

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

Man, Charged With Drunken Mule Driving, Fined \$100 Last Monday

Judge J. C. Smith and Solicitor Paul D. Roberson worked until 4:30 o'clock last Monday afternoon handling twenty cases in the Martin County Recorder's Court. More than two hours were spent hearing a single case, but the high spot in the proceedings was reached when Lee Tyner, convicted of driving a mule while he (Tyner) was intoxicated, was fined \$100 and taxed with the costs.

Attracting a very large number of spectators as well as defendants and witnesses, the court meted out several road sentences and imposed fines amounting to \$275.

Proceedings:

C. G. Council, charged with failing to send his child to school, offered a pathetic defense. He explained that he was nearly blind and that he was unemployed. Pleading guilty, he was dismissed when the court suspended judgment upon the payment of the costs.

The case charging Dallas Gardner with operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license, was continued for the third time until March 29.

Leman J. Bennett, the colored man who had a second charge lodged against him before the first one could be aired in the court, was adjudged guilty of an assault and attempted highway robbery. Sentenced to the roads for fifteen months, he appealed to the higher court and bond was required in the sum of \$500.

Pleading guilty of assaulting a female, James Hawkins was sentenced to the roads for thirty days.

Charged with being drunk and disorderly and an assault, Robert O'Mary pleaded not guilty. The weight of the evidence was against him and he was sentenced to the roads for six months. The court suspended the road term upon the payment of a \$50 fine and the costs and on the further condition that he isn't intoxicated for one year.

Allen Warren, facing similar

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Last Rites Today For Cpl. Haislip

Last rites are being conducted this afternoon at 3:00 o'clock in the Hassell Christian Church for Cpl. William F. Haislip, II, who lost his life in the service of our country on Guadalcanal on October 23, 1942. Rev. J. M. Perry of Robersonville, a former pastor, assisted by Rev. Z. T. Cox of Farmville are conducting the service and a detail from the Haislip-Roebuck Post of the American Legion in Hamilton will have charge of the rites at the grave. Burial will be in the family plot in the Hamilton Cemetery.

Accompanied by a special escort on a government motor car, the body reached here last evening, the casket draped in a large United States flag which will be presented to the family by S/Sgt. C. C. Rizer. The body is being moved to the Hassell church in time for the 3:00 o'clock service.

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ONE-FIFTH COMPLETE

The annual Red Cross fund drive in this chapter is some over one-fifth complete, or that much has been collected and reported to the drive chairman, C. B. Clark, Jr. Bear Grass yesterday reported \$144.30 raised, leaving the district only about \$80 short of its goal.

Two solicitors in Williamston reported approximately \$400 yesterday, their progress indicating that the goal here would be reached. No reports have been received from the other townships in this chapter other than those stating the drive was in progress and that it was encouraging.

Pepper E. Smith, averr, in the Robersonville Chapter, yesterday reported that its quota had been met with some to spare.

Place Twenty Cases On Criminal Docket

Assault On Crumey And Hog Stealing Cases To Be Heard

Whit Salsbury Admits Hog Thefts But Expects Private Prosecution

Opening a two-week mixed term here next Monday morning at 10:00 o'clock with Judge R. Hunt Parker of Roanoke Rapids on the bench, the Martin County Superior Court is slated to handle at least twenty cases. Two days have been set aside for handling the criminal docket, and it is quite likely that all of that time will be needed. While there are no murder or manslaughter cases on the docket, several others are almost certain to attract large crowds.

The series of hog thefts, running from last June almost up until last Christmas, is certain to attract farmers to the court in numbers, one report stating that some of the farmers have already employed private prosecutors in the cases. While he is believed to have struck at least a dozen pig pens during about six months, Whit Salsbury, Pitt County colored man who formerly lived in this county, is charged in only four cases, officers admitting that they have been unable to get positive proof against the man in the others. On July 25, Salsbury stole two hogs valued at \$65 from David Gurganus. The next case in which the defendant admits his guilt originated on November 25 when he stole four hogs valued at \$200 from W. O. Abbit. About three weeks later he stole three pigs, valued at \$51 from Reuben Everett, and two days later he struck Monroe Taylor's pen, stealing five hogs valued at \$150. Farmers Sam T. Everett, A. Z. Clark, Claudia Keel, Frank Little, L. Gardner and others lost hogs from their pens, but officers have been unable to connect Salsbury with those thefts, and Salsbury admits his guilt only if and when he cannot deny the charges. Salsbury, mocking up several hogs, would visit a pen near the road, knock the hogs in the head, stick them and load them in his car parked on the highway. He carried them to his home near Bethel where his parents helped clean and dress them. Several of the Monroe Taylor hogs were found in the freezer locker at Tarboro. Arrested on December 19 after he was traced by the number on his old car, Salsbury denied the charges, but officers started questioning him and confronting him with some pertinent facts and he admitted four thefts. As far as it can be learned here, no action has been taken against Salsbury's parents by Pitt County authorities for aiding and abetting in the illegitimate butchery business.

