

800 PAPERS ARE HANDLED HERE IN PAST YEAR

Deputy Harcum Grimes Is of Opinion That This Is A Moving World

600 ARE CIVIL PAPERS Only Twenty-six Claim and Delivery Papers Were Served by the Officers in Past Year

Approximately 800 civil and criminal summons were served in this county last year by Sheriff Roebuck and his deputy, S. H. Grimes, this work coming in for a large share of attention at the county's law center. From one end of the county to the other, over all kinds of roads, the two officers travelled to personally summon some one to court or to call another before the bar of justice. Hardly a day throughout the year passed without some type of summons wandering into the sheriff's office demanding action. And some times the officers would have their pockets full of papers, an over-night accumulation that would require of them as much consideration in mapping their course of travel as does the route of the milkman when he starts out to leave a bottle of milk here and another one there.

"And how far do you drive on an average in serving one of the papers?" Deputy Grimes was asked.

"Well, I don't know, for some of them are handled right here in Williamston, and then there are others that require a 40-mile drive or even more," was the answer. It was pointed out that it was a common occurrence for the officers to travel several times one route in an effort to serve one paper. The deputy sheriff agreed that it was a moving world, that the people moved too, that when the two were in motion there was some moving going on.

All kinds of stories grow out of these papers, some pathetic and appealing ones, some queer ones and some unusual ones. During the latter part of 1929, a paper was issued against a certain party. Before noon the paper was in action, but the party had moved that same morning to other parts. A report was made, and the issue was temporarily dropped. Last week the party moved back to this county, and he was greeted with the paper on his return.

In serving criminal papers among the colored race, the deputy explained that, in many cases, the methods of the sly fox are necessary, and as the opossum hunter hunts at night, so do the officers in a number of cases. On more than one occasion when the officer started to make an arrest the mother would not claim her own children, and more than once we have found a defendant hid under a bed who, a few minutes before, was declared unknown and not there, the officer continued.

Criminal cases call for work all hours of the night as well as day, but they are limited in comparison with the number of civil cases. However, the claim and delivery papers are looked upon as the worst type of all. The number of claim and delivery papers during the latter part of 1930 was much less than the number in 1929, Sheriff Roebuck stated, but some of the 26 issued in October, November and December, last, were of the worst kind. "It is an ordeal all right to go to a man's home and take practically all of his earthly belongings, leaving a wide opening for hunger and actual want," the officer stated. "We hate to do it, but when the papers are placed in our hands, they must be served," he continued. Only one claim and delivery paper was issued in Robersonville township during the last four months of 1930. Griffins was next to Robersonville with only two such papers. The other 23 were scattered from the Washington county border to those of Pitt and Halifax.

As they do in collecting taxes, the officers work the year around serving a civil summons on this man or a criminal warrant on another man. But, after all, this work is only a small one compared with the many other tasks.

Deaths from Autos in the State Break All Records

North Carolina's automobile death toll of 777 in 1930 was the greatest on record, but the number of injuries was less than in either of the two preceding years, according to figures released yesterday by the State Department of Revenue.

A total of 87 deaths from automobiles in December brought the total for 1930 to 777 as compared with 675 in 1928 and 690 in 1929. However, there were only 4,418 injuries in 1930 against 4,768 in 1928 and 4,984 in 1929.

Of the 87 killed in December 30 were pedestrians, 26 died from collisions with other automobiles, eight from collisions with trains and two each from collisions with horse-drawn vehicles and fixed objects while 19 died from non-collision accidents.

Of the 30 pedestrians killed, seven were children playing in the street.

Error Made Reporting Oak City Bond Interest Unpaid

In reporting interest unpaid on an Oak City School District bond issue, the State Sinking Fund Commission apparently erred, it was learned here this morning following an investigation of the county's records. Referring to his files, Superintendent R. A. Pope submitted the check of 687.50 marked paid as of November 24, 1930, seven days before the interest was due on December 1, 1930. The records show that the check was issued on the eighteenth day of November.

On January 14, Wright T. Dixon, executive committee of the State Sinking Fund Commission, directed a letter to the county treasurer calling attention to the unpaid interest. The matter was

investigated by officials, and Dixon was called over long distance in an effort to correct the apparent mistake. Sunday, Oak City was advertised in a State paper as delinquent in the payment of interest on one bond issue.

