

MEASLES CAUSE OF CLOSING TWO COUNTY SCHOOLS

**Bear Grass School Closed
Friday; Parmele Also
Has No Classes**

126 CASES REPORTED

Health Officers Report Also Shows
That More Than 3,000 School
Children Were Vaccinated

Approximately three thousand school children, white and colored, were vaccinated by County Health Officer Wm. E. Warren and other practicing physicians in the county last month, according to the health officer's report for January. Very few, if any, of these children, Dr. Warren stated, had been vaccinated against smallpox at any time before. It is the opinion of the doctors of the county that this wholesale vaccination had much to do with preventing the spread of the disease in this section. There were forty-five cases of smallpox reported in the county last month, but so far the disease has been found mainly among the colored populace.

Bear Grass was forced to close its doors last Friday on account of the large number of cases of measles in that community. According to reports from that town, the school will not attempt to hold classes any more this week. Parmele's school remains closed on account of the epidemic in that community, and no definite date for it to reopen has been announced. The health report shows that there were one hundred and twenty-six cases of measles in the county last month. Six cases were reported yesterday and it now looks as if we are all going to be a "measles lot" before it is over with.

Twenty cases of chickenpox were reported to the County Health Officer during the past month. While there were forty-five cases of smallpox reported, the health officer stated that the disease was declining. Besides the one hundred and twenty-six cases of measles there were reported two cases of scarlet fever and two cases of diphtheria.

The splendid work on the part of the Board of Health, smallpox was checked, and since measles cannot be controlled by vaccination, Dr. Warren states it is highly important that all such cases be carefully handled.

NOAH REDDICK ROBERSON DIES

**Well-Known Citizen Dies at
Home Near Jamesville
Friday Night**

Noah Reddick Roberson died at his home below Jamesville on Friday night, following a lasting illness of several months, but an acute illness lasting only a short while.

The deceased was a son of the late Henry and Marina Roberson and is survived by one brother, Eli Hoyt Roberson, of Beaufort county and five sisters, Mrs. John Perkins, of Wendell, Mrs. Lida Waters and Mrs. Sallie Green, of Pantego, Mrs. Chas. Reddick, of Florida and Mrs. Alice Davenport, of Washington county.

Mr. Roberson was a member of the Jamesville Christian church for many years. He was married twice, the first time to Miss Lerah Davis and of this union, Mrs. Ed Hardson, of this place, Mrs. Arthur Spruill, of Creswell and R. N. Roberson, of Rocky Mount, survive. His second wife was Miss Hattie Mills.

For thirty-seven years he was in the employ of the A. C. L. Railroad, but on account of feeble health he was retired several months ago.

The funeral services were held Sunday afternoon by Rev. J. H. Hale of the local Christian church and burial took place in the family burying ground on the home place where he lived.

STRAND THEATRE

**WEDNESDAY
JACK DONOVAN
in
"HOOF MARKS"**

Also Serial
"Heroes of the Wild"
Starring Jack Hoxie
2-REEL COMEDY
and
**FREE TICKET
FOR SHOW FRIDAY**
Theatre Well Heated

School Expansion Program Dropped

The school expansion program in this county, proposed by the Board of Education, was tabled at a meeting of that body held here yesterday, and nothing will be done toward carrying out the program until sufficient money can be raised to start and complete the program outlined. This action followed the refusal by the Board of County Commissioners to issue bonds to supplement the \$50,000 loan secured from the State Building Fund.

It was unofficially reported that the loan of \$50,000 coming from the State Fund was equally divided between the two schools, Robersonville and Williamston by the educational board.

B. & L. TO OPEN SERIES MARCH 3

**Last Audit of Association
Shows Net Earning of
Seven Per Cent**

The Twenty-second series of the Martin County Building and Loan Association will open March 3, when more new business is expected than ever before in the history of the association.

Like all business organizations, the Martin County Building and Loan Association had to pass through the years of infancy with those disadvantages common to new businesses, in that it had to prove its worth and soundness as a financial organization and assure the people that it would be a success. The facts and figures as given out by the secretary are conclusive evidence that this organization has fulfilled the expectations of the supporters and it has proven itself to be one of the most beneficial organizations the county has today.

It has paid out within the last year, \$40,000 to build homes, store buildings and lift mortgages. Many of these homes are scattered throughout the county, but a majority of them are located in Williamston and vicinity.

