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# THE ENTERPRISE

Advertisers Will Find Our Columns a Latchkey to over 1,000 Homes of Martin County.

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Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Tuesday, December 7, 1937.

ESTABLISHED 1899

## Additional Storage To Be Provided For Current Peanut Crop

Approximately 60,000 Bags In Government Houses Here Today

Their houses nearly full, Messrs Gurkin at the Planters and Barnhill at the Farmers, will hardly be able to handle peanut deliveries after this week, but the North Carolina Peanut Stabilization Cooperative is completing plans to provide additional storage place. Reliable information received here this morning stated that the government would hold the market open at 3 1/4 cents for every bag of peanuts grown in this section.

An agreement with the Columbian Peanut Company has just been effected whereby the government will be able to store peanuts in the company's plant in Williamston and Tarboro, it was officially learned this morning. No allotment has been given for the new storage houses of the Columbian company, but arrangements will be effected where by farmers can deliver to the plant just as soon as the two houses operated by Gurkin and Barnhill are filled. Both these houses are being packed, and it is now difficult to handle the deliveries rapidly. Farmers will find it to their advantage to make arrangements for storing their peanuts before delivering them to the houses.

Up until last night the two houses here had received nearly 60,000 bags of peanuts, and trucks were lined up this morning with additional offerings.

The quality of the crop continues to hold up, the inspectors stating that a very small percentage of those offered for storage has fallen below the grade requirements. Two lots fell below the grade requirements here yesterday and one last Saturday did not measure up to standard. Sales were made on the open market in those cases.

Quite a few peanuts are being handled by the open market, but the activities are far below those of a normal season. The plant of the Columbian company was closed temporarily here last Thursday, the management announcing today that no date for reopening had been determined.

## Red Cross Roll Call \$150 Below Quota

The annual Red Cross membership drive was announced virtually complete in the county today with the drive short of its \$350 by more than \$150. A few more canvassers are to be heard from, but their reports are not expected to materially increase the membership fund.

Last year the chapter with a quota of 200 members nearly reached its goal. This year about the same amount of money has been raised for the organization in the county chapter, but the canvassers fell far short of reaching the new goal.

Memberships not previously acknowledged are: Mrs. J. T. Barnhill, J. Sam Getzinger, Mrs. David Modlin, Mrs. Harry Meador, Mrs. Dallas Frank, Mrs. Titus Critcher, W. J. Hodges, Dean L. Speight.

## Decrease In Number Of Arrests In The County

The smallest number of arrests made in November since 1934 was reported by the sheriff's office last month. There were 51 turnkeys as compared with 69 a year ago and the all-time record of 78 in November, 1935. There were only 30 people jailed in the county hoosegow in November, 1934.

According to reports coming from the sheriff's office today, the officers are now working on what may be a record for December. During the first four days there were more than a dozen jailed in the county.

## Plan Organization Of All-Star Ball Team

The organization of an all-star basketball team for Williamston will be undertaken at a meeting of young men interested in the sport at a meeting to be held in the Atlantic Hotel tomorrow evening at 7:30 o'clock. Any young men interested in positions on the team are asked to attend the meeting.

## Local Boy Scouts To Collect Toys, Clothing For Needy; First Canvass Friday Afternoon

Efforts to answer the pitiful calls of between 150 and 200 needy children in this community at Christmas are going forward rapidly, the Christmas Cheer drive to reach the public Friday afternoon of this week between 3:30 and 5:30 o'clock, when local Boy Scouts will canvass the town for discarded toys. Family heads are earnestly urged to have ready for the canvassers any old toys that can be used in creating some happiness for the less fortunate of this community. Principal D. N. Bix will direct the canvass.

In sponsoring the third annual Christmas Cheer drive, The En-

terprise is not even suggesting that anyone deprive himself or his child of a single penny or toy. The cheer drive is to be supported by donations willingly offered, the extent of its success resting entirely with those who would anxiously remember the needy. Donations will be acknowledged and they will be put to the best possible use.

The local welfare office is co-operating in the movement, and needs will be investigated first hand. Numbers of private citizens have expressed a desire to help in the movement, and present indications are that the un-

dertaking will receive a substantial support and meet with marked success.

