

Drainage Trial Ends Wednesday Evening

Judgment Signed By Judge Malcolm Paul Here Today

Trial One Of Longest In The Superior Court In Recent Years

After floundering around since Tuesday of last week, the trial of the No. 3 Martin County Drainage District was tenderly salted down in the records here this morning, making the end of one of the longest court contests in the county during recent years. And it ended in a victory for neither side.

After the evidence was completed Wednesday afternoon at 4:15 o'clock Judge Malcolm Paul, presiding, ordered two separate recesses of about ten minutes each to study his notes, already having heard lengthy arguments from several of the battery of lawyers in the case. Returning to the bench about 6:20, the jurist delivered his decision orally which, in substance, follows:

The railroad company is to be given ten days notice before the drainage district contractor will be allowed to cross any one of the five points on the railroad;

The drainage district is to cut the canal under the railroad, install culverts at two points and back fill except for the lay of the track. The railroad company is to reimburse the drainage district for filling, the amount to be paid by the company not to exceed \$200.

The railroad is to build three trestles.

No official figures could be had, but the cost to the railroad will approximate \$13,000.

The district, pointing out that the railroad company under the law must bare the expense of enlarging the openings under its track, had assessed the company as much on its right-of-way. The \$200 indirectly represents the assessment against the company, but falls far short of the amount the district had asked.

The judgment as it relates to the pulp company, briefly stated, provides:

For the exclusion of the company's lands: thirteen acres from Tract No. 1, eleven acres from Tract No. 18, and eighteen acres from Tract 211-E.

The remaining acreage (approximately 900 acres) is to be retained in the district and be assessed at the rate of fifty percent of the Class E assessment. The Class E assessment is \$4.50 an acre, and the judgment lowers it to \$2.25 per acre. The judgment also makes provision for a change in the assessment in the event the pulp company decides to dig canals through its lands in the district. Should that be done, the assessment will be fixed at \$4.50 an acre, meaning the pulp company will be expected to pay approximately \$2,250.

There is no appeal from the decision reached in a circuitous manner.

Finding their lands—approximately 19,000 acres—badly in need of drainage, around 300 property owners in the general area of Robersonville-Parmer-Flat Swamp started out more than two years ago to create a drainage district. The project, later known as Martin County Drainage District No. 3, progressed without too much trouble until...

RECOGNIZED



At the regular meeting of the Lions Club last Thursday evening at the Scout Building, Roger Roberts was awarded the coveted honor of being "The Lion of the Year", the presentation being made by retiring president Fletcher Thomas. The award went to the club member, who was chosen as the one who had done more for the club during the past fiscal year. Roberts has served as chairman of the club-sponsored ball game machines, the proceeds during the last twelve months being \$1561.45 with twenty percent going to the club for use among the blind and visually handicapped.

H. Dallas Gardner Died In A Durham Hospital Tuesday

Four-Year-Old Lad Had Been In Poor Health Most Of His Life

Henry Dallas Gardner, four years old, died in Duke Hospital, Durham, Tuesday night at 11:15 o'clock. The little fellow had been sickly all his life, suffering with an up-side-down stomach. He was on the way to make medical history but the shock of a series of major operations was too much for his frail little body and the end did not come unexpectedly.

His parents had kept him in various hospitals in this State at intervals over a long period of time, specialists finally deciding to perform the series of major operations in an effort to correct the condition. The stomach was righted, but trouble was encountered in lengthening his windpipe. He had been in the hospital on the last trip since the latter part of last week.

The son of Maurice and Lucy Lilley Gardner, he was born in Williams Township four years ago on September 5, 1949. Surviving besides his parents are three sisters, Mrs. Hazel Morgan of Richmond, and Joyann and Judy Anne Gardner, both of the home, and a brother, Maurice Wayne Gardner, also of the home; and his paternal grandfather, Mr. Wheeler Gardner, of Williams Township.

The funeral service is being conducted this afternoon at 4:00 o'clock in the Siloam Methodist Church where the lad attended Sunday school when he was able. The Rev. William Davenport, pastor of Plymouth, will conduct the rites. Interment will be in the family cemetery near the home.

