

Twenty-Six Cases On The Calendar In Superior Court

Special Term To Hear Civil Cases Only; Little Interest Likely In Proceedings

Opening a special term next Monday, the Martin County Superior Court with Judge W. H. S. Burgwyn of Woodland presiding, is scheduled to hear ten divorce cases and move on to civil actions. Cases have been scheduled for the first two days of next week, indicating that the court will recess Tuesday or early Wednesday for Thanksgiving. Work will be resumed the following Monday with the likelihood that adjournment will come about Wednesday or Thursday of the term's second week.

Few cases of special public interest are on the calendar for trial, and no large crowds are expected to attend the sessions.

Alleged agents of the defendants started a fire that burned over some of his woodland on August 18, 1948. G. C. James is suing the A. C. L. Railroad Company for \$800.

H. P. Mobley is suing B. F. Perry for \$304.18 damages alleged to have resulted in an automobile accident last June 15.

A boundary line dispute features the case of Elizabeth Pierce against Ben Biggs, the plaintiff asking \$650 damages.

A boundary line is involved in the case of Willie Bullock against J. D. Wynne.

R. S. Critcher is seeking to recover \$315 from Robert Rogers, the plaintiff alleging the amount is due on a note.

The Dixie Motor Company is suing to recover possession of an auto in its case against James Rogers.

In his case against Ed Jones, D. G. Matthews alleges \$40 rent is due for the year 1947.

William Johnson is suing Arthur Morgan for \$300 damages alleged to have resulted in a motor vehicle accident between Hamilton and Oak City last December 10. Morgan, in a counter claim, is asking \$400 damages of Johnson.

In the case of Jos. L. Godard against J. Sam Godard and others, the plaintiff is asking that certain land be sold for division.

Town of Williamston is suing W. V. Ormond to recover \$460.55 alleged due in taxes.

In his case against Frank Weaver, Frank Carstarphen is asking damages in the sum of \$4,227.50, the plaintiff contending that he suffered that loss when the defendant guaranteed a herd of cows free of Bang's disease.

A boundary line is involved in the case of H. H. Cowen against C. E. Jenkins.

In the case of Tom Outerbridge against R. S. Critcher, the plaintiff is suing for an accounting on a note and cancellation of a deed of trust. The plaintiff contends he borrowed \$127 from the defendant, explaining that he had repaid \$100 and admits owing \$27 plus \$6 interest. It is also alleged by the plaintiff that the defendant claims \$27.75 is due on the deed of trust note.

C. B. Savage is suing G. H. Manning to recover \$1,800 under a timber contract.

Clyde Roberts is suing R. L. Jones for \$538.52, alleged due under contract entered into for a deep well.

Charles F. Glinesman, Jr., 14-year-old New York newspaper boy, by his next friend, R. H. Cowen, is suing Joseph J. Bento, Oak City man, for \$3,100 damages as a result of a bike-auto accident on Central Avenue near Franklin Square in New York City some months ago. The plaintiff, delivering papers at the time of the accident, says he suffered a fractured skull, broken right arm, knee and other injuries. He is asking \$50 personal property damages, \$150 dental bill, \$400 for hospital bill and \$2,500 personal damages.

The American Indemnity Company is suing Otis Coltraine to recover \$109.32 damages alleged to have resulted when the defendant's car crashed into and broke a plate glass window in the old Harrison Brothers store last November 5.

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Special Commission Holds Hearing Here

CANDIDATE



Meeting with a group of citizens in Robersonville last Monday evening, Henry A. Johnson announced his candidacy for the office of sheriff of Martin County, scheduling the first political contest to be decided in the Democratic primary next May.

Farm Life Club To Meet Tuesday

Farm Life's recently organized Ruritan Club will hold its first regular meeting in the school cafeteria there next Tuesday evening at 7:00 o'clock, it was announced today. Receiving its charter a short time ago, the club is headed by James Harrington, president; Rufus Hardison, vice president; Thurman Griffin, secretary, and J. R. Griffin, treasurer.

The club, one of the largest in this section, has fifty-one charter members, whose names are:

- Urban Lilley, Lawrence Eason Lilley, Rufus Corey, Gabe Roberson, Hugh B. Griffin, Raleigh Lilley, W. B. Harrington, Saunders Revels, Eugene Roberson, Elmo Lilley, Justus Coltrain, Robert Griffin, Raymond Gurkin, Fred Griffin, Jim Manning, Willford Griffin, Carley Manning, Nathan Roberson, A. T. Whitley, Felton Daniels, Clarence Gurkin, J. R. Griffin, Thurman Griffin, Rufus Hardison, James Harrington, Stephen Manning, William Peel, Marvin Leggett and Jesse David Hardison.

