

Superior Court To Continue Trial Of Civil Cases Monday

Proceedings Attracting Little Attention After Completion Of Criminal Docket

Completing the trial of criminal cases last Tuesday noon, the Martin County Superior Court early this afternoon was completing the trial of its tenth civil case with a recess scheduled to follow until Monday. The trial of civil actions will be resumed at that time with Judge J. J. Burney on the bench.

The civil proceedings are attracting very little attention and according to Clerk of Court L. B. Wynne there are no sensational cases slated for trial during next week. Present indications point to an early adjournment next week, one report from the old hall of justice stating that several cases had been continued and that compromises were expected in several others.

Proceedings in the court this week: It appearing to the court that the plaintiff had died, the case brought by Mrs. Willie A. Hadley against George E. Peel was dismissed.

A continuance was granted in the cases of Mrs. H. J. Haislip and R. A. Haislip against Critcher Brothers.

In the case of Cortez F. Green et al against John T. Daniel et al, H. G. Horton, referee, asked that he be relieved and another appointed. The court appointed W. H. Coburn to take his place.

In the case of L. H. Gurganus against J. W. Gurkin, the plaintiff takes nothing and the defendant is declared the owner of certain properties. Plaintiff is taxed with the cost.

A. T. Perry in his case against Columbus James was given certain timber rights in accordance with a timber deed. The plaintiff is to remove timber under contract between now and June 10, 1941.

The case of Standard Fertilizer Company against W. A. Hearne and North Side Lumber Company against H. H. Cowen were continued.

A divorce, based on two years' separation, was granted O. S. Winborne against Ruby Chesson Winborne.

In the case of S. L. Andrews against M. D. Wilson, the plaintiffs were declared owners of certain properties. It was further adjudged the plaintiff recover nothing of the defendant by virtue of rents and damages.

Judgments for stipulated amounts were granted the Standard Fertilizer Company in its cases against G. R. and W. H. Britton, S. L. and S. B. Davenport.

The case of Slade Rhodes and Company against Smith-Douglass Fertilizer Company was continued. A mistrial resulted in the case of Standard Fertilizer Company against Fred F. Hall.

The case of LeRoy Perkins against Herbert Little was settled out of court, the plaintiff recovering nothing.

The case of Standard Fertilizer Company against Mrs. Selma Carson Moore was settled out of court, the defendant to pay the costs of the case.

Yesterday afternoon the court started working on the case of B. F. Perry against Colonial Oil Company and T. B. Sitterson. The plaintiff is asking \$250 personal and \$750 property damage as a result of an automobile accident last December in Bertie County near Windsor.

The \$10,000 damage suit brought by Jimmie Mitchell against his next friend, Joe Mitchell, against G. P. Hall was continued for the term.

Cat Collection Is Almost Completed

Mark Gupton, former service man and extra-ordinary gatherer of stray cats, has about completed his work in this county, according to a statement issued by him here last evening.

Starting out with an old model truck, a net and a few cages, Gupton scoured the rural areas for cats. That he met with fair success is evidenced in a preliminary report issued last night. He has picked up approximately 700 of the felines in the county, and admits that the cat population has hardly been touched.

"There are more cats in Martin County than in any other county I have been in in this part of the State. It must be a good place to live, for when that many cats are found in an area there must be plenty to eat and life must be pretty pleasant," the cat man said.

Picking up as many as fifteen cats at a single stop, Gupton declared that the people of this county had been very nice to him, that they were considerate and willingly cooperated with him in his work. "A few have hauled me along the road and turned over surplus numbers of cats to me," he declared.

While the cat man will continue to travel through this county, he states that he has about completed his work in this immediate territory. His catches are delivered to a laboratory supply station near Greensboro for distribution to biologists and medical laboratories.

