

THE ENTERPRISE

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VOLUME LIII—NUMBER 28

Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Thursday, April 6, 1950

ESTABLISHED 1899

Number Of Cases Heard By Justice Of Peace Locally

Several Defendants Are Bound Over to the High- er Court for Trial

Quite a few cases were heard by justice of the peace here during the past few days, one of them charging a West Virginia young man with forgery.

Justice J. L. Hassell handled three cases in his court. Henry Lee Wiggins, publicly drunk, was sentenced to the roads for 30 days, the court suspending the road term upon the payment of \$8.50 costs.

John Henry Hammond, publicly drunk, was taxed with \$9.50 costs, the court suspending a 30-day road sentence.

Charged with assaulting a female, Clarence Roberson was booked for trial in the county court. Bond was required in the sum of \$50.

The big case of the week centered around J. W. Gibson, reportedly from Bluefield, W. Virginia, who is facing a forgery charge. Carried before Justice Chas. R. Mobley yesterday following his arrest the evening before in a beer joint here by Officers Haislip, Perry and Jones, Gibson told so many stories that few facts could be recognized. Passing checks on three local stores, he got merchandise, presumably an Easter gift for his wife, and \$49 in change. He said he married a Miss Macy near Oak City, that he had made his home there for about four years. Waiving examination at the hearing, Gibson, a 33-year-old neat looking fellow, said that he accepted the checks in a poker game at Oak City.

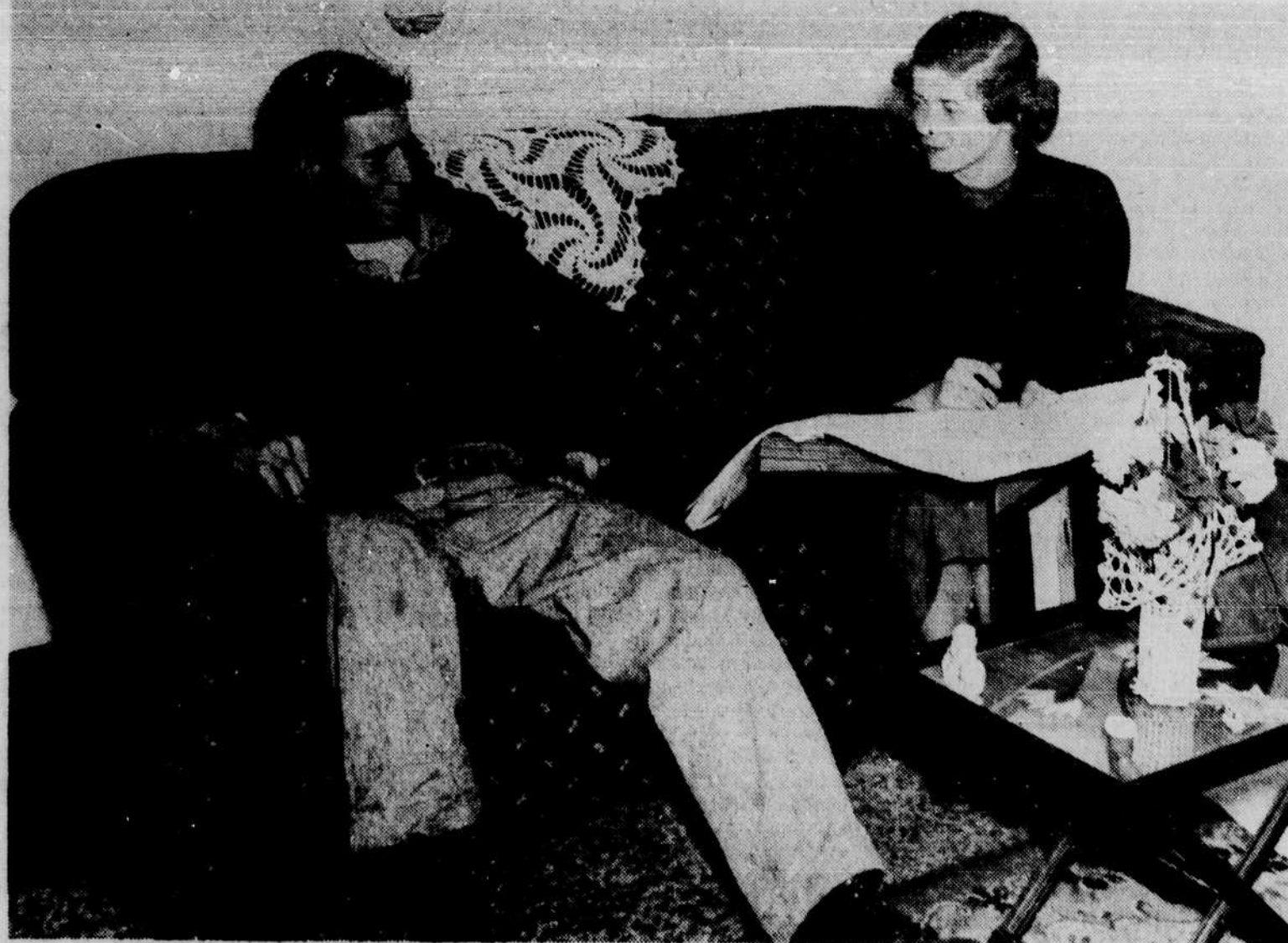
The names of Rogers and Morrison were signed to the checks, two of them being drawn on a local bank and a third one on the bank in Oak City. It was indicated on each check that payment was being made in full for labor on a house.

