

Handle Sixty Cases In Recorder's Court

Fines Amount To More Than \$1,000 In Court Monday

Prisoners Form Long Line At Bar While Waiting To Be Called

While no records were actually broken, the Martin County Recorder's Court with Judge Charles Hall Manning on the bench for his first time, had one big day last Monday. Sixty cases were called, including twelve charging the defendants with speeding. Thirteen were continued for one reason or another, most of them having been carried over because the court could not handle all the scheduled business in a day. Several of the continued cases charged drunken driving and had they been tried, the court possibly would have established a new income record for fines. As it was the court imposed fines in the amount of \$1,135.00, the costs of the court pushing the total income for the day to more than \$2,000.

The courtroom was fairly well packed by defendants and witnesses with a few spectators going there to observe the new judge in his first session on the bench. There were a few difficult decisions, but the judge's work was generally approved, possibly by all except the victims.

Just as the court was convened, Jailer Roy Peel marched in the jail defendants, the group forming a long line at the bar. Several could be seen shaking their heads when they heard the sentences pronounced for their chums in crime.

The court cleared from the docket several cases that had been pending in the court under prayer for judgment for some time, including the following:

C. S. VanLandingham, allowing stock to run at large; Wm. D. Leggett, non-support, the records showing that the case had been handled in the superior court; Henry M. Bass, violating the school attendance law; and Jake David Spruill, issuing a worthless check.

Other proceedings: Pleading not guilty, Joe Rodgers was adjudged guilty of an assault with a deadly weapon and was fined \$35 and taxed with the cost.

James Ramsey, Sr., adjudged guilty over his plea of innocence, was fined \$15 and taxed with the cost for an assault with a deadly weapon.

Frank Simmons, pleading guilty, was fined \$25 and required to pay the costs for assaulting a female.

Facing the court in two cases, Jim Pierce was required to pay the costs for being drunk and disorderly, and \$50 and costs for resisting arrest.

Drunk and disorderly and resisting arrest, Walter "Bud" Freeman pleaded guilty and was sentenced to the roads for six months. In a second case, charging him with larceny, he was adjudged not guilty.

Curtis Yarell was fined \$100, taxed with the cost and had his license revoked for one year for drunken driving.

Charged with operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license, and careless driving, Willie E. Boyd was fined \$50 and taxed with the costs.

Pleading not guilty, Chas. Purvis was adjudged guilty of drunken driving and was fined \$100, required to pay the costs and had his operator's license revoked for a year.

Pleading guilty of operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license, Charlie Biggs was fined \$25 and taxed with the costs.

Pleading guilty of being drunk, F. L. Haislip was fined \$10 and taxed with the costs.

Woodrow Wilson Spruill pleaded not guilty when charged with operating a motor vehicle without a license. Adjudged guilty, he was

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ROANOKE RIVER

After reaching a crest of 12.4 feet last Monday, the Roanoke River at this point had dropped to 12.2 feet late Tuesday and has been on a stand at that reading up until noon today. The river is rising slowly and following a second rise at Weldon is expected to reach a crest of about thirteen feet here Sunday or Monday, according to information received from the Raleigh weather bureau.

All logging activities in the river area are at a standstill and work will hardly be resumed until the early part of January, leaving approximately 400 men idle.

Speedsters Have Another Day In The County Court

Eleven of Twelve Defendants Plead Guilty, 12th Is Found Guilty

Motorists, apparently in too big a hurry, had a speedsters' convention in the Martin County Recorder's Court last Monday with Chas. H. Manning acting as judge of ceremonies.

Eleven of the twelve defendants in the speeding cases pleaded guilty, and the twelfth, after the evidence was offered, was adjudged guilty. The defendant, one of tender years, advised the court that he was sent somewhere in a hurry by his teacher, that while he was traveling sixty miles an hour, he actually did not violate the law.

Four states—New York, New Jersey, Virginia and North Carolina—were represented by the twelve defendants. The cases had piled up over a period of three weeks which partly explains away the large number of speedsters entering the court in a single day. When the condition is considered in that light, it does not appear that everybody is speeding.