Year before last bare-footed children dashed into the snow when Christmas packages were delivered to their homes. Those packages, not at all fancy, made Christmas a happy time for the needy families.

If there is an old toy or article of clothing that can be conveniently spared in your home, won't you kindly place it aside and have the offering ready for the Scouts when they call Friday afternoon of this week between 3:30 and 5:30 o'clock.

## Willie T. Padgett, Of Near Jamesville, Critically Wounded

Clayton Beacham Arrested For Shooting Late Last Friday

Shot by Clayton Beacham during a quarrel early last Friday night, Willie T. Padgett, young white man of near Jamesville, continues in a critical condition in a Washington hospital.

Last reports from Padgett's bedside stated that there was little chance for his recovery, that the load of gun shot entered his abdomen and ruptured the gallbladder. However, he was said today to be resting as well as could be expected.

Arrested by Sheriff C. B. Roebuck Friday night, Beacham talked freely of the shooting, maintaining that it was in self-defense. The arresting officer said that Beacham had been drinking, that the argument started when one claimed he was furnishing the most groceries for the combined use of the two families who lived in the same house on the Washington road. The two men are said to have decided to go into the yard and settle the argument. When one took his gun, the other got his. As they left the porch, Beacham claims that Padgett struck him with his gun barrel and knocked him down. Beacham also avers that as he was falling, his gun fired, the entire load striking Padgett in the abdomen at close range.

Beacham made no effort to escape and peacefully surrendered to officers at his home. He is being held in the county jail, a preliminary hearing for him being delayed pending the outcome of Padgett's wounds.

Dr. Gibson, of Jamesville, was called to Padgett and after examining him advised his removal to a hospital.

Later reports from the hospital indicated that Padgett was more than holding his own, and that he was expected "to come around for the present."

## Aged Man Is Badly Hurt By Falling Tree

Zachariah Keys, 62-year-old colored man, was critically hurt by a falling tree on the Hadley farm, near here, last Saturday noon. Following first-aid treatment in the offices of Drs. Rhodes, Eason and Winn, Keys was removed to a Washington hospital. His right hip was badly crushed and his injury is considered permanent.

Keys was injured as he tried to run out of the reach of a falling tree. He fell and the full force of the blow struck him on the right hip. The old man is without a home or means. He had been living with Chas. Williams, a friend. There is a sister living in Griffins Township, but she is said to be unable to help him.

## To Hold Second Eye Clinic Here Thursday

The eyes of two dozen or more school children in this county will be examined at a clinic in the offices of Dr. C. J. Sawyer here on Thursday of this week.

A first clinic was held here several weeks ago when the eyes of about thirty children were examined. Glasses were required in nearly every case. Money for the glasses was donated at the request of Miss Mary Taylor, welfare department head, by the following: Kiwanis club, \$30; Lions Club, \$35; Woman's club, \$10; Red Cross, \$10; Robertsonville Rotary club, \$15, and individuals, \$9.55.

## 15 SHOPPING DAYS

There are only two more Saturdays before Christmas, the fifteen remaining shopping days constituting a comparatively short time for a man to complete the holiday shopping tasks. However, the task will be found quite easy in Williamston stores this season, for there are larger stocks to choose from than ever before. Williamston merchants have made elaborate plans to care for the needs of all the people throughout this section this holiday season.

Already there is a noticeable upswing in buying here, so take the age-old tip yet a timely one and shop EARLY.

## Advance Plans For Proposed Library

Plans are virtually complete for instituting a drive for a \$1,500 public library fund here, the leaders stating today that they are greatly encouraging over the outlook. Wednesday of next week will be proclaimed library day in Williamston, and an earnest appeal is being directed to every citizen in this community, urging them to participate in and support generously the worth while undertaking.

Martin County is the only one in North Carolina without any library service. Williamston is one of the few towns in the State having no library facilities whatever. It is admitted that our educational system is incomplete and will remain incomplete until public libraries are located in the reach of everyone.

Objectives of the Williamston library movement have been briefly outlined, as follows:

A library which will serve every man, woman, boy and girl in Martin County and which will provide opportunity and encouragement:

To educate themselves continuously.

