

Twenty-Six Cases In County Court Monday Morning

ed Violations Of The Traffic Laws

Twenty-six cases were handled by Judge H. O. Peele and Solicitor Clarence W. Griffin during a comparatively short session of the Martin County Recorder's Court last Monday morning. Most of the charges involved traffic law violations, many of the cases reflecting the urge to get some place in a hurry during the holiday season.

Proceedings: Pleading guilty of assaulting a female, Roy Boston was taxed with the court costs.

Judgment was suspended upon the payment of the costs in the case in which Jim Wynn was charged with careless and reckless driving.

Charged with the larceny of furs, William Slade pleaded guilty, pointing out to the court that it was the first time he had ever been in trouble. He was sentenced to the roads for six months, the sentence to begin at the direction of the court at any time during the next two years. He was fined \$25, taxed with the costs, and ordered to refund the cost of the furs.

Preston N. Spruill pleaded guilty of allowing an unlicensed driver to operate a motor vehicle and was fined \$25 and taxed with the costs.

Pleading guilty of the unlawful removal of crops, Bob Dail was fined \$25 and taxed with the costs.

Judgment was suspended upon the payment of the costs in the case in which Kay Ward, Jr., was charged with careless and reckless driving.

The apparent victim of a cruel world, unwanted by society and without hope of any support from an aged mother, John Henry White went into court and pleaded guilty of vagrancy. The colored man is an epileptic and has experienced hunger and privation on frequent occasions. He imbibes freely when intoxicated and is to be had, and has presented problems when kept at the county home. The court suspended judgment in the case, and the defendant returned to his wandering on the streets and alleys of Williamston.

White was given sanctuary Tuesday night at the county home for the present, at least.

Charged with an assault, Oscar Cabe was found not guilty.

Louis B. Mitchell, down from White Plains, New York, pleaded guilty of drunken driving and was fined \$100, plus costs.

One of the first cases involving

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Slightly Hurt In Car Accident

Mrs. Herbert L. Whitley was painfully but believed not badly injured in an automobile accident about three miles from Williamston on Highway 125 at the Community Church Tuesday night. No one else was injured.

Driving their 1953 Oldsmobile toward Williamston, Mr. Whitley was forced off the road by an approaching car in a curve. When he tried to drive back onto the road, he lost control of the machine which skidded across the road and a ditch and crashed into a telephone pole. Mrs. Whitley was thrown out of the car and was bruised about her face and body. She was able to continue to her home here.

No official estimate on the damage could be had immediately, but a member of the highway patrol said that the loss possibly would approximate \$900 or \$1000.

EDUCATION BOARD

Meeting next Monday, the Martin County Board of Education is scheduled to employ an architect for the proposed Negro high school in Robersonville. Plans for the project are to be pushed as rapidly as possible.

A site of approximately nine acres and adjoining the present Negro school plant, has been purchased for around \$9,000, it was learned.

Enter Into Contract For Surfacing Local Streets

A contract was entered into yesterday morning by the town and the White Construction Company for the surfacing of two local streets. The projects include that portion of Elm from Washington Street to Main, and a street between Wier's Coffee Shop and the Roanoke-Dixie Warehouse, running from Washington Street to an alley near the plant of the W. I. Skinner Company.

Only two bids were submitted and the Kinston firm was low with a bid of \$1 per square yard. The other bid, submitted by F. D. Kline of Raleigh, was for \$1.25 per yard.

The contract calls for the shaping and compaction of the streets

and the laying of sand asphalt two inches thick. No completion date was mentioned, but the contractor of February.

Town forces recently graded the streets and laid a rock dust base for the asphalt. There are approximately 6,000 square yards in the streets, including the one near the warehouse which measures fifteen feet and eight inches in width.

The contract was let at a special meeting of the board yesterday morning at 11:00 o'clock.

The town and Coast Line are about to get together with the promise that Railroad Street from Washington to Smithwick will be paved sometime in early 1954.

