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Twenty-one Cases Handled In County Court Last Monday

Jury Deliberates Nearly Five Hours in One Case

With twenty-seven cases on the docket, many of them having been carried over from previous terms, the county court officers settled down for a long and busy session last Monday. Judge Peel called and handled 21 of the cases, continuing six for trial at later dates. It was the longest session held by the court in recent months.

Calling for a trial by jury before Christmas, Lawrence Lilley appealed to the higher courts when he was found guilty of drunken driving and Judge Peel sentenced him to the roads for three months. Appeal bond was placed at \$300. Messrs. R. A. Moore, J. Dawson Roberson, Johnny Griffin, G. H. Manning, Milks R. Lilley and Jesse Stroud were chosen to pass on the man's guilt or innocence. They took the case at about 11 o'clock Tuesday morning and returned a verdict of guilty about 4:30 that afternoon after taking a short recess for lunch.

Charged with violating the liquor laws, Isiah Hardison was found not guilty.

Judgment was suspended upon payment of a \$25 fine and costs charging Joe Hollis with drunken and reckless driving. He was found not guilty on the first count.

Roy, Eunice and Joseph Bonner and Herbert Reeves faced trial for an affray, the court nonprossing the case as to Eunice and Joseph Bonner. Judgment was suspended in the case against Herbert Reeves, and Roy Bonner was required to pay a \$10 fine and one-fourth of the costs of the case.

Judgment was suspended upon payment of a \$10 fine and costs in the case charging James Johnson with an assault with a deadly weapon.

In the case charging W. H. Roberson with being drunk and disorderly and an assault, the court for its verdict dismissed the action and ordered that no fees or costs of any kind be allowed.

Willie Faulk, charged with violating the liquor laws, was found not guilty.

Harry James was sentenced to the roads for 60 days in the case charging him with an assault with a deadly weapon.

The case charging R. B. Turlington, Fenner and John Respass with an affray and an assault with a deadly weapon, was not prossed with leave.

Curtis James, charged with entering and larceny, was sentenced to the roads for 12 months. In a second case, James was found guilty of larceny and the court sentenced him to 12 months on the roads, the sentence to begin at the expiration of the first.

L. V. Coburn, charged with larceny was sentenced to the roads for three months.

Alex Bonner, the colored man who the automobile given away last Friday night by the American Legion Post, faced the court on two counts, and when he gets through courting he'll be fortunate to have the price of a sandwich, observers commented. Charged in the first case with larceny and receiving, Bonner was sentenced to the roads for three months.

The court first suspended judgment upon the payment of the costs in the case, but imposed the sentence when appeal was taken. Bond was required in the sum of \$150. Bonner was charged in the second case with attempted assault with a deadly weapon. He was sentenced to the roads for three months, the sentence to begin at the expiration of the first. He

Young Man Passes Near Hamilton

Clayton Warren, 24 years old, died at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gib Warren, near Hamilton, last Tuesday night at 8:45 o'clock of pneumonia. He had been ill slightly more than one week.

He never married and lived with his parents all his life, assisting in the farm duties on their farm. Besides his parents, he is survived by three brothers, Lucy Mack, Vernon and Tim Warren, and three sisters, Mrs. Ora Bell Rogers and Mrs. Gladys Bowen, both of Bear Grass, and Mrs. Sallie Alma Harris, of near Hamilton.

Funeral services were conducted Wednesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock in the Spring Green Primitive Baptist church by Elder William E. Grimes. Interment was in the family plot in the church cemetery.

Seventh Electrification Line To Be Constructed in County

A seventh rural electrification project in this county will get underway when forces of the Virginia Electric and Power Company start construction of a four-mile extension in the Cross Roads section between Everetts and Bear Grass.

Seventeen home owners in the community have contracted for service, and wiring contracts have been let. The contractors are slated to complete their work tomorrow or the early part of the next week. It could not be officially learned whether the line forces would start their work Monday or later in the week, but it was pointed out that the line construction would be in progress some time during the week. Service will likely be made available to the seventeen customers within a week or ten days after construction work

on the line is started, weather being favorable.

