

## Two Murder Cases In The Superior Court

### Criminal Docket Has Forty Cases On It For Trial

**Judge J. Paul Frizzelle To Preside Over The Two-Week Mixed Term**

Opening a two-week term next Monday morning at 10:00 o'clock, the Martin County Superior Court will review an ugly crime condition that existed in this section during recent weeks and months. Scheduled to preside over the term, Judge Paul Frizzelle will find two murder cases and two manslaughter charges along with numerous drunken driving and assault actions on the docket for consideration the first three days of the term. Forty cases are awaiting attention on the criminal docket the first two days of the term with twenty-two divorce cases scheduled for trial the fourth day along with a few civil actions.

Castannie Sutton, colored woman, is charged with fatally stabbing Alton Lee Sheppard at her home near Parme on October 28 of last year, the fatal attack climaxing a rough evening of drunkenness and debauchery. The killing is mired down in confusion. A true bill was found in the case last December but a continuance was allowed when one of the main witnesses could not attend the trial on account of illness. The defendant is at liberty under a \$3,000 bond. Gus Andrews is charged with aiding and abetting the murder, and he is at liberty under \$3,000 bond.

Marvin Parker is booked for the fatal shooting of his wife, Rosie, at their home near Robersonville. He continues in jail.

James Davis Roberson, 21-year-old white man, is being booked for manslaughter as a result of an automobile accident near Williamston on December 26 when Willie D. Bullock was fatally injured and several others were critically hurt. He is at liberty under \$1,000 bond.

Alice Spencer is charged with manslaughter. She is alleged to have hit William Henry Coffield in the mouth with an axe at Robersonville February 2. He did not apply for medical treatment for some days and lockjaw claimed his life. The defendant is at liberty under \$200 bond.

Pending in the courts since last March, the non-support case against Walter Barnes is again on the docket.

Appealed from a judgment in the county court and continued at the December term of the Superior Court, the non-support charge against Dallas Johnson is scheduled for trial next week.

Charged with drunken driving and convicted in the county court, the following defendants go into the "high" court on appeal: Henry A. Gray, Thurman Jackson Lassiter, M. E. Hyman, Eltonzer Perkins, Cushion Allen.

Collins (Rudy) Smith is booked for breaking into the dwelling of C. F. Joyner in Williamston on the night of last August 5. A true bill was found at the last September term and the case was continued. Smith failed to answer when called for trial last December.

The case in which B. C. Nelson is charged with drunken driving was continued at the December term.

Appealing from a judgment handed down in the county court, (Continued on Page Seven)

### Local Rotary Club Supports Stock Show

Williamston's recently organized Rotary Club in its regular meeting Tuesday noon voted support for the annual livestock show and sale. The cash contribution will be used to finance the prize schedule.

It is understood that every civic club in the county is supporting the show along with the Martin County Farm Bureau and numerous business firms and individuals.

## Releases Report On The TB Survey In Martin County

### Eleven Persons Have Been Advised To Enter Sanatoria

**By John W. Williams, Martin County Health Officer**

Now that the TB survey has been completed in Martin County we can give details of the first and only 100 percent survey the State has ever had. By the 100 percent we mean that out of 10,952 persons X-rayed, 286 were requested to come to the Health Department or the family physician for a larger X-ray picture and everyone of them did so. Out of this number some had to be followed up with further study such as the skin test for tuberculosis, an examination of the sputum for the germ, etc. This was a tremendous amount of work as each case required two or three visits before a diagnosis was established. Therefore, the small pictures taken at the trucks was just a beginning of the work of this department and every bit of the expense of the survey such as advertising, stamps, films, circulars, educational material and salaries for the extra nine clerks was paid for by Tuberculosis Association. In other words, \$1,328.95 was paid for through the sale of those penny stamps and T. B. bonds bought by the citizens of this county.

