

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

Total Of \$215 In Fines Imposed At Regular Session Last Monday

Judge J. C. Smith and Solicitor Paul D. Roberson handed sixteen cases in the county's recorder's court last Monday when fines in the amount of \$215 were imposed. The per case revenue, while not to be associated with justice, is dropping from those hey days when fines, costs and forfeitures pushed close to \$800 or \$1,000 at a single session. The seasonal slump is taking hold or a recession is hornoring its way into the law violators' economy. The session, witnessed by a small crowd, lasted until about 12:30.

Proceedings: The case charging Barney Conway with speeding was not pressed.

Lu Davenport, charged with an assault and resisting arrest, was adjudged not guilty on the second count, but was fined \$25 and taxed with the cost on the first charge to which he pleaded guilty.

Fred Daley, charged with being drunk and disorderly, was fined \$25 and required to pay the costs.

Charged with an assault with a deadly weapon, William Henry Williams pleaded not guilty. Adjudged guilty he was sentenced to the roads for thirty days, the court suspending the road term upon the payment of a \$25 fine and the case costs and on the further condition that he violate no criminal law during a one-year suspension period.

The case charging Noah F. Cotanch with an assault with a deadly weapon was not pressed.

Rodman R. Cunningham, a Virginia man, pleaded guilty when he was arraigned on a drunken driving charge and was fined \$50 and taxed with the costs. His license to operate a motor vehicle was revoked for one year.

James Jackson was fined \$20 and required to pay the costs in the case charging him with speeding.

Charged with an assault with a deadly weapon, Clara Mitchell pleaded not guilty. The court adjudged her guilty of simple assault and suspended judgment upon the payment of the costs.

Robert Andrews, Jr., was fined \$25 and required to pay the costs for operating a motor vehicle with improper brakes and speeding. It was recommended that his driver's license be suspended for sixty days. Andrews pleaded not guilty in the case.

Finding that the defendant had been convicted of failure to stop at an intersection and the case had been continued under prayer for judgment, the court suspended judgment upon the payment of the cost in the action charging Mary E. Reed with reckless driving.

Anthony Lanier, colored man who plowed into a funeral procession several weeks ago, injuring Undertaker S. R. Biggs and Rev. John L. Goff, was fined \$45 and taxed with the cost in the case charging him with reckless driving, operating a motor vehicle with improper brakes and without a driver's license. It appeared to the court that the defendant had made full restitution to the injured parties and accepted property damages amounting to an estimated \$700 or more.

Charged with assaulting a female (Continued on page six)

BUDGET

Meeting in special session on Friday of this week, the Martin County Commissioners are almost certain to spend a greater part of the day studying budget figures for the 1947-48 fiscal year.

No figures have been released, but it is thought possible that despite increased costs in some departments, the tax rate for 1947-48 will remain at about \$1.05 on the \$100 assessed property valuation. The rate will not be formally fixed until an estimate is submitted for public inspection.

Company Ready To Switch To Dial Service Thursday

Representatives of the Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company explained today that everything was in readiness to switch the local exchange from the common battery to the automatic dial system Thursday evening at 10:00 o'clock. Only a few seconds will be required to make the change, it was explained. Subscribers, using their telephones shortly after that time, will hear the dial tone instead of an operator's voice. The subscriber, upon hearing the dial tone, will then remove the circular cardboard covering from the dial and manipulate the gadget in accordance with instructions.

A program, more or less informal, is being arranged to mark the progressive advancement in this section's telephone communications. Representatives of the company are expected for the event, along with about as many visitors as the office will accommodate. Manager Thornton explaining that the company would

BACK IN STYLE

Worthless checks, appearing just now and then during the past several years, are coming back in style, according to reports coming from the sheriff's office and several of the police departments in this county.

Robersonville police have been working on such cases fairly regularly for some weeks. More recently, the worthless instruments started making their appearance in greater numbers here and in other sections. Approximately one dozen worthless checks, ranging in size up to about \$100, were placed in the hands of officers last week-end.

Stops At Best Hotels On Tour

Making an extensive tour of Arkansas, Mississippi, Alabama, and Texas recently with his daughter and son-in-law, Mr. Sid Mobley, local man, informed friends that he stopped at nearly every one of the best hotels on the long route through the four states. He then explained, "We stopped in front and viewed the big shots' quarters with amazement."

"Quite a few people down Texas way said they had never heard of eastern Carolina," Mr. Mobley explained. "The next day they read accounts of the doings in Northampton County and had something to say about it. I asked them, 'How long has it been since you stopped hanging horse thieves in Texas?' and they shut right up."

