

THE ENTERPRISE



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ESTABLISHED 1898

90 SCHOOL PUPILS LISTED ON HONOR ROLL FOR MONTH

Increased Number Reflects Interest In Scholastic Activities

Scholastic activities in the local high school advanced several steps last month when the names of 90 pupils appeared on the honor roll, as follows:

- Grade 1-A: Melvin Bennett, David Dickey, Tillie Gardner, Betsy Manning, Ann Meador, Angela McLawhorn, Albert Knox, Betty Rogers, Alberta Swain, David Stephenson.
Grade 1-B: Polk Burroughs, Jennie Cherry, Elmer Chesson, Nathan Mizelle, Lotta Price.
Special: Dennis Beech, Fred Cherry, George Gurkin, Anetta Moore.
Grade 2-A: Conrad Getsinger, Courtney Jenkins, Della Jane Mobley, Lenora Melson, Susan Moore, Maurice Moore, Richard Margolia, Burke Parker, Mary Truloh Peelle, Luther Peelle, Collin Peelle, J. D. Woolard, Jr.
Grade 2-B: Elsie Coltrain, Elsie Gardner, William Gardner, Lillie Mae Lee.
Grade 3-A: Bill Griffin, Doris Griffin, Evelyn Griffin, Joseph Gurganus, Patricia King, Velma Perry, Mary O'Neil Pope, Madelyn Taylor, Mary Warren, Hurley Shaw.
Grade 3-B: Robert Coltrain.
Grade 4-A: Mary Charles Godwin, Susie Griffin, S. C. Griffin, Bina Jackson, Bettie Hoard, Mary Lewis Manning, Elizabeth Parker, Sybil Roberson.
Grade 4-B: R. T. McClaren, Jr., Simon Roebuck.
Grade 5-A: Stuart Critcher, Marjorie Gray Dunn, Katherine Manning.
Grade 5-B: Ethel Bennett, Ethel Lilley.
Grade 6-A: Bill Ballard, Jerry Clarke, Sallie Gray Gurkin, Mary Ruth Mallory, Louise Melson, Doris Moore, Edna Shaw, Martha Ward, Virgil Ward, Julia Watts, Reid White.
Grade 6-B: Zula Mae Bonds, Minnie Chesson, Ellen Coburn, Dixie Daniel, Janie Newton.
Grade 7-A: Elva Grace Barnhill, Wilbur Culpepper, Alma Godwin, Thelma Griffin, Nora Grimes, Reg Manning, Geneva Roberson, Jack Baker Saunders, George Sumara, Bernice Ward, John A. Ward.
Grade 9: Marie Griffin.
Grade 10: Grace Manning.

Mixed Quartet Music At Christian Church Sunday

The services at the Christian Church Sunday will consist of Bible School at 9:45 and preaching services at 11 o'clock. A mixed quartet will sing "The Name of Jesus" at the morning worship. The pastor will preach on "The Bethlehem Romance." You will enjoy the incidents of moving, historic interest woven into this marvelous and fascinating Bible story. You will want to worship on this Christmas eve day, and the morning worship will afford the opportunity. So take the family and your friends. Do not stay home and miss services because friends and relatives have come to spend a week with you. They want you to attend your church service. They will feel hurt if you stay home to feed them, and miss your spiritual food. There will be no evening service at the Christian church. All members should go out and enjoy the Christmas cantata at the Episcopal church at 7 p. m.

Much Cheer Prevalent This Christmas Time

Christmas in Martin County will be celebrated with good cheer this year. Events leading up to the holiday season give encouragement to nearly every one of the 23,000 souls for a joyous time. After three years of adverse conditions, they are now prepared to enjoy the good cheer and good will so marked at Christmas time.

Numerous events will make up a varied Christmas program. The Sunday schools and churches will have their trees for the exchange of gifts. Carols will be sung, lessons will be taught and sermons preached on the Christmas story that is almost 2,000 years old and yet is as interesting today as it was nearly two centuries ago.

Trees with their bright decorations shone from members of homes throughout the town, adding to the Christmas spirit. It is truly a season for rejoicing for the many. Good will is apparent on every hand, and there is a greater faith in mankind, giving bright hope for one of the best Christmases in years.

