

FINE RECORD OF ATTENDANCE AT LOCAL SCHOOLS

Average Is 97 Per Cent for Current Term Against 94 Last Year

TARDIES DECREASING

Enrollment Figures Higher Than Last Year, While Absences and Tardies Are Constantly Decreasing

During the third month of the 1927-28 season there were 305 tardies reported in the local school, as compared with 182 for the month just closed, according to a report tabulated by Principal L. H. Davis. While there is a marked decrease in the number of tardies, this drop is to be given even more notice when the enrollment for the months in question is concerned. For the third month last year there were 305 tardies out of an enrollment of 458 pupils, or 67 per cent; this year there were, for the third month, 182 tardies out of an enrollment of 588 pupils, or a percentage of 22.

This number of tardies is unusually small when it is considered that each pupil could be tardy as many as 20 times during the month and that the total possible tardies is 11,760 for 30 days. The school authorities are using a splendid system in checking the tardies, and each month the number dwindles.

The attendance this year so far has been of marked improvement over that of the past year in a corresponding period. Last year in the third month there were 27 absences out of 458, an attendance percentage of 94; this year for a corresponding period there were only 19 absent out of the total enrollment of 588, or an attendance percentage of 97. The tardy percentage is very low, and the attendance record is believed to be unusually high, especially in this section.

KIWANIS HOST TO BOY SCOUTS

President of Standard Fertilizer Company Is Also Guest of Club

Although the meeting last Wednesday was the last of the year, it was a good one when the Kiwanians had a their guests here, scouts, scout officials and Mr. C. B. Mitchell, president of the Standard Fertilizer Company. The next meeting of the club will be held on the regular meeting day, Wednesday, January 3, it was stated.

Following the luncheon, Mr. Mitchell showed moving pictures of Colonel Lindbergh's departure on his flight across the Atlantic, his arrival in Paris and his reception there and in Belgium, also his return home. Pictures of the company's plants in Baltimore were also shown and proved of much interest to the club members and their guests.

Mr. Herbert Stuckey, Scout executive of this section, made a very short talk in presenting the charter to the club, the members of which had sponsored the work in this county. Mr. T. B. Brandon, chairman of the troop committee, presented Scout Master Harper Holiday with master's credentials, and Dr. O. P. Fitzgerald presented credentials to the Court of Honor committee composed of 9 members as follows: E. S. Peel, E. A. Pope, T. B. Brandon, Dr. J. H. Saunders, J. S. Rhodes, Dr. William E. Warren, Harper Holiday and J. W. Watts, Jr.

Sunday Services At Episcopal Church

Sunday school at 9:45. Vesper service, musical at 5 p. m. All Sunday School teachers and scholars are urged to be present and on time.

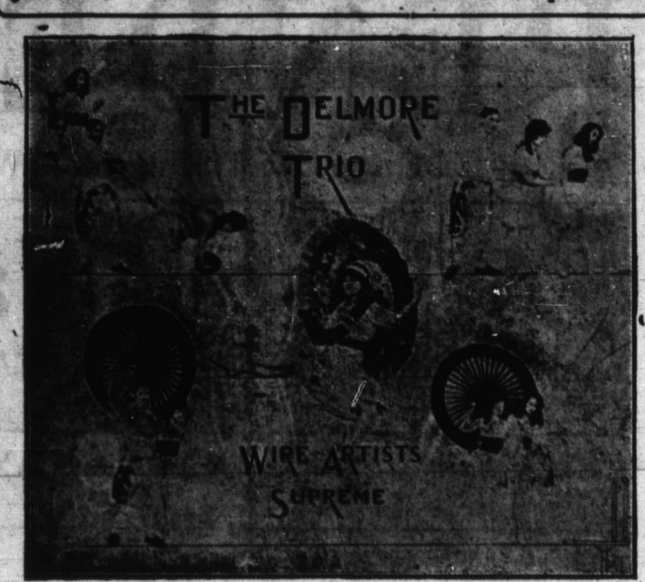
Visitors are cordially invited. All costs and services free.

STRAND THEATRE

SATURDAY BOB STEELE

in 'MAN IN THE ROUGH' Added COMEDY AND SERIAL 'PIRATES OF THE PINES'

Just One of the Several Acts at the Peanut Exposition



The Delmore Trio is one of the several acts booked for the Peanut Exposition, which opens in the Brick Warehouse here Christmas Day and continues through the week. This and several other professional acts will be presented in the afternoon and night each day, besides local talent from all of the towns in this section.