"Florida hasn't got a thing Texas hasn't got, and I'd rather live in Texas," the traveler said, adding that if he were looking for a wife he would not go to Alabama, and explained, "They are too big and eat too much."

Justice Hassell Has Nine Cases

Justice John L. Hassell handled nine cases in his court here during the past few days. Most of the defendants carried before the justice were charged with public drunkenness and disorderly conduct.

Henry Wayne Whitley, Jr., charged with attempting to pass a school bus, was fined \$10 and taxed with \$6.50 costs.

Cecil Allen, George Bonds, Willie Bonds, William Lanier, Willie Wright, all charged with public drunkenness and disorderly conduct were each required to pay a \$5 fine and \$8.50 trial costs.

Moses Staton, drunk and down, was fined \$5 and required to pay \$9.50 costs.

William Jones and R. P. Hancock, charged with being drunk and down, were fined \$5 and required to pay \$8.50 costs each.

like to have all interested persons attend, but that the office accommodates only a limited number. Open house will be announced later for the general public.

In inaugurating the improved system, the company is asking its patrons to rely strictly on the telephone directory and follow the instructions carefully. The mechanism connects the caller with the number called, meaning that if one guesses at a number and he is wrong that he will get a wrong number.

Three emergency numbers are listed locally, including the fire department, 2111; police department, 2124; and State Highway Patrol, 2250. In other cases of emergency, including calls for reporting equipment troubles and for long distance service the subscriber will dial the figure "0".

The accuracy of the automatic system has been tested and found all right. Now, it is up to the subscriber to make it work perfectly by observing the rules and regulations.

1947 Combine And Thresher Permits

Operators of combines and threshing machines are reminded that they are required to obtain permits to operate their machines in North Carolina. The permits to be obtained through the Register of Deeds Office in each county of the State. There is rarely any charge for these permits, although handy daily record books are provided along with forms on which to report the acreage threshed and bushels obtained from this acreage.

Farmers and businessmen need information resulting from these records to make their plans for better and safer farming. Also, county agricultural leaders need county totals and averages for their general program planning. The State Threshers' Law is the means for getting such information on small grains.

The purpose of this law is for information and not for revenue. It seeks cooperative aid and interest and not compulsion or resentment. Reliable plans must be developed from information originating at the farm; thus, the threshers' records provide the best basis for county grain statistics for program planning usage. The source and usage is within the county itself. Operators must obtain from the Register of Deeds: (1) Permit or license card; (2) Daily record book; and (3) Report blanks upon which to report their entire operations for the season. Private and public machines, alike, are no exception or exemption, even for those outside the State if they operate inside North Carolina.

HURT IN ACCIDENT

M. Luther Peel, county tax collector, was painfully but not seriously hurt Wednesday afternoon when a pair of mules, hitched to a farm implement, ran away. His leg was almost cut to the bone, but he is expected to hobble around shortly.

THE RECORD SPEAKS . . .

Motorists on Martin County highways continue to improve their safety record over that of a year ago, but the record is still far from perfect. Marked improvement has been made in holding down the number injured, the records showing they had been halved this year as compared with the record for the first 22 weeks in 1945. And the property damage is less, too.

Comparisons To Date			
1947	4	1	0
1946	4	7	1
1947	56	28	3
1946	65	56	3

Twenty-Three Get Marriage Licenses In Martin County

Issuance For Last Month Is Slightly Larger Than Average For May

Twenty-three marriage licenses were issued in this county during the month of May by the office of Register J. Sam Getsinger. The issuance for the period is slightly larger than the average for May over a 15-year period.

Licenses were issued, eight to white and fifteen to colored couples, as follows:

- White**
- Leslie Thurston Fowden and Eunice F. Buflap, both of Williamston.
 - Archie Mizelle and Fannie Hardison, both of RFD 2, Williamston.
 - Charles Hubert Haislip of Jamesville and Madie Marie Phelps of Plymouth.
 - Leslie W. Manning, RFD 1, Williamston, and Doris Modlin of Jamesville.
 - Mills H. Ayers of Hassell and Nellie Hopewell of Bethel.
 - Thomas Collins Cooper and Annie Lee Spoon, both of Windsor.
 - Bernis E. Shaw and Betty Lou Knox, both of Norfolk.

