

Judge Metes Out Road Sentences In Court Last Monday

Nine Cases Called During Short Session County Court

Long road sentences and an increased fine for drunken automobile driving featured the judgments handed down by Judge H. O. Peel in the Martin County Recorder's Court last Monday. With Solicitor D. E. Johnson prosecuting the docket, the court called nine cases and disposed of its work in a comparatively short session.

Charged with non-support, Nymphus James was sentenced to the roads for six months. James failed to comply with a former judgment of the court, and his arrest was ordered by the court.

The court sustained the not guilty plea of Furnie W. Sparrow in the case charging the issuance of a worthless check.

Charged with violating the liquor laws, Jesse Jenkins was sentenced to the roads for three months.

Herbert Reeves, charged with drunken driving, was fined \$75 and taxed with the cost. His license to operate a motor vehicle was revoked for one year.

Charged with larceny and receiving and destroying personal property, Azariah Williams was sentenced to the roads for three months.

Called into court again for alleged violation of the liquor laws, Jesse Rogers pleaded not guilty. After hearing the evidence, Judge Peel adjudged him not guilty. Officers, raiding the Rogers home a few days ago, found a number of half-gallon fruit jars. The containers had been washed clean, and the State could not connect him with the alleged violation. Julius Latham, a second defendant in the case pleaded guilty and was fined \$25, if the defendant fails to pay the fine and costs, he is to serve three months on the roads.

The case charging Foy Rogers and Fate Smith with violating the liquor laws was continued until January 20.

Alphonsa Ewell, charged with carrying a concealed weapon, was sentenced to the roads for two months. In a second case charging him with violating the liquor laws, Ewell was sentenced to the roads for ten months, the sentence in this case to begin at the expiration of the first.

Richard Melton, charged with violating the liquor laws, pleaded guilty to the charge and was sentenced to the roads for three months.

Gets Prison Term For Rape Attempt

Willie Eborn, eighteen-year-old Beaufort County Negro, was sentenced to prison for from 12 to 15 years by Judge Leo Carr in Beaufort County Superior court this week for an alleged attempt to rape Miss Mary M. McCoy, of Huntington, W. Va., between here and Washington on the evening of November 24. The trial attracted considerable attention, the crowds jamming the small court auditorium to capacity.

Early on the night of November 24, Miss McCoy, accompanied by a friend, Miss Ellen Ruth Baker, were traveling from Kinston where they visited relatives to Norfolk. Late that night they reached Williamston and reported the alleged attack to local officers and Sheriff C. B. Roebuck. The county officers investigated and Eborn's arrest was effected by Beaufort authorities a short time later.

Miss McCoy told how Eborn had attempted to criminally assault her and how she and her companion ran to the home of a colored man for safety. "He threw me down in the road, but lights of an approaching car frightened him away," she said. The girls, hitch-hiking to Norfolk, later caught a ride to Williamston and continued from here by bus.

Attempts to connect the girls with houses of ill fame in Kinston were refused, and when one of the defense lawyers intimated that they had been chased off of Kinston's famous "Sugar Hill," Miss McCoy, crying, told the attorney in open court he was lying.

Eborn is in the Martin County jail awaiting removal to State's prison to start serving the 12 to 15 year term, the maximum sentence.

Youth Suffers Broken Leg When Mule Falls

Mayo Holliday, young boy living on the old Biggs farm at Skewarkey near here, suffered a broken leg yesterday morning when the mule he was riding bareback stumbled and fell on him. He was treated in the offices of Drs. Saunders and Brown and is getting along very well today.

Liquor Sales in County Decrease Last Quarter

DECREASE

A slight decrease in local automobile and truck registrations has been noted locally for the current year to date as compared with the number registered in 1938.

After citing 100 auto and truck owners to the mayor's court, there are a few owners who have not purchased town tags for their vehicles. To date, 275 town tags have been sold as compared with 350 for the whole of 1938.

The 100 cases cited to the court were settled without cost or fine to the defendants, but owners who fail to display the 1939 tags will be made subject to prosecution in the courts in the future, Chief Daniel said yesterday.

Farmers Prompt In Applying For Soil Benefit Payments

Shortage of Forms Will Delay Work in County For A Few Days

Preliminary reports from the field indicate that Martin County farmers are anxious to get their applications in for payments under the 1938 soil conservation program. In Bear Grass day before yesterday 80 per cent of the farmers in that district had placed their names in the pot, and quite a few remaining ones are making special trips to the office of the county agent to file their applications for the benefits. Farmers in Cross Roads were described as eager to apply for their payments.

