

Half Dozen Cases Called Monday In Recorder's Court

Judge Peel Directs Sheriff to Investigate Sick Claim

Calling half a dozen cases, Judge H. O. Peel held a comparatively short session of the county recorder's court last Monday, the size of the docket reflecting a continued slump that has marked the activities of the tribunal these past few weeks.

The case of Lin Williams, scheduled for trial during the past several sessions of the court, was again continued, but the court wanted to be certain that the defendant was not taking advantage of it and ordered Sheriff Roebuck to investigate the sick claim. The officer found Williams in bed, the defendant explaining that he was beaten in a fight last week-end. Williams is scheduled to appear in court next Monday, but instead of answering to two charges he will face three. It appears that the defendant is accumulating cases faster than the court can handle them. Williams is facing the court for alleged violation of the liquor laws in two cases and for alleged drunken driving.

Charged with violating the liquor laws, Joe Hopkins was sentenced to the roads for three months and fined \$50, the sentence to begin at the direction of the court at any time during the next two years. Said to have been mortgaged, the car the defendant was driving at the time of his arrest was not confiscated.

Pleading guilty in the case charging him with drunken driving, H. O. Norton was fined \$50, taxed with the cost and had his license revoked for a period of one year.

In the case charging Bill Davis with drunken driving, the court allowed a non-suit.

The case charging John L. Webb with non-support was nonprosecuted.

Failing to abide by a former judgment of the court, Leon Sykes, charged with non-support, was directed to pay \$5 a month during the next six months for the benefit of his child. Bond was required in the case.

Mrs. Bettie Roberson Dies In Bear Grass

Funeral services for Mrs. Bettie Roberson were held at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Mattie Harrison Saturday afternoon, May 21, in Bear Grass township by Elder B. S. Cowin.

She was 82 years of age and had been in declining health for a number of years. She was taken seriously ill with pneumonia about a week before her death on Friday.

She was the widow of John Roberson who died about 45 years ago. They always made their home in Bear Grass Township until her husband died and she made her home among her children. She was an active member of the Primitive Baptist church and attended regularly when in good health.

She is survived by two daughters and one son, Mrs. George Ward of Robersonville and Mrs. Mattie Harrison of Bear Grass, and Mr. Dosie Roberson, of Robersonville. She has three children dead and leaves 24 grandchildren and 21 great grandchildren.

Interment was in the Mobley cemetery in Bear Grass Township.

Winners Named In 4-H Health Contest

Winners in the Martin County 4-H club health contests were announced yesterday following physical examinations made here last Tuesday by Drs. E. W. Furgurson, Charles J. Sawyer and W. C. Mercer.

There was some keen competition for the top places, a margin of a few points dividing the three boys scoring over 90. Winston Cargile, of the Robersonville club, scored 95 to win first place for the boys. Charlie Harrison, of the Bear Grass club, was second with 93 points, and Herbert Leslie Manning, of Farm Life, was third with 92 points. Other boys entering the contest were Albert Bennett and Elton Hardy, both of Robersonville.

In the girls' division, Miss Marguerite Harrell, of Oak City, won first place with 94 points, and Miss Mattie Roebuck, of the Robersonville club, was second with a score of 90 points. These were the only girls in the contest.

Teeth cavities were cited for the low scores given several of the contestants.

Additional Soil Conservation Payments Received in County

Ninety-five additional soil conservation checks amounting to \$3,787.82 and representing twenty-five applications for the soil benefit payments were received for distribution among Martin County farmers this week, the checks being the first to be cleared through the office of the county agent in several weeks. The payments have been effected in most cases; it is understood.

Approximately 900 applications for the soil conservation payments were filed by Martin farmers, unofficial reports stating that payments have been made in 733 cases, leaving 147 applications outstanding. Just when these payments can be expected cannot be definitely determined. The applications have been properly filed, and their payment is awaiting action in Washington, it is understood. The outstanding applications represent an unpaid balance estimated at \$17,640.

To date, Martin farmers have received in soil conservation payments around \$90,000, unofficial estimates indicating that this amount will be increased to around \$107,699.00 when all the checks are received. So far, checks have been delivered to 1,659 farmers in this county.

In 1936 more Martin farmers participated in the soil conservation program and the benefit payments amounted to more than \$180,000. Last year, a large number of farmers planted to their base limits and eliminated themselves from participation in the soil program benefits.

County Politics Begin To Take on More Life

With the day for voting close at hand, Martin County voters are beginning to show more interest in politics, the campaigns of the various candidates being heard with increasing frequency in the conversations heard in stores and on the streets.

