

County's Schools To Open September 1st

Several Positions In Two Faculties Yet To Be Filled

New Building Program Will Not Be Ready For The Opening Wednesday

Martin County's nine white and twenty-one colored schools will open the 1948-49 term next Wednesday, September 1, at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon with present indications pointing to an enrollment increase. In reality, some of the schools are not ready for the opening, but, as usual, the obstacles will be met in some way. The new building program is not near complete at Bear Grass, Williamston and Robersonville, but activities will be continued under crowded conditions and in makeshift classrooms. The addition at Bear Grass, including a cafeteria, three classrooms, home economics, science rooms, girls' dressing room and toilets, will be completed possibly in six or eight weeks. Christmas has been mentioned as a possible date for the completion of a high school unit in Williamston and a cafeteria in Robersonville.

Several faculty positions in two schools are yet to be filled, but a draft is expected.

The new term officially opens on Tuesday of next week when the teachers meet in Williamston at 10:00 a. m., the white teachers in the high school building and the colored in the colored high school building. Wednesday morning at 9:00 o'clock, the several groups of teachers will meet in their respective schools, and at 1:30 o'clock that afternoon pupils will be enrolled. Buses will start operating soon after the lunch hour next Wednesday to get the children to the schools by 1:30 o'clock. The registration is not expected to last very long. The following day, Thursday, September 2, school will be opened at 9:30 o'clock when books will be issued and assignments made. The pupils are expected to return home for lunch that day. On Friday of next week, regular work is scheduled. It is estimated that 7,500 children will enroll in the 21 county schools for the coming term.

Book rentals and fees set up by the state-county system are listed, as follows: High school book rental fee, \$3; the fees for home economics, vocational agriculture and library vary from school to school, the officials explaining that the assessments are limited to actual costs of materials. In the elementary schools the book supplemental fee ranges from 50 cents in first two grades, 60 cents in the 3, 4 and 5th grades to 70 cents in the 6, 7 and 8 grades, plus an instructional fee of 50 cents for all grades.

Reports from the individual white schools show:

Jamesville ready to go with all faculty positions filled.

Farm Life has all its teacher positions filled, but the school is losing an elementary teacher this year.

All faculty positions are filled

(Continued on page two)

Last Rites For Hannah Rogers

Last rites are being conducted this afternoon at 3:00 o'clock from the Everett Funeral Home on Sycamore Street for Hannah Rogers who died in a local hospital yesterday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. Interment will follow in the Rogers Cemetery in Bear Grass Township.

She was a faithful member of the household of Mrs. Eloise Bennett on West Main Street here for thirteen years, and was held in high esteem by all who knew her. The daughter of Sophronia Rogers and the late William Rogers, she was 39 years of age. She suffered a stroke a few days ago and was removed to the hospital early this week.

NO BIG INCREASE

The opening of the tobacco markets has brought no major increase in liquor sales at the legal stores operated by Martin County, according to a report coming from one of the store representatives. However, there has been an increase in court activities. For the most part, farmers are applying their early income from tobacco sales on existing debts and investing in durable goods.

Poor Chance Of Getting A County Hospital Soon

Eligible Only For Thirty-Room Hospital Under A "D" Priority

"Martin County is eligible to claim governmental aid for a thirty-room hospital, but only under a 'D' priority," a member of a special county committee said this morning following an interview held with North Carolina Good Health or Hospital Association officials in Raleigh yesterday.

The hospital issue is still up in the air, and while no definite solution was offered, members of the committee advanced the opinion that the chances are poor for getting a hospital for the county under the Good Health plan any time soon.

The committee, composed of Commissioners J. H. Edwards and C. A. Roberson and County Attorney Elbert S. Peel, conferred with Dr. Ferrell in Raleigh for more than two years. The official explained that there were 35 hospital beds already in the county, exclusive of the dozen in the county TB Sanatorium. Ordinarily a county of this size would be entitled to a 60-bed hospital under the Good Health plan.

Named following a special appeal advanced by county civic organizations, the committee was instructed to investigate the hospital proposal and report to the county commissioners. None of the committee members would commit himself, but under the circumstances the group is expected to advise against calling a special election just at this time to decide the hospital question.

Under the terms of the proposal, Martin County would be required to raise 27.4 percent of the cost of the structure and guarantee approximately \$11,000 for its maintenance.

