

Rape, Assault Cases Dominate County Superior Court

JACKSON — A Northampton County grand jury Wednesday failed to indict 21-year-old Larry Arwood on charges of raping Deborah Sue Tisdale, 14, of Garysburg at a sand pit near the girl's home March 13.

Arwood was arrested by Northampton County Sheriff Frank Outland on Wednesday following the alleged Monday assault when the girl, under questioning by school teachers, reported she had been raped.

According to Outland, Miss Tisdale and two other girls had skipped school and were picked up by Arwood and Marvin Johnson, 19, of Roanoke Rapids.

After riding around for some time in Arwood's car, the group drove to a sand pit near the girl's home where the assault allegedly occurred.

Arwood, who is on probation from Florida where he was convicted of a misdemeanor, was employed at the Talon Zipper Plant in Woodland.

He had been held without bond following the arrest.

Superior Court opened in Northampton County on Wednesday. In the first criminal case tried, Charlie Bryant, 48, of Jackson was acquitted by an all-male jury on charges of fornication and adultery.

Bryant was charged with allegedly having relations with a 25-year-old stepdaughter, Miss Eloise Bryant. Bryant was said to have been the father of the woman's four children.

Miss Bryant, who lived in the home with her mother and Bryant, testified that she had had relations with Bryant once a week for the past several years.

Bryant allegedly married the young woman's mother 16 years ago when Eloise Bryant was nine years old. Bryant and his wife have eight children.

The jury took only moments for deliberation before returning with a "not guilty" verdict.

The woman testified that she also had been intimate with other men since she was 17 years of age.

Other matters tried during the session include: Clyde Boyce of Odom Prison Farm, escape and auto larceny, six months at expiration of present term, suspended for five years good behavior.

Divorce actions granted: Helen R. Harrison on Nichols W. Harrison, Edith Mae Ponton from Matthew Ponton, Wanda Myrick from John D. Myrick, Sandy Richard Miles from Dormia Banks Miles, Roland Brantley from Lillie M. W. Brantley, Mary Virginia Baker from George W. Baker, Julia Jones

Burks from William D. Burks and Mary Burden Vann from Melvin Earl Vann.

The trial of Willie Washington, about 20, dominated the Wednesday session of court.

Washington was sentenced to three and one-half years imprisonment for attempting to rape Shirley Ann Edwards, 14, of Rich Square and holding her boyfriend, James Jacobs, at gunpoint.

Miss Edwards testified in court

Washington had visited in the home of her sister in Rich Square on the day of the incident and that she and James Jacobs had also been at the house.

She told the court Washington asked Jacobs to take him home and she accompanied the two men. She added Washington was carrying a shotgun.

Miss Edwards said the trio stopped at a station near Washington (See RAPE, Page 10)

THE Northampton County TIMES-NEWS

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ A Combination of ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
 THE ROANOKE-CHOWAN TIMES — Established 1892 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ THE NORTHAMPTON COUNTY NEWS — Established 1926



FOR SALE—New Champion, 2 bedroom 12x50'. See at Baber Shop in Powellsville. Roy C. Holloman. Map 3-23

"We don't need to run it again. It's already sold." A one-week insertion was all it took to sell this mobile home. Home Newspaper Want Ads are result ads.

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Rich Square LE 9-2859
 Jackson LE 4-2656

Rich Square and Jackson, N. C., Thursday, March 30, 1967

Covers All of Northampton's
 Towns and Communities

12 PAGES

REMCO Essay Contest Open To Area Juniors

RICH SQUARE — All-expense-paid Rural Electric Youth Tour trips to the nation's capital city will be awarded to winners of an essay-writing contest, it was announced this week by V. E. Taylor, manager of Roanoke Electric Membership Corporation.

All high school juniors in the area served by the cooperative are eligible to enter the contest, Taylor said. Winners will join winners of similar contests sponsored by other electric co-ops in North Carolina on the 1967 Rural Electric Youth Tour. All expenses for two on the trip to Washington will be paid by the Roanoke Electric Membership Corporation. The North Carolina tour will be coordinated by Tarheel Electric Membership Association in Raleigh, a statewide service organization representing 31 rural electric cooperatives.

