

Recorder's Court In Lengthy Session Handling 10 Cases

Harold Brown Takes Spotlight in Court Proceedings Last Monday

Judge H. O. Peel held the county recorder's court in session well into middle afternoon last Monday handling ten cases. The trial of several of the cases was long drawn out, the court having often handled that many cases before the noon recess with time to spare.

Harold Jones, Robersonville colored man, held the spotlight in the proceedings when he appeared as defendant in three cases and denied the charges in every instance. The court disagreed with his pleas, and the man drew road sentences in all three cases. In the case charging him with larceny and receiving, Brown was sentenced to the roads for a term of six months. He drew an extra six months in the case charging him with an assault with a deadly weapon. The sentence is to begin at the expiration of the term in the first case. In a third case charging him with being drunk and disorderly and resisting arrest, Brown was sentenced to the roads for a term of three months, the sentence to run concurrently with that in the other cases.

The case charging Willoughby Jones with bastardy was not pressed. A continuance was granted until June 10 in the case charging J. T. Perry with bastardy.

Pleading not guilty in the case charging him with disposing of mortgaged property, Joe M. Hollis was found not guilty.

Levi McGowan was found not guilty in the case charging him with an assault with a deadly weapon and with carrying a concealed weapon.

Charged with reckless driving, Norman Lynn Pendleton pleaded not guilty. The court found him guilty of speeding and suspended judgment upon payment of the case costs, the court taxing the costs as "simple".

Robert Lee, the young colored man who while in a drunken condition took possession of the Bear Grass teacherage while the family was away last Sunday afternoon, pleaded guilty and was sentenced to the roads for thirty days. It was later reported that the road sentence was suspended upon the condition that the defendant pay a \$10 fine and the case costs.

The court invoked a previous sentence in the case charging Harry Augustus Robinson, young Bethel white man. Charged with drunken driving, hit-and-run driving and leaving the scene of an accident without making known his identity, Robinson on May 20 was fined \$50, taxed with the case cost, the court suspending a 12-months' term on the roads. Last Monday he was directed to serve a ten-months' road sentence.

Advance Plans To Help Relieve The Tobacco Situation

Congressman Warren Would Set Corporation To Handle Purchases

Representative Lindsay Warren pointed out today another effort being made by Congress that may aid the tobacco and cotton situation. A bill has been unanimously reported by the Banking and Currency Committees of both the House and Senate to amend the Reconstruction Finance Corporation Act and permit the RFC to form corporations to acquire critical and strategic war materials.

The Department of Agriculture and the State Department in collaboration with Representatives Warren and Clark and a few other members of Congress succeeded in writing into the bill the following paragraph: "Any corporation created or organized by the corporation under the preceding paragraph is also authorized, with the approval of the President, to make payments against the purchase price to be paid for strategic and critical materials in advance of the delivery of such materials. Whenever practicable, the corporation may require the payments so made to be used for purchases of raw or manufactured agricultural commodities to be exported from the United States."

This, according to Mr. Warren, would permit a barter system whereby cotton and tobacco could be exchanged for strategic war materials with foreign nations. The Department of Agriculture believes that this legislation can greatly aid the existing situation. Mr. Warren stated today that the general outlook about the handling of the 1940 tobacco crop looks somewhat brighter than it did two weeks ago.

Stolen Auto Found Stripped And Burned In Wooded Area

The Mercury sedan stolen from Fred Chesson on West Main Street nearly a month ago was found a few days ago in a wooded area in Cross Roads Township. The machine had been stripped and the remaining parts burned.

Martin County Is Not Playing Role of the Good Samaritan

A recent check on Red Cross donations for the suffering millions trapped in war-stricken countries across the seas clearly shows that Martin County people are not playing the role of the Good Samaritan. In fact, it is indeed evident that we are passing them by, leaving helpless children to suffer and die when a small contribution would mean the triumph of life over death.

