

Judge Nimocks In Address To Grand Jury On Monday

Court Will Start Trial Of Civil Calendar First Of Next Week

Presiding over the current term of the Martin County Superior Court, Judge Q. K. Nimocks of Fayetteville in his address to the grand jury frowned down on lying and urged the jurors to cooperate with officers in bringing law violators into court.

Nine new members were added to the jury, the new shift succeeding nine others who had served on the body for twelve months. The new group, headed by Lawrence G. Lindsley, foreman, includes Wm. H. Griffin, N. M. Hyman, D. A. Brown, Eli D. Rogers, Sidney Beacham, Roy Hardison, R. M. Quinn, R. J. Allen, Archie W. Barber, T. H. Brown, a patient in the hospital, was excused along with D. O. Weaver who last year completed an assignment on the jury. Mrs. L. A. Shaw, the first woman drawn for grand jury in this county, was also excused.

In his charge, Judge Nimocks said that there is a tendency on the part of some grand juries to rush through their work as quickly as possible and do as little as they could. "The grand jury is the most powerful of any of the groups or organizations in this State, and can be of inestimable value to Martin County and every citizen in it," the judge said, urging the jurors not to overlook a single duty.

Pointing out the duty of the grand jury in making presentments, Judge Nimocks said that it had been known in some counties where the gamblers, liquor dealers and prostitutes would close up when the grand jury was in session because they were afraid, and that they would reopen as soon as the jury recessed.

"Some may wonder why the police do not act in such cases," the jurist said. "In many cases the officers realize that it would be of no use to make arrests because the violators might be turned loose in court, that it is difficult to prosecute a case when so-and-so reports a violation and that so-and-so will not have his name mentioned in its connection. Some of the criticism directed against officers may be justified, but most of it is not justified," the jurist declared.

Continuing, he said, "If you see fit to do so you can be of untold benefit to the county and its people. There are eighteen of your body, and I feel certain that no real law violation can go on without one of you knowing about it. Some grand jurors say 'we have a sheriff, a police department, constable and patrol officer. They are sworn and paid, so let them do it.' I tell you it is just as much your sworn duty to check law violations as it is the duty of any officer to bring a violator to justice."

Pointing out that all grand jurors are sworn to secrecy, Judge Nimocks frowned on the practice of a juror revealing what went on in the grand jury room, that one should not hesitate to act in support of the law.

Striking at falsehoods and lying, the jurist turned to the writing. (Continued on page six)

URGENT APPEAL

Garland G. Woolard, fund drive chairman for the American Red Cross in this chapter, today directed an appeal to all persons, earnestly urging them to support the worthy cause during the few remaining days of the drive.

About half the reports are in from the canvassers, Mr. Woolard said, adding that hardly half the quota had been raised and reported. The chairman urged the people to rally behind the organization, pointing out that less than \$2,000 was being asked, and that that amount was cheap insurance against tornadoes or other catastrophes, to say nothing of the ordinary day-by-day service offered by the Red Cross.

First Bond Money Coming To This County For Roads

The first money from the 200 million dollar bond fund is heading into Martin County, according to plans announced by the North Carolina Highway and Public Works Commission. Some money has been spent widening and improving some of the roads, but the first money for surfacing will be released within the next few weeks, it has been announced.

It is proposed to surface approximately sixteen miles of road from Bear Grass via Everetts to Spring Green, and from Gold Point via a point near Hassell to Oak City, and from Conoho Church on Highway 125 to what is known as the River Road or road from Hamilton to Palmyra. Specifications have not been released, and the routing is not definite at this time. However, that route was suggested and approved some months ago.

Other road construction is well advanced in various sections of the county. Several roads have been widened and improved. Work is going forward rapidly on structures and preparations for surfacing the link between Jamesville and the Beaufort County line on 171. The project is partly financed with federal funds and is not a bond project. That portion of unpaved road from Holly Springs to 171 has been widened and being made ready for surfacing, but the State is handling the work. Other projects are in the making.

