

Watch the Label On Your Paper; It Carries the Date Your Subscription Expires.

THE ENTERPRISE

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

VOLUME XXX—NUMBER 24

Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Friday, May 20, 1927

ESTABLISHED 1898

Final Exercises At Local School This Morning

Dr. Wright Speaks; Certificates and Prizes Are Awarded

Dr. Robert H. Wright, president of the East Carolina Teachers College, made the commencement address before 16 young graduates and a large audience this morning, bringing to a close a most successful year in the Williamston school. While Dr. Wright carries a full line of silver gray in his hair and has for many years been president of a college, he began his address with the salutation, "fellow students." He talked on the enlargement plan of doing the best you can. He advocated the plan of consolidation, providing a better opportunity to cooperate in work. The question of taxation was also discussed and while he was willing to admit that the school tax is expensive, yet he regretted to have to say that the crime of the country is costing three times as much as the schools. He said many people regarded taxes a tribute rather than a contribution which was a mistake when we count our tax blessings. He, by illustration, called for those fathers and mothers who would not gladly give their children a better opportunity than they themselves had.

Commencement Outstanding

In no year before has a commencement of the local school been more outstanding and unanimous opinion has branded it as unusual. Following the commencement sermon Sunday morning, the grammar grades presented "The Brownies' Band," a cantata that was greatly enjoyed by a packed house.

The several clubs, dramatic, literary, and music, rendered a most pleasing program Wednesday night to another capacity house. While all the numbers on the Wednesday evening program were excellent, the ghost story, by Booth Tarkenton, was unusually good. The graduating exercises last night, unusual in their presentation, marked a new type and one that met with pleasing approval.

The program this morning included an address by Dr. Wright, special music, awarding of medals by Mayor R. L. Coburn, awarding of seventh-grade certificates by Prof. K. G. Phillips and presentation of high-school certificates by Principal L. H. Davis. The honor roll certificates for perfect attendance for the year were given to Fred Orleans, Joseph Barnhill, Grace Manning, Billy Griffin, Ben Manning, Wheeler Manning, Ruth Norton, Charles Manning, Edith Peel, Charles Fleming, Jr., Hazel Brown.

Seventh grade graduation certificates were given to Lina Mizelle, Albert Clark, Hazel Brown, Ellen Bennett, Edith Taylor, Charles Fleming, Jr., Gladys Moore, Elsie Gurganus, Charles Manning, Dora Mae Stalls, J. S. Whitley, Ruth Norton, Edith Peel and Della Harrison. Prizes for the best kept rooms went to Misses Darden's, Ivey's, Harpers' and Ramsey's rooms. The chamber of commerce prize offered to the best all round student, including all activities, was awarded to Jessup Harrison. The prize offered by the Daughters of the American Revolution for the best work in history was awarded Henry Manning.

Sunday Services at Methodist Church

Sunday school, 9:45 a. m.—E. P. Cunningham, superintendent.
Services at 11 a. m. and 8:00 p. m.
Preaching at Vernon, at 3:30 p. m.

STRAND THEATRE

SATURDAY
DICK HATTON

In
A He-Man's Country
Comedy—Serial

FRIDAY
"Just Another
Blonde"
Comedy

Always a Good Show

Farmer Near Here Commits Suicide

Expecting Another Light-Power Offer

The exact nature of new development, now being made relative to the local light and power plant could not be learned this morning. Few details could be had other than those stating that another proposition was about to be submitted, along with the three now before the board of commissioners.

One of the commissioners stated this morning that definite information could not be had until the new proposal was officially submitted. It was stated, however, that things were brewing in the light and power business here.

Flood Sufferers Benefit Dance

Two Dances Have Been Suggested as Way to Raise More Funds

The charity aspect to the flood situation in the course of the Mississippi river has been dropped; it is recognized by every one outside the stricken area with the exception of a few, as a solemn duty to render assistance to the unfortunate ones. Williamston and many other towns in the county have raised the quotas assigned them. But, in truth, our people have not given in proportion to their means, and it stands out as a fact to be ashamed of when the cry of the homeless, so pitiful, is heard from away across the states.

