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THE ENTERPRISE

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VOLUME XXXII—NUMBER 35

Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Friday, June 28, 1929

ESTABLISHED 1898

TOWN MAY HAVE TREASURER ON FULL-TIME BASIS

Matter Is Taken Up at Special Meeting Held Wednesday

IS NOT DEFINITE YET

Matter Will Probably Be Brought Up For Final Disposition at Regular Meeting Next Monday

Meeting in special session here last Wednesday night, the town commissioners practically set up machinery for the establishment and maintenance of an all-time treasurer's office, one that will be operated at a nominal cost and better serve the citizens. The motion passed at the Wednesday night meeting only provides for the establishment and maintenance of an all-time office. It is understood that definite arrangements will result in the regular meeting of the town heads next Monday night.

In discussing the proposed all-time office, it was learned that a clerk could be hired at a nominal sum, probably \$50, to keep the office so many hours each day, the number and salary to be determined later. The office will be directed by the treasurer who will make systematic checks and see that all the details of the office are handled properly and promptly.

All water readings, it is understood, would be turned over to the clerk who would prepare the bills and receive the amounts. Customers whose accounts are not paid by a certain time would have their water turned off on the 10th of the month. The tax collections would be turned into the office and reported each day. Payrolls would be prepared and checks carried before the treasurer for his signature. The books would be kept up to the minute and held open for inspection by any citizen at any time.

After hearing the case for such an office, the commissioners heartily favored the change, and it is believed that the office will prove a great success.

PRINCIPAL HERE FOR FEW DAYS

Familiarizing Himself With Methods Used in Local Schools

The 1929-30 faculty for the local schools will be made complete within the next few days, it was stated yesterday morning by Professor William R. Watson, recently elected principal. The school head interviewed several teachers in his office here yesterday afternoon, but no appointments had been made this morning for the faculty's two remaining vacancies. No definite date was mentioned when the two appointments would be made, but it is understood that the faculty will be made complete within the next few days.

Professor Watson, who plans to take up his permanent residence here early in August, arrived yesterday to handle those matters requiring immediate attention before returning to his present home in Henderson. He was in conference with school officials here yesterday morning and remaining over today the principal is acquainting himself with the school methods as were in force here during the past term.

The newly elected principal enters upon his duties here with much earnestness, and assures the district that every effort will be spent in making the 1929-30 term a very successful one.

Modern Woodman Deputy Is Visiting Here This Week

M. L. Tremala, state deputy, Modern Woodmen of America, was here this week in the interest of starting a membership drive in the local camp. He conversed with local officers and plans are being made for a drive to renew interest in the camp and add new members.

Million Dollar Damage to Crops in County by Rains

Lower Section of County Has Been Hit Hardest, 50 Per Cent Damage to Tobacco in Some Sections; Other Principal Crops Have Also Suffered

Recent reports on crop conditions secured from all parts of the county indicate that excessive rains have caused a one million dollar damage to the several crops in this county, the estimate being based upon last year's output and prices. The reports vary in the several sections, those in the lower part of the county indicating that the loss there will be much greater than that suffered in the middle and upper parts.

One report made on conditions in the Farm Life community indicates that the tobacco crop is damaged at least 50 per cent, other principal crops being damaged from 35 to 40 per cent. The oats crop is declared to be a total loss in many instances, and in others the oats are hardly worth harvesting. A few farmers entered their fields with bush axes and saved a few, it was stated.

Game Warden of Bertie Who Collected Fees Unlawfully Is Fined for Violating Game Law

TWO NEW STATE LAWS TO GO INTO EFFECT MONDAY

State Highway Patrolmen To Commence Work July 1st

LICENSE ALL BARBERS

Barbers Here Thought They Were Exempt, But Are Advised Differently

Among the great number of laws passed by the last North Carolina Legislature and going into effect next Monday, the two attracting the most attention, with the exception of the school bill which has caused the educators to tax their brains, and the road bill, are the laws increasing the tax on barbers and the one providing control of traffic on the State highways.

