

Grand Jury Files Quarterly Report In Court Tuesday

Note Improvement In Condition of School Properties In County

Completing its work Tuesday afternoon, the Martin County Grand Jury, under the direction of Foreman Marion Cobb, filed its report with Judge Leo Carr in the Superior Court and adjourned for the term.

The report follows, in detail: We the Grand Jury of Martin County for the above mentioned term of Superior Court submit to you our report as follows:

All bills of indictment presented were passed on by us. We examined the office of the clerk of court and found it to be in excellent condition with no guardian reports or accounts not filed as required.

The Sheriff's Office and Tax Collector's Office were visited and records examined and found in very good condition.

We found the Register of Deeds Office in very good condition.

The reports of the Justice of Peace were checked and found filed with the Clerk of Court and all fines submitted as required.

We found the County Jail clean and in good condition. There were two (2) white inmates and four (4) colored inmates.

The County Home was visited, found to be in very good condition and past Grand Jury recommendations complied with.

The County Prison Camp was visited, found to be in very good condition and past Grand Jury recommendations in process of correction.

The office of the Superintendent of County Schools was visited and found to be in very good condition.

We visited the schools of the county (both colored and white) and found them greatly improved since the last examination by the Grand Jury. There were a

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Jos. B. Barnhill Funeral Monday

Funeral services were conducted last Monday afternoon at 4:00 o'clock in the home at Everetts for Mr. Joseph Berry Barnhill who died there after a long illness last Friday evening at 6:10 o'clock. Rev. J. M. Perry and Rev. J. L. Goff conducted the rites and interment was in Woodlawn Cemetery here.

Surviving are two children, Miss Edna Barnhill of the home, and Jos. B. Barnhill, Jr., of Williamston; one grandchild; a sister, Mrs. Nathan Rogers of Bear Grass; and a brother Mr. Jule T. Barnhill of Williamston.

The funeral was attended by a large number of friends from the county and several states, including the following from out of town: Mr. and Mrs. Harry Jones and Mr. Percy Jennings of Elizabeth City, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Barnhill, Mr. and Mrs. Archie Roebuck, Mr. and Mrs. John Knight, and Mr. Earl Barter of Greenville, Mr. and Mrs. Jackson of Washington, Mrs. Robert Holler of Roanoke Rapids, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Bookman, Misses Phyllis Owens and Maye Lanigan of Richmond, Mr. Russell T. Roebuck of Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Noell Dunn of Newport News, Va., Mr. and Mrs. F. F. Pollard of Bethel, Mr. Robert Abram Barnhill of Baltimore, Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Mallory of Oak City, Rev. E. R. Stewart of Hamilton.

COTTON PICKERS

A call is going out for 25 or 30 workers to pick cotton in the fields of this county, Kelly Gay, manager of the local employment office said this morning.

It is likely that there'll be a heavy demand for workers in the peanut fields very shortly, and any unemployed are asked to contact the office on the first floor of the Tar Heel building in Williamston.

Tobacco Sales Pass Seven Million Mark Here Today

Following one of the biggest days so far this season, tobacco sales shrunk considerably Tuesday and yesterday, but the offerings today carried the total to the seven million-pound mark with high prices still prevailing.

The market through yesterday had sold slightly in excess of 6,823,000 pounds for an average of \$47.54 per hundred pounds.

Individual averages reached a new high figure yesterday when Beacham and Rogers sold 854 pounds for \$657.12, an average of \$77.00 per hundred. The sales were recorded officially, as follows: 46 at 55 cents, 92 at 65 cents,

74 at 66 cents, 146 at 70 cents, 148 at 80 cents, 96 at 84 cents, 162 at 87 cents, and 90 pounds at 90 cents.

Floor averages were slightly under the record figure reported for last Monday, but reports state that the slight drop was traceable to the lower quality offerings rather than to any weakening in the price schedule.

Farmers are turning to peanut digging and comparatively light sales are to be expected for the next ten days or two weeks. Then, too, a large portion of the crop has been marketed already, possibly fifty percent of the farmers already having sold out.

ON THE AIR

Several Martin County 4-H club members, including Joyce Harris, Bear Grass; Francis Smith and William Taylor, Robersonville, and Corone Bryant, Williamston, will participate in a radio program over WPTF, Raleigh, Saturday of this week at 12:45 o'clock in the afternoon.