Today, farmers are filing their applications in Griffins and Goose Nest Townships. Poplar Point farmers have been notified to make applications at the office of the farm agent in the county agricultural building.

Apparently in greater need of the benefits provided under the soil conservation program, farmers are not losing much time in getting their applications properly filed, and it is quite evident that few will miss the opportunity to get the contract payments this year, reports from the county agent's office stating that some farmers failed to apply in the past years.

Using all available forms on hand for preparing the applications and unable to get an additional supply from the estate office, the assistant to the agent announced yesterday that a delay of undetermined length was certain before applications could be received from farmers in other sections of the county. An urgent request for additional forms has been made to the State office and just as soon as the proper materials are received, the applications will be prepared and made ready for the farmers' signatures just as rapidly as possible, Mr. T. B. Slade announced today.

Martin County farmers are expecting in excess of \$100,000 in soil conservation payments this year, many of them hoping that the money will be made available in time to make fertilizer purchases in the early spring.

Carries Grudge For A Number Of Years

Dayton Hardison, about 30 years old, satisfied or partially satisfied an old grudge he had been nursing for a long number of years when he attacked with his bare fists Wixie Rogers on the corner of Main and Washington Streets here last Tuesday.

"You used to beat on me when we were in school, and I am going to pay you back," Hardison was quoted as saying as he walked up to Rogers and planted a strong blow with his fist on his old schoolmate's nose. Several blows were exchanged, Officer J. H. Allsbrooks stating that Hardison was scratched some on the face.

Carried before Justice J. L. Hassell, Hardison was fined \$5 and taxed with the costs.

Rogers and Hardison were said to have attended school at Macedonia some years ago.

Mr. James Walter Harris, of Williamston, R. F. D. 3, was a business visitor here this afternoon.

Total of \$460,406.28 Is Spent In County Since Stores Open

Last Quarter Sales Off By More Than \$15,000 As Compared with 1937

After showing a first comparative decrease in the second quarter of last year since the stores were opened in July, 1935, and then showing a slight gain in the third quarter, legal liquor sales in this county dipped to a record low during the last quarter, according to an audit of sales just released by V. J. Spivey, chairman of the Martin County Alcoholic Beverages Control Board. Last quarter sales totaled \$40,710.30 in the four stores, the amount trailing the last quarter figures for 1937 by \$15,409.10.

While there was a slight return to the use of home-manufactured goods, the official audit of the legal liquor system clearly indicates that Martin County people consumed the smallest amount of liquor during the months of last October, November and December than in any other fourth period since the stores were opened in 1935.

The Williamston store forged ahead in the percentage of sales, but there was a decrease in income of nearly \$7,000 compared with the figures for the fourth quarter, 1937. The first figures below represent the sales for the corresponding period last year, by stores: Williamston, \$27,686.35 and \$20,833.60; Robersonville, \$17,728.35 and \$11,599.40; Oak City, \$5,857.70 and \$4,639.40; Jamesville, \$4,707.00 and \$3,637.90. The sales at Williamston represented 51.18 per cent of the total; those at Robersonville, 28.49 per cent; those at Oak City, 11.40 per cent, and those at Jamesville, 8.93 per cent.

Out of the \$40,710.30 cash sales, the board paid \$25,883.32, or 63.56 per cent to distillers in several states. Operating expenses, including salaries, rents, administration and several other items, amounted to \$3,563.41. Net profit from operations was \$11,263.57 or 28.65 per cent compared with \$16,224.82 in the fourth quarter for 1937. Net profit from operations, by stores was as follows for the quarter: Williamston, \$6,050.77; Robersonville, \$3,127.13; Oak City, \$1,197.89; Jamesville, \$887.78.

The division of profits was made as follows: Martin County, \$6,197.32; State of North Carolina 7 per cent on gross sales, \$2,849.72; Town of Williamston, \$918.48; Robersonville, \$463.03; Oak City, \$174.63; Jamesville, \$126.63. In addition to the profit division, the board set aside \$875.57 for law enforcement during the period.

Operating expenses were listed by stores as follows: Williamston, \$981.05; Robersonville, \$789.33; Oak City \$367.25, and Jamesville, \$341.95.

