

Bowers Is Released Under Bond In Pitt County On Saturday

Action Taken After Young Man Was Denied Bond In This County

Roy Bowers, young white man charged with brutally assaulting a Martin County white girl, near Parmele, last Saturday night a week ago was released under a \$3,500 bond by Justice of the Peace John Ivey Smith at a preliminary hearing in Greenville last Saturday morning. The action of the Pitt county court came after Bowers was denied bond by Justice J. L. Hassell in Williamston on Sunday, October 2.

Following Bowers' arrest early Sunday morning October 2, in this county, officers were told that the alleged criminal assault took place near Parmele. A later investigation proved that the crime was committed a short distance across the line in Pitt County. Before the scene of the crime was definitely located, a preliminary hearing was arranged in this county, and Justice Hassell, after hearing the damaging testimony, ruled that bond could not be allowed in the case.

Unofficial reports reaching here from the preliminary hearing in Greenville last Saturday stated that the defense counsel maintained that since the attack victim was carried to her home by the defendant he was entitled to bond. Friends of the attack victim are said to have been surprised when they learned that bond was allowed, and that they considered the size of the bond low.

No private prosecution was employed in the first round of the case, and it could not be learned whether arrangements would be made by relatives of the victim to prosecute the case when it is called in the Pitt County Superior court.

It was reliably learned here this week that additional evidence is being sought in the case, and that some damaging facts to the defense had been uncovered.

When removed from the Martin County jail last Friday afternoon by Pitt County officers, Bowers was said to have carried his head high. While in jail he was also said to have dismissed the charge lightly, and made slurring remarks.

Shown mercy in the Martin County courts last March when he and a young Carson boy were charged with dynamiting property in Parmele, Robersonville and Bear Grass, Bowers is said to have continued his wild way of living. Made subject to one of his heinous attacks, another young girl, reports state, escaped and caught a ride in another car to her home in Bethel.

The name of Bowers' latest victim has not been disclosed by officers in this county. She was said to have been painfully scratched and slightly bruised during the attack which took place a little over a week ago. It is not known here what evidence was offered when the case was called in Greenville last Saturday, but at the first hearing, a young man named Dixon and his companion were quoted as saying that they heard the victim call for help, and that they were afraid to interfere.

Scouts Enjoy Their Visit In Chapel Hill

Returning from a jubilee in Chapel Hill last week-end, eight local Boy Scouts reported a wonderful time in the University town. Camping with representatives of troops from Plymouth, Creswell and Washington, the Scouts formed part of the ranks numbering 1,600 youths from all parts of the South.

Although they found the nights a bit chilly, the boys explained how they enjoyed the food and ice cream for desert twice daily. On Saturday afternoon, the youths were special guests at the Tulane-Carolina football game.

Escape Injury In Car Wreck At Bear Grass

No one was injured but considerable damage was done to Wheeler Rogerson's car, a Ford V-8, last Sunday evening at Bear Grass when Henry Godard, colored, crashed into the machine with an old model Ford Godard, booked for drunken driving, is said to have turned his machine across the road and into the path of the Rogerson car driven by Hildreth Rogerson.

'Blackout' Scheduled Between 6 And 10 P. M. On Thursday

Between 6 and 10 o'clock Thursday evening, Williamston and all other towns in the county will be asked to turn out all lights on the streets, filling stations and show windows. Occupants are urged to lower shades in their homes.

The "blackout" will last approximately an hour for turning off the lights will not be known until just a few minutes before friendly "enemy" planes approach the territory. In Williamston, Mayor J. L. Hassell has made arrangements to have members of the fire department to sound the fire siren. Local citizens are reminded that the alarm will be a signal for turning out lights and not for a fire call. In addition to the fire department signal, residents will be advised by a Raleigh broadcasting station when the attack planes are

scheduled to make their appearance over various towns, when to put out the lights and when the dark period is to end.

While anxious to effect a complete "blackout", army air force officials point out that they do not expect anyone to turn out lights in cases of emergency.

Store owners are urged to cut out their neon signs and darken their store fronts. Motorists in and near towns are asked to park their cars during the "blackout" period. Numerous towns throughout eastern Carolina have arranged for the "blackouts," and Mayor John L. Hassell states that the people of Williamston have readily expressed their willingness to cooperate with the army air defense corps in what are described the most extensive air maneuvers ever scheduled in this country during peace time.

