

## \$1,000 Fine Imposed On Bootlegger Here

### Few Cases Cleared In Superior Court First Day Of Term

#### Boston Fined \$750.00 For Careless-Relaxed Driving And Speeding

After getting off to a good start, the Martin County Superior Court struck a snag in a liquor case and by recess time shortly after 5:00 o'clock only four cases had been cleared from the docket, and not one of them had reached the jury.

Presiding over his first term of court in this county, Judge Jos. W. Parker was fairly long on road and prison sentences but quick on probation. Four of the first five defendants called were placed on probation.

The trial of Simon Jenkins, notorious bootlegger of Robersonville, came up with a stubborn defense, and his trial, after taking several hours of the court's time Monday afternoon, is being completed this morning. Jenkins was rounded up in a net spread over the county last November and December by special ABC enforcement officers working under the direction of the State ABC Board at Raleigh. The defense, while soft pedaling the sale of liquor, maintained that the prosecuting witnesses were the cause of all the trouble because they bought the illicit liquor, as much as a gallon at the time.

Adjusted guilty of violating the liquor law on two counts, Jenkins was fined \$1,000 in the court shortly before noon today. In addition to the fine he is to pay the court costs. In the event Jenkins does not pay the fine and costs, he is to serve a maximum road sentence, or approximately four years. The jury had the case for about thirty minutes.

Charged with careless and reckless driving and speeding ninety miles an hour, Ralph Edgar Boston entered a plea of nolo contendere. He was sentenced to the roads for two years on each count, the sentence in the second case to begin at the expiration of the first. The sentences were suspended upon the payment of a \$750 fine and court costs. The defendant loses his operator's license for three years.

Boston was fined in Beaufort County last year \$200 for transporting liquor and lost his 1952 Buick.

Debbie Bennett, alias Hattie Bennett Andrews, was fined \$50 plus costs in each of two cases in which she was charged with violating the liquor laws.

Pleading guilty of an assault with a deadly weapon, James Bell was sentenced to the roads for six months, the court suspending the road term upon the payment of the costs and he is to remain of good behavior for twelve months.

Charged with the larceny of a (Continued on Page Seven)

## Cars Damaged In Monday Accident

No one was injured and property damage was limited to about \$35 when two cars were in collision at the intersection of Main and Roberson Streets here yesterday afternoon at 2:10 o'clock.

James Everett was entering Main in his 1940 Chevrolet just as Dr. W. F. Coppage was approaching from the east.

Investigating the accident, local officers estimated the damage to the Chevrolet at \$35 and that to the 1953 Coppage car at \$300.

### Man Mysteriously Shot While Walking Highway

Chester Williams, 27-year-old colored man, was mysteriously shot while walking the Bear Grass Highway leading off U. S. 17 near the R. L. Perry farm last Friday night. Walking near a wooded area, Williams declared it was a stray bullet from a rifle that struck him in the thigh, inflicting a flesh wound. He offered no other details.

Following treatment in a local hospital, he was released Sunday.

### GOOD START

Seine fishing in the Roanoke was off to a good start at Jamesville yesterday, according to reports reaching here. Encountering none of the obstacles usually plaguing the operations at the beginning of the season, the fishermen made fourteen "hauls" during the day, or about a record number.

The catch, limited mostly to herring and a few perch, averaged between 600 and 1,000 each haul. No rock were taken during the day, it was learned.

## Release Program Of Spring Concert Here March 26th

### Green Wave Band Working On Numbers To Please Please Varied Tastes

The program for the Annual Spring Concert of the Williamston High School Concert Band was released today by the director, Jack F. Butler. The concert is scheduled for the high school auditorium, March 26, at 8:15 p. m.

As in past years, the program this spring is arranged with the idea of providing band and concert music to suit the tastes of all music lovers—marches, overtures, descriptive novelties, folk tunes and popular numbers—and a solo and trio are included.