The board ended the calendar year with assets of \$22,171.81, represented in the following items, cash, \$5,134.35; inventories, \$15,498.63 and fixed assets of \$1,538.83.

A record of sales from July, 1935, when the stores were first opened, to the end of the fourth quarter, 1938, and net profits for the several periods, is as follows:

Ending	Sales	Profits
Sept., 1935	\$ 22,249.35	\$ 2,743.11
Dec., 1935	37,379.29	9,897.99
March, 1936	25,274.96	4,759.91
June, 1936	21,584.05	3,425.70
Sept., 1936	27,864.59	5,619.98
Dec., 1936	44,727.00	11,661.14
March, 1937	29,771.20	6,563.07
June, 1937	31,640.98	4,484.77
Sept., 1937	30,259.05	2,854.43
Dec., 1937	56,179.40	16,224.82
March, 1938	33,325.61	7,694.35
June, 1938	26,968.35	5,853.82
Sept., 1938	32,502.15	7,739.45
Dec., 1938	40,710.30	11,605.38

\$460,406.28 \$101,119.92

Faculty Will Present Play On January 26th

Members of the local faculty are working nightly on a play which will be presented on January 26 in the high school auditorium. The play, which is a comedy, is entitled "Her-Step Husband," is being promoted to raise funds for the school libraries.

Rehearsals are going forward rapidly and the play promises to be successful. The public is asked to keep the date in mind and make plans to attend. Remember this is a worthy cause. Will you do your part?

To Start Drive Next Week For Boy Scout Movement In County

Civic Clubs Out To Raise \$300 For Important Work

Recognizing the importance of proper training and companionship offered through the Boy Scout organization, the local Kiwanis and Lions Clubs have accepted the task of raising \$300 for advancing this valuable work here and in the county this year.

Mayor John L. Hassell today proclaimed the period of January 22-28 as "Boy Scout Week," and he with those sponsoring the campaign for funds appeals to the citizenship of Williamston to liberally support the movement.

"Few investments will offer a greater dividend not only to the youth but also to the town and county than a few hundred dollars spent in training the lads of our town and county," D. V. Clayton, cashier of the Guaranty Bank and Trust Company, said as a member of the Lions committee charged with assisting in the task of raising the town and county quota.

"This is not a begging scheme," one member pointed out, adding that the sponsors were asking the thinking people of the town and county to invest a few dollars in building up one of the greatest assets any town or county can possess—character citizens and community leaders of tomorrow.

Boy Scout work while limited to comparatively few in the past is rapidly spreading here and in the county. Troops are active now in Jamesville, Robersonville and Williamston. These youths, considering the limited support and the few opportunities they have had in advancing scout work, in general, have done a remarkable job. "We can't fail them longer," one of the canvassers said.

Under the auspices of the Lions Club and the Kiwanis Club, a drive is being made to raise the necessary funds. Messrs. Irving Margolis, Edwin Peel and James Herbert Ward are representing the Lions Club and Messrs. Wheeler Martin, Bill Hunt, D. N. Hix and C. B. Clark, Sr., have been appointed from the Kiwanis Club. When any of these people call on you, please have your contribution ready. Any amount that you contributed will be appreciated.

Washington Weed Conference Favors Two-cent Payment

Two-Cent Payments to Penalty Asked By Tobacco States

A two days conference was held in Washington City last week for the purpose of going over the situation in relation to tobacco as a result of the referendum to carry last December.

North Carolina, Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia, Florida, Indiana, South Carolina, Missouri and Ohio had representatives at this conference. C. T. Hall, J. E. Winslow, R. L. Corbett, E. F. Arnold, G. T. Scott, John Broome, Flake Shaw and E. Y. Floyd represented North Carolina.

At the conclusion of the meeting it was decided to set up a representative committee. C. T. Hall, J. E. Winslow and R. L. Corbett represented North Carolina on this committee. The committee organized by electing C. T. Hall, North Carolina, chairman; Mr. Johnston, of Kentucky, vice chairman and Mr. Daniel of Georgia, secretary. An executive committee was also set up with C. T. Hall and J. E. Winslow representing North Carolina.

The conference went on record as favoring securing enough money to pay cooperating tobacco growers two cents per pound on their allotted poundage and to make a study of possible amendments that would improve the present law. This committee also recommended that penalties on over-planting under the soil conservation act be reduced to two cents per pound on the first ten per cent above the allotted acreage and the regular eight cents per pound deduction above this amount.