Interest coupons were received here January 1, 1931, marked "paid," clearly indicating that an error had been made somewhere. "The Board of Education has for eight years given special attention to its obligations, and they have been met promptly," Superintendent R. A. Pope stated this morning. "It is apparent that more care should be exercised in an effort to limit apparently misleading information reaching the press, he added.

Seventeen Untimely Deaths In County During Past Year

5 PEOPLE LOSE THEIR LIVES IN CAR ACCIDENTS

Twelve Others Either Accidentally Killed, Murdered or Drowned

Untimely deaths in Martin county last year were greater by three than they were the year before, it was learned yesterday from a review of records filed by the Enterprise. The number of deaths resulting from automobiles remained unchanged, there being five each in 1929 and in 1930. Six of the remaining 12 untimely deaths reported during 1930 were classed as purely accidental, calling for nothing more than preliminary examinations. The remaining six were of a different nature, but none resulted in death punishments. However, there were three convictions, advancing the guilt of the defendants in one way or another with the killings.

The first of the auto deaths reported was that of Mrs. Gus Roebuck, Everetts, May 22. She was struck by a trailer attached to a car driven by E. G. Langley, of Wilson.

The next deaths in the group came thick and fast, two negro girls, Marie Spruill and Anna Faulk, and a negro boy, Arthur Perkins, losing their lives when their car plunged through an open bridge and plunged to the bottom of Roanoke River here the night of June 6.

A fifth death was reported just a few hundred yards from the scene of the first. Henry Norman Clark, aged 13, was almost instantly killed when run down by a car driven by H. B. Lynch, of Ayden. The accident occurred near the Everetts school building on Highway No. 90.

Accidental deaths, numbering six, follow:

Mr. J. L. Roberson and Fred Harrison, 14 year-old colored boy, near Robersonville, by an explosion early in March.

Lloyd B. Roberson, young white man of Jamesville, died from injuries received when he fell under a log wagon in May.

Jasper Brooks, colored, drowned when boat capsized in the Roanoke River, near Camp Point fishery.

A colored boy by the name of Peterson drowned while swimming in the Roanoke River at Hamilton.

Howard Peel, colored, was struck by a falling tree in Griffins township in October, dying two hours afterwards in a hospital.

Guns and firearms figured in the six other untimely deaths. Peculiar circumstances surrounded one or two, and the whole truth in none, it is generally believed, was never given. The killings.

Irving Gibson in Hamilton township early in January. His wife, Mabel, was charged with the shooting but the case was dismissed on account of insufficient evidence.

Mary Spruill, colored, shot and instantly killed by Hubert Wooten as she defended her 18-year-old son.

James Salabury, colored of Cross Roads, killed by George Knight in Robersonville early in September.

Andrew Jackson, aged colored man, believed to have been killed accidentally as he fished in Roanoke River, near Devil's Gut in October.

Lyda Bell Everett, 11 year-old negro, shot and instantly killed by a gun believed to have been fired by her brother in Bear Grass township early in December.

Malvina Smallwood, negroes, shot and instantly killed on the main street here the early part of December.

Several other Martin County people met with untimely deaths, but their deaths are not considered in the review as the accidents occurred outside the county. Among those deaths are those of Clarence Ross, white of Oak City, and Mrs. Seth Williams, of Robersonville.

SMITH SUBMITS A SECOND BILL

Would Require Officers to Cease Acting as Collecting Agents for Checks

J. Calvin Smith, of Robersonville, representing Martin county in the General Assembly, introduced his second bill in the legislature last Friday. The representative would have a law requiring officers to cease acting as collecting agents for bad checks.

While the law is accepted as a local measure, it is considered a worthwhile one. In cases originating in the past, the holder of a bad check would or could ask for a warrant against the giver. The warrant is placed in the hands of the officer, and often the amount of the check and costs attached to the officer and the matter would be dropped right there. The purpose law would require the defendant to enter into the court for prosecution.

It is generally admitted that the court is playing the role of a collection agency when officers collect monies for bad checks without the defendant having to enter the court.

TAX RECEIPTS INCREASE HERE

Number Paying Accounts Is Greater Than for 1929 Levy

Town taxes collected to date are slightly more than they were on the 1929 levy back in January, 1930, it was learned yesterday afternoon from the treasurer's office. While the total collections are only slightly greater than were those on the 1929 levy at a similar time last year, the number of property owners making settlement so far was said to be far greater than the number paying on the 1929 levy as of January 19, 1930.