WELL SATISFIED

Meeting as a board of equalization and review, the Martin County Commissioners Monday received only two complaints against property assessments for taxation.

Judging from the small number of complaints, Martin County property owners apparently are well satisfied with their tax assessments. Finding the assessed values a bit out of line as compared with other near-by listings, the board dropped the values on the J. C. Kirkman residence in Jamesville from \$2,448 to \$1,948, and the value on Annie Worsley's residence on Main Street, Williamston, from \$1,100 to \$900.

No other business was before the meeting.

Boy Appeals For Driver's License

His driver's license revoked for three years by Judge Leo Carr in the Martin County Superior Court last December for three years as a result of a fatal automobile accident in Hamilton last September, Ernest Wilson Bunting, young Oak City boy, this week appealed to the North Carolina Safety Division of the Highway Patrol to have his permit reinstated.

Evidence was heard in the courtroom Monday morning by L. F. Wetherington, supervisor of highway safety in this section of the State. His findings and recommendation will be submitted to Chief Hearings Officer L. R. Fisher and he is expected to hand down his decision within ten days or two weeks. Should the decision be against the boy, he may appeal to the superior court.

At the hearing Monday morning, Witnesses A. K. Hale, H. M. Ainsley, N. W. Johnson and W. Edmond Early said the boy had a good reputation, that he attends Sunday school "pretty good for a young boy."

It was pointed out that the boy was working with the telephone company in Fayetteville and that his promotion was blocked because he had no driver's license, that he was receiving only \$28 a week, and that he had to pay off a heavy court judgment.

Officers said that the boy had been arrested twice, once for violating the rules of the road and the second time following the last September wreck which cost Gus Bryant his life.

Robert Reynolds Stops In County

Making a hurried trip, branded as a good will tour, Robert R. Reynolds, candidate for the U. S. Senate, chatted with friends and acquaintances for a few minutes here late Sunday afternoon after conferring with the Turner boys in the upper part of the county.

He was en route to Elizabeth City where he was to hold a business meeting.

Reynolds had very little to say about his campaign, and discussed no current issues, as far as it could be learned. He said that he would be back, but mentioned no return date.

Handle Criminal Cases Yesterday In Superior Court

Body Urged To Cooperate In Bringing Law Violators Into The Courts

Interrupted or delayed for one cause or another, the Martin County Superior Court completed its organization but cleared comparatively few cases from its criminal docket before recessing late yesterday afternoon for the day. A report from the grand jury late yesterday afternoon stated that the body had just about completed its work and would have its report ready sometime today.

Judge Q. K. Nimocks of Fayetteville is presiding and Solicitor George Fountain of Tarboro is prosecuting the docket. Miss Virginia Vincent of Roanoke Rapids is reporting the court.

The case charging John J. Trnaek with non-support was not pressed or dismissed when it was pointed out that the defendant and prosecuting witness were in court together, and that they were expecting an addition to the family.

Charged with breaking and entering and larceny, Lester Randolph Meeks and Maylon Price of near Robersonville, pleaded guilty, but the court early this morning had not passed judgment. It is possible that the court will consider the tender ages of the two defendants and place them on probation. The 15-year-old lads told how they used a ladder to gain entrance through a second story window of the building housing the Robersonville Pool Room and how they got about \$79 from an unlocked safe there. They also told how they divided the money.

The jury found Lafayette Pearson not guilty of robbing Dossie Hinton of \$13. Pleading guilty of forging the name of R. G. Coburn to a check, David L. James was sentenced to the roads for six months. The cases in which Dave Melton and William Wiggins were charged with assaults, were ordered placed on the county court docket for trial.

William Henry Peel pleaded guilty when charged with the (Continued on page six)

Escape Injury In Sunday Accident

Forrest Kornegay Register, young Tarboro man, and three companions escaped injury last Sunday afternoon at 4:00 o'clock when their car, a four-door Pontiac sedan, went out of control, turned down an embankment and tumbled over at Gardner's Creek on Highway 64. Patrolman E. P. Simmons, investigating the wreck, estimated the damage to the car at \$400, and said that none of the four persons was badly hurt.

