

## COMMITTEE IS NOW BUSY ON PAVING PLANS

Recommendations Will Be Presented to Town Board Within Few Days  
**NO DEFINITE FIGURES**  
Committee Is Working on Tentative Program of Paving Sidewalks Only

The committee appointed by the board of town commissioners at a regular meeting last week to prepare a tentative paving program for the town has almost completed its work, and the program will be presented to the board some time within the next few days, it was learned yesterday. No definite facts as to the program are obtainable at this time, but the members of the committee, Messrs. W. T. Meadows and E. P. Cunningham, have prepared a complete map of the town and are now considering the streets to be included in the program.

This program, now in the making, will include sidewalks only, it was stated by one of the committee members yesterday. The recommendations to be made to the board of commissioners will be limited to the paving program, leaving the question of how the money will be raised to the general board, it was learned.

While the committee is in no position to give any definite figures at this time, it is the general opinion of those acquainted with paving costs that an expenditure varying from twelve to twenty thousand dollars will be necessary to build sidewalks on the principal streets of the town.

## OAK CITY SCHOOL HAS GOOD WEEK

Patrons and Pupils Cooperating to Maintain Attendance

Opening the winter-spring term Monday of last week, the Oak City school brought to a close a successful week last Friday with a large per cent. of the old pupils and a number of new ones in attendance. Reports show a few cases of influenza among the student body, however, it was stated by the principal, Mr. H. M. Ainsley, that bad roads are a greater handicap to the school's attendance than the disease. Unless there is a decided drop in attendance, the authorities there state that classes will be continued as usual.

Professor Ainsley stated that the patrons and pupils are cooperating wonderfully in an effort to maintain a good attendance at this particular time. Toward this end the following incident was related by the school's head: "Friday morning truck number five proved almost the impossible. The truck got stuck in the mud and the driver decided the only thing to do was to walk about two miles to town and get help. While he was gone Miss Frances Council acted 'Joan of Arc' and dispatched pupils to a nearby farm house to secure some sacks and boards. After placing all the pupils in a position to push and with the aid of two colored men working on the road, she took the wheel and proved her efficiency by driving the truck in and surprising the driver when she met him with help on the edge of town."

## Bank of Oak City Has Good Statement

The Bank of Oak City, according to the official financial statement of the institution, is showing continued growth in its activities, and like other Martin County banks, is strong and has the support of efficient and capable leaders at its head.

The institution's statement as of December 31, 1928, appears in this issue and gives the true condition of the bank's operations.

### STRAND THEATRE

WEDNESDAY  
FIVE-REEL  
WESTERN  
Also  
2-REEL COMEDY  
and  
FREE TICKET FOR SHOW FRIDAY

## TEACHERS MEET IS POSTPONED

Influenza Epidemic Cause Of Postponement; To Be Held Saturday, 26th

The meeting of the Martin County teachers scheduled to be held here next Saturday has been postponed until the fourth Saturday, the 26th of this month, according to an announcement made yesterday in the office of the county superintendent, here. It was first stated that the meeting would be held according to the schedule adopted some time ago, but after discussing the matter with the county superintendent, President D. N. Hix, postponed the meeting one week.

While it was not stated in the last announcement, it is understood that should the meeting be held next Saturday, the attendance would be small as the Robersonville school is closed and many teachers in other schools are suffering attacks of influenza, making it impossible for them to attend at this time.

With the influenza epidemic subsiding in many communities at the present time, it is believed by the officers of the association that the disease will have spent itself and that a representative attendance can be expected at the meeting the fourth Saturday.

## ASSEMBLY GETS DOWN TO WORK

Martin Representative Gets Chairmanship of Agriculture Committee

J. A. Everett, Martin county representative in the legislature, was made chairman of the Agricultural Committee last night when the General Assembly settled down to work seriously.

Governor Gardner's Budget message was transmitted to both branches, cutting out the session's task for finance and appropriation committees.

Speaker Graham announced 33 committees, giving the House machinery for getting to work immediately.

Senator Lawrence, Hertford, introduced the mooted State Highway Patrol and Driver's License measure.

Representative Nash, of Richmond, presented bills to abolish the Salary and Wage Commission and to continue the special Superior Court Judge system inaugurated by the last Assembly with the exception that eight special judges instead of six be authorized, and the geographical limitations be abolished.

