

PROCEEDINGS IN MARTIN COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT

Court Completes Scheduled Work and Recesses Until Monday

Completing its scheduled work for the week, the Martin County Superior court closed down yesterday afternoon until next Monday when it will face a crowded docket for three days. A number of cases have been handled by the court or settled by agreement during the week, Clerk of Court L. B. Wynne explaining that there are very few civil cases on the docket now more than one year old.

Proceedings not previously reported are, as follows:

A judgment was given favoring the plaintiff in the case of Mrs. Nettie Cowen against Sudie and George Price, the defendants losing their claim to a mule.

In the case of J. T. Brown against Simon D. Everett, a judgment in the sum of \$232.64, with interest from February, 1923, was given, the defendant.

The petition of John R. Coltraine to be dismissed as administrator of his father's estate was granted in his case against W. F. Coltraine et al, but a proposed sale of certain lands was restrained or delayed.

A settlement was noted in the case of George Baker et al against D. G. Matthews and W. S. Rhodes and the court ordered it off the docket.

In the case of W. J. Holliday against J. E. Sexton, the plaintiff, suing for a certain account, recovered nothing.

The case of S. H. Grimes against Biggs was settled out of court.

Settlements were also effected out of court in the cases of Slade, Rhodes and Company against J. J. Powell, and L. B. Culpepper against B. M. White.

Yesterday J. B. Cherry was awarded a judgment in the sum of \$437.20 and interest from July, 1931, against J. R. Morris. The jury had the case for several hours, it was reported.

A non-suit resulted in the case of Wm. J. Gardner in his case against the Tarboro Coca-Cola Bottling Works. The young boy was asking \$2,000 damages alleged to have resulted when he swallowed some glass while drinking coca-cola from a bottle sent out from the defendant's bottling works.

FHA Representative Here This Afternoon To See Applicants

Will Continue In Office At Courthouse Until Noon On Saturday

G. H. McMullan, representative of the Federal Housing Administration, after failing for some reason not yet explained, to meet applicants for housing loans in the courthouse here last Tuesday, according to an announced schedule, is in the courthouse here this afternoon and will be there until tomorrow noon, it was announced by a member of the county committee yesterday.

A number of applications, asking loans amounting to \$35,000, were filed with the field representative of the housing administration here two weeks ago today, but as far as it could be learned this morning nothing has been heard from them by the applicants. When the applications were entered or reentered at that time Representative McMullan stated that a report, favorable or unfavorable, could be expected within 10 days or two weeks.

In the meantime, those applicants who applied to the association for loans months and months ago are becoming more restless. Many of them are said to have paid certain fees and heard nothing from their applications.

Mercury Drops To Twelve Degrees Here Yesterday

After experiencing freezing weather for a day of two, this section started thawing out gradually today despite warnings from weather forecasters that the mercury would go as low as five degrees. Unofficial observers stated this morning that the mercury was averaging from five to six degrees above the reading yesterday at the same time. A low of 12 was reported, unofficial of course, here yesterday, and this morning it ranged around 16. The mercury dropped from 44 to 16 during Wednesday night here.

Some sections of the country have reported readings as low as 50 degrees below zero during the past day or two.

Repairs Are Ordered Made To Brick Warehouse by Directors

Preliminary plans for repairing the roof and foundation of the Planters Warehouse, damaged during a snow storm last December, were made by the directors in a meeting last Tuesday night. A committee composed of Messrs. W. O. Griffin, Joshua L. Coltraine, and G. H. Harrison, was named by the directors to handle the arrangements, and it is understood that bids will be asked within the next few days for the repair work.

No action was taken in connection with determining where the liability rests, but the committee is understood to be considering placing the contract in the hands of an attorney with the possibility that the damage will be charged against the original renters.

Local Veterans Lose No Time in Seeking Bonus

TUG BOAT SINKS

Its hull pierced by a submerged log, the Diesel-powered tugboat of the National Handle Company, of Plymouth, went down in the Roanoke River, 7 miles below here early Wednesday night. Tom Coffield, captain, and his crew transferred to a small power lifeboat, and continued on here. The tug, measuring about 45 feet in length, was coming up the stream for a raft of timber when it struck the submerged log.

