

COURT CLEARS DOCKET OF IMPORTANT CASES; ADJOURNS WEDNESDAY

BUT FEW CIVIL CASES ARE TRIED

2 Negroes Charged With Housebreaking Get Off With Light Sentences

4 DIVORCES GRANTED

John R. Coltrane Gets Suspended Sentence of Twelve Months in Jail for Assault With Deadly Weapon

The June term of Martin County superior court in session here this week was brought to a close Wednesday when Judge Garland E. Midyette listened to pleas coming from many farmers who were called from their work to take part in the civil proceedings. With the completion of the criminal docket Tuesday, the term was practically closed, excepting one or two minor cases that were held the next morning.

The docket, carrying charges of murder, housebreaking, and other charges of big report, turned out to be rather weak when court examined the evidence in the several cases and meted out no long-term sentences. Several cases were remanded to the recorder's court, and two or three were continued. A few civil cases that were to have been heard this term are to be given first place in the proceedings next September, the time for the third regular court of the year.

The case in which Amos Sprull was charged with driving an automobile while he was intoxicated was continued.

The cases against Arthur Lilley, Lawrence Lilley, and George Harrison for assault with a deadly weapon, were remanded to the recorder's court.

W. H. Ellison, charged with violating the fishing laws, carried his case under appeal to the court and plead not guilty. A trial by jury was ordered, and after hearing the evidence its verdict declared Ellison guilty of fishing with a net not in accordance with the fishing laws of the State. Upon his paying the costs in the case Judge Midyette suspended the sentence.

Charged with seduction, J. H. Taylor plead not guilty, but he did plead guilty of hasty. Solicitor Gilliam accepted the plea for the State and Taylor was ordered to pay \$25 to the prosecuting witness, Katie Rogers, and \$10 each month for two years. To assure his part in the obligation, the defendant was placed under a \$250 bond. The following day judgment was stricken out by the court, and the defendant was placed under bond in the sum of \$750 for his appearance at the September term of Martin County superior court.

The case charging John R. Coltrane with assault with intent to kill probably attracted the greatest attention of any one heard this term. Coltrane's attorneys, A. W. McLean, of Washington, and E. S. Peel, of this place, entered a plea of not guilty of assault with intent to kill, but contended with a plea of assault with a deadly weapon. The plea was accepted by the State's solicitor, Donnell Gilliam, and a suspended sentence calling for 12 months in jail with leave to be assigned to the authorities of Edgecombe County for work on the public roads of that county was meted out by Judge Midyette. The defendant was required to pay the costs of the action, and capias to issue at any time within two years upon the request of the solicitor for the State under the direction of the judge holding court in the district and in case of a new criminal charge against the defendant. The judgment made in the case heard this week is to be without prejudice to any civil rights of the defendant.

Alexander Smallwood plead guilty to a forgery charge, and in short order

PEANUT TARIFF HEARING JULY 17

Growers Association Leads Fight for Higher Duty On Imports

According to a public announcement made by the United States Tariff Commission, a hearing will be held before that body in Washington, D. C., the 17th of next month to determine whether the tariff on peanuts should be increased.

Last Wednesday representatives of the peanut growers' association met in Norfolk to formulate plans that might be used in a campaign urging an increased tariff. Opponents of the measure, including importers and the National Confectioners' Association, will be heard along with the proponents of the increase in tariff in Washington next month, and a real fight is expected.

In a report covering almost 200 pages, the tariff commission has published its findings as to the production costs of peanuts in this country and the relative cost of bringing peanuts into this country from China. According to the report, the cost of domestic production, using 1924 and 1925 as an average, was \$4.62, while the selling average for the same period, as far as it could be determined, was \$4.72. The cost of production in China is only \$2.32, the report pointed out.

An increase in the tariff will be bitterly fought for by the peanut growers' association, assisted by non-members and cleaners in this country, and the assistance of every grower is urged.

