

County Woman Is Accused of Bigamy By First Husband

Justice J. L. Hassell Has Busy Period During the Past Week-end

Mrs. Effie Virginia Hodges Cooke Roberson was bound over to the superior court for trial when probable cause was found by Justice J. L. Hassell this morning in the case charging her with bigamy. Bond was given in the sum of \$100.

Coming here unexpectedly yesterday from Roanoke Rapids, the first husband, Grover Thomas Cook, swore out a warrant charging bigamy. It was alleged in the warrant that the couple was married on March 1, 1934, that they separated on April 25, 1935, and that she was married in February, 1936, in this county.

At the hearing this morning, the defendant claimed that she had received a letter from her first husband stating that he had procured a divorce. Relying upon that information, she later married and located in the Bear Grass section of this county. Cooke denied writing the letter, and alleged that he did not know where his wife was until just a short time ago.

Justice Hassell had a busy week-end prior to the case this morning, handling minor infractions of the law.

R. Dell Little, Robersonville man, was brought into the justice's court for allegedly refusing a summons by County Forest Fire Warden S. J. Tetterton to fight fire. Judgment, calling for a 30-day road sentence, was suspended upon payment of the cost. The case is the first of its kind to reach the courts in this county, it is understood.

Charged with public drunkenness, U. H. Johnson was sentenced to the roads for thirty days, the court suspending judgment upon payment of the case costs.

Facing the court for allegedly being drunk and disorderly, Cole Cowen was sentenced to the roads for 30 days, the court suspending judgment upon good behavior and payment of the cost.

Fred Borders, charged with trespassing upon the lands of P. Brown and William Johnson, was sentenced to the roads for thirty days, the court suspending judgment upon payment of the cost.

Charged with operating a motor truck more than 48 miles an hour, Hezzie Pierce was fined \$5 and taxed with the cost.

King Staton, charged with being drunk and disorderly, was sentenced to the roads for thirty days, the court suspending judgment upon the payment of the cost.

Charged with operating a motor vehicle with improper licenses, Alonza Biggs was fined \$10 and taxed with the cost.

Local Scouts Will Attend World Fair

Selected from the Scout personnel in East Carolina, two local Boy Scouts, Jimmie Leggett and J. D. Woolard, Jr., will attend the World's Fair in New York from June 2 to 9 along with a group of 33 other scouts from this section. Horace Ray, local scoutmaster, will accompany the boys along with other scout officials.

The group of 35 scouts will board a train in Rocky Mount on the evening of June 1 for the New York trip. During their stay at the fair, they will be assigned definite activities each day.

Nearly 4,000 Boy Scouts are being selected on the basis of their scouting records, and the selection of Jimmie and J. D. is a distinct honor to them and to the council they represent.

"We should feel very proud of our Scout troop and the work the boys are doing under local leadership. Let's all who are interested in this work strive to see that the work is continued and assist this cause whenever finances are necessary," a local scout official said today in announcing the selection of the two youths to represent Williamston at the fair.

Mrs. Martha Peel Is Gravely Ill From Stroke of Paralysis

Mrs. Martha Peel, suffering a stroke of paralysis last Sunday evening, continues gravely ill at the home of her son, Ben Peel, in Bear Grass Township. Receiving her children at an informal mother's day program, Mrs. Peel was unusually bright earlier in the day. She is 83 years old.

Series Of Services At Maple Grove This Week

Rev. M. L. Ambrose, the pastor, will conduct a series of special services in the Maple Grove church beginning Wednesday evening at eight o'clock. The special services will be held each evening through Sunday including a Sunday morning service at 11 o'clock.

The public is cordially invited to attend, Mr. B. F. Roberson, representative of the church, announced.

Drive Against Typhoid To Begin Next Monday

NO PROGRAM

Instead of the customary commencement at the close of the annual Daily Vacation Bible school, this year, Friday, May 19th, has been set aside as Parents' Day at which time parents of the pupils and others interested in the work done at this school are invited to observe the classes from nine until ten-thirty.

With nearly two hundred enrolled, the school continues to attract considerable attention from the little folks, and while the attendance records will possibly fall below those of a year ago, interest in the course is considered much greater this term than last.

Advance Plans For Endeavor Council

Meeting in the Sweet Home church last Sunday afternoon, representatives from several Christian Endeavor societies formulated plans for the permanent organization of a county Christian Endeavor convention.

Mr. J. D. Taylor was named adult advisor, Mr. H. D. Hardison, Jr., temporary president, Mr. Robert Leggett, treasurer, and Miss Mae Swinson, secretary.

