

Twenty-Six Cases In County Court Monday Morning

Fines Imposed By Judge H. O. Peele Add Up to \$260 At Regular Session

Handling twenty-six cases, Judge H. O. Peele imposed fines in the amount of \$260 and adjourned a regular session of the Martin County Recorder's Court by 12:00 o'clock noon Monday. There were no cases of special interest on the docket, except the murder charge against John Lanier who waived preliminary hearing and who was returned to jail without the privilege of bond. Lanier murdered Frank Cherry in Oak City last month.

Proceedings: Charged with assaulting a female, William H. Williams pleaded nolo contendere and was sentenced to the roads for ninety days. The sentence is to begin at the direction of the court at any time within the next two years, and the defendant is to pay a \$10 fine, plus costs.

Pleading guilty of speeding 58 miles an hour in a truck, Russell Linwood Tripp of Greenville was fined \$25 and taxed with the costs. Lawrence C. Glisson, also of Greenville, pleaded guilty and was fined \$25 for speeding 55 miles an hour in a truck.

Charged with assaulting a female, Tony Ayers, Jr., pleaded not guilty. Found guilty, he was sentenced to the roads for 60 days, the court suspending the sentence upon the condition that he remain away from the premises of Maggie Edwards and pay a \$10 fine, plus costs.

Levi Dixon was fined \$10 and taxed with the costs for careless and reckless driving. Pleading guilty of careless and reckless driving and hit-and-run driving, Frank L. Ottanasio of Long Island, N. Y., was fined \$25 and taxed with the costs.

Billie W. Reed of Edenton was fined \$10, plus costs, for speeding 75 miles an hour. He pleaded guilty.

Pleading guilty of speeding 73 miles an hour, James W. Bedwell of Jamesville was taxed with the costs.

Charged with violating the liquor laws, John Hyman, Robert Whitaker and Elbert Clark pleaded guilty and each was fined \$10, plus costs.

Pleading not guilty of resisting arrest, Elliott Jordan was found not guilty.

John Graham, Jr., of Norfolk, was taxed with the costs for allegedly speeding 75 miles an hour.

Charged with speeding 75 miles an hour and pleading guilty of the charge, Walter Jordan of New York City was fined \$20 and taxed with the costs.

The case in which J. L. Mobley was charged with violating the barber law was not pressed, subject to be reopened at a later date.

James Edward Bennett of RFD 1, Oak City, pleaded guilty of speeding 60 miles an hour in a truck and was fined \$25, plus costs.

Speeding 45 miles an hour in a 35-mile zone, Wilson Durwood Leggett of Arlington, Va., was

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Sponsor Sitings For Photographs

The Alice Dunning Circle of the local Christian Church is sponsoring sitings for photographs during two weeks, beginning Monday, September 14, and continuing through the 28th.

Special arrangements have been made with the Royal Photographic Center to make the pictures at low cost to patrons. Mrs. Helen Tetterton, manager of the Photographic Center, is offering during the two-week period photographs measuring eight by ten or 11 by 14 in Silenium for only \$1.95. The only limitation is age, Mrs. W. H. Sessoms, leader of the sponsoring church group, explaining that the special offer is being available to children 14 years or younger.

Sittings will be booked for each hour, beginning at 10:00 a. m. for one hour, and then from 1:00 to 9:00 p. m., Monday through Saturday, and they will be by appointment only.

Funds raised by the sponsoring organization will be placed in the building fund, it was announced.

Enrollment In County Schools

Enrollment, a bit spotted to be sure, in the Martin County white schools showed an over-all gain of 81 pupils during the first two days of the current term over the figures for the corresponding period a year ago. Four schools, despite larger first grades, reported losses in their early enrollment figures, while the other four showed fairly sizable gains. Williamston led the list with a gain

	1951-52			1952-53		
	Ele.	H.S.	Total	Ele.	H.S.	Total
Jamesville	352	108	460	326	114	440
Bear Grass	214	86	300	231	83	314
Williamston	810	297	1107	865	301	1166
Robersonville	441	228	669	471	242	713
Oak City	239	126	365	222	134	356
Farm Life	123	123	246	131	131	262
Everetts	200	200	400	189	189	378
Hamilton	168	168	336	164	164	328
	2547	845	3392	2599	874	3473

Tobacco Sales Pass Three Million Mark

Markets will observe next Monday, Labor Day, as holiday.