The subject of the program will be "Better Methods Through Electricity," Miss Agnes Beale, assistant county home agent, announced.

Railroad Circus Here Tomorrow

For the first time in several years a big railroad circus comes to Williamston, early tomorrow morning. Dailey Bros. Big 5 Ring Railroad Circus arrives over the Atlantic Coast Line from Kinston for afternoon and night performances at the Williamston Lumber Company showgrounds.

Recognized as the fastest growing show in America, Dailey Bros. this season has assembled a most pleasing array of white top features, five rings, housing acrobats, tumblers, wire walkers, trapeze artists, bare back riders, high perch performers, teeter-board experts and a host of other top-flight features of circuses, these combined with twenty-five performing elephants, one hundred highly trained thorough-bred horses, ponies, dogs and other domestic animals blend into a highly diversified two-hour, star-studded program, this avalanche of stars is headed by two sensational wild animal displays, Capt. Max Knudson and his polar bears and Capt. Joe Haworth battling a score of man-eating lions in the big steel arena.

Dailey Bros. have just completed a three month tour of Canada where thousands were thrilled and amazed at the performances, circus lovers of Williamston and surrounding territory are assured that this same program will be given in its entirety—twenty-five double length steel railroad cars traveling as a special train loaded to the gunwales with more than 150 performers and tons of enchanted cargo.

For the lovers of "horse opery", Doug Autry, his cowboys, cowgirls and Western jamboree, appear at each performance to give added thrills.

Performances start 3 and 8, doors open 2 and 7.

Reserved seat tickets on sale tomorrow (Friday), at Clark's Pharmacy.

Minor Accident On Main Street

William Cherry was hurt but believed not seriously when the station wagon in which he was riding and a car driven by John Small crashed at the Washington and Main Street intersection early last evening. Cherry was complaining with a side injury received when he was thrown against the side of the station wagon driven by Joseph Gurganus.

Investigating Officer C. R. Moore estimated the damage to the station wagon at \$150 and said that \$10 or \$15 would cover the repair cost on the Small car.

Parents-Teachers Hold First Fall Meeting Monday

"Come, See" Type of Program Be Held In Grammar School at 7:30

An especially attractive program intended to give the parents a better idea of the where and how of their children's work in the Williamston schools is being arranged for the first fall meeting of the Parent-Teacher Association in the auditorium of the Elementary School next Monday evening at 7:30, it was announced yesterday.

Described as a "Come, See" program in which the parents will be given the opportunity of visiting their children's respective classrooms, the teachers are cooperating in making the meeting as informative as possible. The library, principal's office, restrooms and playgrounds will also be visited before the meeting is closed with refreshments in the lunchroom.

The various teachers and their pupils have arranged to make their places of study as attractive as possible and they, as well as the officers of the P. T. A. are anxious to have all parents represented at the opening session of the year.

Preliminary to the classroom visits will be a brief session in the newly renovated and redecorated Elementary School auditorium with President J. C. Eubanks presiding.

Charge Man With Assaulting Female

Charged with assaulting a female, William Patterson, local fill-station employe, was bound over to the county court for trial on October 3 at a preliminary hearing held before Justice R. T. Johnson here last evening. Patterson waived examination and did not discuss the charge. Reports state that he has said nothing to officers since his arrest about 2:00 o'clock Tuesday morning. At that time he told the arresting officers that what they (wife and daughter) told on him was not true.

The case was investigated by Sheriff M. W. Holloman and members of the local police force Tuesday morning and Patterson was ordered held without bond.

A doctor's examination revealed that the alleged victim had not been injured, and after conferring with superior court officials the assault charge was preferred. Patterson furnished bond and following his release from jail he was said to have returned to his home, bathed and dressed and went out.

Librarian Will Visit Schools

Miss Eloise Camp, former librarian in the Kannapolis city schools and now State School Library advisor, is working in the local high school today, assisting Miss Peterson, local high school library teacher, in discarding obsolete and unusable books. She is also suggesting titles to be ordered and making suggestions for improving the service in the schools.—Reported.

Judge Halstead To Hold Court Here Beginning Monday

Court Continues Few Criminal Cases and Switches To Civil Calendar

Clearing fifteen cases from the docket during the first three days of the current two-week term, the Martin County Superior Court today is plodding along toward the end of the criminal docket with the possibility that several will be continued.

