

Judge Calvin Smith Calls Many Cases In The County's Court

Several Long Sentences Are Meted Out During Last Monday Session

In one of the longest sessions held in recent months, Judge J. Calvin Smith called seventeen cases in the county recorder's court last Monday, the apparent increase in crime following the opening of the tobacco markets by one week. The court imposing several long sentences, was in session until after three o'clock that afternoon and quite a large crowd was present for the first cases that morning.

Proceedings: The case charging Booker T. Mizelle with assaulting a female, was not prosed with leave.

The case charging William Henry Williams with larceny and receiving was continued until the first Monday in October.

The case charging Lafayette Pearl with an assault on a female, was not prosed with leave.

Charged with drunken driving, Guilford Brown was adjudged not guilty.

A continuance was granted until next Monday in the case charging Elton Hodge with assaulting a female.

Pleading guilty in the case charging him with bastardy, James Goss was directed to pay \$5 a week for the support of his child, and \$40 to the mother's attending physician. Bond in the sum of \$125 was required, and the defendant is to report on the first Monday in January for further judgment.

Charged with operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license, Grover Lilley was fined \$25, taxed with the cost and had his driver's license suspended for ninety days.

Charged with disorderly conduct and resisting arrest, Richard Ewell pleaded guilty and was sentenced to the roads for ninety days. The road term was suspended upon the payment of a \$25 fine and costs. The court ordered the defendant not to get intoxicated in public or violate any criminal law for one year.

The case charging Lester Brown with an assault with a deadly weapon, was found not guilty.

A continuance was granted in the case charging Roy Boston with an assault with a deadly weapon and disorderly conduct. The case is to be called for trial next Monday.

Pleading not guilty in the case in which he was charged with assault on a female, C. B. James was found guilty and the court fined him \$20 and taxed him with the cost.

Placed under a peace warrant by Williamston's Justice of the Peace J. L. Hassell a few days ago, Perlie Williams appealed to the county court, and the prosecuting witness, J. D. Ray, called for a jury trial, the action placing the case on the superior court trial docket.

The case charging W. A. Langley with an assault with a deadly weapon was not prosed.

Leon Best, charged with assaulting a female, was sentenced to jail for two days and fined \$25 plus the case costs.

Pleading not guilty in the case charging him with drunken driving, Bill Keel, colored, was found guilty and was sentenced to the roads for six months. The road term was suspended for one year upon the payment of a \$60 fine and the case costs. His license to operate a motor vehicle was revoked for one year, and the court instructed the defendant not to be found intoxicated off his premises during the period of one year.

Pleading guilty of not supporting his family, Cecil Gorham was instructed to pay \$8 a week for the support of his two children, and to report to the court on the first Monday in January, 1946, for further judgment. The money is to be paid to the welfare department where it will be distributed to the children in accordance with the court judgment.

Badly Hurt When Run Over By Automobile Here

Joe Boyd, concession operator with the Greater Virginia Shows here this week, suffered a severe ankle injury last Tuesday afternoon shortly after 3 o'clock when he was run over by James Riddick at the Gulf Station on Washington Street.

Boyd, whose home is in Harrisburg, Pa., was on the ground working on his truck at the station, and Riddick did not see him when he started to drive away.

Riddick accepted the hospital bill, it was learned. The victim was able to be out after being treated in Brown's Community Hospital.

Draft Still Controls Certain Deferred Groups

Although manpower controls have been lifted in nearly all cases, the Draft Board still controls certain deferred age groups, it was pointed out this week. Young men in the 18-25 age group, inclusive, are not to change jobs without permission of the draft board. If they do they are subject to immediate call, it was learned.

Predict Holiday For Tobacco Markets In Bright Leaf Belt

With redrying plants blocked with heavy deliveries during the past few days, a holiday for tobacco markets in the Bright Leaf Belt was predicted today by tobaccoists. A one-day holiday has been scheduled for next Monday, Labor Day, but that was planned some time ago. It is now likely that a several-day holiday will be declared in an effort to meet the pressing emergency and relieve congestion.

Directors of the Bright Belt Tobacco Warehouse Association are meeting in Raleigh tomorrow morning to discuss the marketing situation, and they are expected to take some action. It is believed by some that the authorities will either declare a holiday or curtail the daily selling hours. Warehousemen and farmers are hopeful no holiday will

HOARDING

One of these days it will be learned that there is not and has not been any critical shortages of quite a few articles seldom found on the retailers' shelves. It is certain that there have been some shortages, but according to findings recently disclosed by officers, hoarding has been the big problem. Armed with search warrants, ABC Officer J. H. Roebuck and his assistants recently searched several homes for illicit liquor. During the searches they ran across cartons of cigarettes, washing powders, soap and a few other items. If hoarded items were returned to trade channels for normal distribution, shortages in quite a few cases would be relieved.

