

Watch the Label on Your Paper; It Carries the Date Your Subscription Expires

THE ENTERPRISE

Advertisers Who Find Our Columns a Latchkey to Over 1,600 Homes of Martin County

VOLUME XXXI—NUMBER 12

Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Tuesday, April 10, 1928

ESTABLISHED 1898

SECOND GROUP COMMENCEMENT HELD ON FRIDAY

Williamston Wins First Place Among Group I Schools

JAMESVILLE SECOND

Sandy Ridge Wins First Place in Class B Schools; Coopers Ahead in Class C

A hearty welcome was extended the Group II schools by the people of Everetts and community last Friday when the second group center commencement of the term was held. As was the case at the first meet held in Bear Grass the Friday before, the schools in the eastern part of the county showed up well. The winners there will meet those of the Group I schools here next Friday in the final commencement.

In the Group I schools, Williamston led with nineteen points, winning first place in arithmetic and story telling; second place in spelling, geography and reading.

Jameville, second with seventeen points, won first place in geography, and reading, and second place in story-telling, and third place in reading and arithmetic.

Bear Grass, third with fourteen points, won first and third place in spelling, second place in arithmetic, and third in story-telling and geography.

In the Class B schools, Sandy Ridge won high and only score, twenty-five points.

Coopers school was first in the Class C schools with twenty points. The school won first place in spelling and story-telling, first and third places in reading and second place in arithmetic.

Burroughs, second with eleven points, won second place in spelling and reading.

Macedonia was third, winning first place in geography, second place in story-telling and third place in arithmetic.

According to the rules for the general commencement, only those pupils winning first places in the different subjects will compete at the final meet here next Friday.

Practically all the schools will be represented here that day.

Sell Over 1,000 Shares of Building & Loan Stock

According to a statement from the treasurer, the Martin County Building and Loan Association has sold and delivered so far during the present series, 1064 shares of stock, surpassing the record year by 354 shares. The present series which is the 22nd, brings into the association around 100 new shareholders, the average subscription being around ten shares.

The series, opening March 3, will continue almost through the month of May, and until the time for closing, many more shares are expected to be sold, it was stated by one of the officers of the association.

Elbert S. Peel Announces Himself for State Senate

Elbert S. Peel, local attorney, is announcing his candidacy for the State Senate, subject to the Democratic primary in June.

So far as it is known, no other candidates in this, the second district, have filed with the State Board of Elections.

County politics continue of little interest, no candidates having filed with the County Board of Elections, it is reported.

There are only a few days in which candidates for State offices can file. Another month remains in which time candidates for county offices are at liberty to file their notices. Until then no concerted action is expected in county political circles.

STRAND THEATRE

WEDNESDAY

KEN MAYNARD

in "THE DEMON RIDER"

Also 2-REEL COMEDY AND SERIAL

and FREE TICKET FOR SHOW FRIDAY

LARGE CROWDS AT FISHERIES

Jamesville Mecca for Thousands of Visitors On Easter Monday

What is said to be one of the largest crowds ever in Jamesville was there yesterday when visitors from all over this part of the State went to the fisheries now in operation. So many were the visitors that parking was made almost impossible, it was stated by several who went down from here.

The catches were so heavy during the day that the operators were forced to hang the seine to handle the fish. As high as 12,000 herring were caught at the time during the day.

Herring are selling for \$5.00 the thousand green from the fisheries the price of those canned is \$10.00 per thousand.

FOOD EXPERT HERE THURSDAY

Will Hold Second Leaders' School at County Home Agent's Office

Miss Mary E. Thomas, nutrition specialist of the State Extension Division at Raleigh will be in Williamston Thursday of this week to conduct the second leaders' school in Food Selection which is being taken by the six women's clubs of the county.

This meeting is for leaders only and will be held in the Home Demonstration Agent's office at 1 o'clock.

The leaders are requested to bring their posters, showing the "Sources of energy-giving foods". These posters are very attractive and show, at a glance, the value of this work in food selection.

