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THE ENTERPRISE

Advertisers Will Find Our Columns a Latchkey to Over 1600 Homes of Martin County.

VOLUME XXX—NUMBER 2

Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Friday, March 4, 1927

ESTABLISHED 1898

Business at Standstill, Travel Impossible as Result of Snow

20-Inch Fall Is Recorded Here; Roofs Give Way

Rural Carriers Unable to Cover Routes for Past Three Days

All honor to the weather man; in fact, to all the weather men, for they all said early Tuesday that it was going to snow 12 hours before the snow actually came. By the middle of the afternoon dark clouds began to show signs of cracks opening up, so the flakes could sift through; and just as soon as the shades of night came on, the flakes began to dance and fall here and there. People still did not pay very much attention to it just took it in the general receptive spirit that folks generally hail the beautiful snow. Even early Wednesday morning, when there was only about 6 inches of snow, nobody was looking for an increasing storm and blizzard. But it increased in force and fury until everything was covered to the full depth of 20 inches, on the general level, and in many places it was three and four feet deep where drifts were formed by the wind, which reached the point of a real gale and which blew almost all day. The snow continued to fall for about 22 hours, finally stopping at 5 o'clock.

The State Highway Commission officials here measured the fall and gave it an official depth of 20 inches, which makes it the largest that has fallen here in more than 70 years, its two nearest rivals being on March 17th about the year 1886—that snow being so heavy that it was more than a week in melting, and lasting to within a few days of April 1. The big snow of 1877 was almost as heavy as this. It came in winter and lay on the ground for almost a month. The historic snow of 1867, which began falling January 1st, lasted for more than two days and is said to be deeper than the present snow. It was accompanied by one of the coldest snaps known in this section of the country, and it kept everything icebound for about two months. We have no official history of its depth, but nearly every old person whose memory runs that far back can give a vivid description of the "big snow."

For several days of this week, cars were unable to go and were stuck along the streets and roads, wherever they attempted to go. No rural carriers were able to make their trips. All of them started from here Wednesday morning, but several turned back when they saw they could not make it. The others, continuing on their routes, were snowbound before noon, and had to walk back to town. No attempts were made by the carriers to go out yesterday. They started this morning, but it is very doubtful if they get around their routes.

The Washington-Aulander busses running through here failed to operate. The big bus reached as far as H. L. Gardner's, 5 miles from here, where it remained. Its driver came in ahead of it when he walked, reaching here yesterday.

Several roofs caved in just before the snow ceased to fall, the roofs of several stores and other buildings began to crack and cave in. Andrews' hot-dog stand was the first to give way. The roof of the Ambers Pressing Club boiler room fell in on the boiler and caused right much damage. The roof on the main building of the pressing club also gave way and caused considerable damage to all the recently installed machinery. The fire hose was brought into play to

Highway Force Is Given Huge Task

The State Highway force had its greatest task this week when millions of tons of snow covered the highways of the State. The policy of the commission to keep the channels of traffic wide open 24 hours each day in the year was given a 36 hour set back by the heavy snow fall. The machinery was inadequate to handle the situation, it being designed to handle mud rather than snow.

The main tracks were finally opened up Thursday so traveling was not so hard; yet, few people have ventured out.

Walks 5 Miles Through Snow

A. F. Coburn, of Norfolk, Completely Exhausted on Arrival Here

Mr. A. F. Coburn, of Norfolk, Va., reached the Atlantic hotel here last Wednesday completely exhausted and half frozen after trodding in the heavy snow from the Old Mill Inn, a distance of four and one-half miles. Upon his arrival here, Dr. Saunders was called and it was late yesterday before the patient was able to be up. Mr. Coburn abandoned his car at the Old Mill Inn where it was stuck in the snow and started to walk here. The first three miles he made very well, but the last two found him in a weakened condition and was by the aid of a colored man who was walking here that Mr. Coburn reached the hotel. A little over six hours were required for him to make it here from the Old Mill Inn.

Mr. Coburn is a brother of Mayor R. L. Coburn here and travels out of Norfolk.

While Mr. Coburn was entering from the south, Messrs. Thos. H. Aderhalt, of Asheboro, M. F. Sigmond, of Durham and C. J. DesRoys, of Haw River, were enjoying a four-mile walk from over the river. They got almost to Conine creek when their car stalled, and from that point they started their walk, reaching here four and a half hours later.

