

# THE ENTERPRISE

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Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Tuesday, March 21, 1933

ESTABLISHED 1898

## TOWN ELECTION IS ARRANGED FOR AT MEET MONDAY

### Convention Date Will Be Set at Next Regular Meeting of Board

Arrangements for a town election were made here last night by the board of commissioners in special session. The election will be held on May 2 in the municipal office. Registration books will be opened Saturday, April 1, by Justice of the Peace J. L. Hassell at his office on Main Street just across from the City Hall. Registration of new voters will be in order each Saturday through April 22. The following Saturday will be known as challenge day. Mr. J. E. Pope was named poll holder and Messrs. Roy T. Griffin and A. T. Perry were chosen judges of election.

No date has been set for the convention, but the board will likely make arrangements for the nominating convention at the next regular meeting, to be held April 3.

Little attention is ordinarily given the election for town officers, but much interest has developed at the last two or three conventions when a mayor and five commissioners were nominated. Mr. W. T. Meadows pitched his hat into the ring some time ago. No announcements have been made, either by the mayor or the members of the board of commissioners as to their candidacies.

## SALES TAX BLOC WINS IN HOUSE

### Decisive Test Is Expected When School Appropriation Bill Comes Up

After registering a limited victory last week, the anti-sales tax group in the North Carolina General Assembly met with reverses yesterday when the bloc was broken by a vote of 53 to 48, the house returning to the original appropriations bill in the allotment to charitable and correctional institutions.

Tumbles from the Bowie knife band wagon were so many yesterday that nobody would give the chariot more than 24 hours of continued travel before it went utterly to pieces.

The Bowie-Cherry coalition, which succeeded in rejecting the committee bill by a vote of 53 to 43 Thursday night, and ran roughshod over administration opposition to institutional cuts was defeated in its efforts to further slash State hospital and correctional institutions, and was overwhelmed, 75 to 22, when it attempted to cut pensions of Confederate veterans by 10 percent.

The most decisive test was avoided, however, when the House adjourned until 11 o'clock this morning without taking up the public school appropriation, which the anti-sales tax bloc would cut to \$12,500,000 from the \$14,050,000 figures in the committee bill on the basis of a State supported six-months school with extended term aid.

Representative Claude Allen, of Granville stated that he would not vote to appropriate a cent that was not in line with a sales tax, and urged the members "not to be swept off their feet by emotional pleas."

"The sales tax issue is being settled here in this appropriation bill," declared Mr. Allen.

Representative J. C. Smith, of this county, voted to restore the committee bill figures for charitable institutions.

## Small Demand for Herring Reported Just at This Time

There is very little demand for herring in these parts just at this time, giving rise to two assumptions. The people are frowning upon the fish as a diet, or they are just too poor to buy them. The first is hardly true, as the herring furnishes good eating. The demand is probably small just now on account of the early season price. Taking fish in small quantities necessarily calls for a higher price. When the fish start running in larger numbers, and the fishermen start taking them by the hundreds and thousands, a marked increase in the demand will be experienced, it is believed.

## To Hold Regular Meet of Woman's Club Thursday

The regular meeting of the local Woman's Club will be held in the club rooms Thursday afternoon at 4 o'clock it was announced today by the president. An interesting program is being planned with Mrs. P. B. Cone in charge, it was stated. Mrs. C. J. Sawyer will attend and address the meeting during the afternoon.

A large attendance is urged by the officers. Refreshments will be served.

## Over 200 Applications for Seed Loans Are Forwarded

Applications for seed and feed loans are continuing to be made in large numbers in this county, according to Roy Hearne, field representative for this, Washington, and Tyrrell Counties. Up until the week-end 223 applications had been forwarded to Washington by Mr. Hearne. Martin led the list with 165 applications and Washington County was second with 47 requests for loans. Tyrrell reported 11 applications.

Many more applications, calling from \$40 to \$300 each, are now in the hands of the county committees, and each day from 30 to 40 applications are inspected and forwarded to Washington. By the end of this week it is believed more than 550 applications will have been entered in this county alone. The total number for the

season may not reach 1,000, but if the requests for money continue to come in all next week as rapidly as they have come in during the past week and are now coming in the number of applications will be in the neighborhood of 1,000 all right.