ALL-STARS WIN SECOND GAME

Defeat Hobgood-Scotland Neck By Slugging; Score 14 to 6

The All-Stars registered their second win of the season last Tuesday when they defeated the combined team of Hobgood and Scotland Neck 14 to 6. Cherry, of Everetts, twirled a good game, while the hitting of the entire nine was of the extraordinary type.

The boys, as well as a large number of spectators, were greatly disappointed yesterday afternoon when Grimesland failed to show up for a return game. No reason was assigned for the failure of the Grimesland players to make their appearance, and the managers of the All-Stars are unable to understand why the Pitt County lads forfeited the game.

The team goes to Beaufort tomorrow, where a game will be played with a Morehead-Beaufort aggregation.

Next Tuesday the team meets Washington at Washington for the first time this season, and a good exhibition is expected. The Washingtonians are scheduled to return the game the following Thursday.

Judge Midyette sent him to jail for twelve months to be assigned to the authorities of Edgecombe County to be worked on the roads there.

Roy Ford charged with assault with a deadly weapon and with an attempt to rape, plead guilty to the first charge but maintained his innocence on the second count. The plea of not guilty by the solicitor, and sentence was suspended upon payment of the costs of the action.

William Hassell, young colored boy charged with housebreaking, came into court and plead not guilty to the charge. The State's evidence was heard, and it was the opinion of many that a conviction was in order. The defense offered no testimony, but through agreement entered a plea of guilty of forcible trespass. Solicitor Gilliam accepted the plea, and the court attenders waited for the judge's announcement. Six months in jail was placed on the young negro, which means that he will be at liberty about October 1, since the little over two months in jail will be counted in as a part of the sentence.

John Alonzo Hassell, a brother of William, came into court under a similar charge, but at the outset he plead guilty of forcible trespass and a sentence of four months was meted out by the judge. In both of these cases Judge Midyette made a talk, showing the two colored defendants by what a narrow margin they had missed paying the supreme penalty, and explained how they escaped with the penalties imposed. In his talk, Mr. Midyette told the older boy that had he put his hand just inside the door he would be a proper subject for the electric chair. Alonzo was held in connection with trespass on the W. G. Lamb property.

(Continued on page four)

EARLY REPORTS INDICATE GOOD FAIR THIS YEAR

W. T. Stone Shows Receiving Glowing Press Notices in North

PLAYS PHILADELPHIA

Premium List Has Been Revised and Will Be Printed Within Next Four or Five Weeks

Rest assured, Johnnie, for we are collecting one of the greatest shows that has ever played the Roanoke Fair, was one of the statements in a letter from W. T. Stone to Mr. John L. Rodgers, manager of the Roanoke Fair, here this week.

In an interview yesterday morning, Mr. Rodgers stated that plans were well advanced for the 1928 Roanoke Fair, that indications were pointing to a most successful show this year.

A press report from the W. T. Stone Shows in New Brunswick, N. J., last week stated that the shows were meeting with great success, that the week before in Philadelphia was a banner one. At Phoenixville, Pa., the show secured the only permit issued and the impression it made with the fire department there gave it a return date for the week of June 25. The show is now traveling in 15 special train cars and has 15 shows, six sides, and other equipment. According to the letter, the management is adding weekly to his equipment and that by the time he reaches here in September, he will have one of the largest shows ever in this section.

The fair's premium list has been revised, and the premiums in the field and garden crops will be very attractive this year to the farmers. The book will go to press within the next few weeks and will be ready for distribution a few weeks earlier than the time of distribution last year.

4-TEAM LEAGUE BEING PLANNED

Martin, Beaufort, Halifax And Washington Counties to be Represented

It was learned here yesterday that plans for the organization of a four-county baseball league are being formulated, and which if successful will bring to fans in Martin, Beaufort, Halifax, and Washington Counties a creditable brand of baseball.

