

## Board Votes To Buy Hendricks' Property Behind Court House

The board of county commissioners in regular session here on Monday voted to exercise the county's option to purchase the Hendricks property on Front Street just to the rear of the courthouse.

## Grand Jury Finds Need Of Attention At Jail And Camp

Conditions at the Warren County Prison Camp, the Court House and the county jail were listed Tuesday afternoon in the report of the Grand Jury submitted to Judge Henry A. McKinney, presiding over the January criminal term of Superior Court.

The Grand Jury reported that it found at the county jail mattresses and covers in bad shape; four leaks in the plumbing; the exterior of the building needing painting; the kitchen, as in the past, needs enlarging and to be attached to the main building; and the cells should be aired out or better ventilated.

The County Prison Camp needs work done on some buildings on the outside before painting is started, the jury said.

While the county courthouse is generally in fair condition, corrections are needed in a rest room and furnace room, the Grand Jury found. It reported that the men's rest rooms need three toilet seats; that two barrels inside door should be moved so door can be opened wide; and that soap dish should be replaced on wall. The report said that the furnace room should be cleaned and ashes should be placed some place other than beside or near a wooden door for fear of fire.

On the brighter side, the Grand Jury reported that it found the Agriculture Building to be clean and well lighted and "in the very best shape"; that all justices of the peace have filed their reports; and that all administrators, executors, and guardians have filed their reports satisfactorily.

Thomas J. Harrington served as foreman of the Grand Jury.

## 'Little Federal' Plan Endorsed By Warren Farm Bureau Head

The head of the Warren County Farm Bureau this week urged local citizens to support the "Little Federal" Plan in the constitutional amendments to be submitted to the voters on next Tuesday.

"If you want to keep good government in North Carolina, vote for the Constitutional Amendment on reapportionment," Farm Bureau President Boyd Reams said.

North Carolina has a remarkable history of good government, Reams pointed out. "The chief reason is that we have kept a reasonable balance of power between conflicting interests in the state Legislature," he said. "We don't want to lose this balance and have a Legislature controlled by selfish power factions, backed by blocs of voters to gain control of the Legislature if both houses are based on population."

"The Constitutional Amendment would permit the House to be based on area (one Representative to each county in the state) and the Senate to be based on population," Reams said. "It gives the populous areas of the state quite enough power, because they would be in control of the Senate. Furthermore, as their population increases, they would keep gain-

agreed to let Wiley G. Coleman, chairman of the board of elections, use one of the rooms in the Hendricks house in the building to be acquired as an office for the Board of Elections.

The commissioners passed a resolution requesting that District Highway Engineer, Roger P. Dowtin, be allowed to continue his duties as district engineer after he has reached the retirement age within a few months.

The board voted to accept the resignation of Dr. C. H. Woodburn of Littleton as a member of the Warren County Board of Adjustment with the County Planning Board. Mrs. W. B. Stansbury was elected to replace Dr. Woodburn on the board and will serve as secretary. Other members of the board are Alvis Fleming, chairman; Josh Harris, McKinney Wilkins, Ed Williams, Ernest Whitby and Herbert Harris.

Marvin Newsom of Littleton, chairman of the Warren County Planning Board, who appeared before the commissioners with Jerry Turner of the Planning Division of the State Department of Conservation and Development, tended Dr. Woodburn's letter of resignation to the board and said that the Planning Board had recommended the appointment of Mrs. Stansbury.

Newsom also told the commissioners that he felt a request by the board of county commissioners to the Highway Commission would be of great assistance in having work started on proposed roads around the Gaston Lake. The Board agreed to do all in their power to have this construction carried out and as a first step agreed to have the board's secretary write a letter to the District Highway Commission and the Division Engineer requesting that right of way be staked out in order that easement may be obtained for the construction of the roads.

The State Highway Commission was requested to add to the County Road System a road leading from U. S. 158 near Elijah Ellington's home to Amos Clanton's home, a distance of about half a mile. The commissioners ordered that W. B. Currin, Jr., be refunded \$25.00 as Schedule B License Tax as a mule dealer, said tax being collected through error.

A. P. Rodwell, Jr., Tax Collector, reported tax collected during the month of December in the amount of \$51,143, bringing the year's collection to a total of \$239,475.39.

Dr. Robert F. Young received the congratulatory of the Board of County Commissioners Monday upon his appointment from a limited number of Health Officers selected to attend seminars in Houston, Texas, and to Denver, Colorado, during the next few weeks.

