

Criminal Court In Its Final Session Of Term Thursday

Eleven Cases Continued for One Reason Or Another Until June Term

With only criminal cases scheduled, the Martin County Superior Court ended the first of its two-week term rather unexpectedly last Thursday afternoon, leaving eleven cases on the docket for consideration at the June term. Court officials took leave of absence until Monday morning of this week when they returned to work on a short civil calendar which was considerably reduced when twenty of the forty-five cases placed there for trial were continued the first crack out of the box.

Proceedings in the criminal court not previously reported follow:

The complicated case in which Roger Lovett was charged with operating a motor vehicle with an improper driver's license was finally settled. Lovett was involved in an accident. He was booked for trial and later disappeared, claiming last week that he thought his employers was going to take care of the costs. He was later brought to justice, pleaded guilty and was sentenced to the roads for thirty days, the court suspending the road term upon the payments of the costs.

Charged with an assault with intent to kill, William Earl Balance pleaded not guilty. During the trial, he changed his plea and was sentenced to the roads for six months, the court suspending the road term upon the payment

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Mrs. Leggett Died At Her Home In County Last Night

Funeral In Hamilton Baptist Church Wednesday Afternoon at 3:00

Mrs. Catherine Coburn Allen Leggett, well-known resident of Poplar Point Township, died at her home there last night at 10:45 o'clock following a long period of declining health. Suffering with a heart condition, she was sick for about three years, and her condition had been serious since last November and critical during the past week. She was an invalid for some time.

Mrs. Leggett was born in Poplar Point Township 77 years ago on February 12, 1876, the daughter of the late James and Susan Elizabeth Hurst Coburn. She lived in Poplar Point Township all her life where she was held in high esteem as a kind neighbor and a thoughtful friend.

She was first married on January 7, 1897, to Charles W. Allen. Following his death, she was married to Jesse A. Leggett on September 20, 1916.

Surviving are a son, C. B. Allen of the home, and three daughters, Mrs. I. J. Ange, of Jamesville; two half-sisters, Mrs. Irma Leggett, of Hopewell, Va., and Mrs. Beulah Rawls of Gold Point.

Mrs. Leggett was a devoted member of the Hamilton Baptist Church most of her life, and the funeral will be held there Wednesday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock by her pastor, the Rev. C. L.

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ALLOTMENTS

Peanut acreage allotments, reflecting a reduction of between nine and ten percent, will be mailed to growers in this county on Thursday of this week.

Approximately 1,434 acres have been whacked off the allotment in effect last year, leaving the growers in this county 15,640 acres for planting and harvest this year.

It will be recalled that the edible type of peanuts was increased 1,572 acres last year, meaning that the farmers are losing not quite as much as they gained in 1952.

The present allotment of 15,540 acres compared with a total of almost 28,000 acres planted to the crop in 1941.

Librarians Hold District Meeting In Woman's Club

Representing seventeen counties in this part of the State, forty-five librarians, trustees and library commission members held a district meeting in the Woman's Club building here yesterday.

Following the registration, Mrs. Henry C. Bourne, trustee of the North Carolina Library Association of Tarboro, presided over the sessions which were featured by an address by Alex McMahon, assistant director of the Institute of Government, Chapel Hill, and a talk by Miss Evelyn Day Mullen, field librarian for the North Carolina Library Commission.

A panel discussion, centering around budgets and finances, dur-

ing the afternoon session, was led by Miss Elizabeth House, director of the State Library Commission, Raleigh. Miss House, a native of Robersonville, formerly headed the B-H-M Regional Library.

Miss Margaret Monroe, representing the American Heritage Foundation of New York, also briefly addressed the group.

The meeting, one of four being held in the State, discussed library problems of all types, and was held at the request of the North Carolina Library Association's Trustee Section and the North Carolina Library Commission. The Institute of Government sponsored the institute.

ROUND-UP

Local and county officers staged a pretty big spring clean-up last week-end when they rounded up and jailed twelve alleged law violators, including one charged with murder. Five were booked for public drunkenness, two for drunken driving, two for assault and one each for larceny and violating the motor vehicle laws.

One of the twelve was white and ages of the group ranged from 19 to 65 years.

C. Frank Modlin Died In Hospital Sunday Evening

Last Rites For Jamesville Farmer In Biggs Funeral Home This Afternoon

Charles Frank Modlin, retired Jamesville Township farmer, died in a Williamston hospital Sunday evening at 9:00 o'clock. In declining health for about three years, he was removed to the hospital March 15 when his condition became serious.

