

Court Holds Its First Session On Saturday

Twenty Cases Are Handled In Short Period That Day

No Monday Sessions of The Court Will Be Held For A While

Holding the first session ever scheduled for a Saturday, the Martin County Recorder's Court on July 12 handled twenty cases and adjourned by noon time until Saturday of this week. With its session first scheduled on Tuesday when the court was first established back in 1919, the court changed its sitting date to Monday to accommodate members of the North Carolina General Assembly. The Saturday session was created on a temporary basis by the county commissioners when Judge R. T. Johnson accepted a position with the Coast Line Railroad Company in Washington. The judge continues to make his home here, however.

It was pointed out that the Saturday session is tentatively scheduled each Saturday for an indefinite time, but for only a few months at the most.

The court attracted no large crowd last Saturday, but its activities are generally limited during July and most of August. Most members of the bar were present, but one or two spectators, regular in their attendance upon the court sessions, were absent.

Proceedings: Pleading guilty of operating a motor vehicle with a restricted operator's license, Henry E. Bellflower was taxed with the court costs.

Augustus Chance, pleading guilty of carrying a concealed weapon, was fined \$50, plus costs.

Judgment was suspended upon the payment of the court costs when Fred L. Everhart of Thomasville pleaded guilty of speeding.

Charged with public drunkenness and violating the liquor laws, Manuel E. Harris of RFD 1, Ayden, asked for a jury trial, and his case was automatically placed on the superior court docket for consideration at the September term.

Johnnie Mack Atkins, pleading guilty of violating the liquor laws, was sentenced to the roads for six months. The court suspended the road term upon the payment of a \$25 fine and costs. The defendant is to violate no liquor law during the next five years.

Artis L. Barnes of RFD 1, Robertsonville, was taxed with the costs when he pleaded guilty of speeding.

The case in which Jasper Rollins, Jr., was charged with carrying a concealed weapon was not pressed, subject to be reopened later.

John A. Woods of Rocky Mount was taxed with the costs for speeding.

Pleading guilty of bastardy, Ben Bennett was sentenced to the roads for six months. The road term was suspended upon the payment of the court costs and \$5 a week for the support of his child and \$2 a week for the services of the midwife.

Gabriel Wiggins, pleading guilty (Continued on Page Six)

Recreation Head Is Named Locally

The Colored Recreation Council in a special meeting last week appointed a new playground director to succeed Herbert Whitfield who recently resigned. Fred Bennett, the new director, is a graduate of A. and T. College and majored in physical education.

Bennett is well qualified for the position and he, with his assistants, are urging the parents to send their children to the playground center where they are receiving excellent training in various sports and games.

The officers of the Playground Center will sponsor a wiener roast Friday evening at 6 o'clock. All children are invited.

CANNED CLOTHES?

Washington.—You may be writing your favorite haberdasher one of these days for a can of double-breasted blue flannel coat with two cans of trousers to match.

The Air Force already has gone in for canned clothing.

The Air Material Command has announced that 5,148 varieties and sizes of uniforms, underwear, shoes, and other items worn by airmen are being packed in drums for shipment overseas. Later clothing may be canned for shipment in the United States.

Officials said the airtight containers are cheaper and better than any other type of clothing packages.

Cooley Speaks Up In Virginia City For Dirt Farmers

Says Agriculture Is Entitled To Fair Share Of The National Income

Rep. Harold D. Cooley (D-N.C.), chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture, addressing the Sevent Annual Convention of the American Plant Food Council at Hot Springs, Va., recently described the American farmer "as the low man on the totem pole" and called for continued efforts in behalf of farmers "to the ultimate end that the producers of food, fiber and timber, essential to the welfare of our people, may receive a fairer share of the national income."

He was introduced by Paul T. Pruitt, President of the Council.

"The Congress is interested in providing the working machinery which will achieve a better standard of living for all our people," Rep. Cooley said. "The Congress is not interested in a program of scarcity nor is it interested in bringing about the production of a surplus beneath which the man on the farm may be buried while the rest of the people go in want."

Emphasizing that "the nation is entitled to abundant production at the hands of its farmers," the House agriculture leader emphasized that "the government must assure those who till the soil that they will not be penalized by the abundance they have produced and, further, that they will be protected against the disastrous effects of an inadvertent, temporary or transitory super-abundance." He added that "the government is not charged with the responsibility of protecting farmers against a constant and chronic over-production of any agricultural commodity."

