

THE ENTERPRISE

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

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

VOLUME LV—NUMBER 55

Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Thursday, July 10, 1952

ESTABLISHED 1899

Little Business In County Court Monday Morning

Next Session of Tribunal Will Be Held 9 A. M. Saturday Morning

Experiencing a thriving business for months, the Martin County Recorder's Court last Monday bogged down into a real old-timey summer slum. Only seven cases were called during the session that lasted hardly more than an hour, and not a single fine was imposed. One defendant drew a six-month road term, but he appealed.

The court attracted only a few persons, and at one time there were less than a dozen persons in the courtroom, including the judge, solicitor, attorneys, defendants, witnesses and spectators.

Beginning this week the court goes on a Saturday schedule, for a while at least. The court will start work at 9:00 o'clock Saturday morning, June 12. So far very few cases have been scheduled for trial.

Proceedings of the last Monday morning session follow:

James Carlton Green, charged with speeding, was found not guilty. It was brought out that the defendant had been convicted of speeding twice during the past few months, and he fought the charge for all it was worth.

Sentenced to the roads for six months for an assault with a deadly weapon, Mack Clark, Jr., appealed to the superior court and bond was required in the sum of \$200.

Pleading guilty of an assault on a female, Kader Gardner was sentenced to the roads for six months. The road term was suspended upon the payment of the costs and on the further condition that he is not convicted of an assault during the next two years.

Charged with public drunkenness, Roy Beaman Gilliam pleaded guilty and was taxed with the costs.

Pleading guilty of speeding, Geo. T. Stronach, Jr., John C. Noble and Burnice Warren were taxed with the court costs.

The session was one of the shortest held by the court in several months, and the first time in years that no defendant was fined.

Big Damage Suit Filed In Court

A \$25,000 damage suit was filed in the Martin County Superior Court a few days ago by H. D. Taylor against J. S. Whitley, owner of the Tar Heel Apartments.

In his complaint, Taylor pointed out that the second story steps were covered with a rubber tread, held in place by a metal strip attached to the edge, that a strip on one of the steps extended above the step level. The complaint also alleges that an agent of the defendant turned out the lights on the night of December 31, 1950, making it difficult for tenants using the halls and stairways to see their way around. It is further set out in the complaint that the plaintiff caught his heel of the right foot on the uneven metal strip, causing him to lose his balance and fall to the landing. In the fall, the plaintiff suffered a broken right hip, resulting in permanent injuries. It is pointed out that the plaintiff underwent several painful operations and prolonged suffering and experienced considerable expense, that he is still unable to work.

MEETING

"If the people will only stop and realize the importance of the outcome of the July 19 tobacco referendum, they'll attend a public meeting in the courthouse tonight at 8:00 o'clock and hear the issue discussed," a leading farmer declared this morning.

A representative of the F. M. A. office in Raleigh will attend the meeting and review the program and discuss the new quotas and price supports. The public is invited to attend the meeting.

Highway Commissioners To Carry Case To High Court

Given the responsibility of eliminating the death trap at the highway underpass on Williamston's West Main Street, the North Carolina State Highway Commission is rapidly lining up to appeal from Judge J. Paul Frizzelle's recent ruling and carry the fight to the Supreme Court by early fall. The town, losing its case against the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company, is preparing to appeal to the high court. Briefs are to be filed not later than August 19, and it is possible the cases will be reviewed during the fall term beginning on or about September 2.

While it has been suggested that something could be accomplished around a conference table

with representatives of the town, highway commission and railroad company present, town officials point out that they have appealed to the railroad and the commission and were batted from one to the other for years.

The highway commission seems to hold the position that if it loses the case, it will be called upon to build underpasses or overpasses all over the State. Town officials have pointed out that conditions should determine the construction of such projects.

The town is open to any suggestions from either the railroad or highway commission or both. During the meantime, it is preparing to do everything possible to have the dangerous and unsightly condition remedied.

ABBITT'S MILL

Plans have been completed and a site has been cleared for the construction of a new mill to replace the one destroyed by fire a short time ago. Mr. W. O. Abbutt explained that work on the new plant to be located near the old one a few miles from here on Highway 125, was delayed this week by the rains. Materials are to be placed there as soon as possible and plans call for an operating schedule within the next four or five months.