V. E. P. - DICUS CASE MONDAY

Power Company Institutes Proceedings to Condemn Land for Power Line

A hearing in the case of the Virginia Electric and Power Company against W. P. Dicus, asking for the condemnation of a right of way for a transmission line on the land of the defendant Dicus near Robersonville, will be held here Monday before Judge R. J. Peel, clerk of the superior court, it was learned today.

If the court finds the power company's request comes under the statutory right to condemn a right of way, then a jury will be ordered to pass on the damage to the land. It is understood that the line may be constructed as soon as condemnation proceedings are effected, but that the defense may appeal from the amount of damage awarded by the jury.

The power company succeeded in procuring rights of way across all the lands from Tarboro to Williamston with the exception of the Dicus tract and all the poles are set and the line is fully completed except the eight-pole gap at the Dicus land.

The company paid land owners \$5 per pole for the privilege of crossing and paid extra for the timber that had to be cut. It is understood that Mr. Dicus refused to name any figure for which the company might cross his land, and refused to accept any offer made by the company. He also required the company to remove several poles that had been placed on his land.

It is said that the hold-up has cost the power company thousands of dollars in loss of wages paid and a considerable loss in not being able to take over the power and light system here.

Sunday Services at The Baptist Church

Sunday is the one day in the year set apart when the membership of the church is given the opportunity of indicating their financial support of the church for the future twelve months. At the Sunday morning worship hour, the membership of the church is requested to be present, where cards will be distributed and the membership given the opportunity to state the amount they will give weekly, for the following year.

For any who may find it impossible to attend the morning service, committees will call upon them in their homes Sunday afternoon. It is desired that the Every Member Canvass be completed fully, on Sunday, in order that we may turn our attention to other matters.

The pastor will preach Sunday night at 7:30 o'clock. There will be the usual mid-week service next Wednesday evening. At Sunday's services announcements will be made about the Christmas holiday programs for the church. Suffice it here to say that the Christmas sermon will be preached Sunday morning, Dec. 23rd, and that on the afternoon of the same day at about 5 o'clock, a Twilight Service will be held, at which time the Special Christmas offering will be made for the church annex, and a centast will be rendered by the choir.

Program of Services At Methodist Church

Preaching service 11 a. m., subject "The World's Only Remedy." Evening service, 7:30, subject: "Calaphas the High Priest." Sunday school, 9:45. Hi-League Sunday evening 7 o'clock Senior League Monday, 7:30 p. m. Prayer service Wednesday evening 7:30. There is a warm welcome for you at our church.

PROCEEDINGS OF MARTIN COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT

Adjourned Wednesday After Completing Work on Criminal Docket

MIZELLE BOY FREED

Judge Directs Jury To Return Verdict Of Not Guilty in Case Against James Mizelle for Manslaughter

The December term of Martin County Superior court, Judge M. V. Barnhill, of Rocky Mount, presiding, was closed here last Wednesday after the criminal docket had been cleared of its cases and the disposition of one or two civil suits had been made. Although it was believed that practically all the week would be required to clear the criminal docket, Judge Barnhill entered upon the calendar with all earnestness and the trial of the cases was carried on rapidly.

In the case charging James Mizelle, young white boy of Dardens, with manslaughter, the jury returned a verdict of not guilty within two minutes. The State found itself helpless in its attempt to prove the boy guilty, and after it had presented its testimony and before the defense put on its witness, Judge Barnhill ordered the jury to render a verdict of not guilty. September 27, young Mizelle ran a Buick sedan into a truck and trailer parked half on the hard surface and the other half on the dirt near the river here, and killed three men, one instantly. The State was unable to prove that the boy was speeding or that he was drinking at the time. The Buick driver was holding his car to the right side of the road, and as there was no rear light on the trailer he did not see it until he had traveled a few yards around a curve and was almost upon it. He could not turn out to avoid hitting the truck's trailer, the body of which was knocked on top of the truck and caused the death of the white driver. It is thought.

Joseph Webb was found guilty of larceny and was given a six months' road sentence.

