

Twenty-four Cases Tried Last Monday In County's Court

Judge J. C. Smith Imposes Fines In The Sum Of \$490.00

In a regular session lasting more than three hours, Judge Smith last Monday in the Martin County Recorder's Court called twenty-four cases and imposed fines amounting to \$490. Several defendants were sentenced to the roads and two or three cases were continued until next Monday. A fair-sized crowd heard the proceedings.

A spectator in the court was surprised when he heard his name called, but was relieved when he learned that a defendant charged with drunken driving had the same name.

Proceedings: The case charging James Albert Rider with speeding was not pressed.

Judgment was suspended upon the payment of the costs in the case charging Lee Tyner with being drunk and disorderly.

Pleading guilty in the case charging him with disorderly conduct, Anthony Lanier was fined \$10 and required to pay the costs.

Charged with non-support, Augustus James was adjudged not guilty.

The case charging Clarence B. Ayers, Jr., with drunken driving was continued for the defendant until next Monday.

Warren Jackson Riley was fined \$50, taxed with the cost and had his license revoked for one year in the case charging him with drunken driving.

Charged with drunken driving, James "Red" Reason pleaded guilty and was fined \$50, taxed with the court cost and had his driver's license revoked for one year.

Charlie Whitaker, colored, pleaded guilty when called to trial for drunken driving. He was sentenced to the roads for six months, the court suspending the sentence upon the payment of a \$100 fine and the court costs. His license to operate a motor vehicle was revoked for fifteen months and he was ordered by the court to allow no one to operate his vehicle for him. It was the second drunken driving charge brought against the defendant.

John H. Smith was charged in three cases with issuing worthless checks. He pleaded not guilty in each and was adjudged guilty in all three cases. Fines, amounting to \$65, were imposed and the defendant appealed to the higher courts. Bond in the sum of \$350 was required.

The case charging C. L. Hadley with issuing a worthless check was continued for prayer for judgment until next Monday after the defendant pleaded guilty.

Pleading guilty of drunken driving, Luther Leggett, Jr., was fined \$50, required to pay the court costs and had his operator's license revoked for one year.

Charged with assaulting his wife, was sentenced to the roads for thirty days.

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Catch Store Robber Here Tuesday Night

VICE PRESIDENT



R. H. Goodman, manager of the Albemarle (Williamston) District of the Virginia Electric and Power Company since 1932, this week was elected vice president of the company by the directors in a meeting held in New York. He will maintain headquarters here.

Memorial Fund In County Increasing

According to a report released this week by Commander John W. Hardy of the John Walton Hassell Post of the American Legion, contributions to the Martin County war Memorial Fund are still being received. "We are receiving additional donations almost daily," the commander said, quoting a report from the committee.

Several weeks ago, the committee mailed out several thousand direct letter appeals to property owners in the county, and most of the contributions are coming from that source. So far no individual memorial contributions have been received.

Commenting on the project, Commander Hardy said:

"These letters were sent with the hope that every person in Martin County would feel that they have a share in providing a means of honoring those who have made the supreme sacrifice in order that democracy might remain a way of life and not a political ideal. These boys faced their call to duty with our promise of constant support. This memorial is a small attempt to continue that promise so that those who come after us will know of our regard for their sacrifice. In a few days the amount of cash on hand and the amount pledged will be announced."

Recruiter Unit To Visit County

A special mobile unit of the Army Recruiting Service will make two stops in this county in early March, it was announced this week. The first stop will be made in Williamston on Wednesday of next week, and in Robersonville on March 10.

Sgt. Charles C. Reel of the Greenville recruiting station and a prisoner of the Japanese for forty months, will recall a few of his experiences. Young men interested in entering the service may talk over with the representatives openings in the service.

TRYING TIMES

Personal reports received in this county by individuals from relatives in London refer to trying times in the Empire capital.

Starting death by freezing almost in the face, residents there are said to have cut away and burned stair railings, smashed chairs and even picture frames to feed the fires and keep warm. "We are chopping up the piano now," a mother said in a letter to her daughter received in the county a few days ago.

Ex-Marine Denies Connection With Other Robberies

Iowa Native and Farmer of Near Here Trapped In Pittman's Store

In an exciting and daring arrest, local and county officers shortly after 8:00 o'clock last Tuesday night are believed to have solved a series of robberies which have baffled them since early last December. Trapped in Pittman's store that evening, Glenn Chase, a native of Atlantic, Iowa, and an ex-Marine corpsman, was taken into custody after playing hide and seek in the connecting stores of Pittman's and Firestone. After they got their hands on him, Chase resisted the officers and only submitted after Sheriff C. B. Roebuck planted two blows on the head with the butt end of a light pistol.