- Colored**
- Charles A. Bennett, RFD 3, Williamston, and Elizabeth Rollins of Robersonville.
 - Clarence Bowen and Norma Reddick, both of Williamston.
 - George Williams Lee and Lula Mae Brown, both of Williamston.
 - William R. Bryant, RFD 1, Palmyra, and Helen Lynch, RFD 1, Oak City.
 - Willie Briley and Sadie Askew, both of Robersonville.
 - Neal Coburn and Louise Jenkins, both of Robersonville.
 - Jesse T. Bond and Pearl Parker, both of RFD 4, Windsor.
 - Roy Lee Hyman and Lucy Gray Knight, both of Palmyra.
 - James Luther Speller and Ruth Hazel Knight, both of Williamston.
 - Richard Junior Sharp of Robersonville and Alice Marie Bradley of Williamston.
 - James Edward Lawrence of Hamilton and Sophronia Coffield of Williamston.
 - Monnie Whitthurst, Jr., and Bessie Pierce, both of RFD 1, Jamesville.
 - Elbert Mitchell and Mary Louise Bryant, both of Williamston.

Three Girls From County Graduate

Among the 413 seniors who were graduated from the Woman's College of the University of North Carolina Monday morning, June 2, were three students from Martin County.

Graduates from this county and their records are as follows:

Miss Emma Lou Taylor, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. G. Taylor, Route 3, Williamston, received a bachelor of arts degree in primary education. This year she was hall representative and marshal for the Cornelian Society and a member of May Court, in addition to being dance chairman for her class, member of Hall Board, and the Education Club. Last year she was a member of Botany Club, the Y. W. C. A. and was floor leader for the College Service League. Miss Taylor was a member of Daisy Chain her sophomore year.

Miss Grace Brewer, daughter of Mrs. Gladys A. Brewer, of Jamesville, was awarded a bachelor of science degree in home economics, majoring in foods and nutrition. She has been a member of Adelpian Society, Home Economics Club, Play-Likers and Masqueraders, Chemistry Club, Omicron Nu (honor home economics fraternity), and a hall basketball team. Miss Brewer was hall leader for the College Service League this year, a hall proctor two years ago, and has also been named to Dean's List and Honor Roll.

Mrs. Mildred Carson Garner, of Robersonville, will receive a bachelor of science degree in secretarial administration. She has been a member of the Adelpian Society and Gamma Alpha, business club.

Committeemen To Measure Tobacco Lands In County

Excess Plantings Certain To Prove Costly To The Growers This Year

Following a meeting in the agricultural building Tuesday, Triple A Community Committeemen started measuring tobacco lands in some areas Wednesday, reports stating that the task will be completed as soon as possible throughout the county. The work will be handled mainly by the committeemen, but they are at liberty to call in helpers. The committeemen, however, are being held responsible for the measurements which are subject to verification.

The "surveyors" or checkers are being allowed \$3 cents an acre for the work or \$1 for small farms where the acreage is 4.4 acres or less. Excess plantings are certain to prove costly to growers this year. The excess plantings are subject to a 19-cent per pound penalty, and where the acreage is in excess the farmer forfeits his right to participate in the benefits provided by Tobacco Cooperative Stabilization Corporation. The grower whose acreage is in excess of the allotment will not be allowed to destroy the excess to avoid the penalty and qualify for the stabilization corporation's benefits, it was learned.

The following committeemen will handle the measurements in the designated districts:

- Bear Grass: H. G. Harrison, T. L. Roberson, E. C. Harrison, Wheeler Rogerson and H. U. Peel.
- Cross Roads: H. L. Roebuck, G. H. Forbes, J. F. Bailey, W. L. Ausborn and J. M. Griffin.
- Goose Nest No. 1: H. A. Early, M. E. Hyman, H. R. Smith, Jr., and J. L. Mizell.
- Goose Nest No. 2: Jack Smith, N. L. Hyman, Minton Beach, R. A. Haislip, and N. W. Johnson.
- Griffins: Clarence Gurkin, Oscar B. Roberson, J. R. P. Griffin, John A. Griffin, James B. Harrington.
- Hamilton: Jesse B. Everett, D. R. Edmondson, J. H. Lillard, Geo. S. Haislip, and C. L. Nelson.
- Jamesville No. 1: Herbert Sexton, Howard Hardison, Arthur Modlin, Carl Griffin, and Clarence Barber.
- Jamesville No. 2: Roland G. Coburn, Leo R. Gardner, David Ange and Chas. G. Gurkin.
- Robersonville No. 1: R. S. Everett, J. R. Daniels, S. T. Everett, Thos. L. Roebuck, and Lester House.
- Robersonville No. 2: Cecil Powell, C. L. Keel, H. H. Roberson, D. O. Weaver and Johnnie H. Ross.
- Williams: C. L. Daniel, R. J. (Continued on page three)

Justice R. T. Johnson handled two cases in his court this week. Columbus Sheppard, charged with breaking and entering the home of Dan Jones and the larceny of a silver dollar, wrist watch and other articles, waived preliminary examination and was bound over to the superior court under bond in the sum of \$100.

