

Ground Breaking For New Church



In one of the first tangible steps in the movement for a new house of worship, members of the Christian church gathered on the lot, corner of North Haughton and Church Streets, last Sunday afternoon for a special service and groundbreaking. Pictured above are the pastor, Rev. John L. Goff, and choir members watching as Mrs. Jos. Robertson, who holds a 55-year membership record, breaks the ground. Below, the group listens to Rev. Elmore Turner of Washington deliver the dedicatory address.

County People In Bad Car Accident Near Wake Forest

Mrs. Marvin Coltrain Injured Critically; Four Others Also In Accident

Five Martin County people were injured, one critically and at least two others seriously, late Tuesday afternoon in a highway intersection accident between Wake Forest and Durham.

Mrs. Marvin Coltrain, suffering multiple head injuries, continues in a grave condition at Rex Hospital, Raleigh, where the victims were carried for treatment. She was said to have rested very well last night, but has not regained consciousness. Mrs. Ben Robertson, a passenger in the Coltrain car, suffered fractures of seven ribs, shoulder and collar bone, a knee injury and a 12-stitch cut on her head. Reports this morning indicated that she was not responding to treatment as well as had been hoped for by her doctors. She did not spend a very restful night last night. Mrs. Jesse Lilley, suffered a compound leg fracture, shock and bruises, and was said to be getting along as well as could be expected. Mrs. Joe Gray Corey, also riding with Mrs. Coltrain, suffered severe shock and multiple bruises, but her condition is quite satisfactory and she is expected home shortly. Bill Gay, another passenger in the Coltrain car, was slightly bruised on one leg, but was able to leave the hospital after receiving treatment.

LeRoy J. Cosby, Richmond man who was driving the second car involved in the accident, escaped serious injury and was able to leave the hospital yesterday.

Mrs. Coltrain and party were returning home after a visit in Durham where Mr. Gay received hospital treatment. Colby was driving south.

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Hundreds Attend Easter Sunrise Service Here



Pictured above are the hundreds of people from Williamston and surrounding territory who braved the chilly morning wind to attend the special Easter sunrise service in Woodlawn Cemetery. The service was led by Rev. E. R. Shuller, pastor of the Methodist church, assisted by the several other ministers of the town. The attendance was about the largest to ever attend a sunrise service here.

HALF HOLIDAYS

Beginning next Wednesday, April 19, local business houses and offices will observe each Wednesday afternoon as a half holiday until the week before the tobacco market opens, it has been announced by the Boosters, following a poll of the business operators.

Several firms have been observing the half-holiday schedule all the while. A few firms, including The Enterprise and the post office, will remain open Wednesday afternoons and take the half holiday Saturday afternoons.

Judge Clears Out Thirty-two Cases In County's Court

Taking No Holiday Easter Monday, Court Levied \$625 In Fines

Working while a general holiday was being observed in this section, the Martin County Recorder's court had a fairly profitable session Easter Monday when thirty-two cases were cleared from the docket and fines were levied in the amount of \$625. The docket count included thirteen speeding cases.

Judge Chas. H. Manning and Solicitor Paul D. Roberson cleared the docket and folded the court tent at 12:00 o'clock noon until May 1. During the meantime, the county bar members and Judge W. H. S. Burgwyn will wrestle with a conglomerated civil calendar.

Proceedings last Monday: Pleading guilty of drunken driving, Herbert Lee Hardison was fined \$100, taxed with the costs and lost his driver's license for a year.

Ralph Mason, charged with violating the rules of the road, was found not guilty.

Pleading guilty of allowing an unlicensed driver to operate a motor vehicle, James Williams was sentenced to the roads for sixty days.

Adjudged guilty of stealing a red pocketbook, Alice Dickens was sentenced to jail for sixty days.

A series of assault cases originating in Robersonville were aired in the court, the three defendants, Dorah Jenkins, Ernestine Wright and Ann Wright, drawing \$15 fines each, plus costs. Ann Wright pleaded not guilty.

Adjudged guilty of an assault with a deadly weapon, Robert Everett, colored, was sentenced to the roads for sixty days.

Facing two counts, Joe Baker pleaded not guilty of an assault with a deadly weapon and violating the liquor laws. Adjudged guilty, he was sentenced to the roads for nine months, the court suspending the sentence upon the payment of a \$75 fine and costs. The defendant is to drink no liquor and not assault his wife during the next two years.

Pleading guilty of assaulting a female, Harry James was sentenced to the roads for six months. The judgment was suspended upon the payment of a \$25 fine and costs, and the defendant is not to assault his wife during the next two years.

Judgment was suspended upon the payment of the cost in the case in which Clarence Roberson was charged with assaulting a female.

Charged with careless and reckless driving, Samuel Patrick pleaded not guilty. He was found guilty of violating the rules of the road and was fined \$10, plus the costs.