The first convention will be held at Sweet Home last Friday in June and efforts will be made to have all members of each endeavor society in the county present.

It will be a one day session and the county Sunday authorized its adult advisor to request Rev. John Goff to bring an inspirational sermon at the morning session of the first convention, following the business session and Rev. J. M. Perry to bring the afternoon sermon prior to the business session of the convention.

Mr. H. D. Harrison, Jr., president, will be in the county has been going on for a year and the convention's temporary president and its adult advisor are urging all the newly organized locals to assist in having all churches organized and represented at the county's first young people's convention.

The program for the convention is now being worked out and when completed will be printed and mailed to all churches prior to the convention.

Among other things the Christian Endeavor proposes to so train its young people in leadership that churches, missions and chapels in the rural section will continue alive from one generation to another and be prepared to carry on after other leaders have passed on.

Small Crowd Hears Orphanage Singers

Offering one of their best programs in several years, the youthful singers from the Oxford Orphanage were heard by a comparatively small group in the high school building here last Friday evening. It was the annual visit of the singing class to Williamston, and the first time in a number of years that the singers were not accompanied by their faithful old director, the late LeRoy Alderman. It will be recalled that Mr. Alderman, the man who devoted the best years of his life trying to help the less fortunate child, died suddenly of an heart attack while traveling with the singing class in Pitt County just a few weeks ago.

Although the crowd was small here last Friday evening, it was an appreciative and a liberal one. Contributions received during the concert and those made to solicitors who worked among the local Masonic membership, amounted to \$80. Last year when a much larger crowd heard the singers, the contributions approximated the same amount as they did last week.

Ethiopian Joins Local Prison Camp Ranks

Said to have vacated his native land before Benito Mussolini swiped it, an Ethiopian wandered into trouble over in Elizabeth City a few days ago and landed in the Martin prison camp last week to serve a 12-months term for larceny. It could not be learned how long the man has been in this country, but the records show that he has been in trouble much of the time in recent years. Before encountering the law over in Pasquotank, he was said to have served a year or more in a Rocky Mount camp, and it is thought that he had served the State of New York in one of its prison camps.

Asking permission to write a letter, the man who claims Nathan Parker as his name puzzled Camp Superintendent Edmondson by writing in his native language. The letter was addressed to a Catholic Priest in Ethiopia, but the contents of the two-page letter are surrounded in secrecy for no one in this section could read the language.

Health Officer Asks All County Citizens To Take Treatment

Thousands Are Expecting To Participate in County-Wide Campaign

Martin County's relentless drive against typhoid fever will be continued next week when the county health forces launch an extensive campaign to hold the fever in check. Successfully launching a drive three years ago, health forces are earnestly striving to establish a new record and create a greater security around the health of every human in the county. Extensive preparations have been advanced for handling the thousands who are expected to insure themselves against the fever for another three-year period. The dispensaries, to be located as conveniently as possible for the population throughout the county, are open to everyone without charge. The people are urged to take advantage of the opportunity to protect themselves against the fever that has cost many lives in this county in years gone by, not to mention the inestimable financial burden that bore heavily upon the rich and the poor alike.

The campaign will get underway in three communities next Monday as follows: No. 90 Filling Station in Williams Township at 8:30 a. m.; Jamesville school at 10 a. m., and Jordan's Store at 2 p. m.

On Tuesday, May 23, the following schedule will be observed: Farm Life School, 8:30 a. m.; Eason Lilly's store, 10 a. m., and Bear Grass School, 2 p. m.

On Wednesday, May 24, the health forces will be located at Corey's Filling Station in Bear Grass Township.

On Thursday, May 25, the clinic will be opened in the Williamston colored school.

The following day, May 26, the vaccine will be given for white only in the offices of the health department in the town hall.

The same schedule will be followed each week during four weeks, the fourth week having been added to care for those who are unable to take the first of the three "shots" on the first day of the schedule.

Completing the campaign in one-half of the county on June 16, the health authorities will wait two weeks and continue the drive in the other section of the county beginning on or about July 3.

Realizing that the definite schedule will not be convenient and anxious that the protection be afforded every person in the county, the health officer has made arrangements with private physicians to administer the vaccine for \$1, this amount covering the three injections. This arrangement was made just for those who will not be able to attend the regular clinics where the vaccinations will be held without any cost whatever.

Having reduced typhoid fever from a large number of cases annually to an almost minimum in this county, the health authorities are looking forward to a near unanimous response to the health call. Three years ago, 12,856 persons reported at the various clinics in the county to protect themselves against typhoid. There were 38,568 injections made in that campaign at an estimated cost of more than \$5,000. This year with a full time health department functioning, there'll be little or no additional cost to the county other than the normal operating cost of the department itself.