Rep. Cooley said that American agriculture has undergone a revolution in the past 20 years and (Continued on Page Six)

Tobacco Barn In Bear Grass Burns

An almost new tobacco curing barn was destroyed on the farm of Mrs. Gilbert Rogerson near Bear Grass Sunday morning about 10:00 o'clock. It was the first curing barn fire reported in the county this season.

Replacing one that was destroyed on the same spot about three years ago, the barn was equipped with a coal stoker. It contained 650 sticks of choice tobacco from a third "pulling," and no insurance was carried on either the structure or the tobacco.

The barn was owned by Mrs. Rogerson and the tobacco belonged to her and Mr. Geo. Taylor and son.

The barn had been inspected just a few minutes before the fire was discovered, and the origin of the blaze could not be determined. Williamston's fire department was called when it looked as if the fire would spread to other barns in the area. The fire, however, was confined to the one structure and represents a loss estimated at about \$1,500.

Three Accidents During Week-end In Martin County

One Automobile Burned Up and Two Others Are Badly Damaged

One person was hurt, a car was burned and two other automobiles were badly damaged in a series of motor vehicle accidents reported on Martin County highways last week-end. All the accidents were on secondary roads and involved no other vehicles, according to a preliminary report released by members of the highway patrol.

Driving on the road connecting Highway 125 with the River Road in Hamilton Township, William Edwin Whitley said his 1948 Chevrolet started "cutting up" and that fire flashed from under the dash board. It is believed the carburetor exploded. Whitley was burned when he tried to beat the fire out. Unable to check the fire, Whitley jumped from the machine while it was traveling about 35 miles an hour. The car, ditching itself a short distance down the road, burned up, according to a report released by Patrolman B. W. Parker.

Traveling toward Williamston on the Poplar Point road about 1:00 o'clock last Thursday morning, Alton Matthew Beppard, of RFD 1, Plymouth, lost control of his 1952 Dodge in a curve and ran it into a tree near Whitley's Bridge. Patrolman R. P. Narron, making the investigation, said Beppard did not get hurt, but that damage to the machine will approximate \$600 or more.

Driving toward Farm Life on the Holly Springs road early Sunday afternoon, Wilson Wiggins, former Williamston policeman, lost control of his 1950 Chevrolet when a tire blew out. The machine was ditched in a curve and turned bottom side up. Wiggins, declaring he was not driving fast at the time, was not injured. Damage to the car was estimated at \$150. Patrolman R. P. Narron made the investigation.

Officers Installed By the Lions Club

The Williamston Lions Club held its regular meeting Thursday night, July 10, at 7:00 o'clock in the Woman's Club building.

Lion James Bulluck presided in the absence of President Ben D. Courtney. All guests were recognized including Rev. E. R. Shuller, former member of the club.

Lion W. J. Dunn of Washington, N. C., newly elected District Governor, installed the following officers and directors during impressive ceremonies for the fiscal year beginning July 1: President R. L. Welch, 1st Vice President Clyde Manning, 2nd Vice President W. Marvin Baker, 3rd Vice President W. H. Abernathy, Lion Tamer R. L. Bowling, Tail Twister J. H. Harrell, Secretary Wallace H. Tarkington, Treasurer Joseph W. Griffin, Director for two years Clarence W. Griffin, Director for two years J. W. Snead and Director for one year J. C. White.

Lapel buttons were awarded to all past officers. District Governor Dunn gave a very interesting report on the Lions International Convention held in Mexico City the latter part of June.

Youth Charged With Corn Theft

Bennie James Boston, 18, was arrested in Williams Township Thursday and charged with the theft of two baskets of corn from Farmer R. J. Hardison there the night before.

Boston admitted the theft, explaining that he was taking the corn to feed his father's stock. The youth denied he was instructed by his father to make the corn raid. Farmer Hardison had been missing his corn all along for several months, and Thursday morning Deputy Raymond Rawls picked up a "hot" track belonging to the boy.

Pleading guilty in the county court last Saturday, Boston was sentenced to the roads for four months, the court suspending the road term upon the payment of the costs.

