

Judge J. C. Smith Has Eleven Cases In County's Court

Fines Collected In Last Monday Session Total Over \$100.00

Judge J. Calvin Smith called eleven cases in the Martin County Recorder's Court last Monday and completed the trial docket in a little over two hours. The session was in marked contrast in several particulars with the one of the Monday before when an almost record number of cases was called and fines approximated \$1,000. A comparatively small number of spectators heard the trials, and no great interest was shown in the proceedings by the general public.

Fines collected during the session Monday amounted to \$110.00.

Proceedings: Pleading guilty in the case charging him with speeding, Troy Lee Haymer was fined \$25, taxed with the cost and had his operator's license revoked for thirty days.

Charged with drunken driving and public drunkenness, George Mobley pleaded guilty of being publicly drunk. He was adjudged not guilty of drunken driving, but in the first charge the court fined him \$25 plus the cost.

Charged with an assault with a deadly weapon, Dalton Brown and Lewis Winberry pleaded not guilty. Adjudged guilty, each was fined \$10 and required to pay the costs.

In the case in which Webb Patrick was charged with an assault with a deadly weapon, the defendant pleaded not guilty. The court found from the evidence that the prosecution was frivolous, that it was prompted by malice and that it was not required by public interest. Judge Smith ruled the defendant was not guilty and taxed the prosecuting witness, W. C. Sitterson, with the cost.

The case charging Cleve James with violating the sanitary laws was continued for the defendant until the 23rd of December.

Charged with an assault on a female, Woodrow Wisby was adjudged guilty of simple assault and the court suspended judgment upon the payment of the costs.

John Wesley Whitfield, pleading guilty of operating a motor vehicle while his driver's license was revoked, was fined \$25 and required to pay the costs.

Charged with violating the sanitary laws, Hubert Roberson pleaded guilty and was sentenced to the roads for thirty days. The road term was suspended upon the payment of the court costs and on the further condition that he erect a sanitary privy within

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Peanuts Moving To Market Here

After getting off to a slow start as a result of unfavorable weather conditions and a season much later than usual, peanuts are beginning to move to the market here in larger numbers. Several thousand bags of the goobers were placed in local factories during the past two or three days, and with favorable weather the crop is certain to begin moving in volume next week.

Its plant remodeled and capacity greatly increased, the Williamston Peanut Company is scheduled to begin its regular milling schedule next Monday morning. Only one shift will be employed at first, but an extra operating schedule will get consideration when deliveries gain in volume.

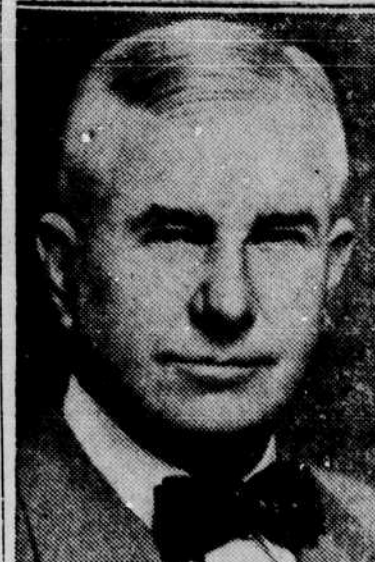
The Dixie Peanut Company, having made some changes in its large plant, put fire in its boilers this week, making ready to start operations.

The market, according to unofficial reports, remains bullish with prices hovering around 11 cents.

Farmers, who in some instances had anticipated fairly large yields are disappointed with production. "I had conservatively estimated my crop, I thought, but instead of getting around twenty bags I got only thirteen," one farmer declared. And thirteen bags will be a high yield in the county this year.

Observing Armistice Day as Holiday Here

SPEAKER



Col. Edgar H. Baine of Goldsboro, holder of the DSC and Silver Star from World War I and department historian, will address an Armistice Day meeting of the American Legion in the hut here next Monday evening at 7:30 o'clock.

Doctor and Nurse Shortage Offering Problem In State

Doctor Points Out Value of Student Fund Proposed In New Program

One of the greatest crises North Carolina faces today is the shortage of doctors, nurses, and medical facilities. Dr. Hamilton McKay, of Charlotte, told 60 of the State's leading doctors who gathered in Durham last week to attend a dinner meeting held under the joint sponsorship of the Good Health Association and the State Medical Society.

