

Twenty-Six Cases Handled Monday In County Court

Judge R. T. Johnson Imposes Fines In The Sum Of \$1,130.00

In a long session last Monday, Judge R. T. Johnson and Solicitor Clarence Griffin handled twenty-six cases. Fines, imposed during the session, amounted to \$1,130, a new high for recent months. In addition to the heavy fines, several defendants drew road terms.

Proceedings:
Facing numerous charges, Pete Jackson pleaded not guilty, but he was adjudged guilty of carrying a concealed weapon and was fined \$50, plus costs.

Pleading guilty of drunken driving, Franklin D. Winslow was fined \$100, taxed with the cost and lost his license to drive a motor vehicle for twelve months.

The cases charging Roy Edmondson with an assault with a deadly weapon, and Floyd Whitfield with aiding and abetting larceny, were dismissed.

Jasper Council was fined \$15, plus costs, for speeding.

Charged with larceny and receiving, Elton Taylor and Robert Bland were taxed with the costs and each was directed to pay one-half the costs of goods stolen.

Charged with larceny and receiving, Fred Bullock pleaded not guilty. He was adjudged guilty and was sentenced to the roads for six months. The road term was suspended upon the payment of the costs and \$11.25 for goods alleged stolen. He was placed on probation for two years.

Jasper Rollins, charged with larceny, was found not guilty.

Pleading guilty of drunken driving, Tommie Nuckles was fined \$100, plus costs. He loses his license to operate a motor vehicle for one year.

Charged with driving while license was revoked and violating the liquor laws, Jesse E. Whitehurst pleaded guilty of driving while his operator's license was revoked. Adjudged guilty as charged in the warrant, he was fined \$225, plus costs.

Charged with violating the liquor laws, Joseph P. Corey was found not guilty.

William Owens pleaded not guilty when charged with violating the liquor laws. He was adjudged guilty and drew twelve months on the roads. It was his first liquor law violation conviction, and the court suspended the road term upon the payment of a \$300 fine, plus costs. He is to violate no liquor law during the next five years.

Pleading guilty of violating the liquor laws, Mary J. Payton was sentenced to woman's prison for six months. The prison term was suspended upon the payment of a \$50 fine and costs. She is to be convicted of no liquor law violation for five years.

Charged for the second time with violating the liquor laws, James and Eva Everett pleaded not guilty. Both were adjudged guilty and each drew three months in jail. Nine-month sentences, previously imposed and suspended, were ordered invoked, the sentences to begin at the expiration of the short terms.

Pleading guilty of violating the liquor laws, Mary Lee was sentenced to woman's prison for six months. The prison term was suspended upon the payment of a \$50 fine and costs. She is to be convicted of no liquor law violation for five years.

COWBOYS

There's no doubt that this community has a willing if not too promising group of cowboys. There was a rodeo outfit, most of which was a bit corny, to be sure, in town Tuesday evening and when an open invitation was extended to ride a donkey, the volunteers responded in numbers. The first lad had an uneventful ride. The animal resented the huge task and quickly took charge. First, there was a single spill, then a double, and lastly, it was found that the donkey could spill four riders as quickly as he could spill one. But the volunteers who did not get a chance to try their riding skill, remained around until they were chased from the field.

Tobacco Price Holding To Average Above Fifty Cents

Tobacco prices continue to hold to a price average above fifty cents on the local market even though blocks continue and many of the companies' receiving plants are bulging with tobacco. Selling hours are curtailed, but tobacco continues to move to market in volume.

Yesterday, the local market sold 293,268 pounds for the third highest average price of the season. Receiving \$149,669.59 for their offerings, the farmers averaged \$51.04.

Through Wednesday the market here had sold 4,284,042 pounds for \$2,130,001 or an average right at \$50 per hundred pounds. During the first sixteen selling days last year, the market here sold 4,816,054 pounds for \$2,758,705 or an average slightly above \$57.00 per hundred pounds. Possibly quality is reflected in the price to a large extent, but the \$7 per hundred drop reflects a downward trend in the price itself.