Fire Destroys Farm Packbarn

Fire of undetermined origin destroyed the two-story pack barn and most of the contents on the farm of James W. Satterfield near Jamesville about 11:30 o'clock Tuesday night.

The children of James Perkins, tenant on the farm, reached the burning stables in time to turn out the mules, and Perkins saved a few farm implements, but most of the contents, including 57 bags of peanuts, 96 bales of hay, 35 or 40 barrels of corn, farm machinery and other equipment were burned.

One of the children happened to wake up and saw the reflection of the fire which was breaking from under the tin roof.

Only \$500 insurance was carried on the property, one report stated.

Sheriff M. W. Holloman investigated the fire but its origin could not be determined.

PEANUTS MISSING

Farmer Luther Peel reported three bags of peanuts missing from his farm near here early this week.

Towns Pour Out Their Troubles To State Group

Plead For Larger Share Of Highway Revenues For Street Maintenance

Appointed at the direction of the last State Legislature, a special State Municipal Road Commission in a hearing held in the courthouse here yesterday afternoon listened for more than two hours to the troubles and woes of a number of northeastern North Carolina towns. Appointed by Governor Scott, the commission is gathering statistical data about the towns and hearing the various officials preparatory to submitting a report and making recommendations to the next Legislature which, the towns hope, will offer increased aid to them in building and maintaining streets.

Following a luncheon in the Hotel George Reynolds, the members of the commission repaired to the courthouse for the open forum. Fifty or more officials from eight or ten towns in this section of the State submitted reports and pleaded for more money. Mayor Robt. Cowen welcomed the visitors, and State Senator Julian Allsbrooks of Roanoke Rapids, a member of the commission, outlined the work of his group.

District Highway Commissioner Henry G. Shelton, speaking briefly, declared that much had been heard about rural roads, that he believed there had been an inkling about towns having problems, too. He assured the group that the highway commission would work in every way possible with the towns.

George Franklin of the North Carolina League of Municipalities, conducted the open forum and called on the various town representatives to explain their problems to the special commission.

Mayor Jones of Farmville, reviewing his town's problems, said that there were about 16 miles of streets in his town, and all but three were paved, that only 2.19 miles were subject to State maintenance. His town now has a \$139,000 street bonded debt, that the town is at the end of the rope, and that the bonded debt was at the saturation point.

Mayor W. S. Stafford of Greenville said that 40 of his town's 72 miles of streets were paved, that they are spending this year \$84,300 on streets, or about one-fourth of the budget for that one item.

Commissioner Hodges of Washington said that only ten miles of his town's 40 miles of streets were paved, that the street budget is \$72,000. He pointed out the apparent inequality of the State aid on gasoline used in town vehicles driven on the town's own streets. "We paid in gas tax last year about \$2,000," he said.

Mayor Latham of Belhaven, pointing out that his town faced a predicament, said that only three miles of his town's 23 miles of streets were paved.

City Clerk Roebuck of Plymouth said they had 14 miles of unpaved streets, that large trucks were tearing the streets to pieces. He explained that the town had a \$2 tax rate and that the problem of maintaining streets and carrying on other town functions had reached serious proportions.

Representative Tatum of Columbia pointed out the apparent inequality of allocating State funds to the towns, and added that they had a combined tax rate of \$4.30 and could not properly maintain their streets. He suggested a new formula for allocating State funds for highways inside towns.

Mayor Haskett of Edenton offered a splendid picture of his town, declaring that the highway commission had cooperated in every way possible, that they had no complaint. He explained that the town had no bonded debt, but that eight of the town's fourteen streets were paved.

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Divorce Cases To Be Tried Monday In Superior Court

All Ten Divorce Actions Based On Two-Year Separation Grounds

Opening a two-week special term of the Martin County Superior Court next Monday, Judge W. H. S. Burgwyn, presiding, will hear pleas for tearing asunder the bonds of matrimony in ten cases. All of the actions are based on grounds of two-year separation.

The number of divorce cases is believed to be on the downward trend, the count before the court being less than half the peak figure recorded two or three years ago.

