

## Handle Few Cases In County Court On Last Monday

### Three of Seven Defendants Are Found Not Guilty

An unusually small docket faced the Martin County Recorder's court Monday, Judge Peel handling the seven cases in a short time. Three of the seven defendants facing the court were found not guilty, a nonsuit was allowed in a fourth case and prayer for judgment in two others, the court suspending sentence in a last case. There were no fines and no commitments to the roads.

Solicitor W. H. Coburn officially prosecuted his last docket for the term, Judge Peel announcing that the county tribunal would not meet again until the first Monday in December, as the superior court is scheduled to convene next Monday for a two weeks' term. Judge W. H. S. Burgwyn will take over the judge's bench during that time.

Adam David Layden, young Elizabeth City man who crashed a guard rail on the Roanoke River fill about two weeks ago, was found not guilty in the case charging him with drunken driving.

Charged with an assault with a deadly weapon, Matthew Griffin, at the conclusion of the evidence, made a motion for non-suit which was allowed by Judge Peel.

The case charging John Stokes with violating the liquor laws was continued under prayer for judgment until December 5.

Oliver Whaley, charged with damaging property, to-wit a dog, was found not guilty.

Charged with non-support, Bert Gorham was found not guilty.

The case charging Dollie Lee Hudson with an assault was continued under prayer for judgment until December 5. The defendant pleaded guilty in the case.

Josh Pritchett, charged with being drunk on the highway, pleaded guilty and was sentenced to the roads for thirty days. The court suspended the sentence upon condition that the defendant remain sober for three months. He was placed under parole of Patrolmen W. S. Hunt and H. W. Rothrock during that time. Violation of the parole will cause capias to be issued at direction of solicitor and defendant in that case will serve sentence imposed by court, Judge Peel ruled.

## Lull Follows Rush In Peanut Market

Following a big rush that saw a considerable portion of the crop marketed in certain areas, the peanut market was surrounded by a lull today. With a few companies "going off" the open market, possibly temporary deliveries were slowed down, but the government stabilization cooperative stepped in to forestall a break in prices.

"Some of the cleaners have been receiving peanuts faster than they can handle them, but we plan to be back on the market shortly," one buyer reported this morning.

It is generally agreed that the quality of the crop now moving to market is of the poorest quality of any in many years. Very few of the goobers are grading 65 per cent meat, and the general price average will hardly exceed three and one-eighth cents. Latest reports that this county will market hardly more than half a crop this season.

The lull in the open market yesterday and today started peanuts moving into government stabilization warehouses on a larger scale, the two receiving units here reporting approximately 1,500 bags in storage with a large percentage of them coming in yesterday and early today. Robersonville reported around 1,500 bags stored in its warehouses earlier in the week.

## Former Resident Dies In Beaufort County

James E. Chesson, half brother to Mr. Mark Chesson, of Williamston, and a resident of this county for several years half a century ago, died at his home in Beaufort County near Washington, last Wednesday morning. Mr. Chesson was born in Roper, Washington County, 82 years ago. Before locating in Beaufort County he made his home with the Ward family in this county for about eight years. He was a leading citizen in his community and a prominent Beaufort County farmer.

Funeral services were conducted yesterday afternoon and interment followed in the cemetery at Washington.

He is survived by four daughters, six sons and four brothers.

## Committees Review Tobacco Allotments For Coming Year

Making a thorough study of individual tobacco allotments, Community committees from the nine districts in this county have just about completed the task, and plans are being rushed to have the 1939 quotas in the hands of growers as soon as possible before the tenth of next month.

Taking each individual case into consideration, the committees are making every effort humanly possible to iron out inequalities and bring all allotments into line. The variations when considered in a lump will not alter the total allotment hardly more than one per cent, it was unofficially learned today as the committees were working over the quotas for the last districts in the county. In some cases where the allotments were found unusual-

ly high, the committees are making some changes, adding to those allotments that appear unusually low. Every effort is being made to give each farmer what he is entitled to and at the same time comply with the terms of the program.

