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# THE ENTERPRISE

Advertisers Will Find Our Columns a Latchkey to Over 1,600 Homes of Martin County

VOLUME XXX—NUMBER 84

Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Tuesday, December 20, 1927

ESTABLISHED 1898

## Voters to Decide Fate of Power Plant at Polls Today

### 165 Votes Required To Carry Election

Opponents of Power Company Sent Out Letters At Last Minute

POLLS OPEN AT 7:13

Opponents of Sale Can Win by Staying Away From Polls; Few Voting Early

Three hundred and twenty-eight qualified voters will take a part in deciding the town's power and light question when they visit the polls at the City Hall and vote today. However, it might be that one hundred and sixty-five qualified voters will remain away from the polls and thereby kill the election. According to the election laws, a person who registers for such an election and then fails to vote, his name on the books will count as one vote against the proposal.

The polls were opened this morning at 7:13 by Messrs. J. E. Pope, R. T. Griffin and J. L. Hassell, poll holders, but the voters visiting the poll between that time and 8:00 o'clock were few and far between. The voting is expected to show a decided increase as the day grows. The polls close this afternoon at sunset, and every person who has registered should see that his vote is cast, one way or the other.

Opponents to the power company's proposal have busied themselves during the past few days, writing letters to the 328 qualified voters, and offering various and sundry reasons why the power company's offer should be voted down. One of the letters went out with no signature, but this morning a copy of the letter was posted on the Main street with the following signature filled in, "Oil Engine Salesman." "Yours for business" was also printed in by hand at the bottom of the letter. Another letter was signed and mailed out by Mrs. J. G. Staton, and comments have been heaped upon it by a number of voters. The unsigned letter would have the townspeople consider "Who will be my owner?" The signed letter would have the voters vote the proposal down for a better one.

The Virginia Electric and Power Company has invited questions from every source; it has laid the matter before the people so that they might study the question. The Board of Town commissioners have worked and investigated the matter and not until its members were satisfied that the best possible offer had been made did they refer it to the voters. It is now up to the people. If they decide to vote it down, other arrangements will necessarily have to be made; if they vote in favor of the proposal, the Virginia Electric and Power Company will have to make the arrangements.

### Robbers Break Into Local Fertilizer Plant

Robbers entered the plant of the Standard Fertilizer Company here last Saturday night and carried away a few of the workmen's clothes, a case of light bulbs and a few other articles that were stored in the supply room. The loss was comparatively small, and little damage was done by the robbers while breaking into the building. Officers trailed the robbers, but could make no arrest on account of insufficient evidence.

Mr. J. D. Harrison, of Bear Grass, was a business visitor here yesterday. Professor David N. Hix, of Everettts, was here yesterday.

## STRAND THEATRE

WEDNESDAY  
**LEO MALONEY**  
in  
**"DON DESPERADO"**  
Also  
Two-Reel Comedy  
and  
**FREE TICKET FOR SHOW FRIDAY**  
Always a Good Show.

### SATURDAY BUSY DAY FOR CUPID

Rev. C. H. Dickey Qualifies As "Marrying Parson" With Three Couples

Cupid centered his work here last Saturday when four marriage licenses were sold by Register J. Sam Getsinger and that many marriages took place at various points here. The ceremony attracting the most attention was the one performed by Mr. A. T. Crawford, J. P., on Main street. Secrecy was guarded in the others, and during the day Rev. C. H. Dickey, the marrying parson, performed three ceremonies at the Baptist parsonage. Register Getsinger was expecting such a rush, for there had been no applications for licenses made at his office for almost a week. And yesterday the rush was not over, for two applications were awaiting the return of Mr. Getsinger from lunch.

### LYCEUM NUMBER BRINGS MUSIC

Allpress All-Star Musicians At Everetts School Tomorrow Night

The Allpress All Star Musicians will appear on the next number of the Lyceum course at Everetts tomorrow night, bringing to the section one of the most highly recommended and best performance yet seen in the course.

There are three members in the company, and each has been declared an artist by critics in London and practically all the states in this country.