Representative Winston, of Bertie, presented a measure that would abolish all special school districts and fix the maximum school tax on tangibles at 25 cents for school purposes. The Senate proved itself of less economical bent than the House when its Rules Committee, headed by President Pro-tem T. L. Johnson, recommended appointment of 16 pages and 10 clerks and made no recommendation of a bonus. The House last week cut its number of pages from 18 to 12 and its clerks from 18 to five and added a rule specifying that there would be no session-end bonuses as has been customary.

The House got nine new bills, four of State-wide significance. The Senate got six new bills, one of State-wide significance.

Speaker Graham's appointments of committee chairmen were well in line with forecasts. Wilson, of Pasquotank, and Mull, of Cleveland, were named chairmen of the all-important House Appropriations and Finance Committees, respectively. As soon as the Senate committees are announced, the chairmen of these committees will introduce simultaneously the revenue and appropriations bills and under the law public hearings on them will be started in one week.

Hancock, of Granville, heads the Election Laws Committee, which will get the Australian Ballot measure, upon which a real fight is in prospect.

MacLean, of Beaufort, heads the Education Committee, which will pass on a Pooie bill, if one materializes, and all sorts of school proposals, including the eight-months term proposal.

Judiciary No. 1 was assigned to Moss, of Nash, and No. 2 to Sutton, of Lenoir. Cox, of Forsyth, drew Counties, Cities and Towns.

Smith, of Wake, was reassigned the Committee on Judicial Districts, which will have to iron out court reform proposals.

The important Roads Committee was not named, but it is generally conceded that Woodard, of Nash, will be reassigned that job.

The first bill of the session that provides for the licensing of all automobile drivers and for the establishment of a State highway patrol was introduced in the Senate by Senator Lawrence, of Hertford. According to the Senator's plan, there will be a supervisor and five officers over the patrol and at least one patrolman for

(Continued on back page)

## RECEIPTS SHOW \$17,000 INCREASE AT POST OFFICE

Largest Increase Is in Mail Order Business; Totals \$16,658.44

**OCTOBER SALES LEAD**  
Stamp Sale Shows Small Increase; Service Has Been Greatly Improved During Past Decade

An increase of \$17,387.89 in the stamp and money order business was reported for the local postoffice during the year 1928, according to Postmaster Jesse T. Price. This gain is in keeping with former ones. Mr. Price stated and reflects the growth of the postal business here during the 12 months period just ended. Dividing this increase, the report shows that there was a jump of \$729.45 in stamp receipts and one amounting to \$16,658.44 in money orders issued, was reported.

During the year, the local post office issued 10,402 money orders as compared with 10,080 sold in 1927, showing a gain of 322 orders. These orders, representing \$123,659.65, varied in denominations from a few cents to \$100, the highest amount an order can be issued for. The greater number ranged in the sphere of small figures, it was stated. In 1927, the 10,080 orders represented cash in the sum of \$107,001.21.

The stamp sale more accurately reflects the growth of the local office than does the records kept on money orders, the postmaster said. In 1927, the office sold \$12,156.66 worth of the little stickers, while last year the sale bounced up to \$12,886.14, an increase of \$729.45.

Each month in the year 1928 led the corresponding month during 1927 in both features of the business. The peak in the money order business was reached in October when \$14,804.40 were paid out for the orders. The greatest gain in the money order business was recorded in the early part of the year, while toward the last of the period, the month's business for the two years varied very little in amounts.

With this increase in business has gone hand in hand the service of the office. "About 1907 we would get the News and Observer at 6:30 in the evening; now we get the paper shortly after 7 o'clock in the morning," Mr. Price stated in describing the rise of the local office as to the volume of business and service offered.

Eleven employees are required to handle the mail in the local office, and with business increasing at the rate recorded in the past few months, additional help will be necessary, it is believed. The rural business handled over the five routes is much larger than is ordinarily believed, Mr. Price stated that a large percentage of the receipts come from those patrons.

Since moving to new quarters in the State building hardly more than a year ago, the office has experienced such a big increase in business that it will be only a matter of a few years before more space will have to be provided. When the mail is delivered here for the Windsor star route, the local office, as a rule, badly crowded and during the busy months, there is hardly more than enough room for the employees to walk. In spite of this, however, Postmaster Price and his assistants are offering a service as good if not better than any office to be found anywhere.

Mr. Price has been in the service here a number of years and he says that the growth of the local office during the past few years has been more marked than that of any other period.

## Square Dance At Brick Warehouse Friday Night

The old-fashioned square dance scheduled to have been held at the Brick warehouse here last Friday night was postponed when unfavorable weather and bad roads kept many of those planning to attend at home. According to an announcement made this morning by Bob Taylor, the dance will be held Friday night of this week. As far as it is known at this time there are no basketball games scheduled for that night, and the dancers will have the floor all to themselves, it was stated.