Sales on the Williamston Tobacco Market went scotching right on by the three million-pound mark yesterday with prices still blazing a new high trail. Prices yesterday were about the highest of the season, the market selling 340,582 pounds for \$188,474.35, an average for the day of \$55.34.

Up until this morning the market here had sold 7,168,744 pounds for \$1,721,803.00, an average for the season to date of \$54.34.

The market is barely steering clear of blocks, and the sales are running smoothly with competition for most increasing almost from day to day. The Liggett Company was reported to have shown added interest in tips on the market here yesterday, and those types that are ripe are bringing fancy prices, it was reported. Just about all types of tobacco are in greater demand now than they were during the early days of the marketing season.

Sales today are heavy and full, sales are in prospect for tomorrow with the possibility that the market will push right on toward the four million-pound mark before the week is spent.

The markets through out the belt will observe next Monday, Labor Day, as a holiday and there'll be no sales.

During the first ten selling days last year, the market here sold just a fraction over two million pounds, the current season holding better than a million pound advantage. The growers last year during the first ten days received less than a million dollars for their offerings.

Mr. Roberson said the quality of the cotton was medium to good and the top market price was paid for the first bale ginned in the county.

Mr. Taylor, owner and operator, stated the gin would remain open every day until the end of the season. Operating one of the most modern gins in the State, the firm gins cotton from several eastern counties and in some instances as far east as the coast.

The day will not be observed as a holiday by county offices and business in general. The Martin County Recorder's Court will sit as usual and the various county and town officials will meet in regular sessions, it was learned.

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Limited Holiday Here Labor Day

Next Monday, Labor Day, will be observed on a limited scale here. There will be no tobacco sales that day, but the warehouses will be held open to receive tobacco for sales the following day and later in the week.

The post office will be closed along with the offices of the Virginia Electric and Power Company, the banks and federal and state offices.

The day will not be observed as a holiday by county offices and business in general. The Martin County Recorder's Court will sit as usual and the various county and town officials will meet in regular sessions, it was learned.

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Ed Grady Speaks To Rotary Club

Speaking to the regular weekly meeting of the local Rotary Club last Tuesday noon, Ed Grady, executive secretary of the Williamston Boosters discussed the industrial potential in the South during the next few years.

"It has been forecasted that 3,000 multi-million dollar plants will locate in the South during the next ten years," Mr. Grady said.

Anticipating such an expansion, leaders in the South are cooperating in every way possible to advance the movement. Mr. Grady explained that maps of Williamston and the community are being prepared along with a review of the local assets such as transportation, unlimited power and other pertinent data for wide distribution.

Mr. Grady appeared optimistic over the outlook for bringing new industry to this section, explaining that the task is a slow one and one that must be worked continually.

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Weather Review For Past Month In This Section

Mercury Wanders From 52 To 100 Degrees; Rain Below Normal

Of course there was no snow and the mercury did not get down to anything like freezing, but the weather man threw just about everything in the book at this section last month.

Ole Man River behaved himself fairly well, never offering to kick over the banks. But his depth did vary almost three feet during the period.

The mercury struck a peak of 100 on August 2 and then dropped down into the low fifties week before last.

The 4.74 inches of rain, while being .66 of an inch below normal, left the section extremely dry. There has been no trace of rain here since August 20, and outside of the 3.68 inches traceable, more or less, to Hurricane Barbara, precious little rain fell in these parts.

