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PROCEEDINGS IN MARTIN COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT

Trial of Criminal Cases Is Expected To Require Most of the Week

Activities in the first day of the one-week term of Martin County Superior Court Monday were recognized as secondary, as the judge and officers put into motion machinery for handling the cases charging Alvin W. Watson and Willis Bullock with murder. Only 12 cases were handled yesterday, the court side-tracking about 10 others today while the Holliday murder case is underway. The schedule the court will follow after today is not certain, some of the observers believing the murder case will extend well into tomorrow.

The Ollie Page manslaughter case, already wearing a two-year crop of whiskers, was again continued. Page was booked for trial in September, 1934, following the deaths of John Leavister and Marshall Andrews, two young white men, on the Stokes road near Robersonville.

Permission was granted W. B. Gaylord to withdraw an appeal on condition that he pay the costs of the case and comply with a judgment handed down by Judge Peel in the county court.

A verdict of not guilty was directed by Judge M. V. Barnhill, the presiding officer, in the case charging Herbert Brown, James Walston, and Jack Lanier with trespassing and attempted larceny. The trio was ordered held under a new indictment charging them with conspiracy to steal. The case will like-

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Mrs. Annie Riddick Is Fatally Burned

Mrs. Annie Riddick, widow of the late Bill Riddick, who lived for a number of years a short distance from here on the Washington Road, was fatally burned at her home in Robersonville yesterday morning at 7:30 o'clock. She died in a Rocky Mount hospital early this morning.

Mrs. Riddick was building a fire at her home with kerosene, and it is believed the fire blazed up and ignited her clothes. She was horribly burned from her knees to her neck, reports received here stated. Her son was badly burned on both hands when he tried to tear a burning coat from her. Mrs. Riddick ran into the yard, and a young Mr. Ward threw his overcoat over her and rolled her on the ground and put the fire out.

Mrs. Riddick was the daughter of the late Confederate veteran, David F. Roberson, and wife.

George E. Bunch Dies at Home Here Saturday Morning

Stroke, Suffered While At Work Friday Afternoon, Causes Early Death

George E. Bunch, cabinet maker and mechanic, died at his home here last Saturday morning at 1:20 o'clock following a stroke of apoplexy suffered the afternoon before. He was handling his regular duties in the shops of the Williamston Supply Company Friday afternoon when he was stricken and removed to his home.

The son of Mrs. Mamie W. Bunch and the late E. P. Bunch, he was born in Chowan County 47 years ago, but had spent most of his life here. He was a veteran of the World War and was in active service overseas in the engineer corps. Mr. Bunch was permanently injured while working on the Roanoke River bridge about 17 years ago, but despite his disability he carried on until the last. When a young man he married Miss Elizabeth Beach, who survives with six children, George, Jr., 15 years old, James Henry, Nina Mae, Nellie Fay, Ruby Estelle, and Letha Murriel Bunch. He also leaves one brother, William Linwood Bunch, of Portsmouth, Va., and one sister, Mrs. Lily Gurganus, of Williams Township.

Funeral services were conducted Sunday afternoon at the home by Rev. J. H. Smith, of the local Baptist church. Interment was in the cemetery here.

ENTER UPON NEW TERMS OF OFFICE



Re-elected without opposition, Treasurer C. A. Harrison (upper left), Register of Deeds J. Sam Getsinger (upper right), and Coroner S. Rome Biggs (below) subscribed to the oath of office Monday, December 7. Mr. Getsinger, completing 12 years of service to Martin County as register of deeds, entered upon his first four-year term, the change in length of term having been effected by legislative act in 1935. This is Mr. Harrison's fourth term as treasurer, and Mr. Biggs begins his fifth term as coroner.



Many Fail To Return Social Security Forms

KNOW THE ANSWER

Eddie Salsbury, colored man and a frequent defendant in the courts of this county, was patiently waiting at the bar of justice in this county yesterday while the jury was in its room considering a verdict in the case charging him with breaking and entering. Judge Barnhill, during the lull in the proceedings, asked Salsbury how many times he had been to the roads. The jury had not yet returned but Eddie was on the job and replied, "This will make three times, Cap'n."

