

THE ENTERPRISE

THE ENTERPRISE IS READ BY
OVER 3,000 MARTIN COUNTY
FAMILIES TWICE EACH WEEK

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ESTABLISHED 1899

Killer Sentenced To Prison For 30 Years

J. Henry Williams Makes Disgusting Plea To Save Self

Wife Killer Pleads Guilty Of Second Degree Murder In Court Tuesday

James Henry (Slick) Williams, 27-year-old Negro, was sentenced to serve thirty years in State Prison for the fatal stabbing of his wife, Hattie Mae Peel Williams, by Judge Henry Stevens in the Martin County Superior Court here late Tuesday afternoon.

The weight of the sentence apparently did not dawn upon the professional "carver", but he walked stony-eyed back to jail with officers to await transfer to Raleigh.

Williams, in court numerous times for abusing and attacking his wife, returned from the roads on the morning of last August 25 and fatally stabbed the defenseless victim early the following morning.

He entered a plea of second degree murder and the plea was accepted at 4:10 Tuesday afternoon by Solicitor George Fountain.

In his showing before court, the State presented evidence by only four witnesses, Minnie Eubanks, Marie Griffin, Officer Arthur Perry and Deputy Raymond Rawls. The evidence placed the charge close to first degree murder, but the court reasoned that the plea fitted the case.

The State showed that Williams, after leaving the road camp early that Saturday morning, went to his mother's home and then visited his aunt, finally going to his wife's home on White Street. He changed clothes and left, returning that afternoon. Later he attended a show and returned home about midnight.

His wife, sitting on the porch with Minnie Eubanks, followed him into the house and she was heard screaming a few minutes later. "I heard her cry, 'Don't cut me, Slick, don't cut me,'" witness Minnie Eubanks said. The witness said the attacker called her and told her to call a doctor. "She (the victim) struggled for her last breath and I told Slick that I was going to call the law," the witness said, adding that she found the man bending over the victim, the small paring knife, bent and bloody, on the floor near him.

Marie Griffin, hearing the screaming, turned off her radio and went to a window and saw the man grab at his wife, saw her fall and saw him working his hand up and down over her. The jugular vein was severed and the victim bled to death in a matter of minutes.

Witness Rawls, giving the victim a splendid reputation reviewed William's record in the courts. The wife was afraid to testify against him at times. On one occasion he was fined for attacking her. A third time, he ran away and upon his return a few months later attacked her again within five hours. The officer said that the fellow seldom worked, that he held no job long at a time.

With little or nothing in its favor, the defense offered little evidence other than a disgusting plea, packed with falsifications by the defendant himself.

Williams said that when he was returning home that night he saw his wife walking with another man, that she ran and got on the porch and was talking to Minnie Eubanks when he reached there. It had been brought out previously that the victim had been on the porch with the witness for some time.

Williams then maintained that after a casual greeting he walked into the bed room and to the wardrobe, that he planned to pack his clothes and get out. According to his fantastic story, the wife went to the kitchen, got the small knife and returned, advising him not to leave. "She held the knife and I held her hand," the defen-

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Lee Bonner Given Twenty Years For Williams Murder

To Call Third Murder Case For Trial During The Afternoon

After all the evidence was heard and parts of two days were spent on the trial, the case in which LeRoy Bonner was charged with the murder of Osborne Williams in Everetts on August 10, came to an unexpected close early this afternoon when the defense entered a plea of guilty of second degree murder.

He was immediately sentenced by Judge Henry Stevens to serve not less than eighteen and not more than twenty years in State Prison.

Only one witness was called by the State Wednesday and this morning there was an array of witnesses for both the State and the defense.

It was brought out that LeRoy Bonner was employed to keep peace at a party given in the Everetts lodge hall on the night of August 11. Bonner talked softly and carried a big stick, a baseball bat. Several Williams boys tried to crash the party. Williams went to the door and said he wanted to get Peggy Hines. He was refused admittance. During the meantime, a bottle was thrown into the hall. Bonner was hit on the head and William Wallace was cut on the face. Walter Perkins moved on Williams, and Williams backed away, threatening Perkins with a bottle. He laid the crowd back. Bonner went for his bat and claimed Williams hit him and claimed Williams swung on him and the fatal blow was delivered.