Only fifty per cent. of the clubs were represented at the last meeting and Miss Sleeper wishes that a full representation be present here Thursday. Miss Thomas is a specialist in her field, and all leaders will miss much by not attending these meetings, it has been stated.

DISTRICT MEET OF WOODMEN

To Be Held At Everetts on Thursday, April 26; Basket Picnic

The several camps of the Modern Woodmen of America in District Number 13, comprising the counties of Wilson, Nash, Edgecombe, Pitt, Martin, Washington, Tyrrell, Beaufort and Hyde, are asked to send delegates to a meeting to be held with the Camp at Everetts, Thursday, April 26 when a district meeting will be organized. In this district there are twenty-eight camps.

Mr. L. F. Lane of Rocky Mount is the field worker for the district and he is doing a splendid work for the Woodmen. Hon. M. L. Tremain, the State Deputy, and also Rev. A. Corey, the State Lecturer, will be present at this meeting and will take part in the organization. There will be a basket picnic and each camp is especially requested to send one or more representatives and take part in the organization of this meeting.

The morning session will be an open discussion and the public is invited to attend and hear the speeches concerning the work of the fraternity.

These meetings are being planned for session each spring and fall and when the several camps will send delegates so as to get reports from the camps and also that those who attend may get an inspiration as to the work. Programs of the meeting will be mailed to the clerks of the twenty-eight camps in the next few days and it is hoped by those in charge that the camps be well represented.

At this meeting the officers will be elected and rules and regulations for the work of the meetings will be adopted, so each camp should be represented.

Loses Three Fingers in Dynamite Cap Explosion

A colored boy named Johnson and living on the farm of Mr. Lee Hardison, near here, blew off his thumb and three fingers Friday afternoon with a dynamite cap.

The boy was asked to carry the caps to the house from a field where Mr. Hardison had been blowing up stumps. While on the way to the house he slipped one of the caps in his pocket, for experimental purposes. Later he removed the cap and while carrying out the experiment he lost his thumb and three fingers. He first explained the loss of his fingers and thumb by saying he had been shot.

Dr. Jas. S. Rhodes treated the boy's wounds.

PAMLICO RIVER BRIDGE CAVES IN AT WASHINGTON

Two Trucks and Two Trailers Go Through Bridge Monday Morning

DRIVERS UNINJURED

Total Load of Over 36,000 Pounds Too Much for Old Structure; Repairs Completed Today

Washington, April 9.—Two automobile trucks and two trailers crashed through the bridge over the Pamlico River at the foot of Bridge Street, south of the draw this morning. One trailer was completely submerged. Two truck drivers were slightly injured. Two others, colored, escaped without being hurt.

Traffic over State highway number 91 was temporarily held up and a detour by way of Grimesland was made necessary for cross-State travel.

Plans are being made for reconstruction of the 30-foot bent. Those in authority expect to open the bridge again tomorrow by working all night.

The Roanoke Iron & Bridge Works, of Roanoke, Va., took over the bridge from the State Highway Commission only a month ago to be in charge while the company constructed the new bridge running parallel to the present span.

The accident happened about 10 o'clock this morning. Loaded with 56 barrels of Coca-Cola syrup, the truck and two trailers of the Rapid Transit Co. had left Bridge Street and were crossing the bridge over the river leading to State highway 91 when the structure gave way. Right behind these was a delivery truck of the Willis Baking Co., this city, bound for deliveries on the other side of the river. This truck dived into the breach in the bridge. Following the light truck was Edmund Harding, who jammed on the brakes and kept from heading into the water by a close margin.

William Parvin was driving the bakery truck. He was in the water to his hips when taken out by two men and helped to the bridge. He was taken to Fowle Memorial Hospital where an examination showed no serious injuries. His face was cut, and he sustained injuries from a wrenched side. It was reported at the hospital that he was suffering mostly from shock.

Buster Stafford, of Greenville, was driving the big truck with William Wiggins, also of Greenville, on the seat beside him. Neither was injured.