Reports from other counties state that a liberal people is coming to the aid of the suffering, but the cold figures clearly indicate that we here in Martin County are indifferent to the urgent needs of a down-trodden humanity. Martin County could well afford to give \$4,000, even \$40,000 when the need in the lands across the sea is considered in its real light. It is in the name of suffering humanity that an appeal for donations is renewed. We have our misfortunes at home, but they are few and when we consider that entire nations have been destroyed and families separated—we can better understand the need.

Traveling with the German armies in Flanders a few days ago, an American reporter said that despite the horrors associated with actual fighting, the most pitiful aspect of the whole thing was the suffering experienced by old men, women and children as they trudged along the roads, their bodies blistered through the rags on their backs. Make your donation today. Forward it to the Enterprise and it will be turned over to the proper authorities immediately.

Donations are acknowledged as follows:

A Friend	\$ 5.00
Church of Advent	2.45
Henry Handy	1.00
N. K. Harrison	5.00
W. C. Gardner	5.00
Nat Israel	1.00
Previously reported	39.00
	\$58.45

For the first time in history, Martin County farmers are mopping their cotton to effect a boll weevil control. Farmer W. A. Burnett, of Goose Nest, started the work this week and other farmers plan to start the practice shortly. Farmer Jesse Crisp said this morning, "Our farmers are buying molasses by the barrel and are going after the weevil." Mr. Crisp said.

While another dry season is threatening, crop conditions in the county are considered favorable today. Cotton and corn are doing well and tobacco is looking much better than it did a week ago. There is a broken stand of tobacco, but the plants have doubled in size during the past week.

Reviews Work Of Public Library

In appealing to the town commissioners for a home for the public library, Rev. John L. Goff, chairman of the library board, interestingly reviewed the activities of the institution during the past 26 months.

The story, as revealed by the chairman, was really pathetic in places and quite encouraging in its connection with other phases. Despite a meagre financial support, the library circulated in its first year of existence more than 8,000 books. During its second year of operation, it circulated 11,000 volumes. More than 1,000 borrowers are listed among the library patrons.

While the library owns no large number of books, its present quarters in the legion hut will hardly accommodate the institution longer.

Unofficial reports now state that the library will be crowded out of the plans for remodeling the first floor of the town hall to provide a treasurer's office, mayor's headquarters and more room for the fire department.

If the library is not provided space there and if the Legion Post demands its room which will be nothing more than a reasonable request, it is possible that the institution will be closed.

Williamston's New Population Count Is Just Under 4,000

According to preliminary figures officially released by D. W. Lupton, supervisor of census, Williamston has a population count of 3,958. "The 1940 figures are preliminary and subject to correction," Mr. Lupton explained.

With a few more days left to complete the drive, Mrs. L. H. Gurganus, enumerator for this district, is anxious to round out the number to an even 4,000. A few have been added, it is understood around the boundary lines since the above report was released by Mr. Lupton. There is some doubt if the round figure can be reached, but anyone who has not been enumerated is earnestly urged to leave his name at the Enterprise office that a contact with the census taker can be effected immediately. It is quite possible that a dozen or so people were away from home when the first and subsequent visits were made and their names are not included in the list. If anyone can help in rounding out the count, notify The Enterprise.

Prominent Farmer Dies At Home In Griffins Township

Last Rites Held Yesterday For Buck Roberson, Respected County Citizen

Buck Roberson, substantial county citizen and prominent Griffins Township farmer, died at his home there Wednesday afternoon following an illness of short duration. Suffering Brights disease, he was taken ill about three weeks ago. Complications developed and death was attributable to uremic poisoning.

Seventy-three years old, Mr. Roberson had enjoyed good health all his life until a short time ago when his condition became critical almost overnight, his advanced age making it impossible for him to overcome the disease and resulting complications.

The son of the late Benjamin and Nancy Biggs Roberson, he was born in Griffins Township, where he lived all his life. Forty-eight years ago he was married to Miss Maggie Gettlinger, who with one daughter, Mrs. Asa Hardison, of Farm Life, survives. He also leaves one brother, Mr. Harmon Roberson, of Griffins Township.

