

Superior Court In Recess Until Monday Morning

Thirty-four Cases Cleared From Criminal Docket First Three Days

After clearing thirty-four cases from the criminal docket, the Martin County Superior Court took a recess at 4:45 o'clock yesterday afternoon until next Monday morning when civil cases will be called for trial, including nine divorce actions. Quite a few cases were continued for one reason or another, but a court official pointed out that the criminal docket in this county is in good shape with about a dozen or eighteen cases on the docket.

Proceedings:
Charged with burglary in the first degree, Richard Dickens, young colored man of near Oak City, pleaded guilty of non-burglary breaking and was sentenced to prison for three years. Dickens broke into the Bunting store in Oak City last Saturday morning. It was brought out that he went through the Kader Hardison apartment in an attempt to escape from officers who arrested him in the apartment kitchen. Dickens had no one to say a good word for him, and he chose not to speak in his own behalf.

After arguing the question nearly 45 minutes, the jury returned a verdict of not guilty in the case in which Cora Lee, colored woman, was charged with breaking and entering and assaulting John Cherry with a deadly weapon.

Entering a plea of nolo contendere, William Kuntley Carraway, charged with the theft of \$160 worth of clothes from Capt. E. B. (Chuch) Simmons at the Wilson Hotel in Robersonville last May 20, was sentenced to the roads for twelve months. The road term was suspended for three years on guaranteed good behavior, payment of the court costs and \$120 for the benefit of Mr. Simmons. Carraway, it was brought out in the evidence, was found wearing Simmons' shoes last July. Carraway denied taking two suits of clothes, but did not offer to explain away the fact that the captain's shoes were on the wrong feet.

The case in which Willie Gorman stands charged with bastardy and non-support, was continued. Charged with false pretense, Curtis O'Mary pleaded guilty of issuing a worthless check and was sentenced to the roads for two years. The road term was suspended for three years on a guarantee of good behavior and on the further condition that he pay \$500 to Chas. H. Jenkins and Company at the rate of \$35 a month.

The case in which Elijah Manning is charged with assaulting and inflicting serious knife injuries on the body of R. Clayton Wilkins, was continued.

Charged with careless and reckless driving, Leon Earl Tetterton was adjudged guilty of following another vehicle too closely when he was tried in the county court and he appealed. When evidence was offered, there was the indication that careless and reckless driving was involved, and since the defendant had been tried and found not guilty on that charge in the county court, Judge Morris directed a verdict of not guilty, making it appear that the defendant could not be tried a second time on the same offense after he had been found not guilty.

The case in which Willie Gorman is charged with non-support, was continued.

Another little theft ring was broken up in court this week when Gainer Edwards, William Henry Williams, Charlie "Dick" Brown and William Arthur Outlaw, Jr., were sentenced in connection with the ring.

Receiving Treatment For Accident Injury

Eugene Whitfield, 15 years old, entered Martin General Hospital here last night for treatment of a shoulder injury received in a motor vehicle accident near his home on RFD 1, Oak City, earlier in the evening.

Details of the accident could not be learned immediately, but it was said that he was hurt when a truck was ditched and turned over.

His injuries were said not to be serious.

Proposed Roanoke Country Club House



Plans, matching those of the building above, have been tentatively adopted by the directors for the proposed Roanoke Country Club house, President Chas. I. Harris said this morning. Seventy-three members have been signed, but definite action is being delayed pending the sign-up of twenty-seven more members, it was explained. An option on a site about a mile from the town on Highway 17 has been taken, and work will be started on the project just as soon as the membership reaches the 100 figure, it was explained.

PROGRESSING

The Red Cross fund drive is making splendid progress in this chapter, according to a preliminary report released this morning by Chairman Hugh M. Martin.

The employee group in Williamston has exceeded its goal. The residential areas are nearing their quota along with Jamesville Township, Mr. Martin reported.

"The drive is really encouraging and we hope to have a fairly detailed report early next week," the chairman said.

Roy B. Barham, Butner Chaplain, To Speak Here

Will Appear On P.-T. A.
Program In High School
At 7:45 Monday

One of the most outstanding speakers ever to appear before the Williamston Parents-Teachers Association will address the meeting of that organization in the high school auditorium here Monday evening, March 22, at 7:45 o'clock. Chaplain Roy G. Barham from the Alcoholic Rehabilitation Center at Butner was secured for the March program after several weeks of intensive effort on the part of the program committee which found that he was in greater demand as a speaker than any other member of the Butner staff.

Chaplain Barham's talk will be introduced by a film, "Preface To A Life." A former chaplain in the Armed Services, Chaplain Barham has had a wide experience in dealing with many problems and is an expert on the subjects he will touch on in his talk. Because of the nature of the program, P.-T. A. officials are extending an invitation to the public to hear the speaker and see the film he is bringing with him. Attendance is not to be limited to P.-T. A. members but goes to all persons in this area. The business session of the organization will be of short duration and the entire program will not be long.