More Than 2 Million Pounds Of Tobacco Sold Here to Date

Tobacco sales on the Williamston market today passed the two million-pound mark, according to a report released by Sales Supervisor K. B. Crawford. Right at two million pounds had been sold through yesterday for \$345,354.93, a resulting average of \$16.22 for the season. It is estimated that there are 175,000 pounds on the floors today, the supervisor stating that prices were holding fairly firm.

General price averages have been battered by heavy deliveries of common tips and other types of inferior quality leaf on the local market this week. Prices for the medium and better quality grades are holding to the levels reached earlier in the season.

While farmers, regardless of where they market their tobacco, are not at all pleased with the prices they are receiving, little complaint has been registered. It is quite evident that the crop income will be far below expectations and hardly two-thirds of the amount received last season.

Tobacco is not claiming all the attention in the farm program this season, and cotton picking on many farms is delaying marketing for the leaf crop. Beginning next week, peanut harvesting will get underway and that is almost certain to affect tobacco marketing and reduce deliveries. The peanut season, however, will not get underway on any large scale before week after next in this county.

Cotton harvesting is progressing rapidly, preliminary reports stating that several thousand bales have already been picked from the fields.

Officers Of Farm Bureau Will Map Membership Drive

Definite plans for a county-wide Farm Bureau membership drive will be formulated at a meeting of the organization's officers and directors to be held here next Wednesday evening at 7:30 o'clock. Mr. Charles Daniel, the newly-elected president, announced today.

The newly-elected officers, according to information received here, are anxious to reach a new high peak in membership for the organization this year, and an earnest plea will be directed to the more than 2,000 farmers and business men in the county to lend their support by taking memberships. R. Flake Shaw, leading figure in Southern agriculture, is now the State organization's secretary, "and we certainly owe it to him, to agriculture and to ourselves to get out and work for the strongest organization we have ever had," Mr. Daniel said.

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Community Group Clear Grounds At Bear Grass School

School Patrons Volunteer Services In Promoting School Project

Almost certain that a Works Progress Administration project would be entirely too slow, forty or more citizens in the Bear Grass community willingly offered their services and much of their farm equipment and reported for work on the grounds at the school, there this week. Professor T. O. Hickman, principal, had assigned the willing workers a huge task, but instead of backing away, they entered upon the voluntarily-accepted duties with a determination that brought immediate and visible results. Briefly stated, the interested school patrons readily licked the task and virtually turned it into a picnic on Wednesday when a big fish dinner was prepared on the grounds and served by able cooks.

It had been customary for years for the school janitors to dump trash, broken iron and all types of rubbish on the dump heap just back of the building. Several of the volunteers looked at the huge pile of junk and scratched their heads. But once started on the task, the approximately forty men cleared the unsightly trash heap from the grounds, "but not until after they had hauled away several box carloads," Principal Hickman explained.

With the trash out of the way, the men picked up their grubbing hoes, shovels and rakes and started clearing almost an acre of land. Possibly the workers went over the line a short way, but no complaints are expected as the school comes first there. Using several large trucks and a number of horse-drawn vehicles, the group was fast whipping the new plot into shape. Top soil was placed there, and next spring the workers will return with their farm implements to break the land and sow it down in grass.

Assisted by J. D. Wynne, several ladies prepared a tasty dinner for the men workers Wednesday noon, the work being their contribution in the movement to improve the grounds and better their school.

The workers plan to complete the preliminary work on the project next Wednesday when an oyster dinner will be served by the teachers.

Apparently roping in Spain, Germany and Italy are thought to be making ready for an attack on Gibraltar and a subsequent march through the Balkans to Greece and Asiatic Turkey and on to Iraq where rich oil fields are found.

The Italian attack on the British in Egypt with the Suez Canal as its main objective continues, but it is meeting with a strong resistance and going is hard across the desert where the sun runs the mercury up to 140 degrees at noon time.

Japan has removed its state officials from Indo-China apparently making ready for an invasion there. The French government is said to have virtually agreed to the invasion of Indo-China, but the Chinese and French representatives on the scene are said to be planning a resistance.

