

Few Cases Heard In Mayor's Court

The small number of arrests in the community last week-end was reflected in the proceedings reported by Justice John L. Hassell's court the early part of the week.

James Lloyd and Vance Brooks, charged with public drunkenness, were taxed with \$7.50 case costs each.

Charged with stealing a car from R. E. Gurganus about a year ago, Dallas Godard was bound over to the higher court under bond in the sum of \$500. Godard denied the charge, but probable cause was found.

Paul Turner and Richard Gaskill, charged with being drunk and disorderly, were sentenced to the roads for thirty days, the court suspending the sentences upon the payment of the cost and on condition that they surrender their liquor rationing

Library To Observe Long Holiday For Christmas

Closing on Thursday of this week, the local public library will observe a long holiday for Christmas. The library will reopen next Monday, December 28.

BY THE THOUSANDS

While possibly not as great in number as they were a year ago, Christmas cards have been reaching the local post office by the thousands each day since the middle of the month. The rush started back on the 14th when 4,300 cancellations were effected. The peak was reached last Friday when the number passed the 10,000 mark. No cancellations were recorded for Sunday, but on Monday, the count stood at 9,400.

The count is gradually decreasing, but as the volume of out-going mail drops, the incoming parcels and letters are increasing in number.

Jail Is Empty For The First Time In Months

The last prisoner was released on Tuesday and the Martin County jail was empty for the first time in months. Jailer Roy Peel announced with a ring of pride in his voice. He is a bit shaky over what the holiday will bring in the way of crime, however, he is hoping for the best.

Billy Clark is home from Birmingham for the holidays.

Know The AMERICAS

CHRISTMAS IN LATIN AMERICA

By the Pan American Union
Christmas observances in our neighboring American Republics, 20 of them, are almost as diverse as the countries themselves, though a measure of uniformity is provided by the common religious background brought over from the Old World. Delightful traditions and customs are present in each country, to give a particular flavor to the day.

Several factors contribute to make the celebration below the Rio Grande quite different from the holiday in the United States. Poor old Santa would have to go to the highest peaks of the Andes, or to the southern tip of South America, to find snow for his sleigh, and there wouldn't be many people in either place. Besides, December is a summer month in several of the countries, and the others are near the equator. And needless to say, Santa Claus would have no chimney to climb down in these warm climes.

North American school children eagerly look forward to the week's holiday at Christmas, but in many countries of Latin America the Yule season marks the beginning of the long summer vacation, an attraction which rivals that of Christmas itself.

The religious significance of Christmas prevails in the southern republics, and the season lasts from December 25th of the feast of the Three Kings on January 6th. In fact, the latter date often overshadows Christmas Day in the exchange of gifts, which are brought by the Three Kings and not by Santa Claus. One of the most beautiful ceremonies is Misa de Gallo, or midnight Mass, in stately old cathedrals and in the humblest mountain chapel, where the joyous chanting of boys' voices resounds throughout the region. In many homes, reproductions of the scene at Bethlehem occupy entire rooms. Some are traditionally magnificent and are open to the public.

Brazilian children hang their

stockings on their beds, since they have no fireplaces, so that Papa Noel may fill them with presents. In some sections, they place their shoes outside the bedroom door with a note inside, but the greater capacity of stockings probably dooms this older custom. Such typical mid-summer outdoor festivities as fireworks, boating and picnics amuse the grown-ups.

Argentines stroll to Misa de Gallo in the warm summer air to celebrate "Navidad," but there is no Santa Claus or Christmas tree to gladden the hearts of children. In Ecuador and Venezuela the Christmas season is "Pascua," and San Nicolas (good old St. Nick) puts presents on Venezuelan children's beds and in their stockings in Ecuador. A typical Yule dish in Venezuela is meat or chicken pie covered with banana leaves.