Unable to raise bond in the sum of \$1,100, Salsbury has continued in jail since his arrest.

The case charging George Junior Jackson, young colored man, with brutally assaulting and nearly cutting to death, Jimmy Crumey, Edenton taxi driver, in the island section of Williams Township last January 20, is expected to attract much attention. Jackson was bound over to the superior court by Justice R. T. Johnson. Unable to post \$2,000 bond, the defendant has been in jail since his arrest.

Then there is the larceny case against Neal Coburn, colored man, who stole approximately \$300 from Ammie Ambrose, aged grandmother, who has been living virtually out of doors for some time. Receiving aid from others, the old woman and the other eight members of her family are now living in a small but new house about three miles from Williamston.

It may not be a definite sign, but there are quite a few larceny and breaking and entering cases on the docket, supporting a trend toward higher times on the criminal docket.

Clara Bell Moore is charged with the theft of \$10 from Frances

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Matthews Named To Head County Wildlife Club

Stevens Outlines Six-Point Program for Effective Organization

Meeting in the county court-house last evening, members of the Martin County Wildlife Club elected new officers and heard Ross Stevens, executive secretary of the North Carolina Wildlife Federation, outline a six-point program for an effective organization.

Don G. Matthews, Jr., of Hamilton, was elected president to succeed J. C. Manning. H. P. Mobley, Williamston, was elected vice president and John Henry Edwards was reelected secretary-treasurer.

The club will hold a meeting on April 7 to discuss recommendations to the State Wildlife Resources Commission which hold a special meeting in Kinston on April 12 to consider changes in hunting and fishing regulations. At the county meeting on April 7 the hunters and fishermen will discuss such things as lay days for rabbits, bag limits, fishing seasons and other game regulations. The recommendations will be submitted to the commission at its meeting in Kinston. A committee, composed of J. C. Manning, V. J. Spivey and H. P. Mobley, was named by the new president to outline a program of activities for the club in this county during the next twelve months.

Secretary Stevens stated that there were 102 active wildlife clubs in the State, that half of them are making splendid progress while the others are following practices that are proving ineffective, so to speak. The ineffective clubs have officers and many members, but they are not regular in their meetings and the programs are not well planned, the secretary explained, adding that he was not criticizing. He went on to outline six points indicative to effective work.

The clubs must meet regularly and the programs should be planned with committees active in various departments. The education feature must be stressed, the state secretary suggesting that the clubs work more closely with the farmers and 4-H club members and others interested in preserving wildlife. More assistance is

Announce the Full Concert Program For Visiting Band

Famous High School Musical Group Coming Here Friday, March 19

The complete program for the concert which the nationally famous Elizabeth City High School Band is to present at the Williamston High School auditorium Friday evening, March 19, at 8:00 o'clock was announced today by Roy L. Russell, director.

"Choice of music played by the band," Director Russell says, "runs all the way from Beethoven and Bach to the latest Boogie Woogie and an effort to interpret each type in its true style is the ambition of the young musicians. If it is Beethoven, they try to play the music as nearly symphonic as possible but if it is Boogie Woogie, the band strives just as diligently to portray the Boogie beat in true swing style."

The program:

Silver Moon, from "My Maryland" by Sigmund Romberg; In a Persian Market, Intermezzo-Scene by Albert Ketelby; March Slave by P. Tschaiowsky; Smoke Gets in Your Eyes, a Symphonic Paraphrase from "Roberta" by Jerome Kern; Colonel Bogey On Parade by Kenneth J. Alford; Intermission (Ten minutes); I'll See You Again, from "Bitter Sweet" by Noel Coward; The Three Trumpeters by G. Agostini; Carolina In the Morning by Walter Donaldson; Barnum and Bailey's Favorite by K. L. King; The Billboard March by John N. Klotz; and Auditorium Session, Boogie Woogie for Concert Band by Deke Moffitt.