Mrs. Roy Everett, 29, Dies at Home Near Everetts Saturday

Elder B. S. Cowin Conducts Last Rites in Everetts Church Sunday

Mrs. Roy Everett, 29 years old, died at her home near Everetts Saturday morning at 8:45 o'clock from pneumonia. She was sick only a week.

Mrs. Everett, daughter of W. T. Price and his late wife, was Miss Bert Price before her marriage 11 years ago. She was a resident of the Gold Point community before moving to Everetts to make her home. Mr. Everett survives with two sons, John Russell, 8, and Donald, 4. She also leaves besides her father, four brothers, Sewell Price, of Richmond; Joe Price, of Rocky Mount; May Price, of Tarboro; and Dennis Price, of Gold Point; and two sisters, Mrs. Arthur Johnson, of Oak City, and Mrs. Charlie Tripp, of Ayden.

Mrs. Everett, an understanding wife and a thoughtful and devoted mother, was held in high esteem by all who knew her.

Funeral services were conducted in the Everetts Christian church Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock by Elder B. S. Cowin, of the Primitive Baptist church. Interment was in the Everetts cemetery.

Firemen Called to Home of James A. Leggett Sunday

Starting from an oil stove in the kitchen, fire threatened the James A. Leggett home on Watts Street last Sunday morning at 10:50 o'clock. The blazing stove was moved from the wall and burned out without doing any great damage other than smoking the kitchen. The fire department was called there, but no hose connections were necessary.

THREE MEN HELD FOR POSING AS SECRET AGENTS

Arrested in Robersonville Last Thursday By State And County Officers

Charged with impersonating secret service officers and believed wanted on very serious charges in this and other states, Louis Jailer, 44, and Albert Lucks, 39, of New Jersey; and Henry Berham, 29, of Long Island, N. Y., were arrested in Robersonville last Thursday night by Lieutenant Lester Jones and W. S. Hunt, of the highway patrol, and Joe H. Roebuck, of the sheriff's office. The three men, possessing polished manners, are being detained in the Martin County jail temporarily pending an investigation by agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Lucks, a native Austrian, is said to have married a Whitehead girl from Robersonville about four years ago in Florida, and was visiting in Robersonville accompanied by his two friends, who gave their names as Berham and Jailer. Berham first said his name was Melvin Jacobs.

Officers are of the belief that the three men were in this section trying to lure girls to the big cities for immoral purposes, evidence found in the possession of at least one of the three indicating they are connected with some white slave ring or that they have a ring of their own.

Several years ago several girls are said to have left this county for Miami and New York and are believed to be associated with the three men arrested last week. One of the girls had not been heard from in about three weeks, the officers finding a letter in the suitcase of one of the men that had been apparently intercepted and never delivered to the girl. The letter was written by a relative in this county, urging her to write to her parents. Berham maintained, when questioned in jail last Friday evening, she had left the company of his friend and had gone to live with a man in a New York hotel. It was later learned that she was in a New York hospital, officers withholding reasons for her being in the institution.

County officers refused to comment on the case when questioned today, but they are pushing for a complete investigation and some startling crime discoveries are predicted by them. Numbers of long-distance calls have been made, apparently by parties in New York, to

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Edward N. Howell Passes Monday at Poplar Point Home

Informal Tea Held at the Rectory Following the Church Service

Edward N. Howell, prominent farmer and well-known county citizen of Poplar Point Township, died at his home there yesterday afternoon at 3:15 o'clock from a complication of ailments. Mr. Howell, 61 years of age, had been in declining health for about 10 years, but his condition was not considered critical until about two weeks, when he suffered a relapse, the end coming gradually.

The son of the late Zeph and Sallie Thomas Howell, he was born and reared in the Spring Green section and spent all his life there with the exception of one year in Edgecombe and three years near Williamston. Mr. Howell was married twice, first to Miss Anna Knox and next to Mrs. Eetta Roebuck, both of whom preceded him to the grave. He was a member of the Free Will Baptist church, was regarded as an upright and hard-working citizen, and enjoyed a large friendship throughout his section of the county. He had farmed all his life.