Other than the prediction that R. Reynolds will pull a big majority over his opponent, Frank Hancock, for a seat in the United States Senate, Martin voters are not certain of the outcome of the vote one week from tomorrow. No definite trend on the outcome is offered, many of the voters questioned during the past few days explaining that they looked for a close vote in most of the county races as well as in the race for the superior court judgeship.

"This is one campaign in which I have heard no charges advanced against any of the candidates for an office," a citizen remarked yesterday referring to the race for superior court judge. "It leaves me undecided just who to vote for in that contest," the citizen added.

Senator Reynolds is given a majority ranging from a count of two to one to even four to one.

No harsh charges have been advanced or heard in the contest for county offices, the voters recognizing all the candidates as good friends. Various factors are very likely to enter the contest, and those factors are expected to have a strong bearing on the outcome of the election tomorrow week.

As to the size of the vote, developments during the coming week will be a determining factor. At this time the indications point to a vote under 3,000 with some sections showing more than usual interest in the outcome and others less. Reports from seven of the 12 registrars in the county show there has been a slight gain in the number of eligible voters which with a normal vote in the upper-county precincts will send the total count slightly above 3,000, it is believed.

Registration figures are being tabulated and they will be announced along with last election votes next week.

Moving Peanuts Rapidly From Warehouses Here

Government peanuts, held in storage here since last fall, are being moved rapidly this week to oil mills in Wilmington and Rocky Mount. More than 8,000 bags were moved out of the Planters Warehouse yesterday and Wednesday to the Planters Cotton Oil and Fertilizer company in Rocky Mount. Approximately 3,000 bags of the coobers have been cleared from the Farmers house so far this week for delivery to oil mills in Wilmington.

Tarboro Rotary Club Will Hold Orthopaedic Clinic

The Tarboro Rotary club will hold its regular orthopaedic clinic on Monday, May 30, 1938, at 9 a. m. at the Presbyterian church Sunday School room, Tarboro, N. C.

The rotary club is anxious to render service to all cripples, regardless of age or race, who are unable to pay for treatment.

Crops Are Slightly Damaged In County By Rains And Hail

Severe Losses Are Reported In Several Eastern Counties

Crop conditions suffered a slight setback in this county during the past two or three days when heavy rains fell and hail exacted some damage in several districts. However, the crop situation continues well advanced as compared with a year ago and the outlook is still regarded as highly favorable.

Reports received from nearly every section of the county during the past two days show varied conditions following the rains and hail. In some communities the crops have been damaged considerably by rain, reports from the Jamesville section stating that quite a few fields of tobacco had "flopped". In Griffiths Township, a number of farmers continued to plow until a fourth rain of the week fell yesterday morning. Crop conditions there were reported the best in many years at this time of the season.

While much rain has fallen this week, the rainfall for the month so far is little above normal, the weather station reporting today that only five inches have been recorded at this point, so far this month. Nearly seven inches were reported last month.

Hail damage was reported generally throughout the county last Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons but with possibly one or two small areas, the loss is almost negligible.

Several farmers in Cross Roads, one or two in Poplar Point and a few in the upper part of the county reported a fairly heavy damage, some stating that two storms struck their farms within a few minutes of each other. Very little damage was reported in this community, and hail insurance agents, experiencing a great demand now for policies, state that in few cases the loss has not exceeded 15 per cent, that in those areas where the hail struck the damage will hardly reach four or five per cent.

Fortune smiled on Martin farmers compared with damage resulting from hail in other sections. Reports from Wilson maintain that 250 to 300 acres of tobacco were destroyed there, exacting a loss estimated to run as high as \$100,000. Edgecombe County reported considerable damage during the Tuesday evening storm, and in the Douglass Cross Roads section of Beaufort county quite a few acres were ruined and many others damaged. Bertie reported spotted losses.

While Martin County farmers are not greatly disturbed about what has already happened, they are beginning to worry a bit about the possible effects that are certain to follow a continued rainfall.

Escaped Convict Is Caught In This County Yesterday

Escaping from the Virginia State prison in Richmond Monday night of this week, Haywood Bundy, 28-year-old white man, was arrested in Jamesville Township yesterday afternoon by Sheriff C. B. Roebuck and Deputy J. H. Roebuck. Bundy has waived extradition and his removal from the jail here is expected this afternoon or tomorrow.

Sentenced in Bristol, Va., last March to four years in prison for house breaking, Bundy made a hurried trip to this section, reaching the home of a relative in the Jamesville community before day Tuesday morning.

PROCLAMATION

Tomorrow has been designated "Poppy Day" by proclamation issued by Mayor J. L. Hassell who is calling upon all local citizens to observe the event by wearing memorial poppies.

