

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

### Fines Assessed In The Sum Of \$110 at Regular Session Monday

Holding forth hardly more than two hours, Judge J. C. Smith and Solicitor Paul D. Roberson last Monday handled eleven cases in the Martin County Recorder's Court, the jurist assessing fines in the amount of \$110 and meting out road sentences ranging up to nine months. No session of the court will be held next Monday, Judge Smith and Solicitor Roberson retiring in favor of Judge Paul Frizzelle and his "big" court. The county court will resume its activities on Monday, June 23.

Proceedings: His case having been continued under prayer for judgment at a previous session, Joe Bellamy, charged with operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license, was sentenced to jail for thirty days, the court suspending the jail term upon the payment of the costs. The court recommended that the defendant be issued no driver's license for six months.

Pleading guilty in the case charging him with operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license, Andrew Hardison was fined \$25 and taxed with the costs. It was recommended that no license be issued the defendant for six months.

Charged with an assault on a female and bastardy, Oscar Whitley pleaded guilty and was sentenced to the roads for sixty days. The road term was suspended upon the payment of a \$25 fine and the costs and on the further condition that he remain away from Maggie Wilson and not violate any criminal law for one year. The defendant admitted paternity of a child, Johnnie Whitley, begotten on the body of Maggie Wilson, but proved to the court that he was contributing adequate support for the child at the present time.

Charged with an assault with a deadly weapon, Maggie Wilson pleaded guilty, and the court suspended judgment upon the payment of the trial costs.

Ben Celmons was found not guilty in the case charging him with non-support.

The case charging Joe Mobley with issuing a worthless check, and Joe Allbrooks with failure to give an auto title, were both nol prossed.

Probable cause of guilty was found in the case charging Walter Webb with larceny and receiving, and his case was sent to the superior court for trial next week with the defendant under bond in the sum of \$100.

Charged with being drunk on the highway, Sidney Speller pleaded not guilty. Adjudged guilty he was fined \$10 and taxed with the costs.

Rhodes Bud Speller pleaded not guilty in the case in which he was charged with drunken driving. He was adjudged guilty and fined \$50 and required to pay the trial costs. His license to operate a

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### HOME AGAIN

Rendered completely helpless by infantile paralysis, Master Wade Coltrain, six-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Coltrain of this county, returned home early this week after a stay of ten months and ten days in a hospital at Gastonia.

Bright as a new silver dollar, the little fellow had staged a wonderful come-back, and is able to be about with the aid of crutches which he hopes to discard in time. Outgrowing the clothes he wore when the disease attacked his little body and left his legs lifeless and his arms almost useless, Wade said they treaded him fine at the hospital, but there's little doubt but what he was glad to get back home. And the radiant smile on the little fellow's face was enough to recompense everybody for every cent ever contributed or ever will be contributed to the Infantile Paralysis Fund.

## Chief and Traffic Directors on the Long Lines



Pictured above are, left to right, Miss B. Cherry and Mrs. Lillian Gurganus, supervisors; Miss Helen Stapleford, of New Bern, traffic supervisor; Carter Darrow, traffic manager; Mrs. Lucy Mobley, chief operator; Mrs. Naomi Leggett, and Mrs. Margaret Cone, traffic supervisor of Rocky Mount, who direct traffic on the long distance lines for the Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company. Really, they are the chief and the cops who steer and keep traffic moving, be it headed for a station near home or in Kalamazoo. The picture, one of Buggs Barringer's finest, was taken on the evening of June 5 when the company switched without a hitch from a weary manual to the latest in dial or automatic systems.

## Native Of County Died Tuesday At Home In Florida

### Funeral Wednesday Afternoon for Mrs. N. T. Riddick in Gainesville

Mrs. Noah T. Riddick, a native of this county, died at her home in Gainesville, Florida, Tuesday morning at 1:15 o'clock following a long period of declining health. Her condition was regarded as serious for about two weeks and the end did not come unexpectedly.

