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THE ENTERPRISE

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

VOLUME XXXI—NUMBER 10

Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Tuesday, April 3, 1928

ESTABLISHED 1898

COMMISSIONERS APPROVE LOAN FOR SCHOOLS

Work Will Probably Be Started on Buildings Within Few Weeks

GIVE NOTE FOR \$50,000

Motion For Final Passage of Order Carried by Close Vote, 3 to 2; Other Business

After a delay of two months, an order was finally passed yesterday by the board of county commissioners for the issuance of \$50,000 in notes, making possible the erection of two new school buildings in the county, one at Robersonville and one at Williamston. The motion for the final passage of the order was made by Mr. J. E. Pope and was seconded by Mr. T. B. Slade. Mr. J. G. Barnhill, voting with Messrs. Pope and Slade carried the measure. Messrs. L. P. Holliday and T. C. Griffin cast their votes against the order.

It is understood that work on the building projects will be started within the next few weeks, and that notes for the money to be borrowed from the State will be prepared and signed today or tomorrow.

The business before the board, other than that relating to school-building programs, was of no marked interest. The orders passed during the day follow:

J. H. Revels was released from the payment of tax on \$3,600 solvent credits, improperly listed.

John S. Cook was appointed County standard keeper.

Ordered that a public road leading from the Five Cent Road, near Lewis Taylors, to the J. D. Bowen road be laid off by the sheriff.

The monthly allowance of Lizzie Purvis was increased from \$2.50 to \$4.00 per month.

W. W. and C. A. Roberson, of Robersonville, were released from the payment of taxes on \$1,600 worth of property improperly listed.

Ordered that Z. T. Gurkin's estate be released from the payment of tax on \$440 worth of property, improperly listed.

John D. Lilley was appointed county tax supervisor.

SCHOOL ORATORS HERE TOMORROW

Representatives of Oak City and Robersonville Meet At Local School

Representatives of the Robersonville and Oak City schools will appear in the school auditorium here tomorrow afternoon at 2:30 in the first preliminary of the fifth national and third international oratorical contest.

The Robersonville school is sending as its representative John Robert Jenkins, while Rachel Rawls will carry the banner for the Oak City school. The winner in this contest will meet another school's representative at a district meeting April 20, when 12 out of the 30 taking part there will be chosen for the final State contest at Raleigh April 27. The winner in the Raleigh contest April 27 will meet with winners from Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, Georgia, Alabama, and Florida, at Raleigh, May 11, in a regional contest. From this contest the winner goes to Washington, D. C., to compete with winners from seven other zones. The successful contestant in that contest will represent the United States in an international contest to be held in Washington October 13.

The larger newspapers from all over the country are sponsoring the contest, and attractive prizes are being offered. The Raleigh News and Observer is sponsoring the North Carolina branch of the contest.

The judges of the contest tomorrow afternoon will be selected, one by the Oak City school principal, one by the Robersonville principal, and a third by the county superintendent.

STRAND THEATRE

WEDNESDAY RANGER

The Breed of Courage
Also
2-REEL COMEDY
And Serial
"Heroes of the Wild"
and
FREE TICKET FOR SHOW FRIDAY

Select School Site Within Few Days

Now that money has been appropriated for two new school buildings in the county, the selection of a site for the local school will be made within the next few days. The selection probably would have been made yesterday but for the absence of one of the board members. According to unofficial reports the county board of education will decide upon a site within the next 10 days at a call meeting of that body.

HOME AGENT'S MARCH REPORT

Holds Thirty-Eight Meetings; Attendance Totals 507

LORA E. SLEEPER

During the past month, thirty-eight meetings were held, twelve of them were held with the women over the county in Food Selection work. The total attendance at these meetings was 139. There were twenty-six meetings held with girls in conducting Clothing Clubs in the county. The attendance of the girls at these meetings were 368. Nineteen different homes were visited during the month, forty-two letters written, six office conferences and 483 miles travelled in conducting the work in the county. Three people were helped in culling poultry for marketing, and approximately fifty birds were sold Wednesday. Two demonstrations were given besides the regular food work in the women's meeting, one in basketry and the other in tying and dyeing. The junior clubs are planning to meet and continue their work after school closes.

