

SOUTHWESTERN STATE HOSPITAL  
MARION, VIRGINIA

# COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA



JOSEPH R. BLALOCK, M. D.  
SUPERINTENDENT

## DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HYGIENE AND HOSPITALS

January 1, 1953.

Mr. J. Robert Switzer, Clerk,  
Circuit Court of Rockingham County,  
Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Re: Chester Pence.

Dear Mr. Switzer:

I am enclosing in duplicate a report to the Court  
concerning the mental condition of the above-named.

It will be appreciated if you will transmit the  
original to Judge Haas and retain the copy for your  
files.

Very truly yours,

*Joseph R. Blalock*

Joseph R. Blalock, M. D.,  
Superintendent.

JRB/ft

Enc. 2

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA



JOSEPH H. BURTON, JR.  
GOVERNMENT

ROUNDTOWN STATE HOSPITAL  
FALLS, VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF  
MENTAL HYGIENE AND HOSPITALS

January 1, 1923.

Mr. J. Robert Switzer, Clerk,  
Circuit Court of Rockingham County,  
Martinsburg, Virginia.

Re: Chester Parnes.

Dear Mr. Switzer:

I am enclosing in duplicate a report to the Court  
concerning the mental condition of the above-named.

It will be appreciated if you will transmit the  
original to Judge Lane and retain the copy for your  
files.

Very truly yours,

*Joseph H. Burton, Jr.*

JOSEPH H. BURTON, JR.,  
GOVERNMENT

RECEIVED

Jan. 2



# COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

SOUTHWESTERN STATE HOSPITAL  
MARION, VIRGINIA



JOSEPH R. BLALOCK, M. D.  
SUPERINTENDENT

## DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HYGIENE AND HOSPITALS

January 1, 1953.

Honorable Hamilton Haas, Judge,  
Circuit Court of Rockingham County,  
Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Re: Chester Pence.

Dear Judge Haas:

The above-named was admitted to this hospital on January 6, 1950, having been committed for observation by your Court.

A report was submitted on May 16, 1950, in which it was stated that we found him to be mentally subnormal and that the diagnosis was "Without psychosis, mental deficiency-moron;" that his intelligence quotient was 56; and that while he had the ability to distinguish between right and wrong he was sufficiently limited in his mental capacity and in his ability to restrain from making sexual advances to make it likely that he would continue to be a problem in the community. It was recommended that care in this institution be continued for the near future, that a program of decreasing supervision be followed, and that a subsequent report or recommendation be made dependent on his progress.

This young man has continued to work under supervision about the hospital and to be of use in one of the kitchens and on the farm. His behavior for the most part has been satisfactory, but there have been some indications from time to time of sexual interest. We still feel that if he were to live in the community this would be a problem, and in view of the whole picture we would now consider him as "feeble-minded" and not responsible.

Our recommendations would be that he continue on here under hospital supervision.

Respectfully,

*Joseph R. Blalock*

Joseph R. Blalock, M. D.,  
Superintendent.

JRB/ft

# COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA



JOSEPH E. MALONE, JR., JR.  
SUPERINTENDENT

SOUTHEASTERN STATE HOSPITAL  
HARRISON, VIRGINIA

## DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HYGIENE AND HOSPITALS

January 1, 1953.

Enclosed for the  
State of Virginia  
Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Re: Chester Pence.

Dear Judge Hans:

The above-named was admitted to this hospital on January 6, 1950,  
having been committed for observation by your Court.

A report was submitted on May 16, 1950, in which it was stated that  
we found him to be mentally subnormal and that the diagnosis was  
"without psychosis, mental deficiency-mild"; that his intelligence  
quotient was 50; and that while he had the ability to distinguish  
between right and wrong he was sufficiently limited in his ability  
to exercise his ability to restrain from making sexual advances  
to make it likely that he would continue to be a problem in the  
community. It was recommended that care in this institution be  
continued for the near future, that a program of decreasing super-  
vision be followed, and that a subsequent report or recommendation  
be made dependent on his progress.

This report was submitted to your Court on May 16, 1950, and  
the Court has continued to work in the past with the patient and  
hospital and to be of use in one of the patients and on the same  
his behavior for the most part has been satisfactory, but there have  
been some indications from time to time of sexual interest. We still  
feel that if he were to live in the community this would be a problem,  
and in view of the whole picture we would now consider him as "likely  
to be" and not responsible.

Our recommendation would be that he continue on here under hospital  
supervision.