Five children, Mrs. Monroe Taylor, of Poplar Point; Mrs. Edith Crawford, of Gold Point; Roland, Oscar and Gordon Howell, all of Poplar Point, survive. He also leaves one brother, John Howell, of Greenville, and two sisters, Mrs. Vicky Edmondson, of this county, and Mrs. Mamie Cross, of Roanoke Rapids.

Funeral service were conducted this afternoon by Rev. Tom Pollard, of the Free Will Baptist church, and interment followed in the old Thomas family cemetery, near Hassell.

Willis Bullock Goes on Trial for Killing Thos. Holliday in Robbery At Robersonville on November 22

Memorial Dedicated At Episcopal Church

Bishop Thomas C. Darst in Charge; Governor Attends

Hold Funeral Services This Afternoon; Interment Near Hassell

An impressive service with Bishop Thomas C. Darst, of the Eastern Carolina Diocese, in charge, was held in the Church of the Advent here Sunday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock, when memorials were consecrated to the late Thomas B. Haughton, rector of the church for more than a quarter of a century, and to the late Colonel and Mrs. Wilson G. Lamb, and to the late Mrs. Ida Lamb Hassell Jeffries, wife of C. A. Jeffries, of Kinston. Mrs. Jeffries, a native of Williamston, was a member of this parish.

Colonel Lamb was a leading figure in the church here for half a century, much of the history of the parish centering around his activities as layman and officer during that time.

The ministry of Rev. T. B. Haughton during the 30 years he was rector of the church here is remembered well by the older people of the town.

Following the service, a tea was held at the home of Rev. and Mrs. E. F. Moseley on Houghton Street, a street named after the Rev. Mr. Haughton.

The out-of-town guests in attendance included Governor and Mrs. J. C. B. Ehringhaus, Mrs. Matilda Ehringhaus Jolly, Haughton Ehringhaus, Mr. and Mrs. Spottswood Boyd and Mrs. Edwin W. Overby, of Raleigh; Mr. and Mrs. Justin Randolph, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Cordon and Frank Bryan, of Washington. Also Mr. and Mrs. George C. Wood and Benbury Wood, of Edenton; Mrs. W. D. Bradford Morton, Mrs. Malissa Morton Clark, Mrs. T. Henry Myers and Mrs. John Bonner, of Washington; C. A. Jeffries, A. H. Jeffries, C. O. Jeffries, and Mrs. S. C. Sitterton, all of Kinston; Luke Lamb, Wilson G. Lamb and Wilson Lamb Bullock.

Kills Bear With Auto Crank Near Jamesville

James Rogers, colored, killed an 80-pound black bear with an automobile crank about 3 miles below Jamesville early last night. Rogers struck the bear with a car on the highway and stunned the beast. Taking an automobile crank, Rogers killed the animal as he started dragging himself into the road. A second bear escaped from the path of Rogers' car.

Reports state that bears have regular paths leading across the highway in that section and that several have been killed recently by hunters there.

Cash Needed Now To Insure Christmas Joy Drive Success

The Christmas Joy drive in this community, while assured of certain success in providing the less fortunate children with various toys, will not be able to cope with the situation in its entirety unless a greater support is offered and offered immediately, a review of the needs checked against the donations clearly shows.

At the present time the cash donations are not sufficient to purchase even the cheapest kind of candies and fruits for half the cases. Appeals are being received in increasing numbers as Christmas day nears, and most of them are pathetic, to say the least. There are ap-

8 SHOPPING DAYS

There are only eight more shopping days before Christmas and that day just cannot be postponed. So shop now if you will make the little ones in the home happy on Christmas day and add to the spirit of the holiday season by selecting gifts for friends and relatives. Williamston stores have thousands of appropriate gifts to select from this season, so remember the home merchants in these last few days before the day of days arrives.

EXTEND TIME TO APPLY FOR SOIL PLAN PAYMENTS

Farmers Who Have Failed To Enter Applications, Urged To Sign Now

With 75 per cent already entered, the office of the county agent is making the last call for applications for soil conservation payments, the time for receiving the applications having been extended on account of unfavorable weather last week. Any farmer who is qualified to participate in the payment distribution and who has not applied for his payment is urged to do so immediately. Delay in filing application for the payment will mean a delay in the distribution of the money. Applications are being made in the office of the county agent.

