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# THE ENTERPRISE

Advertisers Will Find Our Columns A Latchkey To Over 1,600 Homes Of Martin County.

VOLUME XLIII—NUMBER 100

Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Friday, December 13, 1940.

ESTABLISHED 1899

## Market Is Literally Swamped With Big Peanut Deliveries

### 131,585 Bags of Goobers Are Now Stored in Local Warehouses

Williamston's peanut market continues to chalk up a new high record as each day comes to an end, reports from the government storage houses and the local plant stating that the let up is not yet in sight. Up until last evening, 131,585 bags of the goobers had been placed in storage at this point, and already the government and Williamston Peanut Company storage houses are beginning to bulge. The peanuts are being packed to the roof in several of the storage houses, and despite the record-breaking deliveries it is believed that the market will be able to handle the remainder of the crop.

According to a survey made last night, there is now ample storage space in the government warehouses to handle 60,000 bags and possibly more. The plant of the Williamston Peanut Company, while filled almost to capacity, is milling around 1,000 bags of the goobers daily, making additional room for just that many each day.

Plans are virtually complete for storing goobers in the Roanoke-Dixie Warehouse. It is likely that the operators, Griffin and Gurkin, will finish filling the huge Carolina house early next week, and then they will move to the Roanoke-Dixie where approximately 20,000 bags can be stored.

Commenting on the greatest marketing rush in the history of the lowly peanut, Mayor Parker, president of the Growers' Peanut Cooperative said this week: "There is no good reason why farmers should continue to rush their peanuts to market, either for sale to the cooperative warehouses or for purchase under the government's oil diversion program or to millers, regardless of the fact that the market has evidently weakened under the rush of deliveries."

The government's buying program will be continued through May 30, Parker said, and peanuts will be accepted at the warehouses at government prices until that time so that farmers who wish to hold their peanuts for a strengthening of the commercial market may do so with assurance of a market at government prices at any time.

"With favorable weather during the past ten days, peanuts have been moving in large quantities from the farm to market and at many points cooperative warehouses have been taxed to capacity, so that a shortage of storage facilities has been brought about."

"Because of the inferior quality of a large part of the crop and the tendency of farmers to rush to market"

(Continued on page four)

## Bishop Thos. Darst Will Visit County

The Rt. Rev. Thomas C. Darst, Bishop of the Diocese of East Carolina, will make his annual visit to the Episcopal Churches of Martin County this week-end. He will be at the Parish Supper tonight at 6:30 in the Woman's Club building, at which time the vestry will be elected for 1941 and a report made on the Every Member Canvass. On Sunday morning Bishop Darst will preach at the Church of the Advent and administer the Holy Rite of Confirmation. The people of Williamston are cordially invited to attend this service. On Sunday night at 7:30 the Bishop will preach at St. Martin's, Hamilton. Everyone is urged to hear the Bishop at both these services.

Bishop Darst is recognized as one of the outstanding leaders of the Episcopal Church. His consecration and preaching ability make him much in demand. He was the author and director of the Bishop's Crusade, a great spiritual movement that stirred the life of the whole Church. Under his leadership the Diocese of East Carolina has maintained a high place in the life of the National Church. He has served as president of the Fourth Province which embraces the nine South Atlantic states.

In January of this year the Bishop celebrated the 25th anniversary of his consecration as Bishop of the Diocese. During this time, under the guidance of Bishop Darst, the Diocese of East Carolina has maintained a high standard of efficiency, and has written into the record of accomplishment results and achievements that merit praise and establish confidence. In this period 8,836 persons have been confirmed; 60 young men have been ordained to the ministry, of whom thirteen have gone to foreign fields; many church buildings, Parish houses, and rectories have been built; Camp Leach has been purchased and established as a Diocesan center; the Good Shepherd Hospital for Colored People in New Bern has been completed. These and spiritual contacts and inspirations, the number which will never be known, have endeared Bishop Darst to the hearts of his people, and testify to his worthy Christian character and work.

