

THE ENTERPRISE

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Superior Court Closed Term At Noon Yesterday

Few Persons Present For Last Proceedings: Three Divorces Are Granted

Completing its work at noon yesterday, the Martin County Superior Court folded its tent and quietly stole away.

Sixteen criminal cases were cleared from the docket, including several stubborn drunken driving actions. Eight cases were continued for one reason or another, the list including murder charges against Gus Andrews and Cassie Sutton. Andrews is at liberty under \$300 bond. The Sutton woman's bond, fixed at \$5,000 when she was arrested, was lowered by court order yesterday, but that amount was not raised and the defendant continued in jail. Her trial, delayed on account of the illness of a material witness, is now slated to be called in March.

Proceedings not previously reported:

Frank Otis Ussery, charged with drunken driving, was found not guilty in one of the comparatively few cases reaching the jury.

Pleading guilty of receiving goods alleged to have been stolen, G. B. Whitfield was sentenced to the road for two years. The road term was suspended upon the payment of a \$200 fine and costs, and the defendant goes on probation for three years.

The drunken driving case against Burtis C. Nelson was continued.

Robert A. Wzorek and Robt. Swanke, the two young boys who broke into and robbed Harris Brothers' filling station near Williamston last October, pleaded guilty, and were sentenced to prison for not less than four and not more than six years. The two lads, one from Missouri and the other from New Jersey, tried to saw their way out of jail late last night, but they made little progress.

Grover Barber, charged with assault with a deadly weapon, was found not guilty.

Found guilty of drunken driving, Elbert Willis Midyette was fined \$175 and taxed with the costs.

Pleading guilty of forcible trespass, Ben Biggs was sentenced to the road for six months, the court suspending the road term upon the payment of the costs. He is to remain of good behavior for two years, remain off the premises of Virginia Hunter and molest her in no way during the next two years.

Going into court with a splendid record, Claude Bryant, charged with drunken driving, was found not guilty.

Collins (Rudy) Smith, charged with breaking and entering, failed to answer when called and papers were issued for his arrest.

The case in which Prince Lynch was charged with robbery, was not pressed with leave. It was pointed out that the prosecuting witness, Eddie Franklin, was not in court. Franklin had charged the defendant with robbing him of \$100.

The case in which Henry A. Gray is charged with drunken driving, was continued for the defendant until the next March term.

Three divorces, all based on two years of separation, were granted the following:

William N. Beasley from Cora S. Beasley, Kenneth Earl Bryant from Doris Bowers Bryant, and

(Continued on Page Eight)

Secure Outside His Home and Car

Farmer Jesse Crisp was all locked out Tuesday.

Hurrying to get into the courthouse where he had been called as a witness, he left his keys in the car switch, slammed the door and automatically locked himself out. He called friends in Oak City for another set of car keys. Mrs. Crisp had gone away, too, leaving the home locked.

The locked-out combination was finally solved after a delay of hours.

Peanut Plant Swamped With Deliveries Here Recently



There have been gluts, to be sure, but not in many seasons, if ever, have peanuts moved to the Williamston market in greater volume than they have during the past two weeks. At one time last week there were as many as thirty large trucks waiting at the plant of the Williamston Peanut Company to have their large cargoes unloaded. Farmers have been asked to slow down the deliveries, and a limitation on grading service schedules has been invoked by the government. Farmers are assured that there'll be a market for every bag with no sagging prices going into effect.

Investigate Possibility Of Replacing Burned Plant

Wounded In Korea, Soldier Volunteers To Give Blood

A Martin County young man who has just returned from a year's fighting in Korea has contacted the Blood Donor Recruitment Committee here and volunteered to donate a pint of blood at the visit of the Bloodmobile here tomorrow.

Sgt. 1st Class Edward Earl Mobley returned to his home in Hamilton for a thirty day leave and immediately upon hearing of the lagging drive for blood donors in this area he volunteered to donate. Sgt. Mobley was wounded in both knees during the Korean fighting.

Sgt. Mobley states that the supply of fresh blood for wounded soldiers in Korea is scarce and he is glad to be able to be at home and help furnish blood for his comrades who are still fighting in Korea. He further states that

Owner Expresses Hope New Plant Can Be Erected

Darkened when fire wrecked the huge plant of the Wells-Oates lumber mill on East Main Street here late last Monday night, the town's economic front was brightened a bit today when one of the company owners, B. H. Oates, was reported to have expressed the hope that a smaller but more modern mill could replace the old one. However, it was clearly pointed out that no plans have been made to build a new plant, that a decision hardly could be expected within the next two or three weeks. It goes without saying that the approximately 85 former employees at the mill, the fifty or sixty others depending upon its logging operations for employment and the whole town are anxiously awaiting a decision, looking to the restoration of the business.

Representatives of the fire insurance companies inspected the ruins yesterday, but no report was filed immediately on the loss which rated at about one-quarter million dollars and the largest in the town's fire records. Mr. Oates, reported to be considering the possibility of replacing the mill, pointed out that this was an ideal site for a plant, and that if his company found it impractical to rebuild, that possibly someone else would establish a plant here.