Dr. McKay told the assembled doctors that in his opinion the Good Health Program being advanced by the Good Health Association is the "answer to the health needs of our state."

Dr. McKay, named by the Medical Society to serve as liaison officer with the Good Health Association, declared that the Good Health Plan must become a reality "in its entirety." Any action to split the program would prove catastrophic, he asserted.

The problem of too few doctors in the rural areas of the State would be solved through the student loan fund stipulation of the proposed Good Health Program, Dr. McKay pointed out, observing that in Tennessee the number of doctors practicing in rural areas has been sharply increased through a similar plan.

Decrying the belief that modern medical school graduates will practice only in urban areas, Dr. McKay stated that doctors will practice "where they are needed" so long as three determining factors are observed. He listed the three factors as good living conditions, proper facilities to work with, and sufficient compensation to live a good life.

People are more health conscious now than ever before, Dr. McKay continued. He noted that

Denied Claim To Canine By Court

For years and years dogs have led nothing more than an ordinary dog's life in this county, but in recent years they have figured prominently in court litigations. In one or two cases witnesses were called from several counties to offer testimony in the big courts.

This week Elton Andrews appealed to the inferior courts in support of his claim to a black and white female dog in the possession of Herman Farmer. The plaintiff had very favorable evidence to support his claim, but when it was learned that he had not listed the dog for taxation, Justice John L. Hassell cited the law which denies claim to property not listed for taxation.

American Legion Planning Program For That Evening

Stores and Tobacco Market Plan Holiday; Heavy Industry To Work

Next Monday, Armistice Day, will be observed as a general holiday by Williamston stores, business houses, post office and tobacco market, but heavy industry, including the peanut market, saw mills and other plants will continue operations.

The general holiday is being proclaimed by Mayor John L. Hassell at the suggestion of a majority of business firm operators and employees. The mayor's proclamation reads:

"Whereas, Monday, November 11, is the twenty-eighth anniversary of Armistice Day, and,

"Whereas, we should show some appreciation to the memory of the gallant dead who served in World War I, and a majority of the business men have shown their willingness to observe this day,

"Now, therefore, I, J. L. Hassell, mayor of Williamston, do hereby declare Monday, November 11, a legal holiday in Williamston, and call upon all business houses to close in memory of the gallant dead who gave their lives in order that we, as a nation, might never die."

No program for a general celebration has been planned here that day, but the John Walton Hassell Post of the American Legion will hold exercises in the legion hut on Watts Street here that evening at 7:30 o'clock. A special invitation is being extended to all men and women who served in the various branches of the armed forces in any war, Post Commander John W. Hardy explaining that the invitation is not limited to legionnaires.

Colonel Edgar H. Baine of Goldsboro will address the meeting. The World War I veteran won the Distinguished Service Cross and Silver Star and is department historian of the American Legion. A delicious supper is being prepared and will be served "Dutch" style at a very nominal fee.

In addition to the Armistice Day program, the legion meeting will discuss tentative proposals for a suitable memorial for the county's war dead. A special committee discussed tentative plans for a central memorial cemetery and the construction of a field and housing in memory of the war dead. These plans will be placed before the meeting next Monday evening and all veterans, both men and women, and service men are asked to attend and take part in the program.

Effort To Be Made Form AMVET Chapter

An organizational meeting will be held at the Williamston High School auditorium at 8 o'clock Wednesday night at which it is hoped to form a local unit of the national veterans organization known as AMVETS.

The organization is making its principal appeal to the veterans who have recently returned from service in World War II.

HOT ELECTION

One of the hottest elections held in the county on Tuesday of this week was held in Hassell. Two hours after the polls were opened in the old Salsbury store there, the building caught fire, forcing the election officials, Messrs. Dewey Edmondson, George Leggett and George Ayers to grab up the ballots, books and boxes and flee.

Starting from a defective flue, the fire was stopped by volunteer firemen's effective work before much damage resulted. After the building cooled off, the election officials re-established themselves for further business which was later described as unusually light.