The plans materialize, Hobgood and Scotland Neck, as one team, will represent Halifax County; Washington, in Beaufort County; Plymouth and Roper, Washington County; and All-County stars will represent this county. Baseball men in Hobgood and Scotland Neck, it is said, are highly in favor of such an organization, and it is hoped that arrangements can be made with Washington and the Washington County players whereby those two teams might be included.

Once the organization is perfected, it is thought that two regular games will be played by each team every week, occasionally staging an exhibition game as a third one during certain weeks.

Several are at work at the present time in trying to effect the organization, and if they are successful, the first games will probably be played week after next.

Series Of Sermons At Baptist Church

Last Sunday morning the pastor of the Baptist Church began a short summer series of sermons on the home, using for the general theme, 'Keep the Home Fires Burning.' The first in the series was addressed to the children, the text being Luke 1:66, 'What manner of child shall this be?'

The second in the series will be delivered Sunday evening at 8 o'clock, and the text will be, 'Do not sin against the child,' and is found in Gen. 42:22.

Other subjects in the series will be, 'Go all the Child's Mother'; 'The Lad's Father'; and, for the last in the series the subject will be that of the general title of the series, 'Keeping the Home Fires Burning.'

It is thought that such a series of summer preaching, will be very appropriate; and it is expected that the subject will create much general interest. The sermons will be preached from time to time as announced in this paper, and the people are asked to attend all of the services possible.

Stove Demonstration At Courtney's Tomorrow

No chimneys, no wicks, no soot, no odor, no leveling up are a few of the features of the American Kitchen Kook, 'the world's fastest cook stove,' that will be demonstrated here tomorrow at the B. S. Courtney furniture store. A factory representative will be here, and according to advance reports an inspection of the stove will be well worth the housewife's time.

REVIVAL COMES TO END TONIGHT

Subject for Closing Sermon Is "The Young Man Who Failed"

The series of meetings started in the Christian church here the evening of the 10th will be brought to a close tonight, it was announced yesterday. Rev. C. B. Mashburn, of the Robersonville Christian Church, has brought strong messages to large numbers throughout the meeting, in the main, stressing the values of Christianity rather than reviewing the penalties brought about by one's neglect to follow the teachings of the Scriptures. A large crowd is expected to attend the services this evening.

Last night, Mr. Mashburn based his sermon upon the words of King Agrippa who heard Paul state his defense in the court of Noble Festus and exclaimed, "Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian." The event came after Paul had been held prisoner in a dark prison cell for two years, the charge against him stating that his preaching was upsetting the political line-up of rulers. When the king appeared in the court, he gladly listened to Paul defend himself on all matters charged by his enemies, and he was so impressed that he shouted, "Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian."

Mr. Mashburn said the same feeling comes to most men when they hear the word of the Lord with its appeal of reason, love and truth, but too often they turn as Felix and Agrippa did and wait for a more convenient season, and too often that season never comes.

The subject for tonight's sermon will be the "Young Man Who Failed."

TWO LAWYERS ARE SWORN IN

Herbert O. Peel and W. P. Hodges Become Members Of Martin County Bar

Herbert Oliver Peel and William Parker Hodges, local boys, were sworn in by the bar here this week before Judge Garland E. Midyette. Both Mr. Peel and Mr. Hodges were graduated from the Wake Forest law school and passed the State bar examination in Raleigh, Mr. Peel in February of 1927 and Mr. Hodges in August of last year.

Attorney Peel is the son of Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Peel, of this place, and was recently appointed solicitor of the Martin County recorder's court. Besides his work as solicitor, Mr. Peel will carry on a general practice. Lawyer Hodges, the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Hodges, has not announced his plans, but it is understood that he will locate here.

Turn Traffic Back On Road To Jamesville

While the company has not completed the concrete work between here and Jamesville, travel to that town is now made over the regular route. The detour signs were removed last Wednesday and traffic will be over the direct route until the paving company completes pouring just below Jamesville and starts back at the point where it left off near the Gardner's Creek bridge. The road will be open until about the latter part of next week, it was stated yesterday by those acquainted with the company's operations.

