

Large Damage Suits Filed In Court Here

Plaintiffs Asking \$37,500 Result Of Accident Injuries

Irene Roberson, J. W. Gay, Frances Lilley and Estelle Corey are plaintiffs

Damage suits, asking \$37,500 were filed in the Martin County Superior Court this week as a result of injuries received by the plaintiffs in an automobile accident at the intersection of Highways 264 and 15-A between Durham and Spring Hope last April 11. The cases are tentatively set for trial during the special November term of the court.

The four plaintiffs, Mrs. Irene Roberson, Mrs. Frances Lilley, Mrs. Estelle Corey and J. W. (Bill) Gay, charge the defendant, LeRoy Johnson Cosby, a Richmond man, allege that the defendant was driving at a high, dangerous and unlawful speed, that he ignored warning signs, and that his negligence was the cause of the accident.

Mrs. Roberson, suffering fractures of the shoulder, several ribs and knee along with severe cuts and bruises, is asking \$15,000 damages. She explains in the complaint that she is in the hospital twenty-three days, that disability was total until the middle of June, that she is still partially disabled and that she still suffers pain as a result of accident injuries. She also points out that \$950 has already been paid in hospital and medical bills.

Mrs. Lilley, who suffered a crushed leg and bruises and other injuries is asking \$15,000 damages. She was a patient in the hospital for twenty-one days and has already paid \$500 hospital and medical bills. Her leg is still in a cast and is certain to continue there for a long time.

Mrs. Corey, asking \$5,000 damages, explains that she suffered a back injury, concussions and bruises. She was in the hospital for four days and paid \$158.50 in hospital and medical bills.

J. W. Gay, plaintiff in the fourth suit against Cosby, is asking \$2,500 damages, pointing out in the complaint that he suffered and still suffers from a hip injury.

The four plaintiffs were riding as guests of Mrs. Carrie Lee Coltrain when her car and the Cosby car crashed at the intersection about 6:00 o'clock in the afternoon of April 11. Mrs. Coltrain and her guests were en route home from a Durham hospital at the time. The victims were removed to a Raleigh hospital where at least two of them hovered between life and death for days.

The defendant in the cases has thirty days in which to file answer.

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Draft Board Here In First Meeting

Holding their first meeting following the reactivating of the Martin County Draft Board, draft officials Tuesday night lined up the work and made ready to handle the first call for men. Chairman Eugene Rice said that no call has been received, but that a fairly sizable demand is anticipated on or before September 1.

Attended by the chairman and Member Chas. Gray of Robersonville, the meeting reviewed classifications, removing the names of those registrants who had become 26 years of age since the last meeting. Member LeRoy Everett of Hamilton was not able to attend on account of feeble health.

According to reports, the board, when a call is received, plans to recruit its men from the 25- and 24-year-old groups. That means that some of those who answered previous calls and were rejected are likely to be called again. It was also learned that those men who served less than one year and a day in the armed forces are subject to call under the present regulations.

Nineteen Cases In County Court Monday Morning

Fines, imposed during the short session, amounted to \$275.00

A varied docket featured the proceedings in the Martin County Recorder's Court during a short session last Monday morning. Out of the mixture, Judge Chas. H. Manning extracted \$275 fines and went on to send several of the defendants to the roads. The session, lasting hardly two hours, was attended by a small number of spectators.

Proceedings: Pleading guilty of operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license, Wallace T. Purvis was sentenced to the roads for sixty days, the court suspending the road term upon the payment of \$25 fine and costs.

The case in which Ananias Thompson was charged with the larceny of an automobile was not pressed.

Constant Little, pleading guilty of an assault with a deadly weapon, was fined \$25, plus costs.

Adjudged guilty over her plea of innocence, Breda Mae Biggs, charged with larceny, was sentenced to jail for three months and is to be assigned to the county home.

George Green was given a six-month suspended road term for non-support. He is to pay \$12 a week for the support of his children during the next two years.

Pleading guilty of drunken driving, Andrew Mobley was fined \$100, taxed with the cost and lost his driver's license for a year. The defendant, calling for a jury trial, waived that right after the jury of nine men reported for duty.

The case charging Willie Williams with non-support was dismissed.

Judgment was suspended upon the payment of the costs in the case in which Wade Morrow Messer of Raleigh was charged with speeding. A plea of guilty was entered in the case.

Pleading guilty of violating the liquor laws, Charlie Phillips was sentenced to the roads for six months. The road term was suspended upon the payment of a \$50 fine and costs. The defendant, the court ordered, is to violate no liquor law during the next five years.

