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THE ENTERPRISE

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VOLUME XXX—NUMBER 42

Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Tuesday, July 26, 1927.

ESTABLISHED 1898

County Tax Rate To Be \$1.33 According to Budget Estimate

School Rate Decreased Three Cents; Sinking Fund Added to List

According to the county budget for the year ending June 30, 1928, there will be a very small change in the tax rate for the year. Last year the rate was \$1.08 on the \$100 valuation; this year it will be \$1.33 on the \$100 valuation. While the rate shows an increase of 25 cents, the county is operating, or plans to operate, this year at less expense than it did last year. During the past year, no portion of the rate went to care for interest and sinking fund, and should it have been divided and not left over for this year, the rate last year would have been \$1.22 on the \$100 valuation as against \$1.19 on the \$100 valuation this year. But, since the interest and sinking fund was ahead last year, no allotment was given that fund; this year a 28-cent rate is provided. Dividing the interest and sinking fund by two, it will show that the rate this year is 3 cents cheaper than it was last year, the decrease taking place in the school budget. Outside of the interest and sinking fund and school fund, the rate remains the same.

The county guesses it will need for general purposes for the year ending June 30, 1928, the sum of \$46,874. Of this sum, \$24,294 will have to be raised by direct taxation on the \$15,755,000 worth of taxable property, which will require a tax levy of 15 cents on each \$100 valuation.

There will have to be a county road and bridge fund of \$7,500. This requires a levy of 5 cents on each \$100 property valuation.

The county bond interest, redemption and sinking funds call for the sum of \$52,680.98, of which sum \$43,380.98 will have to come from taxes, which requires a levy of 28 cents on the \$100 valuation. This makes a total rate of 48 cents.

The school levy will be reduced from 88 cents last year's rate, to 85 cents this year; making a total for all purposes of \$1.33 on each \$100 valuation.

Leggett-Thrower

Last night at 8:30 at the Methodist parsonage, a wedding was solemnized which though expected in the near future by their friends, came as a surprise at this time when Miss Dorothy Latham Thrower and Mr. James Robert Leggett were united in marriage by Rev. T. W. Lee, the bride's pastor.

Mrs. Leggett is the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Latham Thrower of this place and is a very fine young woman. She recently graduated from the Williamston high school and is very popular among her young friends. She is descended from some of the oldest families of this section.

Mr. Leggett is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Leggett of Cross Roads, but he has been living here for several years where he has been connected with the local post office as rural carrier.

They will occupy their new bungalow recently built on Hatton street.

Sheriff and Deputy Destroy Still Monday

Sheriff Roebuck and Deputy Grimes destroyed a 60-gallon copper still located on Bear Grass Swamp back of the Mizell Schoolhouse Monday.

The still was not in operation when found. There were lots of buckets, kegs, and jugs around and five barrels of beer. The stand indicated a plant of long standing.

STRAND THEATRE

WEDNESDAY

BOB CUSTER in

"The Fighting Hombre"

Lloyd Hamilton

Comedy

"THE MOVIES"

Free Ticket For the Friday Show

Always a Good Show.

Boy Scouts Now on Annual Outing at Nags Head Beach

Change Plans Hurriedly and Left Here Sunday Morning at 4; Boat Held at Special Request

The local troop of Boy Scouts changed their plans hurriedly last Friday evening and left even more hurriedly Sunday morning, when they pulled out for Nags Head shortly after 4 o'clock. They went to Macksays where they boarded the ferry for Edenton. The ferry trip was not on the regular schedule and when it came time to pass several of the railroad draws the bridge tenders were not there. The Scouts were delayed and when they reached Edenton they only had 28 minutes to reach Elizabeth City. By special arrangement the boat to Nags Head was held up 45 minutes for the Scouts, but then

the baggage was left, and the truck carrying it had to make a round-about trip to reach Nags Head.

All members of the troop took a liking to the Head except Buck Saunders, who declared it was unhealthy and turned back for home the same day they arrived. The latest reports from the boys state that they are getting along nicely and like the place real well. A large number of the parents will visit the boys at different times during their stay at the beach.