The son of the late Alfred and Fannie Modlin, he was born near Jamesville 69 years ago on July 9, 1883, and farmed and lived there all his life. He was a member of the Cedar Branch Baptist Church for many years, and was an able farmer and a leading citizen in his community.

He was first married in 1916 to Rebecca Roberson. Following her death in 1941, he was married to Minnie Phillips.

Surviving, besides his wife, are three sons, William Asa Modlin, U. S. Navy stationed in Memphis, Tennessee; Charles Alfred Modlin, U. S. Army stationed in Washington, D. C., and Lovick Modlin of Jamesville; one daughter, Mrs. Sarah Elizabeth Perry of Washington, D. C.; six grandchildren; one brother, Sylvester Modlin, of Newport News; and a sister, Mrs. Mamie Long, of Jamesville. No children survive his second marriage.

The last rites are being conducted in the Biggs Funeral Home this afternoon at 3:00 o'clock by his pastor, the Rev. W. B. Harrington. Interment will be in the Modlin family cemetery, near the home.

Excuse Jurors In Superior Court

Springtime and the longing to get busy on the farms prompted quite a few excuses from jurors in the Martin County Superior Court Monday when the tribunal opened its second week for the trial of civil cases. Of course there were a few jurors armed with doctor's certificates and one or two offered other valid excuses.

Those excused were, Robert Adkins, Arthur Wallace Lilley, H. E. Daniel, V. L. Roberson, J. H. Gray, Sr., L. D. Williams and William J. Morris.

Everetts Youth Gets Annapolis Appointment

Lang Martin, high school student of Everetts, has received from Congressman Herbert Bonner an appointment to the Naval Academy at Annapolis, it was learned here this week.

Handle Few Civil Cases First Day In Superior Court

Twenty Cases Continued and Compromises Reached In Several Others

Before striking a snag during the afternoon session, the Martin County Superior Court in the first day of its second week Monday cleared eight cases from the civil calendar. But the machinery was speeded up for the current term, at least, when twenty cases were continued the first thing that morning.

No big cases of outstanding interest are on the calendar and very few persons are attending the court this week.

Judge Jos. W. Parker of Windsor is again on the bench after presiding over the criminal proceedings last week.

The divorce cases of Jones against Jones, Walker against Walker, Savage against Savage, Rogers against Rogers and Ayers against Ayers were continued, and a voluntary non-suit was taken by the plaintiff in the divorce action brought by Jesse Mayo Andrews against Viola Andrews.

Based on grounds of two years' separation, divorces were granted Beatrice Best from Hudson Best, Annie Bell Roberson from LeRoy Roberson, Murray E. Hyman from Frances C. Hyman and Frances Rogers from Elmer Rogers. In the Roberson case the court held that the defendant was not a fit or suitable person to rear his children, and the two offspring of the union were placed in the custody of the mother.

An order, directing more defendants be made parties to the case, was issued in the action brought by F. C. Stallings against J. W. Wells and others. The case

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John D. Harrison Died In Hospital Thursday Night

Last Rites Conducted In the Biggs Funeral Home Sunday Afternoon

John Dennis Harrison, 54, died in a Washington hospital last Thursday night at 10:50 o'clock following six months of declining health. He had been critically ill for about a month, spending much of that time in the hospital for treatment.

He was born in Edgecombe County near Tarboro August 4, 1898, the son of James Eli and Henrietta Swain Harrison. After spending his early life there he moved with his family near Williamston, engaging in the building trades and operating on the local peanut market for a number of years. He lived in or near Williamston most of his life, spending two years in Wilson where he was engaged in business.

He was first married to Hattie Elizabeth Andrews who died about 21 years ago in a hospital near Detroit. His second marriage was to Mrs. Lela Ambers Gurganus, and following her death he was married to Bettie Leggett who died May 17, 1951.

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Bureau Members Re-elects Officers For Another Year

Meeting in the agriculture building last Friday night, members of the Martin County Farm Bureau re-elected officers and directors and went on to record opposition to the plan of the State organization to go into the insurance business or any other form of business.

Plans were also made for the annual meeting of the organization to be held in conjunction with the annual fat livestock show on Friday, April 10. R. Flake Shaw, executive secretary of the North Carolina Farm Bureau, has been tendered an invitation to address the meeting.