The law increasing the barber's tax has torn asunder the regular news exchange, and once where the customers and barbers talked of everything in the line of current activities, the barbers are talking the law affecting them. For a while the local shops thought they would escape the \$10 tax imposed upon each barber in that it was understood the law did not apply in those cases where the population of the town was less than 1,800 people, the 1920 census being used as a basis for laying the tax. The shop proprietors searched the records for the census, and after they thought they were exempt they were given notice of the time limit. An attorney was consulted, he advising them to pay the tax.

The highway patrol, with a lieutenant stationed in every highway district at the highway headquarters for that district, is also causing much talk. While after next Monday the police patrol will reason with the motorists, recently the motored is said to have frightened one man to death. A dispatch from Gastonia reads, "Sirens of the motored of the new State highway police patrol, which was passing through the city, were blamed for John William Huntsinger's death. Neighbors said that Huntsinger, age 58, became frightened when he heard the noise, dashed out of his home, on Gaston avenue, and ran half a block and fell dead."

The two laws with many others will go into effect next Monday, the members of the police patrol to be sworn in that day.

NEW CHAMPION TURNIP GROWER

W. T. Stinnette Brings One In Weighing Over 5 Pounds

Mrs. W. T. Stinnette, of R. F. D. No. 3 placed a good claim to the turnip growing championship in this county last Wednesday when she pulled from the ground one of the vegetables weighing 5 and 1-2 pounds with a circumference of 23 and 1-2 inches. The top had been removed before the turnip was weighed.

Mrs. Stinnette, who lives on the Major Mizelle farm, near here, planted the turnip seed the first day of April. Fifteen days later Mr. Stinnette carefully cultivated the ground around the turnip, spreading two tablespoonsful of "Gro-More" fertilizer around it. He thoroughly mixed the fertilizer with the soil for several inches around the ground the top was green, and showed few signs of ripening. The grower is of the opinion that the turnip would have continued to grow for a number of weeks had it not been pulled.

MANY MATTERS BEFORE TOWN BOARD MEETING

Special Meeting Held Last Wednesday Had Many Requests to Consider

AUDIT IS REVIEWED

Several Requests for Additional Paving Are Received; No Definite Action Is Taken

For more than three hours the town commissioners in special session here last Wednesday night worked on town problems, discussing the paving program and reviewing the audit recently made of the town's books.

Several requests for the extension of the town's paving program were made, the board taking no official action in the matter other than assuring those entering the requests that petitions would be prepared and given them that proper signatures might be secured. Property owners, on Beech street were anxious to have their walk included in the program and one or two other walks were mentioned. It was stated at the meeting that several property owners on Church street are anxious to have that street paved from the intersection of Haughton to the corner at Watts street. No definite action resulted, the meeting only discussing the matter.

The condition of one of the wharf warehouses was reported bad, and a request was made for repairs. A committee was appointed to investigate the condition and have necessary repairs made.

Technicalities in an insurance policy, one required by law for employees, were mentioned, the mayor being authorized to handle them.

Taking up the audit, the commissioners entered into a tedious and mean task. Faced with dead accounts and uncollectible taxes, the commissioners reviewed the books from as far back as the year 1923 up to the present. Errors were corrected, dead accounts marked off and an order was passed commanding the tax collector to take the clothes off some of those who could and would not pay their poll taxes. The tax collector explained the situation, stating that in those cases where the taxes were unpaid, the debtors had all their property, in many cases, covered by other names and collection is impossible, almost. It was stated that all real estate had been auctioned where the taxes were not paid. The members of the board were frank in reviewing the audit, and discussed the situation from a strictly business standpoint. The audit showed that the collections for the past two years had been the best ever made here.

A report showing the complete financial condition of the town will be available within the next few days, auditor stated at the meeting.

URGES EARLIER OPENING DATE

Sales Committee Will Announce Opening Dates At Meeting Tonight

Virginia Beach, June 27.—The sales committee of the United States Tobacco Association assembled in annual convention at the Cavalier hotel here, "went to bed tonight pondering the eloquent appeal of J. Paul Frizelle, of Snow Hill, president of the Eastern Carolina Chamber of Commerce, for an opening of the tobacco market of Eastern North Carolina an August 27 this year, eleven days earlier than the opening last year on September 7."

