

## Twenty Cases In County's Court Monday Morning

### Several Defendants Sent To Roads; Fines Imposed In Sum of \$605

The Martin County Recorder's Court handled twenty cases during its weekly session last Monday morning. Several defendants were sent to the roads and fines were imposed in the amount of \$605. Quite a few spectators were in the courtroom for the session which lasted until 1:00 o'clock.

Proceedings: The cases charging Fred Gilbert Cherry with an assault with a deadly weapon and Romas Taylor Griffin with aiding and abetting an assault with a deadly weapon, were not pressed or dismissed.

Charged with operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license, Leslie E. Simpson pleaded not guilty. Adjudged guilty, he was fined the minimum amount of \$200 and taxed with the costs. The court recommended that no driver's license be issued the defendant for an additional two years.

Adjudged guilty of drunken driving over his plea of not guilty, Irving Riddick was fined \$100 and taxed with the costs. He appealed to the higher court and bond was required in the sum of \$250.

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

Charged with an assault and disorderly conduct, Ernest Wooten was found guilty of disorderly conduct, and judgment was suspended upon the payment of the costs.

The case in which Edmond E. Moble was charged with an assault was remanded to the justice court where it originated, the defendant to abide by the judgment there.

Pleading not guilty, Lester R. Meeks was found guilty of drunken driving and was fined \$100, plus costs. Notice of appeal was given and bond was required in the sum of \$250.

The case in which Billy Gene Tetterton was charged with temporary larceny was not pressed.

Charged with failing to report an automobile accident, Leggett Roebuck, Jr., pleaded guilty and judgment was suspended upon the payment of the costs.

James Edward Chorley was found not guilty of operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license.

Rhodes Bud Speller, adjudged guilty of operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license, was fined \$25 and taxed with the costs. Speller explained that he drove the car across Washington Street to clear a way for traffic in front of Williamston's Duck Inn.

Oscar Bynum, charged with assaulting his wife and receiving a 17-stitch gash in his forehead in the act, was sentenced to the roads for two months when he could not arrange to finance a \$25 fine and the court costs.

Julius Crandell was fined \$15 and taxed with the costs for assaulting a female.

Charged with violating the liquor laws and public drunkenness, Linwood W. Moore was fined \$60 and required to pay the costs.

Charles DeAngelis, the Baltimore marine, who wrecked his father's Cadillac near Gardner's Creek about ten days ago was released when the State could not offer evidence supporting a careless and reckless driving charge.

Roy Bell, pleading guilty of allowing a slot machine to be stationed in his store, was fined \$50 and taxed with the costs.

James Alexander Hardison, pleading guilty of speeding, was fined \$15 and taxed with the costs.

Theodore Staton pleaded guilty of non-support and was sentenced to the roads for six months. The road term was suspended upon the payment of the case costs and \$8 a week for the support of his wife and child during the next two years.

Eddie B. Boykin was fined \$15, plus costs, for speeding, the defendant having pleaded guilty.

## Farm Bureau Starts Drive For 2,000 County Members

Meeting in the county courthouse Wednesday evening, officers of the Martin County Farm Bureau and other interested farmers mapped plans for launching the organization's membership drive this year. Assigned a quota of 2,000 memberships, the organization is starting its drive immediately with the expressed hope of reaching the goal the last of this month or in early October.

Secretary-treasurer Mayo Hardison reported that the annual barbecue held last May when nearly 2,500 persons were served, had just about depleted the treasury. The annual feed cost right at \$1,500. He also explained that prize money had been advanced for the fat stock show and for other 4-H Club events in addition to an amount raised to supplement agricultural research at State College.

Commenting on the membership drive, President C. L. Daniel said that the canvassers work without remuneration, that they give of their time and expenses, and that farmers interested in the continuance of a parity program for agriculture could aid the good work by looking up a canvasser and joining the organization.

Important farm legislation is to be passed between now and next year, and unless the farmer acts to protect himself the present program is subject to be wiped out and replaced by the Aiken Bill which offers a sliding parity as low as 80 percent.

The membership committee will meet in the county courthouse again on Wednesday, September 14 at 8:00 o'clock.

### PAVING BID

The Nello Teer Company of Durham submitted a low bid—\$21,213—for resurfacing streets here and in Windsor. The bid, along with 28 others submitted on other highway projects calling for an expenditure of nearly three million dollars, will be reviewed by the Highway Commission in meeting at Raleigh today.

The contract calls for the resurfacing of Main and Washington Streets, and the work is tentatively scheduled to get under way within thirty days.

## Sales At Three Million Pounds

Tobacco sales on the local market are pushing close to the three million-pound mark today, reports stating that the mark will be passed by a considerable margin tomorrow.