Fire Threatens Oil Bulk Plant

Apparently starting from static or a spark resulting when the feed pipe came in contact with metal, fire threatened the bulk plant of the Sinclair Oil Company on Roanoke River here this morning at 7:00 o'clock. Truck driver, Ellis White, had his arm on one arm and on his head singed a bit, but he was not hurt when he disconnected the feed pipe leading from one of the big storage tanks to the truck.

The burning feed pipe was thrown clear of the tank and truck, and the burning gas in one of the truck compartments was smothered out when the truck driver lowered the lid.

Firemen were called to the plant, but the oil truck driver and his helper had the fire out when they reached there.

Firemen Are Called Out Here Tuesday Afternoon

Volunteer firemen were called out at 3:00 o'clock Tuesday afternoon to the Mobley warehouse on Railroad Street here when a portable furnace used in heating tar for a roof went out of control and fired a large quantity of tar.

The fire, sending up a large volume of black smoke, was brought under control without much trouble.

Judge Smith Hears Twenty-five Cases In County's Court

Fines Alone Amount To Over \$600 At Session Last Monday

Judge J. C. Smith and Solicitor Paul D. Roberson handled twenty-five cases in the Martin County Recorder's Court in about three hours last Monday morning when fines, amounting to \$615, were imposed and several road sentences were meted out. Solicitor Roberson "batted" almost 1,000 when all but one defendant either pleaded guilty or were adjudged guilty. In one other case the charge was dismissed.

Proceedings: Willie Jane Crandell, pleading guilty of an assault with a deadly weapon, was sentenced to jail for three days and fined \$20, plus costs.

Charged with drunken driving, Zeb Brown pleaded guilty and was fined \$200, taxed with the cost and had his license to operate a motor vehicle suspended according to law. It was the defendant's second drunken driving conviction.

His case hanging fire in the court for weeks, Raymond D. Davis was adjudged not guilty of drunken driving.

Joe Williams, pleading guilty of an assault with a deadly weapon, was sentenced to jail for three days and drew a \$20 fine with costs attached.

Judgment was suspended upon the payment of the court costs in the case charging Elmer Ray Woolard with reckless driving.

William Stanley Short pleaded guilty when charged with bastardy and he was sentenced to the roads for nine months. The court suspended the road term upon the payment of the costs and \$56 to William Everett, father of Margaret Everett, the prosecuting witness, for medical expenses. The defendant is to pay \$20 a month for the support of the illegitimate child during the next two years.

William Hyman, charged with an assault, pleaded guilty and was sentenced to the roads for six months, the court suspending the sentence upon the payment of a \$25 fine and costs and on the further condition that he violate no criminal law or be publicly drunk for two years.

Adjudged guilty, William Simon Jenkins was fined \$20 and taxed with the costs for assaulting a female.

Richard Thomas Fisher of Halifax County was fined \$100 and taxed with the costs for drunken driving. Over 70 years of age, the defendant loses his license for one year.

William Thomas Bunting was fined \$25 and taxed with the costs for operating a "motor vehicle without a driver's license.

The case charging Jesse Gardner with the removal of crops was not prosed or thrown out of court.

Pleading not guilty of the removal of personal property without satisfying a lien, Simon D. Moore was adjudged guilty. He was sentenced to the roads for six months, the court suspending the road term upon the payment of the costs and \$129.07 to the Roanoke Chevrolet Co. Notice of appeal was given and bond was received.

(Continued on page six)

LATE SPORTS DOPE

Because it was necessary to close its sports page last night a bit of late sports dope is given below which did not arrive until this morning.

Playing a postponed game in Oak City yesterday afternoon a crippled Robersonville team was defeated by the Roosters 5 to 4 after an 11-inning battle. This loss by the Rams moved Bear Grass back to the top of the heap by four percentage points and lifts the Roosters to within two games of fourth place. The report of the score is unofficial.

Beaufort County's Law Enforcement Officers' softball team defeated a Martin County officers' team last night 17 to 5.

CITIZENS OF TOMORROW



The Enterprise takes much pleasure in presenting another in a picture series of this section's "citizens of tomorrow". So far none has figured prominently in public affairs, but as future citizens they have a tremendous assignment to handle in a muddled world. Certain they'll do a better job than has been done or is being done, The Enterprise presents the youngsters as the one great hope for the future.