Opposition Party Boasts Nineteen Votes In County

Unexpected Opposition Is Expressed In Race For Constable

While the nation, as a whole, fell over backwards into Republican arms, Martin County Democrats continued their tight hold on the ballot box, official reports showing that the opposition annexed only nineteen out of the 1,346 votes cast in the general election last Tuesday. Without any local contests to attract attention and showing little interest in the proposed constitutional amendments, the electorate, for the most part, did not participate in the election in this county, but even then 169 more votes were cast than there were recorded in the off-year election four years ago.

Unexpected opposition, apparently offered by pranksters and without anyone's knowledge, developed at the last minute in the race for the office of constable in Williamston Township. Bill Glover, according to the official record, was given two votes while Charlie R. Moore, the regular nominee, went back into the high post with 275 votes, or a mere 273 majority.

Without opposition from one end to the other, the county ticket attracted from 1,290 to 1,316 votes, as follows: For State Senate: Hugh G. Horton, 1,316 and John C. Rodman, 1,274; for House of Representatives, Chas. B. Martin, 1,291; for clerk of court, L. B. Wynne, 1,309; for sheriff, C. B. Roebuck, 1,308; for judge of recorder's court, J. C. Smith, 1,295; for treasurer, R. H. Smith, 1,291; for coroner, S. R. Biggs, 1,306; for surveyor, A. Corey, 1,236; for county commissioners: R. L. Perry, Joshua L. Coltrin, R. A. Haislip and C. A. Roberson, 1,293 each, and J. H. Edwards, 1,290.

In the First District Congressional race, Herbert C. Bonner led his Republican opponent, Zeno O. Ratcliff, 1,296 to 18. Jamesville cast 8, Bear Grass 2, Williamston No. 1, 3, Williamston No. 2, 4, and Robersonville, 1, for the Republican candidate.

George M. Fountain received 1,282 votes for second district solicitor.

On the state ticket, M. V. Barnhill led the voting with 1,255 votes

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Caution Noticed In Sale Of Land

After holding to figures regarded by some as near an all-time peak earlier in the week, land prices were said not to be quite so bullish Thursday when 4,400 acres of timberland were offered for sale at public auction in front of the courthouse here.

While there is a difference of opinion, some thinking bids submitted for the timberland, most of which is located in Crispin Township south and southeast of Jamesville, were on the high side, others noted more caution on the part of buyers. There were very few bidders and not great interest was shown in the sale.

One tract known as the 1,000 acre tract with 1,139,940 feet of timber on it received a bid of \$10,000 from the North Carolina Pulp Co. Another 2,200 tract with an estimated 4,184,000 feet of timber and 1,860 cords of pulp wood was bid in for \$29,000. The third tract, containing an estimated 756,000 feet of timber, was bid in for \$5,000. No bids were received when the property was offered as a single unit.

A few days ago the Lawrence Curtis farm between Everetts and Robersonville and containing 28 acres of cleared and 25 acres of woodland, was sold for \$17,800. Earlier this week the J. Lass Wynne farm near Everetts, containing 120 acres of cleared and 180 acres of woodland, was sold to L. A. Clark for \$36,000.

Limited Rainfall In Section Last Month

Less than two inches of rain—1.67 inches, to be exact—fell at this point last month, the fall being considerably under the average for the past fifteen years.

Over an inch of rain fell last Saturday.

Republicans Regained Control Of Congress And the Country

Local Tobacco Market To Close Season November 13

Completing a very successful season but establishing no poundage record, the Williamston Tobacco Market will close the 1946 season at the end of sales next Wednesday, November 13, it was officially announced by the board of trade this week.

While the poundage this season will fall behind the high figure recorded for the 1945 season, income received by growers this year will possible approach if not pass all records.

To date, the market has sold approximately ten and three-quarter million pounds for nearly five and one-half million dollars. The average for the season will fall just a little short of \$51.00 per hundred pounds.

In announcing the closing date, the tobacco board of trade representative pointed out that just

about all of the crop has been sold in this immediate section, that not more than one or two scattered lots would remain unsold after Wednesday of next week. Offerings have been very limited on the market during the past several days, and only a few thousand pounds are likely to be offered for sale each day during the remainder of the season.