Its plants said to be bulging, the Imperial company has not been very active during the past few days. However, other companies have stepped up a peg or two and the price average continues to hover around \$50 per hundred pounds.

Early today the sale for tomorrow had been placed on the floors. Next week the markets are slated to go on a four-hour selling schedule. According to unofficial reports, it is possible a marketing holiday will be called to last until the redrying plants can catch up with the deliveries.

CONFLICTING

Preliminary field reports reaching here are conflicting as to the condition of the peanut crop in this county.

Digging about one-half acre of his crop a few days ago, Farmer Perlie Roberson of Griffins was quoted as saying the goobers were few and far between, that the quality of the few was fair. Digging week before last, Perlie Rogers of Bear Grass Township was quoted as saying his crop was good.

It is the sixth straight year that Griffins farmers have had little or poor luck with their peanut crops. The reports from over the county are too limited to determine the true condition of the crop, as a whole.

Democratic Party Women Will Meet In This District

Meeting In Washington On September 19 To Attract State Leaders

Leaders of the women's division of the Democratic Party in the State are planning a luncheon meeting in Washington next Wednesday afternoon at 12:30 o'clock, it was announced today by Mrs. Chas. Meakins, State chairman of Women's Day. The meetings, held annually in September, celebrate the opportunity given the women of this State to participate in party affairs a year before suffrage was extended them by constitutional amendment. The First Congressional District meeting is to attract Democratic party leaders from various sections of the State, including Governor Kerr Scott, Comptroller Lindsay C. Warren, Congressman Herbert Bonner, Attorney Harry McMullan, Judge Susie Sharpe, Mrs. Roland McCallum of Chapel Hill, Mrs. Wm. Hatch, Democratic Women's Day publicity chairman, Mrs. Frank Smethurst of Raleigh, W. Frank Taylor, speaker State House of Representatives of Goldsboro, Mrs. D. A. McCormick, State vice chairman, B. Everett Jordan, Chairman State Executive Committee, Lt. Governor Pat Taylor, Jonathan Daniels, national committeeman, and Mrs. B. B. Everett and Mrs. J. B. Spillman, former members of the State Democratic Executive committee. State senators and representatives are invited.

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Caught Breaking Lights In High School Tuesday

Two small boys are being carried before juvenile court Judge L. B. Wynne for allegedly breaking window lights in the colored high school here.

Vandals have been wrecking property there and breaking into the building and using it for immoral purposes over a period of months. School authorities planted a watchman there and he caught the two lads Tuesday night. The lights broken Tuesday night had just been replaced earlier that day.

Paving Contracts Extended To New Roads In County

Eight Additional Miles Of Paving Included In Last Contracts

Paving of Martin County rural roads is going forward in a big way, and engineers and maintenance forces are working night and day to keep ahead and up with the pavers.

The last contract, including the surfacing of the Bear Grass-Everetts road, has been extended to include several other projects with the possibility that the contract will be extended to include other projects in the county within the near future, according to unofficial information gained here yesterday.

The Bear Grass-Everetts project was completed last week and has been accepted by the State. With the completion of that project, a paved highway now extends from Corey's store on U. S. Highway 17 to the Hamilton-Palmira Road, running via Bear Grass, Everetts, Spring Green, Gold Point, Hassell (or a point near Hassell, Oak City, and Concho Primitive Baptist Church).

The extended contracts with the Brown Paving Company includes 3.1 miles of paving on the old Williamston-Everetts Road, beginning near Mickey's Inn on Highway 64 and stopping at an intersection not far from Beaver Dam Swamp. The project was completed last Tuesday.

Today, the pavers are starting a 2.8 mile project in Hamilton Township, starting at a point on N. C. 125 2.4 miles west of Hamilton and running to what is known as the River Road or the road from Hamilton to Palmira.

A one-mile project is also slated for immediate attention in Goose Nest Township, beginning in the Town of Oak City and running off Highway 125 in a northeasterly direction to a junction.

A second Goose Nest project is a mile of paving on a road running in a westerly direction off Highway 44 at a point about 1.7 miles from Oak City.