Mrs. Riddick, the former Miss Charlie Ann Roberson, was born in Jamesville Township, about 83 years ago and following her marriage lived in Williams Township about 1884 lived in Williams Township a few years before coming to Williamston where the family spent some time. Later Mr. and Mrs. Riddick made their home in Everetts for a few years, and then located in Oklahoma where he was engaged in the real estate business some time before moving to Pennsylvania. His business, next moved him to Rocky Mount and about thirty years ago the family established permanent residence in the Florida city.

Mrs. Riddick was the daughter of the late Henry and Marina Mizelle Roberson, and when a young girl joined the Christian church in Jamesville.

Surviving are three sons, H. Thomas Riddick of Cleveland, Ohio, C. B. and Jack F. Riddick, both of Gainesville; two daughters, Mrs. E. L. Exum of Moultrie, Ga., and Mrs. R. H. Brumby of Gainesville; one brother, Eli Hoyt Roberson of RFD 2, Williamston; and three sisters, Mrs. Stewart Davenport of Creswell, Mrs. John Perkins of Wendell and Mrs. Thomas Green of Pantego.

Funeral services were conducted Tuesday afternoon at 4:00 o'clock in Gainesville and interment was in the cemetery there beside her husband who died three years ago, this month.

## Bible School To Present Program

Closing a one-week daily vacation Bible school at Cedar Branch Baptist Church, the teachers and pupils will present a commencement program there Sunday evening at 7:30 o'clock. Rev. W. B. Harrington, the pastor, announced today.

The school, its daily sessions drawing to a close, has been one of the most successful ever held in the church there, according to a report released by the director, Mrs. Wendell Modlin. Ten teachers have assisted the director in the school, and eighty-six pupils, on an average, attended the first few days of the school.

The public is invited to attend the commencement program.

## Hold Vacation Bible School Exercises Friday At 8 P. M.

The last days of the thirteenth session of the Union Vacation Bible School are drawing to a close and plans for the commencement on Friday evening at 8:00 in the Baptist Church are being worked out. Last week the enrollment ran to 229 with an average daily attendance of 176. The attendance for the second week has run the enrollment up to around 250 and the daily average attendance some higher than last week. The total offering, which is being given this year to World Church Service, has amounted to \$56.83. It is hoped that the offerings in the school and that of Friday evening will run the total to one hundred and fifty dollars. The program on Friday night will consist of children's songs, drills, pledges to flags and Bible, a speech choir, and the department programs. Mrs. Ernest Ethridge is in charge of the Beginner Department; Mrs. Marvin Britton is in charge of the Primary Department; Mrs. Walter Speller is in charge of the Junior Department; and Rev. John L. Goff is in charge of the Intermediate Department since Miss Patsy King left for school. Miss Jane Goff is in charge of the music while Dr. Knight and Mr. Goff have been guiding the softballites. Mrs. W. H. Abernathy is in charge of the handicraft for the girls and most cordially invites the parents and the public to visit her exhibit in the Woman's Club after the commencement. Rev. John W. Hardy, director, urges the parents and those interested in Christian Education to be on hand at 8:00 Friday night in the Baptist Church.

## Supply Minister Given Welcome

Homer Brice, student in Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, is being extended a cordial welcome by the local ministerial association as he enters upon his work as supply pastor for the Presbyterian churches in this section during the summer period. He will be the speaker at the union church service to be held in the Episcopal church Sunday evening.

Mr. Brice was graduated from Tusculum College in Tennessee, and recently completed his first year in the seminary. During his stay here he will conduct services in the Presbyterian church here each Sunday morning, going immediately to Roberson's Chapel for services there at 12:30, and concluding his regular Sunday schedule at Bear Grass at 8:00 p. m., excepting his assignments as speaker in the union services here.

Mr. Brice is making his home here with the S. W. Mannings on Watts Street. He is a native of Chester, S. C.

