

\$2,500 Damage Suit Filed In Superior Court Last Friday

Mrs. Nannie J. Haislip Asks That Amount of Local Grocery Store

A civil suit, asking \$2,500 damages, was filed in the Martin County Superior Court last Friday afternoon by Mrs. Nannie J. Haislip against the D. Pender Grocery Company, the plaintiff alleging she was made desperately ill after eating meat said to have been spoiled and sold by the defendant through its agent, Manager Barber.

The complaint, filed by Attorneys Peel and Manning, reads, in part: "That on the 13th day of June, 1940, at or about 11:30 a. m. the plaintiff purchased from the defendant at its Main Street store in Williamston, N. C., one pound of bologna sausage, and that same was delivered to the plaintiff wrapped in paper and sealed with paper tape. That said article was purchased from the defendant's manager, Barber, at its Main Street store in Williamston, N. C.

"That the plaintiff immediately proceeded to her home between Oak City and Hassells, N. C. That in a few minutes after the purchase the plaintiff and her family prepared sandwiches for themselves with said meat. That after the plaintiff had eaten two of said sandwiches prepared from said meat, she ascertained that said meat was spoiled with said maggots.

"That by reason of the presence of said maggots in said meat and the plaintiff eating same, plaintiff became violently sick a short while afterwards and vomited. That her stomach was disordered for several days, and that she was unable to eat for several days, and that she had to see doctors and has suffered both physically and mentally as a result of eating said meat which was spoiled and which was alive and which was alive with said maggots.

"That plaintiff is advised and believes and so avers that the defendant negligently and unlawfully failed to use due care, vigilance and caution in the inspection of said meat, and that the defendant unlawfully and negligently sold to the plaintiff for consumption as food, meat which was spoiled and which was alive and working with said maggots and that defendant knew or by the exercise of due care and inspection should have known the condition of said meat, and that the negligence and carelessness of the defendant in failing to inspect said meat and in selling to the plaintiff said meat which was spoiled proximately resulted in the injury and damage to the plaintiff as aforesaid.

"That the plaintiff is advised and

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Red Cross Adds \$80 To Its Relief Fund

Taken over by members of the Junior Woman's Club, the Red Cross drive met with much progress here over the week-end. More than \$80 was raised for suffering humanity during the period, boosting the grand total to \$251.89. Despite the progress made in the drive for funds during recent days, the Martin County chapter of the organization is almost \$150 behind in raising its initial quota.

- List of contributions not previously acknowledged:
- Ernest Etheridge \$171.08
 - Betsy and Hugh Horton, Jr. 1.00
 - A. J. Manning 1.00
 - R. L. Coburn 1.00
 - Mrs. Paul Jones 1.00
 - John Pope 1.00
 - Mrs. Ernest Etheridge 1.00
 - Hugh Horton 1.00
 - Allen Griffin 1.00
 - Exum Ward 1.00
 - Mrs. Francis Manning 1.00
 - Bill Simmons 1.00
 - David Modlin 1.00
 - H. O. Peele 1.00
 - Josephine Harrison 1.00
 - Jim Manning 1.00
 - David Davis, Jr. 1.00
 - Dean Speight 1.00
 - Van Taylor 3.00
 - Welfare Dept. 5.00
 - D. W. Downs 5.00
 - John W. Hardy 1.00
 - Economy Auto Supply 1.00
 - A Friend 2.00
 - L. T. Fowden, Jr. 1.00
 - Mrs. N. C. Green 1.00
 - Oliver Gilbert 1.00
 - Mrs. C. H. Godwin 1.00
 - Mrs. Trulah Jones 1.00
 - Bill Harrison 1.00
 - Mrs. Don Matthews 1.00
 - Mrs. Hattie Harrison 3.00
 - Curley Rhodes .25
 - Mrs. J. E. Moore .10
 - Mrs. J. H. Moore .10
 - Paul Simpson 1.00
 - Mrs. C. T. Roberson 1.00
 - A. and P. Co. 2.50
 - Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Bunting 1.50
 - R. S. Critcher 10.00
 - P. T. Edmondson .20
 - Edward Corey 1.00
 - R. L. Perry 1.00
 - Mrs. W. H. Booker 1.00
 - Mrs. Titus Critcher 5.00
 - Mrs. Mary Andrews 1.00
 - Anonymous (white & col.) 10.16
- \$251.89