## Hog - Killing Season Will Start in County Next Week

Hog-killing time is here again, late reports from the farms stating that while a few farmers have already killed and stored their meat for the next twelve months the slaughtering business will not get underway on any appreciable scale before next week. "I have four invitations to attend hog killings next week," Tommie Whitley, expert butcher of the Farm Life community said yesterday. "From now until the middle of February, meat packing will be the main business on county farms," Mr. Whitley added.

According to incomplete reports, Martin farmers will kill about the same amount of meat as they killed last season. Late spring and early summer indications pointed to an increase in the meat supply for this fall, but a dry season was experienced and hogs did not thrive as well

as the owners had expected them to. However, the farm population will kill more than enough meat to care for its needs during the next twelve months. In addition to storing sufficient quantities of meat to meet their needs, Martin County farmers have sold large numbers of hogs to the markets during the current year, but depressing prices on the market made the business unprofitable.

Despite the marked increase in swine breeding in this county, considerable quantities of meat is shipped in each year for non-farm families.

Out in Griffins Township where the farmers come about as near living at home as any in any section, it is estimated that each family will pack, on an average of 2,500 to 3,000 pounds of meat this season.

## Local Club Considers Aid For War Victims

### DECORATIONS

With some keen competition assured, Williamston's Christmas decorations are almost certain to outdo those of past years. Actual work is getting off to a slow start, but it is understood that considerable planning is being done and that in at least one case blue prints are being drawn. Residents and public employees will start their artistic work within the next day or two. R. E. Manning and Mildred Lilley already having hung out their cheery works of art on the town's water tank.

Ricks Allsbrooks and Charlie Roebuck, town hall and court-house custodians, are eyeing one another, apparently daring the other to act. They are planning some real work of art, but their plans are being secretly guarded for the present time. Prizes, totaling \$55, are being offered the contest winners this year.

## Routine Report Is Filed By Superior Court Grand Jury

### Health Officers Instructed To Inspect Conditions at Old County Home

A routine report, carrying a few recommendations, was filed this week by the Martin County Grand Jury. Handling a big assignment in a single day, the jury made no record of any school bus inspections.

Several justices of the peace, according to the report, had not filed proper reports as required by law. A report is seldom filed that does not carry the names of a few justices of the peace who have not filed the quarterly reports.

The report as filed by B. R. Manning, foreman of the jury, follows, in detail:

All bills have been disposed that came into our hands. We find that all justices of the peace filed their reports, and all fines paid to the county treasurer, except L. J. Harrison, of Williams Township; J. S. Ayers, of Cross Roads Township; W. T. Wildman, of Parmer; and A. Corey, of Jamesville Township; J. A. Davenport, of Hamilton Township, and George Leggett, of Hassell Township.

We find that all guardians have filed their reports as required by law. We inspected the offices of the sheriff, clerk of court, register of deeds and county treasurer and found same in good order and general conditions very good.

We inspected the jail and find same in good condition. We examined the county home and went over it with the keeper and found same in good condition, and (Continued on page four)

### GINNINGS

Current season cotton ginnings in Martin County are pushing steadily toward the 5,000-bale mark, a late government report released this week by Special Agent Vernon W. Griffin showing that 4,681 bales of lint cotton had been turned out up to the first of this month by gins in this county.

In the corresponding period last year Martin farmers had ginned only 370 bales, the production this year being more than 12 times greater than it was a year ago. During the last half of November, 506 bales of cotton were ginned, and it is believed now that the bale count for the current season will reach and possibly pass the 5,000 mark.

## British And Greeks Continue Offensive In Albania-Africa

### Thousands of Italian Soldiers Have Been Taken in Recent Days

While German raids continue to take a staggering toll of life and property in England, Greek and British forces are rapidly pushing the war against Mussolini's Italy to a climax. It has been predicted, prematurely perhaps, that Il Duce will fold up ere long, and that a definite turn in the war will follow. However, it is not time for cheering or hoping for an immediate end of the struggle, for, it has been pointed out, that Hitler may strike to take over Italy and subject it to a vassal state for use in intensifying his fight against the British and possibly against Greece.