## Youngs To Begin Annual Clearance Sale Friday

Young's annual January clearance sale will begin Friday, January 18th. In this issue, an announcement of the sale is made with details of the opening and closing dates and a few of the specials that are being offered at this annual event.

## Regular Meeting of Kiwanis Tomorrow

The regular weekly meeting of the Kiwanis club will be held in the rooms of the Woman's club tomorrow at 12:30. Mayor Robert L. Coburn will be in charge of the program. All members are requested to be present.

## WILL REBUILD POWER LINES

Engineers of V. E. P. Co. Are Now Making Survey Here

Engineers of the Virginia Electric and Power Company have started a survey of the light and power distribution system here, preparatory to rebuilding within the next few weeks, it was learned yesterday. According to information received here, the company plans to tear down all the old equipment and replace it with new material out and out. The definite date when the actual rebuilding of the system would be started could not be learned, but it is understood that the work will be put underway as soon as possible.

Messrs. T. W. Gates and Colon Parker, of Roanoke Rapids, are in charge of the survey now in progress.

## CAR AND LIQUOR ARE CAPTURED

Dodge Touring Car and 13 1-2 Gallons Liquor Seized On Jamesville Road

A Dodge touring car, thought to have belonged to J. S. Hassell, of Rosemary, N. C., and thirteen and one-half gallons of liquor were captured between here and Jamesville on Route No. 90.

During the earlier part of the day the officer with his son had visited in the Jamesville section, and while returning home, Mr. Roebuck saw a car parked in a small wood near Salome church. The officer stopped his car and went back to investigate. Going to the scene, the officer and his son saw three men packing the liquor and three bootleggers assisting in the operations. Activities ceased immediately when the officer drew near enough for the six men to recognize him, and they fled to parts unknown with great haste. The car was left behind and the 27 one-half gallon jars of liquor were securely packed, ready for travel.

The car carried a N. C. license tag numbered 293,222 and its motor number was 368,708. Several marks of identification in the form of bank books, letters and other articles were left in the car and bore the name of J. S. Hassell, Rosemary. The machine is here in storage where it will remain until instructions are received from prohibition authorities. The liquor is being held in the courthouse.

Investigating the case more thoroughly, Mr. Roebuck learned that the liquor had been purchased in the Free Union section Friday night, and that the heavy rain that night had drowned the car, forcing the driver and occupants to hide the liquor along the road in a small wood until the car could be pulled to a local garage for repairs. Returning to the liquor's hiding place Saturday afternoon, the transporters were too bold with their re-loading operations and attracted the attention of the officer while he was returning home from the Jamesville neighborhood.

No arrests have been made so far in the case, it is understood.

## LOCALS DEFEAT WINTERVILLE

Boys Win, 39 to 18; Girls Also Winners Friday, 24 to 5

Coach Hood's high school basketball boys, in one of their best games of the season, defeated Winterville's strong team 39 to 18 here last Friday night in the Brick warehouse. The game was hotly contested, much more so than the score would indicate. The visitors put up a determined fight, but the locals held their own and led practically all the way thru the game.

Indications are that Coach Hood is turning out a winning team in the realm of basketball, however, more drastic tests will be made as the season advances.

The same night the local girls defeated those of Winterville in a game here, 24 to 5.

Tonight the two teams are scheduled to play return games with the Windsor girls and boys there, and Thursday night they are to meet the Nashville teams here.

## Planters & Merchants Ends Successful Year

The year's business closed December 31st was the largest in history for the Planters and Merchants Bank, Everetts, according to the institution's official statement, appearing in this issue. The year just ended added many new customers and friends to the bank's list, and the institution's work has been carried on upon a progressive yet conservative basis.

The officers and directors in inviting the continuation of their many customers' business during the current year are extending cordial thanks for the growth made possible during the year 1928.

## COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD HOLDS MEETING HERE

Minor Changes in School Building Here Are Approved

**MAY CLOSE HURST**  
Unless Average Daily Attendance of 15 Is Maintained, School Will Have To Be Closed

While the business coming before the Martin County Board of Education was of no great importance yesterday, all matters referred to the body were discussed and placed in the minutes of the meet. All members of the board were present and the session was closed about the noon hour.

Considering the attendance in the Hurst school, the board decided that an average of 15 pupils daily would be necessary in continuing the school, that in the advent the community failed to maintain this average the school would necessarily be closed. Should the school fall below this average in its daily attendance and be closed, the pupils will be at liberty to continue their work in the Everetts school, it was learned.