ONLY FEW LEFT

While 450 farmers in this county have already received their compensation for participating in the cotton reduction program, there are four others who continue to wait for their checks, it was learned from the office of the county agent here this week. There's still hope that these four farmers will get their money before Christmas.

Martin farmers so far have received \$22,546.39 as their share in the cotton reduction movement.

ALL-DAY SESSION OF COURT HELD LAST TUESDAY

Five Defendants Go To Roads And \$125 In Fines Collected

The recorder's court had a complicated and an all-day session here last Tuesday, completing the day with five defendants scheduled for the roads and \$125 fines charged against four men. No session of the court will be held next Tuesday, but a large docket is expected when the court convenes the first Tuesday in the new year.

Charged with manufacturing liquor, C. B. Hardison and J. P. Powell were each fined \$25 and taxed with the costs.

Herbert Brown and Herbert Mason were each sentenced to the roads for a period of 60 days, and Charlie Mason drew three months on the roads in the case charging them with larceny. The two Masons appealed.

Charged with driving a horse-drawn vehicle at night with no light, Irving Taylor was fined \$10.

Stancil Perry was fined \$50 for carrying a concealed weapon. Perry and his brother, Russell Perry, are being held in the county jail on a rather serious charge growing out of the robbery and assault of Pearl Leggett here last week. The two men are said to have entered Leggett's home, knocked him in the head and stole a gun, a pistol and a few other items. Leggett was left in an unconscious condition, and continues in bed. A hearing will be arranged as soon as he is able to be up, it is understood. According to unofficial information received here, the same two men served nine months on the roads for committing a similar crime in Beaufort County about three years ago.

Adjudged guilty of violating the liquor laws, H. A. Pierce was fined \$25.

Noah Andrews went to the roads for four months and Joe Johnson for three months in the case charging them with the larceny of a hog in Griffins Township a week or two ago. A third defendant in the case, Orange Peal, appealed from the four months sentence imposed upon him.

Judgment was suspended upon the payment of the cost in the cases charging John Mary with damaging property, removing crops and an assault with a deadly weapon.

Sentenced to the roads for a period of six months on an assault with a deadly weapon charge, Walter Godard appealed.

The case charging James Rufin with an assault with a deadly weapon, was not proseed.

Isaac Ampey drew four months on the roads on a temporary larceny Ampey with an assault, he was found charge. In a second case charging not guilty.

Adjudged guilty of stealing 10 pounds of meat, Gus Roberson was sentenced to the roads for a period of 60 days.

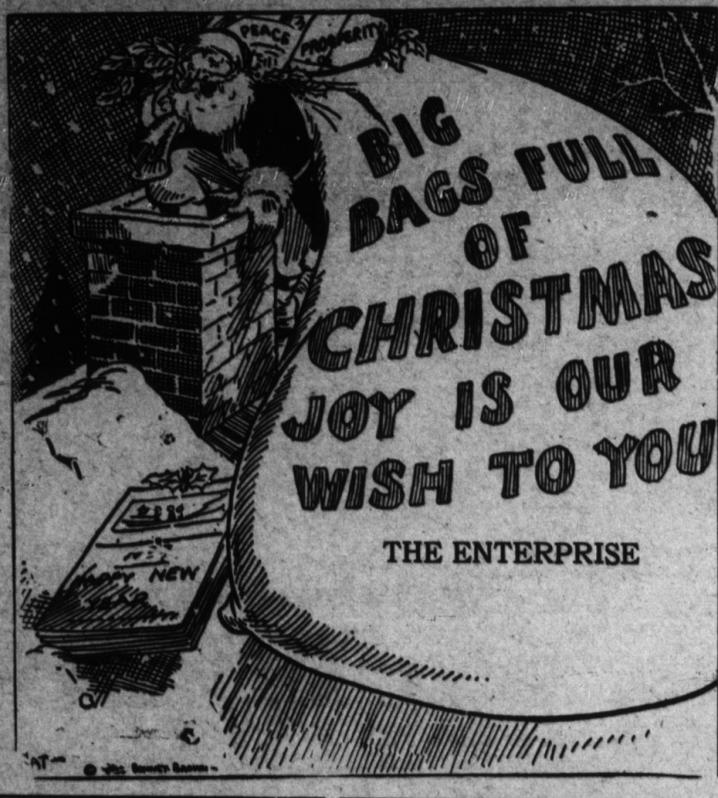
Several other cases were heard, but for one reason or another, the judge continued them.