Eisenhower Goes Ahead In Chicago

Gaining support in Georgia and Texas, Dwight D. Eisenhower late yesterday took the lead from Senator Robert A. Taft in the race for the Republican Presidential nomination out in Chicago. The lead is not too large, however, and the Taft forces have conceded nothing.

The real test is expected sometime tomorrow when the balloting is tentatively scheduled to get under way. During the meantime, the workers behind the scenes in committee rooms have ironed out most of the knotty problems except the civil rights plank. The credentials committee finally completed its work when the Taft forces gave up some of their claims, and, out of necessity, yielded to Eisenhower.

While the ground work was being handled this week, Republicans, prominent in one way or another, salvaged the 20-year wounds of the party with questionable investigation against the present administration. Herbert Hoover was accorded an ovation, said to have been greater than the one received by Douglas MacArthur. As the week dragged on, the leadership scraped the bottom of the barrel to bring out Senator McCarthy, the "fighting" marine, and place him on the speaker's stage.

It is fairly certain that the Republicans will have completed their circus performance in time for the Democrats to start their antics July 21.

In Court For Not Vaccinating Dogs

Thirteen owners were in the local courts recently for not having their dogs vaccinated. Judgment was suspended upon the payment of the costs and on the further condition that the defendant vaccinate or destroy their dogs. Two of the defendants were said to have made plans to destroy their dogs, the others choosing to vaccinate.

Included in the list who delayed meeting the law requiring dog vaccinations were: Dora Bryant, Navin Hawkins, H. D. Bonds, Ed Brewington, Lillie Jennette, Chas. Rascoe, William Gray, Willie Brown, Rose Winstead, and Sylvester Scott, all of Williamston.

No report has been filed by Inspector Dennis Roberson, but it is understood that several hundred dogs have been destroyed since the round-up was started several months ago, and that nearly 100 percent of the dogs in this county have been vaccinated.

Estate Of County Man Is Valued At About \$100,000.00

All Of The Paul P. Peel Properties Goes To His Brother In Hamilton

Paul P. Peel, well-known county business man and resident of Hamilton, left an estate valued right at \$100,000 when he died a short time ago, according to reliable estimates. All of the estate, including a half interest in the old Winberry farm in Hamilton Township and a house and lot in the town of Hamilton, goes to a brother, Harper P. Peel.

Apparently Mr. Peel had made a will some years ago, for on May 3, 1948, just a few weeks after he had been declared competent by the courts, he prepared a short document which read, in part: "I hereby leave all my property, real, personal and mixed, to be divided by the laws of the State of North Carolina among my heirs-at-law just as if I had never heretofore made a will. That is to say, I want it distributed the same as if I should die intestate."

The document, virtually if not altogether ruling out any or all other documents and placing his only brother in line to receive the entire estate, was witnessed by Mrs. J. G. Barnhill and Mrs. Jasper Harrell.

For practical purposes, the real property was valued at \$10,000, including the farm and home. There was only \$1,000 in life insurance, as far as it could be learned, but the bulk value of the estate was found in stocks and bonds. The stocks, rated the "blue chips" kind, are, for the most part, listed on the "big board" or stock exchange.

A quarter century ago when Mr. Peel was operating a soda shop on Washington Street in Williamston he started buying stocks and bonds in a small way. Conservative in meeting his own needs, he invested every possible penny, and the stocks he bought early have double and tripled in value until they now carry a value estimated at \$75,000 or more. He was said to have held no large blocks of stocks, but he held some of the best ones.

The brother in Hamilton has been named administrator of the estate, and it is understood he plans to carry on the business policies of the late Mr. Peel, including the servicing of a large number of penny-weighting scales all over this part of the State.

Funeral services are being conducted at the home in Parmele this afternoon at 4:00 o'clock by Elders A. B. Ayers of Bear Grass and J. L. Ross of Greenville. Interment will be in the family cemetery near Robersonville.

Funeral services are being conducted at the home in Parmele this afternoon at 4:00 o'clock by Elders A. B. Ayers of Bear Grass and J. L. Ross of Greenville. Interment will be in the family cemetery near Robersonville.

Hospital Installs New Blood Bank

Brown's Community Hospital installed a new Jewett blood bank here this week, further enlarging its modern and scientific equipment.

Comparatively new in hospital equipment, there are only three such machines in the State. One is located in a Wilmington hospital, one at Duke and the other in Bowman-Gray in Winston-Salem.

