

Court Breaks Wednesday at Noon; Many Cases Heard

JUDGE BONHAM'S STYLE AD-MIRIBED BY ATTORNEYS OF LOCAL BAR

The Court of General Sessions for Horry County, during its second week of the term, came to a sudden adjournment at noon on Wednesday. Upon the failure to try Bigham, the Solicitor found himself with only a few small matters on hand, his desk having been cleared to be ready for the Bigham trial, hence there was nothing to do.

This was Judge Bonham's first visit to Horry county in the capacity of Presiding Judge, and he has made a lasting impression on the attorneys at the bar and on all the court attendants. Doubtless few Judges have ever presided in this court, it is the consensus of opinion, who has shown a greater conception of the duties of a Presiding Judge, or has handled the Court with greater dispatch. All grades of cases have been tried before this Court and in each instance Judge Bonham has taken occasion to inquire as to the status of the prisoner, with a view of meting out punishment proportionate to the crime and in keeping with the status of the perpetrator thereof.

This is the first court held in this county since the resignation of Mr. F. F. Covington, and the newly appointed stenographer, Mr. J. W. Wilkinson shows a thorough knowledge of the position.

Possibly more matters were disposed of at this term than at any previous term of the criminal court for this county, due partly to the fact that these cases were tried with the dispatch with which Judge Bonham handled the court, and quite a number of pleas of guilty; and it is a noticeable fact that less than a half dozen defendants came clear at the hands of a jury.

George Sellers and Cleveland West were tried for manufacturing liquor and were acquitted.

Sue Mishoe went to trial for assault with intent to kill, charged with shooting at the car of G. G. Anderson and convicted of simple assault. He later also plead guilty to simple assault in a similar case and paid \$50.00 fine for both cases.

Arthur Hammond plead guilty to violation of the prohibition law and was sentenced to serve six months, with four months suspended.

The case against Edgar Grainger for a similar offense was continued.

A case which attracted considerable attention was that of D. K. Tyler and Gert Shannon, charged with assault and battery with intent to kill upon the person of one Spence Doyal, a crime which was committed some few months ago at or near the home of Nancy Allen above Bayboro. Tyler's sentence being two years and Shannon's eighteen months. These defendants' attorneys gave notice of appeal to the supreme court after having been denied a new trial, and the defendants were released on a \$500.00 bond each.

Guthrie Strickland, a white man living near Green Sea stood trial for murder charged with the killing of a negro boy some months ago. He was acquitted by a jury, the State's testimony indicating clearly and to the satisfaction of the jury that the killing was done in self-defense.

Another murder trial, that of W. Roy Tyler and Ottaway King charged with killing a young Hardee boy resulted in a directed verdict of not guilty at the close of the State's testimony. This was the young man whom the coroner's jury found to have been killed by blocks falling from a log truck near Bayboro, but subsequent to the coroner's finding kindness of young Hardee in the community swore out a warrant and had these men put on trial for their lives. It was clearly evident from the state's evidence that there was no basis for the prosecution as brought out by the testimony.

A young negro girl, Mary Cox, of Conway, who killed a negro boy in Conway just a few weeks ago was found guilty by a jury and sentenced

BAPTIST'S PLAN ENLARGEMENT CAMPAIGN

SEVERAL OUT OF TOWN SPEAKERS TO BE HERE CONWAY CHURCH LEADING

What promises to be the most significant forward step among the Baptist people of Horry county will come with the putting on of the Enlargement Campaign beginning next Sunday.

Every Sunday school worker of the church is alive to the prospects before them and are ready with all necessary preparation to take hold and work for definite results.

There are to be four Baptist Field Workers from out of the city who will be engaged with the home workers in placing every dept. of the church next to its most inviting task. These workers come from many sections and are expert in the departments where they are to lead.

Classes will be taught in all the essentials of the work and recognition for work accomplished will be shown at the close of the week. Beginning with this Sunday these training classes and conferences will continue through March 27th.

Many churches from the surrounding communities will send their workers by night to receive the benefits of these classes. Every one engaged in church work is welcome and urged to take part with the Baptist church at Conway in these privileges.

Maple, Good Hope, Salem, High Point, Juniper Bay, Cedar Grove, Grace Chapel, Tilley Swamp, and White Oak are among those churches promising to attend and co-operate in this campaign. All others are just as eligible as these.