Solicitor Geo. Fountain said he planned to call this afternoon the case in which Dallas Lee James, Jr., 17-year-old colored boy, is charged with the fatal shooting of Grover Peel near Dardens on August 19.

The court is certain to continue in session through all of tomorrow with the possibility that a Saturday session will be held. The grand jury, completing its work, found no true bill in which Geo. L. Leggett, Jr., was charged with hit-and-run driving. The case in which he is charged with drunken driving goes back to the county court.

A continuance was granted in the case in which G. B. Whitfield is charged with receiving stolen goods when it was pointed out that the defendant's wife was ill and could not appear in court and testify. Examining Dr. W. J. Highsmith's report on the patient, Judge Henry Stevens, presiding over the term, said it was one doctor's writing that he could read readily.

Other proceedings in the court: Pleading guilty of larceny of (Continued on Page Seven)

Tobacco Sales Go Over Six Million Mark Here Today

Tobacco sales went over the six million-pound mark here this morning with one of the largest blocks in the history of the market still holding firm. Warehousemen in the business for many years, said today the current marketing rush was the greatest they had ever seen.

Early last evening, tomorrow's sale had been placed on the floor in its entirety. Deliveries were being made but there was no space immediately available, meaning that next Monday's sale will be placed on the floor quickly, beginning sometime tomorrow. Nothing more has been said about a marketing holiday, but sales are being cut back. How-

ever, the cut is not believed sufficient, reports declaring that the receiving stations or redrying plants are literally choked with tobacco. It is possible that the glut will be reflected in prices. However, the price trend continues firm.

Through yesterday the market here had sold 5,755,164 pounds for a general average right at \$51.00 per hundred pounds. Last Monday's sale continues to hold the record, official reports listing 296,416 pounds sold for an average of \$58.19.

No estimates are available, but the current crop is disappearing out of the farmers' hands in a hurry, some believing that two-thirds of the crop has been sold.

Second District Masons Will Meet

Colerain—Most Worshipful Herbert M. Foy, Grand Master of Masons of North Carolina, will address a meeting of the Masons of the Second Masonic District at Colerain, Monday, September 24, at 8:00 P. M. There will be a meeting of the officers of the district at 3:30 P. M. presided over by Right Worshipful Wilber L. McIver, Grand Secretary, from Raleigh, N. C. At 6:30 a barbecue supper will be served at the high school cafeteria. All Masons of the district are invited.

The lodges of the second district include Skewarke Lodge of Williamston, Charity Lodge of Winderham, Unanimity Lodge of Edenton, Davie Lodge of Lewiston, Wicacoa Lodge of Harrellsville, Ahsokie, Aulander and Colerain Lodges. Grady I. Carraker of Colerain is District Deputy Grand Master.

Rev. A. D. Leon Gray, Superintendent of Oxford Orphanage, will be present and will speak in the interest of the Orphanage. A large attendance of Masons from Williamston is expected.

Painfully Hurt In Accident Here

Mr. James C. Blythe and his six-year-old son, James, were painfully bruised when an automobile, driven by James Edward Moore, struck their motorcycle and knocked them off near Griffins Quick Lunch on Washington Street last Friday afternoon at 5:20 o'clock. Moore, traveling out of town, started to make a left turn to the lot near Griffins Quick Lunch, just as Mr. Blythe and his son approached from the opposite direction. Neither vehicle was traveling fast, but the motorcycle driver was thrown several feet and somersaulted a number of times, witnesses said.

About the time one member of the local police department was investigating the Washington Street accident, another was investigating a minor accident on the main street near Houghton. Chas. Dugger started to drive out of a parking place and his car bumper struck James Oliver Raby's fender, causing about \$20 damage. Dugger accepted the responsibility.

Following the death of her husband about a year ago, Mrs. J. A. Rawls has been serving as acting postmistress. She was not a candidate for the position permanently.

