



THE ENTERPRISE



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Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Friday, June 11, 1943.

ESTABLISHED 1899

Murder Cases To Be Tried In Superior Court Here Monday

To Preside Over One-Week Term of Court

The trial of two murder cases will feature the work of the Martin County Superior Court convening here next Monday for the trial of a few criminal cases and one or two civil actions. Despite the scheduled murder trials, the court is expected to attract very little attention from the general public, and according to one report coming from the hall of justice, the criminal docket will possibly be cleared by late Monday or early Tuesday. The length of time devoted to the trial of the criminal docket will largely be determined by the action Solicitor Don Gilliam takes in handling the murder cases. If he accepts a plea of second-degree murder or manslaughter in each of the cases, and some are of the opinion he will do just that, then the docket can be cleared easily in one day, it is believed.

There are only nine criminal cases on the docket, but according to a schedule, five divorce actions will be dumped into the hopper, and one civil action will likely hold the court in session for several days during the week.

Judge R. Hunt Parker, of Roanoke Rapids, is slated to preside over the term. No change in the grand jury personnel is scheduled, and it isn't likely that Judge Parker will address the body this term.

Sheppard Spruill, colored man, stands charged with the murder of his young wife near Oak City on Sunday, April 25th. The fatal attack was reported to be the climax to a quarrel and fight lasting a greater part of the day.

Alleged to have acted without provocation, Luke Parsley, colored, is charged with stabbing his brother-in-law, Percy David Ashford, to death on Williamston's lower main street last May 7th.

Three of the remaining cases on the criminal docket were continued at the last March term. None of the cases appears on the list on appeal from the county court.

Other than those charging murder, the docket carries the following cases:

Elbert Whitehurst, drunk and disorderly and damaging public property, continued from March term.

John Lee Freeman, breaking and entering and larceny, defendant failing to answer when called for trial last March.

The case charging Semour Briley with seduction was continued last March for a bill of indictment.

Walter Freeman, breaking and entering.

Dennis Smallwood, breaking and entering and larceny of meat.

Bennie Earl Spencer, assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill.

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Seventy-four Tires Allotted in County By Ration Board

Thirty-five New and Thirty-Two Grade II Car Tires Are Included in List

With the allotment of both Grade I and Grade III tires, the number of tires and tubes issued by the Tire Ration Board at its regular meeting this week greatly exceeded the issuance last week. Thirty-five Grade I passenger tires were granted, and thirty-two Grade III tires.

An application from Julius Smith, Parmele, for a ~~license~~ was passed in order that he might have transportation to essential labor. Seven tires for trucks and one tractor tire completed the week's issuance.

New car tires and tubes were issued to the following:

H. J. Hardison, Williamston, one tire and one tube.

C. B. Rogerson, Williamston RFD 2, one tire.

W. C. Faulkner, Everetts, one tire.

V. E. Hedrick, Jamesville, one tube.

E. N. ~~Hedrick~~, Jamesville, two tires and two tubes.

C. D. Bullock, RFD 3, Williamston, one tire.

Jodie Peaks, RFD 2, Williamston, one tire.

G. P. Roberson, RFD 1, Robersonville, one tire.

J. H. Melton, Robersonville, one tire.

W. R. Roberson, Jamesville, two tires.

L. S. Bullock, Williamston, one tire.

Fred Taylor, Robersonville, one tire.

W. O. Abbott, Williamston, one tire and one tube.

Cecil Brown, RFD 1, Oak City, one tire and one tube.

Hugh B. Griffin, RFD 1, Williamston, one passenger tire and one tube.

Mrs. Cletie Griffin, RFD 1, Williamston, one passenger tire and one tube.

V. G. Taylor, Everetts, one tire and one tube.

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Decrease in Number of School Teachers For County Certain

A reduction in the number of college teachers for Martin County is likely that two or more will be lost in the white schools, according to a report coming from the office of the county superintendent this week. Attendance figures will fall approximately five short in supporting the number of teachers employed in the colored schools last year, it was pointed out. It is likely that three of the teachers will be lost to the Parmele district and one each in the Oak City and Williamston districts. There is some doubt if the State school authorities will allow two white teachers where the average daily attendance figures were slightly below the requirements last term.