The last audit of the association shows a net earning of nearly seven per cent, and at the present time there are 3500 shares in force. During last month, 319 shares matured, part of the proceeds going to lift mortgages and the remaining part was paid in cash to the holders of the shares. Many of those having shares to mature are planning to begin another period of systematic saving through this organization in the 22nd series, opening Saturday, March 3.

SECURITY BOYS TO PLAY POLICE

**Local Team Practicing for
Hard Game Here
Thursday**

A game with Washington's town basketball team and a heavy practice tomorrow night are expected to put Pete Fowden's Security Boys in mid-season form for the game with the Norfolk Police here Thursday night. While the visitors have an enviable record for the number of games won this season, the locals are planning to bring a halt to their string of victories and add to their own laurels.

A letter from the manager of the Norfolk team states that all its players are bona fide members of the police force there, and see active duty there. Many of them are stars in the game, having played on Navy and Y. M. C. A. teams in Virginia.

Tonight, the Security Boys are forecasting a win over the Washingtonians here tonight, as well as a victory over Norfolk's policemen next Thursday night.

Local Boys and Girls Lose to Jamesville

The local boys and girls lost to Jamesville's basketball teams here last night by small margins, the boys losing 8 to 7 and the girls 16 to 9.

It was a close win for the Jamesville boys, for just before the end of the last period, the locals were leading 7 to 6. A goal for the visitors right at the last saved them from defeat. Two of Jamesville's regulars were not in the game.

Republicans To Meet in Elizabeth City on 21st

At a meeting of the Republican Congressional Executive Committee held here last week, Elizabeth City was selected for the Congressional Convention which will be held February 21. At the convention in Elizabeth City, a delegate and an alternate will be named for the National Convention which will be held in Kansas City, June 12.

INCREASE IN WEED ACREAGE IS INDICATED

**No Great Increase Predicted,
But No One Seems To
Be Reducing Acreage**

NOW UP TO WEATHER

More Tobacco Carried Over This
Year Than Last According to
Government Report

Judging from the preparations being made by farmers throughout this county an increase in the tobacco acreage is expected this year. The increase, it is thought, will not be a radical one, however; for in practically every instance, the farmers are planning to add just one or two acres to their acreage of last year. But not in a single instance, as far as it could be ascertained, will there be a decrease of even an acre or two.

Farmers from all parts of the county, questioned on the probable acreage increase yesterday and today, slightly hesitated to make known their intentions as to how much of the crop they will transplant this spring. In answering for their neighbors, however, they stated that a slight increase could be expected.

It was the opinion of the twelve or more farmers questioned, that it was a matter of speculation to even forecast the acreage in the county at this time since weather conditions affect the crop one way or the other in its early stages. It was stated, however, that if the weather conditions are favorable throughout the season and farmers do not alter their present plans, an increase in the crop's acreage would, in all probability, take place.

According to the last government report, there were around 127 million more pounds of tobacco on hand the first of last month than there were at the same time last year. It is the opinion of many that this large surplus combined with an increased acreage will affect prices somewhat next fall when the crop is marketed. The 756,534,612 surplus the first of this year was for the bright leaf belt only, the report stated.

REV. J. C. POWELL MAKES 4 TALKS

**Missionary to Africa, Here
for Few Days, Heard
By Many**

Rev. J. C. Powell, returned Missionary from Africa, spent a couple of days in Williamston this week and spoke to a large number of people while here.

Sunday night, he occupied the pulpit in the Memorial Baptist church, where a good-sized audience heard him. He took as his text, the Great Commission. It was doubly impressive, and effective to hear this great theme discussed by a man who himself was carrying it out.

Yesterday morning, Professor Davis assembled the entire school into the auditorium and Mr. Powell spoke to the young people on the wedding customs in Africa.

Monday afternoon he met with a group of children in the Baptist church. And half an hour later, he addressed the women of the church in the church auditorium. His theme at this time was the Diseases of the People of Africa. Quite a crowd of women from in and out of the church were present to hear Mr. Powell.

All in all, he spoke to about seven hundred people while here, and was well received by Williamston.

NEW AGENCY IN ROBERSONVILLE

**Carolina Chevrolet Co. Successors
To Harris
Motor Co.**

The Harris Motor Company which has been a most progressive agency for the sale of Chevrolet cars through this section and located in Robersonville will be succeeded by the Carolina Chevrolet Company, this firm having bought out the Harris Motor Company.

Mr. A. H. Joyner will be office and general manager and Mr. W. L. House will have charge of the sales department. Both of these men are well qualified for their respective places and popular in their community.

