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# THE ENTERPRISE

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## CHURCHES TO PAY NO PAVING TAXES

Bill Passed In Senate Last Week, But Has Not Yet Gone Before House

### SHIFT \$5,492.99 TAXES

Passage of Proposed Law Would Result In A Small Increase In the Town's Tax Rate

Efforts to lift \$5,492.99 paving from the several churches in the town and place them on the public were started here recently, a law having already been passed as a result in the State Senate exempting the religious bodies from paying the assessments this year and in subsequent years. A petition was circulated here a few days ago, and a goodly number of churches members, signed urging the legislature to pass such a law that would exempt the organizations of all paying tax assessments.

The law, it is understood, does not exempt all church property but does exempt houses of worship and residents maintained for ministers. The bill, passed in the senate last Friday, does not provide for the re-payment to the churches paying of taxes already paid. However, the churches escape any payment whatsoever on the street and sidewalk paving recently put down as the first installment does not fall due until this year. The paving project was completed in 1930, but the initial payment was not included in 1930 taxes.

The actual paving assessments now charged against the churches amount to \$4,160.23, leaving \$1,332.76 as interest. Divided into ten equal installments, the \$5,492.99 would be retired in ten years at the rate of \$549.30 a year.

While practically all the church people of the town favor the bill exempting them of the tax, there is some opposition among non-church members and a few church members who brand the measure as unfair to the general taxpayers. "It is a case where the church is calling upon the State for support," one citizen remarked yesterday in commenting upon the proposed law. "And I signed it, but I don't believe I should have done it," the same man added. As far as it could be learned, no organized opposition to the proposed law has been formed, and it is not known that there will be a debate on the question when it is referred to the house committee the latter part of this or the early part of next week.

The passage of the bill in the senate does not necessarily mean that it will be enacted into law, for the house could kill it. Whether or not the bill will meet with an organized opposition is a matter for speculation, but judging from present indications the strength is with the bill.

According to information received yesterday afternoon, the proposal was not mentioned to the town board of commissioners, and it is believed that some of the group, while favoring the measure, do not consider the passage of the bill advisable. Several of the town commissioners had learned nothing of the proposal to shift the tax burden up until yesterday and were at a loss to express a definite opinion relative to the proposed bill.

Using the present valuation of property here as a basis, the shifting of the burden would effect an increase in the town tax rate varying from around 2 1-2 cents to 4 cents.

## FUNERAL LLOYD ANGE SATURDAY

Burial In the Stanley Leggett Graveyard Near Spring Green Church

Lloyd Ange, one of Jamestown's oldest citizens died at his home there early last Friday morning of pneumonia. He was sick only a short time. The son of Edward W. Ange and wife, Mr. Ange was born in Jamestown township 62 years ago. Mr. Ange farmed a greater part of his life, but a number of years ago he moved to Jamestown to operate a small store there. He was married three times and leaves children by each marriage. He last married Mrs. Vinona Coburn White who with two children, one two and the other seven years of age, survives.

The funeral services were held from the home Saturday afternoon by Rev. A. Corey, interment following in the Stanley Leggett burial ground, in the Spring Green section of the county, with members of the Jamestown Modern Camp in charge of the service there.

## Peel Mentioned for Highway Commission Post

Senator E. S. Peel, of Williamston, was mentioned this week for a position on the State Highway Commission board.

## Young White Man Loses His Life When Boat Turns Over

Paul Bozeman Took Too Many Chances In Small Boat On the Mobley Mill Pond Last Sunday Morning; Body Recovered Fifteen Minutes Later

Paul Bozeman, 20-year-old white boy, was accidentally drowned when he fell out of a small boat in the Mobley mill pond, near here on the Hamilton road Sunday just before noon. The body was recovered about fifteen minutes later by Mr. J. G. Godard, but life was extinct. Mr. Godard and others worked on the body for almost an hour and a doctor was summoned but they were unable to restore life. Bozeman had been about the concrete mixer of the Brown Paving company, a mile from the mill, earlier in the morning, and with two small boys went to the creek. Bozeman and one of the small boys started out for a boat ride, but the youngest became frightened, and begged Bozeman to return him to shore. After placing the Wynn child ashore, Bozeman pushed into the stream and was testing his skill with the paddle when he toppled into the water.

