

2 MEN ARRESTED FOR ROBBERY OF FILLING STATION

Will Be Given Hearing In Windsor Next Friday Morning

Mack Cameron and J. D. Ward, white men, were arrested in Bertie County late last night in connection with the two filling station hold-ups in that county the night of September 10. The two men, riding the late Norfolk to Raleigh bus, left Norfolk at 9 o'clock and stopped at a filling station near Windsor. Officer Locke Smallwood happened to be around, and the two men were immediately arrested, it was learned here this morning.

Several arrests were reported in Virginia cities in connection with the robberies, but in each case the wrong man was picked up.

A hearing for the accused men was scheduled to be held in Windsor this morning at 10:00 o'clock, but at the request of Cameron and Ward, no action will be taken before Friday of this week when they plan to introduce witnesses.

In a story published last Friday, the Bertie Ledger-Advance states: "Besides a reported suspect held in Norfolk, J. D. Ward, of Williamston, but formerly a resident of Bertie and husband of Mary Ward, keeper of the well known institution of 'Blue Heaven,' a bawdy house which was broken up some time ago, is suspected. Although Dempsey and Harrell have not been positive in their identification of Ward, he is believed to have been one of the men and is being sought by Sheriff Cooper. The robbers did not wear masks."

OLD BELT MARTS TO OPEN TODAY

Price Paid There Last Year Nearly 2 Cents Lower Than This Belt

Seventeen North Carolina tobacco markets in the old bright belt are opening the season today, and, according to reports coming from the towns where the markets are located, better prices are expected. Apparently the better prices are based mainly on hope, for the facts are against them. Last year the prices paid on the old bright belt markets averaged \$11.99, as compared with \$13.41, average price paid last year on bright belt markets. Prices on the bright belt markets this year are averaging from 10 to 60 per cent below those paid last season.

Reports on the activities on those markets will be hardly more than of passing interest to farmers in this section, for our growers are "fed up" on the old tobacco business.

PLANS SPECIAL SERIES SERMONS

Baptist Church Prepares for Constructive Work During Fall

By Rev. C. H. DICKEY
An autumn series of unusual interest was announced at the Baptist church at the Sunday services.

Realizing that the churches do their constructive work during the cooler months of the year, this church opens up with the enlargement of its B. Y. P. U. program, the election of a new set of Sunday school officers; entertains, in three weeks, the sessions of the Romance association; and launches a series of Sunday night special discourses.

The subjects to be featured for the next five Sunday nights are these: What We Owe the Methodist Church; What We Owe the Roman Catholic Church; What We Owe the Episcopal Church; What We Owe the Presbyterian Church; and What We Owe the Christian Church.

It is felt that these subjects, fairly handled, will prove interesting to the community at large; throw much light on the worth of the several denominations; and promote further a feeling of appreciation among the several communities in and about Williamston.

The first sermon in the series will be delivered next Sunday night at 7:30 o'clock, and will be a discussion of the contributions of the Methodist church to our common religious life.

Largest Sale of Season Held On Local Market Yesterday

The local tobacco market had its largest break of the season yesterday when the last of the offerings were sold. With large quantities of tips and the inferior grades on the floors, the average was reported at \$7.96 a hundred pounds, a price slightly higher than that received a few days before.

Sales yesterday morning were

brisk, but in the afternoon a slight drop in prices was reported. Prices continue low on all markets, and, with the exception of yesterday, sales have been only of a fair size on many of the markets.

Approximately 75,000 pounds of the leaf are on the floors here today, with prices ranging about the same as they did yesterday.

Not To Try Church Case in November

MEET OF COTTON GROWERS TO BE HELD THURSDAY

Similar Meetings Will Be Held Throughout The State That Day

There will be a meeting of cotton farmers of Martin County at the City Hall in Williamston Thursday, September 24, at 11 o'clock a. m.

Similar meetings have been called for every town in the cotton-growing sections of the State at the same time.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the cotton reduction question, especially in relation to legislation regulating the acreage in the cotton States.

Some counties in this State have already held meetings. Smithfield, in Johnston County, passed resolutions at a mass meeting held Wednesday of last week.

Every farmer and business man in the county who feels an interest in the profitable growing of cotton is urged to attend the meeting on Thursday, which will be held in the town hall, on account of the session of the superior court at the courthouse.

