

FEW FREED AT FEDERAL COURT IN WASHINGTON

Juries Return Verdicts of "Guilty" Almost Without Any Exceptions

MANY GET 6 MONTHS

Martin County had large number of cases; practically all are for violating "dry" law

The "wet" docket in the federal court at Washington this week was cleared of its many cases by Judge Meekins the first four days, the defendants found guilty receiving sentences varying from six months to three years in duration. Six months sentence were very popular with the Judge.

According to reports coming from the federal building in the Beaufort capital, "Acquittals were few and far between. For the most part, the juries returned their verdicts of guilty with clock-like regularity."

Martin county's part in the court was pointed out by one or two of the people attending the court, a local man returning with the answer, "The large number of cases coming from our county clearly indicates that our officers are active in their work, and the small number of cases in other sections does not mean that there are few prohibition violations."

The court proceedings affecting this county in particular, follow:

- C. W. Baker, selling, \$50 and six months.
- Arthur James, possession and transporting, \$100.
- B. B. Biggs, possession, fined \$100.
- J. R. Cherry, manufacturing, \$50.
- Clayton Bailey, manufacturing, six months.
- Clyde Craddock, possession and transportation, \$50.
- N. G. Ward, selling, six months.
- George Allen, selling and manufacturing, six months.
- Rome Lee, manufacturing, second offense, three years.
- John H. Warren, manufacturing, second offense, three years.
- J. Ben Andrews, selling, \$50.
- Lin Williams, manufacturing, six months.
- Raymond Lewis, possession and manufacturing, \$50.
- B. Haywood Ross, selling, \$50.
- Joe H. Jenkins, manufacturing, five months.
- Phillip Boston, manufacturing, second offense, three years.
- Sam Moore, selling, \$50.
- Lehman James, transporting and manufacturing, \$250.
- Herman James, transporting and manufacturing, \$250.
- Herman James, same charge, \$250.
- Roy W. Simmons, manufacturing, one month.
- C. C. Whitaker, manufacturing, six months.
- Earl Whitaker, possession and transportation, one month.
- N. S. Godard, selling, six months.
- William Corden, selling, six months.
- Ernest Boston, possession and transportation, four months.
- H. G. Harrison, fine \$1,000 and 18 months in jail.
- Charlie Bailey, not guilty.
- John Tetterton, selling, found not guilty.

While it is understood that several of the defendants will serve sentences at the Atlanta prison, it is believed that the larger number of the defendants will serve the time in the various jails in this section.

Presbyterian Services In County Sunday

The Rev. A. J. Crane will preach in the Woman's Club Room on next Sunday morning at 11 o'clock. The Bible school will convene at 9:45 a. m.

The Rev. J. L. Yandell will preach in the auditorium of Farm Life school at 3:30 o'clock and at Bear Grass school auditorium at 7:30 p. m.

The public is cordially invited to attend these services.

Paint Demonstration at Courtney's Tomorrow

A demonstration of the use of Brush Duco will be given at B. S. Courtney's store in Williamston on April 6th by Mr. P. O. Bizzell, a du Pont expert. Mr. Bizzell is prepared to show the customers of B. S. Courtney's store not only the ordinary use of Brush Duco, but also how to make artistic finishes in line with the new movement of home decoration which is sweeping over the country.

In preparation for the demonstration all the latest colors in Brush Duco have been obtained by B. S. Courtney. Among other things there will be a showing of the famous new "pour" method which has awakened such interest among women who use it for decorative purposes. B. S. Courtney is notifying his customers of this demonstration which will be one of the most important ever held here. Mr. Bizzell will also be prepared to answer any questions as to the application of Brush Duco or paint and varnish.

Mentally Defective Negro Is Still in County Jail Here

Annie Hines, mentally defective negro, taken in to custody by Martin County authorities last Sunday, continues in jail here, efforts to have her removed to her people in Leggett's having been of no avail. Her removal is being taken up with welfare workers in Edgecombe, but the disposition of the case has not been effected, it was learned yesterday at the sheriff's office here.

Town Convention Called For Thursday, April 18

Meeting in special session here yesterday afternoon, the town commissioners called a town convention to be held Thursday evening, April 18, in the city hall, at which time town politics will take on a more definite dress. The election is scheduled to be held the first Tuesday in May. Mr. J. E. Pope was named as registrar, and Messrs. W. O. Griffin and Albert T. Perry were appointed poll holders.