Top row, left to right, Russell, six, Loretta, one, son and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Bland, Williamston; Benry, three, Paul, six months, sons of Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Bunting, Oak City; Lucy Fay, three, Judy, sixteen months, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Dave Dickerson, Williamston; Bottom row, Jesse, eight, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Peel, Everetts; Sydney, five, Jimmy, one and a half, sons of Mr. and Mrs. M. K. Herrington, Williamston; and Billy, nine, Linda, six, son and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Thornton, Williamston.

Speedsters Have Another Day In The County Court

Defendant Appeals To The Higher Courts When Fined \$100

Speedsters, most of them from out of the State, had another day in court last Monday, Judge J. C. Smith calling nine defendants to answer to speeding charges during the three-hour session of the Martin County tribunal.

Charged with speeding in excess of seventy miles an hour, John Markland Coulbourn of Windsor was fined \$100 and taxed with the costs. Nothing was said about revoking the defendant's license. Adjudged guilty over his plea of innocence, the defendant appealed to the higher courts and bond was required in the sum of \$150.

Charged with speeding and reckless driving, John Jordan Wright of Washington pleaded guilty. The defendant explained that he was running too fast, that he struck a bump in the road, causing him to run off. Judge Smith said it was refreshing for one to admit the charge and a fine of \$25 plus costs was imposed.

Pleading guilty of speeding, Billy Washington Honeycutt, Durham truck driver, was fined \$15, plus costs.

Frank Joseph Alexander of Miami Beach, pleaded guilty of speeding and he was fined \$15 and taxed with the court costs.

Neil Pershing Chamblee of Wendell was fined \$15 and taxed with the cost for speeding.

Raymond Haavind, Huntington, New York, man, was fined \$15 and required to pay the costs in the case charging him with speeding.

Arthur Sollosy, speeding, was fined \$15, plus the court costs. Geo. William Bittle, facing a speeding charge, pleaded guilty and he was fined \$15 and taxed with the court costs.

Burke Henry Parker pleaded not guilty when charged with speeding. Adjudged guilty he was fined \$15 and taxed with the court costs.

Consent Decree In Damage Suit

Badly hurt when he was run down on his bicycle on Highway 17 near Williamston June 21, 1947, Thomas Wade Bunting, 12 years old, was awarded \$2,000 by a consent judgment signed by Judge Walter Bone in special chambers here Tuesday afternoon of this week. The action was brought against Herman Ray Faulkner, a Virginia man, who was driving the car that struck the Bunting boy.

The consent judgment provided for the payment of a \$300 medical bill and \$200 for the attorney, leaving the lad \$1,500.

Judge Bone was here Tuesday hearing a motion in another case originating in Washington County.

WATERMELONS

Possibly more watermelons have been sold here this year than in any other period, and at a comparatively high price. However, the main melons did not show up until a few days ago when Farmer Calvin Ayers moved in with an assortment of large and delicious melons offered at very reasonable prices.

The price, the farmer explained, is in keeping with tobacco income and not meat price quotations.

Justices Handle Number of Cases In Past Few Days

Several Defendants Bound Over To Higher Courts For Trial

A general increase in business for the courts followed the opening of the tobacco markets a week ago, and two justices of the peace, Judge John L. Hassell and Judge R. T. Johnson, were called into service to handle the cases. Several defendants were bound over to the higher courts for trial.

Charged with breaking and entering, J. R. Wilmer and W. C. Whitehurst and Melvin Mazingo were bound over to the superior court for trial. Bond in the sum of \$100 was required of three of the defendants.

Charged with failing to stop at a road intersection, Geo. Ward was fined \$5 and taxed with the costs by Justice Johnson.

Orion W. Harding and Richard W. Briley were charged with failing to stop at a road intersection and judgment was suspended by Justice Johnson upon the payment of the costs.

Judgment was suspended upon the payment of the costs in the case charging Stephen Griffin with operating a motor vehicle with improper lights.

Charged with assaulting Katie Harris, Russ Perry and wife, Eva, were bound over to the county court for trial, the court requiring bond in the sum of \$300 of the first defendant.

In Judge Hassell's court Eiton LeRoy Ruffin, charged with being drunk and disorderly and assaulting James Jennings, was fined \$10 and taxed with \$12.50 costs.

Charged with being drunk at the Hitching Post, Elmer Rogers was fined \$5 and taxed with the costs.

