

PREVALENCE OF CRIME DEPLORED IN JURY CHARGE

Judge J. Paul Frizzelle, of Snow Hill, Makes Good Impression Here

Coming to this county for the first time in a judicial capacity, Judge Paul Frizzelle, of Snow Hill, made a splendid impression on Martin's people, his kindness, gentleness, fairness, and ability gaining for him a ready friendship among all classes.

In his charge to the grand jury and a large audience, Judge Frizzelle advanced a different line of thought than has been generally followed by former jurists occupying the seat of justice in Martin County's superior court. He did not single out any particular crime, explaining that, in this day, we have sufficient intelligence to know when any act, mischievously done and affecting the person or property of others, is wrong and against the law.

The judge, however, impressively stated that the office of a grand juror was one of great importance, that its every act should be done in profound sacredness.

Crime conditions and general lawlessness found in almost every county in the State were deplored in no uncertain terms. On an Alameda County docket recently, the jurist stated he found one case charging a negro with crime, the many other cases involving white boys from 14 to 21 years old. Highway robbery, burglary, and similar offenses were faced by several of the young white boys. A majority of these young boys, Judge Frizzelle pointed out, came from good families, their own parents having had much to do with making the history of this country great.

No longer than last week, Judge Frizzelle said, one of the largest dockets prepared in Carteret County in 25 years was placed before the court. Only four of the many criminal cases on the docket were against colored violators, the most of the others being against young white men of that county.

Much of the present-day crime has resulted from the failure of home training, the breaking down of home rule, the judge pointed out to be true to some extent. One of the greatest factors resulting in deplorable crime conditions, Judge Frizzelle said, has developed during the past 15 years, when the country failed to practice thrift and economy in its methods of living.

Members serving on the grand jury include the following: L. B. Harrison, foreman; R. H. Roberson, L. A. Clark, W. F. Bland, N. P. Roberson, C. O. Moore, D. A. James, Jno. E. Griffin, J. E. Griffin, L. C. Coburn, J. Eason Lilley, G. A. Baynor, A. L. Raynor, A. R. Auson, J. C. Bullock, John A. Griffin, R. J. Hardison, O. P. Smith.

TO HOLD GROUP LODGE MEETING

Plymouth, Stonewall and Conoho Lodge Members To Meet Here Friday

A group meeting of the Perseverance Lodge, Plymouth, the Stonewall Lodge, Robersonville, and Conoho Lodge, Hamilton, will be held with the Skewarkey Lodge here next Friday night at 8 o'clock, it was announced here yesterday. John H. Anderson, secretary of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, Raleigh, arranged the meeting and he will be here to lead the program, described by him as important one. Members from all four lodges are expected to attend.

The local lodge will hold its regular meeting tonight at 8:00 o'clock, all members' attention being called to the change in the meeting hour.

Old Ford Church Will Present Play Thursday

Members of the Old Ford Christian Church, assisted by the ladies of the local church, will present the play, "Mammy's Little Wild Rose," in the high school auditorium here Thursday evening of this week at 8:00 o'clock.

Mr. R. G. Thompson, announcing the event, stated that much time had been given the practice of the play, that it was well received in Washington a few days ago.

Electric Supply Company Moves To New Location

The Electric Supply Company, dealers in electric supplies, lamps, Frigidaires and radios, moved to new quarters in the York building on Washington Street this week. Mr. Paul Jones, owner and manager, is completing the arrangements at the present time. In addition to a large stock of electrical supplies, the company will have on display shortly the latest Frigidaires models.

45 County Children Entered in Milk-for-Health Essay Contest

With nineteen schools, ten white and nine colored, already forwarding 45 essays and a number of others to report today, the Milk Campaign for Health Week has proved very successful in this county. The papers are being arranged in the office of the county superintendent today and they will be forwarded to the judges immediately.

Miss Hattie Throver, of Williamston; Rev. J. M. Perry, of Robersonville, and Mr. B. M.

Worsley, of Oak City, will select the six best papers, three among the white and three among the colored schools. The winners will be announced as soon as possible, probably next week.

Hundreds of essays were written in the various schools of the county during the week, only one or two failing to take an active interest in the work, it was learned.

Many posters were made, and a number of poems were composed by the young people in their drive for better health conditions.

Mr. Jno. A. Getsinger Dies Suddenly Today

GOOD RECORD AT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Two Hundred Members at Baptist School Last Sunday Morning

Two hundred in Sunday school, with six star classes, was the record made at the Baptist Sunday school Sunday. This was a record day in this church, as well as a record day in Sunday school for any church in the community. No special effort had been made for the day, no drive or contest. The people just came in large numbers until the 200-mark had been reached.

