

Plaintiffs Suing For \$72,000.00 In Court

Mal Practice Is Charged In Suit Against Physician

Nine Plaintiffs Ask \$45,000 Damages As Result Of Vehicle Wrecks

Opening a two-week term next Monday morning for the trial of civil cases only, Judge W. H. S. Burgwyn is slated to handle a calendar carrying thirty-one cases, including seven divorce actions. Although most of the cases are minor ones, several big damage suits are pending trial next Tuesday and the week following. All told, the plaintiffs are asking a total of \$71,937.07. Nine are asking \$45,010.34 as a result of motor vehicle accidents. Several of the damage suits were continued previously when counsel for the insurance companies was unable to attend on account of illness.

Even though some big damage suits are on the calendar, it isn't likely that the court will attract very much attention. Cases have been scheduled for trial only on the first three days of each week and it is probably that all the time set aside for the trials will not be consumed.

One of the larger damage suits charges a Williamston doctor with mal practice or negligence. The plaintiff, R. B. Speller, administrator of the estate of Mary Speller, is asking \$15,000 damages from Dr. Edward L. Early. The plaintiff says in his complaint that the defendant was employed in November, 1946, to attend the plaintiff's wife, and charges that the defendant was negligent and failed to attend to patient, allowing her to remain in child birth approximately 24 hours. The plaintiff also alleges that the defendant failed to remove the after-birth and objected to and delayed hospitalization, that the child and mother died on December 7, 1946. The case is set for trial next Tuesday.

Listed among the big damage suits growing out of automobile accidents are the one brought by Margie Sullivan and J. B. Sullivan against Amos Cox and Vance Harrington. The plaintiffs were critically injured on the night of January 18, 1947, when their car struck a truck driven by Cox and owned by Harrington and parked in the highway between Bethel and Greenville. Mrs. Sullivan is asking \$10,000 and Mr. Sullivan is asking \$5,000 damages.

Two cases are pending against Robert Hardison, both of them having been brought, it was declared, after a friendly fashion. E. G. Modlin, asking \$10,000, says he was a passenger in the Hardison car on the night of last November 8, when the defendant wrecked the machine in or near Plymouth, causing him permanent injury. James E. Godard, suing by his next friend, Lizzie Godard, is asking \$18,000 of Hardison. Godard was also a passenger in the Hardison car along with Modlin. The big auto damage suits are set for trial on Tuesday, April 20.

The case asking that the guardianship for P. P. Peel be dismissed is again on the calendar. The guardian has asked to be discharged, but the request was delayed pending the receipt of permission from the Veterans' Administration.

D. M. Roberson is suing the A. C. L. Railroad Company for \$747.76 damages allegedly due him as a result of damage done to a shipment of hogs from Illinois in August, 1943.

A boundary line is involved in the case of Elizabeth Pierce against Ben Biggs, the plaintiff charging that the defendant had cut timber across the line.

The Standard Fertilizer Company is suing W. S. Cowan to recover on a crop lien.

Edward L. Early is suing Wm. R. Moran to recover \$1,300 on a note.

Wesley Davis and others are

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PROGRESSING

The annual Cancer Fund Drive is progressing rapidly in this county, according to a report released yesterday by Mrs. Chas. I. Harris, county commander. Explaining that only a few reports had been received, Mrs. Harris said that the drive was meeting with success in those she had heard from, that Williamston raised more than half of its quota in the first few days. The chairman is confident that the \$1,500 goal will be reached.

The importance of the fund was stressed this week when several needy cases appealed for help. "There's one pathetic case at least in the county now," Mrs. Harris said, explaining that the victim was without means of help, that a few dollars would materially help. The fund could use to a great advantage far more than the \$1,500, and it has been pointed out that if the general public really knew the need, the fund would be doubled or tripled without delay.

Jno. Wiley Cherry Died At Home In Everetts Tuesday

Funeral In Baptist Church There This Afternoon At 3:00 O'Clock

John Wiley Cherry, well known business man of Everetts and a highly respected county citizen, died at his home in Everetts Tuesday evening at 9:00 o'clock. He had been in declining health for almost three years, receiving medical treatment in a Durham hospital in the fall of 1945. His condition had been critical for about two or three weeks and the end was not unexpected.

The son of the late Mark Cherry and wife, he was born near Everetts 65 years ago on January 5, 1883. After spending his early life on the farm he located in Everetts thirty-nine years ago to engage in the mercantile business. Few men could have spent more time to business than he did down through the years, ever mindful of his obligation to his family, his church and his community. He was one of the solid supporters of the Everetts Baptist Church for many years.