A move has been started in this country to send at least 35 big bombers or flying fortresses to England, and to extend additional aid to the hard-pressed British. Plans for a closer cooperation between the two nations are progressing with the blessings of a vast majority of the people.

Plans for executing the draft of those men between the ages of 31 and 35, inclusive, are going forward rapidly with the prospect that married men whose wives hold down jobs and are self-supporting will be subject to call.

Late reports state that the British hurled back fierce Nazi bombers and shot down a dozen this morning.

Every important Italian military base in the Mediterranean area was badly bombed by the British last night and heavy damage was inflicted on the Italian advance into Egypt.

There is much speculation as to what the reaction will be if and when Hitler starts marching through the Balkans toward Turkey and Greece. Stalin is hardly expected to remain idle while Hitler and Mussolini grab off Gibraltar and the Dardanelles, block him up on land and then blockade him on the seas.

Just what the reaction will be in this country if and when Japan invades Indo-China cannot be guessed but the United States has warned Japan to stay out.

Mrs. Barnhill's Sister Died Today In LaGrange

Leman Waters, sister of Mrs. Leman Barnhill, of Williamston, died suddenly at her home in LaGrange early today. About 60 years old, Mrs. Waters apparently suffered an heart attack. Three children survive her. She also leaves her mother.

Funeral services will be held in LaGrange tomorrow afternoon.

FALL SEASON

After chasing the mercury to record high levels in July and August, the summer season will yield to fall next Sunday night at 11:46 o'clock. Several cold days have already been experienced, but the summer still insists on hanging around as long as Ole Sol is out.

County Farm Bureau Names New Officers

Start Membership Drive At Meeting Wednesday Night

Senator-Elect H. C. Horton and Retiring President Address Group

Pointing out the urgent need for a strong farm organization and an active unit in Martin County and outlining an extensive membership campaign between now and December 1, a meeting of nearly fifty representative farmers here Wednesday evening perfected an organization for the new year. Much interest was shown in the meeting, and the new membership drive was off to a good start.

After completing an efficient and untiring work during the past year, C. Abram Roberson retires as president of the Martin County Farm Bureau Federation. He is to be succeeded by Farmer Charles L. Daniel, an old war horse in the organization who has been active in the ranks since the organization was established in the county three years ago. Mr. Robert Everett, who has also been active in the organization, was named first vice president. Other vice presidents or directors were elected as follows: C. C. (Frosty) Martin, Jamesville-Williams Townships; Robert Lee Perry, Griffins-Bear Grass Townships; Mayo Hardison, Williamston-Poplar Point Townships; J. R. Winslow, Robersonville-Cross Roads Townships, and E. V. Smith, Goose Nest-Hamilton Townships. John I. Eagles was reelected secretary-treasurer.

Plans for an active campaign will be announced by President Daniel and his directors within the next few days.

Addressing the meeting informally, the retiring president stated that the organization had been functioning long enough in this county without there being a necessity to exert pressure in promoting its continuity. "It should not be necessary to high-pressure farmers in getting them to attend to their own business," Mr. Roberson said. Continuing, he said, "Labor has increased its income 200 per cent while ours is the same, leaving the farmer's cotton and tobacco to buy only 56 cents worth out of every dollar he receives. All can't be gotten through legislation, and we should look to education as an added stepping stone in our advancement. There are 2,100 farmers in Martin County and every one of them should belong to some strong farm organization, working for the benefit of agriculture. Organized agriculture has a big future before it, and if we can make agriculture as profitable as other businesses and professions, life on the farm will be as acceptable as any other business to the youth of our land," Mr. Roberson concluded.