Jesse Mott Rooks pleaded guilty and was fined \$100 for drunken driving. He was taxed with the costs and lost his license for one year.

Charged with careless and reckless driving, Arthur Mac Woodard pleaded guilty and was fined \$25, plus costs.

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Large Damage Suits In Court For Trial

CANDIDATE



Jos. Sheppard Holliday, well known Bear Grass Township farmer, announced his candidacy for county commissioner from the Griffins-Bear Grass district. Filing this morning, the candidate will oppose W. M. Harrison, also of Bear Grass.

To Hold Special Election June 10

Citizens in those areas just outside the present town limits will have an opportunity to approve or reject an annexation proposal in a special election to be held on Saturday, June 10.

Registrars, judges of election and registration places were announced this week by County Board of Elections Chairman C. D. Carstarphen.

In the West End area, Dennis Hardy was named registrar, and Lee Bert Jenkins and Hilton Forbes were named judges of election. The registration books will be opened in Hardy's store on Saturday, May 13, and continue open through Saturday, May 27. The books will be open on June 3 for the challenge of any names.

In the North End area, Charlie B. Wynn has been named registrar, and Garland Wynn and Sam Whichard are to serve as judges of election. Registration books will be kept open in Dan Gardner's store three Saturdays, beginning May 13 for the entry of all those who wish to participate in the election to be held on June 10. There will be opportunity on Saturday, June 3, for any one to challenge the names on the registration books.

It is a special election and anyone wishing to vote in it must register during the set time.

Farm Life Rurians To Observe Ladies' Night

Farm Life Rurians will observe ladies' night at their regular meeting next Tuesday night at 7:30 o'clock in the Farm Life cafeteria. The entertainment committee is planning for an enjoyable event, it was announced.

Twenty-one Civil Cases on Calendar In Superior Court

Plaintiffs Seeking To Recover Approximately \$70,000 In Damages

Plaintiffs will seek more than \$70,000 damages alleged to have resulted in accidents when they go into the Martin County Superior Court during the two-week special term opening next Monday. Most of the twenty-one civil cases on the calendar however, are most modest when it comes to claims.

In addition to handling eight divorce cases and a few other civil actions next Monday, the court, presided over by Judge W. H. S. Burgwyn, is tentatively scheduled to clear away a goodly number of old cases, most of them having been settled by agreement out of court and others having been cleared up by time.

Tried once and called again, the \$15,000 damage suit brought by Grover Peel, administrator of Chloe Peel, against the A. C. L. Railroad Company is set for trial next Tuesday. The first trial verdict, allowing \$6,000 damages, was set aside following the last September term of court as being excessive. The second trial was well under way in the court last month when the presiding jurist was taken ill and found it necessary to adjourn the tribunal for the term. Pointing out that the little Peel child was run down and killed by the defendant's train near Darden's on September 27, 1948, the plaintiff charges negligence, adding that no whistle warning was given.

One of the big suits, in which the plaintiff is asking \$25,000 damages, was brought by Arthur Lilly, administrator of Dallas Hugh Lilly, against L. W. Gurkin, operator of Albemarle Beach near Plymouth. The plaintiff alleges that his 16-year-old son lost his life on account of the negligence of the defendant in not posting proper signs on a pier extending some 100 yards into the water at the beach. The young man dived into the water, said to have been eighteen to twenty inches in depth, and broke his neck in two places on July 31, 1949. He died in a Washington hospital a few days later on August 5. In his answer, the defendant claims the plaintiff's estate was injured by his own negligence.

The second \$25,000 damage suit is being brought by Jesse A. Council, administrator of Allie Bell Williams, against J. C. Weatherly and the Norfolk Southern Bus Corporation. The plaintiff says that Mrs. Williams, 32, was struck and killed by the defendant's bus near Williamston on July 28, 1949.

Shade-Rhodes Company started (Continued on Page Eight)

Ten Whiskey Plants Wrecked In County

More Activity On Illicit Front In Number Of Years

Officers Pour Out Nearly 4,000 Gallons of Beer In Five Days

The illicit liquor business, showing signs of revival on a more intensive scale during recent months, flowered almost to full bloom recently just to be cut down by ABC Enforcement Officer J. H. Roebuck and Deputy Roy Peel with the aid of neighboring county officers during one or two days of the five-day round-up. Officer Roebuck, reasoning that economic conditions enter into the picture, declared that there is more activity on the illicit liquor front in this county now than in a number of years.

During the five-day raiding period last week, the officers wrecked ten distilleries, poured out nearly 4,000 gallons of mash or sugar beer and confiscated copper and equipment.

Starting out in Hamilton Township, the two county officers struck near Hassell, wrecking three nasty oil drum kettles and pouring out 150 gallons of filthy beer. Two of the plants were close together, and a third was found a mile away.