Placed under \$300 bond in each case, Gibson was unable to raise the amount and he is now in jail awaiting trial in the superior court next June.

It is thought that the man was employed in and around Williamston for a short while. His actions were considered serious when one of the store operators, cashing one of the three checks, heard him call a relative in Texas Tuesday evening.

Charged with slicing Wallace Moore on the cheek with a knife, Robert Everett, colored, was

Enumerator Making First Census Call



Pictured in the Harris home here, Mrs. Elizabeth Taylor Brandon is making her first entries as enumerator for the 17th decennial census. Mr. Earl Harris is answering the questions, but just what he answered the public will never know since all individual information is treated

confidentially. Crew Leaders Evan Griffin and Ronald Johnson explain that the people of this county are cooperating splendidly with the enumerators, and that the work will be completed in several districts within the next two weeks.

GENERAL HOLIDAY

With the exception of heavy industry, the county court and a few other types of business, Easter Monday, April 10, will be observed as a general holiday here, according to an announcement released by Williamston Boosters.

Town and county offices will be closed, but the recorder's court, crowded out by regular and special sessions of the superior tribunal two weeks last month and two weeks this month, considers it necessary to hold a session next Monday. The post office will remain open and the mails will go out as usual.

Planning Ruritan Club In Everetts

Plans are being made for organizing a Ruritan club in Everetts, and an invitation is being extended all men in the Everetts-Cross Roads School District to attend a free barbecue in the Everetts school building at 7:00 o'clock on Wednesday, April 19.

A club in Everetts will give this county just about a perfect set-up of Ruritan. Clubs are now active in the Jamesville, Farm Life, Bear Grass, Hamilton, Hassell and Oak City areas.

Schools To Have Holiday Monday

All Martin County schools will observe Easter Monday as a holiday, it was announced by the office of the superintendent. The holiday is the last on the schedule during the current term, but summer vacation will start the latter part of next month.

Opens Office Here For Practice Of Medicine

Dr. J. D. Hemmingway of Bethel and Hamilton opened an office here this week for the general practice of medicine. He is in the office of the late Dr. J. B. H. Knight which was until a few days ago occupied by Wheeler Manning's insurance agency and Chas. H. Manning's law office. Miss Helen Daniel is office receptionist.

RAINFALL

About an average rainfall was recorded at the Roanoke River bridge here last month, Hugh Spruill, keeper of the official gauge, stating that 3.10 inches of rain, including a trace of snow, fell during the period.

Rain fell on seventeen of the 31 days, but except for 1.20 inches on March 28, the fall was limited to fractions of an inch on most of those days.

Scout Officials In Meeting Here

Scouters met here Tuesday evening in a joint district and Scoutmasters' round table.

Following a dinner at Wier Coffee Shop the group divided, the troop committeemen and chairmen of the various scout committees meeting with K. P. Lindsley, District Chairman, and George Brown, Scout Field Executive, in Fletcher Thomas' office and the Scoutmasters and their assistants meeting with Tim Malone in the F. C. X. building.

Scoutmasters present were James Wallace, Troop 72, Robersonville; C. B. Burroughs, Troop 122, Hassells; T. H. Matthews, Troop 27, Williamston; Dr. J. A. Eden, Troop 29, Williamston and Clayton Revels, Troop 128, Bear Grass. Assistant Scoutmasters attending were Dewey Edwards, Buddie Fussell and E. M. Delamar. Making up the troop and district committees were Hack Gaylord; George Ayers, Hassells; E. P. Harrison, Bear Grass; Grady Luffman and Ben Courtney.

It has been planned to hold regular Martin District and Roundtable dinner meetings on the first Tuesday night in each month at about 8 o'clock. The next meeting will be held in the local employment office on the first Tuesday in May.

Note Some Improvement In The Tobacco Plant Outlook

Bleak and bare a short time ago, tobacco plant beds are looking much greener following the late rains in March and the few warm days early this month, farmers declaring that there has been much improvement in the plant outlook in this county. However, it is fairly certain that there'll be a plant shortage at transplanting time the early part of next month.