Approximately six feet tall and constructed in cylindrical form, the revolving shelves make it possible to secure any bottle or type of blood instantly.

This new machine provides constant and even temperatures and as a precaution against mechanical defects or shortage of electric current, it is equipped with an automatic alarm device.

Every bottle is immediately available in case of extreme emergencies. Special circular paper discs record the temperature every minute, day and night. Perfect construction prevents dead air pockets and an even and definite temperature is provided at all times.

Victim Of Gun Attack Reported Improving

Elmer Gray Modlin, young Jamesville farmer, was reported this week to be recovering satisfactorily from a pistol wound inflicted by Wm. (Tony) Currie in Jamesville several weeks ago. It could not be learned when the victim would be able to return home.

No hearing in the case has been scheduled, and Currie continues in the county jail without the privilege of bond.

Marriages In June Above The Month's Average In County

Twenty-eight Licenses Are Issued In The County Last Month

Barely holding its own over a long period with other periods in the year, June is rapidly coming into favor again as the month for marriages in this county. During last month twenty-eight marriage licenses were issued in this county, the number being ten above the average for the past twenty-two years.

For the second time this year, the number of licenses going to white couples was greater than the issuance to colored couples. Licenses were issued last month, nineteen to white and nine to colored couples as follows:

White
Bennie Augustus Moore of Williamston and Mary Alice Warren of Parmele.

James Alphonso Ward and Ethel Rulene Taylor, both of Williamston.

Shelton Eli Bailey and Lynette Coltrain, both of Williamston.

Mack Eugene Bowen of RFD 2, Williamston and Gloria V. Griffin of Jamesville.

Oliver David Whitaker, Jr., and Geneva Annie Cabe, both of Williamston.

Claude Roberson Wilson and Lillian Janice Johnson, both of Robersonville.

Garrett H. Turner of Richmond and Eunice Modlin of Jamesville.

Thomas Edison Price and Pauline Lilley, both of Williamston.

James Roy Manning of Wilkings and Sally Bet Rawls of Oak City.

Ervin Benjamin Barber of Jamesville and Myrtle Dean Elks of RFD 2, Williamston.

Paul H. Peel, Jr., of Robersonville and Arwidia Jane Griffin of Robersonville.

Berney M. Fleming of Stokes and Louise M. Cherry of Greenville.

Eugene Hardison of Williamston and Doris Duncan of Skippers, Va.

Louis Jerome Norris, Jr., of Morehead City and Marilyn W. Fussell of Williamston.

Willie G. Combs of Williamston and Alpha Blondell Whitley of Hamilton.

Edward Lewis Smith of Whiteville and Nancy Britton Mercer of Williamston.

Albert Sheppard, Jr., of Washington and Joyce Andrews of Williamston.

Porter B. Dillon of Greenville, Miss., and Mildred C. Gardner of Williamston. Fred R. Silverthorn, Jr., of RFD 3, Williamston and Mary Louise Bowen of Williamston.

Colored
Ernest Lee Bell of Oak City and Mary Jane Bryant of Hobgood.

Clarence Melvin Cooper of Windsor and Alice Jones of Williamston.

Dallas Evans and Mabel Whitfield, both of Williamston.

George A. Perry of RFD 1, Williamston and Jean Fisher of Williamston.

William Curtis, son of Robersonville and Elizabeth Marie Brown of Hamilton.

Jesse Stevenson and Ruth Leathers, both of Oak City.

Milton LeRoy Jones and Blondina O'Neal, both of Portsmouth, Va.

Ben Frank Roberson and Armissa Barnes, both of Hamilton.

Herman Everett and Pauline Hilliard, both of Oak City.

**Victim Of Explosion
Out Of The Hospital**
Although he was painfully hurt, Mr. J. C. White was not burned as badly as he was thought to have been last Tuesday morning, and he was able to leave a local hospital yesterday afternoon following treatment.

He received third-degree burns on his right arm, but there were only slight burns on his face although it was covered with asphalt when a kettle exploded at his plant on South Smithwick Street just before noon Tuesday.

**Accepts Position In
Taylor's Dairy Office**
Mr. Jack Humphries of Roanoke Rapids has accepted a position as bookkeeper in the offices of Taylor's Dairy here on Houghton Street.