Harry Wilson, drunk and disorderly, was sentenced to the roads for thirty days, Justice Hassell suspending the sentence upon good behavior for 12 months and the payment of \$9.50 costs.

Lazarus Williams, charged with an affray, was sentenced to the roads for thirty days, the court suspending the road term upon the payment of \$9.50 costs.

(Continued on page six)

Colored Citizen Leaving an Estate Valued at \$25,000

Daughter of Isaac Nichols Takes Oath As Administratrix This Week

Isaac Nichols, Williams Township colored citizen who was fatally injured several weeks ago in an auto-bicycle accident on Highway 64 between Williamston and Jamesville, left an estate valued at \$25,000 to \$30,000, it was learned Tuesday after his daughter, Martha Moran, qualified as administratrix.

Sacrificing his personal wants and clinging tightly to every penny that came into his possession, Nichols accumulated his holdings the hard way, possibly adding a bit by lending money on an advantageous market. He met his obligations promptly and he educated his daughter, but he never accepted the costly version of life, varying from his conservative path only to buy an occasional pint of hard liquor.

The value of the estate was partly determined on Tuesday of this week when Nichols' small iron safe, measuring hardly two by three feet, was torn open in a local garage in the presence of Clerk of Court L. B. Wynne, Nichols' daughter and his trusted advisers. Very little trouble was encountered in opening the safe, but the court clerk spent three hours counting the cash, bonds and examining numerous papers. The assets found in the safe included approximately \$1,100 in cash mostly in \$1 bills, some of which were crumpled up and packed in individual wrappings, about \$6,000 in bonds and a \$10,000 paid-up insurance policy payable to the daughter. There was no will.

Nichols apparently kept a record of his every business transaction. He had all his tobacco sales, showing receipts of five and six cents a pound for some of the crop he sold in the early thirties. He had a record of the sale of hams and shoulders twenty and twenty-five years ago. Then there was a note telling about the time he was flim-flammed out of \$1,100. "This day I was robbed of \$1,100 by two men I do not know," Nichols recorded in one of the preserved notes.

Packed in the back of the safe was a quart of Haynes bottled-in-bond liquor of 1917 vintage. The clerk wondered why Nichols had left the quart intact for so long a time, but when he (the clerk) tried to remove the bottle he found it tightly wedged. Apparently Isaac was afraid he would break the bottle and therefore he left it, the action being typical of his saving nature. The quart was removed only after the safe was prized apart.

Motor Accident On County Road

No one was hurt and only limited damage resulted when a 1947 tank truck owned by the Baker Oil Company and driven by Theodore Gurganus, crashed into the rear of a car parked in the middle of the Bear Trap Mill Road late last Monday afternoon. Damage to the car, a 1942 Plymouth driven by James Willis Rogers and owned by Van Lee Riddick, was estimated at \$200 by Patrolman J. T. Rowe. Damage to the truck was about \$20.

Patrolman Rowe stated that Riddick stopped his car in the middle of the road, that the truck plowed into it from the rear.

Rogers was temporarily detained for operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license.

Miss Ward Accepts Greensboro Position

Miss Mary Neil Ward, who, for two years, taught private piano here, has accepted a position with the Vassar Studios in Greensboro. Miss Ward will teach piano and voice, serve as an accompanist and do some two-piano work beginning September 1 at the studio which is headed by Walter Vassar, who formerly headed the voice department at Greensboro college for nine years.

Plans Complete For Draft Registrations

INSPECTION LANE

Making ready to beat the deadline, quite a few owners are planning to line-up their vehicles for inspection when the lane is opened to the public on Warren Street here next Tuesday morning. It will be unlawful to operate models prior to and including 1936 and models 1947 and 1948 after that date unless they have been carried through the inspection lanes.

Sales Well Over A Million Pounds On Local Market

Price-Average Is Holding About Five Cents Pound Gain Over 1947 Figures

Tobacco sales on the local market went over the one million-pound mark yesterday when 1,668,894 pounds were sold to boost the total for the season up until today to 1,044,850 pounds. Prices, after opening at a fair figure and then dwindling sharply, apparently have leveled off just below \$50 per hundred pounds. The 1,044,850 pounds sold for \$521,092.72, an average of \$49.87.

During the first five days of the 1947 marketing season, 768,736 pounds were sold for an average of \$45.30 per hundred pounds, giving current sales a price advantage of not quite five cents a pound.