County officers were summoned, and followed an investigation, the drowning was declared accidental. It was reported that he had a small quantity of liquor on him that he had been drinking.

Bozeman, an orphan since early childhood, had lived and worked in many places, coming to this county from Greenville a few months ago to live with relatives near here.

The funeral was held yesterday afternoon at 2 o'clock by Rev. S. A. Fann, of Tarboro, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Willis McKeel, near here. Burial was in the Clark graveyard, near Everett.

The deceased is survived by two brothers, Charles and Thurman Bozeman, of Greenville, and one sister, Mrs. Lillie Whitaker, of near Robersonville.

## House And Senate Divided On School Revenue Measure

House Expected To Stand By MacLean Bill To The Very Last

Last week, Representative J. C. Smith stated that he would not be surprised if the legislature adjourned without doing anything relative to providing revenue for the operation of the six months school. Mr. Smith's opinion is supported by other members of the house, Representative Norman, of Washington County had the following to say during the past week-end.

The matter that is holding up proceedings more than any other one thing is the finding of tax revenue to support the constitutional six-months term from sources other than by ad valorem taxation. Mr. Norman said the house would probably pass the general sales tax bill, while the senate, if it passes any kind of sales tax, will more than likely hold out for the selective of luxury feature. The revenue bill will then probably go to conference, the outcome of which no one is willing to predict.

The senate is opposed to any kind of sales tax, and it may pass a bill repealing the MacLean law, which was passed early in the session by both houses. However, the Washington County representative believes that the house will "stand pat" with reference to the MacLean law, which requires that the State finance operation of the schools for the six-months term. Should the two houses become hopelessly deadlocked over this proposition, the chances are that they will adjourn without providing any revenue for the operation of the schools.

Under the MacLean law, the county commissioners can not levy a tax for the support of the six-months schools and if the legislature adjourns without making provision for raising the necessary money, either a special session will have to be called by the governor or there will be no school next fall. Adjournment without providing revenue for the schools will put the whole matter up to Governor Gardner, who, so far, has played a "hands off" policy in regard to the school problem.

Mr. Norman believes the house will stand by the MacLean bill to the last ditch, as it is the only measure so far offered this session that will materially lower taxes on land. He also believes the house will pass the gross sales tax bill, but its fate in the senate is problematical. Both senators from this district, E. S. Peel, of Williamston, and H. S. Ward, of Washington, are for the sales tax measure also, but recent polls of the senate have indicated that the vote will be very close, if not against any form of sales tax.

Yesterday, the senate got another bill providing for an equalization fund of ten million dollars and an ad valorem tax.

## Fire Alarm of Week Ago Investigated by Officials

Investigating the fire call made last Tuesday, authorities learned that Ausbon Bond, who lives near the highway at the foot of the river hill, told Rhodes Chesson, also colored, that his (Bond's) house was burning.

Rhodes started running up the hill to the fire station when Fenner Respass, taxi operator, came along and picked up Rhodes and carried him to the fire house. The volunteer company went down the hill as directed, but was unable to locate the fire or find anybody that knew anything about a fire there. The blaze, starting from sparks on the roof, was extinguished by the time the alarm was sounded, making it appear to the firemen that a false alarm had been turned in.

## BENEFIT SUPPER FRIDAY SUCCESS

Charity Fund Given Great Single Boost When 120 People Attend Feed

The charity benefit supper, served by the Welfare Committee of the Williamston Woman's Club in the hall here last Friday evening was a marked success. It was one of the greatest boosts accorded charity relief at any one time heretofore, it was learned from the members of the committee.

While the serving committee was prepared to feed many more, approximately 120 citizens, practically all local townspeople, supported the undertaking, it was stated. Fifty cents per plate was charged the diners, the welfare workers incurring very little expenses in serving the meal. Chickens were donated by twenty or more women, and numerous items were contributed free of charge to the welfare workers.