69TH CONGRESS ADJOURNS TONIGHT AT 12 O'CLOCK

The last term of the 69th Congress expires today and tomorrow marks the beginning of the 70th term.

The retiring Congress has apparently attempted to help all the folks. One of the chief things discussed was the Farm Relief Bill which finally passed only to be vetoed by the President who claimed he did so because of its unconstitutionality.

Most every member of Congress was free in expressing a desire to help the farmer, yet no one offered help. It was quite significant to hear them express their great desire to help, but at the same breath they would criticize everything that was suggested in a way that might help. They were unable to find a way in which help could be rendered.

There was no trouble to find a way to help the banker. The McFadden Bill which the President approved with a great deal of relish because it helps the banks and is constitutional was passed.

Services at Church Of Advent Sunday

Rev. C. O. Pardo, Rector
First Sunday in Lent.
10:00, Church School.
11:00, Holy Communion and sermon.
3:00, Holy Trinity Mission.
Lenten services Wednesday and Friday at 4:00 p. m. Litany and address.

wash the snow from the roof, but action was too late to be of much value. A portion of the roof of the Standard Filling Station at the Newberry Stables fell in.

In Greenville and Wilson the roofs of several warehouses gave way under the heavy strain caused by the snow.

The blizzard has so stirred and disturbed the ocean along the Carolina coast that some fishermen declare the shad and herring have taken to the deeper waters of the ocean bed and are not coming in the inlets to our inland North Carolina waters. If that statement is true, then we may not get so many of those good fish as we were hoping for.

Train Service on Branch Line Is Demoralized

Get Back on Schedule Today After 2 Days Sporadic Service

The late trains yesterday running through here got back on their regular schedule. But it was a different story Wednesday and the early part of yesterday. Wednesday, the noon train met itself at Jamesville, that was according to schedule, of course. The train supposed to arrive here at 6:30 spent almost four extra hours pushing snow from the tracks between here and Rocky Mount.

Here is how the trains ran Wednesday and early Thursday. The 1:18 pulled in at 4:30, the 4:55 hurried back from Plymouth but did not get here until 7:15, and the 6:30 drove in at 10:15. According to Agent V. D. Godwin, everybody around here knows what time the 6:30 came, for he says he told over a hundred what time it was expected. Yesterday the morning train arrived 30 minutes late and the noon train came in one hour behind its schedule. Freight service was light and by tracking behind the passenger trains, the two freights came and went about on time. The freight trade was so light Wednesday that the train steamed on through without entering the switch. Yesterday morning she slipped in and went right out again, leaving nothing and taking away one freight car.

The trains carried snow plows on their engines, but these failed to prevent the delay caused by the heaviest snow of years in this section.

Train service on the main lines suffered to an even greater extent than that rendered by our trains. It is understood that traffic is getting back to normal on the main lines and delays are few.

Baptist Sunday Schools To Meet Here Sunday

Roy D. Clarke, educational director of the Roanoke Baptist Association, has called a meeting of all the Baptist Sunday Schools in Martin County, to meet with the Memorial Baptist Church at Williamston this coming Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock.

A good program is promised, and a large number of people are expected to attend.

The people of the local church, who are hosts to this convention, will be supposed to attend in large numbers and do whatever is possible for the initial success of the project.

Local School Closed Yesterday and Today

The local school, after making a noble attempt to hold classes Wednesday, was forced to close yesterday and today. Studies will be resumed Monday. This is the second day in school work this year caused by snow, and it is not certain what steps will be taken to make up the lost time.

While the local school was held Wednesday practically all others made no attempt to open that day. Yesterday and today were taken as holidays all over the county.

Bishops' Crusade Ends at Hamilton

Rev. C. E. Williams, of Creswell, preached his closing sermon in the week's crusade services at St. Martin's Episcopal Church, Hamilton, on Sunday night.

His subject was, "To know to do good and doeth it not, to him it is sin." This was a great climax to the splendid series of sermons which he had preached since he began the services on Monday, February 21.

The attendance was good all the way through from the people of the town and country around. Other church people around joined heartily in the meeting.

Enterprise Catches Up With Itself

Tuesday's issue of The Enterprise will be caught tomorrow by today's issue. The paper issued Tuesday has not been able to go its round on the rural routes, except in one or two cases where the carriers were able to go a short distance from town. Attempts were made to make the rounds today by the carriers, but they were unable to go all the way. Doubt as to whether or not they will be able to get their entire routes tomorrow is expressed by several of the carriers.