"Little" Crime Wave Sweeps Over County

OPEN BIDS

Bids for the construction of a \$78,000 postoffice building in Williamston will be opened in the local postoffice tomorrow afternoon. Postmaster Leslie T. Fowden stating today that a number of contractors had already submitted sealed proposals. None of the contractors is from this immediate section, it was reported.

The lot for the new building on Main Street just across from the Courtney Furniture Store, has been cleared, and if the bids are acceptable it is likely that construction work will get underway within the next few weeks.

Fourteen Marriage Licenses Issued In County Last Month

Issuance Is Second Smallest So Far This Year

Fourteen marriage licenses were issued by J. Sam Getsinger, Martin County Register of Deeds, last month, the issuance being the second smallest reported so far this year. In each of the first eight months, the number of licenses issued colored couples exceeded the number issued to white couples. Last month the issuance was evenly divided.

Licenses were issued to the following couples:

White
Leslie C. Jones and Ola Mae Willoughby, both of Martin County.

J. B. Biggs and Susie Scott, both of this county.

Paul Aubrey Roy, of Asheboro, and Thelma O'Neal Brown, of Williamston.

Thurman L. Griffin and Rosa Perry, both of Martin County.

Bonnie Ingalls and Agnes Roberson, both of Greenville.

Floyd Walker Salley, of Orangeburg, S. C., and Catherine Crenshaw Stallings, of Williamston.

William Thomas Arrants and Thelma Virginia Bryant, both of Plymouth.

Colored
K. M. Jones, of Oak City, and Jimmie Mae Mullins, of Conetoe.

Samuel Coffield and Clara Mae Johnson, both of this county.

Lee Rodgers, of this county, and Dorothy Lee, of Edenton.

Robert Coburn and Geneva Jones, both of Martin County.

Coy Briley and Edith Teel, of this county.

Robert Lewis Pierce and Geneva Kearney, both of Martin County.

Gröver Dickens and Lucy Jones, both of this county.

Mother Of Local Man Dies At Whitakers Home

Mrs. J. L. Dickens, mother of Mr. Hal Dickens, of this place, died at her home in Whitakers last night at 11 o'clock of pneumonia. She suffered a stroke of paralysis a short time ago. Funeral services will be conducted at the home this afternoon at 4 o'clock, and interment will follow in the cemetery there.

Jail Eighteen Men In County During The Past Week-end

Several Alleged Violators Have Not Yet Been Apprehended

A "little" crime wave swept over Martin County last week-end when fifteen men were jailed for alleged violation of various laws. Several other alleged violators of the peace have not yet been apprehended, but Jailor Roy Peel is of the opinion the town and county officers did a right good job in rounding up as many as they did. In addition to the fifteen men arrested in this county, several were brought to this county from Bertie and jailed for alleged violation of the internal revenue act.

No serious law violations are included in the list of cases, the records showing that most of the defendants are booked for stealing, drinking, and misbehaving in general.

William Wilkins, Whit Everett and Jonas Wilkins, apparent victims of poverty in Bertie County, were given a preliminary hearing before U. S. Commissioner Walter Halberstadt last Friday for alleged violation of the internal revenue act. They were released from the county jail under \$300 bonds Monday.

In Williamston over the week-end, there were two robbery cases and two larceny and receiving cases. Lester "Dummy" Speight, thought to have secreted himself in the Williamston Cafe, was caught Sunday morning about 3 o'clock coming out of the cafe with a turn of cigarettes, candy and cash, all valued at about \$25. Duke Walston was arrested for the alleged theft of \$2.65 worth of groceries from an automobile parked on Washington Street Saturday night. Cornelius Jones, colored, was caught stealing money from the cash drawer in Baker's filling station on East Main Street Sunday morning. The robbery of a case of liquor from the river warehouse has not been solved, but officers continue their work on the theft.

Other arrests and alleged charges during the week-end include the following:
Isaac Ampey, assault; Russell Perry, drunkenness; Abraham Jones, larceny and receiving; Keeter Lock, larceny and receiving; Herman James, capias; Selector Andrews, larceny and receiving; Henry Godard, driving drunk; Roy Lanier, drunkenness; Elsworth, George and Henry Andrews and William Staton, disorderly conduct.