Six classes reported the entire enrollment present. This made a very formidable record for both the teachers and their classes. And few small churches are ever able to report as many as six star classes in one session.

Under the superintendency of Mr. Bruce Wynne, the church school has been taking on life and an increasing interest has been gradually manifesting itself.

Next Sunday being Easter, it is expected that the attendance will be the best of the entire year.

Local Man Liquidating Bank In Robeson County

John D. Rodgerson, who was the liquidating agent for the Caledonian Savings and Trust Company, which recently reopened its doors, is now making his headquarters in Lumberton, where he is liquidating agent for the Planters Bank.

Mr. Rodgerson is also the liquidating agent for the Bank of Whiteville, the Bank of Chadbourne, and the Bank of St. Pauls. He stated that he would be in Fayetteville one day each week to look after the affairs of the LaFayette Bank and Trust Company.

TO MAKE FARM SURVEY IN APRIL

Each Farm Owner Required To List Acreage of Various Crops

Of the 2,651 farm operators in this county, how many are actual owners? Any way, each land owner is due to report to his tax lister the number of acres of each crop that he will probably grow in 1932.

No, this is nothing new. It has been done since 1918. Most counties are reporting these surveys for practically all of their farms. This is probably news to non-farm owners. The Federal Farm Census was secured from farm operators (mostly tenants).

More than 200,000 farm owners made reports for each of 1929, 1930 and 1931. These showed acreages that are amazingly good. The cost of these surveys is extremely little, due to the commissioners using the tax-listing machinery. While considerable inconvenience is experienced by those "waiting" to list their taxables, yet the need and value of this farm "inventory" is too great to the farming interests to be overlooked.

Exchange Buys Soybeans For Its Members in 1932

The Chatham County Farmers Exchange has purchased 1,000 bushels of soybeans for its members this season, in addition to enough lespedeza seed to sow several hundred acres.

Union County Farmer To Use No Fertilizer in 1932

Van Smith, of Marshville, Route 2, Union County, will purchase no nitrogen fertilizer this season as all of his crops will be planted on lespedeza seed.

WAS MEMBER OF COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Was Taken Serious Ill At His Mill In Plymouth This Morning

John A. Getsinger, prominent county citizen and for several terms a member of the Martin County Board of Education, died suddenly at his home in Dardens shortly before noon today, his death coming as a decided shock to his relatives and friends throughout this section.

Complete details surrounding his sudden death could not be learned at noon today, but according to reports received here at 1:00 o'clock, he was found unconscious at his lumber mill in Plymouth during the forenoon. He was removed to his home where he died a short while after he reached there. As far as it could be learned here, he enjoyed good health and the friendship of hundreds of citizens in both this and Washington County.

When arriving at his mill in Plymouth this morning, he complained of severe pains in his stomach. Medical aid was summoned there and his removal to his home in Dardens was advised. The family physician, Drs. J. A. Smithwick, of Jamesville, was called but before he reached there, Mr. Getsinger was dead.

Born and reared on a farm in Griffins Township, Mr. Getsinger was 55 years old. He was the son of the late John Conrad Getsinger and wife, Sarah Brown Getsinger. In early manhood, he moved to Dardens and bought a farm where he has since resided. In addition to his extensive farming operations, he owned and operated a lumber mill in Plymouth for a number of years.

He was married to Miss Alice Gibson Darden, when a young man, and she with four children, Miss Thelma Getsinger, a teacher in the Plymouth schools, Thomas, Jack, and Duncan Getsinger, all of Dardens, survives. He also leaves a sister, Mrs. Buck Roberson, of Griffins Township, and four brothers, Messrs. N. A. Getsinger, of Florida; Fernanda C. Getsinger, of Washington, D. C.; Perlie G. Getsinger, of Griffins Township, and J. Sam Getsinger, register of deeds of Martin County, Williamston.

He was a member of the Plymouth Baptist Church for a number of years, and in religious work as well as in community and county betterment activities he always took a prominent part. He had served on the county board of education for several terms, having been re-elected at the last general election. In educational work, he was a recognized leader, always taking a marked interest in the educational training and development of Martin's youth.

Funeral arrangements had not been announced at 2:30 this afternoon.

Plan To Open State Prison Camp Near Here Saturday

That the new State Highway prison camp, near here, would be ready to receive Martin County subjects as its first prisoners this week was practically made certain last night when Superintendent Moberly said that water connections would, at last, be made complete Thursday or Friday. With a few prisoners from here, and a few from there and yonder, the officials plan to fill the camp during the first week of its operation.