A suggestion has been made by several citizens of the town to arrange some kind of entertainment that might result in funds for the sufferers. The most popular plan yet advanced calls for two dances some time the middle of next month. It has been suggested that an old-fashioned square dance be held along with a modern one. It is understood the commissioners will permit a small admission charge, and will be glad to offer any other assistance reasonable for town officials to render. The warehouse is for use free of charge, and several people have pledged their support in making the undertaking a success, but at present no one has been mentioned to take active charge of the undertaking.

There is no doubt but what the people living outside of Williamston would support to the fullest an old time square dance, staged not for profit but for the help of the unfortunate in the Mississippi valley. Many of the townspeople have offered their help, and all is lacking now is someone to take the lead and put the undertaking over.

Demonstrates New Ways of Salad Making

(Reported)

To those women who were present yesterday when Miss Trentham, county home demonstrator, pleasingly instructed in the making of salads from the common fruits and vegetables found in the average garden of the county, the occasion furnished not only new ways of appealing to the inner man, but the contact with the demonstrator and each other made the hour enjoyable. Miss Trentham's explanations were unique in the extreme, and by the addition of mayonnaise and other dressings were even better than they appeared in the attractive serving dishes. Punch made with whey, lemon, and sugar was a new drink and was most refreshing on the extremely hot afternoon. In the demonstration, cabbage, turnips, onions, cucumbers, pickles, apples, cottage cheese, tomatoes, etc., were combined so that there were five different salads. French mayonnaise and cooked dressings were used as desired. The only regrettable circumstance was the fact that the women either have poor memories or were engaged in social pleasures, and the number present was too small.

Jamesville Christian Church Announcements

J. F. Pipkins will preach Sunday, both morning and evening, at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m., at the Jamesville Christian Church.

The morning sermon subject will be, "God's Word and Man's Heart." The evening subject will be "Inviting Jesus."
Sunday school at 9:45 a. m.—The public is cordially invited to these services.

Thomas Revels Shoots Head Off; Family Troubles Cause

Thomas W. Revels committed suicide at his home in Bear Grass township, near here yesterday morning, about 7:30 o'clock by shooting the top of his head away.

Mr. Revels who was at home with his five youngest children had gone out to work in the field preparing to plant peanuts and from all appearances at that time he seemed to be all right. He sent his youngest boy, 10 years old, to the home of a nearby neighbor to borrow a gun to shoot a cat which he had seen catching small chickens. When the boy returned with the gun and two shells he gave them to his father who was still in the field. Mr. Revels then went into the backhouse and closed the door behind him, but he soon came out from there and went to the house. When entering the front door he told the children not to come in. He closed the door and in a very few minutes the children heard the gun fire. They were frightened and did not go into the house, but called to Mr. J. W. Green who lived nearby. Mr. Green went into the house where he found the lifeless body of Revels lying across the bed in a shed room with the head blown off from a point about an inch below the eyes. The man's brains were scattered all over the room. The muzzle of the gun was still clinched in his left hand and both feet were on the floor with the right foot bare and the left shoe still on.

He evidently sat on the side of the bed, pulled off his shoe and while sitting there leaned his head over the muzzle of the gun and fired, pulling the trigger either with his toe or with his right hand. The force of the charge knocked him so that he fell backward across the bed.

Sheriff Roebuck and Coroner S. R. Biggs were called to view the body. They found the circumstances too plain to suggest any idea of foul play.

Family Trouble Cause

Family trouble was evidently the foundation of the tragedy. Revels was almost 46 years old, reared on a farm near Smithwick's Creek church. He grew up in a day that did not give him many of the advantages so much needed in life. He was, however, a very industrious, hardworking and honest farmer. He had a weakness for drink and occasionally took too much which seemed to engage his wife and cause many family troubles. On several occasions, a temporary separation had come about, but the old way of forgiving and forgetting always carried them back under the same roof. Two weeks ago the trouble grew worse and two of his older boys took up for their mother in a family quarrel and assaulted the father. Revels took his two sons before the court here last Tuesday and they were required by the court to remain away from home as they were free men in age.