President Chas. L. Daniel named the following committee to handle arrangements for the annual meeting and barbecue: Johnny Gurkin, Mayo Hardison, Reu-

Chapter Meets Its Red-Cross Blood Quota On Friday

Several Gave Their Eighth Pint Of Blood In Two-Year Period

Despite a low preliminary sign-up, the Martin County Chapter of the American Red Cross met its 150-pint quota when the bloodmobile visited here last Friday. The goal was considered in serious doubt about three o'clock that afternoon, but last-minute appeals brought in the drop-ins and the 150-pint quota was met with four pints to spare. Again the chapter, comprising Jamesville, Williams, Griffins, Bear Grass and Williamston Townships, came through to maintain a perfect record.

The old-liners, those who had given from one to eight pints on previous visits of the bloodmobile, were supported by thirty-two new recruits.

The mobile unit will make its next visit here in June. No quota has been assigned as yet.

The names of those donating blood last Friday include:

Mrs. Ruth Wheeler, R. W. Newell, Mrs. Harrell Everett, Buddy Wier, Emmett Mims, Mrs. Carrie Leggett, Clyde Manning, Theron Gurganus, Ben Hopkins, Mrs. Roy Gurganus, Billy Bob Peel, E. S. Peel, Jr., J. C. Coltrain, James E. Bulluck, J. Kelly Gay, Rev. John L. Goff, Mrs. Willford Griffin, W. E. Dunn, Jr., Reuben Williams, Roger Roberts, V. J. Spivey, Elmer Griffin, B. L. Ward, Cecil B. Whitehurst, Caddie Robertson, Wendell Peelle, Clarence Bailey, Larry Bullock, Jr., Mrs. Hubert Biggs, Mrs. Cecil Bullock, W. R. Bender, Eula Leggett, Betty Lou Jackson, Jimmy Rogerson, Hugh B. Griffin, R. J. Hardison, Mrs. Susie Myers, Joseph Manning, Miss Susie Manning, Miss Mary Ann Manning, J. P. Lilley, Lela C. Bonds, Cecil Brown, Mrs. Edna Bondurant, Garland Wynne, Zadie Elizabeth Pate, Mrs. Hugh Spruill, Oscar Tice, Woodrow Holliday, L. T. Fowden, Lester Bryant, William M. Tetterton, Julius Williams, M. K. Herrington, Ed Rowland, Arthur Simpson, Leroy Smith, J. W. Snead, Clabon Summerlin, W. L. Manning, Jr., W. Worth Mobbey, Wheeler Manning, James E. Midget, Jim Manning, P. T. Roane, Clayton Revels, Luther Strickland, Howard Coltrain, Mrs. Lillian C. Johnson, W. T. Crawford, Dalmus D. Baze-more, Vance Lee Clark Mrs. Joe Roebuck, Mrs. William Gurganus.

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CAMPOREE CHANGE

On account of the uncertainty of the weather this week-end, officials have changed the location for the Boy Scout Camporee. Instead of being held in Bear Grass as planned, the camp will be set up on the Boy Scout hut side in Plymouth. Field Scout Director Jerry Ashwill explained that the accommodations for a month are ample to care for the boys in case of bad weather.

All Boy Scouts in this county and district are invited to attend the pre-camporee on March 27, 28 and 29.

Hearing In Murder Case This Afternoon

Refuses To Leave Home of Neighbor, Man Fatally Shot

Rufus Taylor Died In The Hospital Sunday Night At 9:00 O'clock

Rufus Taylor, 50-year-old colored man, was shot and fatally injured by Clyde Tyner in the Tyner home near Williamston Sunday evening at 6:00 o'clock. Said to have refused to leave after Tyner ordered him from his home, Taylor died in a local hospital three hours later.

Sheriff M. W. Holloman said the attack followed a day-long drinking bout and climaxed illicit activities reported in and around the home for months. However, it was declared Tyner, 65, was not drinking at the time.

Taylor's stomach was ripped open by a load of small shot fired at a range of about ten feet from a 12-gauge gun. His intestines, falling from their socket, were punctured in numerous places. Sheriff Holloman said that just about all if not all of the load of shot struck the man who died on the operating table while doctors worked feverishly to close the wounds.

After firing the fatal shot which was witnessed by Tyner's daughter, Clytie, Tyner carried the gun to his mother's home, a few hundred yards away, and returned to his home. The victim, left on the couch where he was sitting when shot, was removed to the hospital about 45 minutes later, after someone walked to the Beacham home, and Bud Beacham notified officers. Sheriff Holloman, investigating the case, ordered the man removed to the hospital by ambulance after he reached the Tyner home.

Tyner, remaining at home after returning from his mother's, surrendered to Sheriff Holloman.