Assuring the meeting that while he isn't much of a farmer, Senator-Elect Hugh G. Horton added that he was just as interested in agriculture and its future as any farmer. The speaker outlined the advantage to be derived from a strong farm organization, and frankly stated that any strong group of representative citizens could influence legislation in Raleigh. "While I have contempt for the professional lobbyist, it is important that business and other organizations be heard. The merchants, the wholesalers, the auto dealers and numerous others have their men in Raleigh, and a man from your organization is needed and will be welcomed in Raleigh. I would not call a representative of the Farm Bureau a lobbyist, for he can be of material help in passing basic legislation by offering reliable facts that can't be obtained from any other source."

Mr. Horton stated that he knows what the Farm Bureau means to agriculture and to all people in the farming territory. "I have followed its struggle and its work, and it has been proved beyond doubt that a strong organization has and will help agriculture. You farmers who have given of your time and have worked for the building up of an organization are deserving credit. I pledge my continued cooperation, and hope that all farmers in the county, and business and professional men, too, will lend the organization a strong support."

In conclusion he warned the group that it must work if it expects to get anywhere.

COTTON GINNING

For the first time in several years cotton gins are in operation at this point. The Station gin is turning out its first bale today and making ready for a fairly busy season between now and December.

Cotton ginning is well advanced in the upper part of the county where the main portions of the crop is centered.

It is estimated that approximately 6,000 bales of cotton will be ginned in the county as against 500 last season.

Mayor Pinch Hits For County Court During This Week

Thirteen Cases Are Handled By Justice J. L. Hassell Since Monday

While the county recorder's court is yielding its habitat to the superior tribunal, Justice J. L. Hassell is doing the pinch-hitting for Judge H. O. Peel in battling crime outbreaks and various infractions of the law.

The justice has been unusually busy handling the trivial matters that tend to nag the peace and quiet of the community and county.

William Brown, charged with disorderly conduct in Griffins Township, was sentenced to the roads for thirty days.

Willie Lee Moore, charged with operating a motor vehicle with improper lights, was fined \$10 and taxed with the cost.

Judgment was suspended upon payment of the cost in case charging Sallie Padgett with assaulting Addie Beacham. The assault victim, charged with disorderly conduct in a warrant issued by the defendant in the first case, was found not guilty.

Ray and Chioe O'Neal were each fined \$50 and taxed with the cost in a case charging them with simple assault. It was alleged that O'Neal held Joshua Lawrence Williams, 13 years old, while the other defendant administered a whipping.

A 30-day jail sentence was suspended upon good behavior for 12 months and payment of the cost in the case charging L. O. Buchanan with disorderly conduct.

Judgment was suspended upon payment of the cost in the case charging Willie Razor with disorderly conduct.

Willis Bryant, charged with carrying a concealed weapon and committing an assault with a deadly weapon, was bound over to the county court for trial. Bond in the sum of \$100 was required.

Judgment was suspended upon payment of the cost in the case charging Phillip Barnes with disorderly conduct.

Charged with an assault with a deadly weapon, Bennie Rives was bound over to the county court under a \$100 bond.

Charged with violating the State barbers' law and permitting a barber to operate a shop without license and in unsanitary conditions, Gilbert Rogers appealed to the higher courts when he was taxed with the costs and allowed 30 days to meet the requirements of the law.

Probable cause appearing, Justice Hassell sent the case charging Jimmie Wynne with an assault with a deadly weapon to the county court for trial.

The case charging V. A. Lassiter with assaulting Jimmie Wynne with a deadly weapon, V. A. Lassiter was bound over the county court for trial. In a second case charging him with practicing barbering without a license, Lassiter was directed to pay the case cost and take out barber's license.

Charged last week-end with operating an automobile without a driver's license, Frank L. Cox, member of the Civilian Conservation Corps, was fined \$10 and taxed with the cost.

TO PREACH HERE

Bishop Clare Purcell of the North Carolina and Western North Carolina Conferences, will preach in the Methodist Church here Sunday evening at 7:30 o'clock. The prominent churchman is from Charlotte.

