

Quiet Day In The Recorder's Court In County Monday

Only Nine Cases Called and Very Small Attendance At Session Reported

The Martin County Recorder's Court experienced a real old-fashioned summer slump in its business last Monday. Only nine cases were on the docket and the attendance upon the one-hour session was hardly large enough to furnish the defendants.

Judge H. O. Peele and Solicitor Clarence Griffin ran out of witnesses and a few defendants did not show up, the court directing the clerk to issue capias for the arrests of one alleged law violator.

Although the defendants were few, the fines added up to \$295, including a \$50 one assessed against a speeder.

Proceedings: Pleading guilty of drunken driving, Willie Clyde Hassell was fined \$100 and taxed with the costs. He loses his operator's license for a year.

Charged with speeding 70 miles an hour, Edgar Clarence Stewart, Jr., pleaded guilty and was fined \$15, plus costs.

Pleading not guilty when he was charged with speeding 80 miles an hour, Murray Clemmons Liverman was adjudged guilty of speeding in excess of seventy miles an hour but not in excess of 75 miles an hour. He was fined \$50 and taxed with the costs.

Vernon George Pleasants, Jr., and Alan Elmer Brown both pleaded guilty of speeding 65 miles an hour and each was fined \$10, plus costs.

Judgment was suspended upon the payment of the court costs in the speeding case brought against Peggy Lou Dunton.

Frank A. Rhodes pleaded guilty of speeding 70 miles an hour and was fined \$10 and required to pay the court costs.

Withdrawing his appeal to the superior court, Brownie Whitehurst pleaded guilty of drunken driving and was fined \$100, plus costs. His driver's license was re-

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Miss Handy 1954 Jaycees' Queen

Miss Lee Handy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Handy of Williamston, was chosen "Miss Williamston" at the annual Jaycee beauty pageant and sweetie pie contest held in the high school auditorium here last evening. Chosen from a field of twenty-two candidates, Miss Handy was crowned queen by Mayor Robert H. Cowen before an overflow crowd, estimated at more than 700 persons. The new Jaycees' queen will represent Williamston in the Miss North Carolina beauty contest to be held in Burlington July 15, 16 and 17.

Second place winner was Miss Patty Williams, followed closely by Miss Joan Carol Coltrair.

In the sweetie pie division of the pageant, twenty-four little folks participated. Little Miss Mary Ann Williams was crowned Little Miss Williamston of 1954 by Junie Peel, president of the Williamston Jaycees. Mary Ann is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Williams. Second place went to Little Miss Renae Cannon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Cannon and the third spot was taken by Little Miss Judy Taylor, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Taylor.

SCHOOL

Meeting in the courthouse Tuesday evening, the Martin County Board of Education completed plans for the construction of a new \$225,000 school building in Robersonville.

Final approval of the plans by the department in Raleigh is expected this week, and bids are to be advertised within the next few days, it was learned.

The board at its meeting this week discussed plans for enlarging and improving other school properties, but final action is to be delayed until budget figures can be brought into line, it was explained.

Explorer Scouts Ready For Long Trip



Presented checks by John Hatton Gurganus, Williamston Explorer Scouts (left to right) Danny Manning, Tommy M. Parker, Ronnie Reece, Billy Carstarphen and Henry Handy, Jr., are all set for a trip to the Philmont Scout Ranch at Cimarron, New Mexico. Two boys other who are to make the trip and who are not included in the picture are Joe E. Clayton and Murray Strawbridge. Traveling by charter bus, the boys are to leave from Camp Charles on Saturday, June 5, and be away three weeks.

Robbers Make Big Haul At Filling Station Near Here

Striking sometime between midnight and this morning, robbers just about cleaned out Rick (Red) Carson's Amoco station about a mile south of Williamston on Highway 17, according to a report coming from the sheriff's office.

