

New Deal Granted Deserted Children County's Court

Jurist Frowns Down Upon Drivers Who Speed In Streets and Roads

A new and better deal was granted helpless little children deserted by their fathers when Judge J. Calvin Smith in the Martin County Recorder's Court last Monday discussed the serious and aggravated problem of non-support quite frankly with the defendants at the bar of justice and dealt sternly.

One of the defendants, tried a month ago and ordered to act in behalf of his young child, had failed to comply with the judgment of the court. He tried to explain that he was waiting to get his peanuts picked and sold before taking over an obligation centered in a little human life. The defendant was hard put for an answer when the judge asked who was sustaining the life of the little tot while he anticipated the peanut harvest? The answer, "Oh, the little one will get along," offered by the defendant was not satisfactory and the judge applied a ringing sentence of nine months at hard labor on the roads. At the October trial, the defendant was ordered to pay the trial costs, \$50 immediately and \$20 a month for the support of his child. He paid the costs to the clerk, leaving his helpless offspring upon the mercy of the world.

In another non-support case, the defendant tried to explain that he was too busy learning a trade to meet an obligation to his child. The young white man had not lived up to an agreement. He was instructed to pay the trial costs, \$50 immediately and \$20 a month for the support of his child. "I'll give you two days to pay up," Judge Smith said, the young man failing to hear the judge when he told the sheriff to hold the defendant until settlement was effected. Leaning a bit to the side of the modern dude, the defendant, his chest thrown out a bit, told the sheriff, "I'll go along now and come back in time." The young man's feathers wilted just a bit when the sheriff explained that two days were allowed to arrange for the payment either by messenger or by wire, that the defendant was to remain in his custody until the terms were met. It was reported that the defendant had pleaded poverty, but when the time for a final show-down came along, the defendant appealed to relatives by wire, and when the help was not sufficient he reached in his own wallet and pulled from among several fairly sizable bills enough money to meet the terms of the judgment and make a payment or two in advance. And Judge Smith does not know about the ability of the young man to finance his obligations.

Hardly knowing the best procedure of handling such cases, the jurist has been trying to play fair by meeting the defendants half way, but his action last Monday clearly indicates that he is planning on meeting non-supporters with plenty of time—on the roads. A recent drive by the police force against speeding on local streets was approved by Judge Smith Monday when he called for \$25 fines and costs in one case after another. Some of the defendants twisted and squirmed, but the judge held to his order of the day, proving he is ready to help curtail wanton murder on the streets and highways.

New Employment Office Manager

Mr. J. Kelly Gay of Plymouth assumes duties as manager of the Williamston Employment Security Office on November 15. Mr. Gay comes here from the Kinston Employment Security Office where he has worked for the past year, and before going to Kinston he was employed by the N. C. Pulp Company in Plymouth.

Mr. Howard S. Sexton, the present office manager, is resigning to enter newspaper work in Western North Carolina. Mr. Sexton has made many friends during his stay here and they regret to learn he is leaving.

Large Civil Calendar Prepared For Court

RAINFALL

Continual and reasonably heavy rains fell on six of the first eleven days in this month, the 1.79 inches falling last Tuesday seriously aggravating the adverse weather conditions surrounding the harvest of the peanut crop in this section.

Farmers today stated that they hardly expected to return to the peanut harvest before next week even with favorable weather prevailing during the meantime.

So far this month 3.86 inches of rain have fallen here. The river is eight inches above flood stage and an additional rise, possibly eight or ten inches, is expected the early part of next week.

Need Is Urgent For Farm Bureau

The next 12 months will be "the most critical period in the history of American agriculture, because farm legislation and policy to be established will determine the future of North Carolina for the coming decade," Joe R. Williams, Sales Supervisor of the Winston-Salem Tobacco Board of Trade, declared today.

"Farmers of the state would do well to adopt as their guide the slogan of one of the nation's largest insurance companies, 'The Future Is for Those That Prepare for It,'" Williams said in appealing for general support of the North Carolina Farm Bureau Membership Campaign.

"The North Carolina Farm Bureau has, in my opinion, the outstanding leadership of the nation," he added, "but we have weakened its influence by an inadequate membership. North Carolina needs 100,000 Farm Bureau members and they are needed now if we are to maintain the gains we have made since 1932. The only way we can get this membership is for farm and business leaders of the State to leave their work and go out and canvass every farm to live up to the responsibility we owe ourselves and our communities."

