

Judge J. C. Smith Imposed Fines In Amount of \$495.00

Last Session of the Old Recorder's Tribunal Very Large Crowd

It was a big day in court last Monday when Judge J. C. Smith called 21 cases in the last session of the recorder's tribunal for the old year. The proceedings attracted an almost record number of colored citizens, many of them waiting until the last case was cleared from the docket about 1:00 o'clock that afternoon.

Although the court was sitting for the first time in two weeks, the number of cases was not unduly large for so long a period, but fines held to a right big figure—\$495 for the day.

Proceedings: Charged with operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license, Elbert Cotten pleaded guilty and was fined \$25 and taxed with the cost. His license to operate a motor vehicle is to be denied for one year, the court recommended.

Charlie Hill, charged with operating a motor vehicle without a license and while intoxicated, was fined \$75, taxed with the cost and had his license revoked for one year.

Pleading guilty in the case charging him with the indecent exposure of his person and being drunk and disorderly, James Horton Hunter was sentenced to jail for thirty days, fined \$25 and taxed with the cost.

The cases charging Fred James Calloway with disorderly conduct, assault, and simple assault and resisting arrest were continued for the defendant until January 13.

His case pending in the courts for some time, Harrison Land, Jr., charged with non-support, was sentenced to the roads for nine months. The court suspended the sentence on condition that the defendant pay \$25 immediately and \$7 each week for the support of his wife and children. The money is to be handled by the welfare department.

In the case charging William Henry Williams and Russell "Bud" Williams with being drunk and disorderly and with assaults, both pleaded not guilty. Williams adjudged guilty, was fined \$10 and required to pay the costs. Thomas, adjudged guilty of a simple assault, was fined \$15 and taxed with the costs.

Julius "Pistol" Bell, charged with drunken driving in a warrant drawn in open court, pleaded guilty and was sentenced to jail for ten days, required to pay a \$50 fine and cost and had his license revoked for one year.

In support case coming before the court for further judgment, A. W. Davenport was directed to continue the payment of \$25 a month for the benefit of his two children.

Wilford Hardison, publicly drunk in the courthouse, pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined \$10 and taxed with the costs.

Admitting probable cause in the case charging him with breaking and entering and an assault with a deadly weapon, Tom Scott was bound over to the March term of the superior court under bond in the sum of \$350.

In the case charging Kelly Wilkins, Lewis Jones and Aulander Best with being drunk and disorderly and assaults with deadly weapon, Wilkins was found not guilty. Adjudged guilty of a simple assault, Jones was fined \$15 and taxed with the cost. Best was sentenced to the roads for six months when he was found guilty of assaulting another with a deadly weapon.

Charged with drunken driving, Claudine Sherman pleaded not guilty, and successfully defended his plea. However, he was adjudged guilty of being drunk while riding in an automobile on the highway, and was fined \$20 and taxed with the costs.

Lewis Henry Jones was sentenced to the roads for six months for drunken driving. The road term was suspended on condition the defendant pay a \$50 fine and costs and remain regularly employed. The court recommended that the defendant's license be revoked for eighteen months.

Pleading guilty of drunken driving and operating a motor vehicle without a license, the court recommended that the defendant's license be revoked for one year.

County Assemblyman Gets Primary Election Petition

merce and supported by more than 100 signatures, was presented in the hands of Representative C. B. Martin, requesting him to introduce and work for the passage of a bill creating a primary election system for Williamston.

Receiving the bill and its page after page of signatures, Representative Martin who leaves next Monday for the opening of North Carolina's 1947 session of the General Assembly, assured the Jaycees that a bill creating a primary for the town would be introduced and that he would work for its passage.

Calling the proposal to the attention of Hugh G. Horton, local attorney and senator from this district, the Jaycee spokesman

NEW YEAR

Except for the fireworks, bells, whistles and horns, the New Year took over last Tuesday night on schedule without too much noise and without accident. Some of the celebrants, allegedly, did not notice the change.

A faithful few, possibly fifty, attended the special union religious service in the Methodist church here. A larger number were present at special parties, but the majority, partly on account of the weather, slept through the change.

