

Twenty-five Cases Heard In County's Court On Monday

Unusually Large Session In Prospect For The Court Next Monday

Holding its first session in two weeks, the Martin County Recorder's Court closed its work in the old year last Monday after disposing of twenty-five cases. Most of the cases accumulating during the two-week period the court was idle were scheduled for trial next Monday when Judge R. T. Johnson and Solicitor Clarence Griffin are almost certain to have their hands full.

Fines were imposed in the total sum of \$795 last Monday and a few road sentences were imposed. Proceedings:

Pleading guilty of non-support, Charlie Ellison was sentenced to the roads for six months, the court suspending the road term upon the payment of the cost and \$7 a week for the support of his child.

William Henry Black, pleading guilty of drunken driving, was fined \$100, taxed with the cost and lost his operator's license for a year.

Charged with possession of materials for the manufacture of illicit liquor, James Briley and William Augustus Riddick pleaded guilty and were sentenced to the roads for twelve months. The road terms were suspended upon the condition that they pay \$200 fines and violate no liquor laws for five years. The fines were not paid immediately.

Charles G. Murray, charged with drunken driving, asked for a jury trial and his case was automatically placed on the superior court docket for consideration in March.

Pleading not guilty, Jesse Carney, charged with careless and reckless driving, was adjudged guilty and was fined \$25, plus costs.

Curtis Beach was fined \$100, taxed with the costs and lost his driver's license for a year when he pleaded guilty of drunken driving.

Charged with hit-and-run driving, Elmer Rogers pleaded not guilty. He was adjudged guilty and was sentenced to the roads for ninety days. The road term was suspended upon the payment of a \$10 fine and \$35 to repair damage done to W. A. Taylor's car.

Charged with assaults, Jesse Lawrence Brown, Emmett Sanders, Prince Lynch and Annie M. Mobley were adjudged not guilty.

Pleading not guilty, William Mobley was charged with an assault, was found guilty and drew six months on the roads, suspended upon the payment of a \$25 and costs. The defendant is to remain of good behavior and provided adequate support for his family.

Asa Tom Lanier was fined \$10 and taxed with the court costs for assaulting a female.

Adjudged guilty of assaulting a female, Jimmie Watts was sentenced to the roads for ninety days.

John Ellis, charged with non-support, was adjudged innocent.

Pleading guilty of drunken driving, Frank Thomas Scott was fined \$100, taxed with the costs and lost his license to drive a car for one year.

Judgment was suspended upon the payment of the court costs in the case, was delayed.

Charged with violating the liquor laws, Nymphus James failed to appear for trial, and action against Willis Boston, a co-defendant in the case, was delayed.

Judgment was suspended upon the payment of the costs in the case in which Robt. Harrell was charged with violating the rules of the roads.

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QUIET AFFAIRS

Unless something pops up between now and then, the meetings of both the Martin County and Williamston Town Commissioners next Monday will be quiet affairs.

J. Sam Getsinger, clerk for the county board, and Marion Cobb, town clerk, both said they had nothing but routine business on their calendars.

Start Mass X-Ray Mobile Unit In County Next Week

By J. W. Williams, County Health Officer

On January 2 the mass x-ray mobile units will begin operation throughout the county.

In the meantime there is a large amount of planning and organizing which must be done and requires the help of each and every individual. The health department is calling upon such organizations as home demonstration clubs, unions, church groups and all Civic and Social groups to assist in this program. The job that can be done by these groups is as vital and important one as it is a media through which large groups of people can be reached because of the organized process. It has been proven that without the whole-

hearted cooperation of these various organizations which exist in the county, the mass x-ray survey will not be the success that it is hoped to be.

The health department, Medical Society and Tuberculosis Association of Martin County are asking you to combine your every effort to make this survey a great success. The goal for Martin County is 18,000.

"Let's Make Martin County 100 per cent."

The personnel for the x-ray units are requesting a list of rooms and facilities available when they arrive January 8. Any one having rooms available are urged to call the Martin County Health Department and give description of facilities.