Claims In \$600,000 Law Suit Are Denied

Answer Is Filed In Federal Court By School Board

Reported Several Plaintiffs Did Not Know What They Were Signing

In an answer filed this week in the United States District Court, Eastern District of North Carolina, Washington Division, the Martin County Board of Education denied the allegations made in the \$600,000 damage suit brought jointly against the board, the county superintendent of schools and the State Board of Education members.

During the meantime it has been reported that several of the plaintiffs signing the complaint were not acquainted with what they had signed, raising the question of misrepresentation. Members of the defense would not comment on the reports, but went on to vigorously deny the claims set forth in the fifteen-page complaint filed in the court early last month by Henrietta Keele, Bessie Little, Eula R. Bellamy, Marjorie Marrow, Sylvester Williams, Elsie Crandall, Magnolia Coffield, Eva Roberson, Lillie B. Council, Annie Moore, James Wallace, Johnny Mizelle, Harvey Briley, Annie B. Roberson, Bert Moore, Blossie Perkins, Lonnie Roberson and Raymond Lloyd.

The defendants point out in their answer "that they are performing to the best of their ability the duties prescribed by law for their offices and in the performance of the functions of their offices they are following the law with respect thereto."

Answering that section where the plaintiff allege that accredited white high and elementary schools are being maintained for white children and none for the colored children, the defendant point out that all the Negro high schools in this county are accredited and that the Oak City Negro High School which is to open this fall will be accredited, and "that while there are no accredited Negro elementary schools there is only one accredited white elementary school in the county."

Where the complaint "gripes" about library facilities in the schools, the answer explains that "no public funds are expended for libraries in the elementary schools of Martin County, white or colored." The answer goes on to explain "that the same amount of public funds per pupil for white and for Negro children is expended for libraries in the high schools of Martin County. That the difference in the number of volumes in the libraries of the white and Negro schools is accounted for by private gifts of volumes and money to buy books. The parent-teacher associations have, in many cases, made gifts of books to many schools."

Public funds could not have provided anything like the number of books they now have."

The answer sheds some interesting light on that section in which the plaintiffs allege inequalities in gymnasium facilities. The defendants humbly point out, "That there are three modern gymnasiums in the Martin County schools provided by public funds, one white and two Negro, and that another modern Negro gymnasium has been authorized, and, that the other white gymnasiums were provided by private gifts and built by patrons of the schools."

In that section of the complaint where the plaintiffs point out inequalities in facilities for teachers' living quarters, the defendants admit that the value of teacherages for whites is far greater than the value of the teacherage maintained for Negroes, but the defendants point out, "that teachers' homes are only provided where there is a necessity for same and only where teachers can get accommodations nowhere else, that there has been no demand and no request for colored teachers' homes except the one provided."

The defendants in their answer

(Continued on Page Eight)

STREET LIGHTS

The Virginia Electric and Power Company is installing new street lights in the business districts here this week with the possibility that the new "white way" will sparkle tomorrow night or early next week.

The twenty-three new lights, the latest in efficiency and design, are fastened to poles on each side of the streets and will offer almost three times as much light as gained from those suspended in the center of the streets.

The new lighting system will extend from Watts up Main to Houghton and south on Houghton to the Farmers Warehouse intersection and from that point down Washington Street to Main.

Miss Harrison In Norway for Study

Miss Martha Dell Harrison, daughter of Mr. Harrison, is spending several weeks in Oslo, Norway, studying on a scholarship. She is a rising senior at Woman's College, University of North Carolina, Greensboro, and won the trip through competitive examinations.

Writing recently to her uncle, Bob Everett, Miss Harrison said, in part:

"At last I have arrived in Norway! The trip over was exciting but was rather tiresome the last few days. We stopped at three cities on the Western and Southern coasts before getting to Oslo on Saturday. All of the towns are extremely well kept. The stores do not have a large variety of amount of goods, the prices are comparable to those in America. Coffee, I think, is the only thing that is still rationed."

"The part of the University that we use is located on a hill not far from the business area. Classes started today and will be quite interesting, I believe. There are numerous tours to supplement the lectures; for example, we will visit the Ski Jump Thursday where the Winter Olympics were held this year. There are so many things to see and it never gets completely dark, so we are constantly on the go."