After experiencing much difficulty in making replacements, county school authorities and local committees are making fair progress in the task of finding new teachers for the coming year.

The problem is aggravated by a serious shortage, but one report states that positions are now being filled about as rapidly as they are vacated. Approximately twenty-five vacancies have been created in the white schools, representing about twenty-six per cent of the teacher personnel.

Commenting on the marked drop in the average daily attendance figures reported by some schools for the recent term, school authorities stated that a few pupils had been lost to the war, that others were transferred to steady jobs on the farm, but that in quite a few cases it was plain indifference on the part of parents and pupils that caused the slump in average attendance. Present indications point to a further decrease in attendance figures during the coming term.

CAUGHT

Changes in draft rules and regulations, coming thick and fast, often catch a victim in between, and while they may be fair they are often hard. At one time Selective Service ruled that a child born on or after September 8, 1942, could not be recognized as a dependent as far as the draft was concerned. The date was later changed to the fifteenth of that month. During the meantime, one father in this county whose case fitted into that period, was called and sent to the army.

There are possibly others whose cases fit into that one week period. The draft board does not know them, and if the men are instructed to report for induction, it is too late for the draftee to claim deferment.

While fathers are subject to call possibly in August or September, any one who had a child born between September 8 and 15, 1942, should report the blessed event to the draft board and possibly, by so doing, head off a July draft summons.

Robert Whitehurst, colored, indicted for assault on female, paid a fine of \$10 and costs. His case was continued from last week's docket.

Fletcher Bullock, charged with aiding and abetting in the larceny of chickens, was sentenced to six months on the roads with sentence suspended upon payment of \$15 fine and costs. He is also to pay Mrs. J. Haislip the amount of \$22.54, value of the chickens. Actual larceny of the chickens was by Kelly Myrick and Louis Cherry. Myrick, a minor, was remanded to juvenile court, and Louis Cherry was sentenced to the roads for nine months.

Judgment was suspended by the court on Jesse B. Daily for assault with a dangerous weapon on the person of James Purvis, Gussie Ford, and "Top" Teel were found guilty of being drunk and disorderly and interfering with Officer A. R. Roberson, Everetts, in the performance of his duty. Judgment for James Purvis was payment of \$25 fine and one-half of costs. The other two defendants were charged to pay a fine of \$10 each and the remainder of the costs.

Chester Revels, former soldier now partially paralyzed, was sentenced to jail for 90 days, the court suspending the judgment upon the payment of a \$50 fine and costs and on the further condition that he remain on good behavior for two years, for beating his mother.

The case of D. E. Bunting, charged with assaulting Jesse F. Crisp, ration board member, was continued for two weeks with the appointment of Attorney E. S. Peel, the defendant's lawyer, as county solicitor. Attorney R. L. Coburn will handle the case when it comes to trial on June 21.

The following speed cases were tried: George Whitman was found not guilty of speeding; Felice Balletta paid the costs; W. S. Crain, payment of costs; Beamer Cline Wilson, costs; Roland Holiday, costs; James Fleming, \$5 fine and costs; B. F. Moore, \$10 fine and costs.

M. E. McLawhorn was found guilty of operating a car with improper lights. Judgment was suspended upon payment of costs.

Special Agent in Charge of the Charlotte Field Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Edward Scheidt, will preside at a meeting of the law enforcement officials of the twelve Roanoke-Albemarle Counties at 2 p. m. in Ahoskie next Wednesday, a representative of the office announced this week. A special invitation is extended to officers and auxiliary police in this county to attend the meeting.

The theme of the conference will be, "Safety Duties of Police in the War Effort." Pertinent matters pertaining to the internal security of the country as applied to the coastal defense against saboteurs will also be discussed.

A representative of the North Carolina Highway Patrol will appear as feature speaker of the program.

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Pressure Cookers And Machines Are Rationed by Board

Large Enough to Meet Half The Demand

Six pieces of farm equipment and forty-three pressure cookers were allotted to applicants by the Martin County Farm Machinery Rationing Board in a recent meeting. The quota of cookers for the county was hardly large enough to meet half the demand, the authorities stating that thirty applications could not be handled. It is hoped that the quota will be increased at a later date, but there is no assurance that a larger supply will be made available. As far as it could be learned no cookers have been received in the county during recent weeks, but shipments are expected shortly. They will be handled by recognized dealers.