Six of the arrests were effected last Saturday, and at that time the officers of town and county made preparations for a heavy schedule the following day. Commenting on the week-end jail record, Sheriff C. B. Roebuck said he could not recall a week-end since he was sheriff that more people had been jailed in such a short length of time in this county.

Number of Planes Pass Over County Monday

A number of airplanes, participating in the army air maneuvers in eastern Carolina, passed over this county yesterday. Only one was sighted over Williamston, however. More are expected during the week.

Clear Block Sales On Local Tobacco Mart Early Today

Ninety Per Cent of Crop Is Already Marketed In This Area

Williamston's tobacco market continues to hold its own despite the fact that approximately 90 per cent of the crop in this immediate territory has already been marketed. Today, the market cleared one of the largest blocks since the opening in August. Nearly 250,000 pounds were sold on the first and second sales yesterday.

A review of the market activities indicates that the price peak has been reached, but the sales continue very satisfactory. Prices ranged up to \$45 and \$46 yesterday and this morning, but there was no tobacco of the \$60 and \$70 type offered these past few days.

Simultaneously with the report that 90 per cent of the crop had been sold in this section, and that production here would be considerably less than a year ago, the government released an estimate indicating the 1938 yield would reach 812,640,000 pounds as compared with a prediction of 786,660,000 pounds a few weeks ago.

The increased production is entirely in the types grown in North Carolina, as the crop in the early Southern states already has been harvested. While the increase for the entire flue-cured area is only 3.3 per cent, it is heavier for the Eastern Carolina belt and the South Carolina belt, the highest rate of increase in the latter being in the North Carolina portion of the belt.

The Georgia-Florida estimate remains at 105,850,000 pounds.

The estimate for the South Carolina belt was increased from 150,300,000 pounds to 159,310,000. The estimate for the North Carolina portion of the belt was increased from 59 to 63 million pounds and the South Carolina portion from 90 to 95 million pounds.

In the Eastern North Carolina belt the increase is from 260,400,000 to 272,800,000 pounds.

In the Old Belt, the increase is from 270,310,000 to 274,680,000 pounds, the Virginia portion being increased from 68 million to 70 million pounds and the North Carolina portion from 201 to 204 million pounds.

Meanwhile the United States Supreme Court this week granted a review in the case involving the constitutionality of the Flannagan tobacco grading act.

However, the decision of the highest court, which will end litigation that already has been in progress for more than two years, will not be reached until some time in the spring of next year, too late to affect the present marketing season. Court attaches said recently that arguments in the case will not be scheduled until December at the earliest, and probably not before January.

The case was brought by four of the six warehouses in Oxford. Judge Isaac M. Meekins, of the Eastern North Carolina district found the act unconstitutional and granted an injunction against its operation. The Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals reversed that decision.

Martin County Home Inmate Dies Saturday

Mrs. Florence Coker Hayes, inmate in the Martin County home for the past ten years, died there last Saturday evening at 6:45 o'clock of a complication of ailments. A native of Edgecombe County, Mrs. Hayes was about 60 years old and had been in feeble health for a number of years.

Funeral services were conducted at the home of relatives near Leggett's Sunday afternoon.

A brother and one sister, Mrs. Emma Pittman, of Edgecombe County, survive.

MEETING

Meeting in special session here this afternoon at the call of Chairman J. D. Woolard, the Martin County Board of Education is discussing several matters, unofficial reports stating that the authorities are considering the possibility of adding an extra room or two to the Williamston colored school. Crowded conditions have been reported in the school for some time. Classes are now being held in the auditorium and the rooms are filled to overflowing.

Geo. Barnes Fined \$100.00 For Illegal Practice Medicine

Aged Colored Man Appeals From Judgment in Court Court

George Barnes, 75-year-old Tarboro colored man, was fined \$100 and taxed with the costs by Judge H. O. Peel in the county recorder's court Monday in the case charging the defendant with practicing medicine without license. Barnes, represented by Fountain and Fountain, of Tarboro, and Attorney Henry D. Hardison, gave notice of appeal to the superior court.

The case against Barnes originated during the middle of last August following the death of Chaney Wiggins, colored woman, of near Hamilton. It was first alleged that Barnes had prescribed some poison medicine for the patient. An investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation proved the medicine harmless, and the warrant was amended to include only the charge of practicing medicine without license.

