

Martin Superior Court Came Near Being No Court

Second Week of the Special Term Lasted About Ninety Minutes

After hitting and missing repeatedly since its opening the early part of last week, the Martin County Superior Court gave up and simply quit shortly before noon Tuesday.

Observing Easter Monday as a holiday, the court opened the first sessions of its two-week term on Tuesday of last week, and suspended activities the following day. A few cases, mostly divorce actions, were cleared from the calendar during the two-day period.

Monday of this week, just about every member of the county bar association had business in the federal court at Washington, and no session was scheduled that day. Plans were made for big business, beginning Tuesday, but ninety minutes later all pretense of clearing the calendar was abandoned.

Several attorneys explained they were to be in federal court again in Washington, and the tribunal ordered an adjournment after entering a few judgments in the records.

One or two civil actions were set peremptorily for trial at the June term. There are numerous drunken driving cases on the docket on appeal, and by the time they are heard it is likely there'll be little time left for the trial of civic cases.

Twenty-seven jurors reported for duty Tuesday morning along with Judge J. Paul Frizzelle of Snow Hill. They drew their breath and pay, exchanged greetings and passed the time of day before taking leave of absence.

A few issues were placed before the jurors who merely raised their hands, placing judgments in order for the minute docket.

In the case of Martin Supply Company against Richard Bowen, the plaintiff was given a judgment in the sum of \$370.53.

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Pre-School Clinic Here Next Week

A pre-school clinic will be held at the Williamston grammar school Tuesday and Wednesday, April 29 and 30th.

"If you have a child that will be six years old on or before October 1, 1952, please bring him or her to the Williamston grammar school Tuesday, April 29, or Wednesday, April 30th, between 9:30 and 11 a. m. Children whose last names starts with any letter between A and L, inclusive will please report Tuesday, and those between M and Z inclusive, on Wednesday," Principal B. G. Stewart, announced this morning.

Mr. Stewart pointed out that it is very important that one parent accompany each child. He also emphasized the importance of each child that has had whooping cough or diphtheria shots to present certificates that were given them at the time of vaccination.

"We would like for every child who is entering school for the first time to attend the clinic whether he needs vaccination or not," the principal said.

GOOD FISHING

Good fishing has been reported this week in the Roanoke, large catches having been taken at Jamesville. The seine this week was netting more fish than could be handled, and operations were limited to only a few hauls. It was necessary to "cut" the seine four times on one haul. Herring, caught Tuesday, were said to be the prettiest even taken from the river. They were unusually large. Rock catches are picking up and a few shad are being taken.

Ellsworth Holliday stole the spotlight early in the week when he dipped up with a bow net a rock weighing in at 48 pounds. The fish was the largest taken from the stream there in several years.

Wins Top Honors At Fat Stock Show



John E. Griffin, Robersonville 4-H Club member and son of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Griffin of Robersonville, took top honors in the swine department with his Duroc pig at the recent Martin County Fat Stock Show. The lad sold his grand champion to the Dixie Motor Company for \$25.75 per hundred pounds.—(Royal Studios, photograph).

Body Of Drowned Man Recovered In Creek Wednesday

Arthur Glasgow, 31, Missing Since Night Of April 4th

The body of Arthur Glasgow, 32-year-old Nash County farmer, who had been missing since the night of April 4, was found in Gardner's Creek between here and Jamesville about 8:00 o'clock yesterday morning. The recovery marked the end of a long search, conducted continually by members of his family, neighbors, other friends and officers in this county. Some member of the family of close friends, including Mrs. Glasgow at times, maintained a watch day after day along the creek.

W. M. Whittington, keeper of Ray's Camp at the creek where Highway 64 crosses the stream, patrolled the waters shortly before 8:00 o'clock yesterday morning but saw no sign of the body. A few minutes later a fishing party sighted it, Mr. Whittington stating that the body had surfaced hardly more than ten or fifteen minutes before it was found 75 yards above the spot where the empty boat had drifted into bushes overhanging the creek bank.

Following an examination of the body which was said to have been in an advanced state of decomposition, Coroner William W. Biggs said there were no signs of foul play, and ruled the drowning was accidental.

Glasgow came to this county with John Braswell, John Winstead and Willis Glover, all of Nash County, early in the afternoon of April 4. The party fished most of the afternoon, returning to the camp about 8:00 o'clock that evening. After supper, two of the party returned to the creek and Glasgow and Glover went to the car to sleep. Shortly before midnight, Glasgow got up, took a boat and went away alone to fish. About 3:00 o'clock Saturday morning, Braswell and Winstead, returning from their fishing trip, found the empty boat about a mile down the creek from the bridge. Officers and others dragged the creek for days, but their operations were centered near the spot where the boat was found and barely touched the area where the body surfaced. The body was turned over to a Rocky Mount undertaker for burial.

