed to pay for tonsil operation of indigent children.

Case 2.—Money needed to have glasses fitted to indigent children.

Case 3.—Money needed to have a woman who has a fractured arm treated and arm set.

Case 4.—Money needed to pay hospital bill of burnt negro child who will have to have skin grafted on face and be in hospital for a long time.

Case 5.—Money needed to pay for pylon for crippled man who has taken a vocational training but needs money for pylon, so he can be more comfortable and active.

Case 6.—Money needed to pay for an artificial arm for a one arm man so he can work better.

List Takers To Begin Work April 1

List takers for Warren county, who will begin taking the tax list on April 1 and continue at that job for 30 days, have been appointed as follows:

Warrenton township, T. B. Gardner; Fork, W. E. Davis; Smith Creek, Mrs. Della Baxter; Fishing Creek, H. C. Davis; Nutbush, W. M. Fleming; Hawtree, John W. King; Sixpound, H. J. Halthcock; River, Walter Myrick; Judkins, E. P. Nicholson; Shocco, Francis Limer; Sandy Creek, S. E. Allen; Roanoke, L. W. Kidd.

Methodist Services Here On Sunday

Services will be held at the Warrenton Methodist church on Sunday morning and Sunday evening, the Rev. O. I. Hinson, announced yesterday. Special Easter music will be a feature of the morning service, and an interest program has been prepared for the evening services, the minister said.

TO BEGIN DRIVE LIBRARY FUNDS

Seek Money To Complete New Library Home On Court House Square

COMMITTEE IN CHARGE

A drive will be launched next week to raise funds for the completion of Warren County Memorial Library which is being constructed on the court house square as a CWA project supplemented by local aid.

The call for financial aid needed for the building will come from a committee composed of Mrs. Katherine P. Arrington, W. H. Dameron, Stephen Burroughs and John Mitchell, with Mr. Dameron serving as chairman.

It is not expected that members of this committee will make a house-to-house canvass but will try to contact with as many people as possible, either personally or by letter, in their efforts to raise funds for the library.

No definite figure has been set up as a goal for this committee to shoot at in its drive. It is understood that the members will try to raise every cent possible.

The construction of the library here is a \$6,500 project. The CWA came across with \$4,575, of which \$1,312.50 went into material. The building committee of the library is to raise the difference between the \$4,575 and \$6,500. It is understood that the building committee has on hand at present \$860.

Since the construction of the library began several months ago a spirit of co-operation has been evident. A large number of people have displayed their interest, and among those who have been observed contributing to the cause are: Jack Smiley, who has given some of his time; E. L. Green, who helped with the concrete work; Pinnell & Dickerson, who have given some truck service; Stanley Powell, who has worked over time on occasions; Pete Seaman, who has given some lumber; Numa Weaver, who gave angle iron; W. A. Miles has given some nails; Alfred Ellington has assisted in moving some material; merchants have contributed; Joe Taylor, who took the level of the place; the Warrenton Rail Road Co., by bringing in soil early in the morning when it was needed; W. H. Reid has given a hand, as have others; and the regular employees have shown their willingness on numerous occasions to put their best in their work.

Blanks For Seed Loans Now Ready, Howard Announces

Application blanks for Emergency Crop Loans are now available in both Warren and Halifax counties, Field Agents J. C. Howard and Fred Moseley announced yesterday.

Warren county residents desiring these blanks will find same at Warrenton and Littleton. In Halifax county the blanks are available at Littleton, Scotland Neck and Halifax court house.

Those making application for loans are required to pay a notary's fee of 50c, the government representatives stated.

Skinner Wants To See County Debtless

John L. Skinner, member of the Board of County Commissioners, was in Raleigh Tuesday attending a quarterly meeting of the Local Government Advisory Commission. Mr. Skinner represents the commissioners of the entire state on this commission.

Questioned while enroute to Raleigh as to his candidacy for re-election to the board of Warren county commissioners, Mr. Skinner said he had not positively decided, but that he rather thought he would be among those running. "I would like to stay on the board until the county has been gotten completely out of debt," he added. "You know, I think so far we have made a pretty good job out of cutting down the county's indebtedness, and I would like to be in on the finish," he concluded.

Miss Mary Goodall of New York, a student at the University of North Carolina, arrived yesterday for a visit with Miss Caroline Ward.

Mr. Carlos Lowrance of Enfield was a week end guest of Mr. Duke Jones.

Mr. Harry Fishel of Vaughan was a visitor here Tuesday night.