Tyner told the sheriff that he shot Taylor, that he (Tyner) had

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Glee Club Earns Excellent Rating

Participating in the district musical festival at East Carolina College, Greenville, last Thursday, the Williamston High School Glee Club, under the direction of Miss Mary Wallace Foye, earned a rating of excellent, and received many favorable comments.

The group sang two numbers, "I Have Twelfth Oxen", and "Jesus Walked the Lonesome Valley".

Those making the trip with their instructor include: Victor Brown, Wade Bunting, Betty Sue Clark, Joan Carol Coltrain, Philip Coltrain, June Corey, Joyce Anne Coyle, Miss Mary Foye, Eddie Daniels, Betty Lou Dausley, Lela Mae Goff, Susie Griffin, Carole Gurganus, Nancy Gurkin, Lee Handy, Jean Holloman, Ann Holliday, Jean Holloman, Jean Howard, Mary Louise Jones, Gerel Lamb, Ed Laughinghouse, Janice Manning, Mary Ann Manning, Turner Manning, Jo Ann McLawhorn, Jean Mobbey, Doug Peelle, Frank Peelle, Marie Peelle, Virginia Price, Sallie Roberson, Peggy Savage, Katherine Spruill, Betty Stubbs, Bennie Taylor, Gloria Taylor, Jane Whitaker, Pattie Williams, Polly Williams, and Miss Foye.

FIFTY-SEVEN

There are fifty-seven young musicians in the Williamston High School Concert Band which gives its annual spring concert in the High School auditorium on Thursday evening at 8:15 p. m.

Last Night Director Herbert Carter of the East Carolina College Band, helped Director Jack F. Butler to smooth out some of the rough spots in the concert program and one of band's finest concerts was predicted by the visiting director.

Property Damage Heavy In Wreck On Main Street

No One Injured In Three-Car Accident In Front Of Post Office

One of the most destructive motor vehicle accidents here in many months was reported in front of the post office on East Main Street last Friday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock. No one was injured, fortunately, but police, investigating the wreck, estimated the loss at between \$1,500 and \$2,000.

Mrs. Homer Barnhill, driving a one-day-old Pontiac with less than fifty miles recorded on the speedometer, had parked the car in front of the post office and entered the building, leaving her two daughters, nine-month-old Vickie, and Little Miss Sandy, five year old, in the automobile.

Bessie B. Porter, teacher in the Hayes School here, was backing her 1930 Chevrolet from the curb at the post office and it was hit by a 1947 Buick convertible, driven by James Earl Purvis, Negro farmer of the Spring Green section, who was traveling east on the street.

The Chevrolet was knocked around, its left side striking the curb. The Buick then struck the rear of the parked Pontiac and knocked it over the curb, across the sidewalk and into the post office flag pole. The Pontiac, it was explained, was in reverse gear, and the rear wheels skidded the distance.

Chief John Roebuck said the

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Mrs. Alpha Peele Died Early Today At Dardens Home

Funeral Will Be Conducted Wednesday Afternoon In Maple Grove Church

Mrs. Alpha Cutler Peele died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. W. E. Holliday, at Dardens this morning at 1:15 o'clock. Although she had been in feeble health for sometime, she was getting along very well until a short time ago when she suffered an attack of influenza. She was reported improved last week, but had a relapse and died.

The daughter of the late Daniel and Finner Elizabeth Cutler, she was born near Pinetown in Beaufort County, and in early childhood was married to Henry B. Peele who died about twenty-two years ago. Born on February 1, 1872, she was 81 years old.

Following her marriage she made her home in this county, living the life of a good neighbor and friend to all. She was devoted to her family, and her character was marked for its gentleness and understanding. Mrs. Peele was a faithful member of the church at Maple Grove in Griffins Township where she made her home for years. More than one daughter in Jamesville Township.

Surviving are six sons, Daniel, Roy and Ben Peele, all of Williamston, Abram Peele of New Bern, and Ralph and Tommie Lee Peele, both of Jamesville; one daughter, Mrs. Holliday, with

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FRIGHTENED

A bit tired after hearing a slow-motion civil trial, ears of the jury in the superior court Monday afternoon came to life when Judge Jos. W. Parker dismissed the jurymen for the day.

After warning them not to discuss the case and so on, the jurist instructed them to be back the following morning at 5:30 o'clock. While certain the time element was wrong, the judge is the judge and nothing was said by the jury. A member of the bar, realizing that no court had been convened and none likely ever would be at that hour, called the judge's attention to the hour, and a correction was effected immediately.