Plenty of blanks are now on hand and those in the seed loan office at the courthouse here are handling the requests as rapidly as they possibly can.

Over 1,500 farmers of Pitt County made application for government seed and fertilizer loans last week, it was reported by the county agent there Saturday. Three hundred of the applications have been completed and forwarded to the Washington office, and the remainder will be forwarded as soon as complete information on needs and plantings is secured.

## Judge Parker Makes Able Charge To Jury

### DISTRIBUTE SEED

Welfare authorities will distribute seed in the various communities of the county this week, it was announced today by the county welfare office.

Tomorrow the authorities will distribute seed to the needy at Dardens and Jamesville. Thursday they will be in Oak City and in Hamilton in the afternoon. Robersonville and Parmele will be visited Friday.

In addition to the seed, the authorities will give out cabbage plants. Only those people on the welfare list are eligible to receive seed, the authorities stating that no promiscuous distribution could be expected. The needy in the several communities are urged to call for their packages.

## SENIOR PLAY FRIDAY NIGHT

### Large Crowd Expected To See Annual Production In High School Here

Arrangements for the presentation of the annual senior play in the local high school next Friday evening are nearing completion, and it is believed that the show, "A Fortunate Calamity" will attract a large crowd.

The plot of the play is taken from an actual happening in a little village on the Ohio River a few years ago. A wealthy father left his wife and two daughters a farm at his death. One daughter, seeking a place in society, desired nothing but riches. The other child, a plain girl, cared little for the bright lights, riches, and sought her happiness with a young man of little means. The situation develops into an interesting plot which the following characters will unravel Friday evening:

Kate Van Tyle, an educated cook, Myrtle Brown; Mrs. Marion Merkle, a rich widow, Ruth Roberson; Alta Merkle, a wealth-seeking daughter, Louise Green; Ruth Merkle, a plain girl, Sara Cone; Albert Campbell, a dishonest son-in-law, Pete Fowden, jr.; Bernard Gullion, an honest young man, Billie Watts; Joe Brown, a revenue officer, Irving Griffin, Dinah Johnson, an honest coon, Woodrow Tice.

## Zangara Electrocuted In Miami Prison Monday

Giuseppe Zangara, who attempted to kill President Roosevelt in Miami a few weeks ago, was electrocuted in the Dade County prison of Florida yesterday morning for the fatal shooting of Anton J. Cermak, mayor of Chicago.

Zangara apparently was unconcerned over his abrupt ending and talked little. He never offered but one excuse for the attempted murder of the President. The man said he tried to kill President Roosevelt because he had "stomach pains."

## Local Fire Company Gets Call at 9:30 This Morning

The local fire company was called to the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Peel on Main Street at 9:30 this morning when it was thought burning soot in the chimney had fired the home. Smoke and soot brook through the chimney in several places, but no damage resulted from fire.

## 13 TRUE BILLS RETURNED BY JURY MONDAY

### Jury Will Have More Busy Days To Complete the Assigned Tasks

The grand jury reported a busy day yesterday when its members returned 13 true bills in open court, a new record for one day. The body will have to work rapidly, however, if it completes the tasks assigned it by the judge.

True bills were returned as follows: Nicodemus Barow, felonious assault. George Wright, felonious assault. Bruce Moseley and Robert Hollis, larceny and receiving.

T. C. Poole, Joe Berry, and George Bailey, housebreaking and larceny. Jesse Bland, housebreaking and larceny.

T. C. Poole and Joe Berry, housebreaking and larceny. Berry and Poole are scheduled to face trial on two other similar counts.

J. P. Watson, larceny and receiving. Watson, failing to appear yesterday morning, forfeited his \$1,000 bond. When he failed to report today Judge Parker ordered his immediate arrest. Deputy Grimes left this morning for Roseboro to bring Watson here for trial.

Jake Spruill, housebreaking. Will Brayboy, felonious assault. Ananias Keel, housebreaking and larceny.