Dark Spots Eliminated By New Street Lighting Plan

The dark spots existing in the town's main business districts down through the years, were eliminated by a new street lighting system installed and placed in use by the Virginia Electric and Power Company last Friday evening. In an informal exercise, Mayor Robt. H. Cowen closed the switch, lighting twenty-three of the latest type and most efficient street fixtures engineers so far have been able to design.

Replacing the swinging, middle-of-the-street lights, the new system with the fixtures hanging high from poles on either side of the street, provides several times more light than the old fixtures, affording a uniform distribution. The twenty-three lights are located on Main from Watts to Haughton, on South Haughton to Griffin's Quick Lunch and from that point down Washington to Main Street.

While it cannot be listed strictly as a white way since primary and secondary wires and services still hang in all directions, the new system affords a light equal to that of the modern highway. The value of the new system is best compared from a point at the intersection of Main and Haughton Streets with South Haughton shinning bright and North Haughton holding its dark spots.

Representatives of the power company, the town board of commissioners and directors of Williamston Boosters, Inc., witnessed the closing of the switch, turning on the new lights for the first time at 8:00 o'clock Friday evening.

RECOGNITION

Williamston gained recognition yesterday for maintaining a splendid safety record during 1950. A certificate of recognition was presented to Chief of Police John Roebuck and Mayor Robert H. Cowen during an informal program held in Radio Station WIAM at 10:00 o'clock. The presentation was made by Mrs. Allie E. Johnson, field representative for the Safety Division, Department of Motor Vehicles, Raleigh. No traffic deaths have during the past several years.

Funeral Held For Native Of County

Funeral services were conducted in Horner's Funeral Home in Plymouth last Saturday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock for Thomas Pritchard who died at his home near Roper last Friday morning. The Rev. W. B. Harrington conducted the rites and interment was in the Hamilton cemetery.

A son of the late Josh and Mary Hassell Pritchard, he was born in this county 66 years ago, and located near Roper about two years ago. He had been in declining health for several years, and was a retired farmer. He was a member of the Hamilton Baptist Church.

Surviving are his widow, the former Ida Lilly; a daughter, Beulah Pritchard; two sons, Robert and Jack Pritchard, all of the home; a brother, Burt Pritchard, of Hamilton, and six grandchildren.

County Boy Now At The Front In Korea

Pvt. Noah S. Bennett, young son of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Bennett of RFD 2, Williamston, is now in the front lines in Korea, according to information received here a few days ago.

Answering a call in November of last year, Pvt. Bennett completed his training at Fort Ord, California.

The young man's father was in World War I. Two brothers were in World War II. Another is in the current war, and he is in the front lines now.

Free Will Baptist Church Organized In Williamston

Climaxing a year or more of untiring work, a Free Will Baptist church was organized here recently when the State Executive Committee of the denomination met here and perfected the organizational plans. Two sites are available on North Haughton Street, and arrangements are being made to start construction work on a church home within a short time. Liberal contributions have already been made to the building fund, it was learned.

Recognizing his efforts in perfecting the church organization here, the Rev. Roland C. Cherry has been named pastor for the coming year, it was announced. Until the church building is made ready, the congregation will continue to hold cottage prayer

Farm Life Girl Editor-In-Chief

Greenville, N. C., July 14.—A Martin County student has been named editor-in-chief of the "Teo Echo", the East Carolina College newspaper for the second summer session.

Janice Hardison, a senior English major, has been appointed to publish the college paper until the current session ends in August. She is the first woman editor of the "Teo Echo" in a number of years, and she succeeds Rexford Piner of Wilmington. Last year Miss Hardison was associate editor and feature writer and served as assistant editor to Piner during the first summer session.

A graduate of the Farm Life School in Martin County, Miss Hardison has participated in numerous college activities. In addition to her work on the newspaper, she has been an active member of the Women's Athletic Association, the YWCA, the Women's Chorus, and the College Singers. She has made the dean's list or the honor roll every quarter since she has been enrolled at East Carolina.

Miss Hardison is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Ira Hardison of Jamesville, Route 1.

Auto Tears Down Street Hydrant

Believed to have been speeding around a corner, an automobile driven by Leslie Latham tore down a fire hydrant at the corner of Grace and North Haughton Streets shortly before 11:00 o'clock last night.