The 75 per cent who have already applied for payments represents about 800 farmers, the office of the county agent stating that approximately 1,150 farmers are eligible to participate in the soil payment distribution.

Around 500 of the applications received last week have been forwarded to Raleigh, and as soon as they are checked there, checks will be prepared for distribution. None of the conservation money will be ready for distribution within the next few weeks, it is believed.

Ford Coupe Belonging To M. L. Barnes, Stolen Here

The Ford coupe belonging to Assistant County Agent M. L. Barnes was stolen from in front of his home on Houghton Street last Sunday evening. No trace of the car has been found.

Parent-Teacher Group To Postpone Meet To January

It was announced today that the parent-teacher association meeting originally scheduled for this week would not be held, due to examinations being underway at the local school. The next meeting will be held in January, it was stated by Mrs. John F. Thigpen.

Watson Is Expected To Testify Against Him During Trial

Alvin W. Watson To Go On Trial for His Life Tomorrow Morning

Willis Bullock, young white man of Robersonville charged in the first degree with the murder of Thomas Holliday, young man at a filling station in Robersonville on November 22, went on trial for his life in the Martin County Superior Court here this morning, the wheels of justice turning slowly while the stage was set for hearing the graphic details of one of the most brutal killings recorded in the crime annals of this county. For three hours after court convened at 9:30, a special venire of 50 men and members of the regular jury were examined for jury service in one of the few cases that has been called in this county in recent years carrying a possible death penalty.

The State accepted all but six of the men called for jury service, but the defense, represented by Attorney Paul D. Roberson, junior member of the Martin County bar, rejected 38. At 12:40 this afternoon, the jury, made up entirely of farmers from Goose Nest, Poplar Point, Williams, Jamesville and Griffins Townships, was completed. The first man acceptable to both sides was Farmer Lucian J. Hardison, of Williams Township. He was followed into the box by E. W. Jones, of Poplar Point, the names of the other jurors being W. Robert Everett, Fred White, L. R. Beach, Jasper H. Harrell, L. H. Lilley, Geo. C. Griffin, Chas. Pate, P. E. Manning, H. Z. Hyman and M. E. Hyman.

Judge Barnhill, presiding, did not order a recess after the jury was chosen although the dinner hour had been reached for some. Eleven witnesses were immediately sworn in, J. B. Whitehurst, employee at a filling station where young Holliday's lifeless body was found early in the morning of November 22, taking the stand first. The case had not progressed very far, however, before Judge Barnhill ordered a recess for lunch.

While the State is expected to offer considerable testimony, including that of J. J. McCarthy, of the Federal Bureau of Investigation laboratories, Washington, D. C., it is apparently depending on Alvin W. Watson, charged with murder in

(Continued on the back page)

Mrs. J. F. Nicholson Dies at Home Near Here Last Friday

Last Rites Are Conducted By Elder Wm. Grimes Saturday Afternoon

Mrs. Martha L. Nicholson, widow of Joseph F. Nicholson, died at her home on the McGaskie road, near here, last Friday evening at 9 o'clock from an attack of pneumonia. Mrs. Nicholson, 72 years old, was very active around her home until a little over a week ago, when she was taken sick.

She was the daughter of the late William Keel and wife, Louise Jolly Keel, and had lived in this county all her life. She had many friends throughout this section and was held in high esteem by all who knew her. She was the mother of a large family, to whom she had devoted tender care, possessing an understanding that endeared her to her children and friends.

Eight children, Miss Myrtle Nicholson, Mrs. Laura Taylor, Mrs. Effie Gardner, and Luther, Will, Eli, Joe and Grover Nicholson, all of Williamston, survive.

Mrs. Nicholson never joined any church, but she was a believer in the Primitive Baptist faith, and Elder William Grimes, of that denomination, conducted the last rites at the late home Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock. Burial was in the family plot on the family farm.