In this month there are two important observances which all should be interested in, National Forestry Week of the preservation of the forests in America and Better Homes Week, both coming from April 22-28. President Coolidge has issued a proclamation for Forestry Week. In the proclamation it was suggested that one day during the week be observed as Arbor Day, planting trees and shrubs and with the decrease in timber every year it is very necessary to endeavor to protect the forests from unnecessary fires.

Better Homes Week will be observed the same time as Forestry Week and everyone in Martin county should be interested in this National observance and take some part even though it may be small. This is an educational organization, started by Mrs. William Brown Meloney in 1922. One year later it was incorporated to become an information center on all matters relating to home improvement, to encourage thrift for home ownership and to help make homes of convenience and beauty available for those with very modest incomes and in so far as possible to all American families. To accomplish this aim a study of the needs of homemakers was necessary and as a result there are labor-saving devices on the market as never before and plenty of splendid bulletins free containing information relative to the convenience, beauty and comfort of the home.

Every county over the United

(Continued on page four)

COUNTY AGENT MAKES REPORT

Three Cars of Drain Tile Ordered During Past Month

The draining of farm lands in the county was probably the most important work done during the month of March by County Agent T. B. Brandon, according to his report filed here Monday with the Board of County Commissioners. During that month three cars of drain tile were ordered, bringing the total number cars of tile used by farmers in the county since January up to six. Many farmers are paying particular attention to drainage on their farms, and the work is expected to receive more attention during the coming seasons.

Other activities of the agent are of a varied nature, dealing with orchards, seed, poultry shipments, and treatment of hogs.

The report shows were the agent spent twenty-one days in field work, six days in his office, writing 124 letters and four newspaper articles. During the month, 117 office conferences were held, forty-six farm visits made, 460 pounds of pasture seed and 24 bushels of cotton seed were selected for farmers, 176 hogs were treated, twelve farmers were assisted with their orchards and a car of poultry was shipped. In performing his duties, the agent travelled 828 miles, the report showed.

COUNTY HAD 240 CASES MEASLES IN PAST MONTH

Largest Number Yet Reported in Single Month

THINK WORST OVER

County Health Officer Says Warmer Weather Should Result in Marked Decrease

The number of cases of measles in the county reached a high peak last month when 240 cases of the disease were reported to County Health Officer Wm. E. Warren. The number of cases of the disease last month exceeded the number reported in February by 104, this increase taking place about the middle of the month. An increase in smallpox cases was reported, but it was slight compared with the measles increase, there being thirty-eight cases in March as compared with thirty in February. Three cases of diphtheria were reported.

During the month, two hundred homes were placarded, and literature dealing with the disease was mailed to as many people throughout the county. "Now that warm weather is at hand, a marked decrease can be expected in the number of cases of measles," Health Officer Warren stated yesterday. "But careful attention should be given present victims," the doctor went on to say.

No deaths have been reported as a result of the disease in this county, but many deaths have followed measles in various parts of the State.

Doctors, teachers, and householders reporting cases during the month are, Drs. Ward and Ward, Robersonville, 74; Dr. J. E. Smithwick, Jamesville, 74; Dr. J. E. Nelson, Robersonville, 26; Dr. Wm. E. Warren, Williamston, 6; Dr. J. H. Saunders, Williamston, 29; Dr. H. B. York, Williamston, 3; Dr. J. S. Rhodes, Williamston, 14; teachers; 1; and householders, 88.

(Williamston township led the list with 110 cases, Robersonville township following closely with 109 cases. Other townships reporting, Goose Nest, 26; Hamilton, 13; Poplar Point, 1; Cross Roads, 9; Jamesville, 6; Bear Grass, 6, and Williams, 1.

MANY IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF N. C.

