

First In Series Of Liquor Cases Heard In County's Court

Other Defendants Rounded Up By Officers During Past Few Days

Harvey Perkins, one of a number of alleged liquor law violators caught in a drag net laid by State and county ABC officers during recent weeks, appeared before Judge J. Calvin Smith in the Martin County Recorder's Court yesterday and asked that his case be called immediately. The request was granted, and Perkins pleaded guilty. He was fined \$100 and taxed with the court costs, the judge directing the defendant to burn up his liquor book and have no illegal or "spiral" spirits in his possession during the next twelve months.

Perkins was scheduled to have been tried along with fifteen or twenty other defendants in the court next Monday.

After rounding up a number of alleged violators last Wednesday and Thursday, officers pulled in several others over the week-end as a result of investigations made some weeks ago by State ABC enforcement officers. At the same time, County ABC Enforcement Officer J. H. Roebuck was gathering up the loose ends and pulled in several alleged violators as a result of his own direct operations.

Same Moore and Mercedes Moore, charged with possessing illicit liquor for the purpose of sale and equipment for the purpose of carrying on the illegal business, were arrested last Saturday. Moore's brother, just recently returned from the army for a furlough, came up from Dardens yesterday morning and claimed that the liquor belonged to him. A warrant was prepared for him, the action complicating the case a bit.

Nehemiah Moore stands charged with possessing one-half gallon of illicit liquor for sale.

In the State-county ABC roundup, the following cases were booked since last Friday:

Ed Briley, facing two counts, is charged with selling a pint of illicit liquor on May 27 for \$4.00. On June 7 he stands charged with selling another pint, but he dropped the price to \$3.50.

Gatsy Harrell, facing another charge, is alleged to have had in her possession and did sell on August 25 a pint of legal liquor for \$5.00.

Clara Bell Moore was booked for the alleged sale of a pint of illicit liquor for \$4.00.

Henderson Woolard, it is alleged, sold one-half gallon of illicit liquor for \$15.

The court will in session until late afternoon yesterday, and there is some doubt if it can handle the bootleggers' convention in a single day next Monday.

Two Painfully Hurt In Highway Mishap

Mrs. J. J. Carson and Mrs. W. H. Rogerson, both of Bethel, were painfully but believed not seriously hurt in an automobile accident a few miles north of Oak City last Saturday night about 9:15 o'clock. Mrs. Carson was cut over one eye and suffered a leg injury. Mrs. Rogerson suffered a knee injury. W. H. Rogerson and Nathan Hyman, colored man of near Hobgood, other parties in the accident, were not hurt, according to reports reaching here.

Hyman, traveling toward Hobgood, ran off the hard surface and when he drove back into the highway he crossed the center line and crashed into the car being driven by Mrs. Rogerson.

Highway patrolmen, investigating the accident, estimated that damage done to the Rogerson car at \$300 and that to the Hyman car at \$250.

Hyman was charged with reckless driving.

Fanner Specializes In Country Hams And Apples

It is generally agreed among the few people privileged to eat one of Mr. Willie Gurganus' cured hams that they are among the best, but it was not known that he aspired to honors when it comes to raising apples until last week.

Mr. Willie brought in any number of beautiful apples to the Enterprise office and four of the largest ever seen locally grew from the same stem.

PRISONERS

Applications for prisoners of war to assist farmers with their 1945 peanut harvest will be received in the office of the county farm agent in the agricultural building next Monday, September 10, it was announced this week.

At a meeting in the agricultural building this week, officials and county agents will work out allotments for the various counties in this section. Until then the number of prisoners to be made available cannot be learned. It is thought, however, that the number will be limited.

Glutted Leaf Markets Await Resumption Of Tobacco Sales

Tobacco markets are glutted with tobacco during the long holiday week-end, are awaiting the resumption of sales tomorrow with little assurance that the glut reported in the factories has been cleared to any appreciable extent. In accordance with the sales card schedule, no sales were held yesterday, and in further accordance with an order issued by the Bright Belt Warehouse Association following a meeting in Raleigh last Saturday, no sales were held on any of the markets today. A four-day selling week has been ordered for the next several weeks, but there is some doubt if the lifting off of Monday from the sales week will solve the marketing problem.

Before sales were concluded last week, farmers were delivering tobacco in large quantities, waiting pa-

trives to clear the floors so they could put on their offerings. It is conservatively estimated that well over one million pounds of the leaf are on local warehouse floors today, that it will take remainder of the week to clear the present block. The block has backfired to many packhouses where the farmers reasoned that it would be better to keep their tobacco ungraded for a while. However, grading is being continued possibly in a majority of cases, and it is likely that the present glut will be continued for several weeks.