Newest Spring Creations At Harrison Brothers'

With a unique assortment of the newest spring creations to select from, Harrison Brothers and Company here are aiding Easter and spring shoppers this year with unusually low prices. The company is announcing in this issue the latest in styles for both men and women.

PROCEEDINGS IN SUPERIOR COURT FOR MARCH TERM

Big Crowds Hear Trial Of Relatively Minor Cases at Opening Session

Judge J. Paul Frizzelle, of Snow Hill, presiding over a Martin County Superior Court session here for his first time, started the machinery of justice promptly yesterday morning. Relatively minor cases appeared on the docket, but even then many people were attracted to the hall of justice during all of yesterday and a part of today.

No heavy sentences were meted out or substantial fines imposed yesterday, but the nature of the docket scheduled for today indicated that several defendants were bound for the roads.

The jury found Turner Hines not guilty in the case charging him with an assault with a deadly weapon.

James Reddick failed to appear, and the case charging him with manufacturing liquor was continued.

The case charging John Hag, small colored boy, with the larceny of a bicycle, was dismissed, it appearing to the court that the kid had been sufficiently punished.

J. D. Harrison was found not guilty in the case charging him with hunting without license.

The jury found Hoyt Lilley not guilty of operating a car without proper license.

Lester Whitaker was given a six-months road sentence, suspended upon the payment of a \$20 fine and cost in the case charging him with being drunk and disorderly.

Haywood Myrick pleaded guilty of larceny and receiving, judgment now pending.

Charged with false pretense, B. D. Burden failed to appear and the case was continued.

A nol pros resulted in the case charging L. E. Freeman with passing a worthless check.

The case charging N. S. Godard with seduction was not prosed.

Papers were ordered issued in the case charging R. G. Jackson with passing a worthless check when he failed to answer the charge.

The case charging Ralph Bond with larceny and receiving was continued.

A nol pros resulted in the case charging John A. Jackson with passing a worthless check.

Will Smith and Lewis Keys, pleading guilty in the case charging them with manufacturing liquor, were given 12-month sentences on the roads, suspended upon the payment of \$100 fines and one-half the costs each.

Tiler James, facing a similar charge, was given a 12-month sentence, suspended upon the payment of a \$75 fine and the costs of the case.

Early this morning it was believed that the court would complete the criminal docket some time today or early tomorrow morning.

WILL STIMULATE REPAIR BUSINESS

National Agency Has Been Put Into Operation To Boost Building Work

A national agency designed to aid in bringing about a revival of business through country-wide stimulation of the repair and improvement of residential, commercial, industrial, and institutional property, supplemented by local community organization, has just been put into operation in Washington. This undertaking is comprised in the program of the committee on reconconditioning, remodeling, and modernizing of the Department of Commerce.

Inquiry has disclosed that more than 50 per cent of the many important lines of materials and equipment produced for construction in 1931 were consumed by remodeling and improvement projects, and it is predicted that a still larger percentage of such materials will be used in this same field in 1932. The annual repair and replacement bill of the United States aggregates hundreds of millions of dollars. A considerable portion of the normal repair and improvement projects has been deferred for more than three years, and there is evidence to indicate that this large field of potential business can be stimulated into actual accomplishment.

Injury Confines Volunteer Fire Chief To His Bed Here

Mr. Henry D. Harrison, chief of the local volunteer fire company here, continues in bed at his home here as a result of an injury received when the home of Bruce Chesson burned on the Hamilton road more than two weeks ago. The fireman received a bad cut on his ankle, and since that time he has been running temperature. It is feared that he will have to undergo special hospital treatment before full recovery can be expected.

List-Takers Meet Monday To Discuss Valuation Problems

OUTLINE SERIES OF PROGRAMS AT LOCAL SCHOOLS

First of the Commencement Exercises To Be Held Next Friday Night

A series of interesting exercises has been planned for the closing of the local school year, it was announced by Principal William R. Watson this week. The schedule of exercises, beginning Friday evening of next week and ending Friday, May 6, is made public at this time that any conflicting events might be avoided, the principal said.

The first of the commencement series will be the junior-senior banquet in the Woman's Club hall Friday night, April 1, with Miss Bessie Willis in charge.

"At the Foot of the Rainbow," will be staged by the senior class under the direction of Miss Annie Shields Vandye on Friday evening, April 8.

The next event on the schedule will be the music recital by Miss Frances Overton's pupils on Friday evening, April 13.