Harrison Oil Company is suing J. D. Harrison, Jr., to recover \$551.95 alleged due on account.

W. R. Everett is asking \$2,000 damages of Wm. Everett alleged to have resulted from a fire said to have been started by the defendant.

Slade Rhodes Company is seeking to recover \$414.59 from Lawrence Williams alleged due on a note.

Alleging \$616.56 is due him under a farming contract, Robt. Wilson is suing C. L. Nelson for that amount.

As a result of an automobile accident at Butler's Bridge on Highway 125 last October 22, George H. Leggett is suing L. A. Glisson for \$1,000 personal and \$351 property damages.

S. A. Mobley, in his case against Dixie Motor Company, is asking \$100 a month rent for a warehouse, alleged due from December 21, 1950.

Annie Elizabeth Obet of New

Recommended for Oak City Position

Rupert R. Rawls has been recommended for permanent postmaster in Oak City by Congressman Herbert C. Bonner, according to an official announcement reaching here this week. Mrs. Bonner also recommended the continuance of Tom Pearson as assistant to the postmaster there.

The recommendations amount to appointment, and the new postmaster is scheduled to enter upon his duties the first of October.

Following the death of her husband about a year ago, Mrs. J. A. Rawls has been serving as acting postmistress. She was not a candidate for the position permanently.

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Twenty-Five Civil Cases To Be Tried In Superior Court

Continuance Almost Certain In \$35,000 Damage Action

Twenty-five cases, in addition to a dozen divorce actions have been placed on the calendar for trial in the Martin County Superior Court next week. All of the current week was set aside for the trial of a large criminal docket, including three murder cases.

The divorce mill is to be cranked up next Monday when several civil cases are to be heard also.

A continuance is likely in the \$35,000 damage suit being brought by Margaret P. Revels against Vincent J. Ferris, T. L. Roberson and Murph Whitaker are being made defendants in the case, and it is understood they have not had time to prepare and file answers, meaning that the case is almost certain to be continued. The suit was brought as a result of an accident last March 27, when Ferris' car crashed into the side of Pierce Brother's store about eight miles from Williamston on Highway 17, injuring the plaintiff who was inside the building.

Other cases on the civil calendar:

U. S. Hoffman Machinery Corporation is suing Leander Bowen to recover \$600 alleged due on account.

The Williamston Lumber Company is suing Raymond Williams for \$1,000, claiming that it is entitled to that amount as a result of a boundary line variation.

In the case of W. H. Harrison against J. T. Hadley, the plaintiff is suing to recover possession of a \$75 hog.

D. G. Matthews in his case against Grant Spruill is suing to recover possession of two hogs valued at \$100.

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Little Girl Deserted By Parents In Court

FEATURE

Alleged Attacker Walks Out Of The Court A Free Man

A special feature of the National Kids' Day observance will be selling of special buttons by the local Boy Scouts. The sale will take place Saturday, September 22 according to an announcement by V. J. Spivey, President of the Kiwanis Club, sponsors of the National Kids' Day observance.

Funds raised in this button sales will be used in underprivileged child work.

Verdict of Not Guilty Directed In Case Against Prince Lynch

A little colored girl, quite small for her eight years, was deserted in the Martin County Superior Court here yesterday by her parents, Navin and Queenie Hawkins, who took the stand in behalf of a self-admitted drunkard who was charged with attacking his victim in the Hawkins home early in the morning of August 11.

The mother had not been on her daughter's side all the while, and after the father had sworn out a warrant charging Lynch with attempting to rape the girl, Dianne Hawkins, he (the father) said on the stand in open court that he had some doubt if the girl was attacked. In the face of the contradictory evidence, Judge Henry Stevens, without a motion by defense counsel, directed a verdict of not guilty, and the alleged attacker, Prince Lynch, 21-year-old Negro, walked out of the courtroom a free man.

The little girl, confronted by the overwhelming testimony, either stacked or unstacked, still held to her story, saying in a weak voice that Lynch had attacked her, adding that he offered her ten cents not to say anything about the attack.