Contest entrants will be required to submit a 500-word essay on the subject, "Rural Electric Cooperatives . . . Pace-makers of Progress." Resource materials that may be helpful to

contestants are available in the high school libraries or at the Roanoke Electric Membership Corp. office in Rich Square.

Essays will be judged on the basis of (1) knowledge of the subject, 40 per cent, (2) originality, 30 per cent, (3) composition, 10 per cent, (4) neatness, 10 per cent, and (5) grammar, 10 per cent.

Deadline for submitting essays will be April 20. On the basis of the essays, five finalists will be selected to appear in person for interviews by a committee of judges on April 28.

This is the first year that the Roanoke Electric cooperative has sponsored an essay-writing contest. The highlight of the tour, according to previous winners from other areas, was meeting President Johnson.

As participants in the 1967 Electric Cooperative Youth Tour, local contest winners will join with other North Carolina winners in Raleigh and then travel to Washington, D. C., where they



MUTUAL PROBLEMS — Members of Northampton County's Board of Commissioners met recently with state representatives and commissioners of other Roanoke-Chowan counties to discuss mutual problems. Pictured are (left to right): J. Guy Revelle, H. C. Guthrie, Rep. Emmett Burden, Rep. Roberts Jernigan Jr. (back to camera), two unidentified persons, Jasper Eley and Angus McKellar.

R-C Leads State With Highest Armed Forces Rejection Count

RALEIGH — The four Roanoke-Chowan counties have been designated for the dubious honor of leading the state list of rejection percentages by the armed forces. Information recently compiled by the State Department of Public Instruction shows Northampton (65.5 per cent) and Bertie (65.3 per cent) with the highest percentage in this area. They are outdone by only two other counties in the state, Hoke County with 70.1 per cent and Warren, 66.6 per cent.

Following close behind, after Scotland and Robeson Counties, is Gates with 61.8 per cent rejected.

Hertford County ranks 84th out of the 100 counties with a more respectable 56.8 per cent.

The area's high percentage of men rejected can be attributed mainly to educational weaknesses and socio-economic reasons, according to the state report.

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Charles F. Carroll said that during a five-year period of July 1, 1959 through June 30, 1964, 42.5 per cent of all those in the state examined for military service were rejected for mental reasons.

A statement by the surgeon general of the U.S. Army points out positive association between mental scores on the examinations and education.

Blame for the Roanoke-Chowan's embarrassingly high rejections can be pinpointed at deficiencies in educational and health programs.

County totals of men examined and rejected for the five year period are Hertford, 560 exam-

ined, 319 rejected; Gates, 262, 162; Bertie, 825, 539; Northampton, 614, 402.

County by county figures for the year July 1, 1965 through June 30, 1966 are not yet available but the State Selective Service office has stated that a total of 57,095 persons was examined in that year with 17,874 being rejected for mental reasons.

"Statewide this means our rejection rate for mental reasons last year was 31.3 per cent, a definite but by no means satisfactory improvement over the five-year figure," Dr. Carroll said.

Sixty-eight counties had less than 50 per cent of their youth who were examined for military service rejected for mental reasons and 32 had more than 50 per cent rejected for mental reasons. Obviously, the number of registrants included in the county by county study would correspond roughly with county population, or, more specifically, with the number of young men within the age of liability for military service in each county.

In counties with small populations, the number of registrants included in the five-year study is as low as 67 in Dare County and in more populous counties the number is as high as 3,000 registrants in Mecklenburg and Guilford.

The number of registrants rejected by the armed forces for mental reasons includes three categories: those who failed the mental examination only, those who failed the mental examination and also failed to pass the physical examination, and those with limited trainability.

The analysis does not include those who were disqualified for moral or medical reasons unless they also failed the mental examination.

The third category of mental (See STATE, Page 10)

R-C Counties Must 'Work Together'

MURFREESBORO — Counties—particularly those in the Roanoke-Chowan area where problems are more nearly identical than among any other group of counties in North Carolina—have simply got to swallow some of their pride and start working together.

