

Judge R. L. Coburn Clears Sixty Cases From Court Docket

Fourteen Defendants Failed To Answer When Called In Open Court

Appointed to fill the position of judge of the county court made vacant by the death of his brother, W. H. Coburn, the latter part of November, Robert L. Coburn accepted the oath of office and immediately faced a long docket in the court Monday morning.

The new judge held the court in session for about five hours, working through the lunch hour. He continued nine cases and was long on suspended judgments.

The court will hold another regular session next Monday in an effort to clear the docket before Christmas.

Proceedings in the court: The case charging Harmon Daniels with drunken and reckless driving was continued for the State, the court issuing a subpoena for W. B. Wynne, the prosecuting witness.

The cases charging Charlie Williams with larceny and receiving and Herbert Davis with an assault were not passed.

Charged with drunken driving, Charlie Clark was sentenced to the roads for three months.

The case charging Tilgham Hodges, "Butch" Rogers and George Corey, Jr., with cruelty to animals, was continued.

Pleading not guilty in the case charging him with violating the motor vehicle laws, Ivory Clark was adjudged guilty of operating a car with improper brakes.

The case charging Roy D. Harrell, of Bertie County, with drunken driving, was continued.

Pleading guilty in the case charging him with drunken driving, Herman Clarence Taylor was fined \$50, taxed with the cost and had his operator's license revoked for one year.

Charged with drunken driving, Early Goodman pleaded not guilty. The court adjudged him guilty and the case was continued under prayer for judgment.

The case charging Ernest Godard with drunken driving was continued until next Monday.

Charged with drunken driving and carrying a concealed weapon, Raymond Vinters pleaded guilty of carrying a concealed weapon.

Judgment was suspended upon payment of the cost in the case charging Floyd Wilson with being drunk and disorderly and carrying a concealed weapon.

James H. Ward, of Pitt County, pleaded guilty in the case charging him with speeding, and the court suspended judgment upon payment of the costs.

Charged with drunken driving, Katherine Theresa Halpin was fined \$50, taxed with the cost and had her operator's license revoked for one year.

Pleading guilty of violating the liquor laws, Wheeler Smith was fined \$25 and taxed with the costs.

Pleading guilty in the case charging him with reckless driving and operating a car without a driver's license, Walter Wallace Bailey was sentenced to the roads for sixty days.

(Continued on page four)

Collect Two-Thirds Of Taxes In County

Martin County property owners are among other things recognizing their tax obligations this year. A report coming from the office of the tax collector yesterday stated that \$120,404.41 of the 1941 levy had already been collected, and that payments were holding up unusually well.

The value of the lowly copper penny was well demonstrated yesterday when Dairyman Frank Weaver submitted 4,650 of the coppers to the collector as part payment of his taxes.

Thoughtful of others, the young man extended sincere wishes for a Merry Christmas back home.

SAFE AND WELL

It was brief and without any details, but a letter from Seaman Eli Gurganus from somewhere in the Pacific was welcomed as much as if it had been novel length by his mother, Mrs. Mary Bonner Gurganus, here this week.

Keeping secret the name of his ship and exact whereabouts, the letter was written on December 9th, two days after the tragic attack on Pearl Harbor, and stated that he was safe and well.

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MAKES SUPREME SACRIFICE



Portraying his youthfulness in an appealing and even touching fashion, the picture above is a likeness of Austin Randolph Jackson, 19-year-old son of Mrs. Ora Jackson Burnett, of Jamesville, who gave his life, presumably at Pearl Harbor on December 7th, for his country. The tragic news, announcing the young man's death, was received by his mother last Tuesday afternoon.

Jamesville Boy First To Lose Life In War

Austin R. Jackson Dies In Hawaii In Defense of Country

Austin Randolph Jackson, the first Martin County youth to lose his life in the war with Japan, was "lost in action in the performance of his duty and in the service of his country," the youth's mother, Mrs. Ora Allen Jackson Burnett, was notified at her home in Jamesville last Tuesday afternoon.