Timely Questions and Answers On the Tobacco Referendum

Timely questions and answers having to do with the tobacco referendum to be held on Saturday, July 20, are submitted for consideration by Martin County farmers, as follows:

What are important facts in the present flue-cured situation?

Supply and Price

1939 supply, including stocks, in United States, 2,106 million pounds, 20 per cent above previous record. 1939 price per pound, 14.8 cents. Previous 5-year average 22.9 cents. 1939 United States crop, 1,160 million pounds, 34 per cent above previous record. Estimated current world consumption U. S. flue-cured, 775 million pounds. Near previous record. Probable United States stocks, 1940, 1,425 million pounds, 50 per cent above previous record. The high 1939 surplus of around 400 million pounds will continue to depress prices until eliminated. Even before the European war started last September, average prices to growers had already fallen 8 cents per pound below the average of the previous five years. With consumption at present levels, with allotments equal to those for 1940, and with normal yields per acre, it will require three more years to eliminate the 1939 surplus.

Accidents Cost Three Lives in This County

Negro Boy Drowns In Sweet Water Creek Near Here

Dean Jones White, Twelve Years Old, Took Chance And Lost His Life

Dean Jones White, twelve-year-old local colored boy, was drowned in Sweet Water Creek, near here, yesterday shortly before noon, the untimely death being the first reported from drowning in the county this year.

Going to the creek, about two miles from here, the youth, accompanied by Willie Burke Carter, plunged into deep water from a concrete pillar that once supported the old highway bridge. Rising from the dive, the boy immediately sank again. Carter, just a young boy himself, tried to save his companion but failed. "I tried to catch hold of him, but he was struggling and fighting so hard that I lost my grip," Carter was quoted as saying.

Bill Brown, the little Red Cap who works at the bus station, went down to see the boys swim and reached there just in time to see the boy drown. He returned to town immediately for help, but it was about half an hour later before the body was recovered. It was picked up virtually in the same spot where the boy disappeared.

According to Coroner S. R. Biggs, who investigated the drowning and deemed an inquest unnecessary, the Carter boy advised White not to jump off the concrete block into the deep water. White, declaring he could swim a little, took a chance and lost his life.

The victim was the son of Lucy White. The drowning was the first reported in the county so far this summer season, and was the second reported in the creek during the past two years.

Crop Outlook Brightened By Half-Inch Rain Today

The crop situation, reported to have reached a serious point yesterday, was brightened today when slightly more than one-half inch of rain fell generally over the section. Yesterday, farmers were greatly disheartened over the crop prospects. Tobacco, in many cases hardly large enough to cultivate, was beginning to "button out" and crops in general were showing little progress for the season. Granville wilt is said to be appearing in some crops in the county.

Issues A Call For More Apartments And Homes Here

Billie Clark, local chamber of commerce secretary, is issuing an urgent call for apartments, homes and rooms for rent, the commerce official stating today that at least three families and ten or more single workers were waiting to move here. "So far we have been unable to place half of the number, and we are expecting additional calls within the next few days," Clark added.

Receiving the calls for apartments and rooms, the commerce secretary is appealing to local people who have apartments or rooms for rent to contact him immediately. He is anxious to compile a directory of every apartment and room for rent. With a complete directory, the secretary can do an effective work in locating newcomers.

Yesterday, the secretary was busy looking for an available office for a contracting firm. As far as it could be learned at noon today suitable quarters for the firm had not been found, but the secretary explained that possibly some arrangements could be effected to house the firm's offices.

