

Twenty Cases In County's Court Monday Morning

Fines Add Up To \$445.00 In Session Presided Over By Judge Pele

Judge H. O. Peel and Solicitor Clarence Griffin handled twenty cases in the Martin County Recorder's Court during a short session last Monday. Fines, imposed during the session which ended before lunch, amounted to \$445.00.

Proceedings: The case in which Howard B. Lambert, Jr., of Camp Lejeune, was charged with speeding 65 miles an hour, was not pressed with leave.

Pleading guilty of drunken driving, Manning Harrington was fined \$200 and taxed with the costs.

When Joseph Chas. Newton of Norfolk failed to appear and answer to a 65-mile-an-hour speeding charge, the court ordered his bond forfeited.

Pleading guilty of operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license, Fred Summerlin was fined \$25, plus costs.

John Dalton Williams pleaded guilty of careless and reckless driving and was taxed with the costs.

Charged with drunken driving, William Tyson pleaded guilty of public drunkenness and was taxed with the court costs.

Charged with possessing illicit liquor, Mary Gladys Spruill pleaded guilty, explaining that she had the liquor on hand for medicinal purposes and that she was giving it to her sick children. She was fined \$25 and taxed with the court costs.

Pleading guilty of violating the liquor laws, Henry Clyde Price was sentenced to the roads for three months, the court suspending the road term for two years upon the payment of the court costs and a \$25 fine.

Charged with drunken driving, Harvey Modica pleaded guilty and was fined \$100 and taxed with the costs. He loses his operator's license for a year.

Ernestine Wright pleaded not guilty when charged with an assault with a deadly weapon. Adjudged guilty, she was sentenced to jail for thirty days, the court suspending the jail term upon the payment of the court costs and the prosecuting witness' doctor's bill.

Charged with an assault with a deadly weapon, Mayo Andrews maintained he was innocent. He did not convince the court, and he drew sixty days on the roads, suspended upon the payment of the court costs and a \$15 doctor's bill.

Joe Boston, pleading guilty, was fined \$25, plus costs, for operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license.

Pleading not guilty, Fannie Harris was adjudged guilty of an assault with a deadly weapon and was sentenced to jail for thirty days, the court suspending the jail term upon the payment of a \$25 fine and court costs.

James Price and Willie Frank Pierce, both of Pringleville, Florida, pleaded guilty of speeding 55 and 53 miles respectively in trucks, and each was taxed with the court costs.

Fred George Fourmier was taxed with the costs when he pleaded guilty of violating the motor vehicle laws.

Harold R. Lilley of Washington was taxed with the costs for speeding 65 miles an hour.

Pleading guilty of speeding 68 miles an hour, William H. Garvin of Taunton, Mass., was fined \$10 and required to pay the court costs.

George P. Mattica of Beaufort, (Continued on page eight)

BANK HOLIDAYS

May is a month with many holidays for banking institutions, but other business houses do not share in the holiday schedule in its entirety.

The banks will observe **Confederal Memorial Day** next Monday, May 10, as a holiday. **Mecklenburg Independence Day**, May 20, will also be observed as a holiday by the banks. **National Memorial Day**, May 30, will be observed by the banks and all federal offices on May 31.

Seine Fishing Season Ends In Roanoke At Jamesville

Seine fishing ended in the Roanoke at Jamesville late Monday when Owner-Operator C. C. Fleming pulled the large net the stream and packed it away for another year.

While the run of herring this year was about if not the largest on record, the season has been a poor one, Mr. Fleming explaining that the herring market has been unusually dull and that the catches of other fish were limited in size. "We netted hardly a dozen shad, and the rock catch hardly exceeded one hundred," the fisherman said.

The herring ran in such great numbers that it was impossible to handle the catches, and hundreds of thousands were returned to the stream. Operations were limited during days of the season to two hauls a day, reports declaring that the herring run was fairly consistent from early March up until just a short time ago.

Last Monday the fishery made eight hauls and by late afternoon the operator was convinced that the fish had just about disappeared for the season.

Approximately 300,000 prime herring were packed this year by the Jamesville plant in anticipation of the fall market. The green market was "shot" when individuals by the hundreds did their own fishing, it was explained.

Fewer rock were reported in the Roanoke this year than in any other season in recent years, unofficial reports stating that the choice fish had transferred to the Tar River where sizable catches have been made in recent days.

REGISTRATION

Saturday, May 8, is the second day for registering for the Democratic primary to be held on Saturday, May 29. It has been pointed out that one is not eligible to vote unless he first registers. As a rule a dozen or more citizens find themselves disqualified to vote when they visit the polling places each election.