This was the way State Representative Roberts Jernigan summed up the situation for County Commissioners from Bertie, Gates, Hertford and Northampton Counties in a meeting Friday night.

The meeting itself was a milestone. It was sponsored by the R-C legislators including Rep. Jernigan, Rep. Emmett W. Burden, Rep. Phil Godwin and Senator J. J. (Monk) Harrington. The dinner meeting was held at Chowan College.

John Morrissy, executive secretary of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners, noted that 26 counties in North Carolina no longer have a representative living within that county.

This, he continued, reflects the changing character of the whole state and he added, "Just wait until after the next census when, particularly in the East, there will be more large areas with fewer people and less representation."

Morrissy talked about political responsibility as it rests upon the shoulders of County Commissioners. He cited reevaluation of property on a regular basis as being the cause of some County Commissioners not being returned to office but he said it has meant more to tax stabilization than anything that could have been done.

He urged support of local option sales tax. Counties, he said, are just going to have to raise more money to provide the services demanded. "Ask the Legis-

lature for the responsibility of local option and you won't have to go back to the General Assembly every two years with hat in hand for a handout."

Guy Revelle Sr., chairman of the Northampton County Board, urged that all boards think about the advisability of holding local option sales tax referenda in all four counties on the same day, if the state authorized them for local vote.

Morrissy said low per capita is a deterrent to economic development.

He suggested that County Commissioners begin by improving governmental services. "Attitude is the first thing that needs to change — you've got to want to do the job."

Topics discussed for more than an hour by the four-county group included race relations, mental health, teacher supplements and legislation expected to be introduced within the next few weeks.

A meeting of the chairman from each of the four counties to discuss mental health services cooperation is to be called soon by Revelle, Northampton chairman.

Hertford County Board member Fred Jones said mental health and over-all health programs should both be considered for area cooperative efforts.

Jones said — Morrissy later emphasized the same point — that the federal government required local government units which receive federal aid for mental (See COUNTIES, Page 4)

Servicemen In The News

CWO J. R. REAMES
 USS CASA GRANDE — Chief Warrant Officer John R. Reames, USN, son of Mrs. Eugene W. Reames of Conway, is helping the U.S. Atlantic Fleet Amphibious Force celebrate its 25th anniversary this month while serving aboard the dock landing ship USS Casa Grande. Established in 1942, the force is now 20,000 men strong and operates 60 ships of different types.

PVT. DENNIS M. VANN
 PARRIS ISLAND, S. C. — Marine Private Dennis M. Vann, son of Mr. and Mrs. Denny O. Vann of Route 1, Conway, was graduated from eight weeks of recruit training at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot here. He will now undergo three weeks of individual combat training and then, after leave at home, will report to his first Marine Corps assignment.

PVT. BOBBY E. WATSON
 CAMP LEJEUNE — Marine Private Bobby E. Watson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ferdinand Watson of Route 1, Rich Square, has completed four weeks of individual combat training at this Marine Corps base. He will now receive at least four weeks of specialist training before being assigned to his first permanent unit.

LT. LEROY SUMNER
 FORT GORDON, Ga. — LeRoy Sumner, 20, whose mother, Mrs. (See SERVICEMEN, Page 10)

Fire Causes Extensive Damage At Severn Plant

SEVERN — A fire of undetermined origin did an estimated \$10,000 worth of damage to the Standard Spray and Chemical Company of Severn Wednesday night.

Fire fighting units from Conway, Boykins and Severn answered the call to the stubborn chemical blaze.

The fire broke out in the rear of the plant doing extensive damages to one drying room and storage area. Spot fires also broke out in a loading elevator.

Quick action by the fire companies kept the blaze in the rear of the building.

Wayne Summers told "Your Home Newspaper" that damage to the building was light to heavy in the rear of the building but little or no damage was done to the front of the structure.

Some electrical damage was done but, according to Summers, operation is expected to resume Friday.

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R-C Youths Injured In Viet Nam

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Two Roanoke-Chowan area youths in Viet Nam have been injured, according to word received by their families. Both are Marines.