On the evening of April 22 the sixth and seventh grades will present their exercises, with Mrs. C. B. Hassell directing.

The grammar grades will present a series of exercises the following Friday night, April 29, with Miss Velma Harrison and Mrs. Herbert Taylor in charge.

The commencement sermon will be preached Sunday morning, May 1, the minister to be selected within the next few days. All services will be called off in the several churches that morning, in keeping with the custom followed in the past, it is understood.

Graduating exercises will be held on Friday, May 6, bringing to a close the 1931-32 school year.

All events, with the exception of the banquet, will be held in the high school building.

FORMER CITIZEN HAMILTON DIES

Funeral for Miss Mary E. Gardner Being Held In Hamilton Today

Miss Mary Elizabeth Gardner, a native of Hamilton, died at her home in Kinston early yesterday afternoon in her 71st year. She had been in feeble health for some time, the end coming as a result of a paralytic stroke. Since last August she was confined to her bed.

The daughter of the late William and Mary Jape Gardner, she spent her early life in Hamilton, moving to Kinston following the death of her mother, to live with Mrs. Lina Webb, widow of a Methodist minister. She was the last of a family of six children, five brothers preceding her to the grave. A niece, Mrs. Clara Davenport, and a nephew, Earl Gardner, both of Durham, survive. She was a cousin to Mr. Frank Gladstone, of Hamilton.

Funeral services are being conducted at 2 o'clock this afternoon from the Hamilton Methodist church, the pastor, Rev. A. E. Brown, of Robersonville, conducting the last rites. Burial will be in the Hamilton cemetery.

Griffins Township Farmers Lose Small Chicks In Fire

A number of biddies was burned, and the chicken house of Mr. A. C. Roberson in Griffins Township was threatened by fire last Sunday morning while Mr. Roberson was attending church. Neighbors saw the smoke pouring from the chicken house and rushed there in time to prevent much loss. The blaze started from a defective brooder, it was stated.

Mr. J. J. Roberson, a neighbor, lost about 50 biddies last week when the brooder in which they were held caught fire. No other damage resulted.

To Receive Applications For Husbandry Position

The United States Civil Service Commission has announced that until April 12 applications will be accepted for the position of associate dairy husbandman in the Bureau of Dairy Industry, Department of Agriculture, for duty at Lewisburg, Tenn.

The entrance salary will be between \$3,200 and \$3,800 a year. Full information may be obtained from F. E. Wynn, secretary of the United States Civil Service Board of Examiners at the postoffice in Williamston.

LOSES MEAT

Fire yesterday morning burned about 500 pounds of meat and slightly damaged the smokehouse of Mr. W. Oscar Peel, who lives about nine miles from here on the Washington road. Mr. Peel was smoking around 25 nice country hams and about that many shoulders when the hooks broke and dropped the meat into the fire. The smoldering logs burst into flame and threatened the building. Mrs. Peel discovered the blaze and summoned help in time to check it before any damage resulted to the building.

TOBACCO FIRM'S PROFITS FOR 1931 SHOW INCREASE

American Company's Net Earnings for the Past Year Are \$46,189,741

In its annual financial report last week, the American Tobacco Company announced a net earning during 1931 amounting to \$46,189,741, as compared with \$43,294,769 earned in 1930. The president of the company, Geo. W. Hill, was paid \$2,383,000 for his services, giving rise to an argument among the stockholders and a few directors.

In his statement to stockholders, George W. Hill, president, stated that in 1931, a year of generally reduced tax receipts, the company paid Federal taxes of \$158,000,000, "a high record, I believe, for any corporation or enterprise." For every dollar of profit our company earned, we earned, in addition, nearly \$3.50 for the United States Government.

"At the same time, our company has been mindful of the difficulties which have confronted the tobacco grower through the collapse of the export market, by substantially enlarging its purchases of leaf tobacco, and thereby increasing the American demand."

The company's balance sheet showed cash of \$26,810,000 and accounts receivable of \$2,683,000. Accounts payable amounted to \$3,584,000. Surplus was carried at \$106,448,000. Total assets were \$294,390,000.

The company was able during the year, not only to maintain its former wage scale without laying off workmen, but in addition to give employment at full wages to a greater number of employees.

JUDGE TO SPEAK AT KIWANIS MEET

New Members Will Be Received at Meeting Tomorrow

Reception of new members, and a brief address by Judge Paul Frizzelle will feature the regular Kiwanis program at their bi-weekly luncheon here Wednesday, at 12:30 o'clock.