A door prize, seat prize and attendance prize will again be offered and members are urged to attend and bring their friends and neighbors.

Another Round In The Courts Today

After getting through by the "skin of their teeth," when they appeared in the Martin County Superior Court here Tuesday in connection with a series of robberies, five teen-agers are facing another round in the superior court this afternoon over in Washington.

The five young men, Onward Reason, William Roberson, James E. Moore, Bobbie Mims and William Barnes, are implicated in one or more of eight robberies and one larceny case over in Beaufort County.

The youths are being accompanied to Washington by their attorneys and relatives.

Boys Taken Off Probation By Judge Morris Yesterday

Placed on strict probation Tuesday in connection with a series of robberies in this county, two youths, Onward Reason and William Barnes, were recalled into open court yesterday afternoon and sentenced to state's Prison for not less than three and not more than four years by Judge Chester Morris who explained that there had been new developments in the case.

Probation Officer Harry Douglas, completing his investigation, pointed out that the two young men had been given bad conduct discharges from the armed forces. "If they could not be supervised in the armed forces, I don't propose to thrust them upon society," Judge Morris explained, adding that the record convinced

Evidence Paraded In Superior Court

While her mother pleaded in conviction in the bastardy and non-support case against John D. Skinner, a 14-month-old child paraded up and down before the jury and all around the bar in the Martin County Superior Court here yesterday afternoon, offering what was described as damaging evidence against the defendant. And the little bit of humanity went on to wet down the damaging evidence at the foot of the witness stand.

Eliza Williams, an expectant mother, offered some mighty damaging evidence, to be sure, but the innocent little tot climaxed it when she innocently and without pre-trial planning, paraded before the jury, wearing a cute little smile and displaying features described as resembling those of the defendant.

Spectators in the courtroom and the jurymen, too, smiled along with the proceedings as the tiny tot wobbled around the bar. About the only person in the courtroom wearing a serious expression was Sheriff M. W. Holloman who literally held his breath for fear Judge Morris might instruct him to nurse the little brat while the mother offered testimony from the witness stand.

Acting as if he had a house full of children of his own, the jurist did not let the incident trouble him as he pushed the trial to a hurried conclusion.

COMPLIMENTED

Martin County citizens, serving as members of the juries in the superior court here this week, were highly complimented by Judge Chester Morris when they were dismissed for the term yesterday afternoon.

"It has been a real pleasure to work with you men this week," Judge Morris said, adding that he didn't know when he had served with a group of men who had more sincerely grasped their duties and served better their county and fellow citizens. "Your county and its citizens can be proud of you and the work you have done here this week," the judge said.

Farm Bureau To Make Plans For Annual Meeting

Bill Little Will Discuss Parity Plans Friday At Special Session

Plans for holding the annual Martin County Farm Bureau meeting will be formulated and timely topics will be discussed at a special session of the organization members in the Martin County courthouse here tomorrow evening at 7:30 o'clock, it was announced yesterday by President Chas. L. Daniel.

The Farm Bureau will arrange its plans to have the annual meeting barbecue coincide with the fat stock show next month, it was pointed out.

"You have heard, no doubt, about the controversy about flexible and rigid parity. Mr. Bill Little (the field representative for the North Carolina Farm Bureau) will discuss parity and state the North Carolina Farm Bureau's stand on parity," Mr. Daniel explained in a letter released this week.

The Farm Bureau Federation on the national level is said to favor flexible price supports, and some leaders in the North Carolina Farm Bureau have been charged with favoring the Benson plan also.

There is no doubt about the position of the Farm Bureau members in this State and in Martin County, and Mr. Little's discussion of the issue will be welcomed, no doubt.

R. Flake Shaw, president of the organization in this state, points out that North Carolina farmers are against the flexible plan, but some doubt has been expressed about Mr. Shaw's position.

It has been said that the Farm Bureau and the Republicans are "sugar-coating" the Benson flexible price support plan. It has also been said that someone is working somewhere to lop off about four billions of dollars from the farmers' income.

A showdown on parity is expected next month in Congress. The meeting in the courthouse here tomorrow evening is open to the public, and farmers and other interested citizens are urged to attend.

Former Resident Died Last Night

Mrs. Annie Bright Gardner, 65, wife of C. H. Gardner, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Thebert Hardison, near Stokes Wednesday night.

Funeral services will be conducted Friday at 2:30 p. m. at Oak Grove Christian Church by the pastor, the Rev. John E. White, assisted by the Rev. Robert Lee. Burial will be in the Robersonville Cemetery. The body will be taken to the church at 1:30 p. m.