School Closed Wednesday For Christmas Holidays

The Christmas holidays began here Wednesday for seven hundred and fifty school children when school for 1933 was closed out with appropriate exercises. At the grammar school building grade 4-A, under the direction of Miss Velma Harrison, the teacher, presented a Christmas program which included a health seal playlet provided by the North Carolina Tuberculosis Association.

Mr. Ray Goodman appeared at the high school assembly and spoke briefly in awarding American National Red Cross certificates to students completing the first aid course. His speech was followed by a program arranged by Mrs. Arthur White and grade 7-B.

The Williamston school will open January 1, 1934.



MAYOR URGES ALL TO JOIN IN FIGHT ON RATS

Several Hundred Pounds of Poison On Hand For Anti-Rat Campaign

Preparations are now underway for one of the most intensive anti-rat campaigns ever undertaken in this section, Mayor J. L. Hassell said this week.

Several hundred pounds of poison is now on hand for use in the campaign, and special employees will handle the drive, it was said. But to make the campaign even more successful, Mayor Hassell is calling upon all the people for their cooperation. The drive will likely be launched during the first few days of January, and the authorities are considering offering awards to young boys for the largest number of dead rodents reported. Complete details will be made later in connection with the prizes and the starting date for the clean-out drive.

No Pied Piper stunt can be expected but with special employees at work and with the cooperation of every person in the town, it is believed a very effective drive against rats will result.

The authorities, realizing that the rodents, commonly referred to as wharf rats the size of cats, are multiplying rapidly and are doing unbelievable damage to property, are arranging the campaign in the hope that unnecessary waste and loss can be prevented.

Entire flocks of chickens have been killed and eaten by the rodents over night, and the trash piles are said to take on the appearance of a fog so thickly do the gray animals gather to feed. The rats continue to spread, and unless they are checked very soon the entire town will be infested by the property destroyers and disease carriers.

Five-Passenger Plane To Take Up Passengers

The Hoffman Flying Service will establish a temporary passenger service here for a few days, beginning Friday and continuing through Christmas day, Mr. Hoffman said today. A five-passenger plane will be used. The field is located one mile from here on the Washington road.

Special Stage Performance To Feature Amusements

A special stage show and unusual picture at the Watts Theatre here midnight Christmas eve will feature the holiday amusement program in this community. Cowgirls of the Golden West will appear on the stage here that night, with the picture, "Broken Dreams" as an added attraction. Reports received here state that the show offers good amusement. The program is scheduled for the one showing only.

NO PAPER TUESDAY

Following a long established custom and one eagerly looked forward to by all members of the force, there will be no issue of The Enterprise next Tuesday. The current issue makes its appearance a day ahead of its regular schedule, and after cleaning up shop Friday the force will close the doors for a few days of rest. Operations will be resumed next Wednesday preparatory to the issuance on Friday of a farewell edition for the year 1933 and a brand new one in a brand new year the following Tuesday.

Until then The Enterprise group signs off, but only after wishing for the paper's every patron and other friends the best of the Christmas season.

Baptist Sunday School To Contribute To Needs

The Christmas services at the Baptist church will be held Sunday morning, there being no evening service in this church since this and the other congregations are invited to hear the special Christmas music at the Episcopal church Sunday evening at 5:30 o'clock.

The Baptist Sunday school will assemble at the regular hour, when all those coming are asked to bring articles of food which are to be distributed in the community where there is need. It is hoped that all Sunday school pupils will bring something, so that the total offerings may be considerable.

"We have seen His star in the east, and are come to worship Him" will be the text of the Christmas sermon, to be delivered at the 11 o'clock service Sunday morning. There will be special music by the choir, Christmas hymns and a Christmas cantata will be sung. The membership and the public in general are invited to worship with us at this Christmas Sunday service.

This church welcomes back into the community the young men and young women who have been away to school. And the thoughts of the congregation go out in a special way to those homes where there is illness and sorrow. The pastor and the people wish for all a happy holiday season—a season when the real significance of Christmas will be magnified.

Capacity Crowds At Prison Camp Here

The State Highway prison camp near here is said to be having capacity crowds these days, the superintendent stating that his number of boarders is the largest since the camp was established.

