

## Marked Increase In Illicit Liquor Traffic

### Destroy Fourteen Stills During the Month In County

ABC Officer Joe Roebuck  
And Deputy Peel Pour  
Out 6,200 Gallons Beer

Battling the greatest flareup in the illicit liquor business since prohibition days, ABC Officer Joe H. Roebuck and assistants wrecked fourteen distilleries, poured out nearly 100 gallons of white liquor and 6,250 gallons of beer in this county during the month of December, the enforcement head said yesterday while reviewing the work for the period.

Discussing the alarming flare-up, the officer said that the shortage of ready cash apparently accounted for the renewed activities. No estimate was offered, but the business would run well into the thousands of dollars.

One person was arrested. Carried into the justice of the peace courts, the violator was fined \$7.50 and taxed with the costs.

Starting out on December 2, the officers noted no big increase in the illicit traffic, but as the month progressed they realized that the business was growing by leaps and bounds. That day the enforcement officer and Deputy Roy Peel wrecked a plant in Bear Grass and poured out 100 gallons of beer.

Going into Robersonville Township on December 7, the officers wrecked three plants, including two 50-gallon capacity oil drum stills and a 50-gallon copper kettle and much equipment.

Three days later in the Macedonia section, they wrecked another still equipped with an oil drum still and six 50-gallon fermenters.

A week later on December 17 they returned to Robersonville Township and captured a 30-gallon copper kettle and poured out 550 gallons of beer.

Three days later the raiders were in Bear Grass where they tore up a 200-gallon capacity wood still and three 100-gallon capacity fermenters filled with beer. Later that same day they wrecked a 50-gallon drum still and poured out 150 gallons of beer.

One of the big days was December 22 when the officers went into the Free Union section of Jamestown Township and captured two 100-gallon capacity copper kettles and poured out 550 gallons of sugar beer and eleven gallons of liquor.

A climax was reached in enforcement work when the two raiders, accompanied by Deputy Buck Holloman and the U. S. Treasury's Alcoholic Tax Unit agent, Jack Gaskill, of Elizabeth City, went into Bear Grass Township and wrecked a big plant a short distance off highway 17. The plant was equipped with a

(Continued on page eight)

## Load Of Furniture Destroyed By Fire

Fire believed to have been started by a cigarette thrown from a passing car, burned a trailer load of furniture between here and Windsor shortly before noon Tuesday.

Moving from Cherry Street here to Norfolk, Mr. J. H. Brown loaded bedroom and living room suits of furniture and other household goods on the trailer that morning and accompanied by his wife and Mr. and Mrs. Lee Brown, was driving north on Highway 17. A short distance out of Windsor a motorist waved a warning and they looked back to see the trailer load of furniture in flames. The two suits of furniture were ruined, and other items and the trailer were damaged. Mr. Brown estimated the loss at more than \$500. The loss was partially offset by insurance.

Mr. Brown has been working in Norfolk about a year and was moving his family there.

### DRAFT REGISTRANTS

Draft registrants who have married since they registered under Selective Service are asked to notify the draft board on the third floor of Williamston's town hall without delay. They are asked to submit marriage certificates in person. They are also asked to notify the board of any other changes that would possibly alter their classification.

It was announced today that the draft board will be closed on the afternoon of January 20 while the clerk attends a district meeting in Edenton.

## President Calls For "Fair Deal"

Declaring the State of the Union was good, President Harry Truman, in his address to Congress yesterday, called for a "Fair Deal" program and urged a vast extension of social and economic legislation.

To help finance the program, the President urged a \$4,000,000,000 increase in taxes, aimed chiefly at corporations. Further big boosts in taxes would result if the whole Truman program were enacted.

It provides, among other things, for bigger social security benefits; pre-paid medical and health insurance; 1,000,000 new public housing units in seven years, and aid to education.

Among other recommendations that stood out in the 3,500-word "State of the Union" message the President delivered in person were:

Power to impose sweeping economic controls, including curbs on some wages and prices; authority to build steel plants and other factories if deemed necessary in view of shortages; repeal of the Taft-Hartley labor law; universal military training; aid to farmers and civil rights laws.