The program opens with a march, "Shenandoah," by Goldman. Then comes an overture, "Stratosphere," by Frankiger. This is a brilliant number portraying two main themes—the "Earth" with its atmospheric changes and the more constant "Stratosphere." "Introduction and Tarantella" by Scarmolin-Johnson will feature Soloist Bobby Coburn on the clarinet. A tone poem, "King John," by Moehlmann, closes the first part of the program. This has two contrasting themes, one forceful and vigorous and the other full of tenderness and feeling, as it portrays the character of the good and just King John. A ten minute intermission breaks the program at this point.

The second portion of the program, like the first, opens with a march, "Sabre and Spurs," a Sousa composition. This is followed by the cornet trio, "Jim Dandies," in which Mary E. Britton, Ralph Parker and Joyce Manning are featured.

The next number, "Safari," is one of the most difficult programmed (Continued on Page Seven)

## Native Of County Dies In Plymouth

Funeral services were conducted in the Plymouth Christian Church Monday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock for Samuel H. Ange, a native of this county, who died at his home in Washington County following a long period of declining health. The Rev. C. M. Barnett conducted the rites, assisted by the Rev. T. B. Nickens. Interment was in the Jackson cemetery in Washington County.

A son of the late William R. and Georgia Anna Modlin Ange, he was born in this county 68 years ago and moved to Washington County about 45 years ago, continuing to farm there until ill health forced his retirement.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Cora N. Modlin Ange; two daughters, Mrs. Raymond Barber of Plymouth and Mrs. Church Styons of Elizabeth City; four sons, Dewey Wesley and Grady of Plymouth, Sgt. Leon G. Ange of Ft. Lewis, Wash.; one sister, Minnie Styons of Jamesville; one brother, Walter of Portsmouth, Va.; one half-sister, Mrs. Narcis Griffin of Washington, D. C.; four half brothers, Jim and Ben of Jamesville, Burton of Plymouth, Fred of Newport News, Va.; seven grandchildren and one great grandchild.

## Alleged Killer Arrested Friday By Local Police

### Chester Lee, 29, Is Turned Over To New York De- tectives Saturday

Chester Lee, 29-year-old Negro wanted in Mt. Vernon, New York, for murder, was arrested here last Friday morning by Officer Chas. R. Moore. Early the following morning authorities were here to take the alleged killer back to the New York city.

According to Inspector George F. Kummerle of the Mt. Vernon police department, Lee fatally stabbed Steve Silvester, Mt. Vernon merchant, about 2:00 o'clock on the morning of March 8. It is believed Lee was burglarizing to check on the previous day's business. Silvester was stabbed fourteen times, the inspector said.

The officer said thirty detectives and police officers were assigned to the case, and after following a false lead for seven hours they centered on Lee. Losing his trail in a New York City subway, they appealed to North Carolina police.

Officer Moore, with a vague description of the man, arrested him on suspicion at the local bus station, and Lee admitted the attack to him and Cpl. M. C. Byrum of the Highway Patrol. Lee came here earlier in the week and had rented a room in the W. T. Alexander home. After signing a confession, Lee said he would not fight extradition, and the Mt. Vernon authorities, Inspector Kummerle and Detectives George Swan and Richard Limato, reached here early Saturday morning.

Lee, a native of Bertie County, located in the New York town after the war. He had a criminal record dating back to 1944 when he was arrested in Los Angeles for larceny, and again in 1945 on suspicion of rape in the California city. He was later booked for a minor law infraction in Cleveland. In 1948 he was booked by Mt. Vernon police for breaking and entering, and in 1951 and 1952 for burglary in the same place. He is said to have distant relatives in this area, but his mother and other close relatives live in Mt. Vernon.

## Police Baffled By Robbery Here

Confronted with an increase in the number of break-ins and robberies, local police declare they are now battling to solve one of the most unusual in the records.

Forcing an entrance through a side window, robbers entered the union bus station on Main Street here sometime during last Wednesday night and opened the safe. Approximately \$300 was taken from the safe, but what police can't understand is why the robbers should leave between one and two hundred dollars there. The money removed was in fairly large denominations while the residue was in small bills, it was reported.