Breaking a rear window, the robbers entered a store room, and loaded up merchandise and other items valued in the hundreds of dollars. A preliminary check shows \$10 in pennies missing from a gallon jug, \$10 in nickels missing from a cigar box, \$7 in change missing from the cash drawer, two 6.50-by-16 six ply Dunlop truck

tires, a Strunk red power saw, valued at about \$300, twenty cartons of assorted cigarettes, seven cartons of various brands of chewing gum, a small electric drill, an electric razor, four boxes of New-cornier cigars and four boxes of Tampa Nuggetts.

State Bureau of Investigation Agent Fentress is working on the case with Sheriff M. W. Holloman, but no leads could be had immediately, it was learned.

The sheriff's department is also looking for three nice hams stolen from Farmer Kader Lilley's home in Griffins Township last Saturday night.

FIRST MONDAY

Little business other than that of a routine nature has been placed on the calendars for consideration at the regular meetings of the Martin County and Williamston town commissioners next Monday. The county officials are likely to hold a second meeting later in the month and study budget proposals for the various county departments.

If Williamstonians favor the bond paving program in the election tomorrow, it is likely the town board will make plans for advancing the program.

Teacher Places Filled Locally

Two of the six positions made vacant in the local school faculty by resignations have been filled already, and applicants for the other places are being interviewed, Principal B. G. Stewart announces.

The grammar school has earned an additional teacher and Miss Frances Peterson of Harrells has been named to fill the position. Miss Harrell is graduating from East Carolina College in August.

Mrs. Harrell Taylor, a member of the Everetts faculty, is transferring to the school here and will teach the fourth grade. Miss Mary Saunders is transferring from the fourth to fill a position made vacant there.

A member of the Everetts faculty for some time, Mrs. Beatrice James is succeeding Mrs. Henry Winslow as teacher of the sixth grade.

Victim Of Accident Improves In Hospital

Suffering fractures of the right wrist and right leg in an automobile-train accident near Pinetown last Sunday noon, Edward Gleen Price, 21, of Jamesville, was reported improving in a local hospital last evening.

Three other patients in the hospital are nursing broken limbs as a result of accidents.

Native Of Town Dies Suddenly At Home In Suffolk

Funeral Plans Incomplete For Mrs. Mary Louise Tallon Carstarphen

Mrs. Mary Louise Carstarphen Tallon, a native of Williamston, died suddenly at her home in Suffolk, Virginia, sometime during last night. Members of the family found her dead this morning, the end coming as she slept. She had experienced a minor heart ailment during the past year, but it was not considered serious, and apparently she was in her usual health when she retired late last evening.

The daughter of the late James K. and Fannie Martin Carstarphen, she was born in Williamston 54 years ago and spent most of her life here. After completing the local schools she attended St. Mary's School in Raleigh. Following her graduation there, she was employed in a Wilson law office for several years before accepting a position in the law offices of Dunning and Moore in Williamston. Later she represented a manufacturing firm in this State. About fifteen years ago she went with a law firm in Suffolk, making her home in the Virginia city since that time.

She was married in Charlotte to Clyde A. Tallon of South Carolina, and was a member of the Episcopal Church.

Surviving are two children, a son, C. Al Tallon, and a daughter, Miss Mildred Martin Tallon, a 1954 graduate of the Suffolk High School; and a brother, Mr. Frank Carstarphen, of Williamston.

Funeral arrangements had not been completed early this afternoon.

Mr. Carstarphen and members of his family were called to Suffolk early this morning to be with his niece and nephew.

Motor Vehicles Left Off Books

A serious discrepancy in the listing of motor vehicles for taxes is being gradually uncovered in this county, according to unofficial but reliable reports heard today.

An incomplete study of the tax books reveals inaccurate listings in numerous instances, and in others no listings are on the books to match State registrations.

It was revealed that many owners listed model vehicles ranging from one to three years older than the corresponding registrations.