JUNE IN JANUARY

The guy who wrote a song about June in January was without doubt vindicated here yesterday when the mercury climbed to a good 83 in the shade and an even hundred in the sun.

People, running around in their shirt sleeves, were talking about summer vacation plans, and a few farmers said a little something about starting their spring plowing. But Ole Man Winter hasn't asserted himself, and already the weather man is predicting cold weather for this section right now.

The mercury reading yesterday was listed among the highest on record for any January 2.

"The University Hour" Scheduled On Station WIAM

First Program Will Be On The Air This Sunday At 2:30 O'Clock

Station WIAM will broadcast the first program in the 1952 series of "The University Hour" at 2:30 on Sunday Jan. 6th. Winner of the First Award at the American Exhibition of Educational Radio Programs held annually at the Ohio State University, "The University Hour" has the distinction of being broadcast by more North Carolina radio stations than any other program of its type. Station WIAM is one of 55 stations scheduling the new series.

The programs are composed of dramatized incidents from the lives of men and women who have enriched the heritage of the University and the State.

The first program tells a true story about one of North Carolina's most accomplished writers, Thomas Wolfe. Featuring John Ehlg of Asheville in the leading role, the story "Return in Triumph" describes Wolfe's return to his native Asheville. It was written by James Poag of Greenville, S. C., and directed by Arthur Briskin.

"Lion in the Streets", featuring Charles Kuralt of Charlotte, as Hattie D. Rodgers, wife of Rev. J. W. Rodgers, died on December 26 at 9:00 A. M., after a long illness. She was 63 years of age and had been a resident of Martin County all her life. She had been a member of the Cedar Grove Baptist Church, serving it faithfully for a number of years, and was held in high esteem by all who knew her.

Funeral services were held last Saturday afternoon at the Cedar Hill Baptist Church by her pastor the Rev. F. K. Leathers.

Surviving besides her husband, are five children, three sons, James Rodgers, W. H. Rodgers, Jr., and Willie Rodgers; two daughters, Eva James and Hattie Lane, all of Williamston, 19 grandchildren, and 2 great grandchildren, all of whom reside in Williamston.

Wife Of Pastor Dies At Home

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Beloved Citizen Died In Hospital Tuesday Evening

Funeral Being Held In The Christian Chapel For Mrs. A. L. Roebuck

Mrs. Malishia Wynne Roebuck, beloved local citizen whose husband and son ably served as sheriffs of the county during a combined period of nearly a quarter century, died in a local hospital at 11:15 o'clock Tuesday night. She had been in declining health for a number of years, but was an invalid since a stroke of paralysis suffered about two years ago. Her condition had been critical following another stroke suffered two weeks ago yesterday morning at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Rupert E. Cowen, on East Main Street, and was moved to the hospital for treatment. Little hope was held for her recovery and members of the family were continuing at her bedside for days.

The daughter of the late Mack G. and Christine Mobley Wynne, she was born in Cross Roads Township 82 years ago on September 22, 1869, and lived there most of her life. She was married December 3, 1890, to A. L. Roebuck who died during his second term as sheriff of the county on June 8, 1929. Following his election to the office of sheriff, Mr. and Mrs. Roebuck moved to Williamston in 1926 continuing to make her home here since that time.

She was a member of Christian Chapel at Cross Roads the greater part of sixty years, her daily walk through life exemplifying a noble Christian character across those years. She held a friendship that was warming to the heart, and realistic in devotion and service, and her kind and thoughtful manner endeared her to everyone.

(pick-up survivors from Herald) Surviving are four sons, W. H. Roebuck of Aberdeen, Md., Herbert L. Roebuck, a member of the Martin County Board of Commissioners of Cross Roads Township; N. A. Roebuck of Greenville, and Shep Roebuck of Williamston; two daughters, Mrs. Clarence Taylor of Robersonville, and Mrs. Rupert E. Cowen of Williamston; two sisters, Mrs. John T. Edmondson of Williamston and Mrs. Wiley B. Rogerson of Robersonville; fifteen grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Funeral services are being conducted in the church at Cross Roads this afternoon at 2:20 o'clock by the pastor, the Rev. Preston E. Cayton of Edenton, assisted by the Rev. James M. Perry, pastor of the Robersonville Christian Church, and the Rev. John L. Goff, pastor of the Williamston Christian Church. Interment will be in the family plot in the Robersonville Cemetery.