Varied comment on the speech was offered, many of the lawmakers wondering where the four extra billion would be found. Some of the features of the program were denounced, but the general belief is that the administration is destined to move in the direction pointed by the Roosevelt New Deal.

Soon after the speech was heard, Congress set out to back up the President by offering legislation that would raise the minimum wage from 40 to 75 cents an hour and repeal the Taft-Hartley law.

## Justice Johnson Has Nine Cases

Following a period of little activity during the holiday season, Justice R. T. Johnson handled nine cases in recent days in his court.

Charged with failing to give right-of-way on highway, Ernest E. Harris was fined \$20 and taxed with \$5.85 costs.

Ralph Eugene Andrews, failing to stop at a stop sign, was taxed with \$5.85 costs.

Charged with not reporting an accident on the highway, James David Lilley was required to pay \$5.85 costs.

Nathaniel Boston was fined \$10 and taxed with \$5.85 costs for allowing stock to run at large.

Charged with "beating" taxi fare, Russell Perry was taxed with \$5.85 and directed to pay the fare.

James Frank Finch was taxed with \$5.85 costs for disorderly conduct.

Ollie Bonds was fined \$15 plus \$5.85 costs for an assault.

Charged with an assault, Vernice Hodges was fined \$10 and taxed with \$5.85 costs.

Richard Allen Reese was fined \$5 and taxed with \$5.85 costs for operating a motor vehicle with improper lights.

## Fourteen Cases In County Court Monday Morning

### Large Docket Prepared For The Regular Session Next Monday

Not certain a session would be held this week, county court officers scheduled very few cases for trial last Monday, leaving a fairly big docket on hand for trial next Monday.

The court was in session hardly an hour this week and very few people were in the courtroom to witness the proceedings. Fines imposed by Judge Chas. H. Manning were comparatively small but several road sentences were meted out during the brief session.

Proceedings: Papers, calling for his arrest, were issued when Turner Ward failed to appear in the case in which he stands charged with non-support.

The cases charging Ransome Whitehurst with non-support and Clarence B. Ayers, Jr., with operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license were not pressed but are subject to be reopened.

The case charging Wm. Jasper Paige with non-support was continued until February 14.

Pleading guilty of operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license, Annie Blake was fined \$25 and taxed with the cost. Unable to meet the terms of the judgment, she continued in jail.

H. L. Blake, pleading guilty of public drunkenness, was fined \$4 and required to pay the costs.

A continuance was allowed in the speeding case against Jas. Robinson Mauldin until next Monday.

Pleading guilty of allowing an unlicensed driver to operate a motor vehicle, Fred S. McLawhorn was fined \$35 and taxed with the costs.

The case charging Russell Cullipher with operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license was continued until January 17.

George F. Lee and Chester P. Parsons, both pleading guilty of speeding, were each fined \$15 and taxed with the costs.

Charged with non-support and

(Continued on page eight)

## State Legislative Mill Cranked Up

The State Legislative Mill, idle since 1947, was cranked up yesterday when lawmakers dumped several bills into the hopper.

One of the bills would boost teachers' pay and the other would appropriate fifty million dollars for financing school construction in the several counties. Another bill, introduced in the House shortly after 1:00 o'clock Wednesday, would direct the highway commission to improve secondary roads with the unspent appropriations created by the 1945 and 1947 sessions of the General Assembly. Teachers' pay minimum would be placed at \$2,400 for holders of A-grade certificates.

Another proposed law would repeal the motor vehicle inspection law.

Behind the scene there were scraps over the move to wipe out the detestable wage and executive or secret committee sessions.

Today, the lawmakers heard Governor Kerr Scott's inaugural address in Raleigh's Memorial Auditorium and are expected to do little until the inaugural ball is over tonight.

## Draft Board In Meet Last Night

Meeting last night, the Martin County Draft Board—Eugene Rice, chairman, and Chas. Gray of Robersonville and LeRoy Everett of Hamilton, members, classified fifty-three registrants and caught up with routine work.

It was announced that the board has a call for two men to report for final induction on January 20, but it is likely that only one will be available. There is also a call for ten men to report for preinduction tests on January 31.