Town politics have been under cover so far, and while no outburst of election "dope" is expected until the convention is held, it is forecasted that a lively contest will be in order at that time.

At their meeting yesterday afternoon, the commissioners discussed a number of minor problems, but no official action was taken at that time on any of the questions advanced. Mr. George Brooks, recently appointed to engineer the proposed paving project, was not in attendance upon the meeting, and nothing was done along the paving line. Mr. Brooks is expected here within the next day or two, however, and it is very likely that another meeting will be held in an effort to advance the paving program.

RECORDER HAD TWELVE CASES

Seven Are Continued On Account of Federal Court

Martin County's recorder's court has had the fare of the "step-child" for three weeks, and although it is scheduled to have a session all to itself next Tuesday, it will be forced to keep company with the step-child the following two weeks. The superior court interfered with the recorder's regular schedule for two weeks, making it necessary to call off the court during that time. Last Tuesday the county figured so prominently in the wet docket of the Federal court in Washington that Judge Bailey tried only one or two cases, continuing the others that local attorneys might defend clients before Judge Meekins. Week after next the special two-week term of superior court for the trial of civil cases will again make it necessary to suspend county criminal proceedings for two sessions. However, Judge J. W. Bailey is planning to wedge in a big day's work next Tuesday.

Last Tuesday twelve cases were called, seven of the number being continued, one going to the superior court and judgment rendered in three others. The defendant failed to appear in one case, and order for arrest was made.

The proceedings: Clinton Reeves plead guilty in the case charging him with carrying a concealed weapon and was fined \$50 and taxed with the costs. A 90-day suspended sentence was meted out.

Judgment was suspended in the case charging J. J. Smallwood with passing a worthless check.

Irving Bland, charged with assault with a deadly weapon, plead guilty of simple assault, which plea was accepted. Judgment was suspended upon payment of costs.

Joe Hopkins, charged with passing a worthless check, was called, but he failed to answer. His arrest was ordered.

Haywood Morris, charged with seduction, was bound over to the superior court for trial under a \$250 bond.

The seven cases continued include those of W. L. Stalls, assault; Gus Hardy, assault with a deadly weapon; Clarence Wallace, operating car while intoxicated and assault with a deadly weapon; Council Vick, assault; H. D. Bonds, assault with a deadly weapon; Haywood Rogers, hold-up and assault with a deadly weapon; Lester Meeks, assault with a deadly weapon.

THIS COUNTY TO GET \$25,710 FROM FUND FOR ROADS

State Aid Will Mean 15-Cent Reduction in Tax Levy

28c LEVIED LAST YEAR

90 Per Cent of Amount Will Probably Be Applied To Debt Service; Also Set Up Emergency Fund

Receiving approximately \$25,710 from the State aid road fund, Martin County taxpayers will be favored by a 15-cent decrease in their tax rate in the 1929 levy, but the roads in the county will be maintained or handled under the same old system, it was learned yesterday when Highway Commissioner F. C. Kugler and District Engineer Gardner came here to govern the recently passed law with the county commissioners. That the \$25,710, or a part, will be applied on the debt service was not definitely settled at the meeting held here yesterday morning, but according to the law, the commissioners will be forced to use 90 per cent, or \$23,310 of the total sum for the reduction of ad valorem taxes.

At the meeting yesterday, it was suggested that 90 per cent of the \$25,710 be applied on the debt service and the remaining 10 per cent be set up as an emergency road fund. The emergency road fund, should a resolution be passed to that effect by the commissioners, will be available for use anywhere in the county, it is understood.

The county's tax levy necessary to care for the interest and sinking fund for 1928 was 28 cents. The 1929 levy for this particular service will be reduced from 28 to around 13 cents, it is understood. Each year the county pays \$33,500 interest on bonds issued for the construction of the river bridge the hard-surfacing of the road from here to the Beaufort county line, and the building of Route 125 from here to the Halifax County line. In addition to the interest, the county has to provide a sinking fund for the bridge, \$15,078.52, making a total of \$48,578.52. With the subtraction of 90 per cent of the aid fund from this amount, a levy of around 13 cents will practically take care of this particular debt service.

As far as Martin County is concerned, the bill passed is nothing more than an ad valorem tax relief measure.