Mr. J. W. Watts, jr., has the boys in charge and is assisted by George Harris.

Petty Thievery Is on Increase

County Citizen States Laziness is Cause of So Many Thefts

During the past several months a week has hardly passed without one or two reports being made about stealing. In most cases, the thefts have been small, just an auto tire, battery, or some other auto part. In others, houses have been broken into and property removed by the auto loads. One or two automobiles during the period lost their identity when rogues removed everything save the frame and a few engine parts.

While these thefts have been reported, numbers of attempts at theft have been frustrated. The theft wave has about reached that point where there is nothing left to steal or where double protection has been provided to prevent the rogues from having an easy task.

Various reasons have been assigned as causes for the large number of thefts: Employees of several filling stations in the county have stated that they have been asked to trade gas for groceries. One county man assigned laziness to the thefts, stating that some people have reached the point where they preferred to steal rather than work.

Kiwanis Club Votes to Attend Special Service

At their last regular meeting, the members of the Kiwanis Club voted to accept the invitation of the pastor of the Memorial Baptist Church to attend services at that church next Sunday, July 31.

Accordingly, the church is looking forward to their presence at the 11 o'clock service next Sunday morning. Each member of the club is invited to come and bring the members of his family, or any friends.

For some time the pastor of the church has wanted to invite the club; and, because next Sunday is the fifth Sunday, and because the Baptist church is the only church having a morning service that day, it was thought that this was the most opportune time. In this way, there will be no conflict with any other church service, and all Kiwanians who are in town that day can be present.

The service will begin, as usual, promptly and on time. And, as usual, the service will be lengthy.

With no other morning service in town, the general public is invited to join in this service. Every one will be welcome.

Peter Davis, Respected Negro, Died Last Week

Last week another one of Williamston's most respected colored citizens died when "Uncle" Peter Davis passed away following a four weeks illness. He was a hard-working, kind-hearted old man and was well thought of by both his own race and the white people.

For years he did mill work and then worked for the railroad before he started farming in his old age.

He is survived by his wife, "Aunt" Frances Davis, and five children, all of whom are good citizens. Funeral services were held this afternoon and interment made in the colored people's cemetery. The services were conducted by ministers of the Baptist Church, of which he was a devoted member.

Brief Synopsis Of Budget for County Schools

Total Amount of Budget for County Schools Is \$214,580.80

The county board of education has submitted its budget to the board of county commissioners for their consideration at the next meeting. Following is a brief synopsis of the budget recommended for the 1927-28 school term:

The total amount of the budget is \$214,580.80, divided as follows:

(a) For teachers' salaries, truck operation, janitor fees, fuel, and all other running expenses, \$138,978.82.

(b) For capital outlay, which means new buildings, new trucks, or any other equipment that has inventory value at the end of the school year, \$32,584.84.

(c) For debt service, which means repayment of any indebtedness to come due on buildings and other equipment during the year, \$36,378.82.

(d) For sinking fund on outstanding schoolhouse bonds, \$13,757.55.

The budget proposes the following items of revenue:

(a) Balance brought over from last year, \$19,016.28; State equalization fund, \$33,100.00; fines, \$3,000.00; State vocational fund, \$2,135.00; from county tax, \$80,927.08.

(b) Balance from last year, \$2,956.92; school property, \$50.00; pledged funds, special, \$4,517.66; libraries, \$50.00; State loan, \$15,000.00; county taxes, \$10,010.26.

(c) Debt service, \$36,378.82; debit balance, \$4,503.03; county tax, \$40,881.85.

(d) Sinking fund, \$2,135.75; county tax, \$2,135.75.

The total county tax items will amount to \$133,954.94, which added to the available items, other taxes, of \$80,625.86, makes up the total budget of \$214,580.80.

The tax items asked are about \$3,000 less than last year, while the operating expense item, listed under (a) is about \$13,000 more than for last year.

The increased budget demand is said to be necessary on account of increases in salaries of teachers.