Has More Than Any Other Southern State Except Texas

North Carolina has more children in its public schools than any other southern State except Texas.

The State leads Missouri by 100,000, Georgia by 130,000 and Virginia by almost 800,000. Our total enrollment for 1926-27 was 818,769 and the average daily attendance was 611,797.

Dare county ranks highest in average attendance which is 92.9 white, and 76.5 colored.

Vance county is the lowest with an average of 61.1 per cent for white and 54.2 per cent for colored children.

As compared with the other counties in the State, Martin county ranks 19th in white attendance and 29th in colored attendance. The average attendance in this county is 80.2 per cent for white children and 74.7 per cent for colored.

Baptist Bible School Is Well Under Way

Tonight will mark the fourth session of the Bible School which is being conducted by the Baptist people in their church this week. The school began Sunday morning, with another session Sunday night, meeting for the third session last night.

The school has averaged well over a hundred per session, and the work being done is of a high order. Graded pupils and graded literature are features of the school.

Sunday night Professor L. H. Davis of the local school delighted the audience with a lecture on the Youth of Jesus. The pastor of the church has taught the adults each time, except Sunday evening when Professor Davis lectured in his absence.

Those in charge of the school are going to feature the Friday night session. It will be the Crucifixion lesson—one of the most important in the series. At this session, Mrs. P. B. Cone will sing, "Bearing His Cross for Me."

There will be no classes Saturday night, but the final period will be Easter Sunday morning at 10 o'clock.

Because of this week's intensive activities, there will be but one regular church service, and that will be the 11 o'clock Easter Service. At this time the choir will render a beautiful Easter Anthem.

ESTIMATE COST OF WHITE WAY FOR TWO STREETS HERE
Engineers of the General Electric Company are here today making an estimate of the cost of a white way for Main and Washington streets.

2 NEGROES HELD FOR BURGLARY

Accused of Entering Home of E. L. Ward Friday Night

John Alonzo Hassell and brother, William Hassell, colored, were held by the Recorder's court today on a charge of burglary, Judge Bailey refusing to accept bond for their appearance at the next term of Martin superior court.

The two negroes are charged with attempting to enter the W. G. Lamb home on Smithwick street last Friday night shortly after nine o'clock. They first went to the back porch of that home where they opened the screen door and found the other door locked. Deliberating there a few minutes, they became frightened and ran, Miss Annie Lamb calling to her sister, Miss Mayo, who was up stairs, about that time. About twenty minutes later an attempt was made to open the front door, but just as the knob was being turned, Miss Lamb latched the door. The police were called, but before they could arrive the negroes made their escape. Miss Lamb stated she saw one of the negroes, but could not identify him. It was the opinion of officers that the men had given up the idea of making other attempts, and they left the scene.

About ten-thirty, the home of Mrs. Exum Ward was entered, supposedly by one of the two negroes who had attempted an entrance to the Lamb home not more than an hour before. No one was in the house with Mrs. Ward except two small children, and the first noise that attracted her attention was made when a negro opened the door to her room. The man demanded Mrs. Ward to hold up her hands, repeating the request several times. Mrs. Ward ordered the intruder out, stating that she would shoot him if he did not leave. She rushed to an adjoining room for a pistol and upon her return, the burglar had left the room. She followed him into the hall, and arrived there just in time to see the front door close. She fired two shots through the glass of the front door, but neither shot found its mark. Several more shots were fired and the attention of neighbors was attracted.

Police were called and a search was started. At the window of the home, tracks were found. Following the trail the search led up Smithwick street then up Smmons avenue and on to the home of the Hassell brothers just a short distance from the end of that avenue. This was about 12 o'clock. Policeman Allessbrooks arrested John Alonzo, the older of the two negroes, and carried him to the home for Mrs. Ward to identify. Mrs. Ward stated that he was not the one who had entered her room. Bloodhounds were brought from Enfield, and several hours later they were put on the trail. In starting, the hounds followed the trail to the corner of Simmons avenue and Smithwick street. From there they were brought back to the Ward home, and they again followed the same course to the corner. They were then led to the Lamb home where they caught a trail back to the Ward home, about 50 yards away. The trail led from there to the Hassell home. When the residence was reached, the dogs were carried in each of the rooms, but they paid little or no attention to anything until they reached the room where John Alonzo and William were sleeping. A pair of shoes, fitting the tracks at the Ward home, were found in the room.