Resolutions passed by the growers at Smithfield last week follow:

"Whereas there is an indicated production of cotton in the United States for 1931 of nearly 16,000,000 bales; and whereas this added to the 9,000,000 bales surplus now on hand, according to government reports, has already reduced the price of cotton below six cents a pound, which is far below the cost of production; and whereas it is the belief of this meeting that if this cotton crop sells for around 6 cents a pound throughout the South, it means financial disaster for the entire cotton-growing belt; and

"Whereas there is a movement on foot among the cotton-growing states of the South to curtail the production of cotton in 1932 by legislative acts: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that this meeting does hereby endorse this movement to curtail the acreage by legislation for 1932, and that we petition our Governor of North Carolina, the Hon. O. Max Gardner, to call a special session of the North Carolina Legislature immediately following action by Texas, and that this session be restricted to discussion and passage of cotton relief measures only and use his influence to enact similar legislation to that passed by Texas and other cotton growing states."

MRS. HARRELL RESIGNS POST

Poor Health Forces Her To Give Up Work In the Local High School

After serving well the public for a long number of years, Mrs. W. H. Harrell resigned as a member of the local high school faculty yesterday on account of poor health. Her resignation was received with much regret by local school authorities, and old and new pupils were sorry to learn that physicians advised against her continued school duties.

In her long and faithful service to the public, Mrs. Harrell untiringly directed thousands of youth in their educational pursuits, and they, now grown and citizens of various states, will be sorry to learn that ill health forced her to give up her school duties.

Several changes in the local teaching staff were made necessary by Mrs. Harrell's resignation, but a reorganization was perfected yesterday, and today the schools were operating on regular schedules. Miss Esther Gatling, teacher of the sixth grade, is now a member of the high school faculty. Miss Martha Anderson will teach the sixth grade, and Miss Mary Benson, substituting for Miss Anderson as teacher of the second grade, will continue at that post. Principal William R. Watson stated yesterday.

IS CALLED OFF AT REQUEST OF THE PLAINTIFFS

Attorneys Have Little To Say In Connection with Church Controversy

The Smithwick Creek Primitive Baptist Church case will not be tried at the November term as was scheduled some time ago, it was learned at the courthouse here today. At the request of the plaintiffs, the case was called off, there being some doubt as to whether it will be called at a later term.

Attorney in the case had very little to say when questioned as to the status of the case other than to say it would not be heard during the November term. Possible agreement among the plaintiffs, it was rumored, might result in the calling off of the case altogether.

The case was set for trial by plaintiff attorneys when they appeared before Judge Clayton Moore here last June.

The case directly or indirectly, involving a greater part of the population in Griffiths township, was tried here in March of last year. During an entire week, the proceedings were heard by a Pitt County jury and a packed auditorium. Sunday morning, just five minutes after midnight, and after a deliberation lasting more than eight hours, the jury returned a verdict favoring the plaintiffs in the case. Following a few short talks, in which the defense counsel argued that the verdict be set aside and plaintiff counsel argued that the verdict be allowed to stand, Judge U. A. Sinclair, trial judge, set the verdict aside. In a brief introduction to his action, the judge stated that in all his years on the bench, he had reversed juries but three times, that he respected the jury system and regretted it necessary to alter the decision. Then he stated that the verdict was contrary to the evidence offered and that he would be forced to set it aside.

BRIEF CHARGE TO GRAND JURY

Judge Grady Instructs The Jury In Handling Bills Of Indictment

In a brief charge to the grand jury here yesterday morning, Judge Henry A. Grady, of Clinton, instructed the jurors in regard to bills of indictment and their duty and obligations in performing their work as representatives of the people.

The charge was to the point, as the judge was late in arriving.

A warrant running in the name of the State and charging an individual with one or more crimes should be thoroughly investigated, the jurist stated. The jurymen should examine every witness that they might be reasonably sure that the defendant was involved to some extent before returning a true bill. However, no witness should be examined in the presence of another witness, or any other person except the jury, he added.

Judge Grady instructed the members of the jury to investigate all county officers and officers, including justices of the peace, the law requiring them to make reports of all cases disposed of and how to the clerk of the court, as well as the fines collected therefrom.

Misunderstanding Cause Of Late Court Opening

Due to a misunderstanding between Judge Henry A. Grady and Solicitor Don Gillam, the judge arrived here more than an hour late to convene the regular term of Martin County Superior Court.

It was the jurist's understanding that the solicitor would pick him up at Bethel. Upon arriving here from his home in Tarboro, Solicitor Gillam failed to find Judge Grady, and he went back to Bethel for him.