Despite the heavy deliveries and overflowing houses and factories, prices continued to hold firm on the local market. Last Friday, 281,620 pounds were sold for an average of \$4.15. Total sales through that day were reported at 2,101,798 pounds.

Town Authorities Discuss Numerous Topics Last Night

Serious Housing Shortage Is Seen In Appeal For Rooms In Town Hall

Meeting with barely a quorum last evening, the local town commissioners discussed a varied list of topics ranging from the housing shortage to street lighting and a postwar improvement program.

The seriousness of the housing shortage here was bared when an applicant, explaining that he was to be moved into the streets today, asked that he and his wife be allowed to occupy two rooms on the third floor of the town hall. Arrangements were ordered made to relieve the family's plight temporarily, at least.

Appearing before the board, builders of the Dixie Peanut Company sought the cooperation of the town in providing within reason adequate fire protection for the new properties on Washington Street.

A license was denied a fortune teller to set up business on Lindsey's Washington Street property. Pleading through Rocky Mount and local attorneys, the applicant declared that \$100 rent had already been paid.

The commissioners called for bids for rebuilding and modernizing the town's 17-year-old fire truck.

Laws governing the control of building and repairing buildings in the fire district were reviewed, the board expressing the opinion that they should not be relaxed when and where any action would increase the fire hazard and cause insurance rates to increase.

Mrs. J. G. Staton proposed in a letter a number of needed improvements for the postwar period. Among them was the need for a traffic light at the corner of Main and Houghton Streets. It was also pointed out that there was too much noise in town, the writer mentioning the ice plant engine exhaust and explaining that big trucks interrupted conversations.

"Too many drinking cups are being thrown on the streets," she added.

Five divorce cases, all based on two years of separation were filed in the Martin County Superior Court during the month of August. Possibly more divorce cases are pending trial in the court in this county than at any other time.

Divorces were filed as follows: Cora Barnes against Ernest Barnes.

Ruth May Nichols against Octavius Nichols.

James L. Martin against Emma R. Martin.

William Henry Dempsey against Janie Dempsey.

Alice Roebuck against Jasper Roebuck.

Office Switching To Peacetime Job

Since all war manpower controls have been removed, the United States Employment Service will devote more time to the developing of job opportunities and in placing workers on peacetime jobs, giving special attention to returning veterans.

Downward Trend In School Enrollment Checked In County

Attendance In County's Ten White Schools 16 Short Of Three Thousand

The downward trend in enrollment figures experienced in Martin County's ten white schools apparently has been checked, according to virtually complete reports coming through the office of the county superintendent Monday. The latest report from the officials shows that 2,984 pupils enrolled in the ten white schools last Thursday for the new term, 2,479 in the elementary and 505 in the high schools. At least six of the ten schools reported slight increases in their opening-day enrollment figures, while losses in the others were very small. The school family shows a gain of 44 over the opening-day count, a year ago, and is now just 16 short of 3,000.

Enrollment figures are being boosted in several of the schools as the term progresses, and it is believed that the trend upward will be fairly steady and reasonably sizable during the next few weeks.

No comparison of the enrollment figures for the two years by departments is to be had since some of the schools last year counted the eighth grade as a high school unit and others recognized it as a part of the elementary department.

A review of the 1945-46 term enrollment, showing the opening-day figures by elementary and high school grades with totals for this year and last, follows:

	Total	1945	1944
Jamesville	349	60	409
Farm Life	152	32	184
Winston	685	125	790
Rville	342	152	494
Gold Point	43	43	42
Oak City	244	98	342
Bear Grass	240	38	278
Everetts	221	221	215
Hamilton	155	155	143
Hassell	68	68	66
	2479	505	2984

Commenting on the operations during the first few days of the term, Superintendent J. C. Manning and Miss Lissie Pearce, supervisor of elementary schools, stated that while they were hardly normal, the opening was very successful. A few teacher positions remain unfilled, but all classes were met either by substitute teachers or by teachers accepting double assignments.

The book shortage in some of the grades is causing some trouble, and complete relief is not to be expected until the new ones are received, the school officials explaining that the printers simply could not meet the demand before that time.

For the present, all but the Williamston school are maintaining an abbreviated schedule, opening at 8:30 a. m. and closing at 1:30 p. m. in Williamston, full schedules are being maintained, and other schools are expected to adopt it shortly.