Register, owner and driver of the car, was charged with careless and reckless driving, and the three companions, all from Tarboro, were booked for drunkenness and possession of illicit liquor.

Funeral Monday For W. R. Wyatt

W. R. Wyatt, brother of Hugh Wyatt of Williamston and a building contractor, died suddenly at his beach home at Kitty Hawk last Saturday morning. Mr. Wyatt had made his home in Williamston while handling several building contracts here and was well known in this section.

A native of Virginia, the 63-year-old man, had made his home in Rocky Mount for the past 28 years and operated in several states.

Surviving besides his brother here, are his widow, the former Miss Helen Johnson; two sons, W. R., Jr., and George Wyatt; a brother, George Wyatt of Fort Lee, N. J., and a sister, Mrs. Addie Ramsey, of Colonial Heights, Va. Funeral services were conducted at the home in Rocky Mount yesterday afternoon and burial was in the Rocky Mount cemetery.

CORRECTION

Listing the candidates for places on the Martin County Board of Education, The Enterprise was in error when it said that board member Cecil Powell's term expired next year. Mr. Powell's term expires in 1953. The terms of three members, Geo. C. Griffin, Ernest Edmondson and Ford Holliday, expire next year and the three men along with Howard Gaylord are in the race for the three places on the board.

Five Badly Hurt In Accident On Highway No. 903

Auto, Parked In Middle Of Road, Struck By Another Late Sunday Night

Five persons were hurt, one of them critically, when their car struck another parked in the middle of Highway No. 903 about four miles south of Robersonville shortly after 10:00 o'clock Sunday night.

Mrs. Morris Hardy, suffering what was believed to have been a brain injury, was removed to Duke Hospital in a Wilkerson ambulance after receiving treatment in the Ward Clinic. She regained consciousness some hours later, and she was getting along as well as could be expected. She was thrown through the windshield when the 1949 Ford driven by her husband crashed into a 1941 Chevrolet parked there by Charles Curtis, young white man of Robersonville and Norfolk.

Mr. Hardy suffered five fractured ribs and bruises. His mother, Mrs. Hattie Hardy, was badly hurt on the head and suffered a fractured leg. Mrs. Wayne Leggett, riding with the Hardys, was painfully cut about the face, and her husband received a bad but apparently not a serious head injury. The twins of Mr. and Mrs. Hardy, while bloody almost from head to foot, went through the wreck without a scratch. Curtis, sitting in his parked car, was not hurt.

Investigating the accident, the worst reported on the highways in the county so far this year, Patrolman B. W. Parker said that Curtis parked his car in the middle of the highway after driving about four miles from Robersonville in the direction of Stokes. No lights were burning on it when the Hardys, en route from Robersonville to their home near Wallace's store, came along and crashed into it.

Damage to the Chevrolet was estimated at \$150 and that to the Ford at \$200.

Curtis, booked for drunken driving and improper parking, was placed in jail by Patrolman Parker. No hearing has been scheduled in the case, the patrol officer explaining that action was being delayed pending the outcome of the condition of the injured victims.

May Premeasure Crop Acreages

Farmers may have their 1950 cotton and tobacco acreages premeasured if they so desire, according to an announcement coming from the Triple A office in the county this week.

Any farmer desiring his acreage measured before planting time, is directed to file application for the service with the P.-M. A. office in the agriculture building on or before March 31.

A charge of 90 cents per acre will be made for farms where the acreage is 4.5 acres or more, and a minimum of \$4 for farms where the acreage is 4.4 acres or less. The farmers may have either his cotton or tobacco land measured, but he will be required to furnish stakes and assist the work. Premeasurement is not required, and the lands will be checked after crops are planted, it was learned.