The weather data, including the river gauge readings, as released by Mr. Spruill for the month of August follows, with the date in the first column, the river gauge readings in the second column, the maximum temperature reading in the third, minimum temperature reading in the fourth, and the rainfall in the fifth column for each day of the month:

Date	River	H	L	Rain
1.	4.5	94	70	*
2.	4.6	100	69	.00
3.	4.2	88	68	*
4.	3.8	88	60	.00
5.	4.2	97	71	.00
6.	5.0	88	70	.00
7.	5.3	88	70	.42
8.	5.2	92	68	.01
9.	5.5	91	68	.19
10.	5.2	90	64	.09
11.	4.3	90	62	.00
12.	4.5	90	67	.00
13.	5.2	79	67	*
14.	6.8	88	67	3.68
15.	6.4	93	65	*
16.	6.0	95	68	.00
17.	5.2	90	65	.00
18.	4.5	88	64	.22
19.	4.2	78	56	.13
20.	5.2	82	58	*
21.	5.3	83	52	.00
22.	4.9	80	52	.00
23.	4.5	83	54	.00
24.	4.0	88	52	.00
25.	4.0	90	55	.00
26.	4.5	89	55	.00
27.	5.0	90	57	.00
28.	5.2	94	61	.00
29.	5.2	94	64	.00
30.	5.1	96	66	.00
31.	4.5	95	65	.00

First Cotton Is Ginned In County

The Taylor Mill and Gin Company officially opened its gin in Robersonville last Friday, August 28th. The first bale was ginned for Foy Rogers who lives on Route 2 Robersonville.

The first bale ginned weighed 465 pounds and was purchased by Sherwood L. Roberson Company who now has the cotton on display in front of the store in Robersonville.

Mr. Roberson said the quality of the cotton was medium to good and the top market price was paid for the first bale ginned in the county.

Mr. Taylor, owner and operator, stated the gin would remain open every day until the end of the season. Operating one of the most modern gins in the State, the firm gins cotton from several eastern counties and in some instances as far east as the coast.

Enrollment In Colored Schools

Neither complete nor accurate figures could be had immediately on the enrollment in the colored schools in the county this week, but the preliminary reports pointed to record numbers in most, if not all those schools.

Principals Holmes of the Hayes School here reported 1,013 enrolled, 736 in the elementary department and 277 in the high school. Whitchard-James, the only other colored school to report, enrolled 136 pupils. Reports from the other thirteen colored schools in the county are expected shortly.

Sanctuary?

Even though Williamston has been declared by ordinance to be a bird sanctuary, the little feathered creatures are not finding the spot a safe sanctuary, according to reports heard this week.

A few youngsters have been seen shooting birds with rifles. Children and their parents, too, are warned that it is unlawful to shoot birds inside the town, and that violators are subject to prosecution in the courts.

Cancer Society Directs Appeal In This County

Martin Only County In The State Making No Report In The 1953 Drive

Martin, the only county in the State that has made no report so far in the 1953 cancer fund drive, is hearing a plea for contributions to the American Cancer Society.

Appeals had been made to various individuals to head the drive in the several townships, but only one, Floyd Moore, of Williams accepted the challenge. Now, the chairman, Mayor Robt. H. Cowen is directing a personal letter to individuals in this area, urging them to contribute to the fund.

It was explained that the State had raised \$308,000 of its \$310,000 quota, that Martin County's \$2,000 quota once raised, would carry the State over the top.

Keeping forty percent of all funds raised, the county has exhausted its cancer fund treasury extending aid to the needy victims. New calls are being received from time to time, and the pleas have to be rejected.

In his direct-mail letter, Chairman Robt. Cowen said, "Due to various difficulties, it has been impossible for the Martin County Unit of the American Cancer Society to carry on an active campaign to solicit funds to support its program against cancer."

"Today, Martin County stands as the only county in the state that has not fulfilled its obligation in this very urgent and worthy appeal."

"We solicit your support in this effort by asking that you please help by mailing your contribution immediately to your local chairman, or to R. H. Cowen, County Chairman, Williamston."