The court's decision, requiring the boys to stay away, did not please Mrs. Revels and she refused to go home, sending word that she was never going to return.

This caused Revels to arrange the sale of his crop as it was planted in the ground, his corn, hogs, tobacco and wood and tobacco sticks and rent his land for the remainder of the year. He saw the buyer Wednesday and told him his wife was not coming back, that he could neither live with nor without her, that his two girls were old enough to take care of themselves as were his three older boys, and that he wanted to get good places for his three youngest boys, the baby being 10 years old. He further stated he would do something but no body knew what it would be, that it made no difference how or what he did.

Taking all circumstances connected with the case, it would appear that there was too much trouble for a weak mind to bear.

Sunday Services at The Baptist Church

There will be the two regular preaching services at the Baptist Church Sunday; morning, at 11 o'clock, and evening at 8. At the Sunday morning service the sermon subject will be: "The Eyes of God"; and at the evening hour the theme will be, "How We Are Saved."
Sunday school Sunday morning at 9:45 o'clock, as usual.

Wednesday night, at 8 o'clock, there will be the regular mid-week Bible Study class, when all the people are invited to be present.
The pastor has been away on a week's leave of absence, and is very grateful to the church for making this possible.

Law Requires Hand Signals After July 1st

Motorists Are Urged to Practice and Adopt Signals Now

Although the law requiring motorists to give the standard hand signals before starting, stopping, or turning from a direct line does not go into effect until July, Charles S. Wallace, of Morehead City, president of the Carolina Motor Club, joins with state, county, and municipal officials in urging drivers to adopt the signals and practice them now.

Under section 17 of the uniform motor vehicle code adopted by the recent legislature, operators of motor vehicles intending to turn left or right or to stop on the highways after July 1 will be required to signal with the hand and arm from the left side of the vehicle during the last 50 feet traveled.

The signals required follow:
Left turn: Hand and arm horizontal, forefinger pointing.

Right turn: Hand and arm pointed upward.

Stop: Hand and arm pointed downward.

"Adoption and observance of these signals should result in decreased accidents and save many fenders hard knocks," said Mr. Wallace. "Besides the safety feature, North Carolinians motoring in other States will save themselves untold embarrassment from 'hawling out' by traffic officers and irate motorists as the standard hand signals are in use in a majority of States."

Faculty Members Leaving for Homes

The week end will find few of the members of the 1926-27 local school faculty in our midst. Misses Annie Hamper and Lucile Allen leave this afternoon for Miss Harper's home in Wilson, where Miss Allen will visit a few days before going to her home in Creedmoor. Miss Leah Steed leaves tomorrow afternoon for Richlands, where she will spend a few weeks with her parents before going north to spend the summer with relatives. Miss Lucy Ellis goes to her home in Wilson tomorrow afternoon. Misses Norma Ramsey, Mildred Darden, Eleanor Stanback, and Lillian Sample leave Sunday morning; Miss Ramsey for her home in Marshall, Miss Stanback for her home in Mount Gilead, Miss Darden for Kenly, and Miss Sample for Roxboro, where she will visit her sister before going to her home in Davidson. Miss Lucy Claire Ivey will wait over until Monday afternoon, when she will go to Scotland Neck, her home. Mr. K. G. Phillips leaves tomorrow afternoon for his home in Siler City; and Mr. L. H. Davis—well, he doesn't know just when he will leave.

\$10,000 Fire in Plymouth Fireman Is Badly Hurt

Plymouth, May 19.—(Special to The Enterprise).—A fire originating in a negro theater from faulty electric appliances caused a damage estimated at about \$10,000 at midnight last night. Four business houses on Water Street were damaged, two being almost completely destroyed. A market and store combined operated by John W. Jackson, a theater operated by Harry Chopick, Haswell Bros. Bakery and Miss Louise Ayer's millinery shop were damaged.

Robert (Bob) Tarkenton, local postal clerk and member of the volunteer fire department, received a serious scalp wound when the roof fell in and some loose bricks hit him.

Snake Bites Small Child Near Here

While working in the garden at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Noah P. Roberson, little six-year-old Catherine, was bitten by a large popular leaf moccasin snake yesterday afternoon. The snake's bite, just above the ankle, is considered very serious by attending physicians.

