

LOCAL NEGRO GETS 30 YEARS ON MURDER CHARGE

Willie Jeffries Pleads Guilty To 2d Degree Murder

Willie Gray Jeffries, Roanoke Rapids Negro, was sentenced to not less than 25 nor more than 30 years at hard labor in State prison by Judge Henry L. Stevens when he submitted to a second degree murder plea in Halifax Superior court Tuesday morning as he was about to go on trial for his life for the murder of Roosevelt Williams here on the night of November 8.

Jeffries, through his attorneys, Jos. P. Pippin and the firm of Allsbrook and Benton, entered a plea of second degree murder, which was accepted by Solicitor Ernest Tyler and Judge Stevens. He had been scheduled to be tried on a first degree murder charge which, had he been convicted, would have carried a mandatory death sentence.

The fact that the Negro had a serious leg wound, result of his trying to escape Roanoke Rapids officers who attempted to arrest him following the shooting of Williams, caused the solicitor and judge to consider the second degree plea, it was believed.

Jeffries shot Williams during an affray involving several Negroes in the Mitchell's sawmill section near here on the night of November 8, 1941. When officers came upon the scene to arrest him, the Negro raised the shotgun he had used to shoot Williams, as if he intended firing on the officers. He turned and fled, however, and the officers opened fire, wounding him in the leg. He remained in a local hospital for several weeks before being transferred to the county jail for safe-keeping.

Judge Stevens, who is a former national commander of the American Legion and makes his home in Warsaw, is presiding over a two weeks mixed term of Superior court. This is Judge Stevens' first assignment in this county.

NO BLACKOUT

(Continued from Page One) officials said, "has caused us to postpone the blackout here. When the first blackout test for Roanoke Rapids is held we want to be fully prepared for it. We hope to have our first blackout just as if we were actually experiencing an air raid. By this we mean that residents should be instructed thoroughly as to what to do in the event of a raid. Each family should have a single room in their home prepared and ready for use in the event of a blackout, to which the whole family could retire while the air raid is on. This room should be especially prepared for air raids, with windows and doors properly blacked out so that lights could be used without being seen

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SOOTHE IRRITATED THROAT MEMBRANES--
 get one dose relief for coughs due from colds with Mentho-Mulsion. Satisfaction guaranteed or money back. 60c & \$1.00.
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 Roanoke Rapids, N. C.

FIVE TRUE BILLS ARE RETURNED

A Halifax county grand jury this week returned five true bills of indictment against J. Winfield Crew, local attorney and former banker, charging him with false pretense and embezzlement, the latter carrying four of the indictments.

Judge Henry L. Stevens of Warsaw, presiding over Halifax county Superior court this week, today was scheduled to hear affidavits from attorneys for the prosecution giving their reasons for wanting a court order issued transferring the case to another county for trial. The request for a transfer was made at the Wednesday afternoon session of court by attorneys for the State who, in their request, stated they did not believe the State would get a fair trial if the case was heard in Halifax county.

Judge Stevens gave the attorneys until 2:30 this (Thursday afternoon) in which to file their affidavits, but when the Herald went to press, this action had not been heard from. Attorneys for the State were requested by Judge Stevens to make copies of their affidavits for the benefit of defense attorneys, and defense attorneys, who sought to have the case heard in Halifax county and were expected to file affidavits showing their reasons for not wanting the case transferred, were requested to do likewise.

One of the indictments, charging false pretense, charged that Crew "falsely and fraudulently represented to Holliday and Whitfield of Enfield that he owned certain lands which he did not own, and that the Enfield firm lent him sums in the amount of \$5,000 on the land.

The other four indictments of embezzlement charged that Crew secured "fraudulently and falsely" from Mrs. Martha J. Massey of Roanoke Rapids sums of money in the amount of \$800, \$2,000, \$315, and \$715, totaling in all \$3,865, and converting it to his own purpose and use.

The action taken by the grand jury in returning the true bills of indictment is the latest in a series of court actions taken since the case opened several months ago. Each presiding judge in a Halifax county court has been called upon to take action in the case, and court officials now believe the case will eventually be brought to trial in Halifax or an adjoining county.

Crew was in the courthouse Wednesday when the request was submitted for transfer, being at home on a leave of absence. He is stationed with an air corps unit in Texas.

FIRST AID COURSE

The First Aid Course, sponsored

from the outside of the dwelling. "Another reason for the postponement of the blackout was the fact that the local mills, which wish to cooperate in the blackout as completely as possible, have not received materials for blacking out their windows and are not fully prepared to cooperate in the first test. Officials of the mills plan to completely blackout a- long with the rest of the city and if this is to be done they must be allowed sufficient time in which to prepare for the test".