At the close of sales yesterday the market had sold 2,705,304 pounds for \$1,189,409, or an average price right at \$44 per hundred. The market in the first nine selling days of the current season has sold half a million pounds more than it did in the corresponding period last year, but the price average is about \$3.00 per hundred lower this year than it was last.

A fairly large sale is on the floors today, and indications point to a big sale tomorrow and next Monday.

The market has caught up fairly well with the demand for space, and sales are running smoothly. Farmers, offering good quality of tobacco, are averaging above 65 cents a pound, but some of the inferior grades, especially smoked tobacco, are without friends.

## Urges Purchase Savings Bonds

Kenneth C. Wible, deputy director of the North Carolina U. S. Savings Bonds office in Greensboro, yesterday directed an appeal to Martin County citizens, urging them to invest in savings bonds during the course of the next few months.

"A financial reserve is just as important a part of a well managed farm business as land, livestock and equipment," he pointed out, adding that a financial reserve is needed by every family to meet emergencies such as crop failures, sickness or accident as well as a hedge against lower farm incomes.

He stated that Martin County citizens now hold \$3,960,554 in U. S. savings bonds and urged that the amount be maintained and supplemented during the fall months.

Martin County people, after going all out to support bond purchases during the war, have bought very few bonds since that time. However, an urgent appeal is being advanced in behalf of larger bond purchases this fall and during the course of the following twelve months.

## Arrange Schedule For School Term In Martin County

Colored Schools to Open on Tuesday; White Schools Open Day Later

Opening a bit later than usual, the Martin County schools will start the new term next week, the twenty-one colored schools beginning the fall session at 8:30 Tuesday morning and the nine white schools opening at 1:30 o'clock the following day, it was announced by the office of the superintendent.

Events in which teachers, school officials and parents-teachers' organizations will participate are scheduled earlier in the week.

The 110 colored teachers and principals will meet in the Williamston colored school next Monday morning at 9:30 o'clock to complete plans for the opening the next day. Teacher assignments are just about complete in all the 21 colored schools, it was learned. When the colored schools open at 8:30 Tuesday morning, September 6, registrations will be handled and the schedule of book and other fees will be announced.

On Wednesday, September 7, books will be distributed and lessons assigned and fees collected, preparatory for a full-day schedule on Thursday. A peak enrollment is predicted in the colored schools this year.

The first in the schedule of preliminary events leading up to the opening of the nine white schools on Wednesday, September 7, will be an informal conference in the Williamston High School auditorium Monday evening at 8 o'clock. All teachers have been invited to attend along with members of the county board of education, administrative personnel, officers of the Martin County Council of Parent-Teacher Association, and officers of the Martin County Unit of the North Carolina Education Association.

Following the invocation by Rev. John L. Goff, the local high school band will have a part on the program. Introductions will be made and the superintendent will offer various comments. The parent-teacher council will entertain at an informal reception.

The first official event in the pre-school program for white teachers will be held in the elementary school building here next Tuesday morning at 9:30 o'clock. In short and figuratively speaking, the meeting will take on the aspects of a general "bull session."

(Continued on page eight)

## Speaks Monday In Bear Grass School

H. M. Covington, sweet potato specialist of the State College Extension Service, Raleigh, will address farmers and other interested citizens in the Bear Grass School next Monday evening at 8 o'clock, it was announced this week. The public is invited to hear Mr. Covington discuss a timely topic which is certain to prove of interest and value.

Mr. Covington will be a guest of the Bear Grass Rural Club just prior to the public meeting, it was explained.

## Market Will Close But No General Holiday Scheduled

There'll be no tobacco sales on the local or any of the markets in the belt next Monday, Labor Day, but no general holiday will be observed here, as far as it could be learned today.

All federal and state offices will observe the day as a holiday, including the post office, Triple A and county agent's offices. There will be no mail deliveries in the town or rural sections. The liquor store is closing along with the Virginia Electric and Power Company offices and possibly a few more offices. The stores and other general offices are scheduled to remain open.

The county commissioners will hold their regular monthly meeting according to schedule, but there is little business to come before the body and the session is almost certain to be a short one. The county court will convene as usual, and all strictly county offices are to remain open.

It is possible the local town commissioners will delay their meeting either until the next night or the following Monday.

Most North Carolina towns are not recognizing the day as a holiday, but several are scheduling a holiday for the day. Robersonville will observe the day as a holiday, according to an announcement released yesterday by Mr. Oscar Roberson, of the Robersonville Merchants Association.

## Julius Peel Died At His Home Near Here Early Today

Funeral Arrangements Had Not Been Completed Early This Afternoon

Julius Staton Peel, retired attorney and bond broker, died at his home near Williamston this morning at 8:00 o'clock, the apparent victim of a heart attack. He had been in declining health for some time, having received hospital treatment at intervals over a period of several years.