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County-Wide Colored P.T. A. Meeting Sunday

The County-wide Colored Parent-Teacher Association will hold a special meeting in the Everett school building on the Spring Green Road Sunday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock. All members are urged to attend and the public is invited.

Continue Raids On Illicit Liquor Traffic In County

Weeks earlier in the year, undercover agents ferreted out quite a number of illicit liquor dealers, but reports declare that the surface of the nefarious business has hardly been scratched. It is alleged that the traffic is reaching serious proportions in some communities, and that law enforcement agencies have been unable to do much about it.

Working on complaints, Sheriff M. W. Holloman and Deputies Dennis Roberson of Robersonville and Raymond Rawls dealt a blow to the business in Parmele last Saturday morning. Raiding the home of Booker T. Staton, the officers confiscated two and one-half gallons of illicit liquor and found two 5-gallon demijohns that had just recently been emptied. Staton and his wife, Susie, were booked for trial in the county court next Monday. Bonds were required in the sum of \$100 each.

While those three officers were working in the Staton home, three others, ABC Officers Joe H. Roebuck and Cecil Bullock and Deputy Roy Peel raided the home of Verna Little. Playing the game safe, the little woman kept her liquor in a bucket and the bucket in the sink. When the officers entered she tilted the bucket over and hardly enough liquor was recovered for use as evidence.

Red Cross Drive Completed Today In Local Chapter

Contributions Exceed The Original \$4,100 Quota By More Than \$126

The annual Red Cross fund drive was announced complete today in the Martin County Chapter, Chairman W. Iverson Skinner explaining that the contributions exceeded the original \$4,100 quota by \$126.43.

The record showing that the task was well done, Mr. Skinner declared that cooperation on the part of all, including the organizers, canvassers and contributors, made possible the successful drive, that he was greatly indebted to all who had a part in it.

A report just released by Smithwick's School District, added \$25 to the total. The drive there was handled by Annie Hassell, assisted by Ben Reddick, the former contributing \$1.30 and the latter \$1.50, in addition to their services. Other contributors there include:

Plum Williams, \$1; Mrs. Vernetia Daniels, \$1; Mrs. Reva Reddick, \$1; Mrs. Lester Wisby, \$1; Anoxies Peele, \$1; Mrs. Margaret Peele, \$1; Mrs. James Peele, \$1; Mrs. Lester Peele, \$1; Miss A. Cooper, \$1; James Godard, \$1; Joe Daniels, \$1; Milton Godard, 10c; A. K. Riddick and others, \$5; Cleveland Manning and others, \$5.

Other contributions, not presented, (Continued on Page Five)

Infant Badly Burned At Home Here Tuesday

Andrew Wiggins, nine-months old, was badly burned at his home here late Tuesday afternoon when he stuck his right hand into a pot of boiling potatoes. Carried to a local hospital an hour later, the little tot shrieked and wailed equal to a 10-year-old.

Big Docket In The Recorder's Court Monday, April 28

Sixty-eight Cases Already Been Scheduled For Trial That Day

A long session is in prospect for the Martin County Recorder's Court next Monday, with the possibility that the tribunal will burn a little bit of night oil.

Idle since April 7 or during two weeks the superior court was supposed to have been in session, the county court has approximately eighty cases on its docket. Several others are almost certain to find their way onto the docket before the court opens next Monday morning or 9:30 o'clock.

A second round in the round-up of alleged liquor law violators is scheduled for next Monday. Special agents of the North Carolina State ABC Enforcement Division are to return to complete evidence against ten defendants picked up in a series of undercover raids earlier in the year. During the meantime the county officers are going into court with a few defendants of their own, including one or two rated as professional retailers.

The case in which three are charged with aiding and abetting the showing of obscene pictures is scheduled for trial next Monday. The case is likely to develop a stubborn defense with members of the Martin County Ministerial Association countering with a strong offense. The films are still impounded.

Speeding cases are predominate in the list of actions scheduled for trial, followed closely by alleged liquor law violations. There are eighteen speeding cases and an even dozen cases involving liquor law violations.

There are those who still gamble on driving without operator's licenses. Eight are booked on that charge. Drunken driving and careless and reckless driving are tied with seven cases pending in each category.

There are five cases involving indecent exposure of the body and the use of indecent language. Charges are also pending against two drunks, two persons for violating the motor vehicle laws, and one each for violating the health laws, and for larceny and bastardy.

Sixty-eight cases have been placed on the docket already for trial, and six or eight others have been continued already for trial in May.

