

Slight Delay Is Expected In Trial Of Murder Charge

One-Week Term of Martin Superior Court Is Opened Monday

Admitting nothing, but choosing to place their fate in the hands of the jury, defendants held the proceedings to a slow pace in the early part of the current week term of the Martin County Superior Court. With Judge Q. K. Nimocks of Fayetteville on the bench, the jury battled a thousand the first day against the defendants.

Only a few of the cases scheduled for trial Monday were cleared from the docket, and it looked this morning as if the court would not reach the Early murder case before Thursday with the possibility that it would be Friday before it is called.

The court is attracting fair-sized crowds, and colored citizens are expected to be present in numbers for the murder trial. Some have expressed themselves rather freely "off the record" in the case.

Proceedings:

Pleading not guilty of forgery, Johnnie Haynes was found guilty of forging two checks, one for \$4.26 with the signature, Thomas Stevenson, and the other for \$35 with the signature, James Stevenson. Sentence was not pronounced immediately.

Found guilty of the larceny of two automobiles, one from Jim Taylor and the other from Ollie Paige, Zeno Brown was sentenced to the roads for six months in each case, the sentences to run consecutively.

Walter Walker, found guilty of breaking and entering and larceny of eight fountain pens from the Crystal Grill, was not sentenced immediately. Walker, claiming to have completed a medical course, has been in the courts several times.

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Grand Jury Ends Work On Monday

Receiving no charge from Judge Q. K. Nimocks in the superior court Monday, the grand jury immediately entered upon its duties and by late afternoon had completed its work for the term. No school property or bus inspections had to be made, but the jury wrangled with bills of indictment until late in the day.

It was a great day in the jury room for three Wiggins men, the jurymen finding no true bill in each of the three cases. William Alfred and Clarence Wiggins were charged with breaking and entering, and Walter Wiggins was charged with assaulting Angeline Cromwell.

True bills, signed by L. G. Lindley, foreman, were returned, as follows:

Clarence Lay and Louis Grant, flim-flam; Harrell Asby, larceny; Marvin Brantley, forgery, two counts; James L. Morrison, forgery, three counts; James Savage, secret assault; Charlie Phillips, Jr., England Andrews and John Smith, breaking and entering; Jesse Outterbridge, carnal knowledge. In returning a true bill in the Edward L. Early, Jr., murder case, the jury examined only two witnesses, the indictment, returned into open court by the jury as a body, reading, that on May 28, 1950, the defendant "feloniously, willfully and of his knowledge, forethought did kill and murder one Odeslie Keyes."

ROUND-UP

There was comparative little activity on the crime front in this section last week-end, the records showing that only three persons were rounded-up and temporarily detained in the county jail.

One was booked for non-support, and the other two were charge with being drunk and disorderly. Two of the three were white, and the ages of the group ranged from 25 to 36 years.

Still Working On Solution To Peanut Acreage Problem

"We are still working on a solution to the edible peanut acreage problem," Congressman Herbert Bonner said in a special communication this week, explaining that a compromise measure is being advanced whereby the Secretary of Agriculture would have authority to up peanut acreages in states producing types of peanuts which, according to their historical averages, will be in short supply.

Under an amendment passed by the Congress and saved from the veto to a large extent by Senator Frank P. Graham, farmers were allowed to increase their peanuts acreage this year to that planted in 1947 without penalty, but

subject to support oil prices for the difference in the actual 1950 allotment and the 1947 plantings.

The original bill, Congressman Bonner explained would have set up a peanut program similar to the tobacco program — basing acreage allotments on types according to demand. It met with opposition from congressmen representing the runner-type peanut areas which may have suffered acreage cuts under the proposal. Congressman Bonner today mailed copies of the compromise measure to various farm leaders in peanut producing North Carolina. He said he wanted the opinions of the farm leaders before action was taken on the compromise.

Robber Caught Here Early Last Saturday

SPEAKERS

Supporters of Frank P. Graham for the United States Senate are discussing some vitally important issues in the current U. S. Senate race over Radio Station WRRF this week.

H. S. Ward delivered an old-time political address at 12:15 today.

Wednesday evening of this week at 6:45 o'clock, Elbert S. Peel, local attorney, will speak on the same station, followed by Attorney Clarence W. Griffin at 12:15 on Thursday of this week.