Dr. Young told the commissioners that Venereal Diseases were showing an alarming increase, particularly among young people, and that much remains to be done in the fight on TB. He said that he was very much gratified over his selection to attend the seminars and felt that he could learn something of value to the two counties he serves as health director--Vance and Warren.

The resignation of Mrs. G. V. Boyd as secretary to the Warren County Board of Health effective Feb. 1, was also announced by Dr. Young. He said that she would be replaced by Mrs. Rose White who had been assisting at the Health Department on a part-time basis.

He is to furnish a free haircut to each of the 15 boys on the John Graham basketball team in fulfillment of a promise to give a free haircut to each player should the team win ten straight games with no defeats.

## Answers Of Girl Clear Young Boy

Answers given by a 12-year-old girl brought a sudden end to a lengthy jury trial here Wednesday and won acquittal for an accused young Negro rapist.

Clifton Alston, 16, of Inez, was cleared of the rape charge minutes before an all-white jury was to have begun deliberation in his case--when Judge Henry A. McKinnon Jr. directed the jury to return a verdict of not guilty.

The decision to direct a not guilty verdict came after the young sister of the alleged rape victim confirmed Alston's testimony that he had the girl's consent when the two had sexual relations on the night of Aug. 21, 1963.

Both the State and the defense counsel had rested their case Wednesday when the 12-year-old sister of the prosecuting witness revealed to District Solicitor W. H. S. Burgwyn Jr. that she had witnessed a portion of the alleged attack and had seen another youth sitting on the back seat of the automobile while her sister and Alston were having an affair.

Earlier, during more than a day of lurid testimony heard by a packed courtroom, Clifton Alston testified that he used no force when he seduced Mary Louise Alston, 17, on the August night.

Mary Alston had charged that Clifton Alston had entered the car in which she was seated alone, locked the doors of the car, scratched her neck with a knife, and forced her to have relations with her.

The testified that the boy had "marked" her neck with the knife, and so frightened her that she had been unable to cry for help. She said the incident took place in the front seat of an automobile approximately 15 feet from the doorway of a "piccolo joint" in Liberia where Negro youngsters had gathered for a summer night fish fry.

Mary Alston told the jury that she had arrived at the scene of the alleged attack in the company of her young sister, Barbara, and the driver of the automobile, William Edward "Kemp" Williams. She said the attack took place after "Kemp" had gone inside the building and she was left alone in the car.

Defense attorney Charles T. Johnson of Warrenton called several witnesses to the stand who testified that they had seen Mary Alston and Clifton Alston in an intimate position in the automobile. One witness, 15-year-old James Alston, testified that he was sitting in the back seat of the car at one point because Mary Alston had promised to make love with him.

Josephine and Rosa Lee Williams told the court that they had also seen the defendant and the prosecuting witness during the alleged attack, and that there was no sign of a resistance on the part of Mary Alston.

Testimony in the case began Tuesday morning after more than an hour had been spent impelling a jury. Laughter spilled from the audience on (see FREED, page 4)

Traylor Appliances, Inc. which has for a number of years operated offices in both Warrenton and Norlina, has combined the two offices at Warrenton.

Dixon H. Ward, secretary-treasurer, said yesterday that the two stores were combined as an economy measure and because it would give customers greater service, greater selection and speedier service.

He said there would be no change in personnel.

# Voters Will Decide Fate Of Constitutional Amendments



Work was officially started on Warrenton's new sewage disposal plant on Saturday afternoon in groundbreaking ceremonies with Mayor W. A. Miles turning the first shovel of dirt at the site on Horse Branch near its junction with Fishing Creek. Others in the picture are, left to right, D. O. Harmon and Max Taylor, employees of Connell Construction Company; Bill Neal, employee of the Water Department; Hal Connell, contractor; Commissioner Walker P. Burwell, Water Supt. Harold R. Skillman, and Commissioners A. C. Fair and Dixon Ward.

## Polls To Be Open Tuesday

Warren County voters will go to the polls next Tuesday, Jan. 14, to determine the fate of two amendments to the North Carolina Constitution.

To be approved or rejected by the voters of Warren and other counties of the state are one amendment ordered submitted by the 1963 special session of the General Assembly relative to Legislative Representation, and one amendment ordered by the 1963 Assembly concerning Married Women's Property Rights.