George Andrews, felonious assault. Of the 13 true bills returned, 9 of them had to do with housebreaking or larceny, or both.

George Perkins, larceny and receiving. True bill returned today.

The names of the grand jurors are as follows: T. S. Critcher, foreman; Jesse S. Lilley, C. M. Hurst, J. J. Gregory, Kelly Bunting, W. A. Fleming, R. A. Haislip, R. O. Martin, A. E. Turner, W. S. Bailey, J. E. Congleton, John D. Mizelle, H. J. Etheridge, A. T. Lilley, R. A. Taylor, L. G. Taylor, D. W. Etheridge, C. F. Perry.

## DEATH OF MRS. LUCY MODLIN

### Former Native Died Last Friday Afternoon In Berkley, Va.

Mrs. Lucy Modlin, daughter of Mrs. Alice Godard and the late Salmon Godard, died at her home in Berkley, Va., last Friday afternoon following a long illness, during which time she suffered some internal trouble.

Funeral services were conducted from the home, and the last rites were held at the cemetery here by Rev. E. F. Moseley, of the Church of the Advent. Burial was in the Baptist cemetery at 2 o'clock today.

Mrs. Modlin is survived by four children, one son, Earl Mason, and three daughters, Dorothy, Delsie, and Hazel. She also leaves her mother, Mrs. Alice Godard, of Williamston; one sister, Mrs. Bartha Lassiter, of Smithfield; and two brothers, Joe and N. S. Godard.

Born and reared here, Mrs. Modlin spent most of her life in this section, going to Norfolk several years ago to make her home there.

## MUCH POULTRY BEING SHIPPED

### Plans for Cooperative Shipment During the Next Week Not Complete

Poultry shipments from this section to the northern markets are unusually frequent this season. While only one cooperative shipment has been made so far this season, individual operators are working regularly in this county. Loadings were reported here yesterday and another by individual operators is scheduled for tomorrow.

A cooperative shipment is being considered for next week, but there is some doubt as to whether the plans will materialize or not, the operation of a car depending upon the market. Officials of the Roanoke Mutual Exchange, which organization is cooperating with Agent Brandon in making shipments, will make a definite announcement within the next day or two, it is understood. The schedule will be made in ample time for deliveries at three points should the authorities decide to operate a car next week.

## Two Men Arrested At Still Today in Bear Grass

Two colored men, named Lilley, were arrested in Bear Grass Township this morning and placed in jail for the alleged violation of the liquor laws. A hearing is scheduled before the local commissioner this afternoon.

## Tax Listers Hold Meet Here Monday; Prepare for Work

### PEANUT PRICES NOW COMPETING WITH ORIENTALS

#### Only Solution Is Increase Consumption of Peanuts On Domestic Markets

The price of American peanuts has been so low for the past two years that notwithstanding the low ebb of foreign trade, which has almost ruined the export business in most lines, they are obeying export t foreign countries in far greater quantities than ever before. Where once the American grower demanded and had enacted a tariff on low-priced foreign peanuts imported into this country, now the price of the American peanut is so low that not only is the tariff protection needless but American exporters of peanuts can undersell in the very countries from which the farmer once demanded protection.

Government report shows a radical reversal of exports and imports of peanuts and peanut oil seems to have taken place last year. Net imports of peanuts during the calendar year 1932 amounted to only 76,643 pounds against a net total of 7,500,000 pounds for the calendar year of 1931. Exports of peanuts from the United States on the contrary during 1932 reached a total of 7,000,000 pounds compared with the total of not quite 2,000,000 pounds the previous year. Movement of peanuts from the Southeastern section during the year ending September 24, 1932, almost doubled that of the preceding year.

The same conditions appear to have existed as to imports and exports of peanut oil. Net imports of peanut oil into the United States during 1932 were on the minor side of the ledger, re-exports totaling more than imports. In 1931 net imports of peanut oil into the United States reached a total of 9,783,000 pounds, while the total for 1932 was 1,500,000 pounds, with re-exports slightly more than 2,000,000 pounds. This situation is probably the result of the low price of peanuts enabling the United States to compete with producers in foreign countries.

