

BIG CAR ROBBERIES UNEARTHED

Vernon Whitaker Tells of Many Instances and Accomplices

HENDERSON, MANSON, NORLINA

N. B. Pace, Leonard Stanton, White, John Buck Terrell, Joe Davis, Venable Davis, Peter McNair Alleged To Be Accomplices; P. C. Holmes Bound Over Under \$500 Bond for Buying Stolen Property Knowing It To Be Stolen; Other Defendants Released To Vance and Warren Counties; Pace, Stanton and Holmes Give Bonds

P. C. Holmes, a merchant operating a general store about three miles north of town, was bound over to Superior Court by Squire J. L. Palmer under \$500 bond on a charge of receiving stolen goods, knowing them to be such, at a preliminary hearing on Wednesday night. This case is one growing out of the wholesale car robberies perpetrated by Vernon Whitaker and his accomplices that has been going on since last summer and which has just been traced down by Messrs. R. E. Lee, of Henderson and K. W. Gates, of Raleigh, two Seaboard Air Line detectives with the assistance of officers J. S. Rowland, A. S. Wiggs, E. L. Fuller and J. E. Thomas.

N. B. Pace, Leonard Stanton, white, and John Buck Terrell, Venable Davis, Peter McNair and Joe Davis, alleged accomplices of Whitaker, were released by Magistrate A. W. Alston to Vance and Warren counties where the crimes were alleged to have been committed and they together with Whitaker were turned over to the officers of these counties under warrants from these counties. Pace and Stanton gave bonds the first \$5,000 and the latter \$2,500, the others were taken to Henderson for confinement Wednesday night.

The case against P. C. Holmes was the only one tried in Louisburg it being the only one in which the alleged crime took place in Franklin county. The warrant was taken out before Squire A. W. Alston and when the case was called, Mr. W. H. Yarborough, attorney for Mr. Holmes, asked for a removal and Squire Alston sent the case to Squire J. L. Palmer, who heard the case immediately.

The formal plea of not guilty was entered and Whitaker was put on the witness stand.

He recited in detail how and when he entered box cars on the yards at Henderson Manson and Norlina, seven times, taking sugar, cigarettes, smoking tobacco, shirts, cloth, socks, soap, lard, meat, fish pans, automobile tires and tubes, flower, meal and many other articles. He said he was assisted on different occasions by Numa Pace, Leonard Stanton, John Buc Terrell, Joe Davis, Venable Davis and Peter McNair, and told in much detail on cross examination of his settlements with each of his accomplices. He said he sold Holmes five sacks of sugar for \$21 or \$22 and later sold him sixteen bags for about \$50. That he sold him three cartons of cigarettes, two boxes smoking tobacco, and one tub of lard for \$10. He told of selling him eight or ten dozen pairs of socks and lot of soap. That he sold Holmes 10 white enamel dish pans and seven and three quarter dozen shirts for \$38 and a bolt of blue shirt cloth at 5 cents a yard. He stated that during the time he was selling Holmes these articles he told him they were stolen and that some of the articles Holmes went to his (Whitaker's) home to purchase. He denied that he had been offered leniency in his case to implicate others and stated his confession was entirely voluntary.

A. S. Wiggs, Constable for Louisburg township, was the next witness and told of serving the search warrant and getting the goods from Holmes store that were said to have been purchased from Whitaker. That the search was made before Whitaker had made his confession. That he went to the store a second time and a lot of socks that he noticed there at first were missing when he went after them. He corroborated Whitaker's statements that his confession was voluntary. He told of how the things were found and that Holmes was pleasant and assisted them in getting the goods together, offering no resistance.

E. L. Fuller was the next witness who stated in substance that he was

assisting the officers and went to Holmes store. His evidence was practically the same as Wiggs. He accompanied Wiggs on the second trip to the store to get the socks and found them missing. He also told of Holmes helping to get the goods together and offering no resistance.

At this point both the State and defense rested. The State offered no argument and Mr. Yarborough made a strong appeal to the court to show that his client should not be held on the evidence. The court however, took the opposite view and bound him over, but reduced the bond to \$500.