Questioned in connection with sixteen other robberies reported locally since early last December, Chase denied them. The seventeenth one, centered in Woolard's hardware store just before the arrest was made in Pittman's store, was also denied, but he finally admitted going there and taking about \$4.50 in nickels and dimes from the cash register. The man has been fingerprinted and a check is being waited from the State and Federal Bureaus of Investigation. During the meantime, the man is being held in the county jail with no preliminary hearing yet scheduled. It was learned that he had asked for no hearing and no one had visited him or offered to furnish bond.

Discussing the case yesterday, officers stated that the robberies last Tuesday evening were similar to several of those reported during the past three months, and added that they were fairly certain that Chase is the man.

When C. D. Pittman and his brother closed their jointly operated stores Tuesday evening they saw Chase sitting in his car, parked in the back lot. They thought nothing of his presence.

About two hours later C. D. Pittman returned to his clothing store, and as he entered the door he saw a man dart across the rear end and go through a connecting door into the Firestone store. The owner gave chase and the robber ran up stairs and attempted to get through the roof trap door. Pittman called the police and continued to maintain a watch. Chief C. R. Mobby answered the call and Sheriff C. B. Roebuck joined him. After checking the outside to see if the man had made an escape, the officers closed in. While the sheriff and the owner were searching behind and under counters downstairs, Chief Mobby went upstairs. As he walked by a pool table stored in the old Lotus Club, the officer was pushed aside by Chase who then turned and made a break for the steps that once led down to the front of the building and out into the street. The street entrance had been closed and an opening was made into the Firestone store at the front. Chief Mobby's loud

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Auto Parts Firm Opens Next Week

A new concern, the Welch Auto Supply Company, wholesale distributors of automotive parts and equipment, will open in Williamston, Monday, March 3rd. This new enterprise will be located, until the operators can construct their own building, in the Louis Cocker building recently constructed on the Everetts highway near the county home.

The business is owned and will be operated by Messrs. R. L. Welch and H. M. Browning. Mr. Welch formerly served with the United Motors Service Division of General Motors. To celebrate their opening the management will have a free motion picture at the Williamston high school gym Monday night, March 3, at 8 o'clock.

Red Cross Drive Plans Completed In Local Chapter

Several Hundred Dollars Already Received From Special Donors

Plans were announced virtually completed today for launching the annual Red Cross drive in the five townships—Jamesville, Williams, Griffins, Bear Grass and Williamston—comprising the Martin County chapter, the early part of next week. Fund Drive Chairman Claude B. Clark, Jr., stated that chairmen had accepted their tasks in most of the districts, and that the canvass would be planned among the colored citizens at a district meeting of teachers here next week.

Mrs. R. J. Hardison will head the \$40 canvass in Williams. Mrs. J. Eason Lilley is again working in Griffins where \$225 is to be raised. No chairmen have been named for Bear Grass and Jamesville, but the fund head expressed the belief that the people there will measure up to expectations and meet the challenge.

Ministers are being asked to urge support for the drive from their pulpits this Sunday. Others are being asked to get behind the drive and help push it to its \$2,500 goal in a short time.

Plans for the drive are not quite complete in this district, but the chairman announced that \$350 had already been contributed by special donors, as follows:

Dr. John D. Biggs, \$15; Standard Fertilizer Co., \$15; Williamson Package Manufacturing Co., \$15; Welles-Oates Lumber Co., \$15; Guaranty Bank and Trust Co., \$15; Branch Bank and Trust Co., \$15; Williamson Motor Co., \$15; Williamson Peanut Co., \$15; Williamston Supply Co., \$15; Roanoke Chevrolet Co., \$15; Dixie Motor Co., \$15; Chas. H. Jenkins Motor Co., \$15; W. I. Skinner Tobacco Co., \$25; King Tobacco Co., \$25; Harrison Oil Co., \$15; Martin-Elliott Co., \$15; W. G. Peef, \$15; Lindsley Ice Co., \$15; Martin County Building and Loan, \$15; Woolard Furniture Co., \$15; J. Paul Simpson, \$15. The special solicitations were handled by N. C. Green, Garland Woolard and Paul Simpson, the fund chairman announced.

Elect R. H. Goodman VEP Vice President

Southern Division Head To Maintain His Offices Here

Succeeds Jos. T. Chase Who Is Retiring After Long Service Period

R. H. Goodman, manager of the Williamston district of the Virginia Electric and Power Company with offices here since 1932, was elected vice president of the company by the board of directors in a meeting held recently in New York, the promotion climaxing a long period of able service with the VEP Company. Succeeding Mr. Jos. T. Chase, the grand old man under whose guidance the company's operations were greatly expanded in North Carolina during the past quarter century, Mr. Goodman started with VEPCO twenty years ago as a recruit in the engineering division. His first work centered on the construction of a 33,000 volt transmission line from Boykin to Lewiston, a project marking the real beginning of the company's expansion program in North Carolina.

