

Variety of Charges in New Year's Day Court

Frank Coore on Probation For Five Years—Other Cases Before Judge Rowe

In Recorder's Court Monday, before Judge J. Vance Rowe, Frank Coore, white, was found guilty of assault with a deadly weapon. J. A. Medlin charged that Coore went to his place in the night time and fired several shots through the door of his home. Coore was given 18 months on the roads, but on recommendation of the prosecuting witness and several good men of the community, the sentence was suspended upon condition that the defendant pay the costs and not violate the law during the next five years, and that he be under the observance and supervision of the State probation officer for this district during the said period of five years.

Clyde Phillips was found not guilty of violating the game laws. He was charged with operating an automatic gun without its being choked as required by law and with killing turkeys in excess of the bag laws. The turkeys which he was charged with killing were some procured from the State by Julian S. Bishop and released on land which Mr. Bishop had leased.

Willie Street, colored, of Carthage, was given six months for assaulting Willie Mae Ray with a stick, breaking her right arm. Street testified that he, Willie Mae and two other girls were "playing" when her arm was hurt.

Truitt Nixon, formerly of Cameron but recently of Asheboro, was found guilty of public drunkenness, disorderly conduct and threatening the lives of his wife and children. He was given 30 days, to be suspended upon payment of the costs and upon condition of good behavior during the next two years.

A case in which Thessioy Manley, Robert Phillips, Woodrow Jackson, and Albert Bass, white men, were charged with larceny of tobacco from the farm of William A. Wright in Bensalem township was continued to next Monday.

Several drivers' licenses were revoked for recklessness and intoxication.

Ador Has Christmas Party for Colored Folks

School Crowded for Tree, Presents, Singing, Movies and Talk by Father Harrington

The annual Christmas party given in the Ador schoolhouse for the entire colored population of the Ador community was a great success. This yearly affair, originated by Alexander Gray, principal of the school, was held on December 27th, with the building packed solidly to the doors. Children sat on older children's laps, and older children on the laps of their parents, that all might enjoy the movies and other entertainment.

The room was gay with red and green streamers, holly, and a shining silver-decked Christmas tree. Near the tree was a table piled high with candy and presents which were passed around following the program. On the program were Preacher John Core, carol singing by two girl students at Teacher's College, Winston-Salem, a talk about Christmas by Prof. Gray, and an address by Father Charles Harrington of the Church of Our Lady of Victory in West Southern Pines. Four sound motion pictures, two "funnies" for the children and the feature film, "Let My People Live," released in the interest of the campaign against tuberculosis, concluded the program. Prof. Gray thanked those who had contributed to the success of the party, especially one woman resident of Pinebluff who anonymously, has provided gifts for the colored people of Ador for several seasons. He also expressed his appreciation of the work being done in the community by the Pinebluff Maternity Welfare committee.

LEGAL NOTICES

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE

Having qualified as Executors of the estate of Johanna C. Docher, late of Moore County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 8th day of December, 1940, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.

This 8th day of December, 1939.
F. W. VAN CAMP and ETHEL E. JONES, Executors of the Last Will and Testament of Johanna C. Docher, Deceased.

D25, Jan. 19.

These Buses Carry Your Children to School



The above picture shows a view of the garage of public school buses. The three trucks in front are used by the county garage staff in servicing the buses. One of these trucks carries a 400-gallon tank of gas, 100 gallons of oil, four extra tires, air, tools, parts, and other gadgets for repairing buses anywhere. The garage staff consists of D. G. Fry, manager, John Stewart, mechanic; Leon Luck, assistant mechanic; Gurney Martin, helper; Dewey Wallace, helper, and June Sham, helper. These buses travel 2350 miles daily.

Status of Public Education In Moore County Highest In History

Superintendent Thomas Reports on Progress Along All Fronts During Past Decade

"The status of public education in Moore county is higher today than ever before in its history," County Superintendent H. Lee Thomas says in a statement given to The Pilot this week.

"The county is keeping pace with the most progressive school systems of the state. In teaching personnel, physical equipment, organization, enrollment, financial support, regularity of attendance, public interest and scholastic standards, substantial improvement has been during the past ten years.

"The teachers of the county are among the very best. All except two of the 139 white teachers hold Class A certificates which are equivalent to four years of standard college training. Every one of the 56 colored teachers holds the Class A certificate or has done four years of standard college work. Nearly all teachers have earned their college degrees. Those who have not done so will complete the required class work and receive them within the next year or two. Teachers have been faithful in their attendance at summer schools. Many have availed themselves of opportunities offered by the universities and colleges of taking extension work during the regular school year. For eight years professors from the universities and colleges have conducted regular week-by-week classes at the Carthage High School and one year at the Hemp Graded School for the benefit of teachers who wished to get certificates, college or graduate credit. Many teachers from neighboring counties as well as many non-teachers have taken these courses. Since this is not sufficient demand now, these courses have been discontinued. Meanwhile, some of our teachers have preferred to take correspondence work during the regular school year. This type of professional study usually counted toward renewing and raising certificates. Many of our teachers and principals including the county superintendent, have done graduate study in the best universities of the nation and now hold the Master of Arts Degree. In the manner described above our teachers have steadily improved their professional standards until at present the general average for the county schools is well above the average for the state as a whole.