The arrests were made last Friday and automobiles were busy all day bringing in men and merchandise. John Buck Terrell and Venable Davis, both colored, were arrested in Raleigh, while the rest were arrested in Franklin county. The bonds for all their appearance at the preliminary hearing was fixed at \$2,000 each. Holmes, Pace and Stanton gave bonds, while the rest were held in jail.

After the completion of the Holmes trial, warrants from Vance and Warren counties were served on all except Holmes and bonds of \$2,500 each were required. Pace being implicated in both counties had to give two bonds. He and Stanton gave bond to a later hearing. The other five failed to give bond before leaving Louisburg and were taken to Vance county.

The unraveling of this case was a splendid piece of work on the part of the detectives and officers and will no doubt have good effect on the lawlessness in this section.

ADDITIONAL MAIL SERVICE

The postmaster at Louisburg has received instructions from Washington City to employ temporarily a carrier to take the mail from train No. 12 at Franklinton and bring it to Louisburg upon the arrival of the train No. 12 arrives at Franklinton about 12:25 p. m. and the mail will arrive in Louisburg about 1 o'clock p. m. This will be a six day schedule and will afford a much needed convenience to the people of Louisburg, allowing the quantity of the mail receipts to be divided so that the office will not have to be closed so long at the 4 o'clock opening. This service will begin on Monday, February 7th, 1927 and will make it possible that the city carriers can get out with their evening mail earlier by having a good portion of it worked up before mail from No. 11 arrives at 4 o'clock. Mr. N. L. Moseley will carry the mail on this trip.

MORE CHANGES

The Cash Grocery and Market has erected a partition in the rear of their store separating the Main street room from the Nash street room and has moved its stock and fixtures into the Nash street room. The Main street room is being occupied by F. N. Spivey, who has moved his stock of mens furnishings from the building next to the bridge.

COWS ARRIVE

The car load of pure bred milk cows that were ordered by Dr. W. R. Bass for the farmers of Franklin county, arrived Monday and have been undergoing a test. Some have been delivered and others will be in the next few days. They were a nice lot and the farmers were well pleased with them. It is expected that others will be ordered in the near future and that Franklin county will soon become a cream shipping county.

TOBACCO MARKET

Louisburg Kiwanis Club was treated to a most interesting meeting at the usual Friday night luncheon at the Franklin Hotel the past week when Fisher Beasley and Louis Joyner presented the question of the Louisburg tobacco market. Tracy Stockard was among the speakers and the subject was very favorably and enthusiastically presented.

The musical portion of the program was splendid and added much to the evening's entertainment.

CAPTURES STILL

Deputy Sheriff J. S. Rowland assisted by Constable John Young, J. E. Thomas and E. L. Fuller, report the capture of a fifty gallon complete still outfit, and destroying about fifty gallons of beer near the Walter Winston place in Franklinton township Tuesday morning.

McAdoo Into Action



Wm. G. McAdoo swung into the East last week on private business but paused long enough at New York and Toledo to talk a bit of politics, declaring himself in favor of abrogation of the two-third rule in Democratic conventions. Also to set in motion activity in every state for the organization of dry sentiment.

HAYES-JACKSON

Announcements as follows have been received by friends in Louisburg.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Jones Hayes announce the marriage of their sister Susie Eaton

to Mr. William Dorian Jackson of Louisburg, North Carolina on Saturday the 29th of January Nineteen hundred and twenty-seven Boydton, Virginia.

The bride is one of Louisburg's most popular young ladies and is an efficient and capable member of the faculty of Mills Graded School. She is attractive and accomplished and numbers her friends by her acquaintances.

The groom is one of Franklin County's most popular young men.

FARMERS TO ASK FOR FARM AGENT

At a meeting of representative farmers in the court house Saturday afternoon when almost all townships in the county were represented a resolution was passed asking the Board of County Commissioners to re-establish the Farm Demonstration Agent in the county. They took the position that this was the only agency working directly with the farmer and as the farmers paid a good portion of the taxes and cast a good portion of the votes they were entitled to this consideration. Especially so since they are called on to contribute so liberally to the State Department of Agriculture. A little cooperation on the part of the commissioners will give the farmers quite a big help from the State and National Departments.

Mr. H. F. Mitchell presided and it was decided to circulate petitions to secure sufficient names to present to the Board on the first Monday to convince them that the farmers not only needed but wanted the service.