Prices are definitely downward and low averages are being made compared with those received two weeks ago. No one would make the charge direct, but several said they were anxious to sell out now that the Republicans had regained a stranglehold on the nation.

The market will observe next Monday, Armistice day, as a holiday, and reopen Tuesday to wind up the year that day and on Wednesday.

NEW STREET

Closed to traffic since the track was laid to the river for the old Williamston Co-operative Company about 32 years ago, Railroad Street from Washington Street to Smithwick is being made ready for travel again. Catch basins for storm sewers are being constructed and dirt is being moved in for the necessary fill.

The street to be reopened will be connected with Main by a narrow drive running between Darden's Department Store and Rose's five and ten.

Vote Is Divided On Amendments

Martin County voters split on the two proposed amendments to the State Constitution last Tuesday when they favored the one allowing women equal rights under the law and rejected the one allowing legislators a \$10 per day expense account during sixty days spent in Raleigh making laws. Both decisions were marked by fairly close margins, the opposition showing much power when it came to allowing the "other fellow" a decent salary or expense account.

The vote by precincts:

	Women's Rights		Expenses	
	For	Vs.	For	Vs.
Jamesville	67	68	57	65
Williams	26	14	19	16
Griffins	21	76	19	71
Bear Grass	15	76	9	78
Wmstn No 1	83	25	61	34
Wmstn No 2	129	31	103	39
Cross Roads	29	23	19	27
Rville	101	58	70	81
Gold Point	7	46	6	46
Poplar Point	20	18	16	16
Hassell	19	32	16	35
Hamilton	17	45	27	25
Goose Nest	51	39	34	57
Totals	585	551	456	596

Incomplete returns from the state point to the passage of the No. 1, or equal rights for women proposal, by a fairly big margin. The No. 2, or expense allowance of \$10 a day for legislators, is doubtful of passage even though it had a favorable vote in the first returns.

Attorney Martin Ill In Hospital

Taken ill suddenly last Sunday afternoon, Mr. Wheeler Martin, local attorney, was removed to a Rocky Mount hospital Wednesday of this week for treatment. Handling a heavy schedule of activities, including those connected with the Kiwanis Club presidency, Mr. Martin had not been feeling very well for several weeks.

Following a light attack last Sunday, he went to bed at his home here. His condition showed some improvement, but it was decided best for him to enter the hospital for examination and treatment.

Gains Made Under Democrats In Past Years Threatened

Power-Hungry Republicans Said To Suggest Resignation Of President

Sweeping the country almost lock, stock and barrel in an off-year election last Tuesday, the Republicans, come next January, will resume control of Congress and dominate twenty-five of the forty-eight states at the seat of government in the various capitals. With many reactionary Democrats on their side, including some of our own right here in North Carolina, the Republicans have only one barrier in their bid to republicanize the nation and that lone barrier is offered by the President himself. And some of the Republican leaders even had the audacity to suggest that the President resign.

Incomplete reports indicate that the Republicans hold at least a 14-seat majority in the National House of Representatives, and working margin enhanced in the Senate by republicans. In addition to that stranglehold the Republicans are safely entrenched in twenty-five of the forty-eight gubernatorial positions.

Hardly before the ballots were counted, Conservative Republicans started discussing plans for moving the people's capital from Washington back to Wall Street. Representative Harold Knutson, the conservative who is scheduled to succeed North Carolina's Doughton as chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, proposes a 20 percent reduction in income taxes. And just as if that were not enough to help the higher income group, he went on to propose a cut in taxes on such items as cosmetics and whiskey.

The Republicans in their campaign, asked "Had enough?" The voters by the millions answered in the affirmative, meaning possibly that the people will soon be going on short rations.

The Republicans elected at least 23 Senators, 232 Representatives and 20 governors in Thursday's elections. The conquest brought from Democratic Senator J. William Fulbright of Arkansas a suggestion that President Truman name a Republican as Secretary of State and then resign in his favor.

Mr. Truman, back in Washington from Missouri, where he voted, had no comment on the suggestion—nor on the election results themselves. If this off-year election means as much as those of the past, the Republicans would take over the White House anyway in 1948.

Republicans hit the political jackpot for the first time in 15 years.