Improved Facilities
 "There has been much improvement in the physical equipment of the schools during this period. Today we have 121 modern classrooms with central heating plants equipped with running water, sewerage, electricity and good furniture and teaching apparatus, whereas ten years ago there were only 84 such classrooms poorly equipped. At the present time 24 additional modern classrooms and three new auditoriums are under construction, making the total number of modern classrooms reach 145 by the end of this scholastic year. At the same time these additional buildings were being erected, the indebtedness of the schools decreased from \$652,550.00 ten years ago to \$436,000.00 at the end of the present fiscal year, a reduction in bonded indebtedness of \$216,550.00 or 33 percent. The total value of all school property has been increased during this period from \$990,508.00 to approximately \$1,200,000.00, a gain in value of 12 percent. A number of the old brick buildings have been renovated and modernized, the old furniture replaced or repaired, yards landscaped and beautified and in

Reviews Record



H. LEE THOMAS

H. Lee Thomas, Moore county Superintendent of Public Instruction, who reports on a decade of progress of public schools and look forward to 1940 with anticipation of further great achievements in this field. Mr. Thomas has served as head of the schools here for the past ten years. He is a native of Broadway, Moore (now Lee) county. He completed his education at the University of North Carolina, receiving the Master of Arts Degree from that institution in 1925.

other respects improved.
 "The total expenditures for the rural schools of the county in 1939-40 will exceed \$360,000.00 as compared to \$306,365.73 in 1928-29. This increase in expenditure is caused by the increase in the length of term from seven to eight months. Other factors entering into the increase in expenditure may be found in the larger expense for vocational education and the expenditure of some \$60,000.00 for new school buildings in 1939-40.

Many Consolidations

"Consolidation of schools has gone along steadily, the number of schools being reduced from 82 to 35. The merging of small schools with inferior classroom organization and short recitation periods into larger schools with better organization and longer class periods has greatly improved the quality of the instruction and the achievement of pupils. The number of school buses has been increased from 33 at the beginning of the period to 67 at the present time. The quality, size and comfort of the buses have improved greatly. Many small and unreliable buses which formerly made two and three trips daily have been replaced by larger and better ones capable of transporting more children with fewer trips. This has enabled many of the children to leave home later in the mornings and arrive home earlier in the afternoon. It has reduced crowded conditions in buses and eliminated some of the dangers of transportation. The number of children transported to school daily has increased from 1680 in 1928-29 to approximately 3850 in 1939-40, an increase of 180 per cent. In the meantime, the cost of transportation has been reduced from \$18.50 per pupil per year to less than \$8.00 per pupil per year. The total daily mileage of all buses this year is 2,350 or 376,000 miles for the year. Seventy per cent of all bus drivers are adults.

"There are 195 teachers employed this year, about four per cent fewer than at the beginning of the period. The decrease in the number of teachers was caused by the increase in the teaching load inaugurated several years ago by the enactment of the Hancock School Machinery Law. The

larger number of pupils assigned to each teacher has placed a handicap upon both teacher and pupil. The average daily membership increased from 5,428 in 1928-29 to 6060 in 1928-30, a gain of 632 or eleven per cent. The present membership is slightly more than last year. The increase in membership was caused by the moving into the county of a number of families from other sections of the country and a healthy birth rate.

Vocational Education

In 1928-29, the county school system employed two home economics teachers, one at Aberdeen and one at Carthage. The same year there was only one teacher of agriculture at Vass-Lakeview. In 1939-40 there are eight home economics teachers located at Cameron, Carthage, Aberdeen, West End, Farm Life, Highfalls, Elise Academy and Pickney High School. This year there are four teachers of agriculture at Vass-Lakeview, Cameron, Carthage and Pinckney High School. In addition to the twelve teachers of home economics and agriculture, there are five teachers of commercial courses at Aberdeen, Cameron, Carthage, West End and Hemp. Also, there is a teacher of manual arts at Hemp. The expenditure for vocational education has increased from \$4,500.00 to \$17,678.00 in the ten year period a gain of 550 per cent. Nine hundred students are studying vocational subjects this year, whereas only one hundred and fifty were doing so in 1928-29.

"There has been considerable improvement in library facilities in the high and elementary schools since 1928-29. The number of library books reported in the rural schools in 1928-29 was 6318 as compared to 11,316 in 1938-39, an increase of 83 per cent. Approximately 1,500 new books have been added to libraries this year, which makes the total more than double that of ten years ago. These additions will help to keep the school libraries up to standard for the time being.