Open Bids for Two New School Buildings Monday

A goodly number of contractors and builders is expected here next Monday when bids for the erection of two schoolhouses in this county will be opening. At the last letting of a contract for school buildings in this county, approximately 20 contractors entered bids, and it is expected that equally that number will be here for the letter Monday afternoon.

The architect, Mr. Eric C. Flanagan, of Henderson, with the County Board of Education, will open the bids in the board's office here at 2 o'clock.

Grand Jury Reports Show Great Change

That great changes can take place in a very few years was clearly brought out this week when the grand jury reported to the court. 'We have examined the county home, the county jail and offices and found them in excellent condition,' was the report signed by the jurymen. Just a few years ago when the jury made its report, one of that body's members stated that he would not want to send even his dog to the county home and that the jail was in a deplorable condition.

Misses Margaret Cozzens and Gertrude Douglas, of Washington, visited friends here Sunday afternoon.

LOCAL KIWANIS CLUB OBSERVES KIWANIS NIGHT

Very Interesting Program Is Staged at Meeting Monday

ALSO LADIES' NIGHT

Zero Hour Observed for 10 Minutes From 11:15 to 11:25 By 1,700 Clubs in U. S. and Canada

The Williamston Kiwanis Club celebrated "All Kiwanis Night" this week. The occasion was also observed as Ladies' Night, each member of the club taking his wife, daughter, sister, or sweetheart. The attendance was good, and a very enjoyable evening was spent.

Dr. O. P. Fitzgerald was in charge of the program and succeeded well in promoting the events scheduled for the evening. The program follows: America. Invocation by Rev. C. H. Dickey. Song, "Kiwanis," by everybody. Greeting to the ladies by R. L. Colburn, president of the club. Dinner. Piano solo by Mrs. W. C. Manning, jr.

Response by Mrs. Wheeler Martin, Song, "Builders," by everybody. Address by Judge Clayton Moore. Stunt, staged by Frank Margolis. Presentation of the ladies' attendance prize, won by Mrs. Elbert S. Peel.

The "zero hour" was observed for 10 minutes, from 11:15 to 11:25, over the United States and Canada by 1,700 Kiwanis Clubs and 100,000 members. Two minutes of "silent fellowship." Talk by Judge Garland E. Midyette, Jackson, N. C.

Song, "Onward, Christian Soldiers," Adjournment.

Merchants who gave favors for the occasion were Margolis Bros., Harrison Wholesale Co., C. D. Carstaphen & Co., Williamston Motor Co., Barhill Bros., and Harrison Bros. & Co.

FORM TEAM OF COUNTY STARS

Martin County All-Stars Open Season by Win Over Grimesland

The Martin County All Stars, a ball club recently organized here, opened the season last Friday when the new recruits played and defeated Grimesland at Grimesland, 9 to 1. James, of Robersonville, one of the team's three pitchers, performed in a masterly fashion and turned the Grimesland lads back with a few scattered hits. Thursday Grimesland will play a return game and since there is no diamond here, the game will be played in Everetts.

Attempts to get a diamond here have failed, and it is understood that all the home games will be played in Everetts. The tentative schedule provides three games each week, and includes small teams through this section.

Although the line-up is subject to change, in the main it is as follows: Dick Cherry, Everetts; Lyman Britt, Williamston; and Hallie James, Robersonville, pitchers; Jesse Harrell, of Williamston, and Arh Roebuck, Everetts, catchers; B. E. Hood, Williamston, first base; Buck James, Robersonville, second base; Jimmie Brown, Jamesville, shortstop; Peck Roberson, Robersonville, third base; Ralph Taylor, Eli Taylor, Durand Keel, Williamston, and Clarence Faulkner, Everetts, fielders.

