

Detailed Inspection Of All School Busses

Patrol Officer Says Mechanical Condition Good

Leads Held Within Allowed Maximum; Curves Cleared Of Obstacles

"The school busses in this county are in the best state of repair I have ever known," Corporal T. Fearing of the State Highway Patrol, said this week following a minute inspection of the vehicles a short time ago.

Mechanically, according to the patrol officer, only two busses were ordered in for repairs. The rear end of one needed attention, but its condition was not dangerous. The other bus was a bit hard to steer, the officer explaining that it was a bit too tight. Minor light defects, confined mainly to brake lights, were found on four busses, but the mechanical condition on all the others in the fleet of forty-nine busses was rated as "good."

"We did not stop after inspecting the busses and examining the most important mechanical parts," the corporal said, adding that he and his men drove the busses, tested the brakes, steering apparatus, signals and other operations on every one of the machines.

After a thorough check of the busses, the patrolmen talked with the drivers, cautioning them against traffic hazards and checking on the loads. Only two busses were found to have been carrying in excess of the listed maximum capacity, and in his report to his superiors the corporal pointed out that bus routes had been rearranged or altered to hold the loads within the maximum.

It is understood, however, that while loadings are now held within the maximum allowed, most of the busses are carrying a number in excess of the rated capacity. For instance, a bus with a rated capacity of 48 children may carry sixty as its maximum. Two busses with rated capacities of 63 children may carry up to and including 79 and still be within the law.

It is fairly evident that more busses are needed in the county if loads are to be held to rated (Continued from page five)

Farmers Eligible For Housing Loan

The Housing Act of 1949 went into effect November 1, and eligible farmers may now receive loans to enable them to construct, improve, alter, repair, or replace dwellings and other farm buildings on their farms. Such loans will be made to provide owners of farms, their tenants, lessees, sharecroppers, and laborers with decent, safe, and sanitary living conditions and adequate farm buildings.

Loans also may be made for the purpose of enlarging and improving farms where necessary to provide additional income sufficient to support decent, safe, and sanitary housing and other buildings and to encourage adequate family-sized farms.

Farm Housing loan repayments will be spread over a period of 5, 10, 15, 20, or 33 years depending upon the probable debt-paying ability of the borrower, but not in excess of the useful life of the improvement. Interest on these loans will be charged at the rate of 4 percent per annum on the unpaid balance of principal.

The Farmers Home Administration has been charged with the responsibility of carrying out the Farm Housing program, and interested farmers may contact the county office, which is located on the second floor of the Martin County Courthouse, and Mr. James C. Eubanks, County Supervisor, will be glad to discuss further the provisions of the program with them, and to assist in placing an application if they desire to.

CONSTRUCTION

Meeting in special session in the county grand jury room here yesterday, members of the Martin County Board of Education, it was unofficially learned, recommended a school construction program.

No priority was mentioned and no dates for starting construction could be learned.

According to unofficial information, five projects have been recommended, including a second story on the white high school building in Williamston, a colored high school in Williamston, a gymnasium in Robersonville, a colored high school in Oak City, and addition to colored school building in Robersonville.

Fourteen Cases In County Court Monday Morning

Fines Imposed At Regular Session This Week Amount To \$410

Judge Chas. H. Manning and Solicitor Paul D. Roberson handled fourteen cases in the Martin County Recorder's Court last Monday during one of the shortest sessions held by the tribunal in recent weeks. The court completed its work and quit before lunch time, after imposing fines in the amount of \$410.

The case in which Joe Beach was charged with beating his wife presented a problem that would have perplexed Solomon. While it had been reported to the solicitor that the frail little woman had been abused and assaulted, the evidence offered in the courtroom did not support the charge, and the action was dropped after the prosecuting witness was taxed with the costs. The defendant, already under suspended sentence, went forward to pay the costs, and the judge warned in open court that it could be a different story if the defendant is brought before the court on a similar charge in the future.

A meaningful drive against the illicit liquor traffic is still being maintained, the records showing that Lucious James Chance, charged with violating the liquor laws, was fined \$100 and taxed with the cost. A six-month road sentence was suspended, and the defendant was warned to have no liquors in his possession during the next two years.

