

Judge Smith Calls Forty-Two Cases In County Court

Fines, Amounting to \$740, Collected During The Day

Handling one of the largest dockets prepared in many months, Judge J. Calvin Smith and Solicitor Paul D. Roberson worked until almost five o'clock before clearing the slate in the Martin County Recorder's Court last Monday. Forty-two cases were called and while quite a few of them were continued, the court assessed fines in the total amount of \$740 against twenty-five of the defendants.

Colored patrons and spectators crowded a section of the court room and the white population was well represented at the bar and in the audience. It was nearly 3:00 o'clock in the afternoon before the crowd started thinning out.

Proceedings: The case charging J. S. Williams with non-support was not prossed.

Having been continued under prayer for judgment at the August 5 session, the case charging Richard Davis with an assault, was cleared from the docket when the court suspended judgment upon the payment of the case costs.

A nol pros with leave was recorded in the case charging Charlie Freeman, Jr., and Louise Freeman with fornication and adultery.

William Lawrence, pleading guilty of bastardy, was sentenced to the roads for six months. The term was suspended upon the payment of the costs and \$50 to the prosecuting witness, Gladys Saunders, for the support of the illegitimate child.

A continuance was allowed in the case charging Goler Ormond with non-support.

LeRoy Sherrod, pleading guilty of operating a motor vehicle while his license was revoked, was fined \$25 and taxed with the costs.

Charged with operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license, Dorothy Corey was fined \$20 and required to pay the costs.

The case charging Johnnie Williams with operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license, was continued until the first Monday.

Pleading guilty of operating a motor vehicle with improper brakes, Duncan Ward was fined \$10 and taxed with the costs.

Henderson Jones was adjudged not guilty in the case charging him with reckless driving.

A continuance until next Monday was granted in the case charging John A. Eberhart with drunken driving.

Willie Hassell, with three charges lodged against him, had a hard day in court. Charged with drunken driving, he pleaded guilty and was fined \$50, taxed with the cost and had his operator's license revoked for one year. He pleaded not guilty in the case charging him with assaulting his wife, but was adjudged guilty. He was sentenced to the roads for thirty days, the court suspending the term upon the payment of a \$10 fine and costs and on the further condition that he is not to get publicly intoxicated nor have intoxicating liquors in his possession, nor be convicted of any criminal law violation for one year. He is not to visit his wife at her home unless he is invited during the suspension period. In a third case against him, Hassell pleaded not guilty of assaulting another man with a deadly weapon. He drew a second 30-day road sentence which was also suspended upon the payment of a \$10 fine and costs.

The case charging Francis Carson with cruelty to animals was continued until next Monday.

Duncan Ward, facing the court in a second case, pleaded guilty of being drunk and disorderly and he was fined \$20 and taxed with the court costs.

Pleading not guilty of violating the sanitary laws—slaughtering beef—P. A. Ballard was adjudged not guilty. The prosecution appealed from the special verdict handed down by Judge Smith and the case goes to the superior court for jury trial.

The case charging Henderson Norfleet with aiding and abetting

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Tobacco Sales Pass Two Million Pounds

HOLIDAY

While several offices and business houses will close for the day, next Monday, Labor Day, will not be observed as a general holiday here.

The post office, banks, federal offices, the V. E. and P. Company, liquor store and possibly a few other places will close for the day. The tobacco market will be in the midst of a one week holiday, but stores and most offices, including those of the county, will remain open. No mail deliveries will be effected Monday. Those persons normally scheduled to report to the unemployment office next Monday are being asked to report the following Monday, September 9.

Arrest Three For Playing The Old 'Flim-Flam' Game

Ethel Bonds Refuses To Play And Reports Incident to Local Police

Attempting to play the old pocketbook game on the local streets Thursday morning, three colored men not only failed but they also fell into the hands of local police. The three colored men, John Henry Doyle, 45; Raymond Williams, 33, and Smith Wilson, 49, are being held in the county jail, pending the completion of an investigation. A hearing will be held before Justice J. L. Hassell later in the week.

Meeting Ethel Bonds on the corner of Main and Smithwick streets, one of the trio walked along beside her on North Smithwick street, and she reported the confederate "found" the planted pocketbook near the corner of Academy Street. Doyle, accompanying the Bonds woman, told her that he saw Wilson pick up something. Doyle called to her to go back and see what he had found. She went back and found a three-way division of the find was made. When the Bonds woman was called upon to put up so much money while the other went to get the approximately \$125 changed, she refused, and the old pocketbook game backfired in the flim-flammers' faces.

The Bonds woman retraced her steps to Main Street and reported to the police department. A few minutes later Officer John Roebuck rounded up two of the men. Shortly thereafter Officers Roebuck and Chas. Moore picked up the third member of the trio, but not until they had run a heated race.

