

Six Divorces Are Granted Tuesday In Superior Court

One Denied, Juror Withdrawn In One Case; Several Others Continued

Six divorces were granted in the Martin County Superior Court last Tuesday after the trial of the criminal docket was completed ahead of time on account of a death in the family of one of the practicing attorneys. One divorce pleading was denied by jury. In another case a juror was withdrawn and the pleadings will be repeated possibly at the September term. Several divorce cases were continued at the last minute when some of the applicants were unable to finance the actions and others could not get furloughs from the armed forces to appear in court.

Most of the divorce cases handled by the court Tuesday were based on grounds of two years' separation. A few other civil cases were handled and after dismissing the jury, Judge Walter Bone, presiding, held a hearing in the Montgomery versus Smithwick case.

Divorces, based on two years' separation, were granted, as follows:

Archie Snow from Elizabeth Snow. Contrary to the name implication, it was a hot day in court. Lawyers perspired freely, and the presiding officer made them sweat because he insisted that all details be handled in strict accordance with the meaning of the law.

Delzora Broadnax from Richard Broadnax. Although a second cause—impotency—was listed in support of the divorce claim, the motion was allowed on two years' separation.

D. O. Stancill from Clara G. Stancill; Oscar Little from Irene Little. Emma Gray Little from Clarence Little. In the last case, the court gave the plaintiff custody of the litigants' child, Ethel Lee Little, ruling that the father may visit the child.

A juror was withdrawn in the divorce case brought by Simon Daniel Moore against Alma Mae Moore. The two-year separation claim was not recognized because the plaintiff was on good terms with the defendant when he left for foreign military service in February, 1944. It was also alleged that the defendant gave birth to an illegitimate child in August, 1945, but no concrete proof could be offered at the trial and a juror was withdrawn at the direction of Judge Bone who commented that it was apparent that a divorce was in order, but that sworn evidence would have to be offered in the case.

The divorce case brought by Ella R. Taylor against Thurston Taylor, Jr., was dismissed when the jury found that the plaintiff had not been a resident of North Carolina six months prior to the time the action was instituted.

In the case of C. H. Godwin, Jr., against Arnicia Slade, the

File Report On Food Collection

Making a semi-final report on the food collection drive conducted in this section by the local Lions Club, Chairman H. P. Mobley said Thursday noon that a total of \$1,365.72 had been raised, that possibly final reports expected over the week-end would boost the total to around \$1,500 or \$1,600. A canvass of the residential section was called off last Sunday afternoon when too few of the workers found it convenient to participate, it was learned. Anyone wishing to make a contribution is humbly asked to deliver it to the chairman or any member of the Lions Club. It is planned to wind up the canvass this week-end.

Contributions not previously acknowledged:

Mrs. Marine Whitley, \$1; Colonial Stores, \$5; Employees Telephone Company, \$12; L. Bruce Wynne, \$5; Lorene Rogerson, \$1; Juanita Coltrain, \$1; Dorothy Manning, \$1; Lucille Rogerson, \$1; M. L. Peele, \$5; Joe Roebuck, \$1; Mary Taylor, \$2.50; Lorene Nobles, \$1; Paul Simpson, \$5; Terry Brothers, \$5; and C. U. Rogers, \$10.

Jamesville Citizens Petition For Special School Election

Supported by petitions signed by possibly one hundred or more citizens in the district the Jamesville local school committee this week appealed to the County Board of Education for a special school tax election. The action was taken after the petitions were circulated and after a meeting of about twenty-five interested citizens met and discussed the proposal at a public meeting held in Jamesville earlier this week. Much interest has already been shown in the proposal which has already been pledged strong support by leading farmers, business men and other citizens in the district.

The appeal was directed to the board of education by Local Committeemen J. C. Kirkman, chairman, J. A. Gardner, secretary, and Elmer Modlin, member of the

local group. At a special meeting Thursday morning, the board of education members considered the appeal favorably and immediately petitioned the county commissioners to set up machinery for holding the special election on Saturday, July 20. The petition was recognized and granted by the commissioners in their special meeting Thursday and election officials were named and dates fixed.

The registration books will be opened on Saturday of this week and continue open through Saturday, July 6. The books will be opened for a challenge on July 13.