The new extension will tap the Everetts-Bear Grass line about half way between the two towns. It will touch Cross Roads and branch out to several homes from that point.

Promoted almost entirely by Mrs. Gaston James, a prominent citizen of that community, the electrification project will serve one of the best farming sections of the county.

Other rural electrification projects are possible in this county, but no definite action has been taken to promote any of them, it is understood.

Projects already completed include the following: Carson, Gold Point, Poplar Point, Bear Grass, Lilley Brothers, Cedar Branch and Dardens.

WOODSMEN

Their woodpiles almost depleted, Preachers Ed Moseley and John Goff turned to the woods one day this week for gainful exercise. They lunched after the timberman's fashion, and the undertaking proved very enjoyable. A peek at one of the parson's woodpile following their return indicated there was some loafing on the job. There was just about enough wood to fill a sizeable wheelbarrow.

But the preachers are not woodcutters, and the two of them maintain the venture was a huge success.

Officers Capture Two Distilleries

Raiding in the Bear Grass section Tuesday morning, Special Enforcement Officer Joe H. Roebuck assisted by Deputy Bill Haislip and Roy Peel, captured and destroyed a large distillery including more than 1,000 gallons of beer, 20 fermenters and other equipment. The still was centered around a 100-gallon capacity copper kettle, and was about ready for operation. Seven lanterns were used by the operators in keeping the beer warm, Officer Roebuck said.

Just as they were approaching the manufacturing site, officers heard signals warning the operators. No one was at the plant when the officers reached it.

That afternoon the raiders visited Jamesville township, but it was not in the Free Union section that they centered their activities for the day. Going along what is known as Simmons ditch, the officers found a crude plant. An old gasoline drum was used as a boiler, and lead pipe connected the parts. There were only about 100 gallons of beer and the plant was not in operation.

On Wednesday, the officers raided in the Hassell section of Hamilton Township and destroyed a 40-gallon capacity copper still and 350 gallons of beer. That afternoon they wrecked a steam plant and poured out 1,000 gallons of beer in Bear Grass Township.

The raids were made by Officers Roebuck and Haislip and Warren Roebuck.

Hearing Set For Next Week In Fatal Accident

Roy Keith, driver of the truck that figured in the accident costing the lives of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Davis and their four-year-old son, Charles, is scheduled to appear before Judge H. O. Peel in the county recorder's court next Monday and answer in the case charging him with violating the motor vehicle laws.

A hearing in the case was to have been held this week, but it was continued when it was learned Jasper Davis, driver of the car, had not been summoned as a witness.

It was reported soon after the accident that cost three people their lives that Keith had deserted the truck, but later reports maintain that he was operating the truck but at a slow speed. No charge of manslaughter has been preferred against Keith, it is understood.

Improving After Five Weeks In A Hospital

His bladder shot out by a gun in the hands of Clayton Beacham six weeks ago near Jamesville, Willie T. Padgett was reported to be improving in a Washington hospital yesterday. His condition continues critical, however. According to reports, the man will hardly be able to leave the hospital within the next several weeks.

Albemarle Church Group In Special Meet Here Tuesday

Religious Leaders Informed of Conditions in Far East

The Presbytery of Albemarle was called to order in the local Presbyterian church last Tuesday morning at 10:30 a. m. by the moderator, Rev. H. J. Dudley of Kinston. The Stated Clerk, Rev. R. E. McClure, advised the moderator that a quorum was present and the work of the Presbytery was begun.

The Rev. John C. Whitley made the report of the steering committee advising the Presbytery that a special hour had been given, beginning at 11 a. m. to the committee on foreign missions, at which time the Presbytery was to hear the Rev. Frank F. Baker, D. D., of Lavras, Brazil. The Presbytery was to recess at 12:45 for luncheon at the Hotel George Reynolds and reconvene for business at 2:15 p. m. and then to adjourn at will.

