

HARNETT COUNTY NEWS

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"If It Concerns Harnett, It's in THE NEWS"

Judge Cites Moral Code Break Down, Use of Liquor as Causes Of Situations Breeding Crime

JURIST PLEADS FOR RETURN TO OLD STANDARDS

CLAWSON WILLIAMS OPENS SUPERIOR COURT'S FINAL SESSION OF YEAR WITH BLOQUENT JURY CHARGE

In a lengthy charge delivered Monday morning at the start of Superior Court's final session of the year, Judge Clawson Williams of Sanford made an eloquent plea for law enforcement as he touched on all phases of Grand Jury service and frequently branched off into discussions of crime's heinousness.

Making his last regular appearance on Harnett's bench until he has completed another circuit of the eastern judicial districts, Judge Williams opened his charge by tracing the history of the Grand Jury and concluded by itemizing procedure for taking up bills of indictment with which it is presented.

Between the start and the finish, the jurist from Harnett's neighboring county who has long been identified with the court first as a solicitor and now as a judge bored into the heart of the cause of situations which breed crime. He pleaded for citizens to eliminate these situations by strict observance of every law, regardless of its popularity.

Turning them a fountain-head of justice, and a vital link in the chain entrusted with the administration of laws, Judge Williams called on the jurors to perform their duties in such a manner that they will not be ashamed of the accounting they will make to their conscience, their God and the people whom they are serving.

The jurist praised the effective work of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in curbing the nationwide crime wave but begged that citizens guard against the recurrence of the situation which necessitated its establishment. The creation of the FBI was due to the ever-widening scope of criminal activities.

Judge Williams cited several reasons why such a condition arose. They were—

(1) Break down of moral and religious standards of people. No longer is it a generally accepted theory that a "man's word is his bond." Schemes to defraud follow men are daily hatched in all sections of the country. The jurist lamented the passing of the old-time religion and the fact that now on Sundays people are crowding into places of amusement, with little regard for (Continued on page six)

NEW JURORS ARE PICKED MONDAY

Nine Members Grand Jury Completed Year's Service Are Replaced; H. W. Whitenton Is Foreman

Harnett's comparatively new permanent Grand Jury system was launched on the second half of its second year's operation Monday morning when nine jurors were named to succeed those who had completed a year's service. The nine members selected in May who have six months to serve moved up to positions of seniority and W. H. Whitenton was sworn in as foreman.

The new jurors are M. C. Stewart, Lee J. Turlington, G. W. Butler, Chesley Johnson, G. W. Hobson, J. W. Hawley, W. H. Keen, O. A. Cobb and John McArthur.

J. C. Croom was drawn to take the place of H. E. Womack, one of the carry-over jurors, who asked to be excused because of illness. Unlike the jurors selected the same time he was, Mr. Croom will serve only six months, to fill out Mr. Womack's term.

Other members of the jury, besides the new members, Foreman Whitenton and Mr. Croom, are S. R. Coleman, Willie Fore, I. C. McKinney, J. T. Rosser, L. H. O'Connell, Lee Cameron and G. A. Altman.

At the close of Judge Williams' excellent charge, Solicitor Canaday presented the jurors with their first batch of indictments and they immediately started to work.

Presides



R. N. SIMMS

Mr. Simms, prominent Raleigh attorney, presided over the Baptist State Convention which was held in Raleigh Tuesday and Wednesday.

MEMBERS HOME DEMONSTRATION CLUBS TO MEET

LADIES FROM ALL HARNETT'S RURAL SECTIONS WILL ASSEMBLE AT LILLINGTON SCHOOL FRIDAY AFTERNOON

In celebration of the organization's annual Achievement Day, members of Home Demonstration clubs from all sections of Harnett will assemble in the Lillington high school auditorium tomorrow (Friday) afternoon at 2 o'clock.

