

HIGHWAY DEATHS PASS 300-MARK



THIS DOLL LOOKS GOOD IN ANYTHING—In furs or flimsies, Dunn's Becky Lee looks good—just like a Miss America ought to look. After an appearance on the Ed Sullivan show in New York last night, Becky was due to arrive today in Atlantic City where she will represent Virginia in the Miss America Pageant which begins Wednesday. She's wearing part of the big wardrobe given her by merchants of Roanoke, Va. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wilbert Lee, are leaving for Atlantic City today.

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Everything Ready In Dunn District

School Bells Ring Tuesday

The Court Drags—Slowly, Slowly

Grand Jury Indicts 26-Only 2 Tried

The Harnett County Grand Jury in a busy two day session last week returned 26 true bills of indictments and inspected the courthouse and other county institutions.

Grand jurors added a few sharp words to commissioners reminding them that repairs to the courthouse long promised, were overdue.

Harvey M. O'Quinn of Marners served as foreman.

Out of the list of bills returned two reached trial. Harvey Lee Murchison, Negro bandit who robbed the B. and J. jewelry store in Lillington was convicted and sentenced to 15 to 20 years in state prison.

Bobby Pope, young Dunn man,

School bells will ring to bring back the pupils to another school year at 8:30 a. m., September 3.

The school calendar will be as follows:

Sept. 2: Faculty Meetings; Sept. 3: School Begins; Oct. 18: Holiday—NCEA Meeting; Nov. 28 through Dec. 1 inclusive, Thanksgiving Holidays; Dec. 20, at 3 P. M. Close for the Christmas Holidays; Jan. 2 1958, re-open after Christmas; Jan. 21 End first semester; April 4-7 inclusive, Easter (Spring) Holidays; May 29 School Ends.

As the cafeterias will not open until Monday September 9, pupils will be dismissed about noon until that date.

For the first time in a good many years there will be a regular classroom available for all pupils, with no make-shift classes held in church basements, Armory etc. However, there are just enough Dunn Schools have continued to increase in enrollment about two additional classrooms of (Continued On Page Six)

Harnett Solicitor Resigning

Charles Williams, Erwin attorney who scored a victory in his first political contest, is resigning from his post as solicitor of Harnett County Recorder's Court.

The young Wake Forest law graduate, 30 years old, confirmed today that he has accepted a position with the claims department of an insurance company. He described it as a "better opportunity" than his court job.

Formal acceptance of his resignation will be made at a meeting of the county commissioners in Lillington tomorrow. Board Chair-said Lofton A. Tar, Dunn banker, said that action will probably be taken on the choosing of a successor.

Williams took office as solicitor last December 1, after defeating the incumbent, Neill McKay Ross, who was seeking renomination to that post.

Despite his youth Williams has been active in several careers. He worked as a reporter for the Har-



CHARLES WILLIAMS

nett County News, taught school in Erwin, been in charge of juvenile delinquency problems with the Harnett County Welfare department.

He started the practice of law after graduation from Wake Forest and ran for solicitor only a few months after opening his office in Erwin. Several lawyers now active in Harnett County were among his class-mates at Wake Forest. They included Robert Morgan, Jake Lamm, D. K. Stewart, and Bill and Archie Taylor.

Commissioner Tart said he did not know who the board would choose as Williams successor. "I believe there are several who would accept an appointment," he said.

On Verdict Of Manslaughter

Pope Given 10-15 Years

By TED CRAIL
Record News Editor

Twelve jurymen returned a verdict of "manslaughter without mercy" against red-haired Bobby Pope on Saturday afternoon as the week long criminal term of Harnett Superior Court came to an end.

The 20-year-old defendant, who was in county jail for three months awaiting trial, was sentenced by Judge George Fountain to a term of 10 to 15 years in state prison. The minimum sentence in a manslaughter conviction is four months and the maximum is 20 years.

Pope was jailed on June 2 when he surrendered to his policeman-brother, Faison "Red" Pope of Dunn. The shooting occurred the previous evening at Rabbit's Grill and Bobby had disappeared afterwards, spending the night in a vacant building next door to his mother's house.

His own story of what had happened was told for the first time as Bobby took the stand in his own defense. Chief defense attorney Everette Doffermyre, asked him if Harold Mayo, the Four Oaks youth who died from a bullet in the head, hadn't been his best friend.

"He sure was," replied Bobby with conviction.

Admitting that Mayo asked him to put his gun back in the glove compartment of the car, Bobby said he was attempting to extract the bullets when it exploded in his hands. As he started from the car to see if he could help Mayo, Bobby said, the passenger in the middle had tied him up.