The Harris Motor Company was organized only about two years ago, but its growth has been very rapid and in that time a commodious and up-to-date building has been completed and everything indicates that the business will continue to grow and expand. The Chevrolet car has become one of the great factors of the business life of the country and this company has been one of the most efficient agencies in North Carolina.

BEGIN TO MAKE GOOD TOBACCO IN PLANT BEDS

**County Agent Says Advan-
tage of Good Plants Not
To Be Overlooked**

USE OF FERTILIZER

Plant Foods Are Essential To Good
Start of Plants in Beds; Amount
And Analyses Required

County Agent T. B. Brandon says the place to begin to make good tobacco is in the plant beds.

After selecting a favorable plot of land of sufficient size and burning and pulverizing the soil, it is still necessary to add plant food to insure a sufficient number of vigorous plants early.

Most any ready-mixed fertilizer suited for the tobacco crop may be used on the plant bed. Generally, the analyses used are 8-3-3, 8-3-4, or 8-3-5. Plant food in these proportions has given good results when put on at the rate of from 2 to 3 pounds per square yard or 200 to 300 pounds per 100 square yards of plant bed. In some cases, more plant food may be used to advantage. If soluble nitrogen is used to supplement the mixed fertilizer the application should be made either before the seed are sown or very soon after the plants are up. If put on later, the soluble nitrogen will tend to cause the plants to become so tender that the shock from transplanting may kill them. The fertilizer should be worked thoroughly into the soil to a depth of about four inches about two weeks before the seed are sown. In emergencies the seed may be sown right after the fertilizer is mixed in the soil.

Strong, healthy, vigorous tobacco plants are necessary for large yields of good tobacco. Plant foods are essential to a successful start of the tobacco crop.

BEGIN CLASSES IN FEW DAYS

**Plans for Business School
Here Almost Complete;
Number Enrolled**

Arrangements for holding classes of the Georgia-Carolina School of Commerce here are almost complete, and Mr. W. R. Henderson, representative, states that he hopes to be able to announce the opening date within a short time. The school will be held over the Farmers and Merchants bank, and will be convenient for both the students to attend both the day and night classes.

New names are being added to the roll daily, Mr. Henderson stated. He also suggested that all those who are interested in the courses and who have not registered to do so at once, so that the order for books will be complete when it is sent in the latter part of this week. The books will be shipped direct from the publishers here only for those enrolled.

Part of the equipment for the school has arrived, ready for the opening of the school within the next few days.

FABRICS SHOW HERE FRIDAY

**Modern and Antique Fab-
rics To Be Shown At
Woman's Club**

To show modern and antique fabrics...

The local Woman's club cordially invites the public to attend a showing Friday, February 10 at 2:30 o'clock of modern and antique fabrics demonstrated by Miss Lelia Higgs, of Greenville. Miss Higgs received her training at the New York School of Decoration and thru special courses at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

The fabrics that will be on display here Friday have been selected from some of the most distinguished looms of America and Europe. At the exhibition, Miss Higgs will give special attention to curtains, draperies and upholstery fabrics. All women who are interested in making their homes artistic will find the informal lecture informative and the exhibition vividly colorful and charming.

Parents and Teachers Will Meet Thursday

A committee of the parent-teacher association is busy at this time arranging a program for the Founder's Day exercises of the association here next Thursday afternoon in the school auditorium at 3:45. The program will have to do with child welfare, and it is the earnest request of the officers of the association that every parent and patron of the school attend the meeting.

Mrs. W. C. Liverman, president of the local association, announced that a collection would be raised at the conclusion of the exercises.

COMMISSIONERS APPROVE LOAN OF STATE BUT REFUSE TO ISSUE BONDS FOR ERECTING SCHOOL BUILDINGS

MAY ESTABLISH A COUNTY LIBRARY IN WILLIAMSTON

**Woman's Club Expected To
Back Project Recently
Started**

NEED PEOPLE'S HELP
Representative of State Library Com-
mission Here Recently, Making
Investigation

A representative from the Library Commission, Raleigh, recently visited Williamston to investigate conditions relative to establishing a library here for the county. Mrs. Wheeler Martin, president of the Williamston Woman's club, and who assisted in making the investigations, states that it is earnestly hoped that the membership of the club will see the advisability of supporting this library movement, and exert all possible influence toward planting the library for the county. No definite plans were formulated when the representative was here but it is the opinion of the local club's president that an active interest in the undertaking by the people here, steps will be taken in establishing a library here.