Farmers explain that cold weather, dry periods, pests, blue mold and poor bed preparations just about wiped out a large percentage of the plants. It is possible, some farmers point out, that the weed killing agencies were not properly mixed or there was

not sufficient rain to dissolve the material to eliminate the danger for the plants. Fertilizer, mixed lightly into the soil, was hardly deep enough, burning up the plants in some instances. Those plants, planted at a time to develop just ahead of the freezing weather in March, were killed, and some kind of pest destroyed large quantities of plants.

There are a few exceptionally fine beds scattered here and there in the county, one farmer stating that plants were pretty and numerous in two of his beds, but that those in an adjoining bed had died out. It was explained that the beds sowed in late January were doing well.

AT LAST

Delayed for such a long time that possibly it could be obsolete, equipment for the home economics departments here and Bear Grass finally did reach its destinations. The equipment, including cabinets and special gadgets, was unloaded yesterday morning, it was learned.

The equipment had been on order about a year.

Credit Accident To Bright Lights

The driver never stopped, but a car with glaring headlights caused an automobile accident near Siloam church, a short distance this side of Gardner's Creek on Highway 64 at 7:55 o'clock last Friday evening. Patrol John T. Rowe, the investigating officer said yesterday.

James R. Williams, driving a 1948 Chevrolet, slowed down when the car with bright lights pulled onto the highway. Thurman Lee Manning was driving his 1941 Chevrolet behind Williams. Blinded by the lights, Manning did not see the Williams car until he was almost on it. Manning turned to the right shoulder and sideswiped the Williams car, doing about \$100 damage to his and about \$75 damage to Williams' car.

CORN THEFT

Raiding Farmer Grover Haislip's barn sometime during last night, thieves carried away a quantity of corn. Few details could be learned, but officers are investigating the theft today.

House Candidate States Stand In Public Statement

Jimmy Wallace Announced His Candidacy for As- sembly Recently

Jimmy Wallace, who last week announced his candidacy for the office of Martin County Representative in the 1951 General Assembly, has issued the following statement regarding his entry into the race:

"I feel that a few words should be said in the connection with the reasons behind my announcement as a candidate in the race for the Legislature, and I take this opportunity to express to the people, my sincere appreciation for the interest which has been shown thus far and for any support which might be given in the coming weeks.

"In deciding to make the race, I have been influenced by requests from numerous citizens throughout the county and the desire, on my part, to make public service my life's work.

"I enter the race with the knowledge that the opposition is strong and that the outcome is doubtful. I have chosen to step into the political arena, without money, without influence, and pitted against candidates who have led long and fruitful lives in our county. I take this step, fully realizing the size and strength and worthiness of the opposition, because I have for a long time cherished the idea of one day serving the people of this county in public office. If elected, I promise to do everything in my power to merit the confidence and serve the needs of the people of Martin County.

"I feel that the interests of better government demand that the people be given a wider choice at the polls. Thus it is that I risk personal defeat in order that this choice of candidates will be provided. It is my earnest opinion that if a man, who considers himself qualified, is so afraid of losing that he doesn't run at all, he doesn't deserve to win an election.

"It is my belief that we should send a young man to Raleigh, several times in a row if he serves us well, in order that he may grow in the job and provide for the County a stronger and more influential representation than we can get in any other way.

"Therefore, I submit myself to the voters of Martin County in the hope that they will choose me as the instrument for this important task."

Suffering Much Pain Following Operation

Undergoing a major throat operation in Duke Hospital last Monday, Mr. Henry Handy, local man, was said late last night to be suffering much pain, but that he was getting along as well as could be expected.

"THANK YOU" GIFTS

Gifts, tendered by the French as a token of appreciation for the Friendship Trains, will be shown in this county next week.

Robersonville People Offer Material Aid To Hospital

(Robersonville Herald) A goodly number of Robersonville citizens stepped into the lead yesterday to help equip the new hospital now being constructed in the county at Williamston. Unofficial reports indicated that a substantial sum—several thousand dollars—had been tendered already by about seventeen local citizens and that others wanted to extend a helping hand. Dr. Walter Elliot Ward and Mr. Jim Gray are spearheading the volunteer movement, it was learned, and they will be glad to receive and forward any contributions for the hospital.

Advised that local doctors and other members of the profession in the county will be welcomed to use the hospital and its equipment for the treatment of their patients, many people here acted willingly and unselfishly to help provide the institution with adequate and strictly modern equipment.

County Court Hears Forty - Seven Cases

GROUND-BREAKING

Climaxing several years of intensive work, ground will be broken Sunday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock for a new Christian church on the corner of Haughton and Church Streets, the pastor, Rev. John L. Goff, announces. Rev. M. Elmore Turner, pastor of the First Christian Church in Washington, will be the speaker, and the public is cordially invited to be present for the event.