Wind Wrecks Smoke Stacks at Light Plant

Does Not Affect Power Supply as Oil Engine Furnishes That

Wednesday morning at eight o'clock a strong north wind blew down the two smoke stacks at the electric light plant here. The stacks were well anchored, but the wind with cyclonic force pulled up a pole buried several feet in the ground and a 15-inch leadman to which the stacks' guys were fastened.

A few minutes before the stacks fell, Mr. Price, one of the electricians, was on his way to the plant and just after he crossed the railroad the wind caught his Ford and carried it into the ditch beside the road. He had just walked into the engine room and was talking to one of the men at the plant when the stacks tumbled. The two men, thinking the house was falling, made a dash for the front entrance of the plant. The two oversized pipes fell against the water tower, doing little damage to neither house, tower nor stacks. There was no fire in the furnace at the time.

The crude oil engine, according to Superintendent M. S. Moore, will more than take care of the town's electrical needs until the stacks can be raised again. Preparations were made to have one of the stacks fixed at once or as soon as the weather permits. It is not certain, but it is understood that only one of the stacks will be repaired, the other not being needed.

While the wind gave trouble at the plant it helped out on the case of the wires, for every time speck of snow fell on a wire the wind would blow it off. A few wires broke, however, but that was due to contraction.

Walks in Snow Five Miles to Join Team

Loyalty to his team was expressed in no uncertain terms when Alphonso Roebuck set out from his home at five o'clock yesterday morning to catch the train at Everetts. The Everetts team, of which Alphonso is a member, was going to Raleigh to take part in the State tournament and the boys did board the train, but Alphonso's walk proved of no material value for when the team reached Rocky Mount it was learned that the basketball tournament had been postponed.

Young Roebuck arrived at the station an hour late, but the train was that late also, and he made connection. The long and difficult walk had almost whipped him, and it required rubbing from all his teammates' hands to warm him up.

Simon D. Perry Traps Washington Sparrow

Yesterday afternoon, Mr. Simon D. Perry who lives near here on Route four, made a deadfall for his children to catch sparrows. In the catch an English sparrow with a band around its leg was caught. On the band was the stamp of the Biological Survey, Washington, D. C. The number assigned to the trapped bird was 181-062.

It is not known whether the bird was tagged in Washington, D. C. or some other station maintained by the Survey.

Many Without Wood During Heavy Snow

While many of us were camped by the warm fires and admiring from our windows the beautiful scenes caused by the snow, a number of families most of them colored, were out of wood. Deliveries could not be made all day Wednesday, and it is understood that many of the unfortunate ones went under the bed covers in the early afternoon to keep warm. As soon as the snow cleared a bit orders were being filled very rapidly.

Loses Finger and Thumb While Oiling Band Saw

Mr. Dawse Lilley is in the Washington hospital with his right hand almost cut off. Last Tuesday afternoon Mr. Lilley was oiling a band saw at his mill six miles from here and in some way he caught his hand in the saw. His thumb and third finger were dismembered and the other fingers were badly cut. He was rushed to the hospital at Washington where the wound was dressed. At this time he has not been able to leave for home.

SERVICES AT THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Sunday school, 9:45.
Evening service, 7:30.
There will be no morning service.

Poultry Car to Remain Here Through Tuesday

John Cameron, of New Jersey, was on hand promptly Thursday morning with his poultry car, which he expected to have loaded yesterday and today, but all the farmers were unable to get to town on account of the heavy snow.

Upon advice of County Agent T. B. Brandon, Mr. Cameron will hold his car here until Tuesday, March 8, and will receive poultry at any time prior to leaving on the

early morning train Wednesday. He expects to get a full load by that time, as it is thought the farmers will be able to reach town all right by Monday.

Mr. Brandon and Miss Trent-ham, the home demonstration agent, are urging poultry raisers to cull their flocks and sell the non-producers while the car is here. The scale of prices paid is given on another page of this paper.

Recorder Had 2-Hour Session

Total of Six Cases Before Judge Bailey; Four Are Continued

Recorder's court lasted just two hours last Tuesday and made final disposition of six cases while four were continued for various causes until next Tuesday.

The case against Charlie Long, in which he was charged with an assault with deadly weapon, was not pressed.