Tax authorities would offer no plan of action, but it is fairly apparent that the tax laws have been flagrantly violated in hundreds of cases, making the property owners subject to indictment and prosecution in the courts.

It will take considerable time to complete the check which is expected to uncover tens of thousands of dollars worth of property that rests outside the realm of taxation.

Sister Of Local Resident Passes

Mrs. Bettie Lou Jones Gurganus, sister of Mrs. J. B. Sullivan of Williamston, died in a Greenville hospital yesterday morning at 5:30 o'clock. Funeral services are being conducted in Greenville this afternoon at 3:00 o'clock, and interment will be in Greenwood Cemetery, Greenville.

She was 21 years of age and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Jones, Sr., of near Arthur, where she spent most of her life and where she was graduated from high school in 1951.

Surviving besides her sister here are her husband, James Edward Gurganus; her parents; two brothers, James and R. E. Jones, Jr., of the home; six sisters, Mrs. H. B. Harris, Jr., of Greenville, Mrs. J. G. Hart of Levittown, Pa., Mrs. J. B. Aldridge of Norfolk, Va., and Peggy, Zilda and Connie Jones, all of the home; and her paternal grandmother, Mrs. Emma F. Jones of Snow Hill.

Lennon Finally Concedes Scott Senate Victory

Kerr Scott Came Through With 9,000-Vote Lead Over The Field

Holding out until the last vote was counted, Senator Alton Lennon yesterday finally conceded the primary election last Saturday to W. Kerr Scott after the two had rolled up the largest number of votes ever recorded in a Democratic contest in this State.

The complete but unofficial count gave Scott a 9,000-vote lead over the field in the race for the United States Senate, the winner leading his nearest opponent 311,828 to 286,592 votes.

Scott carried at least fifty-seven of the 100 counties, while Lennon steered most of the larger ones into his column.

Now that the voters have spoken, they are waiting to see who to appoint to fill the position made vacant by the death of Senator Clyde A. Hoey. The people are also anxious to learn who the State Democratic Executive Committee will nominate for the position. Governor Umstead's appointment is effective only until the November election when the nominee of the State Executive Committee will go before the voters in the general election. It has been rumored that the Governor and the Executive Committee will work hand in hand, meaning that the Governor's appointee and the Committee's nominee will be the same person.

It is apparent that the cards are stacked against a liberal man or one whose views will coincide closely with those held by the man the people nominated last Saturday.

During the meantime, it is expected that some of the rotten tactics employed in the recent campaign will be aired in the federal courts. Mayor Kurfess of Winston-Salem is said to have

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Realizing the need for a street improvement, representatives were sent to Raleigh to present the matter to the local Government Commission. This is the state agency which supervises the debt structure and activity of all towns, cities, and counties in North Carolina. We were advised by this commission that a \$225,000 project could be undertaken by the town without approaching its debt limit too closely.

In view of the above situation and advice, your Mayor and

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Drive For Cancer Fund Incomplete

The annual drive for the cancer fund in and around Williamston is not yet complete, according to a report coming from the chairmen this morning.

Up until late yesterday, \$656.89 had been raised and reported, including \$39.04 from the colored citizens.

It is possible that the assignments had not been handled in a few instances and that some of the canvassers had delayed making reports. The chairmen of the drive are anxious to complete the campaign, and are urging all workers to make their reports just as soon as possible.

Suffers Broken Knee In Fall At Plant Here

Dan Gurganus, employee of the Marvil Packing Company, suffered a double fracture of the right knee cap in a fall at the company's plant here early Monday morning. The young man stumbled on the iron floor and folded his leg under him.

He is a patient in Martin General Hospital.

Starts Campaign Against Typhoid In County Monday

Protection will be given at the clinics only against typhoid, health officials explaining that no shots for diphtheria or whooping cough will be offered.

As many as fifteen thousand people have been immunized in a single year in the past, but the number reporting to the clinics in this county has gradually dwindled. The fever has made its appearance in a limited way during recent years, and immunization is still considered necessary.