Divorce actions, all calendared for trial during the first hours of the session next Monday morning, include the following:

Cleopatra Bunch against George P. Bunch, the plaintiff stating that they were married on October 1, 1933, and that they separated February 24, 1947. The six children born to the union are now with the plaintiff who explains that the defendant is contributing to their support.

Orlander Rodgers, seeking an absolute divorce from Beatrice Rodgers, says they were married in November, 1942, and separated in May, 1946. No children were born to the union.

In the divorce action of William Sharpe against Elizabeth Sharpe, the plaintiff says they were married on October 5, 1928, and separated December 26, 1944, that one child, now about 18 years old, was born to the union.

In her action against Louis H. Brickhouse, Mary M. Brickhouse says they were married on August 23, 1936, and separated on January 11, 1947, that three children were born to the union.

A. J. Stark, in his case against Ouida Stark, says they were married January 12, 1946, and separated in July, 1946, that no children were born to the union.

In the case of Mildred Thigpen against Alexis Lawrence Thigpen, the plaintiff says they were married November 24, 1937, and separated in November, 1941, that no children were born to the union.

Daisy Bell Byrum is suing Charlie Ruffin Byrum for a divorce, the plaintiff stating they were married in May, 1924, and separated in September, 1945, that no children were born to the union.

Married to the defendant, Lucy Williams, in January, 1944, and separated in December, 1944, Willis Williams is now asking for a divorce, explaining that no children were born to the union.

In his case against Ethel L. McNair, Raleigh McNair is asking sole custody of the one child born to the union.

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Fall Holstein Sale In State Tuesday

There will be a sale Tuesday, Nov. 22, at 12:30 p. m. at the Iredell County Fairgrounds, Statesville, N. C., of 30 purebred and 50 grade Holsteins. Select lot of choice young cattle especially selected from good herds in Wisconsin will be offered at the sale. Many are fresh and others are close springers.

THE RECORD SPEAKS . . .

Three more accidents, all minor ones, were reported on the highways in this county last week, but with the exception of fatalities this year's record is better than it was a year ago. The week's comparison shows last year's 45th period was a lulu.

45th Week			
Accidents In'd	Killed	Dam'ge	
1949	3	1	\$ 475
1948	9	8	1,560
Comparisons To Date			
1949	117	51	\$25,035
1948	125	71	30,135

First County "Blue Baby" Will Undergo Operation This Week

Twelve Year-Old Orphan Enters A Durham Hospital

No Appeal Made By Mother Of Eight Fatherless Children But Help Needed

Martin County's first pronounced "Blue Baby", Master Jack Harris of the Bear Grass community, entered Duke Hospital this week for a delicate operation, and already his case is attracting much attention. Friends rallied around to cheer the lad up as he made ready to leave home for the hospital, lending aid and wishing him well.

Under the care of physicians most of his life, the youngster has fought nobly to live and to make the most out of life. He would attend school, but often he would suffer an attack there and understanding friends would carry him home. The symptoms of his trouble recently developed to the extent that the ailment could be diagnosed by the family doctor. The finding was verified by doctors in the Durham institution a few days ago, and arrangements were made without delay to have him enter the hospital for the operation. Reports state that the youngster, despite the seriousness of the operation, left home entertaining great hope for a cure and a claim to a normal life.

Possibly there have been others in this county suffering with the same heart condition, but as far as it can be learned Jack is the first to have his case definitely diagnosed, and he is the first scheduled to undergo the operation.

His mother, heading the family of eight fatherless children, most of them of tender years, has made no appeal for aid, but friends, acquainted with the facts, say that assistance is needed and needed immediately if the boy is to have the best possible advantage in his fight for life. As guardian for her children, the mother has drawn the limit on the lad's fund, an amount barely large enough to meet the minimum costs for just a few days in the hospital. The children, the youngest of whom was only about three weeks old when the father died about five years ago, have all pitched in to help Jack. Neighbors and other friends have also pitched in to help, but the need extends beyond the boundary of the little community. Thoughtful persons in other sections of the State have acted in similar cases, and if one judges by the past record established by the people of this county the present challenge can and will be met.

Mrs. Irving Terry, who carried the little fellow to the hospital earlier this week, has agreed to act as treasurer of the fund for him. Those who would aid the boy in his fight for life, are earnestly asked to forward or carry their contributions to Mrs. Terry in Bear Grass. Mail contributions will reach her when addressed in her name, RFD 2, Williamston, N. C.