The last of the teacher positions was filled in the local school yesterday when Miss Ruth Newton of Oxford joined the high school faculty. A graduate of Woman's College of the University of North Carolina, Miss Newton taught in the Granville County Schools for several years. She will teach one of the eighth grade sections and will be at home with Mrs. H. L. Swain.

Applications for positions in other schools are being received and faculty lists are being prepared.

Intangible Taxes Amount To Over \$6,000 Last Year

Intangible taxes, assessed and collected by the North Carolina State Department of Revenue, and turned into the Martin County treasury amounted to \$6,018.56 for the year ending last June 30. In the previous year, the intangible tax received by the county amounted to \$4,292.07.

THE RECORD SPEAKS . . .

With the lifting of gas rationing and even before the speed limit was raised, the scene of destruction and killing and maiming was apparently shifted from the battlefield to American highways. Two persons were killed and two others were injured on the highways in this county over the week-end. Highway deaths Labor Day were double those a year ago.

While the accident count trails that for the first 35 weeks of 1944, the record so far this year shows a trend that is more deadly and costly.

The following tabulations offer a comparison of the accident trend: first, by corresponding weeks in this year and last and for each year to the present time.

Thirty-fifth Week
Accidents In'd Killed Dam'ge
1945 - 3 2 2 \$600
1944 - 1 0 0 200

Comparisons To Date
1945 - 43 20 5 \$350
1944 - 45 23 1 8050

Two Killed on County Roads Over Week-end

Drivers Of Death Cars Face Charges In Superior Court

Lindsley White, Colored, and J. T. Matthews Victims Of Auto Accidents

Two persons were killed and several others were hurt in a series of highway accidents reported in this county over the week-end, the lifting of gasoline rations apparently shifting the scene of killing, maiming and destruction from the battlefields of Europe and the Pacific to the highways and streets of America.

Lindsley White, colored man, was fatally injured on Williamston's East Main Street last Friday morning at 12:35 o'clock, and Jeff T. Matthews, 70-year-old white man of the Oak City section, was instantly killed when he was run down by a hit-and-run driver on the outskirts of Oak City Sunday evening shortly after 8 o'clock. Two other persons were hurt in an accident a few miles north of Oak City Saturday night, but their injuries were described as not serious.

Lindsley White, former employee of Saunders and Cox and more recently operator of a Negro club on Washington Street, was riding a bicycle on East Main Street when he started to make a turn and was struck by a car driven by Sanford Gilliam, Bertie County colored man. One report stated that the victim was knocked quite a few feet down the highway. Gilliam picked the man up and carried him to a local doctor's office where he was treated and returned to his home, reports stating that White was able to walk into and out of the doctor's office and into his home. His condition became serious later that morning and he died while en route to a hospital about 9:30 o'clock.

Investigating the accident, Officer Charlie Moore of the local police force, stated that the car was being driven with improper brakes, and Gilliam was formally charged with reckless driving and operating a motor vehicle with improper brakes. Given a preliminary hearing before Justice J. L. Hassell here Friday evening, Gilliam was ordered held in bond in the sum of \$1,000.

Jeff T. Matthews, observing his 70th birthday Sunday, was instantly killed when he was struck by a car near Oak City that evening about 8:15 o'clock. He suffered a skull fracture, both legs were nearly torn off and several other bones in his body were broken. The driver, later identified as William E. James, 25-year-old colored man of 1018 Penn Street, Camden, N. J., did not stop but admitted striking an object when he was arrested at the home of Fannie Hyman, a cousin, near Hobgood, less than two hours after the accident was reported.

In a sworn statement made to Cpl. W. E. Hunt and Sheriff C. B. Roebuck late Sunday night, James said that he, traveling alone, left Tarboro to go to Hobgood, that he hit "some heavy object hard, but did not know what it was at the time, and for that reason, did not stop. My right wind-

(Continued on page six)

Whether these broadcasts had been censored by occupation forces was not known, but they certainly followed the propaganda lines Tokyo laid down throughout the war.

Fear by the Japanese of the occupation is gradually dwindling, and some of those questioned were surprised to learn that they were not to be killed or mistreated.

The economic picture for Japan this winter is a bleak one, and starvation is being predicted, reports from Allied Headquarters admitting frankly that little could be done to relieve the situation.

At the same time, conditions are disheartening in Germany and liberated countries in Europe, and internal disorders are being predicted. Possibly that's why the militarists are demanding that the armed power be maintained on a large scale. Critics of the plan declare that officers, stepping into big pay from mediocre jobs in civilian life, want to continue in the service without the loss of their present ranks. More will be heard about that feature when more of the enlisted men and non-coms get out and return home.