County Youth In Foreign Service

According to statement of the recruiting sergeant of the U. S. Army recruiting sub station in Greenville, Roy Gray Stevenson, son of W. C. Stevenson of Williamston Rt. 1, enlisted for a three year hitch with United States Army a short while ago.

Stevenson is single and assisted his father in farm work prior to his enlistment. He completed nine years of school at Jamesville, before entering service with U. S. Navy where he served for three years.

In an interview with the army recruiting sergeant, Stevenson said he liked the life in service and had felt that he wanted to continue his military career; that he wished to complete his high school while in service and travel to some of the foreign countries. He was enlisted for the First Cavalry Division November 29 and sent to Ft. Lewis, Washington, for shipment to Japan.

Johnny P. Taylor, son of R. M. Taylor, RFD 3, Greenville, North Carolina, accompanied Stevenson. Both boys enlisted for the same service and were sent to Fort Lewis together. Taylor is a farmer by occupation and a former student of Hamilton Grammar and Oak City High schools.

Martins Capture Two Loop Wins

Williamston got off to a good start in the renewal of league play by taking two games this week; defeating an outclassed Conway team 44-24 Monday night and turning back Windsor 37-31 Wednesday night. The win over Windsor brought the Martins up to third place in the Goober Belt League standings.

The local club is beginning to show the results of the players being together for a while and is gaining strength with every game. Using a deceptive and well executed ball-handling attack the Martins are gaining momentum and scoring more every game.

With every man scoring, the Martins had an easy night with Conway, Simpson, with 13 points, and White with 11, led the locals. Warren, with 12, led the Conway attack.

Wednesday night, Windsor offered more competition and kept the game in doubt until the closing minutes. Simpson, with 11, and White, with 8, again led the scoring for the locals. Roebuck played an aggressive game in the offensive court, taking rebound time and again.

County Farmer Dies Suddenly

Henry Wynne, 44 years old,

Wednesday morning, the apparent victim of a heart attack. His wife, the former Miss Annie Brown, called her husband when the baby started crying. Receiving no answer she called neighbors and they pronounced him dead.

The son of Mrs. Emma Scott Wynne Page and the late John D. Wynne, he suffered a broken leg last spring and was just beginning to get about with the aid of a stick. He lived in Williamston about a year, but had been working on a farm more recently or until he was injured in an accident.

Besides his mother, widow and one child, he is survived by one brother, Robert Wynne of Oak City and ten sisters, Mrs. Bessie Manning of Kinston, Mrs. Winnie Pearce of Franklin, Va., Mrs. Maggie Reason of Hamilton, Mrs. Bettie Hignott of Greenwood, Delaware, Mrs. Nellie Carter of Plymouth, Mrs. Pacey Haislip of Portsmouth, Mrs. Polly Lamb and Mrs. Gilbert of Elizabeth City, Mrs. Dora Stevenson of Williamston, and Mrs. Reba Mae Page of Jamesville.

Eleven Traffic Violators Fined

Eleven alleged traffic law violators were fined in a justice of the peace court here just before Christmas, according to information coming from Judge John L. Hassell who continues to receive treatment in a Washington hospital for high blood pressure.

Each of the defendants, alleged to have parked his car in or too near the highway at a garage dance hall on the old Greenville Road last month, was fined and taxed with costs in the sum of \$11, as follows: Clifton Manning, Leonard H. Leggett, Paul Van-Landingham, E. D. Peel, Elbert Tice, Dallas W. Gurganus, Sam S. Hardison, Chester B. Whitehurst, Robt. Beacham, Walter Bailey and Jesse Council. Similar charges are pending against several others, it was learned from Cpl. W. T. Simpson and Patrolman W. E. Saunders.

Discussing his plight with officers, Mr. Bailey explained that he was playing for the dance, that he received only \$4 for his service and the improper parking of his car cost him \$11.

The trial justice, leaving for the hospital before he could report the proceedings in his court, said that Levy Smith, charged with disorderly conduct, was fined \$5 and taxed with the costs. J. E. Purvis, Edward Griffin and Lawrence Wiggins, charged with the theft of fourteen bags of peanuts, were bound over to the higher court under bonds in the sum of \$300 each.