The program includes new and original settings of the standard overtures, elaborate compositions on the old melodies, such as "The Last Rose of Summer," "Comin' Thro' the Rye" and "The Soul of the Violin." Novelty music with contrasting effects, rhapsodies and reveries and popular ballads make up a wonderful program.

These programs are given in the school auditorium at Everetts and are sponsored by the citizens of that town who are interested in worthy and beneficial entertainment.

### Chicken Thieves Raid Coop of J. A. Everett

Sunday morning when Mr. James A. Everett went out to feed his chickens, he found that thieves had carried away every old hen and rooster on the place. The thieves made the raid sometime during Saturday night or early Sunday morning.

While Mr. Everett has no idea who could be so cruel right at this season of the year, he does have an idea that his chickens will not live to see the New Year.

### Enterprise Moves Schedule Up a Day

With the head boss' O. Keh, and with Christmas in our bones, we have moved up our schedule a few hours with the sincere hope that we might clean up and get ready for Christmas before Santa Claus calls. This issue leaves the press just exactly eight hours before the regular time, and everything else being equal, Friday's issue of the Enterprise will go out a full day ahead of the regular schedule.—The Force.

### Road Hogs Are Most Dangerous, Says Official

Greensboro, Dec. 18.—One of the most careless, inconsiderate and dangerous types of motorist is the man or woman who fails to yield immediate and full rights of way to vehicles of the police and fire departments, says C. T. Matthews, director of accident prevention of the Carolina Motor Club. "In many communities of the State, this type of driver is found in increasing number," Mr. Matthews said. "Municipal judges cannot be too severe in punishing persons who refuse to grant these vehicles right-of-way. Fire departments especially often are impeded by motorists speeding immediately behind apparatus. Private vehicles should stop," Mr. Matthews stated.

Misses Luna Mangum, Willie Garner and Mr. Victor Sorrell, of Raleigh, visited Mr. B. E. Hood here Sunday.

### PROGRAMS AT LOCAL SCHOOL

Various Grades To Have Christmas Trees Tomorrow Afternoon

Within the local grammar school considerable interest is being manifested in the regular weekly chapel programs. These programs are given at 10:25 every Tuesday morning. One of the grammar grade teachers and her grade put one on in regular order. This morning the fifth grade has the exercises in charge. To make room for interested parents who wish to see these programs, the high school grades are excluded from attending. Otherwise there would be a full auditorium of school folks, leaving no room for visitors. Parents and patrons are cordially invited to attend. If no doubt, proves gratifying to them as well as offers a great incentive to children to do their best. They naturally enjoy entertaining.

Regular classes will be held up to noon Wednesday with no signs of Christmas' approach. Immediately after lunch, trees in the various grades will be decorated and loaded with gifts from Santa. These room programs will consist of songs recently learned and short poems memorized for the occasion. Prematured Santa Claus will give out the presents. The high school will have a short tree program in the auditorium. Mr. Hood and Mrs. Harrell have this in charge. None of these exercises will last longer than 30 minutes after the trees have received their full decoration.

### CHICAGO WANTS PEANUT SHOW

Windy City's Invitation Is Being Considered By Officials

Kinston, Dec. 18.—Chicago, and not a Virginia or North Carolina town, may stage the third national peanut exposition. The first, promoted by the Eastern Carolina Chamber of Commerce here, was held at Windsor last year. The second was held at Ahsokie the first of this month.

Directors of the Chamber of Commerce are considering a request from the midwestern metropolis that the 1928 show be held there. If it is decided to accept Chicago's invitation special trains will be run from this section to carry growers, manufacturers and others to the exposition and many exhibits will be sent by manufacturers and dealers in Eastern Carolina and Tidewater Virginia, it was announced today.

### SCHOOL PAPER AT JAMESVILLE

First Issue of "Jamesville Tar Heel" Comes From Press Today

Jamesville took another front seat in school activities recently when members of the Tar Heel Farmers' club and students of the school there voted to publish a high school paper. The first issue of the paper left the press today, and it speaks well for those who devoted their time and interest to its composition.

In preparing the first issue, the staff entered upon its duties in a serious manner, and filled the paper with well worth-while articles. Its matter is purely original, and attempts to promote those activities that are of a general interest to the school and community.