The bridge went down under the rear wheels of the big truck forming a U opening about 25 feet deep at the bottom. The front wheels clung to the bridge with the rear extending down toward the water. Only the right wheel was under water. This made it possible for the drivers to leap out on the bridge. The first trailer headed into the river and was entirely under water. The front part of the second trailer was in the water with the rear extending up the incline toward the city. Parvin, in the bakery truck, missed the trailers as the bridge caved in and went into the water to their left. The front wheels, motor, and part of the driver's seat were under water. The force with which he went against the steering wheel caused the injury to his side. He extricated himself and was in water waist deep hanging on to the fallen bridge when rescuers reached him.

Thomas E. Jones, assistant manager of the Norfolk, Baltimore & Carolina Line, stated that the truck and trailers had been loaded at the Washington docks early this morning upon the arrival of a cargo from Norfolk. The truck carried 21 barrels of syrup, one of the trailers 18 barrels, and the other 17, making a total of 56. Each barrel weighed about 550 pounds. The motor equipment weighed in the neighborhood of two and a half tons, making a total load of nearly 18 tons.

The Rapid Transit Co. operates in connection with the boat line. Mr. Jones said the truck, trailers, and cargo were fully insured. The Willis Baking Co. stated that their damage was not covered by insurance.

Engineers voiced the opinion that the weight caused one of the steel cylinders to slip off the wood piling. Only one bent gave way. The bents are about 30 feet apart. The steel cylinders are filled with concrete and rest on the wood piling that extends into the water.

The crash was heard from a considerable distance and a great crowd of curious spectators soon gathered. It was necessary for the police to clear the bridge so that work on breach could be started.

Traffic to Greenville and Wilson was directed by way of Grimesland. In a few minutes, both entrances to the bridge were lined with cars. Rowboats were brought into service to convey workmen on opposite sides of the river to their work.

The Roanoke Iron & Bridge Works, upon beginning the work of building the new bridge took over the present one under the contract with the State Highway Commission. This was on March 6th. As far as can be learned the company is fully covered with liability insurance.

Frank Kugler, district State Highway Commissioner, said that State highway engineers would be at the disposal of the company in replacing the bridge. He stated that the highway commission wanted to be of service to the traveling public and would do what was possible to have the repairs made quickly, although the commission was in no way responsible or required to help. "The construction company contracted to keep the bridge open and traffic going. It will not be necessary, in the opinion of authorities, to condemn the bridge, as the company is required to keep the bridge in condition to meet traffic needs."

The bridge is about 25 years old. It was rebuilt in 1913 after being damaged and part torn away as the result of a storm. The State took the structure over from the county in 1921.

FIRES DESTROY MUCH TIMBER

Number Forest Fires in This Section Sunday and Monday

Much damage to timber has been reported in many sections of Eastern Carolina during the past few days. Last Sunday the flames were sweeping the woods in two or three places south of here. Yesterday a large volume of smoke was rising to the west of here. Sunday night, flames were seen in long, unbroken lines in adjoining counties. In no case has the damage been estimated, but judging from general observations, the loss will, in all probability, amount to hundreds of dollars.

No cause has been assigned for most of the fires, while in one or two instances it has been stated that unknown persons willfully fired the woods.

FEW WORK ON EASTER MONDAY

Many People Take To Open Road To Spend Day, Especially Negroes

"How times have changed", remarked a middle-aged man on the streets here late yesterday afternoon. He gave meaning to his remark when he said, "It used to be that Easter was observed only by the church, but it is observed by all now in one way or another. It is very seldom that one works on Easter Monday."

He was about right for yesterday you could have counted the coloreds remaining in town on your fingers; not even a delivery boy remained. Between Everetts and Tarboro there were around seventy-three automobile loads of them. Some were going one way and some another way, but where the crowds centered during the day could not be learned. To be sure, they all did not go to one place. By nightfall the majority of them had returned, and then there was a marked decrease in traffic on the highways entering town. It was not long before the dancers from far and near started rolling in for the dance at a local warehouse.

It was Easter for all of them.