Two blocks of paving in the Town of Hamilton are also included in the extended contract, the paving, located in the main business area, to make a street about 55 feet wide. One block will be paved in each direction.

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Local Hospital Has Celebration

To celebrate the 12th anniversary of the founding of the Brown Community Hospital here, friends from Williamston, adjoining towns and from all the rural sections of the county, gathered on the hospital grounds yesterday afternoon to pay tribute to Dr. Brown and the institution he created 12 years ago.

Elder Perlie Getsinger, who introduced the speaker, Carlyle Cox, principal of the Farm Life School, paid a fitting and appropriate tribute to the honored guest and Mrs. Brown.

Principal Cox spoke briefly but gave proper recognition to Dr. Brown and the services he and his institution have rendered the town and community over a period of 12 years. The speaker reviewed the history of medicine giving by periods the ever increasing expectancy of life. In the year 1939 the peak of expectancy was recorded at 68. "Medicine and science have made phenomenal progress within the past few years. Medicine is vitally connected with progress and although it remained comparatively dormant in the early centuries the science has reached unexpected heights," the speaker pointed out.

In his concluding remarks and without personal mention of the benefactors of this humane institution, he told of the services rendered by Dr. Brown and his hospital personnel over a period of several years.

Following the invocation by Rev. W. B. Harrington the large crowd was treated to a sumptuous meal, consisting of barbecue, chicken, country ham and every culinary accessory one could think of.

The dinner and program were arranged and promoted by Messrs. Dave Daniel and Chris Griffin.

Forty - Seven Criminal Cases For Trial In Superior Court

Three Defendants Booked To Go On Trial For Murder

First of Two-Week Term Is Set Aside For Trial Of Criminal Cases

Literally crowded with cases a serious nature, one of the largest criminal dockets prepared in several years will be placed before the Martin County Superior Court next Monday morning at 10:00 o'clock when Judge Henry Stevens of Warsaw opens a two-week term for the trial of actions both criminal and civil. The first week of the term has been reserved in its entirety for the trial of the forty-seven criminal cases, including three first-degree murder cases, attempted rape, forgery and on down the scale of law violations.

Solicitor George Fountain of Tarboro is to prosecute the docket, but in several cases private prosecutors will assist him.

Although an entire week has been set aside for handling the criminal docket, it is possible that all the cases cannot be cleared. There are a dozen drunken driving cases on the docket, and the greater part of a day, if not more, has been spent trying one of them at a previous term. It is likely that peas will be accepted in the cases charging three defendants with capital crimes, meaning that too much may not be required to clear them from the calendar.

Thirty-four cases are on next Monday's calendar. Most of them were placed there for grand jury action at that time, but it is fairly certain that many of them will not be actually called for trial until later in the week.

The docket carries the following cases:
Lee Bonner is charged with the baseball bat slaying of Osborne Williams in or near Everetts on August 10.

Dallas Lee James, Jr., 17-year-old boy, is charged with the fatal shooting of Grover Peel near Dardens on August 19.

James Henry Williams, alleged professional knife wielder, is booked for the fatal stabbing of his wife Harriet Mae Williams, at their home in Williamston on August 26. All three defendants were denied bond.

The case in which Prince Lynch is charged with attempted rape possibly has the most pitiful and pathetic backgrounds of any on the entire criminal docket. He is charged with molesting an eight-year-old child, Diann Hawkins, while the child's mother ignored her pleas for help at their home in Williamston on August 11. Only when the father returned home late the next day did the little victim receive any attention. Reports maintain that the child has been beaten at least twice since the Lynch attack because she pleaded for help and told her story. Lynch continues in jail without privilege of bond.

James Larry Evans is charged with the larceny of \$1,160 from James and Alice Wiggins, aged couple, near Hamilton on August 28. It now develops that the Wiggins couple were on the county relief roll.

Charged with violating the liquor laws, Anna Woolard appeared from a county court judgment and then failed to appear for trial last June in superior court.

Matthew Gurganus, violating the liquor laws.