"I have almost become accustomed to the Norwegian food, all except goat cheese. There is no scarcity of potatoes, in fact, we have them twice for some meals. We have a hot plate each meal and a cold plate in addition at breakfast and supper. But at every meal there is always fish and cheese."

"Last night was Midsummer's Eve, and we students celebrated it just as if we were typical Norwegians. But we will celebrate July 4th at the American Ambassador's home."

The school for the 1952-53 term has been allotted three additional teachers, one in the elementary and two in the high school.

Reports from other schools in the county state that teacher appointments are about complete, and that few other resignations are anticipated between now and the opening of the new term in early September.

Cited For Not Buying Licenses

Several local citizens have been cited to the courts recently for not buying and displaying town tags for their motor vehicles. Others are almost certain to be cited to the courts.

Judgment in the cases against Carroll Jenkins, Jas. T. Latham, Geo. W. Lee and James Mobley was suspended upon the payment of \$5.85 costs and the purchase of tags.

Patrol Corporal Has Knee In Cast

Although his condition is much improved, Cpl. M. C. Byrum who was injured in an automobile accident last Sunday morning, is believed lined up for a fairly long period of inactivity. Complete examinations revealed a chipped bone in the right knee, and the limb is now in a cast.

Eleven Teachers Resign Positions In Local School

School Committee Fills All Positions At Recent Meeting Here

Eleven teachers, for various and sundry reasons and for no definite cause, have resigned as members of the local white school faculty, it was announced following a meeting of the local school committee last week.

Miss Lamina Baker, after a number of years of faithful service in the primary department, is resigning to enter business. She is being succeeded by Mrs. Mary Benson Carstarphen who is transferred from the second to the first grade. Miss Emma Blanche Warren of Snow Hill is succeeding Mrs. Carstarphen as teacher of one of the second grades.

Miss Nell Beaman, resigned, is being succeeded in one of the third grade positions by Miss Mary Saunders of Raleigh, and Mrs. Mary E. Gaylord, resigned, is being succeeded in another third grade section by Miss Evelyn Jernigan of Lewistown.

Miss Elizabeth Parker, local girl who taught in the Farmville schools last year, is succeeding Mrs. Alma Fussell who is resigning a fourth grade position.

Miss Alice Berry, resigned, is being succeeded in one of the fifth grade positions by Miss Vivian Lucas of Stem.

Mrs. Martha Tarkington and Miss Marian Rogerson, resigning their sixth grade positions, are being succeeded by Mrs. Jennette Griffin of Belhaven and Mrs. Nancy Gray Winslow of Robersonville.

Mrs. Walter Brown, Jr., of Jamesville is a new teacher for the seventh grade.

Douglas Joyner, high school science teacher, and Mrs. Joyner, teacher of one of the seventh grades, have resigned to return to their home in Goldsboro. Mrs. Charlotte Guthrie of Morehead City is taking over Mrs. Joyner's seventh grade, and the position made vacant by Mr. Joyner's resignation is being filled by R. C. Whitaker of Washington.

Mrs. R. C. Whitaker is being added as an extra teacher, and she will teach mathematics and commercial subjects in the high school.

Mrs. Charlotte Abernathy, eighth grade teacher, is transferring to the high school to succeed Miss Margaret McDaniel, home economics teacher who has resigned. Miss Susan Ann Jernigan of Selma is succeeding Mrs. Abernathy as eighth grade teacher.

Mrs. Ethel Roberson of Williamston, teacher in the Farm Life High School for several years, is transferring with the pupils there to the school here, and will teach English and Spanish.

Miss Mary Wallace Foy of Pollocksville is succeeding Miss Ann Royster, resigned, as teacher of public school music.

All teacher positions have been filled, and no further resignations are anticipated. Principal B. G. Stewart announced.

The school for the 1952-53 term has been allotted three additional teachers, one in the elementary and two in the high school.

Reports from other schools in the county state that teacher appointments are about complete, and that few other resignations are anticipated between now and the opening of the new term in early September.

PLAY AT TARBORO

A team of stars picked from the rosters of the four teams in the local Little League will meet a team of stars in Tarboro on Monday evening, July 28th, at 6:30 as a preliminary to a game between a Tarboro team and one from Goldsboro, it was announced today by Mayor Robert Cowen of Williamston.

Those charged with the selection of the stars will be watching closely the next three games in the local league to see if the established leaders are holding their own and if any new stars are beginning to show.