"Farm Bureau gives us a medium through which we can insure the future of Agriculture. Let's not sell ourselves short at a time when we need most to come through. Until we have repaid our full debt to Farm Bureau for the agricultural gains it has made possible, we cannot with good grace sit around and complain about falling farm prices. If we don't get 100,000 members, the day is near at hand when we will wish that we had."

Detain Stranger In County's Jail

Recognized as a suspicious character, Odell Hendrick, 24, was arrested in Everetts late Tuesday afternoon by Deputy Buck Holloman and placed in the county jail where he is being held pending an investigation.

Walking the railroad from the direction of Robersonville early Tuesday morning, the colored man took refuge in a deserted house in Everetts. He was seen by residents who thought little of his presence until he ran back into the house as if he were trying to hide.

Questioned by the officer, Hendrick said he was three days out of Portsmouth and was trying to get to his home in Kings Mountain. The officers decided to investigate his case when the man admitted he was traveling the wrong way to reach his home.

When arrested the man had two cents, his social security card and a bar of soap in his pocket, but the officer said he was fairly certain that no soap had been used by the man in a month. The stay in jail apparently was welcomed by the man.

Sixty-Five Cases Slated For Trial Next Two Weeks

Thirteen Plaintiffs Seeking Divorces; Several Asking Wreck Damages

Sixty-five civil cases, including thirteen bids for divorces, have been placed on the calendar for trial during the special two-week term of the Martin County Superior Court opening here next Monday. Several plaintiffs are asking damages as a result of highway accidents, and a local doctor is being sued for \$15,000 the plaintiff charging him with negligence.

Judge Paul Edmondson, of Goldsboro, is scheduled to preside. The visit will be the first here in an official capacity for Judge Edmondson who was recently appointed to the bench by Governor R. G. Cherry.

A brief review of the civil cases, exclusive of the divorce actions, follows:

In the case of R. B. Speller, administrator, against Dr. Edward L. Early, the plaintiff says that his wife, Mary Speller, was under the defendant's care from November 3 to 9, 1946, and alleges that defendant "negligently failed to attend Mary Speller when necessary . . . neglected his patient . . . and negligently failed to act in accordance with approved methods in general use in relieving her suffering . . . and delayed her hospitalization." The patient died on December 7, 1946, and the plaintiff is asking damages in the sum of \$15,000.

The defendant says he was employed, paid \$50 and went to the Speller home, examined the patient and found he was not needed at that time. He claims that he left instructions with the midwife to call him. He further states that he went back at 9 a. m. on November 4 and delivered plaintiff's intestate at 12:30 p. m. that day, and that he attended her until she was taken from under his care.

V. G. Taylor is suing Wilbur Smith for the possession of a house.

Jack Dixon is suing J. K. Rogers for the possession of a house. D. M. Roberson is suing the A. C. L. Railroad Company to recover the price of 52 hogs lost in shipment from Illinois to Williamston in 1943. The amount involved is \$747.76.

In his case against H. C. Norman, R. H. Weaver is asking the court to declare a deed given in 1945 for certain land be null and void.

Boundary line dispute are involved in the cases of H. H. Cowen against C. E. Jenkins, W. L. Manning against N. P. Roberson, Edward L. Owens against J. H. Davenport, Elizabeth Pierce against Ben Biggs, Annie Mae Lilley, guardian, against F. W. Holliday.

E. R. Turner, in his case against P. L. Salisbury, is suing for a deed to certain land.

Martha L. Salisbury is suing E. L. Turner for \$750 rent allegedly due for the year 1946.

L. P. Lindsley is suing to recover \$575.60 allegedly due on an account with J. R. Everett.

The Standard Fertilizer Company is in court to recover \$300.37 on a note given by J. E. Nooney, Jr.

C. E. Smith is asking \$246.02 allegedly due him by an agreement with C. D. Pittman, defendant.

Standard Fertilizer Company is suing W. S. Cowan and others for \$792.59 with interest from October 1, 1946, and other relief.

W. L. Hollis is asking \$650 of Joe M. Allsbrook for breach of contract.

In the case of Edward L. Early against William R. Moran, the plaintiff is asking \$1,300 allegedly due on a note.

Wesley Davis and others in their suit against R. S. Critcher are asking to be declared owners of a lot upon which the defendant built a tenant house.

Traffic Safety Show Scheduled

Designed to promote traffic safety, Officer Ernest Pressley's traffic safety show will play a five-day schedule in the schools of this county next week. Sponsored by the sheriff's department and the county newspapers, the show is being brought to the county by the N. C. State Automobile Association as a part of an extensive program to curtail accidents. The program has gained wide acclaim throughout the State and has been filmed by the movie industry. The show is produced without cost to the general public or the schools.