Respectfully,

*Joseph E. Malone, Jr., Jr.*  
Joseph E. Malone, Jr., Jr.  
Superintendent

12/11



January 1, 1953.

Honorable Hamilton Haas, Judge,  
Circuit Court of Rockingham County,  
Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Re: Chester Pence.

Dear Judge Haas:

The above-named was admitted to this hospital on January 6, 1950, having been committed for observation by your Court.

A report was submitted on May 16, 1950, in which it was stated that we found him to be mentally subnormal and that the diagnosis was "Without psychosis, mental deficiency-moron;" that his intelligence quotient was 56; and that while he had the ability to distinguish between right and wrong he was sufficiently limited in his mental capacity and in his ability to restrain from making sexual advances to make it likely that he would continue to be a problem in the community. It was recommended that care in this institution be continued for the near future, that a program of decreasing supervision be followed, and that a subsequent report or recommendation be made dependent on his progress.

This young man has continued to work under supervision about the hospital and to be of use in one of the kitchens and on the farm. His behavior for the most part has been satisfactory, but there have been some indications from time to time of sexual interest. We still feel that if he were to live in the community this would be a problem, and in view of the whole picture we would now consider him as "feeble-minded" and not responsible.

Our recommendations would be that he continue on here under hospital supervision.

Respectfully,

*Joseph R. Blalock*  
Joseph R. Blalock, M. D.,  
Superintendent.

JRB/ft



January 1, 1953.

Honorable Hamilton Haas, Judge,  
Circuit Court of Rockingham County,  
Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Re: Chester Pence.

Dear Judge Haas:

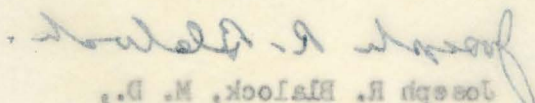
The above-named was admitted to this hospital on January 6, 1950,  
having been committed for observation by your Court.

A report was submitted on May 16, 1950, in which it was stated that  
we found him to be mentally abnormal and that the diagnosis was  
"Without psychosis, mental deficiency-morose;" that his intelligence  
quotient was 56; and that while he had the ability to distinguish  
between right and wrong he was sufficiently limited in his mental  
capacity and in his ability to restrain from making sexual advances  
to make it likely that he would continue to be a problem in the  
community. It was recommended that care in this institution be  
continued for the near future, that a program of decreasing super-  
vision be followed, and that a subsequent report or recommendation  
be made dependent on his progress.

This young man has continued to work under supervision about the  
hospital and to be of use in one of the kitchens and on the farm.  
His behavior for the most part has been satisfactory, but there have  
been some indications from time to time of sexual interest. We still  
feel that if he were to live in the community this would be a problem,  
and in view of the whole picture we would now consider him as "feeble-  
minded" and not responsible.

Our recommendations would be that he continue on here under hospital  
supervision.

Respectfully,

  
Joseph R. Blalock, M. D.,  
Superintendent.

JRB/15



11/14/49.

Commonwealth

vs.

On a warrant charging a felony (attempted rape)

Chester Pence

This day came the attorney for the commonwealth, and the accused, Chester Pence, was brought into court by the sheriff of this county; and said accused being without counsel and having requested the court to appoint counsel to represent him, thereupon, W. W. Wharton is appointed to represent said accused herein. And thereupon, said Chester Pence, by writing this day signed before the court in accordance with the provisions of Section 4866 of the Code of Virginia, waived indictment or presentment on the charge in the warrant set out, and the court proceeded to hear the case on the warrant. And being thereof arraigned, the said Chester Pence entered a plea of not guilty. And the attorney for the commonwealth having reason to believe that said Chester Pence is in such mental condition that his confinement in a hospital for the insane or colony for the feeble-minded is necessary for proper care and observation, and having heard evidence as to such mental capacity of the accused, thereupon, it is ORDERED that he be committed to the department for the criminal insane at Southwestern State Hospital at Marion, Virginia, for proper care, observation and report concerning his mental condition, pursuant to the provisions of Section 4909 of the Code of Virginia. And the Sheriff of this county, in whose custody the accused is, is hereby directed, as soon as may be practicable, to deliver the body of the said Chester Pence to said Hospital for the purposes hereinbefore set forth.



heretofore set forth.