Chas. Whitehurst Died At His Home Here Late Sunday

Funeral Being Conducted In Aurora Methodist Church at 3:00

Charles Henry Whitehurst, mill engineer and an employee of the Williamson Lumber Company for the past two years, died at his home at Skewarkey Sunday night at 11:15 o'clock two hours after suffering a heart attack. He had been suffering with heart condition for about fifteen years, but had been fairly active during that time. He was in his usual health two hours before his death.

The son of the late William and Sallie Hill Whitehurst, he was born in Beaufort County 70 years ago on May 13, 1880, spending his early life and marrying Miss Ada Sparrow there. He later located in New Bern where he spent a number of years before coming to Williamson fourteen years ago with the Eauders and Cox Lumber Company. He made many friends in Williamson.

Surviving besides his widow are three daughters, Mrs. F. F. Dickinson of Ahoskie, Mrs. Harlan Troth of Atlanta, Mrs. P. W. Luebke of Santa Anna, Calif.; one

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Green Wave Band Due Back Today

The Williamson High School Green Wave Band is expected to arrive back home some time today from their three-day trip to Charlotte where they appeared on Monday in the parade of the Lions State Convention.

They left here Sunday morning in two chartered busses, several private cars and a truck after a brief devotional service in front of the high school building. A large number of parents and friends were out to see them off.

No word had been heard from them early this morning, but it is likely they will not arrive home before late today. Director Jack Butler having said they would be in no hurry coming back, planning to stop and see anything en route that was of interest to the youngsters.

Native Of County Died On Saturday At Ahoskie Home

Millard T. Lilley Buried In Woodlawn Cemetery Here Sunday Afternoon

Millard Tilman Lilley, a native of this county, died at his home in Ahoskie at 4:00 o'clock Saturday morning following a long period of declining health. During the past several months he had undergone operations and treatment in a Durham hospital, and his condition was critical for weeks.

The son of Alexander and Mary Coltrain Lilley, he was born in this county 41 years ago on April 20, 1909, and spent most of his life in this county. After spending his early years on the farm, he moved to Williamson and was employed by the municipal water and street departments, resigning two years ago to go to Ahoskie where he served as superintendent of public works.

He was married to Miss Emily Casper of this county. Surviving besides his widow, are his parents of Williamson; one son, Wayne Casper Lilley of Ahoskie; two brothers, David Franklin, Lilley, U. S. Army, Fort Bliss, Texas, and Harold Brinkley Lilley of Williamson.

Mr. Lilley was a member of the Presbyterian Church in Ahoskie, and the funeral service was conducted there Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock by the pastor, Rev. George M. Pickard. Interment was in Williamson's Woodlawn Cemetery.

Mr. Lilley was well known in his native and adopted communities, and was held in high esteem as an employee and citizen of the town of Ahoskie.

Funeral services were attended by a large number of people from Ahoskie and from this community, and the floral offering was extensive.

Two Badly Hurt In Car Accident

Two persons were hurt, one of them believed seriously, when their car, a 1947 Oldsmobile, went out of control and turned over on U. S. Highway 17, about two miles south of here shortly after 9:00 o'clock this morning.

The names of the aged couple could not be learned immediately, but they were driving a New York car.

Mr. and Mrs. John Baker of Jacksonville, Fla., were driving north, and the New York car, traveling in the same direction, passed them. The Bakers were running about 48 to 50 miles an hour. The left rear tire on the New York car blew out, throwing the machine out of control. It skidded some distance down the highway sideways and struck the shoulder, turning over two times. The aged woman, a passenger in the car, was thrown out, witnesses declaring she almost became entangled in the telephone wires. She was found lying unconscious a short distance from the car which came to a stop in Farmer Fisher Harris' peanut field.

Investigating the accident, Patrolman M. F. Powers and B. W. Parker said the accident victims were Mr. and Mrs. Henry Steffen, 179 W. 102nd St., New York City. Following an examination in the local hospital, Mr. Steffen was released, but last reports stated that Mrs. Steffen had not regained consciousness.

Bible School Ends Term Next Friday

The Colored Union Vacation Bible School is closing a successful two-week term on Friday morning of this week at 10:00 o'clock in the Mt. Shiloh Baptist Church. Parents and friends of children are invited to attend the commencement exercises and review the work handled during the school term, Director Geo. T. Hyman announced.