The chairman was instructed to appoint ten good farmers for modification sections of the county to go before the Board Monday and present their claims.

MRS. W. H. RUDD DEAD

Mrs. W. H. Rudd, widow of the late W. H. Rudd, died at her home on Kenmore Avenue on Sunday. She was 70 years of age and leaves seven children, Mrs. Sam Davis, of Norwood, Mrs. J. L. Spencer, Mrs. J. W. Weaver, Mrs. A. T. Harris, Mrs. June Joyner, Miss Annie Rudd, and Mr. Morton Rudd. She was preceded to the grave by her husband just two months.

Mrs. Rudd was a most estimable woman having won friends of all her acquaintances through her sympathetic and pleasing disposition. She was a Christian woman who got much pleasure in bearing witness for her savior, and was a constant member of Piney Grove Methodist church.

The funeral services were held from the home on Monday afternoon, conducted by Revs. O. W. Dowd and J. A. McIver and the interment was made in Oaklawn cemetery beside her husband.

The pall bearers were Caswell Spencer, William Joyner, Paul Beasley, Robert Harris, P. V. Cooke, J. Y. Matthews.

The floral tribute was profuse and beautiful and a large number attended both services.

TO ENCOURAGE FIG RAISING

Dr. A. H. Fleming informs the TIMES that he has purchased one hundred pure bred pigs that he is going to put out on a share basis similar to the pig club plan with worthy boys in the county with an idea of influencing the growing of more hogs in Franklin county. Dr. Fleming has promised the TIMES a full outline of his plan to be published as soon as he perfects it.

BUSINESS MEN HAVE MEETING

Organize Chamber of Commerce

S. P. Boddie Made President, F. J. Beasley, Vice-President, A. H. Fleming, Secretary; Directors, A. W. Person, T. F. Cheatham, H. C. Taylor, Dr. H. G. Perry, P. S. Allen, E. L. Best, F. A. Roth, E. H. Malone, M. S. Davis, T. W. Watson, B. N. Williamson and J. Lehman.

Twenty-five of Louisburg's business men met in response to a call in the Board of Education rooms on Monday night for the purpose of considering the organization of some civic body to look after and promote the interests of the town and community.

M. S. Davis, president, and A. F. Johnson, secretary, were chosen as temporary officers and the meeting started off with pep.

B. N. Williamson, A. W. Mohn, S. P. Boddie and Dr. Fleming made telling speeches along the line of necessity for such an organization in any town more especially Louisburg, and what such organizations have done in the past.

W. E. White and A. F. Johnson spoke on road prospects, and the necessity of this organization to get the projects across.

T. W. Watson's motion that the chair appoint a committee of five to act as a nominating committee was carried and the chair appointed M. S. Clifton, A. W. Mohn, T. F. Cheatham, W. E. White and A. W. Person. It was the sense of the meeting that as many different lines of business as possible be recognized in the selection of officers.

The committee reported nominations as follows: President, S. P. Boddie; vice-president, F. J. Beasley; secretary, A. H. Fleming; directors, A. W. Person, T. F. Cheatham, H. C. Taylor, Dr. H. G. Perry, P. S. Allen, E. L. Best, F. A. Roth, E. H. Malone, M. S. Davis, T. W. Watson, B. N. Williamson and J. Lehman all of whom were unanimously elected.

A motion prevailed authorizing and directing the directors to classify all business in town and select a representative from each business not now represented for a director.

A motion prevailed that this organization be named the Chamber of Commerce of Louisburg.

The directors were requested to retire and set the amount for the annual dues. They returned and reported \$2 per year for heads of business and \$1 per year for employees or others. This was adopted.

A motion prevailed that this organization be not responsible for any debt of any previous organization.

President Boddie was directed to appoint a membership committee and he named M. S. Clifton, T. W. Watson, F. A. Roth, David Harris and H. C. Taylor.

The second and fourth Tuesday nights were named as regular meeting nights.

With the interest taken in this meeting and enthusiasm shown by all present points to a most successful organization.

RECORDERS COURT

Judge H. W. Perry disposed of quite a good number of cases in Recorders Court Monday. The docket contained an accumulation of cases for three weeks and was disposed of as follows:

State vs Jack Yarboro and John Yarboro, distilling, nol pros with leave.