The work of the committees will be reviewed by the state office possibly during next week, and when the allotments are finally approved there, the office of the county agent here will set them as permanent records and notify the farmers what their allotments will be for the coming year.

Unofficial reports show that the average poundage is about the same in each of the nine districts in the county, that it does not vary but a few pounds from the highest to the lowest.

## Board Commissioners File Road Complaints

### HONORED



Charles Manning, local young man who is working for his bachelor of law degree at Wake Forest College, was honored recently when he was inducted into the Golden Bough, the highest ranking honorary society there.

## Three Arrested For Theft Of Chickens

Three white men, Andrew and Thurman Scott and L. F. Lucas, were arrested this week and placed in the county jail for the alleged theft of twenty-five chickens from Farmer Owen Jones in Oak City last Saturday night.

Officers reported a hectic schedule with the alleged thieves. Andrew Scott and Lucas were arrested Sunday by Oak City's Chief of Police Edmond Early. They broke out of the Oak City jail that night. Their trail was picked up as they went through Bethel two days later and they were arrested by the time they reached Greenville. They are being held in the county jail along with Thurman Scott who was arrested Monday night by Sheriff C. B. Roebuck.

The chickens were found penned with tobacco sticks in a field, near Thurman Scott's home, about a mile from Oak City.

Lucas and Andrew Scott came to this county about two weeks ago from Wilson.

## Local Girls Victorious In Bowling Match Here

After suffering defeat at the hands of Washington girls in the Beaufort capital last week, several local girls came back strong to register a 146-pin marginal victory in a return match here last night.

Names of the visiting team members are: Misses June Crow, Frances Morgan, Clara Nichols, Mevis Brand, Lucille Woodard and Elizabeth Waters. Names of the victors are: Misses Blanche Sullivan, Lorene Weaver, Marion Pender, Neda Pendleton, Mrs. Jim Baston and Gordon Wright.

## Farm Bureau Members Picnic Here Tonight

An interesting and entertaining meeting of the Martin County Farm Bureau membership is scheduled in the Legion Hut here this evening at 8:30 o'clock. A barbecue dinner will be served.

Discussions common to the organization and farming will feature the meeting. Several prominent speakers will appear on the program.

## Direct Appeal Made To The State Office Of Road Commission

### Actual Facts Will Support Complaint Chairman Points Out

Beleaguered by complaints coming from numerous citizens in all parts of the county during their recent meetings, the Martin County Commissioners this week appealed direct to the State Highway and Public Works Commission for an investigation looking forward to the improvement of secondary roads in Martin County.

In a letter addressed to Hon. Frank Dunlap, chairman of the Highway commission, J. E. Pope, chairman of the Martin County board said:

"We are receiving numerous complaints about the condition of roads in Martin County. Mainly, that the roads have not been bushed, are overlapping with brush and many of them entirely too narrow for vehicles to pass when meeting.

"Our people feel that we are not getting the same consideration and benefits as given to our neighboring counties and other counties of the state. The condition of our roads as compared to those of other sections bear this out, and we wonder why we are not receiving the same benefits as received by others.

"We are told that there is but one tractor for use in Martin County of sufficient size and power with which to do construction work. We have only recently received aid in widening two or three little pieces of road—and that was done only when direct complaint was made as to those pieces.

"We wish to file those complaint with you and to ask that you make investigation as to our needs, and comparison as to benefits received, and see if we are not justifiable in our complaint.

"We would be glad if you would send some member of your board, or a representative, to meet with us in the very near future and go over some of our roads, in order that we may prove our statements. Should you thus favor us with a visit we would appreciate notice a few days in advance.

"We do not wish to ask for more than our share, but we do ask that you investigate the merits of the complaints that are being showered upon us by our people, and complaints which we feel must be justifiable according to our own observation."

