

Watch The Label On Your Paper, As It Carries The Date Your Subscription Expires.

# THE ENTERPRISE

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

VOLUME XLIV—NUMBER 4

Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Tuesday, January 14, 1941.

ESTABLISHED 1899

## Officers Working On Second Series Of County Thefts

### Man Arrested Here Saturday For Washington Police Believed Implicated

Although no charges have been brought, local and county officers believe they now have a clue to the series of robberies reported in this county last New Year's Eve. "We hope to have more information in the cases within the next few days," Sheriff C. B. Roebuck said today following the arrest of Linwood Hyman, colored man, by Officer J. H. Gurganus here last Saturday morning.

Officers believe Hyman is implicated in or knows something about the robbery of the Peel store in Everett, the attempted robbery of Exum Ward's sandwich and filling station, the robbery of Mizelle's filling station, both near the fairgrounds, and the robbery of Eddie Watts Brown's Little Savoy cafe on Washington Street here on New Year's Eve.

According to information reaching the officers but yet unverified, Hyman was seen wearing a suit of clothes belonging to Brown. A skeleton key, twisted and bent, was found in Ward's station. Hyman was identified by a dime-store clerk here as the man who bought a key similar to the one found in the door. One hitch in the investigation has been encountered, the officers stating that the footprints seen at the scenes of the robberies do not correspond with the present one made by Hyman's shoes. The fact that Hyman has had ample time to change shoes is not overlooked, however.

When arrested here last Saturday morning at the direction of Washington police who want him for breaking and entering, Hyman gave the arresting officer, John Gurganus, and Chief W. B. Daniel, some trouble. While he submitted to arrest, Hyman told the officers at police headquarters that he was not going to jail, and immediately attacked Officer Gurganus. Chief Daniel took a hand and Hyman continued to push the officers around. Backing off a few feet, Chief Daniel drew his gun and instructed the officer to turn the prisoner loose. Hyman, realizing the officer meant business, calmed down and consented to go to jail without giving any more trouble. He was later turned over to Washington police who are giving him a preliminary hearing this afternoon.

What action, if any, the officers of this county will take against Hyman will be determined by developments resulting from the investigation already underway.

## Mrs. R. J. Winslow Died Early Sunday

Mrs. R. J. Winslow, highly respected county citizen, died at 5:30 o'clock Sunday morning at the home of her son, Mr. Joe R. Winslow, near Robersonville, following a long period of failing health. She was 83 years of age and heart trouble caused by the infirmities of her advanced age was given as the cause of her death.

Mrs. Winslow was a native of Perquimans County but had made her home with her son in this county for about sixteen years. In both her home and adopted communities she was held in high esteem by all who knew her. A member of the Society of Friends Church, Mrs. Winslow was devoted to the teachings and work of the church, and in her daily walk her life exemplified the true principles of religion as propounded by the Master. She was an able student of the Bible, the teachings of which she humbly imparted to the members of her household and to others who looked to her for guidance and consolation in times of stress and uncertainty. She was a devoted wife and a thoughtful mother, and enjoyed the love and respect of her family and many others whose pleasure it was to have known her.

Six children, Mrs. C. S. Pearce, of Washington, D. C.; H. V. Winslow, of Wilmington, Del.; Mrs. W. H. Welch and H. W. Winslow, both of Kingstree, S. C.; Mrs. S. W. Cromwell, of Norfolk, and Joe R. Winslow, of this county, survive.

Funeral services are being conducted this afternoon at 2 o'clock in the Piney Woods Friends Church at Belvidere in Perquimans County. Burial will follow in the Up River Cemetery. Rev. J. C. Trivette, assisted by Rev. E. C. Sho. Robersonville Baptist minister, are conducting the last rites.