State vs Robert Evans, distilling, not guilty.

State vs Dwight Debnam, larceny and receiving, guilty, 30 days on roads, execution not to issue during good behavior, upon payment of costs.

State vs Edwin Jones, assault with deadly weapon, guilty, judgment suspended upon payment of costs.

State vs Edwin Jones, assault with deadly weapon with intent to kill, guilty of assault with deadly weapon, 4 months on roads, execution not to issue upon payment of \$100 fine and costs, appeal.

State vs Willie Johnson, Carl Johnson and Thomas Johnson, assault with deadly weapon, not guilty as to Thomas Johnson, guilty as to Willie Johnson and Carl Johnson, judgment suspended upon the payment of one half the costs each.

State vs Edmond Johnson and Roger Johnson, assault with deadly weapon, not guilty as to Roger Johnson, guilty as to Edmond Johnson, judgment suspended upon payment of the costs.

State vs Johnnie Jackson, assault with deadly weapon, pleads guilty, 30 days on roads, execution not to issue upon payment to prosecuting witness of \$12.75 and costs.

Cases against Wm. Lee, Blair Fuller and W. H. Joyner were re-entered on the docket for not having complied with the original order of the court, and continued.

Eleven community meetings will be held in Robeson county following up the general county wide meeting recently held at Lumberton in the interest of better balanced farming this year.

Takes Ban's Place



American League baseball club owners have named Frank J. Navin to take Ban Johnson's place as president of their circuit.

FIRE ALARMS ANSWERED

The following is a list of fire alarms answered during the year by the local fire company and will show to some extent the good work being done by this band of volunteer fire fighters:

The date of the alarm, the name of the owner or occupant of the property, the cause of the alarm and the damage is given in order in the following paragraphs:

January 4, 1926, L. Kline store, trash in back room. No damage.

January 23, 1926, C. T. Stokes cotton building, cause unknown, damage \$5,500.

February 16, 1926, Franklin Gin Co., cause unknown, damage \$500.

February 21, 1926, Dr. H. G. Perry's office, cause, defective flue, damage \$50.00.

March 6, 1926, W. L. House residence, cause automobile, damage \$20.

April 1st, Louisburg College, false alarm by girls.

April 2, South Main street, Ford car, cause, smoking, damage \$75.00.

April 2, J. M. Allen's chicken house, cause, brooder, damage \$1,000.00.

April 28, C. C. Collins residence, cause, bad wire or flue, damage \$5,600.00.

May 2, Burgess Lumber Co., false alarm.

May 4th, Mrs. Crenshaw building, cause, oil stove, damage, \$20.

May 4, R. C. Woodbridge residence, cause, chimney fire, damage, none.

May 3, A. W. Person cotton building, cause unknown, damage \$8,000.

May 10, Burgess Lumber Co., false alarm.

May 21st, Louisburg trash pile, usual alarm.

May 24th, Mrs. Odom, cause oil stove, damage, none.

June 5th, J. E. Malone residence, chimney fire, damage, none.

June 8th, Louisburg trash pile, usual alarm.

June 10th, Dr. H. G. Perry's office, cause, unknown damage none.

June 10th Dr. H. G. Perry's office, cause, bad wiring, damage \$25.

June 13th, North Main street, automobile, damage none.

November 7th, Franklin Seed Company gin, cotton fire, damage \$50.00.

November 7th, C. T. Stokes cotton yard, cotton fire, damage \$13.

November 21st, G. W. Murphy residence, cause, gas in stove, damage \$40.00.

December 17th, Ford warehouse, cause, defective flue, damage \$400.00.

December 18th, Fred's Filling Station, unnecessary.

It will be noted that a large number of these alarms could have been prevented by a small amount of attention to flues and wiring and it is the hope of the fire company that the property owners of Louisburg will have these inspected and cleaned at least once a year and help us make 1927 a better record with smaller losses than 1926.

F. J. BEASLEY, Fire Chief.

FIDDLERS CONVENTION

The fiddlers convention, announced for February 4th at Roberts school has been postponed to Friday night February 11, 1927 at 7:30 for the benefit of Harris Chapel church. All musicians are cordially invited to be present with their instruments.

