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CURB REPORTER

Weather Monday (a perfect spring day); high 75, low 49. Monday was also my first day in court. I now can easily understand why I never could find out from anyone what the judges said on opening day of court. I remember once asking Judge Bobbit for a copy of his charge to the Grand Jury. He said he didn't write it down. Monday morning while trying to listen intently to what the judge was saying it was impossible to hear a fourth of it. People kept coming in and out, talking to one another, lawyers rattled papers, the swinging doors squeaked just about like static when you are trying to get something good on the radio. This column suggests a courtesy to the judge, if not of consideration for those who want to hear him, that all persons, lawyers and court officials be required to keep their seats while the judge is making a speech, and not allow any people to enter the room during that time. If this be not possible then we suggest that a mimeographed copy of the judge's charge to the jury be sent in advance to every man called to jury service. He would have a better understanding of his duties and would be able to take back home with him an intelligent report of the judge's message. He could keep it with his valuable papers and it would inspire future generations with the

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Polk Superior Court Opened On Monday

Polk County spring term of Superior court opened Monday morning at 10 o'clock in Columbus with Judge Felix Alley of Waynesville presiding, and Solicitor C. O. Ridings, representing the state.

The grand jury was drawn as follows: W. S. Green, foreman; F. D. Lawter, W. Belton Jackson, S. Prince, H. G. Flynn, J. C. Davidson, E. W. Barber, G. Harrison Bridgeman, J. M. Henderson, Willie H. Haynes, Zeb Kuykendall, James E. Johnson, Hoyt Pack, Hugh Jack, D. F. Shields, T. P. Clarke, A. A. Atkins, W. E. McDade.

In his charge to the grand jury, Judge Alley stressed the importance of the duties of the grand jury system in being a part of our American way of life which after all is the spirit of the Declaration of Independence that acknowledges that all men are created equal.

Among the lawyers attending the court were noted James E. Shipman of Hendersonville; Fred D. Hamrick, Sr., Fred D. Hamrick, Jr., W. W. Jones, M. L. Edwards, and Senator Stover Dunagan, all of Rutherford; E. B. Cloud and John Burgess of Columbus; M. R. McCown and J. T. Arledge of Tryon.

A large number of cases were hurriedly disposed of in the morning session by defendants pleading guilty and asking for mercy of the court. A number of defendants and witnesses were in the army and their cases could not be tried.