### Commander And Mrs. Bill Harrell Here For Visit

Commander and Mrs. W. H. Harrell were here for a short visit with relatives last week-end before he returns to his ship for a cruise to unannounced points. Stationed at Philadelphia for several years where he was doing special medical work, Dr. Harrell was called for ship duty a few weeks ago along with many others. He is on a large transport with one of the most modern and complete hospitals on the high seas. The ship has 500 hospital beds. Mrs. Harrell is now making her home with relatives in Norfolk.

## Continue Plans For Housing T. B. Victims in County Home

Plans are being considered here today at the direction of the Martin County Commissioners for housing needy tubercular cases in the county home. The proposal has already been considered and tentatively approved by the county authorities, and final action awaits only the approval of State health and welfare officials. Wade Cashion, director of the division of State institutions, is in the county today inspecting the premises and studying the proposed plans for housing the several unfortunate cases.

According to a report coming from the county welfare office here today, Dr. E. T. Walker who has been attending the patients in the county home and who is interested in and acquainted with the urgent needs, estimates that it will cost approximately \$150 to properly equip the

institution for handling the T. B. cases.

There is an urgent need for the removal of several cases to the county home for treatment. Mary Taylor, superintendent of public welfare, said yesterday. There is a long waiting list in the State Sanatorium, and conditions in the homes where most of the several cases are housed are ideal for spreading the disease. In one family the father is confined to his bed. There are seven children, all under fourteen years of age. The group, including the mother, are living in two rooms. Where there is now one case, it is reasonably certain that there'll be several within a short time. Possibly the mother and children can provide for themselves if the father is cared for and the threat of the disease is removed from their midst. The other cases are of a similar nature.

## Smith Named to Head Chamber of Commerce

### MOVING

For no one definite reason, Martin County tenantry is on the move again this year on a larger scale than any one in recent years. Possibly, the grass in other pastures appears greener than that right at home. Boiled down to a fine point, it is believed that landlords are looking for better tenants and that tenants are looking for better landlords.

It is estimated that more than 200 farm families and a few in the towns, too, are shifting their places of residence. For the most part, according to the best reports available, very few families are moving out and very few families are moving into the county.

## School Teachers In Second County-Wide Meet At Jamesville

### H. A. Perry Stresses Character And Citizenship in Address to 100 Teachers

Martin County teachers held the second in a series of four county-wide meetings in Jamesville last night with approximately one hundred teachers and principals in attendance. Mr. Effie Holliday, of Jamesville, president of the county teachers association, called the meeting to order, and heard reports from various committees appointed at the Williamston meeting in October. Mr. Lupton, of the Oak City school, reported on public relations plans as set forth in the Greenville meeting, and Mr. Marlowe of the Robersonville school, in reporting of professional relations, stated that his committee would submit a code of ethics for the consideration of the group at its next meeting. Miss Ruth Manning of the Williamston school, teacher welfare chairman, reported on the tenure and retirement plans now being proposed for enactment into law by the General Assembly. After a period of discussion led by Supt. James Manning the group adopted the report of this committee, and passed a resolution asking that Representative Clarence Griffin and Senator Hugh Horton give the fullest consideration and cooperation to the matter of some form of a continuing contract and a retirement plan for the teachers of North Carolina.

A principal feature of the meeting was an address by Mr. H. A. Perry of the State Department who spoke in the absence of Dr. J. Henry Highsmith, Director of Secondary Education.

Supt. Manning introduced Mr. Perry who gave a very timely address on recent developments in education. In commenting on the difficulty of preserving our basic freedoms in a world torn by conflict between ideologies, Mr. Perry called on teachers to give greater consideration to the development of qualities of character and citizenship. Said Mr. Perry, "Democracy, if it is to be preserved, must exist in pupil-teacher relationships and in all phases of school and community life. It is too much to expect that a youth who has been exposed to dogmatic and dictatorial teaching for eleven years will be qualified to assume the duties and responsibilities of present day citizenship. A program of education adequate for complex living in our day requires a close, friendly and cooperative search for and evaluation of truth by pupil and teacher alike. This cooperation alone can develop a citizenship qualified to continue our democratic principle and government."