The speeding cases follow: Myer Smolowe, Brooklyn, \$15 and costs. Robt. C. Peery, Tazewell, Virginia, \$15 and costs. Ralph C. Parrish, Hertford, \$15 and costs. Chester D. Judis, New Rochelle, N. Y., \$15 and costs. Richard E. Neuman, West Englewood, N. J., \$15 and costs. William Henry Woolard, RFD 1, Williamston, \$15 and costs. William C. Cannon, Ayden, \$15 and costs. William Brown, Williamston, \$15 and costs. Matthew James, Columbia, \$15 and costs. William Goldstein, New York City, \$15 and costs. John J. McCloskey, Madison, N. J., \$15 and costs.

Three Minor Car Wrecks Reported

Very little damage resulted and no one was hurt in any of three minor auto accidents here last Tuesday afternoon.

Fauzy S. Zahka of Brooklyn backed his car into a bicycle in front of a local theater, causing \$5 damage to the wheel. He paid the bill and went his way.

A few minutes later two cars, one driven by G. W. Churchill and the other by E. G. Boney, crashed on Baltimore Street, causing about \$75 damage to the 1947 Plymouth driven by Churchill and about \$50 to the 1946 Ford driven by Boney.

At 5:45 Walter Edward Barr, driving a 1939 Ford, made a right turn off Main into Watts Street and stopped just as J. H. Edwards rounded the corner behind him. About \$25 damage was done to the Edwards car, but no one was hurt.

Placing Thirteen Cases On Docket In Superior Court

Judge Walter Bone Scheduled To Preside Over One-Week Term

Thirteen criminal cases and a few civil actions have been placed on the docket and calendar for trial next week when the Martin County Superior Court is convened for a one-week term.

Other than a murder case, the criminal docket carries only what may be termed insignificant charges. One claim and delivery case and three divorce actions have been tentatively scheduled for trial next Wednesday.

Judge Walter Bone of Nashville is to preside over the term which in all probability, will be ended about Wednesday, court officials stating that the trial of the criminal docket will hardly last two days.

While it is not of general interest, the murder charge lodged against Dave Brooks, 75-year-old man who allegedly stabbed his son, George, to death the evening before Thanksgiving, is expected to attract quite a few people from the Free Union section of Jamesville Township. Admittedly drunk on the night of the killing, the old man remembers a few pertinent facts but denies the stabbing.

Clarence Earl Stevenson is charged with having raped Earline Edwards on October 4.

Two breaking and entering cases are on the docket. In one, Samuel Jenkins is charged with breaking into the Red Front Grocery in Williamston on the night of October 31 and stealing \$6.54 in cash. In the other one, R. H. Moore is charged with breaking into the home of Ethel Lee Rollins and using abusive language.

James Wesley Ormond is charged with having carnal knowledge of a girl sixteen years of age or under, the warrant stating that he attacked Martha L. Winbush on or about July 25 near Robersonville.

Martha Gray is charged with the larceny of \$400 from Milbert Mitchell on November 2 while allegedly maintaining illicit relations with the prosecuting witness in Williamston on that date.

Lee Rollins is charged with the larceny of six bushels of corn on October 23 from H. D. Nelson and taking Nelson's mules and wagon to transport the corn.

Wannamaker James is charged with the theft of clothing valued at \$76.90 from Wm. Jenkins, Jr., on October 2.

Junie Wynne is charged with the theft of \$205 from the person of Simon Gardner in Bear Grass on October 29 in Bear Grass.

Four cases were appealed from the county court and appear on the docket, as follows: Lollie Williams, drunken driving; William L. Hollis, drunken driving; Dr. Wm. F. Coppage, speeding; and Charlie Paige, issuing a worthless check.

Fees Amounted To More Than \$3,400

Fees, fines and forfeitures reported by the courts and various offices in the county amounted to \$3,460.39 for the month of October, according to a report filed a few days ago.