White George Lee Roberson and Norma Rae Wood, both of Williamston.

George E. Gardner of Williamston and Gladys Evelyn O'Mary of Hamilton.

James Albert Manning and Helen Frances Chesson, both of Williamston.

Clayton E. Modlin of RFD 1, Robersonville, and Bessie O'Neil Pierce of RFD 3, Williamston.

Edgar Lee Hart of Tarboro and Margaret Anne Worsley of Oak City.

Haze M. Daw of Pantego and Romaldo B. Cox of Pinetown.

Archie Eugene Albright, USN, Perkins, Oklahoma, and Myrtle Mae Rogers of Jamesville.

George C. Moore of Williamston and Carrie Lou Brown of Jamesville.

Jimmy Lee McLawhorn and Margaret Singleton, both of Vanceboro.

Thomas E. Todd and Lurleen Taylor, both of Windsor.

David Bryant Stephenson of Roanoke Rapids and Alice Pearl Williams of Williamston.

David H. Modlin and Mary Bell Padgett, both of Jamesville.

Colored Aimer Brown and Gertrude Logan, both of Williamston.

James Midgett and Frances Stancil, both of Jamesville.

James Simmons of Norfolk and Joyce Keel of Everetts.

Lewis Jones, Jr., and Lurline (Continued on page eight)

Morris Stalls Buys Business

Morris Stalls, local young man recently out of the National Guard, has purchased the stock, fixtures and good will of Sunny Side Market and Grocery from C. T. Roberson. Taking over active management this week, Mr. Stalls is making some changes and plans to enlarge operations there.

Mr. Roberson will devote his time to the oyster bar and connected business, it was reported.

S. L. Roberson To Master Radio Mystery Program

Fun Show Being Sponsored For March Of Dimes On January 13

Sherwood L. Roberson, prominent business man of Robersonville, will serve as master of ceremonies for the mystery radio program planned on Sunday, January 13, in behalf of the March of Dimes Fund Drive, Chairman J. A. Edens announced today. The program, lasting only thirty minutes, goes on the air at 4:00 that Sunday afternoon.

While the movement itself is for a serious and worthy cause, the program is expected to be highly entertaining and quite funny.

If Joe Doakes wants to hear Smith Joe sing a fantastic song, he'll make an offer to the March of Dimes program. Possibly someone else would like to hear a recitation, and he'll make a cash offer to the March of Dimes chairman who will contact the reciter, and so on. The chairman of the drive is anxious to get a full thirty-minute program on the air, and everyone contacted is under solemn obligation to participate when called upon. Anyone may send in a request, accompanied by a substantial contribution.

In other centers throughout the country, sizable offers have been made and tens of thousands of dollars have been raised for the worthy cause.

Last-minute requests will be considered, but only a few can be handled at the last minute. Everyone is urged to pick out a singer or actor and book him without delay. Just send your requests with an offering to Dr. J. A. Edens, Williamston, and arrangements will be made to have your favorite "star" appear on the program.

So far the March of Dimes has been able to finance every case of polio in Martin County over a period of years. There have been cases every year, and it is reasonable to believe there'll be cases in 1952. To maintain the record,

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Delay In Calling For Drainage Project Bids

Unable to Hold a Scheduled Meeting a Few Days Ago, the Martin County Drainage District Commission No. 2 has not yet called for bids on a proposal project centered in Robersonville Township. It could not be learned when the commission will meet.

The government, anxious to direct as many peanuts into the open market as possible, delayed its receiving station here until the marketing season was well advanced. The open market was taking just about all offerings during the early part of the season, but one of the big companies went off the market and the other buyers were literally flooded, the government stepping in a short time later to relieve the pressure.

Prices, based on strict government grades, have remained all the way through.