At the conclusion of the business meeting a brief social period was held after which the group adjourned to meet in Williamston on February 13th.

## Organization Will Handle the Sale of Auto License Tags

### Committee Named To Work With Tobacco Board of Trade Next Season

Holding their first meeting of the new year, directors of the one-year-old Williamston Chamber of Commerce last Friday evening named R. H. Smith to fill the position of secretary-treasurer made vacant by the resignation of W. F. Clark and formulated tentative plans of work for the organization during the coming year.

Advised that the Williamston Motor Company was surrendering the Carolina Motor Club Automobile License Bureau and that the bureau was going begging for a keeper, the directors made tentative plans for maintaining the service locally in connection with the operation of the commerce agency. Offices will be maintained possibly in the Moore Grocery Company building, next to the Williamston Motor Company, and the transfer will likely be effected on or about the first of next month. The Williamston Motor Company has maintained the license bureau for almost twelve years, the management explaining that the rush came at a busy time for its business and that it would be forced to surrender the agency. The company has been trying to get someone else to take over the bureau for several years.

It is believed that Mr. Smith will be able to handle the bureau activities and carry on the organization's work right along with his job as county treasurer. The commerce organization will pay him a nominal salary in addition to the fee to be derived from the sale of automobile license tags.

Messrs. C. B. Clark, D. V. Clayton and Charles Bower were named on a committee by the president, Geo. H. Harrison, to work with Mr. Smith during the current year.

Mr. Frank J. Margolis was named to contact the Williamston Tobacco Board of Trade and pledge the organization's efforts in promoting the local tobacco market this coming season. It was reported at the meeting last Friday night that plans were rapidly shaping up for the operation of the tobacco market, and that formal announcements could be expected within a short time.

The resumption of direct water freight connections from here to Norfolk and Baltimore was discussed, representatives of the Norfolk, Baltimore and Carolina Line stating that plans were virtually complete for repairing the flood damage to the local dock and warehouse and that service would possibly be restored within a short time. The service has been maintained by a shuttle arrangement.

(Continued on page four)

## Work Progressing Slowly On The Fill

Repair work on the Roanoke River fill damaged by record flood waters last August, is progressing slowly. No official report has been released in recent weeks, but it is understood that the work is considerably behind schedule. According to one estimate less than half of the 180,000 yards of dirt necessary to complete the project has been placed. The foundation work on one of the four bridges is hardly complete, and work on the others is proceeding at a comparatively slow pace.

Reports state that equipment used in loading the dirt trucks has been out of repair several times, and that unnecessary delays have followed. While weather conditions have not been ideal, they have been far better than they usually are in the winter months.

## Party Searches For Man Missing in the County Three Days

### Edgar Ayers, Bear Grass Man, Believed To Have Met With Foul Play

Missing since Sunday, Edgar Ayers, Bear Grass citizen, is the object of an extensive search on a small island where the counties of Martin, Beaufort and Pitt converge. Renewing an investigation started last night and joining a sizable searching party this morning, county officers could not be reached immediately for a detailed statement. However, according to unofficial but reliable reports it is believed by some that Ayers has met with foul play, that possibly he has been murdered or rendered helpless. It is possible that he has met with accidental injury, some suggest.

Reports reaching here state that Ayers last Sunday went to the small island where the three counties join and engaged in a fight with a party of several men who were thought to have been manufacturing liquor or playing poker. He was said to have returned home, got his rifle and started back. The man, about 36 years old, has not been seen since.

A searching party was said to have been formed yesterday afternoon, but its early work was unsuccessful. The case was reported to the office of the sheriff last night, and Sheriff C. B. Roebuck started an investigation immediately. Returning home after midnight, the officer withheld comment, but joined a searching party early this morning. Officers from the two adjoining counties were called and they with the sheriff's force from this county and a number of private citizens are continuing the search. No report from the party could be had up until early this afternoon.

## Outlook For Farm And Business This Year Encouraging

### Largest Farm Income Since 1929 Expected By Some This Year

By G. A. CARDWELL.