Although there continues a great need for charity work, indications point to a more self-supporting group within the next few weeks. Provisions have been made for early gardens in a majority of the cases where relief was tendered, and if the charity subjects meet with any success at all, perhaps will be dealt a hard blow this spring and summer. There are others, however, who have not been able to arrange for a garden plot, and it now looks as if welfare work will continue as an all-year-round task.

## M. D. LEGGETT DIES SATURDAY

Suffered Stroke of Paralysis Late Friday Afternoon; Dies Few Hours Later

Mack D. Leggett, highly respected farmer of Cross Roads township, died at his home there early Saturday morning following a stroke of paralysis the afternoon before. Apparently in good health, Mr. Leggett went to Bear Grass last Friday afternoon to attend to business matters and while there he suffered the paralytic stroke. He was immediately removed to his home, a few miles away, and medical aid was summoned, but after a few hours of suffering he died at 4 o'clock Saturday morning.

Born on the farm in 1866, Mr. Leggett farmed all his life. In his daily walk he made numerous friends who knew him for kindness and righteousness. A member of the Free Will Baptist Church for a number of years, M. Leggett was prominent in religious activities as well as in community life.

In early life, he was married to Miss Emily Wynn who with four children, Mrs. V. A. Parks, of Halifax county; Mrs. N. D. Gurganus, Messrs. Augustus and John Leggett, of this county, and Mr. J. Robert Leggett, of Williamston, survives.

Funeral services were conducted at the home Sunday afternoon by Elder B. S. Cowin, of the Primitive Baptist Church. Interment followed in the family plot on the home farm.

## Volunteer Firemen Called To Fire Chief's Residence

The local fire company answered its second call of the week last Saturday night when fire threatened the home of Fire Chief Henry D. Harrison on Hassell Street. An oil stove, used in heating water, got out of adjustment and smoked several rooms, scorching the wood work in the bath room.

Mrs. Harrison examined the stove carefully at 8 o'clock and found that it was burning all right. She left the home a short time later, and upon returning just before nine o'clock the smoke was so thick in the house that she could not enter. Firemen, going to the home, rushed to the bathroom, and disconnected the oil supply, preventing further damage.

Damage to the home is estimated at \$100.

## ANSWER BOX

Q. How many white children were there enrolled in the Martin county schools last term?  
A. 3,617.

Q. How many colored children were there enrolled in the schools of this county last term?  
A. 3,374.

Q. What was the average daily attendance of white children in the county schools last term?  
A. 3,097.

Q. What was the average daily attendance of colored children in the county schools last term?  
A. 2,532.

Q. In terms of instructional and allied costs how much money was lost when the certain percentage of children failed to attend school regularly?  
A. \$27,526.02.

## Superior Court Starts Two Weeks Term Here Yesterday

### JUDGE HARRIS MAKES STRONG JURY CHARGE

Convinced that Courthouse Is No Place To Reform Criminals

### GIVE CAUSE FOR LAW

Little Attention Paid To Important Job of Rearing Children the Jurist Declared

Holding his first term of court in this county, Judge W. C. Harris in his charge to the grand jury yesterday did not adhere to the usual course of procedure followed by many judges in addressing the grand jury. He did not explain what is law and what is not law; he went deeper down into the subject and gave the causes for criminal law and the best way to prevent crime. His charge, an unusually strong one, was well received by a large audience about equally divided among the white and the colored.

"In my seventeen years of experience gained in dealing with criminals, I have been fully convinced that the courthouse is not the place to reform," Judge Harris stated, adding, "and it does not do it."

In giving his opinion of why we have so many breaches of the law, the jurist stated that too many good, law-abiding citizens are permitting crime to go on all about them while they excuse themselves by saying it is none of their business. "I regard it the business and duty of every good citizen to see that the law is respected, and if citizens expect the law to protect their own families, they must accept the duty of supporting the law."

Judge Harris' criticism of the procedure which sometimes prevail in the courtroom where powerful and prominent politicians succeed in saying their influential friends from the power of justice or where those without money or friends have to suffer punishment, was to the point. "And this," he added, "is one of the greatest causes for criticism of the courts."

"We are paying entirely too little attention to our most important job—the rearing of our boys and girls," he continued. "We expect them to grow up like weeds and then develop into good citizens. We do not train them on the questions of law, obedience, nor do we teach them the horrors of crime. Fathers along that line, until their dear one commits some crime and then the parents run to the courts and ask that their children's crimes be whitewashed."