Halle Andrews and Will Edwards were adjudged guilty under a larceny charge. Edwards was sentenced to jail for a term of four months to be assigned to the county home. Andrews was sentenced to the Edgecombe County roads for a term of six months.

H. M. Stubbs, embezzlement, entered a plea of nolo contendere, which plea was accepted by the State. Prayer for judgment was continued to the March, 1929 term of court.

The case against Roy Beacham was continued and bond was fixed at \$1,000.

Jim Henry Nelson, found guilty of larceny, was fined \$50 and charged with the cost and sentenced to the State's prison for a term of two years. The sentence to begin at the direction of the court, and the defendant is to report at each June and December term of court for a period of two years.

Isaac Ampey plead guilty to the charge of jail breaking, and judgment was suspended.

Paul Bozeman plead guilty to the charge of larceny and was fined \$50, charged with the cost and sentenced to the roads for 12 months, his term to begin at the direction of the court.

Dave Melton, who was charged with assault with a deadly weapon, was sentenced to the roads for four months.

Roy Lilley and Clarence Wynn, who were charged in several cases with larceny, entered pleas of guilty. Wynn was sentenced to the East Carolina Training School for Boys and Lilley was sentenced to the State's prison for not over three years nor less than two years.

Sylvester Taylor, who plead guilty of assault with a deadly weapon, was fined \$30, charged with the cost in the case and in addition was required to pay Dr. J. H. Saunders \$40 for medical attention to L. H. Long who was shot by Taylor. Long is to receive \$100 for loss of time on account of being unable to work.

L. T. FOWDEN HAS WRECK

Narrowly Escapes Serious Injury in Accident Near Norfolk

Mr. L. T. Fowden and his driver, Larry Johnson, colored, narrowly escaped serious injury or probably death, last Wednesday evening when their car was wrecked a few miles this side of Norfolk. Mr. Fowden was hurt about the shoulder but not seriously; the driver escaped injury. Mr. Fowden was on his way home from the Virginia city when his car was hit by another that was being driven from a side path into the main road. The car, a Chevrolet coupe and its two occupants turned over three times and while the two men escaped serious injury the car was badly wrecked. The driver of the other car admitted the cause of the wreck, and Mr. Fowden hopes to recover the damage done to his car.

Mr. Ben Mc. Manning was a business visitor here today.

Peanut Exposition Program Complete; Prospects Bright

COLLEGES CLOSE ACCOUNT OF 'FLU'

Situation Is Not Serious, and Disease Is Mild, However

While the situation is not considered serious in this State, many schools are closing as a precautionary measure against the spread of colds and influenza. The University of North Carolina, State College, and North Carolina College for Women, Duke University, Wake Forest College and several other schools closed Wednesday and yesterday until after the holidays, several days ahead of their regular schedule of closing for Christmas. Officials at the three institutions stated that the situation was not serious, but that the number contracting colds and light cases of influenza was greater than the infirmaries at the institutions could handle. At Chapel Hill, 70 students were reported in the University infirmary. Thomas Crawford, a student at the Raleigh institution who arrived home yesterday well and sound, stated that his fellow students were badly crowding the infirmary there just before the school suspended its school work.

Examinations were postponed in two of the institutions until after the holidays which end January 3. It might be that the institutions will open at an earlier date, but according to an announcement made yesterday, classes will be suspended until the 5th.

Other colleges and universities in the State have reported a few cases of the malady, but it was stated that the number of pupils affected is no greater than is generally the case about this time of the year in the past. It is thought that all the institutions with the exception of those already closed will continue with their regular schedule in effect.

The epidemic has gripped many sections throughout the country and many schools outside of this State have been closed down in an effort to check its spread.

U. S. Government officials are working on reports showing an increase in influenza deaths, and they are expected to issue a statement today.

A review of the epidemic over the country shows that there were 189 deaths from influenza during the week ending December 8, compared with 43 deaths in the same cities during the week ending November 3, and while the disease now spreading still appears to be in milder form than that of the 1918 epidemic, the death rate has been steadily increasing.

Officials said this increase may be partly responsible for a rise in the death rate of the country, which was 13.3 per 100,000 population for the week, compared with 11.9 for the corresponding week of 1927, but this relationship could not be established absolutely.