Mrs. Gardner, daughter of the late E. C. and Mary Huff Bright, was born and reared in Washington, N. C., where she was married in 1906. She later lived in Martin and Washington counties. She had lived with her daughter for the past two years. She was a member of Oak Grove Christian Church.

Surviving are her husband; two sons, Richard L. of Roper and Cyril H. Gardner of Roper; three daughters, Mrs. Thurman Ange of Williamston, Mrs. M. M. Johnson of Lake City, Tenn., and Mrs. Hardison; 12 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and one grandchild, Charles, and Leo Bright, all of Chicago, Ill., and Jack Bright of Washington, N. C.; one sister, Mrs. F. L. Sawyer of Washington, N. C.

Martin County Native Heads NCEA In Pender

C. Wade Mobley, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Mobley of Bear Grass, was recently elected president of the Pender County Unit of the North Carolina Education Association. This unit includes Superintendent T. T. Murphy who is the oldest superintendent in the state, five principals, and approximately one hundred white teachers of the Pender County Schools.

Mr. Mobley is serving his first year as principal of the Long Creek Graded School.

Judge Morris Places Keys To Penitentiary In Boys' Hands

Youths Placed On Strict Probation In Superior Court

One In Group Of Nine Gets Directed Verdict Of Not Guilty

Five Martin County teen-agers, pleading guilty of participating in one or more of four daring robberies in this county, were placed on strict probation in the Martin County Superior Court Tuesday. The judgment handed down by Judge Chester Morris, the presiding jurist, received general approval from the public.

Two other youths, connected with the robberies, escaped the strict probation terms. John Albert Cherry, convicted of aiding and abetting in the Henry Thomas store robbery, was sentenced to the roads for eighteen months, suspended upon the payment of a \$100 fine and costs. He is to surrender his operator's license for twelve months and remain of good behavior. The other youth escaping probation was Harold Barnes who entered a plea of nolo contendere. The court directed a verdict of not guilty in his case.

Placed on probation Tuesday, Onward Reason and William Barnes had their cases reopened yesterday, and Judge Morris sentenced the boys to State's Prison for not less than three and not more than four years.

After spending nearly two hours in the trial of Cherry and handling the preliminaries in the other cases, Judge Morris made some timely comments and the courtroom was steeped in silence as the jurist made ready to pronounce sentence.

James Moore, 19, was the first man called to stand up. The court sentenced him to six years in State's Prison. He was then placed on probation for five years, the court explaining that in addition to the usual probation terms special provisions "must be met during the five-year probationary period. The defendant is to surrender his driver's license for three years. He is not to be seen loitering on any street after 9:00 o'clock p. m. during the next four years. He is not to be observed day or night during the four-year period visiting a pool room or billiard parlor. He is to attend some religious services each Sunday unless prevented by sickness or other unavoidable reasons and appear at each March term of the superior court during the next four years and show that he has not violated the terms of probation. He was fined \$25, taxed with his proportionate part of the court costs and directed to pay \$75 for the benefit of Dewey Leggett, who told the court that he lost about 60 bushels of corn, that about 47 bushels were traced to a Greenville buyer.

James H. Price, the next in line of defendants, was sentenced to prison for five years for participating in three of the four robberies. The 16-year-old lad, placed on probation for five years, is to operate no motor vehicle for three years, stay off the streets after 9:00 o'clock at night, remain out of pool rooms, attend religious services each Sunday and report to the court each March for the next four years.

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COSTLY LIVING

John Adams, the colored man who "jokingly" shot and almost killed Angella Highsmith at the Little Red Rooster, a picnic joint near Hassell, may have received a suspended sentence, but he chose to tell Judge Chester Morris in superior court here yesterday that he did not know who lent him the pistol used in the last January 2 assault.

"You've been here this week and you have heard me say that if there's anything I detect it is lying," Judge Morris told Adams. "You have lied on the stand," the jurist told Adams, just before sentencing him to the roads for twelve months.

FINANCIAL STUDY

Town Treasurer C. M. Cobb and Attorney Chas. H. Manning conferred with members of the Local Government Commission in Raleigh yesterday in connection with a proposed \$200,000 local bond issue for financing a street paving program here.

The town representatives are expected to report the results of their study with the commission members at the next regular meeting of the board of commissioners.

Schedule Thirty Civil Cases For Trial Next Week

Court Not Likely To Attract Much Attention During Its Second Week

Scheduled to clear its criminal docket this week the Martin County Superior Court is expected to call thirty civil cases for trial next week, the county being in addition to nine divorce actions that occupy a first position on the calendar for trial next Monday. The second of the two-week term is not expected to attract much attention. With possibly one or two exceptions the civil cases are of minor importance and for the most part only small sums are involved.

A brief review of the cases on the civil calendar follows: The aged boundary line case of N. L. Roberson against W. L. Manning is back on the docket after prolonged referee hearings.