Girl Seriously Hurt In Car Wreck Sunday

A young girl, said to have been a student in Duke University, was critically hurt and a young man companion was slightly injured when their car turned over near Oak City on the Tarboro road last Sunday evening. The injured parties were riding in one of a group of three cars traveling from Durham to Ahoskie when a driver of another car allegedly hit their car, caused it to turn over, and sped from the scene of the wreck.

The young girl, thought to have suffered a broken back, was entered in the Duke hospital. The young man, treated in a Tarboro hospital, has been released, according to reports reaching here.

Waukesha Man Surveys Holdings In This County

L. A. Thompson, of Waukesha, Wis., owner of the vast J. and W. tract of timberlands in the old Dymond City area of this county, made a personal survey of his holdings this week. The Wisconsin capitalist left today.

Cotton Marketing Regulations Are Outlined For 1939

Three-Cent Tax Will Be Imposed on All Excess Production

Red, white and blue cards will be issued cotton growers this year to regulate their sales of the 1939 crop under the marketing quota provisions of the farm law, it was announced in Washington a few days ago.

Providing for a national marketing quota of 12,000,000 bales, the law provides for a three cent penalty on each pound of cotton sold in excess of a grower's quota. This quota was approved by cotton growers last December in a special referendum that saw the defeat of tobacco quotas.

The marketing quota of a farm will be the normal or actual production of the farm's cotton acreage or planting allotment, whichever is the greater, plus the amount of any penalty-free cotton carried over from last year when quotas also were in effect.

White cards will be issued growers who plant within their cotton acreage allotments; such growers will be allowed to sell without penalty all cotton they produce.

Red cards are to be given farmers who overplant their allotments but such cards will specify how much the holder may sell free of the penalty tax. All cotton grown this year above the quota will be subject to the penalty tax of three cents per pound if marketed.

Growers who hold cotton carried over from last year will be issued blue cards. If the holder of a blue card who plants within his allotment produces less than his poundage quota, he may sell up to his quota of carry-over and current crop without penalty. However, carry-over cotton sold in excess of the 1939 quota will be subject to a two cent tax, the same penalty levied on all excess marketings last year.

Cotton with a staple of 1.5 inches or more will be exempt from quota restrictions. Buyers will be held responsible for collecting the penalty and will be required to keep a record of and report each transaction to AAA.

Faithful In Their Service To Prison

Opening for business on March 28, 1832, the State prison camp in this county has had several faithful servants during a greater part of that time.

Entering the camp for the first time in April of that year, George White, commonly known as "Dan Dusty", has served eleven terms, rendering Superintendent Edmondson an efficient service as a trustee road man with a shovel.

The cause for White's repeated trips to the prison camp is not traceable to any physical defect, but rather the chunky little colored fellow of about 25 years of age has an insatiable desire for things that belong to other people. On every count he was convicted of petty larceny; his sentences running from three to six months on an average.

A resident of Elizabeth City when he is not in the camp in this county, White was out for a whole six months. Superintendent Edmondson became uneasy but not upset about his protégé. The camp head had an idea "Dusty" would be back and one day sure enough he reported—at the end of a pistol. White had been in the CCC for a change, he explained to Mr. Edmondson.

"I'm through," White told parties at the prison camp just before completing his eleventh term and leaving for Elizabeth City yesterday. Superintendent Edmondson, anticipating White's return, will reserve a bed for him.

The nearest approach to the record set by White is that of Joe Rice, another Elizabeth City Negro. Rice, a splendid cook, is serving his ninth term at the county camp. Petty larceny is Rice's weakness, too.

White's release, it was feared, would upset the equilibrium of an able quartet—but Superintendent Edmondson explains that new singers come in most every day and that it would be no trouble to find a substitute during the singer's absence.

CANCER FUND

A total of \$61.55 was collected in the recent cancer control drive. This represents fifty enrollment fees of \$1.00 each and \$11.55 in small contributions.

Seventy per cent of the amount will be used for a cancer clinic in this State, and 30 per cent will be sent to New York for the purchase of educational material, Miss Sleeper, who had charge of the canvass in the county, explained.

The fees were secured from merchants, nine home demonstration clubs and citizens. Those helping to secure funds were as follows: Mrs. Jim Cooke, Mrs. Urbin Rogers, Mrs. S. P. Woolford, Mrs. Ray Goodman, Mrs. Julian Harrell, Mrs. Harold Everett and Mrs. C. B. Leggett.