Sales have been running comparatively light since Monday, the market selling 116,392 pounds Tuesday for an average of \$48.83. Yesterday, the market handled 166,894 pounds for an official average of \$48.30. This morning, larger sales were in prospect and near capacity if not capacity sales are fairly certain for tomorrow and next Monday. A few growers are still handling the harvest, and those who have completed the task have had little time to start marketing activities.

Quite a few tips are being offered for sale and the price for most types is holding up unusually well. Inferior quality is affecting the price, no doubt, but some grades are simply not selling for as much as they did on opening day. Prices for the better grades seem to be holding firm, and farmers with quality leaf are averaging right on up to \$64 and \$65 a hundred pounds.

Reports from the farms state that grading is getting under way on a fairly large scale and marketing activities are certain to reflect a big increase soon.

A report from the market at 3 o'clock this afternoon stated that there was a small block left on the floors, that tobacco was moving in fairly rapidly for sales tomorrow. The rush apparently is getting under way.

Soil Building Practices Open

The 1948 soil building program is still open for those farmers who care to improve their lands, according to a report coming from the office of the county agent this week.

Any farm operator who has signed a 1948 farm v. k. sheet may apply for payment for seeding winter legumes, cover crops, fall permanent pasture and spreading ground limestone before October 1. To participate in the program, the farmer must get approval from the county farm office.

The practices are being supported by unearned soil building payment allotted the county and unused as of September 1, it was explained.

Payments will be advanced at the rate of a 6 1-2 cents for Austrian winter peas, 14 cents a pound for vetch, 7 cents for ryegrass and 16 cents for Crimson clover.

Registration To Get Underway In Hut Here Monday

Estimate 2,088 Men 18-26, In County To Be Included in Registration

As a part of the nation's post-war military conscription program, registrations for this county will get underway next Monday morning, August 30, in the American Legion Hut on Watts Street in Williamston. Registrations will be handled each day from 8:00 o'clock a. m. until 5:00 p. m. except Sundays and Labor Day, September 6. Rev. John W. Hardy, veteran of the last war, and Mrs. S. H. Grimes will supervise the registrations with the aid of other volunteers during the special registration period beginning next Monday and ending Saturday, September 18.

Certain days have been designated for the registration of youths in certain age groups, and it is important that the registration schedule be observed. Those persons born in 1922, after August 30, that year, are to register next Monday.

The remainder of the registration schedule follows:

August 31 and September 1: Men born in 1923.

September 2 and 3: Men born in 1924.

September 4 and 7: Men born in 1925.

September 8 and 9: Men born in 1926.

September 10 and 11: Men born in 1927.

September 13 and 14: Men born in 1928.

September 15 and 16: Men born in 1929.

September 17 and 18: Men born in 1930, before September 19, 1930.

The registration is very simple and includes all young men in the designated age groups except those now in active service. While former servicemen in the 18-26 age group must register, it is fairly certain they will not be subject to call if they served as much as one year in the armed forces between 1940 and 1948, or if they served as many as ninety days during actual combat. Registrants, who served previously are asked to present their discharges, the officials explaining that such evidence offered at that time will virtually exempt the registrant from the draft.

The registrant is to give his full name, date of birth, place of residence, mailing address, name of person who will likely always know the registrant's address, occupation, by whom employed, nature of work engaged in, place of employment, if ever rejected for military service and if so, when, marital status, living with wife, divorced, separated, widower, father, active duty in the armed forces of the U. S. since September 1, 1945.

(Continued on page six)

Native Dies At Greenville Home

Mrs. Salome Wilson Powell, a native of this county, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. D. H. Conley in Greenville on August 22 following an illness of several months. Funeral services were conducted there on August 14 by Dr. H. G. Haney, pastor of Greenville's Eighth Street Christian Church, and Rev. Perry Case, Christian minister of Wilson. Interment was in the Wilson family plot in Woodlawn Cemetery here.

The daughter of the late Billy Wilson and wife, Mrs. Powell was born in this county seventy-seven years ago. Following her marriage to E. E. Powell she made her home in Gritton. Mr. Powell died in 1932 and in 1936 she went to Greenville to make her home with her daughter.

Surviving besides her daughter are a sister, Mrs. Albert Perry of Norfolk, and a grandson.