Defeat Of Control Plan May Mean Big Price Differential

Can Expect 15-16 Cent Price Average With Program In Effect

If marketing quotas are approved for the 1941 flue-cured tobacco crop this year's crop should bring about 15 cents per pound; if quotas are rejected in the referendum to be held July 20, tobacco may average as low as 5 cents per pound this year.

Those are the predictions of farm leaders, made at a conference of growers, bankers, warehousemen and merchants held in Raleigh, J. B. Hutson, assistant administrator of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration and the best informed man on tobacco in the U. S. Department of Agriculture, said that if quotas are approved on a three-year basis, the Federal government can almost promise that prices this year will be maintained at a 15 to 16-cent level.

Dr. I. O. Schaub, director of the State College Extension Service, said that without quotas, prices may drop as low as 5 cents per pound.

"This is not a threat," says E. Y. Floyd, AAA executive officer of State College. "Growers know of the importance of the export market. When the British buyers were withdrawn from the market last year, the warehouses were closed. The Federal government stepped in and financed the purchase of imperial grades. Despite this support, the prices dropped to an average of 14.8 cents, 8 cents per pound below the average for the previous five years. Without this support, there is no telling how low prices would have gone.

"The Federal government cannot make loans or give other financial support to the tobacco market without assurances that the supply will be kept in line with the demand; that the record crop of 1,160 million pounds grown last year will not be repeated.

"The Federal government will support this year's market if quotas are approved in the referendum on July 20; it will be in a position to give maximum support if three-year quotas are approved."

William T. Brown, 11-year-old colored boy, died in a Washington hospital early last evening from a bullet wound in his stomach. The boy was accidentally shot by Farmer Burras Ward's son at the Ward home on Highway No. 17 in Bear Grass Township Sunday. The victim was carried to the hospital that day.

Reported to officers last night, the shooting had not been investigated until noon today, but according to reports coming indirectly from witnesses, it was "accidental."

Young Ward, the Brown boy and a companion had been shooting birds Sunday with a rifle. Going to the Ward home, the Ward boy went into the house and got a pistol. He removed what he thought was all of the bullets, and while pranking with the weapon it fired, the bullet piercing Brown's wrist and continuing into his stomach.

An orphan, the Brown child had taken up in the community and was being cared for by Mr. Ward and others there.

Parmele Negro Boy Fatally Shot Sunday

The wild and woolly gun games as played in the movies was brought into real life at Parmele early last Sunday evening when Harry Short, 16-year-old colored boy, shot and fatally injured Thomas Little, his 14-year-old playmate. The entire load of shot from a standard-size gun tore into the boy's stomach and he died just as he reached a Tarboro hospital.

Late Sunday afternoon Short, Little and another playmate, N. S. Bullock, had been playing cowboy games on the streets of Parmele. As night approached, the Short youth had the other two to his home for a peanut supper. After finishing the meal, the three boys started into the main part of the house, the Little boy twirling a toy pistol on his finger. The conversation, according to a story told officers, centered on guns and marksmanship. Short reached for his father's gun, took aim and fired upon his playmate.

"I didn't know the gun was loaded," Bullock quoted Short as saying. One report reaching here stated that the boys were playing a Hitler game. Investigating the case, officers said they were satisfied that the shooting was not intentional, that it was the result of a prank. Short was taken into custody by Chief Gray, of Robersonville, that night and placed in the county jail yesterday morning. He will be given a preliminary hearing before Justice H. S. Everett in Robersonville on Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

Army Convoy Passes Through Here Today

A United States Army convoy rolled through the town's main street at 1:55 this afternoon on its way south, presumably with Texas as its final destination. Carrying comparatively few men, the convoy was made up of 107 trucks and special cars. A second convoy is scheduled to travel through here tomorrow afternoon at the same hour.