While the concert is being sponsored by the Williamston High School Band Parents Club it is open to children and adults from anywhere in the area at a very reasonable price, fifty cents for the adults and twenty-five for the children. Tickets are on sale at Clark's Pharmacy in Williamston. The band has almost every in-

Father Seeking Custody of Child

According to information received here this week, Robert B. Nelson, Robersonville, has started action in the Virginia courts for the custody of his son. The defendant, Mrs. Susie White Nelson, accompanied by her sister, Mrs. Eva K. Thomas, of Norfolk, were here this week presumably making arrangements to fight the action.

Several years ago a judgment was entered in the court records of this county, giving the mother custody of the child. The plaintiff is now asking the Virginia courts to set that verdict aside.

Depositions were taken at a hearing held here yesterday afternoon, and the findings will be offered to the Virginia courts.

To Welcome New Ministers At Union Service Sunday

Williamston's two new ministers—Rev. Stewart B. Simms for the Baptists, and Rev. James I. Lowry for the Presbyterians—will be welcomed to the community at a union service to be held in the Baptist church Sunday evening at 7:30 o'clock with the other ministers of the town participating.

Establishing residence here last week-end, the two young ministers have already made a splendid impression, and show great promise of a fruitful ministry in the community. They were welcomed to the Williamston Ministerial Association at a meeting of that

Several Robberies Solved When Boys Are Detained Here

A series of petty robberies and thefts was solved this week when four teen-age colored boys were arrested and detained by the courts and Juvenile Judge L. B. Wynne.

Apparently prompted more by meanness than by actual want or necessity, the boys are involved in several robberies, including ones at Ridley's pool room several months ago, Sunny Side Inn several weeks ago, and more recently at the Williamston Parts and Metal Company's junk yard on West Main Street and the Hitching Post on Sycamore Street.

The little crime wave blew out when the four boys, Willie Frank Deans and Jimmy Watts, both 17 years old, and James Earl Felton and Louis Moore, both 15, allegedly broke into the junk yard and stole eight used batteries, and just a few days later returned them to the yard themselves for sale to the original owner. The batteries were purchased for the second time and the transaction was reported to local police who rounded up the two older boys within a short time. They involved the other two, and questioning uncovered the other robberies.

Very little was stolen from any of the places, the boys barely escaping with a few packs of cigarettes when they broke into Sunny Side Inn.

Louis Freeman, 17, and a delinquent who has been before the courts at more or less regular intervals during the past six years, was involved in the pool room robbery.

At a preliminary hearing before Judge J. C. Smith in the county court last Monday, Deans and Watts waived examination and they were bound over to the superior court for trial next week. Bonds were required in the sum of \$300 each.

Carried before Judge Wynne Tuesday, Felton and Moore were booked for a stay at the Hoffman correctional school for boys. They were released into the custody of relatives until next Monday when they are to testify for the State in the cases against the other boys.

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Several Big Damage Cases Up For Trial

Plaintiffs Asking \$44,588 Damage In Vehicle Accidents

Seven of the thirty civil cases scheduled for trial in the Martin County Superior Court next week and the week following are asking damages alleged to have resulted in motor vehicle accidents. Most of the other cases are expected to addition to the damage suits and various disputes between landlords and tenants and over property lines, there are seventeen divorce cases slated for trial.

The first of the civil calendar cases are scheduled for March 17 when the court is slated to crank up its divorce mill. One or two minor cases are also slated for trial that day, but the main civil calendar will not be opened until Monday, March 22.

Judge R. Hunt Parker of Roanoke Rapids is to preside over the two-week term which opens next Monday for the trial of criminal cases.

A brief review of the civil calendar follows:

Paul Peel is asking the court to discharge his guardian, the case going into the "big" court when the guardianship was dissolved in the lower courts and an appeal was noted.

The Standard Fertilizer Company is suing J. E. Nooney, Jr., to recover \$300.86 on a note dated October 1, 1942.

In a second case, the fertilizer Company is seeking to recover \$792.59 on a note signed by W. S. Cowan, Jr., and others.

A boundary line is in dispute in the case of Wesley Davis and others against R. S. Critcher.

Aired in the courts previously, the old milk cow case brought by A. W. Hardison against Mrs. Bettie Williams is up again, this time to have the value of the animal determined.

Shields Distributing Company is suing C. D. Pittman for \$105.72 alleged due on contract, and the defendant, in a counter suit, is asking \$113.36.

Alleging she was wrongfully and maliciously assaulted by the defendant on last July 5, Mildred Ray is suing Grace Maynard for \$2,500 damages—\$1,500 actual and \$1,000 punitive.