Six inmates are in the county jail with poor prospects of release before Christmas.

Sheriff C. B. Roebuck said this week that present indications pointed to a number of arrests before the holidays are spent.

ORIGIN, MEANING CHRISTMAS DAY IS EXPLAINED

Difference Of Opinion As To Exact Day Jesus Was Born

By J. M. PERRY

Christmas Day is a day set apart by sanction and custom of the Christian church. It comes on the 25th of December by common consent through the years. The Eastern Church observed it on the 16th of January in conjunction with Epiphany, and was supposed to represent the day when the Holy Spirit spoke His approval of Jesus at his baptism.

In the Western or Roman church it was associated with the coming of the wise men. It was in connection with the Epiphany that the romance started that the wise men were three kings and their names were: Melchior, Gaspar and Balthazar. The Western church celebrated or observed Christmas on the 25th of December and the Eastern church finally accepted it and it is well known universal in all Christian communities around the world. Some think that the Roman festival Brumalia, which came at the winter solstice was the day selected for Christmas day. However, no one need worry about the correct day, for the spirit and motive behind the day is of far more importance than the calendar correctness of the time.

Some have advanced the idea that the birth of Jesus must have occurred about October, as shepherds and sheep were not out in the open at night as late of December 25th on account of the rainy season. Even if this be true it does not affect the correctness of our manner of celebrating the day, as the Christ child behind it all gives it its meaning and true value. We remember in a fitting way and commemorate the coming of the Prince of Peace, the Babe of Bethlehem, the Christ Child of the Manger. We give gifts to our friends. We remember the less fortunate who might not receive a gift should we overlook or forget them.

The Santa Claus idea arose in Germany, where old St. Nick would come around laden with gifts for the children. Hence Christmas has grown up, having its origin and meaning at Bethlehem 1933 years ago.

The celebration became so abused because of drunkenness and unbridled pleasure seeking, that in England the Puritans abandoned Christmas altogether, and even among the early American settlers they refused to celebrate it. But we are trying to restore the true spirit and go back to its true origin and meaning, and celebrate soberly, righteously and in the spirit of Him whose birthday we honor on Christmas Day.

Quarter-Inch Rainfall Reported On Tuesday

A one-quarter of an inch rain fell in this community last Tuesday night and Wednesday morning. Just a week before a fraction under one-half inch fell here.

GREETINGS

Appreciative of the patronage given them and desiring to offer a token of good will, Williamston merchants and other business firms are extending greetings to the people of this section through the columns of this paper today.

A new hope has been kindled in all of us, and to add to that hope these business men express in a most sincere way, their wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Read the little messages and know that these firms are interested in your happiness at all times, but especially so at this season of the year.

MRS. J. W. WATTS DIES SUDDENLY AT HOME HERE

Prominent Lady Succumbs Shortly After Stroke Of Paralysis

Mrs. Ophelia Hardison Watts, member of a long prominent family in this part of the State, died at her home in New Town here Thursday morning at 1:15 o'clock, following an illness of only a few hours' duration. Apparently in her usual health, Mrs. Watts was active about her home until about 8 o'clock Wednesday evening when she suffered a stroke of paralysis, the end coming gradually and peacefully.

The daughter of the late Sheriff W. J. Hardison and wife, Mary Andrew Hardison, Mrs. Watts was born on the Hardison plantation home in Williams Township May 21, 1862. When she was a young girl her parents moved here to make their home. In 1887 she was married to Mr. J. Wigg Watts, who with four children, Mrs. Mary Gladys Heydenreich of Alexandria, Va., and Messrs. W. B. J. W. Jr., and Maurice Watts, all of Williamston, survives. She also leaves one brother, Ed H. Hardison, of Oklahoma, and one sister, Mrs. W. H. Crawford, of Williamston.

Mrs. Watts was unusually industrious, and cherished a marked devotion for her family and friends. She enjoyed the peace and quiet of her own home, but she always found time even to within a short while before she was stricken to visit with her friends and relatives.

Although Mrs. Watts had been in declining health for some time, her sudden passing came as a decided shock to the many friends of the family throughout Eastern Carolina. Funeral services will be conducted this afternoon (Friday) at 2:30 o'clock from the home by Rev. Charles H. Dickey, pastor of the local Baptist church, assisted by Rev. Z. T. Piephoff, local Presbyterian minister. Interment will follow in the family plot in the cemetery here.

