

## SECTION'S NOTED CHICKEN THIEF IN TOILS OF LAW

### Don Purvis Arrested Sunday for Stealing 27 Chickens

## NINE ARE RECOVERED

### Number Coops in Town Have Been Robbed Lately; Believed Purvis Responsible for Many

Don Purvis, the section's noted chicken thief, was caught at his old game early last Sunday morning after he had raided Ann Hough's chicken coop on Sycamore Street and removed 27 of her select stock. It was about 3 in the morning when Purvis visited the coop and sacked the chickens, and before 7 o'clock the same morning he had sold 7 chickens in various sections of the town at real bargains; to one woman he sold 7 of the fowls for \$1.50. At another place he bargained two old hens off at 50 cents each.

The owner, missing her chickens early that morning, reported the stealing to Chief of Police Daniel. Recognizing a track, the officer inquired after Purvis and learned that he had been seen going to his home with a sack on his back earlier in the morning. Securing a warrant, Chief Daniel went to Purvis' home; where he found him in bed with a dressed fowl lying near by. Purvis denied the charge, but after a thorough questioning by the officer, he got tangled up in his evidence. The officer had him dress and they went to Eleanor Bailey's home, where 7 of the chickens were found. When questioned, the Bailey woman stated that some one had been stealing her chickens and that she had killed all there were left to save them from the hands of thieves. When the officer stated that he had gained evidence from Purvis, she told the truth about it, stating that she had bought the seven chickens from Purvis, paying \$1.50 for them.

The seven chickens, all prepared for the stove, were returned to Anna Hough along with two others that were found at Jasper Wiggins' home. Wiggins had already placed one of the chickens on the stove and was in the process of cooking it when the officer arrived at his home. Purvis waived examination, stating that he had just as well await trial in jail. Judge Bailey will hear the case next Tuesday in the recorder's court here.

A number of coops have been robbed in the town lately, and it is believed that Purvis is responsible for many of them. It was only a few months ago that he was carried before the court to answer to a charge similar to the one now facing him.

## HOUSE BURNED SUNDAY NIGHT

### Home of Jim Stalls, Near Robersonville, Burns After Explosion

Fire, thought to have started when a kerosene lamp exploded, destroyed the residence of Jim Stalls last Saturday night about 9 o'clock, near Robersonville. The house, with all its contents, was completely burned.

The house, belonging to Mr. Lester House, of Robersonville, was valued at \$2,500, with only \$1,500 insurance. Mr. Stalls, losing everything except what he and his family were wearing at the time of the fire, had no insurance on his personal property.

Leaving the house about 8 o'clock to visit a sick relative near by, the family apparently failed to completely extinguish the light, and the fire found its way to the oil fumes, causing the explosion. The fire threatened out-buildings; hard fighting on the part of neighbors saving them, however.

Attorney A. R. Dunning and Mr. V. J. Spivey made a business trip to Rocky Mount last night.

**WATTS THEATRE**

Wednesday June 19

**RANGER**

in

**"TRACKED"**

ALSO COMEDY

Thursday-Friday June 20-21

**WILLIAM HAINES**

in

**"THE DUKE STEPS OUT"**

ALSO NEWS and COMEDY

Shows at 7:15 and 9 P. M. Daily

MUSIC BY PHOTOTONE

## Frank Cox To Go On Trial For Life Here Wednesday

Ordering a special venire of 100 men, Judge Walter H. Small, of Elizabeth City, yesterday in superior court here, set the trial of Frank Cox, alleged murderer, for Wednesday morning at 9:30 o'clock. The sheriff's office is busy today summoning the special venire, and it is believed that the trial will get under way without any great draw backs presenting themselves. While a part of today's proceedings might be carried over until tomorrow, it is believed that such a continuation will not cause a delay of any great length.

Cox is alleged to have murdered J. Henry Jolly, Cross Roads farmer, the 26th of last month. Examining the evidence in the case, the grand jury yesterday afternoon returned a true bill, charging murder in the first degree.

Attorneys B. A. Critcher and Elbert S. Peel have been appointed by the court to defend Cox; Solicitor Donald Gilliam, assisted by H. S. Ward, Washington attorney, will prosecute the case.