A schedule of the clinics appears in this paper, and the public is asked to study it and report to the clinic nearest them. Thursday, June 10, and Thursday, June 24, have been set aside for the immunization program at the health center in Williamston.

Voting On \$225,000 Street Project Friday

Town Authorities Issue Statement On Election Eve

Express Opinion The Program Will Not Increase The General Tax Rate

Williamston citizens will go to the polls at the town hall tomorrow (Friday) between the hours of 6:30 a. m. and 6:30 p. m., and approve or disapprove a \$225,000 bond issue, designed to finance an extensive street paving program.

In connection with the program the mayor and members of the town board of commissioners released the following statement this week, and addressed to the people of Williamston:

"Your Mayor and Board agrees that the condition of streets in town is not in keeping with the progress and growth which we have enjoyed during the past several years. It is felt that it is the duty of the governing body of a town to make available to the citizens all possible improvements that money borrowed to pay for same does not place the town close to its debt limit.

"Recently several petitions were filed with the town calling attention to the very large proportion of dirt streets and their bad condition. These petitions were signed by a very large percentage of the qualified voters of the town and they asked that a street improvement program be undertaken to pave as many streets as possible.

"Realizing the need for a street improvement, representatives were sent to Raleigh to present the matter to the local Government Commission. This is the state agency which supervises the debt structure and activity of all towns, cities, and counties in North Carolina. We were advised by this commission that a \$225,000 project could be undertaken by the town without approaching its debt limit too closely.

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Jamesville Club Sponsors Drive

Sponsored by the Jamesville Woman's Club, the cancer fund drive is now under way in that township, it was announced this week by Mrs. Edgar Brown, chairman.

An earnest appeal is being directed to all the people of the township, urging them to support the drive and help advance research and treatment to combat the dread disease.

Commended For Saving Man's Life In County

H. G. Corey, engineer, and J. W. Bryant, trainman, were commended by F. B. Robbins, superintendent of the A. C. L.'s Norfolk division, a few days ago for saving the life of Russell Sherrod after he was run over by a train at Oak City on May 22.

The commendation note reads: "You are commended for your prompt and resourceful action in tying the arteries of Russell Sherrod on the morning of May 22. It must be a source of satisfaction to you that by this deed you saved a human life."

Suffers Attack At His Home Near Hassell

Suffering an attack at his home near Hassell last Sunday, Mr. Eli Edmondson continues quite ill there. Mr. Edmondson is 86 and has been unusually active up until a short time ago.

Work Started On New Main Street Station

Construction work was started this week on a new filling station for the Baker Oil Company here. The station, measuring 30 by 45 feet, is located on the corner of Main and Henderson Streets.

Power Company Allowed Boost In State Rate

Increase Going Into Effect As Of June 1. Boosts Income By \$232,000

The State Utilities Commission yesterday ruled Virginia Electric and Power Company is entitled to raise its rates \$235,000 a year in North Carolina and let the increase go into effect starting June 1.

Commission Chairman Stanley Winborne took 29 pages to summarize the case, review evidence presented in public hearings and set out the Commission's findings. More than 18 additional pages were attached to list the new and revised rate schedules.

The meat of it all was packed in one word: "Uniformity."

VEPCO, stressing uniformity, contended the increase was needed to keep its rates in North Carolina in line with those it charges in Virginia and West Virginia.

The Commission contended that to forego uniformity might give VEPCO grounds for demanding even more.

Cites Record Winborne wrote that the hearing record showed clearly that VEPCO was not earning in North Carolina anywhere near what it is earning in Virginia. Even after the increase, he said, the company's return on its North Carolina investment would not exceed 3.96 per cent. In Virginia now, thanks to a recent increase there, it's earning better than six per cent.