The captain headed the tug into shore, and when it settled only a small part of the bow remained above water. Work on salvaging the tug was started yesterday, but it could not be learned how long it would take to raise the craft.

DELAY OF 2 YEARS SEEN IN SECURING FARM PROGRAM

Make-Shift Plan Receiving Attention of Congress At Present Time

A delay of two years in launching a definite agricultural adjustment program to take the place of the old AAA loomed big in Washington yesterday, farm leaders declaring, however, that some make-shift plan would be advanced immediately in an effort to aid the farmer even though the constitutionality of such a plan is not certain.

In short, it appears that federal agricultural authorities are planning a soil conservation program under which certain benefits will be paid probably this year and next. Beginning with 1938, it is proposed to have 48 children of the Big A acting in behalf of agriculture in as many states. The federal government will make grants direct to the individual units which, in turn, will be allotted farmers participating or cooperating in some definite farm program.

The temporary program now proposed, as it is understood here, is receiving attention by Congress at the present. This program would broaden considerably the powers conferred to the secretary of agriculture under the 1935 soil conservation act by authorizing him to make payments to producers out of a \$440,000,000 appropriation to be proposed in a separate bill for conservation and economic use of their land. Opposition developed to such a proposed appropriation, however, and just now any and all agricultural plans are still in the air, so to speak.

Congressman Lindsay Warren, fully realizing that his potato bill has no legal rating with the high court, said yesterday he would not ask for funds for the enforcement of the provision of the bill. Instead he is asking \$1,000,000 for a survey of potato marketing and production problems so the industry may benefit in any new agricultural program by Congress. Warren's move apparently meant abandonment of plans to enforce the measure which Secretary Wallace once said would be a near impossibility.

High Water Causing Much Uneasiness for Some People

Other than the uneasiness the expected high water is causing the highway people, probably the worry caused Henry "Chic" Manning is the greatest. The young man is afraid passage to Windsor will be stopped over the Roanoke-Conine route. His friends are consoling him with the fact that travel will be possible over the river via Scotland Neck.

Building contractors who have examined the fallen structure are of the opinion that the repairs can be made for \$2,000 or less, explaining that 80 per cent of the roof can be salvaged and nearly all the timbers can be used again.

The directors and committee were agreed that the building will be repaired and ready for use long before the next tobacco marketing season.

Colored Ex-Soldier Goes To Post Office For His Wednesday

Contention Is That Money Will Have Little, If Any Effect On Business

Local veterans of the Great War are already calling for their bonus money. Postmaster Pete Fowden stating yesterday that Azariah Williams quit work at noon Tuesday to be the first to call at the local post office for his bonus. The word got around somehow that the money was ready, and other colored former soldiers started calling at the post office.

The postmaster explained that while the bonus bill was almost certain of becoming law, it had not at that time been passed by Congress, and that it would be some time before the money or "baby" bonds would be available. As it is understood here, the bill is now before the President, but its enactment is considered certain, regardless of his action, because both branches of Congress passed the measure by more than a two-thirds majority or by a margin that will override a presidential veto unless many change their stand. It is also understood that the money for the "baby" bonds will not be available before next July, and that the veteran will draw no interest if he cashes his bonds at that time. If he holds them until July, 1937, he will draw interest from the date the bonds are issued, it is understood.

It is contended by some that the payment of the bonus will not have much effect on business one way or the other. It is further said that the payment of the previous bonus had very little effect, that the present disbursement may be twice as big, and therefore have twice as much effect, but twice very little is still not very much, it is explained.

Back in 1931, around 2,000,000 veterans borrowed about \$800,000,000, and a temporary increase was noted in sales of automobiles, especially second-hand cars, and textiles, foods, boots and shoes.

Regardless of the effect the payment will have, Williams probably expressed the sentiment of most Martin County veterans when he explained that he wanted his money and wanted it now.

Fire Company Gets Call Here Thursday Morning

Williamston's volunteer firemen, while suffering a bit from the nervous tension during the past few days of freezing weather, have been getting along fine so far. They have not been called out in the dead of night, and up until noon today, only one call had been received during the cold weather, and that one amounted to nothing. A call was received from Jas. Garfield on West Main Street yesterday morning at 10:30 o'clock, but the apparatus was not needed.