Calling for a 20-cent tax on the \$100 assessed property valuation, the proposal will supplement the minimum state-supported school term, and will be limited, principally to Jamesville Township, it was pointed out.

DELATED

A complete switchover from the well near the courthouse to the new pumping stations at Skewarkey has been delayed for a few days, but most of the water flowing into the mains is now coming from one of the new wells. It was explained that one or two strategic parts needed for one of the new wells could not be had just at this time. Until the needed parts are made available, water will be taken from the other new well at Skewarkey. The one well, however, will not furnish quite enough water to meet the demand, and some water will be taken from the courthouse station.

A. S. Strickland Passes Thursday

Alphus S. Strickland, native of Nash County and a resident of Williamston since November, 1944, died at 4:48 o'clock Thursday morning at the home of his daughter, Mrs. H. V. Wheeler, here on Rhodes Street. He had been in declining health for two years and had been confined to his bed since last February. He was the victim of several paralytic strokes, suffering the last one on Tuesday of this week. His condition had been critical since that time and the end was not expected.

The son of the late Allyson Strickland and wife, he was born in Nash County near Spring Hope on December 6, 1866. After spending his early life on the farm he was employed by a Battelboro oil mill, retiring on account of failing health about two years ago. In early March he was married to Miss Evelyn Batton who survives with one daughter, Mrs. Wheeler, six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

The body was removed to a Rocky Mount funeral home Thursday morning and services will be conducted at the graveside on the old home farm near Spring Creek Friday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. Rev. H. M. Pope, pastor of the local Holiness Church, will conduct the last rites and burial will be in the family cemetery.

Condition Of Burn Victim Improved

Critically burned while helping to prepare a meal in her home near Jamesville, Little Miss Emma Padgett continues to improve in the local hospital. Rounding out nine weeks Thursday in the hospital, the little girl has been an ideal patient during her long stay there. When her condition was not very encouraging a short time ago she was given several pints of blood plasma and now she is very bright.

Possibly with the exception of the lately little Miss Peggy Harrison who spent so much time in the hospital during a five-year period, "we have never had a better little patient," Dr. V. E. Brown said this week.

Handles Fifteen Cases In Mayor's Court This Week

Docket Is Largest Reported By Justice J. L. Hassell In Several Weeks

Justice John L. Hassell reported the largest docket in some time when he handled fifteen cases in his court a few days ago. Fines amounting to \$45 were collected, and several defendants were bound over to the county court for trial.

Booker Lanier and Willie B. Roberts, charged with disorderly conduct, were each fined \$5 and required to pay \$7.50 costs.

Charged with being drunk and with an affray, Charlie Williams and Levi Smith were each fined \$2.50 and taxed with \$7.50 costs. Operating a motor vehicle without a rear light, Askef Brown was fined \$10 and taxed with \$6 costs. Linwood Brown, charged with disorderly conduct, was required to pay \$7.50 costs.

Lewis Freeman, charged with larceny, was bound over to the county court for trial under bond in the sum of \$50.

Charged with an assault with a deadly weapon, Wallace C. Moore was required to raise bond in the sum of \$50 for his appearance in the county court next week.

Leon Jones, James Moore, Leon Skyles and Clifton Peel, charged with gambling, were bound over to the county court for trial, each under bond in the sum of \$50.

Charged with the larceny of \$31, Oscar Morrow was required to raise bond in the sum of \$100 for his appearance at the next session of the county recorder's court.

William Stokes was fined \$10 and required to pay \$7.50 costs in the case charging him with disorderly conduct.

Drunk on the highway, Colfax Speller was fined \$5 and taxed with \$7.50 costs.

Local Lions Club Wins State Award

The Williamston Lions Club gained state-wide honors last week-end, when it was announced that the local club had won the Activities Award for District 31-C, for clubs with 36-65 members. This announcement was made at the 24th Annual State Convention held in Raleigh.

This coveted award, a handsome hardwood plaque and engraved plate, is awarded on the basis of the number and quality of activities and projects undertaken and carried out by a club, and is about the highest honor that can be given. There are 40-odd clubs in this district that compete for this award. The presentation was made by Lion J. L. Seal of Henderson, chairman of the Activities Committee, and was accepted by Wheeler Manning, local club secretary.