Those whose names are already on the registration books will not find it necessary to register again. Those who will have reached their 21st birthday on or before next November 2, are eligible to register along with those who have moved into the county since the last election in 1952.

Less than sixty new names have been added to the list since the registration books were opened last Saturday.

Bear Grass Club Wins Prize Again

Chalking up an enviable record, the Bear Grass Home Demonstration Club has for the third successive year won an achievement bond, it was announced yesterday. The members are proud, and rightly so, of their achievement, and this was the reason for the award.

Under the guidance of the club president, Mrs. Chesley Jones, and the direction of the home agent, Mrs. Thad Harrison, the club accomplished much during the past year in addition to enjoying an enhanced social life.

Following is a brief review of the achievement of the club: Supplies were donated for a first-aid room at the Bear Grass school.

Gifts were made to the county home and individuals, including special articles for a needy mother and her six children.

A building fund was started for a community club house. Club members headed a successful cancer fund drive, and the club entertained the county federation meeting.

Programs were enjoyed in the fields of music, citizenship, health, safety and education.

The club also conducted special programs, held a bake sale, sent representatives to Farm and Home Week in Raleigh, and nine members went on a tour to New York City.

It was a busy year for the club, and its members are even more active in club programs this year, it was said.

Little League To Hold Big Barbecue

To finance the Little Baseball League here this summer, parents and other interested citizens are holding a big barbecue supper in the Farmers Warehouse Friday evening of this week from 6:30 to 9:30 o'clock.

Liberal citizens have donated pigs and the mothers of the youthful players are preparing the Brunswick stew and all the trimmings. The meal is reasonably priced, and a sizable patronage is anticipated.

Two hundred or more Little League membership tickets have been sold, and with a liberal support at the barbecue, the problem of finances will be solved for the most part.

Jurors Drawn For Duty Next Month In Superior Court

Judge Walter J. Bone Returning To Preside Over The One-Week Term

Thirty-four Martin County citizens were drawn by the county commissioners for duty during the one-week term of Martin County Superior Court convening the second Monday in June. Little Miss Beverly Daniel drew the names from the box.

Judge Walter J. Bone of Nashville is scheduled to preside over the term. Few or no civil cases have been placed on the calendar for trial during the short term. However, the court is expected to hear several divorce cases. A fairly large criminal docket is in the making, according to information coming from the clerk this week.

Names of those drawn to serve as members of the jury are: Jamesville Township: W. N. Perry, G. C. Lilley, James Smithwick, Grady H. Davenport and Linwood Brown.

Williams Township: Jasper Jones and Elmer Bell, Griffins Township: Bill Gay and S. D. Roberson.

Bear Grass Township: Charlie Brown, R. L. Williams and Guy Leggett.

Williamston Township: Fled. M. Taylor, B. F. Baldrice, Dolores Beard, K. Roy Cullipher, Ann Harrison, Bruce Chesson, D. L. Simmons, Perlie Gardner and C. E. Britton.

Robersonville Township: C. D. Taylor, L. B. Williams, H. A. Jenkins, Jasper Matthews, Geo. A. James and Willis Grant Vandercord.

Hamilton Township: H. J. Haislip, Richard Everett, Isaac Purvis, Wiley Goodrich and C. W. Johnson.

Goose Nest Township: A. K. Hale and W. E. Cannon. No one was drawn from either Cross Roads or Popular Point Townships.

Officers Installed By Local Jayces

By Wilbur Jackson

The Williamston Junior Chamber of Commerce held its tenth annual Installation and Ladies Night banquet and dance last night at the Scout Hut at 7:30 o'clock.

After a delicious turkey dinner, served by the ladies of the Christian Church, outgoing president Exum L. Ward introduced Edgar J. Gurganus, vice president, 10th District NCJCC and more recently a candidate for National Director. Mr. Gurganus introduced the speaker of the evening Jimmy Wallace, National Director, North Carolina Junior Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Wallace spoke to the group briefly and before installing the officers for the 1954-55 year told of the work done by the outgoing president Exum Ward.

Retiring president Ward is the only member of the Williamston club to ever be elected to the president's seat for a second term. When Exum took over the reins in May of 1953 the club was in very poor shape but under his guidance the club has once more grown and become one of the outstanding civic clubs in Williamston, Mr. Wallace remarked.