The Rev. D. F. Waddell, chairman of the foreign mission committee, presented the foreign mission report.

At 11 a. m. Dr. Baker was heard by an attentive audience that filled the church auditorium. After an inspiring and heartwarming and optimistic message on foreign missions, the Rev. Norman Johnson called the attention of the Presbytery to the present condition of the mission stations and missionaries in China under the direction of the Presbyterian church in the United States.

The section of China where the Japanese forces have landed and where the war now rages is the section assigned to this church. Five of its six principal mission stations have already fallen into the hands of the Japanese. Practically all of its many stations have been subjected to bombings and strafings. The wives and children and in many cases the missionaries themselves, have been taken to places of safety in Kuling and the international settlement in Shanghai. The missionaries themselves make hurried trips to and from the stations directing the native christians in their work. Up until the present time none of the missionaries has been killed, but many have been under fire and all have been in danger of death at times. Many of the missionaries have refused to leave their stations in spite of fervent pleas from relatives and the national government. Notable among these are two women, Dr. Nettie D. Grier who has stuck to her work in the hospital at Su-chowfu and who has done such splendid work that A. T. White, well-known foreign correspondent, formerly with the Associated Press and the New York Times and now with the New York Daily News, has

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Skewarkey Lodge Installs Officers For New Year

Officers of the Skewarkey Masonic lodge for the new year were installed in an impressive ceremony here last Tuesday evening with District Deputy Grand Master Phelps, of Windsor, in charge of the program.

L. B. Wynne succeeds J. C. Manning as Worshipful Master. Charles Davenport is the new Senior Warden, succeeding L. B. Wynne. R. H. Goodman succeeds Charles Davenport as Junior Warden. J. D. Woolard, re-elected, succeeds himself as treasurer, K. D. Worrell succeeding S. H. Grimes as secretary. Edwin F. Moseley succeeds R. H. Goodman as Senior Deacon and Carter Studdert succeeds Mr. Moseley as Junior Deacon. S. S. Brown was reelected Tyler. Stewards for the new year are R. L. Perry and W. H. Harrison.

Undergoes Operation In Washington Hospital

Mr. A. Hassell, deputy court clerk, underwent a serious operation in a Washington hospital today. He was in the operating room more than two hours, reports stating that he stood the operation very well.

Kiwanis Club Installs Officers For New Year

The local Kiwanis club recently installed its officers for the new year. J. D. Woolard succeeds E. S. Peel as president of the organization and L. B. Wynne and J. C. Manning succeed themselves as vice president and secretary-treasurer, respectively.

Sunday Services In Church At Jamesville

Rev. W. B. Harrington will hold the regular preaching service in the Jamesville Baptist church Sunday morning at 11 o'clock. The Sunday school will convene at the usual hour, 10 o'clock a. m.

Highly Respected Citizen Passes In Griffins Township

Funeral Services Will Be Held Tomorrow for Mrs. James Roberson

Mrs. Sarah Malinda Roberson, wife of James Asa Roberson, died at her home in the Farm Life community of Griffins Township this morning at 5 o'clock following a stroke of paralysis suffered early last evening. Mrs. Roberson, one of the section's most highly respected citizens, was with members of her family at the dining table for the evening meal when she was taken suddenly ill. She explained that her hands felt as if they had gone to sleep, and that her mouth and throat were hurting. She was carried to her bedroom and soon lapsed into unconsciousness, the end coming peacefully and gradually.

Mrs. Roberson had been in failing health for some time, and during last summer her condition was critical for weeks. She improved, however, and was able to be out with the assistance of others. Early this month she made a short visit to Williams-ton.