Local Boy Gets Navy Citation

John P. Critcher, Jr., USNR, son of Mr. B. A. Critcher of 111 Watts St., Williamston, N. C., has received a permanent citation for the Air Medal from Secretary of the Navy James Forrestal, for the president.

Lt. Critcher, who has been released to inactive duty, received the award for his action in aerial flight during operations against the Japanese in the Kazan Islands area.

During the war, citations were temporary, or incomplete, for security reasons.

Text of the full citation is as follows: "For meritorious achievement in aerial flight as pilot of a fighter plane in Fighting Squadron 19, attached to the USS Lexington, in action against enemy Japanese forces in the Kazan Islands area on Aug. 4, 1944. When one of our submarines was assaulted by an enemy fighter aircraft, Lt. Jg (then Ens.) Critcher instantly attacked and, firing several bursts into the Japanese plane, sent it crashing into the sea, thereby enabling the submarine to carry out its mission. His devotion to duty reflects the highest credit upon Lt. Jg (then Ens.) Critcher and the United States Naval Service."

Ahoshkie Man Purchases Interest In Grocery

Purchasing an interest in the C. O. Moore Grocery on Washington Street, Mr. Tom Parker of Ahoshkie, has entered upon his new duties here. A salesman for a leading wholesale grocery firm for a number of years, Mr. Parker will move his wife and two sons here next week.

Tuberculin Tests Aid In Combating Tuberculosis Case

Easy To Determine If TB System

If tuberculosis is ever to be eradicated, it will be by early finding of every case and by mustering all forces to arrest the disease before it can be spread to healthy persons. One of the aids the doctor has in his TB detective work is the tuberculin test. This does not tell whether a person has the disease, but it does tell whether or not TB germs have ever entered the body.

A small amount of tuberculin is injected into the skin through a tiny needle, as in a Mantoux test, or a tuberculin-treated patch is placed on the skin, as in Vollmer's patch test. If the skin at that point shows a red, raised reaction within a few days, the germs are present, either in an active or inactive form.

If a tuberculin test is positive, the doctor has an important clue with which to work. He will immediately follow up with a chest X-ray and other tests to find out whether the germs have taken hold and the disease is developing. In this way he often finds cases in the early stage when there are few outward symptoms, and when the disease can be most easily and quickly arrested.

In many instances of positive reaction to the test, the chest X-ray and other tests will be negative. This indicates there is no active TB of the lungs. However, the doctor will not relax his vigilance. TB germs do not come out of nowhere. They are passed on directly from people who have the disease. When there is a positive reaction in a healthy person, it is certain he has at some time or other come in contact with an active case of tuberculosis. The doctor will make every effort to find the sick person and urge him to undergo treatment so that his disease will no longer menace those about him.

The doctor will also advise that the person who shows a positive reaction to the tuberculin test should have chest X-rays taken at regular intervals to make sure that the germs are still under control and are doing no damage to lung tissue.

Tuberculin tests are particularly useful among school children. They are painless and easy to administer. Children of this age group do not often contract tuberculosis, but a positive reaction reveals they have been, and may still be, exposed to the disease. This frequently leads to the finding of unsuspected cases within the family circle or among other people with whom the children come in close contact.

Accepts Position With Lindsley Ice Company

P. Lynwood Taylor, experienced merchandising man and for a number of years coach of high school and college athletics, has accepted a position with the Lindsley Ice Company. Coming here from Portsmouth, Mr. Taylor will be in charge of sales, it was announced. He plans to move his family here just as soon as he can find an apartment.

All for One and One for All When Friends Go To Court

Carried into the county court last Monday for destroying property, Jake Spruill confidently pleaded guilty and William J. Keel, Henry and James Godard and Lloyd Bonner pleaded not guilty and their pleas were well supported.

After Judge Smith had sentenced Spruill to the roads for eighteen months, more of the story leaked out. Spruill, asking would it be possible for the other defendants to help serve the sentence and learning that there was no provision for such a division, broke down and told the story to Sheriff C. B. Roebuck.

"I was possibly a bit drunker than the others when we went on a rampage and broke out store windows and damaged other property in Everetts late last Saturday night," Spruill was quoted as saying. "It was agreed that since I was drunker than the others I was to plead guilty, accept all the blame, and the other four were to share equally in the fine and costs," he added.