Mr. Wallace then installed the following officers for the 1954-55 year: Elbert S. Peel Jr., president; Sidney L. Christian, first vice president; Harvey Baggett, second vice president; Bennie Godwin, treasurer; Bobby Carter, sergeant-at-arms; Reuben Williams, State director; Bernard Harrison, Wilbur L. Jackson, Bruce Roebuck, Dick Bender, George Corey and Cecil Lilley, directors. Roddy Everett was to be installed as secretary but could not be present.

The following guests attended the meeting: Mr. and Mrs. Meyer Levin, Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher Thomas, Mr. Bob Cowen, Mr. and Mrs. James Boyce of Plymouth and Mr. and Mrs. Red Whitehurst of Plymouth.

After a few closing remarks by President Junie Pele, the meeting was adjourned with the dance to follow at 9:30 with music by Bobby Green and his orchestra.

Little Girl Suffers Relapse In Hospital

Little Miss Patsy Roberson who was burned in the home of her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Holliday, near here Easter Monday, was reported to have suffered a relapse in Duke Hospital yesterday. Members of the family were called to her bedside yesterday, last reports stating that she was gravely ill.

Drive For Cancer Fund Progressing Here This Week

Plan To Complete Canvass In Williamston During The Next Few Days

The cancer fund drive is progressing very favorably in Williamston and appeals are being directed to other parts of the county by members of the Home Demonstration clubs, it was learned.

No complete reports have been filed with the treasurer, D. V. Clayton, at the Guaranty Bank, but early returns showed \$301.04 collected.

The chairmen, Mrs. R. H. Goodman and Mrs. M. M. Levin, said it was planned to complete the drive in Williamston within the next few days, that the appeal in the county would be extended over the next two or three weeks.

Of the \$301.04 collected and reported to date, the Girl Scouts accounted for \$23.04, much of the remainder having been solicited by Mr. and Mrs. M. M. Levin, Mrs. Goodman and Mrs. D. Ross Fronberger.

Among the early contributors were: Williamston Peanut Company, Mathieson Chemical Corporation, Harrison Oil Company, Williamston Motor Company and Margolis Brothers, \$25.00 each; White's Heating and Sheet Metal Works, Carolina Yam Distributors, Williamston Supply Company, Woodard Furniture Company, Ann's Specialty Shop, and Clark's Pharmacy, \$10 each; Harrison and Carstarphen, \$12.50; Martin County Yam Growers, Hildreth Mobley, Corey Plumbing and Heating Company, Peele's Jewellers, Blue Star Cleaners, Jewelluck's, B. S. Courtney and Son, Worrell Appliance Company, and Harry A. Biggs, \$5 each; Willard Shoe Shop, \$7.50; Sam Zemon, \$2; Pioneer Shop, \$2; Mrs. Lucy Biggs, \$2.50; Mrs. Bob Bowling, \$2; Mrs. E. R. Fronberger, \$3; Jack Gray, John Vandlingham, Mrs. J. W. Williams, Garland Whittier, Julia Manning, Mrs. Ira Harrison, Woodard Hardware, Dillon Wayne Hopkins, Shoe Store, Mrs. Reg Simpson, Mrs. Jack Butler, Mrs. John Miller, Jr., Mrs. Rudolph Saunders, Mrs. R. D. Elliott, Mrs. Hildreth Mobley and Mrs. Ben Courtney, \$1 each; Mrs. Lorna Adkins, 50c.

Make Progress On Building Projects

Construction work is well advanced on three sizable commercial building projects here.

The walls are nearly complete and much of the steel has been placed for the large Belk-Tyler store building next to the Tar Heel apartments on the main street. The old building that housed the bus station for a number of years is being torn away and the remainder of the structural steel will be placed next Tuesday.

Most of the front wall has been constructed and main standing timbers have been placed for the New Deal tobacco warehouse on the highway bypass near Skewarkey.

Work is progressing rapidly now on a new home for the Martin Tractor and Truck Company which is also located on the bypass a short distance across Highway 17 from Skewarkey church.

Construction work is also under way on a few new homes, giving the immediate area a building program almost equal to the one in progress during the corresponding period last year.

Three Arrested At Liquor Still

Three persons were arrested and a crude illicit liquor distillery was wrecked in Robersonville Township at 8:15 o'clock last Monday night.

Spotting the plant earlier in the day, Officers Cecil Bullock, Roy Peel, Willey Craft and Garland Bunting established a watch. They did not have too long to wait before the operators came in and started making preparations.

The three men, Robert Williams, Ellis Ray Stokes and Thomas E. Staton, were placed under bond, and are to report for trial in the recorder's court next Monday.