The daughter of the late James and Bettie Daniel Manning, Mrs. Roberson was born in Griffins Township on January 15, 1879. At an early age she was married to James Asa Roberson who survives with the following children: Mrs. Tom Roberson, Mrs. Johnson Corey, Mrs. A. T. Whitley, H. Gabe Roberson, Mrs. Bruce Edwards, Dalton Roberson, Mrs. Dewey Hardison, Miss Beulah Roberson and Maurice Roberson, all of Griffins Township, and Mrs. Col. on Martin, of Jamesville. She also leaves three brothers, Messrs. Ben R., William Dave and Stephen Manning, and one sister, Mrs. George Griffin, all of Griffins Township.

Mrs. Roberson was a member of the church at Smithwicks Creek for a long number of years. She was a good woman, a thoughtful wife and an understanding mother. She was held in high esteem by all who knew her, and she enjoyed a large friendship circle throughout this section. No selfish thought was ever entertained, but always she considered the happiness and well being of others, giving her undivided attention in the service of her family and many friends. Her motherly advice, offered in an understanding fashion, was welcomed in the home, and her quiet unassuming character endeared her to the community where she was born and lived all her life.

Funeral services will be conducted at the late home tomorrow afternoon at 2:30 o'clock by Elder P. E. Getsinger, of the Smithwicks Creek church, assisted by Rev. W. B. Harrington, county minister, and Rev. D. W. Arnold, of Washington. Interment will follow in the family plot in the cemetery at Hardison's Mill.

Colored Women In Mayor's Court For Alleged Assault

Judgment was suspended by Justice J. L. Hassell upon payment of the cost in the case charging Caroline Eborn and Estelle Mabry with an affray. The case was aired in the mayor's court Wednesday evening.

Mildred Stokes, charged with an assault with a deadly weapon on Willie Rogers, waived her right to a preliminary hearing, and Justice Hassell bound her over to the county court for trial on January 24.

Dr. Winn Addresses Junior Woman's Club

At the January meeting of the Williamston Junior Woman's Club, Dr. Washington C. Winn gave a most interesting and instructive lecture on syphilis, a subject which has so recently been allowed to be discussed and brought before the public. Mrs. K. D. Worrell was elected chairman of the nominating committee for new officers of the incoming club year. At the close of the meeting, refreshments were served by the social committee.

Bear Grass Splits Double Bill With Hobgood Teams

The Bear Grass girls' basketball team continued its undefeated record for the season here last evening when the strong Hobgood sextet was turned back by a 24-13 score. The winners performed well to run up a lead early in the contest, and hold it.

While the girls were adding another victory to their list, the Bear Grass boys lost to the Hobgood five by the narrow margin of 18 to 17. It was an exciting game, and the victors were hard pressed to down their opponents.

Building Reaches New High Here Last Year

Gain Is Reported in Building Values for Third Straight Year

The march of progress in home and commercial building in this little thriving town continued unabated during 1937, building reports released this week by Inspector George Harris showing a slight gain for the third successive year.

During the period, building contracts, valued at \$130,895, were awarded for twenty new homes and several commercial structures. While there were several sizeable contracts awarded during the period, the general average contract price was decidedly above that of a year ago. Sixteen of the 20 homes were built by white owners, and they, with the four built by colored residents, carried a total value of \$96,630 according to Building Inspector Harris.

Mrs. Mamie Rodefer Addresses Session of Local Woman's Club

Reviews History of Adult Education in Foreign Countries

The Woman's Club held its regular monthly meeting in the club room Wednesday at 3:30 p. m. At the request of the president, Mrs. Thigpen, chairman of the P. T. A.'s Lunch Room Committee, gave an interesting report on the lunch room and the splendid service it is rendering the school children. She reported that they are serving free lunches to 23 undernourished children. Feeling that these children are a community responsibility, the members of the Woman's Club voted to contribute five dollars a month toward the free lunches given.

At the conclusion of the business, the meeting was turned over to the educational department, who had the program for the afternoon. Mrs. Thigpen, chairman, introduced as their guest speaker, Mrs. Mamie Rodefer, district supervisor of adult education.