100 ARRESTED IN PROHIBITION RAIDS

REGULAR TERM SUPERIOR COURT BEGAN MONDAY

Manslaughter Charge Preferred Against Ernest Vick by Grandjury

After a delay of more than an hour, Judge Henry A. Grady, of Clinton, convened the regular term of superior court here yesterday morning, the court calling seven cases during the first day. Very few cases had been called today, the court spending much time on a rape charge preferred against Claudia Wilks.

Reviewing the work of the last term, Judge Grady found many bills of cost unpaid. Six arrests resulted immediately thereafter and three of the defendants, unable to pay, continued in jail this afternoon.

Yesterday the grandjury returned six bills, Officer James stating at noon today that the body would hardly complete its work before tomorrow.

Cases disposed of yesterday and up until noon today, include the following:

The case, charging Jeff Ausbon with driving an automobile while under the influence of liquor, was continued until December.

Judgment was suspended upon the payment of the costs in the case charging John Jasper Black with disorderly conduct.

Defendant Teddy Jackson, charged with being drunk and disorderly, was discharged.

Primus Sherrod, charged with house breaking and larceny, was found not guilty.

Buck Outerbridge was sentenced to the roads for a period of eight months for carrying a concealed weapon.

In the case charging James Bullock with larceny, the defendant entered a plea of guilty of forcible trespass. The plea was accepted by the court and judgment was suspended upon payment of the costs of the action.

The case of Sam Raynor, charging him with larceny and receiving, was called Monday, but the case was not heard until today. He was found guilty, but sentence had not been imposed at noon today.

Shortly before noon, the court was hearing a long, drawn-out case charging Claudia Wilks with raping two colored girls.

True bills returned Monday by the grandjury, include the following: Primus Cherry, assault; Prim Sherrod, house breaking and larceny; Jeff Little, having carnal knowledge; Ernest Vick, manslaughter; Fletcher Bryant, seduction; and Henry Nichols larceny and receiving.

DECLINE SEEN IN TOBACCO TAXES

Cigarettes Show Decided Decline During 2 Months Of New Fiscal Year

Washington, Sept. 19.—A sharp decline in tobacco tax receipts in the first two months of this fiscal year was shown today by the internal revenue bureau.

In August the taxes totaled \$35,783,777, a drop of \$3,394,467 as compared with August, 1930. The taxes for the first two months of the fiscal year amounted to \$75,002,748, a decline of \$7,157,341.

Cigarettes led the way in the decrease with a drop of \$6,649,409 in taxes in the two months. Large cigars dropped off \$569,520, while chewing and smoking tobacco produced \$2,974 less income.

Woman's Club To Hold Meeting Here Thursday

Meeting next Thursday afternoon at 4 o'clock for the first time in the 1931-32 club year, the local Woman's Club will make plans for an extensive civic work in the community during the coming fall and winter, it is understood. The matters scheduled for discussion are of great importance, and the officers of the club are soliciting a loyal support upon the part of all people in the community. Every member and any one else interested in the welfare of the community are urged to attend the meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. A. McKenzie To Make Their Home Here

Mr. and Mrs. A. McKenzie, located in Windsor for several years, have moved here and are making their home with Mrs. Fannie Crawford, on Houghton Street.

Mr. McKenzie is connected with the State motor vehicle license bureau, and will continue that work from his new location here.

Corporation Values Certified to County

ATLANTIC COAST LINE VALUE DROP ABOUT 4 PERCENT

Value of Five Corporations Reporting Given At \$2,883,611.32

The 1931 valuation of property owned by five corporations in the county was listed at \$2,883,611.32 by the State Board of Assessment, according to a report received from that body by Register of Deeds J. Sam Getsinger here yesterday. Peculiarities surround the values given this year, and it is not known just how the values compare with those listed by corporations operating in this county last year.

Values for the Western Union Telegraph Company, listed at \$12,776 last year, and those of the Southern Bell Telephone Company, listed at \$3,549 last year, were not reported, but, it is believed, the values will be announced within the next few days. A substantial increase in the value of the Southern Bell's property is looked for, as it is declared to be worth five times the value listed last year. While there is a slight increase in Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company values in this county, it is generally believed that the property is listed shamefully low.

The valuation of the Virginia Electric and Power Company's properties were listed this year at \$79,970.32 by the State Board of Assessment. The property was listed differently last year. It is understood that the company had virtually agreed to list its property in Martin County at \$113,655, making it difficult for one to understand the board's action. The matter will be investigated along with several other variations in an effort to gain the true facts in the case, even if no increase in values is gained.