Completing his rudimentary training in that department, he was promoted to sales manager for the Roanoke Rapids District, and was transferred to Williamston on October 1, 1932, to manage the company's newly created district, a position he held until his big promotion this week. His work as manager here attracted attention throughout the entire system of the company where he soon became known as one of its youngest and most popular executives.

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List Hybrid Seed Corn Suitable To Soils In County

Not All Hybrid Types Suitable To Soils In County, Agent Says

By J. W. SUMNER Assistant Martin County Agent

Hybrid corn is a new development and consequently there is an ever increasing demand for information on what hybrid corn is and how it is produced. Possibly the simplest way to give a general idea of what hybrid corn is, is to compare it to the mule. A mule is the first generation hybrid between the mare and the ass, and partakes of the better quality of both parents. A corn hybrid is the first generation hybrid between two strains of corn. Its value is for seed in the production of a crop of commercial corn. This corn will grow, but cannot be used for seed without a loss in yield in the succeeding generations. A corn hybrid, then, like a mule, must be produced anew each generation for its value in itself, not for reproduction. During that generation good hybrids produce larger acre yields of high quality corn than do the best commercial varieties. Finally, neither all mules nor all corn hybrids are efficient.

Hybrid seed is produced for commercial use by growing rows of two parents in an isolated field and detasseling the plants of the female parent. From 2 to 4 rows of the female parent are planted to every row of male parent.

During blossoming time the field is gone over at regular intervals, and all the tassels are pulled from the female parent plants before they shed pollen. The seed are saved from the female plant only.

Hybrid corn produces its larger acre yield to a considerable extent because all of the plants do their part. There are very few barren plants in a field of hybrid corn, and a much smaller percentage of nubbins. This not only increases the yield but also the ease of harvesting. The trouble of harvesting hybrid corn is still further reduced by its ability to stand up better. Hybrids also

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Plan Organization To Promote Exportation Of Leaf Tobaccos

Ragland Loses Appeal To The State Supreme Court

The verdict handed down by the jury and the death sentence imposed by Judge Henry Stevens at the last November term were upheld by the North Carolina Supreme Court this week and Otis Ragland, young Granville County Negro, will go to his death in the State Prison chamber on Friday, March 14 unless Governor R. Gregg Cherry intervenes in the condemned man's behalf.

Reviewing the case only a short time ago, the court found there had been no error in the trial proceedings, and apparently recognized all the evidence offered by the prosecution without question.

Justice E. B. Denny wrote the opinion which ruled there was no error and that Ragland had no just claim for a new trial.

Breaking out of the Martin County prison camp on last November 8 along with seven other long-term prisoners, Ragland five days later criminally assaulted Mrs. Floyd Moore at her home in Williams Township. He was arrested a few hours later by a posse headed by officers, deputies and members of the highway patrol.

All but two of the prisoners escaping with Ragland from the camp have been recaptured, most of them now being held in shackles at the camp near here.

Ask Improvement In Lunch Room Project

COMMISSIONERS Officials Review Health Programs To Aid Children

P-T. A. Delegation Named To Appeal For Better Conditions

The regular meeting of the local Parent-Teacher Association in the grammar school last Monday evening heard a review of the health program advanced, at least in theory, in the county schools. Following brief talks by John Williams, county health officer, and W. B. Gaylord, Jr., county sanitarian, the meeting conducted a meaningful discussion and roundly attacked deplorable conditions prevailing in the local high school lunch room. A delegation is to appeal to the Martin County Board of Education at the April meeting and urge that conditions be remedied.

Offering the treasurer's report, Miss Mary Whitley stated that the treasury was holding its own with \$18.50 in hand. Making a progress report, Committee Chairman John Henry Edwards explained there had been none, but hoped developments would follow. The association now has 427 members, four having joined since the last report, Mrs. I. M. Margolis, chairman, announced.

A fairly encouraging picture of the health program scheduled in the schools was painted by Dr. Williams, who admitted that for one reason or another its execution was slightly behind schedule.

Pointing out that he had found a well-organized and well-staffed department when he returned to the county about six years ago, the health official explained that nearly everything had happened since that time to interrupt the program. "A nurse broke her nose, and that was the first in many obstacles the department has encountered," the officer said.