This survey covered a lot more than our survey of 1948 as we were notified of anything not normal in the chest, such as large hearts, cancer, etc. The following is a detailed report of work done by the X-ray survey in the trucks and the larger X-rays in the health department.

Four mobile units were scheduled for operation in Martin County and began taking X-rays on January 11, 1952 and continued until February 2nd, a total of seventeen working days. One unit was stationed in Williamston for the entire survey, the other three were scheduled throughout the county. During this time a total of 10,952 persons visited the units and received 70 mm X-rays, and of this number 10,458 were mailed essentially negative reports according to the 70 mm impression. Only twenty persons were notified that the report was unsatisfactory because of poor film and these patrons all returned for other pictures. One hundred and ninety-two persons whose film

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## Will Ask Help In Cleaning The Hut To Address Local Club Next Week

Members of the Williamston Recreation Committee voted unanimously in a meeting last night to contact the member organizations with the idea of having each make a small donation toward a fund to be used in cleaning the American Legion Hut thoroughly and keeping it that way. The idea is to hire some person to keep the place clean.

The Youth Center has operated since last fall on a budget of \$250 which came from rental on the swimming pool last summer. The money just about takes care of fuel, lights and incidentals. Barring unforeseen expenses the budget should hold out until the summer, it was reported but there is no question about its being large enough to take care of any cleaning work.

Mrs. R. W. Bondurant and Mrs. Jessup Harrison reported that the Baptist church women who have charge of the center at the present time have assembled cards, games, and similar items for use at the center and all of those at the meeting agreed that there was a need for magazines and books at the center. Children, it was said, show an interest in the more popular magazines even if some of them are back dates.

Organizations with representatives on the committee include: Junior Chamber of Commerce, Lions, Kiwanis, Rotary, Ministerial Association, American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, Woman's Club, Eastern Star, Parents-Teachers Association, Baptist Church, Christian Church, Episcopal Church, Methodist Church, and Presbyterian church.

## Seventy-Five More Donors Needed For the Blood Bank

Following a preliminary canvass of several sections of the county, Recruiters J. Paul Simpson and L. Bruce Wynne announced yesterday afternoon that at least seventy-five more blood donors are needed if the Red Cross Chapter is to meet its quota when the bloodmobile visits here on Friday of next week.

Recruiter Simpson rode the highways most of yesterday appealing for donors, and at the end of the trip he counted only 150. Williamston had signed up 120 volunteers. Jamesville has eight with the possibility that a few more will volunteer. Hugh B. Griffin has signed up an even dozen in Griffins Township, and Bear Grass reported ten who were ready and willing to give blood. More are expected from the

areas, but unless the response gains momentum, the 225 quota will hardly be reached. Mr. Simpson said.

Hamilton, Poplar Point and Everetts are making arrangements to give a helping hand although they are outside the chapter. Several volunteers from outside the chapter gave blood when the bloodmobile made its last run here in December.

During its first three visits here last year, the bloodmobile maintained headquarters in the Legion Hut. On the 21st of this month, the bloodmobile will be headquartered at the Methodist Church between the hours of 10:00 a. m. and 4:00 p. m. During the meantime, the recruiters will appreciate if other volunteers will sign to give blood.

## Formal Resident Dies In Hospital

Walter McGowan, a former resident of this county, died in a Williamsburg, Va., hospital at 1:15 o'clock Wednesday afternoon following a long period of declining health. He had received hospital treatment for several years following a stroke suffered about seven years ago.

A son of the late Herbert and Emily McGowan, he was born on September 15, 1887, in Pitt County and spent most of his life there on the farm. In early manhood he was married to Miss Maude Holland of near Robersonville, and continued to make his home near Greenville, later moving to Beaufort. In 1944 he located in Portsmouth where he was employed at the Naval Base and at the Seaboard Railroad. He located in Williams Township, this county, in 1948, and entered the hospital for treatment about one year later.