The line-up includes some very good players, and it is the general opinion of those acquainted with the team's organization that a good brand of ball will be played. Very small admission fees will be charged, and the boys are asking the support of the people at large.

Program Of Services At Christian Church

9:45 o'clock, Sunday school. We have reached our coveted 150, but let us continue to be loyal that we may hold it. 11 o'clock, Morning worship. Evening worship, 8 o'clock. Preaching both services will be by the pastor. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Local Man Will Deliver Commencement Address

While plans are not complete for the closing of the Georgia-Carolina School of Commerce here, it is understood that Mr. W. G. Peel, local insurance man, will deliver the main address at the exercises.

The school has had a very successful session here, and the students are awaiting the finals, which are only a few weeks away.

SCOUTS LEAVE ON CAMP TRIP

Fifteen Boys Leave Today To Spend Ten Days At Camp Leach

Local Scouts, numbering 15, left this morning with their Scoutmaster, Harper Holliday, for Camp Leach, where they will vacation during the next 10 days. Bitter disappointment was in order this morning when new suits failed to arrive in time for a number of the boys, and as badly as they hated to go without suits, they boarded the cars with the rest, hoping their suits will reach them in camp within the next day or two.

Mr. Holliday will be assisted by regular Scout men during the 10 days, and it is expected that the boys will be given splendid training.

The boys making the trip included D. D. Stalls, jr., Walter Cooke, Jesse and Mack Simpson, Hugh York, Reg Price, Henry Harrison, jr., Onward Roberson, George Harrison, jr., Hubert Cooke, Albert Clark, Tom Rose, Horace Ray, and Cosh Hassell.

"SPUD" GROWERS ARE FACING RUIN

Bottom Falls Out of Market and Price Is Below \$2 Barrel

The low potato price mystery has been added to now that a report comes forth, stating that the production this year is below that of last. The farmer here cannot understand why he gets only a dollar or even two dollars a barrel when the production is lower than it was last year and when potatoes sold at a fair price. And the man in the city can't understand why he has to pay a big price for potatoes there when they are so cheap in the production areas.

While this immediate section is not suitable for potato growing to any great extent, there are farmers in neighboring counties who are facing failure and ruin. The diggers are being called from the fields, and the potatoes are rotting in the ground. Many farmers are storing their crops but in the majority of cases where shipments were not made, the growers are allowing the cobbles to rot in the ground.

Elizabeth City has started a "buy a barrel of potatoes" movement in an effort to help the farmers of that section.

They are asking each family to buy a barrel of potatoes at \$2 and save having to buy them with Michigan or Minnesota freight added next fall.

Williamston people might do the same thing. Buy them now at a cent a pound and not have to buy them this winter at 5 cents per pound.

Baptist Program Of Services for Sunday

There are enough pent-up tears in Williamston, from aching and burdened hearts, which, if released, would flow like water down Main Street. On Sunday morning the pastor will have for his text "Cast thy burden on the Lord, and He will sustain thee."

At Sunday night's service the second in a summer series of sermons will be preached; and the text for this one is, "Do not sin against the child," and is found in Gen. 42:22.

The regular Wednesday evening service will be held as usual.

This church will do all it can to adjust its services to the demands of the warm weather that is upon us; and those coming to its services may be assured that they will not be kept long.

The doors of the church will be opened again at the morning service. The pastor of this church has been pleased to notice so many of his congregation in attendance upon the revival meetings at the Christian Church, and he and they join in wishing that much good come out of the special efforts which have been put forth there.

Methodist Church Program of Services

Dr. O. P. Fitzgerald, Pastor Sunday school, 9:45 E. P. Cunningham, superintendent. Preaching service, 11 a. m. Subject, "The Ideal in Christian Belief." Evening service, 8:00 o'clock. Subject, "Truth." Prayer service Wednesday evening 8:00 o'clock.

We extend to all a most cordial welcome to all services.