Saturday of next week, the par period ends, and after that date all settlements will be made with a one per cent increase added during February and a subsequent increase during March and April. To avoid the penalty, many taxpayers in the past have effected settlement by February 1, and it is believed that collections will be greatly increased during the last few days of this month.

179 Cases of Communicable Diseases in County in 1930

In his report for the year 1930, Dr. Wm. E. Warren, county health officer, states that there were 179 communicable diseases reported in the county during the period, that diphtheria led the list with 44 cases. One hundred and twenty-one of the cases were reported by attending physicians; 41 cases were reported by householders and 17 cases were called to the attention of the health officer by teachers.

While there is a decrease in the number of most of the various types of diseases reported, pellagra apparently was increased, the report showing that there were ten cases called to the attention of health officials. This number is considered very small and increase is not large, but it is generally believed that pellagra is developing rapidly in first stages in this county. Much has been said about the disease, but unlike other counties in the east where hundreds of cases have been reported and many resulting deaths, Martin maintains a very low

MORE BILLS ARE INTRODUCED IN ASSEMBLY HALL

Bill Introduced Asking for Modified Gross Receipts Tax to Raise Funds

TAXES A MAIN ISSUE Proponents of Bill Do Not Think Modified Tax Would Be Passed On To The Consumers

Many members of the legislature left Raleigh last Friday for the weekend to visit their families, but judging from the papers, the old mill continued to grind, accepting more and more bills and turning out very, very few new ones.

They have already introduced bills taxing everything and everybody. Yesterday, they started down the list again, including on the start theatres, soft drink, billboards and numerous other items. Apparently the tobacco trusts are so well represented that no kind of tobacco tax was mentioned except one calling for five cents on the 1,000 pounds sold in the warehouse. And apparently that is directed against the farmer.

Taxation sources continue as the center of much of the argument, and one that is puzzling to all. Last week a bill was introduced calling for a tax on practically everything, and it was claimed by the originator that the plan would finance the proposed State-wide school term of six months duration, and probably would make possible an eight-month term. Senator Baggett, of Harnett, last night made a short speech in behalf of his bill proposing State support of the six-month school term. The speech drew humorous remarks from Senator Hallett, of Beaufort, who praised companies but wondered "how the devil he expects to get anywhere."

The modified gross receipts tax, so low that it is not expected to be passed on to the consumer and become a "nuisance tax" features the budget revenue bill which was introduced in both branches of the General Assembly last night and which is estimated to raise \$3,000,000 a year in new taxes and additional taxes but which does not contemplate the raising of but \$33,222,360 for two years as against \$31,398,900 originally estimated for the revenue act of 1929. However, due to business conditions, actual collections for this biennium are now estimated at \$28,209,765 and this shrinkage in collections from present sources is expected to continue into the next biennium.

In other words, the bill is a companion bill to the budget appropriation bill already introduced, which reduces appropriation made in 1929 by \$2,000,000 a year, the additional revenue being made necessary in part by the fact that the 1929 General Assembly had a surplus of \$2,000,000 available while this General Assembly must replace an estimated deficit of \$1,250,000.

Now the only gross receipts taxes collected by the State are in the franchise taxes upon busses, telephone companies and power companies, the rates being 6 per cent, 3 1-2 per cent and 2 per cent respectively, and other franchise taxes being levied by a different sort of measurement.

In the bill introduced last night a gross receipts tax is added to the present license tax upon the following at the rates given: moving picture film producers, five per cent, moving pictures, six per cent, or three per cent if above tax on distributors had been paid; other theatres, three per cent; coca-cola, flavoring and fruit extracts, used by soda fountains, ten per

"Big Mill" Dam Dynamited by Unknown Parties Yesterday

Colored Man Killed by Auto Near Dardens, Late Sunday

THELTON JAMES HIT AS HE WALKS INTO HIGHWAY

L. P. Hornthal, Driver of Death Car, Exonerated by Coroner's Jury

Thelton James, 19 year-old negro, was almost instantly killed late last Sunday afternoon when he was struck by a car driven by Louis Phillip Hornthal, Jr., of Plymouth, a short distance from Dardens. Hornthal, well known here, stopped his car, and after investigating the man's condition, hurried back to Plymouth for a doctor to report the case to officers. Before the doctor reached the scene of the accident, James had died.