Among the workers teaming out of town there will be Mr. J. L. Corrine of Columbia, the Supt. of Sunday School work of South Carolina; Miss Elizabeth Nuckols, the Elementary leader; Mrs. Boatwright, who will conduct classes in Primary work, and Mr. Favel of North Carolina, one of the most competent workers of that state.

The Sunday school will expect every worker and pupil in place at 10 o'clock Sunday morning.

The census of the entire town will be taken in the afternoon. A full conference of all leaders and workers will be held on Sunday night immediately following the address of the evening.

Let every Sunday school worker of Conway feel free to attend any and if possible all of these services.

Dr. White of Fountain Inn, this state, will come on the 27th, and preach for the following week.

In its religious life Conway has some rare privileges just ahead.

John Beck, a young white man of North Carolina, stood trial for violation of the prohibition law, was convicted of transporting and sentenced to three months on the chaingang.

F. R. Sessions plead guilty of violation of the prohibition law and paid a fine of \$50.00, while Woodrow Collins, a young white boy of Myrtle Beach, received a fine of \$75.00 under plea of guilty for the same offense.

Will Small, a young white boy from near Adrian, was convicted of a similar offense and paid a fine of \$30.00 with a suspended sentence over him.

Early Weavil of Green Sea, who cut and seriously wounded young Bruce McNeill of near Conway several months ago, after a hard fought case, was convicted of assault and battery with intent to kill and sentenced to five years imprisonment. His attorneys promptly gave notice of appeal to the supreme court and he was released on a \$2,000.00 bond.

Tobe Causey charged with rape on a young white girl in the Salem community was sentenced to serve not less than two and a half nor more than five years on the chaingang. This was all the state would allow, and the presiding Judge remarked in sentencing him that he was sorry under the circumstances he could not give him more.

Dermis Chestnut charged with seduction was tried and it resulted in a mistrial.

GRAND JURY MAKES FINAL REPORT RECOMMENDS REPAIRING OF JAIL

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, COUNTY OF HORRY.

To the Honorable M. L. Bonham, Presiding Judge:

The Grand Jury desires to submit herewith its final report for this term of the Court of General Sessions:

1. The Grand Jury, has passed upon all bills of indictment handed out to it, and has returned them to the Court with its findings thereon.

2. In reports of the Grand Jury for the past several years, recommendation concerning the Jail building have been made. We have carefully investigated the condition of this public building and find it in need of immediate repairs. The roof seems to be leaking; all around the walls of the jail, water was literally pouring through the sides of the building and running down the inside walls during the rain storm that came up while our committee was investigating. We recommend that the delegation include sufficient funds in County Expense bill to make these necessary repairs.

We wish to call further attention as to the Jail to a recommendation made by the Grand Jury in items 2, 3, and 4 of its presentment at the term of September 29, 1926, as follows:

"We have very carefully investigated the conditions of this public building, and find that the white and colored prisoners therein have not been and cannot be kept separate; that the structure is decayed and dilapidated so that it is almost impossible to keep it in proper sanitary condition; that in the event of fire in the Jail building, it would be extremely difficult, if not impossible, to save the prisoners therein from destruction. These and other similar conditions made it necessary for us to recommend, in the interest of health and safety, the following:

"That the Jail building be entirely remodeled so that white and colored men and women prisoners may be kept separate, as provided by law, and so that the sanitary conditions may not invite or allow epidemics of disease, and so that danger to the life of prisoners by fire may be reduced to a minimum. In this connection, we further recommend that a heating system, a steam heating plant for the remodeled Jail be installed. To the end that the County Jail may be remodeled and a heating plant installed, we recommend that the County Delegation to the General Assembly of South Carolina be requested by the County Board of Commissioners of Horry County to give the written consent of the members of said Delegation to the expenditure of such sum not exceeding Seventy-five Hundred (\$7500.00) Dollars as will be necessary to remodel and reconstruct the Jail building and to install therein a steam heating plant; and that upon such written approval, the County Board of Commissioners proceed immediately to such reconstruction of the County Jail."

We respectfully call the attention of the County Delegation to this matter, and recommend that something be done as soon as possible.

4. We append herewith the report of the Committee on Public Schools and school teachers, as submitted to us by Kelly W. Jones and George W. Cartrette (See appendix 1).

We continue a committee on Public Schools and school teachers, as follows: Ed. W. Page, J. Hamp Hendrick, W. M. Carter.