TO ORGANIZE AL SMITH CLUB HERE

Casual Conversations Indicate New Yorker Has Few Friends, Anyway

Taking a shot at the goodness of this paper's editor, who is not, by numerous leaps and bounds, a Smith man, the Martin County Al Smith club announces its forthcoming organization. Its organizers, strict adherents of the principles advanced by Mr. Smith, are not out to defend him, but in this world of freedom—maybe—they are anxious to get the low-down on the New York governor's strength as a presidential candidate in this neck of the woods.

As the editor would say his editorial page is not to be contaminated, all Smith followers who so desire and who will write their views are assured of an expression on the front sheet of the Enterprise; as firm believers in freedom, politically speaking right now, the opponents of Mr. Smith's candidacy are asked to write their objections with the assurance that they will appear on the editor's page.

Citizens from all parts of the county have expressed themselves on the approaching primaries; some are in favor of Smith and some are against him. His opponents, however, seem just to be against Smith, for they have no particular man in sight. It is nothing more than reasonable to believe that the discussions will be interesting, and it is upon that basis that the "force", reporters, operators and others in the Enterprise office will plead with the editor for space for the "airing out" of opinions.

So give vent to your views by writing and sending them to the Al Smith Club, Box 95, Williamston, N. C.

way Commissioner, said that State highway engineers would be at the disposal of the company in replacing the bridge. He stated that the highway commission wanted to be of service to the traveling public and would do what was possible to have the repairs made quickly, although the commission was in no way responsible or required to help. "The construction company contracted to keep the bridge open and traffic going. It will not be necessary, in the opinion of authorities, to condemn the bridge, as the company is required to keep the bridge in condition to meet traffic needs."

The bridge is about 25 years old. It was rebuilt in 1913 after being damaged and part torn away as the result of a storm. The State took the structure over from the county in 1921.

JAMESVILLE FIRE FRIDAY DAMAGES NUMBER HOMES

Dr. J. E. Smithwick's House Completely Destroyed; Oil Stove Cause

THREATENED TOWN

Fire-Fighting Equipment Sent From Here; Plymouth Company Also Called Out

Fire, thought to have started from an oil stove, destroyed the home of Dr. J. E. Smithwick and damaged several other buildings in Jamesville Friday afternoon. Starting in the cook room of the Smithwick home, the fire had burned a large place in the ceiling before it was discovered. Help was summoned, but the flames had gained such headway that they could not be checked.

About three o'clock, the alarm was phoned in and the local company was called out. Chemicals were packed in cars and rushed to Jamesville. The construction of the main road caused a large number of people to get lost on the detours, but near a hundred from here reached the scene of the fire, Plymouth sent her fire company, but its members could only assist with buckets and chemicals.

Fanned by a strong east wind, the flames soon covered the Smithwick home and at times they reached over to the old hotel, now occupied by Professor J. L. Jones. The hotel building caught several times, but the bucket brigade was successful in controlling the flames. The fire-fighters stuck to their task and saved everything except the Smithwick home and several out-buildings. Insurance partly covered the loss by fire of the Smithwick property.

The cause of the fire has the appearance of a mystery as both Dr. and Mrs. Smithwick stated they were where the fire started only a few minutes before it broke out.

Mr. O. G. Carson, while fighting the flames, fell from a second-story window and broke his arm. William Gaylord, unable to see an approaching car on account of smoke, was struck and he suffered a severe bruise on his leg.

ACTIVITIES OF HOME AGENT

Gold Point and Parmele Clubs Met Yesterday; Schedule for Week

By LORA E. SLEEPER

The Gold Point and Parmele clubs held their regular meetings yesterday. The Parmele club is planning to contribute to the graduation exercises in May by having a short program, possibly a playlet to tell the people in their community what club work really is and what club members learn through their membership in this national organization.

The schedule for the remainder of the week is as follows: Farm Life Girls club and Holly Springs Woman's club today; Griffins school and Lilly's Hall Girls and Poplar Point Woman's club Wednesday; Leaders' school Thursday at Williamston and Friday County Club exhibit of all the club work over the county at the Williamston school.