## TRAFFIC LAW VIOLATIONS ARE DISCUSSED BY JUDGE SMALL IN CHARGE TO GRAND JURY HERE

## HOOVERCRATS ARE UP IN AIR

### Virginia "Antis" Disturbed By Social Event on Eye Of Convention

Danville, Va., June 17.—Confusion reigned tonight amid the ranks of the anti-Smith Democrats who were planning to attend the Roanoke State Convention opening tomorrow to nominate a Governor and a full State ticket. The colorful tea party at the White House has upset most of the plans carefully worked out during recent weeks and through which the nomination of William Moseley Brown of Danville, for Governor was to be precipitated by the Danville contingent. It was to have moved to Roanoke in a motorcade with flaming banners proclaiming Bishop Cannon's slogan, "Principle Above Party," and it was designed to show the disaffected Democrats in convention assembled that the college professor has large support in the old home town.

Just how far the Washington incident has affected the attendance cannot be foretold. It is admitted however that for some weeks anti-Smith Democrats have been wavering as the day of the convention approached and have felt that they were without an issue since the Roman Catholic animosities noted in the national campaign no longer exist. The entertainment of Congressman DePriest's wife has afforded an excuse to get back into the party without "eating crow." There is muttered anger over the situation developing at a crucial moment in the State campaign and the expressed feeling among the Hoovercrats is that they have received sorry reward after delivering the vote last November.

Efforts are made to maintain the ranks by making it appear that the Washington tea party was innocuous politically and merely a routine affair of no political significance. This however has not altogether disguised the fact that a Negro has been given social entrée at the White House.

The local situation has not been improved, moreover, by DePriest's Norfolk speech given wide publicity in Virginia. His address to Negroes is accepted as having been an appeal to them to ally themselves with the anti-Smith people who had hoped to keep the State campaign a white man's fight and who now are disturbed at seeing the colored brethren voicing the same sort of idealism.

## Experts Compiling Data For New Insurance Rate

Approving the change from third to second class insurance rating the 31st of last month for property owners here, the North Carolina Inspection and Rating Bureau, Raleigh, has three men here compiling data for a new rating. Mr. R. M. Dark, assisted by Messrs. W. D. Harwell and H. W. Hall, has charge of the work. Approximately two weeks will be required to complete the gathering of the data and from 60 to 90 days to complete the rate book.

The new rating will effect a saving of 10 to 15 per cent on all fire insurance premiums, which means that approximately \$3,000 will be saved in the rate book.

## FARMERS IN GREENVILLE AND VANCEBORO SECTIONS START CURING THIS YEAR'S TOBACCO

### Rains Holding Back Crop in This Section; No Curing for Next 15 Days

With heavy rains threatening the tobacco crop in this section and causing a delay in cultivation, farmers in the Greenville and Vanceboro sections are said to be busily engaged in curing the first of the crop this week. One farmer in the Greenville section is said to have started curing last Saturday and that others would start similar operations early this week. The curing season in this section is yet more than two weeks off, many farmers stating

## Says Three People Killed in State Each Day By Law Violators

In his charge to the grand jury drawn for the June term of Martin County superior court in session here this week, Judge Walter H. Small, of Elizabeth City, made a short but pointed talk on traffic law violations. According to the judge, three people are killed each day by automobiles in this State, "that most of the deaths are caused by drivers violating the traffic laws, some driving while drunk, others driving recklessly, and still others driving in ignorance of the laws."

To remedy the situation, Judge Small suggested that training schools be arranged in each county for the instruction of all automobile drivers in an effort to teach them the proper way of driving and handling their vehicles.

The judge, immediately after holding court here last March, ran into a wagon without lights while on his way home, and in his charge he stressed the danger in one driving a team without a light displayed on the vehicle. The light should be bright enough so a driver can see it 200 feet or more away in either direction. The idea of driving a team on the left side of the road was pointed out to be incorrect by the judge. He did say, however, that it was proper for a person walking on the road to hold to the left side.

The oath of a grand juror was declared to be important, the judge stating that the oath of a grand juror was one of the most sacred features of a court's proceedings.

The grand jury is composed of F. L. Haislip, foreman; R. W. Salsbury, J. T. Barnhill, S. C. Peel, B. R. Manning, Claudius Robertson, N. T. Tice, J. R. Gardner, Simon E. Corey, S. C. Ray, H. D. Harrison, Dennis Bailey, R. C. Roebuck, J. C. Keel, O. S. Anderson, H. L. Hopkins, Irving L. Smith, C. F. Perry, J. R. Gardner and R. W. Salsbury were excused for the term. Henry D. Taylor was appointed officer of the grand jury.

## Start Work on Four New Store Buildings

Preliminary work on the construction of four new store buildings on the main street here was started yesterday, the contractors planning to start the foundation tomorrow, the weather permitting. Work will be rushed to completion, it is understood from the builder, Mr. J. G. Staton.