In early manhood he was married to Miss Sallie Grimes and she survives with nine children, three sons, D. J., William and Mack Cherry, all of Everetts; six daughters, Mrs. Roscoe Gaylord of Plymouth, Mrs. Dewey Hathaway and Mrs. Ben Hardison of Farmville, Mrs. James Johnson of Gold Point, and Mrs. Ben Daniel and Mrs. James A. Stalls of Everetts; three brothers, Dan Cherry of Gold Point, Lon Cherry of Springfield, West Virginia, and Jesse Cherry of Conway, South Carolina.

Funeral services are being conducted in the Everetts Baptist Church this afternoon at 3:00 o'clock by his pastor, Rev. E. R. Stewart, assisted by Rev. J. M. Perry, pastor of the Robersonville Christian Church. Interment will be in the Everetts Cemetery.

Steal Safe From Store In Bethel

Breaking into the Herbert L. Rivers drug store in Bethel sometime during late Tuesday night or early Wednesday morning, robbers carried away a comparatively large iron safe. They are believed to have used a truck, and apparently several participated in the act.

A report reaching here stated that the safe contained a supply of narcotics and possibly about \$5,000 in cash.

Eastern Carolina officers were called in on the case yesterday.

Petition To Ban Beer-Wine Sales Gets Strong Support

A movement to ban the sale of wine and beer in Martin County is gathering momentum rapidly, religious leaders and prominent laymen predicting in a meeting held in the Memorial Baptist Church here Tuesday evening of this week that a sizable majority would support the undertaking in a referendum.

Originally called to get an expression from leaders in various parts of the county, the meeting voiced strong support for the movement and called for immediate action.

Petitions, urging the county commissioners to provide a special election in which the voters may express their wishes, were placed in the hands of a dozen or more volunteer workers at the meeting, and others are being requested by mail, it was learned. Fifteen percent of the qualified

voters must sign the petition before the commissioners can be expected to provide a vote on the question.

No direct reports on the early circulation of the petition could be had, but leaders at the meeting expressed the belief that the movement would gain support rapidly, that liquor as well as wine and beer should have been included.

All but two of the ten townships were represented and those two explained their absence, adding that they would support the plan.

Petitions were placed Tuesday night in the hands of Sidney Boone, N. J. Ward, C. B. Burroughs, C. B. Bowen, H. L. Roebuck, A. E. Purvis, E. Thad Ashley, Clayton Revels, Geo. Casper, J. M. Perry, J. S. Holliday and J. F. Weaver.

Another Big Day In Court Last Monday

Judge J. C. Smith Has Thirty Cases In Short Session

Fines and Forfeitures Total \$835; No County Court Next Two Weeks

Squeezing in another session between sittings of the superior tribunal, Judge J. Calvin Smith handled thirty cases, imposed fines in the sum of \$835 and meted out road sentences ranging up to fifteen months during a three-hour session of the Martin County Recorder's Court last Monday. A fair-sized crowd was present for the proceedings.

Mayo Simmons was fined \$25 and taxed with the costs for operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license.

Emmitt Thomas, charged with non-support pleaded guilty and was sentenced to the roads for six months, the court suspending the road term upon the payment of the costs and \$22.50 a month for two years for the support of his three children.

Charged with drunken driving, Alvis V. Greene was adjudged not guilty.

L. H. Bridges, charged with public drunkenness, was fined \$20 and required to pay the costs.

Facing the court for a second time on a drunken driving charge, Leo M. Warren was fined \$200, taxed with the costs and had his license to operate a motor vehicle revoked for two years. He pleaded guilty in the case.

Pleading guilty of drunken driving, B. S. Nicholson was fined \$100, taxed with the cost and had his license revoked for one year.

Seth Council pleaded not guilty of drunken driving. Adjudged guilty, he was fined \$100 and taxed with the cost, the court recommending that his operator's license be revoked for one year.

Publicly drunk, Major Bryant was fined \$20 and taxed with the cost.

Luke Council, pleading guilty of drunken driving, was fined \$100 and required to pay the costs, the court recommending that his driver's license be revoked for one year.

Adjudged guilty of violating the school attendance law, Moses Roberson was required to pay the court costs, Judge Smith continuing the action under prayer for judgment until the first Monday in July.

Charlie C. Robbins was fined \$20 and taxed with the costs for being publicly drunk.

Judgment was suspended upon the payment of the costs in the case charging Walter Godard with an assault with a deadly weapon.