Waves of German raiders are pounding the English Midlands and industrial centers without any great let-up while Britain and Greece continue their successful drives against the Italians in Albania and Egypt. The valiant Greeks continue to keep their enemies in retreat, reports stating that the Italians are falling back to Valona where empty ships are waiting presumably to evacuate the soldiers of Mussolini.

In Egypt, the British this week staged a blitzkrieg against the Italians, recapturing Sida Barrani, the main supply base for Mussolini's men. Late reports state that around 65,000 Italian soldiers had been captured in the desert fighting, that the Italian soldiers frankly stated they were not "sold" on the war anyway.

Seeing the futility of the war, Italian army officers falling into the hands of the British in Egypt are said to have indicated that the army was on a sit-down strike and that a truce was in the offing. Another source pointed out that Italian forces were withdrawing with the aim of staging a counter attack early next spring. During the meantime, an internal revolt is brewing in Italy.

Losses suffered by British shipping has been reversed for the present, at least. The British submarine, "Sunfish" is said to have sunk a fairly large German supply ship in the Atlantic. A second supply ship and an oil ship flying the Nazi flag were also said to have been sent to the bottom within the past 25 hours. The death of Lord Lothian, British ambassador to the United States, is recognized as a definite setback to England. The ambassador died early yesterday in Washington. The disposition of his body has not been determined. The Duke of Windsor, now conferring with the President on the "Tuscaloosa," has been mentioned as Lord Lothian's successor. Anthony Eden and Wilmot Lewis and others have also been mentioned as possible successors.

## Asking Return Of Marketing Cards

A call is being directed to all tobacco farmers in Martin County urging all those who have not yet done so to return their 1940 marketing cards at once to the office of the county agent, Williamston. Approximately 800 of the 1,500 tobacco farmers in the county still have the 1940 marketing cards in their possession. The information carried on the cards is to be checked with the warehouse sales.

It was pointed out by the agent's office that those farmers delaying the return of their marketing cards will be late in receiving their soil conservation checks next spring. "It is not necessary for you to bring your tobacco marketing card to the agent's office in person. Fasten the open end of the card and mail. No postage is required," the farm agent is advising the farmers.

### FUND LAGS

The fund for carrying Christmas cheer into poor homes in this community is lagging, Treasurer John W. Hardy said this morning. It was definitely pointed out that the toy collection is far from adequate and that cash contributions are insufficient for advancing the Christmas cheer movement. Another appeal, supported by wishful and longing hopes of quite a few needy little tots, is being directed to our people. If there are any toys that escaped the collectors, call The Enterprise and a messenger will be sent for them. Cash donations will be accepted either by Treasurer John Hardy, Episcopal minister, or The Enterprise.

Contributions not previously acknowledged: Junior Woman's Club \$15.00 P. F. Peele 1.00 Luther Peele 1.00 Davis Pharmacy 10.00 Bruce Wynne 2.50 E. S. Peel 1.00 Charles H. Manning 1.00 Mrs. John Ward 1.00 N. K. Harrison 2.00 John Henry Edwards 1.00 Episcopal Church 5.94 Previously Reported 15.00 \$56.44

## Movement Is Started Here to Aid War Sufferers in Greece

Anxious to express in a small way, at least, their appreciation to the little country of Greece for its noble effort in checking the barbarian hordes in Europe, several local people have started a movement to raise funds for the relief of Greece's war victims. Before the organization was perfected locally, several dollars had been contributed, and it is believed that the people of this town and county will recognize the urgent need for relief funds by the stricken people and act accordingly.

A national campaign to raise \$10,000,000 to provide medical supplies, clothing and food for the civilians left to their fate by a heroic army, is well underway. Greeks in this country have already extended considerable aid to their stricken relatives and friends back home, reports

stating that in many cases years' savings and money borrowed on small property holdings had been forwarded by local Greeks in this country to the needy ones in the old country.

Greece has no selective service system. All men of military age, if physically fit, must serve in the army during an emergency. That they are serving and serving well is evident in the daily reports reaching here. But while the army is making progress in driving by the invading Italians, the women and children and aged back home are suffering great hardships and it is for their relief and to boost the morale of the Greek army that America is out to raise a relief fund.

Any and all donations left with The Enterprise will be sent immediately to the relief fund headquarters.