Nineteen forty-one outlook is for improved domestic demand for farm products, smaller exports, higher general average of prices, larger total cash income from marketings. Farm income—including government payments—the total exceeding nine billion dollars—may be the largest since 1929. But increased costs of commodities and services used in farm production will cancel part of the gain in farm income—1941 over 1940. Agricultural production of all commodities combined may be a little smaller in 1941, but with large carry-over stocks of several commodities the total supply will be fully adequate for the country's needs. Farmers in best position as to prices and income are those producing for domestic market—products of dairy and poultry products, meats, some fruits and vegetables. Principal support to prices and income from cotton, wheat, tobacco, will be government loan and export programs. For national defense the physical condition of the agricultural plant is the best in many years. Soil productivity has been increased, man-power is more than enough for any emergency. Agriculture is ready.

Greater consumer purchasing power in the United States in 1941 compared with 1940 is expected to result in improved demand for farm products. Consumer incomes will reflect not only a substantial gain in industrial production, but also the gradual cumulative effects of the general improvement in business conditions during the past two years.

The rapidly expanding program for national defense is chiefly to be credited with the anticipated increase in industrial production, employment and consumer incomes. More than 7 billion dollars probably will be spent for national defense purposes in 1941. Of this about 5 billion represents an increase over 1940. Partly offsetting the effects on business activity of these increased defense expenditures will be decreases in some other branches of government spending and increased tax collections. It is estimated that about half of the increase in defense spending in 1941 will represent an increase in the net contribution of the Federal Government to national purchasing power.

The development of the defense program is having a stimulating effect upon general business sentiment. Business-men generally are anticipating several years of favorable business conditions and possibly of rising prices. This makes them less apprehensive about inventory positions, more inclined to take risks in developing new or expanding old enterprises. A part of the stimulating effects of the defense program, however, will be merely an offset to

(Continued on page four)

## Influenza Reaching Epidemic Proportions in This County

Influenza, sweeping out of the west, is rapidly reaching the epidemic stage in this section, conservative estimates placing the number of cases in this county in excess of 200. No accurate estimates are available, but reports coming from the medical profession, the schools and other sources indicate that there are approximately 200 cases under the care of physicians with many cases escaping attention. Possibly many more cases are on the borderline, the victims going out of circulation for only brief periods.

The situation, as it is reported here is not threatening the operation of the county schools, and there is no sign of curtailing public gatherings. However, reports from other states and even in the western part of North Carolina state that school schedules are being discontinued and that amusement houses are being closed. No complete report on absence in the school is immediately

available, but the attendance figures in most of the plants are considerably below normal. The large number of absences is partly explained by an increase in the number of families moving here and there over the county, interrupting the attendance figures temporarily, at least. At Jamesville, three teachers are ill with influenza and the absences are running slightly above 10 per cent of the enrollment. Robersonville is on the verge of an epidemic in its schools, but no plans are being considered at the present for suspending activities there. Other schools last night reported fair attendance figures.

Based on fair reliable reports, the influenza cases seem to be centered in several communities with some cases, of course, being scattered here and there over the county. Many cases were reported yesterday in the Hassell community and in Cross Roads entire families are down with influenza.

## Building Construction Reaches Record Peak

### Forty-Seven Homes Are Built Here In Past Twelve Months

### Value of New Buildings, Repairs and Additions Are Placed At \$200,405

Construction work in Williamston reached an all-time record peak during the year just ended, according to a report just released by Building Inspector G. P. Hall. One hundred and three building permits, including those for new construction, repairs and additions, were issued during the year of 1940, the construction program carrying a value of \$200,405.

Construction activities were more than twice as great last year as those recorded in 1939 and were \$12,000 greater than in 1938 when building work reached a new high peak here.