Merrick Slade Dies Near Here Sunday

Merrick Slade, aged Negro who for more than 35 years was a familiar character about the town, died Sunday morning from a wound received more than 30 years ago.

Slade lost his leg when he attempted to borrow a ride from the Coast Line thirty years ago. Since that time he has made his way around with a wooden leg and crutches. He fished most of the time on the banks of the river with hook and line. Since the accident, he suffered an almost continuous pain, and his death was the result of inflammation.

Slade was not a bad fellow. Some times he would drink beyond his capacity, but he never went so far that he forgot how to be polite.

Up until about two weeks ago he dropped by this office regularly and the boys never failed to give him the first or second paper off the press.

Local Stores Observe Half Holiday Monday

A petition circulated right at the last minute made possible a half-day holiday for clerks in the local stores yesterday. It was announced by the merchants that their stores would continue open all the day, but the afternoon promised such a lull in business transactions that signatures were made in rapid-fire order when the petition was presented.

Farmers of Person County have bought cooperative car number 36 of limestone and built self-feeder number 36 for pigs this spring.

Mrs. X. T. Keel, Miss Macie Keel and Mr. and Mrs. X. T. Keel, Jr., of Rocky Mount, visited relatives here yesterday.

COMMENCEMENT HERE ON FRIDAY

Contests To Begin At 10 O'clock; All Schools of County Closed

Friday will be a big day with the Martin County schools when the contestants in the various branches of school work will gather to work for final honors.

No definite program for the general county commencement here next Friday can be announced at this time as the contests will have to be arranged after the first exercises are held at ten o'clock. All the schools in the county will be closed for the day, and a large attendance is expected.

All the larger schools, Jamesville, Robersonville, Hamilton, Everetts, Bear Grass, Oak City, Williamston and Farm Life, will compete within themselves. Schools in Classes B and C will also compete within their respective groups. A number of these schools, however, will not go to the finals because they failed to get first place on any subject in the recent preliminaries at Bear Grass and Everetts. Only about half of the total number will take part in the finals.

Williamston and Robersonville go to the finals with nineteen points each, the other schools in their group ranging a little under that number.

Sandy Ridge was the only school in group to get the full 25 points, the largest number in the contests. This gives that school a good showing against the other schools in her class.

The program states that the exercises will begin at 10 o'clock when the boys and girls begin spelling, reading, story telling, working arithmetic and taking part in athletics.

The Kiwanis club, cooperating with the parents-teachers association is trying to work out some plan by which the children may receive a small lunch.

Realizing the difficulty in handling and feeding such a large crowd, nothing definite can be given out at this time regarding the dinner.

BIBLE SCHOOL ENDS SUNDAY

Seven Unite With Baptist Church At Close of The School

Easter Sunday morning at 11 o'clock, the Bible School at the local Baptist church came to a close. For an entire week the school had run, with its several teachers presenting the salient features in the life of Jesus.

As a fitting close to this Bible School seven persons united with the church, four of whom came by baptism.

These will be baptized next Sunday night at 8 o'clock.

There will be no mid-week service at the Baptist church Wednesday night, it was said today, as the pastor plans to be out of town two or three days.

At the service next Sunday morning, the doors of the church will be opened again for membership, as it is thought that some others may wish to be baptized.

The Easter congregation at this church was unusually good—large numbers kept coming in until all the wings of the building had to be opened to accommodate the people.

There being no service at the church last Sunday night, the pastor and many of his people went to the Christian church where they heard the Christian pastor deliver an excellent sermon.

Local Debaters Make Good Showing But Lose Out

Although Williamston, Belhaven and Pantego were eliminated from further participation in the debate on the McNary-Haugen Farm Relief Bill, the local school made a splendid showing. Out of a possible six votes, the two teams representing the local school, won four.

Miss Marjorie Taylor and Mr. Clyde Griffin, of the local school, debated the affirmative side of the question here against Belhaven's negative, and lost only by one vote. Misses Ollie Marie Roberson and Josephine Harrison, defending the negative side of the theory, made a clean sweep against Pantego's affirmative.