An explanation of the two proposed amendments has been prepared by Attorney General Wade Bruton and issued by Thad Eure, Secretary of State, as follows:

### LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATION

The State Senate would be increased (at present 50), biennially elected from districts with a population per senator within 25% of the total population of the State divided by 70. The Constitution now requires Senatorial Districts to contain, as near as may be, an equal number of inhabitants. Present constitutional requirements of Senatorial Districts of contiguous territory, and prohibitions against the division of a county among Districts unless entitled to two or more senators, are continued. Senatorial redistricting and reapportionment is made compulsory upon the General Assembly convening in 1965 and after any Federal census. Should any General Assembly fail to discharge its constitutional duties with respect to senatorial redistricting and reapportionment, the amendment requires that a Senatorial Redistricting and Reapportionment Commission shall convene and carry out the constitutional mandate. The commission shall consist of the President of the Senate and one senator appointed by him, the Speaker of the House and one representative appointed by him and an additional senator or representative appointed by the Governor.

The State House of Representatives would consist of one representative biennially elected from each county. By law the state presently has one hundred counties. Present constitutional provisions compose the House of 120 members. Of these each county with less than 1/120 of the State's census population elects one member and each of the more populous counties elects one or more of the remaining members, allotted to it according to a formula primarily based upon population. The proposed amendment would, in effect, re-

## Warrenton, Norlina Meet In Cage Battle

Fans are expected to fill the John Graham gym here tonight (Friday) as Norlina and Warrenton meet for the first time in basketball play during the 1963-64 season.

Added interest is added to the game due to the fact that Warrenton is unbeaten and Norlina's boys have suffered only one loss during the season. Comparative scores would seem to favor the locals as they run away with Norlina while Norlina won its game from that team in a contest and defeated Aycock, the only team to defeat Norlina, with little difficulty. But as has been said year in and year out, with a great deal of truth, comparative scores mean little when the two schools meet in athletic contests.

# Criminal Term Of Superior Court Enters Fourth Day

The January criminal term of Warren County Superior Court entered its fourth day here Thursday as a crowded docket and requests for jury trials threatened to stretch the session into Friday.

Some 25 defendants had been called prior to Thursday during a term marked by overflow crowds. A drunk driving case, the State vs Perry Carter, reached the jury Thursday afternoon after consuming the Major interest during the term centered on the grand jury's ruling on a bill of indictment charging Mrs. Barbara S. Gilliland with murder in connection with the pistol slaying of her husband, Warrenton attorney James D. Gilliland.

After hearing testimony for more than a day, the grand jury returned a true bill on Tuesday. However, on Wednesday morning, Solicitor W. S. Burgwyn received a telegram from Mrs. Gilliland's attorney, Robert Cahoon of Greensboro, requesting a continuation. The State and Judge Henry A. McKinnon, Jr., of Lumberton allowed Mrs. Gilliland to remain free on \$5,000 bond.

A rape case, the only capital crime on the calendar for the criminal session, drew heavy spectator interest for more than a day before Judge McKinnon directed the jury to return a verdict of not guilty for the defendant, Clifton Alston. Alston's attorney, Charles T. Johnson, earlier had asked for a non-suit in the case, but Judge McKinnon allowed the trial to proceed before last-minute evidence freed the youth.

A 17-year-old Littleton Negro, Linwood Lee, drew the longest term during the session. Lee, charged on three counts of breaking and entering, admitted going into the home of Mrs. Lillian Robinson in Littleton on several occasions before police trapped him near there in November.

Lee was sentenced to two years in prison in each of two cases, and drew an 8-10 year sentence in the third.

Lawrence Moss, charged with assault, drew a six-month road sentence, and Ossie Lynch, sentenced to two years for assault and resisting arrest in Recorder's Court less than a week ago, told the court he wished to receive the judgment of the lower court, thereby withdrawing his appeal to Superior Court.

A convict, who admitted breaking from a road gang near Arcola last year, had a one-year term tacked onto the end of his sentences. Charles Ben Wilkins told the court that he had received bad treatment in the Warren County prison system and requested transfer elsewhere.

Fred H. Powell, who saw a non-support charge against him not pressed, began serving a six-month road sentence for probation violation. Powell's suspended sentence, imposed in an Aug. 23, 1963, session of Recorder's Court on a reckless driving charge, was ordered activated because he had violated provisions of his probation by not submitting a monthly written report to his probation officer and by engaging in an affray on Dec. 28 at the Norlina Recreation Center.