The first showing will be held in the Williamston High School auditorium at 9:00 o'clock next Monday morning for the elementary grade. The show is scheduled there since the grammar school auditorium has been condemned. A second showing will be held in the high school here two hours later for the advanced grades. Monday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock the show will appear in the colored high school auditorium.

On Tuesday, November 18, the show will be in Robersonville and Parmele, in the elementary school at 9 and in the high school at 11 and at Parmele that afternoon at 2:00 o'clock.

Wednesday, November 19, the show goes to the Hamilton school at 9 o'clock and to Oak City that afternoon at 2:00 o'clock.

The Everetts school will be visited Thursday, November 20, at 9:00 o'clock a. m., the show going to Bear Grass that afternoon at 2:00.

The show will make its last stands in the county on Friday, November 21, at Jameville at 9:00 a. m. and at Farm Life at 11:30 a. m.

Officer Pressley wants all the boys and girls to be present for the show. He is promising them a good time.

Jameville Boys Hurt In Accident

Injured in an automobile accident near Plymouth last Saturday night, James Godard, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Godard of Jameville, was removed to a Richmond hospital in a Biggs ambulance late Tuesday for treatment. Believed to have suffered a severe back injury, possibly a fracture, the young man was treated in the hospital until he could be moved to Memorial Hospital, Richmond.

Few details of the accident could be learned here, but one report stated that Elmer Modlin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Gray Modlin, of Jameville, suffered a broken leg. He was treated in a Plymouth doctor's office and is now at his home. Several others were bruised and scratched, but their injuries were not considered serious.

MODERNIZE EQUIPMENT

The Colonial Stores just recently completed the installation of new and strictly modern equipment in its local market, making it one of the most up-to-date in this section.

Opening of New Draw Span Expected Within Few Days

According to late information coming from the Roanoke River bridge project here, the new draw span will be opened to traffic within a few days, possibly next Monday. "We are waiting on the electricians to finish wiring the intricate mechanism, and just as soon as they give the word we'll open the span to traffic," Superintendent Dickson said yesterday.

F. D. Cline, Raleigh contractor, is surfacing the entire bridge with cold asphalt and he plans to complete that work early next week. The first of the asphalt was laid yesterday.

Even after the draw bridge is opened to traffic, the contractors will have much work to do before the job is completed. That work cannot be started until the new bridge is opened and the temporary structure is removed. Several spans are to be built where the temporary bridge connects the

Mrs. W. R. Fowden Passes In Hospital Here On Thursday

Funeral Arrangements Being Delayed Pending Arrival of Grandson

Mrs. William R. Fowden, one of Williamston's oldest and most beloved citizens, died in the local hospital Thursday afternoon at 12:40 o'clock.

Mrs. Fowden, in her nineties, fell and broke her hip at the home of her daughter, Mrs. C. B. Clark, Sr., on Academy Street here last Sunday morning. Complications developed and there was little hope for her recovery.

The former Miss Hannah Rebecca Thurston, she came to this county from her native home in Kent, England, in early womanhood. Following her marriage in New York she and Mr. Fowden located in Edenton where they lived several years before moving to Williamston about 1884.

Mrs. Fowden, a noble soul embodying the finest of ideals, had been in declining health for some time, but she was unusually active for one of her advanced age.

Funeral arrangements are being delayed pending the arrival of a grandson, Albert L. Clark, from Alabama.

Surviving besides her daughter, are eleven grandchildren and several great grandchildren.

Bond Allowed Defendant In Manslaughter Case

Walter Harper, Williamston colored man charged with manslaughter in Halifax County, was released in \$2,500 bond on Wednesday of this week after habeas corpus proceedings were instituted by his local attorneys. Bond was originally set at \$10,000 by a justice of the peace in a special hearing held in Halifax earlier this month.

Harper was driving in South Weldon on the night of November 1 when he struck and fatally injured Jackie Ray Etheridge, nine-year-old white boy.

THE RECORD SPEAKS . . .

It is a well established fact that motorists on Martin County highways are more considerate of life and limb this year than they were last, but they're piling up the vehicles in greater numbers and establishing a new property loss record. A reminder is timely to the effect that more people lost their lives on the highways in this county in the last two months of 1946, than in the other ten months.