To improve their ability to participate as useful citizens in activities in which they are involved.

To keep abreast of progress in sciences and other fields of knowledge.

To make such use of leisure time as will promote personal happiness and social well-being.

## Urge Local Owners To Keep Cars Home

In an effort to relieve the congested parking condition here during the holiday season, Williamston's board of commissioners in regular meeting last evening passed a resolution urging all Williamston car owners to leave their machines at home from now until after Christmas. Believing the local people will be glad to co-operate in relieving the parking congestion, the board did not take any action toward passing an ordinance limiting parking to an hour or two. It is possible the authorities will clear the back lots for parking and ask the store owners to provide temporary lights in those lots as an aid to the increasing number of shoppers coming to Williamston.

The meeting last evening was one of the shortest held this year and the last on the schedule for 1937. An investigation was ordered with the possibility of adding a street light on Grace street, and the superintendent of streets was directed to designate with white lines the side walk in front of the McClees and FCX stores on Haughton street.

All members were present for the meeting except the treasurer, Mr. N. C. Green, and he was reported out of the city.

## Series Of Wrecks In This Vicinity During Week-end

Several Are Badly But Not Seriously Hurt on Sunday Night

Several people were badly but not seriously hurt and considerable property damage resulted in a series of automobile wrecks reported in this community over the week-end.

D. Gray, colored employee of a local pressing club, suffered a bad fracture of his right arm close to the shoulder, when his car, a Nash sedan, was struck from behind by a Chevrolet driven by Bennie Griffin, young white man, on the Washington highway a short distance from Williamston Sunday night at 9:45 o'clock. After receiving first-aid treatment in the offices of Drs. Rhodes, Eason and Winn, he was removed to a Washington hospital.

Tom Alexander, driver of the Gray car, had one eye closed, and Dorothy Purvis, a passenger, was badly cut about her knees, hands and head. About two dozen stitches were necessary to close the lacerations.

Young Griffin, riding alone, was badly cut on his right hand. Both cars were traveling into Williamston when Griffin started to pass the Gray car. He increased his speed and just as he started to pass, he met another car and pulled back to the right side of the road, crashed into the rear of the Gray car which was traveling at about 25 miles an hour. The Nash was demolished and damage to the Chevrolet was estimated at between \$150 and \$200, according to reports released by authorities.

No one was hurt and very little property damage resulted when the wife of J. E. Stokes, Richmond colored man, backed a Terraplane from under the Central Filling Station into a Buick traveling down Main Street here last Sunday morning. Stokes accepted the responsibility and paid the damages. The Buick was occupied by Greenville people.

Yesterday afternoon, former Sheriff Thad Roberson started to turn off Main into Sycamore street and crashed into a car driven by Mrs. W. O. Donald. A small child, riding in the Donald car, was bruised on the forehead, but believed not badly hurt. Very little property damage resulted.

Frank Krudup, driver of a Sheffield cheese truck out of Raleigh, escaped injury when he was forced off the road into a ditch by an alleged drunken driver between here and Washington early last evening. Beverly Woolard, Raleigh man, was arrested shortly afterwards by Patrolman Thompson, near Washington with the aid of the highway radio patrol system.

## VALUABLE HINTS

Desirous of effecting a splendid postal service this Christmas season, Postmaster L. T. Fowden mentioned a few hints today that will work to a decided advantage for everyone.

Anticipate your stamp needs and buy them now. Early purchases will make waiting in line unnecessary.

When mailing large numbers of letters, straighten them up and turn them all the same way. Hand them to a clerk and you will greatly aid the work.

Wrap packages securely and mail them early. The postoffice force in Williamston will do all in its power to give you service. You are cordially asked to cooperate to that end.

## Board Of County Commissioners In Meet Here Monday

Report on Tax Collections For 1936 Is Received From Auditors

Meeting in regular session Monday, the Martin County commissioners effected their reorganization for the coming year without making any changes in the official family. Mr. J. E. Pope continues as chairman of the group. E. S. Peel was reappointed attorney for the county, and John W. Bland continues as the county home superintendent. The reorganization, slated as a routine duty, required little of the board's time.