In the list of seven wreck damage suits, the one brought by James E. Godard against Robert Hardison is the largest. Godard, alleging he was critically and permanently injured while riding in the defendant's car when it was wrecked in Plymouth last November 8, is asking \$18,000. Defendant in a second action, Hardison, driver and owner of the car, is being sued by E. G. Modlin for \$10,000 damages, the plaintiff claiming that he was critically hurt and permanently injured. Both suits are said to be of a friendly nature, reports declaring that Hardison carried "all kinds of insurance."

Alleging she was critically injured in an automobile-truck accident on the Bethel-Greenville Highway January 18, 1947 as a result of the negligence and carelessness of the defendants, Margie Sullivan is suing Amos Cox and Vance Harrington for \$10,000 damage. The plaintiff's husband, J. B. Sullivan, was also injured badly in the same accident and he is asking \$5,000 damages of the defendants.

K. B. Crawford in his suit against J. S. Peel is asking possession of two cupboard cabinets.

Lina J. Taylor in a suit against G. C. Taylor is suing to recover \$5,025.26 alleged due her from farming operations.

In the landlord-tenant dispute case, R. E. Williams is suing Julian C. Smith for \$1,900 actual and \$5,000 punitive damages.

While it is still on the calendar the case of Calvin Ayers and others against the Roanoke Warehouse, one report stated,

Family Moves To Their New Home

The Ammie Ambrose family, after braving the winds, snow and rain in their tumbled down shacks for several winters, are in safe refuge in their snug, little three-room house that a thoughtful people in several states helped build. The aged grandmother, her daughter and seven small grandchildren, moved into the new home late yesterday after the Ayers Electric Company had installed a modern electric system, including wall switches, a number of outlets, fixtures and even light bulbs for all the sockets.

Thurston Jones, moving to this section from Gold Point just recently, fitted the family up with much furniture, and neighbors and other friends added to the house furnishings list.

Members of the family experienced difficulty in moving their few earthly belongings. Nearly every piece of clothing, drenched during recent rains, had to be placed on a line to dry. When it was learned that the old cook stove would fall to pieces, it was left in the old shack. A \$30 cook stove, purchased at cost from the Courtney Furniture Store, was delivered late yesterday to complete the set-up for the family.

The aged grandmother would sort out a piece or two of old clothing and hold her head up just long enough to express her appreciation for all that had been done for her and her family.

A full accounting of the fund will be made just as soon as several miscellaneous bills are received.

Last Rites Friday For Mrs. Hopkins

Mrs. Sara Hopkins, 62, died at her home near Hobgood yesterday morning at 4:30 o'clock after a long illness.

The daughter of the late Andrew Currie and wife, she was born in Halifax County on March 12, 1886.

Surviving are three sons, Eli, William and Jesse H. Hopkins, all of Hobgood; and four daughters, Mrs. Austin Brown of Tarboro, Mrs. Annie Williams of Oak City, Mrs. Henry Harrell and Mrs. Harvey Braddy, both of Hobgood.

Funeral services will be conducted by the Rev. Mr. Warren, Methodist minister of Scotland Neck, Friday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock from the home of her son, Eli Hopkins, in Hobgood. Interment will be in the old family cemetery near Palmyra.

Dr. Wm. H. Gray To Locate Here

Dr. Wm. H. Gray, Jr., Robersonville young man, plans to locate here on or about the first of next month for the practice of dentistry, it was learned late yesterday.

Few details about the doctor's plans could be learned immediately, but one report stated that he had leased the office now occupied by Em's Beauty Salon next to the Marco Theater on South Houghton Street. The office, built by Dr. V. E. Brown, was recently purchased by J. Paul Simpson.

Dr. Gray is a graduate of Wake Forest College and since he completed dentistry's school he has been practicing in Pink Hill.

INSPECTION

Bombarded with requests for new road projects in this county, District Highway Commissioner Merrill Evans and several of his engineers are expected here next Monday afternoon to make an inspection of the proposed projects. While in the county they are slated to discuss the road situation with the commissioners, one report stated.

County Board

Meeting in special session here next Monday morning at 9:30 o'clock the Martin County Commissioners will hear complaints against property values as assessed for 1948 taxation, but new listings will be reviewed only in those cases where the owners ask for reviews.

Surrendering their room to the grand jury the commissioners will find some place up or around the courthouse to handle their business as a board of equalization and review.

Several Cases In Justices' Courts In Past Few Days

Pool Room Operator Loses License For Period Of Three Months

Breaking into the public when four teen-agers were arrested for breaking and entering and larceny, juvenile delinquency was climaxed last Tuesday night when two youths and a pool room operator were carried before Mayor Robert Cowen.