Purebred Swine Sale March 24

A purebred hog sale will be held Friday, March 24, at 1 o'clock in Williamston at the New Carolina Warehouse. A total of 20 Duroc hogs will be offered, 11 boars, 7 open gilts, and 2 bred gilts. Good quality hogs will be offered and prices are expected to be very reasonable.

This sale is being sponsored by the Martin County Purebred Swine Breeders Association in cooperation with the N. C. Extension Service. Each hog to be sold is guaranteed to be a breeder and is from some of the best blood lines of the state. Everyone is invited to attend this sale.

Anderson Entering Race For The House

Jimmy Wallace Is Still Considering Entering Contest

Unconfirmed Reports Declare Other Candidate Will Run for Sheriff

Interest in county politics mounted over the week-end when a third candidate announced for the State House of Representatives and unconfirmed reports declared that a third and possibly a fourth candidate would enter the race for sheriff. During the meantime, Jimmy Wallace, Robersonville school man and native of Jamesville, stated he had reached no decision as to whether he would enter the race for representative. "I plan to make up my mind within the next twenty-four hours," Wallace said late yesterday afternoon.

The big development on the political front was reported yesterday when E. G. (Andy) Anderson, prominent county business man and tobaccoist, announced his candidacy for the legislature from this county. It was also announced that Robt. Cowan, Williamston mayor, would not be a candidate. At the present time, three candidates are in the race for the House, A. Corey, the incumbent, Luther Hardison, native of Griffins and a resident of Jamesville for many years before locating in Williamston, and Mr. Anderson.

Reports on the sheriff's field were still vague late yesterday, but it was declared that a Williamston man was considering entering the race, and that a man from in or near Robersonville had been mentioned as a potential candidate. No names were disclosed.

In making his announcement yesterday, Mr. Anderson offered a brief statement, explaining that he was a candidate for the office of Representative of Martin County in the 1951 General Assembly, subject to the Democratic primary on May 27, that if nominated and elected, he promised to serve the people of the county to the best of his ability.

Superior Court Asks More Jurors

Although more jurors than usual were drawn by the commissioners last month for the current term of superior court, a call for more was received Monday, and the commissioners in a special meeting, drew fifteen more, six for the current week and nine for next week, as follows:

First week—Henry White, Jr., of Bear Grass, H. M. Ayers of Cross Roads, John W. Cherry and Abner Bland of Hamilton, and M. L. Robinson and Z. D. Cox of Goose Nest.

Second week—Garfield Mobley, C. H. Ange and Clyde Glass of Jamesville, Wendell Griffin of Williams, Clyde M. Lassiter of Griffins, J. D. Lilley, Jr., and J. C. Manning, Jr., of Williamston, Elwood Ayers of Hamilton and Henry Pitt of Goose Nest.

ROUND-UP

Last week-end was a busy period for law enforcement officers here and in the county. Fourteen persons were arrested and placed in the county jail. Ten of the fourteen persons were white, including several young men. Nine of the cases involved liquor, such as drunken driving, public drunkenness and possession. One of the victims was found lying stretched out on the highway, reports stating that one car missed running over him by a matter of inches. The ages of the group ranged from 18 to 46 years.

Specialist Gives Timely Notes On Sweet Potatoes

Plan Meeting With Farmers In Oak City Thursday Night, March 23

J. W. Sumner Sweet Potato Specialist

There will be a sweet potato meeting at the Oak City High School Thursday night, March 23, at 7:30 p. m.

All farmers in the Oak City area planning to grow sweet potatoes are urged to attend. The counties of Edgecombe, Martin and Pitt now have an assistant county agent to advise farmers on proper sweet potato production. My aim as your sweet potato worker is not to sell the farmer on the idea that all he has to do to get rich is plant sweet potatoes. My aim is to work with the farmers who want to grow potatoes and help them grow better quality potatoes that can be marketed at a profit.

Each week I shall try to bring you a few timely sweet potato notes.

No one can expect to harvest and sell a better crop of potatoes than the seed he starts with. The first requirement for a good harvest is to start with good seed.