5. We have appointed J. R. Holbert, C. H. Hardwick, and A. T. Collins, as a committee to serve with the foreman of our Grand Jury, to examine County Offices and Public Buildings, and to make report of same.

It is made the duty of this committee, with the Foreman as chairman and the attorneys and auditors selected by them to investigate thoroughly the financial condition of the County.

It is made the special duty of said committee to investigate the office of the County Superintendent of Education and all other offices and employees connected with the administration of schools and school finances for the following reasons:

A petition has been made and filed with Gov. Richards charging the County Superintendent of Education with incompetency, malfeasance, misconduct, breach of trust, misappropriation of public funds, neglect of duty, and breach of duty in office as ap-

pears by the copy of said petition hereto attached (See Appendix II) and made a part of this report. It is understood by the Grand Jury that after the filing of said charges and the specifications made, the Superintendent charged resigned the office before investigation was made by the Governor; and that the Governor accepted such resignation and, as the Grand Jury is informed, is willing that full investigation for the benefit of the County Administration of schools be made by the local authorities. The Grand Jury is also informed that an audit of the financial condition of the Superintendent's office has been ordered by the State Comptroller General with a view to the transfer of the office to the succeeding Superintendent, and that this audit has not yet been made.

In view of these conditions, the Grand Jury has directed the foreman and the aforesaid committee on County Offices to secure such aid of attorneys, auditors, and clerks, as may be necessary, and to investigate the condition of said office of County Superintendent of Education not only as to the charges filed with the Governor, but as to all matters and things, conditions and circumstances, pertaining to the administration of schools and school finances in the county and school districts of the county.

Believing that the actual monetary benefits of such investigation will fully repay such expenditure therefor, the Grand Jury recommends that the County Delegation in the General Assembly request the Legislature to appropriate out of the ordinary county funds for Horry County the sum of One Thousand (\$1000.00) Dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for this investigation, any balance to be returned to said County funds. The Grand Jury to distribute the responsibility for all expenditures of school funds according to the audit, made or to be made by the Comptroller General; but the committee need not await the completion of said audit or the transfer of said office to begin their investigation.

The Grand Jury, in aid of this investigation, requests the Court by special or general order to specifically give to the foreman of the Grand Jury full powers to issue all necessary process to obtain the attendance and evidence of witnesses before the committee on county offices charged specifically with this investigation.

6. Our attention has been called to the condition of Kingston Lake Bridge at Conway, as same has been reported to us as being unsafe. We recommend that the party responsible for up-keep of said bridge put same in safe condition at once.

7. We recommend that the salary of Rural Policemen be kept adequate to meet expenses and call the attention of our delegation to same.

8. We recommend that the County Commissioners have the large sign removed that was erected by Ocean Drive Estates, at the intersection of the Little River road with Highway No. 8, at Red Hill, a few miles east of Conway, as same is dangerous to traffic.

9. The Grand Jury makes the following presentment for crime:

(a) We present Russell Fowler, for non-support of his wife and family. Witnesses: Davis Gause, W. M. Smith, W. A. Canada, Orilla Fowler.

BIGHAM TRIAL IS POSTPONED AGAIN

Dr. J. C. Guilds to Speak at Methodist Church Sunday

On next Sunday, the 20th inst., Dr. J. C. Guilds will spend the day in Horry County.

At 11:15 A. M. he will address the Methodist congregation in Conway. At 3:30 P. M. he will visit the congregation at Poplar; and at night he will address the people of Aynor in the Methodist church there.

It is fervently hoped that he will be greeted by large audiences at each of these churches. Dr. Guilds wishes all the friends of Columbia College to know that he is not out on a "begging expedition." He will speak chiefly on the work of Christian Education and the operations of the Columbia College in that important field of the church's service.

Marion District S. S. Conference

The following is the program of the Marion District Sunday School Conference which meets at Murrell's Inlet, S. C., Thursday, March 31, 1927:

Morning Session

10:00—Worship service—Led by Rev. C. C. Derrick.

10:15—President's Message—Mr. W. M. Goldfinch.

10:30—Elementary Division—Miss Aleene Spivey.

10:55—"Call of Our Youth"—Mr. J. B. Gibson.

11:15—"Adult Possibilities"—Mr. Rev. A. J. Cauthen.

12:00—"Home Missions in the Sunday School"—Rev. L. W. Summers.