The paper, "Jamesville Tar Heel," will be published monthly according to its business manager, James Miselle.

Onward Gaylord is the editor of the paper and he is ably assisted by several assistant editors and reporters.

### No Meeting of Kiwanis Club Here Tomorrow

The Kiwanis club will not hold its regular meeting tomorrow on account of a request coming from the Woman's club, the members of which having so many Christmas duties to attend to that they find it almost impossible to prepare for the meeting.

### King Ben Prunell, of House of David, Dead

Benton Harbor, Mich., Dec. 19.—Benjamin Prunell, "King" of the House of David, is dead. Benjamin died at 11:30 o'clock last Friday and early day, more than 60 hours after his death, his body still lay in the bed where he had died.

### To Choose Site For New School Tonight

With no definite understanding as to just how a site will be selected, the first step—or it might be that they will be final—will be made tonight at a meeting of the county board of education and local citizens. The meeting is called for 7 o'clock tonight. A site for the new building at Robersonville is to be selected also this afternoon.

### FEW LICENSES ARE SOLD HERE

Sales Up To Yesterday Total 279; Big Rush Expected

Early yesterday morning, the sale of automobile license tags had reached 279, a number far below former sales for similar periods. Last Saturday was one of the busiest days for the bureau since it opened the first of the month, and only forty-four tags were sold that day. The majority of the sales have been made to out-of-town automobile owners, and hardly any have been sold to local car owners.

A rush now is almost unavoidable, since it is understood that no extension of time in which to procure licenses will be granted.

### ARE MARRIED IN A HURRY

Couple Of This County Do Not Even Leave Car; Married On Street

Mr. James Mallory and Mrs. Beattie Edwards, of this county, were married in a hurry here last Saturday evening about 7 o'clock. A call was sent to Squire Crawford, and he with book under his arm and a flashlight in his hand, met the couple at their car in front of Harrison Brothers store. Two witnesses, Frances Williams and Gaylord Harrison, were called in and with the stage all set, the ceremony was commenced. The couple was in the rear seat of the car and Squire Crawford stood at the side with one foot on the running board and the other on the pavement. The vows were made, and the couple was united in a very few minutes.

Mr. Crawford, since he has been acting as a justice of the peace here, has developed speed in executing his duties. Soon after he was made a justice of the peace, it required him a part of two days to marry a couple, but now it is only a matter of a very few minutes for him to tie the knot. It will be remembered, that the lengthy marriage ceremony came about when a couple called by his office a few minutes before midnight, and when it required a few minutes of the next morning to complete the ceremony.

So far as it can be learned, this is the first marriage to take place in a Ford automobile on the streets here.

### NEW BUS LINE TO NORFOLK

Goes From Windsor By Edenton and Elizabeth City

A new bus line, running from Windsor to Norfolk, has been established and the first run was made yesterday morning. The new line makes it possible to travel all the way from Washington to Norfolk. The schedule of the bus operating through here has been changed to make connection with that of the Windsor-Norfolk line. Leaving here about 7:45, the bus reaches Windsor in time to connect with the bus there that goes to Edenton, Hertford, Elizabeth City and on into Norfolk, reaching that city at 11:30 the same morning.

A bus will leave Norfolk in the afternoon and will reach Windsor in time to make connection with the Aulander-Washington bus at Windsor. With the exception of the change from 9 o'clock to 7:45, the schedule of the bus running through here remains the same.

### WILLIAMSTON IN FOR A QUIET AND PEACEFUL CHRISTMAS

With no fire works on sale in any of the local stores, it looks as if Williamston is in for a quiet and peaceful Christmas. Heretofore, the "baby wakers" were sounding about this time before Christmas, but so far, very few of the bombs and crackers have been fired by the young people.

### SANTA CLAUS IS BIG BOOSTER OF LOCAL TRADE

Expected To Be Unusually Generous To Children This Year

SATURDAY A BIG DAY

Local Citizens Not Backing Clubs in Providing for Christmas Gifts For Poor People

Santa Claus, dear to the hearts of millions of children, is greatly boosting trade here this season. Last Saturday, the dear old man carried from the stores here load after load of merchandise, toys, and the numerous other items commensurate with the Christmas season. The kiddies are warned to look out for him, for from all indications, he will be unusually generous this year.