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Local Scouts Planning Drive For Scrap Paper

The local boy scouts will conduct a city-wide drive for scrap paper on Saturday, September 22, it was announced today.

The people of Williamston are being asked to help support the drive by collecting all their scrap papers and magazines, bundling them and placing the bundles on their front porches on the assigned day when scouts will canvass the town and collect the paper.

Plans Go Forward For Huge Annual Harvest Festival

Event Promises To Be The Biggest Ever Held In This Section

The time of Williamston's Fourth Annual Harvest Festival is drawing nearer and nearer, and as one local citizen expressed it the other day, "I can almost hear the bands and see the floats coming up Main Street". He was referring to the Harvest Festival Parade which will take place at 2:00 PM, Wednesday afternoon, October 3. This year's parade will be even larger than the tremendous one held last year when ten bands entered the event. Seven bands have accepted the invitation to appear this year and they include: Edenton; J. J. Clemmons High School, Roper; Scotland Neck; Tarboro; Williamston White; Williamston Colored and the Marine Band from Cherry Point Marine Base. Bands that have been sent invitations and expected to accept are: Ahoskie, Elizabeth City, Greenville, Plymouth, Washington, and a band from either Fort Bragg or Pope Field. With the exception of the Army and Marine Bands, all the bands listed above are from the high schools at the places listed. Upwards of 25,000 people are anticipated to view the parade.

Last year's popular Marine equipment display will be replaced with a similar display by the Army and Air Force and it is expected that this will be set up on the lawn of Mrs. A. R. Dunning's residence. Along the Army line, the National Guard unit of Windsor is planning to participate in the parade on Wednesday afternoon.

"Royalty" is expected to be much in evidence during the Festival, with sixteen "Princesses" having to participate in the parade and at the Annual Harvest Ball to be held in the Planters Warehouse on the evening of October 3. These Princesses will come from the communities surrounding Williamston and among those who have accepted, the name of only one has been released: Miss Mary Lou Votrol, who will be Princess Plymouth and represent Plymouth High School. Miss Votrol is a member of the senior class at that school. Other schools planning to send Princesses are: Edenton, Farm Life, Scotland Neck and Williamston. Schools that have been extended invitations to send Princesses but who have not yet accepted are: Ahoskie, Bear Grass, Bethel, Elizabeth City, Greenville, Jamesville, Oak City, Tarboro, Robersonville, Washington and Windsor. From these, the Queen of the Harvest, 1951, will be crowned at the Harvest Ball. It is expected that the reigning Queen of last year, Miss Jean Carol Griffin of Farm Life, will be present to relinquish her crown to the New Queen, but it is not yet certain she can appear as she is entering college at Greensboro and college regulations may prevent her participation.

Much free entertainment will be available to the general public in addition to the official parade. On Tuesday evening, October 2, (Continued on page six)

Truck Wrecked On River Fill

A truck, carrying several hundred bushels of sweet potatoes went out of control and crashed into the guard rail on this end of the river fill early yesterday morning, injuring no one but causing considerable damage to the machine and the rail.

F. L. Boatwright of 25 W. Libert Street, Savannah, was speeding north in the potato truck belonging to L. H. Fox of Charleston, S. C., and could not make the curve just this side of the river bridge. He tore into the guard rail, but the machine did not turn over or go over the side of the fill.

The truck was moving from Eastern Shore with the potatoes for South Carolina markets.

Power Failure Monday Evening

Power and light service was interrupted here an hour and four minutes last Monday evening when fire burned the 110,000 transmission line in two just north of Whitakers.

Service was restored at 7:03 o'clock when a connection was effected with the Carolina Power and Light Company's system.

County Firm To Sponsor Football Game Broadcast

Sponsored by the Planters Warehouse, Robersonville, the State-Catawba football game will be broadcast over station WCEC, Rocky Mount, Saturday afternoon.

This is the first football game of state importance broadcast under the sponsorship of a Martin County firm.

Messrs. Andy Anderson and Herbert Highsmith, proprietors of the Robersonville warehouse firm are extending a cordial welcome to the people of eastern Carolina to listen in Saturday afternoon for what promises to be a good football game.