"It is fitting that the service and sacrifice of the gallant young men who lost their lives in 1917 and 1918 should be commemorated annually by appropriate public observance. As the poppy, which grew on the battlefields where so many of them fell, has become their memorial flower, there could be no more appropriate observance than a general wearing of the poppy in their honor," Mayor Hassell said.

Volunteer workers from the American Legion Auxiliary will distribute the poppies and receive contributions for the welfare of the living victims of the war, the disabled veterans, the widows and fatherless children.

District Methodist Conference in Session Here Reports Increased Activities Along Religious Front

Business Sessions Feature Methodist Meeting First Day

Annual District Conference Maps Plans For an Active Year

Business sessions featured the first day meeting of the two days conference of Elizabeth City district Methodists convening here yesterday morning, the activities of the day being recognized as a supporting foundation for an active year by district Methodists and for a renewed interest in religious undertakings in general.

Rev. B. B. Slaughter, presiding elder of the district, opened the conference at 10 a. m., the officer, while pointing out that the trend of the times was "to pep it up," we needed poise, balance, stability and steadfastness. "Head and backbone are not enough," the presiding elder said in explaining that the heart was necessary to carry on the task, "Give the world the best you have," he urged.

Following the roll call, Dr. S. A. Maxwell, host pastor, welcomed the delegates and made announcements concerning the activities for the day. Various committees were named, and the organization of the conference was perfected in a comparatively short time. The group extended greetings through its secretary, Rev. Russell Harrison, of Currituck, to several delegates who were held at home by illness and adopted resolutions of respect for the family of the late L. B. Harrison.

Much of the morning session was given over to pastors' reports, the conference hearing just before noon adjournment and an earnest and sincere appeal from Judge A. P. Godwin for an increase in the Golden Cross enrollment.

A buffet lunch was served the visitors in the Woman's club hall by the ladies of the host church.

Rev. M. W. Maness led the devotional service for the afternoon session in which he stressed the present need for one's conversion experience like unto that of Paul. Rev. Barnes, of the Methodist Orphanage, addressed an appeal to the conference. The minister was accompanied by three members of the orphanage group. Rev. M. T. Plyler, editor of "Christian Advocate" addressed the conference and appealed for a renewed support of the church paper.

Features of the afternoon sessions were talks by Laymen C. G. Morris and W. I. Halstead, whose addresses carried encouragement and inspiration to carry on during the coming year. Their talks were recognized as a challenge to optimism and tolerance.

Dry Leader III

The Hon. Cale K. Burgess, leader of the United Dry Forces in North Carolina, was scheduled to address the conference at 3:30 but he was unable to attend on account of illness, he explained in a telegram earlier in the day.

Dr. Dwight Ware, representing the Rocky Mount district then in session at Bethel, extended greetings and reviewed statistics for his group. Presiding Elder Slaughter replied, expressing an optimistic outlook for "Old Betsy" district.

The conference re-elected Judge A. P. Godwin as district Golden Cross director, and adjourned the afternoon session at 4:15.

This morning the conference was given over to a review of activities in the various departments of the church and to an address on the "Youth Crusade," by Dr. S. A. Maxwell.

Places In CCC Camps Open To Martin Youths

A third enrollment of Martin County youths in Civilian Conservation Corps camps will be held between July 1 and 20th, it was announced today by Miss Mary Taylor, head of the county welfare department. Places for eighteen white and five colored youths have been asked by the department, but no enrollment quota has been assigned the county, it was announced.

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Youths between the ages of 17 and 24 years are eligible to enter their applications for places in the CCC ranks.

PREHISTORIC

A tooth belonging to some prehistoric fish or animal was found by Joe Smith, Rocky Mount fisherman, on the Conoho farm of Closs Roberson along the Roanoke River this week. The tooth, having the shape of a spear head, measured five by four and one-half inches and was about one inch thick near the base. It weighed about one pound and the end was fairly sharp.

Local dentists identified it as a tooth, but they were unable to determine its owner.

Local Stores Will Observe Half-Day Summer Holidays

Holiday Schedule Going into Effect Next Week Has 37 Signatures

Williamston stores will observe each Wednesday afternoon as a holiday during the months of June, July and August, it was officially announced today following the successful circulation of a petition calling for the holiday schedule. The petition carries the signatures of 37 merchants and owners of other types of business, all agreeing to close their establishments promptly at one o'clock noon each Wednesday. The first half-holiday, eagerly looked forward to by clerks and other employees and by many of the merchants themselves, will be observed next Wednesday.

Plans are well advanced to place the holiday in effect in other towns throughout eastern North Carolina, it is understood.

Patrons of local stores are cordially asked to cooperate with the merchants in making the schedule prove successful. The patrons are asked to make their purchases early each Wednesday morning that the half-holiday may go into effect promptly at one o'clock noon.