The State Federation is putting on a two-year Educational Campaign, and one of the goals of this campaign is to plant a library in each county in the State. At present there are forty-six counties without libraries, and two hundred thousand adult illiterates. North Carolina is first in good roads, second in textiles, but last in library facilities. Eighty per cent. of the criminals come from homes where there is an absolute disregard for good reading.

Mrs. Martin says our children are going to read something, so why not surround them with literature that is worth while, and try to develop a taste for the good rather than appear indifferent as to the reading matter they use?

In connection with the local club's work, Mrs. Martin points out that the club women of the State have done and will do in aiding education of young girls in the State. "The Sallie Southall Cotton Loan Fund is one of the most commendable of all club activities throughout the State. It is a fund, established by our beloved Club Mother, Mrs. Sallie Southall Cotton, of Farmville, to help worthy girls who are ambitious for an education and are financially unable to continue their college career. Between forty and fifty girls have applied for aid from this fund this year, but the amount on hand was sufficient to help only twenty one. The loans range from \$50. to \$500 to the individual, and the Federation maintains the record of never losing a dollar on any of these loans. The maintenance of this fund is made possible through the individual club subscriptions made each year at the Convention of the Federated Clubs of the State. Our local club feels that it is a great privilege to be able to participate in this work by making a contribution each year. We would dedicate our efforts to no worthier cause."

The following, taken from the Minnesota President's Letter, is timely, Mrs. Martin points out, and should be carefully considered by all members of women's clubs: "What are you going to be in your club in 1928?
An attendant or an absentee?
A pillar or a sleeper?
A wing or a weight?
A power or a problem?
A promoter or a provoker?
A giver or a getter?
A goer or a gadder?
A doer or a deadhead?
A booster or a knocker?
A lifter or a leaver?
A supporter or a sponger?
A soldier or a slacker?"

Robersonville Citizens Attend Board Meeting

A committee of several Robersonville citizens attended the meeting of the County Board of Education and County Commissioners here yesterday.

15 Violent Deaths In State Last Week

Raleigh, Feb. 6.—Fifteen persons were killed violently during the past week in North Carolina, according to a check of newspapers and the reports of press associations. Automobiles were involved in six of the fatalities.

There were three killings and two died as the result of burns. One man was killed by a falling tree.

EPISCOPALIANS BEGIN MISSION

**Rev. John Gilbert Holding
Services at Local
Church**

Sunday morning at the Episcopal Church, evangelistic services opened with Rev. John Gilbert, of Massachusetts, preacher. For a year the Bishop's Crusade led by Bishop Darst, of the East Carolina Diocese, has sent ministers to even the remotest parishes in the American Church. Williamston has been fortunate in having men of wide experience and with a deepened sense of the need of the Church, to hold services, and the coming of Rev. John Gilbert, a co-worker with the late and lamented Rev. J. E. W. Cook, who served the Greenville Church, and who had many warm friends in the town. At the opening services on Sunday, the Missioner made an address on the significance of the two elements in the Lord's Supper, and the spiritual benefits thereof. He is an interesting speaker, using plain but choice words to convey the thoughts on the subject selected for the time, and gives one new light on those things pertaining to the Gospel and its application to the individual soul.

Services are held each afternoon at 4 o'clock, and at night at 8 o'clock. Each service is simple, consisting of congregational singing and prayer. The Mission will close Sunday night; Bishop Darst is to preach Sunday morning at 11 o'clock.

The public is cordially invited to worship with the congregation at each service.

EVERETTS FINDS FREMONT EASY

**Wayne County Boys Clearly
Outclassed in Game
Here Friday Night**

Fremont's basketball team met with overwhelming defeat here last Friday night when the strong Everetts fifteen 18 to 7 and allowed the visitors to make only one goal from the field. Dick Cherry and his teammates were in tip-top form for the game, while Fremont showed up poorly, causing local fans to wonder how its team had made such a splendid record in the State this year.

A point from the free throw line started Everetts on its scoring venture. A free throw for Fremont tied the score, but from then on Everetts added point after point while their opponents continued at a loss at both their defense and offense. The first half was Everett's by a safe margin.

In the second period, Fremont made frantic efforts to come from behind, but Everetts, during the meantime, had added to its form and made scoring for the visitors an impossibility, almost. A point or two was made by Fremont by fouls, but Everetts during the period caged shots from all parts of the court, clearly showing their superiority over the visitors.