While the docket for next Monday is much smaller than the 109-case docket called the last day of March, it is listed among the largest ever to face the court. A fairly sizable crowd is expected. Even if all the defendants and witnesses appear, the court room will be just about filled.

Old Model Auto Buried in County

An old Ford touring car believed to have been made back in 1925 or 1926, was found buried about 100 yards off Highway 64 between Robersonville and Parmele a few days ago by county officers.

Some one had dug a hole to fit the car in and covered it up. It had been stripped down and what was left of the machine had rusted badly, the officers said.

The officers could not reason why someone would dig a hole and bury a car. There could be a mystery surrounding the act, the officers said.

P.T. A. MEETING

A regular meeting of the local Parent-Teacher Association will be held in the high school auditorium next Monday evening April 28, at 7:45 o'clock. Following an important business session, Director Jack Butler's elementary band will appear in a special program. There are fifty promising young musicians in the group and they are preparing to entertain a large congregation. Officers for the coming year will also be elected at this meeting.

Woods Fires Cause Big Loss In County

Several Thousand Acres Are Burned In Past Few Days

Unofficial Estimates Place Damage Loss at More Than \$60,000.

Forest fires, including two believed to have been of incendiary origin, have burned over approximately 2,000 acres of woodlands in this county during the past few days, unofficial estimates placing the damage at the conservative figure of \$60,000.

Following a fire Tuesday afternoon, officials of the Forestry Service ruled out the issuance of all permits for burning hedgerows and new ground stumps and pile-ups until the dry season is relieved.

The first in the series of fires was reported last week near Bear Grass when a shuck fire went out of control and spread to about 300 acres of timberlands.

Last Friday, a fire in new ground went out of control and burned over a fairly large area on the south side of the Prison Camp Road, not far from Williamston.

The big fire, rated the largest in this county in a number of years, burned over more than 1,500 acres of land in Williamston and Cross Roads Townships. Tuesday afternoon and night and most of yesterday. A tenant house, valued at \$2,500 and possibly more, was destroyed when the fire spread to the Willie Bowen farm not far from Williamston Tuesday afternoon. Farm buildings and homes throughout the territory were threatened, but farmers, neighbors and members of the Forestry Service "back-fired" to turn the big fire back and save the buildings. Fire-fighting equipment from Robersonville and Williamston stood by several hours during the night when the fire reached a peak and threatened just about everything in its path. Buildings on the Chas. Ray Leggett farm about one mile East of Everetts were in direct line of the fire, but the woods near the structures were burned ahead of the big fire to lessen the danger.

Starting about noon along the Prison Camp Road, the fire spread rapidly over the area. The Forestry Service (Continued on Page Two)

Patrol Recovers Stolen Vehicles

Two motor vehicles, alleged to have been stolen in other areas, were recovered by members of the State Highway Patrol in this county Tuesday.

Pvt. William C. Harrell, Franklin County young man who was serving time for being absent without leave from the armed forces, was arrested by Patrolman R. P. Narron on Washington Street here early Tuesday afternoon for the alleged theft of a 1949 Ford off the Fort Bragg reservation early that morning. Harrell drove away from a filling station in the Tarboro area without paying for gasoline and the patrol was put on his trail. Patrolman Narron met him on West Main Street and, turning around, chased him back to Sycamore and on to Washington Street where he stopped him near the colored high school. Explaining he was en route to visit his girl in Elizabeth City, Harrell admitted the theft and is being turned over to Fort Bragg and Cumberland County authorities.

Grady Keith Lamb, 23, was arrested at his home on RFD 2, Robersonville, late Tuesday afternoon and charged with the theft of a 10-wheel Chevrolet truck from J. R. Rogerson in Bethel sometime during the previous night. Arrested by Cpl. M. C. Byrum, Lamb showed him where he had parked the truck on a road about three miles from his home and about one-half mile off Highway 903. Lamb was turned over to Pitt County authorities.

MANAGER

Clarence Griffin, Williams-
ton attorney, has been named
to manage William B. Un-
stead's gubernatorial cam-
paign in this county, it was
announced by the candidate's
headquarters in Raleigh this
week.

Following a fire Tuesday afternoon, officials of the Forestry Service ruled out the issuance of all permits for burning hedgerows and new ground stumps and pile-ups until the dry season is relieved.