Small Rainfall Is Recorded In 1951

The second smallest rainfall on record in this section was recorded last year, according to a report coming from Hugh Spruill, keeper of the Roanoke River bridge at Williamston. Only 37.77 inches of rain fell during the twelve months of 1951, the total falling almost ten inches below the twenty-year average of 47.42 inches. Only in one other year—1941—has the total rainfall been so limited. In 1941 the rainfall hit a low of 31.76 inches to set an all-time record. The greatest amount of rain recorded in any one year at the Williamston station was in 1947 when 57.12 inches fell.

Last year, it will be recalled, rainfall was limited in January, February, May and heavy in June, comparatively heavy in July and August. Then last September less than an inch of rain fell as compared with 8.01 inches recorded in September, 1950. Last November, 4.54 inches of rain fell, but precipitation dropped back to 2.10 inches last month.

Planning To Rebuild

Although future action is conditional, official reports reaching here this week declare that the Wells-Oates Lumber Company is planning to rebuild its plant destroyed by fire December 10.

In a letter to Mayor Robert Cowen a few days ago, Mr. B. H. Oates, one of the company owners, said, in part:

"Due to conditions of the times, it is difficult to accurately project any planning especially where machinery and equipment are involved, but we would like to assure you that we are moving in the direction of restoring all normal business activity in your community as rapidly as is practical."

Mr. Oates also pointed out in his letter to Mayor Cowen the following:

"We assure you that our public relations in your area have always been highly satisfactory, the conduct of business there has been pleasant and profitable."

The large plant, located on East Main Street, figured prominently in the economy of this entire section before it was destroyed in what was recorded as the most costly fire in the town's history.

Peanuts Are About All Sold In County

Just Few Hundred Bags Received At Market Recently

The 1951 peanut marketing season is about spent, late reports stating that the goobers are being delivered in very small lots with daily deliveries holding to a few hundred bags. A few farmers are holding fairly big lots on their farms, but it is estimated that more than 99 percent of the crop has been harvested and that possibly less than ten percent is yet to find its way to the markets.

No official figures are to be had, but it is estimated that the market here handled more than a quarter million bags of farmers' stock peanuts from the 1951 crop, the deliveries possibly holding close to those handled from the 1950 season. Unofficial but reliable reports state that the government up until today had stored right at 3,000 bags of peanuts from the 1951 crop, that the daily deliveries are now running under 100 bags per day. The lots ranged from 52 down to two bags.

It could not be learned how much longer the government warehouse will continue open at this point, but independent companies plan to continue on the market until the crop is marketed in its entirety.

No official estimates are to be had at this time, but unofficial reports indicate that a fairly large percentage of the 1951 crop went to market as excess. However, with very few exceptions, the excess is not being penalized, but there is little hope that farmers will receive anything more for the excess than the regular oil price, an amount about half the regular market. Martin farmers who in 1951 planted in excess of their regular allotments but not in excess of their 1947 quotas, received a differential of about \$45,000. No such payments are anticipated for the 1951 crop excess.

Between 75,000 and 80,000 bags from the 1951 crop have been stored in Robersonville warehouses, and, according to some reports, many peanuts moved out of this county into storage in other counties.

The government, anxious to direct as many peanuts into the open market as possible, delayed its receiving station here until the marketing season was well advanced. The open market was taking just about all offerings during the early part of the season, but one of the big companies went off the market and the other buyers were literally flooded, the government stepping in a short time later to relieve the pressure.

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Approximately eighty citizens have registered for the special town primary to be held in Jamesville on Monday, January 14, according to an unofficial report coming from Mrs. Mae Waters, registrar. Saturday of this week is the last day for getting one's name on the books. On Saturday, January 12, the books will be opened for a review of the names and challenge.

The registration, while comparatively small within itself, reflects much interest in the approaching primary election which was created by special court order last November. A goodly number of citizens these petitioned the court for an opportunity to vote, pointing out that no primary or general election had been held in accordance with a special act of the North Carolina State Legislature. During the meantime, the old officials tendered their resignations, but agreed to remain in office until their successors are named.

Following the primary vote on the 14th, a general election will be held in due time.