Burns Are Fatal To Little Girl In County

Janice Gray Ward

Died In Hospital Late Last Monday

Clothing Ignited By Burning Christmas Tree Abandoned in the Yard

Janice Gray Ward, a bright little girl of five years, died in a Washington hospital at 11:25 o'clock last Monday night of burns received the Friday morning before while playing around a burned and abandoned Christmas tree in the yard of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Simon J. Ward, of near Williamston. News of her untimely and tragic death came as a great shock to members of her family and friends throughout the community.

Her clothes burned from her stomach and chest, the little girl never cried or complained. It was not until a short time before the end that she became restless, and something was given her to ward off pain, the end coming peacefully.

An older sister, Thelma, was clearing the Christmas decorations from the home, and had burned the tree in the yard. Miss Ward watched the tree burn and the fire had all gone out except possibly for a few smouldering embers around the branches. Janice's three-year-old nephew, Robert, was in the yard, and Miss Ward, calling to the children to follow her, turned and started to the house. Little Miss Janice is believed to have detected a piece of tinsel that withstood the fire and started to reach for it. Apparently she came in touch with the smouldering ember, firing her clothing near her stomach. She tried to beat it out with her hands, and one report stated that the little nephew tried to dig in the hard ground for dirt to throw on her burning clothing. When the fire had burned through the clothing she screamed and two other sisters, Miss Mary Ellen Ward and Mrs. Jack Sullivan, ran to her, Mrs. Sullivan grabbing and carrying a bathrobe with her. Both the older sisters burned their hands painfully but not badly in smothering the fire.

The little victim, bright as she could be and an idol in the home and among her friends, was carried to the hospital and received treatment within a very short time.

Born on August 8, 1941, Janice Gray had made a lot of friends, both old and young, for one her age. Occasionally she would accompany an older sister to school here and the little girl seemed to enjoy it so much, and those who saw her seemed to enjoy her presence.

Funeral services, conducted in the Macedonia church not so far from the home Wednesday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock, were attended by almost record numbers. Rev. D. W. Davis, the pastor, conducted the last rites, and interment was in the John Alfred Rev. Graves burial ground in Griffins Township.

Surviving besides her parents are two brothers, Floyd and James R. Ward, and five sisters, Mrs. Joe Melton of Farmville, Mrs. Jack Sullivan and Misses Thelma, Mary Ellen and Geraldine Ward, all of the home.

Attorney And Mayor Better

Reports reaching here Thursday afternoon stated that Mayor John L. Hassell and Attorney Wheeler Martin who entered hospitals for treatment last week are improving.

The mayor, suffering with high blood pressure, was said to be sitting up most of each day and had talked about returning home from a Washington hospital. Mr. Martin, looking decidedly better than he did when he entered a hospital in Rocky Mount the day after Christmas, was reported to be getting along very well. Mrs. Martin who has been at his bedside much of the time since he suffered a relapse, returned home Thursday afternoon.

Fix Tax Schedules For The County At Monday's Meeting

Little Change Over

Properties

The commissioners having ruled against a reevaluation of real estate, several of the county's ten township tax list-takers set up schedules for assessing personal properties at a meeting held in the courthouse with Tax Supervisor M. L. Peel this week. Little change is noted in the schedule adopted last year, except for motor vehicles.

Inventories and stocks are to be listed at two-thirds of their actual value, the officials decided. Peanuts carry a tax value of \$6 a bag, and cotton is to be placed on the books for taxation at \$100 a bale. The stable is taxable only if it has been in the producer's hands a year or more, but that produced in 1946 and now held by brokers is taxable, it was explained.

Tractors are to be valued at the rate of 60 percent of their purchase price, less annual depreciation. Tobacco trucks will carry a tax value of \$4 to \$8 each and tobacco sticks are to be listed at \$8 per thousand. Tobacco curing barn equipment will vary from \$75 for a small barn and \$100 for a large one. Lumber is to have a tax value of \$30 per 1,000 feet, and logs will be assessed at the rate of \$20 per 1,000 feet. Meat on the rack is to be listed at 15 cents a pound. A value of \$10 to \$50 is being placed on brood sows, and pigs at the rate of 15 cents per pound on the hoof. Poultry carries a flat value of \$1 per head.