A notable feature was the democratic strong men from Massachusetts to California and even crunched into the edge of the still "Solid South," means the widest possible split between the White House and Congress. A Democratic President remains in office. Republicans will be in undisputed command of the 80th Congress which meets January 3.

Probably little change in United States foreign policy. Leading Republicans endorsed its present lines and even helped mold it.

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Three Cases Heard By Justice Hassell

Following a week-end of little activity on the crime front in this community, Justice John L. Hassell had only three cases in his court this week.

James Gilmore, charged with disorderly conduct, was fined \$5 and required to pay \$9.50 costs. Charged with carrying a concealed weapon and an assault with a deadly weapon, D. D. Hill was bound over to the county court for trial. Bond was required in the sum of \$190.

Charged with speeding, reckless and drunken driving, B. L. House was bound over under \$100 bond to the county court for trial.

Man Jailed Here For Harboring an Escaped Prisoner

Car Stolen Following Big Prison Break, Recovered In Norfolk

Louis Frazier, 25-year-old colored farmer living just out of Williamston on the Jamesville Road, was arrested and jailed here Tuesday for allegedly harboring one of the eight colored convicts who escaped from the Martin County prison camp last Sunday night. He was later released in \$200 bond.

Frazier, it was reported, first denied shielding the convict but when prison guards searched the home and found the escapee's prison garb, the defendant admitted the presence of the man in his home during most of the day Monday.

According to reports, Charlie Campbell, one of the eight long-term convicts fleeing the prison camp near here, went to Frazier's home about daybreak Monday morning after wandering over a several-mile course through the woods barefooted. Campbell, wearing a suit of clothes, an old pair of shoes and a hat given him by Frazier, boarded a bus for Plymouth about dark. He was arrested while asleep in a home there the following morning.

Numerous reports have been received about the movements of the remaining six escapees. One, after being seen in the Parmele section Monday night, was believed to have boarded a car and rode away in the direction of Greenville. Nothing more was heard to supplement that report.

Two are still believed hiding out in the Edenton section. Jessup Harrison's Dodge car, stolen by at least two of the convicts, was recovered in Norfolk Tuesday, but nothing has been heard from the two men supposed to have occupied it.

A strange man, said to have been fleeing from the law, drowned in a small body of water near Kenansville.

Some one slept in Vernon church on the old Everetts Road last Monday night, but nothing more has been heard from the intruder. A farmer in the community was passing the church shortly after sunrise and heard someone in the church.

Other reports state that two or three of the escapees were believed to have been in Jones County. A sizable robbery was reported there Monday night.

Baldwin and Campbell, wearing shackles and other prison garb, are taking their regular places at designated road stations.

Baldwin was sentenced in New Hanover County on June 18, 1941, to serve 20 to 30 years on a carnal knowledge charge. Campbell, sentenced in Guilford County for armed robbery, was serving a 20-30 year term.

Negro Man Tells Fantastic Story

One of the most unusual stories heard by local police in years was related this week by Louis Land, 25-year-old local colored man.

Standing on the streets here last Monday about noon, Land said a colored man approached him, and after explaining that he (the stranger) wasn't feeling well, "asked me to drive him to Columbia in his 1939 Chevrolet 4-door black sedan."

Land declares that he did not recall getting into the car, and knew nothing until Tuesday morning when he "came to" while driving the car alone down a street in Columbia, South Carolina. Land believes he was hypnotized.

The story up until that point was really fantastic, but he went on to say that he told a Columbia policeman his story, and declared that he did not have enough money to return home. A colored man overheard the conversation on the street of the South Carolina town and voluntarily contributed \$35 in cash. Land says that he did not give the officer his name, nor did his colored benefactor ask his name or the repayment of the \$35.

"I boarded a bus and started for home, reaching here about 2:00 o'clock Wednesday morning," Land told local officers who are checking the story.

FARM BUREAU

Canvassers in the Martin County Farm Bureau's annual membership drive are meeting in the courthouse Friday evening of this week at 7:30 o'clock to make their last scheduled report on the campaign. Last Friday night when the committee met, the drive was hardly 200 short of the 2,080 goal. The group agreed to make a last plea and earn a free trip from the state organization to the national convention to be held soon in San Francisco.