Salt Water Fish Invading The Roanoke River Waters

Fish, generally confined to salt water, are invading the Roanoke River, Bridge Keeper Hugh Spruill said yesterday. Quite a few harshell crabs have been taken in nets at this point, and they have been traced at least as far as a point between here and Hamilton, Mr. Spruill said. The crabs are comparatively small, but at least one fisherman has taken them in sufficient quantity to make a "mess".

Crabs have come up as far as Jamesville on previous occasions, but Mr. Spruill says this is the first time he has ever seen them here.

Low water in the Roanoke, resulting from a long, dry spell in the river basin and possibly caused in part by the Buggs Island dam, has invited the salt water marine life into the foreign territory. Mr. Spruill said that the river a few days ago reached a record low of right at three feet for the third time in the twenty years he had been keeper of the bridge. The water is holding to such a low point that the tide backs it up stream, causing a variation of as much as six or eight inches in its depth. Tuesday night, the river was running in reverse and was just about on a standstill yesterday morning.

Rafts of logs ordinarily floating down the stream at three or four miles an hour, were being pulled by a tug boat yesterday at a rate of hardly more than one mile an hour.

Native Of County Dies Suddenly At His Durham Home

Funeral Conducted Yesterday Afternoon There for Ben R. Barnhill

Benjamin Raleigh Barnhill, a native of this county and a prominent business man in Durham for nearly a quarter of a century, died suddenly at his home there Tuesday morning at 8:45 o'clock of a heart attack suffered a short time earlier. He had suffered with a heart condition for almost two years, but he was thought to be getting along as well as usual until he was stricken at his home. He had visited here less than two weeks ago, and enjoyed meeting and talking with old friends and acquaintances.

He was born in Poplar Point Township 65 years ago, the son of the late J. E. and Roxy Lane Barnhill. After spending his early life on the farm, he located in Williamston and engaged in the garage business, operating the Ford agency for a number of years. More than twenty years ago he located in Durham where he established and operated the B. and W. Tire Company with a branch in Williamston. He was active in various civic affairs here and in his adopted community, and was well known throughout this section.

In early manhood he was married to Miss Susan Taylor of Williamston. Surviving besides his widow are five daughters, Mrs. Horace Waters, Mrs. Raymond Mitchell, Mrs. Harris Davis and Misses Frances and Carolyn Barnhill, all of Durham; three sons, J. Eli Barnhill of Greensboro, Homer Barnhill of Williamston and B. R. Barnhill, Jr., of Durham; a sister, Miss Ruby Barnhill of Cherry Point; four brothers, J. D. Barnhill of Durham, Fabian Barnhill of Everetts, Kader Barnhill of Florida and Harry Barnhill of Plymouth, and ten grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted in the Hall-Wayne Funeral Chapel in Durham yesterday afternoon at 4:00 o'clock by the Rev. J. Marshall Walker and the Rev. Leon Couch. Interment was in Maplewood Cemetery, Durham.

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TO SPEAK HERE



Following repeated invitations, R. N. Simms, Sr., prominent Baptist layman and leader of Raleigh, will speak in the Baptist Church here Sunday evening at 8:00 o'clock, using for his subject, "Christians Do Not Die."

The address was first delivered by Mr. Simms in Raleigh five years ago. Since that time, there have been three printings of the address in booklet form of several thousand copies each. The public here and throughout the section is cordially invited to hear Mr. Simms when he delivers the talk in person here Sunday evening.

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The Virginia Electric and Power Company's proposed 110,000-volt line through here will form a circuit which, it is expected, will eliminate service interruptions.

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THE RECORD SPEAKS . . .

Following seven costly weeks, motorists on Martin County highways and streets enjoyed a breathing spell last week, members of the State Highway Patrol reporting only two accidents, both of which were of a minor nature.

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.

36th Week
Accidents Inj'd Killed Dam'ge
1951 2 0 0 \$ 150
1950 4 9 0 725

Comparisons To Date
1951 165 73 5 \$37,945
1950 100 45 2 21,990