Mr. Roberson is remembered by a large acquaintance here as a good man, a dependable citizen, thoughtful husband and an understanding father. His daily walk through life exemplified a Christ-like character, and his community and county are richer in their heritage and better in their general make-up as a result of his humble presence during the nearly three-quarters of a century it was his privilege to sojourn here. His being radiated peace and quiet in times of trouble, and his presence in any gathering, large or small, commanded the respect and admiration of everyone. While he never was an active leader, he was a dependable member of that group of men who have figured in the building of those things that are good in the sight of the Creator and readily acceptable in the advancement of all mankind.

Mr. Roberson was a hard worker, one who found contentment in the cultivation of tender plants and in the knowledge that he was handling his part in accordance with the great pattern of life. He befriended mankind from a willing heart, his kindness reaching out to the needy and the sorely distressed. His life, while unpretentious, was a guiding star for others to follow regardless of life's station or whatever conditions that may have existed. He was a faithful member of the church at Smithwicks Creek for nearly a quarter of a century, his daily living reflecting its teachings and doctrines. His humble acts, both spiritual and material, are not recorded in board memberships or on the political rolls, but they will be reflected in the acts of others for generations to come. It was good to have known Mr. Roberson, to have one's confidence renewed by a few well-spoken words that seemed to carry a new meaning from an understanding heart that held malice toward none but friendship and kindness for all.

Funeral services were conducted at the home yesterday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock by Elder J. L. Lee, of the Church at Four Oaks, assisted by Rev. W. B. Harrington, county Baptist minister. Interment was in the Harmon Thomas Roberson cemetery in the Farm Life Community of Griffins Township.

Most Farmers In County Complying With Soil Program

Full Survey Force Enters The Field This Week To Rush Work

That Martin County farmers are complying closely with the terms of the 1940 soil conservation program is evidenced in unofficial reports coming from the farmers themselves. These reports are verified in part by unofficial information gained from a comparison of the contracts and actual measurements recorded and filed in the office of the county agent during the past few days.

Out of about forty farms checked so far, only one owner is said to have intentionally increased the plantings in excess of the acreage allotments. The tobacco crop had been virtually doubled, it was unofficially learned. In several other cases, farmers had exceeded their plantings by one or two tenths of an acre, but it is understood that in most of those cases the excess will be destroyed to have the planted acreage balance with the allotments.

While most of the over-planting is being centered on tobacco, farmers state that they are materially increasing their peanut acreage with the anticipation of "hogging down" the excess. Excess plantings to peanuts are permissible without penalty, but certain conditions outlined in the soil program contracts must be met.

The task of checking compliance is rapidly getting underway on a large scale in the county. About fifteen surveyors are now at work and by the end of this or early next week several more will have joined the present forces.

Little Activity In Office Of Sheriff

A marked reduction in crime activities was reported and business suffered a pre-summer slump in the office of the county sheriff during last month, according to the officer's report filed a few days ago with the county commissioners. Tax collections dropped to a level indicative of a real depression period, and peace and quietness gained an apparent foothold over a county-wide front. The tax collections, \$1,790.87, were considered insufficient to even pay the interest on the interest falling due on the county's outstanding obligations.

The office force served only thirteen warrants during May. Hardly more than one arrest was effected each day throughout the county, the jail turn-key record showing 38 persons jailed. A dozen persons were called in as witnesses, and one was called to meet the terms of a judgment of the court. Eighteen civil papers were served on thirty-two persons, and one owner repossessed property by the claim-and-delivery route. Two executions were served, and four persons were ejected. Thirty-six jurors were summoned for service in the court this month. The sheriff and his assistants did a great deal of investigating or possibly "snooping" during the period, their activities being centered around 12 cases. The group totaled 2,676 miles handling the varied duties of the office.