Protest in Eli Gurganus Will Filed Yesterday

Judge Francis D. Winston, attorney for Mrs. Eli Gurganus, filed a caveat dissenting from the will of her late husband, Eli Gurganus, in the office of the clerk of superior court here yesterday.

COMMITTEE HAS RAISED ALL BUT \$90 SCOUT FUND

Chairman of Committee Is Busily Engaged in Making Canvass

HAS RAISED OVER \$200

Undertaking Is Being Sponsored by Kiwanis Club; Boys Are Now At Camp Leach

The membership fee of \$300 for the local Scout troop in the national organization is within \$90 of its goal, stated Mr. G. H. Harrison yesterday. Mr. Harrison, who is a member of the committee appointed by the Kiwanis Club to collect the \$300, has been at the task for the past several days, and he states now that it is very important that the remaining sum be collected at once, since the Scouts are now on their way to Camp Leach. Donations are receivable by Dr. John D. Biggs at the Farmers & Merchants Bank, or by Mr. Harrison at the Harrison Wholesale Co.'s store.

This fee, Mr. Harrison pointed out, does not go directly to the local troop, but indirectly it provides training, camping privileges and other opportunities that are not available to the non-members. The boys are at Camp Leach now, where they are being directed and trained by experienced men.

While the undertaking is sponsored by the local Kiwanis Club, the business houses and professional men of the town are readily lending their support, and it is hoped that every one will take a part and assist in carrying the project over the top.

HOUSTON MECCA FOR DEMOCRATS

Convention Is Four Days Off But Many Delegates Already There

With the national Democratic convention at Houston just four days off, thousands of people from all over the country are speeding to the oil city preparatory to the opening of the convention next Tuesday. Many people have already arrived in the convention city and according to the latest press reports they are already at work discussing farm relief and prohibition. It is to be assumed that they will hold religion off as a last resort in delaying Governor Al Smith's nomination. Opinions differ, however, and some think the New York man will be chosen to lead the Democratic forces early in the meeting.

All that is a matter of speculation, but it is certain that the Texas town will be flooded with people from all over the country. Hotels, private homes, and even camping grounds have been put at readiness for the visitors, who will number into the thousands.

Early arrivals found decorators decking buildings with bunting, the Stars and Stripes and the Lone Star Flag of Texas, while windows and store fronts displayed Houston's invention in flag, two steers looking wondrously at the passers-by and saying, "Me, too."

George R. Van Nance, pre-convention manager for Governor Alfred E. Smith, today opened the Smith headquarters in the same hotel where Senator James A. Reed established his offices several days ago.

Representative Cordell Hull is a guest at the same hotel, but has not opened headquarters. The Tennessee Congressman strolls about the hotel lobby standing right in the midst of his headquarters.

Senator Reed was the first to advertise on a large scale. A banner on his hotel building announced "Reed Headquarters," and another on the inside advised to "Win With Reed."

Soon after the arrival of the New York workers badges bearing a likeness of Governor Smith appeared on coat lapels and placards were displayed on cigar-stand counters with the announcement "Governor Al Smith Our Choice." There were photographs also on display of Houston's favorite son announcing that Jesse H. Jones is "the man of the hour."

Finishing touches were being placed on the coliseum where the convention will be held, and indications were that its capacity of 15,000 would not be enough for the dedication ceremonies Sunday.

There isn't but one thing about it, a local citizen who attended the State convention in Raleigh said; even if it is a national convention, they will have to go some to pass ours.

Miss Eleanor Stanback Burned in Explosion

While very few details could be had, it was learned here this week that Miss Eleanor Stanback, a former teacher in the local schools, was badly burned, but not seriously when a gasoline engine exploded in a small boat. She is now at her home in Mt. Gilead.

STRAND THEATRE

SATURDAY

TOM MIX AND TONY

in

"SILVER VALLEY"

Also

2-REEL COMEDY

And Serial

"Blake of Scotland Yard"