Another of the main causes for so much lawlessness is when people obey the laws they like and violate those they do not like. One man will permit a neighbor to break law if the neighbor will accord him a like privilege. We regard our health laws as of fundamental importance in protecting our health and the health of our boys and girls, obedience to the laws.

The properly trained children are very seldom seen in the court room, while the children of the careless and lawless are seen there frequently. Members of the last class are often ignorant of the real meaning of crime because they have had no chance to differentiate between good and bad, the judge declared.

In bringing his talk to a close, Judge Harris stated that one of the most important functions of a superior court was to do constructive work toward the prevention of crime, rather than to punish after the crime had been committed, when it was too late for constructive work because the scar is there and never will wear away.

Instruction of the jurors to carefully examine all school trucks and public buildings, Judge Harris impressed them with the importance of better enforcement of the motor vehicle laws.

## Farm Prices Hit Bottom During the Past Month

Washington March 16.—Farmers received less for their products last month than at any time during the last 20 years.

The Agriculture Department announced today the general price level had dropped two points below the index figure of 92 recorded in 1911.

Comfort was found for farmers, however, in a lower level of prices paid by them for necessities.

February 15 the index of farm prices was 90, four points under January 15, and 41 points lower than February, 1930. Slight advances were indicated for the first two weeks of March.

The department said the general lower level reflected to some extent larger supplies, but principally was due to business depression, curtailment in buying power of consumers, and reduced demand for feed because of a mild winter.

### LOAD POULTRY CAR NEXT WEEK

Starts In Jamestown Next Tuesday; Little Change In Prices Expected

The North Carolina Division of Markets under the direction of County Agent T. B. Brandon, will operate a third poultry car in this county next week, beginning at Jamestown Tuesday, March 24, and making respective stops at Williamston, Robersonville and Oak City on the following three days.

Prices have not been announced at this time, the Division of Markets holding up the loading contract until bids are entered late Friday. They will be released Saturday.

When asked about the prospective prices, County Agent Brandon stated that he did not expect any great change, that they might be off a fraction of a cent, or they might advance between now and the time of the letting. The market continues about the same as it has been.

Announcing conditions in the country's poultry market this week, the United States Department of Agriculture stated that the warm weather last month resulted in an increased production of eggs and a low price. Poultry raisers, finding the egg market unusually weak, depleted their flocks in many cases and brought about a weak poultry market. As a result of this, the upward price trend generally noted about this season of the year for poultry has not materialized, making it doubtful if the market would gain any appreciable strength during the remainder of the season.

It is also stated by many that the depression has much to do with the low price, that the people just haven't the money to buy chickens.

The Federal department announced that poultry products were more than 25 per cent higher than they were just before the war, while many other foods are below and have reached in many cases the lowest point ever recorded since prices were first kept twenty years ago.

## SIMEON DANIEL DIES SATURDAY

Dies In Hospital Following Illness of Several Months

Wm. Simeon Daniel, 20-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. W. David Daniel, of Griffiths township, died in a Washington hospital early Saturday morning following an illness of several months. About one year ago the young man suffered a rheumatic attack, and later was troubled with leakage of the heart. He was the only child and up until he was taken ill, he was very active and unusually strong. He was of the steady, and dependable type, and a favorite in his community.

The funeral services were conducted from the home Sunday afternoon by Elder Newsome H. Harrison and Reverends W. B. Harrington, D. W. Arnold and A. Corey. The burial was in the Daniel graveyard where his ancestors have slept for nearly two centuries. The attendance upon the services was unusually large, and the floral tribute was very beautiful.

## NAME TEACHERS TO STATE MEET

Will Attend State Association Meeting In State Capital Next Week

A committee selected at a regular meeting of the Martin County Teachers' association held here Saturday before last yesterday announced its nominees who will attend a meeting of the State association in Raleigh March 26, 27, and 28. The list selected by the committee, follows:

High school group: delegates, Miss Annie Horner, Jamestown, Miss Bessie Willis, Williamston; alternates, Miss Eva Peel, Robersonville and Miss Alma Baker, Everetts.