Entering no plea in the case in which he was charged with violating the liquor laws, Dennis Earl Andrews was adjudged guilty and was fined \$50, plus costs.

The case charging Joe and Lucy Capitoia Bullock with an "affray" was dismissed after pending trial in the court for several weeks.

Adjudged guilty of bastardy over his plea of innocence, William R. Goodman, Jr., was sentenced to the roads for six months, the court suspending the road term on condition that he pay the costs, \$30 now and \$15 every month for two years for the support of his child.

James Long, pleading not guilty of assaulting a female, was found guilty and was fined \$25, plus costs.

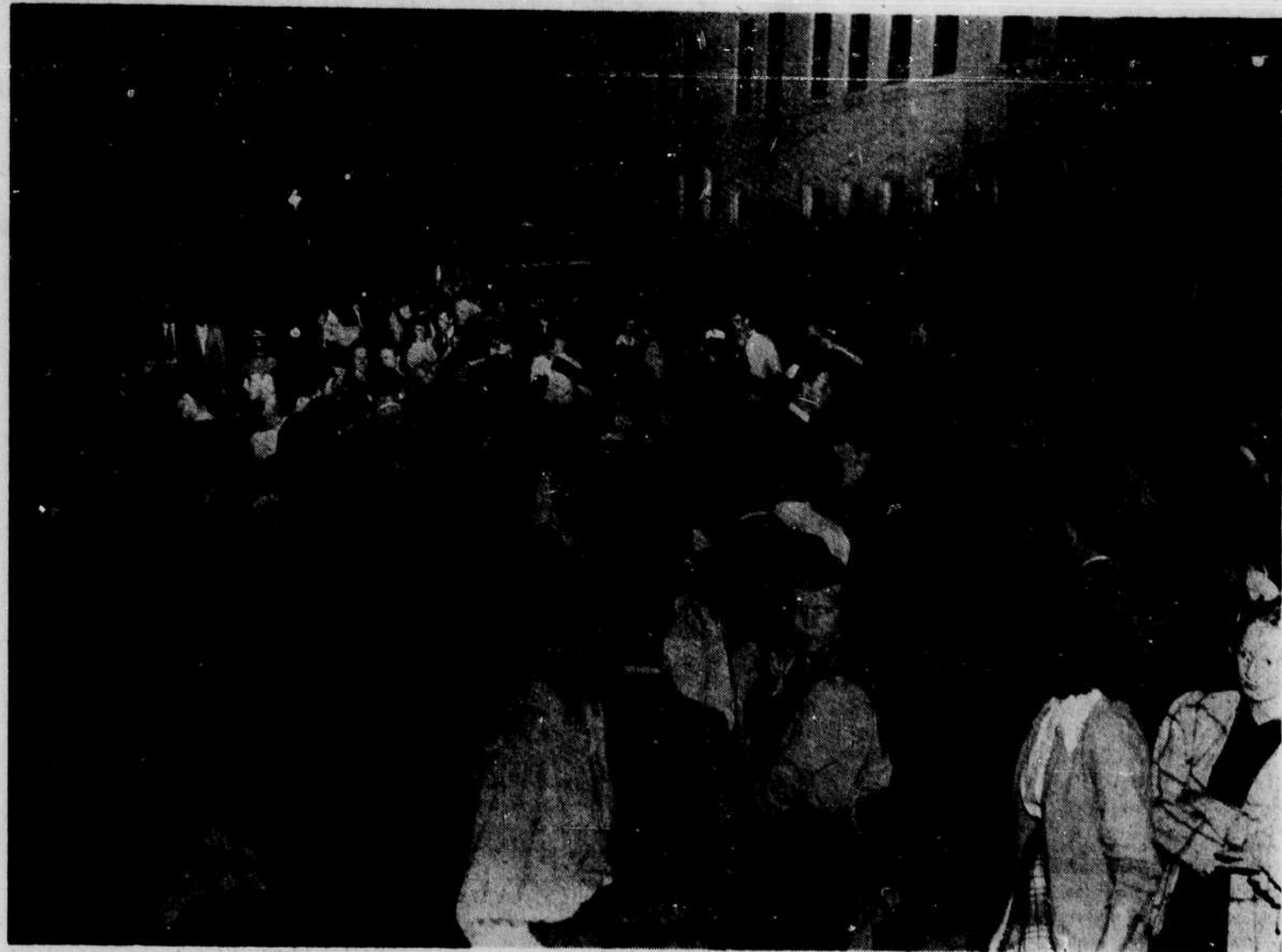
Facing the court in two cases in which he was charged with assaults, James Long was fined \$25 in one case and adjudged not guilty in the other.