Being Transferred To Newport News District

Dick Bender, for several years stationed here with the Virginia Electric and Power Company office, is being transferred to the company's office in Newport News. It is with deep regret that the people learn of the transfer. During his stay here, Mr. Bender built a new home in West End, was active in Boy Scout work and prompted the general interest of the community. After reporting this week to his new assignment, he plans to return and spend a few days before moving his family to the Virginia city.

Iranian Doctor Making Study Of Health Problems

County Health Department Visited By Dr. Greg Saroukhanian Recently

Holding a degree from Tehran University in Iran, Dr. Greg Saroukhanian is today completing a hurried survey of health work and problems in this county. The young medical man stated he was impressed with the progress being made in this country, but explained that the problems in this part of this country are a bit similar to those in his own.

Completing a course in public health at the University of California recently, Dr. Saroukhanian stated that he came to the southeast for his field training to learn how midwifery is controlled, the doctor explaining that there are few or no midwives in California or none where he was stationed. Rural health problems in the South are more like those existing in his country, and the doctor was keenly alert to the methods and practices employed in solving those problems.

Although midwifery has no place in an advanced society, the doctor said he was impressed by the expert control over the system. It was fairly apparent that he had gained some valuable pointers in solving the problems, that he will employ many, if not all of them when he returns to Iran next month. "We have no control over the midwives at home," the doctor explained, intimating that there is much room for improvement.

The doctor spoke of the friendliness of the people, and showed special interest in the race problems, suggesting that economic conditions had a place in the picture, especially in the South.

Coming to this country on a scholarship, Dr. Saroukhanian was appreciative of this country's Point 4 program, declaring that it has meant much to his native land and to other countries throughout the world.

After working with Dr. Sam Graham and the nurses and observing their work in the clinic at Jamesville on Tuesday, the doctor spent yesterday and part of today in the field with Sanitarian W. B. Gaylord, Jr., studying sanitation and the program that is being advanced to improve it. The visiting doctor is returning to Raleigh today and will make a quick tour of parts of Georgia before leaving about the ninth of August for his home in Tehran.

Dr. Saroukhanian said that the University of North Carolina and Johns Hopkins University were possibly better known in his country than any other institutions in the United States. "You hear both of them referred to often," he said.

The Iranian apparently enjoyed his stay in this area, Sanitarian Gaylord said.

Everetts Plans An Observation Unit

Plans are being advanced for establishing an observation post in Everetts in cooperation with the Civil Defense program, it was announced yesterday by Edward E. Mobley. The first organizational meeting is scheduled for 8:00 o'clock in the evening of Monday, July 26, Mr. Mobley said. The session is to be held in the Everetts school and the public is urged to attend. Civil Defense officials pointed out recently that an aircraft observation post is needed in Everetts to obtain adequate coverage in this area insofar as spotting of aircraft is concerned in the event of a national emergency. Similar posts are being maintained throughout this and other states, it was explained.

United States Air Force Personnel will be present to explain our defense requirements to be followed with a movie showing the simulated destruction of one of our largest American cities. Persons volunteering for duty with the Observation Post will not be required to participate daily. Participation will be required only during practice exercises, emergency alerts and in the event of a national emergency. Young and old may take part in this vital Defense Program.

Crop Conditions Continue Critical In Parts Of County

Rains, falling last week-end brought great relief to most of this county, but crop conditions in other areas, especially in the Hamilton-Hassell-Oak City area, continue critical, according to reports heard here yesterday. As a whole, this county has far better crops than those in many sections outside this area, but the conditions in the northwestern part of the county is said to be pitiful along with large areas throughout large sections of this and other states.

Light rains brought some relief even to the worst stricken areas, but the relief was said to be negligible. Farmers in the upper part of the county were said to have harvested just about all their tobacco in two "pullings", averaging less than 100 sticks per acre in some instances. The corn crop in the same areas was said to be so dry that a single match could ignite and cause to burn entire fields.

MEETING

Williamston's Civic Improvement Committee is meeting early this afternoon to discuss plans for furthering the current clean-up, paint-up movement. During the meantime, the movement is gaining momentum and several property owners have been directly commended for handling projects, it was learned from Mrs. Margaret R. Whitley, chairman of the Awards Committee. Other projects are being observed, it was said.