Jesse McCoy Taylor of Nashville was required to pay the court costs for speeding. He pleaded guilty.

William Bowen, charged with assaulting a female, pleaded guilty and was sentenced to the roads for six months. The road term was suspended upon the payment of the costs and guaranteed good behavior.

Haywood Rogers, 16-year-old colored boy, pleaded guilty of bastardy and was sentenced to the roads for six months. The road term was suspended upon the payment of the costs and on the further condition that he pay \$4 a week for the support of his child. Pleading guilty of speeding, (Continued on page eight)

Many Trucks Are Being Overloaded

Smallest Cotton Crop Since 1878

North Carolina trucks stopped by inspectors of the Theft Bureau in July numbered 2,305, with 134 found to be overloaded, the North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles reported today. One hundred and three North Carolina trucks were over their license limit and 31 were found to be over the road limit. Of the 3,120 trucks stopped, 815 were out-of-state, with 22 over their license limit and seven over the road limit.

A total of \$41,804.68 was collected in penalties and additional license fees on overloaded trucks. Of the amount, \$8,660.35 was collected in additional fees and \$6,257.55 in penalties on privately owned trucks. A total of \$30,281.78 in additional fees and \$12,853.55 penalties were collected on commercial vehicles.

The Theft Bureau assisted in the recovery of 46 stolen cars during July and began investigation into the thefts of 34 more.

Sweet Potato Harvest In County Getting Underway

The first of the current sweet potato crop was harvested in this county a few days ago, old-timers declaring that the harvest is about the earliest for any season in years and years.

Farmer Herman Williams dug on a commercial scale out in Cross Roads last week, and Farmer N. C. Everett, Jr., harvested about half or three-quarters of an acre the early part of this week on his farm near Gold Point. The early harvest is a rare exception to the general rule. Most farmers will not harvest their crops until about the middle of October.

Farmer Everett transplanted his crop unusually early and it was explained that he started digging when the potatoes came nearer meeting the market grades. There were some grading below the standard and a few that exceeded the acceptable size, but, in the main, the potatoes harvested met the No. 1 standard requirements.

Commenting on the harvest, J. W. Sumner, sweet potato specialist for this and Pitt and Edgecombe Counties, said that the quality of the crop was good, that Mr. Everett harvested at the rate of approximately 300 bushels per acre. Comparatively few potatoes are being offered on the green market at this time and a definite price trend is hard to determine. One report stated that the price was averaging close to \$3 a bushel.

Martin County farmers, like many others in this and other areas, have increased their sweet potato acreage this year, but weather conditions during the next few weeks can alter the yield.

RECORD

An all-time record rainfall for any one month in the past twenty years was recorded at this point during July. The rainfall last month, recorded at 11.90 inches, was just about one-quarter of an inch greater than the 11.65 inches reported in August, 1931. In July, 1935, the weather station here recorded 11.41 inches. In only three months since 1930 has the rainfall exceeded ten inches.

Rain fell on fifteen of the 31 days in July, but so far this month only one-half inch has been recorded here.

Some sections of the county reportedly had far more rain than was recorded here.

Through July this year 32.02 inches of rain fell here compared with 33.71 inches recorded in the first seven months of 1949.

Officers Wrecked Stills In County

Martin County ABC Officer J. H. Roebuck, assisted by Deputy Roy Peel, wrecked three illicit stills in the county last week, and climaxed the enforcement work Saturday night when with the aid of Williamston police raided a house for illicit liquor.

On August 9, the officers wrecked a 100-gallon copper still and three 200-gallon fermenters, pouring out 600 gallons of sugar mash in Bear Grass Township. A set of oil burners was confiscated.

In Cross Roads last Thursday, the officers claimed a 50-gallon copper kettle and wrecked eight 50-gallon and one 300-gallon fermenters. They poured out 500 gallons of sugar mash and confiscated an oil burner.

Working in the vicinity of Brown's Springs in Williamston Township, the two officers last Friday tore down a plant equipped with a 50-gallon oil drum. They poured out 250 gallons of sugar mash.

Saturday night, the officers raided on Williamston's Griffin Street and confiscated one-half gallon of raw liquor in the home of Hannah Woolard.

Returns Home Following Eye Operation Saturday

Little Miss Dorothy Jean Tice, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow Tice, returned to her home here yesterday following an eye operation in a Durham hospital last Saturday.

The little girl injured her eye a few months ago, and when it was found that the sight had disappeared doctors removed it to save the sight in the other eye. She is reported to be getting along very well, and plans to have a glass eye fitted in about two months.