### Commission Answers

Apparently ignoring the request of the Martin County board for a (Continued on page four)

## Candy Salesman Charged With Embezzlement Here

H. W. Hall, middle-aged candy salesman, was arrested here yesterday for the alleged embezzlement of funds from the Swanee Candy Company, a Charlotte firm. At a hearing before Justice J. L. Hassell this morning, Hall pleaded not guilty to converting \$259.81 of the company's money as charged in the warrant, but admitted that there was a small shortage which he planned to raise and turn over to the firm.

Probable cause of guilt appearing in the case, Hall who has been stationed here for the past several months, was remanded to jail in default of a \$500 bond. His case is scheduled for trial next month.

## Defendants Seek More Information In \$50,000.00 Suit

### Adverse Witnesses Testify In Bus Corporation Case Here

Pointing out to the court that it was necessary and proper for the defense in the \$50,000 damage suit brought by Edna Lee Mizelle against the Norfolk Southern Bus Corporation and J. T. White, driver, to examine the plaintiff "in order to present its answer and prepare its case for trial," Attorneys Horton and Rodman questioned Miss Mizelle during three hours at a hearing held here last Tuesday before Clerk of Court L. B. Wynne. The girl's foster father, Mr. L. P. Holliday, was also questioned by the defense as an adverse witness.

Unofficial reports indicate the defense found enough facts to prepare an answer that would fill an ordinary size book. The attorneys traced the girl from the time she left the Holliday home, near Jamesville, last December until the time she returned about five days later.

It was said to have been brought out that the girl first told she missed the bus to Jamesville and spent the night in a Williamston hotel, but when questioned later she broke down and told the story virtually the same as was reported some months ago. She reviewed the story as it related to how she was doped, carried on through Jamesville, her destination, to Columbia. The meaning of some of the words used in questioning her about the attack alleged to have taken place at the point of a gun in a Columbia hotel caused some confusion, but one of the plaintiff attorneys, H. S. Ward, clarified the meaning and the girl still maintained the first story was true.

The case is slated for trial in the special term of Martin County Superior court convening here next week. According to the calendar, the case will be called on November 30.

Slated for trial several months ago in the Martin County Superior court, the case was transferred to the federal courts where the plaintiff took a voluntary non-suit. The complaint was said to have been altered to include the bus driver as a co-defendant, and the case was then slated for trial again in the courts of this county.

The hearing here last Tuesday attracted half dozen or more prominent attorneys and leading officials of the Norfolk Southern Bus Corporation.

## Church Of Advent Is Host To District Religious Meeting

### Prominent Church Leaders Have Parts On Program

#### By REV. JOHN HARDY

On last Tuesday after a most inspiring celebration of the Holy Communion by the Rev. Worth Wicker, Greenville, assisted by the Rev. John W. Hardy, the meeting of the Convocation of Edenton took place in the Church of the Advent, Williamston at eleven o'clock. The Clergy and Laity adjourned to the rectory where the meeting was called to order by the Dean of the Convocation, the Rev. Mr. Wicker. Miss Catherine Sherman, our new Diocesan Secretary of Religious Education, presented her plans for the year to the gathering, after which they were addressed by the national head of the Pi Alpha fraternity, the boys' organization of the Episcopal church, the Rev. A. W. Pfaffko, of Blue Ridge Summit, Pa.

At the same time the Woman's Auxiliary meeting was called to order in the church by the president, Mrs. Harry G. Walker, of Washington. The visitors were most cordially welcomed to the parish by Mrs. J. G. Staton, to whose greetings Miss Helen Smith, of Farmville, responded. In her annual address the president urged that we do all in our power to interest the younger women in the work of the church. She said also that there would not be that difficulty in securing officers, reported by so many organizations, if we would all think, as St. Paul, (Continued on page four)

## Rush Plans for Financing Gymnasium at Jamesville

Plans for financing a school gymnasium at Jamesville were announced virtually complete today, the sponsors hoping to start work on the structure in the near future.

## Martin County Loses Half Million When State Highway Authorities Deny Claim To All Road Refunds

### Move First Dirt For New Post Office Building Here

The first dirt for the construction of a new postoffice building here was moved day before yesterday when C. H. Riddle, of the Jones Construction Company, put several men to work staking off the lot and moving several trees.

