

## Grand Jurymen File A Charge In Superior Court

### State Is Able To Provide Safe Travel For Children

In his charge to the grand jury last Monday, Judge John J. Burney instructed the jurors to carefully inspect all school buses, adding that North Carolina has millions of dollars in its treasury and that it should provide safe transportation for school children. "I don't think it right for the State to arrest and prosecute individuals for operating motor vehicles with improper equipment and then turn and operate school buses with improper lights, brakes and equipment."

The jury inspected every bus in the county and found quite a few defects. School authorities explained that some of the buses are almost ten years old, that it is impossible to get all the needed parts to repair lighting systems and maintain the old rolling stock in perfect condition. The county has been promised a few new buses, but delivery dates have not been announced.

The quarterly report filed by Foreman Gordon G. Bailey follows in detail:

1. We have passed on all bills of indictment presented to us.
2. We visited the Clerk of Court's Office and found it to be in excellent condition with all Guardian Accounts filed.
3. We found the Register of Deeds Office in excellent shape and all bonds in order.
4. The Sheriff's Office and the Tax Collector's Office were visited and found in good condition with all records up to date.
5. We visited the office of Superintendent of Schools and found it in excellent condition.
6. We obtained a copy of the Annual Report of the Martin County Alcoholic Beverages Control Board, Williamston, N. C., audited by Great-house & Butler, Certified Public Accountants of Rocky Mount, N. C., and filed with the Register of Deeds August 9th, 1945, and said report showed all accounts and records in order.
7. We checked all Justices of Peace reports and found them all filed with the Clerk of Court and fines submitted to the Treasurer.
8. We visited the County Jail and found it to be clean and well kept. We found five negro male inmates.
9. We visited the County Home and Prison Farm and found everything in good condition, except at the County Home where there is one patient, William Sharp, who is thought to be incompetent, and we recommend a physical examination and if found to be incompetent, we recommend his being sent to the State Hospital in Goldsboro, N. C.
10. Mr. James C. Manning, County School Superintendent, informed the Grand Jury all school buses in the county had been thoroughly checked and we visited all schools in the County and found the buses as follows, to-wit:

Williamston (White School) — Buses Nos. 18, 20, 36, and 37 are found in good condition. Bus No. 16 no tail light.

Williamston (Colored School) — No. 12 no lights, no horn, rear door will not work and stop sign will not work.

Jamestown School — No. 9 in all right shape, No. 27 stop sign will not work and top leaks. Nos. 5, 29, 14, and 30 no lights and No. 34 lights bad and no bumper.

Everetts School — No. 25 in all

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## Only A Moderate Flood Predicted

While traffic is being blocked by high waters on many highways in various parts of the State, no tie-up is even expected in this area, according to the latest available reports. There is considerable water in the Roanoke River watershed, but it will hardly send the stream out of its banks at this point to a depth of three feet, leaving highways safe and causing damage only to crops in a few low areas.

Late reports state that the Roanoke is still rising at Weldon, that it is expected to reach a crest there of about 48 feet today. A peak will be reached here about next Tuesday. The high water in addition to flooding some lowland farms, will interrupt the hunting season for a while.

Reviewing the rainfall in the Roanoke basin for the past few days, the weather bureau yesterday released the following figures: In Virginia—Reidsville, 9.87 inches; Rocky Mount, 8.40 inches; Randolph, 10.56 inches; Danville, 6.80 inches; Clarksburg, 6.02 inches, and at Weldon in this state, 6.05 inches, and Williams-ton, 2.86 inches.

The storm striking Florida last week-end and moving on up the coast did no damage in this area, and the rainfall was not unusually heavy.

Reports state that the Tar is still rising but that it would not block traffic at Tarboro on U. S. Highway 64, and apparently no other roads in this section of the State will be blocked by high water.