James Ridley, charged with permitting minors to loiter around and play pool in his pool room on Jamesville Street, had his license to operate such a business revoked for three months. Ridley, admitting that minors had entered his place of business, maintained that they did so without his knowledge, that he had posted a sign, advising minors they were not allowed in the place. He pleaded at length, explaining to the mayor that he would lose his means of livelihood if the license should be revoked. Mayor Cowen told Ridley that it was the third charge that had been lodged against him, that the law had tried to go along with him, but "there is no alternative now except to revoke the license," the mayor said. Ridley asked the mayor to give the judgment further consideration, intimating that he would appeal to the higher courts.

Louis Freeman, charged with loitering around the pool room, was sentenced to the roads for thirty days, Mayor Cowen explaining to the defendant that he (Freeman) had been a regular visitor in the courts, that he had been given every chance and muffed them.

The pool room cases hit the justice's court after a mother of a delinquent youth had wept for more than two hours in Judge Wynne's juvenile court earlier in the day when her son was booked for breaking and entering and larceny. She was quoted as saying that her son had left home to attend school, that she later learned he did not go to school but maintained headquarters in and around the pool room.

A father at the hearing Tuesday night said he had found his son in the pool room, but Ridley pleaded

Brother Of Local Man Died Today

John Hoyt Handy, brother of Henry Handy of Williamston, died in Doctors' Hospital, New York, this morning at 1:40 o'clock. Spending about a month here with his brother and his mother in Washington just before Christmas, Mr. Handy was taken ill soon after his return to New York and had been a patient in the hospital there since that time.

A son of Mrs. Margaret Styron Handy and the late Robert Handy, he was born in Washington 45 years ago and located in New York twenty-four years ago.

Surviving are his widow and four children; five sisters, Mrs. Arthur Welch of Ahoskie, Miss Margaret Handy of Greensboro, Mrs. Chas. Franklin of Lenoir, N. C., and Mrs. Chas. Bramlitt and Miss Marina Handy, both of Washington, D. C., and his brother here.

Funeral arrangements had not been completed shortly before noon today.

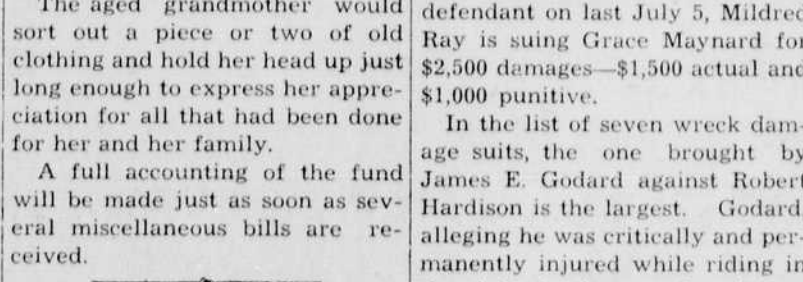
TAX VALUES

Preliminary reports from tax list-takers in Griffins and Williams Townships point to a fairly large property value gains in the two districts this year.

Listtaker Tom Roberson reports an increase of about \$70,000, and Listtaker C. L. Davis says that Williams, one of the two smallest districts in the county, will gain about \$33,000.

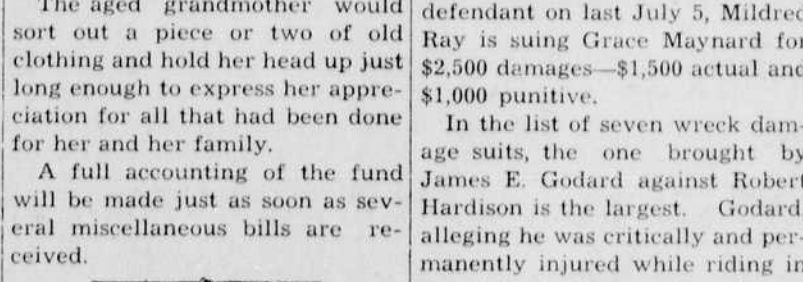
Making some adjustments in the listings, the tax listtaker Gordon G. Bailey says that the listings there will drop about \$6,000 this year.

NEW PASTOR



Rev. Stewart B. Simms recently entered upon his duties here as pastor of the Memorial Baptist Church.

NEW PASTOR



Rev. James I. Lowry will occupy the Baptist pulpit at a special union service Sunday evening.