The largest single item was fines reported in the sum of \$1,615.00 by the county recorder's court. Costs in the same court amounting to \$978.05 represented the next largest item of income. The superior court reported fees in the amount of \$47.95, and miscellaneous items in the office of the court clerk amounted to \$214.46.

J. Sam Getsinger reported for the office of register of deeds income in the sum of \$415.80, including such items as birth certificates, \$24; death certificates, \$3.50; marriage certificates, \$5; marriage licenses, white, \$72 and colored, \$56; delayed birth certificates, \$9; and other miscellaneous items, \$246.30.

The sheriff's office reported an income of \$189.13, most of which amount was raised in servicing civil papers.

Fun Maker At Peanut Festival



(Photo by courtesy Royal Photographic Center)

Forgetting all about his cares and woes, J. Lawrence Earl, local business man, donned a home-made clown suit and joined in the spirit of the recent Peanut Festival, enjoying the accepted role and creating fun for the spectators. He started out with the first note sounded by the Marine Corps Band and maintained the pace for two days, but he petered out on the third and had to withdraw with his feet aching and his voice gone.

HOLIDAY CHANGE

Advised today that the fourth month salaries could be paid before the current school month is completed, the County Board of Education is now leaving it up to the individual schools to fix the Christmas holiday schedule, it was officially learned at noon from the office of the county superintendent.

Few reports could be had from the individual schools, but Williamston will choose the old schedule, calling for the suspension of classes at noon on the 17th and the re-opening on the 29th.

All colored schools in the county will close on the 22nd to maintain a uniform schedule for busses operating in more than one district.

Going To Rescue Of Needy Family

Their pathetic plight called to the attention of a Christian people, members of a needy family in the Cross Roads section of this county are receiving aid from far and near. While no large amount of money has been received so far, the family has been given liberal boxes of food, it was learned today. Approximately \$50 in cash has been donated, according to Mr. W. L. Ausbon, a neighbor who with others, has been aiding the family for months.

The father, an invalid, is critically ill and his condition demands much medicine. Two children are paralyzed and are helpless. The mother has impaired her health trying to wait on her sick husband and helpless children. One able-bodied son, the only bread winner in the group, has been out of work on account of weather conditions.

While the response to the call for aid has been fairly liberal, the need is great and additional contributions will be received and placed to the very best advantage for the family by Mr. W. L. Ausbon, RFD 1, Robersonville. Mr. Ausbon said yesterday that a \$3 cash donation had been received from a friend in Winston-Salem who read an account of the family's plight in a county paper.

Postal Officials Urge Patrons To Mail Gifts Early

Early Mailing Will Insure Delivery of Packages Before Christmas Day

To avoid waiting at the parcel post and stamp windows in your local post office and to be certain that the gifts you mail will be received before Christmas, W. E. Dunn, local postmaster, lists below information which should prove valuable by saving your time and the time of your postal employees.

Mail your greeting cards and gift packages as early in December as possible, particularly if going to other states. All packages should be mailed before December 15 to assure delivery before Christmas day.

Early Christmas mailing is extremely vital. Packages and cards mailed late in the month may be held up on the way because of the great volume of mail handled during the season. All out of town mail should be mailed first. The delivery of Yuletide greetings exchanged locally can be handled with ease the week before Christmas.

Much time would be saved if everyone would stop in this week or next week and purchase the extra stamps they are going to need for their Christmas cards. This would be one way of avoiding the last minute crowds at the post office windows.

Put the correct postage on all mail matter and be sure that the mail is correctly addressed or you risk disappointing your friends. When sending cards to small children, address them in care of their parents. This save much time as the youngsters are not always listed.

Parcel post packages cannot be accepted unless stoutly wrapped. Use heavy cardboard outer paper, heavy cord and printed fourth class labels. The address should be repeated inside the outer wrapping. Parcels may be marked "Do not open until Christmas."

Written greetings such as "Merry Christmas," "Happy New Year," "With Best Wishes," etc.

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Town Board Of Commissioners Met On Tuesday

Delegations Appear Before Meeting With Various Problems

Very little business was on their calendar, but the town commissioners in regular meeting Tuesday evening had several problems dumped into their lap when delegations, representing various organizations, appeared before the board.