## Peanut Harvest Under Way On Large Scale In The County

Despite recent rains and the advanced season, Martin County farmers started harvesting the current peanut crop on a fairly large scale this week. Hundreds of prisoners of war from the local camp are working in the fields and individual farmers are busy with the task.

Preliminary reports indicate that the crop is possibly better than had been expected, but there is a marked variation in the reports. Some farmers still declare they will not harvest half a crop, and few believe production on their farms will measure up to that of a year ago.

Considerable difficulty is being experienced in digging the goobers, farmers declare. The soil is too wet for anything like normal harvest operations, and in some fields it is hard to find the pea vines in the grass which has been from under control since July. Where one worker could

## Bookmobile To Visit Schools On Its New Schedule Next Week

### More Than A Thousand Books Added To Collection In The Past Year

The Bookmobile begins its fourth year of service to the schools of Martin County, Monday, September 24th. At that time the winter schedule will be followed. Special attention is called to the changes being made. Wednesday's route will be made on Friday and other changes will be noted for the first three days.

Over a thousand books have been added to this county's collection during the past twelve months. New and timely books are being added regularly while the basic collection is being built.

Many inviting titles are ready for circulation this month. These include several by authors well known to the reading public. Marquis James, Pulitzer prize biographer, has a new book called *The Cherokee Story*. As the subtitle indicates, it is a tale of an Oklahoma Boyhood.

The author of *The Nazarene and The Apostle* has written a very timely little book entitled *One Destiny*. Sholem Asch has given in this small volume an epistle to the Christians. Here is good food for thought.

Alice Tisdale Hobart's *The Peacock Sheds His Tail* is a novel of international marriage with the scene laid in Mexico. The struggle of Don Julian's conservative family to hold the grandchildren to the church and the old Spanish ways presents in striking contrast the differences of the generations.

Thomas Costain is back with a romantic novel, *The Black Rose*. Thirteenth century England and Cathay give a background for this colorful historical novel which revolves about the adventures of Walter of Gurnie, his friend Trisram, and the beautiful Maryam on the road to Cathay.

January Thaw by Bellamy Partidge is filled with characters just as entertaining as his *Big Family* or *Country Lawyer*. The hilarious goings-on of the Gage family at *Lazy Corners* will offer several happy hours for many readers.

**Monday, Sept. 24**  
Edward's Service Station, 9; Hamilton School, 10; Hamilton, in front of bank, 11:05; Gold Point School, 12:45; Gold Point, Johnson's Service Station, 1:35; and Robersonville Public Library, 2:30.

**Tuesday, Sept. 25**  
Hassell School, 9:30; Hassell Post Office, 10; Edmondson Service Station, 10:40; Oak City School, 11:15; Oak City, Barrett's Drug Store, 1:30; Smith's Store on Palmyra Road, 2:15.

**Wednesday, Sept. 26**  
Williamston High School, 9; Everetts School, 10; Everetts, Ayers Store, 11; Cross Roads Church, 12; Robersonville Elementary school, 1:30; Robersonville High school, 2:30; Parmelee Post Office, 3:10.

**Thursday, Sept. 27**  
Williamston Elementary School, 9; Griffin's Service Station, 10:45; Farm Life School, 11:15; Corey's Cross Roads, 1:15; Bear Grass School, 1:45; Bear Grass, Terry Bros. Store, 2:45; and Wynne's Service Station, 3:30.

**Friday, Sept. 28**  
Jordan's Store, Dardens, 10; Browning's Store, 11; Popular Chapel Church, 11:45; Jamestown School, 1:15; and Jamestown, Brown's Store, 2:30.

**LONE EAGLE**

Selective Service scraped the bottom of the draft barrel in this county last Monday when it reached in and pulled out a lone eagle for the armed forces. A call for five men was received, but a change in regulations eliminated four of those in line for service, and Dallas Corez Ayers, 18-year-old Everetts registrant, made the trip to Fort Bragg alone for final induction.