A program studded with interesting features and entertaining events has been prepared by Miss Naomi Carr, Harnett's home agent, and reports from the various communities indicate each club will send delegates to the annual meeting. (Continued on page two)

Harnett Looking Forward To Vote on Compulsory Law

POUNDAGE AND ACREAGE ALLOTMENTS FOR COTTON AND TOBACCO GROWERS TO BE READY IMMEDIATELY

With last week's general election now written into the records as history, the agricultural county of Harnett is looking forward to the December 10th referendum which will determine whether crop control features of the 1938 law will be carried over another year or whether the forthcoming Congress will seek some other remedy to relieve conditions existing in the cotton and tobacco belts.

Should two-thirds of the farmers who grow cotton and blue-cured tobacco voice approval of the control system as it stands under the present act-up—with the exception of minor wrinkles which the Congress will iron out—by casting votes in favor of the program, quotas for the South's two major cash crops will be placed on the 1939 crop. If more than two-thirds of the farmers fail to endorse the present compulsory control program, Congress will resort to other experiments in its attempt to find a solution to keep market prices of farm commodities at a high level.

Regardless of the outcome of the approaching referendum, it is fairly certain that a program of some kind will govern next year's production. Rejection of the present law will necessitate new legislation which agricultural leaders will draft and place before Congress if farmers express dissatisfaction with the 1938 act.

In order that farmers may know what restrictions will be clamped on next year's crops if they vote to continue the compulsory control features, acreage allotments for cotton and tobacco and poundage quotas for tobacco will be prepared and distributed before growers will vote on the issue. County Agent C. R. Am- (Continued on page two)

Apprentice

Seated beside Clerk Lee Chaffin at the opening session of court Monday morning was Howard Godwin of Dunn, who by virtue of his overwhelming victory in last Tuesday's election will take over the duties of that office the first Monday in December.

Godwin, eager to learn all the minor but important details connected with one of the most responsible positions in the county, was an alert pupil as Clerk Chaffin went through the process of drawing the Grand Jury and without lost motion getting the court buckled down to work.

Under Godwin's administration, Harnett citizens are looking forward to continued efficiency in the clerk's office. The new clerk is fortunate in having so able a person "break him in" just as the outgoing official is fortunate in knowing that the office will continue to be the acme of efficiency it was under his management.

GRAHAM, WILSON SENTENCED FOR BANK SHORTAGE

FORMER CASHIER DUNN BANK FINED \$600 AND PLACED ON 5-YEAR PROBATION; SAMPSON EX-SOLON GETS 3 YEARS

E. B. Graham, former cashier of the Dunn branch of the First Citizens Bank and Trust Company, and Enoch W. Wilson, former representative in the General Assembly from Sampson county, were sentenced in Federal Court over the weekend for misapplication of bank funds.

Graham, who entered a plea of nolo contendere to the charge of misapplying \$1,067 of the bank's money and appeared as chief witness for the government against Wilson, was placed on probation for five years and ordered to pay into the court \$900 to defray costs of the action. He was sentenced Monday.

Wilson, convicted last week by a jury in the District court which meets in Raleigh, drew a three-year term in Atlanta. Wilson, who appeared in court late Friday morning with a black eye and considerably banged up, contended that the bank owed him money and that oftentimes deposit slips were left with the bank for weeks at a time before he secured them.

Graham, charged with transferring funds into Wilson's account so checks and drafts on the Sampson county miller, merchant and legislator could be honored, pleaded that he did not benefit from the transactions but that Wilson was the sole gainer. Graham also entered a plea of nolo contendere to falsifying bank records, which he had admitted when he appeared on the stand against Wilson. A second five-year probation was given him, this term to run concurrent with the first.

In all, Graham was charged with misapplication of more than \$25,000 which the government contended the bank's insurers lost. He swore that he was not the beneficiary of these transactions.

Judge I. M. Meekins, who commented that evidence corroborated Graham's testimony that he did not benefit in the defaults, directed the former cashier to pay his fine at the rate of \$25 per month. His present employer told the court the ex-cashier's salary would be boosted to allow him to meet the \$25 monthly payments to the court.

The trial was heard before a United States judge, because the fraudulent transactions came under Federal jurisdiction since the FDIC went into effect and the government assumed supervision of banks.