The membership of the local group is being increased as the result of a pre-Easter program of expansion. About a half dozen leading men of the community will be enrolled at the meeting Wednesday. And with the enlarged attendance, the group is getting all set for one of its most important years.

Judge Frizzelle is presiding over the sessions of the court which is in progress here, and has kindly consented to make a brief address at this noon-day meeting. The membership will hear the judge with unusual pleasure.

Owners Sell Smokeshop Fountain and Fixtures

The Smokeshop, operated by Clarks' Drug Store, Inc., during the past several months, went out of existence this week when the fixtures were sold to a firm in Richlands. For many years, the store located next to the Branch Banking and Trust Company, had been recognized as a meeting place by the people of the town and community. About a year ago, Clarks' moved to a new location several stores up the street, and since that time the Smokeshop carried on a soda, cigar, and cigarette business.

Local Bank and Schools To Have Holiday Monday

Easter Monday, March 28, will be observed as a holiday by the local bank and schools, it was announced by the heads of the institutions yesterday. General business will continue as usual. The day is not a national holiday, and the postal service will continue as usual.

FIX SCHEDULE OF VALUES FOR MANY ARTICLES

Cost of Production and the Selling Prices of Farm Products Baffling

Martin County property list-takers and their supervisor, meeting in the courthouse here yesterday, readily realized the huge task just ahead of them when they attempted to determine basic values to be referred to in listing personal properties and various commodities for taxation in the year 1932.

While it was agreed that certain fluctuations would be necessary in some cases, the group decided to follow as far as it was feasible to do so the following schedule:

Corn, \$1.50 a barrel; peanut hay, 15 cents a bale; oats and fodder, \$10 a ton; lard and meat, 8 cents a pound; sweet potatoes, 25 cents bushel; soy beans, 50 cents bushel; field peas, \$1 bushel; horses, top value, \$100; mules, top value, \$150; sheep and goats, \$1 each; pigs and hogs, 5 cents pound on the hoof; milk cows, \$75 each (top value); beef cattle, top value, \$25; cotton, \$30 bale; peanuts, \$1.25 bag; automobiles and trucks, 70 per cent of the purchase price downward, according to trade-in value; refrigerators, 75 per cent of purchase price; talking machines, 75 per cent of the purchase price; radios, 75 per cent of the purchase price. Real estate values will be the same, and store stocks will be listed according to inventory schedules, it was determined.

The supervisor and his list-takers found it difficult to determine a fair valuation for many commodities, and while one or two items might be rated at top market value, in no case are the values above actual production costs. The values set up this year are considerably below those of last year in virtually every case, but it is believed that the larger quantity of produce on hand as of April 1 will more than offset the valuation decrease. However, it was admitted at the meeting that values on automobiles, mules, and farm machinery, in general, would show a marked loss for new purchases have been few during the past year.

Several of the list-takers will start the property listing work the first of next month, while a few are planning to wait until about the second or third week in April to start. Property will be listed strictly as of April 1, and the delay in starting the work will have no effect on the final outcome. Listing schedules will be advertised and property owners will be given until the first of May to give in their property valuations. Listing after May 1 is subject to penalties, according to provisions of the law.

The following list-takers met with Supervisor Ben Riddick of Everetts: F. C. Stallings, Jamesville; George C. Griffin, Griffins; L. J. Hardison, Williams; John H. Roberson, Bear Grass; R. T. Griffin, Williamston; G. G. Bailey, Cross Roads; J. B. Rawls, Robersonville; G. Taylor, Poplar Point; F. B. Slade, Hamilton; and J. A. Rawls, Goose Nest.

GIVES FIGURES ON ATTENDANCE

Everetts Schools Report an Attendance Percentage of 85 First Six Months

With an average daily attendance of 232.37 elementary school and \$6.99 high school pupils, the Everetts schools reported an average of 85 per cent in attendance during the six months term recently ended, it was learned from Principal D. N. Hix this week. The school reported an enrollment of 342 pupils during the period. Last year the school reported an average of 88 per cent for the six months period, the 3 per cent decrease resulting mainly from new conditions brought about by consolidations last fall, in the opinion of the school's head. Unfavorable economic conditions are believed to have affected the attendance very little, if any, as the union relief committee there handled needy cases very efficiently, it was explained.

Accepting the report as final, the school there is in line to operate next year with the same number of teachers, the attendance fluctuation being too small for the school to add an additional teacher.

Woman's Club To Hold Regular Meeting Thursday

The local Woman's Club will hold its regular meeting in the club hall Thursday afternoon of this week at 3:30 o'clock, it was announced by the president this morning. A large attendance is requested.