Surviving are his widow who has been making her home near Williamston with a sister, Mrs. Jesse Cherry; three daughters, Mrs. C. E. Hall and Mrs. Hazel Olszewski, both of Ahoskie, and Mrs. Edward Cullipher of Colesville; two sons, Clarence McGowan of Portsmouth and Reynold McGowan of Newport News; one brother, Snodie McGowan of Pitt County; three sisters, Mrs. Rette Mills of Aurora, and Misses Sadie and Maggie McGowan, both of Greenville; and a half-sister, Mrs. Ben Stepps of Farmville.

Funeral service will be held in the Biggs Funeral Home Chapel here Friday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock with the Rev. W. B. Harrington officiating. Interment will be in the family plot near the old home not far from Greenville.

10th Week	
Accidents Inv'd	Killed Dam'ge
1952 4 3 0	\$ 1,950
1951 3 1 0	650
Comparisons To Date	
1952 60 21 0	\$17,480
1951 53 13 0	10,765

## Robber Enters Oak City Home

Operating while the family was attending the Hamilton theater, a robber, believed to have been a youth, broke into the Wilbur Barrett home in Oak City between 8:00 and 10:00 o'clock Tuesday night. Going through a rear window, the robber ransacked the home, finding Mrs. Barrett's green alligator type bill fold in a cupboard and carrying it away with ten dollars in cash and her driver's license.

Sheriff M. W. Holloman was called and he found small foot prints leading to and from the back window and across a field. Several suspects were questioned but no arrests were made.

## Surviving Will Ask Right Of Way For Power Line Crossing

The Municipal Electric and Power Company has applied for permission to construct a 110,000-volt overhead line crossing the Roanoke River approximately four miles above Williamston. The power lines are to have a minimum vertical clearance of 75.5 feet above high water.

The project plans may be seen at the local post office, and any objections to the crossing are to be directed to the office of Corps of Engineers, Wilmington.

## Will Hold Fat Stock Show In County April 10 and 11

Martin County's annual fat stock show will be held in Williamston on Thursday and Friday, April 10 and 11, it was announced this week by Assistant Farm Agent Sam A. Tutin, Jr.

The agent stated that some keen competition is developing between the club boys and girls who plan to enter at least fourteen calves in the show. In addition to the calf show, club members are showing much interest in the hog show. Entries for the swine department have not been determined, but present indications point to an even larger show than the one held a year ago.

Commenting on the outlook for the show, Mr. Tutin said improv-

## Red Cross Fund Drive Advances In This Chapter

### Jamesville Announces Its Drive Expected To Be Completed Soon

The annual Red Cross fund drive is advancing right along, and if the present momentum can be maintained the \$4,300 quota will be reached, according to a report released late yesterday by Chairman Iverson Skinner. Canvassers for special gifts in Jamesville have just about completed their drive, and with very few exceptions the response was encouraging. Mr. Skinner pointed out.

The canvass is now under way throughout the chapter and the preliminary reports from the residential areas and rural sections are encouraging. Jamesville is expected to complete its canvass by Monday of next week, the canvassers there having been quoted as saying that the \$300 quota will be met and possibly exceeded.

Special gifts received and reported to Co-Chairman Pete Austin include the following:

Williamston Motor Co., \$45; C. and G. Soda Shop, \$5; Williamston Supply Co., \$45; Harrison Oil Co., \$45; Branch Banking and Trust Co., \$50; Williamston Parts and Metal Co., \$20; J.-Paul Simpson Insurance Agency, \$15; Williams-Peanut Co., \$45; Guaranty Bank and Trust Co., \$50; Sinclair Service Station, \$20; Harrison Shoppe, \$5; B. S. Courtney and Son, \$40; Welch Auto Supply Co., \$5; Lullaby House, \$5; Griffin Motor Co., \$25; Dixie Motor Co., \$42.50; Linsley Ice Co., \$35; Home Laundry, \$15; Martin General Hospital, \$50; Throver Appliance Co., \$15.