Mr. and Mrs. Roberson live over the creek near here on the Hardison Mill road.

Miss Frances Coltraine Dies Here Thursday

Yesterday, at the home of her nephew, Mr. William Gurganus, Miss Frances Coltraine died following a long illness. She had lived with Mr. and Mrs. Gurganus for several years and they had given her every care and attention, but she had passed by fifteen years her three-score and ten allotted years, and the infirmities of old age caused her death.

She was the daughter of the late Kenneth and Ferebee Woolard Coltraine and was a sister of James Coltraine, who died recently. In early life she joined the Christian church at Old Ford but was a member of Macedonia at her death. She was considered a noble and good woman by both friends and relatives.

The funeral took place this afternoon with her pastor, Rev. A. J. Manning, officiating. Interment was made in the local cemetery. The deceased is survived by one sister, Mrs. Gurganus, and five nephews.

Boy Painfully Hurt When Kicked by Mule

"Buddie," 16-year-old son of Mr. Gillam Rogers, was hurt this morning when kicked by a mule. Mr. Gorma Harrison, who lives near the Rogers family in Bear Grass Township brought the boy here for treatment. The boy was painfully but not seriously hurt.

(Continued on insert page)

New School District Created For Williamston Township

Electric Siren Installed by Town; To Be Tested Today

Guaranteed To Carry Sound Three Miles or More Under Any Conditions; One Button Control

The electric siren, bought by the town at the suggestion of the local fire company, arrived a few days ago and is now being installed by Superintendent of lights, M. S. Moore. The new fire alarm is located on the balcony of the City Hall, and is in full view of the passerby on the street below. The first alarm, false of course, is expected late this afternoon. Mr. Moore thinks he will have it connected by that time, and the people are warned not to get excited when the test is made.

Under all conditions, the sound from the siren is supposed to carry for a distance of at least three miles. On a clear and calm night it might be heard at a greater distance. A five-horsepower motor on a 220-volt line drives the blades of the siren at a speed of 1,600 revolutions per minute. Failure to hear an alarm is not likely when the new device is put into use.

Only one control button will be used at the present, and it will be located in the fire house in the city hall. It is understood the firemen are planning to add to the signal system and eventually place fire boxes in many of the blocks of the town.

Recorder Has Many Guests at Several Cases

Suicide Was Prosecuting Witness in Case Tuesday

Recorder's court Tuesday had few cases, and the few on docket were of little consequence. Judge Bailey cleared the docket in a short while, and few cases were carried over.

The case in which William Stokes was charged with false pretenses was not prossed with leave.

Solicitor Horton took a nol pros in the case against Romulus Lilley and Clemmie Revels, who were brought into court on a simple assault charge. Romulus Revels and Alonzo Revels, involved in the same charge, plead guilty and were required to pay the costs. Judgment was suspended in their case on the condition that they do not in any way molest Thomas Revels, the prosecuting witness, and that they do not go to his home or near his premises for 18 months unless in case of sickness. Romulus and Alonzo had only one day to carry out the condition, for Thomas shot himself to death yesterday morning.

C. C. Hoggard plead guilty in the case charging him with violation of the liquor laws. He was fined \$125 and had a 6-months road sentence imposed upon him, the road sentence being suspended upon condition of his good behavior.

Judgment in a case of larceny and receiving, against Robert Green, imposed during the session May 10, was stricken out and prayer for judgment continued for 60 days.

The case against Dan Moore and John Yates was not prossed. The defendants were charged with hunting without permission.

Sidney Edwards, charged with violation of the liquor laws, had his case continued.

Snake Bites Small Child Near Here

While working in the garden at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Noah P. Roberson, little six-year-old Catherine, was bitten by a large popular leaf moccasin snake yesterday afternoon. The snake's bite, just above the ankle, is considered very serious by attending physicians.

Mr. and Mrs. Roberson live over the creek near here on the Hardison Mill road.