DEBATE HERE MONDAY NIGHT

Only Seven People Attend Rehearsal at School Last Night

With seven people attending the rehearsal here in the City Hall last night, the local school debaters applied the finishing touches to their debates to be given in Scotland Neck and Weldon next Monday night.

Weldon's negative team will come here to debate Scotland Neck's affirmative team. Misses Ollie Marie Roberson and Josephine Harrison, the affirmative team, will go to Weldon to debate Scotland Neck's negative. Misses Marjorie Taylor and Viola Grimes, upholding the negative side of the question, Resolved, That the United States Should Enter the World's Court, will go to Scotland Neck to compete with Weldon's affirmative.

The debate will be held in the City Hall here Monday evening at 8 o'clock and the public is invited and urged to attend.

Clothing Specialist to Hold Two Meetings Next Week

Coming to the county next week, Miss Hunter, State clothing specialist, will hold two one-day meetings with the various club women at Hamilton Tuesday and at Jamesville the following day, it was stated this week by Miss Lora E. Sleeper, county home demonstration agent. Five women from each of the clubs, Williams Chapel, Poplar Point, and Hamilton, are asked to meet the specialists at Hamilton Tuesday, while the Jamesville, Holly Springs, and Ange Town clubs are planning to have five representatives each at the Jamesville meeting.

Miss Sleeper has mailed letters to all the clubs, urging that they send representatives to the meetings.

Baptists Announce Program of Services

Sunday morning the Baptists of the local congregation will observe the Lord's Supper.

This is a service which is always well attended in this church. It is also always a brief service. For at this time no stated sermon is delivered, the pastor confining himself to short and suited remarks applicable only to the occasion.

Sunday evening at 8 o'clock the pastor will preach on "The Christian Going Into Reverse."

Regular mid-week service Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock.

The convention of young people which is to be held in our church is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, April 19-20.

The pastor hopes to announce right soon the exact time for the first class in teacher training.

Women Planning "Clean-Up Week"

While no definite plans have been announced at this time, the women of the town are planning for a big "Clean-Up Week" here April 22. Posters are being prepared by the women, and it is understood that the task will be pushed to the limit this year. The town officials have pledged their support, and with the women at the head, a real campaign is expected. Just as well mark the week of April 22 as a time for cleaning up.

WORKMAN DIES AT GUANO PLANT

First Reported That Man Had Been Electrocuted; Unable To Find How

While at work in the Standard Fertilizer factory here about 4:00 o'clock yesterday morning, Spencer Dickens, colored, died suddenly following what is believed to have been an attack of heart trouble. It was first reported that the man had been electrocuted by a machine in the plant, but upon an examination, it was stated that the current used in operating the loading device was hardly sufficient to cause severe injury or death.

There were no burns about the body, and no electric leads were found in the machine. However, other workmen at the machine stated they felt a shock at the time.

Dickens lived near the Skewarkee church on the Washington road and had been working at the factory for some time.

Jury List for Special Term Superior Court

The following jurors have been selected to serve in the special term of superior court here the middle of this month:

- First Week**
- Jamesville township—R. G. Sexton, B. F. Lilley; Williams township—S. L. Andrews, J. B. Lanier, A. W. Hardison; Griffins township—Sylvester B. Lilley, Jos. E. Manning; Bear Grass township—A. B. Ayers; Williamston township—T. S. Critcher, J. E. Griffin, Jr., J. D. Woolard, John M. Bowen; Cross Roads township—Archie Roberson, H. O. Gurganus; Hamilton township—P. H. Davenport; Goose Nest township—Luke Harrell, J. T. Daniel; Robersonville township—J. A. James.

Trio Theatre To Present First "Talkie" in County

Opening with "The Voice of the City," in Robersonville next Monday, the Trio Theatre brings to the immediate section its first talking picture. The equipment has recently been installed by the theater owner, Mr. J. M. Highsmith, ready for the formal opening at 12:05 a. m. Monday.

"The Voice of the City" is said to be one of the best in the modern productions, and large crowds are expected to see the 100 per cent talking picture during the three days' run, April 8, 9, and 10.

Arrest Woman As Result Of Fight in Bank Tuesday

Charged with assaulting Connie Foster, a white woman, in the Farmers & Merchants Bank here last Tuesday, Frances Allen was arrested in Washington yesterday afternoon and brought here for a preliminary hearing. She was required to give \$50 bond for her appearance before the recorder's court here next Tuesday.