Critcher Lumber Co., \$25; G. and H. Supply Co., \$25; Williams-Tom Implement Co., \$10; Dr. W. F. Coppage, \$7.50; Standard Fertilizer Co., \$35; V. J. Spivey, \$10; Mrs. George Peel's Market, \$7.50; Quinn Motorcycle and Repair Shop, \$5; Two-Way Service Station, \$25.00; Red Front Grocery, \$5; McClees Grocery, \$7.50; R. and H. Furniture Co., \$5; Martin Feed Mill, \$15; Wells-Oates Lumber Co., \$20; Baker Oil Co., \$17.50; Sunny Side Market, \$5; White's Heating and Sheet Metal Works, \$10.

Courthouse personnel, \$5; Griffin's Quick Lunch, \$10; Farmers Supply Co., \$25; Moore Grocery Co., \$10; Martin Supply Co., \$25; Davis Pharmacy, \$15; Peele's Jewelers, \$10; Muse Jewelry Co., \$15; Viccar Theater, \$20; J. E. Pope Insurance Agency, \$6; W. G. Peele Insurance Agency, \$20.

FCX, \$15; Heath Radiator Shop, \$15; Price Service Station, \$5; Wier Coffee Shop, \$5; J. Edward Corey Fertilizer Agency, \$10; T. O. Nicholson, \$5; David Moore's Store, \$7.50; Donaldson's Store, \$5; Roy Hudson's Store, \$1; Perry Grocery, \$5; Ed Gardner, \$1; Perle Moore, \$1; M. D. Corey, \$1; R. L. Ward Coal and Wood Co., \$5; Raynor's Service Station, \$3; Martin-Elliott, \$10; Central Cafe, \$5; B. and W. Tire Co., \$10; Pittman's Used Car Lot, \$10.

Willard's Shoe Shop, \$7.50; Alpha Cleaners, \$2.50; Harrison and Carstarphen Insurance Agency, \$20; Geo. Reynolds Hotel, \$5; Worcester Appliance Co., \$10; Wheeler Manning Insurance Agency, \$10;

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## Construction Work On New Projects Started

Construction work is well advanced on two new projects here. Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Hopewell are building a seven-room home on North Smithwick Street, corner of Woodlawn Drive, and the foundation is being poured for a two-story addition for the Woolard Furniture Company on Main Street. The store addition measures about 42 by 100 feet.

## Forester To Address Rurians At Farm Life

A representative of the North Carolina Forestry Division will address a regular meeting of the Farm Life Ruritan Club next Tuesday evening at 7:30 o'clock. A change in the hour was necessary, it was explained.

## County Court Fines Near Record Figure

### Twenty-Six Cases Heard This Week By Judge Johnson

**Next Session of the Court Will Be Held Monday, March 21st**

Fines, imposed by Judge R. T. Johnson in the Martin County Recorder's Court last Monday, pushed toward a record figure. Ranging from \$10 to \$200, the fines amounted to \$1,170, but one of the defendants considered her \$200 levy out of order and appealed to the higher court.

Twenty-six cases were handled before the court quit late in the afternoon. Its next session will be on Monday, March 31, the superior tribunal to reign during the next two weeks in the county's old hall of justice.

Proceedings:

Judgment was suspended upon the payment of the cost when Bettie G. Moore pleaded guilty of operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license.

Pleading guilty of operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquors, Clyde Kenneth Woodson was fined \$100, taxed with the cost and had his driver's license revoked for a year.

S. Calvin Mills was found not guilty of drunken driving.

The case in which John Lewis Jones was charged with an assault was not pressed, subject to be reopened later.

Pleading guilty of non-support, R. B. Spruill was sentenced to the roads for six months, suspended upon the payment of the costs and \$5 a week for the support of his family during the next two years. The defendant is to return at the end of two years for further judgment.