The annual audit of county tax collections was received, the report showing \$7,113.25 uncollected from the 1936 levy. This amount, representing about 27 per cent of the total levy for the period, is considerably less than it was for the tax year, 1935. In addition to that amount, land sales represented \$9,220.69, making a total of \$16,333.94 uncollected for the period. The board ordered the insolvent list of \$7,113.25 turned over to S. Harcom Grimes for collections under the same contract that he has been working during the past several years. Mr. Grimes works on a percentage basis, and his collections are turned into the county treasury daily. Certificates of land sales have been turned over to the county attorney for collection or foreclosure.

Corrections were ordered made in property listings by Ed Jones in Goose Nest Township.

Other than the reorganization task and the receipt of the audit, the board handled minor duties falling into the routine group. The commissioners were in session until late afternoon. Messrs. J. E. Pope, C. C. Fleming, R. L. Perry, C. A. Robertson and R. A. Haislip were present for the meeting.

## No Farm Bill Has Been Passed So Far

"There ain't no" far bill passed the Congress as yet, but the tobacco section providing compulsory control of that crop gained approval in the House yesterday, late advices from Washington indicating that an agriculture bill of some kind will probably pass the House tomorrow. The agriculture problem is wrapped up in confusion. Numbers of amendments have been offered, and voluntary control will be provided in some cases if those amendments are adopted.

With tobacco well out in front, measures for the other crops are facing serious trouble.

Over in the Senate yesterday debate was desultory and that body did not complete consideration of committee amendments. A fight is brewing in the Senate over a motion to recommit the bill, but Senator Josiah W. Bailey, to whom the leaders of the fight were looking for support, today disappointed them by announcing that he would oppose such a course. Instead, he said he would favor sending the bill to conference with as many amendments as possible, including his own, of which he now has more than 20, and all of which will be called up for action later in the week.

## Selection Postoffice Site Here Expected Shortly

With the selection of a site assured within the next two or three weeks, actual construction work on a new \$78,000 postoffice building for Williamston is expected to get underway the early part of next year, according to unofficial information received here today. The new building will be ready for occupancy within eighteen or twenty months, it is understood.

The definite selection of a site for the building now rests with the Treasury department. Inspector Dauch of the Postoffice Department completed his survey of the possible sites for the new building here last Friday, and his recommendations are now before the Treasury department, it was learned.

No official information as to where the new building will be located has been released, but it is understood that the inspector was very favorably impressed with two of the several sites that are available for the new building.

Just as soon as a site is definitely selected, the government plans to have its engineers make their surveys and prepare plans for the immediate construction of the building. Postmaster Leslie T. Fowden said today.

## \$60,000 Damage Suit Settled by Agreement

NEW MINISTER



Rev. S. A. Maxwell, recently assigned to the Williamston charge by the North Carolina Conference, preached his first sermon in the local Methodist church Sunday morning, and was welcomed to the community at a union service that evening.

## Rev. S. A. Maxwell Gets Welcome Here

Entering upon his new duties as pastor of the Williamston Methodist church, Rev. S. A. Maxwell until recently of Jenkins, Kentucky, was given a warm welcome by members of his denomination Sunday morning.

Other than the reorganization task and the receipt of the audit, the board handled minor duties falling into the routine group. The commissioners were in session until late afternoon. Messrs. J. E. Pope, C. C. Fleming, R. L. Perry, C. A. Robertson and R. A. Haislip were present for the meeting.

Coming here as a learned student in the religious field, the minister delivered a strong sermon, and the Methodist church and the community as a whole, are very fortunate in having such an able leader in their midst.

Rev. Mr. Maxwell has earned degrees at Duke, Asbury Seminary, Yale, University of Kentucky, Harvard and the Gordon School of Religion, Boston, where he received the degree of doctor of religious education. He headed the Department of Religion in Asbury College for nine years and was for two years head of the same department in Kentucky Wesleyan College. He is known as a writer on religious subjects and during his ministry over ten thousand have joined the church in evangelistic meetings. Just before asking that he be transferred back to his native state, Dr. Maxwell was pastor of the Rockefeller Foundation community church in Jenkins, Ky.