Home construction more than doubled to reach a new high figure for any one year in the history of the town. Forty-seven new homes were built at a cost of \$97,070. Included in the list were no costly projects, the average standing right at \$2,000 with the figures ranging from an humble \$300 structure to a \$7,500 home. Only six of the 47 new homes cost more than \$4,000. Home construction was about evenly divided for the two races, one real estate development advanced by local capital providing eighteen apartments for colored families.

While the home construction program in 1940 relieved the housing shortage to some extent, there is still a great need for more homes. During the past month several families desiring to make their homes here went to other towns. A survey of the town shows that possibly 100 families, including both white and colored, are inadequately housed. Some are crowded into old school bus bodies and others are living in shacks hardly fit for work animals. Possibly the current year will see as an extensive building program as that recorded in the year just ended, but there is still a need for housing facilities and construction will hardly reach anything like a stalemate any time soon. Despite any outside factors that may tend to affect construction, some observers are of the opinion that the 1941 program will equal if not exceed that of 1940.

The commercial front reported a marked gain in its building construction, the total contracts jumping from \$33,435 in 1939 to \$44,650 last year. There were fifteen commercial structures built here last year, the bulk of the program being centered on the river mill front. One or two new stores were added in the business district.

(Continued on page four)

## Hearing Held In Liquor Case Here

Robert Bailey, charged with violating the liquor laws, was released under bond in the sum of \$500 at a preliminary hearing held before United States Commissioner Walter Halberstadt in the courthouse here last Friday afternoon. Bond was arranged immediately. Bailey is to appear before Judge Isaac M. Meekins in Federal court at Washington on March 31.

Will "Red" Rogers, a second defendant in the case, was placed under a \$1,000 bond. Enjoying a parole allowed in a previous case, Rogers was turned over to the probation officer.

The two men were arrested while allegedly operating a liquor still last Thursday night. ABC Officer Joe H. Roebuck, assisted by officers from Beaufort and Pitt Counties, made the arrests.

### GREEK RELIEF

The drive for urgently needed funds for embattled Greek soldiers and suffering Greek civilians continues to go forward here. A small country of limited resources, Greece is longingly looking to the people of this nation for help. That the valiant Greeks have earned the right to a liberal aid is evidenced in their accomplishments.—It has been admitted by some that the little nation has done more to check the barbarian hordes than all others. And now with their dependents either killed or wounded or in the army, the civilians back home are suffering for the necessities of life. Leave a donation at The Enterprise office or send it to Rev. John W. Hardy, treasurer of the relief fund in this county. Donations are acknowledged as follows:

Gus Rigas	\$25.00
Joe Mike Mitchell	1.00
A Friend	1.00
Previously reported	27.50
	\$54.50

## Peace Talk Heard Amidst Increased War Preparations

### Believe Spain and Bulgaria See Victory for Britain And Deny Axis Aid

Despite fresh rumors that Hitler will march his troops into Bulgaria and push across Yugoslavia to attack Greece, peace talk is being heard on the European war front today. The rumors and talk are indeed confusing, and no one knows what the next day will offer. Several factors have been pointed out that would point to a peace sooner or later. Economic conditions in Germany are causing added trouble. The diplomatic front is apparently changing in favor of Germany. France is reported to be restoring its navy to a peace-time basis. Revolts are increasing rapidly and with greater ferocity in occupied territories. Spain is reported to have flatly refused to vote down to Germany and join the fight against England. Bulgaria, apparently expecting a British victory, is not falling in line with German orders.

While these reports are encouraging, there is pessimism as to whether England can hold out against continued losses on the high seas and against terrific bombings from the air. The first point in question had encouraging reports today when the admiralty announced that only four British ships, of 15,000 ton capacity, were lost during the week ending January 5. On the other hand air raids have been costly for England, one report stating that Plymouth, England, had borne the brunt of a recent raid. There was a lull in the air over England today on account of bad weather conditions.