New Threat Against the Allies Pending As France Struggles to Halt Germans in Drive on Paris

Enforcement Bureau Marks Up Activity Record For May

Doubting their individual efforts and aided by federal air maneuvers, members of the Martin County Alcoholic Beverages Control Board Enforcement Bureau chalked up a new high record of activity for May when they wrecked sixteen illicit liquor distilleries last month. Larger catches have been reported in a single month but they came along in the fall and winter periods.

The May drive apparently was timed to meet a flare-up in the illicit business, and the records show that the officers got the best end of the record. Four plants were destroyed in a single day and five others were wrecked in rapid succession following a flight over the county by a special plane operated by an agent of the federal government.

The airplane is offering the illicit business a run for its life, and while here on May 31 the federal men explained that they would be back. However, the demand for planes for defense may upset those plans and the enforcement work will have to be continued on earth.

In addition to wrecking the sixteen stills last month, A. B. C. Officer J. H. Roebuck and his assistants confiscated 46 gallons of white liquor and poured out 5,400 gallons of beer. Three men were arrested and they have been booked for trial in the federal courts. The enforcement force traveled 1,171 miles making sixteen raids and handling investigations.

A Little Child Killed Accidentally by Auto

Edmondson Child Is Second Car Victim In County During 1940

Struck by Car Driver by Uncle In Hassell Yesterday Morning

The automobile claimed its second life of the year in this county yesterday morning at 9:30 o'clock when little Elmer Edmondson, Jr., was run over and fatally hurt on Highway No. 11 in Hassell. His head mashed, the five-year-old child died while being carried to a doctor in Robersonville, Martin County's first highway fatality in the current year was recorded several weeks ago when a colored man was killed on U. S. Highway No. 64 near Parmele.

Gaining permission to accompany his father to the Edmondson store in Hassell earlier that morning, the little fellow who lives about three miles from the small county town had planned to visit his little cousin. Thinking it advisable not to let him go alone from the store, the child's uncle, Mr. Ernest Edmondson, took him in his car and carried him to the Edmondson home where he was to meet his cousin, Mr. Edmondson's daughter. The child hopped out of the car, apparently ran around in front and stopped. Thinking the little fellow had already reached the yard, Mr. Edmondson started to drive away. He thought his car hit a brick and glancing back he saw the motionless body lying on the ground.

Completely unnerved by the accident, Mr. Edmondson called help and his wife and Staton Haislip immediately started to a doctor with the child. The little fellow died on the way without regaining consciousness.

The only child of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Edmondson, he was a bright little fellow and a favorite playmate among the children of that community. News of his death was received as a great shock to the family and the entire community. Greatly upset, Mr. Edmondson, driver of the machine, was said to have been placed under medical care shortly after the accident.

After investigating the accident, Sergeant Jackson of the Highway Patrol, said it was the saddest one ever called to his attention during his several years with the patrol. "It was just one of those unfortunate accidents that apparently no one could help," he added.

Funeral services are being conducted at the home near Hassell this afternoon at 3:30 o'clock by Rev. J. M. Perry, pastor of the Hassell Christian Church. Interment will follow in the family plot in the Robersonville Cemetery.

To Vote On Leaf Control July 20

Saturday, July 20, was the date tentatively fixed this week for holding the 1940 tobacco control referendum.

This year the growers will vote on three questions in accordance with amendments to the program regulating sale of the leaf. The amendments are before President Roosevelt who is expected to sign them.

The three questions to be decided by the farmers will be whether they want the marketing quota to extend over a three-year period, a one-year period as heretofore, or do not want them at all. Quotas must be approved by two-thirds of those participating in the election.

Italy Ordering Its Ships Into Neutral Ports Immediately

French Claiming Successful Defense Against Huge German Tanks

Their backs almost to the wall in their attempt to stem a drive on Paris in the second major phase of the New World War, the Allies today received an aggravated threat from Mussolini when he issued an order directing all Italian ships to seek shelter immediately in neutral ports. Mussolini's often-repeated threat to join with Germany is expected to take definite form shortly. In addition to ordering all Italian ships to neutral ports, the Duce canceled future sailings. There are those who continue to believe, however, that Italy will not enter the war just yet. Others think Italy's entry is to be expected not later than Saturday of next week, that an Italian move will extend the war front into Egypt and draw the Balkan States and Russia into the conflict.