Charged with issuing a worthless check, Joe Mobley was sentenced to the roads for thirty days. He appealed to the county court and bond was arranged in the sum of \$200. At a previous trial, judgment was suspended on condition that Mobley pay the trial costs and make good the check. Failing to comply with the judgment he was brought into court again.

Justice Johnson Hears Two Cases

RAINFALL

While May seemed to be an unusually dry month, precipitation was just a little over one-half inch below the average recorded for the particular period over the past ten years. A total of 2.35 inches of rain fell at this point last month, the keeper of the gauge, Hugh Spruill, stating that eleven rains were recorded along with four traces during the period. None of the rains exceeded one-half inch, and one measured only .01 of an inch.

Heavy rains fell in May of last year, followed by over six inches in June, but in May, 1945, less than one and one-half inches fell here, and the fall in the previous months was far below average.

Announce Meeting At Church Near Palmyra

The Rev. Mr. Charles Jones will conduct a series of revival services in the Williams Chapel Methodist Church near Palmyra beginning Sunday evening at 8:00 o'clock. Services will be held at that hour each evening through Friday, it was announced. The pastor, Rev. W. M. Warren, of Scotland Neck, will assist the visiting minister and the public is invited to attend.

No Developments In Local Assault Case

Special Agent Is Assisting Police And Sheriff Here

Victims Are Interviewed And Fifteenth Suspect In Case Questioned

While no new developments have been reported, local police and the sheriff's department with the assistance of Special Agent Guy L. Scott of the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation are still working night and day to establish a lead in the Corey attack case here. Whether the officers have made progress in the case could not be learned, but it was established that fifteenth suspect had been questioned, and certain that others will be questioned in connection with the attack.

Assigned to the case after Mr. J. Edward Corey, local warehouseman and father of Miss Louise Corey who was attacked but not badly hurt, appealed to the governor for aid, Agent Scott reached here Wednesday afternoon and immediately started work with local officers and the sheriff's department. The main victim of the attack, Miss Corey who was grabbed around the neck and slapped when she screamed, and her companion, Miss Bettie Rhodes Taylor, were interviewed by the special agent, and it was learned that the two gave identical and fairly complete descriptions of their attacker. Other witnesses, including Mr. and Mrs. George Lee, Mrs. Durham, and H. O. Peel, were also interviewed.

It could not be learned how long the special agent is to remain here, but with most of the ground work laid in the case, a turning point is to be expected one way or the other within a reasonable time.

According to unofficial information it has been established that others, including a white couple parked in a car near the warehouse, may be able to throw some light on the case. Officers would not discuss developments, if any, in that connection. And it could not be learned if any of three colored men known to have been sitting on the front steps of a warehouse just prior to the attack had been questioned. It is believed that much attention is being given to that angle of the case with the possibility that a new lead can be established.

It was planned to ask the victims of the attack to visit clothing stores and pick out wearing apparel similar to that worn by the attacker at 11:30 o'clock last Saturday night when the two young girls were subjected to his heinous insult on South Houghton Street while they were on their way home from the movies.

Pointing out that he was satisfied that local officers had done all that possibly could be done by them, the father of Miss Corey, appraised of the successful work special agents had handled in rounding up alleged white mobsters (Continued on page eight)

Surviving are a daughter, Mrs. Annie Mizelle; a brother, Mack Bailey of Tarboro, and six grandchildren.

Mrs. Briley Died In Bethel Friday

Mrs. Maggie Briley, widow of Watson Briley, died of a heart attack at the home of a daughter, Mrs. Louis Dail, in Bethel, last Friday night. Mrs. Briley was 79 years old.