The driver, said to have been painfully but believed not badly hurt in the accident, disappeared and was not found until about 2:00 o'clock this morning. His car was badly damaged.

Water service was interrupted in certain blocks of the town for several hours. The hydrant was broken below the ground and the connection with the big water main under the street was broken loose. Service was fully restored about 2:00 o'clock this morning. All available town forces were called to meet the emergency.

Eisenhower And Nixon Form Team

Taking the Presidential nomination on the first ballot, Dwight Eisenhower, retired general, will with Senator Richard Nixon, U. S. Senator from California, as nominee for the Vice Presidency, represent the Republicans in the general election next November.

The Eisenhower victory turned back Senator Robert A. Taft, the perennial candidate, at Chicago last Friday afternoon. Eisenhower's running mate, the 39-year-old Nixon, was the only one offered in nomination that afternoon. Nixon, a former student at Duke is rated a promising young man, but his record in the Congress claims no particular distinction.

The two men are talking over their views with party leaders and making ready to launch a vigorous campaign.

Eisenhower, the internationalist, runs head on into fourteen of his own party members who have supported foreign policy less than ten percent of the time, and has only nine or ten who have supported the policy more than 85 percent of the time.

Mr. Eisenhower's victory, coming at 12:45 o'clock Friday afternoon when the Minnesota delegation ditched its favorite son, Harold Stassen, and gave Eisenhower the vote margin, is traceable to Tom Dewey's expert maneuvers, and powerful pressure similar to that exerted on the Michigan delegation by General Motors and Henry Ford II.

Sandwich Shop Is Robbed Near Here

The Parker Peel sandwich shop in West End, was entered some time during the early hours of last Thursday morning.

The robber, believed to have been a juvenile, forced an entrance with a bar through a side window and took about 150 pennies from the cash register. The robber unlatched the door and walked out.

Officers have questioned several, but no arrest has been made in the case.

Henry A. Johnson III At His Home Here

Suffering with a leg ailment, Mr. Henry A. Johnson continues ill at his home here. He has an appointment with a Raleigh specialist this afternoon in the capital city, but plans to return home.

Herbert Jackson Died In Hospital Saturday Morning

Funeral Held In Everetts Sunday Afternoon For Young Merchant

Herbert M. Jackson, retired farmer-merchant, died in a Williamston hospital last Saturday morning at 10:00 o'clock. He had been in declining health for about a year, suffering with a heart condition. Apparently getting along as well as usual, he was out last Friday, but entered the hospital about 7:30 o'clock Saturday morning he suffered another attack and entered the hospital. He had undergone a check-up in a Durham hospital only a few days previously.

A son of Mrs. Emma Wobbleton Jackson of Greenville and the late Kelly Jackson, he was born in Cross Roads Township 35 years ago on November 21, 1916. He farmed most of his life, and opened a store on the old Greenville road near Williamston about a year ago, virtually retiring from business on account of his health.

In early manhood he was married to Miss Edith Bailey. Surviving besides his widow and mother are two sons, Ray and Gene Jackson, both of the home; a brother, Jasper Jackson, of Greenville; and a sister, Mrs. Helen Barrow, of Greenville.

He was a member of the Everetts Baptist Church and the funeral service was conducted there Sunday afternoon at 4:00 o'clock by the pastor, the Rev. C. L. Gatling, of Hamilton. Interment was in Williamston's Woodlawn Cemetery.

Reserve Bank Of District Reviews 1952 Farm Plans

Predicting Slight Increase In Tobacco And Drop In Other Crops

The Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond in its current Monthly Review look at the 1952 farm picture, as follows:

Fifth District farmers intend to plant slightly larger acreages of tobacco and wheat in 1952 and smaller acreages of most other crops than in 1951. For the country as a whole, slight increases are indicated for tobacco, oats, hay, soybeans and sweet potatoes, but declines are indicated for cotton, peanuts, sorghum and barley. No change is indicated for corn, wheat, or Irish potatoes. If such acreages materialize, weather conditions are average, and if yields equal last year's, 1952 will go down in history as a year of good crop production, though not the year of record production that the United States Department of Agriculture had planned when it set 1952 goals some 6 per cent above 1951's figures.