"It will be ten days or two weeks before much work will be done on the structure itself," Mr. Riddle said, explaining that steel and other materials are not available at this time. "Construction work will be well underway within two weeks all right," the construction company representative said.

The building, while costing less than the amount appropriated, will be considerably larger than many ordinarily constructed in towns of

this size. It will be fifty by ninety feet, and will look similar to the building in Wilmington, but on a smaller scale, of course. The department appropriated \$78,000 for the project. Approximately \$6,000 was paid for the lot, and the contract was let at about \$43,000, leaving around \$29,000 for equipment. It may be that the surplus will revert back to the treasury.

According to the terms of the contract, the building is to be completed with 210 calendar days from Thursday of last week. "We hope to move in about next July," Postmaster Leslie T. Fowden said today.

The building will be located on the south side of Main Street between Watts Street on the east and Smithwick Street on the west.

## Coburn Prosecutes Docket Last Time In Recorder's Court

### Johnson Takes Over Duties First Monday in Next Month

Although his term does not expire until the first Monday in next month Solicitor W. H. Coburn has completed his regular work as prosecutor in the Martin County Recorder's Court, Judge H. O. Peel announcing Monday that his tribunal will not convene in regular session again until December 5, the day newly elected officers start their terms and old ones start another period according to the political calendar.

The solicitor wound up his business as prosecutor after a brief session last Monday, and will now center his attention upon the practice of law as the junior partner in the firm of Coburn and Coburn. The attorney is completing his third term as county prosecutor, he having defeated J. W. Bailey in the June, 1932, primary and gained appointment later that year.

Scoring a decisive victory in the last June primary, Elphonsa Johnson awaits appointment at the hands of the county commissioners. The young man's name did not appear on the county ballot on Tuesday, November 8, and quite a few voters called in to learn why. They apparently forgot the office is an appointive one, that the candidates, following a custom in effect since the court was created nearly twenty years ago, enter the June primary that the voters might express their choice and lift the burden from the shoulders of the county commissioners.

Unless the commissioners start their session earlier than usual, Judge H. O. Peel will possibly have to delay opening the court on the first Monday in next month. If he convenes the session promptly at 9:30 he'll have no solicitor officially.

The commissioners are almost certain to abide by the wish expressed by the people in the June 4 primary and the appointment can be rushed through in a minute. Another minute or two will be required to swear in the young solicitor and hurry him to the hall of justice for his first assignment in Martin County's official family.

## Superior Court Will Convene Next Week

A special two weeks' term of the Martin County Superior Court convenes here next Monday for the trial of civil cases only. Judge W. H. S. Burgwyn will preside.

The Calendar, carrying fifty-four cases, is not expected to attract much attention from the general public. Most of the cases are of minor importance. Aside from the \$50,000 damage suit against the Norfolk Southern Bus Corporation, the calendar carries one or two cases that are out of the ordinary court routine. Sheriff C. B. Roebuck and R. H. Grimes, a former deputy in the office of the sheriff, are defendants in a small suit brought by W. M. Sitterson. The plaintiff is suing for possession of a ring allegedly turned over to the defendants as bond collateral. The defense maintains the ring was never received.

## Action Is Bitter Disappointment to People Of County

### Only Hope Is in Recognition of Secondary Road Needs

Martin County was left saddled with a half million dollar road debt in the twinkling of an eye yesterday when the North Carolina Highway and Public Works Commission, the same organization that sponsored the construction of a two million dollar monumental bridge across Albemarle Sound and miles of "scenic" highways on the mountain tops, denied all claims to refund of monies advanced by common taxpayers for building main arteries in the State's great highway system.

The simple ruling of the commission, "It is ordered that each and all of the claims be and they are hereby declined," brought bitter disappointment to county officials, the man about the street, the property owner far removed from the paved routes who had followed the appeals of their legislators for something they felt and believed they were entitled to.