James L. Coltraine Quite Ill At Home In Griffins

James L. Coltraine, well-known county citizen and a prominent Griffins Township farmer, suffered an attack of pneumonia this week and continues quite ill at his home there. His condition, however, was reported much improved at noon today compared to what it was yesterday morning.

Plans Formulated at Meeting In Raleigh To Push Claims To Road Refunds by Highway Commission

Farmers Continue Plans On Big Scale For Tobacco Crop

The trend toward an increase in tobacco plantings is becoming more evident in this county day by day as farmers continue preparations for the coming season. Approximately 90 per cent of the farmers are having more seed cleaned for planting, and purchases of plant bed fertilizers are larger, as a whole, than they were a year ago.

Quite a few farmers point out that while they are increasing their plant beds, they do not intend to materially increase their acreage to the leaf crop. If the plants are available at transplanting time, human nature will, under normal circumstances, dictate an increase, it is reasoned by many.

Many growers have already sowed their plant beds, but the work, delayed during the past few days by weather conditions, will hardly reach a peak before next week. Those who sowed their plant beds

earlier in the month are making preparations for preparing supplementary beds next month.

To date, the FCX here has cleaned almost fifty bushels of seed for 152 farmers or enough to sow almost a million and a quarter square yards of plant beds. A second cleaning station was opened in Robersonville this season, and some few farmers have gone out of the county to get their seed cleaned. Possibly around 75 bushels of seed have been cleaned for planting in the county to date. It is conservatively estimated that 350,000 seed—weigh one ounce, and at that rate, Martin farmers will sow more than a billion and a half of tobacco seed, an amount sufficient to cover approximately 375 acres. Approximately 20,000 acres of plants can be transplanted from these beds. And it is estimated that less than half the farmers in the county have their seed cleaned.

H. G. Horton Will Introduce Bill In General Assembly

County Attorney Maintains Claims Are Just And Should Be Met

All but ignored in the past by special commissions and State administrative departments, claims to refunds of monies spent in advancing the State Highway System will again be pushed by the several counties in the State now "holding the bag." Meeting at the call of the secretary of the Eastern Carolina Chamber of Commerce in Raleigh last Wednesday night, representatives from the counties advancing millions of dollars for State road building formulated plans to re-enter their claims through legislative act to the road refunds.

Hugh G. Horton, representative from this county, was named chairman of a committee from the House of Representatives, to head the drive for the refunds. Members of the committee are, Representatives Mallison, of Pamlico and Worthington, of Pitt, and Senators Corey, of Pitt, and Palmer, of Cabarrus.

A draft of the bill which Representative Horton plans to introduce in the House next week is being prepared at the present time. The proposed bill will ask that one-half of one per cent of the taxes collected on gasoline be set aside for meeting the claims to the road refunds. The matter of determining the amounts due the counties will be removed from the all-powerful highway commission and placed in the hands of a special group, the North Carolina Highway Reimbursement Board, to be composed of three practical business or professional men who are not connected with the highway system. The board, to be appointed by the governor, will be charged with the execution of the act upon its passage.

"The primary purpose of this act is to provide for the reimbursement to the counties—the amounts contributed for and, or roads built by them to the construction of the State highway system, and accordingly all such monies distributed by the board created to said counties shall be used by said counties for the sole purpose of paying the principal and interest of such outstanding bonds which represents the amounts or any part of the amounts so contributed by said counties and for none other purpose whatsoever," Section 10 of the proposed act reads.

Martin County is claiming approximately \$400,000 as its part of the road refunds. County Elbert S. Peel, following his return from Raleigh yesterday, said that he considered the claims to the refunds were just and should be met.

Attorney Peel and Representative Horton would not comment on the outcome of the re-newed claims, "but we are going to continue the fight with all our might," Mr. Horton said.

Farm Bureau Group Meet Here Monday

Meeting here next Monday evening in the agricultural building, the membership campaign committee of the County Farm Bureau will make plans for a final drive during the week to strengthen the organization ranks. All members of the membership teams are expected to attend the meeting, compare notes and advance plans for a whirlwind finish in the drive that started nearly two weeks ago.