Mrs. Rodefer prefaced her remarks by stating that the purpose of the adult education program was to educate for living rather than for information. She gave the history of the adult education movement in the European countries and in the United States. Progressive educators recognize the need for a continuous educational program so that the lives of individuals may be enriched and adjusted and human resources conserved.

With the beginning of the present national administration a federal adult educational program was started to give unemployed teachers gainful employment and to educate the American people so that they might become intelligent citizens and participate effectively in a democratic society. Our public school system has been too interested in educating youth for a particular job and has given that youth no concrete values for living when such a job fails to materialize. In other words adult education attempts to fit a person to live most happily and most successfully in this rapidly changing economic and social order.

North Carolina secured a small appropriation from the last state legislature to establish a permanent program of adult education in North Carolina. The success of the federal adult educational program showed the need for a permanent program when federal aid may be withdrawn. This state aid program cooperates with the W. P. A. phase of the program. However to participate in the state aid program a county must match state funds on a 50-50 basis. Very few of the East Carolina counties are participating in state aid programs this year. However, it is hoped that Martin County along with other eastern counties will make appropriations for a permanent program.

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County Man Promoted By Bank In Robersonville

Darward R. Everett, prominent Martin County citizen, was elevated to the vice presidency of the Bank of Robersonville by the stockholders and directors in the annual meeting in Robersonville a few days ago. Mr. Everett has served the bank for a long number of years and is well known in banking circles throughout the State.

Under his leadership and that of his board and assistants, the bank ended its most successful year last December, the institution listing deposits in excess of one million dollars.

Gain Is Reported in Building Values for Third Straight Year

Twenty New Homes Built During Period at Cost of Nearly \$100,000

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A second classification of buildings carried a contract value of \$31,480, a modern new store and theatre being included in this list.

According to the reports the saturation point in the number of filling stations has not been reached here as yet. Contracts for filling stations amounted to \$2,785 in the third classification of new construction for 1937. The total amount spent on new buildings and repairs will approximate \$150,000.

In 1936, building contracts here amounted to \$125,150. New home construction during that period was valued at \$58,000. During 1936 the average cost per home unit was \$4,800 as compared with an average of \$4,800 last year.

The year 1935 was quite a busy one for new building, too. During that period 52 building permits were issued, quite a few of them being for the construction of tenant homes on East Main Street. The total building cost that year was placed at \$117,090.

Despite the heavy building program during the past three years there continues a scarcity of homes and commercial buildings. Rents continue at a fairly high level, and new enterprises desiring to locate here are unable to rent buildings at any figure.

No one can predict just what the future holds, but it is certain that present conditions warrant a continued expansion in Williamston's building program. A goodly number of people think so anyway, and if present plans develop the value of building contracts in 1938 should show a decided gain over that of 1937 program by a sizeable margin. Plans are already underway for the construction of several new homes, and contracts are pending for the construction of several commercial buildings.

Locals Lose Two Games To Bear Grass Teams

The Williamston High School basketball teams lost a doubleheader to the Bear Grass girls and boys here last Tuesday evening, the girls winning 23-11 and the boys taking their contest by a count of 21-14.

Continuing to show improvement, both the visiting teams held the advantage throughout the contests. The visiting girls have not lost a game this season, but tied one. Rawls, Bowen, Rogerson and Ward led in scoring for the visitors. Hildreth Rogerson for Bear Grass, and Junie Peel, for Williamston, led the scoring activities in the boys' game. Roger Riddick was a high scorer for the locals. The Anderson twins and Carlyle Hall also performed well. E. Mishoe led the local sextet with eight points.

Bear Grass won the county championship last year, and the two teams are out to repeat the feat this season.

Teams of the local high school continue their play with a doubleheader in Aulander tonight.

Two Go Through Auto Crash Without Injury

Walter Hassell and James Henry Thomas, both of near here, escaped uninjured when their cars collided on the Washington road at the Station farm last night. After the collision, one car went into a ditch on one side of the road and the other stopped in a ditch on the opposite side of the road. Considerable damage was done to the Hassell car.