Miss Frances Coltraine Dies Here Thursday

Yesterday, at the home of her nephew, Mr. William Gurganus, Miss Frances Coltraine died following a long illness. She had lived with Mr. and Mrs. Gurganus for several years and they had given her every care and attention, but she had passed by fifteen years her three-score and ten allotted years, and the infirmities of old age caused her death.

She was the daughter of the late Kenneth and Ferebee Woolard Coltraine and was a sister of James Coltraine, who died recently. In early life she joined the Christian church at Old Ford but was a member of Macedonia at her death. She was considered a noble and good woman by both friends and relatives.

The funeral took place this afternoon with her pastor, Rev. A. J. Manning, officiating. Interment was made in the local cemetery. The deceased is survived by one sister, Mrs. Gurganus, and five nephews.

Boy Painfully Hurt When Kicked by Mule

"Buddie," 16-year-old son of Mr. Gillam Rogers, was hurt this morning when kicked by a mule. Mr. Gorma Harrison, who lives near the Rogers family in Bear Grass Township brought the boy here for treatment. The boy was painfully but not seriously hurt.

Subject to Approval of People at Election In June

At a joint meeting of the board of county commissioners and the county board of education held here yesterday, a special school district was created which embraces the Williamston, Burroughs, Biggs, and the Whitley school districts. The new territory, added to the local school district includes all of Williamston Township, with the exception of a small strip of land near Beaver Dam Swamp, which is now served by the Everetts school, and is bounded as follows:

Beginning at Willow Point, on Roanoke River, thence a straight line to the Pasture Neck bridge over Conoco Creek; then up Conoco Creek to the mouth of Little Conoho Creek; then up Little Conoho to Mobley Mill; then along the Everetts Special Tax District line to Black Swamp; then following the Everetts Special Tax District line along the Noah Slade and Askew Farm line to the Askew and Bob Rogers farm line at Wildcat Swamp; then following the Everetts Special Tax District line across Wildcat Swamp, with the W. T. Cullipher and Sarah Manning farm lines, to W. T. Cullipher and Tom Roberson farm lines; then along the Cullipher and Roberson lines to Allen Williams line; then along the Allen Williams line to Cow Branch and southwesterly along Cow Branch to the Williamston Township line at the head of Reedy Swamp (so as not to include any territory of the Bear Grass Special Tax District); then down Reedy Swamp to the Gorham Mill; then down Gorham Mill run to Peel & Bros. mill; then down that mill run to Little Creek; then down the creek to Coltraine's Mill; then down Leggetts Creek to Roanoke River, and then up the river to the beginning.

The district was created upon petition being made to the boards to establish a larger high-school district by the levying of a special tax not to exceed 35 cents and to insure an eight-months school term in the entire district.

The petition must be ratified and approved by a majority of the qualified voters of the entire territory served. The election will be held in June, under the laws provided for such purposes.

Roy T. Griffin was appointed registrar, and W. H. Edwards and Hayward Rogers judges of election.

The Williamston school building has been overcrowded for the last few years, and it will be necessary to either increase the size of the present building or erect a new building if the proposed enlargement of the district is approved.

County Farmers Are Still Feeding Worm

Farmers in practically all the sections of the county are still feeding the cut worm with newly transplanted tobacco plants. Many farmers have transplanted several times, and in each case the cut worms have destroyed the young plants. While the damage is not expected to cause any noticeable decrease in the yield, it is causing the farmer additional work. Where the worms are causing the most damage, it is understood the farmers will continue transplanting until the first of next month.

Local Colored School Finals at Courthouse

The exercises at the court house tonight bring to a close the 1926-27 session of the local colored school. Various programs have been rendered by different grades of the school throughout the week, and in each instance large crowds have been in attendance. These exercises have been unusually good throughout the week, and the climax is expected tonight when pupils of the high school present an opera.

Rev. C. O. Pardo, of the local Episcopal church, is delivering an address before the school this afternoon.

Principal E. J. Hayes states that marked improvement in the school's work has been most evident this year, and that continued progress is expected during the next year.

Winton To Buy Power From Virginia Company

The town of Winton signed a contract this week to purchase all its power and light from the Virginia Electric and Power company. The contract was made by officials a few hours after the proposal had been presented by the Virginia Electric and Power company.