Ellis W. Rogers pleaded guilty in the case charging him with non-support and he was sentenced to the roads for twelve months, the court suspending the

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Speedsters Have Another Day In Recorder's Court

One Gripping Defendant Reported Caught Going And Coming

Speedsters, most of them over-staying their vacations down south, were overtaken in their flight back north by patrolmen on Martin County highways and carried into court last Monday for a reckoning before Judge J. Calvin Smith. Most of the defendants charged with flying low did not appear in court, but forfeited their bonds.

The report could not be confirmed immediately, but according to information reaching here, Chas. Steinglass, the Bronx attorney who griped so much and berated southern justice when he was halted in this county by Patrolman M. F. Powers last month and carried into court for speeding, was detained by patrolmen on his return trip north last Sunday. The report said the "big shot" was still griping, that he maintained he was driving no faster than 55 miles an hour. It so happened that Steinglass was driving the middle one of three cars, the first driver admitting he was running 66 miles an hour and the third car driver admitting he was driving between 66 and 68 miles an hour. Steinglass was keeping his distance between the two by driving only "55" miles an hour.

Louis Brooks, night club operator in Miami who was traveling north in search of talent for his club, pleaded guilty when charged with speeding and was fined \$25 and taxed with the costs. Carrying on conversation with court officials, Brooks said that business had been bad, but he carried a large wad of \$100 bills with him. Michael J. Hefferman, 131 Bassett Street, New Haven, Conn., was fined \$25 and taxed with the cost when he pleaded guilty of speeding.

Elmer J. Melanson, auto dealer of Cherryfield, Maine, paid \$25 and the costs for speeding. Arto Matthews, Durham garage operator, was in a hurry to get to his fishing grounds last Sunday and he was booked for speeding and fined \$25, plus costs.

Louis Katz, unemployed of 1000 Grand Concourse, Bronx, N. Y., pleaded guilty of speeding and was fined \$25 and taxed with the costs. Barnet Socolow, student of Longridge Road, Stamford, Conn., was booked for speeding and was fined \$25 plus the costs.

Judgment absolute on the \$50 bond posted by Louis M. Berman was entered in the records when the defendant failed to answer speeding charges.

Clarence Redman of Parmele and B. W. James of Robersonville were each fined \$25 and taxed with the costs when they appeared in court and pleaded guilty of speeding.

Very few colored drivers are being booked for speeding, Court Clerk L. B. Wynne stating that all but one of the speedsters called into court last Monday were white.

Dr. Gray Plans To Open Office Here Tuesday

Dr. William Gray, Jr., formerly of Robersonville, is planning to open an office for the practice of dentistry here next Tuesday. Equipment is being placed in the building until recently occupied by Em's beauty salon next to the Marco theater on South Houghton Street.

POTATO GROWERS

Irish potato growers wishing to participate in the government's support program this spring will find it necessary to file on or before May 1 an application to have their acreages measured on or before May 1, the office of the Martin County farm agent advised today. The support program is available to small and large growers whether they are under contract or not. A minimum deposit of \$3 is required. It was explained.

Advance Plans For \$100,000 Local Water Works Election

Red Cross Fund Drive Is Nearing Goal In Chapter

After advancing slowly for weeks, the Red Cross Fund Drive is now nearing its \$2,544.00 goal in the Martin County Chapter, Chairman Claude B. Clark, Jr., announced yesterday. Reports from two districts, Williamston and Williamston colored school in the chapter are incomplete and no report has been received from three centers, Corey's, Woolard's (Rogers) and Burroughs-Spring Hill.

Seven districts, Jamesville, Williams, Williamston, and the colored schools of Williams, Poplar Point, Bear Grass and Dardens exceeded their assigned goals. The Jamesville colored school raised its quota to a penny.

When complete reports are received that the original goal will be exceeded, the chairman stating that the drive is only \$241.60 short of the assigned quota.

White	Quota	Raised
Jamesville	\$ 225.00	\$ 237.06
Williams	40.00	52.52
Bear Grass	225.00	149.30
Griffins	225.00	175.66
Williamston	1,379.00	1,396.71
Colored Schools:		
Dardens	50.00	50.30
Jamesville	30.00	30.00
Williams	27.50	33.50
Coreys	12.50	.00
Poplar Point	12.50	17.55
Bear Grass	12.50	20.50
Biggs	25.00	22.30
Woolards		
(Rogers)	40.00	.00
Burroughs	25.00	.00
Smithwick	15.00	12.00
Williamston	200.00	100.00
Totals	\$2,544.00	\$2,302.40

Citizens Vote On Special Issue In June 15 Election

Board Discusses Problems At Tuesday Meeting With Police Department

Plans for holding a bond election to raise \$100,000 to eliminate the critical water supply problem here were advanced at a regular meeting of the board of town commissioners in session last Tuesday evening when the vote on the special issue was scheduled for June 12 and registrars and judges of election were named.