Police, assisted by agents of the State Bureau of Investigation, are working on a lead in the case, but no arrests have been made.

Sometime during last Friday night, thieves raided the Lindsey Implement Company lot and carried away a storage battery from a new tractor just off Washington Street.

## New Homes Being Constructed Here

Several new homes are now under construction here, but the housing shortage still continues acute in the town, reports declare.

Before finishing the foundation, one builder was approached yesterday by six prospective renters, it was learned.

Mr. and Mrs. Haywood Mobley have started work on a new home at the corner of Smithwick Street and Roosevelt Drive.

Work is well advanced on a new home for Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Wynne on North Smithwick Street. Mr. Jos. Griffin is constructing a home at the corner of Park and Warren Streets, and Mr. Marvin Britton is building a new three bedroom house on Warren Street.

## Bloodmobile In Desperate Need For Hundred Donors

The Red Cross Bloodmobile, scheduled to make its eighth trip to this chapter on Friday of this week, is in desperate need for close to one hundred additional donors. It was learned this morning, unless the response to the repeated calls improves and improves quickly, the chapter is almost certain for the first time to fall down on its quota, and right at a time when everything possible is being done to prepare for the fight on polio this coming season.

Up until this morning only one hundred and ten had signed up to give blood, leaving the drive between ninety and one hundred short of its goal.

Encouraging reports are coming in from Bear Grass and Griffiths, but the pledge cards have not yet been submitted. President Pete Harrison is placing the appeal before the Farm Life Ruritan Club members at a meeting this evening, and A. B. Ayers, Jr., is circulating the appeal in his area. No report has come from Jamesville, but the people there have responded to past calls, and it is believed they'll come through again on Friday of this week.

Members of Williamston's Beta Club pledged thirteen donors, most of them from their own ranks, during the past week-end. But others are slow to respond to the call. Those who will and who have not signed a pledge card are again cordially and earnestly urged to contact the Red Cross office, phone 2661, or call Dr. J. S. Rhodes, Jr., at the Martin General Hospital, phone 2186, immediately.

### SATISFIED

After due notice had been given, the Martin County Commissioners met Monday as a board of equalization and review to hear complaints about tax assessments. Not a single property owner appeared and no complaints were received by mail. Clerk J. Sam Gotsinger said.

All members of the board were present and while in session they discussed a few other problems.

## Delivers Short Charge To Jury

Presiding over his first term of the superior court in this county, Judge Jos. W. Parker of Windsor delivered a brief charge to the grand jury Monday morning.

Confining his eight-minute charge for the most part to grand jury procedure, Judge Parker directed the jurors to make certain there were no orphans in the county without proper guardians, and also to make certain that none is being neglected or abused by guardians. He also instructed the jury to check and see if all school bus drivers were properly licensed and make certain that every care is being provided for Martin County school children, described by him as the county's greatest asset. The jurors are also to confer with the foreman of mechanics or members of the highway patrol to make certain all busses are in good condition.

C. Urban Rogers, Williamston man, was named foreman of the jury, and he is to serve an additional six months before completing a year of service. New members of the jury are, Reuben S. Everett, F. U. Barnes, Ira F. Griffin, W. P. Harris, W. E. Everett, J. H. Coburn, James H. Perry, D. D. Stalls, Jr., and C. G. Gurkin. Old members of the jury, including the foreman, are, Norman Turner, T. Leo Roberson, Joe L. Coltrane, E. L. White, J. C. Keel, Roy Ward, Roland B. Lilley, and E. Copeland, Jr.

## Child Run Down On Street Today

Annie Spell Lee, eight years old, was painfully but believed not dangerously hurt when she dashed into the street and was run down by a 1952 Oldsmobile driven by Herbert Wooten, local barber, in front of the B. and W. Tire Company plant on Washington Street.

Reports said that the car knocked the child down but did not run over her. Badly bruised and skinned and suffering shock, the little victim was picked up by Wooten and removed to a local hospital for treatment.