Only four corporations reported their corporate excess for taxation. Taxes are levied on corporations aside from their real and personal properties when the capital stock is listed for more than the property itself. In other words, if a corporation's capital stock is listed at \$150, and its real and personal property is listed at \$100, then a tax is levied against \$50, known as corporate excess.

The Atlantic Coast Line, probably suffering as much, if not a great deal more, from truck competition and general depression, continues as the county's largest taxpayer. Its values dropped from \$2,866,744 last year to \$2,746,510 this year, the decrease being much smaller than was anticipated by the county authorities.

The corporation values, in this county, as determined by the State Board of Assessment for 1931, are as follows:

A. C. L. Railroad	\$2,746,510.00
Railway Express Agency	1,477.00
Eastern Telephone Co.	3,938.00
Carolina T. & T. Co.	51,716.00
V. E. & P. Co.	79,970.32

Total \$2,883,611.32

The Coast Line listed \$2.71 miles of road in the county, the board assessing each mile at \$52,106.05.

Corporate excess was listed as follows:

Corporate Excess	
Standard Fert. Co.	\$24,342.00
Bank of Hamilton	14,151.00
Bank of Robertsonville	24,800.00
Branch Bank	2,240.00

SCOUT OFFICIAL TAKES UP WORK

O. Jack Cordray Is Now at Head of Scout Work In This Area

O. Jack Cordray, Scout Executive of the Wilson Area Council, successor to Mr. Herbert Stuckey, has officially assumed his duties in the district, which embraces this county. Already Mr. Cordray has made contacts with the chairmen of many of the district committees in the area and expects to visit the remaining districts at an early date.

Mr. Cordray comes to the Wilson Area Council with many successful years as Scout Executive to his credit, having served Scout Councils in Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina. It is the expressed wish of the new executive that every one having a part in the building of the Scout council to which he has been elected, continue their support and splendid cooperation, as in the past.

GOLD STANDARD ABANDONED BY GREAT BRITAIN

Drastic Steps Are Taken by British Cabinet To Avert Financial Catastrophe

In an effort to check the outflow of gold from its banks, Great Britain went off the gold standard Sunday, creating for that country one of the most serious financial crises in a number of years. Stock exchanges in the country and in sections of other countries have been closed, but banks will operate as usual.

Reports released in connection with Great Britain's action read:

"Great Britain's tumble from the gold standard, in the suspension of the gold redemption act, is expected by financial authorities in New York to cause a degree of inflation in England, and, at least temporarily, some stimulation of business activity.

"Leading bankers were reluctant to discuss the matter formally, because of the political controversies raging in England, but made it clear that they were in sympathy with the emergency measures adopted.

"They also explained that the effects upon the United States would be limited, owing to the small amount of American money now in England, much smaller, indeed, than the American funds in Germany.

"It is clear that the action proposed that the British pound sterling will temporarily find a much lower level than the \$4.86 5-8, in terms of the dollar, to which it was restored in 1925, after falling far below parity during the war and the post-war deflation. The pound sterling fell as low as \$3.20 in 1920.

"It is clear from the announcement, however, that the \$650,000,000 Franco-American credits extended to the British Government and the Bank of England during August will not be affected, since these are payable in gold dollars and francs, and will not be paid in the depreciated sterling. Also the American dollar bonds of Great Britain, offered in this market, are payable in gold dollars.

"The suspension of the gold redemption act merely means that the Bank of England will cease to sell gold at the fixed parity by which the pound sterling has been maintained in the fixed ratio to other currencies. In effect, it will presumably stop selling gold altogether. In the foreign exchange market, when there has been such offerings of the pound sterling that it was available below its gold parity, in relation to other currencies, it has been profitable for banks to acquire sterling pounds in the market, convert them into gold at parity, and then convert the gold into other currencies by exporting the gold.

The British situation summarized: To meet the worst financial crisis since the world war, Great Britain Sunday night took the following drastic steps:

Abandoned the gold standard temporarily.

Closed the London Stock Exchange and other exchanges throughout the country.

Raised the Bank of England discount rate from 4 1-2 to 6 per cent.

Prepared to rush through Parliament Monday legislation confirming the cabinet's action.

Warned the country that further restrictions will be authorized if they are made necessary.

Banks, however, will operate as usual today, and the Government has advised a policy of "business as usual" throughout the country.