Man Dangerously Cuts His Own Arm

Luther Taylor, young Norfolk Negro, almost cut himself to death near the station of the Norfolk Southern Bus Terminal here last Sunday evening about 8:30 o'clock, one report stating that he would have bled to death in a short time if he had not been run down and carried to a doctor.

Details leading up to the cutting are not very clear. Taylor maintains that someone attacked and cut him, but witnesses state that he started to slice a colored woman's throat, missed and sliced himself. The sharp knife or razor blade entered the arm near the elbow and plowed a deep furrow to the wrist. Said to have been drinking, Taylor started to run down the street. He was stopped by Sanitarian Leonard who started to carry him to a doctor. He broke loose and was overhauled by Carlyle Hall near the post office.

The man was so weak then that he could offer very little resistance and went to the office of Dr. V. E. Brown who took twelve stitches in the arm to close the wound. Taylor was jailed for an investigation.

It was said that the Norfolk Negro came here that morning and tried to get Beatrice Purvis to return to Norfolk with him, that she refused and he attacked her but missed when he swung his knife or razor blade at her throat.

THE RECORD SPEAKS . . .

Following a costly week to property, motorists on Martin County highways shifted their attack to human beings, but no deaths were scored and only one of three persons falling victim of this motorized and fast-traveling age was badly hurt.

The number of accidents is fast becoming frightening. During the first 25 weeks of the current year there have been an average of two accidents each week, or more than twice as many as there were in the corresponding period, a year ago. It is true that the death toll is smaller, but the number of injured is almost twice as great, and if the accident count continues to increase serious consequences are to be expected.

The following tabulations offer a comparison of the accident trend: first, by corresponding weeks in this year and last and for each year to the present time.

25th-Week Comparison			
Accidents Inj'd	Killed	Dam'ge	
1940	3	0	\$ 25
1939	2	5	0 750
Comparison To Date			
1940	49	35	2 \$6055
1939	23	22	6 6800

Crushing France, Germany Now Making Ready for A New Phase Of War Against the British Isles

Robert D. Gurganus, Well-known Citizen, Passes In Hospital

Funeral Services Are Being Held At Home Here This Afternoon

Robert Daniel Gurganus, well-known local citizen, died in a Rocky Mount hospital yesterday morning at 8 o'clock following an illness of only two weeks' duration. Suffering a kidney ailment on June 10, he entered a hospital on Monday of last week and immediately underwent an emergency operation. The operation was successful, but diabetes appeared and pneumonia resulted. Death, while attributable to pneumonia, was caused by a complication of ailments. His condition was regarded as critical about the middle of last week, and last Saturday little hope was held for his recovery.

He entered the hospital last week where his wife had been a patient for almost two months. While her condition is slightly improved, it is not expected that she will be able to attend the last rites this afternoon.

Mr. Gurganus, the son of the late Simon Daniel and Mahala Coltrin Gurganus, was born near Williamston 50 years ago last October. After spending his early life on the farm he moved to Williamston and was engaged by the old Blount Manufacturing Company for a number of years or until he went with the State Highway Commission as a worker on the Roanoke River bridge. He later served as a member of the local police force, resigning that job to go with a local building supply firm. During recent months he was employed on the North Carolina Pulp Company police force in the lower part of this county. Mr. Gurganus was recognized as an able cabinet maker and mechanic.

On October 6, 1912, he was married to Miss Emma Mae Wynne, of this county. She survives with nine children, William Leslie, James Arthur Gurganus, Mrs. Carl Wynne, Misses Daisy Lucille and Jane Adelaide Gurganus, all of Williamston; Mrs. Stanley Austin, of Windsor; Robert Franklin, Joseph Saunders and Jesse Daniel Gurganus, all of Williamston. He also leaves two brothers, Messrs. W. D. Gurganus, of Williams Township, and J. J. Gurganus, of Williamston.