Advised that motor vehicle traffic was about to take the right-of-way away from the Coast Line freight train on Railroad Street next to the Williamston Hardware Company, the commissioners gave the railroad permission to place posts along the track.

Representing the Martin County Athletic Association, D. V. Clayton and John Henry Edwards laid the Williamston baseball park light problem before the group. Clayton explained that \$7,450 in stock had been sold, leaving a balance due of about \$3,250, including \$1,321 for installation, \$1,200 for equipment, \$410 for a switch and about \$250 for miscellaneous. It was also explained that \$3,600 in stock had been sold in Williamston, that Hamilton, Hassell, Oak City and Bear Grass each had bought \$700 in stock. The town donated \$500. It was pointed out that the county had been asked for \$500. The two men stated that the civic clubs of Williamston had agreed to contribute \$250 each.

Representing the local Parent-Teacher-Association, W. Iverson Skinner, Marvin Britton and R. E. Manning asked the town to tile the ditch just to the rear of the grammar school. It was pointed out that the town dumped water from Smithwick Street into the ditch. The P.-T. A. committee estimated that the tile would cost \$525. The plea was heard sympathetically, the board assuring the delegation that the ditch would be tiled "if and when funds are available."

Much discussion centered around a request made by representatives of the several civic clubs, urging the board to require a permit for solicitors. While the representatives, headed by Wheeler Manning and Exum Ward, Jr., stated that they did not want to hamper any worthy cause, they explained that "begging" has gone beyond all reasonable limits, that school publications, parties and other undertakings, all possibly worthwhile, were beyond reason. The commissioners and representatives discussed the problem, but no action was taken.

To supplement the drive to wipe out rats, the board adopted an anti-rat ordinance, calling for proper garbage containers and the removal of trash and other matter in which rats harbor.

Issue Last Call For Inspections

Raleigh.—Have you had your vehicles inspected yet? By vehicles we mean automobiles, trucks, semi-trailers, trailers, motorcycles, motorbikes, or any other motor propelled contraption, propelled by internal combustion engines, except trackless trolleys.

In other words, the Motor Vehicle Department said today, any vehicle which is required to be registered with the State and carries state license plates must be inspected at the State's Mechanical Inspection Lanes.

The absolute deadline for 1948, the Department said, is fast approaching, adding that the lanes will be able to handle just so many vehicles on the last day, December 31. Then, too, there are just so many days left, and no doubt some of these days will be rainy (some of the testing equipment at the lanes cannot be operated during inclement weather).

"Don't procrastinate any longer," was the word of warning from Arthur T. Moore, director of the Inspection Division. Moore said that the lanes would be closed several days around Christmas, thereby cutting the number of

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To Load Friendship Train December 20

TOY COLLECTION

Working to provide cheer for the less fortunate in the community at Christmas, the Williamston Jaycees will make a second canvass of the town for old toys Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. The canvassers will also accept other articles suitable for gifts.

The canvass last Sunday was very successful, but more toys and gifts are needed, it was explained. Individual donations are being received by T. F. Davenport at the Williamston Motor Company and by Exum Ward, Jr., at the Williamston Hardware Company.

Fifteen Cases In Justice Of Peace Courts This Week

Several Defendants Are Bound Over To Higher Courts For Trial

Justices of the Peace John L. Hassell and R. T. Johnson handled fifteen cases in their courts here during the past few days. Several of the defendants were bound over to the higher courts for trial. Petty larceny, absent from the docket for some time, was back in the courts this week, and public drunkenness and disorderly conduct were reviewed in numbers.

Justice Hassell handled the following cases:

Charged with disorderly conduct and assaulting a female, William Stokes was bound over to the county court for trial, the court requiring bond in the sum of \$100.

Back in the courts again, James Ridley, charged with simple trespass, was taxed with \$5.50 costs. Ridley is under a suspended sentence in Justice R. T. Johnson's court.

Charged with disorderly conduct, V. J. Peel was taxed with \$8.50 costs.