Masonic Picnic at Coleraine Thursday

The Masonic order will hold its annual picnic at Coleraine Beach next Thursday, according to announcements made several days ago. Last year the picnic was held at Murfreesboro, but it is understood the event will go back to Coleraine this year.

Since the opening of the bridge across the river here, many people from this section have attended the picnics of the order, and each year the number from this section attending increases. The Masonic picnic is one of the largest held in this section each year, and thousands of people always attend. The proceeds go to the Masonic Orphanage at Oxford.

J. R. Beach, of Cross Roads, Died Sunday

J. R. Beach, of the Cross Roads section, died Sunday after an illness of several years, which caused him to be a partial invalid most of the time.

He was nearly 68 years old and leaves a widow and three sons, all grown.

He was born, reared, and died in the same neighborhood; a hard worker and a good neighbor.

The funeral was conducted by Elder B. S. Cowan, and he was buried beside his forefathers in the plot on the farm where he had resided.

Chamber of Commerce Dance Here Tomorrow

The chamber of commerce stages its first annual dance here tomorrow night in the Brick Warehouse. Mayor Coburn stated that the dance will be a brilliant affair and that a large crowd is expected. Bud Gwaltney's orchestra, of Virginia Beach, will furnish the music.

The local organization, in starting a new year's work, is holding the dance in an effort to clear the books of all indebtedness without increasing the assessments now standing against its members.

Important Meeting of Local Masons Tonight

There will be a regular communication of Skewarke Lodge, No. 90, A. F. & A. M., at the lodge rooms tonight. All Masons in good standing are urged to attend. Visiting brethren are cordially invited.

C. D. CARSTARPHEN, Jr., Secretary.

Prospects for Tobacco Crop Remain Good

Farmers Report Large Growth of Suckers at This Time

Second and third curings of the tobacco crop in this section are turning out very good, according to reports from a large number of farmers. As compared with those of last year, they are a little better in both weight and quality. Not more than four weeks ago the outlook of this season's crop was most disheartening to farmers in this section. An unequalled improvement took place and this year the crop stands a better chance to turn out good than it has had in several seasons.

The season is about two weeks ahead of the one last year, and this is expected to cause the final curings to turn out to be good. The recent heavy rains has not, it was reported, affected the crop other than causing an unusual amount of suckers to grow. Farmers are reporting the largest and fastest growth of suckers this season than ever before.

The rapid growth of them has caused many farmers to change their minds as to the worth of the fertilizer used in planting the crop. The first few days after transplanting took place, the slow growth of the crop caused numbers of farmers to think that the guano was of an inferior grade.

Last year tips turned out to be sorry in most all sections, due to the late season. This year, the late pulling is expected to be better. From present indications harvesting of the crop will be completed not later than the middle of August, and many farmers are expected to be through before then.

Enterprise Moving To New Location

The Enterprise Publishing Co. will move its presses and business office to the Biggs Building on Main Street just across from the Biggs Drug Store. Crowded conditions in the building now used by the company demand a change, and the management has made arrangements to start moving its machinery within the next few days.

Several days will be required to move the 25 tons of equipment to the new location, and while no little trouble and confusion is expected, the management hopes to effect the change without interfering with its regular publications. Machine and press operators are expected here shortly to take care of the pressing moving and machine erection. All the large units of machinery will have to be dismantled while a few of the smaller pieces weighing around a ton will be carried over without being taken apart.

Soon Be Riding Time At Roanoke Fair Here

No person is ever really old until they no longer thrill when the merry-go-round starts and the hobby horses begin galloping to the merry tune of the hurdy-gurdy organ. When one refuses to become excited as the ferris wheel goes round it's time to start for the old folks' home. But, anyway, there'll be no old folks in Williamston the week of September 27th, for that will be a week of youth, and the manager is bending every effort to make the Roanoke Fair this year a real big success.

Mr. John L. Rodgers, manager, has announced that the Nat Reiss Shows will furnish all the entertainment features and will bring to Williamston a complete "garden of rides" with all the old familiar ones, and a whole flock of new thrillers. There will also be twenty big shows, amusements to suit every decent taste will be found on the long "Pleasure Trail," Mr. Rodgers states.