Achievement Day Program Saturday

4-H Club members from all parts of Martin County will assemble in the Courthouse in Williamston next Saturday at 2 o'clock for their annual Achievement Day Program.

The principal speaker will be the Reverend J. Don Skinner of Williamston. Other special guests who will participate in the program are Miss Edith Rogerson, former 4-H Club member of Bear Grass; Robert W. Parker of Macclesfield, past president of the State 4-H Club Council, and Miss Margaret E. Clark, assistant State 4-H Club leader.

Awards for outstanding 4-H Club work will be presented, reports concerning county activities will be made by club members, and the 1952 County Council officers will be installed, it was announced today by S. A. Tuten, Jr., assistant Martin County farm agent.

Officers Return With Prisoners

Wanted for abandonment, William Jenkins and Willis Griffin, both colored, were returned late yesterday from Baltimore and New York to face Judge R. T. Johnson in the county court next Monday.

Jenkins, seeking refuge in the Maryland city, is alleged to have deserted his wife and three children. Thinking he was as snug as a bug in a rug while with the millions in New York, Griffin found his freedom cut short when police once got on his trail. Learning his address, the sheriff's office here wired New York police Monday. Three hours later the police wired back, advising that Griffin had been picked up and would not fight extradition.

Deputies Raymond Rawls and Joe Blythe made the trip north for the two men.

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Town Anxiously Awaiting Decision Expected In Next Two Weeks

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Bear Grass P-T. A. To Meet On Monday Night

The Bear Grass P-T. A. will hold its monthly meeting Monday night, December 17, at 7:30 in the school auditorium. All parents and teachers are urged to attend.

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COLD SWEEP

After enjoying the very best weather even Florida has to offer, this section buttoned up tight in the face of a cold sweep that sent the mercury tumbling down this week. A low of 23 degrees was reported this morning about 6:30 o'clock. The mercury, battling against a bright sun, started yielding as the day wore on, but cold weather is promised for tomorrow when the wave is expected to have spent most of its fury.

Making Preparations For Conducting X-Ray Survey

Dr. J. W. Williams, County Health Officer, has announced the arrival of Flay W. Sellers, health educator, with the N. C. State Board of Health and Miss Iris Turlington, secretary, to begin promotional and educational work for the Mass X-ray Survey to be held in Martin County January 11 through February 2, 1952. Paul Johnson, Negro health educator, will arrive on December 13, to work with all Negro groups and organizations.

This Free Chest X-ray Survey is made possible by the local health department in conjunction with the Martin County Tuberculosis Association and the N. C. State Board of Health. Everyone 15 years of age and older will have an opportunity to get this Free Chest X-ray in an effort to control tuberculosis. Greater emphasis will be placed in getting our older population X-rayed in order to protect the future health of our children and grandchildren.

He also pointed out the simplicity of an X-ray—takes only a few minutes, no undressing, and it doesn't cost a cent. Everyone is encouraged to stress the importance of this survey with their family and neighbors.

Former Resident Dies In Hospital

The Rev. Dennis Warren Davis, a former resident of this county, died in a Washington hospital Tuesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock following a short illness.

He was born in Pitt County 50 years ago on September 12, 1901, the son of Dennis W. and Mary Johnson Davis. He entered the ministry 21 years ago and was a graduate of Johnson Bible College, Knoxville, Tenn.

During his residence in this county he pastored the churches at Cross Roads and Macedonia and preached at Poplar Chapel, near Jamesville, for a number of years. Moving to Plymouth a few years ago, he was pastor of the churches at Powell's Point and Union Grove at the time of his death.

Surviving are his widow; three sons, Dennis Ashley Davis, student at Johnson Bible College, Tenn.; David Elridge Davis of Plymouth, Wayne Warren Davis of Plymouth; one daughter, Ruth Elaine Davis of Plymouth; five sisters, Mrs. Marcia Stepany of Roanoke Rapids, Mrs. Eva Woodley of Creswell, Mrs. Hilda Finch of Nashville, Tenn., Mrs. Elizabeth Bryant of Baltimore, Mrs. John Forrester of South Carolina.

Funeral services are being held at the Poplar Chapel Church of Christ this afternoon at 2 o'clock, by the Rev. Richard Gardner of Roper, assisted by the Rev. D. W. Arnold of Washington. Burial will be in Oakdale Cemetery in Washington.

Special Guests At Lions Meet

The personnel handling the Red Cross Bloodmobile work are to be special guests of local lions at the club's regular meeting this evening, it was announced by President Ben D. Courtney today. Miss Rawls, registered nurse, heads the group of nine handling the unit.

The bloodmobile personnel, working in Washington County today, will come here late this afternoon to spend the night and be ready for the unit appointment in the Legion Hut on Watts Street tomorrow.