## Hail In Bear Grass Does Some Damage

Hail, causing a 15 per cent estimated damage, struck in the Bear Grass section last Saturday about noon. The hail hit the crops of a number of farmers, eight of whom entered claims against their insurance policies, according to a local insurance agency.

As far as it could be learned, the storm did no serious damage to other crops in this county.

Last year a hail storm did considerable damage in the Bear Grass section to the tobacco crop.

## Free Trip To Europe for Certain War Mothers

The United States Government has officially announced that mothers having sons killed during the last World War while in line of duty as United States soldiers, are offered a free trip with all expenses to Europe this summer, provided the son is buried on foreign soil.

Any persons interested in this free trip can secure full information from Julius S. Peel, Major, U. S. R., Williamston, N. C.

## Important Meeting of Local Juniors Thursday

Members of the local Junior Order United American Mechanics, will meet in a special session in the Order's hall here next Thursday evening at 8:00 o'clock when a team from the Robersonville Order will come here to handle an initiation of a candidate. Councillor J. E. Pope states that several new applications will be considered at the Thursday evening meeting, and urges all members to attend.

Lighting Stuns Man Here  
Job Roberson, aged colored man, was stunned last Saturday afternoon when lightning struck near the home of Mr. H. T. Roberson, in New Town.

## CONGRESS VOTES SUM OF \$151,500,000 FOR FARM RELIEF

### Is First Portion of the Half Billion Dollars Called for By Farm Relief Act

Washington, June 17.—Both the executive and legislative branches of the government fixed their attention today on carrying out the new law intended as a boon to the farmer.

President Hoover busied himself on determination of the eight men he will choose to compose the Federal Farm Board, and Congress at the same time was appropriating \$151,500,000 for that board to use in its initial efforts toward making agriculture uniformly profitable.

The President recommended the appropriation early in the day, the House approved it with little debate and the Senate adopted the House resolution with no debate. Mr. Hoover doubtless will sign it soon, thus creating the first \$150,000,000 portion of the \$500,000,000 revolving fund authorized by the farm relief law. The remaining \$1,500,000 of the money appropriated is for expenses of the farm board.

The list of potential nominees to the board grows daily, one addition made today being Sherman Houston, of Malita Bend, Mo. Senator Patterson and Representative Palmer, of that State, described him to President Hoover as "a real dirt farmer." They said Mr. Hoover gave no indication of his intentions concerning the board's make up.

Developments saw no lessening of the speculation on James C. Stone, of Kentucky, and Carl Williams, of Oklahoma, as board members. They are being backed by various farm organizations.

There was not a dissenting voice in the House after Chairman Wood, of the appropriations committee, asked that the rules be suspended to make the appropriation. Several Democrats, including Representative Garner, of Texas, the leader, said they favored giving the board the full \$50,000,000.

Wood called attention to the letter of the President in which he said that "the additional amounts which will be needed by the board can not be determined except by the board itself, but as Congress might shortly recess, I have thought it desirable that a preliminary sum should be provided."

Under the farm relief act, the money would be used by the board in making loans to cooperative marketing agencies and for setting up stabilization corporations to take from the market price-depressing surpluses.

Several of the Middle Western House members have suggested that among the first actions of the board probably would be a move toward the stabilization of the wheat market.

The Senate voted overwhelmingly today to recess from Wednesday night until August 19 to await the tariff bill, and the House will concur tomorrow, asking a vacation for itself until the middle of September.

Enactment of the \$151,500,000 farm relief appropriation earlier in the day completed work on the extra session program of President Hoover except for the tariff measure, now before the Senate finance committee.

Tomorrow and Wednesday, the Senate will have time to consider revision of the rules to permit open session for the consideration of nominations. The rules committee has proposed to amend the age-old rules to permit consideration of the nominations in open sessions upon a majority vote instead of the required two-thirds majority. The rules committee also has proposed that all roll calls taken in secret session shall be made public.