In building up its case, the State maintained that Barnes went to the Wiggins home, looked at the woman's eyes and felt of her pulse and prescribed certain medicine. The defense, at the conclusion of the state evidence, asked that the case be thrown out of court. Judge Peel overruled the motion.

The defense offered four witnesses, two white men, Sherrod Sessions and a son-in-law of June Sessions testifying that they had taken medicine sold them by Barnes and it had helped them. The Sessions family once lived in the Parmele section of this county, but are now living at Old Sparta. Taking the stand himself, Barnes maintained that he had concocted no medicine for the Wiggins woman, that members of the family had visited him and he gave them medicine ordered direct from a concern in Tennessee. He also stated to the court that he had been told the medicine found by officers in jars had been prescribed by a "doctor" in Bertie County.

The case was before the court a greater part of the morning. Judge Peel first fined the old "medicine man" \$250, but later reduced the fine to \$100.

Mrs. Lucy Hollis Dies At Her Home

Mrs. Lucy Hollis, highly respected county citizen, died at her home in the Spring Green section of Poplar Point Township last Saturday morning at 9:20 o'clock following a long illness of cancer. She has been confined to her bed since early last spring.

The daughter of the late Hardy Cullipher and wife, Mrs. Hollis was born near Beaver Dam in Williamston Township 60 years ago next January. In early womanhood she was married to Joseph Hollis who survives with six sons and one daughter. Their names are, Harvey, William, Dock, Chester and Maryland Hollis, all of Poplar Point, and Bill Hollis, of Williamston, and Mrs. Jack Crawford, of Oak City. She also leaves two brothers, Ed Cullipher, of Robersonville, and John Cullipher, of Pinetown; and two sisters, Mrs. Bettie Warren and Mrs. Lena Cassell, both of Robersonville. Thirteen grandchildren also survive.

Mrs. Hollis was a devoted wife and an understanding mother, and enjoyed a large circle of friends.

Funeral services were conducted Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock from the Cedar Grove Free Will Baptist church by Rev. Marshall Joyner, pastor, assisted by Rev. Garland Bland, Christian minister, and Rev. Z. T. Piephoff, of the Presbyterian church. Interment was in the Leggett Cemetery in Poplar Point Township.

Bookmobile Had A Busy Week In Martin County

The "Bookmobile," a library on wheels operated by the Works Progress Administration, had a busy time in this county last week. During the period, it distributed 1,151 books in all parts of the county as follows: Jamesville Township, 291; Griffins Township, 189; Bear Grass and Cross Roads, 334; Parmele and Gold Point, 75; Hamilton and Goose Nest, 262.

Beginning next Monday morning and following the same schedule followed in effecting the distribution, the "Bookmobile" will collect the books. Borrowers are urged to have the books ready. Miss Ella Gaylord, in charge of the project in this county, explaining that future operations of the traveling library will depend upon the cooperation of borrowers in returning the books.

Road Claims Before Highway Commission

MORE CHECKS

The Agricultural Adjustment Administration, the same farm agency that is undergoing a serious attack by some Martin farmers and others throughout the country, continues to release money to farmers in this county.

Several hundred checks are being distributed this week, and additional ones are expected shortly. To date, 783 checks representing 340 applications and amounting to \$19,221.40, have been received in the county in the form of cotton price adjustment payments. It is believed that these payments when completed will total in excess of \$40,000.

Williamston Loses To Washington In One-Sided Contest

Invading Pam Pack Dominates Play Most of the Time

The Green Wave suffered defeat at the hands of the Washington eleven Friday afternoon on the local gridiron, being on the short end of the 27 to 0 score. The invading Pam Pack dominated play during the greater part of the game.

Outstanding for the Washington boys were Kelley, Taylor and Holloman in the backfield, and Woodard, Cherry and Whitaker, line-men. Fine blocking was a feature of the Washington offense. Fine "ball-totin" was exhibited by the Washington backs. Kelley and Holloman featured the attack with a 55 yard jaunt around left end and a brilliant 90 yard return of the opening kick-off of the second half, respectively.

The local boys offered stubborn resistance in the pines. Little gain was made directly over the line, three of the four Washington touchdowns being made on long runs around end. Featuring for the Williamston boys were Anderson, Roberson and Manning in the line and M. Anderson and Riddick, backs.