While the task of re-establishing peace and peace-time economies

(Continued on page six)

Drunks Have Time On Short Bus Ride

Two drunks, Robert Blanzo and Emma Mae Clemmons, of Washington, had a big time on a short bus ride last Sunday.

Ditching their car near the Beaufort-Martin boundary on Highway 17, the two were picked up by Rufus Cherry on a Norfolk-Southern passenger bus. The man and woman had been on the vehicle only a short time when they threatened to whip the other passengers and take over and run the bus. When he reached Macedonia, Driver Cherry stopped and turned the two over to Cpl. W. S. Hunt of the highway patrol.

Placed in the county jail to sober up, Blanzo and his friend were booked for trial in the county court for public drunkenness.

Man Treated Here For Wreck Injury

His face badly cut and his tongue almost torn in two, Elijah Cherry, Bertie County man, was brought to a local doctor's office early last Saturday morning for treatment. Thirty-six stitches were required to put the tongue back together and to close the gashes on his face.

Local members of the highway patrol, investigating the accident, stated that Caldwell Cooper was driving a Ford truck toward Williamston from Windsor when Cherry rammed him from the rear, knocking the truck into the woods and setting fire to the car. The accident happened about half way between the two towns.

Commissioners Hear Pleas For Highways At Meeting Monday

Permit Granted Legal To Hold "Agricultural" Fair This Fall

While considerable attention is being given claims and counter claims for super highways, several groups of citizens appealed to the county commissioners in regular session here yesterday for passage of a law from their homes. Several citizens in Williams Township, explaining that the road would serve 14 families and 37 school children, asked for an outlet via the home of William Lanier, Clinton Jones, O. V. Lanier, Wiley Lanier and Ben Barber to the Will Griffin Road be included in the State Highway System. The road is about 4 1/2 miles long.

Another group of citizens asked the commissioners to recommend that the road leading off Highway 64 and known as a part of the old Jamesville Road via Siloam church be taken over by the State Highway Authority.

A request was also made for the commission to take over the road leading to the residence of Willis Williams in Poplar Point Township.

The commissioners granted the American Legion a permit to hold an "agricultural" fair in the county this fall. No date for the event was mentioned, but it will be held possibly some time in October.

M. Luther Peel, Martin County tax collector since the office was created several years ago, was reappointed, his term to run for the next twelve months.

A telephone was ordered installed in Oak City for an office of the deputy sheriff.

Tax relief orders for the 1945 tax year were issued to the following: C. C. Jones, taxes on \$250 worth of property in Williams Township, the claimant explaining that the house had burned.

Albemarle Lumber Company, \$21 on property listed by error in Williams Township.

Jesse Keel, \$3.15 on property listed in error in Robersonville Township.

D. F. Harrell, \$3.26 on property listed in error in Goose Nest Township.

Raleigh Gurganus, \$2.00 poll tax, listed in error in Robersonville Township.

Local Boy Has Many Close Calls In Army

After he was wounded many months ago, Lt. Billy Biggs, local young man, experienced numerous close calls but went through them without a scratch, according to reports reaching here a few days ago.

The young man was in a tank when it was blown up, but he came out without a scratch. A short time later a shell bursted hardly five feet away and blew him about ten feet in the air. He crawled away without a scratch. He was in a house when it was shelled twice, and he walked out without a scratch. There were other narrow escapes, but despite the wounds and close calls, the young man declares he is in as good shape as he was when he left. "Others can't say that, and many won't be going back," the young man was quoted as saying.

Lt. Biggs explained that possibly he would not be able to get home until after the first of the year. "But that's all right, since I know they are sending us back as rapidly as possible," he said. The officer is stationed near Paris, and is visiting the city over the week-ends.

Congress To Consider Fertilizer Policy Bill

Reconvening this week, the American Congress, among other things, is expected to consider national fertilizer policy bills. The ultimate aim of the proposed measures is to establish three regional farm fertilizer cooperatives, one to serve the eastern seaboard and the remaining ones other parts of the country.

The cooperatives would purchase government-built plants, and help restore the fertility of American soils.

DRAFT REGISTRATION

Reports reaching the Martin County Draft Board during the past few days maintain that a few young men, both white and colored, had failed to register for the draft upon reaching their eighteenth birthday.

A stern warning is being issued those youths, the draft officials explaining that the selective service law is still in effect even if the war is over. "We will give the registration delinquents a few more days to comply with the law, and if they fail to register during that time, the reports will be turned over to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for immediate action," a representative of the draft board said.