## To Arrest Trespassers In Woodlawn Cemetery Here

Advised of the repeated violation of the rules of decency and disregard for cemetery ordinances, Williamston's commissioners in regular session last Tuesday evening instructed police to arrest trespassers there and book them for trial in the courts. The direct order came as a climax to a report stating the vandals had torn down and damaged stones, including a marker to the memory of a World War II hero, and trampled grass and shrubbery.

Ordinances, governing the use of the sacred plot, are very explicit in their meaning, and the authorities are calling for their enforcement. The walks and drives are not to be used as general thoroughfares, and traffic, including walkers who cut across

plots and even graves, will be stopped. The ordinances also deny admittance to anyone to the cemetery between the hours of sunset and sunrise without personal permission from the grounds keeper.

Woodlawn Cemetery is being well kept, but the ground is being desecrated by thoughtless persons, it was pointed out. The practice must be stopped, in accordance with orders issued at the board meeting to Keeper H. V. Wheeler and Chief W. E. Saunders.

Persons entering the grounds between the hours of sunset and sunrise are to be arrested and carried into the courts without further warning. Violation of the ordinance carries a maximum fine of \$50 and thirty days in jail.

## Church Union Is Held Wednesday In Local Church

One-Day Service Attracts  
Large Crowd In Christian Church

The Albemarle Christian Missionary Union held its quarterly meeting Wednesday in the Williamston Christian Church with one of its largest attendances. Rev. J. M. Perry, Robersonville, presiding, of the convention called it into session at 10:30. Rev. John L. Goff, pastor of the local church, conducted the devotional service. J. C. Manning, elder in the local church, extended the welcome to the church-filled delegates while a fine response was made by John W. Eubanks, elder of the Hassell Church. Two former ministers who served in Martin County, Rev. Olin Fox, now pastor of the Hassell, Oak City and Everett group, and Cecil F. Outlaw, now pastor at Pantego, were recognized.

The early history of two of the churches of the district was given. The pastor, Rev. Ivan Adams, gave the history of the Belhaven Church while Mr. Abram Roberson of Robersonville, gave the history of the Oak Grove Church. Many interesting and humorous incidents were given. The sermon was preached by Rev. Newton J. Robison, pastor of Hillier Memorial Christian Church, Raleigh. Mr. Robison brought a stirring message on the subject, "Go and Preach."

The afternoon session began with the devotion being led by Mrs. J. D. Waters, Plymouth. Mr. H. M. Ainsley, vice-president, Oak City, presiding, Mrs. H. H. Settle, Greenville, state secretary of woman's work reported on her woman's work while dividing her time with Mr. Clinton Campbell, Indianapolis, Ind., one of the national directors of "The Crusade for a Christian World." The state service was covered by Thomas P. Riggins, state evangelist.

The convention accepted the invitation of the Hassell Christian Church to hold its next meeting on April 6th.

Lunch was served by the Woman's Council of the local Church to about two hundred guests. Special music for the convention was rendered by Mrs. George Wynne, who sang "No Room" while Miss Ida Privett sang "Were You There." Mrs. Joseph W. Griffin accompanied at the piano in the absence of Mrs. W. C. Manning, the regular organist.

The convention accepted the invitation of the Hassell Christian Church to hold its next meeting on April 6th.

Lunch was served by the Woman's Council of the local Church to about two hundred guests. Special music for the convention was rendered by Mrs. George Wynne, who sang "No Room" while Miss Ida Privett sang "Were You There." Mrs. Joseph W. Griffin accompanied at the piano in the absence of Mrs. W. C. Manning, the regular organist.

## Fifth Sunday Sing Slated In County

The next fifth Sunday sing will be held in the Piney Grove Baptist Church on January 30, E. R. Stewart, Hamilton minister, announced this week. Rev. W. B. Harrington, the pastor, and his congregation are making ready to welcome a large crowd.

Those who plan special numbers are asked to contact the Rev. Mr. Stewart, listing the numbers and singers.

The special sing will be held at 2:30 in the afternoon and the public is invited.

## Governor Outlines 15-Point Program In Address Today

### Roads and Education High On List; Favors Liquor Referendum

Declaring he faced the future with confidence, Governor Kerr Scott, in his inaugural address early this afternoon, submitted a 15-point program to the members of the General Assembly in charting the course of North Carolina for the biennium ahead.