National Guard Unit Expected Home Sunday

After turning in a splendid performance, the local unit of the National Guard is expected home from Camp Stewart, Georgia, Sunday. One report said the young men are scheduled to reach here about noon that day.

Insurance Rates Sliced Again By Commission Chief

Means A Saving to Property Owners In the Sum Of Nearly \$1,000,000

Reductions in the rates for Extended Coverage, ranging from 10 percent to 30 percent and representing total savings to North Carolina policyholders of \$779,467 were announced a few days ago by Waldo C. Cheek, Commissioner of Insurance. The term "Extended Coverage" is applied to the endorsement insuring against the perils of windstorm, hail, explosion, riot, riot attending a strike, civil commotion, aircraft and vehicles, when the endorsement is attached to and forming a part of a policy.

Reductions by classes are approximately as follows: Habitational (apartment houses, boarding houses, dwellings, fraternity and sorority houses, nurses' homes and sisters' homes), 30 percent for inland territory, 25 percent for seacoast territory; Schools (art galleries, asylums, camps, clubs, cottages and libraries), inland territory 25 percent, seacoast territory 25 percent; churches, inland territory 25 percent, seacoast territory 25 percent; mercantiles, inland territory 25 percent, seacoast territory 25 percent; all other classes, inland territory 10 percent, seacoast territory 10 percent.

The seacoast territory is the area bordering the coast, containing the following counties: Currituck, Camden, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Chowan, Washington, Tyrrell, Dare, Beaufort, Hyde, Craven, Pamlico, Jones, Onslow, Carteret, Pender, New Brunswick, and New Hanover. The inland territory includes all other counties.

Extended Coverage is a form of underwriting originating in the State of North Carolina in 1936 shortly after the occurrence of a tornado which struck the city of Greensboro. Prior to that time only windstorm and hail coverage were provided by the companies and only those who had bought separate windstorm coverage or separate tornado coverage were covered for losses sustained by the Greensboro tornado. Realizing the need for coverage for all policyholders, the agents and companies proceeded to provide a coverage for sale to all owners of fire policies.

Experience used for arriving at the above reductions was North Carolina experience from 1936 through 1948. Consideration was given to the national experience only to the extent of providing a reasonable cushion for catastrophe hazard. This was done so that a disastrous tornado at any future time would not subject North Carolina to a severe rate increase.

The above is a result of a public hearing held on July 20, 1950, on a filing made by the North Carolina Fire Insurance Rating Bureau to revise Extended Coverage rates in North Carolina.

No existing policies of insurance can be cancelled and rewritten. (Continued on page eight)

Few Cases Heard By Justice Here

Only one justice of the peace reported any activities in the minor courts here during the past few days, and most of them were sent on up to the higher courts for final disposition.

Facing Justice Chas. R. Mobley yesterday, Billy Gene Tetterton was sentenced to the roads for being drunk and disorderly. The sentence was the maximum for the justice to impose.

Charged with disorderly conduct and an attempted assault with a deadly weapon, Ananias Lyons was sent to the county court for trial under \$200 bond.

Geo. Perry, charged with an assault with a deadly weapon, was required to furnish \$150 bond for his appearance in the county court trial.

Bond in the sum of \$200 was required in the case in which R. B. Spruill was charged with disorderly conduct and intimidating a state witness.

Tobacco Rolling To Local Market Today

WARNING

Local police along with the sheriff's office in this county again issued a strong warning against the ole flim-flam game.

Martin County people have been fleeced out of several thousand dollars by slick operators of the ole game, and tobacco marketing time is almost certain to attract the players. Anyone accosted by the players is asked to contact the police or sheriff's office without delay.

Farmers Turning To Ladino Clover As Pasture Feed

Agent Certain Large Acreage Will Be Planted To Crop In This County

By D. W. Brady, Assistant County Agent

Pasture seeding time is about here again. Ladino clover, equivalent in feeding value per acre for livestock to one acre of 90 bushels of corn per acre, will not be overlooked this fall. It is believed that this fall will break all records to planting this wonderful legume; Ladino clover is the livestock farmer's dream Not long ago I heard a farmer say if he had Ladino clover he never would have gone out of the dairy business.

Those who had land not in a cultivated crop and plan to put in pasture this fall should start now. A bush and bog harrow to cut under the weeds and start this vegetation to decaying would be a good start. After this has decayed for 2 or three weeks it should be limed and disked into the soil well. The number of times this land will need harrowing with the bush and bog and disking will depend on the growth of weeds and other vegetation. The soil should be well pulverized however. If soil samples have not been taken to determine the proper amounts of lime, a usually safe amount to use is 1 1/2 tons of delomitic lime per acre on land that hasn't been previously limed and of soil type suited to pasture. After these operations have been done, fertilizing and seeding will be next.