The State took a nol prosequere in several cases, including Everette Lee Bullock, assault with a deadly weapon; Lucy Farrar, liquor; and one count each of drunk driving against Forrest Harris and Desmond Junious Harris.

Each was found guilty of a second charge of drunk driving charges after their separate cases went to a jury. Both were given six-month suspended sentences. Forrest Harris was fined \$100 and costs while Desmond Harris was fined \$150 and costs.

Alpheus O. Kearney, charged with giving a bad check, pleaded nolo contendere and prayer for judgment was continued on condition he pay \$44.02 to Gowen and Atwill Gas Co. William Starr Davis, Sr., charged with speeding, entered a plea of guilty of speeding too fast for existing conditions. Prayer for judgment was continued on condition he pay the costs for which the county is liable.

Willie Bay Henderson, charged with drunk driving, entered a plea of guilty to reckless driving. He received a four-month sentence, suspended two years upon condition he surrender his driver's license for six months, not drive for eight months, and pay a fine of \$100 and costs.

Linwood Wall, pleading guilty to careless and reckless driving after coming into court on charges of drunk driving and speeding, drew a six-month sentence, suspended for two years upon condition he operate no vehicle except in course of his employment, and pay fine of \$100 and costs.

George Sult, charged with non support, received a suspended sentence on condition he pay the sum of \$15 weekly to support his three illegitimate children. Charlie Moseley, charged with breaking and entering, received an 18-month suspended sentence and was placed on probation for five years.

John June Lewis, charged with drunk driving tendered a plea of guilty of careless and reckless driving. He received a three-month suspended sentence, suspended for three years on condition that he not violate any of the motor vehicle laws and pay a fine of \$50 and costs.

In other cases, the following action was taken: Charlie W. Bullock, drunk driving and leaving the scene of an accident, continued. Richard Russell, assault with a deadly weapon, called and failed.

Ernest Ayscue, larceny, judgment absolute on bond. Thomas Campbell, called and failed. Henry Dunston, liquor, continued. Clie Boyd, involuntary manslaughter, continued. Leonard Davis, assault, continued.

## Gilliland Hearing Is Highlight Of Session

A hearing for Mrs. Barbara S. Gilliland, charged with murder in connection with the death of her husband, Warrenton Attorney James D. Gilliland, highlighted Friday's session of Warren County Recorder's Court here.

Mrs. Gilliland, 34-year-old blonde businesswoman, was in court with her attorney, Greensboro attorney Robert Cahoon, when Judge Julius E. Banzet found probable cause to order Mrs. Gilliland bound over to the January criminal term of Warren County Superior Court.

Judge Banzet's decision to let a grand jury rule on the evidence submitted by the State appeared to hinge on a statement reportedly made by Mrs. Gilliland to State Highway Patrolman W. E. Brown.

Brown testified during the course of the hearing that Mrs. Gilliland, when asked by him earlier who shot her husband, replied "I'd rather not say." Judge Banzet ruled that he would let a grand jury next decide on the case after hearing Cahoon say that the remark was "one made by an innocent woman."

The state took a nol prosequere in the case of Jerome Boyd, charged with carnal knowledge.

Claude Jordan was in court on a charge of assault. Prayer for judgment was continued for 12 months upon condition that the defendant pay into the office of the Clerk of Court for the use of James E. Stegall the sum of \$18.00 and pay court costs.

Walter Moss was found guilty of giving a bad check. Prayer for judgment was continued for 12 months upon condition the defendant pay to Lanier Hardware Co. \$13.70 for check, and pay costs in the action.

Walter Moss was also found guilty of giving a bad check. Prayer for judgment was continued for 12 months under the condition that the defendant pay to Quality Grocery \$20.00 for check, and pay costs.

## Appliance Firm Moves Norlina Branch Here

Traylor Appliances, Inc. which has for a number of years operated offices in both Warrenton and Norlina, has combined the two offices at Warrenton.

Dixon H. Ward, secretary-treasurer, said yesterday that the two stores were combined as an economy measure and because it would give customers greater service, greater selection and speedier service.

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## Free Haircuts

Bill A. Benson, popular Warrenton barber and father of John Graham Basketball Star, Billie Benson, is in for quite a bit of work with no pay.

## Convinced

Elmer Blankenship, Warrenton television and radio repairman, is one man who is convinced that it pays to advertise.