Cherry, with seven, points led both teams in number of points scored. The game scheduled with Fremont and Jamesville for Saturday night was called off when several of the Fremont players had to return home Saturday.

COUNTY AGENT MAKES REPORT

**Expects To Ship Carload of
Poultry From Here
This Month**

According to his report for January, County Agent Brandon plans to place several orders for farm drain tile, treat hogs and tobacco seed and advertise and load a car of poultry during this month. The poultry shipment is planned for about the 28th.

During January, Mr. Brandon spent seventeen days in field work and nine days in his office. He held 142 office conferences, wrote 139 letters and had ninety-eight telephone calls. Thirty nine farm visits were made during the month and 759 miles were traveled in the county on official duties. Six articles were prepared for local papers. One car of farm drain tile was ordered and 648 hogs were treated for cholera.

One hundred and thirty-six farmers had their tobacco seed treated by the agent, enough seed to sow over 383,500 square yards of tobacco beds.

In the absence of several members, the meeting of the Town Board of Commissioners was postponed last night until tonight at 7:30 o'clock.

CLAMOR AGAINST HIGH TAXES IS BACK OF ACTION

**No Suggestion Made By
Board As To How Money
Should Be Allotted**

NEED TWO BUILDINGS
Understood That Board Offered To
Supplement Fund by \$15,000 If One
Building Should Be Erected

"We will not issue any more bonds, but we do approve the \$50,000 loan allotted the county from the State Building Fund" was the substance of a resolution passed by the Board of County Commissioners at its meeting held here yesterday in connection with raising supplementary funds for school buildings in this county. The matter of providing supplementary funds for two new school buildings was brushed from the commissioners' hands when the resolution was placed before the County Board of Education. No suggestion was made by that body for the expenditure of the \$50,000 fund approved by it.

The minutes carried no reason for the County Board's refusal to issue bonds with which to supplement the sum of money received from the State Building Fund, but it was unofficially reported that the clamor against high taxes was back of the motion laid before the Board for the non issuance of bonds. It was also reported, unofficially however, that the County Board would, under certain conditions, provide \$15,000 to be applied on a school building. The conditions provided that should the Board of Education agree or see fit to erect one building now, that the commissioners would arrange for the \$15,000 supplementary fund. This did not appear on the minutes of the meeting, and the fact that such an offer was proposed and whether it reached the County Board of Education, could not be established last night.

The question of a bond issue was thoroughly discussed by all members of the Board, but in the face of the many objections from taxpayers, the idea of issuing bonds was thrown aside. One member of the board, it was reported, made a motion to issue bonds in the sum of \$100,000, but the motion was never seconded.

In reviewing the county's financial condition, it was found to be much better than the average for the majority of counties in the State, and the financial status, it is understood, was not held up as an objection to the further issuance of bonds. Ten taxpayers were relieved by the commissioners of taxes on property incorrectly listed. The list and the amount of property involved follows:

W. A. Ausbon on \$4,130; D. T. Ward on \$305; Tom Everett on \$3,000; Augustus Ayers on \$3,875; and W. G. Hathaway on \$4,822. The order released these taxpayers of special school tax on property improperly listed in the Robersonville special school district.

Peoples Building and Loan Association, Robersonville township, was refunded tax on \$1600. property improperly listed.

Aaron Mizelle in Bear Grass township was relieved of taxes on \$1,000 property valuation listed through error.

J. H. Knox was released of taxes on \$545 property listed in error in Robersonville township and being double listed, he was relieved of \$2 poll tax.

D. A. James, Robersonville township, was released of taxes on \$900 property improperly listed.

Columbus Powell was released of taxes on \$600 property improperly listed in Robersonville township.

The erection of a 12x20 foot bridge was provided at Harrell's swamp or Spear branch in Goose Nest township. Commissioner Slade was appointed to supervise the project.

Matilda Williams, a county subject, was granted a two-dollar increase in her allowance, bringing it to \$5 per month.

A note for twenty thousand dollars due Eyer and Company on January 8, was renewed for six months.

Superior Court Had Dull Day Monday

The Martin County Court room was a quiet place yesterday when only one case was settled. Various and sundry reasons interfered with the day's schedule. Doctors' certificates were presented, but the dullness of the day's session came about as a result of numerous settlements out of court. Adjournment for the day followed the granting of a divorce to Della Reddick against Eddie Reddick shortly after 10 o'clock.