The son of the late Noah Staton Peel and Elizabeth Yarrell Peel, he was born in Williamston 61 years ago on December 5, 1887. After attending the local schools he studied in a Virginia school, and at old Trinity Park before taking a business course at Poughkeepsie. When a young man he served as cashier of a Kelford bank for several years, and enlisted in the U. S. Army at the outbreak of World War I. Discharged as a captain, he was later made a major in the Army Reserve Corps, but resigned that commission some years later.

He attended Wake Forest Law School and opened a law office here, later forming a partnership with Chas. H. Godwin, Sr., and dealt in stocks and bonds. He had not been active in the business for some time on account of ill health.

Surviving is his widow, the former Miss Mary Layman of Roanoke, Virginia.

Funeral arrangements had not been completed early this afternoon.

## Youthful Robber Caught In Store

Dick Dickens, 14-year-old colored boy, is being carried before Juvenile Judge L. B. Wynne here this afternoon for allegedly breaking into and robbing Barrett's Drug Store in Oak City last Tuesday night.

Entering the store through the top sash of a back window, the youth allegedly stole several dollars in change from the cash register. The robbery is the third believed to have been maneuvered by the youth during the course of a few days.

Mr. Wilbur Barrett, owner and operator of the store, was checking the rear of the store Tuesday evening about 9:30 o'clock and caught the youth coming out the window. The boy was turned over to county officers who left him in the custody of his mother until the hearing this afternoon.

### EXHIBITS

A special exhibit of art work, scrap books and other materials reflecting study and advancement in the schools of this county will be open to the public in the Williamston elementary building next Monday between the hours of 9:30 a. m. and 6:00 p. m., it was announced today by Supervisor Lissie Pearce. The public is invited to inspect the exhibits.

## Schools Expect Big Opening Wednesday

Pupils To Report For Registration At 1:30 Wednesday

Each Grade In The Elementary School

Plans were announced complete today by Principal B. G. Stewart for the opening of the Williamston white schools next Wednesday when previous enrollment records are expected to topple in the path of a determined horde of little and youthful education seekers.

A staff of thirty-five capable teachers will greet the pupils for registrations at 1:30 o'clock that afternoon, and start the return trips soon are registrations are completed.

Reporting at 8:30 o'clock the following morning, the pupils will receive their books and assignments and depart for their homes between 12:30 and 1:00 o'clock. A full-day schedule, beginning at 8:30 and ending at 3:15 o'clock, is slated for Friday when the lunch rooms will be open for the first time.

No formal program has been planned for the opening, the principal said.

Commenting on the teacher allotment and other timely school facts, Principal Stewart said today:

"The five state supplied teachers gained during the past three years due to increases in enrollment and decreases in teacher load have all been elementary teachers. If the enrollment in the high school is as great as our forecast and we are able to improve upon high school attendance we should gain a high school teacher this year. Another teacher in the high school is needed badly to reduce the size of some overcrowded classes and study halls, to provide more time for library supervision and to make it possible to add some new courses to the high school curriculum.

"The problem of classroom space which was temporarily solved last year by the addition of four new classrooms has arisen again. The new section of the eighth grade will occupy a room formerly used by the high school. It is hoped that additional classroom space, a cafeteria and facilities for the offering of vocational agriculture and industrial arts will be provided soon.

"With a corps of experienced teachers to back up this statement and with increased support from the State in salaries, teaching materials and buildings, I predict for our schools a successful year."

Detailed instructions were released today for pupils and parents by the principal, as follows:

1. Students of the Williamston White Schools will report to the following places for registration Wednesday, September 7, at 1:30 p. m.

Grammar school: 1st Grade—all who attended the pre-school clinic to Mrs. Saunders' room. 1st Grade—all who did not attend the pre-school clinic to auditorium.

2nd Grade to Mrs. Froneberger's Room.

3rd Grade to Miss Manning's Room.

4th Grade to Miss Jenkins' Room.

5th Grade to Mrs. Abernathy's Room.

6th Grade to Miss Rogerson's Room.

New students of Grades 1st through 6th to auditorium. High school: Grades 7 through 12 to auditorium. 2. Fees to be paid by students (due Wednesday or Thursday): 1st and 2nd Grades, \$1.00; 3rd, 4th

### DIRECTOR



Miss Emilyn Wagner assumes her new duties with the Memorial Baptist Church here today. She will direct the church's program of Religious Education and work with the young people of the Church.

Prior to coming here she worked in the capacity of an Association Missionary or worker in the western part of this State. She was graduated from the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, this past spring with the Master of Religious Education degree. Her A. B. degree was earned at Lenoir Rhyne College in Hickory. Prior to her studies at the Seminary, she taught in the elementary grades of the public schools for about three years.