No One Injured In Street Wreck

No one was injured but property damage, estimated at about \$450, resulted in a three-vehicle crash on the main street near J. Paul Simpson's office here about 5:40 yesterday evening. John Robert Wynne, driving a pick-up truck, stopped for traffic ahead of him, and Bob Tarkenton, driving a 1950 Buick, stopped in line. Albert Clarence Biggs, driving a two-ton truck belonging to the Tilton Coltrair Truck Line, crashed into the rear of the Buick when the truck brakes failed. The Buick was knocked into the rear of the Wynne pick-up.

Damage was centered mainly on the Buick. Officers Roebuck and Haislip, said following their investigation. The popularity of June for weddings dropped off considerably last year when only thirteen marriage licenses were issued in the county. In 1953 there were 28 licenses issued, and the year before the count stood at 34. Fifteen licenses were issued during the month just ended, ten to white and eight to colored couples, as follows:

Boy Scouts Make Report To Club

Four of the seven Williamston Boy Scouts who made a trip to the scout camp in New Mexico as short time ago, spoke to the local Rotary Club at noon Tuesday at the Switch. Billy Carstarphen, Joe Clayton, Danny Manning and Ronny Reece told about the long bus ride, where and how they ate and slept and all about their stay in camp and the long hikes they made in the hilly country of New Mexico.

Report \$52 - \$54 Averages On Georgia Markets Today

An optimistic note trickled northward today as the Georgia-Florida tobacco markets opened the 1954 marketing season. Early reports released by the government market service and individual markets placed the average for early sales at \$52 to \$54, a price that seemed to be satisfactory and cause for optimism. Most sales fell in the 45-63-cent bracket and ranged mostly from a low of 10 to a high of 65 cents. The government was getting from five to twelve percent of the early offerings, it was stated. Quality of the crop was described as much better than anticipated. The first-day offerings were large despite the earliest opening in the two-state belt. Demand was "good". The market at Fitzgerald with 250,000 pounds on its floors, reported prices ranging from 10 to 65 cents.

Defendant Gets Prison Term For Drunken Driving

Fines Add Up To \$518.00 At Regular Term Of Court Monday Morning

After observing Monday, July 5, as a holiday, the Martin County Recorder's Court politely squeezed the superior tribunal out of the courtroom to hold its regular session on Monday morning at 12:45 o'clock, the county court invited Judge Malcolm Paul and his superior tribunal back from the commissioners' room where work on the No. 3 drainage district case was in progress that morning. Since Solicitor Clarence Griffin was tied up in the drainage case, Attorney Hugh M. Martin prosecuted the docket and Judge H. O. Peel cleared forty-eight cases from the docket before quitting for the day.

One defendant, charged with drunken driving and operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license, was sentenced to the roads to serve six months. Total fines added up to \$518, including \$258 assessed against speeders and \$260 against the other nineteen defendants. Pleading not guilty, Raleigh Bell was found guilty of non-support and was sentenced to the roads for six months. The road term was to be suspended upon the payment of the court costs and \$10 a week for the support of his children during the next two years. Bell appealed and bond was fixed in the sum of \$100.

June Marriages Below Average In This County

More Whites Marry In June Than In Any Other Month So Far This Year

June is gradually slipping as the month of weddings in this county, according to a report coming from the office of Register of Deeds J. Sam Getsinger. The issuance of marriage licenses last month in the county was the smallest for any month so far this year. At the same time there were more whites married during the period than in any other month. For the first time this year there were more marriages among the colored, the records show.

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White

H. D. Carter, Jr., and Janet Christian Ross, both of Williams-ton.

William Alton Harrison and Jerald Lee, both of RFD 2, Williams-ton.

James Elwood Holliday of RFD 1, Jamesville, and Anna Margaret Daniels of Jamesville.

Nathan Russell Roberson, Jr., of Robersonville and Margaret Ruth Haislip of Oak City.

Sidney Bryant of Askeville and Shirley Jones of RFD 1, Robersonville.

Mack Alden Roberson of Everetts and Patricia Annie Wynne of Williams-ton.

Stephen Edwin Manning, Jr., and Nancy Manning Gurkin, both of RFD 1, Williams-ton.

William Elmo Baird and Helen Rogalski, both of Camden, N. J.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Sheppard of RFD 3, Washington and Myrtle Ruth Bennett of Washington.