"Together we have a job to do," the new governor declared in launching his far-reaching program before a record crowd in the Raleigh Memorial Auditorium.

Roads were given the No. 1 place in the program. "We have made great progress in road building in the past three decades," Scott said. "We now have more than 62,000 miles of roads, nearly 16,000 miles of them hard-surfaced, but a great part of our State still does not have all-weather transportation. In my opinion the most inexcusable waste in our economy is the mud tax. I propose repealing the mud tax just as rapidly as it is possible to build and improve roads that will enable every school bus to operate every day in the year, and provide all-weather access to markets, places of employment, churches and medical care," he continued.

Recognizing the "colossal nature of the task of building roads," the governor said "it may require both an increase in the gasoline tax and borrowing money."

Education was the No. 2 point in the program, the chief executive reviewing the costs over a period of years. He favored a \$2,400 minimum salary for A-grade teachers, plus increments, and anticipated 20 millions of dollars in federal aid to state education each year. He recommended aid for the construction of buildings in the several counties.

Touching on higher education, Scott said, "I am not convinced that our system of higher education is either the best or the most economical system we can devise." He cited the great loss due to poor preparation and other adverse factors, and declared that the answer may be in the development of a system of junior colleges as a part of the Greater University. He recommended that a careful survey of the system be made.

Referring to health as the third point in his program, Governor Scott supported the medical care plan, including a four-year medical school and teaching hospital at the State University and a dental school. The chief executive said that he favored modern health stations and the encouragement of country practice for the doctor.

He also said that "if for financial reason we are unable to carry the entire program," the health stations should be given precedence.

Scott said, "Our hospitals for the mentally sick must be made adequate physically and staffed with properly trained personnel."

At no time, he pointed out, should a jail be the waiting room for patients requiring mental treatment." The chief executive also said that "we must not overlook the part of the medical program devoted to the prevention of sickness as carried on by the State Board of Health."

Including his health point, the governor said, "We are lagging in providing facilities for the treatment and prevention of tuberculosis. Farmers long ago stamped out TB among cattle. I think it is high time we showed more progress toward eradicating it in the human family."

For Human Welfare he recommended increases in old age benefits, and said local communities should maintain vigilance against fraud and should be encouraged to shoulder greater responsibility toward caring for those unable to care for themselves. He stressed the need for improvement of our prison administration and parole and probation systems.

Natural resources were mentioned, the governor urging better land usage, the recognition of forestry as an industry, an expansion in commercial fishing and the development of a more organized nature done.

(Continued on page eight)

## Propose Regulations For Taxi Operators

### REPORT

Reporting on the operation of parking meters here for the first four and one-half months, Treasurer Dan Sharpe told a meeting of the board of town commissioners last Tuesday evening that \$2,996.80 had been collected, since the meters were installed August 9, that one-half the amount had been applied on the cost of the gadgets. Income from the meters in December was \$779.73.

The trial period ends in February and the board, according to its bargain, will submit a petition to the public to determine if the meters are to be retained or removed.

## Reviews Years In Furniture Store

Observing the 35th anniversary of his furniture firm the first of this month, Mr. B. S. Courtney, this week reviewed the years spent in the business.

"I left Scotland Neck on January 1, 1914, at 7:00 o'clock that morning and reached here that evening. Mr. Sam Ray had unpacked and placed a stock in the store now occupied by Margolis Brothers," Mr. Courtney said.

An expanding business called for larger quarters within a short time and the store was moved to the building now occupied by The Enterprise. After a few years still larger quarters were needed and the store was located in the building now occupied by Pittman's.

Advancing with the times, Mr. Courtney purchased the Martin Building and located his business there in January, 1928. The store is now one of the largest in this section of the State and is supported by three warehouses.

Only one other firm has been in continuous business and under the same management longer than Courtney's. Sam Faulk was running an ice and fish business when the Courtney firm opened, but all the others have since changed hands or management, Mr. Courtney explained. Other firms, including The Enterprise, the Biggs Drug Store and Funeral Home and possibly others, are older but the management personnel has changed or there was a break in operations.