Possessing an unpretentious manner, Mr. Gurganus was a devoted husband and father, one who valued the simple yet finer things in life. He was a member of the Christian Church here for a long number of years.

Funeral services are being conducted from the late home on North Houghton Street this afternoon at 3 o'clock by his pastor, Rev. John L. Goff, assisted by Rev. J. H. Smith. Interment will follow in the local cemetery.

Church Attendance Pointing Downward

By REV. J. W. HARDY, Rector Church of the Advent

Sunday definitely proved that the Church attendance is not regulated by the weather. Sunday morning was nice and cool, yet there was little difference in the number at Church. In fact, there were fewer than the previous Sunday. The ministers of Williamston welcome any suggestions that will help the attendance at service.

There is a total enrollment of 740 in the Sunday schools of Williamston, of that number 420 were present last Sunday. There is a total of 1031 in Church membership in the six churches in town and there were 504 at the two services. Several of these, no doubt, attended both morning and evening services. Attend your Church and Sunday School and make your attendance grow.

The attendance at the various services last Sunday is as follows:

Church	S.S.	Y.P.	A.M.	P.M.
Baptist	94	8	106	24
Methodist	59	13	36	34
Christian	115	9	85	44
Presbyterian	21		32	
Holiness	112			50
Episcopal	19		43	
Total	420	30	352	152
Prev. Sun.	463	18	386	104

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bowers announce the birth of a daughter on Monday, June 24. Mother and daughter are getting along nicely in a Washington hospital.

MASS MEETING

A mass meeting of farmers, business men and others will hear a discussion of the tobacco situation as it exists today and of the marketing outlook next fall when E. Y. Floyd, Triple-A executive, appears in the Martin County courthouse at eight o'clock on the evening of July 1. Bruce Suggs, of Greenville, will advance the position of the warehousemen as it relates to a planned program for the crop during the next three years.

This is the first of a series of meetings planned in this county to publicize the tobacco referendum to be held on July 20. Everyone is invited and urged to attend the meeting which will launch the campaign in this county for a control program.

Lewis G. Godard Dies Suddenly In Williams District

Funeral Services Held At Late Home Sunday Afternoon At 4 O'Clock

Lewis Gothe Godard, well-known Williams Township citizen and a successful farmer, died at his home there Saturday morning at 8:25 o'clock following an illness of short duration. Mr. Godard suffered a stroke of paralysis Thursday night, lapsed into unconsciousness and never rallied. After listening to a radio program at the filing station operated near his home by his nephew, Grady Godard, he started home about 9:30 o'clock to retire. As he left the station someone saw him advance with an uncertain step. Thinking possibly he wasn't feeling well, his brother and one or two others followed him into the house and found him kneeling beside the bed in a semi-conscious condition and unable to move. When some one suggested that a doctor be summoned, he said that the services of a physician were not necessary. They were his last words, the end coming gradually and peacefully Saturday morning.

Mr. Godard had had high blood pressure for some time, but his condition was not considered serious until just before the end. The son of the late George and Sallie Williams Godard, he was born in Williams Township 54 years ago. He never married, but with his brother, Golden Godard, he built a home and lived there all his life. Expressing a genuine brotherly love for each other, the two men grew up together and it was said that they were not separated for more than a night or two during the past forty years of more.

Mr. Godard was a successful farmer and a dependable citizen. His word was as readily accepted as his bond, and he was willing and ready to accommodate his fellowman regardless of color or one's station in life. He possessed a quiet character and earnestly sought the other fellow's viewpoint and outlook on life. He is survived by one sister, Mrs. Roy Hudson, of Wilmington, and two brothers, Messrs. Golden and Grover Godard, both of Williams Township.

Funeral services were conducted Sunday afternoon at four o'clock from the late home by Rev. W. B. Harrington, county Baptist minister. Interment was in the family cemetery, near the old family home.