Carried to the police station, two of the men were immediately identified by the intended victim, and the third one admitted he was a member of the group. The flim-flam attempt was admitted.

Checking the records, police found that John Doyle had served a year on the roads in Florida for playing the pocketbook game, that he had served time in Washington, D. C., and Baltimore. Wilson served six months in Norfolk for a similar offense.

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Average To Date Stands Right At \$50 Per Hundred

Redrying Plants Bulging With Record Tobacco Deliveries

At the close of sales Wednesday afternoon for a week's breathing spell, the Williamston Tobacco Market had sold 2,246,208 pounds of the golden leaf, including a large quantity of the nondescript type, for a general average to date of \$49.89. So far this season the market has paid the growers \$1,120,531.58. During the first eight days of the 1945 season, the local market sold 2,101,798 pounds for about a 44-cent average, the price figure this year ranging a little over \$5 a hundred above the average a year ago.

A few farmers were in the marketing area and even though there were no sales there was much activity in and around the warehouses. Company workers were busy removing tobacco that had been on the floors since Monday, the few farmers milling in and out of the houses inquiring when they could deliver their next loads.

Reports from the companies state that the redrying plants and factories were literally bulging with record deliveries. The local plant management stated Thursday morning that there was some doubt if the accumulation of tobacco could be handled and packed before the holiday ends next Thursday morning. "We are running night and day and we haven't yet cleared enough floor space for free walking," one of the operators pointed out as he climbed over tobacco piled more than shoulder high in the receiving room.

Scattered reports from the farms state that grading activities are being continued, that present indications point to larger offerings on Thursday of next week than were on the floors for the season's initial opening on Monday of last week.

Tobacco associations, including representatives of the warehouses and buying companies, are appealing to the farmers for orderly marketing. Despite the pleas present indications point to a big rush following the reopening. It is predicted in some quarters already that selling time will be curtailed soon after the markets are reopened, that possibly a second holiday will be necessary.

The local market plans to start receiving farmers' tobacco next Tuesday for sale Thursday.

A review of the sales for Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of this week shows a fairly wide fluctuation in prices. Part of the fluctuation in the price average is traceable to the increased quantity of inferior tobacco offered for sale, but even then some grades were not selling for as much as they did the early part of last week. Apparently there was not too much competition for certain types of tips. After averaging

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Review Of Effect Air Power Had In European Area

Excerpts Taken From Report of Commander To His Chiefs of Staff

(The gradual deterioration of the German Air Force is detailed by the supreme commander in this group of excerpts from his report to the Chiefs of Staff.—Ed.)

6. "During the first six months of 1944 the German oil production was reduced by at least 40 percent as a result of the bombing of the plants by the Strategic Air Forces, and the outcome was seen in the trials of the enemy reinforcements and supply columns as they struggled toward Normandy. . . ."

7. "When the enemy planes did come up, they showed a marked tendency to avoid combat. Only on 12 June did they react in any considerable strength when a mass onslaught was made on French airfields by 1,448 Fortress and Liberators of the U. S. Eighth Air Force—the largest force of heavy bombers hitherto airborne on a single mission. On this occasion the enemy suffered severely at the hands of the Allied fighters and failed to reach the bombers. The reluctance normally shown to engage our planes was doubtless in part dictated by the need to conserve a depleted strength; but there was also noticeable a lack of organization and experience on the part of the German pilots. The persistent RAF night bombing attacks of the past had led the German command to concentrate on the training and development of night fighters, with the result that day fighter pilots were generally of a poorer standard and rarely a match for their Allied opponents. As a consequence of this weakness, our forces—both on operations over the battle area and on long-range strategic night missions—frequently encountered no air opposition whatsoever, and the over-all weekly Allied losses averaged only about 1 percent of the aircraft employed. . . ."

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Reports Point To Crowded Schools In Martin County

Every Inch Including The Auditorium Overrun In Colored School

No complete review of opening-day enrollment figures in all the schools could be had late Thursday afternoon, but preliminary reports trickling in from a few of the schools revealed crowded conditions in most of them.

Williamston's colored school had so many pupils that every inch of space was overrun, including the auditorium. There were so many trying to find a place to park that a complete count could not be had immediately. However, the number enrolling there is well over 700. Possibly the auditorium will be partitioned to care for the increase.

The first report coming from Oak City stated that 399 had enrolled there, 258 in the elementary and 141 in the high school. Elementary figures were increased by 14 and the high school enrollment was 43 greater than it was on opening day last year. The report was released without comment, but it is believed that the Hobgood High School reported there.

With a total enrollment of 853, Williamston broke all records for an opening day. There were 697 in the elementary as compared with 665 a year ago. In the high school the enrollment jumped from 125 last year to 156, about 25 of the number having been held over from the eleventh grade.