BOX SUPPER AND SQUARE DANCE IN GYM FRIDAY NIGHT

Pages of time Friday night will be turned back to the era preceding the Big Apple and other modern dances when the Lillington Parent-Teacher Association sponsors a square dance and box supper in the local gymnasium. Proceeds will go to the Junior Class.

The old-fashioned entertainment will start at 8 o'clock. Admission will be 15 cents a person and 25 cents a couple.

HARNETT TEACHERS WILL MEET HERE MONDAY NIGHT

Teachers in Harnett schools will meet Monday night at 7:30 in the auditorium of the Lillington high school building. It will be the second time the instructors have assembled this year and principals have been reminded to urge their teachers so they can make plans to attend.

C. Reid Ross, assistant school superintendent, says an informative program has been arranged.

Below Average

Supt. B. P. Gentry recently received from C. C. Brown of the State School Commission a note congratulating Harnett school authorities for keeping operating expenses for the county's fleet of buses below the State average in 1937-38.

Mr. Brown's figures show the State average was 6.97 cents per mile, and Harnett's average was 6.84 cents per mile, a difference of more than one-half cent a mile.

The gas and oil consumption of this county's trucks was far below the State average and Mechanic John Warren, whose duty it is to see that the trucks are tuned properly, says Harnett's record in this respect is one of the lowest in North Carolina.

Superior Court Will End '38 Terms With Few Cases Left Over

BIG GAP MADE IN CALENDAR FIRST TWO DAYS COURT

FAST-WORKING GRAND JURY SPEEDS UP PROCEDURE BY MAKING QUICK RETURNS ON BILLS PRESENTED

Paced by a fast-working Grand Jury, Harnett Superior Court is this week moving toward the close of its 1938 activities with prospects of carrying over into the New Year only a few cases.

With Judge Clawson Williams presiding, the session started Monday morning and will continue into next week if the court is unable to wind up its work before then. Judging by the number of cases disposed of in opening days, it is quite probable the session will be terminated this week-end but if the court runs into trials involving detailed testimony the second week will be needed to clean the docket.

Given a sheaf of nearly 20 indictments, the Grand Jury started to (Continued on page two)

Prosecutor



CLAUDE CANADAY

Claude Canaday of Benson, who next month will start his second four-year term as district solicitor, is prosecuting the docket at the final 1938 session of Harnett Superior Court which started Monday morning and will continue through next week, if need be. Since the cases scheduled should be disposed of without difficulty or lengthy testimony, the chances are the court will adjourn for the term this week-end.

County Agents Get Slight Edge In Insurance Debate

TO ORGANIZE FOR ROLL CALL

Chairman Lee Calls Meeting to Choose Township Leaders for Conducting Membership Drive

Harnett Chapter of American National Red Cross held a special meeting last Friday in the courthouse for the purpose of naming a county chairman and township leaders in the annual membership drive which started yesterday and will continue through Thanksgiving day, the 24th.

Neill McK. Ross of Lillington, was chosen as roll call chairman. He is to be assisted by the following township chairmen:

Neill's Creek: Mrs. J. R. Hood. Upper Little River: Mrs. Harvey O'Quinn.

Stewart's Creek: Mrs. Milton Hobbs. Lillington: Mrs. Neill Salmon.

Hector's Creek: Mrs. E. B. Cameron, Miss Polly Senter.

Black River: Mrs. Elsie Crowder. Mrs. S. Scholl.

Grove: Mrs. W. E. Nichols. Barbecue: Mrs. W. B. Castleberry. Johnsonville: Mr. Gurganus.

Leaders for Buckhorn and Anderson Creek are yet to be named. All township leaders will select assistants.

M'KINNEY QUILTS AS POLICE CHIEF

Resignation, Effective Tomorrow, Given Board; Bradford Stewart Will Succeed Him

Chief Mack McKinney has resigned as head of Lillington's police department and tomorrow (Friday) morning Bradford Stewart will succeed him.