## Board Commissioners Orders Washington Street Widened

### At Special Meet Friday Night East Side of Street To Be Extended by At Least Three Feet

With several requests before them, the town commissioners at a special meeting last Friday night passed an order for the widening of Washington Street. The matter was discussed at length, and a committee was appointed to investigate the cost of the proposed undertaking. After consulting engineers and the contractors, the order was given to widen the thoroughfare by three

## TWO MEN BADLY HURT IN AUTO WRECK SUNDAY

### Motorcycle Runs Into Car Near Edenhous Bridge Sunday Night

## EXPECT ONE TO DIE

### Two Coast Guardsmen On Motorcycle Are Hurt; Occupant of Car Is Not Injured

Coast Guardsmen H. Eley and H. Willis were seriously hurt last Saturday night when their motorcycle struck an automobile on the Chowan County side of the Edenhous bridge. According to reports, the car, a red Buick coupe, said to belong to J. R. Bunting, of Hamilton, was turning around without lights when it was struck by the motorcycle. Both the coast guardsmen were thrown from the machine to the pavement, Willis receiving a dangerous injury to his back. Early reports stated that he had died while en route to a hospital, but it was later learned that he was not dead, although his injuries are considered serious. Eley was painfully but not seriously hurt. After first-aid treatment had been given at an Elizabeth City hospital the two men were removed to the Marine Hospital at Norfolk.

The two men were en route from Norfolk to Morehead City when their machine hit the Buick, tearing off the rear light and damaging a fender, other damage being negligible. No warrant had been served in the case late yesterday afternoon, but it is understood that a warrant, charging assault with a deadly weapon, will be preferred against Bunting. Mr. Bunting's account of the accident varies greatly from the one reported soon after the happening. Mr. Bunting stated that he, with several other Martin County people, some from Williamston, was at the Eden House resort Saturday night. About 10 o'clock Mr. Bunting stated he drove over the Chowan bridge and turned around at a filling station. He was returning about 20 miles an hour when the motorcycle hit his car. Stopping at once he made an investigation of what had happened and immediately sent to Edenton for the sheriff and a doctor. He stated that there was no other car near at the time of the accident, that a car from Fayetteville was the first to reach the scene. Within a very short time, there was a large number of cars and people there, he continued.

Mr. Bunting stated that when one of the coast guardsmen was examined a quantity of glass, having a liquor odor, was found in his clothing. The charge that he attempted to slip away from the scene of the accident was denied by Mr. Bunting, who said that he remained there and assisted the Edenton chief of police in gathering the details of the accident. Mr. Bunting further stated that his car was not parked on the road, nor was any other car parked there.

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## GUS KNIGHT IS BEING TRIED

### Many Attending Trial of Robersonville Negro For Murder

The case of Gus Knight, alleged murderer of Jim Coffield, is attracting much interest here this week. While the interest is practically confined to members of his own race, it abounds there in large measure. Yesterday the courthouse auditorium was packed, 9 out of every 10 of the colored people, said to have been from in and around Robersonville, awaiting developments called for trial. The case was called shortly before the noon hour, however and it is thought that it will reach the jury this afternoon.

The case will take its turn in the regular court proceedings, attorneys in the case being unable, this morning, to say just what time the case would be called for trial.

Attorneys Elbert S. Peel, J. C. Smith, of Robersonville, and H. S. Ward, of Washington, will appear for the defense, Solicitor Gilliam handling the prosecution.

## BOARD COMMISSIONERS ORDERS WASHINGTON STREET WIDENED

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## Many Cases Tried In Superior Court

## ORDER REMOVAL OF 2 BALCONIES

### Porches in Front of Hotels Here Being Torn Down To Widen Street

Finding it necessary to order the two sheds removed from the hotel fronts here to give way to the street widening, the town commissioners, in special session last Friday night, appropriated \$200 for the removal of the porches. Owners of the Atlantic Hotel started removing their shed yesterday morning and are progressing rapidly with the work.

According to Mr. Clark, of the Clark Brothers Paving Co., the task of widening the Main street will be started within the next few days, or just as soon as all concrete in the warehouse district is laid. The telephone company will have a special crew of men here to change the location of its poles on Main Street, and to handle the cable changes.

## COUNTY TEAM IS ORGANIZED

### Elect Officers; B. E. Hood Is Named Field Captain Of All-Stars

Meeting here last Friday evening, members of the Martin County All-Stars baseball team elected their officers and managers for the season. Paul Simpson was made secretary-manager and Messrs. Joe Taylor and Bill Spivey were made business managers. Mr. B. E. Hood was appointed player manager.

Other teams in the league have perfected their organizations, it is understood, and with Mr. C. A. Harrison, president of the league, supported by four directors, a successful season is predicted. Bonds have been arranged, assuring the support of the league's by-laws. Messrs. F. P. Powell, of Ahsoskie, Tod Maxwell, of Washington; W. T. Tadlock, of Windsor; and L. T. Fowden, of this place, are the league's directors.