Ford Car And Garage Destroyed By Fire

Fire, believed to have been of incendiary origin, destroyed an old Model T Ford coupe and the garage of Annanias Davis, colored, on the Jamesville road just off the Washington road near the plant of the Columbian Peanut Company. When discovered, the fire was spreading rapidly over the roof, and the loss was complete with no insurance on either the car or the small building.

Seeing the blaze in making his regular inspection of the business district, Officer Allsbrooks turned in the alarm at ten minutes to two o'clock Wednesday morning. Just before the roof fell, the fire could be seen from a mile or more.

The call, heard by a comparatively few of the town's citizens, was the first received by the local volunteer company during the Christmas season.

Methodists To Observe "White Christmas"

C. T. ROGERS, Pastor

Our Sunday school and all others who will, will observe "white Christmas" Sunday morning at the Sunday school hour, 9:45. A Christmas program will be rendered and gifts for others less fortunate than us will be laid upon the altar.

At the church services special Christmas music will be rendered by the choir. You are cordially invited to meet with us at both services. No service at night.

Holly Springs Sunday School at 2 p. m.

Christmas tree Monday night at 7 o'clock, at which time a free will offering for the orphanage will be taken.

MARTIN COUNTY IS SUPPORTING TOBACCO PLAN

Only One Farmer Reported To Have Refused To Sign Contract

Martin County farmers are rapidly signing tobacco acreage reduction contracts, according to information received from several of the district committeemen this week. As far as it could be learned here only one farmer had absolutely refused to take part in the reduction program, and it was later learned that he was reconsidering his position.

Robersonville Township is leading the sign-up movement with over 50 per cent of its contracts already in. Williamston reported around 35 per cent signed Wednesday noon and others in proportion. Four townships, Hamilton, Goose Nest, Williams and Griffins, had not reported any activities up until Wednesday noon, but it is understood that the work is well underway in nearly all if not all of those townships.

During the meantime work on the equalization payments to farmers is being continued rapidly. Farmers will be notified directly, it is understood, what to do and when to act in procuring their share of the fund. It is certain, however, that the grower wishing to share in the equalization fund must sign a reduction contract first.

Winter Officially Arrives Friday At 1:50 O'clock

With a promise of overcast skies and a temperature more in keeping with thermometer actions in summer time, Ole Man Winter makes his appearance, by the calendar, Friday afternoon at 1:50 o'clock. Just how those fellows figure a change as broad as that from autumn to winter is rather puzzling, but many poor mortals wonder why they don't arrange to have winter weather accompany the change.

Incidentally Thursday was listed as the shortest day of the year, but we common folks could tell no difference in the length of the day Wednesday and that on Thursday, and no doubt the casual observer will see no difference for weeks to come.

High School Students Publish New Magazine

The first number of the Williamston High School's magazine, "Green Wave Echo," made its appearance this week, the work being a credit to the young writers and business force.

With its cover in color, the magazine carries 16 pages of interesting news and features centering around various school activities. Miss Jessie Mae Anderson aided by able assistants heads the "Echo."

The paper will make its appearance quarterly.

Condition Of Mr. Taylor Reported As Critical

The condition of Mr. W. Joe Taylor was described as very critical by Washington Hospital attendants Thursday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock. A third operation, performed earlier in the day to remove pus that had formed in one of his legs, taxed his heart greatly, it was said.

Mr. Taylor is well known throughout this section as a tobacco warehouseman and farmer.

Civil Works Program Cause For Much Joy

With approximately \$4,000 going to them this week, the nearly 400 men on the Civil Works program in this county will have just cause to be more cheerful this Christmas than in several past. The hopes of little children whose fathers are at work under the program have been made brighter. Surely the little tots will have more reason to remember Christmas, 1933, than they had last year and the year before.

Dr. Cadman To Speak At A. C. College In May

Wilson.—Dr. S. Parkes Cadman, famous clergyman, author and lecturer, has been secured as the commencement speaker at Atlantic Christian College. Dr. Cadman will speak here on May 28 following an address made at Duke University the previous day.

Local Farmers Have Many Sweet Potatoes In Storage

Martin County sweet potato growers have 65,000 bushels of cured sweets in storage for sale this winter and next spring.