body of the said Chester Pence to said Hospital for the purposes  
herely directed, as soon as may be practicable, to deliver the  
the Sheriff of this county, in whose custody the accused is, is  
to the provisions of section 4800 of the Code of Virginia. And  
observation and report concerning his mental condition, pursuant  
Southwestern State Hospital at Marion, Virginia, for proper care,  
he be committed to the department for the criminal insane at  
such mental capacity of the accused, whereupon, it is ORDERED that  
for proper care and observation, and having heard evidence as to  
hospital for the insane or colony for the feeble-minded is necessary  
Pence is in such mental condition that his confinement in a  
for the commonwealth having reason to believe that said Chester  
Chester Pence entered a plea of not guilty. And the attorney  
the case on the warrant. And being thereof arraigned, the said  
charge in the warrant set out, and the court proceeded to hear  
of the Code of Virginia, waived indictment or presentment on the  
before the court in accordance with the provisions of section 4800  
and whereupon, said Chester Pence, by writing this day signed  
W. M. Marion is appointed to represent said accused herein.

requested the court to appoint counsel to represent him, whereupon,  
of this county, and said accused being without counsel and having  
the accused, Chester Pence, was brought into court by the Sheriff

This day came the attorney for the commonwealth, and

Chester Pence

vs.

On a warrant charging a felony (attempted rape)

Commonwealth

11/17/48.



# COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

SOUTHWESTERN STATE HOSPITAL  
MARION, VIRGINIA



JOSEPH R. BLALOCK, M. D.  
SUPERINTENDENT

## DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HYGIENE AND HOSPITALS

May 16, 1950.

Hon. Hamilton Haas, Judge,  
Circuit Court of Rockingham County,  
Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Re: Chester Pence.

Dear Judge Haas:

The above-named was admitted to this hospital on January 6, 1950, having been committed for observation by your Court.

This patient has been carefully observed since admission and history obtained so far as practical from various sources.

We find that this man is mentally subnormal and our official diagnosis is "without psychosis, mental deficiency--moron". On psychometric examination his intelligence quotient is 56. While he has the ability to distinguish between right and wrong, he is sufficiently limited in his mental capacity and in his ability to restrain from making sexual advances to make it likely that he would continue to be a problem in the community. I would recommend that care in this institution be continued for the near future with a program of decreasing supervision, further report or recommendations to be dependent on his progress.

Respectfully,

*Joseph R. Blalock*

Joseph R. Blalock, M. D.,  
Superintendent.

JRB/mb

# COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA



JOSEPH H. BLALOCK, M. D.  
Superintendent

SOUTHWESTERN STATE HOSPITAL  
BRANDS, VIRGINIA

## DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HYGIENE AND HOSPITALS

May 16, 1950.

Hon. William H. Harrison, Jr.,  
Circuit Court of Rockingham County,  
Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Re: Chester Pence.

Dear Judge Harrison:

The above-named was admitted to this hospital on January 6, 1950, having been committed for observation by your Court. This patient has been carefully observed since admission and history obtained so far as practical from various sources. We find that this man is mentally subnormal and our official diagnosis is "without psychosis, mental deficiency—minor". On psychometric examination his intelligence quotient is 50. While he has the ability to distinguish between right and wrong, he is continually floundering in his mental capacity and is his ability to restrain from making sexual advances to make it likely that he would continue to be a problem in the community. I would recommend that care in this institution be continued for the next year with a program of decreasing supervision. Further report or recommendations to be dependent on his progress.

Respectfully,

Joseph H. Blalock, M. D.,  
Superintendent.

JHB:ab



May 16, 1950.

Hon. Hamilton Haas, Judge,  
Circuit Court of Rockingham County,  
Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Re: Chester Pence.

Dear Judge Haas:

The above-named was admitted to this hospital on January 6, 1950, having been committed for observation by your Court.

This patient has been carefully observed since admission and history obtained so far as practical from various sources.

We find that this man is mentally subnormal and our official diagnosis is "without psychosis, mental deficiency---moron". On psychometric examination his intelligence quotient is 56. While he has the ability to distinguish between right and wrong, he is sufficiently limited in his mental capacity and in his ability to restrain from making sexual advances to make it likely that he would continue to be a problem in the community. I would recommend that care in this institution be continued for the near future with a program of decreasing supervision, further report or recommendations to be dependent on his progress.

Respectfully,

*Joseph R. Blalock*

Joseph R. Blalock, M. D.,  
Superintendent.

JRB/mb

Report

5/18/50

May 16, 1950.

Hon. Hamilton Mass. Judge,  
Circuit Court of Rockingham County,  
Harrisburg, Virginia.

Re: Chester Pence.

Dear Judge Mass:

The above-named was admitted to this hospital on January 6, 1950, having been committed for observation by your Court.

This patient has been carefully observed since admission and history obtained as far as practical from various sources.