Local Doctor Is Named County Director of League

Dr. J. H. Saunders has been appointed county director of the North Carolina League for Cripple Children, an organization that is conducting orthopedic clinics monthly in Tarboro free to cripples in this county. The next clinic will be held in Tarboro on Monday, January 27, at 1 o'clock in the Presbyterian Sunday school building.

The work of the league is purely charity, and the organization is seeking to find and help to relieve all those who are unable to secure treatment for themselves.

Martin and Beaufort Officers Get 9 Stills In Concerted Drive

All Raids Centered Along Martin-Beaufort Line; Three Arrested

Directing a joint drive against illicit liquor manufacturing along the Martin-Beaufort line, officers from the two counties wrecked nine plants during the past few days.

During the first day the raiders found two 75-gallon capacity liquor stills, 45 gallons of liquor, 3 bags of sugar, and 600 gallons of beer, Deputy J. H. Roebuck and Jailer Roy Peel from this county reported. S. A. Martin, white man, was caught driving a mule and cart from the still, and he was turned over to the Beaufort authorities. The mule and cart were not confiscated, it was stated.

The next day, the officers found three plants and destroyed a steam still, a large copper kettle and several hundred gallons of beer. Two men were seen leaving one still, but when they saw the officers they left their 10 gallons of liquor and fled. The owners were moving one plant to another location, and very little equipment was found at the old stand, it was said. No arrests were made on the second trip.

Finding the illicit business flourishing in their first raids, the officers returned to the Bear Grass section Wednesday morning and found a 100-gallon capacity copper still in operation within one-half mile of Bear Grass. The plant, including 18 fermenters, 900 gallons of beer, 100 gallons of liquor and two large kegs, was destroyed. Karo Rogers, white man, was captured, but was allowed his freedom until Tuesday week. That afternoon the sheriff and Deputy Joe continued their activities in the same township, and found and destroyed a 100-gallon steam still and equipment. The plant was cold.

Yesterday, four federal men defied their assistance and with the deputy they found two more plants, one of them a copper still of 100-gallon capacity, being located near the town of Bear Grass. Around 1,400 gallons of beer were poured out, and the plants destroyed. Signals were fired as the officers approached the second plant, and the operator left his repairing activities and escaped capture.

Following the raid last Monday, the Beaufort sheriff arrested Columbus Ward, colored, for carrying five gallons of liquor from a still that day. Ward was the first man to enter Martin's new jail several years ago, and he was booked at that time on a liquor law violation charge.

Good Week for Local Basketball

Local basketball teams have had a very successful week so far, the three teams, two high school and the all-stars, winning four out of five games played.

Frosty's and Dallas' Sanitary Grocery stars lost the first game of the week at Greenville Monday to E. C. T. C.'s boys by a 24 to 24 count. Tuesday night the grocers turned back Greenville's all-stars 36 to 18. On Wednesday night, they snowed under Washington's Black Hawks, an all-star aggregation, 55 to 15, at Washington.

Williamston's high school girls took their first game of the season here last night by defeating Windsor by a one point margin, the final score standing 13 to 12. The local high boys added another victory to their list by defeating the Bertie lads 28 to 14.

President's Ball Plans Complete

Arrangements, handled on a rather elaborate scale, are just about complete for the President's birthday ball in the high school gymnasium here next Wednesday night. It was announced today by a committee of the local Woman's Club, organization sponsoring the gala event. The President's birthday falls on next Thursday, but the committee explained that it was impossible to get an orchestra on that date, and that the dance would start on Wednesday and continue well into the following day.

A similar event was sponsored here last year, when considerable money was raised for use in promoting prevention and control of infantile paralysis. About one million dollars was raised over the country, and the proceeds this year will be used for the same purpose as they were in 1935, it was explained.