Cpl. Benjamin F. Deanes Jr., 19, of Murfreesboro is being treated aboard the SS Princeton for a gunshot wound of the abdomen from enemy fire received March 24 in the vicinity of Quang Tri and his condition is good according to word sent the family from Washington Tuesday. He left last fall for Viet Nam.

Kenneth L. Smith, son of Graham Smith of Milwaukee, is in the First Medical Battalion hospital with shrapnel wounds of back and both legs with his prognosis good, according to the report received by his family. He was injured near Quang Nai. He enlisted June 1965 and has been in Viet Nam for nine months.

Reapportioned Cotton Acreage Request Okayed

JACKSON — Northampton County ASCS Manager Ben Mann reported Thursday the county office has been advised by the N.C. ASCS State Committee that all reapportioned cotton acreage requested by the county has been approved.

Mann added that additional cotton acreage is available for cotton farmers who want it.

Mann said the county's farmers requested 4,200 additional acres for 1967.

PPOP Meet Set Sunday To Hire Paid Personnel

RICH SQUARE — Members of the four-county People's Program on Poverty will meet Sunday in Rich Square to hire an executive director and to fill other paid posts in the recently-funded organization, according to the Rev. Melvin Creecy, president.

According to Creecy, the meeting will be held Sunday afternoon at the Rich Square A.M.E. Zion Church.

Creecy said the meeting will be open to the public.

The PPOP organization recently received \$187,607 in funds from the N.C. Fund to carry out a "grass roots" anti-poverty campaign.

Funds were approved last week at a meeting of the Fund's board of directors which also approved a grant-in-aid to a similar group.

The approval of the funds to PPOP was hailed by N.C. Fund representatives as the first step toward aiding independent community organizations operated by and for the poor.

The PPOP funds are to be used in carrying out programs in rural housing improvement, adult basic education, recreation and sanitation.

The PPOP organization is to operate in the Choanoke area of Hertford, Bertie, Northampton and Halifax Counties where the average education level is grade 7.6 and the public assistance case load each month totals 3,673.

Of the four counties served by PPOP, Northampton is rated 91st and Bertie 94th in per capita income. Both counties are among the 100 poorest counties in the country.

People's Program on Poverty was organized in the summer of 1966. Sixteen members of the organization testified before the President's Commission on Rural Poverty in Washington, D. C., last month about problems in the area. A delegation of equal size attended the Durham meeting with members of the N.C. Fund Board to discuss details of their proposal.

In the area of adult education, PPOP will organize neighborhood basic adult education classes to be taught by volunteer teachers as well as put on a recruiting drive for students to be enrolled at Pitt Technical Institute.

Recreation and sanitation programs under the PPOP grant will make available to neighborhood groups materials for self-help projects such as basketball goals.

Other aid for neighborhood groups will include small expenditures for water supply and sewage disposal improvement.

The PPOP organization will have \$25,000 for these "incentive grants programs" to be offered on a competitive basis to small communities.

'Bill' Barnes Coming

FT. McPHERSON, Ga. — The Roanoke-Chowan section may become a key area for a 70,000 man joint Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine maneuver now set for August 20-28.

The large-scale exercise will be conducted by United States Strike Command. It will be nicknamed KITTY HAWK.

Two civilian employees of the Army were in Aoshkie Thursday conferring with Maj. Frank Tallant, Army advisor, on setting up a meeting of political and farm leaders of Northampton and Hertford Counties during the week of April 17.

The meeting will explain the need for securing maneuver rights in the area and procedures that will be used in settling claims.

Among those expected to attend the Aoshkie meeting is Col. William (Bill) Barnes, son of Mrs. J. Bailey Barnes Sr. of Aoshkie. Colonel Barnes is chief of the Savannah District Corps of Engineers.

Visiting Aoshkie Thursday were S. R. Cooley of Colonel Barnes' office and David Bowen, 3rd U.S. Army chief of community relations.

Cooley will set up an office in Greenville to handle work of securing maneuver rights and settling claims.