McKinney's resignation was tendered after the meeting of the town board Tuesday night of last week. He was requested to remain as police chief until December 1st but McKinney asked that he be relieved of his duties as soon as possible. He agreed to remain until Friday of this week so that his successor could be selected and given several days in which to become familiar with the multiple duties connected with the office.

His successor, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Stewart, is a well-known young man of Lillington. At the time of his appointment, he was in the employ of Farmers Cotton Oil Company.

The town's water department, sewerage and light systems and tax collections are under the supervision of the chief of police.

Stewart, talented along mechanical lines, is apparently well-fitted for his new post.

ELECTIONS BD. MAKES CANVASS OF COUNTY VOTE

DAY-LONG SESSION REQUIRED TO COMPLETE TABULATION; AVERAGE MAJORITY DEMOCRATIC NOMINEES NEAR 5500

With the exception of the installation December 5th of the recently-elected officers, Harnett's political activities for a two-year period were settled last Thursday when members of the Board of Elections convened here and completed a tabulation of the votes cast in Tuesday's election.

The session, which started in the morning, was not finished until night-fall. Offices in the courthouse had closed for the day when Chairman Neill McKay Salmon and Democratic Member Albert Oldham of Erwin gathered up their brief cases and files, signed abstracts, which were forwarded to Secretary Raymond Maxwell of the State Elections Board and officially brought the 1938 election to a close.

No charges of irregularities or protests were filed and registrars reported they had no trouble as Democrats and Republicans alike trooped to the polls in an effort to send their favorite candidates into office. Leaders of both parties remarked on the clean-cut election and on balloting day a ranking Republican stated to a Democratic official, "If you beat us today, it will be fair and square."

It was the fifth consecutive time the Democrats have bowled over the Republicans and retained control of Harnett's government. Official returns show that nearly 7000 votes were cast. Democratic majorities ranged from 2251 to an even 2700 and the average was slightly less than 2500.

But the Democrats were not victorious in all of the county's 21 precincts. The strongholds, Lillington and Upper Little River No. 1, the districts which so often have stemmed the tide and turned an apparent defeat into victory, polled huge majorities. In two of Averasboro's four precincts, the GOP was victorious and in the Duke precincts only the Democratic candidates who live in the community, Commissioner Bob Pate and Senator Fred Thomas, escaped the Republican axe. Grove No. 2 did likewise and cast its vote in the Republican column. Grove No. 1 went Democratic and squared the township.

Majorities in Black River township see-sawed back and forth but finally landed in the Democratic camp, with the exception of the candidates on the Republican ticket who live in the township. The home-folks were loyal and gave them slight majorities.

Mrs. Inez Harrington, Register of Deeds, led the county ballot by polling 4822 votes to the 2122 polled by her opponent, Mrs. Elsie Byrd Garton of Coats. These ladies, opponents, were the only women seeking office.

Following Mrs. Harrington was Howard Godwin, candidate for clerk, who defeated J. E. Dupree of Angier 4772 to 2188. His majority was 2584.

Sheriff Bill Shaw, next in line, defeated Bob Shaw of Erwin 4769 to 2217.

Solicitor Claude Canaday of Benson and Coroner Melvin McLean were unopposed. Their votes were 4788 and 4751, respectively.

Senators Fred Thomas and Boyette, the latter from Moore county, received votes of 4874 and 4283. (Continued on page six)

MRS. DULA HEADS NEW WPA WORK

Supervision Of Project Providing Matrons For Schools Goes To Kipling Woman

Under the supervision of Mrs. Beulah B. Dula of Kipling, Harnett's newest WPA project—furnishing matrons for girls' rest rooms in county schools—is rapidly being organized and rounded into working shape. Funds for this project were allocated several weeks ago by the Works Progress Administration, and Mrs. Dula started work early this month.

Duties of the matrons working under Mrs. Dula will be to care for the girls' rest rooms. Only persons eligible for the jobs are women who have been certified by the WPA district office in Smithfield. Although the local welfare department acts as an intermediary for the district office and makes investigations, no assignments or work cards can be issued by the department. All these must come from the Smithfield office of the WPA.