Mr. Frizelle headed a committee composed of John Holmes, of Farmville; W. S. Moye, of Greenville; J. C. Eagles, of Wilson; and J. R. Turnage, of Ayden, which appeared before the sales committee this afternoon.

The crop is two weeks earlier in Eastern North Carolina this year. Mr. Frizelle stated, and unless the growers get an earlier opening than last year, more than \$1,500,000 will be lost to the farmers through spoilage.

Georgie and South Carolina delegations asked that their markets be opened on July 23 and have a longer selling season.

Representatives of the old belt markets asked that old and middle belt markets be opened on the same date. Mr. Frizelle stated that the present system of opening middle belt houses two weeks earlier was working a great injustice upon old belt warehousemen.

The committee will make its report at the annual banquet to be held tomorrow night. The opening session was featured by an address by former Governor A. W. McLean, of North Carolina, and the annual address of Col. A. B. Carrington, of Danville, president of the association.

A plea to the tobacco "trade" to have the interest of the tobacco grower of the South at heart and promote his well-being was made here by A. W. McLean.

RECORDER HAD THIRTEEN CASES LAST TUESDAY

Cases Had Accumulated Over Two Weeks' Period

1 CIVIL ACTION HEARD

Don Purvis Sentenced To 15 Months On Roads For Stealing Chickens; Appeals to Superior Court

Thirteen cases, accumulating during a two weeks' period, were called by Judge J. W. Bailey in the recorder's court here last Tuesday, a number of fines being imposed. Several of the cases were in line for trial Tuesday of last week, but the docket gave way to the superior court, resulting in a long session here last Tuesday for the county court officers.

Henry Dave Daniel was bound over to the superior court on two counts, one charging him with housebreaking and larceny and receiving and a second having to do with housebreaking.

J. H. and Bury Nelson were called to face charges of violating the liquor laws. The former Nelson admitted guilt in his case and was fined \$50. Bury Nelson, entering a plea of not guilty, was released after evidence had been given in the case.

Don Purvis, noted chicken thief, plead guilty in the case charging him with larceny and receiving and was sentenced to jail for a period of 15 months, to be assigned to the Edgecombe County roads. Appealing his case, he was allowed bond in the sum of \$350.

Charged with violating the liquor laws, W. A. Ayers plead guilty of possessing liquor, Solicitor Peel accepting the plea. Prayer for judgment was continued one week with the defendant under a \$75 bond.

Ed Waddell, charged with driving an automobile while he was under the influence of liquor, entered a plea of not guilty. After hearing the evidence in his case, the court fined him \$50 and revoked his driving license for a period of six months.

Two cases against H. M. Peel, one charging him with resisting an officer and the second having to do with an assault with a deadly weapon, were continued one week at the request of the defendant.

Charged with operating an automobile while under the influence of liquor, Earl Stephenson was granted a trial by jury, the case being set for trial July 9.

The case charging J. L. Corey with disorderly conduct was continued one week.

Charged with assault with a deadly weapon, Boyse Slade appealed when he was fined \$50 and taxed with the costs. His bond was fixed at \$100.

James Corey, entering a plea of not guilty when charged with larceny and receiving, was examined and adjudged guilty by the court. Judgment was suspended upon payment of the cost of the case and \$4 to George Bland. One civil case was heard.

Offer Instruction To High School Students

Beginning Monday morning of next week, Professors Hood and Thornton will offer instruction to those pupils who failed in any of the several courses in the high school, it was stated this morning.

All pupils desiring to make up work are asked to be at the grammar grade school building Monday morning at 9 o'clock.

Local Juniors Had Good Meeting Thursday Night

The local Junior Order held a very successful meeting here last night when Robersonville sent its degree team, numbering 35, to handle the initiation of two candidates.

The meeting was one of the best held here in several months, adding new life to the order and creating much interest among its members. Refreshments were served.