The one or two minor changes in the local school building suggested by the local school board were OK'ed by the county body, and the alterations will be made as the construction work is being carried on. These changes, it was pointed out, will not add any cost to the original contract price and will greatly aid the school in meeting the demands of the pupils now enrolled. By one of the changes two rooms are provided for science laboratories instead of one room for laboratory work and another for science classes. A second change makes possible the creation of a commercial class, substituting for vocational agriculture. The latter course, according to attendance records, past and present, will not be necessary within the next several years, and during that time the commercial course can be made available for those pupils desiring training in that work. As a means of better safeguarding the children, electric wires were ordered run underground to the building instead of in the air as was first planned.

The purpose of the changes recommended by the local school committee was very well received by the county board, the members of which expressed themselves as being heartily in favor of the county having one standard accredited commercial school. These changes were recommended as the groundwork for such a school.

Other general matters were brought before the board, but in each case, the business was of only passing importance.

## 9TH BIRTHDAY OF PROHIBITION

"Nine Years Old and Still Crawling," Says Local Man

The ninth birthday of National Prohibition will pass just as the other eight occasions have passed here—unnoticed. "Nine years and still crawling," remarked a man on the streets here this morning.

The revenuers will hardly cease their operations, and the manufacturers provided they are not caught, will not hardly cease theirs to observe the day.

They will toll bells in Asheville, according to the following press report:

Asheville, Jan. 14.—"Anything important coming before the commissioners Monday?" a reporter asked at the courthouse yesterday.

"Why yes," responded a board member, "we shall take definite action on a matter laid before us by the W. C. T. U. This body has asked that Buncombe county observe Wednesday, the ninth birthday of national prohibition by tolling the courthouse bell nine times."

"Well, I suppose the request is going to receive favorable consideration?"

"Yes, I suppose so, this year, though I am speaking only for myself. I don't know what we'll do about it when the tenth birthday comes around. There's no bell on the new courthouse, you know, and the old courthouse will probably be torn down by then."

## G. P. Hall Is Badly Bitten By Dog

G. P. Hall was badly bitten by his dog yesterday afternoon while hunting squirrels across the river in Corenine swamps. Mr. Hall attempted to part two dogs when they started fighting over a squirrel, and while engaged at the task one of the dogs pierced the man's hand with two teeth and made several wounds with his other teeth. Medical attention was necessary, but although the wounds are painful Mr. Hall is able to be out. However, he is unable to work.

## Better Methods of Tobacco Culture Subject at Meetings

**HUNT ALL OVER TOWN FOR FIRE**

Stove Roaring Was Cause Of Alarm Turned in Saturday

Thinking her house was burning when she heard the fire in a cook stove roar, a member of the Henry Beach family ordered the fire alarm sounded and caused a general commotion of firemen and townspeople here last Saturday shortly after the lunch hour. So loudly did the stove fire roar that the fire alarm sounded and caused a general commotion of firemen and townspeople here last Saturday shortly after the lunch hour. So loudly did the stove fire roar that the fire alarm sounded and caused a general commotion of firemen and townspeople here last Saturday shortly after the lunch hour.

For several minutes while the volunteer firemen assembled at the fire house, the siren poured forth its deafening sound, causing a temporary suspension of the regular Saturday business while the customers and clerks gathered on the streets to see the fire apparatus go out. And the people to the sidewalks were given two opportunities to see the apparatus pass. The extra run was not intentional, however, for in giving the alarm it was not stated whether the structure burning was the Beach house on Haughton street or the residence near the Blount Manufacturing Company at the railroad on Smithwick street. After the truck was carried several blocks up Main street, the chief gave orders to turn around and a quick dash was made to the house across the railroad. Here the firemen were fooled again along with a countless number of spectators traveling in as many automobiles.

The head of the house had come out to see all the commotion near his door, and when asked if his house was burning, he said no. Chief Harrison investigated the source of the alarm, learning that young Wynne had ordered the company out in good faith at the request of one of the members of the Beach family who was exercising advance precaution against fire.

No blame was attached to those making the call, but the doings of many automobile drivers while the call was being answered will likely lead to enforcement of ordinances supposed to be in effect while the fire company is on its way to a fire.

## MANY ABSENCES AT JAMESVILLE

Bad Roads, Hog Killings, and 'Flu' Hold Down Attendance

"We can't determine which is affecting the attendance in our school the most, influenza, bad roads or hog killings," Mr. W. T. Overby, professor in the Jamesville schools, stated yesterday when asked about the number of absences in the school there. While he was not certain, the professor stated that the influenza epidemic was not so bad in their school community, and that he believed the bad roads and hog killings were responsible for the large percentage of the absences.