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Grand Jury Gets Results In Drive To Arrest Drunks

Issuing an order last week for a concerted drive by all police officers, sheriff and deputies and patrolmen against public drunkenness, the Martin County grand jury apparently got quick action. According to the jail records there were eight arrests effected during the past week-end, six of the victims going to jail being charged with drunkenness.

Some were found "passed out" along the highways and others were found on local streets. Commenting on the drive against drunkenness, a citizen said yesterday that several of the habitués did not fall into the hands of the law. If the grand jury meant what it said, and it is believed it meant just what it ordered, then a second round-up is to be expected at regular intervals.

Prior to the round-up last week-end, only one arrest had been made in the county during the preceding ten days.

Ownership Of The French Fleet Not Definitely Known

Italians Start Empty March Of Victory Into French Territory

While the German and Italian masses and French traitors and fifth columnists are celebrating the downfall of the great nation of France, Hitler will not tackle this part of a blitzkrieg on the British Isles and incidentally to shape up an economic attack against the United States, observers believing now that Hitler will not tackle this part of the world with military force until his fifth columnists in Washington and throughout the nation have lulled the Union to sleep.

Reports maintain that the French fleet is now in the hands of the British, that honorable Frenchmen will continue the fight at Britain's side despite Prime Minister Henri Petain and his phoney government. Other observers, recognizing Hitler's might on every front, believe the French fleet or a sizable portion of it will fall into German hands, that Hitler is preparing his own navy to prey upon England both as to military force and economic blockade. A beginning has been made, but the real attack on the British Isles is awaiting the preparations in tuning up conquered France and its equipment that will be used in the bloody blitzkrieg on England.

The German barbarian is still building equipment for the attack, but in this country we are shouting to high heaven about the sale of discarded junk to the British government in the defense of its millions of people and in behalf of civilization.

Hitler says he will wipe England off the map in three weeks after the attack is launched on a big scale. The final death warrant for France has been signed. Hitler taking a greater part of the nation in his peace plan signed late last Saturday, and Mussolini taking the remainder in his "honorable" peace terms signed early today. The terms of the Italian peace have not been revealed, but France is now recognized as a puppet state under the protectorate of Dago Mussolini and Barbarian Hitler. That the former ally of England will be used in prosecuting the war is certain. Prime Minister Petain, pro-German and pro-Italian, having advised Britain to mind her own business.

As the Nazis celebrate the crushing defeat of France at the hands of German armies, fifth columnists and traitors, the United States continues its rabble with fresh attacks emanating from Philadelphia, forgetting all about the consequences that we, as a nation, will reap as a result of the top of France and the expected downfall of England.

Unconfirmed reports at noon today indicated that the French fleet had fallen into the hands of the Germans. It is generally understood that before an armistice was signed, pro-Nazis were placed in charge of the main part of the fleet by the Petain government possibly at the direction of Hitler. With the French fleet in German hands the Axis powers now have a sea power virtually equal that of Great Britain, the German group having a tonnage of 1,341,782 as compared with 1,361,294 for Great Britain. Numerically, the Axis power.

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Migrant Worker Is Offering Problem

Occupied with our every-day tasks and with most of our attention directed to the news coming from the war fronts, we have not noticed one of the problems confronting the South and certain sections of the West.

It is estimated that more than one thousand migrant workers have passed through Williamston during recent weeks. Traveling in high-priced broken-down cars, the migrants are known to have operated on a starvation scale, one report stating that virtually all the resources of many of the units are necessary to finance a travel schedule, leaving the workers with a diet of bread and water.

Following the potato and strawberry marketing activities along the coast, the workers have traveled in such numbers that employment was not immediately available to all of them, and wages were not sufficient to finance a decent standard of living and a travel schedule.

Last week police were on the trail of a farmer in a lower North Carolina county had missed a peck or two of Irish potatoes. Delayed in Williamston about an hour, the group was released when the charges could not be substantiated.