Charged with seriously cutting Warren Chesson to climax a pok-

Firemen Called To Hamilton Road Home

Firemen were called to the Clayton Crofton home on the Hamilton Road late yesterday afternoon when fire, starting in a wood pile, caught the shed. Very little damage was done.

Spectators Crowd Street At Harvest Dance



Pictured above are several hundred of the approximately 1,500 to 2,000 spectators who crowded Washington Street for the round and square dances and jitterbug contests during the

opening night of Williamston's second annual harvest festival. In the background are Billy Peel and his musicians. The crowds extended a greater part of the way out to the railroad, stretching their necks to see the dancers.

Issue Twenty-Six Marriage Licenses In Martin County

Number Largest For Any Month This Year But Below 1948 Count

Twenty-six marriage licenses were issued by the office of Register of Deeds J. Sam Getsinger in this county last month. While the issuance is the largest for any month this year, the count is six below the October, 1948, issuance, and the marriage business continues to trail that of the first ten months of last year.

Licenses were issued to sixteen white and ten colored couples last month, as follows:

White
William Howard Cherry of Williamston and Ada Elsie Peaden of Faulkland.

John Arthur Sibert and Susie Elizabeth Tice, both of Virginia Beach.

Joseph Edward Williams of Aulander and Carthine Shaw Daigle, RFD 3, Williamston.

Robert H. Williams of Hartford, Conn., and Emeline Roberson of Robersonville.

Henry Fred Bullock and Ruby G. Lawton, both of Robersonville.

Calvin L. Warren of Robersonville and Mary Frances Whitehurst of RFD, Williamston.

Robert Wright Newell of Reidsville and Sylvia Elizabeth Green of Williamston.

William Albert Rawls and Ernestine Davis, both of Robersonville.

Edward Howard White of Scotland Neck and Beatrice Manning of Oak City.

Curtis Beach of Robersonville and Marjorie Stalls of Oak City.

John W. Drake, Jr., of Scotland Neck and Marjorie Gray Dunn of Williamston.

Emmett Wynn Burden of Aulander and Lila Rook Sumrell of Raleigh.

Thurman Stalls and Frances Hazel Brown, both of Robersonville.

Robert Ellison Knowles, RFD 4, Windsor, and Lillian Blanche Smith of Robersonville.

William Bryant Rogerson and Lola Amelia Peele, both of Williamston.

Jather McCoy Stotesbury of Pike Road, N. C., and Ramona Ange of Jamesville.

Colored
Rudolph James and Roas Whitfield, both of Williamston.

Willie James Chance and Esther Clemmons, both of Robersonville.

Walter Brown, Jr., and Joyce (Continued on page five)

Special Commission To Make Study Here

Commission Will Inspect Streets Here This Month

Created by the last North Carolina General Assembly, the State Municipal Roads Commission will inspect Williamston's streets and study municipal street problems here with representatives from thirty or more towns in this section of the State on Wednesday, November 16, it was announced today by Mayor Robt. Cowen.

The special commission members, accompanied by George Franklin and S. Leigh Wilson, field consultant for the North Carolina League of Municipalities, will travel by special bus from Tarboro, reaching here about 11:20 o'clock on the morning of the 16th.