The Raleigh convention was one of the most successful ever held, and was largely attended. Representing the local club were Lions H. P. Mobley, Kenneth P. Linsley and Wheeler Manning, along with the wives of the latter two.

The convention voted to hold the next year's session at Asheville.

Seeking Boarding Homes for Orphan County Children

Possibly Interested In Providing Homes, Asked To See Welfare Agency

One or more foster boarding homes for children are greatly needed in Martin County so that children may be given good care in them until arrangements can be made for their permanent care.

There are many reasons which contribute to the making of homeless children. Among such reasons are: Broken homes, death temporary or permanent; either of one or both parents; emergencies such as illness of the mother, leaving no one who will be responsible for the children; irresponsible and unstable mother; absence of the father where there is no mother; and parental neglect.

There are today in the county, children in need of a home outside of their natural home, children who have a right to a normal life. The Martin County Welfare Department has the opportunity of knowing the conditions.

Certain standards set by the State Board of Welfare must be met in order to qualify for a "foster boarding home." After an investigation of the home by the County Welfare Department, it must be approved by the State Board. The amount paid for board varies, according to the child's age, and the payment may be made by relatives or by the placement agency.

A "foster boarding home" is not a rooming or boarding house, but a home in which there is both a father and a mother. The parents of the home must be of suitable age and temperament to care for the family. Each member of the family must be in good mental and physical health, and the total number of children in the foster home, including the family's own children, must not exceed six. There must be other sources of income in the home, in addition to the income received for the board of the children.

The "foster boarding home" must conform to the county sanitation laws; must provide adequate sleeping quarters, proper diet, a yard in which children can play; and be accessible to church and school facilities.

Persons in the county, who are interested in giving "foster boarding home" care to children, may communicate with Miss Mary W. Taylor, superintendent of the Martin County Welfare Department.—Reported.

Mother-Daughter Banquet Is Held

Local girls scouts and Brownies and their mothers were entertained at a banquet in the Woman's Club hall here last Wednesday evening, the event marking the last meeting of the scouts before the summer recess.

Following a delicious meal served by the ladies of the Methodist church, a very interesting program was rendered by the scouts. The ten scout laws were given in pantomime by members of the various troops. Marie Peele, Vallie Roberson and Jean Ward Mobley of the North Star Patrol won prizes for the best performances.

Quite a few second-class badges and attendance prizes were awarded.

Under the leadership of Miss Mary Taylor and her assistants, the young girls did some very fine work during the past year.—Marie Peel.

To Occupy Vacated Building Here Soon

Vacated last week-end after being used as a storage room by the Courtney Furniture store for several years, the building next to the Enterprise office on Main Street is being made ready for two new tenants.

The Ayers Electric Company will occupy one side of the building shortly, and B. A. Critcher, Jr., and Miller Harrell are planning to open a shoe store in the other side within the next several months.

Grand Jury Makes Recommendations In Regular Report

Body Completes Work For The Term Last Monday Afternoon

Its work early Monday afternoon, the Martin County Grand Jury filed its report in open court and recessed after making a few recommendations to the county commissioners.

The report, filed by Foreman James Harrington, reads, in detail, as follows:

We have passed on all bills of indictment presented to us.

We visited the Clerk of Court office and found it to be in excellent condition with all Guardian Accounts filed.

We found the Register of Deeds office in excellent shape and all bonds in order.

The Sheriff's office and Tax Collector's office were visited and found in good condition with all records up to date.

We visited the office of the Superintendent of Schools and found it in excellent condition.

We checked all justices of peace reports and found them all filed with the Clerk of Court and filed with the treasurer.

We visited the County Jail and found it to be clean and well kept. We found 8 Negro male inmates and 1 white male inmate.

We visited the County Home and Prison Farm and found everything in good condition.

We recommend about six more chairs for the Courtroom.

We recommend a private toilet for both male and female employees of the Courthouse.

We recommend putting screens in the County Sanatorium.

Select Candidates In Beauty Contest

Thirteen candidates have been chosen to compete in the beauty pageant being sponsored by the Williamston Junior Chamber of Commerce in cooperation with local merchants and other business firms. Others will be announced later, it was learned.

The list of entries and the sponsors follow:

Miss Nancy Biggs will be Miss Alpha Cleaners.

Miss Mary Charles Godwin will be Miss Davis Pharmacy.

Miss Frances Jarman will be Miss Western Auto.