Grammar grade group: delegates, Miss Leona Newton, Oak City, Mr. J. H. Smith, Robersonville; alternates, Miss Lucille Allen, Williamston, Miss Margaret Womack, Robersonville.

Primary group: delegates, Miss Effie Waldo, Hamilton, alternate, Miss Bessie Harrell, Williamston.

Principals' group: delegate, D. N. Hix, Everetts and alternate, H. M. Ainsley, Oak City.

## Society Meeting

The Woman's Missionary Society of the Methodist Church, will meet Wednesday afternoon at 4 o'clock at the church. Every member is urged to be present.

## CRIMINAL CASES WILL LIKELY BE CLEARED TODAY

Members of Grand Jury In All Parts of the County Inspecting Trucks

### RETURN 6 TRUE BILLS

Several Defendants Fail To Answer When Called For Trial; Court Orders Their Arrests

The Martin County Superior Court started a two-weeks regular term here yesterday with Judge W. C. Harris, of Raleigh, presiding. There were many attendants upon the court yesterday, but the procedure was limited to cases of little importance. The docket has been described as one of little consequence with possibly one or two exceptions. No murder manslaughter cases are scheduled for trial during the term, and it was the opinion of court officers this morning that the criminal docket would be cleared today.

The large crowd attending the opening session yesterday was impressed by the strong charge made by Judge Harris to the following grandjurors: W. O. Griffin, foreman; H. G. Griffin, T. H. Johnson, Jasper Perkins, J. N. Biggs, Z. H. Rose, Neza Harrison, Jas. L. Peel, L. D. Harrison, W. H. Carstarphen, O. S. Anderson, J. E. Hedrick, W. E. Dunn, L. B. Fleming, L. A. Gurganus, H. L. Harrison, Harry Waldo, Silas House.

No civil cases are scheduled for hearing before Thursday and the course the court will follow tomorrow had not been determined at noon today. A few minor causes might be arranged for a hearing, but it is believed the court will take a few cases from the motion calendar.

The court marked time in turning off cases, and the possibility of completing the docket today depended upon the opposition of the defendants who might, in one case, cause a continuation of criminal proceedings well into tomorrow.

The grand jury is traveling in all parts of the county examining school trucks. The members are about through with their work, there being only one or two more indictments to pass on. They are expected to return and report this afternoon.

Charles Wiggins, charged with larceny and receiving was found not guilty.

Arlie Liverman and Clyde Lupton pleaded guilty of larceny and receiving, and Liverman was ordered back to jail until April 6, 1931.

Will Green, charged with an assault with a deadly weapon, was sentenced to the roads.

Charged with house breaking, Cole Cowan, was found not guilty.

A nol. pros. resulted in the case against Geo. Lee James.

J. T. Hatfield, charged with fornication and adultery, was called but he failed to answer.

E. J. Edwards, charged with an assault with a deadly weapon and under bond in a larceny case, failed to answer when called yesterday and papers were issued. Edwards was found guilty at the last term of superior court here of stealing peanuts. He appealed his case to the Supreme Court, but the appeal was never perfected and his cause never reached that tribunal.

Pleading guilty of operating a car while under the influence of liquor, Ezekiah Briley was sentenced to the roads, the judgment of the recorder's court standing.

The recorder's court judgment in the case of Medrick Daniel was also upheld and the defendant goes to the roads.

A motion for non-suit in the case against Elmer James was made and sustained and the defendant was discharged.

John Hadley, charged with larceny, was dismissed, the court directing a verdict of not guilty in his case.

Six true bills were returned yesterday. (Continued on page four)

## Parmele Club Members Plants New Vegetable

Mrs. T. M. Woodburn, garden leader in the Home Demonstration Club of Parmele, reported at the regular meeting held there Monday in the school-house that she had planted another new vegetable broccoli which is receiving much attention with gardeners over the State. The vegetable has the same cultural treatment as cauliflower and resembles the latter in its appearance, the noticeable variation being in the large number of small heads to each plant and the lack of compactness in the heads. One ounce of seed produces approximately 2000 plants. This community was credited with two cold frames according to reports received.