### Few Ask To Be Excused From Jury Duty Monday

For the first time in recent years, few asked to be excused from jury duty when the Martin County Superior Court opened a two-week term Monday. And Judge Jos. Parker, presiding, apparently was surprised.

Mrs. Mary H. Godard was excused upon her request, and a medical excuse offered by W. A. Fleming was recognized.

## Specialists Test Tobacco Quality At State College

### Researchers Help Growers In Producing Leaf Wanted By Manufacturers

When disease-resistant types of tobacco were introduced, the manufacturers were a bit skeptical about its acceptance. Prices were said to have been drastically affected in some instances. To solve such resulting problems and aid farmers in producing tobacco wanted by the manufacturers, scientists and researchers at State College continually conduct experiments to determine quality of certain types of tobacco and to record the effects of fertilization. The story below is the final one in a series developed during a recent institute held at the college for representatives of newspapers and radio stations.

Three home-made and highly scientific instruments are being used to measure tobacco quality at North Carolina State College. They are a pelleting machine, burning cabinets, and a reflectometer.

One important measure of tobacco is the way it burns, explains biochemist J. A. Weybrew. Smokers prefer a slow, even burning tobacco which leaves a white ash. But no ready-made equipment could be bought to test burning rates, so researchers built their own.

Among the parts used are ordinary water pipe, a phonograph needle, an automobile hydraulic jack, a cigarette lighter coil from an automobile dashboard, mirrors, an old electric doorbell, and just plain wood.

Yet these common things, assembled into these instruments, give scientifically accurate data to measure tobacco quality by burning it.

Chemical make-up, especially chlorine content, markedly affects burning properties of tobacco. A high-chlorine leaf burns poorly and gives off a dark ash. A low-chlorine, high-potash tobacco burns freely and gives a desirable white ash.

From 3,000 to 4,000 samples of (Continued on Page Seven)

## Officers Destroy Three Distilleries

Raiding in two county townships last week-end, ABC Officers Joe H. Roebuck and Cecil Bullock and Deputy Roy Peel wrecked three distilleries.

Two of the plants were destroyed in Bear Grass Township. One was equipped with an oil drum still and had only one barrel of nasty beer on hand. The other plant had a 50-gallon copper kettle and two barrels of beer. Both plants, located in the same woods, were near Leggett's Mill Pond.

A large plant, equipped with a 200-gallon submarine type still and supposed to have been operated by "foreigners" in cooperation with a "home" partnership, was wrecked in Griffiths Township not too far from the old Griffin place last Saturday afternoon. The outfit included besides the still a 50-gallon doubler, two 50-gallon coolers and twenty-three 50-gallon capacity fermenters and oil burners. The officers poured out 800 gallons of beer and two gallons of liquor.

## Brief Summary Of Activities In The State Legislature

### Motor Vehicle Inspection Killed In The State Last Friday

(This is the ninth of a series of weekly summaries prepared by the legislative staff of the Institute of Government on the work of the North Carolina General Assembly of 1953. It is confined to discussion of matters of general interest and major importance.)

The 1953 General Assembly can take pride in its record for introducing and processing legislation promptly, but these efforts may be in vain if an early agreement cannot be reached on fiscal policy for the next biennium. Adjournment dates seems no nearer and perhaps less certain than a week ago.

About 200 more bills have been introduced in the House than at this stage last session, and the Senate has kept up with its 1951 record. If the Senate's deadline on local legislation holds firm, local legislation formerly introduced by senators in the waning weeks, conceivably either will not be introduced or will be thrown into the already burdened House (Note: the Senate suspended the rule to let in a local measure on Friday). Major floor debates in both houses last week provide the clue to faster processing of local and non-controversial legislation thus far. It takes only 30 seconds to pass a bill without debate; a contested measure may take hours and clog up the calendars.