At the present time Germany is making a desperate drive toward Paris and a bloody conflict is raging over a 110-mile front. Artillery fire from German guns, described as the most concerted in all military history, is being dumped on a small area where the Maginot and Weygand lines form. Smoke shells, turning day into night, have been dumped into the area possibly as a cover for what is expected to be the main push toward Paris hardly 65 miles away.

Germany, resorting to all kinds of methods, claims to have penetrated the Sambre River line at many points but the Allies maintain that no vital points have been lost to the invaders. "Our line is holding admirably," a high command declared at night. It is apparent that the Allies, especially the French, are being taxed to capacity in trying to hold the invaders in check, that Italy's entry may hold or may not hold the key to German victory in France.

Germany is resorting to more propaganda, and is now telling the French that they have been forsaken by England. It is true that Germany has driven a fairly effective wedge between the two countries, but it is claimed that the two are working and fighting in greater harmony today than ever.

Realizing the danger of the situation, (Continued on page six)

Another Round-Up Of Dogs Scheduled

Determined to see that the law requiring the vaccination of dogs is complied with but hesitant of taking action that will carry alleged violators into the courts, Sheriff C. B. Roebuck has scheduled another dog round-up at the office of Dr. A. J. Osteen here tomorrow. A similar round-up was held last Saturday when 248 canines went under the needle.

To date, approximately 2,500 dogs have been vaccinated in this county. The officer states that there aren't many left to vaccinate, but the round-up must be complete and dog owners are being given another chance to comply with the law.

The sheriff's office has already prepared a list carrying the names of owners who have not had their dogs vaccinated. If those owners do not comply with the law within the next two or three weeks, warrants will be drawn and the alleged violators called in to explain why.

Big Variation In Potato Prices As Season Is Opened

Opening on a fairly large but no record-size scale, the Irish potato markets headed into a jittery price situation this week, reports declaring that the prices varied as much as \$1 or more per 100 pounds in some cases. Holding fairly strong until Eastern Carolina started moving its crop on an appreciable scale this week, the market is said to have weakened with prices ranging from about \$1.05 to \$2.10 with the average holding around \$1.75-\$1.80 at landing points through a greater part of yesterday.

The Columbia area moved out a dozen cars yesterday to start the marketing season. Shipments, as a whole, are comparatively light, reports stating that the acreage has been reduced and that the yield was curtailed by dry weather in May.

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T. C. Allsbrooks Funeral Is Held In Oak City Tuesday

Funeral services were held Tuesday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock from the home in Oak City for T. Cleveland Allsbrooks, well-known county citizen. Mr. Allsbrooks died in a Tarboro hospital early last Monday following a long period of declining health. He suffered an heart attack about a year ago, but his condition was not considered critical until the early part of this year when he experienced a relapse and his condition gradually became worse.

Mr. Allsbrooks was born in Halifax County about 55 years ago. He married Miss Mattie Cherry there and moved to Oak City about a quarter of a century ago and entered the ginning and milling business which he successfully operated for a long number of years or until failing health forced him into virtual retirement. More recently he had undertaken farming operations on a small scale.

A high-toned Christian gentleman, Mr. Allsbrooks was held in high esteem by all who knew him. He was well-known throughout the upper section of the county and enjoyed a large friendship circle there and in his native county. He was a member of the Baptist Church. No children survive the union.

Elder A. B. Benson, Rocky Mount minister, conducted the last rites. Interment was in the Oak City cemetery.

Declare Television Is Ready For The Markets

Television has been perfected and its introduction throughout the country is anticipated ere long," Joe David Thrower said upon his return from a RCA dealers' meeting held in Rocky Mount Wednesday when the 1941 radio models were shown. Mr. Thrower was accompanied by Mr. B. S. Courtney, local dealer, and they attended a large banquet while in Rocky Mount.

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