Program of Services at First Methodist Church

Dr. O. P. Fitzgerald, Minister

Preaching service Sunday at 11 a. m. Subject: "Righteousness in Every-Day Life." Followed by Communion. Evening service 8 o'clock; subject: "Sympathy and Sacrifice."

Sunday school, 9:45. Hi-League Sunday evening, 7:30. Senior League Monday evening at 8. Junior League Tuesday at 4 p. m. Prayer service Wednesday evening, 8 o'clock.

All evening services through the summer months will be at 8 p. m. We give a most cordial welcome to the public at all these services.

Presbyterian Women Will Meet Tonight

The Woman's auxiliary of the Presbyterian Church will meet with Mrs. R. G. Bradley tonight at 8:00 o'clock in the home of Mrs. Myrtle Brown on Church Street, it was announced this morning. All members are urged to attend.

Rev. J. H. Little to Hold Service at County Home

Rev. J. H. Little, pastor of the Cedar Grove Church, will preach at the county home, near here, next Sunday afternoon, at 3 o'clock, it was announced this morning. The public is invited to hear Rev. Little at that time.

Little Prospect of Any Work On Highway 125 Very Soon

EXPOSITION TO BEGIN MONDAY

Program Is Most Elaborate Ever Presented; Lasts All Next Week

Featuring one of the most elaborate programs ever, the Eastern Carolina Exposition and Automobile Show, opening in Farmville next Monday, promises to be the event of the year, according to announcements made recently by the officials.

Farmville and its citizens are 100 per cent strong for the event, and they have planned a royal week for the thousands of people expected to attend the programs during the week.

Johnny Marvin, Victor recording artist, appears on the opening day's program, and each afternoon and evening some prominent figure features the events. Approximately 350 of the section's prettiest girls will take part in the "Follies" Tuesday night. Governor O. Max Gardner will make a short address during the week. The program, as a whole, is one of the best that has yet been offered, bringing to the patrons the best in the professional world today.

Many people are planning to hear Johnny Marvin Monday night and attend the programs during the remainder of the week.

COUNTY AGENTS MARCH REPORT

467 Farmers Assisted During Past Month Through Activities of Agent

According to a report submitted to the county commissioners in session here yesterday, County Agent T. B. Brandon assisted, in one way or another, 467 farmers in the county during the month of March. The agent stated yesterday that the month had been one of his best and that many dollars were saved the farmers.

The features of the work carried on by Mr. Brandon include:

- 20 days spent in field work.
- 6 days spent in office work.
- 173 office conferences.
- 143 telephone calls.
- 170 letters written.
- 53 farms visited on official duties.
- 885 miles traveled on official duties.
- 5 articles written for local papers.
- 472 hogs treated during the month.
- One car of tile delivered to farmers with a saving to them of \$160, this making the fourth car for the year.
- One car of poultry sold. This car had 19,998 pounds that brought \$4,827.31 to a little over 200 farmers in Martin County. The total poultry sales in the county to date are 38,698 pounds, which sold for \$9,005.01, and can safely be figured that it was a saving to the producers of over \$2,000.
- 29 farmers had their hogs treated.
- 12 farmers were assisted with pastures.

Colored Boy Beaks Another's Arm in Fight

Resenting the verbal attacks made on a member of his family, George Knight, young colored boy, called down Tom Jones, also colored, and started to trash him. After a short scuffle, it is said Jones picked up a stick and hit Knight, breaking the boy's arm just above the elbow. The two boys had just returned from church about 10 o'clock Sunday night when the fight started.

The young negro was brought here where medical attention was offered.

Parent-Teacher Meeting Held Here Yesterday

The parent-teacher association held its regular meeting in the school building here yesterday afternoon, very few parents attending. Discussing the pre-school child, several papers were read on the subject by Mrs. Harper, Holliday and by Mrs. R. G. Bradley, a teacher in the school.

Report Shows Decrease In 1928 State Cotton Crop

Although the State, as a whole, showed a decrease in the 1928 cotton crop, as compared with that in 1927, the counties in this section showed slight increases. There was a decrease of 12756 bales in the State during the past year, according to a report recently released by the Department of Commerce, through the Bureau of the Census. In 1928 there were 866,921 bales ginned, while in 1927 there were 879,677 bales ginned.

Martin County's increase numbered 190 bales. The greatest gains were made in Halifax and Bertie Counties.