Rev. T. W. Lee At Christian Church

Rev. T. W. Lee preached at the Christian church Sunday evening, using as his text, "Love."

He dealt with the subject in both a practical and forceful manner, illustrating how easy it is to act the part of the self-exalted priest and the proud Levite at the road side scene where the man lay wounded after being robbed. Yet, how much better to do some actual service as did the hated Samaritan who did deny himself by giving of his own labor toward the relief of the wounded man and then gave all the money he had with the promise if it took more for the man's cure he would also pay that.

Rev. C. H. Diekey, of the Baptist church, will preach at the Christian church next Sunday evening at 8 o'clock.

Farms of Hamilton Increase in Value

Child Swallows Coin; Condition Is Now Serious

Little Child Swallowed Box Lye When Only One Year Old

The little six-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. K. D. Haislip, of near Hamilton, is in a serious condition brought about when she swallowed a five-cent piece last Sunday. The little girl complained very little that day, but yesterday the pain became so great that her parents carried her to the hospital at Washington. There an X-ray was made, and doctors found the coin in such a position that they were afraid to try to extract it and advised Mr. Haislip to take the child to Raleigh.

The child was brought to Dr. York here later, but when he examined her throat and found that it was in a terrible condition as a result of swallowing box lye a few years ago, he was afraid to offer relief with the instruments he had. Under normal conditions, Dr. York stated, there would have been no trouble at all in removing the coin, but with the throat filled with tissues, as was the case, he considered it a dangerous undertaking.

The parents returned home with the child yesterday afternoon, and it is understood they will carry it to Dr. Ellen in Greenville today.

Mr. Haislip is a farmer living on a farm owned by Slade Rhodes & Co., of Hamilton.

Enterprise Moving To New Location

Car Backs Into Creek; Negro Baby Drowns

Edenton, July 24.—Lives of one man, two women and a boy, all of them colored, were saved through the heroism of Capt. Henry Jones, of the ferryboat Von Nyvenheim, when their automobile, a Ford touring car, backed off the ferry at Macksays this afternoon. The fifth member of the party of colored people, a four-months old baby, was drowned.

The ferryboat, one of the two operated by the Edenton-Mackays Ferry company across the Albemarle Sound between Edenton and Macksays, had tied up at its slip at Macksays and was discharging passengers, when the colored man, starting up his engine to leave the boat, threw his car in reverse. Four men on the boat grabbed the car, trying to hold it, but it plunged overboard before the bewildered driver could apply the brakes.

Captain Jones dived overboard and brought up the occupants of the submerged car one by one. The baby, however, was drowned before he could reach it. The colored family are residents of Washington county.

This was the first casualty on the record of the Edenton-Mackays Ferry company, and, according to officials of the concern, the first accident of any consequence in which it has been involved. The ferry company was organized about five years ago through the efforts of the Edenton Chamber of Commerce, the franchise a little later being taken over by W. A. Everett, of the Edenton-Mackays Ferry company, by whom it has since been operated with an enviable degree of success.

Gus Roberson who got drunk in Oak City and resisted the town officers, claimed for himself that it was the liquor and not he that refused to obey the mandates of the law.

Judge Bailey thought a \$25. fine, the cost and a 6-months suspended road sentence was not too much for a fellow who lets liquor take full charge of his faculties.

Norman Jones, the old time bootlegger of Oak City, again faced the court, charged with the same old game.

Judge Bailey had already hung a 6 months suspended judgment against him in the early part of the year. Then the new offense was to be considered, and Judge Bailey stated that when a man had an opportunity to make good and keep the law then refused that he had little ground to ask for mercy. He gave him 12 months on the Edgecombe roads. From this sentence, Jones appealed to the superior court and bond was fixed at \$600.

Trained Fleas One of Features of Fair Here

Boys of Williamston who have many times sworn vengeance on the active little flea when that parasite caused "Pido" to forget his manners will soon have the opportunity of seeing trained fleas perform.