Commenting on this condition, the Suffolk News-Herald, published in Suffolk which is the center of the peanut industry in this country, has the following to say:

"Some may attribute this swell in export trade to the tariff, but the fact is we are turning the tables on the Oriental growers and taking their business only because we are underselling them. Without any tariff peanuts could not be imported into the eastern market at least and undersell the domestic product at present prices. Except that, exportations help reduce the surplus we cannot see that it has been directly profitable either to the growers or the exporters."

"However, it may be possible for our exporters to hold some of this new trade long enough to clean up the domestic surplus and since there is no longer competition from foreign growers, stabilize the market for the domestic product. As we have had occasion to say recently, the real problem of the peanut industry is to increase consumption by increasing demand more than cutting acreage and thereby repressing the production. If we can continue the balance of trade for peanuts and peanut oil on our side it will ease the situation here for all concerned."

## FARM HOME NEAR HERE IS BURNED

### Hollis Family Lose All Its Earthly Belongings In Sunday Night Fire

Fire, believed to have been started by lightning, destroyed the home and all the contents of the Bill Hollis family on the Wildcat road, near here, shortly before midnight Sunday. Members of the family, discovering the fire about midnight, ran from the house in their night clothes and barely escaped before the burning timbers fell. Neighbors furnished the family with enough clothes to hide their bodies.

According to a story told here by Hollis yesterday morning, no one was stunned or injured by the lightning bolt. The section was visited by a severe electrical and rain storm late in the night, but there is some doubt as to whether the blaze was started by lightning.

The building was of the one-story type and was valued at several hundred dollars. No insurance was carried, and the loss was complete.

### SPRING IS HERE

While the weather was a little antagonistic, springtime was officially recognized as the new season Monday night at 8:43 o'clock.

The trees have already started budding and the flowers are increasing from day to day. Farmers are now making ready to enter upon one of their busiest seasons of the year, and life in general seems to be taking on a new lease.

Sunday was a regular summer day, including even a thunder-shower, and while the sky was overcast yesterday, the mercury was well advanced on the scale. There may be a few more cold days and nights between now and May, but once springtime makes its appearance this section hardly ever experiences any severe cold weather until the fall.

## PROCEEDINGS IN SUPERIOR COURT

### Very Small Number Cases Are Heard During the Session Yesterday

With Judge R. Hunt Parker on the bench, proceedings in the superior court here yesterday were featured by the businesslike and stern manner in which they were carried on. However the wheels of justice turned very slowly as to the number of cases heard, the court disposing of only four actions during the first day. Happenings the first day resulted in readiness on the part of every one this morning, and today the court is continuing its work smoothly.

Finishing his charge to the grand jury, Judge Parker ordered the case charging Hubert Clark with bastardy placed on the civil calendar for trial. The case charging W. A. Respass with housebreaking and larceny and receiving was continued till the June term.

The jury found S. L. Rogers not guilty in the case charging him with an assault with a deadly weapon.

Nicodemus Barow, colored, was sentenced to the roads for a period of two years when he was found guilty of an assault where serious damage was done. Judge Parker ruled that the stick claimed to have been used by Barow in his attack upon Mr. Buck Gardner several months ago was not a deadly weapon.

The court took a recess about 5 o'clock in the afternoon after starting work on the case charging George Wright with an assault with a deadly weapon.

George Wright was sentenced to the roads for a period of two years when he was found guilty of an assault with a deadly weapon.

Probably the most spectacular cases called so far were those charging T. C. Poole, Joe Berry and George Bailey with robbing the Harrison Wholesale Company store here, and three other cases charging Poole and Berry with various robberies at Oak City, Hamilton and Everetts. Pleas admitting guilt were entered in all the cases just before noon today, the court recessing at 1:05 after Judge Parker remonstrated with the young men for the crimes. Heavy sentences were predicted by the crowds as they filed out of the courtroom for noon-day meal. According to reports coming from the courthouse judgment will be withheld in all the cases pending the arrest and trial of Watson, Roseboro merchant, charged with aiding and abetting larceny and receiving.