Miss Della Jane Mobley will be Miss Weir Furniture Co.

Miss Elizabeth Parker will be Miss Baker Oil Co.

Miss Lorene Rogerson will be Miss Pittman's.

Miss Lucille Rogerson will be Miss Chas. H. Jenkins Co.

Miss Angela McLawhorn will be Miss Manning Service Station.

Miss Mary Alice Roberson will be Miss Williamston Hardware.

Miss Mildred Thomas will be Miss Roanoke Chevrolet Co.

Authorities Spend All Day Studying Budget Estimate

The Martin County Commissioners spent all day Thursday of this week reviewing preliminary budget figures submitted by the various county departments for the 1946-47 fiscal year. Only tentative estimates were advanced, the action now being subject to public review and study. Complete figures could not be had in time for publication this week, but they will be offered in an official budget estimate to be made public shortly, it was explained.

Other than maintaining the school plants and handling school debts, the tentative budget calls for approximately \$173,000 for the next fiscal year. The amount is slightly larger than the budget requirements for the fiscal year now drawing to a close. It was explained, however, that the bond indebtedness for the new period is \$10,000 greater than it was for

1945-46, that possibly an increase of one-half cent in the tax rate would be necessary to meet the requirements. The following budget estimates were submitted for consideration:

General county, \$88,333; poor fund, \$4,560; health department, \$9,910; bond and interest and sinking fund, \$46,781; old age assistance, \$8,940; aid to dependent children, \$3,840; aid to the blind, \$939; and welfare administration, \$9,200, making a total of \$173,611.00.

A report on the school budget estimate could not be had immediately, but with an expansion program considered vitally necessary, the trend there is almost certain to be upward.

No official report could be had, but preliminary estimates indicate that a reduction in the tax rate is hardly possible or advisable for the new fiscal period.

Name Stewart Head Of the Schools Here

Four Openings In Faculty Positions Yet To Be Filled

Miss Brantley Resigns; Miss Florine Clark To Head Economics Department

Williamston's local committee—Messrs. R. L. Coburn, C. B. Clark and R. H. Goodman—is rapidly completing arrangements for opening and operating the local schools next week, a report committee this week stating that a principal had been named along with two teachers and that only four faculty positions were to be filled.

Burton G. Stewart, holder of A. B. and M. A. degrees from Duke University, returned his signed contract this week following his unanimous election by the board a few days ago. Mr. Stewart, a native of Carteret County, started his teaching profession in Monroe back in 1929, later going to Clayton where he taught several terms. In 1933 he went to Durham where he taught in the high school, later heading the science department there. In 1943 he was an instructor of physics in Duke University and then went to Leaksville as principal of the schools there. Highly recommended, he comes here from Leaksville. During his stay in Leaksville, he was chairman of the Board of the Draper Methodist Church, vice president of the Rotary Club and a member of the district committee of Boy Scouts. He is married and has two sons, one 13 and the other 9 years of age.

Members of the local committee are making every effort to find the new principal a home or an apartment, remembering that Principal Sam Bundy resigned when he was unable to locate his family here. "We are impressed with Mr. Stewart's record and recommendations, and we call upon the people of the town to

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4-H Clubs To Hold District Meeting

Four-H club members from sixteen counties will hold a one-day program in the Negro high school here on Thursday of next week, it was announced yesterday by the home agent.

The day's events will get under way at 9:00 o'clock that morning, and a picnic lunch will be served at 12:30. Officials from the State Extension Service, Raleigh, and leaders from A. and T. College, Greensboro, will attend the meeting and participate in the program.

Counties scheduled to send representatives to the meeting include: Beaufort, Bertie, Chowan, Edgecombe, Franklin, Gates, Halifax, Hertford, Martin, Nash, Northampton, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Pitt, Warren and Wil-

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PARALYSIS

The first case of infantile paralysis of the year was reported on the T. L. Johnson farm in Goose Township on Wednesday of this week.

The victim, Lee Curtis Cross, 2-year-old son of William Cross, had been a patient in a Greenville hospital for about two weeks before he became paralyzed in his right arm and side and his case was definitely diagnosed as poliomyelitis.

The colored infant is being removed to Gastonia for treatment, according to information coming from the health department office Thursday.