Close observations point to a general visit of the beloved character man this Christmas. However, there will be one extreme where some of the kiddies will be lavished with gifts, while there will be the other extreme where some children will be in need of the bare necessities of life.

Little has been done here to bring happiness and good cheer to the poor of the section. Several of the clubs have been at work, but so far as it can be learned, the response on the town's citizenry has been almost negligible.

### CAR TURNS OVER; NO ONE IS HURT

Mr. and Mrs. John L. Rodgers Narrowly Escape Serious Injury

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Rodgers, narrowly escaped serious injuries when their car hit a Ford and turned over on the Washington road yesterday afternoon, about four miles from here.

Mr. and Mrs. Rodgers were on their way home when they drove up behind the Ford car. A colored man, driving the Ford, signalled for a left turn but did so too late for Mr. Rodgers to avoid hitting his car. Mr. Rodgers was driving around forty miles an hour, and when he attempted to miss the Ford by applying the brakes it caused his car to turn, hit the Ford and turn over. Except for a few minor bruises received by Mr. and Mrs. Rodgers, no one was hurt.

Damage to the cars included two smashed fenders, and a broken axle on the Chevrolet and a crushed wheel on the Ford. Mr. Rodgers stated that the accident was unavoidable, there being, no blame on the part of either driver.

### MANY DEER BEING KILLED

Driven From Swamp By High Waters of Roanoke

With the high waters driving them from the Roanoke swamps to the highlands, many deer have been killed this season by hunters. So far no violators of the game laws have been reported, but it is said that some of the hunters are disregarding the laws. Rabbits are falling too where they are found on little ridges and on logs trying to save themselves from the waters.

Several game wardens in the county state they are having many complaints from landowners about people who go on their lands without permission to hunt.

### Christmas Program At Everetts School

Appropriate Christmas exercises have been arranged by the teachers of the Everetts school during the past several days. The program which will be given tonight in the school auditorium there includes a Christmas cantata, "Bethlehem," and a Christmas tree for the entire school.

Principal Hix stated that the pupils had practiced the pageant during the past two weeks with an interest that can only be aroused by the Christmas season. The school is promising its patrons a pleasant entertainment, and the children are eagerly awaiting the exchange of gifts at the hands of Santa Claus tonight.

The school will reopen for the winter-spring term, Wednesday, January 4.

Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Thrower and son, Joe, Jr., and James E. Harrell spent Sunday in Tarboro.



### TEACHERS HOLD REGULAR MEET

Have Short Program Saturday; Will Not Get Pay Before Christmas

Superintendent R. A. Pope told the teachers of the county in their fourth meeting of the present school year held here last Saturday why they would not receive their pay checks before going home for the holidays, and then turned around and wished for each of them a merry Christmas. Mr. J. L. Jones, of the Jamesville schools, went to the Superintendent one better when he wished the teachers a happy Christmas and expressed hope that they would have enough money to return to their posts.

In giving the reasons why the teachers could not be paid before the holidays, Mr. Pope stated that the law did not allow the payment of teachers except at the end of each school month. He expressed his regret in not being able to mail the checks.

The teachers were in the meeting only a few minutes before they repaired to the several rooms for reading circle work.

### FACULTY HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

Many Members To Leave Tomorrow for Their Homes

Many members of the local school faculty will leave tomorrow afternoon for their homes to spend the holidays. Several of them are waiting over until Thursday morning to leave.

Miss Serena Peacock goes to her home in Fremont, Miss Mildred Darden goes to Kenly, Miss Lucy Claire Ivey will visit her parents in Scotland Neck, Misses Lucille Allen and Elizabeth Wilkins go to Creedmore, Miss Elizabeth Ramsey will be at home with her parents in Ivor, Va., Miss Lillian Sample goes to Davidson, Miss Mary Fletcher will be at her home in McCall, S. C., Miss Katherine Cole will be at home in Fairmont and Mr. B. E. Hood will visit friends in Raleigh and Goldsboro. Principal Davis leaves Thursday for Raleigh and Apex, later going to his home in Davis. Other members of the faculty will be at home here.