The twelve-member commission, accompanied by league and municipal officials, will make a tour of the town, getting first-hand information as to the condition of the streets. The commission will also note those streets carrying regular highway traffic. It is to determine now the streets were financed either by highway

taxes or by town taxes. Following the tour, the visitors will have lunch and continue to the courthouse where a study of street problems will be made beginning (Continued from page five)

Sherrod Farm Is Sold At Auction

According to unofficial reports reaching here late yesterday, farm prices continue to hold fairly firm in this county. The Sherrod farm, just out of Hamilton on N. C. Highway 125 and one of the last sizable old farm landmarks in this section, was sold yesterday for a reported price of approximately \$84,200. About two years ago the property was offered for sale at auction, the bids approximating \$92,000 at that time. Shortly after the auction, a tract was sold privately for a reported sum of \$7,000 which with the yesterday's auction price places the sale value right near the figure of about two years ago.

Farmer Dan Roebuck bought all the land on the right side of the road going toward Hamilton for approximately \$30,000. F. D. Hudgins, who has been managing the farm for several years, bought the home tract, including the old home and 107 acres, about 60 of which are cleared, for a reported sum of \$18,000. Other buyers were L. G. Taylor, E. G. Anderson, Jim Gray and Bryant Taylor.

Several hundred people were present, most of them timing their presence during the barbecue dinner hour. The sale, starting that morning, continued until well after the middle of the afternoon.

Young Man Held On First Degree Burglary Charge

Washington Man Named President of the New Organization

Charged with breaking into Ormond Hall near Woodlawn Cemetery here last Friday night, Albert Green, young colored man, was denied bond by Justice R. T. Johnson at a preliminary hearing held in the courtroom this week. The case is slated for trial in the superior court next month.

Occupants of the house were said to have been unable to identify the man, but bloodhounds, handled by Captain Sessoms from the prison camp near here, picked up a track and went to Green's home where he was found in a room with two other men. His shoes were a bit wet and officers booked him.

In another breaking and entering case, Justice Johnson placed Cornelius Jones, colored youth, under a \$300 bond for his appearance in the superior court next month. Jones denied the charge, declaring that he attended the picture show on the night of the alleged crime, explaining that he walked by the home of the prosecuting witness while en route to his own home.

George F. Green, charged with assaulting Rufus L. Knight and inflicting a 21-stitch knife wound in his arm, was bound over to the county court by Justice Johnson for trial next Monday.

Handling a simple assault case against Lavorne Roberson, colored youth, Justice J. L. Hassell fined him \$5, plus \$5.50 costs.

Charged with disorderly conduct and using profane language in public, Floyd and Anthony Lanier were each fined \$10 and taxed with one-half of the court costs in Justice C. R. Mobley's court.

In another case, Justice Mobley required \$100 bond of P. E. Odom, charged with speeding at 55 miles an hour on North Haughton Street.

Other cases handled by Justice Johnson:

James Oscar Bland, charged with operating a motor vehicle with no rear light, was taxed with \$5.85 costs.

Judgment was suspended upon the payment of \$5.85 costs in the case charging Samuel Morris Beacham with operating a motor vehicle with improper lights.

Herman Andrew Dickerson was fined \$10 and taxed with the costs for allegedly operating a motor (Continued on Page Five)

Illicit Liquor Traffic Increases In County

COUNTY BOARD

Holding their regular November meeting here next Monday, the Martin County Commissioners are scheduled to draw a jury for the December term of superior court and make a study of the last fiscal year audit. A final settlement of 1948 taxes is due at that time, it was reported.

It isn't likely that the board will consider revaluing property for 1950 taxation.

Very little new business is on the calendar and the board members are expected to have a short session, beginning at 9:30 o'clock that morning.

Meeting in the Woman's Club hall here last evening, a group of nearly 100 men from a dozen or more churches perfected a district laymen's league of the Disciples of Christ and heard an appeal from Mark Rutherford, layman leader for the brotherhood from Indianapolis. E. Leon Roebuck of Washington was named president, J. C. Manning of Williams- ton, vice president; Charles Wilson of Robersonville, secretary-treasurer; R. E. King of Washington, program committee chairman; E. H. Liverman of Plymouth, activities committee chairman; Bernard Voliva, Belhaven, attendance committee chairman; and Ernest Edmondson of Hassell, finance committee chairman.

Rev. Cecil Outlaw of Pantego convened the session and called for a report from the steering committee which was rendered by Mr. Roebuck of Washington. He outlined the objectives of the league and called for laymen's support of Sunday observance as the Lord's Day, the completion of the Crusade goal by next July, and for a greater part in the assembly ground at Black Mountain.