It is hard to believe, but if press agents ever tell the truth, and it is rumored they sometimes do, there will be a well-regulated Flea Circus here the week of September 27 to take part in the big Roanoke Fair. The Flea Circus, so the press agent for the Nat Reiss shows avers, is one of the attractions that will be brought here by his organization, engaged to furnish attractions on the "Pleasure Trail."

Spectators will be given ample protection from possible attacks of the performers, and he also says that this troupe of performing fleas are so well bred they will not take up with strangers.

The Nat Reiss Shows has been a leading amusement organization for the last quarter of a century, and it has always made it a rule to be first to present new and novel entertainment features. That is why Alexander's Flea Circus will be seen first with the Nat Reiss Shows.

Twenty Large Farms in Hamilton Increase 1-3 One Percent

A continued comparison of property values in the county shows that values of 20 large farms in Hamilton township increased one-third of one per cent. The comparison so far shows that business property in Everetts made the largest gain, it being 10 per cent. Values in Poplar Point dropped 10 per cent.

Eight of the farms in Hamilton township were valued at the same as last year; 8 lost \$5,800 and four gained \$6,530, making a net gain of \$720.

The values are as follows: J. B. Anthony, 1292 acres, \$14,500; same as last year.

W. A. Beach, 385 acres Cloman land, \$12,000; same as last year. Blount and Sons, 546 acres G. F. Roberson land, \$17,000; a loss of \$500.

S. M. Blackhall, 217 acres Purvis land, \$13,500; a loss of \$1,500. Mrs. J. B. Cloman, 320 acres Taylor land, \$9,500; same as last year.

G. W. Coltrain, 68 acres residence, \$4,000; same as last year. Davenport Bros., 667 acres home- stead, \$23,000; same as last year.

N. C. Everett, 419 acres home- stead, 142 acres Coffield land, \$25,000; gain of \$1,300.

N. C. Everett, 165 acres J. A. Purvis land, \$7,500; same as last year.

Mrs. Clara Purvis, 200 acres home- stead, \$6,500; a gain of \$1,000. E. R. Edmondson, 320 acres residence, \$9,500; loss of \$500.

L. B. and C. H. Fleming, 251 acres Best land, \$8,200; gain of \$1,200. L. B. and C. H. Fleming, 100 acres Thomas land, \$4,400; gain of \$400.

F. L. Gladstone, 125 acres J. T. Davis land, \$5,200; a loss of \$300. H. L. Hopkins, 109 acres Frank Taylor land, \$6,500; gain of \$2,500.

Mrs. W. C. James, 150 acres Bard- on land, \$6,200; loss of \$200. Don Johnson, 240 acres residence, \$6,700; same as last year.

Harvey Manning, 247 acres Griffin land, \$13,500; gain of \$1,300. H. L. Purvis, 234 acres A. J. Purvis land, \$10,000; a loss of \$500. H. L. Purvis, 400 acres Overton land, \$15,000; same as last year.

F. S. Purvis, 275 acres residence, \$12,500; loss of \$1,000.

Poor Session of the Recorder's Court

Judge Bailey and his recorder's court with all the efforts of Solicitor Hugh G. Horton was a very non-productive session today, failing to provide for its own keep.

The case against Joe Davenport, charging him with wife beating, was continued one week.

The old case against Henry Sherrod stood for another continuance.

The third case and the one which called for more swearing than any other case tried was against Gabriel Wiggins, charging assault with a deadly weapon. In this case it appeared that it was by no means a one-sided game but that several too-hand with the result that one colored damsel got sliced up with a knife wielded by the hand of Wiggins. This was according to her testimony. But Wiggins had enough witnesses to raise the question of "reasonable doubt" and Judge Bailey is hung on the verdict.

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ATTENDING FURNITURE EXPOSITION AT HIGH POINT

Mr. and Mrs. B. S. Courtney and daughter, Miriam, will leave Wednesday for High Point, where they will attend the Southern Furniture Exposition. They expect to tour through the peach country in the Sand Hills and to visit a number of places of interest in the Piedmont section.