Robersonville's opening was delayed when some of the busses ran out of gas. The school officials will try to pry the plants open there Friday morning.

No reports could be had from the other schools except Poplar Point where fifty were enrolled.

All the teachers were in their respective positions in the schools here except Coach Hall and he is to report early next week.

Mrs. A. F. Fussell of Carolina Beach was added to the faculty a short time ago and she will teach one of the fourth grades. Mrs. Varo H. Davenport of Robersonville was recently elected to teach one of the third, and Professor Hall of Pikeville, Wayne County, is to coach high school athletics and teach science, leaving the position of public school music to be filled.

Principal Steward said that he was convinced he had an able corps of teachers and predicted a successful year for the schools here.

While all teacher positions have not yet been filled in the county, substitutions were effected and the schools were off to a good start, it was declared.

Funeral Held For Accident Victim

Funeral services were held at the home, 203 Cone Street, Williamston, last Sunday afternoon for Little Miss Brenda Jean Roberson, four, who died in an Elizabeth City hospital last Saturday evening at 8:20 o'clock of injuries received when struck by an automobile at Kill Devil Hill on the Nags Head highway Thursday morning at 8:30 o'clock. She suffered a broken neck, skull fracture and a broken hip. Treated first at Manteo she was removed to the hospital a short time later.

Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sammy E. Roberson, formerly of this county, and sister, Patsy, had stopped beside the highway to climb one of the sand hills. Returning to the highway the little girl started to join her parents on the other side and ran into a Virginia car.

Surviving besides her parents and sister are her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. White, formerly of near Robersonville, and now of near Williamston, and Mr. and Mrs. Louis Roberson of Enfield.

Mr. Roberson is employed in Wilson where he has made his home for the past ten years.

Rev. Cecil A. Jarman conducted the last rites and burial was in Wilson's Maplewood cemetery.

INJURED IN ACCIDENT

L. D. Smithwick, employe of the Williamston Company, suffered a broken pelvis in a fall on the company's lumber yard last Monday and is undergoing treatment in the local hospital.

Farmers Cooperative Speaker Sounds Danger Signals In An Address Here Last Thursday

Mayor Hassell Makes Plea For Farm Bureau Support

On the eve of the annual Martin County Farm Bureau membership drive, Mayor John L. Hassell yesterday made a plea for the organization's support by business and professional men as well as farmers, landlords and others.

Renewing his membership for another year at the time, Mayor Hassell pointed out that the Flu-Cured Tobacco Stabilization Corporation, promoted principally by the farm group, had already meant much to the welfare of the farmer and the economy of this entire section. "It may mean that Martin farmers will receive a million dollars more for the current crop than they would have received without it," he pointed out, basing his statement on the early activities on this and other markets in the belt. That accomplishment alone will save the farmers of this county enough money to join the farm organization for

years to come. One does not have to join the stabilization corporation to reap benefits; the organization is having a stabilizing effect on the market, meaning that all are sharing from the program. Martin County is being asked to boost its Farm Bureau membership to 2,080 for the 1946-47 year, and it is believed that the goal will be reached and passed. Last year a few more than 1,800 joined the organization.

At a meeting in the county courthouse Friday of this week at 8:00 o'clock, plans for the annual membership drive will be completed. The drive is slated to get under way in a big way next Monday. At the meeting Friday night, the tobacco stabilization program will be explained in detail. Any person interested in the program and any one wishing to help the membership canvass are invited to attend the meeting.

Possessions Stolen, Couple Is Stranded

Weary of Bumping Mr. and Mrs. Jos. Unkel Stop Here

En Route To Texas, Veteran And Bride Wire For Money

The couple, a Marine Corps veteran and his bride of four months completed the first lap of the long journey late Wednesday afternoon. Their feet blistered and travel weary and even hungry, Mr. and Mrs. Unkel lowered their thumbs, explained their plight to Mrs. Edna Laughinghouse of the local Red Cross and pitched tent for the night.

No plea for a donation was made by the couple, but they explained that a small loan for food and lodging would be appreciated. Their temporary needs cared for, Mr. and Mrs. Unkel Thursday morning addressed wires to relatives for cash advances and made ready to continue the trip by common carrier.

It was while waiting for a bus in the Norfolk terminal that Mrs. Unkel placed her pocket book containing \$186 in cash and two tickets to the Texas city in her suitcase, thinking it would be safer there. While her back was turned for a moment, the suitcase was stolen. Abandoning all hope of recovering it, the couple decided to take to the open road. Traveling was bad enough, but the food situation was even worse, the couple explaining late Wednesday that they had not eaten since the day before. Mrs. Laughinghouse, from her own pocket, advanced the stranded couple several dollars and handled several of their pressing needs.