Before that simple order brought an end to the whole business, the claims had been bandied about from a legislature to special commission, back to a legislature and then to the highway commission.

As support for its action, the highway commission cited the findings of the special commission which reported to the 1937 legislature. That legislature turned the report and the claims over to the highway commission which, after having the claims before it for well over a year declined them on the basis of the report.

During the period of its consideration of the claims, the roads body, Chairman Frank Dunlap said, studied them "county-by-county." Some of the counties came in for special study, Dunlap said, listing some of them as:

Lenoir, Pitt, Pamlico, Beaufort, Swain, Forsyth, Guilford, Duplin, Sampson, Ashe, Brunswick, Iredell, Buncombe and others."

Yesterday's order from the highway commission cited this part of the report of the special commission:

"The commission finds itself overwhelmed with a maze of statistics and information, the accurateness of which it is almost impossible to determine, and yet finds itself lacking in much essential information which it regards as being necessary in order to make definite recommendations as to what cash refunds, if any, any county or counties are entitled to receive . . .

"That the commission finds that some inequities probably exist as among the various counties of the State but does not regard them as being greater than must of necessity have been created in the administration of the road affairs of the State by any highway commission that could have served it.

"The commission does not regard cash refunds as being the proper method of adjusting any such inequities as may exist.

"The present State Highway and Public Works Commission has assured this commission . . . that it is continuously trying through its program of construction and maintenance of highways to work out all necessary adjustments of alleged inequities."

The highway commission listed its conclusions as:

"That there exists no such inequality in the expenditures for road development in the counties of the State that cannot be adjusted by the (Continued on page four)

## Near Heat Wave Felt During Past Few Days

A near-heat wave is being felt in this section today, some of the old-timers declaring the mercury is ranging higher at this season of the year than at anytime in their memory. Thermometer readings were reported as high as 87 in the shade early this afternoon.

Rain and colder for tomorrow, the weather men say.

Very little rain has fallen so far this month and to date no killing frost has struck here.

### TAG SALE

The new 1939 State automobile license tags will go on sale at the Carolina Motor Club bureau in the Williamston Motor Company building here December 1 when it will be legal to display the new plates on cars and trucks. The same price schedule for the current year tags will be maintained.

A new color scheme has been advanced for the costly pieces of tin and the general characteristic of the numerals is decidedly different from the old Gothic type. The numerals and letters are in aluminum on a red background.

Get your plates early and avoid the rush.

## Give Cooperation In Tuberculosis Survey

Commenting on the recent tuberculosis survey in the schools of this county, health authorities pointed out that the school people, children and public cooperated splendidly.

Advised that one out of seven deaths among young men and about one out of four deaths among young girls are caused by tuberculosis, the general public is taking a marked interest in the movement to lessen the number of cases and deaths from tuberculosis in this county.

During the recent survey, 149 white children were found to be infected to a certain extent, but 1,117 other children were found free of infection. While the number, equalling 12 per cent of the total, is large, it is below the average and even small compared with findings in many sections, health authorities explain. Infection among the colored children is more than double that found among white children, the recent survey showing that 235 colored children out of 659 were infected to a certain extent.

Arrangements are now being made to make a thorough study of those cases showing positive reactions, and the general public is cordially urged to cooperate in the movement.

## Local Boy Gains Coveted Honor

Charles Manning, young son of Mrs. A. J. Manning, of Williamston, and the late Rev. Mr. Manning, was signally honored at Wake Forest College a few days ago when he was inducted into the Golden Bough, leading fraternity of the institution.

John Lawrence, president of the Golden Bough, points out in connection with young Manning's appointment that "the qualifications essential to membership in this group are leadership, scholarship and Christian character." He adds, "Charlie has excelled in leadership as is obvious from the fact that he is president of the law school, president of the Barristers' Club, and was recently recognized by 'Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities.' Charlie is also a good student, ranking a close second in his law class during the past semester."

The honor was described as a coveted one and is limited to a small number each year in the college.