John Barfield, charged with operating an automobile without license, plead guilty and was fined \$15.00 and costs.

Hardy Rogers and Edward Gordon were each charged with operating automobiles without licenses and were fined \$15.00 and the costs.

Jesse Williams, who was charged with operating an automobile while drunk, plead not guilty, but upon hearing the evidence the court adjudged him guilty. He was fined \$50, charged with the cost and cannot drive an auto within three months.

Willie Price, charged with assault on a female, was adjudged guilty. He was sentenced to the Edgecombe roads for nine months, sentence not to be operative for two years upon good behavior in his community and the proper treatment of his wife and children. This was the most aggravating case of the day. It had for its base the most heastly principles of man. Mr. Price is a young man who has a wife and several children. He has farmed all his life, but according to the general statements of a large number of the good people of Oak City where he now lives, he has recently neglected his family and hangs around another man's wife and family in or near Oak City. Certain such conduct provokes his own wife and when she reproves him he proceeds to choke, knock down and drag out. It was for beating his wife that he was placed in jail last week and carried before Judge Bailey Tuesday.

The large number of citizens of Oak City attending the trial clearly shows that they are on the right side when it comes to protecting the honor of their community and that indecency and immorality shall not exist in their midst.

Sunday Services at The Baptist Church

"Whom having not seen, ye love", is the Scriptural text for Sunday morning.

At the evening hour, "Free from sin" will be the text.

The people are asked to bear in mind the mid-week Bible study which has just begun in this church. For several weeks the books of the new Testament will be taken up, one by one. An attempt will be made to answer such questions as the following: Who wrote the books? When written? To whom written? For what purpose written? What is the central teaching? These and a great many other relative points will be brought out in the discussions.

Let all the people join in worship at the regular services Sunday.

Thieves Raid Store Of Lawrence Peel

Thieves broke into the jewelry store, of J. Lawrence Peel on Washington Street some time Tuesday night during the snow storm and stole about 20 watches, practically all of them being of an average good grade. About a dozen were men's watches; the other were ladies' gold watches.

Mr. Peel could not definitely check the type and kind of all the property lost, but can give the type of about two-thirds of it.

The store was entered from the rear, the thieves boring out a large opening near the lock and removing the bar which held the door.

There is no clue as to who the guilty parties are. Just one of many similar robberies which have so frequently happened in our town.

The amount of the loss will be about \$300, according to Mr. Peel's estimate.

Firemen Make Difficult Call

Answer Alarm Through 18 Inches of Snow; Little Damage

The volunteer firemen had their first real test last Wednesday when a call was made from the little home of Mercedes Spruill, near the upper end of Church street. To drive the truck in 18 inches of snow seemed impossible, for autos were unable to go and were snowed under in practically every block. But the small group of heroes rolled the fire wagon out in the face of all odds and the way they went. Main street was used for a couple of blocks, Haughton lost the group when it turned up Church and from there on up the street the red wagon plowed its own path, reaching the scene where the fire was supposed to be, under the conditions, in a very short time. Mercedes saw a little burning soot fall and heard the wind in the top of the chimney and calculated that her home was on its way to nowhere. The firemen turned the truck back toward its home after proving their willingness to render aid under any and all circumstances.

The alarm was phoned in from the home of J. W. Manning, and, for a while, it was thought that dwelling was burning. The truck sailed on by there and on it went to the spot where the Spruills lived, reaching there way ahead of Williamston's fast spectators.

Chief Harrison's force deserves much credit for the work of last Wednesday and that of the past several months.

County Statement for Past Year in This Issue

The financial statement published in this issue, showing the receipts and disbursements of Martin County, will be of interest to those who pay tax as well as to those who receive benefits.

The totals indicate big expenditures, yet when a careful study of the report is made, the general county expenses are seen to be comparatively small. Of the expenditures, the following items, \$22,370.19 repaid to the school board; 40,000 paid notes for borrowed money and the \$179,551.00 paid on outstanding notes, make a total of \$241,921.19. Then comes the amount paid on new County home, court house and new jail of nearly \$100,000 and these with the \$32,555.59 balance on hand and sinking fund investment of \$9,850 runs the sum up to almost \$385,000. According to the statement \$30,000 is seen to cover the care for the poor, the bridges, the courts and hundreds of the small things coming up before the county.