The school enrolled 262 pupils and the classes were located in four churches, the ages of the pupils ranging from 4 to 15 years.

New Hospital Incorporated As Non-Profit Organization

Martin General Is Name Selected for The New Hospital

Will Operate Under A State Charter; Six Trustees Named This Week

Now nearing completion, the new hospital on Williamson's Liberty Street is being incorporated under the laws of the State of North Carolina this week under the name, "Martin General Hospital" in accordance with the laws of the State of North Carolina, it was announced by a representative of the hospital. No definite date has been fixed for the opening of the hospital, but all legal requirements have been met, making it ready for business when the facilities are made available. A large portion of the building has been completed, and it is possible that a part of it will be occupied in July with the general opening following in early August.

Recognizing the need for increased facilities for meeting the hospital needs of the people of this county and section and to make the facilities available to rich and poor alike, the four organizing doctors — Chas. I. Harris, Jr., Jas. S. Rhodes, Jr., John T. Llewellyn and G. G. Himmelwright — and the six trustees — James H. Gray, Sr., of Robersonville, George C. Griffin of Grifflins, Leroy H. Taylor of Popular Point, Elbert S. Peel, Herbert S. Whitley and Chas. H. Manning — created the institution as a non-profit corporation.

The charter reads, in part: "The corporation is to have and issue no capital stock. It is a non-profit corporation. Those unable to pay because of their financial condition are entitled, so far as possible, to hospitalization and treatment without compensation, and irrespective of their creed or race; and the corporation will, so far as it is financially able to do so, furnish such hospitalization to the unfortunate, poor and indigent without remuneration."

It was explained that any profits made by the hospital will go to provide more services to the poor and for the purchase of new equipment for the better treatment of all patients.

The four physicians have invested a large amount in the building and the six trustees with the aid of the four doctors, are making arrangements for the purchase of extensive and modern equipment. It is hoped that public contributions by citizens through-out the county will help finance the equipment costs. Anxious to have a part in the undertaking, most of all the contributors are requesting their donations be used in equipping individual rooms. The management states that it will cost approximately \$30,000.00 to equip the hospital plant, that the public willingness to participate in the project and extend liberal gifts had been very encouraging, and that all contributions along with any in the future are greatly welcomed. "A liberal support will go a long way in helping us to help others," a representative of the hospital explained.

Dan C. Sharpe, for several years treasurer and clerk for the Town of Williamson, has been named administrator for the hospital, and he will, beginning in July, serve under the direction

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MISSES

Judge J. Calvin Smith, Robersonville attorney, this week missed his first term of Martin County Superior Court in thirty-four years. However, he sent his regrets. The former Martin County Recorder's Court Judge has been quite ill at his home for more than three weeks. Late reports state that he is able to sit up some, but cannot get up town, as yet.

Veteran Farmer Training Program In Local School

World War II veterans in the Williamson area who are interested in enrolling in the Veteran Farmer Training Program are requested to meet at the Williamson High School on Thursday of this week at 8:00 P. M. The purpose of this meeting is to inter- view all veterans desiring on the farm training under Public Law 346 (G. I. Bill) and P. L. 16 so that a veteran farmer training class can be organized July 1, 1950, at

the Williamson High School. The Farm Training Program has approved the school and there will be a maximum of 20 Veterans enrolled on July 1, 1950. The enrollment may be increased January 1, 1951 if additional applications are received.

Veterans, interested in the program are asked to meet with Hobart L. Austin, of the Veterans Administration, and members of the advisory committee in this section.

Racial Letters Flooding Parts Of East Carolina

Franklin Roosevelt, Jr., and Prominent Minister Brand Claims Untrue

Several thousand form letters, printed in Raleigh and addressed to a local office and mailed in the post office here, are flooding this part of East Carolina, stirring up the racial issue and telling a half-cocked story. At the same time, other questionable tactics are being employed by what has been described as a desperate opposition. It has also been established that Smith forces caused to be registered many Negroes, and arranged lavish entertainment for them, just to turn now and inject the racial issue into the campaign.

The first barrage released in the form of the racial letters over the week-end by the Smith Committee for Martin County warmed over the dish of the Civil Rights Committee. The claim therein has been, out of fairness, had been branded as unfounded by all members of the committee, including Franklin Roosevelt, Jr.