Billion-Pound Tobacco Crop Now Predicted As Farmers Strive for Increased Acreages at Last Minute

Leaf Transplanting Virtually Completed in Martin County

Greatly worried by excessive rains that many thought had washed away their plant beds early in the year and then badly upset by a heavy blue mold infestation, Martin County farmers are greatly pleased with the outlook as they virtually complete the transplanting of the tobacco crop this week. With very few exceptions, farmers will have completed the transplanting of the crop in this county by tomorrow evening or late Thursday, many of them having already re-set and started cultivation of the crop.

Despite the heavy rains early in the season and the heavy blue mold attack, the crop is looking equally as well as the one last year looked at the same time. Prospects at the present time are bright, and all indications point to a record production. Fearful the supply of plants would not be sufficient to transplant

a normal crop plus a planned increase of 25 per cent, a few farmers turned to common and low-down practices to get plants. The bed of Tommie Holliday in Jamesville Township and that of John Jackson in Cross Roads Township were raided last week, the thieves taking enough plants from the Holliday bed to transplant almost two acres and enough from the Jackson bed to transplant possibly four or five acres—Farmer Jesse Rawls, out in Bear Grass, stated yesterday that there was a "world of plants" left, that while some few farmers failed to get a normal supply, others had more than enough for their own needs.

Rains falling during last week-end were ideal for the crop, but the accompanying cold weather invited the wire and cut worms and possibly much re-setting will be necessary.

Farmers Reported Plowing Up Cotton To Plant Tobacco

Ten Farmers in One Group to Add 173 Acres to Their Transplantings

Based on activities carried on at the last minute by eastern North Carolina farmers, reports now indicate there'll be a billion-pound tobacco crop produced this year, weather conditions and other factors considered.

Many counties in the tobacco belt are going to the front with record-making acreages, and it is apparent that nothing less than an act of providence will keep the packhouses and storage units from bursting wide open with a surplus production next fall.

It is apparent that many farmers are literally bowing down and worshipping the crop, some having actually sacrificed honor and thrown reason to the four winds to get plants and increase their plantings. Tender plants have been yanked from their beds by thieves. Farmers have driven hundreds of miles for plants, and others have combed the countryside closer home just as if their soul and being depended upon the success of their search.

Reliable reports state that ten farmers questioned out of a group of ten have actually increased their plantings in one township of the county by 173 acres, a jump of approximately 50 per cent over last year's acreage. In a group of fifteen other farmers questioned yesterday, seven of them frankly said they had plowed up cotton and corn and transplanted the acreage to tobacco. These reports, subject to scrutiny, originated in Martin County. Similar reports are coming out of other counties. Over in Beaufort, a farmer was seen plowing up corn knee-high to follow it with the golden leaf.

Only one farmer out of the more than two hundred questioned in the past four days hinted that he planned to decrease his crop. Dr. J. S. Rhodes said that after making preparations to plant his usual acreage he had about decided to curtail his plantings decidedly. The decrease planned by the doctor will be wiped out in a second when it faces the stampede that is featuring the late transplantings in this county.

Indications are that Martin County will increase its crop more than the 25 per cent predicted just a short time ago. The increase is not limited to the large, medium or small grower, they are all increasing with a possible exception now and then. Small farmers, planting a normal crop, are said to be throwing in an acre, an acre and a half or two acres—just for good measure.

Late official reports from over the State are not available, but should Lloyd Weeks, former assistant farm agent in this county and now State tobacco specialist, make another survey now, he would possibly move his figures upward and predict an increase between 20 and 25 per cent. Last week, Weeks predicted an increase of 15 per cent in the Bright Belt.

Busily engaged getting their crops set out and their increases in, farmers are giving little or no thought to price possibilities next fall. Nearly everybody is hoping and transplanting more tobacco while they are hoping.

Fire Damages Local Home Early Monday

Accumulating over a period of several years, soot in the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Andrews on Church Street caught fire early yesterday morning and caused much damage to the walls. While the fire itself was confined to the chimney the heat was so intense that the walls cracked and smoke seeped through to darken several rooms in the house.

The fire department was called there at 7:20 and the volunteers stood by ready for action if the blaze broke through the sides of the chimney. Flames, roaring as a steel mill furnace, reached several feet above the chimney top. Asbestos shingles kept the soot and sparks from starting a fire on the roof.

It was the second call the department received since last Friday when the firemen were called to the town trash dump on Roanoke River to keep a fire there from spreading to the warehouses at the dock.

Banks Will Observe Next Saturday As A Holiday

Local banks will observe next Saturday, Mecklenburg Independence day, as a holiday. Banker D. V. Clayton, announced today. The holiday will be confined to the two banking institutions.