George Lee Roberson, star back of the past several seasons, returning to the line-up for the first time this season, proved a thorn in Washington's side with his long and accurate kicking.

The Williamston team, with the return of several players, is expected to be in good form when they meet Windsor here Friday of this week.

Native Of Bertie Dies In County

William Lawrence Rawls, 81, died at the home of his son, W. E. Rawls, in Cross Roads Township last Saturday morning about 10 o'clock. Apparently in his usual health, Mr. Rawls is believed to have suffered a heart attack, dying almost instantly while sitting in a chair.

The son of the late Randall Rawls and wife, he was born in Bertie County where he spent all his life until about two years ago, when he moved to this county to make his home with his son and adopted community.

Mrs. Rawls with three sons, W. E. Rawls, of this county, Claude and Clarence Rawls, and two daughters, Mrs. John Allen and Mrs. Willie Leggett, all of Bertie County, survive.

Fourth Tobacco Theft Reported In This County

Breaking into the packhouse on the old Will Roberson farm, near Gardner's Creek some time during last Saturday night, thieves stole and carried away 332 pounds of graded tobacco.

Discovering the robbery Sunday morning, Owners Abe Roberson and David Modlin called officers. Following the tracks of the robbers, Officer Joe Roebuck found the tobacco hid in the woods near Siloam church about one-half mile from the Roberson farm. No arrests have been made in the case.

Martin County Has Claim Of \$400,000 Highway Refunds

Commission Is Expected To Take Action Before November 1st

For quite a few years, Martin County has been appealing to State authorities and commissions for a refund of money spent for the construction of main highways in the county. The State Highway Commission, receiving the "hot potato" from dodging politicians is expected to consider Martin's claims and the claims of a number of other counties sometime during this month.

A commission, hand-picked by Former Governor J. C. B. Ehringhaus, was to have made an impartial study of the claims and offer recommendations. The commission, apparently trying to make the claims appear absurd, is said to have asked various counties to file claims for every road and footpath within the division lines. As a result, approximately \$53,000,000 in claims are pending against the highway commission.

Martin County, said to be claiming in excess of half a million dollars, is asking for only approximately \$400,000 or the amount of money actually raised by general taxation and turned over to the highway commission for the construction of the Roanoke River bridge and the causeway, the Washington Road and the Scotland Neck road to the Halifax county line. No mention of road bond floated to build township roads is included in the claim, but apparently many counties are asking refunds to every cent ever spent on roads of all types.

The question involved is whether the State must reimburse counties for roads built by the units before 1931, when the State took over maintenance of the highway system. Ever since that year, county highway claims have constituted a political hot potato which has been passed from legislature to legislature, and from commission to commission.

The 1935 legislature disposed of the question of authorizing a study commission to investigate the validity of the claims.

The study commission recommended to the 1937 legislature that none of the claims be paid in cash, but that some of them be taken into consideration in future road construction and maintenance allotments.

The 1937 legislature referred the matter to the highway commission which will meet October 27 to discuss the claims.

The claims range from a high of \$3,018,643.83 which is asked by Buncombe, to a low of \$25,000, asked by Warren.

At hearings in Raleigh two years ago, representatives from many of the counties argued as follows:

Before 1931, X county issued \$1,000,000 worth of bonds to build hard-surfaced roads. Y county issued no bonds and built no roads. When the State took over highway system, it built roads where they were most needed—in Y county. Consequently, today the roads in Y county are as good as the roads in X county. But residents of X county still are paying off the \$1,000,000 bond issue, while residents of Y county owe no highway debts.

The State's stand has been that in taking over the county roads it
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Bitten By A Snake, Young Man Recovering

Bitten by a snake at his home in Poplar Point last week, Raymond Harrison, young farmer, is recovering slowly at this time. The bite victim, walking along a ditch bank barefooted late in the afternoon when attacked, did not see what kind of snake it was. By the time he reached the yard of his home, he was overcome by pain, and driven almost mad. Members of his family bandaged his leg to cut off the blood circulation and rushed him to a doctor here for treatment.

The wound, showing plainly the imprints of the reptile's teeth, was opened and considerable blood was taken from Mr. Harrison's foot. He was also given a special serum. The young man's leg swelled to almost twice its normal size, and while the limb is a bit dark, Mr. Harrison is about to be out some with the aid of crutches.