"Of this," he wrote, "we are definitely certain: That if this Commission should reject uniformity of rates with Virginia and attempt to segregate the North Carolina properties and fix rates which would provide a fair return upon the investment of the company in its North Carolina

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HEALTH OFFICER



Dr. Sam Graham, Jr., Martin County's new health department head, entered upon his new duties this week.

Weather Review In This Section For Past Month

Temperatures Held To Low Point and Frost Hit During May

This section experienced unusually cool weather during a greater part of May when the mercury ranged as low as 35 degrees and a light frost struck on the eleventh.

Except for the mercury, the weather held to about normal, High Spruill, bridgekeeper on the Roanoke, stating that the rainfall was less than one-fifth of an inch below average, and that the river varied in depth hardly more than four feet during the period.

The mercury went to a high reading of 89 the second and third of May and then tumbled without regaining that level again during the remainder of the month.

The weather data, including the river gauge readings, as released by Mr. Spruill for the month of May follows, with the date in the first column, the river range 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	7.9	37	58	0
2	7.8	38	63	0
3	6.8	39	64	0
4	6.2	79	45	*
5	6.2	67	45	*
6	7.1	73	42	0
7	7.4	79	42	0
8	7.5	76	60	05
9	7.3	74	42	0
10	5.9	70	45	02
11	4.7	75	35	0
12	4.9	78	41	0
13	6.6	69	50	0
14	7.5	59	51	1.43
15	7.6	60	52	31
16	7.6	75	54	01
17	6.8	35	54	*
18	5.4	33	55	0
19	4.7	74	58	11
20	4.9	73	55	.58
21	5.3	69	51	.26
22	7.5	73	45	0
23	8.4	78	43	0
24	7.8	80	45	0
25	6.6	78	55	0
26	7.5	85	57	0
27	8.1	79	62	*
28	8.2	80	60	*
29	8.4	87	65	.16
30	8.6	81	64	.75
31	7.6	83	58	0
Total				3.68

* Indicates Trace of Rain

Recreation Center Open At Club Saturday Night

For what is planned to be the last time this summer, the Recreation Center will be operated at the Woman's Club this Saturday evening from 8 to 11 o'clock with Mrs. Joseph Griffin and Mrs. J. C. Eubanks as chaperones. Mrs. Mable Arnold will again be on hand in the early part of the evening to give dancing instructions.

Except for a party to be given later in the summer, this will be the last activity for the young people sponsored by the Woman's Club which has been operating the recreation center on a temporary basis only.

Heavy Blow Dealt Liquor Traffic

A heavy blow was dealt the illicit liquor business in this county during the past few weeks, according to a report filed by ABC Officer Cecil Bullock and his assistant, Wiley Craft.

During the month of May twelve persons were arrested and charged with violating the liquor laws. Eight of the twelve have been convicted, the sentences running up to four years. Suspended sentences added up to sixteen years. Six are awaiting trial in the courts.

The officers wrecked twenty distilleries, poured out nearly twenty gallons of white liquor and 5,350 gallons of mash.

A 1952 Ford car, carrying a cargo of liquor, was seized. Last week the officers raided in Goose Nest Township and arrested Leamon Lanier, 34, and Haywood Myrick, 25, at a crude manufacturing plant. The two men, now at liberty under \$250 bonds each, are booked for trial in the county court next Monday.

The two men were carrying sugar and wood to the plant when the officers arrested them.

Seven other plants were wrecked during the week, including four in Bear Grass and one each in Cross Roads, Robersonville and Hamilton.

Adversity surrounded a plant wrecked in Bear Grass Township this week, the officers saying that the plant was equipped with a small submarine type still and only fifty gallons of mash was on hand.

BANQUET

The Williamston Boosters will install new officers, including president, vice president and three directors at their annual banquet Friday evening at 7:30 o'clock in the Scout Hut on South Smithwick Street.

Mr. Jerry Albright of the North Carolina Department of Conservation and Development is to address the meeting. Special music will be furnished by the Melody Masters.

Ladies of the Christian Church will serve the meal.