Clubs Hold Scout Court Of Honor

In a joint meeting here Tuesday night the Kiwanis and Lions clubs entertained a number of local scouts in addition to the area and county officials. After the dinner and regular routine business of the clubs was disposed of, the meeting by a vote of its members, acted as a court of honor for the promotion of several Boy Scouts.

Paul D. Roberson, of Robersonville, who is county chairman of the committee on advancement and Mayo Little, chairman of the committee on camping, were here for the meeting as well as Scout Executive John Sigwald and his assistant, George Thomason of Wilson. Mr. Roberson was made chairman of the court of honor and was in charge of all the scout activities at the meeting.

Martin and Arthur Anderson successfully passed the examination of the court of honor and were advanced to first class scouts. Stuart Critcher was given a merit badge for outstanding work on public health. The following boys were advanced to the position of second class scouts: Jim Leggett, Jr., Bernard York, J. D. Woolard, Jr., James Carrow, Jim Critcher, Jim Taylor, Buddie Wier, Conrad Getsinger and Billy Mercer.

The main event of the evening was a talk on scouting by Executive Sigwald. He devoted his entire speech to scouting and covered every phase of its activities as related to the boy and to the citizen. Mr. Sigwald was very complimentary to Horace Ray, local scoutmaster and his assistant, Ben Hopkins, for the splendid work they have been doing for the past several months in the interest of scouting.

Everetts Baptist Church Will Hold Revival Meet

Beginning Sunday night, May 29, a revival meeting will be held in the Everetts Baptist church. The meeting will continue through the following Sunday with Rev. J. O. Walton of Windsor, assisting the regular pastor, Rev. E. C. Shoe.

Nearly 300 Church People Present At Two-Day Meeting

Presiding Elder Is Well Pleased with Meeting and Reports

Convening in their annual conference here yesterday morning nearly 300 Methodists of the Elizabeth City district heard encouraging reports and were fired to greater religious service as the meeting drew to a close at noon today. Presiding Elder B. B. Slaughter describing the event as one of the most successful and pleasing held in several years. The conference meeting just as the church is closing the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the founding of Methodism by John Wesley, brought representatives from 32 charges located from Manteo to Williamston.

Activities during the two-day meeting reflected a religious awakening, the combined reports showing increased activities along all religious fronts and inspiring the representative church group to a greater work during the coming year.

During the past year, the district experienced a gain of 149 members, an increase almost double that of the year before. Increased attendance upon the church services was a feature in the reports offered, by 24 of the district units. Eighteen revival meetings were held during the period, and in the mission field 37 societies were active, the reports showing an upward trend in Golden Cross enrollment.

In the educational field, the churches are advancing an extensive program with sixty-four boards functioning and with 127 workers taking training. A large percentage of the units is planning special schools this summer, reports stating that a conscientious study is being made of church literature in all the charges.

The financial report showed marked gains over a year ago, the few churches pledging nearly \$12,000 for benevolence and reporting salary payments well advanced. During the period, the district apportioned \$4,583 for orphanages, the payments to date exceeding those of a year ago by a wide margin. In addition to its current expenses, the district reported nearly \$4,000 paid to retire obligations and that \$5,639 had been raised for new buildings.

Churches reporting to the conference were: Ahoskie, Belhaven, Edenton, Elizabeth City, Hatteras, Manteo, Moyock, Murrefreesboro, North Gates, Wanchese, Washington, Hertford, Columbia, Currituck, Kennekeet, South Mills, Plymouth, Perquimans, and Williamston.

The unfavorable weather did not affect the attendance nor dampen the interest in the proceedings.

Faithful

The conference recognized Mr. John Berry, faithful churchman from Hyde County. Mr. Berry, 91 years old, showed a keen interest in the proceedings and greatly enjoyed his stay here. He is Hyde County's oldest citizen, but age is no barrier.

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Woman Injured In Automobile Wreck

Mrs. R. P. Hardy, of Ayden, was painfully injured and bruised but not seriously hurt at 6:30 last evening when her car, a Packard sedan, tore into a concrete guard rail at the east end of the Roanoke River bridge. Suffering a bad cut on her chin and bruises, Mrs. Hardy was given first-aid treatment in the offices of Drs. Rhodes, Eason and Winn and was later carried in a Biggs ambulance to a Kinston hospital.

Apparently traveling at a rapid speed, the driver is said to have started to pass a freight truck just before entering the concrete bridge. The rear right fender struck the truck and the car was thrown into the concrete post on the left side of the bridge. Thrown forward, Mrs. Hardy pushed the steering wheel partly through the windshield. The car, badly damaged, narrowly missed going over the embankment.