Local residents, members of the defense council said, will be given plenty of advance notice as to approximately when the blackout will be held, but all preparations must be completed before an actual test of the city's blackout defenses is held.

DANCE FRIDAY

(Continued from Page One)

to aid in the fight against infantile paralysis, while the other half will go to the national infantile paralysis foundation to be used for the same purpose.

Halifax county this year is expected to contribute heavily to the infantile paralysis fund, and the "march of dimes" campaign, which usually precedes the holding of the President's Ball, is proceeding smoothly, Lion officials here said. Contributions to the "Wishing Well" phase of the campaign are very good, it was said.

Judge Doesn't Like 'One-Eyed' Jurors

Judge Henry L. Stevens, presiding over a two weeks term of Superior court in Halifax, doesn't like what he terms "one-eyed jurors".

At Wednesday's session, one of the jurors listening to testimony in the Jones-Beale rape case, a capital offense involved, let out an audible yawn.

Judge Stevens rapped for silence.

"Alright, you jurors," he counseled. "Keep your eyes open. You are listening to evidence, and we don't want any one-eyed jurors in the box while a trial is going on.

There was an audible commotion as the "twelve men good and true" straightened up in the chairs.

Society To Meet

Women's Society of Christian Service will meet Monday evening at 7:30 in the home of Mrs. J. C. Wells, Hamilton Street.

MADAM EDWARDS

50c GIFTED PALMIST 50c

Has just opened her parlors on the Weldon Road. She guarantees to read your entire life—past, present and future. She asks no questions, but will tell you what you want to know, giving dates and facts of business, love, health and family affairs. Tells who you will marry and when. If the one you love is true or false, what part of the country is luckiest for you and just what to do to be successful in life. She never fails to re-unite the separated, cause speedy and happy marriages, overcome enemies, lovers' quarrels, stumbling blocks and bad luck of all kinds. Since a child she has been gifted with strange and mysterious powers, she guarantees to bring about every desire and ambition of your entire life. She does not tell to please, but will tell you the truth, good or bad, on all affairs of life.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

On Weldon Road Just Outside City Limits

Roanoke Rapids, N. C.

CLIENTS BOTH WHITE AND COLORED

by the Red Cross, began its class-work Monday night under the leadership of Miss Thelma Elliot. About 30 ladies have enrolled for the course.

VOTE IN BONDS FOR CITY

A smattering of local residents Tuesday went to the polls and voted by almost 100 per cent to authorize the City of Roanoke Rapids to issue bonds in the amount of \$16,000 for the purpose of paying the cost and acquiring the right-of-way for an underpass under the Seaboard Air Line Railway, and an additional \$12,000 in bonds for purchasing of and improving lands for cemetery purposes, city election officials announced yesterday.

With only a little over 100 voters casting ballots in the bond election, officials in charge had an easy time of it in counting and tabulating the vote. For the records, the following is an official tabulation:

121 votes were cast for the ordinance authorizing not exceeding \$16,000 in bonds for the City of Roanoke Rapids for the purpose of paying the cost of acquiring the

necessary right of way for the necessary construction by the state of an underpass under the tracks of the Seaboard Air Line Railway across Roanoke Avenue at Roanoke Junction, and also the cost of damages to property caused by such construction, and a tax for said bonds, while 14 votes were cast against the measure.

12 votes were cast for the ordinance authorizing not exceeding \$12,000 in bonds for the City of Roanoke Rapids for the purpose of paying the cost of purchasing land and improving the same for cemetery purposes, and a tax for said bonds, while 9 votes were cast against the measure.

In the voting, North Ward precinct, which has the larger registration, cast the larger amount of votes. Here the official tabulation revealed that out of a total of 2,858 voters registered, 74 cast ballot in favor of the first question and 8 against, while 78 votes were cast in favor of the second question and 3 against. In South ward precinct, where 2,087 voters are registered, 47 ballots were cast in favor of the first question and 6 against, while 44 voted in favor of the second question and 6 against. Thus, the first question was carried by a vote of 121 to 14, and the second by a total vote of 122 to 9.

In Uncle Sam's Navy all seamen can buy cigarettes, candy and ice cream from the "Canteen" at practically cost price.

WEEK-END SPECIALS

Ladies Rayon PANTIES 29c to 39c

New Musical Novelty! SING-A-TINA each 10c
 Anyone Can Play It!

Chocolate Cream CANDY EGGS lb. 15c

ROSE'S 5-10-25 STORES



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