The size of the draft calls has been materially reduced in recent weeks, and no call instructing colored registrants to report for final induction was received this month.

## More County Men Given Discharges In Recent Weeks

### Eighteen Additional White Men Sever Connections With Services

Twenty-five additional Martin County men were given honorable discharges by the various branches of the armed services during recent weeks—the list including eighteen white youths.

Samuel Ray Coburn, RFD 1, Jamestown, was released after serving six years and four months in the service. Jimmie Rhodes Cherry served six years and two months before receiving his discharge.

Charles Lee Daniel, Jr., was discharged last July after serving since September, 1941.

Names of Martin County men released in August, exclusive of a list previously made public, and the date they entered the service, follow:

White—Samuel Ray Coburn, RFD 1, Jamestown, April, 1939; James Gussie Rogers, RFD 1, Robersonville, 1941; Board Berkeley Cook, January, 1942, Williamston; Rpbm Thomas Ward, July, 1942, Robersonville; Jimmie Rhodes Cherry, June, 1939, Williamston; Henry Lee Cherry, December, 1942, RFD 3, Washington; Herbert Duran Williams, Jr., January, 1940, RFD 2, Williamston; Joseph Nicholas Daniel, October, 1942, RFD 1, Jamestown; Mack Henry Leggett, January, 1941, RFD 2, Williamston; Evan Beacham, June, 1945, RFD 1, Jamestown; Edgar Monroe Taylor, February, 1941, RFD 3, Williamston; colored—Calvin Best, Jr., July, 1942, Robersonville; and Jesse Aulander Griffin, November, 1944, RFD 1, Jamestown.

Discharges reported so far in September are, as follows: white—James Rossel Silverthorne, March, 1941, RFD 3, Williamston; Willie Robert Crandall, July, 1941, RFD 1, Robersonville; Jesse Dennis Wynne, October, 1941, RFD 3, Williamston; Vance Elliott Bennett, June, 1942, RFD 2, Williamston; Sutton Alfred Burroughs, July, 1942, RFD 3, Williamston; Dennis O. Holliday, August 1942, Jamestown; colored—Willie Roy Brooks, September, 1941, RFD 1, Jamestown; Ira Thomas Page, July, 1942, Robersonville; Charlie Belamy, December, 1942, Robersonville; Dock Perkins, September, 1942, Williamston; and John Dee Gainer, April, 1941, RFD 2, Robersonville.

## Former Williamston Tobacconist Dies In Wake Last Monday

### Funeral Service For Junious W. Hight Held Here Last Wednesday

Funeral services were conducted at the graveside in Woodlawn Cemetery here Wednesday afternoon at 3:15 o'clock for Junious W. Hight, former local resident, who died at the home of a half-brother, H. L. Macon, in Wake Forest last Monday afternoon. He had been in declining health for several years, but was fairly active up until just a short time before his death.

Mr. Hight was born in Warren County on June 23, 1862, and spent his early life there. When a young man he was married to Miss Pattie Julia Edwards of Franklin County who died fifteen years ago while the family made their home here.

Entering the tobacco business when a young man, Mr. Hight moved his family here in 1913 and operated a tobacco warehouse here for a number of years. During that time he made many lasting friendships among local people and farmers from all parts of the county and surrounding counties. He was an able tobacconist and was recognized as a leader in the business until failing health forced his retirement.

About 1932 he moved to Rock Mount, later locating in Lumberton and more recently in Wake County. Since leaving here he engaged as an independent in the tobacco business, working just as much as his health would permit.

Mr. Hight was a life-long member of the Methodist church, and appreciated the finer things in life.

He is survived by two children, Mrs. C. B. Faulkner of Rocky Mount and a son, Boyd B. Hight of 112 Decatur Road, Oak Ridge, Tenn.; a half-sister, Mrs. W. H. Brown of Durham, and a half-brother, H. L. Macon, with whom he had made his home for the past six or eight months.