Christmas in Mexico has an especial charm and follows a tradition handed down through the centuries. Called the Posadas, from the Spanish word meaning an inn or lodging place, it is based on the hardships experienced by the Holy Family in finding shelter, and extends over a period of days. Various rooms of the house are decorated, the most attractive being the parlor or living room where an altar is erected with a representation of the Nativity. A procession with lighted candles, led by the children, passes through the different rooms of the house and patio, asking shelter only to meet with rebuff, until finally admitted amid great rejoicing into the main room.

The religious aspect of Christmas represented by the Posada is transformed on Christmas Day into a joyous celebration featured by the pinata, an earthenware jar, gaily decorated, which is filled with candy, nuts and fruits and suspended in the center of a patio, or courtyard. Blindfolded children armed with sticks take turns trying to break the pinata. When one succeeds, all scramble for the liberated "goodies," amidst the laughter characteristic of light-hearted youngsters.

Respected Citizen Dies At Home Near Oak City

Minnie Smith, 63 years old and a respected citizen, died at her home near Oak City last Sunday afternoon following long months of patient suffering. She was a faithful church member for a long number of years. Funeral services will be conducted Thursday afternoon at 1 o'clock and burial will follow in the family cemetery.

She married Peter Smith and led a useful life, spending the past quarter of a century in the same location. She leaves two daughters, Gertrude Winberry, of New York, and Nellie Smith, and six sons, Fred, Joseph, Peter, Paul, Council and Ben Smith, also a sister and a brother, 26 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Four Bicycles Rationed In County This Week

No general relaxation of rationing regulations was effective as had been suggested in some quarters, but the Martin County Rationing Board reached down deep into its sack and pulled out four certificates for the purchase of four bicycles this week. The bikes were rationed to the following:

- S. T. Brady, Robersonville RFD 2, for traveling to and from school.
- William Hopkins, RFD 2, Jamesville, for traveling to and from work.

- Robert J. Bryant, RFD 2, Robersonville, for farm.
- John D. Etheridge, Jr., Oak City, to ride to and from school.

Cotton Ginnings Almost Equal Those Of Year Ago

After trailing those of a year ago by a substantial margin since the opening of the season, cotton ginnings for 1942 during the past few weeks have made marked gains to almost equal those for 1941 in this county. Filing his last ginning report just a short time before he left for the Army, Special Agent Vernon Griffin stated that ginnings this year up to the first of this month totaled 4,682 bales as compared with 4,949 bales ginned in the corresponding period of 1941.

Fourteen Bags Of Peanuts Stolen From Truck Here

Fourteen bags of peanuts were stolen from a truck at a local peanut warehouse early Tuesday evening. Police are working on the case.

Rationing Board In Last Meeting Before Christmas Holidays

(Continued from page one)

tires for farm
A. S. Hardy, RFD 1, Palmyra, one tire for farm.

H. W. Modlin, Jamesville, two tires for farm.
Chester Taylor, RFD 2, Williams- ton, two tires and two tubes for farm.

W. W. Walters, Jamesville, four tires and three tubes.
Walter A. Burnett, Oak City, one tube for farm.

Floyd Whitfield, RFD 3, Williams- ton, two tubes for hauling logwoods workers.
Rayner Bros, RFD 3, Williams- ton, four new car tires and one tube for hauling defense workers.

New truck tires were issued to the following:
John James, Jamesville, one new truck tire for hauling pulpwood.

Farmville-Woodward Lumber Co., Williamston, four tires and one tube for hauling lumber.
J. T. Matthews, RFD 1, Palmyra, two tires and one tube, for farm.

J. B. Whitfield, Oak City, two tires and one tube for farm.
John A. Manning, Williamston, two tires for farm.

Services Next Sunday In Everetts Church

Rev. J. M. Perry will preach at Everetts Christian Church next Sunday at 11 o'clock and at 7:30 p. m. All members and friends are urged to be present at the 11 o'clock worship service, for communion, fellowship, the morning message, and to help and be helped. Public is cordially invited.

Production of oil cake and meal in 1942-43 is now expected to be about 2,500,000 tons larger than the 1941-42 production of 4,600,000 tons.

Pete Egan, of the U. S. Navy, Key West, Fla., is spending the holidays here with his grandmother, Mrs. Walter Halberstadt.