The operators brought in four five-gallon jugs and a can of oil for the operation. The officers poured out about 200 gallons of mash and wrecked the crude oil drum still.

Democrats Planning Their County Convention May 15

With no meetings scheduled at the precinct level, Martin County Democrats plan to hold their biennial convention in the county courthouse on Saturday, May 15, at 10:30 o'clock, it was announced by J. H. Gray, Sr., chairman of the Martin County Democratic Executive Committee.

As far as it could be learned, no special business has been placed on the calendar for discussion, and according to the chairman, much of the meeting will be turned over to the politicians. Each candidate is to be allowed five minutes to say his speech. There are fourteen candidates who are participating in the current primary campaign on a strictly county level. It isn't likely that all the candidates will take advantage of the five-minute offer, and some are not expected to use all the time allotted them, meaning that the speech-making will hardly last a full hour. There are seven candidates at the township level, and it could not be learned if they plan to participate in the pow-wow.

Since no precinct meetings have been announced, all Democrats in good standing are invited to attend the county convention, where organizations will be perfected for the several political subdivisions and the county, as a whole. Delegates to the State convention to be held in Raleigh will be named at the county meeting May 15, along with the election of various committee members.

Haywood C. Pate, native of Williams Township, died at 9:30 o'clock this morning in a Washington hospital following a short illness. He had been in declining health for some time, and entered the hospital early this week for an operation.

Widely and favorably known as "Shorty," Mr. Pate was born in Williams Township 54 years ago on November 3, 1899, the son of the late Samuel and Louise Cherry Pate. He spent most of his life on the farm, but for a number of years did practical nursing, spending the last two years with a patient in Aurora where he had made many friends.

Surviving are four brothers, Charles, Jim and Samuel Pate, all of Williams Township, and Linwood Pate of Williamston; four sisters, Mrs. Julius Andrews, Mrs. Eva Hardison and Mrs. Noah Hardison, all of Williams Township, and Mrs. Robert Ausbrook of Roanoke Rapids. He never married.

He was a member of the Holly Springs Methodist Church for thirty years, and the pastor, the Rev. R. E. Walston, will conduct the last rites in the Biggs Funeral Chapel here on West Main Street Friday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock. Interment will be in the Andrews cemetery over in Williams Township.

Fatally Hurt In Logging Accident

Nathaniel Pitt, 27, was fatally injured in a logging accident near Jamesville Tuesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. Suffering multiple fractures of the leg and thigh and internal injuries, he died in a local hospital yesterday morning at 1:40 o'clock. One report stated that his thigh was almost torn off.

Employed by the Stacey-Hernon Lumber Company with headquarters in Oak City, Pitt was working with several other men. A falling tree cleared him, but it kicked back and knocked him into another tree. It was said it was necessary to cut the second tree down before he could be moved.

Pitt, a married man, lived in or near Oak City.

He was moved to the hospital in a truck.

Another employee of the company suffered a broken back in a logging accident near Hamilton several months ago.

Remodeling The Watts Theater

Plans for an extensive remodeling and modernization program for the Watts Theatre here have been completed and work on the project is to get under way Monday night the theater will be closed for about twelve days, Manager Noah Hardison said today.

The modernization program calls for the installation of the Cinemascope wide screen and stereophonic sound.

Included in the remodeling plans are enlarged rest rooms, reconditioning of all equipment, and lobby alterations. The interior will be painted, Mr. Hardison said.

Contracts have been let for the various types of work, it was explained, and the project will be rushed.

Not Interested In Civil Defense

It is now well established that local people are not interested in civil defense. However important the program may be, it is attracting little attention locally.

A civil defense meeting was held in the Scout Hut on South Smithwick Street Tuesday evening and seven persons attended, including Sgt. Lang and Chairman Williams. A picture of the atomic bomb explosions was shown.

Other meetings are planned here. It is understood that similar meetings have been largely attended in other centers in the county, that active organizations have been perfected.

County Board In Regular Meeting Tuesday Morning

Routine Business and Welfare Budget Study Occupies Commissioners' Time

Their meeting postponed on Monday when members were forced to be out of the county, the Martin County commissioners held their May session Tuesday when routine business and a study of the proposed welfare department budget occupied most of their time. All members of the board, including Messrs. C. C. Martin, Jimmy Gurkin, were present. The group and Clerk J. Sam Getsinger were guests of Commissioner Martin at a fish dinner at the Cypress Grill, Jamesville.

The board recommended two community road projects, one in Williamston Township running from a point where the road is now worked three-tenths of a mile to the James Bowen residence. The other is located in Robersonville Township and runs about 200 yards. It is known as the best road.