## Mrs. Martha Ayers Passes In County

Mrs. Martha Wynne Ayers died at her home in Bear Grass Township last Wednesday morning at 11:40 o'clock following a long period of declining health. She was taken worse the latter part of August and her condition had been critical since that time.

Mrs. Ayers was born in Cross Roads Township on November 16, 1876, and in early womanhood was married to Henry Daniel Ayers who died in January, 1933. Following her marriage she spent most of her life in Bear Grass Township where she was held in high esteem as a good neighbor and friend to all.

She is survived by three children, Marvin and Lloyd Ayers of Bear Grass, and Mrs. W. T. Hooten of Norfolk, and four grandchildren.

Mrs. Ayers had been a member of Rehoboth Holiness Church in Bear Grass for about eight years, and services were conducted there yesterday afternoon at 2 o'clock by Rev. H. M. Pope. Interment was in the church cemetery.

## FIRST PERMITS

Although all restrictions on building construction won't be lifted before the middle of next month, preparations are being made for the construction of a number of homes here. Three building permits were issued here during the past few days, including one for the construction of a \$4,500 home on Marshall Avenue by W. H. Abernathy, representative of a machinery supply company of Rocky Mount.

Reports state that quite a few lots have been purchased by prospective builders, including several on Martin Heights.

## United Fund Quotas Allotted To Districts In This County

Martin County is being asked to raise \$13,232.96 for the United War Fund in what is certain to be the last fund campaign for the organization. Clarence W. Griffin, chairman, announced this week. Arrangements are rapidly being completed for the drive which is scheduled to get underway in early October.

Chairman Griffin and his county war fund committee met this week and announced quotas for districts, as follows: Jamestown, \$800; Williams, \$150; Griffins, \$550; Bear Grass, \$550; Williamston, \$6,232.96; Cross Roads, \$450; Robersonville, \$2,250; Poplar Point, \$175; Hamilton, \$375; Hassell, \$175; Goose Nest, \$475; colored citizens throughout the county, \$1,000.

The county-wide quota is slightly larger than it was last year, the national leaders explaining that while the war is over, that several million

Americans boys were still in uniform hundreds of thousands would continue in the service for some time, and that it was not the proper time to fold up and desert them. While the reduction in armed forces will make it possible to curtail the schedule of operations, an increased service is being planned for those who have not been favored by discharges and those who are yet to enter the service. It was also pointed out that the Fund is doing everything possible to help relieve the suffering in liberated lands, that every penny contributed will mean much to starving and ragged victims of war in many lands.

Martin County has met every challenge so far, and even though there may be a tendency to rest on its laurels, it is believed that the citizens will rally behind the current war fund drive and put it across with flying colors.

## End Trial of Criminal Docket in Court Here

### FREEZER LOCKER

With more than half a hundred signing since the early part of the week, available space in the county's proposed freezer locker is rapidly being reduced, a report from the office of the county agent indicates.

After limiting the space to farmers for several days, the promoters are expected to receive applications from all interested parties this week-end or early next week, it was learned.

## Judge Burney Takes Firm Stand Against Knife - Axe Attacks

### Defendant Draws Seven To Ten Years For Attacking Man With Knife

Completing the trial of the criminal docket and handling a few motions and divorce cases, Judge John J. Burney, presiding over the regular term of Martin County Superior Court, last Wednesday noon ordered a recess until next Monday when the tribunal will handle civil actions.

Before ordering the recess, the Williamston jurist left little doubt about his firm stand against mutilation of the human anatomy with knives and axes. One defendant in an assault with a deadly weapon case was sentenced to hard labor in prison for not less than seven and not more than ten years. Another drew as many as five years, at least.