Kiwanians In Their Regular Meet Here

The Kiwanis Club Thursday night voted to eliminate one of their meetings in January and give the proceeds to the Red Cross. The club also donated \$25.00 to the Christmas Cheer fund, contributed \$50.00 to the Boy Scouts, purchased a \$5.00 tubercular seal bond, and gave the grammar and high school \$12.00 to help defray the expense of the vestments used in the pageant last Sunday evening.

The club also expressed its appreciation to the officers for the splendid service rendered the club during the past year—Paul Simpson, president; Sam Woolford, vice president, and Lawrence Lindsay, Jr., secretary and treasurer, retiring officers, were commended by Hugh Horton for the fine work accomplished by them and the club unanimously approved his remarks.

The following newly elected officers will be installed at the next meeting in January: David Hix, president; John Goff, vice president; Reginald Simpson, secretary-treasurer.

Uninjured In Auto Wreck Near Here Last Tuesday

No one was hurt but considerable property damage resulted when the cars of A. Corey and John Manning, of Williams Township, crashed near Holly Springs on U. S. No. 64 early last Tuesday evening.

Car Crashes Into Wagon Near Here

Driving west on Highway 64 about dusk yesterday, Walter Williamson, traveling salesman, crashed his car into a two-horse wagon driven by Farmer J. N. Hopkins. No one was injured, but one of the mules was cut and bruised, not seriously, however, according to Patrolman Saunders who investigated the accident. The wagon was damaged but not beyond repair, the patrolman reported.

Williamson said he was blinded by another "thoughtful" motorist who would not or did not dim his lights, and that he did not see the wagon until too late to avoid striking it.

This Week In Defense

Both the Army and Navy announced volunteer enlistments at a record level. The War Department asked Congress for legislation to register all men 18 to 64 years old and to permit use of men 18 to 45 for military service.

Civilian Defense Following air raid alarms in San Francisco and New York, the Office of Civilian Defense ordered all Pacific and East coast and District of Columbia air raid volunteers on the alert.

The War Department asked all Governors to be "on the alert" with home guards and State troopers available to meet any situation; instructed special plant protection services to protect all arsenals, factories and storage depots against sabotage.

The Navy initiated censorship on all outgoing communications and forbade publication of any naval information that might be of value to the enemy.

The Army and Navy announced the casualty lists will be withheld from publication in order to avoid giving aid to the enemy in determining where and when and how many losses the U. S. had sustained.

Lend-Lease To Continue

The White House issued a statement that "the Lend-Lease program (Continued on page four)"

Crime Front In The County Very Quiet

There's no telling when a flare-up will come, but so far this month the crime front in this county has been unusually quiet. Up until this morning only 22 persons had been arrested and detained in the county jail since the first of December.

CHEER FUND

With a number of donations coming in since the last report, the local Kiwanis Club's Christmas Cheer fund is now in a fair way to meet to some extent the appealing calls of a less fortunate people in our community next week.

Women Carry On Weaving Project

Discontinued a short time ago as an economy move, the six women workers in the former WPA weaving project here are now working independently. Making an array of articles, the workers as sponsors of the project themselves hope to be able to sell enough of the handwork to make possible at least a small pecuniary return for their labor.

Station Guards At Pulp Mill And The River Bridge Here

Admitting the possible danger of sabotage, the North Carolina Highway and Public Works Commission this morning stationed special guards on the Roanoke River bridge here, the order coming from Chairman L. B. Prince calling for a 24-hour watch.

Action Taken As Precautionary Measure Against Possible Sabotage

Seven men, Lester Cherry, Robert Peel, Roy Ward, Garland Perry, Richard McClenney, James O. Daniels and Luther Morris, were deputized by Sheriff C. B. Roebuck here last evening and the first shift reported to their stations this morning.

Captain Godwin Reported Safe With Pacific Fleet

Believed to have been with the Pacific fleet at Pearl Harbor, Captain Don Godwin, Williamston native, was reported safe and well this week, according to a special communication received by relatives here from Mrs. Godwin who is recovering from an operation in a Pacific Coast hospital.