Joined by Pitt ABC officers the next day, the officers wrecked two partial plants in the Stingy Point section of Robersonville Township, pouring out 150 gallons of beer.

Returning to Hamilton the next day, Officers Roebuck and Peel wrecked another oil drum still and poured out 100 gallons of beer. That afternoon they switched over to Bear Grass Township and confiscated two copper kettles, one of 50 gallon capacity and the second of 100 gallon capacity. Four hundred gallons of beer were spilled at the two plants.

The big raid was handled last Friday when the two officers in this county, joined by those from Beaufort, raided along the Martin-Beaufort line. The plant was equipped with a 200-gallon capacity wood still, a 200-gallon capacity cooler and a large doubler, ten 300-gallon and four 50-gallon fermenters. There were sixteen 5-

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Heavy Docket In Justices' Court In Past Few Days

Several Cases Sent To The Other Courts For Final Action

Handling fightin' and feudin' cases and various other law violations, three local justices of the peace worked over time the early part of the week clearing up their dockets. Several cases were sent to other courts for final action.

The following cases were handled in Justice R. T. Johnson's court:

Charged with reckless driving, Jim Bond was bound over to the county court for trial on May 1. Bond was required to give bond in the sum of \$100.

Operating a motor vehicle with improper lights, Haywood LeRoy Moore was fined \$5 and taxed with \$5.85 costs.

Charged with fishing without license, Thurman D. Bailey of Rocky Mount was fined \$5 and required to pay \$5.85 costs. Facing a similar charge, Paul G. Sumner, Jr., also of Rocky Mount, was required to pay the costs.

Drunk and disorderly, George Corning of Norfolk was fined \$10, plus \$6.85 costs.

Charged with parking on highway without lights and without giving proper clearance, William Lester Smith was fined \$5, plus \$5.85 costs.

The case charging Lewis B. Willoughby with operating a motor vehicle without proper registration, was dismissed.

Charged with failing to give right-of-way, Norman R. Oliver was fined \$10 and taxed with \$5.85 costs. He was also ordered to pay damages resulting to Robert Perry's car in an accident near Smithwick's Creek on April 7th.

Judgment was suspended upon the payment of \$5.85 in the case charging Phoebe R. Thomas with operating a motor vehicle with improper registration.

In the case charging Donald B. Nobles with operating a motor vehicle with improper registration papers, the court suspended judgment on condition that the defendant get proper licenses.

The case charging Charlie Clark with an assault was sent to the juvenile court by Justice C. R. Mobley when it was learned the defendant was under sixteen years of age.

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Ralph N. Early Dies In Hospital

Ralph Newton Early, popular 15-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Early of the Oak City-Palmyra community, died late Monday night in Duke Hospital a short time after he underwent a major operation there.

Stricken with influenza two weeks or more ago, the youth partially recovered but complained with severe headaches. The family physician advised hospital treatment and he was removed to a Rocky Mount hospital. When his condition worsened last Sunday he was removed to Duke.

The promising youth attended the Oak City schools where he had many friends, and was a favorite among both old and young. Surviving besides his parents, are a brother, Joseph Lester Early of the home, and his maternal grandmother, Mrs. Dana Alligood of Palmyra.

Funeral services were conducted yesterday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock in the Williams Chapel Methodist Church, near the home, by the pastor, Rev. W. B. Sherman. Interment was in the church cemetery.

Eighteen File For Places On Ballot In This County

A report late yesterday from Elections Board Chairman C. D. Carstarphen stated that all county political positions were assured candidates, but that all the announced candidates had not filed, and that the filing dead line is 6:00 o'clock p. m. on Saturday of this week.

As of late yesterday the filing list included:

Clarence W. Griffin for solicitor; Martin County Recorder's Court, Murray W. (Buck) Holloman for sheriff; William W. Biggs for coroner; L. Bruce Wynne for clerk of superior court; R. H. Smith for treasurer; Hugh G. Horton for senator of second district; E. G. Anderson, Luther Hardison and Jimmy Wallace for Martin County representative in the North Carolina General Assembly; W. M. Harrison, Henry S. Johnson, Jr.,

C. C. Martin, J. H. Edwards and H. L. Roebuck for county commissioners; Ernest C. Edmondson, Geo. C. Griffin, Howard B. Gaylord and Ferd W. Holliday for Martin County Board of Education. Other candidates who have announced are expected to file shortly. While last-minute developments could change the color of pre-primary politics, no late candidacies are anticipated. But the list is still open.

J. Shep Hollidays filed this morning for county commissioner from the Griffins-Bear Grass district, and A. Corey got his name on the dotted-line shortly before 10 o'clock today.

In addition to the county political slate, three have filed for township constable, including Charlie R. Moore, Williamston; D. A. Roberson, Robersonville; and C. Roy O'Neal, Jameville.