Led by Farmers Van G. Taylor and Charlie Daniel, members of the membership campaign teams have canvassed the county. While they have encountered indifference in many quarters, the drive for members will, it is believed, meet with marked success. "I have gotten my boys lined up, and we are working," Mr. Van Taylor, leader of one of the teams said. "We are not sleeping." Mr. Charlie Daniel, leader of the other team, said, adding that he was out to get 20 members himself. Other canvassers are making progress, and there is a possibility the county unit of the Farm Bureau will be able to boast 500 members when the contest is closed the latter part of next week.

The winners in the contest will be guests of the losers at a supper to be held soon after the canvass is completed.

Sanitary Conditions in County Are Improved

Town Of Everetts Is Setting Record For Entire County

More Than Five Hundred Privies Are "Planted" In This County

Nearing the close of its first year of operation in the county, the Martin Health department can look back on an unusually good record established in the improvement of general sanitation during the eleven months beginning last February.

A complete review of the activities as they relate to the privy building project is not available just now, but after making a preliminary survey of the work, Sanitarian Charles A. Leonard stated that the general public had cooperated splendidly toward advancing the program. Mr. Leonard estimates that more than 500 sanitary privies have been "planted" in the county during the past eleven months, and he believes that sanitary conditions as a whole, are the best they have ever been. He pointed out however, that there is vast room for improvement, but in the review of past activities there is found much encouragement for striving harder than ever to continue the work.

One of the most encouraging responses to the program has been reported in Everetts. Ruling out as too expensive a water and sewer system, the town and even the surrounding community is lining up to establish a recognized sanitary system through the construction of individual privies. "Every home on one entire street in the town will have recognized sanitary facilities," Mr. Leonard said, and added that he believed the entire community would cooperate nearly 100 per cent in advancing the program. It is apparent that Everetts is out to set a record in the construction of sanitary privies.

Just now the health department in cooperation with the Works Progress Administration is operating two construction plants, one at Williamston and a second in the upper part of the county. Activities are being centered at the present time around the activities at the station in the upper part of the county where an order for approximately 75 privies have been placed.

Conferring with County health officials a few days ago, Farmer Robert Everett, of Goose Nest, readily recognized the value of the sanitation movement and the health board's plan in advancing it. Agreeing to furnish the materials and transportation for the workers, Mr. Everett is placing around 75 of the sanitary units on his farm in Goose Nest Township.

A complete survey of the sanitary work carried on by Mr. Leonard will be made available soon, and it is certain to prove interesting as well as informative.

SCOUT WEEK

Whereas, the Boy Scout organization is one of the finest of its kind in this country for building the youth of our land, and Whereas, to carry on this organization it needs encouragement from every source.

Now, I, J. L. Hassell, Mayor of Williamston, do declare the week of January 22-29, as Boy Scout Week in Williamston in order that our citizens may become more Scout-minded and aid in this worthy cause.

J. L. HASSELL, Mayor.

Several Are Hurt In Car-School Bus Wreck Near Here

Occupants in Vehicles Are Not Badly Hurt Early Yesterday

Roy Coltraine, young local man, was painfully but not seriously hurt and three school children were slightly scratched and bruised in an automobile-school bus crash in front of the Martin County home near here yesterday morning at 8 o'clock. Coltraine suffered a broken bone in his left hand and a bad knee injury. Bill Burroughs, Burnel White and Miss Minnie Chesson, passengers in the school bus, were able to continue to school after they were given first aid treatment. The driver of the bus, Ella Chesson, and other passengers in the school bus were not hurt.

A fog, described as one of the heaviest in this section in months, made driving difficult during the early morning hour. Mr. J. T. Barnhill, driving toward Everetts, stopped while the school bus was taking on children in front of the county home. Mr. Coltraine, also driving toward Everetts and running about 30 miles an hour, turned to his left to pass the Barnhill car and unable to see the bus through the fog he was unable to avoid the crash. Coltraine turned his car sharply to the left, the right fender and bumper plowing into the right fender on the bus.

Damage to the Coltraine car will run possibly as high as \$125, school officials stating that the repair bill to the bus was only \$18.

Receiving treatment in the office of Drs. Saunders and Brown, Coltraine, his hand in a cast, limped away without aid, and is now at the bedside of his father, Mr. James L. Coltraine, who is quite ill at his home in the Farm Life section of Griffins Township.

No other highway accidents were reported in this section during the heavy fog, but travelers reported driving was done with great difficulty.