There are no cases of a sensational nature, but they have been vigorously contested and Judge Leo Carr, presiding, has been very patient in administering justice.

This morning the court called the case in which Herbert Thompson is charged with breaking and entering and stealing a dollar from Oscar Frazer. The court plans to call the \$15,000 damage suit of Peel, administrator, against the A. C. L. Railroad Company and possibly recess for the remainder of the week.

Judge W. I. Halstead, recently appointed to the bench, is scheduled to preside over the court beginning next Monday when Judge Leo Carr goes to Tarboro to hear the Tarboro strike mill case.

Drunken driving charges just about monopolized the court during the first three days, and several other similar cases were awaiting the pleasure of the court this morning.

After dismissing subject to recall, the case charging James W. Ormond with carnal knowledge, the court called the drunken driving case at noon Monday against Lester R. Meeks. The remainder of the day was spent hearing the evidence, and the case went to the jury at 10:20 Tuesday morning. After deliberating about forty minutes, the jury returned a verdict finding the defendant not guilty.

No true bill was found in the case in which Daniel Lilley was charged with manslaughter.

Charged with assaulting Novella Askew with intent to commit rape, Ernest Little and James Rollins were found not guilty.

Robert Linwood Hassell, who was booked for breaking into the Page Grocery in Robersonville and who allegedly broke into and robbed two other places while out on bond, was found guilty and sentenced to the roads for three and one-half years. He was sent up for two years on the Page store robbery and eighteen months for breaking and trying to rob Dink Knight's Big Apple Cafe in Robersonville. The case charging him with entering Ernestine Wright's home and choking her was not pressed.

David Mayo and Wheeler Boney, charged with breaking and entering Slade-Rhodes' warehouse and stealing three cases of gun shells, were found guilty of larceny and receiving, the court allowing Attorney Edgar Gurganus' motion for non-suit as to the breaking and entering charge. Each of the defendants was sentenced to the roads for eight months.

Woodrow Jackson, alias Woodrow Wilson, Lawrence Mitchell and Elwood White, the three young white convicts who broke out of a prison camp in Pitt County and stole three automobiles during the course of an hour or

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Merchants Here Preparing For Special Booster Days

Williamston's retail merchants have been busily combing the markets for the past week for bargains to offer the public when the stores open their doors September 29 for the first of three special Booster sale days.

Everything is reported to be in readiness for the big Booster event. Approximately forty Williamston merchants are participating by offering great reductions in prices on a variety of merchandise with many items to be sold at only a few cents above cost.

Many merchants, remembering

Organization For Friendship Train Perfected Tuesday

County Being Asked To Send Carload of Corn to The Needy Overseas

An organization for sponsoring the loading of a carload of corn as a unit of the "Friendship Train" was perfected at a meeting held in the county courthouse Tuesday evening. Farmer W. Mayo Hardison of Poplar Point was named chairman and Messrs. Mayo Little and Sherwood Roberson of Robersonville will serve with him. Mrs. Walter Wynne is secretary-treasurer, and Julian Harrell was named shipping clerk.

Township chairmen include: Jamesville, Linwood Knowles and Carl Griffin; Williams, Mrs. R. J. Hardison and Chas. L. Daniel; Griffins, W. B. Harrington and B. R. Manning; Bear Grass, H. U. Peel and Sidney Beacham; Williamston, Mrs. Johnny Gurkin and M. Luther Peel; Cross Roads, Garland Forbes and Paul Bailey; Robersonville, Sam T. Everett; Poplar Point, Mrs. LeRoy Taylor and Dock Hollis; Hamilton, J. H. Lillard and Calvin Oglesby; Goose Nest, VanNoy Smith and John Leary Hassell.

The group is scheduled to meet in the courthouse on the evening of the 29th and complete plans for advancing the project.

To avoid confusion and limit the work to a minimum, the sponsors plan to ship a solid carload of corn—40,000 pounds—but other farm commodities will be accepted with the understanding that they'll be converted into corn. While the undertaking is, more or less, a rural undertaking, it is certain that townspeople will take part in the project as they did last year when the county made possibly the best showing of any county in the State in gathering and shipping food supplies to the needy in the hunger centers across the seas.

A report on the distribution of the food shipped from this county has been received, and the good it accomplished is prompting most of the old workers to get out and work again for the loading of a second car. The county has also received favorable publicity in numerous papers and magazines for its part in the CROP (Christian Rural Overseas Program) last December.