Four people were taken before Mrs. Ward for identification and none were recognized until William Hassell was brought in, and although it is said he had a polka-dot handkerchief tied across his mouth when he first entered and wore a rain coat, she at once recognized him. The two brothers were then placed in jail, and at the hearing this morning B. A. Critcher, attorney, waived examination for both defendants and they were ordered held in jail without bond until the June term of Superior court.

John Alonzo Hassell is about 30 years old and up until his capture, he operated a pressing club on Washington street. He was a soldier in France. His brother, William, is hardly more than 16 years old and for some time, he had worked with Mr. F. J. Margolis.

Pitches No-Hit Game Against Robersonville

Bunching his hits in the fifth inning, the Everetts baseball team defeated Robersonville 4 to 0, yesterday afternoon in the first game of the season between the two teams. Arch Roebuck, holding the box position for Everetts, turned Robersonville down without a hit. Moore, for Everetts, performed well behind the bat.

James, pitching for Robersonville, was master of his opponents until the fifth, when Everetts bunched his hits and registered its four runs. Rogers received behind the bat for Robersonville.

RESULTS FIRST GROUP - CENTER COMMENCEMENT

Robersonville School First in Group A Schools With 19 Points

EVERETTS IS SECOND

Bear Grass People Prove Themselves Excellent Hosts; Second Group At Everetts This Week

The first County Group Center commencement for the 1927-'28 term was held last Friday at Bear Grass where representatives of the twelve schools in Group I were royally entertained by the hospitable people of that town and community.

Geographically and educationally speaking, the western half of the county maintained its splendid elevation at the meet Friday and the school spirit was excellent. "If true economy is the practice of increasing returns for constant expenditures in school matters, it was there for the taxpayer and even the most cynical could take pride in it," Superintendent R. A. Pope stated yesterday. The ghosts of the politicians of the old days who once said the schools were unpopular must have been stirred from their grave on last Friday when a crowd mounting toward a thousand boasted their pride, the schools.

In a splendid bit of impromptu specialty the hosts and teachers of Bear Grass school brought irony to bear. On a stage which the parent-teacher association had very handsomely and adequately furnished and in a building, the pride of any community in North Carolina, the usual grouch pictured as his past in a one-act play the bankruptcy of the State on account of school expenditures which the short-sighted can always predict, but the grouch was hustled from the stage by the far-sighted optimists who represent the spirit of the day. Then the young people acting the part of mothers and fathers in a parent-teacher association predicted a time when Bear Grass children will enjoy an eight months' school. Who can tell? They may.

There was no "boast of heraldry nor pomp of power" nor even the tinsel of a tin foil parade in the telling of the splendid little story told. There may have been some pardonable desire to earn a little bit of honor for one's tiny self when "Little Red Ridinghood" was portrayed or "Mr. Coon ate so many frogs that there was not a wrinkle in his stomach." But by far the greater was the evidence that each little one had effaced himself or herself in trying to win for the home school team. It could not be what individual won but how he won and what renown was earned for his or her school.

Schools were once for an aristocracy of the select few. Now they are for the welfare of the mass. Any way parents that rank all along the social scale and up and down the gamut of financial success—were there and glad of it. And best of all they were there active for the welfare of all. There was the law-maker who, though a past graduate in the school of life, came back to do honor to little children and felicitate them for their school achievements. Mothers with words of encouragement offered their tribute and praise and took stock in the corporation activities, hoping for great dividends from their children and the people's children. In their memories they were school girls of a few decades past, spelling with the spellers of today, all the while lending a good audience support and sympathizing with those who misspelled and took their seats; welling over at last into applause of love for the winner. Each year the seventh grade spellers are a little smaller of stature. Perhaps this is what draws one toward the spelling matches.