Last week, the reports had German divisions in Bulgaria. Later reports had the Germans back in Rumania. Today, semi-official reports from Turkey, stated that Germany was actually making plans to take over the little country and station troops on the Greek border. A direct move on Greece by Germany is not expected there, however, the Turkish reports stating that Hitler is planning to march his forces through Yugoslavia and attack Greece from that direction. The valiant Greeks are continuing their drive against the Italians in Albania.

Over in Africa, the British forces are scoring new successes against the Italians, and Nazi airmen have been shot down over the continent. (Continued on page four)

## Committee Plums Are Distributed In State Legislature

### Horton and Griffin Are Given Quality Ratings But Not Much Quality

They cut the plum pudding in the North Carolina Legislature last evening. Lieutenant Governor Reg Harris passing out the thin slices in the Senate and Speaker O. M. Mull chunking a hunk here and there after feasting a few select ones with the choice slices.

Martin County's representative, Clarence Griffin, and the Second District's senator, Hugh G. Horton, were given quantity, and the quality is fair, but both men missed out on the more important committees such as appropriations, roads, and so on. A thorough digest of the committee assignments has not been made, but it is fairly apparent that some of them chique to the old tune. Representative reapportionment, for instance, is in the hands of the west where gains are expected at the expense of the east. But, according to the State Constitution, reapportionment is in order, and there's nothing for the east to do but grin and bear it.

Senator Horton drew the chairmanship of the Unemployment Compensation committee, and was made a member of the following groups: agriculture, commercial fisheries, congressional districts, education, election laws, finance, institutions for the deaf, judiciary No. 1, military affairs, penal institutions, propositions and grievances, public health, rules, water commerce and trustees of the University. It is apparent that Mr. Horton is on one or two committees that will claim much attention in the State this year. Congressional districts will be in the limelight as a move has already been made to reapportion the State into twelve congressional districts. Possibly the finance committee will require much of the senator's time as finances are a problem in good years as well as in bad ones.

Representative Griffin did not do so bad as a freshman in drawing committee assignments. He is a member of the committees on agriculture and education, two important groups to the successful operation of two of the State's most important undertakings. While he holds no chairmanship, he is a member of the following committees: banks and banking, commercial fisheries, constitutional amendments, judiciary No. 2, oysters, public welfare, justices of the peace, public buildings and grounds.

Now that the committee assignments have been effected, the people of the State are anxious to see the boys in Raleigh settle down to work and do something.

## Local Youth Chats With The President

### Joe Sumara, Local Youth and Member of the U.S. Tuscaloosa, Had a Three Minute Chat with President Roosevelt on the High Seas a Short Time Ago When the Chief Executive was Cruising in the Caribbean. Just Back from a Trip to Portugal, Sumara Stated That He Was Standing Watch on a Forward Deck When Mr. Roosevelt Came Out for a Breath of Fresh Air and a Smoke.

"He asked me my name, how I liked the Navy, how long I had been in the service and a few other questions," Sumara said. "Asking me where I was from, I told him Williamston, North Carolina, and he quickly replied that North Carolina was a great State." Sumara, who was home for the week-end, replied, "Yes, sir, and it gave you quite a vote. The President laughed," Sumara said.

After riding the Chief Executive around the seas, the Tuscaloosa took Admiral Leahy aboard and carried him to Lisbon where he continued to his post as ambassador to France at Vichy.

"We saw very little sign of any conflict. It was pointed out to us that a British cruiser was chasing a German ship, but we did not see any action. A few airplanes flew over us just off the coast of Portugal, but we could not identify them," the youthful sailor said. The crew was given shore leave at Lisbon, and activities there were going on as usual. "It is a beautiful city," Sumara said.

## Young People To Meet At Bear Grass Sunday

The young people of the county will assemble in the Bear Grass Presbyterian Church Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock for their regular interdenominational meeting, it was announced by an officer of the organization today.

A very good program has been planned for the meeting, including an address by Rev. Griffin Hamlin, pastor of the Plymouth Christian Church. Special music will be rendered by the Bear Grass quartet. Every church in the county is urged to send a delegation to the meeting as the future plans for continuing the organization will be discussed.