Mrs. Audrey Carter is spending the holidays in Chapel Hill.

WANTED: FARM HAND FOR 1943, to work in bees and on farm. See or write J. D. Bowen, Main Street, Williamston. d25-4t

LAST CALL

A last call was issued this week by the Martin County War Rationing Board advising all persons who have not yet applied for their No. 1 War or sugar rationing stamp book to do so at their earliest convenience. Approximately 14,000 persons registered last spring for the sugar stamps, leaving several thousand without the special ration coupons. Those who already have their sugar-coffee ration stamps should note that they do not have to register again. The No. 1 books, it is understood, will be exchanged for an all-purpose ration book some time next month.

Registrations, scheduled to end January 15, are being handled in the rationing board office at the convenience of the registrants.

Red Cross Will Help Santa Claus Handle Work in Many Lands

(Continued from page one)

England, 2,000 to Ireland, 1,500 to Greenland, a large number to Alaska and the remainder to Central and South America. This has been an annual project of the Junior Red Cross since the first World War, its scope increasing with the years.

In the great military centers over seas, such as Great Britain and Australia, tons of supplies, such as candies, tobacco, cigarettes and small toilet articles, will remind American servicemen that they are not forgotten. Arrangements have been made to insure even men in the battle zones their Christmas presents.

Thus from "pole to pole," American Red Cross workers in the field are reminding service men that they still rate top priority in the hearts of the folks back home.

WANTS

CARD OF THANKS

We take this means of expressing our sincere appreciation for the acts of kindness done and the expressions of sympathy offered during the recent illness and death of Mrs. Mary Whitley. The friendly and helpful acts will long be remembered by each of us.

W. C. Whitley and Family.

WE CAN SELL VACUUM CLEANERS now. They are not frozen. Buy now, don't wait. Woolard Furniture Company. d11-8t

FOR QUICK, QUALITY DRY cleaning service, bring your clothes to Pittman's. One day service on any garment. Suits, coats and dresses, 55 cents, cash and carry. 65c delivered. Pittman's Cleaners. d2-8t

FOR SALE - FRESH EGGS AND frying-size chickens. Available at all times. V. G. Taylor's farm, Williamston RFD 3. n3-1f

AMERICA NEEDS NURSES - Rocky Mount Sanitorium, Inc., Training School of Nursing. Fully accredited. High school graduates of an accredited school. Age 18 and over. No tuition. Next class, February 10, 1943. For information write the Directress of Nurses, Rocky Mount Sanitorium, Inc. Rocky Mount, N. C. d4-8t

FOR SALE: TWO GOOD MULES and milk cow with first calf. Also 75 bales of hay. Thurman Wynne, near Everetts.



In the spirit of Christmas which happily cannot be erased from the hearts of men, we wish to express our appreciation for your friendliness and good will.

Davis Pharmacy

May joy and wisdom hope and cheer, fill your home and hearts on Christmas and all the year!



J. E. POPE

FIRE INSURANCE



OUR HEARTIEST WISHES for a joyous Yuletide Season abounding in health and happiness.

Paul Auto Supply

We hope this Christmas is merry and the coming year bright for you and yours!



MODERN Beauty Shoppe



May our land be forever free, and the skies once more be blue, is our wish for peace at Christmas, may it soon come true.

Victory Beauty Shoppe



May this Christmas Season guide us safely into the harbor of Victory with peace as our anchor.

N. C. Green, Agent SINCLAIR REFINING CO.



Merry Christmas

To you and yours at this Christmas season, we would extend our most sincere wishes for happiness—happiness that lasts not merely through the holiday season but that will continue throughout the year 1943. May this be your very merriest Christmas.

CENTRAL CAFE



It will be almost the same Merry Christmas enjoyed so often in the past. The scent of good things . . . and though there may be an empty place at the table it will be with pride and not sadness that we think of those far away from home. To countless wishes for a Merry Christmas, may we add ours!

Branch Banking & Trust Co.