Williamston Native Passes In Norfolk

Mrs. Ruth Crowell Egan, native of Williamston, died suddenly in Norfolk yesterday morning following a long period of declining health. Death was attributed to an heart attack.

The daughter of Mrs. Walter Halberstadt and the late John W. Crowell, Mrs. Egan was born in Williamston 45 years ago. After attending the local schools she entered training for a nurse in a Rocky Mount hospital and later was engaged in nursing. In 1919 she was married to Francis Egan and during the past five or six years she was connected with the welfare department in Norfolk.

Besides one son, Pete Egan, of Pensacola, Fla., she is survived by her mother and one sister, Mrs. L. H. Gurganus, of Williamston.

Funeral services were conducted from the home of her mother on Church Street here this afternoon at 3:30 o'clock by Rev. S. J. Starnes, pastor of the local Methodist Church. Interment was in the local cemetery.

Plan For Opening Of Potato Market

Preliminary plans for maintaining a sweet potato market here this coming winter were made this week by Horace Corbett, representative of the Corbett Packing Company, of Wilmington.

The company recently entered the South Carolina market where prices are ranging around \$1 per bushel, Mr. Corbett said.

No definite date for opening the market here was mentioned, but deliveries are expected to get underway about the middle of December.

A few farmers have dug small quantities of the tubers for individual use and for sale on the local market, but diggings will hardly get underway on any sizable scale before next month. Early reports indicate that the quality of the crop will be far better than it was a year ago. Dry weather earlier in the summer hampered the growth of the vines and the crop is later than usual many farmers stating that the potatoes are now quite small but that they are expected to add considerable growth between now and harvesting time.

Hunting Season Opens October 1

The sale of hunting licenses is well underway in this county. Game Warden Abbott stating that apparently more hunters are planning to start the season October 1 than last year. While the main hunting season does not get underway until the latter part of November, hundreds of hunters in this county will turn to the woods and swamps in search of squirrel and deer week after next.

The outlook for hunting in this section is good for squirrel, but flood waters are believed to have had a telling effect upon the number of deer and turkeys. Warden Abbott estimates that from 50 to 70 per cent of the wild turkeys were wiped out in the lowgrounds in this county by the flood. A few deer are believed to have been lost in the high waters. Possibly more squirrel are in the woods than at any time in recent years, but hunters will do well to await the passing of the mosquito season.

The season for taking squirrel, opossum with gun, and deer (male) opens Tuesday, October 1. The season for taking quail, turkeys, grouse and rabbits does not open until November 28 or Thanksgiving Day.

Native Of Martin Dies In Beaufort

Mrs. Lucy Jackson, a native of this county, died at the home of her son, Mason Jackson, in Washington last Monday morning. She was the widow of Charles M. Jackson.

Mrs. Jackson was born in Everetts on January 8, 1871, and spent the early part of her life there. Following her marriage to Mr. Jackson she moved to Beaufort County where she spent the remainder of her life.

Surviving are four sons, Mason, Luke, Robert Lee and Elwood Jackson, all of Washington, R. F. D.; two daughters, Mrs. Elijah Hodges and Mrs. Blount Parvis, of Washington, R. F. D.; three brothers, Jodie Bullock, of Everetts, and Stephen and Stator Bullock, of Williamston; a half-brother, John Robert Bullock; two half-sisters, Mrs. Chester Beech and Miss Nancy Bullock, of Williamston, and several grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Monday at the home of her son, Mason, conducted by the Rev. Warren Davis of Old Ford. Burial was in the Jackson cemetery at the old home.

District Teachers To Hold Meet Here

Officers of the North Carolina Educational Association for the north central district will meet in the local high school building on Wednesday, October 2, at 3:30 o'clock. It was announced this week by the office of the county superintendent of schools here.

Representatives of the organization are expected here from the schools in Tyrrell, Washington, Bertie, Hertford, Edgecombe, Hyde, Wilson and Martin Counties and from the city schools at Rocky Mount, Wilson, Tarboro and Elm City.