The following tabulations offer a comparison of the accident trend: first, by corresponding weeks in this year and last and for each year to the present time.

| 45th Week | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|----|----------|
| Accidents Inj'd Killed Dam'ge | | | |
| 1947 | 4 | 0 | \$ 675 |
| 1946 | 3 | 1 | 700 |
| Comparisons To Date | | | |
| 1947 | 121 | 56 | \$26,635 |
| 1946 | 108 | 82 | 25,990 |

The cases charging Jesse Lee Parker and Charlie Mack Jenkins with assaults on females were not pressed or dismissed.

Charged with the larceny of corn from Farmer Verble Jones at Gold Point, Tom Sessoms was sentenced to the roads for five months.

Charged with careless and reckless driving, Bennie F. Wallace was found not guilty.

The case charging Hattie Marie Andrews with an assault on a female was continued until January 5, 1948.

A continuance was granted until December 1 in the case charging Guy Whitfield with disposing of mortgaged property.

Charged with being drunk and disorderly, Russell Perry pleaded guilty of public drunkenness and was sentenced to the roads for thirty days, the court suspending the road sentence upon the payment of a \$15 fine and costs and on the further condition that he is not intoxicated during the next six months.

Pleading guilty of drunken

Local Tobacco Market To Close Season On Tuesday

Establishing an all-time poundage record, Williamston's growing tobacco market is scheduled to close the season at the end of sales next Tuesday, November 18, a representative of the tobacco board of trade announced Wednesday.

The action was taken following an extensive survey which showed that just about all the tobacco in this section of the belt has been marketed. It was also found that just about all the growers who have a barn or two left will be ready to market the remainder of their crop on or before next Tuesday.

A brief review of the records shows that sales this year are well over a million pounds larger than those recorded for the 1946 season, and three-quarters of a million pounds larger than those for

the 1945 season. But despite the increased sales, tobacco revenue this year will fall three-quarters of a million dollars below the 1946 income, it is conservatively estimated. The price average this year is trailing that of a year ago by about nine cents a pound, according to preliminary reports.

Through Wednesday, the local market had sold from the 1947 crop 11,979,284 pounds for an average right at \$42 per hundred. There were 59,764 pounds sold on Wednesday, the sale including about the largest proportion of inferior grades of any recorded during the entire season. While the general average for the day was on the low side, good tobaccos were selling well above sixty cents with the demand for those types holding up unusually well.

Over \$1,000 In Fines In The County Court

Judge J. C. Smith Calls Forty Cases In Court Monday

Jurist Takes A Firm Stand Against All Types Of Law Violations

The Martin County Recorder's Court equalled and possibly established a new record last Monday when it imposed fines amounting to \$1,075, and meted out several road sentences. Calling forty cases during the session lasting until late in the afternoon, Judge J. C. Smith, according to the minute docket, took a firm stand against all types of law violations coming before him for attention. The docket was prosecuted by Solicitor Paul D. Roberson.

The power of the court to revoke a motor vehicle operator's license was questioned at length in the court. On September 8 of this year George Eddie Wooten, Kinston taxi driver, was tried in this county for speeding. He was sentenced to the roads for sixty days, the court suspending the sentence upon the payment of a \$25 fine and the costs and on the further condition, and the argument centers around this point, that the defendant does not operate a motor vehicle for four months. A few days after that judgment was pronounced, Wooten was charged with operating a motor vehicle, and in the court last Monday Judge Smith invoked the road sentence. Attorney Jesse Jones of Kinston maintained that the court did not have a right to revoke a driver's license. But the September 8 judgment directed the defendant to operate a motor vehicle for four months. It's a mighty fine point of law, but the defense counsel appealed when the court announced that the suspended sentence would be invoked. Appeal bond was fixed at \$200.

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READY TO GO

Plans were completed this week by the Peanut Stabilization Cooperative to start receiving peanuts in Williamston. H. L. Barnhill and S. C. Griffin are opening the New Carolina Warehouse for the storage of peanuts for the government agency, it was announced yesterday.

There has been very little activity on the market here so far, but with favorable weather the crop is expected to start moving in volume within a short time.

Working To Meet Farm Bureau Goal

A last-minute drive is being advanced by farmers and other interested citizens to meet the Farm Bureau membership goal in this county by Friday night of this week. Reports yesterday stated that farmers were carrying the membership appeal directly to farmers' homes in several sections of the county, and business and professional men were being called upon for added support of the organization.