Washington Osteopath Charged With Murder in Connection With Death of Mrs. Kathleen W. Lilley

Farm Planning Committee To Hold Meeting Saturday

Farm planning committeemen, representing nearly every community in this county are scheduled to meet in the county courthouse here tomorrow at 9:30 o'clock when problems of vital concern to the agricultural industry will be discussed. B. Troy Ferguson, of the State Extension Division, Raleigh, is scheduled to meet with the farmers, it was announced today by Assistant Agent Murphy L. Barnes.

Members of the county committee met here last week and acquainted themselves with the program that has promise of becoming an important factor in promoting the interest of Martin County farmers.

No large number of farmers is expected for the meeting since it is designed principally to outline, in a fairly definite way, the program to be followed over a long period of time in connection with the advancement of the farming industry.

Roanoke Expected To Be Near Record Level

Predict Crest To Be Reached Next Week; 47 Feet at Weldon

Weather Bureau Says Mark Likely To Be Highest Since 1912

An official report released late yesterday by Lee A. Denson, of the State Weather Bureau, Raleigh, predicted that the Roanoke River would reach and probably pass by an inch or two the 15-foot mark on the gauge at this point about next Tuesday or early Wednesday. According to the late report, the river will be about 1 foot higher than it was last Sunday a week ago, when a crest of about 14 feet was reached.

While it is impossible to predict exactly the extent of the rise, the late report indicated the stream would not go as high as it was first believed it would. Highway forces, however, are not taking any chances and are making preparations to guard the Roanoke fill as far as it is possible to do so. It was first thought the water would cover the highway between the end of Main Street and the bridge, but, judging from the report reaching here yesterday, it will be possible to maintain traffic over the route without danger. However, it is apparent that the fill is facing its greatest water since it has been there, and that the water will almost reach the top of the causeway. Soon after the causeway was completed, flood water came within one foot or thereabouts of the top. Traffic was not blocked, but it underwent a sharp decrease along about that time.

Families living below the hill are making arrangements to move out on short notice, and oil boats have been running on a double schedule to fill the several distribution tanks while the docks are above water. An oil shortage was experienced by at least one company during the last freeze and high water two weeks or more ago, but customers were supplied from plants inland.

The water will extend well up lower Main Street, observers explaining that it will reach the farthest point since 1912, when canoes were paddled where the Texaco filling station operated by George Harris is now located.

Nearly 100 convicts and a large number of trucks were brought into use by the highway department this morning in building up low spots in the river fill. It is possible that a thousand or more loads of clay will be dumped on the upper side of the causeway during the next day or two in an effort to hold the water back.

A rise of 15.8 feet would place the water even with the concrete on the fill about middle way of the causeway, and that an additional rise of one foot would have to materialize before the water would flow over the dam, highway engineers said following a survey this morning.

Demonstrate Meat Canning At Courthouse on Thursday

A meat canning demonstration will be held in the home agent's office Thursday, January 30. Every one interested in canning meat is welcome to attend. The demonstration will be given by a representative of a jar manufacturing company. The demonstration is scheduled to begin promptly at 2 p. m. Kindly watch for further announcements.

Is Released Under \$2,500 Bond Pending Hearing Next Friday

Man Also Face Charge Of Practicing Medicine Without License

Charged with murder and the practice of medicine without license, Dr. George R. Clay, osteopath and head of the Pamlico Osteopathic Sanatorium, in Washington Park, was arrested last Tuesday evening in connection with the sudden death of Mrs. Kathleen Lilley there last Monday a week ago. Clay was released under a \$2,500 bond, signed by Buck Taylor, filling station operator, a short time after the arrest. He was to have been given a preliminary hearing in the Beaufort County recorder's court this morning, but it was continued, prosecuting attorneys stating that the initial trial will probably be held next Friday or Friday week. The continuance was granted at the request of the prosecution, it was stated.

Mrs. Lilley entered the sanatorium on Friday, January 10, after handling business matters and talking with a number of friends here that afternoon. She was said to have been getting along very well when she entered the institution for treatment, and her condition was not considered at all serious. The following Monday morning, the family received at their Jamesville home news of her sudden death, reports at that time stating that she died of pneumonia. It was believed by the Martin County coroner at the time that there had been foul play, apparently, but the arrest was delayed following an investigation that lasted several days. Few of the facts learned from the investigation have been made public, but one of the charges alleges that Clay "did kill and murder Mrs. Kathleen Lilley by prescribing for her and administering to her a powerful and dangerous drug, she being a patient in his care and he not being a duly licensed physician under the laws of North Carolina." A second warrant charges that Clay "did practice medicine without being duly licensed to do so as provided by law."