Even if the appropriations subcommittee, appointed last week to study and make recommendations on controversial budget items, speeds up approval of the budget bill, definite action on appropriations may be necessary before the finance committee can finish its work. As the legislators went home last week-end, those reluctant to approve further tax increases hopefully waited for (Continued on Page Eight)

## Main Supporters Of Bloodmobile

While the Red Cross blood program has received loyal support from many citizens, approximately fifty persons have figured prominently in helping the Martin County Chapter in meeting its quota on each of its seven visits. An earnest appeal is being directed to everyone in the chapter to join hands with the faithful fifty and help see to it that the 150-pint quota will be met on Friday of this week.

Reviewing the blood donor program in the chapter, Mrs. Lucille Cowen, executive secretary, said that several, including Ed Rowland, Roger Roberts and J. C. Coltrane, have given seven pints already and plan to join the gallon club this Friday.

The names of those giving six pints so far, include, Aubrey D. Ange, Jr., Robert A. Rogers, A. Critcher, Jr., Clyde Griffin, Emmett Mims, Clyde Manning, William Tetterton and Exum Ward.

Those giving five pints already include, Mrs. Bessie James Bullock, Robert H. Cowen, W. H. Carstaphen, William E. Decato, Roy O. Daniel, J. Kelly Gay, K. P. Lindsley, Joseph Manning, Robert W. Newell, Lewis A. Pippen, Mary D. Roberts, J. W. Snead, Clabon Summerlin, Mary Louise Taylor.

The names of those having given four pints to date, include, Wilbert R. Bender, Vernon R. Bunting, Hezikiah Bell, Norman Everett, Jim Edens, E. R. Froneberger, Paul Griffin, William H. Griffin, Rev. John Goff, John B. Godwin, S. C. Griffin, Jr., John T. Griffin, Bill Harrison, Bill Howell, Ernest Jones, Lillian Johnson, Worth Mobley, Alvin J. Peele, Mrs. Clytie S. Ross, W. I. Skinner, V. J. Spivey, Gilbert H. Ward, Lazarus Williams, and John W. Wier, Jr.

While he hasn't been here long enough to establish a local record, Roy Jameson, VEP District Manager, brought a record with him. During and since the war he has given 27 pints of blood through the Red Cross, or well over three gallons. He is now listed among the regular donors in this chapter.

## Funeral Here Today For Mrs. Morrison

### SUICIDE

Jay Lilley, well-known young farmer of Bear Grass Township, ended his life at his home there about 10:00 o'clock this morning by firing a pistol bullet into his head. Mrs. Lilley, returning from a visit to a neighbor's home, found him on the couch.

Coroner W. W. Biggs is conducting an investigation this afternoon, but preliminary reports clearly indicated it was suicide. It was also learned that the 35-year-old farmer had been in declining health, but, as far as it could be learned, had made no threats to end his life.

He was a son of Arthur Lilley and the late Mrs. Lilley. Surviving are his widow and two children.

## Frank Wilson Has Leg Amputated As Result Of Attack

### Young Negro Man Con- tinues In Serious Con- dition At Duke Hospital

Frank Wilson, 24-year-old local Negro, had his left leg amputated at the hip in Duke Hospital yesterday as a result of a knife assault near Williamston shortly after Sunday midnight. Last reports received here stated his condition was serious, that possibly he suffered internal injuries when he was assaulted by Harry Stokes, 23, at the home of Stokes' estranged wife on a farm back of Paul Lilley's station on Highway 17.

Separated from his wife about two months ago, Stokes saw Wilson with his estranged wife in Williamston Sunday night. Taking a taxi, he went to the home and finding Wilson there he entered into an argument. Stokes, an adopted son, maintains that Wilson struck at him with a knife, that he (Stokes) whipped out his pocket knife and drove it into the victim's groin, severing the main artery and veins.

Stokes helped pick up his victim, placed him in the taxi and delivered him to a local hospital where doctors worked from about 1:00 o'clock until five in a successful effort to stop the flow of blood and save the man's life. In shock and almost dead when he reached the hospital, Wilson was given four pints of plasma and whole blood, and made ready for an ambulance trip to Durham. All circulation in the leg had stopped by the time Wilson reached the hospital, it was learned.