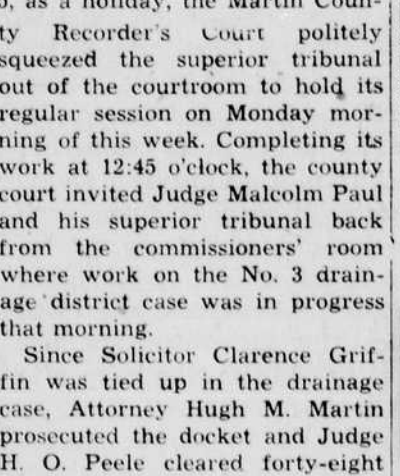
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Construction At New High Peak In Section

General Building And Road, Street Work Booming

Contractor Starts Work On Street Project; New Lumber Mill

PRESIDENT



W. H. (Shag) Abernathy was installed last week as president of the Williamston Lions Club, succeeding Fletcher Thomas in the post. In the absence of Deputy District Governor Ben D. Courtney who was attending the Lions International Convention in New York, Wheeler Manning officiated at the installation ceremony.

Twenty-Nine In County Court On Speeding Charge

Fines Ranging From \$10 To \$15, Add Up To A Total Of \$258

During a two-week course, the motorists on Martin County highways piled up the speeding cases, but they were rapidly cleared from the docket in Judge H. O. Peel's court last Monday. Twenty-nine speeding cases were on the docket, and fines, adding up to \$358, were imposed in all but four of them. The fines ranged from \$10 to \$15.

The defendants were from all parts of the county, including a few in this immediate area. All the defendants pleaded guilty. The following cases were cleared from the docket before the court was adjourned at 12:45 Monday afternoon: Charged with speeding 70 miles an hour, Octavius Manning, colored, of 318 S. 7th Avenue, Mt. Vernon, N. Y. was fined \$15, plus costs.

Levi Curley of Philadelphia was fined \$13 for speeding 68 miles an hour.

Judgment was suspended in the cases in which James Thomas Hill of Norfolk, William Hubert Deans of Wilson and Russell Earl Bunch of Beaufort were charged with speeding 55 miles an hour in trucks.

Judgment was also suspended upon the payment of the court costs in the case in which James Bell of RFD 1, Williams-ton, was charged with speeding 50 miles an hour in a 35-mile zone.

Booked for speeding 55 miles an hour in a truck, Willie Redford Sawyer of Washington was fined \$10, plus costs.

Charged with speeding 65 miles an hour, each of the following defendants was fined \$10 and taxed with the court costs, or a total of \$33.05: Russell W. Hanson of Clayton, New Mexico, Leon Bray Nobles of Siler City, Jonas Braxton Harrell of Colerain, Charles McNeil, Jr., of Hassell, Carolyn Sally Hogan of Miami Beach, Cecil W. Fry of Edenton, Homer Jimmie Rosser of Cleburne, Texas, Charles William Jones of Taylorville, Illinois, Joseph Spanger of Bayside, N. Y., Milton L. Franklin of Howard Beach, N. Y.

Jerome Williams of Columbus, N. J., Eugene Watson of Baltimore, William Curtis Little of Parmele, Edward F. Price, Jr., Philadelphia, William D. Bernardi of Astoria, N. Y., Lewis Loring Carter of Brunswick, Ga., Lamar Williams, of Gray, West Virginia, Joseph Panichilli of Philadelphia, Conrad C. Palumbo of Little Falls, N. J., Robert Henry Schultz of Maspeth, N. Y., and H. L. Manning of Rocky Mount.

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Services

Following the successful dedication of the new building last Sunday morning, Dr. Warren Hastings has been conducting a series of evangelistic services in the Christian Church here each evening at 8:00 o'clock. The congregations have been unusually large, taking the capacity of the main auditorium and balcony. Dr. Hastings, pastor of the National City Christian Church, Washington, D. C., concludes his mission Friday evening of this week.

BOND SALE

The town of Williamston, through the local Government Commission, Raleigh, will offer for sale on Tuesday, July 27, \$115,000 street improvement bonds, it was announced today. The bonds, expected to sell for a premium, mature annually, \$4,000 from 1957 to 1965, \$10,000 from 1966 to 1972, and \$9,000 in 1973, without option of prior payment. They are being issued in \$1,000 denomination, and interest and principal are payable semi-annually.