12:10—"Training Leaders"—Rev. A. C. Astor.

12:30—Appointment of Committees and Announcements.

Dinner.

Afternoon Session

2:00—Elementary Division—Mrs. V. E. Platt, presiding.

Adult and Administrative Section.

Mr. Herbert Hucks, presiding.

2:10—"The Workers' Council"—Mr. O. M. Mitchell.

2:20—"The Workers' Library"—Rev. W. O. Henderson.

2:30—"Sunday School Day and Offering"—Col. M. R. Smith.

2:40—"Grading and Promotion"—Mr. C. A. Monroe.

2:50—"Wesley Class Activities"—Prof. R. R. Harley.

3:00—Open Discussion.

3:30—GENERAL SESSIONS.

Report of Resolutions Committee.

3:40—Address by the Presiding Elder.

4:00—Business Session—Elections, selection of next place of meeting, etc.

4:30—Adjournment.

Will Be Recreation Director at Beach

Myrtle Beach, March 15.—Walter Johnson, Athletic Director at Presbyterian College, will be Director of Recreation at Myrtle Beach during the coming summer; it became known here Thursday following a conference with John T. Woodside of Greenville, President of Myrtle Beach Estates, and Colonel H. B. Springs, Vice-President. Mr. Johnson will have charge of the pavilion, bath house, concessions, bathing and other features to be installed by the owners, including a children's playground, tennis courts, etc. A popular first class orchestra will be engaged to furnish music for dances, concerts and special occasions.

TO BE HEARD HERE APRIL FOUR AT SPECIAL SESSION

The Bigham trial has again been continued, but is slated to come up at Conway at a Special Session of this term ordered by Judge Bonham, to be held during the week beginning Monday, April 4th.

The Solicitor announced one day last week that the case would be called on Wednesday of this week. At that time the attorneys for Bigham argued strenuously for a removal of the case to Florence county, claiming that they could not get a fair and impartial trial here. Mr. Arrowsmith, of Counsel for the state, agreed with the defendant's attorneys that it should be carried back to Florence, on the grounds of expediency and on the saving of expense to his county, but Judge Bonham declined to grant the motion.

On Wednesday morning, the deck had been cleared for the trial of the case, and the court room was packed and jammed. There was nothing like the same crowd in town, however, that there was at the former trial. When the solicitor announced "ready for trial" the defendant's attorneys, again moved for a change of venue, on the same grounds argued last week, but with an additional affidavit from Rev. W. O. Henderson, pastor of the Conway Methodist circuit, but Judge Bonham again refused to change the place of trial. The attorneys for the defendant then moved for a continuance, but stated that they did not wish to unnecessarily delay the trial, and the trial Judge agreed, because of matters mentioned in open court and facts to which his attention had been otherwise brought, to postpone the hearing of the case until Monday, April 4th, ordering, as above stated, a Special Session of this term for that purpose.

The same eager crowd to get a view of Bigham was on hand when he was brought to the court house. The prisoner appeared to be in better health than at the last trial with the exception of using a walking cane, which he stated was necessary because of rheumatism. He has discarded his mustache. He appeared in the best of spirits and smiled and chatted with acquaintances in the court room and on his way to the jail.

It is reported that he will remain in the Horry county jail until the date of his trial.

Coastal Highway Meeting In April at Charleston

The seventh annual convention of the South Atlantic Coastal Highway Association will be held at the Francis Marion Hotel, Charleston, S. C., April 20 and 21. Delegates from Conway have attended a number of these meetings in the past and it is presumed that the town will be represented at the coming meeting.

As is well known, this association is engaged in the promotion of a highway along the Atlantic Seaboard extending from Maine to Florida. Under a resolution adopted at the Savannah meeting of the Association in 1925, when the highway from Wilmington, N. C. to Georgetown, S. C. by way of Little River and Conway has been completed in satisfactory condition, that highway will be a portion of the Atlantic Coastal Highway.

Composition Tobacco Contest Closed

PRIZES TO BE AWARDED LATER

Paul D. Wooten, through the Columns of The Field, wishes to announce that the contest for the best composition on "How to raise and handle a good crop of tobacco", closed at midnight on March 15th. As soon as papers have been judged prizes will be awarded to the five best.

The best compositions will be published later in this paper.

Mr. Wooten is very gratified over the splendid compositions received and is proud to be in receipt of such a big number of them.