To Use Prisoners Of War For Harvesting County Peanut Crop

Applications for Prisoners of War Will Be Received Around September 10

Plans are being advanced for employing prisoners of war for aiding in the peanut harvest in this county during September and October, but no definite dates have been fixed for receiving applications for the workers, it was announced by Mrs. Josephine Holding who will handle the contracts in the office of the county agent. Officials will meet with county agents in this section on September 6 to allot the prisoners, and it isn't likely that applications for the workers will be received before about September 10.

It is understood that a fee of twelve cents will be charged for each stack this season.

The following rules and regulations for handling the work were released by the Fourth Service Command a few days ago:

The stack pole will be 8 ft. long, set 18 inches in the ground, with cross-pieces not more than 40 inches long, nailed 12 inches above the ground, making a 5 1/2 ft. stack of peanuts.

The above stack poles will not be set more than 12 rows apart. The maximum distance between stack poles in the row will be 14 steps (3 ft. per step). The actual distances are dependent on growth of vine and yield of peanuts.

Production of 25 stacks, shaking and stacking by hand, per day, will constitute a normal day's work after Prisoners of War have been given two days' training by the farmer on the Agricultural Extension Service. (Continued on page four)

Two Million Pounds Weed Sold In 8 Days

Following a first sale at the Roanoke-Dixie warehouse here yesterday, farmers were placing tobacco on the warehouse floor faster than Thursday's sale could be cleared from the floor and transported to the redrying plants and storage warehouses. As the market will close Monday, Labor Day, this particular house will not have a sale until next Thursday and it is very probable the house will be completely filled before the week-end begins. Every house in town including the Planters, New Carolina and Farmers, is completely filled and the market will experience another block all next week.

The Williamston Tobacco Market probably broke a record when it sold more than two million pounds of leaf within a period of eight days. Yesterday's sale of 293,340 pounds, the largest of the year, brought the season's total to 2,101,798. Prices on all types of tobacco, both good and bad, medium grades and otherwise, continue to hold up and Wednesday the market made the highest average of the year when it averaged around 46 cents.

The market will be closed Monday to observe Labor Day.

Enrollment Figures In County's Schools For 1945-1946 Term

Incomplete Reports Point To A Slight Increase In First-Day Attendance

Martin County schools, both white and colored, opened the 1945-46 term yesterday with fairly wide fluctuations in enrollment figures. Just how successful the opening was, principals would not say, but, considering uncertain conditions still existing, it is permissible to say the new term was launched with great success.

A complete report on the head count could not be had immediately, but enough of the figures had been received late yesterday to indicate that the enrollment would be little changed from the opening-day total a year ago. Taking the figures submitted for the opening yesterday and using those of a year ago for the schools where the count was apparently delayed in reaching the office of the county superintendent, the enrollment for the combined elementary and high school departments shows a gain of six over the 1944-45 opening-day figures.

No comparison of the enrollment figures is possible this year since some of the schools included in the eighth grade in the high school last year. Three of the first schools to report their current term enrollment figures reported losses ranging from 7 to 18 pupils. Three others reported gains ranging from one to twenty-one, the first tabulations showing an over-all increase of six pupils.

The 1945-46 opening day enrollment figures as reported by six schools are shown by elementary and high school departments with a comparison of totals, as follows:

	Total	1945	1944
Jamesville	349	60	409
Farm Life	152	32	184
Winston	665	125	790
R'ville	342	152	494
Gold Point	43	43	42
Oak City	244	98	342
	1795	467	2262

No reports could be had from Bear Grass, Everetts, Hassell and Hamilton, but it is presumed the schools opened there with about a normal enrollment.

No enough colored schools had reported to establish a trend in the enrollment figures, but the colored high school opened here with 498 in the elementary and 104 in the high school, Principal E. J. Hayes stating that the figures were about normal.

Mrs. Buck Williams Dies In Jamesville

Mrs. Buck Gibson Williams, member of one of this county's oldest families and a highly respected citizen of Jamesville Township, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Oscar Jones, there last night at 9 o'clock following a long illness. Several years ago Mrs. Williams fell and broke her hip and since that time she had been a semi-invalid.

The daughter of the late Henry Gibson and wife, she was born in Williams Township 89 years ago. She was a member of the Primitive Baptist church at Jamesville for a number of years and was held in great esteem by all who knew her.