KIWANIS HEARS GAME WARDEN

W. C. Moore Talks on Plans and Work of Conservation Department

Speaking before the regular luncheon of the Kiwanis club here last Wednesday, W. C. Moore, district game warden, explained what the Department of Conservation and Development is doing at the present time and told many interesting stories related to the conservation work.

After explaining the working organization of the departments having to do with game and inland water fish, Mr. Moore told of the State's owning five fish hatcheries valued at about \$250,000 and the number of fish hatched each year and distributed to the various streams in the State, the Fayetteville hatchery being the one supplying this section.

Foil Attempt to Rob Jamesville Station

WOULD-BE SAFE ROBBERS BOUND OVER TO COURT

Preliminary Hearing Held Before Justice of Peace Here Wednesday

TWO CONFESS GUILT

Sylvester Taylor and Luther Clark Under \$1,000 Bonds; Other Two Under \$50 Bonds

At a preliminary hearing held before Justice of the Peace A. T. Crawford Wednesday afternoon at 5 o'clock Sylvester Taylor, Perlie Coltrain, John Henry Biggs, and Luther Clark, charged with entering and robbing a store and depot at Jamesville early Wednesday, were bound over to the next term of Martin County Superior Court. Only nominal bonds were required of Coltrain and Biggs, theirs being \$50 each, while Taylor and Clark were placed under a \$1,000 bond each.

Perlie Coltrain, 20-year-old white boy, was the first witness for the State. In telling the story before Justice of the Peace Crawford, he stated that he and the three other boys drove down the Jamesville road late Tuesday night. Before leaving he refused to get a truck as he was requested to do by Sylvester Taylor. Upon reaching Jamesville they parked their car behind the old schoolhouse and then went to Moore's store and broke in, getting cigars, cigarettes, and Coca-Cola. They then decided to enter the depot and get the safe, Coltrain stating further that he refused to haul the safe in his car. It was then suggested that they go for a hand car a short distance up the railroad track and haul the safe away on that. Continuing his evidence, Coltrain stated they broke in to the toolhouse and got the hand car. "We started pushing the car to the station, Clark and Taylor going ahead of us. When we reached the depot they had the safe out. We placed the safe on the car and it was agreed that I should go for my car and drive it to the Wig Hardison crossing, near Roberson's filling station, while they pushed the rail car up to that point and meet me. I drove to the crossing, and when they reached there they told me that they had been shot and were forced to leave car and safe down the railroad. Sylvester Taylor gave me a large and a small carton of cigarettes and \$1.55 in money. I gave the cigarettes and money to officers. Biggs took the cigarettes allotted to him and agreed to take care of those supposed to go to Clark, as he was afraid to take them home."

John Henry Biggs asked to be allowed to relate his version of the affair. He stated that he, Taylor, and Luther Clark, often known as "Slick" Clark, went over to Dallas Rogers and then to Coltrain's home and called Perlie Coltrain out. Clark and Taylor insisted that he ask Coltrain where they could get "something." While Biggs was at the Coltrain home, Taylor and Clark came up and the four left in Coltrain's car. "We then went to Gardner's Creek, but we were afraid to attempt anything there and decided to go on to Jamesville. Clark and Taylor broke out window lights in Moore's store and sent me in to unlock the door." Biggs' story then conformed with that told by Coltrain up until Coltrain left to drive the car to the Wig Hardison crossing. He described the shooting by the section master and how the three of them fled. Several of the shot struck Clark in the back, he stated, but they were so small that they did not pierce the skin. "When I learned the officers were tracking us, I threw the cigars and cigarettes into the old Bear Trap mill run," he concluded.

O. G. Carson, agent at the Jamesville station, said that he left around 1:15 p.m. in the money drawer, all of which was missing with the exception of a few pennies. The safe, weighing 980 pounds, contained \$20 and a diamond ring, it was stated by Mr. Carson. No damage was done to the safe.

Taylor, who is also under a \$1,000 bond for his appearance at the next term of Beaufort County superior court to answer in the case charging him with entering the store of Hoyt Roberson, at Batts Cross Roads, Beaufort County, and carrying off an iron safe, furnished bond immediately, his father coming to his rescue. Coltrain and Biggs also secured bonds in a short time. Clark was unable to furnish the bond required and is still in jail here.