### ROAD PROJECT

Bids, calling for the grading, bituminous surfacing and construction of bridges on 5.4 miles of road in Griffins Township, will be opened by the North Carolina State Highway and Public Works Commission in Raleigh next Tuesday. The project will connect with the surfaced road near John A. Griffins' store and run almost to Smithwick's Creek Church before turning near a large pine and continuing on by the Tices, Peels, Hardison's and Harrington's places to N. C. Highway 171 in the Farm Life area.

The project has sprouted long whiskers waiting for attention from the powers-that-be for years and years.

### EPIDEMIC

Five cases of undulant fever have been reported in this section this year, and according to authorities, the fever is in epidemic stage. Although the number is not very large, the fever is more prevalent in this section than in others proportionately, it was pointed out.

Specialists of the Federal Department of Agriculture, acting at the direction of health authorities, have been in the county recently testing animals in an effort to run down the source of the fever.

## Gets Road Term On Check Charge

W. C. Powell, 23-year-old Hertford County white man, drew thirty days on the roads this week for issuing a worthless check in the sum of \$12 here a few months ago. Offered an opportunity to make the check good and pay the trial costs, the old man explained to Justice of the Peace J. S. Ayers that he appreciated the consideration but he was unable to meet the test. "I have no one who cares for me, and I'll be just as well off on the roads," he said. "Where will they send me and when do we get going?" he asked.

## Dr. Hastings To Address Meeting

Dr. J. Warren Hastings, pastor of the National City Christian Church, Washington, D. C., will be the main guest speaker at the next meeting of the Albemarle Union to be held in Everetts on Wednesday, July 2, it was announced this week by Rev. M. Elmore Turner, pastor of the First Christian Church, Washington, N. C., and president of the Albemarle Christian Missionary Union.

## Local Town Board To Hold Special Meeting Monday

### Special Delegations To Go Before Officials; Will Discuss Personnel

Going into their first special meeting Monday evening, Williamston's new board of town commissioners will, in all probability, continue in session several hours discussing and handling a goodly number of current matters.

Mayor Robt. Cowen said this morning that several delegations are planning to appear before the meeting to support pleas for improvements and changes. Representatives of the Williamston Lumber Company are planning to renew their plea for increased fire protection for their plant on Washington Street, and Dr. J. T. Llewellyn is expected to ask the board to take action calling for the removal of certain kinds of oil tanks on the property adjoining his office on South Smithwick Street.

A colored delegation, interested in recreational facilities, increased fire protection and improved streets in that section near or back of Woodlawn Cemetery, is expected to appear before the board meeting, the mayor said.

Personnel changes in some of the departments will be discussed at the meeting with the possibility that some changes will be made and announced at that time. It was reported that just about every town employee has tendered his resignation, that some had reapplied for their respective positions, that some are still open. Unofficial reports maintain that at least five persons have applied for the chief of police job, and a good number was seeking places in the police department.

In other departments, some of the jobs are going begging with the possibility that only the old personnel will be available to carry on the departmental functions.

A varied reaction to proposed changes in the local parking regulations has been reported. However, it is quite likely that some changes will be made with the understanding that if they do not prove more satisfactory than those now in effect, a return to the old order will follow. It is proposed to parallel park on one side of the main street and limit parking to one side on Watts and Smithwick Streets. Lines have been painted around the main street filling stations and pedestrian traffic has moved more freely since the order was issued June 2 to clear the way for the cement packers.

## Firemen Get Call To Local Theater

Local volunteer firemen were called to the Marco Theater at 7:30 o'clock Wednesday evening when a suction fan pulled smoke from a trash fire back of the building and forced it into the theater auditorium.

An employe, smelling smoke in the building, immediately telephoned in the alarm. Realizing where the smoke was coming from, other employes put out the trash fire and checked the flow of smoke about the time the fire-fighting equipment reached the theater. Little or no damage was caused by the smoke, it was learned.

## No One Hurt In Bridge Accident

No one was hurt but considerable property damage was caused when a stalled car was struck on the Roanoke River Bridge here about 3:00 o'clock Wednesday morning.