No. 1 horses have a value of \$150 for tax purposes, and a No. 2 horse is to be listed at a value of \$25 to \$75. First class mules are to be listed at \$300, while others, depending on their age and condition, are to be listed at a price ranging from \$25 to \$250. The best milk cow is to be listed at \$100 and the No. 2 class at \$50 per head. Other cattle are to carry a value of \$10 to \$75. The tax value of calves is to range from \$10 to \$25. Sheep are to be listed at \$2 per head. Ordinary, common goats are to go down at \$1 while milk goats carry a value up to \$25.

The big change in the schedule is supported in the motor vehicle field by "Red Book," a national used car market report. A preliminary review of the listed values in the book shows some fairly sharp reductions in old car tax values, but new car prices hold reasonably high levels. Listings are given as far back as 1935, and for those models prior to that time the list-takers are to fix an arbitrary value.

Ford car value for taxation purposes are to be listed as follows, for a Tudor sedan: 1945 model, \$100; 1936 model, \$130; 1937 model, \$170; 1938 model, \$210; 1939 model, \$315; 1940 model, \$415; 1941 model, \$560; 1942 model, \$645. There were no models in 1943, 1944, 1945, but the 1946 model tudor sedan is to be

(Continued on page six)

Slightly Injured In Car Accident

Rev. J. Redden Everett, Robersonville minister, was painfully but not badly hurt in an automobile accident on Highway No. 125 near Hamilton last Tuesday afternoon. His car, a new Chevrolet, was badly damaged. The Baptist pastor, en route to Hamilton to conduct a funeral service, suffered cuts and a bruise on his head.

A hog ran into the road and when the car struck him it swerved to the left, went into a ditch and turned over. The minister crawled out of the car through a window, but was unable to meet his appointment. However, he resumed his ministerial duties a short time later, according to reports reaching here.

Investigating the accident, Patrolman W. E. Saunders stated that the damage to the car would approximate \$500. The animal was marked, but the owner has not been determined. A second hog was struck and killed in the highway later by Mr. L. R. Everett, but no damage was done to his car.

Guilt Shifted To Witness In Case

Claudine Sherman, colored man, was carried into the county court last Monday to answer a charge of drunken driving, and Julius "Pistol" Bell, his colored chum, was called as the main prosecuting witness. The car in which the two men were traveling, had crashed into a highway patrol car some days earlier.

Taking the stand, Bell told that Sherman came to his home early that morning, that he (Bell) cut Sherman's hair, and that Sherman wanted to borrow his car. "I lent him my car and I went along with him," Bell was quoted as saying. "It was a good story, Bell apparently realizing from the start that if Sherman's conviction failed, he would be next in line."

But Sherman did not go into court empty handed. He had witnesses of his own, and when the defense had its day in court it was proved that Bell was driving the car just a few seconds before the accident.

A warrant, charging Bell with drunken driving, was drawn by Solicitor Paul D. Roberson in open court. Bell pleaded guilty and drew a \$50 fine, the court costs and had his license to operate a motor vehicle revoked for one year. While Sherman escaped from under the drunken driving charge, Judge J. C. Smith found him guilty of being drunk while on the highway and the defendant was fined \$20 and taxed with the costs.

People Call For Amnesia Victim

Christine Armstrong, young colored woman found wandering aimlessly on the highways in this section a week ago, was returned to her people last Tuesday after a stay of three days in the county jail.

Her condition at the time she was reunited with her aunt, Emma Armstrong, of Fremont, was apparently improved, and she appeared pleased to see her aunt and uncle.

It was learned that the girl had had similar spells, that she slipped away from home on the Wednesday before to go to Norfolk to visit her mother. The suit case and other articles she carried when she left home have not been found. Where the girl spent the time from Wednesday until she was taken into custody has not been determined.

Father And Son Are Patients In Hospital

Mr. Robert Salsbury, Sr., and son, Robert, Jr., are improving in a Tarboro hospital, the father from a major operation and the son from injuries sustained in an automobile accident.