Although she was quoted previously as saying that she called to her mother for help and that she asked to be treated for abrasions on her frail little body, the witness said on the stand that she did not tell her mother about the attack.

On cross examination, the girl said Lynch was drunk, but not too drunk to walk. She denied having told Brenda Brown that Lynch did not attack her. She also denied that her father had given her \$1.25 to hatch up the charge against Lynch, the little girl explaining that he gave her each when the other children a nickel Saturday afternoon to buy candy, and that she told him then about the alleged attack.

Dr. J. T. Llewellyn who examined the child that Saturday night, said he was told by the girl that a colored man was attacking her when she woke up. At that time the girl had 99.3 degree temperature, the doctor stating that he found abrasions on the upper part of both thighs and the lower part of her abdomen. There was no sign of an accomplished act, however. The examining doctor also said the child walked with difficulty.

On cross examination, the witness said the injury was not fresh, but he was of the opinion that it was less than 24 hours old. He described the wounds as being similar to brush burns or where the skin was rubbed against pavement. He virtually ruled out the possibility that the injury could have been caused by riding a horse or straddling a see-saw.

A turn in the case came when the sorry father took the stand. He told about what the child had told him, explaining that the child had called for help but got no answer from her mother, how the little girl walked with difficulty when he left Sunday afternoon to return to his job in New Bern.

On cross examination, Hawkins denied having given the child \$1.25 to tell the story on Lynch. He said he asked his wife why she had not helped the child, that the wife said she did not hear her. The father then admitted that he told the defense lawyer to work hard for the defendant, that he (Hawkins) did not believe Lynch had anything to do with the girl. He then claimed that the child told him last Monday morning that Lynch did not trouble her. He said he employed no lawyer

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Farmers Facing Challenge In Fighting New And Baffling Diseases Of Tobacco

By H. R. Garriss, Plant Pathologist, and R. R. Bennett, Tobacco Specialist, N. C. State College Extension Service

Tar Heel tobacco growers now face the biggest challenge in their history.

Diseases, notably black shank, have hit the blue-cured crop in North Carolina harder this summer than ever before. A large number of growers tried to get by with non-resistant varieties and in many cases the results were disastrous.

Even the black shank resistant varieties, such as Oxford 1, Oxford 1-181, the Vestas, and Dixie Bright 101, were damaged heavily by attacks of the disease in a few fields in some counties. Heavier damage was suffered by the moderately resistant varieties than by the three varieties carrying higher resistance.

find varieties with good quality, good yields and higher disease resistance. But because the problem is complex and such a large volume of work is required to develop even one acceptable variety, progress along these lines is slow at best.

Growers should not expect, in the very near future, varieties with higher resistance than is found in the varieties now available.

What, then, can be done? The individual farmer can do much to help solve his own problem of tobacco diseases. He can follow practices which research and experience have shown will contribute to success with the crop.

We have visited and observed a large number of tobacco fields in North Carolina this summer. We found black shank present in all but four or five blue-cured counties located on the fringe of the blue-cured area.

planted also to Dixie Bright 102, Oxford 1, Oxford 1-181, and the Vestas lines.

In general, Dixie Bright 101 has performed very satisfactorily in that good yield, good quality, and satisfactory resistance are in evidence throughout the State. However, in a few instances in several counties, Dixie Bright 101 as well as other black shank resistant varieties did not live satisfactorily.

In one county where about half the acreage was planted to Dixie Bright 101, growers on about 20 farms out of 1,000 lost from 18 to 90 percent of their tobacco in certain fields or parts of fields. In another county, about 15 farmers out of 600 lost a high percentage of the plants of resistant varieties to black shank.

These percentages of failure or partial failure, although severe in individual cases, were small when compared to the overall performance of resistant varieties.

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Williamston P. T. A. To Meet Monday Evening

The first meeting of this scholastic year will be held by the Williamston Parents-Teachers Association in the Grammar School auditorium Monday evening at 7:45 o'clock.

A brief program and get-acquainted social period will be held with refreshments in the cafeteria.