Diversified Research On Peanuts Planned

Will Work To Solve Fertility, Breeding And Disease Control

Experiments Made Possible By Recent Legislative Appropriation

A comprehensive program of research and experimentation for aiding the peanut growers of North Carolina in solving problems of soil fertility and adaptability, breeding better varieties of peanuts, and control of diseases was outlined by Dean I. O. Schaub, chief of extension division of State College experimental station who met with directors of the Peanut Stabilization in Edenton recently to discuss with them and leading peanut growers a program of expanded experimental work with peanuts, made possible by the appropriation of \$12,500.00 annually by the last general assembly.

Stating that what experimentation had done thus far had tended only to reveal the diversity and magnitude of the problems that confront peanut growers, together with the paucity of knowledge concerning the peanut and its culture, Dean Schaub said he hoped to make progress under the expanded program within the next two years.

In the studies that will be made special attention will be given to experiments with fertilization for peanuts and the effects of land plaster. Hand-in-hand with these experiments will be carried on increased use of soil-testing to determine the soil treatment and fertilization required by individual fields, it having been already determined that fertilization according to soil types can not be depended upon with reliability. At the same time, the research and experimental work will be directed toward breeding varieties of peanuts more resistant to disease and in developing practical methods of disease control.

The experiments will be carried on in greenhouses, in the State College laboratories, at the Edgecombe test farm, and to a larger degree than heretofore on test plots on the farms of growers throughout the peanut belt.

During the meeting, which was turned into a round-table discussion following the explanation of the plan of research worked out by the extension specialists, various problems were advanced by the peanut growers present and these discussed some of which were explained and others of which gave leads for added experimentation. It was the general belief that more of the experiments should be made on various farms due to different crop conditions, and that any individual problems or unusual conditions arising should be made known to the extension division for the help the division might give in the solution of the growers' problems and for the information it would give as a basis for further study.

R. C. Holland, who as president of the Peanut Stabilization Cooperative with the cooperation of the North Carolina Farm Bureau, was active in presenting the demands of peanut growers to the last legislature which resulted in the \$12,500 yearly appropriation for this purpose, presided over the meeting.

TAG DAY

In urgent need of funds for the purchase of children's books, the Williamston Public Library sponsors are promoting tomorrow a tag sale which it is sincerely hoped the public will liberally support.

The tags, bearing the words, "LIBRARY DAY", will be delivered to Boy Scouts and members of the Junior Woman's club early tomorrow morning by Mrs. J. C. Cooke in the lobby of the Tar Heel building, the sale to get underway immediately.

Enforcement Group Having Quiet Time

Conducting an effective drive during the first months of the year, enforcement officers of the Martin County Alcoholic Beverages Control Board have just about worked themselves out of jobs. Up until last week not a single arrest had been made or a single still captured.

Apparently operators of the R.F.D. manufacturers had turned their attention to tobacco transplanting, but with that work about completed they are wandering back to the old business. Last week, the officers captured two stills, one in Bear Grass and one in Cross Roads to register their first effective activities of the month. The plant in Bear Grass was equipped with a 100-gallon capacity copper kettle, but there was little beer on hand when the officers reached the plant. A mediocre steam plant was wrecked in Cross Roads.

Leman James, Free Union colored man and the only person arrested so far this month, stumbled into the hands of the officers as he warbled down a country road in that section last Friday afternoon. James, about three-fourths drunk, had seven and one-half pints of the raw spirits on his person, the officers venturing no guess as to the amount he had inside. Suspecting the man as they saw him walking down the road, Officers J. H. Roebuck and Bill Haislip stopped and spoke to him. "What have you got?" Officer Roebuck asked him. Pulling a pint of white liquor from his shirt, James said, "See," adding that he had another and still another. The man accepted the offer of a ride, and did not recognize the officers until he crawled into the car.

"Now, I'm in a mess," James, shaking his head, said.

James fell into the hands of the liquor law enforcement officers for the first time when he was only 12 years old.

Two Escape Injury In Wreck Here Yesterday

Miss Ella Mae Gaylord and Mr. G. P. Hall escaped without injury when their cars crashed at the intersection of Church and Smithwick Streets here yesterday morning at eight o'clock. Considerable damage was done to both cars, rough estimates placing the damage to Miss Gaylord's car at \$80 and that to Mr. Hall's Pontiac at about \$150.

Are Visiting Here This Week

Mr. and Mrs. P. C. Scott, of Enfield, are guests of the George Reynolds hotel here this week.