## SCHOOL NEWS AT OAK CITY

### Children Rapidly Recover From Tonsil Operations Performed at Clinic

Work on Senior Play

The senior class is at present practicing a play entitled, "Out of the Ark Came Noah," which is to be presented some time in the near future.

### Recover From Operations

Practically every child that underwent the tonsil operation in the clinic held last week has returned to school. These particular children will be watched carefully in school to note any improvement in work as well as in their general make-up.

### Same Number Teachers

The six-months term for Oak City school ended last week and the averages were the same as those before; and unless there is a change made by the legislature, the same number of teachers will be present next year.

## UNIFORM VALUES FOR PERSONAL PROPERTY FIXED

### Listing Work Temporarily Postponed Pending the Action of Legislature

The listing of property for taxation in Martin County for the year 1933 was yesterday ordered temporarily postponed, pending the outcome of legislation in the general assembly now in session. The several list-takers recently appointed met and discussed uniform values with the supervisor, T. C. Griffin, and will start listing just as soon as they are instructed by the commissioners, it is understood. Blanks and other equipment were turned over to the listers and complete details have been made for handling the work.

The list-takers will list property as of April 1, but it is certain that the work will hardly get under way before the week following, or even later than that.

Uniform values for personal property were decided upon as follows:

Corn, \$2 a barrel; meat and lard, 7 cents pound; peanut hay, 10 cents bale; sweet potatoes for market, 40 cents bushel; soy beans for market, 50 cents bushel; peanuts, 50 cents bag; cotton, \$25 bale; No. 1 horse, \$50; No. 1 mule, \$125; sheep, \$2 each; goats, \$1 each; hogs, 3 cents pound; milk cows, \$50; poultry, 25 cents each; automobiles, 90 per cent of sale value for new cars and downward, the same schedule of values to be followed in listing trucks; canoes, \$25 downward.

Unless the legislature orders a new valuation of property, the values of all real estate will remain unchanged except in those cases where losses have resulted or where improvements were made as of April 1 next.

The following list-takers were present for the meeting:

Jamiesville Township, F. C. Stallings; Williams Township, L. J. Harrison, Griffiths Township, George C. Griffin; Bear Grass Township, A. B. Ayers; Williamston, Roy T. Griffin; Cross Roads, G. G. Bailey; Robersonville Township, J. D. Rawls; Hamilton Township, T. B. Slade; Goose Nest Township, J. A. Rawls; and Poplar Point Township, L. G. Taylor.

## Two Hurt In Oil Truck Wreck Near Windsor

R. H. Harris, local representative of the Standard Oil Company, was slightly hurt and his colored helper, Caesar Purvis, was badly bruised when the oil truck was ditched near Windsor last Saturday morning. The colored man was hurt internally when he attempted to jump from the truck and was washed by the door.

Mr. Harris, driving the truck, was trying to overtake his own car just ahead and was running about 35 miles an hour when the steering apparatus failed to respond to his touch of the wheel. He brought the machine almost to a stop before ditching it. A few gallons of gasoline were spilled, and the truck was damaged but very little.

## Court Proceedings Puzzle Witness Here Yesterday

Summoned to the courthouse yesterday as a witness, Little Charlie Moore, the mechanic de luxe, wanted to know what in — it was all about. A fine of \$5 for contempt-of-court was imposed, the judge ordering him into the custody of the sheriff until the amount was paid. Probably Charlie yet doesn't know what it's all about.

Several witnesses were questioned and threatened with fines yesterday when they failed to appear when called. Most of the cases were explained, and the fines were lifted. Everybody connected in any way with the court or the cases reported for service on time today, some reaching the courthouse a full hour ahead of the judge.

## More Than 5,000 Bales of Cotton Ginned In County

Martin County raised 5,188 bales of cotton last year or 2,169 more bales than were grown in 1931, it was learned from a government report released this week. The crop in this county was one of the largest reported in several years or since way back yonder when the boll weevil first made its appearance. An increase of the crop over last year is now predicted in this county for the coming season.

While the county reported an increase last year, the State, as a whole, showed a decrease of 91,502 bales.