A man by the name of Brooks was driving west when his car stalled on the concrete bridge. An Elizabeth City car, traveling in the same direction, struck the stalled car and knocked it down the road over 100 feet. One person was bruised slightly on his knees. Complete details of the accident could not be learned immediately.

## Manslaughter Cases And Murder Charge Scheduled For Trial

## Twenty-Two Cases Placed On Docket In Superior Court

### Judge J. Paul Frizzelle To Preside Over One-Week Term Here

A murder charge and three manslaughter cases along with eighteen other alleged violations are scheduled for consideration when Judge J. Paul Frizzelle of Snow Hill opens a one-week "mixed" term of the Martin County Superior Court here next Monday. The docket is much larger than the one usually prepared for a June court in this county and it has been a long time since so many fatal assaults have been booked for attention at a single term. However, none of the cases even borders on the sensational and the sessions are not likely to attract record-size crowds. Litigants, witnesses and lawyers are expected to comfortably fill the old hall of justice, but spectators, searching after things sensational, will be marked by their absence, it is fairly certain.

Of the ten different types of crime alleged in the state warrants, breaking and entering combined with larceny and receiving lead the list, account for one-half the twenty-two cases on the criminal docket. Manslaughter charges, numbering three, are second on the list.

The murder case was placed on the docket in early April of this year after Sam Riddick shot and killed Johnnie Bell in Jamesville on March 28. The killing climaxed an argument over a 25-cent poker debt, reports stated.

The case likely to attract the greatest attention is the one charging Frank Green with manslaughter. Green, charged with operating a truck while he was in an intoxicated condition and in a reckless manner ran down and injured Roland Harrison, Vernon Harrison, Johnnie Wynne and W. A. Bailey, some of them seriously, last January 18 at the intersection of U. S. Highway 17 and the Bear Grass Road. A true bill was returned in the case by the grand jury last March, but a continuance was allowed because it was pointed out that a civil action was pending. As far as it could be learned no damage suit has been instituted, indicating that justice may not be sidetracked again in the case.

Facing a manslaughter charge John David Wooten, Pitt County colored man, is alleged to have driven a car after a careless and reckless fashion, resulting in the death of Henry Ward, colored, on the Robersonville-Stokes Highway on December 15, 1946. Hereafter when the case was called, the defendant or witnesses were in the hospital nursing injuries received in the three-car wreck that cost several lives.

Laverne (Mutt) Roberson, local young colored boy, is booked for

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### RATIONING OFF

Sugar rationing was lifted Thursday morning at 12:01 o'clock, the moving coming as a big surprise. The action leaves virtually nothing on the rationing list.

A mixed reaction followed the announcement, but there were fairly large stocks of sugar on hand and no acute shortage is expected. Some stores were kept busy weighing and selling sugar several hours after rationing became known Thursday morning. Indirect reports declare that Martin County bootleggers are jubilant and are celebrating. But ABC Officer Joe H. Roebuck is ending his brief annual vacation and is ready for action.

### MEMBER



J. R. Winslow, Martin County man, was this week named by Governor Cherry to the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission. One of nine members named to the commission, Mr. Winslow is to serve two years. The group will be sworn in at a meeting in Raleigh on June 18 and will take over the duties now performed by the Division of Game and Inland Fisheries of the Department of Conservation and Development.

## Plan To Issue New Drivers' Licenses

Beginning early in July, safety examiners of the North Carolina State Highway Patrol will issue the new four-year motor vehicle drivers' licenses. During the meantime and until certain persons are called in order of the initials of their surnames, the old type licenses will be issued.

It is planned to issue the new-type licenses during the first few months, beginning in early July, to those persons whose last names begin with the letter A or the letter B. Until early July, persons whose names start with A or B and who must have licenses may apply for the old type, but they will then be required after early July to apply for the new type.