Funeral services were held at the Hickory Grove Baptist Church Sunday at 3 p. m., with the pastor, Rev. D. W. Alexander officiating. Interment was made in the Bethel cemetery. Surviving are five sons, William, E. B. and J. B. Briley of Bethel, and G. B. and Gus Briley of Greenville; eight daughters, Mrs. Louis Dail, Mrs. Elmer Bland and Mrs. Fred Boyette of Bethel, Mrs. Raymond Lee, Mrs. Henry Lee and Mrs. J. J. Farmer of Williamston, and Mrs. W. D. Cratt and Mrs. H. L. Winberry of Robersonville; 44 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Dry - Cool Weather Retarding Tobacco

Cool-dry weather is retarding the tobacco crop in this section. Relief came for some sections when rain fell earlier this week, but 50-degree weather Wednesday night partly offset the relief from the drought.

MINISTER



Rev. Cyrus W. Bazemore, native of Bertie and a former local resident, will conduct a series of religious services in the West End Baptist Church here, beginning next Monday evening. Services will be held at 8:00 o'clock p. m. during the week.

Bailey Funeral Held Wednesday

Funeral services were conducted at 3:00 o'clock Wednesday afternoon at the late home for Mr. John Thomas Bailey who died following a long period of declining health there last Monday evening at 7:15 o'clock. Elder B. S. Cowin, assisted by Rev. D. W. Davis, conducted the last rites and burial was in the Mobley Cemetery in Bear Grass Township.

Suffering a stroke of paralysis about five years ago, Mr. Bailey had been in declining health since that time. He was an invalid for twenty-two months, and his condition was critical for almost three weeks.

The son of the late Daniel and Louise Roberson Bailey, he was born near Williamston 79 years ago the 9th of next August. Except for two years spent in Halifax County when he was a young man he lived and farmed near Williamston all his life. Years ago he joined the church at Christian Chapel, but moved his membership to the Roberson's Chapel Presbyterian Church nearer his home a few years ago. He was a respected citizen, and suffered his affliction without complaint.

When a young man he was married to Miss Armanda Moore of Pitt County. She died last December.

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People Of Rich Square Weary Of Sex Crime Wave

Nineteen Sex Crimes Reported In That Section In Three Months

In an interview with a reporter on the Hertford County Herald this week, a Rich Square officer discussed the recent trend in crime, the reaction to it in the Northampton County section, and declared that the "people were at their patience's end with regard to the series of sex crimes that have plagued the area for three months."

The interview reads: Police Chief Frank Outland, a veteran of 16 years standing in Northampton County police circles, but still a young man in spite of his experience, said Sunday in an interview that he was at his wits end, just as the people of the Rich Square community were at their patience's end with regard to the series of sex crimes that have plagued this rich little farm town for the past three months.

The town's people, not used to the high pressure and blaring head line methods of big city newspapering, are filled with resentment over the many rude and cutting things that have been spread across the nation since the now infamous "Buddy" Bush case broke more than a week ago, Outland stated.

"I am not in favor of lynching and have never forgotten my duty to a prisoner," the chief went on, "but I can certainly appreciate the sentiments of local people, who are among the world's most law abiding, when they are maligned as a group for the mistakes of a few."

"Another factor not taken in consideration by the outsider, Outland asserted, is the fact that 19 sex crimes, including one of the most brutal and premeditated rapes on record, three attempted rapes and 15 instances of "peeping toms" have occurred in the Rich Square area in the past three months—an average of well over one per week."

"The better class Negro citizens of our area, which includes the great majority—have asked me to help them and have offered their help to stop this wave of sex crimes, before some innocent people 'really get hurt,'" Outland continued.

"Some of this crime may be due to the Negro men who mixed with white women in Europe while they were members of the armed forces, some of it is no doubt due to the spreading of vicious and lewd pictures of white women by the lowest dregs of white society, but no matter what the cause may be, I beg every responsible citizen, white and colored, all the newspapers and the radio to do their very best to stop this thing before it 'really hurts a lot of people,'" the chief went on.

"Because of rather than in spite of the gravity of a lynch attempt, I want to make the position of the people of Rich Square as clear to the outside as is possible," the chief declared.

"This series of events is the first semi-connected bunch of this type crimes that I have been confronted with in my 16 years as a law enforcement officer in Northampton county and I surely hope it is the last," Outland assured listeners.

"A week before the vicious and premeditated attack of April 25th, two Negro men cut two of the screens in the home of a well known Rich Square woman and (Continued on page six)

BIG BUSINESS

Opening the season last Tuesday afternoon, Williamston's municipal swimming pool handled an unusually large business. There were 142 10-cent and 123 5-cent admissions the first day, the management adding that eleven season tickets were sold at \$4 each.

Cooler weather Wednesday cut down the volume of business to some extent, but even then the pool was fairly crowded in the afternoon.