Officers and the coroner here were notified, and an inquest was ordered. After examining several witnesses, the jury, composed of Jno. Bland, Chas. Cowen, Harry Jones, Chas. Hinson, Jno. Long and Dennis Coburn, exonerated Hornthal, declaring in its verdict that the killing was accidental, that Hornthal was not responsible in any way for the happening.

In his story to the jury, Herman James, a friend to Thelton, stated that he and Thelton started to cross the road, that he saw the Hornthal car coming from Plymouth and two others traveling toward Plymouth. He realized that he could not cross safely until the cars passed, and he warned against his friend's attempt to cross.

Hornthal stated that he was driving between 35 and 40 miles an hour, that it was just about dark and there was a drizzling rain falling, making it hard for him to see. He did not see the colored boy, but the evidence given at the jury proved that he was driving on his side of the road at a normal speed.

To Bridge Tar River at Tarboro at Early Date

Wilmington, Jan. 18.—The State Highway Department yesterday made the first move toward the expenditure of the State's share of the national emergency relief appropriation for bridge and road construction.

Application for permission to construct a bridge across the Tar river at Tarboro in Edgecombe county to replace the existing span was filed by the commission yesterday with the district army engineer.

The bridge will be located about 50 miles from the headwaters of the river. It will have a 34-foot clearance over an average river depth of 6.5 feet. The cost was not given.

On bottled drinks, three per cent; cold storage dealers, one per cent, outdoor advertising sign boards, three cents per square foot; tobacco warehouses, five cents per 1,000 pounds; dealers in typewriters, adding machines, etc., one per cent, ice cream manufacturers, one per cent. The present State tax of eight cents upon building and loan shares is increased to 15 cents but cities and counties will no longer be permitted to collect two cents each as heretofore.

2,851 STATE AUTO TAGS SOLD HERE

Revenue from License Sale Here Around \$15,000 Less Than in 1930

The sale of automobile licenses locally was brought to a close here last Saturday night, the managers of the bureau reporting a decrease in sales of 918, or a percentage drop of around 25 per cent as compared with the 1930 sale. The bureau, closing here last Saturday, sold 2,851 of the new tags for \$45,218 as compared with 3,769 tags the year before for approximately \$60,000.

Completing the sale here last Saturday, the bureau managers stated that the revenue had far exceeded their expectations, that the number of tags sold was greater by 10 per cent than they had guessed.

Outside the No. 4 class—E class last year—the decrease numbered only 16, leaving a shortage in the \$12.50 sale of 902 licenses. The changes in the Chevrolet's rating from 4 to the 3 class held up the 3 class, and had much to do with the drop in the 4 class.

In the \$12.50 class, the local bureau sold 1,859 licenses; in the \$15 class, 120 tags; in the \$20 class, 614 plates; in the \$25.00 class, 134; six in the \$30.00 class; 107 in the \$35.00 class; seven in the \$40 and only five in the \$50.00 class.

Applications for licenses were made at the local bureau yesterday, but they were too late to be handled, the applicants being referred to the department at Raleigh.

Very few cars are seen on the highways in this section carrying the old 1930 plates, but it is believed that there are several hundred stored for the time being under shelters and in garages, the owners unable to buy the required licenses.

"TEN PREACHERS I HAVE KNOWN" WILL BRING BIG AUTO TIRE HERE

Subject of Paper To Be Read In The Baptist Church Sunday

"Ten Preachers I Have Known" will be the subject of a paper—the first installment of which will be read by the evening congregation of the local Baptist church—next Sunday evening at 7:30 o'clock by the pastor. The second installment will be read the following Sunday evening.

These three-minute biographical sketches will be presented as "short subject" features and their reading will be interspersed with music by the choir and congregation.

Over the several years of his life and pastorate the local pastor has come in contact, in one way or another, and has known either directly or indirectly, some of the most noted of the pulpites of this generation. It is thought that his personal reactions to these successful churchmen will be of interest to his congregation at this time.

Among the personalities treated in these papers will be an Army Chaplain, Doctor Harry Emerson Fosdick, Doctor George W. Truett a North Carolinian, Aimee Semple McPherson and others.