The minister with his wife and their three young daughters reached here last Thursday and are at home in the parsonage on Church street.

## Small Child Hurt When Struck By Truck Here

Johnnie Gurkin, Jr., about 8 years old, was painfully bruised but not badly hurt when he was struck by a truck on Main street here yesterday noon. Chas. Pate was driving the truck, and witnesses stated that accident was "unavoidable."

The little fellow was knocked about 10 feet and has several teeth knocked loose. He also was bruised but he is in school today.

## Oak City Seniors To Present Play Dec. 10

The seniors of Oak City are giving a play, "A Poor Married Man," Friday, Dec. 10. Roy Manning plays the part of the poor married man as Professor Wise, the effects of too much mother-in-law on him being too great to stand. Robert Haislip will add more laughs to the play in the role of Jupiter, the negro servant, who thinks he is poisoned at one time. Edna Mae Jones, acting the terrible mother-in-law of the professor's first marriage is confused by his friends as his wife and has so many different names that poor professor's brain is in a whirl.

Through the whole play there is a mystery connecting Lobster Salad and the disappearance of apparently several of the mother-in-laws' husbands.

## Superior Court Ends Special Civil Term Early Last Saturday

R. Howard Stone Awarded \$6,000 in Case Against Tobacco Firm

The special two weeks term of Martin County Superior court was brought to an end last Saturday morning by Judge W. H. S. Burgwyn after an agreement was effected giving R. Howard Stone \$6,000 in his \$50,000 damage suit against W. I. Skinner and Company, Incorporated. M. L. Lemmond, owner of the car that was struck by the tobacco company's truck, was awarded a verdict in the sum of \$125. He was asking \$10,000.

The close of the trial, marking the end of a hectic week in the superior court of this county, came unexpectedly. Opening the case on last Wednesday, the court heard evidence in the case until Friday noon. Judge Burgwyn denying two motions for non-suit during the meantime. Some little time was spent arguing the issues to present to the jury, and the presiding officer reviewed the mass of evidence in his charge to the jury in a comparatively short time. Counsel in the case was well advanced in its argument to the jury when Attorney P. W. McMullan was taken ill late that afternoon and adjournment was ordered by Judge Burgwyn.

Opening court Saturday morning, Judge Burgwyn was advised that an agreement had been reached in the case. Prior to that time the insurance company had withdrawn from the case, maintaining that its policy only was effective when trucks of the defendant company were being operated in the interest of the company's business. It was rumored, however, that the company participated to the extent of \$2,500, but this participation could not be established.

Under the agreement reached early Saturday morning, it is understood that Stone was to receive \$6,000 and that the defense was to accept the court costs which will run well into hundreds of dollars. It is further understood that attorneys for the plaintiffs will share to the extent of about 33 per cent of the \$6,000. Stone, his right eye gone and subject to lose the sight of his other eye, has spent approximately \$1,000 on hospital bills and has been unable to work since the accident which took place on the Williamston-Windsor road in March of last year.

The court handled fewer cases during the term than any one on record or since the special term was created several years ago. However, the tribunal worked steadily during the period with the exception of two days when it was idle for Thanksgiving.

Several divorces were granted and a few other minor cases were settled during the term.

## Christmas Savings Checks Are Mailed

More than 125 checks, representing \$8,000 in Christmas savings, were mailed to the thrifty in this community by the Guaranty Bank and Trust Company here yesterday. Starting a year ago, the thrifty saved a little each week in the bank's Christmas savings club, and now they are reaping their reward.

Cashier Clayton announced this morning that the 1938 Christmas savings club is now open, and that he is encouraged over the outlook for a much larger participation in the savings plan during the coming year.

## County Legion Post Plans Dance Next Year

The John Walton Hassell post of the American Legion is completing arrangements today for holding a big dance in the Roanoke-Dixie warehouse here on Friday night, January 7. In connection with the dance, the post will give away a brand new automobile. Advance sale of tickets gets underway today.

**Cold Weather**  
Cold weather, the coldest of the year, was felt here early today. The mercury dropped 30 degrees over night to reach a low 22 degrees this morning at six o'clock.