The school man said that the number of absences was greater than in the case usually, but that this number is not as large as one would expect under the present conditions. School authorities will not stop the work there unless conditions force them to take such action, it was stated.

## Local School Attendance Continues to Hold Up

According to Dr. Chas. O. H. Laughinghouse, head of the State Health department, the majority of the schools can well expect a decrease of 20 per cent. in daily attendance during the prevailing influenza epidemic. While the average is around 20 for the section, records in the local school show that the attendance has fallen short during the last few days from only 10 to 18 per cent. The majority of the absences recorded is found in the lower grades.

Principal L. H. Davis stated at noon today that there were only ten pupils out in the high school this morning.

## Store Uses Loud Speaker To Find Lost Children

Paris.—Large department stores are adopting loud-speakers to locate children who become separated from their mothers in bargain-counter rushes.

At frequent intervals a voice announces the name of some child who is "waiting for his mother at the inquiry counter."

## 80 FARMERS AT MEETINGS HERE AND JAMESVILLE

E. Y. Floyd, Tobacco Specialist, Makes Address at Each Meeting

**PUTS QUALITY FIRST**  
Recommends Smaller Acreage With Better Yield Per Acre and Better Quality

Interested in better methods of growing tobacco, eighty Martin County farmers met with County Agent Brandon and E. Y. Floyd, tobacco specialist, here yesterday afternoon and at Jamesville last night, when the production of the crop was discussed from the time the plant bed is prepared until the leaf is ready for the market. Forty or more farmers attended the meeting here yesterday afternoon in the courthouse and listened attentively to the suggestions made by Mr. Floyd who has made tobacco tests all over the belt and several right here in this county.

Mr. Floyd's treatment of the subject was not based on theory, but rather it was given as found from various and practical tests. Quantity was made secondary in the tobacco specialist's discussion, he stating that larger returns would result from the production of better quality and a bigger yield per acre. A decrease in acreage is being encouraged not only by the tobacco specialist but also by others acquainted with the crop productions.

In stressing better quality, Mr. Floyd urged the use of only the best adapted varieties of cigarette trade. These varieties include, Cash, White Stem, Oronoca, Jamaica Wrapper and Bonanza. To get seed of good origin, it was suggested that the growers see County Agent Brandon who is in a position to direct them to seed sources. The preparation of the plant bed was pointed out to be an important step in the production of the crop, since a good bed insures proper transplanting at the right time. The instructor stated that sufficient beds for the acreage to be planted should be prepared. "The Selection and Preparation of Plant Beds" in folder form, is being prepared and will be in the hands of County Agent Brandon within the next few days. Mr. Floyd urged the farmers to call on Mr. Brandon for one of these folders as they contain useful information relating to the preparation of plant beds.

Proper fertilization of the crop was considered in detail by the specialist and the farmers at both of the meetings, Mr. Floyd giving the facts that have been determined in tests in this county and in others throughout the belt. "Be sure to have materials in the fertilizers that give best results, taking into consideration the types of soil and other factors common to the particular farm," it was stated by the agriculturist. These materials should include nitrate of soda, sulphate of ammonia for the mineral nitrogen. Cottonseed meal, fish or tankage, or blood or Peruvian guano were given as the best sources of organic nitrogen for the crop. The mineral should be 50 per cent and the organic matter, 50 per cent. The potash, to give best results, should not exceed two per cent. from high grade muriate of potash. The remainder of the potash should be from sulphate of potash or potash of magnesia. The best analysis, according to the tobacco man, for use on the average type of Martin County soil, should be an 8-4-6 fertilizer, made up of materials already mentioned. This analysis, according to the many tests made, will produce a better quality as well as make a larger yield per acre.

The last factors in the production of tobacco as mentioned in the meetings have to do with the method of cultivation, disease and insect control. In this connection, the county agent has been provided with bulletins, describing the best methods to be followed in detail.

Mr. Floyd, who is considered one of the leading tobacco specialists in the State, said this morning that he is well pleased with the interest shown by tobacco farmers in this section, and gave as his opinion that better quality tobacco will be grown in the future than has been raised in past years.

At the Jamesville meeting held in the school house there last night, the discussion continued for more than two hours, and while no one expressed himself, it is believed that the farmers attending were well repaid for their journey over bad roads to be at the meeting.

Mr. Floyd is in Washington county today and tomorrow he goes to Bertie where he will hold meetings.