Miss Wagner is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Wagner of Taylorsville, N. C.

## Evening Classes For County Vets

Beginning this evening, a special course in business administration will be offered white veterans in this area, Director C. A. Hamilton of the veterans school division, announces. Classes will be held five evenings each week for three hours in the high school and will be conducted by Mrs. Martin Moore and Mrs. C. A. Hamilton, Jr., the director said.

Sixteen veterans have signed up for the course as follows: Joseph H. Baggett, William N. Cherry, Robert H. Cowen, Thurston F. Davenport, Jr., Simon C. Griffin, Jr., John H. Gurganus, Joseph Gurganus, Jimmy Earl Knight, Thurman H. Matthews, Leroy Moble, Martin Moore, Joseph A. Peele, Lewis A. Pippin, Jesse F. Roberson, Exum Ward, and George C. Wynne.

Possibly two hundred veterans are enrolled in special agriculture classes in the county at present.

## "Bush Growers" To Parade Here

A preview parade of the Washington County Sesqui-Centennial Celebration, honoring the founding of the county 150 years ago, and scheduled to be held in Plymouth on September 18-22, will be in Williamston at 12 noon on Saturday of this week. The marchers will parade through the main business section. They also plan to parade in Washington, Windsor, Edenton and Plymouth the same day.

The parade will consist of members of the "Bush Growers League," men who have grown all types of beards, side-burns, goates and moustaches for the celebration; members of the "sisters of the swish," women who will wear old time costumes; and the Plymouth High School band.

## Return Man Here To Face Larceny Charge

Frank Williams, charged with petty larceny and who ran out from under a bond, is being returned to the county today from Virginia Beach by Deputies Roy Peel and Raymond Rawls.

## Reviews Work Of Boosters Here In Past Four Months

Plan for Harvest Festival To Be Held Latter Part Of October

It has now been almost four months to the day since Alford Sweatt arrived in Williamston to take over his duties as managing director of the Williamston Boosters. These four months have seen this organization grow from little more than an undeveloped embryo into a state of permanency which should assure any and all doubters that it is definitely here to stay.

Starting out under considerable handicaps, under the direction of Mr. Lynn Taylor in the fall of 1948; the organization made a name for itself, the climax coming with the first Williamston Peanut Festival in that year. Shortly thereafter, Mr. Taylor departed from Williamston and the activities of the Boosters diminished to an almost complete standstill. However, there remained the nucleus of the present organization, the temporary board of directors, Messrs. C. B. Clark, Jr., Jay Griffin, Lemán Barnhill, Urban Rogers, Ernest Mears, Buras Critcher, Jr., Frank Margolis and Robert Cowen. For a number of months, these men endeavored to find someone willing and able to assume the duties of Managing Director or Executive Secretary. Then, in April, 1949, through the services and efforts of the local North Carolina State Employment office and its manager, J. Kelly Gay, an interview was arranged with Al Sweatt, who was then Sales and Promotion Manager of the Charlotte Merchants Association. The outcome of that interview is known to most everyone in Williamston; but for the benefit of those who don't know, Mr. Sweatt arrived in Williamston on Sunday afternoon, May 1, 1949, to assume the job of organizing the group along permanent Chamber of Commerce and Merchants Association lines.

The first few weeks were spent in studying and analyzing the needs of the community and the best methods of serving these needs. First and foremost, the potential membership had to be felt out. Letters were sent out with return post cards enclosed and as those that were returned gave a vote of confidence, more or less, to the future of the organization.

On May 17, 1949 the organization became known as the Williamston Boosters, Inc., having been granted its charter by the State of North Carolina as of that date. By letter and by personal calls, memberships were solicited. The membership began growing and is still growing.

On June 1, 1949, the Boosters began a daily radio program, featuring news, at 12:05 p. m., Monday through Friday, over radio station WRRF, Washington. This program was, and is, designed to present the name of Williamston to the radio listening audience of this section. On this program, 4 individual spot announcements are given each day for members of the Williamston Boosters, Inc. The only exception to this rule is of course, professional men, who are not allowed to advertise. The program has proven very successful and will be continued indefinitely.

During the tobacco season a 15-minute program is carried over WRRF at 11:00 a. m., Monday through Friday direct from the warehouse floor. This program is conducted by Mr. Sweatt and has proven very popular.

One of the more pressing needs of the community was and is, the necessity of the merchants to "pull" together, especially for joint trade promotions. The Retail Trade Promotions Committee of the Boosters is helping to supply that need. One example is the Booster Days event which was held on June 23, 24 and 25, 1949. Needless to say, that promotion was a highly successful one, so much so, in fact, that Fall Booster Days are being planned for retail members of the Boosters during

(Continued on page eight)