## Expect Drive Against Punchboards and Slots

### Unofficial Warning Issued To Operator Of Illegal Devices

### Movement Expected To Eliminate Gambling Machines And Punchboards

Following the near-sensational trial of Joe Calcutt, million-dollar slot machine magnate, in Raleigh recently, a drive to clear the entire State of illegal slot machines and punchboards is now in the offing, according to unofficial but reliable reports reaching here yesterday. Questioned about the plan to remove the gambling devices from the reach of youth and the public in general, local and county officers would offer no immediate comment, but if there is any foundation to circulating reports, the drive can be expected here within a comparatively short time.

"The drive will take the illegal pin machine and punchboards out of the reach of the public, and operators, owners and proprietors will be subjected to prosecution in the courts," one report coming from a reliable source said.

Dramatic action to clean up the illegal slot machine and gambling devices was said to have been planned by superior court judges. While the lower courts are expected to take action in some cases, it is likely that the higher tribunals will act in those cases where prosecutions are delayed or where the illegal practices are allowed to continue without interruption. Between the higher and lower courts, action against the illegal practices is to be expected, and owners, operators and proprietors of those establishments where the machines and boards are operated are warned to clear their machines and boards from their places of business.

While Judge Hunt Parker has attracted state-wide attention in his drive against the machines in Raleigh, Martin County took action against slot machines more than a year ago when Judge H. O. Peel imposed a \$500 fine on L. B. McCormick, owner of a number of machines operated in this section. Several machines were confiscated by the sheriff and the slot machine racket was dealt a heavy blow.

While their use has been limited in the county since that time, a few machines are now being operated in the county, according to reports reaching here. The drive now about to get underway against gambling will also be directed at illegal punchboards and possibly other games of chance.

Owners, said to have sensed trouble ahead for them, moved the slot machines out of this county this week. Officers had taken no definite (Continued on page four)

## Tear Down Warning Signs On Highway

Lives of travelers on Highway No. 64 in the Everetts area were endangered last Tuesday evening when some unknown party tore down warning signals on several miles of the route, now undergoing repairs between Everetts and Robersonville. Apparently using an automobile or truck, the vandal splintered several barricades and turned over a number of barrels and possibly more than fifty lights.

The common work left several broken places in the highway open to traffic without warning signals. Learning the fate of the warning signals, Sergeant L. L. Jackson restored most of the lights within a short time and no accidents were reported.

An investigation is being pushed, but as far as it could be learned here today no definite clues have been established in the case.

## Jamesville Liquor Store Was Robbed Yesterday Morning

### Robbery Was Second Reported in County; Load of Liquor Missing

The Martin County Alcoholic Beverage Control Board early yesterday morning had its second robbery since opening stores in four county towns more than five years ago. The first robbery was in Robersonville two or three years ago, the robbers taking only a small quantity of liquor and a few dollars in cash.

Early yesterday morning robbers forced an entrance at the Jamesville liquor store and stole sixteen cases of liquor, inventoried at 199.67 Fourteen dollars in cash, hidden in the store, was missing. About forty dollars in silver, hidden in another part of the store, was not found. Using a crowbar, the robbers prized the door jam from the lock and entered without much difficulty. A new supply of the spirits had just been delivered to the store the day before, and while the robbers had a fairly large stock to choose from they took only about one-fifth of it. Their selections were centered on the cheaper and medium-priced brands, ABC Board Chairman V. J. Spivey stating this morning that only one quart of the more expensive stock was stolen.

One report stated that a strange car was seen parked under a Jamesville filling station about 2 o'clock yesterday morning by a motorist. Officers have been working in the case, but no developments have been reported.

It has been pointed out that possibly the illicit manufacturers and bootleggers have suffered such reverses in recent weeks that an act of retaliation followed those reverses. It was also said that there is a shortage of illicit spirits among the trade, and that the dealers or consumers switched to the legal brand but in an illegal manner.

While someone was building up his stock of spirits at Jamesville, robbers entered the large store of A. O. Roberson and Company in Robersonville about the same time. An accurate inventory of missing goods there could not be had immediately, but eight or more suits of clothes, numbers of shirts and shoes and a quantity of groceries and other goods were missed by the owners.