Whatever it is or was, the crowd hung on closely till dinner was announced by that master of entertainers, Nathan Rogers. Quantity in abundance and quality unsurpassed and a people whose hunger was satisfied,—this describes meagerly a wonderful repast.

The honors went more specifically as follows:
In points, Robersonville led the list with nineteen, Everetts was second with sixteen and Oak City was third with thirteen points in the Group A schools. In the B Group, Gold Point was first with twenty-one points, Parmele second with eighteen points and Hassells third with nine points. In Class C, Smith's was first with thirteen points and Keel was second with ten points.

The winners in the contests of story telling, spelling, arithmetic, and geography will compete here April 13 with the winners of similar contests to be held at Everetts next Friday.

Mr. S. O. Perkins left this afternoon for Gatesville where he will complete a soil survey of Gates.

Washington Street Ordered Widened

RIVER MOUTH TO BE DREDGED

U.S. Engineer Recommends Channel 10 Feet Deep, 150 Feet Wide

According to a recent announcement, a channel 10 feet deep and 150 feet wide between the mouth of Roanoke river and Albemarle Sound, has been recommended by the Chief of Engineers of the Army, whose report of a preliminary survey on the conditions at the mouth of the river has been submitted to Congress.

The estimated cost of the improvement is placed at \$46,800, and an annual maintenance of \$1,900 was considered advisable by the engineer in his report.

For some time now, there have been very few boats that were able to enter the river's mouth without encountering trouble caused by sandbars. Many complaints have been filed and shippers are eagerly awaiting action on the part of Congress.

21 PERMITS TO MARRY ISSUED

Smallest Number Issued in Several Months; Below March, 1927

Register of Deeds J. Sam Getzinger issued twenty-one marriage licenses during the past month, the smallest number in several months. A sharp decrease in February was recorded when 26 permits were issued as compared with 50 in January. The number for March, this year, was one under the number issued in March of last year.

The licenses follow:

White
Noah Daniel Griffin, 21-Roxie Jones, 20; Parker Hoggard, 24-Lyndal White, 19; David S. Gaskins, 20-Mary Clyde Leggett, 25; W. B. Rogerson, 20-Myrtle Biggs, 22; Geo. Wilbur Barrett, 27-Margaret Hines, 19; Archie W. Tetterton, 28-Irma Allen, 23; John Gay, 21-Lona Manning, 23; Staneill Perry, 23-Della Leggett, 22.

Colored
John Chatmon, 27-Lottie Williams, 30; James Ruffin, 21-Katy Roberson, 20; John Battle, 29-Margaret Duggan, 23; Joseph Williams, 21-Christina Spruill, 18; Claud Wiggins, 21-Dessie May Fleetwood, 19; Lattie Jones, 28-Cora Williams, 26; Sam Lilley, 24-Lena Dempsey, 18; H. G. Moore, 42-Anna M. Bryant, 18; Silas Saunders, 61-Mariah Brown, 39; Herbert Williams, 20-Lillie May Rives, 20; Richard Burnett, 20-Ina Knight, 19; Mack Perkins, 29-Mary Vines, 29; Wright J. Smith, 22-Addie Dolberry, 18.

COMMENCEMENT AT FARM LIFE

Exercises Will Conclude With Commencement Address Friday

The first of the Farm Life commencement programs was held last Sunday night when Rev. C. H. Dickey, of the local Baptist church, preached the annual sermon there, "Character Building" was the subject of Mr. Dickey's sermon which was well received by a large number.

The music students will have charge of the program tonight, and they will appear in piano recitals and choruses. Tomorrow's program will be featured by an operetta, "Mid-Summer Eve", the primary grades appearing in the exercises.

"Indian Days" a musical comedy; a pageant, "The Red, White and Blue" and Negro minstrel plays and songs constitute the program for Thursday night.