It is expected that considerable nationwide publicity will be given the area during the maneuver.

Major Tallant informed the visitors of existence of Tri-County Airport for possible use in flying in news media representatives and military observers.

R-C Area To Have Active Part In Military Maneuvers; Local Meet

Tri-County is not yet shown on aviation maps.

Invitations to the Aoshkie meeting will be sent out by Lt. Gen. Louis W. Truman, 3rd Army commander.

A similar meeting will be held in Williamston for Bertie and Martin Counties.

Glaucoma

SEABOARD — One out of every 10 Americans will develop glaucoma, according to statistics reported to "Your Home Newspaper" recently.

The same source reports that many cases of total blindness reported today are victims of the dread disease which gives little or no warning before sight is lost.

Two Northampton County Lions Clubs are sponsoring a clinic to detect this disease early enough to allow preventive treatment.

Loss of sight by glaucoma cannot be restored. A simple test can reveal the presence of this disease in the human eye. Physicians from Raleigh will administer the test free of charge to any Northampton residents attending the clinic.

The clinic is to be held April 5 at the Seaboard School gymnasium.

"Won't you be there?"

Eastern Appalachia To Be Reorganized?

RALEIGH — Officials of the State Planning Task Force Wednesday held out hope that eventually districts formed under the Coastal Plains Regional Development Commission, the so-called eastern Appalachia, can be reorganized so as to get all Roanoke-Chowan counties into the same district.

At a meeting here Wednesday afternoon to go over plans for the Coastal Plains organization, both Wayne Corpening, director, and John R. Hampton, coordinator of the Planning Task Force indicated it would be possible to change district lines after all counties are in funded groups.

Delegates to Wednesday's meeting were welcomed by Gov. Dan Moore. Gov. Moore addressed representatives from throughout the East on the possibilities of the three-state organization and how it could aid in total development.

Currently three groups of eastern counties are in funded districts. Bertie is in one of these, along with a number of counties south of the Roanoke River, including Pitt, Beaufort and Martin.

Plans for districts which would include Hertford, Northampton and Gates were revealed at Wednesday's session.

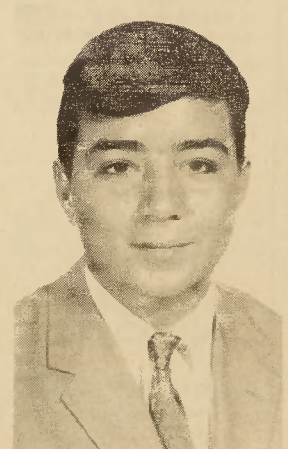
Initially Northampton is to be in an interior district which includes Halifax and runs to Wilson County. The district has 11 counties in all.

Hertford and Gates are proposed for a coastal district including most Albemarle area counties. Ten counties make up the district.

Representatives from Hertford and Northampton present at the meeting voiced dissatisfaction at being in separate districts themselves, with Bertie already split out from the remainder of the area.

Corpening and Hampton reassured the R-C questioners by saying that once all counties in the East are in funded districts, so that all counties are then on equal terms, it will be possible to rearrange district lines to get counties with common interests together.

In setting up the initial districts, Corpening said it was (See EASTERN, Page 10)



Reese Turner Joins Remco

RICH SQUARE — Reese Turner has recently joined the staff at Roanoke Electric Membership Corporation as a director of member services and public relations, according to company spokesmen.

Turner came from the Evans Products Corporation, Plywall Division of Chesapeake.

He graduated from Atlanta Christian College in Atlanta, Ga., and was a minister of the Church of Christ for 20 years.

In 1957-59, Turner served as District Scout Executive for the Roanoke-Chowan section. He lived in Powellsville for eight years.

Chuckie

A young California couple took a visiting aunt for a drive and pointed out a fig tree as one of the sights.

"Fig tree!" exclaimed the elderly woman. "That can't be a fig tree."

"Certainly is," said her niece. "What makes you think differently?"

"Well," said the aunt, subsiding a little, "I just thought . . . surely the leaves must be bigger than that."

Weather Wuz

Sunny and cool