THE RECORD SPEAKS . . .

The wages of speed is death, reports stating that another life was snuffed out on the highways in this county by a car allegedly speeding. The death toll so far this year now stands at five, more than two times greater than it was a year ago.

The following tabulations offer a comparison of the accident trend; first, by corresponding weeks in this year and last and for each year to the present time.

37th Week		
Accidents	Inj'd	Killed Dam'ge
1949	3	0
1948	2	1
Comparisons To Date		
1949	87	34
1948	90	48

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Contempt Case Set For Hearing Monday

Judge Leo Carr To Preside Over Tarboro Session

Hours Spent Here Hearing Motions In The Court Yesterday Afternoon

After spending more than two hours hearing motions and counter motions, Judge Leo Carr, presiding over a regular two-week term of Martin County Superior Court, yesterday afternoon continued a hearing in the case in which 78 Hart Cotton mill workers in Tarboro are charged with contempt of court. The hearing was tentatively scheduled for 2:30 o'clock next Monday afternoon, the jurist explaining that he will go to Tarboro at that time provided another judge is available and can be sent to relieve him here. If another jurist is not available, Judge Carr said he would end the two-week session here next Wednesday and go to Tarboro for the hearing the following morning at 9:30 o'clock.

The hearing was definitely slated to be held in Tarboro and tentatively scheduled for Monday after Whiteford Blakeney, attorney for the mills, and Robert Cahoon, attorney for the defendants, sparred the better part of two hours before Judge Carr and a fairly crowded courtroom. The case itself attracted very little attention locally, but all the defendants were accounted for and closely followed the proceedings along with the Edgecombe sheriff, deputies, police chief and other officers from Tarboro and representatives of the mill, including the superintendent and Marcus Carter, mill manager, who showed no outward signs of an attack allegedly made on him a few days ago.

The mill management attorney, referring to the order signed by Judge Walter Bone, declared that the 78 defendants were in contempt of court when the deliberately, wilfully and openly picketed the mill entrance on September 14, blocking egress and ingress at the main gate of the mill. Attorney Blakeney asked then and there that the 78 defendants be found in contempt of court and punished then and there.

Defense Attorney Cahoon made a motion that the petition be dissolved and dismissed on the grounds that Judge John J. Burney was not a resident of the district and that he was not in the district when he signed the contempt order. The motion was denied, the attorney apparently having got his judicial districts a bit tangled.

A second motion was offered, the defense stating that action in pending in the Edgecombe courts, that the principal place of business for the mill was in Tarboro, that none of the parties to the action lived in Martin County, that all respondents except two live in Edgecombe. He went on to point out that there will be approximately 300 witnesses and the complexity of the case as to numbers and transportation would cause great inconvenience. The defense attorney explained that he had not had time to adequately prepare a defense, and went on to explain that it required three days to hear a similar case in Rockingham where only eleven defendants were involved. It was also pointed out that there was no intention on the part of the defendants to wilfully violate the court order. Cahoon, speaking for the defendants, said they were in confusion and were milling around outside the mill and in the street trying to learn what the court order was all about, that the terms of the order had been met since that time, allowing 25 to picket the plant at 150 yards.

The plaintiffs' attorney denied the claims, and asked that the hearing be held, pointing out that it had been nine days since the order had been issued and six days since it had been violated, (Continued on page six)

CIRCUS TRAIN

According to a report received this morning, the circus train is scheduled to reach here tomorrow morning between 6 and 7 o'clock. The train will be stopped at the Roberson Slaughter House siding where the cars will be arranged for unloading. The cars hauling twenty elephants and more than 100 horses and other animals are to be placed just below the Washington Street crossing. Cars, carrying the wagons, will be placed for unloading at Haughton Street.

The train master said that some few minutes will be required to arrange the train at the Roberson siding.

John Green Stalls End His Life At Home In Leggetts

Funeral Service For Native Of County To Be Held Here On Friday

John Green Stalls, native of this county, died in Leggetts, Edgecombe County, yesterday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock, the victim of a self-inflicted gunshot wound. Few details could be learned, but reports reaching here stated that he fired a load of shot from a .12 gauge shotgun into his face, that death followed quickly. Whether he left any note or had made any threat to take his own life could not be learned here immediately.