Christmas Lights Burning In Homes

The Christmas season is being reflected in vari-colored lights burning in numbers of homes here. So far few out-door lights have been installed, but many local people are planning to arrange the out-side decorations over the week-end.

United People Support Emergency Relief Call

Approximately \$400 Contributed To Red Cross Special Fund

Chairman Spivey Optimistic But Warns Task Is Not Yet Completed

The power of a united people on the home front was well displayed in this section Wednesday and yesterday when the first challenge of a war-stricken world was carried by every home and business house by a thoughtful group who, well aware of the services valiant uniformed men are rendering, willingly accepted the task as a part they could play in defending our way of life and rendering aid and comfort to those in need.

Early reports from the canvass are encouraging. Dr. John D. Biggs started the drive off locally with a \$50 contribution. Saunders and Cox, a recognized and willing supporter of every good cause, led the list with a \$100 donation.

To date, a total of \$387.50 has been reported and turned in to Treasurer H. A. Bowen, Chairman V. J. Spivey, heading the drive, announced last night. Other sums have been collected but are not included in this report.

The names of contributors and the amounts donated to the humane cause are, as follows: Previously reported, \$50.

Mrs. R. W. Bondurant, canvasser: Standard Fertilizer Company, \$25; C. G. Crockett, \$10; E. L. Etheridge, \$2; Mrs. W. L. Howell, \$1; Miss Ann Gotsinger, \$1; R. C. Coltrain, \$2; W. W. Tice, \$2; J. C. Cooke, \$3; Hilton Forbes, \$1; J. A. Robertson, \$2; O. L. Robertson, \$1; H. D. Harrison, Jr., \$2; George Moore, \$2; R. W. Bondurant, \$3; Mrs. Tom Rose, \$1; Mrs. Mary Warren, five cents; Mrs. Carroll Jones, \$1; Mrs. J. L. Robertson, 25 cents; Miss Mary Smith, thirty cents; Mrs. Joe Godard, III, 25 cents; Mrs. Erah Cobb, \$1; Mrs. Simon Manning, \$1; Mrs. J. D. Thrower, \$1.50; J. E. Boykin, 50 cents; Mrs. Jack Daniel, 10 cents; Mrs. Rush Bondurant, \$1; Rush Bondurant, Jr., 50 cents; Bill Abbutt, \$2; Mrs. Henry Handy, 40 cents; Mrs. Paul Simpson, 50 cents; Mrs. Joe Gray Corey, \$1; Mrs. J. T. Edmondson, \$1; and Mrs. Jack Edmondson, \$1.

Mrs. Francis Barnes, solicitor: F. U. Barnes, \$25; Mrs. F. U. Barnes, \$5; Mrs. Kim Saunders, \$4; Mrs. Abner Brown, \$1; Mrs. J. H. Saunders, Sr., \$1, and Mrs. Francis Barnes, \$1.

Mrs. Frank Weston, solicitor: Mrs. Annie Glenn, 25 cents; Mrs. J. S. Jones, 50 cents; Mrs. Bell Manning, 25 cents; Miss Reba Taylor, 10 cents; Mrs. Charlie Leonard, Jr., \$1; Mrs. Jessup Harrison, \$1; Mrs. LeRoy Shone, 25 cents; Mrs. A. P. Purdy, 50 cents; Mrs. J. W. Watts, \$1.50; Mrs. Frank Weston, \$1; Mrs. W. M. Baker, 50 cents; Mrs. A. M. Durham, \$1.25; Mrs. Charlie Sessoms, 25 cents; Alberta Knox, 25 cents; Wilton Knox, 25 cents; Saunders and Cox, \$100.

Mrs. J. C. Manning, solicitor: W. J. (Continued on page four)

CHAIRMAN



Drafted by a special committee, V. J. Spivey, early reports indicate, is doing an able job as head of the drive to raise \$2,000 for the Red Cross Emergency War Relief fund in the Martin County chapter. Going to much individual expense and traveling here and there over the district, Mr. Spivey hopes to complete the canvass by early Monday.