The debates were well written, and the speakers were well trained.

10 Nash Farmers Plant Demonstration Pastures

Ten farmers of Nash County will plant demonstration pastures this spring in an effort to begin livestock farming. Carpet grass, lespedeza and Dallas grass will be the mixture used.

Farmers of Person County have bought cooperative car number 36 of limestone and built self-feeder number 36 for pigs this spring.

Mrs. X. T. Keel, Miss Macie Keel and Mr. and Mrs. X. T. Keel, Jr., of Rocky Mount, visited relatives here yesterday.

LOCAL SCHOOL IS GIVEN A HIGHER RATING BY STATE

Is Now Given Highest Rating in County by State Department

LIBRARY IS ENLARGED

Unless Term Is Lengthened, School Is In Highest Class Recognized By Department

According to information sent out by the State Department of Education, Williamston's schools rank favorably with others in the same field. Miss Macie Southall, the grammar grade supervisor, states that the local grammar school is only two months or one-fifth of a grade below the national standard, and at the same time ranks first in Martin county. Miss Fulghum, State Supervisor, informed the authorities that the school would be placed in the highest class that the State Department recognizes for eight month schools as a result of adding one hundred and fifty volumes to the library. This means that the school will not be rated any higher by the State until more time is added to the term.

The high school has advanced to the highest possible place in classification of eight-month schools. Since the high school was first classified it has remained in Group 2, Class B. This year Mr. Highsmith, the State High School Supervisor, has written Principal L. H. Davis that it will be put in Class A, the highest class for schools of the same length of term.

This new grouping is due to the fact that the library has been added to and to an increase in enrollment. Plans are being formulated that, if materialized, will put the school on the Southern Accredited list. This will involve the annual appropriation of stipulated amounts of money for library and laboratory facilities. Such classification would give the local schools no little prestige and distinction.

ALPHONSO WARD DIES IN RALEIGH

Native of Martin County Succumbs To Blood Poison Sunday

Alphonso Ward, of Wendell died at the Mary Elizabeth hospital, Raleigh, early Sunday morning from blood poison.

Early in the week, Mr. Ward was struck on the nose by a chip thrown from a circular saw, but the injury was so slight that he paid little attention to it. Blood poison resulted a day or two later and he was carried to the Raleigh hospital where his case was pronounced serious. He gradually grew worse, the end coming at 1 o'clock Sunday morning.

He was the son of James Henry Ward and was reared in this county. About fifteen years ago he left the farm and operated saw mills. He located in Wendell twelve years ago where he operated a saw mill and cotton gin.

He married Miss Augusta, Lilley, also of Martin county. They never had any children, but adopted a boy who they raised to manhood. He with Mr. Ward survives.

Mr. Ward's father, four brothers, Burroughs, Simon, Will and John, of near here and four sisters, Mrs. May Stalls, Mrs. Bettie Coltrain and Mrs. Tennette Perry, of Williamston and Mrs. Anne Gray Cherry, of Jamesville, survive.

The funeral service was held at the home of the father yesterday afternoon at 2 o'clock Rev. E. Harris, of Wendell, Masons from the Wendell, Skewarkee and Washington lodges buried the body with the honors of the order at the Ward burial ground, near here.

Mrs. Mary Jane Wynn Dies Near Here Friday

Mrs. Mary J. Wynn, aged 52, died at her home near here last Friday afternoon.

In 1897 she married Asa Wynn, who with eight children survives. Interment was made in the Wynne burial ground near the Christian Chapel church Saturday, Rev. J. H. Hale, of the Christian church here, conducting the services.

Eastern Carolina Exposition At Goldsboro This Week

The Eastern Carolina Chamber of Commerce exposition opened in Goldsboro yesterday with a large attendance.

Williamston is not greatly interested in the show, having failed to present a queen or to put on the peanut pageant which it was asked to do.

Only a few people attended yesterday from this section, but they are planning to attend in large numbers during the remainder of the week.