The following prizes have been offered:

Fiddle, pocket knife given by the Spot Cash Company.

Guitar, pair of socks given by A. J. Jarman.

Banjo, pair of socks given by Mr. T. C. Harris.

Ukelele, tie given by Mr. F. W. Wheeler.

Money prizes will be given for any other instrument present, and for the best duet, trio and band.

After the musical program the lucky number of the quilt made by the R. Y. P. U. will be announced.

Refreshments will be sold. Admission 15 and 25 cents.

Twenty-two farmers of the Eureka community in Wayne county have treated their tobacco seed for leaf spot disease.

AMONG THE VISITORS

SOME YOU KNOW AND SOME YOU DO NOT KNOW.

Personal Items About Folks And Their Friends Who Travel Here And There.

Dr. A. H. Fleming went to Raleigh Tuesday.

Mr. David Harris visited Raleigh Tuesday.

Mr. Clyde White, of Raleigh, was a visitor to Louisburg Tuesday.

Mr. F. B. McKinne, of Goldsboro, was a visitor to Louisburg Tuesday.

Representative O. B. Moss, of Spring Hope, was a visitor to Louisburg Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Taylor visited Mr. and Mrs. L. S. Bryan at Oxford Wednesday.

Messrs. S. W. Brantley and —, Jenkins, of Spring Hope, were visitors to Louisburg Monday.

General B. S. Royster and Mr. Lewis T. Jones, of Oxford, were visitors in Louisburg upon business Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Watson spent Tuesday night in Raleigh guests of Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Payne. While there they heard Will Rogers, the noted humorist.

Mr. Eli Shearin, of St. Louis, Mo., formerly a Franklin county boy, is visiting friends and relatives in the county. Mr. Shearin left Franklin county thirty years ago.

Sheriff G. W. Blair, of Chatham county, was in Louisburg Tuesday looking for Parker Robbins in connection with the shooting of officers near there the past week.

METHODIST CHURCH

The communion service will be conducted next Sunday morning at the eleven o'clock hour after a brief message on Christian service. I must urge the members—all the members—young and old to attend this holy service. Please do not forget it—it is one of the divine means of grace which you should not neglect. You feed and clothe the body. Do you care less for your soul?

Next Sunday night at the seven o'clock hour the pastor will preach on The Unfinished Task. I hope you will hear this great theme and will fall in line with the magnificent program of your church.

It is our purpose to begin next Sunday night after church service, our mission study work. All who wish to enroll will see Mrs. M. C. Pleasants. I hope to have the mission books next Sunday at church.

EPWORTH LEAGUE

The Epworth League of the Methodist church will meet Sunday evening February 6th at 6:30 o'clock in the church auditorium.

A program is being prepared by Miss Ethel Suggs of the college faculty.

We need your cooperation and are looking for you.

Hymn 207.

Scripture: Luke 22:31-34 John 21:15-17.

Prayer, Leader.

Subject: How to strengthen our younger Leaguers.

Address: Jesus' attitude toward the young, Mildred Muse.

Reorganizing possibilities, Myrtle Watson.

Giving leadership, Myrtle Green.

Hymn 677.

How the senior League of this church can interest the younger people, Helen Evans.

Hymn 208.

Benediction.

MRS. STAMPS ENTERTAINS BOOK CLUB

Mrs. Mack Stamps, Jr., was the charming hostess to the Thursday Evening Book Club on Friday evening January 28th.

In the absence of the president, Mrs. J. E. Malone, Jr., the vice-president, Mrs. E. F. Griffin presided. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and approved, the roll was called and each member present reported on passing her book.

The subject for the evening was Fontainebleau and Malmalson.

The program was given as follows: Mrs. Frank Ross read a selection from one of Stoddard's lectures entitled, Memories of French Rules at Fontainebleau, Napoleon and Josephine at Malmalson was read by Mrs. S. B. Berkeley.

In conclusion Miss Jennie Taylor Harris gave a reading, Chateau Petes and Festivals.

Mrs. Stamps, assisted by Mrs. W. E. White, Jr., served a delicious snack course with coffee. Very attractive valentine favors were given the guests.

There seems to be no laws for the rich—one for the poor and two million laws for you and me.