The second issue in the letter was about home rule for Washington, D. C. The record shows that Frank Graham voted to give the people of the District of Columbia home rule. But there was a proposed amendment, directing the District to vote on segregation. Frank Graham explained that it was not democratic to give the people home rule and then turn around and tell them what to do.

Page No. 2 of the letter recites the vote in a few precincts. Graham poled overwhelming majorities in a few precincts where the colored voter was in the majority. Reports from Charlotte state that while Graham was carrying one precinct there, Smith carried several where the colored voter predominated.

A report from Raleigh reads: "Three Raleigh precincts have been Negro boxes. They gave a big majority in their three precincts. Who else could they vote for? Smith ran them into voting for Graham, although Smith would like to get the Negro vote for himself. Make no mistake about that."

The report adds that the Negro vote was comparatively light in North Carolina, the best estimates placing it between twenty-five and thirty thousand in the entire State out of a total of more than 600,000.

The report further reads: "Smith is frantic! Smith is also ruthless. His policy — in everything he goes after — is to rule or ruin."

"That's why he does not mind ripping the State apart as far as race relations are concerned. He would tear down all that has been done toward amicable race relations in order to satisfy his vain personal ambition. His supporters are sneakily passing out imaginary cartoons beyond all that is good and decent. They are stirring up hate even among children, poisoning their minds with false tales. "Everyone who wants to be fair knows that Frank Graham always has fought against abolition of

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Young Man Hurt By Lightning Bolt In County Monday

Three Work Animals Killed And Much Damage Caused By Hail Storm

Ben Alexander Daniel, young county farmer, was partially paralyzed when lightning struck, killing the mule he was plowing and tearing the plow out of his hands and to pieces on Mrs. Levi Davis' farm, a few miles below Jamesville Monday afternoon. Suffering severe shock, the young man was said this morning to have partially regained the use of the paralyzed side. He was carried bodily from the field. The mule, a splendid work animal, was killed instantly.

About one hundred yards away, lightning killed two fine work horses in their stalls, reports stating that the bolt did not fire the barn or do any other material damage. Returning home from measuring land in the Warren Neck area, Mr. Gurkin visited Mr. Daniel and then went to his home to see the team. When he opened the door to one stall he found a dead horse, and when he opened the door to the second stall he found the other animal dead.

While lightning was striking in the Jamesville area, hail and wind played havoc in other sections of the county. A complete survey had not been made early today, but incomplete reports indicated heavy damage had been done in the upper part of the county, also near Williamson, a fairly sizable streak in Cross Roads and Bear Grass Townships.

Hail struck and damage crops on the farms of C. B. Harrison, Buddy Rogers, Kneezee Harrison, Rossell Rogers, C. B. Harrison, Roy Harrison, the Cowin Brothers and others in the Bear Grass section. Mr. Cowin estimated the damage on his farm at 50 percent or more, adding that a large oak tree was blown down, damaging a barn when it fell.

Hail also struck the farms of Buck Ayers in Cross Roads and Sidney Beacham.

Reports of hail damage were pouring into insurance offices early this morning, and it is believed that most of the damaged crops were covered by insurance.

Lightning struck the home of Mr. and Mrs. Beaman Whichard in Robersonville, but damage was

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Painfully Hurt In Car Accident

Mrs. George Ballou and Mrs. Thos. Earl Martin were painfully but believed not seriously hurt in an automobile accident on the river fill between Conine Creek Bridge and the Bertie highland last Thursday afternoon. The young daughter of Mrs. Ballou was not hurt. The victims were treated in the local hospital for bruises, minor cuts and shock, Mrs. Ballou continuing to her home on Hassell Street a short time later.

The accident, according to reports, happened when a car stopped in front of the Ballou car driven by Mrs. Martin. To avoid striking that car, Mrs. Martin turned to the left and crashed into another. A fourth car plowed into the wreckage. Drivers and passengers in the other cars were not hurt. The car, contributing to the accident, was driven away without offering assistance, it was stated.

RAINFALL

Following one of the driest Aprils on record, the rains came very timely in May to give this section an almost ideal season for that month and the early part of June.

Less than one inch of rain fell in April, but 4.19 inches fell last month. During the first half of this month, 1.79 inches of rain fell here, according to Hugh Spruill, keeper of the official gauge on Roanoke River.