Representatives from the American Legion and Amvet posts in the county discussed the work of the veterans service officer, and the board said it would consider recommendations in making future appointments.

Miss Peggy Jordan who is succeeding Miss Ruby Lee Spencer who resigned some months ago as assistant home agent, met the commissioners. She is scheduled to enter upon her new duties about June 21, it was learned. Miss Jordan is from Smithfield.

Members of the county welfare board, including Mrs. Wheeler Martin of Williamston, and Messrs. Robt. Adkins of Robersonville and Nat Johnson of Oak City, met with the commissioners when the welfare budget was discussed.

Approved subject to some adjustments when the over-all county budget is considered sometime in June, the welfare cost estimates call for a total outlay during the next fiscal year of \$266,659.00 as compared with a figure of \$248,725.00 for the period ending the 30th of next month. The county is being asked to appropriate \$50,165.00 as its share of the cost of the program. Based on an estimated assessed property valuation of \$26 million, the new budget calls for a tax levy of nineteen and one-tenth cents on the \$100 property valuation as compared with a levy of nineteen and nine-tenth cents for the 1953-54 year.

To care for the old age pensioners in the county it is estimated that \$117,000 will be needed next year, the amount being the same appropriated for 1953-54. The county is being asked to appropriate \$11,050.00 as its share of the cost.

Dependent children are scheduled to get \$64,800.00, the county being asked to appropriate \$3,900 as its part of the cost. Aid to the partially and totally disabled will cost an estimated \$31,500, the county to pay \$4,500 as its share of the expense.

Aid to the blind will cost an estimated \$12,367.00, the county to raise \$2,242.00.

General assistance will cost approximately \$2,000, and the county is being asked to finance all of that amount.

Hospitalization, one of the big problems in the department, is being increased from \$12,600 to \$15,600 and the county is being asked to finance \$12,600 of that amount.

Administration costs are being (Continued on Page Eight)

Washington—The Senate passed legislation today increasing the penalty on tobacco farmers who market more than their government marketing quotas.

The penalty would be boosted from 40 to 50 per cent of the excess sales.

The increase had been requested by a majority of tobacco growers. Sen. Sessard L. Holland (D-Fla.) a member of the Agriculture Committee, said the legislation was designed to strengthen the tobacco price support program. He said it was not opposed in committee.

County Young Man Is Returning From Korea

After serving in Korea for the past thirteen months, Pfc. Andrew P. Mobley, Martin County young man, is now on his way to the States, according to information received a few days ago by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Mobley, of RFD 2, Williamston. He hopes to reach home about May 20.

He has been serving with the 40th Division.

AERIAL PHOTOS

Arrangements were made yesterday with an aerial photo service firm in Harlan, Iowa, to make a series of pictures of air photos of rural homes in this county.

The company has agreed to make about 52 pictures of farm homes at random for later identification.

It is planned to take the pictures within the next two or three weeks, and rural owners can add to the Martin County scene by cleaning up a bit around their homes and outbuildings. Similar photos are being made in other Carolina counties, and it is hoped that Martin County will show up well in comparison.

No assignments can be made, and no one can tell whose homes are being photographed. They can be identified only after the pictures are made available, and it is likely that subscribers of this paper will have to help make the identifications. During the meantime, residents of the county are asked to think nothing of it when the plane hovers low over their homes.

Fees And Fines Add To Treasury

Fees and fines collected in the various county departments, including the recorder's court, added \$3,383.38 to the county treasury last month, according to a report released by Auditor J. Sam Getsinger.

The clerk of court reported an income of \$2,188.45 from the county court, including \$920 in fines. The superior court accounted for \$100.30 and miscellaneous items added \$303.03. The sheriff's office reported fees collected in the amount of \$233.50, most of the amount coming from serving various types of papers. The office of the register of deeds reported fees in the amount of \$568.10. Deeded by various types of credit instruments for recording earlier in the year, the register pointed out that business was now about normal.

In his monthly report to the county commissioners, Tax Collector M. L. Peel said that \$373,717.08 of the \$408,845.85 levy for 1953 had been collected. The delinquent list is being prepared for publication next week and sale the first Monday in June. While the size of the list has been materially reduced in recent days, it is much larger than it was a year ago, according to a report coming from the collector's office. About \$14,629.04 of the \$395,431.83 levy for 1952 has been collected. Only \$9,213.22 is due on the \$373,717.08 of the 1951. There is a balance of \$5,045.68 due on the \$337,575.17 levy for 1950, the collector reported to the commissioners.

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