After discussing briefly the treatment of social diseases and how the cases were handled, Dr. Williams told about the movement to correct as many as possible remedial defects in children before they entered school. "We examine the pre-school child, suggest treatment and follow the

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Minor Fire In Peanut Factory

Believed to have started from a spark blown into a shaft opening from the smokestack, fire did minor damage to the third and fourth floors of the Dixie Peanut Company plant on the Washington Road here about 11:30 Wednesday night. No official estimate of the damage could be had immediately, but one report stated that it would not exceed \$100.

Employees, making a regular inspection, discovered the fire in its early stage and almost brought it under control by the time firemen reached the plant. A small hose line was brought into use and the fire was checked by the time it had burned small holes in the flooring. Operations of the plant were not interrupted.

Local firemen were called out for the third time this week at 2:45 Thursday afternoon when sparks from burning grass fired the garage roof of Joe Ggdard on Marshall Avenue. Very little damage was done.

Tenant House Is Damaged By Fire

Considerable damage, possibly exceeding \$350, was done by fire to a tenant house and contents on the farm of Mrs. Mamie Roberson in Bear Grass last Saturday morning.

The occupants had removed a heater in one room and plugged the hole in the chimney with a sack, locating a wardrobe where the heater once stood. That morning the occupants started a fire in the kitchen stove, and the wind blew sparks against the sack and fired it and the wardrobe. The attention of the family was attracted to the room a short time later when burning bullets started popping. They managed to confine the fire to the one room.

Members of the family lost all their wearing apparel except the few work clothes they were wearing at the time.

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LUCKY

Losing his pocket book containing several hundred dollars while going from his filling station to his home late last Monday night, Jack Dixon was greatly disturbed when he discovered the loss the next morning and could find no trace of the wallet.

During the meantime, Herman Williams of near Everetts had found the pocket book and returned it and the contents intact when he contacted Dixon later in the day Tuesday.

County's Farmers Asked To Donate Some Over \$1,000

Proposal Will Be Discussed At Farm Bureau Meeting Here Friday Night

The flue-cured tobacco belt threatened economically by declining export markets predicted in high places, farmers, warehousemen, bankers and other business men in several states are proposing the formation of an organization to "promote the exportation of leaf tobaccos and tobacco products."

At a called meeting of the Martin County Farm Bureau in the courthouse here Friday night of this week at 7:30 o'clock, the proposal will be discussed. If its need is recognized, plans will be made to raise \$1,083.62, Martin County's share of the cost in supporting the organization for one year.

In addition to the discussion of the proposal to perfect the organization, the meeting will hear a report from the Farm Bureau delegates to the State convention held in Asheville a few weeks ago.

Announcing the meeting, Chas. L. Daniel, president of the Martin County Farm Bureau, said, "In the interest of the tobacco growers, I make a definite appeal to farmers and business men to attend the meeting."

Mr. Daniel added, "This meeting is to give consideration to the development of a program for dealing with the tobacco situation in foreign countries. As you know, the flue-cured tobacco growers are dependent upon this outlet for approximately 50 percent of their production. The outlook today, based on the best information available, is not too bright, and it is the considered judgment of many of the tobaccoists, along with the leading farmers, that we have a definite responsibility in trying to protect our interests under the recent Trade Agreement Laws to the fullest extent. Unless this can be done, our export outlets will soon begin to diminish and that will necessarily reduce the amount of tobacco that we can grow in this county."

It has been pointed out by leaders of the movement that \$100,000 will be needed to support the program, that dealers are being asked to raise \$15,000; bankers, \$5,000; merchants and fertilizer dealers, \$10,000; warehousemen, \$20,000, and farmers in the entire belt, \$50,000.

A statement from the State Farm Bureau office, reads, in part, as follows: "It is proposed to form a non-profit organization."

Fire Sweeps Over Fairground Field

Its origin not definitely known, fire swept over the grass field in the old fair ground property at West End shortly after 3:00 o'clock Tuesday afternoon, damaging building materials placed on lots there and threatening homes in the new development. Some lumber was slightly burned and a few asphalt shingles were damaged.

Local volunteer firemen were called and by the time they reached there, the fire was sweeping across the field, sending blinding smoke across Highway 64. Fence posts were fired and wood on several individual woodpiles caught fire.

Brother Of Mrs. White Passes In Hospital

Robert W. Hodges, prominent Washington business man and brother of Mrs. Arthur R. White of Williamston, died in a Richmond hospital Tuesday night following a long period of declining health. He was 57 years of age.

Funeral services were conducted at the late home in Washington Thursday morning and interment was in Oakdale Cemetery there.

Local Man Improving In Durham Hospital

Undergoing an operation for a broken hip in Duke Hospital last week, Mr. Wilson G. Lamb was reported yesterday to be improving very satisfactorily.