Charged with practicing medicine without a license, Tommy Harris pleaded not guilty. Adjudged guilty, the defendant was sentenced to the roads for six months. Execution of sentence was suspended upon the payment of a \$50 fine and costs. The defendant is not to attempt to practice medicine in Martin County during the next five years.

Pleading guilty of drunken driving, John Wilson Norton was fined \$100 and taxed with the cost. He loses his license to operate a motor vehicle for a year.

Eddie Johnson, charged with drunken driving, called for a jury trial and his case was automatically booked for trial in the superior court on Wednesday of next week.

Maintaining he was innocent, Wilbur Talmadge Joyner was found guilty of drunken driving, and the court fined him \$100, plus costs. His license to operate a motor vehicle was revoked for twelve months.

Pleading guilty of public drunkenness, Fenner Briley was taxed with the court costs.

Judgment was suspended upon the payment of the costs in the case in which Osby Watson Hart was charged with operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license.

Ralph Roebuck was fined \$25, plus costs, for operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license.

Pleading not guilty, Lester R. Meeks was adjudged guilty of drunken driving, and was fined \$100, plus costs. He loses his license to operate a motor vehicle for one year.

Pleading guilty of operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license, Glen M. Lewis was taxed with the court costs.

L. D. Hatchell, the young white (Continued on Page Seven)

## Fifteen Couples Marry In County During February

### Marked Decrease In Number Of Marriages Among The White Population

Fifteen marriage licenses were issued in this county last month, the issuance being the smallest for any February in eight years. The number of marriages among the white population was less than half what it was in February, a year ago, while the number of weddings among the colored population climbed steadily. In January of this year there were three times as many marriages among the colored population as there were in the same month last year, the count gaining two last month over the total for the same month in 1951.

Licenses were issued by Register of Deeds J. Sam Getsinger in this county last month to four white and eleven colored couples, as follows:

**White**

Jennis Luke Cherry and Margaret Mizelle, both of Williamston. Walter L. Leggett, Jr., of Hassell and Doris Evelyn Scott of Robersonville.

Asa D. Bailey and Mary Elizabeth Hopkins, both of Williams-Town.

Earl Roberson of Washington and Naomi Andrews Williams of Robersonville.

**Colored**

Harry Best of Hassell and Glorietta Albritton of RFD 1, Bethel. Redden Lee and Lela Purvis, both of Robersonville.

James Dennis Williams and Eloise Williams, both of Williams-Town.

Raleigh Manning of Oak City and Manjia Lee Whitaker of Tarboro.

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## Mrs. Warren Dies In Robersonville

Funeral services are being held at the home in Robersonville this afternoon at 4:00 o'clock for Mrs. Bettie Bowen Warren who died unexpectedly yesterday afternoon at 4:45 o'clock at the home of her son, H. B. Bowen, in Robersonville. She had been in declining health for several months, but her condition was not considered serious until a short time before the end. She was a devoted member of the Flat Swamp Primitive Baptist Church for many years, and Elder Wm. E. Grimes, assisted by the Rev. Ralph Ferguson, Robersonville Baptist minister, will conduct the rites. Interment will be in the Robersonville Cemetery.

The daughter of the late Hardy and Lucinda Martin Cullipher, she was born in this county 73 years ago. In early womanhood she was married to Lawrence Bowen who died in 1919. Her second marriage was to John Warren who died in 1936.

Surviving are two sons, Arthur Bowen of Aurora and H. B. Bowen of Robersonville; a daughter, Mrs. Neva Bell Ayers, of Robersonville; two brothers, Eddie Cullipher of Williamston and Johnny Cullipher of Pinetown; nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

## Firemen Called Out Early Tuesday Night

Firemen were called to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Sissons on Beech Street at 7:47 o'clock Tuesday evening when an oil heater went out of control. The home was smoked a bit and the burning soot in the chimney sent sparks flying during a high wind. No material damage resulted, however.