In the case of Mrs. Annie L. Roberson against D. C. Williams, Jr., the plaintiff is asking \$7,000 damages, alleging the defendant misrepresented the facts in a timber transaction, and failed to incorporate certain stipulations in a timber deed. The case has been continued on two or three occasions.

A title to certain property in Williamston is involved in the case of J. B. Cherry against J. F. Thigpen and others.

J. S. Crandall is suing Garland Wynne for \$70 alleged due him. Critcher Brothers are suing Atlas Plywood Corporation for \$1,390.84.

A boundary line is involved in the case of K. S. Bunting against Colletta Dewey and others, the plaintiff asking \$1,250 for timber alleged wrongfully cut on plaintiff's land.

In the case of Jasper Roberson against Mrs. Beatrice Corey and Nick Revels, the plaintiff alleged a lease has been broken and he is suing for possession of certain lands.

A boundary line is involved in the case of Mrs. Selma H. Heath

Brother Of Local Resident Passes

Grover Cleveland Carawan, brother of Mrs. Roy Peel of Williamston, died suddenly at his home in Belhaven early Monday afternoon following a heart attack.

The son of the late Wm. and Annie Neal Carawan, he was born in Belhaven, N. C., and moved to Belhaven 34 years ago where he was a member and elder in the West Belhaven Christian Church.

Funeral services were conducted in the church yesterday afternoon and interment was in the Belhaven Community Cemetery.

Surviving besides his sister here, are his widow, the former Miss Annie Tripp; five sons, Thomas E., C. Eugene, James E. and Grover Carawan, all of Greenville; and Ellie Carawan of the home; three daughters, Mrs. Lillian Nixon of Hertford, Mrs. Ruby Blanchard of Aydlett and Mrs. Marie Dudley of Kingston; 21 grandchildren; three brothers, Staten and Harvey Carawan of Rose Bay and Arthur W. Carawan of Pantego; one sister, Mrs. Luke Sawyer of Rose Bay.

Suffers Ankle Injury In Fall At Jamesville

Mrs. Lee Holliday suffered an ankle injury in a fall at her home near Jamesville last evening. The bone was not broken, according to information received here, and she was able to return to her home following treatment in a local hospital.

Court Admits It Knows Not What To Do In Cases

Judge Chester Morris Declares Youth Of Land Offer Problems

"I am going to give you the key to the penitentiary for a long time," Judge Chester Morris told seven teen-age boys when they appeared in superior court here Tuesday in connection with a series of bold robberies in the county from December 22 through January 29.

The jurist, visibly worried over the duty facing him and fitting the cases into a disturbing pattern in this State and throughout the land, was believed at one time to have been right on the verge of bundling possibly seven of the nine teen-age defendants off to prison. Earnest pleas on the part of defense counsel apparently substituted strict probation for the prison terms.

An eighth defendant, John Albert Cherry, pleaded not guilty when charged with breaking into and robbing Henry Thomas' store at the Sherrod farm near Hamilton. The owner, taking the witness stand, told how the store was entered and explained that goods valued at about \$80, were carried away. Sheriff M. W. Holloman told the jury that Cherry denied the robbery, but later admitted going there with six boys, maintaining that he did not enter the building. The 17-year-old defendant offered no testimony and chose not to argue his case before the jury. Judge Morris charged the jury on the angle of aiding and abetting robbery, and when the jury returned into open court for instructions he told the members that if they believed the evidence, the defendant could be found guilty of aiding and abetting. Less than fifteen minutes later, the jury returned its verdict, announcing the lad guilty.

Judge Morris, commenting the jury convicted properly on the evidence offered, looked at Cherry and said that he didn't believe the army wanted him any longer. Cherry had entered the service just as Sheriff Holloman was rounding up the group. Without further ado, Judge Morris sentenced the lad to the roads for a term of eighteen months, suspended for three years upon guaranteed good behavior. Cherry is to surrender his driver's license for a year and pay a \$100 fine and costs.

A ninth defendant, Harold Barnes, pleaded not guilty of breaking into the Everett school on January 5. The plea of nolo contendere was later submitted, and Judge Morris directed a verdict of not guilty to be entered in the records. "I am going to let him see what he can make of himself," the jurist said. When the fact started to walk out of the courtroom, Judge Morris called him back and said, "You better stay here, young man, and see what happens to your associates."

The other defendants, James Moore, Onward Reason, William Barnes, Bobby Mims, William Roberson, James H. Price and William Hardison, pleaded guilty in one or more of the four cases, and a showing was called for from both the State and the defense.

It was admitted by the State that all the boys came from good families, but it was frankly admitted that the boys, of most of them, stayed out late at night, prowling around the countryside and apparently had not realized the seriousness of their acts. Sheriff Holloman told the court that Moore and Roberson were very cooperative following their arrests, that Mims, after denying any connection with the robbery, was cooperative.

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