Farm machines and equipment were rationed to the following:

Clyde Revels, RFD 2, Williamston, 2-in-1 cultivator.

T. B. Slade, Hamilton, traction sprayer.

Hugh B. Griffin, RFD 1, Williamston, water system.

T. B. Slade, Hamilton, disc harrow.

D. W. Downs, Hobgood, combine.

Mrs. Annie C. Fleming, Jamesville, tooth weeder.

Pressure cookers were allotted to the following:

Mrs. C. B. Bowen, RFD 2, Williamston; Rosa Parker, RFD 2, Robersonville; Mrs. Lula Cherry, Hassell; Esie M. Bell, Robersonville; Ada Tynes, Williamston; Mrs. W. B. Phillips, Robersonville; Mrs. W. T. Culphur, Williamston; Ruth Britt, (school), Williamston; Mrs. V. A. Ward, (school), Robersonville; Mrs. Walter Wynne, RFD 3, Williamston; Mrs. E. C. Harrison, RFD 2, Williamston; Mrs. N. R. Rogerson, RFD 2, Williamston; Doretha S. Chance, (school), Williamston; Mrs. C. G. Rogerson, RFD 2, Williamston; M. Vivian Harris, Williamston; Mrs. Guy Forbes, Robersonville; Mrs. Lela Britton, Williamston RFD; Mrs. D. C. Peel, Everetts; Mrs. J. A. Harrison, Williamston RFD; Mrs. J. Ben

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Mr. And Mrs. Hardy In Albany, Oregon

Recently graduated from the Army School, Harvard University, Parson John W. Hardy and Mrs. Hardy are now in Albany, Oregon, where the chaplain is carrying on with the members of the armed forces. A letter to The Enterprise from Mrs. Hardy suggests a bit of homesickness despite the beautiful surroundings and the friendliness of the people there. She writes, in part:

"John and I feel terribly far away from home, and all that goes on there and miss the Enterprise a great deal."

"Oregon is beautiful, one of the loveliest states in the Union, as far as we can judge, and we crossed ten states coming out here. It was a perfectly wonderful trip. Albany is on the lovely Willamette river in between the Cascade range to the East and the coast range on the West, mountains three and four thousand feet high and covered with gorgeous huge pine trees reaching almost to the waves of the Pacific."

"Camp is ten miles out and John comes in several times a week. People are quite friendly but we certainly miss Williamston and our homefolks."

"We'll be anxiously awaiting our first copy of the Enterprise and please fill it full of local news."

The Hardys' address is Box 453, Albany, Oregon.

Scouts To Collect Scrap Materials Here Tomorrow

A second scrap drive will be sponsored by the local Boy Scout Troop 27, beginning Saturday, June 12th, at ten o'clock. Paper, tin, and steel will be collected with other scrap, the troop using Mr. Bill Spivey's truck.

Money derived from sale of the scrap will be used to pay expenses of the troop to camp.

POTATO PRICES

A retail ceiling price of five and one-half cents a pound was placed on white potatoes in this section, according to an announcement coming from the county office of the War Price and Rationing Board yesterday.

Consumers, asked to pay in excess of that amount, are directed to report to the War Price Panel in the rationing board office.

These prices, it was explained, are based on the \$2.70 ceiling price fixed for the producers.

It has been pointed out that the \$2.70 is the ceiling price, that it does not necessarily mean that the crop will sell for that much. But with a reported short crop and a great demand for potatoes, there is good reason to expect a price at or near the ceiling figure.

Some Commercial Oil Users Warned To Convert Heaters

According to a warning coming from the district and state rationing authorities, commercial oil users, especially stores and other similar business operators, will find it advisable to convert their equipment or make arrangements to burn wood or coal in heating their places of business this coming winter. The warning, issued at a district meeting of OPA representatives in the courthouse here last Wednesday, does not apply to individual home owners, it was pointed out.

In connection with the conversion program, H. L. Godwin of the State OPA office, stated that a system for rationing all types of stoves would be instituted immediately, that the plan would make it possible for those who will find it necessary to do so to replace their oil burners with coal or wood heaters. It is fairly well understood that stove sales in the future will be very limited, and

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