An accounting of the fund will be released from time to time, and (Continued on page five)

Church To Hold Supper Meeting

The annual Parish Supper of the Church of the Advent will be held this Friday night at 7:30 at the Geo. Reynolds Hotel. The guest speaker for the evening will be the Rev. William L. Martin, rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Beaufort.

Following Mr. Martin's talk the congregation will hear plans for the Every Member Canvass and will exercise the privilege of electing four new vestrymen for 1950. Those four men along with eight others are in charge of the temporal affairs of the congregation.

Tickets are \$1.50 and there are some free ones available at the rectory for any who want them.

Santa Coming To Town on Fire Truck December 1st

Santa Claus, pack and all, will be coming to town Thursday afternoon, December 1, at 4:30 o'clock, Al Sweatt, secretary of the Williamston Boosters, announced today. Details of the merry ole gentleman's visit are rapidly being taken care of, and the year's most important personage is expected to make the trip into town on a fire truck. The kiddies, and old folks, too, are invited to arrange their schedule so as to be on hand when old Santa arrives.

Working to promote the holiday spirit, Williamston's Boosters are planning a new street decorative system. Messrs. J. S. Ayers and B. D. Courtney, making up a special committee, are working on the lighting plans. It is likely that no strings of lights will be placed on the streets this season, but members of the committee haven't revealed just what they have in mind.

For the first time in several years, outdoor lighting arrangements will be judged this year. Prizes are to be offered, and rules and regulations will be announced later. During the meantime, the citizens are asked to be thinking about their blueprints for a real decorative scheme. It is expected that the lights will go on again on the clock tower, water tower and other public buildings. W. H. Carstarphen is chairman of the decorations committee, and Homer Barnhill is heading up the Santa Claus Hospitality committee. Secretary Sweatt announced.

Twelve Cases In Justice Of Peace Courts This Week

Thirty-day Jail Sentence Imposed In Social Security Case

Three justices of the peace—John L. Hassell, Chas. R. Mobley and R. T. Johnson—handled an even dozen cases in their courts here this week.

Charged with obtaining money under false pretense, Mattie Ewell Gorham was sentenced to jail by Justice Mobley for thirty days. The sentence was suspended upon the payment of the costs and squaring her account with the Employment Security Commission. It was alleged that the defendant drew unemployment compensation while engaged in gainful employment.

Charged with issuing a worthless check, William Lawrence was taxed with \$5.85 court costs and ordered to redeem the check.

Ben Edwards was sentenced to the roads for thirty days, suspended upon the payment of the costs for disorderly conduct.

Judgment was suspended upon the payment of \$5.85 costs in the case charging Mary Peel, colored, with disorderly conduct.

Carolyn Clark was taxed with \$6.85 costs on a disorderly conduct charge.

Charged with assaulting each other with deadly weapons, Clyde and Lee Tyner were bound over to the county court under \$150 bonds. Clyde wielded a knife and Lee planted a pint bottle on Clyde's forehead.

Justice Hassell, in his court, fined Allen Rascoe and Wadell Roberts \$5, plus \$9.50 costs each, for drunkenness and fighting.

Tommy Jackson, publicly drunk, was required to pay \$9.50 costs.

Charged with assaulting Jos. Nichols with a deadly weapon, Jasper Perry was bound over by the county court to the county court for trial on December 5. Perry reportedly attacked Nichols because Nichols would not lend him a dime. Centering the attack on his victim's throat, Perry opened a 14-stitch gash in the throat.

A hearing in the Taylor-Bagley wreck case, scheduled last night, was postponed.

Final War Claims Are Paid To Swiss

Final installment on Swiss War Claims was paid by the United States on October 22 according to the State Department in an announcement the same day. The claims for war damages arose largely from the accidental bombing by our forces of a Swiss town on the border of Germany in April of 1944. Damages roughly equaling \$14,500,000 were paid to the Swiss Government.

Twenty-Two Cases Called Monday In Recorder's Court

Defendant Fined \$600 For Alleged Violation Of Liquor Laws

Handling twenty-two cases, Judge Chas. H. Manning and Solicitor Paul D. Roberson worked almost until dark in the Martin County Recorder's Court. Folding its tent at that time, the county court will withdraw from the scene for two weeks while the superior court is in special session.