Record Number In The School Here

Enrollment figures broke all records in the local white schools Tuesday and yesterday when 1,166 education hungry young folks reported for work.

Principal B. G. Stewart said 865 enrolled in the elementary departments and that 301 reported for work in the high school. Showing an increase of 14, the first grade now has 133 little tots.

Enrollment figures for other grades were released by Principal Stewart, as follows:

Second, 116; third, 103; fourth, 93; fifth, 114; sixth, 93; seventh, 104; eighth, 109; ninth, 76; tenth, 80; eleventh, 76, and twelfth, 69.

The enrollment figures are expected to climb as the term progresses.

Fifty-nine more pupils entered the local schools Tuesday of this week than were counted on opening day last term.

Few Barn Fires In This County

With the last of the 1953 crop out of the fields with the possible exception of one or two fields, a review shows comparatively few tobacco barns were destroyed by fire in the county this year.

The figures are not official, but the review shows that eight curing barns were destroyed by fire in the county during the 1953 season.

Ben Biggs lost a wood burner in Poplar Point Township a short time ago, and Farmer Clarence Wallace was reported to have lost an oil-curing barn the latter part of last week. Insurance was carried on both barns, it was reported.

Eight barns were reported to have been destroyed by fire in the county last year.

Report Typhoid Case In County

Typhoid fever made its first appearance a short time ago in about five years, according to a report released this week by the Martin Health Department.

Annie Speller, 5-year-old colored child who lives on the Grimes farm near Robersonville, fell victim of the fever. Dr. Vernon Ward diagnosed the case, and it was reported that the victim was now getting along all right.

The child had not been immunized against the fever this year, it was learned. Since the case was diagnosed as fever, other members of the family were inoculated and the health department took steps to guard against the fever spreading.

Martin Education Board Goes On Record For Bond Proposal

Young Mother Disappears From Her Home Near Here

Mrs. Hester Fay Hardison, young mother of two children, disappeared from her home near Williamston about two weeks ago and nothing has been heard from her since. Her mother, Mrs. Mary Bet Price, continues in a Wilson sanatorium and she along with other members of her family is greatly worried over her disappearance and they are appealing to anyone who knows her whereabouts to get in touch with them.

Her husband, Jodie Hardison, said she left home on the Prison Camp road to see a doctor in Williamston and did not return home. Her disappearance can't be explained, her husband stating that she had not enjoyed very good health in recent months.

During the past few days members of the family have tried to get in touch with her as far away as Indianapolis where she has a brother. Last reports from relatives stated she had not been seen in the Indiana city.

Besides her husband she leaves two children, one eighteen months and the other, three years old, at home.

August Marriages In County Above Normal For Month

Twenty-two licenses were issued last month by Register of Deeds

After trailing the 1952 issuance during the first seven months, the number of marriage licenses recorded in the Martin County register of deeds office showed a fairly sizable gain in August. The issuance last month was the largest for any period so far this year and has been surpassed only twice in the month of August since 1931, according to the records.

It was the fourth month this year in which the number of licenses issued to white couples exceeded those going to colored couples.

Licenses were issued in the county last month, thirteen to white and nine to colored couples, as follows:

White
Len Ivy Johnson and Helen Ellis, both of Tarboro
John V. Wheeler of Arapahoe and Jean Bailey of RFD 2, Williamston

Howard R. Caratain of Royston, Ga., and Evelyn Rose Taylor of Williamston
Arthur Julius Whitehead of Scotland Neck and Dorothy Virginia Smith of Oak City

Earl E. Hyman of Palmyra and Edna Clyde Bryant of Oak City
David Aaron Boyd and Mary Elizabeth Harrell, both of Hamilton

Willie Elton Wynne of Everetts and June Ellen Bowen of RFD 2, Williamston
Earle Dudley Litzenger of Bethlehem, Pa., and Maray Alice Bailey of Everetts

Hubert H. Hardison of Chocowinity and Bonnie Bell Clark of RFD 1, Washington
Garland C. Tice of RFD 1, Williamston and Pattie Swanson Andrews of Rocky Mount

Dillion Ward Williams and Joyce Pilgreen, both of Robersonville
Shirley Farless of Merry Hill and Lois Jean Castello of Windsor

Stanley K. White of Williamston and Mary Louise Everett of Robersonville.