Other persons besides those names begin with the first two letters of the alphabet eligible to apply for the new type licenses immediately in early July include:

1. Those who become of age; 2. Those whose licenses have been revoked and are to be reinstated; 3. Those persons moving into this state from other states after July 1; and 4. Those persons who have never applied for licenses before.

It was pointed out by License Examiner Boyce this week that those drivers who lose their licenses will have to apply for the old type until their last-name initial is called out.

It will require four years to get around the alphabet, it was explained.

Additional days for issuing licenses will be provided, but until the new type is introduced, the examiner will be in the Martin County courthouse as usual each Wednesday from 9 a. m. until 5 p. m. and on Saturday from 9:00 a. m. until noon.

## Represent Town In Wilson Contest

Misses Mary Warren and Angela McLawhorn have been selected to represent Williamston at Wilson's annual tobacco exposition and festival on August 14 and 15, it was announced this week by the director of the event, Miss McLawhorn will participate in the bathing beauty contest, and Miss Warren will compete for queen of the festival, it was announced.

Thirteen contestants have been signed for queen, and four for the bathing beauty contest so far.

## Thirteen Divorce Cases on Calendar In Superior Court

### Five Other Civil Cases Are To Be Tried Here Next Wednesday

Thirteen divorce cases have been calendared for trial along with a few other civil actions in the Martin County Superior Court on Wednesday of next week when Judge J. Paul Frizzelle holds a mixed term of the tribunal here.

Most of the divorce pleadings are based on two-year separation grounds, and several of them have been dragged through the courts at least once or twice on previous occasions.

Separated from his wife on June 1, 1944, after being married to her on March 6, 1944, Luther Modlin is seeking a divorce from Mary Modlin.

The divorce case of James Washington against Mary Washington, based on two years' separation, has been in the courts two or three times in the past two or three years.

In his divorce action against Becky Whitaker, the plaintiff, Dennis Whitaker, says they were married and lived together until February, 1943, and declares no children were born to the union. The defendant answers and maintains that they lived together until 1945, that he is the father of her two-year-old child, and declares further that he has provided no support and she asks custody of the child.

Basing her action on adultery, Mamie Coach of New Bern is asking a divorce from Leo Coach. Their marriage was on July 26, 1946 and separated on August 15, 1946.

Thomas J. Blount is suing Edna Carson Blount for a divorce, pointing out in his complaint that they were married March 10, 1938, and separated December 13, 1944, that their seven-year-old child is with the plaintiff's mother.

Married to Mildred Jones on May 10, 1938, E. R. Willoughby, in his complaint, says they were separated February 1, 1945, that their two children are with the defendant but are supported by the plaintiff.

In her plea for a divorce from William Arthur Stokes, the plaintiff, Catherine Stokes, says they were married June 21, 1939 and separated in December, 1940, that their one child is now with and supported by her.

Mary Lilley Creech, plaintiff, and Clarence Edward Creech lived together only a few days after their marriage on October 10, 1946, and he allegedly committed adultery with women known and unknown to the plaintiff, and she bases her action for divorce on that ground, adding further that the defendant drank heavily, neglected her and broke about all the marriage vows.

Married one week and separated the next back in February, 1945, M. Whitfield is suing Ruth Whitfield for a divorce.

Going into court several times previously, Beattie Andrews is again seeking a divorce from Mattie Lee Andrews, pointing out that they separated in June, 1944, after being married in January,

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### SHOT

The independent Irish potato market, after opening up at \$3 per hundred last week, was described yesterday as "shot" all to pieces. "There 'aint' no market," one farmer said, adding that he was leaving his potatoes in the ground for the present, at least.

The government is struggling to maintain its support price schedule, but it looks as if it will be unable to handle the task with dispatch. Prices for contract growers are pegged at \$2.60 for No. 1's and \$1.30 for B's, netting the farmer about \$1.90 and 67 cents. Few farmers planted under contract in this county, but the small-scale growers are really taking a beating in the Hassell area where a large portion of the crop is grown.