"The average length of the school term has been increased from seven to eight months as a result of the statewide eight months school term. The extension of the term and the expansion of consolidation have contributed much to improvement of classroom organization and instruction, resulting in untold benefits to the children. The percentage of membership in average daily attendance this year will be near 95 percent, whereas ten years ago it was only 79 per cent. Less than 21 per cent of the children enrolled last year failed to be promoted, compared to 38 per cent who failed in 1928-29. The record for this year is not yet available, but should be better than that of last year.

Illiteracy in County

"There seems to be a close correlation between attendance and promotion. The records show that those children who attend regularly gain promotion except in rare cases, and those who do not attend regularly usually fail. Eight and one-tenth per cent of all persons ten years of age and over in Moore county were technically illiterate in 1930. This condition does not exist because schools were not available or capable of teaching those illiterates to read and write before they reached the age of ten. These people, with few exceptions, are illiterate because they failed to attend the schools provided for their benefit. It seems that the County and State are permitting a new crop of illiterates to grow up each year. It is more economical to teach them in the public school as children than to wait until they have grown up and assumed the responsibilities of adulthood. There is a law on our statute books purporting to require all children between the ages of seven and 14 years to at-

tend school, but it has not been strictly enforced. There are too many ways to evade it. There is not adequate machinery provided to make it work. The enforcement of this law is left in the hands of the County welfare officer who already has too many duties and responsibilities. While school attendance apparently has improved 15 per cent in the last ten years, there is still much to be done. If the 1940 census reveals illiteracy in the county reduced to five per cent, we should feel proud of our achievement."

HOSPITAL GROUP REPORTS ON WORK DURING PAST YEAR

(Continued from page one)

of food and medicine, and provided nurses for certain indigent cases where special attention was imperative.

Mrs. Robert S. McClellan's report described the work of the Motor Corps in carrying to and from the Hospital patients unable themselves to arrange transportation. Mrs. H. F. Kelly's Committee has kept the Hospital bright with flowers. Mrs. J. H. Andrews told the meeting that the standards of housekeeping throughout the institution had steadily improved, and that the members of her Inspection Group were well pleased with the progress made. The Auxiliary had 189 members and a greater enrollment is confidently expected for 1940.

The meeting was particularly interested in the account of the Christmas parties given at the Hospital

under the supervision of Miss Kelsey. Many individuals and organizations contributed to the success of this traditional activity. It was resolved to send special thanks to Judge and Mrs. Way for gifts of musical records, and to Jerry Black and his orchestra who, through the courtesy of the Dunes Club management, provided delightful music for the occasion.

Mrs. McKelway announced a partial list of chairmen for 1940 as follows: Equipment, Mrs. Kelsey; Supply, Mrs. Hotchkiss, temporarily; Membership, Miss Kelsey; Flowers, Mrs. Kelly; Motor Corps, Mrs. McClellan; Publicity, Mrs. Paul Butler. Other appointments will be made later.

Specials in Leathercraft one fourth off at Hayes.'

J. N. Powell, Inc.
Funeral Directors
 24 HOUR AMBULANCE SERVICE
 PHONE 6161-SOUTHERN PINES

To serve those who call upon us to the best of our ability and with thoughtful fairness is the basis upon which our organization is formed.

H. G. McELROY
 Manager

The Ark

Southern Pines

North Carolina

A School for Boys and Girls

Kindergarten through Eighth Grade

Resident Pupils and Day Pupils

High Scholastic Standing

Music, Art, Handicrafts, Sports.

MRS. MILLICENT A. HAYES, Principal

For College Preparatory and other courses for older girls

APPLY TO MRS. COBURN BRUCE, ST. HILDAS
 SOUTHERN PINES, OR TO MRS. HAYES

LIST YOUR PROPERTY IN JANUARY

See the list taker in your township and give in your property. A failure to list will subject you to DOUBLE TAXATION: The following have been appointed to list property in Moore County for the year 1940:

- Carthage Township—Mrs. S. C. Riddle, Carthage, Rt. 3
- Bensalem Township—Mr. B. Deaton, Eagle Springs
- Sheffield Township—Mr. Curtis C. Williams, Hemp
- Ritter Township, Mr. L. B. Ritter, Carthage, Rt. 4
- Deep River Township—Mr. Geo. W. Willcox, Sanford, R3
- Greenwood Township—Mr. John W. Cameron, Cameron
- McNeill Township—Mrs. D. J. Blue, Carthage, Rt. 3
- Sandhill Township—Mr. J. J. Harrington, Aberdeen
- Mineral Springs Township—Mr. C. F. Leavitt, Carthage Route 3

County Tax Supervisor