Friday, the final exercises will include the commencement address by Rev. R. G. L. Edwards and reading and declamation contests.

Christian Church Services This Week

The first of the Passion Week services at the Christian Church were well attended, and a satisfactory attendance is expected throughout the remainder of the week. Tomorrow afternoon at 3:30 Mrs. J. O. Manning will lead in a prayer service. At 7:30 that evening, "Example of Worship Set by Peter."

Thursday, 7:30 p. m.—Communion and the Passion Week incidents.
Friday, 3:30 p. m.—Prayer service led by Mrs. J. H. Hale.
Friday, 7:30 p. m.—Passion Week incidents. Good Friday service.

CONTRACT LET LAST NIGHT

Hugh Wyatt Contracts To Widen Street 7 Feet For \$700

BEGINS IMMEDIATELY

Take No Action On Opening Up New Streets Beyond Ordering Property Appraised

Problems concerning streets and proposed streets reached a complicated climax at the regular meeting of the town commissioners held here last night. For two hours the commissioners discussed the issue. Sam Faulk was the first up, and his request was met when the commissioners ordered that the street running from Washington Street to Warren be worked. The widening of Washington Street was then discussed and by a unanimous vote a contract was awarded for the widening of that thoroughfare.

The contract, calling for an addition of 7 feet to the street, was given to Hugh Wyatt, contractor, at \$700.

According to the agreement entered into last night, Mr. Wyatt is to do the grading, move the curb from Main Street to the railroad back 7 feet and pour the concrete. The town will move one fire hydrant and three light poles. The property owners on the west side of the street are expected to cooperate with the town by connecting the sidewalks where it is necessary to keep the dirt from washing into the street. Work on the project will be started within the next two weeks, it was stated by the contractor.

The discussion dealing with the two streets proposed to be opened, one from Main to Warren and another from Main to Church, was rather long drawn out, resulting finally in an order that will lead to the appraisal of the property involved. Immediately after the property is appraised by three men, a call meeting of the commissioners will be held when, it is expected, a definite decision will be made in the matter. This meeting will be held within the next few days, it was stated.

Clyde Everett was given permission to hold a dance here some time around the tenth of June. William Cook was also granted permission to give a dance some time during the month of August. In a general discussion, the board indirectly mentioned the paving of sidewalks, but nothing definite was done toward that end. It was intimated, however, that the improvement of sidewalks would be considered at a future meeting. Tax-relief orders were issued in one or two cases where property was improperly listed, and a few other minor details were attended to during the meeting.

SCHOOL DEBATE FRIDAY NIGHT

Local Negatives Go To Pantego; Affirmatives Here With Belhaven

Among the 200 high schools in North Carolina that are debating in the annual triangle contest, Williamston will be found. The time of this contest is April 6, when 800 high-school students will represent the 200 high schools. Schools will debate in triangles, and the winner of both sides will contest at Chapel Hill for the Aycock Memorial Loving Cup. The date of these finals is April 19. Williamston speakers are working hard for the preliminaries with Pantego and Belhaven next Friday night.

The question to be discussed is whether the McNary-Haugen farm relief bill should be passed in the same form that received the president's veto. Each school has two teams, one defending and the other opposing the bill. Miss Marjorie Taylor and Clyde Griffin will defend the bill here against Belhaven's negative team Friday night at 8:00 o'clock. Misses Ollie Marie Roberson and Josephine Harrison will oppose the passage of this bill against Pantego's affirmative speakers in Pantego at the same time. Should the decision be won at both places by the local school, it will send its speakers to Chapel Hill on April 19.

Everetts Faculty To Present Play Tonight

"Nora, Wake Up", a comedy drama in three acts, will be presented by the Everetts school faculty at Everetts tonight at 8:00 o'clock. The play, typical Irish one; is crowded with wit and humor, and will be well received by a large audience tonight. The teachers of the school there who make up the cast of characters, have been busily engaged in the play's preparation during the past few weeks, and advance reports hold that they will make a hit in their respective parts.