County Boy Picked As A Delegate To Prague Conference

Jimmy Wallace Plans Tour Of European Countries Next August

Jimmy Wallace, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Wallace of Jamesville, was recently chosen to represent the University of North Carolina at the International Student Conference in Prague, Czechoslovakia, during the month of August, according to a story appearing in a current issue of the "Tar Heel," a University student publication.

Wallace, one of twelve applicants for the honor, was selected by a special committee which studied the applicants' qualifications for nearly three hours, the story pointed out.

The Tar Heel account reads, in part, as follows: "Wallace will leave for New York a few days before the American delegation sails for Prague to participate with representatives of ten other college representatives and fifteen college representatives of student organizations who will formulate a program and elect delegation officers."

"After the conference he will tour some European countries as the guest of the participating nations." (Continued on page six)

Graduated From Cavalry School

Fort Riley, Kans.—Maj. Leslie W. Bailey, of Big Stone Gap, Va., was graduated here today from the advanced intelligence course at the Intelligence School of the Cavalry School.

Major Bailey, who served with the 34th Infantry Division in Europe and in Italy and North Africa, wears the Combat Infantryman's Badge and carries four battle stars and one arrowhead for a D-Day landing in Africa.

He is the husband of Mrs. Leslie W. Bailey, of Williamston, N. C.

Superior Court In Final Session Of Term On Tuesday

Eleven Criminal Cases Are Continued To Hasten End Of Term

The June term of the Martin County Superior Court, scheduled to hear both criminal and civil types of cases during the week, unexpectedly completed its work and folded its tent Tuesday afternoon. Adjournment was hastened when eleven criminal cases were continued, mainly because of a sudden death in the family of one of the practicing attorneys early that morning.

During the two days the court was in session fairly large crowds were in the old hall of justice, but the casual spectators, busy on their farms and in other business pursuits, were limited in number.

Proceedings: Pleading guilty in the case charging him with bigamy, Jerry Hardwick, a native of Florida, was sentenced to the roads for not less than three and not more than five years. The sentence is to begin at the expiration of an eighteen months term he is now serving for violation of the law in Pitt County. Hardwick, it was alleged, came to this county and married "Sweetie" Williams in January of this year.

The Brown-old case charging Kader Brown with reckless driving was not prossed after having been continued for several terms.

The following cases were continued until the September term: John E. Williams, false pretense; Henry L. Harvey, drunken driving; Early May Boston, assault with a deadly weapon; Ben Nichols, breaking and entering; Robert Baker, assault with a deadly weapon; James Bannerman, assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill; Frank Belcher, drunken driving and manslaughter; Willie Savage, false pretense; Joe Bell, false pretense, and Peter Williams, false pretense.

In a second case in which Willie Savage was charged with false pretense, the defendant pleaded guilty and was sentenced to the roads for not less and not more than three years. Savage, it was alleged, obtained clothes from R. J. Brock, Williamston building contractor, under false pretense.

The case charging Frank Belcher with drunken driving and manslaughter was continued because of the prosecuting witnesses, Marcellus Newsome, Bertie County man, continues in a Durham hospital for treatment of

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Use An Airplane For Dusting Crop

(Robersonville Herald)

A crop dusting demonstration by plane was held at the farm of Mrs. J. M. Highsmith, near here Monday afternoon, with a fairly large number of farmers in attendance to study this new method of dusting their crops as a preventative against insects.

The plane, owned by George Hatch of Tarboro and piloted by Tory Vaughan, effectively dusted the eighteen acres in approximately 10 minutes, and observers at the demonstration stated that it was a success despite weather that was unfavorable for the occasion.

Crylite, a product consisting principally of arsenate of lead and lime, was used for dusting and it was said to cover the field of tobacco from one end to the other with the dust covering both the top and bottom of each leaf.

Rushing out to see the results of the demonstration, Vance and Willie B. Everett, Ben Roberson and Reuben Everett were practically deloused. They were of the opinion that the demonstration had been completed and when the pilot swung back to make his last run over the tobacco field, the foursome was taken directly in line with the plane which was traveling just above the tobacco. Too old to fall down Willie B. Everett stuck his head in the ground leaving his mid section exposed to the plane, Reuben and Ben fell to the ground and crawled like moles out of line with the plane. Hardly over four feet in height, Vance Roberson just sat down.