Following up liquor law enforcement officers in their work, the court imposed a \$600 fine on an alleged violator during the session Monday. Charged with possessing fifteen gallons of illicit liquor, a still and materials for the manufacture of copper kettles, Jethro James pleaded guilty of possessing materials for making stills but denied ownership of the liquor and still. He was adjudged guilty and drew an 18-month road sentence, the court suspending the road term on condition the defendant pay the fine and costs and violate no liquor law for five years. He appealed and bond was fixed in the sum of \$500.

The case charging James Pearsall with operating a motor vehicle without a license, was dismissed.

Pleading guilty of operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license, William E. Moore was sentenced to the roads for thirty days.

Sordid testimony was heard in the case charging Wilbur Sutton with bastardy. Adjudged guilty, the young Duplin County white man was sentenced to the roads for nine months. The road term was suspended on condition that he pay the court costs and \$25 a month for the support of his illegitimate child. He appealed to the higher court.

Willie B. Moore was fined \$15, plus costs, for speeding.

Charged with drunken driving and operating a motor vehicle with improper lights, Albert Lee Brown was sentenced to the roads for three months.

Charged with speeding, Robert Lee Woolard and Luther Chance were each fined \$15 and taxed with the costs.

Johnny Spruill, charged with violating the health laws, was sentenced to the roads for thirty days, the court suspending the road term upon the payment of the court costs and on the further condition that he take prescribed treatments.

The case charging Ada Grimes with violating the health laws was dismissed.

A continuance was granted until December 5 in the case charging Robert Aman with issuing worthless checks. The young white man was returned to the county from Kentucky last week, and it is likely that the cost of his return—about \$145—will be considered when judgment is meted out.

Judgment was suspended upon the payment of the costs in the case charging Kader Brown with speeding.

Emmanuel Stancill was fined \$25, plus costs, for alleged reckless and careless driving.

Claudio Anderson of Plymouth was fined \$15 plus costs on a speeding charge. He appealed to the superior court.

The cases charging James Arthur Perkins with operating a gambling house and possessing illicit liquor were continued until December 5.

William R. White was fined \$15, plus costs, for speeding.

The case in which Henry Wilson was charged with operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license was dismissed.

Charged with speeding, Edward Lee Potts of Edenton was fined \$15, plus costs.

Going before a six-man jury, Lester Franklin Bailey was found guilty of drunken driving. He was fined \$100, taxed with the court costs and had his driver's license revoked for one year. The jury included, Henry C. Price, D. E. Davis, J. W. Bellflower, Jr., Roland C. Bunting, Noah S. Roberson.

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OPENING GUN

The opening gun in Martin County's 1950 political campaign was fired last Monday evening when Mr. Henry A. Johnson of Robersonville announced his candidacy for sheriff of Martin County. He announces his candidacy subject to the wishes of the voters in the next May Democratic primary. The official announcement, coming after a spot survey in several parts of the county, was made by Mr. Johnson in a meeting with about twenty-five citizens in Robersonville's Wilson Hotel.

Although he has made no official announcement, M. W. (Buck) Holloman, the incumbent, says he plans to be a candidate for the office.

Making Plan For Sale Of TB Seals

Completion of the final plans for opening the annual Tuberculosis Christmas Seal sale in this county is announced by the chairman, Charles H. Manning. A special appeal is directed to the people to support the sale in their usual generous manner and help carry it over the top. The drive has a goal of \$2000.00 but additional funds will help that much more in advancing the tuberculosis program in this county. The chairman stated that \$720.00 had already been spent for free X-ray service this year.

Assisting the chairman are ten leaders in the various townships, as follows: C. C. Martin, Jamesville; C. L. Daniel, Williams; W. B. Harrington, Griffins; A. B. Ayers, Bear Grass; Mrs. A. P. Barnhill, Cross Roads; John Gray Taylor, Robersonville; Mrs. Gentry Mills, Poplar Point; Craven Roebuck, Hamilton; Nat Johnson, Goose Nest. Geo. Hyman is county chairman for the colored citizens.

Minor Accident In The County

No one was hurt and property damage was limited to about \$130 when a pick-up truck driven by Lester Everett, and a 1947 Mercury driven by William V. Paige crashed on a dirt road not far from the Everett home in Robersonville Township.

Traveling east, Everett drove his 1949 Chevrolet pick-up to the left side of the road, preparing to make a turn into a lane on the right. Paige, following the pick-up, thought Everett was going to stop and started to pass on the right. The right front fender struck the rear part of the Mercury, causing about \$30 damage to the car and about \$100 to the truck.