HEALTH OFFICER

The position of health officer for this county has been tentatively filled, according to unofficial information received here today. Members of the health board recently interviewed a second applicant, and the offer has been tentatively accepted.

The board is scheduled to meet with the applicant within the next few days to confirm the acceptance, it was learned.

Surrenders After A Brief Freedom

Following a freedom period of less than two days, Allen Warren, Jr., surrendered to Sheriff M. W. Holloman near the Martin-Pitt border late Tuesday night and turned over to prison authorities.

Warren, sentenced from this county last September to the roads for six months in each of three forgery counts, escaped from the Halifax camp last Monday afternoon. His companion, Joe Gurganus of Belvoir, was arrested Tuesday night in Kinston, it was reported.

Warren told the officer that he and Gurganus hired a taxi to take them to Scotland Neck and another to carry them to Oak City late Monday. They hired a colored man near Oak City to carry them to Kinston where they spent the night. Following a casual argument, Warren said he and Gurganus separated in Kinston. Warren rode a bus out of Kinston to Greenville and hired a taxi to bring him to this county. After talking with relatives and friends, Warren surrendered.

The following defendants charged with speeding, pleaded guilty and each was taxed with

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Zoning Survey Map Completed

A zoning survey for the town has been completed by a representative of the North Carolina League of Municipalities, and the map will be placed before the zoning commission at an early date, it was learned this week.

The map and recommendations are to be studied by the commission in a meeting with Leigh Wilson of the League. Following that meeting the commission is expected to carry the proposal before the town commissioners for final consideration.

The map has not been made public.

Consider Half Holiday Schedule Year Around

A number of local merchants and other business men are considering Wednesday afternoon closings the year around excepting that period from the tobacco opening through the Christmas season.

The plan is to be submitted to all local business operators within the next few days for consideration, it was learned today.

Forecasters Are Guessing On The Outlook For 1954

Attorney General Brownell Puts The President In Hot Water

Washington—There is considerable debate among the economic experts today as to whether 1954 will really bring with it a recession. Ever since 1951 the predictions have run strongly on the pessimistic side. But by late 1952 they were almost unanimously pessimistic.

For instance, in October of 1952 McGraw-Hill predicted an eight percent drop in manufacturer's investment programs. Instead of a drop, though, investments kept going up in 1953. McGraw-Hill said the election changed things, which might be true. But even so, the same business predictions have been heard for twenty-four months now, and they have all proved incorrect.

Government figures so far show little indication of a recession. There is a definite leveling off, since defense expenditures have reached a peak and are settling to a constant level, and since supply has caught up with demand in such trades as the automotive.

But government figures for the first nine months show general business activity continued to rise despite all the spring predictions that summer and fall could see a definite downturn, in business activity. Just recently several prominent business experts have changed their tunes—they now see good business in 1954.

Some economic experts continue to say there will be a drop of as much as ten per cent in business next year but some are now predicting there will be an increase of as much as five per cent! No doubt there are many signs of a leveling-off, but the question is whether they are signs of a recession.

Some of the forecasters, and some publications, are striving to prove that their predictions far back, were correct. They may

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Holds Position In Big Company

William B. McCloskey, brother of Mrs. J. D. Woolard of Williamston, was this week given responsibility for the operational groups of the Davison Chemical Corporation, according to an announcement released yesterday by M. G. Geiger, president of the big chemical firm.

Mr. McCloskey who has visited here on quite a few occasions, was made vice president of the company with headquarters in Baltimore last May 1. He went with Davison in 1930 from the National Fertilizer Association.

He is now responsible for the operational groups of engineering, production, traffic, purchasing and industrial relations, it was said.

Big Legislative Events Scheduled In This County

Cutting Five Billion Off Arms Costs And Lowering Manpower

Washington—Things are going to start happening so rapidly in Washington soon that it will take a quick eye to follow them.