In New York, it was stated the \$650,000,000 Franco-American credits extended to the British Government, and the Bank of England recently will not be affected.

Americans with sterling balances in British banks will suffer a considerable depreciation, but such balances are small. Conversely, Americans who have their funds in dollars and owe money in England or contemplate purchases in England will benefit.

Wall Street was in sympathy with the emergency measures adopted. It was indicated authoritatively the Berlin Bourse would be closed today as a repercussion of the British situation and there were reports that other Continental exchanges would also be closed.

22 MEN FROM THIS COUNTY AMONG THOSE ARRESTED

All Defendants Give Bond For Appearance at Next Federal Court

One of the most complete round-ups ever reported in the Washington Division was staged last week by Federal Prohibition enforcement officers when they arrested more than 100 liquor law violators in this part of the State. Twenty-two Martin County men were caught in the raid started in this county several weeks ago. Charges have been preferred against several other men in this county, but their arrests have not been effected at this time.

Hearings were held for the Martin County defendants last Friday afternoon by a local United States Commissioner, and bonds were arranged in all the 22 cases, the defendants to appear before Judge Meekins in Washington next month.

Manufacturers were just about ignored in the raids, the officers directing their drive against the possessors and sellers. Working under cover, Agent Andrew picked up violator after violator, the number being so many that identity was hard to establish in one or two of the cases at the hearings held in the courthouse here last Friday afternoon.

Fifteen officers, headed by Director P. M. Caudle, of Wilson, came here last Thursday and started making their arrests on the charges established by Agent Andrews. All of Thursday night the officers combed the countryside and early Friday morning, when looking toward the courthouse, one was led to believe that an extra term of superior court was in session. A similar scene was enacted over at Roxobel, in Bertie County Friday morning, when 17 alleged violators, three women and fourteen men, were given hearings and required to furnish bond for their appearance before Judge I. M. Meekins in Federal court to be held at Washington next month. Bonds ranging from \$200 up to \$1,000, were furnished in all cases, and the 39 Martin and Bertie defendants are now at liberty awaiting the Federal term of court to convene.

Wild rumors traveled fast when the series of wholesale arrests was learned in this and Bertie Counties last Friday morning. Coming to the courthouse here early that morning, more than 100 citizens began to seek the identity of the unfortunate ones. At times, the conversations became rather personal, friend asking of friend if the other was caught.

Two automobiles, a Ford and a Chevrolet, were confiscated in the raids and are now being held in government storage here. Those arrested in this and Bertie County and bound over to the Federal court, with the amount of their bonds, were:

Martin County
Horace Mendenhall, \$500; Spence Mendenhall, \$500; Louis Taylor, \$300; Robert Price, Jr., \$300; John James, \$600; Dave Biggs, \$400; Mack Pierce, \$500; Ira Price, \$300; Larry Bailey, \$600; Mack Bullock, \$300; James Harrison, \$500; T. L. Robertson, \$750; Stancill Jenkins, \$600; Will Evans, \$500; Staton Gurganus, \$500; Buck Nicholson, \$200; Arthur Peel, \$400; James Boston, \$500; Leroy Harrison, \$500; Toby Rogers, \$300; Toby Bowen, \$300; Clivert Whitaker, \$200.

Bertie County
W. B. Phelps, \$1,000; W. H. Jenkins, Jr., \$250; Clyde Tarkenton, \$500; Raymond Parker, \$1,000; Norman Wynn, \$750; Roy Hoggard, \$250; C. L. Hoggard, \$250; Mrs. Maggie Hoggard, \$250; W. J. Harrell, \$1,000; F. W. Phillips, \$250; Raleigh Doughty, \$250; Mrs. Raleigh Doughty, \$250; Lloyd Willford, \$250; Mrs. Lloyd Willford, \$250; Haywood Wynn, \$375; Alton Raynor, \$250; Tom Lassiter, \$300.

Auto Belonging to Titus Critcher Stolen Saturday

The Ford sedan belonging to Mr. Titus Critcher was stolen late Saturday night from in front of his home. Up until noon today the machine had not been recovered. Partially covered by insurance, the car had been driven about 30,000 miles.

The following day, Mr. Critcher suffered a second loss when one of his farm mules died.

Revival Meet in Progress At Holiness Church Here

Rev. M. Lee Oakley, of Greenville, began a revival meeting at Bethany Pentecostal Holiness church here Sunday. Large crowds are attending the services, which will continue throughout this week and probably longer.