We find that this man is mentally subnormal and our official diagnosis is "without psychosis, mental deficiency--mild". On psychometric examination his intelligence quotient is 70. While he has the ability to distinguish between right and wrong, he is sufficiently limited in his mental capacity and in his ability to restrain from making sexual advances to make it likely that he would continue to be a problem in the community. I would recommend that care in this institution be continued for the near future with a program of decreasing supervision, further report or recommendations to be dependent on his progress.

Respectfully,

Joseph R. Blacklock, M.D.,  
Superintendent.

JRB/mp



The Commonwealth of Virginia, } To-wit  
 Rockingham County, }  
 To the Sheriff of Said County:

Whereas, S. H. Callender, Sheriff of said County, has this day  
 made complaint and information on oath before me, James W. Lineweaver, J. P.  
 of the said County, that Chester Pence

on the 12th day of November, 19 49, in the said County, ~~with force and arms~~  
 in and upon the body of Edith Kenney, a female person over the age of 16,  
 feloniously did make an assault, and her, the said Edith Kenney, did beat  
 and abuse, with intent her, the said Edith Kenney to ravish and carnally  
 know, against the peace and dignity of the Commonwealth of Virginia

These are therefore, in the name of the Commonwealth of Virginia, to command you forthwith to apprehend and bring  
 before the Trial Justice of the said County, the body of the said Chester Pence

to answer the said complaint and to be further dealt with according  
 to law.

Given under my hand this 13th day of November, 19 49.

James W. Lineweaver  
 T. J. or J. P.

Memo. of Commonwealth Witnesses:

Name

Miss Edith Kenney

Mrs. Lester Hoover

John Self

*2, Chester Pence, the accused in the above  
 warrant in open court before Judge Brandon  
 16000, of the Circuit Court of Rockingham  
 County, Va. This 14th day of November 1949  
 do hereby advise indictment on said charge.*

Address

Timberville, Va.

#

"

*Chester Pence*  
*W. H. Harrison*



# JUDGEMENT

11-14-49

Upon the hearing of the within charge,

*I upon a plea  
of guilty this  
case is sent  
to the Grand  
Jury.*

Fine	- - - - -	\$	
Issuing Justice's Fee	-	\$	1.00
Clerk's Fee	- - -	\$	1.25
Trial Justice Fee	-	\$	2.00
4.32 plus 1.50	-	\$	5.82
Arrest and Mileage	-	\$	
Summoning Witness	\$		
Witness			
Attendance and Mileage	\$		
Commonwealth's			
Attorney	- - - - -	\$	2.50
Jail Fees	- - - - -	\$	.50
		\$	
Total	- - - - -	\$	13.07

*Robert Q. Gomer*  
Trial Justice

## Trial Justice Court

Criminal Docket No. A - 4543  
Commonwealth

vs.

Arrest Warrant

Chester Pence

Executed the within warrant by ar-  
resting and delivering the body of

Chester Pence

before

*Jail.*

this

13

day of

*May.*

1949

*R. Q. Gomer*  
*Det. for J. C. Callahan*

## Officer's Mileage

Miles travelled by officer - - 36

Miles carried prisoner - - 18

Total mileage - - - 54

54 mi. x .08 equals 4.32

*Plea - Guilty.*

STATE OF VIRGINIA—COUNTY OF ROCKINGHAM, TO-WIT:

I, T. J. or J. P. or Bail Commissioner  
of Virginia, do hereby certify that

Commonwealth of Virginia in the sum of

as his suret

dollars (\$ ) as to

which they severally waived their exemption, to be made and levied of their goods and chattels, yet upon this condition: That the said

shall appear before the Trial Justice Court of Rockingham County at

on the day of , 19 at

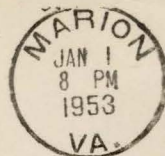
o'clock A. M. and not depart hence without leave of said Court, and at such other time or times to which the proceedings may be continued or further heard, and before any court or judge hereafter having or holding any proceedings in connection with said charge, and then and there answer the Commonwealth of Virginia concerning the within charge until the same is finally disposed of, then this recognizance shall be null and void, otherwise to remain in full force and effect.