Eunice Odom, charged with public drunkenness, was required to pay \$9.50 costs.

Booked for disorderly conduct, Chas. Ben Roberson was taxed with \$7.50 costs.

Dora Williams was sentenced to jail for thirty days for an alleged assault on Lillie Bell Berry. The jail term was lifted upon the payment of a \$3 doctor's bill and \$5.50 costs.

John Henry Jones was taxed with \$8.50 costs for disorderly conduct.

Justice Johnson handled the following cases: Alton Hoyt Smith and Horace Hodges each were taxed with \$6.85 costs for public drunkenness.

Charged with the larceny of five chickens, Kelly Myrick was bound over to the county court for trial.

Charged with failing to stop at a highway stop sign, Chas. H. Chesson was taxed with \$5.35 costs.

In the case charging him with disorderly conduct and damage to personal property, E. G. Modlin was directed to pay the damages and \$6.85 costs.

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Name Committees For Red Cross

W. H. Carstarphen, chairman of the Martin County Chapter of the American Red Cross, this week completed the committees for carrying on the work of the organization in the five townships comprising the chapter.

Garland G. Woolard has been named chairman of the fund drive which is to get under way next March, and Dr. J. A. Edens has been named chairman of water safety and accident prevention. Other committee chairmen were named at the annual meeting of the chapter a short time ago.

Schedule Delayed One Week Account Of Rainy Weather

However, Several Districts In This County Plan To Go Ahead With Work

Rains, falling almost continuously over the State during the past several days, have made it necessary to delay loading the Friendship Train one week, it was announced this week by Rev. Wayne McLean, state chairman of the good will movement. Instead of loading the train next Sunday in this county, the work will be handled on Monday, December 20, it was announced. However, several districts in this county are well advanced with the work and the volunteers plan to deliver the food and farm products to the Williamston depot without delay. The offerings will be stored in the depot and made ready for shipment in accordance with the new schedule.

Commenting on the movement today, Chairman Jesse W. Sumner and Mayo Little said they were convinced that the people will meet the challenge, but that the movement will have to have the cooperation of all the citizens in the county.

Some individuals have already delivered cases of canned foods to the depot center here and food and farm products are expected to start moving in volume tomorrow and Saturday. The collection in several community centers is very encouraging, preliminary reports stating that corn offerings are running ahead of other products in the strictly rural areas.

Heading the work in the five townships of Jamesville, Williams, Griffins, Bear Grass and Williamston, Chairman Sumner said today that the movement is making splendid progress in Jamesville where Professor V. B. Hairy is handling the local details. Mrs. Wendell Griffin is water bound over in Williams, but the people there can be depended upon to support the plan. Rev. W. B. Harrington and Geo. C. Griffin, heading the collection in Griffins, state the response is encouraging, and Mrs. W. C. Wynne and Mr. Sidney Beacham said the cause is well advanced in Bear Grass.

In Williamston the canvass of business houses is to be completed today and tomorrow, first reports from business canvasser chairman of the town, J. B. Bondurant, stating

that the response has been very encouraging, that numerous cases of canned milk and other foods had been contributed and that the cash contributions had been very liberal. Mrs. Johnny Gurkins, chairman in the township, has made a survey of the territory and is planning to go ahead with the collection.

Heading the work in Cross Roads, Robersonville, Poplar Point, Hamilton and Goose Nest, County Chairman Mayo Little said today that the district volunteers are working, that they are enthusiastic and will do all they can to insure the success of the cause.

In Cross Roads, Chairman Geo. Taylor has lined up Garland Forbes, Gordon Bailey, Frank Bailey and Herbert Roebuck to help put it across in that township. Robersonville chairman, Vance Roberson, states that some deliveries have been made already to the township collection center in the Planters Warehouse there, business canvasser chairman, Charlie Gray, is carrying the appeal to the business firms there.

Poplar Point can be depended on, Chairman Little said, commenting on the drive there.

Hamilton yesterday planned to make the first delivery to the county center today, but it could not be learned this morning if the work would be delayed on account of rain.

Nat Johnson with the aid of vol-

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