Proceedings of the court not previously reported: Before taking a recess last Tuesday afternoon, the court called the case charging Jesse Ben Roberson with assaulting Hugh Gray, a tenant, with a deadly weapon. Judge John J. Burney, presiding over the term, was to address the jury early today and no decision had been reached shortly before noon. No definite motive for the attack was established, and much of the evidence was conflicting, the defendant claiming that it was accidental, that the gun became entangled in some weeds causing it to fire a load of shot in the 26-year-old victim's knee. The court was puzzled when the prosecuting witness said that he had been told by a Mrs. Farmer to "make one" the defendant. It was later interpreted to mean "to kill him." Witnesses said that they heard the prosecuting witness tell the defendant about ten minutes before the shooting to go into the house and attend to his own business, Gray declaring that he was not mad with Mr. Roberson, that if they had had any words or argument just before the attack, he could not recall them.

The defendant, declaring that he had instructed Gray, a worker on the Roberson farm, not to hitch a mule to a cart, explained that it made him (Gray) mad. The defendant then said that he went into the house, got his gun and started to the swamp field, explaining that he always carried his gun along in case he saw a hawk. He was at a pear tree when Gray approached. Roberson stated that he started backing back, that he was planning to shoot Gray if and when he got within about six feet of him, but that the gun became entangled in some weeds and was accidentally fired.

After all evidence was offered, the defense tendered a plea of guilty of an assault with a deadly weapon. The plea was accepted and prayer for judgment was continued until the December term.

Tom Dew, charged with aiding and abetting the larceny of a car in Robersonville in July of last year, was sentenced to the roads for from five

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## Edward W. Jones Dies In County

Edward W. Jones, 67, died at his home in Poplar Point Wednesday morning at 3:00 o'clock following a lingering illness.

When a young man he was married to Miss Sally Moore who survives with three sons, Dalton P. Jones of New Bern, Leslie C. Jones of the home and W. D. Jones, now stationed with the Army in Crossville, Tenn.; five daughters, Mrs. Arthur Lee Jones of near Ayden, Mrs. Roy Cannon of near Stokes, Mrs. Lydia Jones of the home, Mrs. Maywood Harrell and Mrs. Milton L. Roberson of near Oak City. He also is survived by four sisters, Mrs. Henry Coward of near Norfolk, Mrs. Claude Smith of near New Bern, Mrs. James Houston and Mrs. James Buck of near Vaneboro, and twenty-nine grandchildren.

Funeral services are being conducted from the late home this afternoon at 3:00 o'clock by Rev. D. W. Alexander, Free Will Baptist minister of Bethel. Interment will follow in Woodlawn Cemetery here.

## DDT COSTS

While DDT is being sold for as much as 60 cents a pint, manufacturing costs run no more than a few cents a gallon, according to reliable reports.

Commenting on the costs this week, County Health Officer John W. Williams stated that a 35 percent solution of DDT can be manufactured for approximately \$2.54 a gallon, that a gallon of the 35 percent solution would make about thirteen gallons of the 5 percent solution, making the insecticide cost only a few cents a gallon.

## Over Hundred Tires Allotted By Board Last Friday Night

### Dealers' Supplies Reported To Be Low At The Present Time In This Section

One hundred and forty-nine tires were allotted by the Martin County War Price and Rationing Board last Friday night, 129 to car owners and twenty to truck operators. The issuance was one of the largest reported in the county during recent weeks, and comes when dealers' stocks are unusually low, according to incomplete reports received here this week.

Truck tires were allotted to the following: William F. Crawford, R. S. Critcher, American Fork and Hoe Co., J. J. Roberson, Slade, Rhodes Co., L. T. Carrow, Robert Pierce, Jack Hardison, C. W. Copeland, L. L. Lilley, Harry Jones, J. S. Whitman, Williamston Package Co.