One section will be devoted to an old-time country preacher, largely unhonored and unsung who, in the mountains of Western North Carolina, laid off the armor of a soldier of the Civil War and put on the whole armor of the Gospel, spending the rest of his useful as an obscure, though powerful, mountain preacher. He was the first pastor Mr. Dickey ever had. To these services the general public will be cordially invited.

Attendance Honor Roll at the Lilley's Hall School

Perfect attendance honor roll for the second month of Lilley's Hall School, announced by the school principal, yesterday:

First grade, Charles Gurkin; second grade, Lettie Hines; third grade, Vergil Lilley, Edith Hines, fourth grade, Matilda Gray Peele, Ruth M. Lilley, Ola L. Lilley, Zora B. Lilley, William Lilley and Lillian Smithwick; fifth grade, Carrie Lee Lilley, Daniel Taylor Lilley; sixth grade, Joseph Lilley, Lawrence Lilley, Evan Lilley, Gladys Lilley and Albert W. Lilley.

CHARGES TEAR AWAY PORTION OF SPILLWAY

Dam Recently Constructed, Mill In Operation Less Than Two Weeks

COST PLACED AT \$2,200

Owner and Nearby Neighbors Fail To Hear Reports of The Two Blasts

The old Foster or Daniel and Staton mill dam was wrecked late Sunday night or early Monday morning when unknown parties set off two blasts of dynamite, one under each of the concrete abutments to the spillway. Coming as a distinct surprise and great financial shock, the owner, Mr. G. C. James, yesterday stated that he was at a loss to understand the act, that as far as he knew, no one held malice against him, and that he had heard no complaints from owners of property adjoining the mill pond.

Costing approximately \$2,200, the dam was completed only a short time ago, and a head of water was on hand just week before last. Mill operations had been under way only a few days, Mr. James stated.

The owner, living only a few hundred yards from the dam, failed to hear the blasts when they went off, and he did not discover the destruction until he went to the mill early yesterday morning and found all the water gone. Neither did nearby neighbors hear the blasts, causing them to wonder just how the dynamite was used.

Mr. Jule James, brother to the owner of the mill, stated yesterday that no estimate of the replacement costs had been made, that he did not know what action they would follow in handling the situation.

For nearly 100 years the old mill dam had blocked the waters of Sweeten Water Creek, yielding only to flood waters, and then only every so many years. Several years ago, the dam yielded to high waters, and not until recently was it replaced.

"TEN PREACHERS I HAVE KNOWN" WILL BRING BIG AUTO TIRE HERE

Tire, 12 Feet High, To Be Seen Here Latter Part Of This Month

Arrangements for bringing the largest tire in the world to this town and section were completed last week by Mr. Paul Jones, manager of the Central Service Station here. Sent out by the Goodyear Tire and Rubber company, the tire is on a tour in the several Southern States and advanced reports from those dealers who have been visited by the giant tire, it is a curiosity worth seeing.

According to the schedule announced by Mr. Jones, the tire will reach here Wednesday of next week at 3 o'clock, remaining here over night. It will be brought here following a showing in Washington, it was stated.

Very few details relative to the size of the tire, its construction have been announced at this time, but according to Mr. Jones, it stands 12 feet high and weighs 3,900 pounds. The tire is attached by a yoke to a truck and is pulled from town to town included in the scheduled tour.

Drunk and Disorderly, Two Men Are Fined

Harry Lee Wiggins, colored, and Clyde Silverthorne, white, were fined \$10 and taxed with the costs for being drunk and disorderly on the street here. Silverthorne was jailed last Thursday and Wiggins went into the cooler Sunday. Justice of the Peace John L. Haffell, before whom the two defendants were arraigned, allowed the defendants the remainder of the week to raise the fines and costs. At the end of that time, ten days on the streets will be in order if the fines and costs are not paid.

Says Tobacco Association Assured In This Section

Raleigh, January 20.—With approximately six million pounds of weed pledged by tobacco growers of eastern Carolina to the Co-operative Tobacco Marketing Association of this section, actual formation of the association is virtually assured according to Dr. Carl C. Taylor, dean of the graduate school and marketing expert at State College who is recognized as one of the leaders in organizing the new association.

W. C. Manning and Norman Harrison are attending to business matters in Raleigh today.