The son of the late J. Will Hopkins and wife, Jimmie Griffin Hopkins, he was born in Williams Township 42 years ago. After spending his early life on the farm, he volunteered for service in the Navy. Following his discharge he continued to farm for a while, later driving a passenger line bus for a short time before entering civil service and accepting a job at the Cherry Point Marine Base and located in New Bern. Surviving are his widow, the former Miss Verna Gray Hardison; a daughter Jo Etta Hopkins; a son, Dale Willis Hopkins, all of (Continued on page eight)

Holding Funeral At Fairview For Native of County

Joe Henry Hopkins Died Suddenly at New Bern Tuesday Evening

Funeral services are being conducted in the Fairview Church over in Williams Township this afternoon at 3:00 o'clock for Joseph Henry Hopkins, native of this county, who died suddenly in New Bern about 10:30 o'clock Tuesday night. The pastor, the Rev. P. E. Cayton, is conducting the rites, and interment will follow in Woodlawn Cemetery here.

Hopkins told his wife early Tuesday evening that he was going to get a loaf of bread, but telephoned her at 9:00 o'clock that he was having car trouble and would be home later. When he did not return about 1:00 o'clock yesterday morning, Mrs. Hopkins notified police who found the lifeless body in his car parked on the Country Club Road. When the body was found, there was a hose from the exhaust pipe into the front seat of the car and all windows were tightly shut, Coroner Frank Ballard of Craven County, said. One report said the motor of the car was still running when the body was found at 7:00 o'clock yesterday morning. Coroner Ballard was of the opinion that Hopkins died about 10:30 o'clock Tuesday night.

Injured while in the Navy back in the late thirties Mr. Hopkins had experienced ill health for some time, and it is believed that despondency over his condition prompted the tragic act.

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Surviving are his widow, the former Miss Verna Gray Hardison; a daughter Jo Etta Hopkins; a son, Dale Willis Hopkins, all of (Continued on page eight)

Progressive Note Sounded by Olive In Talk To Club

Candidate Supporting The Continuation of the "Go Forward Program"

Briefly reviewing the progressive march made by North Carolina since 1900 and more particularly in recent years, Judge Hubert Olive, candidate for governor, pledged his support in the continuation of that march when he addressed the local Rotary Club and special guests Tuesday noon.

Climaxing extensive campaigning in this immediate area, Mr. Olive's address to the club explained his position on matters of importance, and clearly marked him as a progressive.

Declaring that State government exists only to serve the people individually and collectively, the speaker explained that life was very simple in our State fifty years ago, that there were few tools, no research and no special services. Much has been accomplished since the turn of the century, the speaker said, adding that where 700 pounds of tobacco were produced on an acre 25 years ago, 1,348 pounds are being produced now. "This gain is traceable to study and research and the services of the various governmental agencies," he said.

"Although there has been much progress, we can't stand still. We must diversify our farming, add livestock, provide more storage facilities and improve our marketing," Mr. Olive said.

Referring to the highway system, the candidate said the first goal was to link county seat with county seat. Then the program called for farm-to-market roads, "But the job is not complete," he added, explaining that the highways must be provided to meet the needs, and that the primary system must be given attention.

"While I do not favor turnpikes or toll roads, we might have to resort to that method. They have proved successful in other states, and they are worth considering and should be investigated. If such a system will better our State, then we should go ahead with them," he explained, adding that he preferred roads without toll.

"More than 87 percent of our rural homes have electricity. The other approximately 13 percent need and want electricity, and they should have it."

Turning to the telephone record in this State, the candidate said we rank 47th in the list of states, that only Mississippi is below us. "It is a record we should be ashamed of, and if the companies do not better it then the State should do something about it." Mr. Olive, pointing out that much has been done to provide better care of our mentally ill, de- (Continued on Page Three)

Glee Club Taking Part In Contests

The Williamston High School Glee Club members left here yesterday for Greensboro, where they will enter the North Carolina State Contest Festival. They will participate in a chorus made up of 50 students, two choruses of 500 each will be under the direction of Kenneth Jewell of Detroit, and Dr. Lara Hoggard of Fred Waring's Pennsylvanians.

The contest and festival is being held on the campus of the Woman's College of the University of North Carolina.

The winners will return Saturday. Those attending the festival are as follows: Janice Manning, Pat Taylor, Barbara Gurganus, Susie Griffin, Edna Mizelle, Carole Gurganus, Marie Peel, Sallie Roberson, Jo Ann McLawhorn, Lela Mae Goff, Jane Speller, Bobby Goff, Jack Daniels, Benny Taylor, Wade Bunting, Corrona Bryant, Phillip Coltrain and Jerry Nicholson.

HALF HOLIDAY

While local business houses and most offices closed tight to observe the first half holiday of the spring-summer period, a few business firms, including garages, filling stations and heavy industry plugged along as usual.

The town's volunteer firemen, anticipating an outing from their daily labors, had their holiday spoiled by repeated fire calls. Members of the department were kept busy most of the afternoon roaming over the county, trying to do their bit in checking raging woods fires. They were called to the Mickey's Inn area at 1:30 and to Free Union about 4:00 o'clock.