Given under my hand this, the day of , 19

T. J. or J. P. or Bail Commissioner



AFTER 5 DAYS RETURN TO  
DRAWER 670  
MARION, VIRGINIA

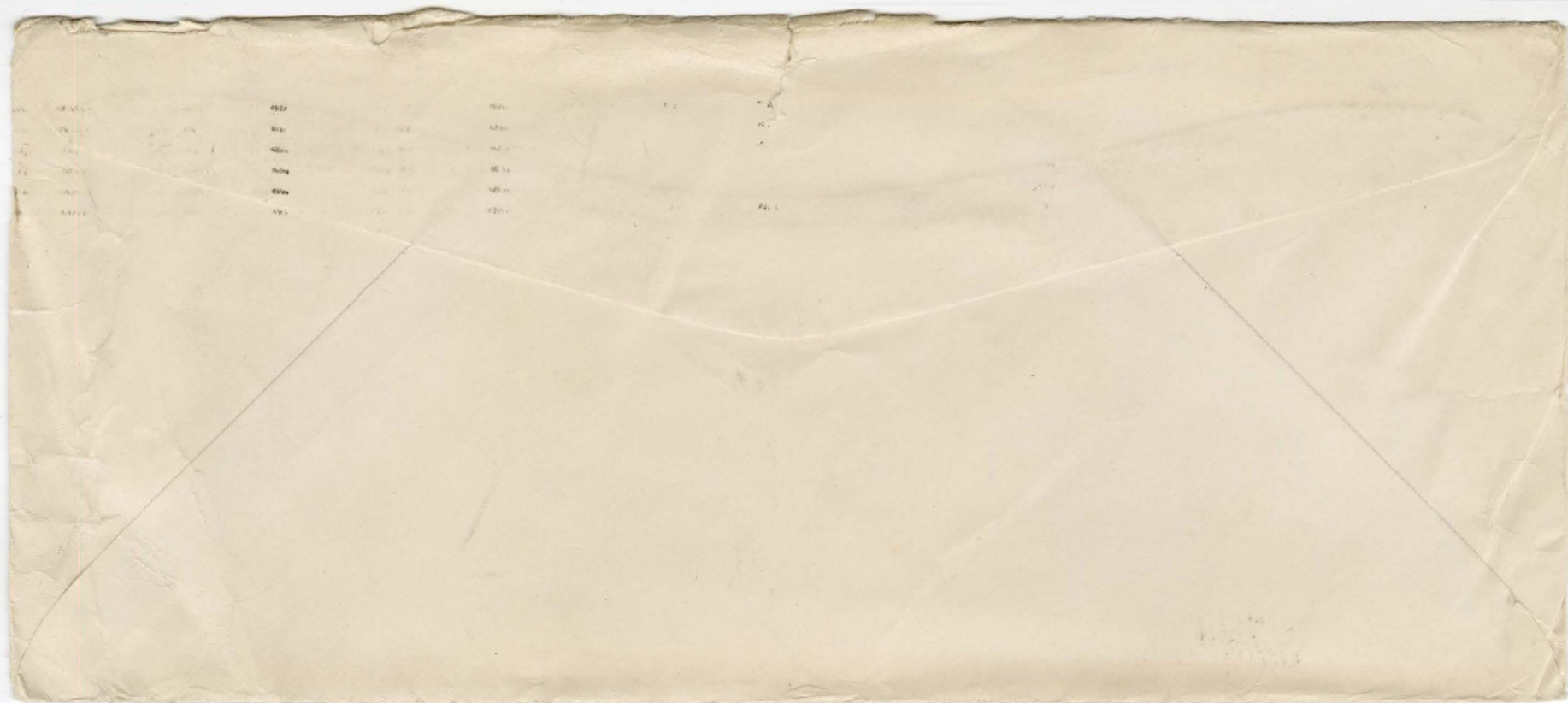


*Chester Reed*

*Reed*

*1-2-53*

Mr. J. Robert Switzer, Clerk,  
Circuit Court of Rockingham County,  
Harrisonburg, Virginia.





Trial Justice Court

Criminal Docket No. A 4543

Com'th

V.

Chester Pence

AW Date arraigned 11-14-49

Trial date 11-14-49

*Plea of Guilty - Held for  
action of Grand Jury*

TJ 3 AW 1



Docket No. 2329.

DEC

1960

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

VS.

) Felony (att. rape)  
) On Warrant

CHESTER PENCE

W. W. Wharton

p. d.

Own ( ) Appointed (x)

1949

Nov. 14. Indictment &c. waived (in  
jail); arr. & plea n.g.; and  
com. to S.W.St. Hosp. for  
observation and report. 8/54

5/18/50 Report - Marmon  
1-3-53 from Marmon

1960

Dec. 19. Hall pass. 10/348

CIRCUIT COURT OF ROCKINGHAM COUNTY, VA.