Taylor and Clark are both young married men. Coltrain is only 20 years old and Biggs is in his eighteenth year.

SECTION MASTER WAKES AND FIRES AT 4 INTRUDERS

Had Removed Safe From Depot When Discovered By Section Master

ARE LATER ARRESTED

Officers Trail Automobile and Capture One of Men Who Confessed; Store Also Robbed

Sylvester Taylor, Perlie Coltrain, John Henry Biggs and Luther Clark, young white boys of this county, were placed in jail here last Wednesday charged with connection in the robbery of the A. C. L. station at Jamesville and a store nearby early that morning. Twelve hours following the robbery Sheriff C. B. Roebuck assisted by Deputy Grimes, Chief of Police W. B. Daniel, Station Agent O. G. Carson, W. L. Evans, section master for the railroad, and others, had sufficient evidence to warrant the arrests of the four young men.

The robbers met with little success in their two raids, one in the store of W. L. Moore and the other in the Jamesville depot. At the store they stole cigarettes, cigars and a few other articles. The drive in the station was centered on money, but there the robbers pocketed only \$15. An iron safe, weighing approximately 1,000 pounds and containing around \$20 and a diamond ring, was removed, but the dare-devils were hampered in their game and escaped carrying with them only a few goods stolen at the store and the \$15 found in the station's money drawer.

According to the story told by officers, Mr. W. L. Evans, the railroad's section master, heard the noise of his handcar near his house about 1:30 Wednesday morning. He immediately investigated and saw three men pushing the small car loaded with what he thought at that time to be four suitcases, later learning that he had mistaken the four safe rollers for the handles on suitcases. The section master commanded the three men to halt, but his command was not noticed, the robbers continuing to push the car up the track. When Mr. Evans fired a load of shot into the group, the three men gave the car one hard push and swiftly fled, the car stopping 150 yards away.

The station agent, Mr. O. G. Carson, was notified and he with the section master started to recover the safe, the agent first going to the store to get shells. The agent and the store owner found that the shop had been entered, but made no check of the loss there at that time but continued to the station where they found the robbers had been and removed the safe. Officers were notified and a search was started immediately. At the Wig Hardison grade crossing, three miles this side of Jamesville, the searchers found where an automobile, with a peculiar tire track, had turned around. Following the track, the officers came toward Williamston until they reached Holly Spring church. Turning at that point, the officers followed the track down by the Station mill and on to the Washington highway at Mr. W. L. Taylor's crossing, the searchers later tracing the car to the Biggs school house on down the Bear Grass road. The track turned in the road leading to the Washington highway just this side of Bear Grass. Traffic had covered the tracks a short distance down that road, and officers began to inquire along the route. At the home of Mrs. Tom Revels they asked what time her son-in-law, Luther Clark, came in. Mrs. Revels stated that he returned home around 3 o'clock.

(Continued on back page)

SCHOOL OPENS SEPTEMBER 1

Everetts Is First of County Institutions to Announce Opening Date

Following the recommendation of the county superintendent, officials of the Everetts school will open the 1929-30 term there September 1, it was announced by Principal D. N. Hix, who was here yesterday morning in the interest of the school. "We have four vacancies in our faculty to be filled, but within the next two weeks we hope to have all arrangements completed for the term's opening." Mr. Hix stated. The Everetts school head is predicting a splendid year's work, stating that there will be an increased attendance in the various grades. The school at Everetts is the first to announce its fall opening, but it is understood that several of the others will open the first Monday in September or within a short time following that date.

WATTS THEATRE

Saturday June 29
Buddy Roosevelt
in
"MYSTERY VALLEY"
Also COMEDY and SERIAL
"Tarzan, the Mighty"

Monday-Tuesday July 1-2
Corinne Griffith
in
"SATURDAY'S CHILDREN"
NEWS and PARLES
Shows at 7:15 and 9 P. M. Daily
MUSIC BY PHOTOTONE

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