"With agriculture facing a situation similar to that faced by it after World War I and again in 1929, we are forced to look to a strong organization to battle for our just rights," President Chas. L. Daniel said as the final drive for members was launched this week. "The tobacco stabilization corporation, an agency that has paid thousands upon thousands of dollars to the farmers of the county this year, was not given to us. We got it through organization. And unless we support the Farm Bureau and support it willingly and liberally we stand to lose many times the small membership fee in the organization," Mr. Daniel added.

The membership drive early in the week was about 800 short of the 2,320 goal. Time is late, but got too late to measure up to what is expected of this farming section.

Injured In Fall From Large Truck

Tilmon Coltrain, local man and operator of a fleet of transport trucks, was believed to have been badly hurt in a fall from a load of tobacco in Robersonville shortly before noon Wednesday. He was brought to the local hospital for examination and treatment, first reports stating that he had possibly suffered a cracked vertebra about the middle of his back.

Reports from the hospital stated he rested very well Wednesday night and was feeling better Thursday.

Coltrain was adjusting a canvas on some hogsheads of tobacco when his foot slipped and he fell, his back striking a reserve gas tank near the back of the cab.

Announce Results Of Hybrid Corn Tests In County

Average Yield Is Nearly A Hundred Bushels In Three Demonstrations

By J. W. Sumner
Assistant County Agent

A new white corn hybrid, Dixie 17, topped the yield in three corn hybrid demonstrations conducted in Martin County by J. W. Sumner, assistant county agent, on the farms of Grover Lilley, RFD 1, Jamesville, V. U. Bunting, RFD 2, Williamston, and Archie Roberson, Hassell. The average for the three demonstrations for Dixie 17 was 94.8 bushels per acre.

An open pollinated variety of white and yellow was used with the hybrids. The demonstration yields per acre were as follows: Dixie 17 94.8, N. C. T-11 84.3, N. C. T-20 81.8, N. C. 27 72.8, Funks 71.4 71.9, N. C. 26 71.1, Woods S-210 70.4, U. S. 620 69.4, N. C. 1032 67.9, N. C. T-23 67.5, Woods V-50 62.3, Tenn. 10 61.8, Latham's Double 57.9, Local Yellow 53.7, U. S. 13 46.1.

The following recommendations were given for these demonstrations: Rows 3.5 ft. apart, 16-18 inches in the drill, 600 lbs. of fertilizer and 600 lbs. of nitrate of soda.

One should not let these yields be misleading in selecting a hybrid to plant for next year. Such things as strength of stalk and weevil resistance. Those hybrids looking best in this line were the Dixie 17, N. C. 27, N. C. 26, T-11 and T-20. Some of the weakest hybrids as to weevil resistance and stalk strength were the Woods V-50, U. S. 13, U. S. 620 and Woods S-210. U. S. 13 was put in the demonstration to demonstrate that all hybrids were not adaptable to this county. This definitely proved to be unadaptable and unsatisfactory.

The Dixie 17, a white hybrid, outyielded the Latham's double, a white open pollinated variety, 36.9 bushels per acre. Corn at \$2.00 per bushel, a farmer could have increased his income \$73.60 per acre by only using the Dixie 17 hybrid seed at a cost of about \$1.25 for the seed.

Five Cases Heard By Justices Here

Five cases involving disorderly conduct or public drunkenness or both were heard in justice of the peace courts here this week.

In Justice John L. Hassell's court, James E. Walker, charged with disorderly conduct, was fined \$5 and required to pay \$10.50 costs.

Oscar Henry Frazer was sentenced to the roads for 30 days when he was adjudged guilty in the justice's court of disorderly conduct.

Charged with disorderly conduct, Milton Green was sentenced to the roads for 30 days, Judge Hassell suspending the road term upon the payment of \$5.50 costs.

Two defendants, M. C. Lawrence and James Willis Lloyd, were charged with being publicly drunk and each was required to pay \$8.50 costs by Mayor Robert Cowen.

Local and county officers rounded up the largest number of alleged law violators last week-end in many weeks, but most of the offenders were booked for trial in Judge J. Calvin Smith's county court either on Monday or the early part of next month. No sessions will be held by the recorder's court until after the two-week term of Superior court.

N. C. E. A. Group Met On Saturday

The various committees of the local county N. C. E. A. unit met in the Williamston high school building Saturday morning and worked out the county program for the present year. This program will be submitted to the membership at a meeting to be held in December for its approval, rejection or amendment. Supt. J. C. Manning and N. C. E. A. President C. B. Martin addressed the joint committee session.