Passenger car tires were rationed as follows:

B. B. Carstarphen, Roosevelt Crandell, G. E. Dixon, Standard Fertilizer Co., D. A. Aushon, J. E. Gardner, Hubert Roberson, Wilmer Biggs, Martha M. Rawls, Johnnie R. Edmondson, Manson Council, Mrs. J. R. Cherry, John H. Wynne, J. Bynum Roberson, J. C. Rawls, Henry Keel, Minton Beach, Mamey N. Highsmith, Archie Whitaker, J. T. Holliday, W. J. Lilley, Herbert Little, Evan Crisp, Cleophas McNair, J. W. Taylor, Jr., L. L. Keel, Mrs. Frances Byran, Will Martin, W. G. Keel, H. B. Smith, R. A. Edmondson, W. T. Hyman, G. P. Bullock, H. L. House, Daniel Hardison, Mrs. Ethel G. Roberson, Arrington Hale, C. H. Ayers, N. C. Everett, Dr. A. J. Osteen, Mrs. Hardy Whitford, Levi McGowan, Ernest Hayes, M. A. Price, State Highway Patrol, Ernest Howell, J. H. Harrell, George Mobley, Wixie B. Rogers, Archie Mizelle, L. L. Keel, L. D. Roebuck, E. H. Ange, Peter Bellflower, E. L. Hopkins, Harold Ange, Sol Mobley, Mrs. Alice B. Tyson, James A. Wynne, Jr., Mrs. Louise Barber, R. S. Edmondson, C. P. Perry, Joe Lawrence Coltrair, Lewis H. Roberson, James R. Wynne, Willie Lanier, W. C. Wallace, J. Sam Gotsinger, Dr. W. C. Mercer, R. R. Thompson, J. O. Stokes, Hubert Harris, Jasper Council, Fred M. Taylor, J. W. Martin, G. C. Ray, W. A. Coffield, Geo. M. Peel, Marin B. Everett, Elsworth Beacham, Sim Bell, E. J. Hayes, W. F. Holliday, James A. Hardison, Julian L. Mizelle, Carl Garrett, Crawford Coltrair, B. F. Coburn, J. M. Dixon, Lester L. Everett, C. H. Ange, P. J. Modlin, S. H. Grimes, R. L. Coburn, J. F. Council, Jimmie Roberson, G. P. Hughes, Willie Butts, C. M. James, James Pitt, W. M. Harrison, J. R. Williams, J. H. Holliday.

## Committal Service Is Held Thursday

Last rites for Mr. Howard J. Herrick, Sr., prominent figure in the theatrical world for a long number of years and a former resident of Williamston, were conducted at the graveside in Woodlawn Cemetery here yesterday afternoon at 2:45 o'clock. Rev. Joseph H. Huske, Jr., rector of the local Church of the Advent, officiated at the private service.

A native of Elmira, N. Y., Mr. Herrick came to Williamston when a youth and studied under the late Sylvester Hassell. He was married December 22, 1897 to Miss Delha Cobb, member of a prominent family in this section of North Carolina. She died on October 19, 1906.

Mr. Herrick, after operating a newspaper, "The Martin County Sun" here for several years, located in Richmond where he served as dramatic critic for one of the papers. Later he entered the theatrical business, gaining national prominence in that field. While attending to business in Washington City he was taken ill and died there last December 7. Funeral services were conducted on December 9, 1944, in New York, and cremation followed in a Middletown, N. Y., crematory. The remains were brought here by his daughter for interment beside his first wife in the Lamb plot in the local cemetery.

He is survived by three children, Miss Virginia Herrick and Howard J. Herrick, Jr., of Valley Stream, Long Island, and Francis Herrick by a second marriage of Elmira, New York.

## Leggett Roebuck Is Victim Of Arthritis

(Robersonville Herald)

Suffering from arthritis of the back and spine, Private Leggett Roebuck, Jr., returned home to spend a few days with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Leggett Roebuck, Sr., before reporting to Ashburn General Hospital in McKinley, Texas.

Private Roebuck has been in the service for two years and while in the Aleutian Islands for 10 months he became ill with arthritis. Roebuck said he was not exposed to danger while on the islands but that the clod was most disagreeable.