

Bad Check Brings \$200 Fine After Hotly Contested Case

Pete Peters, of 1513 Prairie Creek Road, was fined \$200 for passing a worthless check Friday, after a hotly contested case in Judge Dean Gauldin's criminal court.

It was the first misdemeanor hot-check case to be tried before a jury in several years. Most defendants enter pleas of guilty. Hot checks under \$50 are misdemeanor cases; those above that figure are felonies.

Asst. Dist. Attorneys Clarence Bentley, Ray Kincaid and Wayne Hancock brought in Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Hill, operators of a grocery

store at 9001 Lake June Road, who testified Peters had passed a worthless check for \$47.66 to them on Jan. 2, 1950. They said they gave him \$8 and applied the rest to past-due bills and to groceries he purchased on the spot.

Fred Eubank, teller at the Grove State Bank, testified the check bounced because of insufficient funds.

Besides being the first such case to be tried in years, it was the first jury case to go to trial in Judge Gauldin's new court, which started operating April 30.