Colored
Ben Nichols of Williamston and Lois Bowen of RFD 1, Williamston
Jake Bond, of Star Route,

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Youth Injured In Bicycle Accident

Jimmy Rogers, 9-year-old son of Mrs. Lula Mae Rogers, was painfully hurt in a bicycle accident near his home on RFD 3, Williamston, early last Monday evening. One report said the bike he was riding collided with another one, throwing the lad to the hard surface. Another report said that the boy was struck and run down by a bicycle.

Removed to a local hospital, the young victim is being treated for a head injury.

Painfully Hurt In Car Accident

J. F. Brown, 93-year-old Martin County man was painfully but believed not seriously injured in an automobile accident at Bethel Tuesday. One report said he was thrown from the car in which he was riding when it collided with another.

Removed to a local hospital, he was said today to be responding to treatment for a bruised arm and shoulder and shock. He was brought to the hospital here in a Bethel ambulance.

The County Could Get An Estimated \$400,000 In 1954

Sherwood L. Roberson Is Named To Chairman The Drive In Martin County

Meeting in special session last evening, the Martin County Board of Education went on record as favoring the proposed \$50 million bond issue for school house construction and a \$22 million bond issue for the mental institutions in the State. Plans were formulated for appealing to the voters of this county to support the proposals in the special election to be held on Saturday, October 3.

Sherwood L. Roberson, prominent county business man and a member of the board, has been named to chairman the drive in this county and he will launch the campaign next Tuesday when he appears before the Williamston Rotary Club and explains the proposals and the need for supporting them in Martin County.

During the meantime, the education board is tentatively scheduled to go before the county commissioners in their regular meeting next Monday morning and get the support of those and other county officials in promoting the campaign.

While most of the special meeting last night was devoted to plans for the furtherance of the campaign, the officials briefly discussed the need for the bond issues. "If we do not get relief on the State level, the county will be faced with the problem of going the financial route alone," Mr. Roberson explained. It was also pointed out that the county has been investing an average of more than \$50,000 a year in construction projects and that the need is still far ahead of the building program.

"The passage of the bond issues offers us about the only hope of meeting the most urgent needs," Mr. Roberson declared, adding that unless State funds are made available the schools of this county are certain to suffer in the immediate future and in the years to come.

The bond issue for the mental institutions has been recognized as a "craving" need for years, and it is fairly certain that the people will recognize the need for both and support them on October 3.

Mr. Roberson, with the help of other members of the board and civic leaders throughout the county, is rapidly completing plans to the proposals into every precinct carry the appeal for the support of in the county, and he is soliciting the cooperation of all organizations and individuals.

It is understood that each county in the State will be apportioned \$100,000, plus an additional amount based on the school population, plus a further amount to meet the most urgent needs. It was explained that special consideration will be given those counties that have tried to keep abreast of the current needs.

The board briefly reviewed the early enrollment figures and discussed

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Twenty-Five Sign For Kindergarten

At a preliminary registration held at First Methodist Church Wednesday morning twenty-five boys and girls were enrolled in The Community Kindergarten sponsored again this year by the Williamston Ministerial Association.

A spokesman for the Association said that September 15 had been tentatively set as the formal opening date. Parents of children who have had their fourth birthday may enroll them with Mrs. R. L. Bowling or with Mrs. R. E. Tarkington at their homes or at the church on the opening day. The teachers pointed out that advance registration would help them in the preparation of curriculum materials and in the advance purchase of supplies. It appears now that enrollment this year will far exceed last year's.