The Courtney store is now one of the leading firms of its type in this section, its personnel having increased from 40 to 100. Mr. Sam Harrell, late of Williamston, was with the firm for about twenty years.

Mr. Courtney said that he favored modern health stations and the encouragement of country practice for the doctor.

He also said that "if for financial reason we are unable to carry the entire program," the health stations should be given precedence.

Scott said, "Our hospitals for the mentally sick must be made adequate physically and staffed with properly trained personnel."

At no time, he pointed out, should a jail be the waiting room for patients requiring mental treatment." The chief executive also said that "we must not overlook the part of the medical program devoted to the prevention of sickness as carried on by the State Board of Health."

Including his health point, the governor said, "We are lagging in providing facilities for the treatment and prevention of tuberculosis. Farmers long ago stamped out TB among cattle. I think it is high time we showed more progress toward eradicating it in the human family."

For Human Welfare he recommended increases in old age benefits, and said local communities should maintain vigilance against fraud and should be encouraged to shoulder greater responsibility toward caring for those unable to care for themselves. He stressed the need for improvement of our prison administration and parole and probation systems.

Natural resources were mentioned, the governor urging better land usage, the recognition of forestry as an industry, an expansion in commercial fishing and the development of a more organized nature done.

(Continued on page eight)

## Representatives Discuss Control Plans At Meeting

### Uniform Fares and Inspection Service Included In New Proposal

Troubled by the haphazard system of operating taxis here for the past several years, the local board of town commissioners in their meeting Tuesday evening discussed proposed ordinances designed to regulate the business. No action was taken, the board calling a meeting of its own representatives and representative taxi operators to work out the rules and regulations of operation.

Under the proposed plan, the town would name a taxi inspector. Operators are to file applications, showing good character and other qualifications.

The number of taxis would be limited to meet the public demand, but all those now operating are to be allowed to continue if the rules and regulations are adopted as proposed.

Operating certificates are to be issued for one year, ending June 30.

Certificates and picture of the drivers are to be displayed along with uniform fares.

The certificates, under the proposed ordinances, may be revoked for any one of several violations, such as:

"Pint pushing," reckless driving, speeding, assault, drunken driving or improper use of cabs.

Parking space is to be provided for a limited number of cabs and a privilege license will be charging. The license fee is to be determined, the commissioners suggesting that a fee between \$25 and \$50 per year be fixed.

Drivers are to wear caps, and the cabs are to be inspected for cleanliness and mechanical condition at certain intervals.

Violations of the provisions set out in the ordinances carry a maximum fine of \$25 in addition to revocation of licenses or certificates.

No date for the meeting of board and taxi operators representatives was fixed, but the mayor, chief of police will get together with the operators within the next

(Continued on page eight)

## Perform Autopsy On Attack Victim

An autopsy performed on the body of Lawrence Andrews, 39-year-old colored man who died at his home near Parmele late last Saturday night, reveals that he died of a skull fracture. No official report has been filed by Coroner S. R. Biggs, but one report stated that Andrews, a victim of an attack, was shot in the head by a pistol by Norman Worsley, suffering a fracture on the side of the head about two inches long, that infection resulted, causing the man's death.

The autopsy was made by Dr. Elliott Ward of Robersonville and Deputy Coroner E. B. Green of Greenville last Monday night.

No warrant has been issued in the case, but it is certain that Worsley will be charged with murder.

He attacked Andrews on the night of December 24 after Andrews reprimanded him for attacking his (Andrews') daughter in Edgecombe County the evening before. A warrant was issued last week in Edgecombe County charging Worsley with rape, and it was learned that the man is also wanted in this county for drunken driving.

Armed with the rape warrant, county officers searched for Worsley the middle of last week, a day after the warrant was issued in Edgecombe County. The officers saw Worsley get out of his car and disappear in a swamp. Nothing has been heard from him since that time.

## Band Parents Meet Next Tuesday Night

A meeting of the Band Parents Club of the Williamston Green Wave Band is scheduled for Tuesday night at 8:00 o'clock in the high school building.

Plans for the trip to Rocky Mount on the 19th and other matters pertaining to band work are to be discussed. Inability to use the new high school building unit is handicapping the work of the band which is finding itself too pushed around to get much work of an organized nature done.