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Two Youths Try To Break Out Of Jail

ONE NINETY

Up until shortly before noon today, one hundred and ninety persons had pledged to give blood when the Red Cross bloodmobile comes here tomorrow. The number falls about one hundred short of what the recruiters had hoped for, and means that the unit will collect hardly more than 150 or 160 pints of blood unless volunteers make impromptu visits to the center at the legion hut on Watts Street between 10 a. m. and 4 p. m.

Donors are asked to eat no food within three hours of the time they are to give blood.

Grand Jury Files Quarterly Report In Superior Court

Jury Instructed To Point Out Needed Repairs At County Home

Completing their work last Monday, members of the Martin County Grand Jury submitted their quarterly report to Judge Walter J. Bone, and recessed until next March with the understanding that they are to be recalled into special session should it be necessary. Few special sessions of a grand jury have been held in this county.

The jury was instructed to point out to the proper authorities repairs needed at the county home. The report, filed over the name of R. E. Williams, foreman, reads in detail:

All bills of indictment presented were passed on by us.

The report of the Justices of the Peace were checked and found filed with the Clerk of Court and all fines paid to the County Treasurer.

We found the County Jail clean and in good condition. There were two white male inmates, six colored male and 1 colored female inmates.

We checked the County Home and found that the rear steps had not yet been repaired. Nor had the outbuildings been painted as had been previously recommended. Floors of the bathrooms and the floor of one room in TB division are in need of paint.

The TB Ward has one white man, four colored men and seven colored women. Other inmates of the sanatorium include four white women, one colored woman, four colored men and three white men.

We have checked the report submitted by Patrolman R. P. Narron of the Highway Patrol which shows that all school buses were checked Nov. 26-27, 1951, and put in condition at that time.

We examined the office of the Clerk of Court and found it to be in excellent condition with guardians' reports and accounts filed as required.

Hold Funeral For James A. Hassell

Funeral services are being conducted this afternoon at 2:30 o'clock in the Cedar Hill Baptist Church near here for James Aaron Hassell, respected colored citizen and farmer, who died last Sunday night at his home on the Williamston-Ear Grass Road. His pastor, the Rev. F. K. Leathers, will conduct the rites and interment will be in the family cemetery.

He was 69 years old, and farmed all his life in this county, living in peace with his fellowman and leading a useful and exemplary life. His condition had been critical following a stroke suffered last Thanksgiving day.

Surviving are his widow; eight children, thirty-three grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

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Apparently Made Plans To Attack Jailer Roy Peel

Convicted Robbers Sawed One Bar Half In Two Before Detected Tuesday

An attempted break from the Martin County jail, apparently carrying serious intentions, was foiled by officers late Tuesday night.

Tried in the superior court earlier in the day and sentenced to prison for not less than four and not more than six years, two young white boys formerly in the U. S. Marine Corps, slipped two pieces of a ten-inch back saw blade into the jail, and had sawed about half way through one of the cell bars when they were caught.

Jailer Roy Peel found everything in order when he checked the jail at 9:00 o'clock that night. Shortly before midnight he heard a noise in No. 12 cell and called Sheriff Holloman and town police. Removing their shoes, the officers moved quietly into the jail and caught the boys just sawing away. Robert A. Wzorek, 19-year-old Bayonne, New Jersey, boy, and Robert Swanke, 19-year-old St. Louis, boy, were separated and removed to the third floor of the jail where they rested until officers could make arrangements to return them to prison. Wzorek to Gates County and Swanke to Central Prison in Raleigh.

Investigating the attempted break, officers said that the two boys had torn a blanket into strips and tied them together. They had just about torn an iron brace from a bunk. The officers figured that they planned to saw their way out of the cell, take a stand by the cell block door, knock the jailer in the head as he entered the door the next morning, tie him up and take his keys and move out of the jail.

They had learned that the next regular visit by the jailer would be early the next morning.

Since the boys are already under long prison sentences, officers said no charges would be brought as a result of the attempted jail break.

The two boys, convicted in Craven County for breaking and entering and robbery, were sentenced to serve three to five years in prison. They face similar counts in two other counties, Judge Bone, in pronouncing sentence here this week, specified that the terms are to begin immediately, meaning that the sentences will run concurrently with those imposed in Craven County.

Swanke, wearing a little mustache, pleaded for mercy just before sentence was pronounced. "We are a long way from home. We are without friends here and have no counsel. We are now serving from three to five years, and face counts in other counties," Swanke admitted. "When we complete our sentences, we'll try to start life over again," he declared, all the while holding a hack saw blade with the intent of sawing his way to freedom even if it was necessary to knock the jailer in the head. Their action in trying to break out of jail was recorded on their records to be filed with prison authorities and with the Federal Bureau of investigation.

Escape Injury In Tuesday Accident

No one was injured and property damage was limited to about \$450 when a 1950 Chevrolet pickup truck and a 1950 Pontiac side-swiped each other on Highway 125 about one mile east of Oak City shortly before Tuesday midnight.

Jas. Harry Council of Oak City was driving the truck, and James Holliday of Williamston was operating the car, according to Patrolman R. P. Narron who made the investigation.