### Infant Son of Mr. and Mrs. Hadley Is Buried

William Shepard, the eighteen months old son of Mr. and Mrs. John T. Hadley, died Saturday night at the home of his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. George Crofton in Lumberton where its parents were visiting. The child had successfully battled several diseases, but was unable to stand the attack of pneumonia.

The body arrived here Sunday and funeral services were conducted at the home of the child's parents and grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. T. S. Hadley yesterday afternoon at 2:30, Rev. O. P. Fitzgerald officiating. Burial took place in the family cemetery.

Those attending the funeral from Lumberton were Mr. and Mrs. George Crofton, Messrs. George Ben, Willie, Clayton and Glenn Crofton and Miss Mary Barden Crofton.

### Violent Deaths in State Last Week Total 17

According to state reports there were seventeen violent deaths in North Carolina last week. There were eight fatalities in which automobiles were involved, the same number as the previous week. Two more persons were killed violently last week than the previous seven-day period when fifteen went to their death.

Two of the dead were burned to death and two others were frozen in the winter section of the State. The other deaths were attributed to several causes.

### ARREST SEVERAL IN CONNECTION WITH ROBBERY

Victim Fails To Identify Two; Others Prove Alibi

ARE SEEN IN TARBORO

Same Negroes Believed To Have Attempted Trick on Salesman At Tarboro

Officers in this and surrounding counties have carried on a close watch in an effort to capture the two negroes connected with the Johnson robbery which took place near Oak City last Wednesday night. Several arrests have been made, but so far the robbers remain at large.

Friday night, two negroes, riding in an old model Ford, were arrested near Hamilton. Mr. Johnson was called to identify them, and while their features justified an arrest, Mr. Johnson stated they were not the ones.

Sunday, Sheriff Roebuck delayed two negroes on the river bridge here, but he allowed them to go after they gave their names, told where they lived, for whom they worked, where they had been and where they were going.

Similar Robbery Planned in Tarboro Two negroes, thought to have been the same ones who robbed Mr. Johnson planned a similar robbery in Tarboro Friday, it is reported. A bargain similar to the one entered into by Mr. Johnson was proposed by one of the negroes, but the salesman was out and the deal was apparently called off when delivery of the car was not promised for that night. The negro left, and nothing more was heard from him. The Tarboro man, learning about the Johnson robbery later, investigated the matter and was assured that the negro calling at his garage was the same one that had helped to rob Mr. Johnson.

### POISON LIQUOR CLAIMS VICTIM

Negro Arrested in Durham For Drunkenness Found Dead in Cell

Durham, Dec. 18.—Poisoned liquor took its first victim of the Yuletide season last night in the person of William Rogers, Negro, whose lifeless body was found in the city jail. Arrested last night on the charge of drunkenness, Rogers was placed in jail until he could sober up and until bond of his release could be posted. Sometime during the night the poison killed him.

The Negro's body was found this morning about 5 o'clock by another occupant of the jail. His body was lying upon the floor of the corridor which extends through the length of the row of cells in the jail. His eyes bulged from his head and were half open.

Alcoholic poisoning, caused from drinking poisoned liquor, caused his death according to the decision of the coroner and sheriff.

Following the examination made by the two officers, the body was removed to the morgue of a Negro undertaking establishment where it will remain until his relatives have arranged for the funeral or the body is sent to the medical school of the University of North Carolina.

### WOODMEN OF EVERETTS MEET

Officers for Next Year Are Elected; To Be Installed In January

The Everetts Camp, Modern Woodmen, had a very good meeting Monday night, December 12, when Mr. Harry Hardy was initiated. Officers for the next year were elected, and according to present plans, they will be installed at the first meeting in January which will be announced later.

The next meeting of the Camp will be held Monday, December 26, and it is the request of the officers that as many members as possible attend to receive the new work.

### Flag Pole Erected on Post Office Building

"Old Glory" waved its stars and stripes in a cold blue sky yesterday on the new post office building for the first time. The flag pole was placed on top of the building early in the morning, and when many of the people of the town visited the office for their morning mail, they saw the flag waving its colors with apparent joy and pride.