Attorneys E. S. Peel, of Williamston, and H. Clay Carter, of Washington, have been employed to assist the prosecuting attorney, E. A. Daniel.

Colored Cook Held For Theft of \$150

Robersonville, January 22nd.—Probable cause appearing in the case charging her with the theft of around \$150 from the J. W. Bailey home here last Sunday a week ago, Annie Teel, colored woman, was bound over to the superior court by Justice of the Peace J. L. Hassell in Williamston yesterday afternoon. The \$200 bond required by the trial justice was stood by Gus Coffield, local colored man, and the woman was released until the third Monday in March, when she will be tried in the superior court.

The defendant cooked for the Baileys and is alleged to have stolen the money, while the family was eating Sunday dinner. It was pointed out in the hearing that the money was hidden in a bedroom of the home, that no one but the cook and members of the family had access to the room during the time the money was said to have been stolen.

According to reliable information received here, the Teel woman advised officers that she would deliver the money if they would return her to Robersonville. The officers brought her here, but upon her arrival she failed to make good her promise, it was said.

Returned Missionary To Speak At Local Church

Mr. Herbert Smith, a returned Missionary from the Congo in Africa will speak at the local Christian Church Wednesday afternoon, January 29, at 3 o'clock and 7 o'clock p. m. Mr. Smith comes from Bolenge, Africa, where he has labored for several years in Dr. Royal J. Dye's old mission field. He will have a fascinating message from the heart of the dark continent, and the public is cordially invited to hear him.

TWO FAILS

Martin County now has two jails—one to keep robbers and other law violators in, and the other to keep robbers out. The old jail, out of use since the costly bastille was completed several years ago, has been repaired and converted into a storage house for whiskey, and the small house with its two stories is just about running over with the spirits.

The old jail was repaired at a cost of \$295, and the move gives Sheriff C. B. Roebuck and Jailer Roy Peel more room to entertain and accommodate their company. Up until yesterday, two rooms in the new jail were used for liquor storage, causing crowded conditions at those when the law was too lightly regarded by too many.

SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS JUDGE MOORE'S ACTIONS

Judgment Giving Pittman \$2,500 Affirmed by the Court This Week

Judge Clayton Moore, local man, was upheld in two cases included in the long list of opinions handed down by the State Supreme Court this week, the jurist batting 1,000 for the day and maintaining an average well over .800 for the time he has been on the bench. Probably few judges in the state have a better average.

One of the two cases originating in this county and going to the high court on appeal was that of Frank Pittman against John Downing. The court upheld the \$2,500 verdict given Pittman in the Martin County Superior Court, when it failed to find that the plaintiff and defendant were working on a joint enterprise. E. S. Peel, attorney for the plaintiff Pittman, explained that another plaintiff, Boyce, had agreed to a settlement, the \$1,000 verdict returned him by the jury being reduced to \$800. Pittman, riding in the defendant Downing's car, was seriously injured summer before last when the Downing car crashed into a car driven by Boyce. Pittman is now connected with his father in business at Scotland Neck.

The other case in which Judge Moore was upheld was that of Utah Little against N. K. Harrison, trustee, and Marion Green. The court in this county favored the defendants, the high court affirming the judgment. Little claimed that certain lands were sold under deed of trust before sufficient time for the sale had elapsed, further claiming that a debt moratorium should have delayed the sale.

Jamesville Teams Continue Winning Record Unbroken

Jamesville's basketball boys continued unbroken their winning record last Tuesday night when they defeated Windsor at Windsor 16 to 9, and increased the number of victories to ten. The Jamesville girls also triumphed over Windsor the same night, winning by a 28-to-12 score. A few days earlier, the teams defeated Conway's boys and girls in a double-header here. Tonight Jamesville goes to Elizabeth City for a double bill.