She is survived by the following children, Mrs. Oscar Jones and Mrs. Ransom Roberson, both of Jamesville; Mrs. J. T. Weede of Fuquay Springs, Chas. Williams of Plymouth and Arthur Williams of Williams Township.

Funeral arrangements had not been completed in their entirety this morning, but it is planned to hold the services Saturday afternoon. Elder P. E. Getsinger and Rev. W. B. Harrington will officiate, and interment will follow in the family cemetery in Williams Township.

County Young Man Released By Army

Sgt. Samuel R. Coburn, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. S. R. Coburn of Jamesville, was honorably discharged from the U. S. Army with 112 points on Aug. 16.

Sergeant Coburn volunteered for service in April, 1939. He served in the Canal Zone 38 months. While there he attended the motor mechanics school at Balboa. Returning to the States in December, 1943, he was sent to the motor mechanics school at Camp Davis.

On Nov. 3, 1944, he left for overseas duty in Europe. While there he was attached to the Seventh and Third Armies and served in France, Germany, Austria, Luxemburg, and Czechoslovakia.

Sgt. Coburn is the recipient of the Good Conduct Medal, American Defense Service Medal with one bronze star, American theater campaign Medal and the European Theater of Operations medal with two bronze stars.

He made the trip home by plane, flying from France to Miami in 25 hours.

At the present he is taking a much needed rest at the home of his parents.

TO GET DISCHARGE
Sgt. Albert Roberson, son of Mr. and Mrs. N. P. Roberson, has returned from over seas after two years in England. After a 30-day furlough he will return to Camp Mead, Md., for his discharge. Sergeant Roberson has 106 points.

State-County ABC Enforcement Officers Round Up Large Number Of Alleged Liquor Law Violators

Rationing Activities Greatly Reduced In OPA Office Here

War's end has greatly relieved the tension and anxiety, but the return of peace has had no great effect upon the civilian economy with changes in rationing as possible exceptions. Just about everything has been removed from the ration list except boots, shoes, sugar, meats and tires, and the office of the County War Price and Rationing Board, once a great gathering place, is all but deserted these days. Of course, price controls are almost certain to continue, but that work is handled outside the office for the most part.

Just now there are fairly heavy demands for tires and boots. A few institutions are asking for more meat points, but since a new stamp became valid a short time ago there have been few special requests for extra shoe rations except by returning war veterans. Claims for extra sugar are not being made any more, holders of coupons explaining that they have experienced much difficulty in using the coupons on hand.

During the past few days twenty-two applications were filed in this county for boots, the increase in the number of claims indicating that farmers are planning to do a bit of ditching this fall and winter.

Just now the big rationing problem centers around tires for passenger cars. There are more than 250 applications on file for tires in this county. The applications call for an estimated 500 tires. This week the board had a regular allotment of fifty-six tires. It is quite evident that the tire supply is still "tight", that if tires were lifted from the rationing list, manipulators would likely corner the market and speculation would result. Relief in the truck tire situation is expected within a few weeks and for passenger cars in about three months. Quotas on car manufacturers have been lifted, but they will not be equipped with a spare tire.

County Farm Bureau Launching New Drive

Farm Leaders Meet In Courthouse Here Last Tuesday Night

Meeting in the courthouse last Tuesday night, twenty farm leaders formulated plans for launching the 1945-46 Farm Bureau membership campaign, the officers of the organization stressing quite frankly that the need for a strong and active membership was never greater than right now.

An open invitation is being directed to all farmers to join in the membership drive by soliciting every section and supporting the organization individually and collectively. "We need at least 1,600 members in the county for the 1945-46 year," Chas. L. Daniel, president of the Farm Bureau, said, "if we are to lend our help in support of the cause of agriculture in this postwar period."

It was pointed out that while national leaders are sympathetic, they will not be able to take positive action in behalf of agriculture unless they have strong support from farmers' organizations.

Martin County has led the way in farm organization, and the leaders are anxious to maintain the record and help make certain that the farmer will be well represented at the conference table in this postwar period.

Any farmer who will solicit members and help support the organization. (Continued on page four)

Rush For Drivers' Licenses Reported

One of the greatest rushes in years for motor vehicle drivers' licenses was reported here Wednesday when fifty-eight persons went before Examiner James Boyce, in the county courthouse. About fifty percent of the group failed the examinations, it was learned.

Quite a few of the applicants were in their middle teens. Among the others were those who had either lost their licenses or had them revoked.

The license bureau is open each Wednesday from 9 a. m. until 5 p. m. and each Saturday from 9 a. m. until noon in the State Highway Patrol office in the county courthouse.

County Draft Board To Observe Forty-Hour Week

Effective immediately, the Martin County Draft Board will observe a forty-hour week, meaning that the office will not open on Saturdays. On the other five week days, the office will remain open from 8:30 a. m. until 5:30 in the afternoon.