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SHORT TIME

There's only a short time left before Christmas, but last-minute shopping can be handled effectively and advantageously in Williamston stores. It is not too late to find appropriate gifts in Williamston stores whose owners anticipated better conditions and increased their inventories. Reliable reports make it quite clear that as far as prices are concerned, Williamston stores are offering bargains just as attractive as can be found anywhere. Don't delay shopping longer. Act today as there are only four more shopping days until Christmas.

World Marks Time As New Move on War Front Is Anticipated

Believe Move Underway To Set Up War Council For Allies

While there is much bloody activity going on in many sections, the world is hardly doing more than marking time in anticipation of the next move. Where that move will be and what it will be like possibly only Hitlerized Germany knows. It is likely that Hitler's hordes will trample through Turkey in search of oil. It is possible he will move through Spain to attack Gibraltar and block allied travel through the Mediterranean.

In the Far East, United States forces are more than holding their own since the Pearl Harbor attack, but the British are hard-pressed in Malaya and at Hong Kong. The situation in those two sectors is regarded as serious.

One of the most extensive military shake-ups in the nation's history took place this week when high-ranking officers in the Pacific were relieved, temporarily at least, of their commands pending an investigation of the Pearl Harbor attack. A board of inquiry has been named, and an immediate investigation is to follow.

The sinking of another Japanese transport, increasing the number to ten, was in the headlines today, but the Russian drive against the Germans still is regarded as holding the fate of the future. A move to create a supreme allied command is now believed in the making and the part Russia will play is to be announced shortly.

On the war front, the British have just about wiped out the Germans and Italians in Africa, a five-day tank battle favoring the British there.

The German retreat in Russia is general, taking a heavy toll of life and equipment among the Nazi ranks. Much equipment has been abandoned by the Germans as the Russians continue a meaningful drive which may turn Hitler into another Napoleon.

Enemy operations in the Philippines are virtually at a standstill, and there is talk of the first steps having been taken to tighten the blockade around Japan.

A new situation is developing at the tip of the East Indies where Dutch and Australian troops moved in to take over that part of the island of Timor owned by the Portugal. The Portuguese cabinet is meeting today to discuss the invasion and an important announcement from that quarter is expected.

In this country the trend is toward increased preparations for prosecuting the war. The House earlier in the week proposed a law making all men between 21 and 44 years of age subject to military duty. The Senate yesterday set the age limit between 19 and 44. It is possible the conference committees will compromise and fix the minimum age at 20 years. The proposed law also calls for the registration of all men between the ages of 18 and 64 for civilian defense if not for military service.

The United States has reached a naval accord with the French High Commissioner of Martinique, strategic French Caribbean naval base, after secret consultations at Fort De France, it was revealed officially today.

Martinique, under the authority of the Vichy government at Vichy, has been an uncertain element in the United States' Atlantic chain of defenses since the military collapse of France in June, 1940, and American warships have maintained a constant "observation patrol" around it.

This patrol has been maintained because of the presence at Martinique of the French aircraft carrier Bearn a cruiser and a training cruiser which, it was feared, might attempt to escape from the island base if the Vichy government capitulated to Nazi pressure for military concessions.

The State Department, confirming the conversations, said that completely satisfactory naval accords appeared to have been reached at Fort De France. (Continued on page four)

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The Christmas season is being reflected in vari-colored lights burning in numbers of homes here. So far few out-door lights have been installed, but many local people are planning to arrange the out-side decorations over the week-end. With much equipment brought over from last year, local people are inclined to participate in the contest this season.

However, it is possible the prizes will be withdrawn since plans have apparently fallen down in the municipal decoration contest. Chamber of Commerce Secretary R. H. Smith said this morning that a definite announcement could be expected early next week, that if the contest is held, the decorations will be judged Tuesday night.