As the boom of the Jan. 1 whistles marks the new year, taxes that bring five billion dollars annually to the Treasury automatically expire.

Simultaneously, half the nation's pay checks will be altered as social security deductions—both by employees and employers—rise automatically January 1 from one and one-half percent to two percent.

A few days later, Jan. 4, President Eisenhower goes on radio and TV channels to give the nation a preview of his new legislative program. On January 5, the President will explain the program to Democratic congressional leaders at the White House.

Congress itself comes back next week, January 6.

On Jan. 7, Mr. Eisenhower goes in person before the Senate and House of Representatives to deliver his State of the Nation Message, which is a more detailed spelling out of what he wants Congress to accomplish.

Then in quick succession come the budget message and the annual economic report.

What all this means is that the wheels of Washington will be turning again, full blast, soon.

Advance signs indicate a substantial increase of partisanship over the year just concluded.

In fact, most observers feel the country will be lucky if it escapes heavy political weather as the two parties stiffen their positions in Congress, as things are now shaping.

Simultaneously, attention is turning to economic prospects. The big stake in 1954 is the congressional election next November. Nearly everything done on the domestic front will be directed toward it. It now appears that economic conditions as such as political conditions may affect the result.

Dr. Gabriel Hauge, one of President Eisenhower's top two economic advisers declares the economic outlook is "good" for 1954 no matter how it is figured.

On the other hand, Senator Paul H. Douglas (D) of Illinois, who is a former professor of economics, declares that "a real recession" is already here.

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Robersonville Stores To Be Open January 1

Contrary to a previous announcement, Robersonville stores will remain open for business as usual. The bank will observe the day as a holiday and there'll be no rural mail deliveries, but the stores will remain open, Mr. Chas. Wilson announced.

Mobile X-Ray Unit Coming To This County Next Week

The North Carolina State Bureau of Health in cooperation with the Martin County Health Department and the Martin County Tuberculosis Association is sending two mobile X-ray units into this county next week to make a mass tuberculosis survey. The service is free to all persons fifteen years of age and older.

One of the units will be stationed in Main Street Williamston from next Wednesday, January 6, through January 23. A second unit will be stationed at the Williams-ton basket factory one day only on January 6. Leaving the basket factory, the unit will move to Oak City on January 7 for a three-day stay. It will be in Hamilton on January 12, and in Jamesville for two days on January 13 and 14. After a stay of one day—January 15—it will be in Robersonville on January 16 to remain through January 23.

It takes only one or two minutes to get a chest X-ray, and one does not have to undress for it, just merely remove all metal objects from clothing. A confidential report will be mailed each person who has an X-ray made. There is no cost to the individual, and every person in the county is invited and urged to have an X-ray made.

Contest To Cite Progress Made In North Carolina

High School Pupils Invited To Participate In The Special Event

High school students of Martin County today were invited to participate in a Statewide contest offering more than \$6,000 in prizes.

The invitation was extended by bankers of Martin County who are promoting "The Big Change", an oratorical contest sponsored by the North Carolina Bankers Association, it was announced by Mr. D. V. Clayton, chairman for this county.

The contest is designed to call attention to North Carolina's progress since the turn of the century, and to cause high school students to devote some thought to how this progress may be continued in the future.

The contest will begin with high school eliminations during the first week of March, 1954. The winners from each high school in the county will compete on March 10 to determine the county winner.

The county winners, in turn, will compete on March 17 in group eliminations. The State has been divided into ten groups for the contest, roughly ten counties to the group.

On March 24, the ten division winners will compete in division eliminations. The State has been divided into three divisions for purposes of the contest.

On March 31, the three division winners will compete in the State Finals in Raleigh.

There will be prizes on all levels, with the three finalists winning \$1,000, \$500 and \$250 respectively. Each county winner will receive a \$25 Savings Bond; each group winner will receive a \$100 Savings Bond. The three division winners will receive \$500 cash.