The ground will be broken by Mrs. Jos. A. Roberson, the oldest living member of the church able to perform the historic task. The main floor will be outlined on the site that those attending may gain an idea of the size and arrangement of the proposed edifice.

Twenty-two Cited To The Court For Excessive Speeds

Eleven Charged with Driving Sixty-five or More Miles Per Hour

Twenty-two speeding cases were cleared from the docket in the Martin County Superior Court last Monday. Those drivers, running less than sixty-five miles per hour, were let off by paying the set \$22.05 court costs, while a graduated scale of costs was applied to the defendants in eleven cases.

Philip Rosken of the Bronx, N. Y., got away by the skin of his teeth, the court not pressing the case with leave.

Driving 70 miles an hour, Herman Theodore Turner of Burlington was fined \$15, plus costs. He pleaded guilty.

Charged with driving along at 75 miles an hour, Childs E. Pierce of Roanoke Rapids was fined \$25 and required to pay the costs.

John George Zerbinos of Hobbogood was fined \$15 and taxed with the costs for speeding along at 72 miles an hour.

James Oliver Williams, driving 55 miles an hour in a 35-mile zone, was taxed with the court costs.

Johnnie James Staton of Norfolk was fined \$15 and taxed with the costs for driving 70 miles an hour.

Charged with speeding at 70 miles an hour, Harold F. Amerman of Hebron, Connecticut, and George J. Spina of New York City were each fined \$15 and required to pay the costs.

A Newport News man, Fred Benjamin Briley, clocked at 74 miles an hour, was fined \$15, plus costs.

Charged with speeding at 65 or less per hour, the following defendants were cited:

(Continued on page eight)

Collect \$785 In Fines At A Long Meeting Monday

Court Will Meet While All Other Offices Close Easter Monday

Holding its first session since March 13, the Martin County Recorder's Court Monday cleared forty-seven cases from its docket, continued several others and collected fines in the sum of \$785. The county tribunal had withdrawn for the past two weeks in favor of the superior court, and its cases had accumulated.

Although a general holiday has been declared for Easter Monday, the county court will hold a regular session at the time, court officials explaining that to observe the day as a holiday would cause a backlog of cases since the superior court would be in session the following two weeks.

Of the 47 cases handled this week, twenty-two of them charged the defendants with exceeding the speed limit.

Proceedings: Pleading not guilty, Dallas Johnson was found guilty of non-support and he was sentenced to the roads for nine months. The road term was suspended on condition that he pay the costs and pay \$40 a month for the support of his wife and children. He appealed and bond was required in the sum of \$150.

Charged with non-support, Milton Bane was found guilty and drew a six-month road sentence. The road sentence was suspended on condition that he pay the costs and \$4 a week for the support of his family.

The case charging Frank Johnson with violating the liquor laws was dismissed.

Dave Melton appealed to the higher courts when he was found guilty of an assault with a deadly weapon. Bond was required in the sum of \$500.

Charged with an assault with a deadly weapon, William Wiggins was found guilty.

George Robert Bryant, charged with bastardy, was found not guilty.

Pleading guilty in the case in which he was charged with bastardy, Fred Boston was sentenced to the roads for six months, the court suspending the road term upon the payment of the costs and on the condition that he pay \$2.50 a week for the support of his child and a \$58 doctor's bill.

Henry Jenkins was sentenced to the roads for six months.

Judgment was suspended upon the payment of the costs in the case charging Joseph Robinson with indecent exposure.

Gossie M. Hudson was fined \$23, plus costs, when he was found guilty of careless and reckless driving.

Pleading guilty of drunken driving, Gilford Cherry was fined \$100, taxed with the costs and lost his driver's license for one year.

Charged with drunken driving and operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license, Thomas W. Stanley pleaded guilty and was fined \$125 and taxed with the costs. No license is to be issued the defendant for one year.

Judgment was suspended upon

(Continued on Page Eight)

NO CUCUMBERS

Word has been received here by Mr. Clifton House, buyer for C. C. Lang and Son, Inc., that the southern brinery, which contracted for cucumbers in this area last year, will not buy in this section during the 1950 season.

Mr. House reported that because the company has so many pickles now on hand contracting in this area will not be resumed until 1951. The company is reported to have said that they definitely liked the cucumbers from this area and that they are enlarging the plant and are planning to keep it.

THE RECORD SPEAKS . . .

13th Week			
Accidents Inj'd	Killed	Damage	
1950	1	0	\$ 275
1949	2	1	150
Comparisons To Date			
1950	32	21	\$ 7,390
1949	29	14	5,950