As far as it could be learned early today no one had filed for either the position of mayor or a place on the five-man board of town commissioners. Today, it was reported, is the last day for candidates to get their names on the primary ticket. "Maybe something will start popping before the day is spent," one report stated.

Soil Tests Help Make Profitable Crop Production

Thousands of Farmers Are Taking Advantage Of Free Service

By S. A. Tuten, Jr., Assistant Agent

It has been said that fertilizing a crop without having the soil tested is like painting a house in the dark. You may put too little in one place and too much in another and the mixture of ingredients may not give the desired results.

Such a comparison may seem to over-emphasize the value of soil testing. But judging by the number of samples tested in North Carolina in recent years, there is an increasing number of farmers who think otherwise. The number of samples tested by the Soil Testing Division increased from approximately 22,000 for 1946 to 35,000 for 1950.

One factor contributing to such a rapid increase has been a better understanding of the value of a soil test. The test is by no means a substitute for either a knowledge of how a soil has produced in the past or for observations made while crops were growing. It is an additional aid which will help reduce guesswork when deciding which elements should be added for future crops. Also a soil test may reveal that certain ele-

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Four Injured In Bad Car Accident Early Last Night

Accidents Claim Numerous Lives In Nation During Holiday Periods

After riding a "safe spot" for forty-two hours, motorists on Martin County highways resumed the nefarious business of wrecking and maiming. In the first accident reported in the county this year four persons were injured, one of them believed badly, and a property damage estimated at \$2,000, resulted, all in the twinkling of an eye.

Driving east on Highway No. 64, about two miles this side of Robersonville, about 6:30 o'clock last evening, James Kenneth Butler, 28, of Windsor and Raleigh, lost control of his 1951 Pontiac when William James Grimes of Robersonville drove out of a side road and struck the new car about the left rear fender. The Pontiac turned over two and possibly three times and was completely wrecked.

Mr. Butler suffered severe head injuries, one report stating that his face was badly lacerated. Mrs. Butler suffered painful head injuries but they are not believed to be serious. Mr. and Mrs. William Pritchard of Moyock, riding with the Butlers, were also injured, Mrs. Pritchard receiving lacerations about the body. Mr. Pritchard was bruised and shocked. He was able to ride to a local hospital in a patrol car while the other victims were brought here by a Roberson ambulance.

Grimes, receiving no injury, was placed in the county jail where he is being held on an "open" charge, pending the outcome of the injuries of the wreck victims.

According to witnesses, Grimes "patted" the accelerator on his 1946 Chevrolet and darted into the main highway from the Huskinnaw Swamp road. He is facing a drunken driving charge.

Mr. and Mrs. Butler were driving down to take Mr. and Mrs. Pritchard to their home in Moyock after a short vacation spent in Florida.

A report from North Carolina and the nation shows that the recent holiday periods were costly in human life.

North Carolina lost eleven of its people during the New Year's holiday, four on the eve of the new period. Preliminary reports place the number of highway deaths in this State for the past year at 1,029, a much larger toll than was exacted by powered vehicles a year earlier.

More than 1,350 persons lost their lives in the United States in violent accidents during the New Year's and Christmas holidays.

The New Year's holiday death toll was 571, compared to the record 789 total for the four-day Christmas holiday.

Traffic accidents during the two big holiday week-ends caused about 900 deaths, including 366 over the New Year's holiday. The National Safety Council had estimated 350 persons would be killed in motor mishaps during the four-day holiday.

Nearly 200 persons perished in fires, including 68 from 6 p. m. Friday to last midnight. The weekend survey also showed 137 persons killed in miscellaneous mishaps as compared to 143 over the Christmas holiday.

The biggest reduction in accidental deaths during the 102-hour period over New Year's was in traffic. Motor mishaps caused 535 fatalities during the long Christmas week-end as the toll reached

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FAIR START

Property listing for taxation in the county and town was off to a fairly good start here yesterday. O. S. Anderson, list taker, explaining that thirty persons dropped by his office in the courthouse and submitted a list of their holdings. At the close of the day, right at 7,970 persons were to list with the list takers in the several townships.

Taxes must be listed and there's no waiting at this time. List now and avoid the last-minute rush.