Stokes surrendered to Officers Rogers and Chesson and was placed in jail where he is being held without the privilege of bond, pending the outcome of Wilson's condition.

## Minor Accidents During Week-end

No one was injured and property damage was limited in two minor motor vehicle accidents on the highways in this county last week-end, according to reports coming from members of the patrol.

Driving toward Stokes on Highway 903 last Friday morning about 10:15 o'clock, James H. Highsmith applied brakes on his 1951 Oldsmobile to avoid striking Chas. Ayers who drove from a path into the highway. Trailing on 903, Jasper Rollins could not stop his 1950 Chevrolet and plowed into the rear of the Olds, causing about \$150 damage to his car and about \$30 to the Olds. Chas. Ayers car was not hit, Patrolman B. W. Parker said following his investigation.

Literally flying low through Gold Point Sunday, an unknown driver lost control of his car, skidded 55 yards and continued on his way after knocking down Farmer Vanderford's mail box. Patrolmen are investigating. One report said the driver boarded a train in Rocky Mount for an army base.

## Prominent Citizen Died Suddenly In Hospital Sunday

### Mrs. Carrie Biggs Morrison Had Been An Invalid Since August, 1951

Funeral services are being conducted this afternoon at 3:00 o'clock at the old family home on North Biggs Street for Mrs. Carrie Biggs Morrison who died suddenly in a Virginia Beach hospital Sunday afternoon shortly before 5:00 o'clock. The Rev. E. Gordon Conklin, pastor of the church built by her mother, is conducting the rites. Interment will be in the family plot in Woodlawn Cemetery.

An invalid since August, 1951, when she suffered a hip injury in a fall, she was getting along very well and gradually recovering when she was fatally stricken about 4:00 o'clock Sunday afternoon. While listening to her brother read, she suffered the attack at her beach home. Medical assistance was summoned and she was removed to the hospital where she died a short time later, the apparent victim of a heart attack.

Mrs. Morrison, a member of a family prominent in the early development of this section of the State, was born in Williamston, the daughter of the late John Dawson and Fannie Spruill Alexander Biggs. After completing the local schools she went to Meredith College Raleigh, where she majored in music and where she was a member of the Astrotecton Society. A member of the Baptist church since girlhood, she faithfully served as organist for many years. Devoted to music, she made available instruction in piano to many young people of the town.

Possessed of a noble character, Mrs. Morrison often, and in a generous way, went to the aid of the needy and less fortunate, always acting in a quiet and humble manner. Kind and thoughtful of others, she showed an untiring devotion to family and friends, and her cheery disposition endeared her to everyone.

She was first married to Samuel Ferebee Williams, also of Williamston, September 10, 1910, and made her home in Philadelphia for two years. Returning to Williamston, she resumed her work in the church and some years later was married to Dr. E. H. Morrison of Danville and Virginia Beach. Following her second marriage, she divided her time between Williamston and Virginia Beach, but always referred to Williamston as home and the place she loved. Prior to her accident in 1951, it was always a joyous occasion when her family returned and gathered around the fireside in the old home on Biggs Street for the holidays. She looked forward to those events and the renewal of old friendships and the peace and quiet found there.

Mrs. Morrison was active in the D. A. R. and Daughters of the Confederacy, and maintained a keen interest in civic affairs and the well-being of others even during the long months she was confined to her bed.

Surviving are a daughter, Mrs. Frances Williams Herriott, of Virginia Beach and Williamston, and a brother, Harry A. Biggs, of Williamston.

## Service Schools By Westinghouse

Westinghouse has planned a series of service schools for its dealerships in this section of the State, it was announced by K. D. Worrell, local dealer.

The first of the schools was held in the Woman's Club hall here last week, and others will be held from time to time, it was explained. At least eight of the special all-day schools are scheduled, Mr. Worrell said.

Representatives from the factory in Mansfield, Ohio, are sent here to conduct the schools, and the servicemen are given detailed instruction on all units manufactured by the company. Norfolk division officials were also here for the first meeting.