A special registration will be held beginning on Friday, May 28, and Mr. John E. Pope is to serve as registrar. Messrs. Reg Simpson and J. T. Price were named judges of election.

The action is being taken, it was pointed out, to remedy a serious condition now existing in the town. The present system was installed nearly thirty years ago when the population was hardly a fourth of which it is now. No additions have been made to the plant since that time and the storage capacity offers only a few hours' reserve. The commissioners are proposing to install a 300,000 gallon capacity elevated storage tank and necessary extensions of the water mains to put water in reach of every piece of property in town.

Preliminary estimates show that the bond issue can be floated without necessarily aggravating the tax rate. A detailed study is to be made and the facts will be submitted to the public for a full discussion before the issue is placed before the voters. The town's debt is now \$235,000, an amount equal to hardly six percent of the assessed property valuation. Most of the existing debt is to be retired in about ten years.

Discussing the water supply and costs, the authorities ordered a 25-cent increase in individual customer accounts outside the town limits. The new rate boosts the minimum from \$1.75 to \$2.00. Minimum charges inside the town were left at \$1.25. The graduated scale calls for a 5-cent per thousand gallon increase for out-of-town customers using 45,000 or more gallons. It is estimated that the new rate will boost revenue about \$75 per month.

Discussing police department problems with the new chief, W. E. Saunders, and the other five members of the force, Chas. R. Moore, Arthur Perry, Bill Haislip, Raymond Rawls and John Roebuck, the board members outlined what they expected of the department and directed every man to do his duty. "We expect to support you in the performance of your duty," Mayor Robt. Cowen told the police, adding that many of the complaints once directed at the department had been remedied, that the people, as a whole, were proud of the police department as now constituted and that its work had received much praise. While a strict enforcement of the law is expected, irrespective of race or standing, there's no intention of making the work obnoxious. Applicants for jobs in the department are to submit written applications along with recommendations. When positions are to be filled, the board will approve or reject them, leaving the "hiring" and "firing" job with the chief.

"We want you to work together, and if you have problems bring them to us," the mayor said, making it fairly clear that if harmony and an effective working team is not to be had, resignations will be in order.

The old parking problem in the business districts came up for discussion when the representative of a parking meter manufacturer appeared before the board. The representative offered meters for sale at \$61.50 each installed and to be paid for on a fifty-fifty basis, estimated that 135 or 140 meters could be installed here.

Principal C. B. Martin is president of the unit.

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CARRIER SERVICE

The local post office is planning to extend its city carrier service here the latter part of next or the early part of the following week. Postmaster W. E. Dunn said yesterday. The homes are being numbered by town workers and the job will be completed possibly the latter part of this or early next week.

Jack Mobley has been designated to handle the extension which includes just about all the territory in the North Houghton Street area or North End, the Woodlawn Cemetery residential section and West Main Street as far as the J. O. Manning home.

Find No Trace Of Man's Body

The body of John Staton (Bud) Williams, 60-year-old man who lost his life by drowning in the Roanoke between here and Hamilton last Sunday noon, has not been found, according to information reaching here today.

Quite a few persons have searched for the body, but no trace of it or the boat has been found. A tug is being returned to the scene today to pull the barges away again. Dynamite was used unsuccessfully earlier in the week in an effort to force the body to the surface.

Unable to explain the disappearance of the first boat, searchers took a second boat about the size of the one Williams and his son, Lory, were using and allowed it to drift into the barge. The boat was sucked under the barge and it disappeared, leading the searchers to believe that it was sucked into a cave washed out by water rushing around the river bend and eating its way into the bank.

County N. C. E. A. Unit Will Meet

There will be a meeting of the Martin County unit of the North Carolina Education Association in the Williamston High School building Thursday night at 7:30. Delegates to the State convention will be chosen and a discussion and vote on several proposed amendments to the association constitution will take place.

The program for this meeting will be a panel discussion led by Supt. J. C. Manning with Mrs. Effie Holliday of Jamesville, Miss Jessie Richardson of Robersonville, Mr. B. G. Stewart of Williamston and other school personnel in the county. The panel will center around current school problems and their relation to the class-room teacher.

Principal C. B. Martin is president of the unit.

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