## POWER SERVICE IS INTERRUPTED

### Heavy Storm Saturday Cuts Service Off About 10 Minutes

An electrical storm striking the transmission lines of the Virginia Electric & Power Company late last Saturday afternoon interrupted service here and elsewhere for a few minutes. One or two towns in this section were without light and power for more than three hours, the break here lasting only 10 minutes, however.

One of the Norfolk, Baltimore & Carolina freight boats had just passed through the bridge draw here when the current was stopped, leaving the bridge man stranded in the middle of the stream and traffic blocked on either side. George Harris, who cares for the bridge, was at a loss as to what he should do. He called for help from the boat that had just cleared the draw, but no help could be secured there. Upon second thought, he picked up the iron lever and started turning the bridge back by hand. Several minutes he turned, and one or two he would rest, getting the bridge back in position just about the time the current was put back on the lines.

Service was out in one or two sections of the town, but that interruption was the result of local trouble.

## Millions Worth of Land Sold for Taxes in Wake

### Raleigh, June 17.—From eight to ten million dollars worth of Wake county property, listed on the tax books at approximately \$6,500,000, was yesterday sold at the courthouse door for the collection of \$11,000 of delinquent 1928 taxes. It took Sheriff N. F. Turner about three hours to make the sale.

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## KNIGHT CASE BEING HEARD

### State Agrees To Accept Verdict of Second Degree Murder

## 13 CASES DISPOSED OF

### Knight Case Will Go To Jury This Afternoon; Another Murder Case To Be Heard Tomorrow

Thirteen cases had been cleared from the criminal docket in the regular term of Martin County Superior court in session here this week, and the trial of Gus Knight was started just before the court recessed for lunch today. Judge Walter H. Small, presiding, has dispatched the business of the court rapidly, pausing a short while yesterday afternoon in the Hughes case in which Defendant Hughes was sued for the support of his two children.

The case of State versus Gus Knight, Robersonville Negro, charging him with the killing of Jim Coffield, was called just before the noon hour today. The State agreed to accept a verdict of second degree murder or manslaughter, Knight then, through his attorneys, entered a plea for justified and lawful killing. The case is expected to reach the jury some time this afternoon.

The list of cases cleared from the court's docket up until noon today, follows:

The case charging Kader Barnhill with seduction, was not pressed with leave.

Prayer for judgment was continued to the September term in the case against Johnson Corey.

The case charging Lee Wesley Taylor with carrying a concealed weapon and assault with a deadly weapon was remanded to the juvenile court.

Pleading guilty in the case charging him with carrying a concealed weapon, G. W. Taylor was fined \$50 and taxed with the costs.

C. C. Lilley was found not guilty in the case charging him with larceny.

J. B. Barnhill was charged with \$775 and taxed with the costs in an assault case.

Judgment was suspended in the case against J. Henry Wiggins who pleaded guilty of trespass.

B. F. Hughes was required to pay each month \$45 to his two children. Bond was placed at \$1500 in this case.

Buck Eborn, charged with assault on a female, plead guilty and was given a 12 months suspended road sentence. He was required to pay the costs.

The case charging Roy Roberson with operating an automobile while intoxicated, was not pressed.

The case of Dave Bryant was returned to the recorder's court where the defendant is to comply with the judgment of that court.

Charged with disturbing religious congregation, Joseph Mayo was fined \$25. In a second and similar case he was given a 12 months road sentence, suspended upon his paying the costs of the action.

Lee Tyner was found guilty of larceny for temporary purposes and was given six months on the Edgecombe county roads.

## LOCALS DEFEAT WINDSOR, 14 TO 6

### Brown, of Jamesville, Gets Home Run With One On Base

In an exhibition game here last Friday afternoon, the Martin County All-Stars defeated Windsor, 14 to 6, the hard hitting of the locals featuring the play. In the third inning the All Stars started a slugfest that the visitors were unable to stop until nine men had made the circuit. Brown, of Jamesville, batted out a long fly for an easy home run in this inning, scoring one man ahead of him. Roberson, of Robersonville, and Hood, here, also added to the batting features during that frame.

Barnhill, for the county boys, pitched effectively, allowing only a few scattered hits until the seventh frame, when the visitors touched him for five and made a majority of their runs.

Aside from the few errors, the game was very well played, both teams showing good material.

Grand Stand Being Built On School Grounds Here  
A grandstand, seating around 200 people, is being erected at the new high school baseball diamond here, work having been started today. The stand will be placed on the third base line, topped and protected from foul balls.

The diamond is being improved for the first home game in the Bright Belt league next Friday afternoon.