The Bankers Association, in sponsoring the contest, points to the remarkable progress made in North Carolina during the past half century—in education, in industry, in farming and in general welfare.

The number of school teachers today is almost three times as great as in 1900. There were less than a dozen colleges in North Carolina 50 years ago; today there are 59. There were 20 public high schools in the State in 1900—today there are 959.

In 1903, cotton farmers in North Carolina received \$28 million for

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Leaf Allotment Values Increase

Martin County farmers—a few at least—are looking forward to a good year, according to a report coming from a tobacco allotment lease sold at auction in front of the Martin County courthouse here yesterday at noon.

The town of Williamston offered its 47 acre tobacco and 1.6 acre peanut allotments to cash lease and the high bid for 1954 was \$560, a figure \$50 higher than the lease bid for 1953.

The bidders started off with a \$325 offer. After jumping rapidly to \$500 the bidders moved more cautiously, making bids as low as \$5. Guy Thomas was the successful bidder.

The property where the allotments are owned by the town adjoins Woodlawn Cemetery and is a part of the Halberstadt farm.

President Tries For An Effective Harmony In Party

Treasury Set To Lose Five Billion In Tax Day Of New Year

Washington—President Dwight D. Eisenhower has already launched his public relations effort for 1954. Starting before Christmas Ike began inviting key congressional leaders to the White House.

He told G. O. P. legislators only teamwork could put the Republican program over in the final session of the 83rd Congress. As some of the lawmakers sat there, listening to Ike, they themselves didn't know what was included in his 1954 legislative proposals.

The President will go before a joint session of Congress on the 7th and end the speculation. He will outline a Republican legislative program which is more inclusive in benefits and scope than any ever before offered by a Republican President. It will almost amount to a continuation of most of the Democratic social legislation of the last decade.

Ike feels that only if the Republican Congress now in its last year enacts much of this program will the party be sustained in the fall's congressional elections. And only if the party is sustained in this year's elections will the party be in a position to make any further record in the remaining two years until the next Presidential election in 1956.

The President knows he is dealing with two elements in his party and his hope is that harmony meetings such as he initiated last spring will unify the party behind his program. It may be more difficult than Ike thinks, however, for it will be hard for some of the conservative members of the party in Congress to support some of the Presidential program.

Considering the stakes, Ike is doing the only thing he can do—attempting to solidify support in the GOP for the Presidential recommendations. It may be the toughest political job he has ever undertaken.

In spite of howls from the military, especially the Army, the Administration has gone ahead with proposed cuts and the latest report indicates the 1955 budget (which covers the year beginning

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Native Of County Dies In Norfolk

Mrs. Ellen Davis, native of this county, died at the home of her daughter in Norfolk Tuesday night at 11:00 o'clock. She had been in declining health for some time.

The daughter of the late Eli and Annie Gurkin Rogers, she was born in Jamesville Township 92 years ago in 1861, and spent most of her life in this county. About fifteen years ago she moved to Plymouth, locating in Norfolk seven years ago to make her home. She was the oldest living member of the Corinth Free Will Baptist Church in Jamesville Township. She was married in early childhood to Charles H. Davis who died some years ago.

Surviving are a daughter, Mrs. J. T. Nicholson, of Norfolk; two sons, Mack and Tom Davis, both of the old home community in Jamesville Township; nineteen grandchildren and thirty-one great-grandchildren.

The funeral service is being conducted in a Plymouth funeral home this afternoon at 2:30 o'clock by the Rev. P. B. Nickens, Baptist minister. Interment will be in the Davis Cemetery in Jamesville Township.

FIRST MONDAY

The first Monday in the year will find just about all public boards in session, but with no extensive business scheduled for consideration.

The county board of commissioners is slated for a fairly short session, its business limited mainly to routine matters. The board of education will discuss plans for a new Negro high school in Robersonville, and Williamston's commissioners have comparatively little business on their calendar at this time.