## School To Present Christmas Pageant Here Sunday Night

### No Service Will Be Held In Various Churches At That Time

The Williamston high school music organizations composed of over one hundred voices will present a Christmas pageant, "The Nativity," in the high school auditorium next Sunday evening at 7:30. Students participating in the program are members of the boys' and girls' glee clubs, a choir composed of the seventh and eighth grades, an angel choir composed of Mildred Thomas, Mary Trullah Peele, Frances Jarman, Marjorie Grey Dunn, Lenora Nelson, Elizabeth Parker, The Crucifier, Jim Critcher, reader, Warren Pope, "Mary," Evelyn Wynne, "Joseph," Melburn Harrison, shepherds, Jack Bailey, Billy Mercer and Benny Weaver, children, with the shepherds, Zach, Burchett, Bobby Harrison and Bruce Rogerson; Three Kings, Bill Peele, Luther Peele and Jasper Browder; attendants to the Kings, Parker Peele, Billy Myers and Jack Mobley.

Solo parts will be sung by Mary O'Neal Pope and Mary Kate Swain. The accompaniments will be played by Irving Gurganus, violinist, and Miss Grace Talton and Mrs. M. B. Dunn, pianists. A brass quintet, composed of Billy Mercer, Courtney Jenkins and Anne Lansley, cornets, and Bill Peele and J. B. Taylor, trombones, under the direction of Jack Butler, will play "O Come All Ye Faithful," as a fanfare for the beginning of the pageant.

The stage has been re-set, with properties resembling the interior of a church in which all scenes of the pageant will be laid. Choir stalls, an altar and a Gothic stained glass window have been built for the stage. Rehearsals have been held daily during the week under the direction of Miss Kathryn Mewborn, and the pageant, which is a joint school undertaking, should prove both interesting and inspirational to all lovers of good music.

No evening services will be held in the various churches that evening, and members of all denominations are invited to attend the religious program in the school.

### ONE-THIRD

Repairs to the Roanoke River fill damaged in the last August flood, were reported almost one-third complete today by Superintendent Rice. Approximately 50,000 of the 180,000 yards of dirt to be placed on the fill have already been moved. Additional equipment is being moved here this week, and with continued fair weather the work is expected to progress even more rapidly.

While the work is moving rapidly, little progress on the construction of four bridges is in evidence so far.

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## President Urges Seal Purchases

### Compiling it with the drive for "total defense," President Roosevelt recently addressed an open communication to the public urging the liberal purchase of Christmas Seals in support of the drive against tuberculosis. The President said:

"The American people are now called upon for 'total defense.' This means vast military preparedness and the best possible manpower, involving intensified war against those insidious enemies of health, chief of which in the vital age period from 15 to 45 is the communicable disease, tuberculosis.

The National Tuberculosis Association and its affiliated state and local organizations can render services of inestimable value to public health officials throughout the country in handling the problem of tuberculosis as it is disclosed from the physical examinations of recruits. Therefore, the 34th annual nationwide Christmas Seal Sale of the tuberculosis associations takes on added significance this year. It should receive more than ever before the fullest possible support of all of the people of our country.

From now until Christmas Day we, as individuals, by generous purchase of the Seals, can do our part to help the tuberculosis associations free us from the deadly menace of this communicable disease. We know from past experience that our dollars will be well spent in behalf of the public good.

## Endorses Work Of Church Association

The Williamston Christian Church very heartily endorses the splendid efforts that are being made by the Greater Church Association of our town in its effort to make the community church conscious. The value of the church can never be appreciated unless the citizenry of the community attends the services, receives the teachings, acts upon the inspiration received in worship and becomes an active promoter for the common good.

The window cards are arresting in the thought provoking challenge that they present, and along with the letters sent to all Christians in our community should awaken us to the privileges that are often unintentionally allowed to pass. We commend The Enterprise for the several lucid and strong appeals for cooperation at this vital point. With all of these interested agencies calling us to vitiate our religious convictions, may the churches be filled with appreciative worshippers next Sunday and the Sundays that follow.