The variety to plant is North Carolina or Louisiana strain of Porto Rico. Home grown seed may be planted for commercial purposes if they were grown from certified stock and are free from black rot, stem rot (wilt), scurf, internal cork or decay. Hand select sound potatoes that are typical of the variety and have a copper colored skin and salmon pink flesh color. Flesh color may be determined by making a small smooth chip slightly more than skin deep about one inch from the stem end of the potato. Discard any that does not have a salmon pink flesh color.

Size of Potatoes to Bed: Use only No. 1 or larger size of seed. The minimum No. 1 is 1 3/4 inches in diameter. Large seed produce fewer sprouts per bushel, but they are larger and more vigorous than those from strings (slips). Thus, large plants will live and grow under adverse weather conditions immediately following planting where weak plants produced from strings may die.

Seed Stock Requirements: One acre of sweet potatoes planted on three and one half foot rows spaced 12 inches apart will require 12,500 plants. One bushel of seed will produce 1500 to 1750 plants in three pullings. Then seven to eight bushels are needed to plant once acre.

Seed Treatment: Immediately before bedding disinfect them by dipping for one minute in a solution of Semesan 8kl made of 1 lb. to 7 1/2 gallons of water. A 55 gallon drum or similar size wood barrel may be used to a good advantage. Drain thoroughly in the shade and bed. The purpose of this seed treatment is to kill any live organisms on the surface of the potatoes. This will not kill the organisms inside a diseased potato, therefore, it is important to throw out any diseased or suspect potatoes.

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The band, as it always has, was a favorite of the public up the street and received many compliments on its uniform, discipline and appearance of its individual members.

The glee club is under the direction of Mrs. Beecher Patterson, instructor in public school music at Williamston High and the band was under the direction of Professor Jack Butler, civics teacher and band instructor.

The brass sextet which had been entered in the contest by the Williamston Band had to be cancelled because of the illness of one of its members.

SPRINGTIME The calendar makers and the weatherman cooperated splendidly in ushering in Miss Springtime. Last night at 11:38 o'clock the calendar maker announced the arrival of spring. This morning the weather man, while a bit uncertain, turned on the sun and pushed the mercury up into the sixties.

WHS Does Well At Greenville

The Williamston High School Senior Mixed Glee Club won a superior rating and the Green Wave Band of the high school won an excellent rating in the district music contests staged at East Carolina Teachers College in Greenville last week-end.

Head majorette of the Green Wave Band, Mary Lou Lee, won a superior rating in the twirling contest with ease. Her routine was cut short because of the lateness of the hour and the cold, the judges already having decided that she should go to the state contest at Greensboro where a heavy rain last year knocked her out of a chance to put on her routine for the state judges.

The glee club was one of three mixed groups to receive a superior rating and was invited along with the others to remain over for a program Friday night when a special concert was given. The groups from Greenville and New Bern were the other two invited to return.

The only band to receive a superior rating was the Greenville High School unit. Williamston and Elizabeth City received excellent ratings, it has been learned here but the exact ratings of the other units has not been announced except that none of them got better than excellent.

Hamstrung by illness and other mixups for the past six weeks or more the band went into the contest under a handicap but received a more favorable criticism this year than last although the rating was the same. The musical presentation was complimented by the judges but technical items were the things that hurt, it was indicated. This condition was a result of lack of practice, the Williamston band going into the event with less practice per month than any other entrant had in a week.

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ELECTIONS BOARD

C. D. Carstarphen, Williamston, was appointed and Hassell Worsley of Oak City and Wade Vick of Robersonville were reappointed to the Martin County Board of Elections by the State Board of Elections in Raleigh last Saturday. Mr. Carstarphen was named to fill the position made vacant by the death of Mr. Sylvester Peel who had served the county board for nearly a quarter century. Mr. Vick, representing the Republican party, has been a member of the board for a number of years, and Mr. Worsley is completing his first term.

The county board is scheduled to meet on Saturday of this week, perfect a reorganization and make plans for the registration and May 27 primary election.