Schoolhouse Dynamited; Moonshiners Get Blame

According to reports from Kill-ney or lower part of Tyrrell county, the moonshiners of that section recently dynamited a school house because the teacher, a young lady whose home is in Columbia, was outspoken against the liquor influence in the section. The schoolhouse was so badly torn by the heavy explosion that the school could not continue.

The dynamite was placed in the stove flue judging from the appearance of things after the stove had been removed. The explosion went off about midnight and shook windows in all parts of the neighborhood.

There seems to be a large number of people in the district who rather not have schools nor churches but who are very much concerned about their stills and liquor.

Barnhill Brothers Extend Special Offer

Thursday proved a bad day for the opening of Barnhill Brothers' new store here, for the snow was so deep that even the people right here in town could not travel. The trade acceptance offer has been extended, and with every \$25 purchase an acceptance valued at \$5 will be given the customer.

Certificate Plan for Schools of Martin County

County Certificate Committee Held Meeting Here Monday

The committee on certificates, comprised of Principals L. H. Davis, of Williamston, R. I. Leake, of Robersonville, and J. L. Jones, of Jamesville, met in the office of the superintendent of schools Monday, February 28.

Discussion centered on two points: Promotions and certificates. The grading now given pupils of the seventh grade on their reports which they carry home was criticised. The chief objection being that several different teachers of same preparation and apparent capacity to judge might appraise the value of the same paper in a very different manner, the range of certain experiments being from 18 per cent to 100 per cent; and that when 70 per cent is a pass mark a certain type of teacher far too inelastic insists on keeping the child in the same grade for years if he should make a grade of 69.4 per cent on a subject.

In defense of present method there were those who said the wide range of grades was due to certain type of teachers to whom a wholesome thought would be like strychnine and would likely kill them. These teachers should not be hired. Teachers who really think would appraise a paper more nearly alike, all other things being equal. That grades are relative and must be elastic because of different capacities of teachers if there were no differences, in pupils. That grades are a general means of spurting children to take an inventory of their achievement and improve their work. In short initiative develops from self-inventory and self expression on the part of a child. Therefore a general grading scheme is good for a child, however much better may be a scientific test method of grading. Either plan may damage a child's growth if followed by an inelastic teacher and both might prove of help employed by a progressive teacher. In the final analysis the teacher is arbiter and needs to be open minded enough to seek all advice and help it is possible to obtain before promoting a child. In a democracy the chief characteristic of any good leader is to know where the individual is in growth and to have faith in him and expect him to progress and to lead him through training processes that will result in progress.

Likewise stages of progress in a child's life must be marked, subject by subject, grade by grade, and school by school for the purpose of expressing approval of work done and capacity of child to do work. To mark these steps of progress certificates are given.

It was agreed that a certificate should be given a pupil who completes the work required in the seven elementary grades and that such seventh grade graduate should be admitted to other schools of the Martin County system. However, a set of standard tests and how to give them will be explained to the seventh grade teachers and principals of respective schools of the county in the near future. These tests consist of tests in arithmetic, spelling, reading and reasoning, and the results of giving same are expected to be used by the teachers in arriving at the matter of promotion to high school. But teachers and principals are not to be guided by this factor alone in granting certificates. The certificates as in the past will state that student has passed in full or in part the subjects written in lines for the purpose and what grades were made.

The minds of the principals met on the issuance of certificates of graduation. One hundred and twenty clock hours of recitation on a subject is required to grant one unit of work. Sixteen units of work as prescribed in the High School manual must be performed satisfactorily to the teachers before a certificate of graduation will be issued.

Notwithstanding a pupil may at any time when leaving a school receive a statement in full of his school work completed to date. Records of such work and grades thereof are kept in duplicate, one copy in the principal's office and the other copy in the superintendent's office. On the reverse side of all certificates of graduation there shall be a transcript of the pupil's record.

Mr. R. I. Leake, Robersonville High School principal, will draw up a certificate of award for winning school in group commencement contests to be held in April. Alson Mr. L. H. Davis was instructed to prepare and present the method of giving the tests in the seventh grade. This work is the outgrowth of a committee appointed at a meeting some time ago.

Mr. W. H. Biggs returned Tuesday from a business trip to Wilson and Raleigh.

At The
STRAND THEATRE

SATURDAY
TOM TYLER
in
5-Reel Western

2-Reel Comedy

3rd Episode
"OFFICER 44"

Always a Good Show