Then, an unreasoning fear had caused him to run away, he told the court.

Solicitor Jack Hooks, asked Bobby what he had been frightened of if he didn't deliberately kill Mayo. "If you'd ever been in the same position, maybe you would know," Bobby said.

Different Version

His version of events conflicted sharply with that given by the state's star witness, Otis West. West, a lean, post-adolescent with a criminal record, was sitting between Mayo and Pope in the car where the shooting took place. When he appeared at the trial last week, he still wore the long sideburns which had caused Bobby Pope to nickname him "Elvis Presley."

Drinking and an argument over whether Bobby was going to return Mayo's gun where it belonged preceded the shooting, according to West. Bobby, he said, threatened the other youth's life immediately before the killing and Mayo had said, "I believe you'd do it, too."

West said Bobby killed Mayo first, then told him, "I'm going to kill you, too."

Struggled For Gun

But they had struggled for the gun, West said, and Bobby finally (Continued On Page Five)



CHEERFUL SELLER—William A. "Bill" Warren (right) was receiving some sales tips this week from Jim Lampley, a sales supervisor for Sears. Lampley came down to help Warren as he started on his new job as a Sears special representative. A cheerful seller, Warren has been in the appliance business a long time, knows his way around the big Eastern Carolina territory which he will cover. (Record Photo.)

Sears Sells Crickets, Too

Warren Appointed To Sears Staff

Bill Warren, genial master of man-to-man salesmanship, was out on a new beat last week as a special representative for Sears Roebuck. He approached a farmer who sells worms to fishermen and was asked, "Bill, what are you selling?"

"Everything except cricket," he responded. "I'm working for Sears Roebuck."

"You're wrong there. You sell crickets, too," the farmer said. "Thus he is learning, said Warren, that the mammoth firm he now works for — the world's champion retailer — has practically no blanks in its line of products."

In Lillington, Erwin and Dunn, Warren is well-known as one of the county's most active furniture and appliance salesmen. Until recently, he was manager of Wilbourne's furniture in Dunn. His business experience goes back to the filling station he started when he was just 18 years old.

Warren lives in Erwin now and is a past master there of the Erwin Masonic Lodge. He was born in Sampson County but raised mostly

Holiday Death Toll Still Climbs Rapidly

By UNITED PRESS
Highway deaths passed the 300-mark today and Safety Council officials, nearly certain the toll would exceed their pre-holiday estimate, told motorists their traffic record in the Labor Day weekend was "discouraging."

No Fatalities Reported Here

Harnett had its share of wrecks this weekend though it escaped the fatalities which have made it a typical bloody holiday for police forces around the state.

Wrecks reported here in the county included a damaging and expensive three-way smashup at the Open Air Market on the west edge of Dunn.

Highway Patrolman W. O. Grady reported that three persons received treatment at the Dunn hospital or Fort Bragg for injuries sustained in this wreck.

Mrs. Rosabelle Godwin of Dunn has been admitted to Betsy Johnson Memorial Hospital here with a neck injury. Thirty-seven-year-old Hubert Franklin Brown, an Erwin resident, was treated at the Dunn hospital for lacerations of the chin; he was later released. Jean Hammock, 31, of 701 East Pope St. in Dunn, was treated at the Fort Bragg hospital for an injury to the left ankle.

The accident occurred about 7:40 p.m. Sunday as a car up ahead made the turn into Crafton Tart's Open Air Market. Stopping so this car could make the turn were a '55 Chevrolet owned and operated by James Wesley Autry of 305 East G Street in Erwin and (Continued On Page Four)

deaths totaled 344, according to a United Press count. California led the list of states with 45 traffic deaths. New York was next with 22, Ohio and Texas each reported (Continued On Page Four)

Milk Truck Thief Not A Milk-Drinker

In the small hours on Saturday night a culprit of some description stole off with a milk truck from Gardner's Dairy.

Over 100 gallons of refrigerated milk were on this truck but the thief couldn't have been a milk-lover because he didn't drink a drop.

Dairy manager James Surles alerted local police and officers from here to Virginia were on the (Continued On Page Four)



MORE COURTROOM SKETCHES—Judge Fountain relaxes; Talbot Stewart intent on testimony.



Witness sports Elvis sideburns; John Law waits to appear before grand jury.



Grinning one-eyed witness; Lawyer H. M. Jackson from Sanford; the inevitable spittoon under juror's feet.