Farmers who plan to put in pasture this fall but have rural crops on the land will naturally be somewhat delayed. The next best thing is to get the crop off as soon as possible and get the pasture limed, fertilized and seeded as soon thereafter as possible. Recommended seeding dates are from Sept. 15th to October 15th. Of course a few days before or after these dates is usually all right.

Another article will follow later on recommended amounts of clover and grass seeds per acre and the procedure of seeding to get the best stands and maintenance of the pasture. Remember Ladino clover is very palatable to hogs and everyone who raises hogs should have some Ladino clover for them to graze. This is the best and cheapest livestock feed.

Sweet Potatoes Below Average

August 1 conditions indicate a sweetpotato crop 6 percent larger than the 1949 production but 16 percent below the '39-'48 average. The 1950 crop is now estimated at 6,210,000 bushels compared with 5,876,000 bushels in 1949 and a ten year average of 7,403,000 bushels.

The currently estimated acreage of 54,000 acres compares with 52,000 acres in 1949 and a ten year average of 70,000 acres.

The per acre yield is estimated at 115 bushels, 2 percent above the 1949 yield of 113 bushels per acre and 7 percent above the 1939-48 average of 107 bushels.

Record Offerings Certain For First Sale Next Monday

Mrs. Frances Lilley Places First Tobacco On Floor Here This Year

Tobacco Town, idle for many months, came to life in a big way here early this morning when tobacco literally started pouring into the several warehouses. It has been a long time since farmers appeared more anxious to get the marketing task started. While there was a big rush on from the start, it was orderly. Every warehouseman was on the job and workers were added rapidly to help relieve the rush.

The first tobacco placed on the floors here shortly before 6:00 o'clock this morning belonged to Mrs. Frances Lilley of Griffins Township. Mrs. Lilley, who still sports a leg cast as a result of injuries received in an automobile accident last April, is offering 942 pounds of the golden leaf for sale.

Farmers, while a bit disappointed in the quality and weight, were in a jovial mood as they unloaded the first of the 1950 crop. Marvin Jones, from down Jamesville way, shook his head when a big pile of the leaf did not weigh 200 pounds, but he came back with a big smile with the expressed hope that the price will offset the weight loss.

Little Miss Patsy Manning whose father did not return from World War II, was all smiles as she aided her step-father, Archie Griffin, unload their tobacco. Only seven years old, Miss Patsy was doing a good job and seemed to be enjoying it.

Market observers rated the early offerings as being of poor to medium quality with the weight falling far below average. One could tell that there had been excessive rains, giving much of the tobacco a sleepy appearance. However, there's some good tobacco on the floors and despite the over-all medium quality, observers look for a better than a 50-cent average for the first sales next Monday.

Tobacco moved to the market here early today from at least six counties in trucks, new and old model cars with trailers attached to most of them. (Continued on Page Seven)

Peanut Prospects Below Average

The August 1 outlook is for a peanut crop of almost 248 million pounds in North Carolina. This estimate is about two percent above production in 1949, but 22 percent below the 1939-48 average.

Reports received from farmers about August 1 indicate that a yield of 1,040 pounds per acre is expected. A yield of 1,030 pounds was realized last year. The 10-year average is 1,138 pounds per acre. The below average yield is prospect comes largely as a result of heavy and frequent rains throughout the commercial areas during recent weeks. Also, grass in the fields has been quite a problem and, as a result of intensive plowing and chopping, a great many young shoots were destroyed during the pegging stage.

Although allotments in the state for edible type peanuts are below last year, it is estimated that acreage for picking and threshing will be slightly higher. Growers have indicated that they will harvest 238,000 acres this year as compared with 236,000 last year and the 10-year average of 280,000 acres. A considerable quantity of peanuts for oil purposes was planted this year.

A crop of 1.7 billion pounds for picking and threshing is in prospect for the nation which is 12 percent below last year's production and 15 percent below the 10-year average.

THE RECORD SPEAKS . . .

After threatening off and on for almost thirty-two weeks, death finally scored on the highways in this county last week-end. It was the first mark-up of the year. Next week, judging from past records is a dangerous period, the record showing that six accidents took place, costing one life and boosting the total for the first 33 weeks in 1949 to four.

The following tabulations offer a comparison of the accident trend: first, by corresponding weeks in this year and last and for each year to the present time.

32nd Week			
Accidents In'd	Killed	Damaged	Cost
1950	5	1	\$ 600
1949	1	0	0
Comparisons To Date			
1950	88	41	\$19,875
1949	71	27	15,190