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Elected Director Of Peanut Co-Op

M. Luther Peel, local man, was elected recently to succeed himself as a director of the Growers Peanut Cooperative, District No. 2.

The district includes the counties of Beaufort, Carteret, Craven, Dare, Hyde, Jones, Lenoir, Martin, Pamlico and Pitt.

COLLECTIONS

Following the opening of the tobacco markets on Monday of last week, county tax collections have been made in quite sizable sums. Collector M. Luther Peel said yesterday.

To date, approximately \$56,000 has been received by the county treasury. A large portion of that amount was paid by comparatively small property owners, the record showing that tobacco farmers are moving to get their tax obligations behind them for the year.

The total county tax levy, including special taxes, amounts to approximately \$218,000 this year.

Judge Jno. Hassell Handles Ten Cases In Court Recently

Two Defendants Bound Over To Higher Courts For Trial

Justice John L. Hassell handled ten cases in his court here during the past few days. Five times in seven and sending the defendants to the higher courts for trial, Navin Hawkins, charged with an assault with a deadly weapon, was bound over to the county court for trial. Bond in the sum of \$200 was required.

Charged with disorderly conduct, William Lanier was fined \$5 and required to pay \$6.50 costs. Jasper Rogers was taxed with \$6.50 costs in the case charging him with disorderly conduct.

Charged with being drunk and down, Rufus Taylor was sentenced to the roads for thirty days, the court suspending the sentence on condition that the defendant pay \$9.50 costs and remain out of the town for six months.

Lee Tyner was fined \$5 and taxed with \$8.50 costs for alleged disorderly conduct. John H. Smith, charged with operating a motor vehicle with improper lights, was fined \$10 and required to pay \$10 costs.

In the case in which Elbert Modlin was charged with disorderly conduct the defendant was fined \$5 and taxed with \$8.50 costs.

Operating a motor vehicle with improper lights, J. R. Conner was fined \$10 and taxed with \$6 costs. William Ellis, charged with simple assault, was fined \$10 and required to pay \$5.50 costs.

Mann Reminds His Listeners Of The Early 20's And 30's

Reviews Growth of FCX At Meeting In The High School Here

Addressing the annual meeting of the Martin County Farmers Cooperative Exchange in the high school here last Thursday afternoon, M. G. Mann, general manager for the State, sounded several danger signals, reviewed briefly the growth of the cooperative and appealed for a better balanced farm economy in this and other counties.

His address, quite timely, strong and forceful, was well received by approximately 800 patrons and friends of the organization. It follows, in part:

Twelve years ago the FCX was not much more than a dream. It is true that a group of our state agricultural leaders, with a number of outstanding farmers, had for months been laying the foundation for a farmer cooperative purchasing and marketing organization on a state-wide basis, but it was not until July 1, 1934, that the FCX was really launched. It is, therefore, hard to believe we have today serving farmers in both North and South Carolina, a farmer-owned and farmer-controlled organization with a membership of 44,189. It is likewise hard to believe that farmers, through cooperation, have been able to build an organization in these twelve short years which today is handling a volume of supplies and aiding farmers in the marketing of the crops they produce, valued at more than \$15,000,000 annually. It is likewise hard to believe that, even though the gross margin of profit taken at the time the farmers purchased more than \$75,000,000 worth of farm supplies has been less than 10 percent. They have been able, because of economical management, to build an organization which has a net worth in excess of \$2,000,000.

When the Farmers Cooperative Exchange was organized and the first board of directors elected, the first policy adopted was that of quality. We went to our State Agricultural College and asked the Dean of Agriculture if he would permit his dairy experts, poultry experts, and his agronomists to work out the formulas by which all of our feeds and fertilizers should be manufactured, in order that we might be assured of giving to our farm people the greatest return for every dollar spent for supplies that it was possible to give to them.

Since that day down to this, we have not made a change in any of our formulas that we have not first consulted the authorities at our State Agricultural College, both in feed and fertilizer. We have likewise called on our State Department of Agriculture, along with the College, to assist us in the purchasing of seed which the farmers had to buy in order to produce their crops.

The open-formula policy on feeds, seeds and fertilizers has meant the savings of millions of dollars for the farmers of the Carolinas during these past 12 years.

The low margin which, this year, averaged only 8.94 for the state as a whole in all of the FCX warehouses, has likewise saved millions of dollars for the farmers of the state. . . .

During these past twelve years the FCX has handled a volume of more than \$75,000,000 and has had to charge off less than \$10,000 in bad checks and in what we would think of as bad accounts. . . .

I am not unmindful that with the national farm income—as well as our own state farm income—at its peak, estimated this year to be something like twenty billion dollars, it is hard for us to stop and realize that only six years ago, or in 1939, it was only seven billion, eight hundred thirty billion dollars. . . .

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