On the whole, farmers throughout the nation are showing a reluctance to reduce their acreage in hay and pasture which seems to reflect an appreciation of the fact that much of the land now devoted to such uses should be kept under grass cover. More importantly, however, is the obvious shift to less intensive types of farming.

During the year preceding the intentions report (of March 19) the index of prices received by farmers dropped 6 percent, while the index of prices paid rose 4 percent. Net effect of these divergent trends was that farm prices declined from the post-Korean high of 113 per cent of parity in February 1951 to 100 per cent of parity in February of this year. Farm wage rates are currently about 11 per cent higher than a year ago, and fewer workers are available even though farmers are paying these higher wages.

These major factors of price and cost appear to be reflected in the 1952 acreage plans. Farming is, of course, a highly competitive line of production, and actual acreages planted to various crops are the composite result of literally millions of decisions by individual farmers. Should enough individual farmers, however, think that other farmers are planting less of some crops than had previously been assumed and conclude that this is therefore a good year to expand their own production, in the fond hope of "making a killing," the ultimate acreage of various crops could be considerably different from the figures in the accompanying table.

Average goals were established by the USDA as a means of indicating the changes in cropping (Continued on Page Six)

Plead For A Big Vote In Leaf Referendum

Working For Over 3,000 Votes In Referendum Saturday, July 19



R. L. Welch, local business man and civic leader, was installed as president of the Williamston Lions Club at a regular meeting of the organization held in the Woman's Club last Thursday evening.

Goodly Number In Attendance at Pep Meeting Thursday

Working For Over 3,000 Votes In Referendum Saturday, July 19

Meeting in the county courthouse Thursday evening with representatives of the Production-Marketing Administration and other leaders, more than 100 Martin County farmers, including several ladies, agreed to support and get a sizable vote for the tobacco referendum on Saturday of this week. There is a voting potential of approximately 3,300 in this county, and it is hoped that more than 3,000 votes will be polled.

"We don't want to go back to the thirties," A. H. Kelton, field representative, said, adding that there is a possibility of doing just that. "We are operating on a narrow margin right now," he said, explaining that only two crops—tobacco and peanuts—are under control. "Those outside the program are asking why support should be accorded tobacco and peanuts, and many members of Congress, declaring they can't understand the plan, are in favor of cutting the appropriations," Mr. Kelton said.

It was pointed out at the meeting that there is a false economy drive on in the land, that to carry forward that plan and destroy the farm program the government would collect little or no income taxes in the tobacco producing areas.

"We are not a bit doubtful about the outcome of the referendum, but we are not certain about the size of the vote," the farm leaders explained. "We'll need a big vote if we are to impress the doubtful congressmen," they said.

It was pointed out that the loss of the program would certainly cost the farmers 15 cents a pound or \$150 per acre, on an average, and that unless there is control it will be impossible to support unlimited production.

In July, 1949, farmers voted 94 percent for the program, but only about half of the farmers participated in the referendum, it was pointed out. Such a small vote is not impressive when farm leaders go before the congressional committees and plead for legislation necessary to the welfare of the farmer and the nation's economy.

It was also explained that the tobacco program is costing the taxpayers nothing, that penalties are financing its cost and that sales are making small dividends possible.

Mr. Little, representing the eastern division of the North Carolina Farm Bureau, pleaded for support of the Tobacco Associates in the referendum on Saturday, July 19, and asked for a large vote for the tobacco quota program.

"Tobacco Associates have worked with Congress and other agencies to promote tobacco exports. In 1935-39, China and England took 75 percent of the tobacco exported from this country," Mr. Little said. "Today, China is lost and there's a dollar shortage in England. Tobacco Associates have worked for new and larger markets in West Germany, Sweden, Denmark, the Philippines and other countries to absorb the 400,000,000-pound surplus," he added.

Chas. L. Daniel, president of the Martin County Farm Bureau, warned against indifference and (Continued on Page Six)

ROUND-UP

Eight persons were arrested and temporarily detained in the county jail last week-end. Two were charged with violating the liquor laws and one each for larceny, assault with a deadly weapon, disorderly conduct, assault, drunkenness and issuing a worthless check.

One of the eight was white and ages of the group ranged from 18 to 52 years.