The son of the late Raleigh and Maniza Stalls, he was born in the Cross Roads section of this county 67 years ago. After spending his early life on the farm, he married Miss Bettie Brown and located in Tarboro where he was engaged by the Hussey Carriage Company for a number of years. He later moved to Leggetts where he had since made his home and where he was engaged in business.

Surviving are three children, two sons, William Edward Stalls of Portland, Oregon, and Cullen Stalls of Portsmouth; and a daughter, Mrs. William Gordon of Charlotte. A son, John G. Stalls, Jr., who was killed in the service during World War II, was buried

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Call Few Cases In J. P. Courts

Several cases were handled in the justice of peace courts here during the past few days.

In his court, Justice Chas. R. Mobley suspended judgment upon the payment of \$5.50 costs in the case in which Theodore Watson was charged with assaulting a female. While charged with the assault, Watson carried a three-stitch wound in his head, but he preferred no charges against anyone. In the case charging Ted Scott with assaulting a female, the trial justice sent the defendant to the county court under \$100 bond. Justice R. T. Johnson handled the following cases:

Charles H. Hassell, charged with public drunkenness, was taxed with \$6.85 costs.

Grover Peele was found not guilty in his case.

Ernest Boston was taxed with \$7.85 costs for being drunk.

Facing the court on two counts, Rufus Taylor was fined \$10 and taxed with \$5.85 costs for disorderly conduct, and was bound over to the county court for assaulting a female.

The case in which Charles G. Troescher stands charged with speeding is booked for trial in the county court.

Justice Hassell handled two cases. Peter Pierce, drunk on Washington Street, was required to pay \$8.50 costs, and Ransom Whitehurst, publicly drunk, was taxed with \$6.50 costs.

Plans For Paving Program Finished At Board Meeting

Board Certain To Call For Rail Crossing And New Underpass

Meeting in special session here Tuesday afternoon of this week, the local board of town commissioners officially closed the street paving program and handled a few other "push" matters.

The street improvement program, calling for surfacing on North Smithwick and West Liberty Streets and about one and one-half miles of curb and gutter, was closed after petitions for improvements on all of West Franklin Street from Smithwick to Haughton were recognized and approved. According to plans previously approved, curb and gutter were to be laid on West Franklin to a point just below Lee Street. The new plan calls for curbing and guttering on the entire street between North Haughton and Smithwick. The old program is nearing completion. It could not be learned when the State plans to surface the streets along with the resurfacing of Main and Haughton and Washington, on Highways 17 and 64.

The paving program, estimated to cost approximately \$14,000, is being financed almost in its entirety by property owners. On Smithwick and Liberty Streets where the State is to lay the black top, the property owners agreed to finance the entire cost of the curb and gutter. On the other streets, the property owners are financing the cost with the understanding that they are to be reimbursed forty percent of the cost over a period of not more than five years.

After conferring with representatives of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company, the board members stated they strongly favored a rail crossing at Slade Street and a new trestle that would provide for sidewalks under the railroad on West Main Street. No action was taken on the underpass project, but town attorneys were instructed to contact the State Highway Commission in an effort to have plans advanced for relieving the traffic hazard.

Bids for a one and one-half ton truck for the sanitary department were opened and a contract was awarded to Chas. H. Jenkins for \$1,449.

The town attorney was instructed to start proceedings, calling for the removal of the tenant houses from Woodlawn Cemetery property.

A seasonal license fee of \$300 was imposed on a used car dealer who opened for business on Washington Street a few days ago. If the operator maintains a permanent business there, the license fee will be reduced to \$37.50.

Investigating the possibility of extending North Smithwick or Lee Streets across the branch to connect with Oak Street, a special committee declared the proposed project was hardly feasible. The committee suggested that a sidewalk be laid from the town limit down Haughton Street to Liberty Street and down Liberty to Smithwick.

Responding To Treatment In Washington Hospital

A patient in a Washington hospital since last Thursday, Mr. Van G. Taylor continues to respond to treatment, late reports stating that his condition is much improved but he is not yet able to receive company.

BROOM SALE

The brooms the Lions will sell today, tomorrow and Saturday are stored in the Unemployment Office and may be purchased there any time during the three day period. Although the brooms are located and may be purchased at the Employment Office, members of the club will make a house-to-house canvass before the campaign ends Saturday night.

First reports this morning indicated the sale was off to a good start.