Flourishing Trade Enjoyed In County By The Bootlegger

Widespread Activity Uncovered By Special Agents; Trials Set For Sept. 10.

Alleged bootleggers in numbers were rounded up in the county this week after special agents of the State Alcoholic Beverage Control, working with county officers, had thrown out a net weeks ago. There was much moaning and groaning at the bar when one defendant after another was carried before Clerk of Court L. B. Wyane to arrange bonds ranging from \$100 up to \$300.

While the catch was large and the net was drawn tightly around the illicit business, officers admitted that just prior to the wholesale arrests beginning Wednesday of this week, bootlegging was, without a doubt, the worst in history, prohibition or no prohibition, legal control or no control, war or no war.

Observers, after studying the list of defendants, were certain that quite a few of the more or less notorious dealers had squeezed out of the net, that possibly some of those caught are not confirmed or recognized dealers.

The stage was set for the arrests last May and June when Special Agents L. A. Jones, O. G. Lamb and Charlie Brown spent several weeks in the county, contacting dealers and building up evidence which they will offer in the county court before Judge J. C. Smith on Monday, September 10.

It is the second time since legal stores were opened ten years ago that definite action was taken by State and County authorities to check the illicit business. The outcome of the first round-up proved disappointing when the cases reached the courts. The agents were attacked apparently with the blessing of the court, and officers withdrew, leaving the enforcement job almost entirely up to County ABC Officer J. H. Roebuck.

The recent raids, reaching to all parts of the county, reveal high liquor prices on the bootleg market. Tax-paid liquors sold for \$10 a quart and for as much as \$6 a pint. One pint of illicit liquor, according to a reliable report, was sold for \$5.

Some of the dealers handled tax-paid and illicit liquors, and some of the defendants face as many as three charges. In one case, a defendant faces three charges preferred by the State officers and one by county officers. Quite a few of the defendants are women.

One report stated that possibly fifty warrants had been drawn as a result of the investigations last May and June. A complete list could not be had immediately as the round-up had not been completed late yesterday.

Warrants have been served and bonds arranged in the following cases: Gatsy Harrell is charged on two different counts with selling a quart of tax-paid liquor for \$10 and a pint of the same kind for \$6 and a pint of illicit liquor for \$5.

Maggie Rascoe is charged on two counts for selling two quarts of tax-paid liquor for \$8 each. Ida Faulk is booked for selling a pint of tax-paid liquor for \$5. The defendant, overcome by her arrest, was given medical treatment.

Fenner Respass is charged with selling a quart of tax-paid liquor for \$10.

Perlie Williams is booked on three counts for allegedly dealing in tax-paid and illicit liquors. His wife and his wife's sister are involved in a liquor case.

Mamie "Sweetie" Williams stands charged with selling a quart of tax-paid liquor for \$8. Three warrants drawn against (Continued on page four)

Several Cases Heard By Justice Hassell

Justice J. L. Hassell heard several cases in his court here during the past few days. One or two of the defendants were charged with operating motor vehicles with improper equipment, indicating that leniency shown motorists in the past is being lifted now that the war is over.

Charged with operating a motor vehicle with improper lights, Jos. L. Holliday was fined \$5 and taxed with \$6 costs.

Drunk and down, Rufus Taylor was taxed with \$8.50 costs.

William Brown, charged with operating a truck with improper brakes, was fined \$5 and required to pay \$6 costs. Charged with disorderly conduct, Fred Smith, William Baker and Ledes Savage were each fined \$10 and taxed with \$7.50 costs.

Calls His Parents Here From Overseas

Calling his parents here Wednesday morning, Lt. Billy Biggs, spending a ten-day leave in London after going through the thick of the Mediterranean and Continental campaigns, stated he was getting along all right and hoped to get home about Christmas time.

"It was a poor connection, but we enjoyed talking to him," Mr. Biggs said, explaining that it was the first time in over three years that he and Mrs. Biggs had heard their son's voice.

Advised the evening before that a call could be expected from his son the following morning at 8:30 o'clock, Mr. Biggs was said to have held the telephone receiver from that hour until almost 9:30 o'clock before connections were completed.

LIMITED HOLIDAY

Labor Day, Monday, September 3, will be observed by a few business houses and offices, but it will not be a general holiday. The tobacco market, post office, banks, rationing board, employment office, liquor store and a few other places of business will suspend activities for the day, but stores and other places of business will continue open. Public boards will meet as usual and county offices will remain open. The county board of education is not scheduled to meet that day, but a call meeting is expected later in the week.