Miss Ruth Peele leaves tomorrow for Oxford where she will spend the week end with Miss Mary Curran before returning to N. C. C. W., Greensboro, Monday.

KUGLER SAYS COUNTY HAS BEEN FAVORED

Highway Commissioner for District Makes It Plain Little Is To Be Done

COUNTY BUILT ROAD

Understanding Was That State Would Take It Over and Pave It; Cost \$210,000 To Build It

"Now, let us turn to that old familiar hymn, No. 125," T. B. Slade, chairman of the Martin County Board of Commissioners, speaking of the highway leading from here to Halifax, stated following a discussion held by Highway Commissioner F. C. Kugler and the commissioners here yesterday on the county aid road bill. The county authorities advanced what are believed to be just claims for the paving of the road by the State, but Commissioner Kugler stated that Martin was in debt, according to its proper allocation, and left the impression that the county had actually been favored in the road program and that it had no right to expect more, at this time, or apparently at no time in the future.

The county authorities were practically assured by Mr. Kugler, of Washington, that little, if anything at all, would be done to Highway No. 125 this year, and judging from the discussion there is very little hope of ever getting anything of a permanent nature to the route. The commissioner did state that he was going to spend some money on the road this year; he just had to do that, it was stated. Other than stating he would spend some money on the road, the commissioner said nothing that would cause one to believe that the road would ever be hard-surfaced. It remains to be seen just what the first district road king plans to do to keep the route in passable condition.

Martin County's claims for the hard-surfacing of the road, presented by Judge Clayton Moore, who is familiar with the conditions under which the road was included in the State system, and by T. B. Slade, Jr., were of little weight in Mr. Kugler's sight. It was explained to Mr. Kugler that when the State took over the several roads, the one leading from here to Halifax was left off the map by error. To get this road included in the highway system, it was pointed out that an agreement was entered into by State and Martin County whereby the county was to build the road and turn it over to the State. Halifax County was to build the road from the county line to Halifax, and Martin was to build the road from Williamston to the Halifax line. Halifax never touched its end, but Martin County built its part at a cost of \$210,000, with the understanding that the State would do its part. Under a similar agreement, it is understood, the road from here to the Beaufort County line was hard-surfaced. Mr. Kugler made it plain that he was not responsible for what others had promised. The expressed purpose of the system, that of linking one county seat to another, was not considered.

According to Mr. Kugler, this county is in the "red" column, that is, Martin has been favored with more roads, by \$15,000 than it should have had. There are seven other counties of the district in the "red" column, the commissioner explained, the total amount for all them being a million and a quarter dollars.

Unless a change of some kind or other results, Martin County's \$210,000 invested in Route 125 will be of no value, and that amount is too much for the taxpayers to pay for a decent mudhole.

False Reports Against Elder Are Circulated

Reports charging Elder B. S. Cowing, of the Bear Grass community, with connection with a liquor still captured near his farm there early last month are being circulated in certain sections of the county. When questioned yesterday, the three officers, M. A. King, J. H. Roebuck, and F. E. Street, making the capture stated that Mr. Cowing was in no way connected with the still. Reports were heard by the officers, it was stated, that they had intimidated Mr. Cowing's connection with the still. The officers declared the reports to be absolutely false, adding that they had never heard a word indicating that Mr. Cowing was interested in or in sympathy with the liquor business.

Ends Life Rather Than Face Liquor Sale Trial

Champaign, Ill., April 4.—Rather than face trial on a charge of selling liquor, C. F. Smith of Mansfield committed suicide today by cutting his throat, an hour before his trial. Smith, who was custodian of the Mansfield town hall, was arrested Saturday night while in the act of selling liquor to patrons of a village dance.

Heavy Poultry Loadings Expected Next Week

According to advance reports received in the office of the county agent here, heavy poultry shipments will be made from this county next week.

Prices are stronger at this time than at any period during the season, and this condition is attributable to the expected heavy sale.

WATTS THEATRE

Saturday April 6

TOM TYLER AND FRANKIE DARRO in "The Avenging Rider" Also COMEDY and Serial "The Vanishing West"

Special Matinee, 3 p. m.—10-25c

Monday-Tuesday April 8-9

Richard Barthelmess in "THE PATENT LEATHER KID" Also AESOP'S FABLES and M. G. M. NEWS

Shows at 7:15 and 9 P. M. Daily MUSIC BY PHOTOTONE