Mr. Rutherford of the National Department of Men's Work in the Disciple Brotherhood, was introduced by Rev. Elmore Turner of Washington. A druggist by profession, Mr. Rutherford told of the work handled during the past eleven years among laymen by Harry Hines of Texas, adding that the brotherhood had full-time directors in nine states, that organizations were going forward in thirty others.

The speaker, fitting the laymen into the religious picture, asked, "What is the mission of the Church? 'Seek and save those who are lost' by Jesus Christ, declaring that laymen must direct their program around that objective. Then he asked, 'What is the greatest single urge in the mind of humanity?' The speaker said, 'Life,' explaining that life is the only thing man will give all that he has to keep.

"Why does a man want to live?" he asked. "Some live because they are afraid to die. We don't live just to get up in the morning, eat, go to work and go to sleep at the end of the day," he declared.

Continuing he said, "The great motive for living is happiness. Some go around the world in search of happiness. Some visit the clip joints, the dives, all looking for happiness. But their (Continued on page five)

Number of Other Cases Before Justices of Peace In Past Few Days

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Install Self-Service System In Grocery

Purchasing the interest of Jack Edmondson in the E. and W. Grocery and Market, James H. Ward this week installed a self-service system. The stock is being enlarged and a modernization plan is being continued.

Officers Wrecked Fourteen Plants In Martin County

Nearly Seven Thousand Gallons of Beer Mash Poured Out

The illicit liquor business, holding to fairly low production records for several months, is apparently on the increase in this county, according to a report coming from the office of ABC Enforcement Officer Joe H. Roebuck. It was pointed out that there was almost a 100 percent increase in the business and that indications pointed to an even larger scale of operations for the weeks ahead.

Last month the enforcement office, handled in the main by the ABC enforcement officer and his assistant, Deputy Roy Peel, wrecked fourteen illicit liquor plants and poured out 6,450 gallons of sugar beer or mash and twenty-three and one-half gallons of white liquor. Other materials and equipment, including oil, some sugar, axes, buckets and containers were confiscated.

Two of the plants were equipped with copper stills of 150-gallon capacity. A third plant was equipped with a large submarine type still and vats large enough to hold several thousand gallons of mash or beer.

In September, the officers wrecked eight illicit distilleries and poured out 2,700 gallons of beer mash.

Most of the business gain came in the last week of October when eight plants were wrecked in the Free Union section of Jamesville Township. Four plants were destroyed in a single day the early part of the week. One of the four plants was equipped with a large copper kettle, large doublers and coolers, 300-gallon fermenter. The officers poured out 200 gallons of beer and two and one-half gallons of liquor.

At the second plant, the kettle was missing, but before the officers withdrew they found scattered on and around the premises of Jethro James a large cooler, 300-gallon fermenter, 200 gallons of beer, still worm and cap and fifteen (Continued from page five)

Announce Better Methods Winners

Lynette Haislip, RFD 1, Oak City, and William Taylor, RFD 1, Robersonville, has been judged winners in a county-wide 4-H Better Methods Electric Contest, according to an announcement today by Assistant Home Agent Agnes Beal and Assistant County Farm Agent J. W. Sumner.

Both winners have been awarded free trips to the 4-H Club Better Methods Electric Congress to be held in Raleigh November 7th and 8th, where they will compete for territorial honors and the state championship. Collegiate scholars will be given, and the state winner will get an all-expenses trip to Chicago for the National 4-H Club Congress.

The contest is an annual event conducted on a state-wide basis by the North Carolina State College Agricultural Extension Service in co-operation with the Westinghouse Educational Foundation and local power companies, which, in this area is Virginia Electric and Power Company. Object of the program is to encourage wise use of electricity on the farm and in the farm home through the development of projects of their own choosing by 4-H members.

In Martin County alone 20 4-H boys and girls entered the 1949 contest. As her project Lynette Haislip selected electric heating of water for household use. William Taylor won first place in the boys' division on electric watering of chickens.

The winners with the agents, leave Sunday for Raleigh.