JAMES HENRY WYNNE DIES

Was Leading Citizen of Cross Road Section; 72 Years Old

James Henry Wynne, 72 years old and a leading citizen of the Cross Roads section, this county, died at his home there Wednesday morning from injuries received in an automobile accident a week before. Mr. Wynne, while attempting to get out of an automobile, broke his thigh, and was ill only a week. He was next to the last survivor of a large family, leaving only one brother, Mr. Tom Wynne, who lives on a farm near Everetts.

Interment was made in the family cemetery on the home farm yesterday afternoon where he had resided all his life. Rev. R. A. Phillips, of the Christian church, of which Mr. Wynne had been a leading member in his community for a long number of years, conducted the services.

Ten children, Mrs. G. T. Roebuck, Mrs. Eli Everett, Mrs. W. F. Crawford, Mrs. Herbert Roebuck, Mrs. Minnie Meeks, Mrs. Berry Wynn and Messrs. T. F. and Tom Wynn, all of Cross Roads township, and Mrs. D. D. Stalls, of this place, survive. Mrs. Wynne died about ten years ago and a son, George, preceded his father to the grave by several years.

Two Services at Jamesville Baptist Church Sunday

There will be two preaching services at the Baptist church in Jamesville Sunday. Rev. W. B. Harrington, the pastor, will preach Sunday morning, and Mr. K. O. Hickman will preach at night. The general public is invited to attend the services.

HONOR ROLL OF LOCAL SCHOOL

Seventeen More Students on Roll This Month Than in One Preceding

Seventeen more pupils made the honor roll in the local school during the third month, just closed, than was the case for the preceding month, according to a list of honor students given out yesterday by Principal L. H. Davis. Practically every grade in the school was well represented with the exception of the 11th and that had no students to make the roll during the month.

The list by grades: First grade—Miss Peacock and Mrs. Bradley—Jerry Clark, Jack Edmondson, Irvin Gurganus, Sallie Mae Gurgan, Louise Melson, Mildred Pope, Virgil Ward, James Willis Ward, Bernice Cowan, Gordon Manning, Rachel Keel, Dick Dunn, Margaret Jones, Elsie Gurganus, Doris Moore.

Second grade—Miss Ivey and Miss Crawford—Lee Bert Jenkins, Jack Baker Saunders, Grace Barnhill, Alice Bonds, Lydia Hinson, Marion Pender, Addie Lee Lewis, Virginia Lilley, Thelma Mizelle, June Newton, Roland Cherry, William Roberson.

Third grade—Miss Ramsey and Miss Darden—James W. Jones, William Peele, Jr., Delbert Stalls, Marie Harrison, Nellie Gray Hopkins, Lillian Rogerson, Charles Dickey, Pete Egan, Carlisle Hall, Hazel Price, Addie Lee Meador, Julia Everett, R. A. Pope, Edgar Gurganus.

Fourth grade—Miss Sample and Mrs. Moyer—Fern Fitzgerald, Ella Wynne Critcher, Kathleen Price, Marjorie Smith, Edna Ballard, Ben Manning, Milton James, Lorene Weaver, Brinkley Lilley, Ruth Williams, James Williams, Elbert Bailey.

Fifth grade—Miss Allen—Alta Critcher, Grace Manning, Olive McCabe, Jessie Mae Anderson, Eula Green, Alice Harrison.

Sixth grade—Miss Cole—Wheeler Martin, Jr., Roger Critcher, Mattie Gurganus, Mildred Jones, Josephine Andrews.

Seventh grade—Miss Price and Miss Harrison—Catherine Shute, Jennie Green Taylor, Myrtle Woolard, Brown, Louise Perry, Marie Peele.

Eighth grade—B. E. Hood—Mildred Gurganus.

Ninth grade—Mrs. L. H. Davis—Edith Peele, Mary Clyde Williams, Wheeler Manning.

Tenth grade—Mrs. Harrell—Clyde Griffin, Josephine Harrison, Marjorie Taylor.

NEGRO ALMOST KILLS SISTER

Lee Purrington Jailed for Brutal Attack on Sister Wednesday Night

Lee Purrington, a young negro, came very near killing his sister last Wednesday night when he attacked her with a shovel and a chair, following a family row. The brutal act took place in the home of a neighbor, a colored woman in Poplar Point.

According to statements made to Sheriff Roebuck, Purrington was enraged because his mother had sold a cow and refused to give him the money. When the sister defended the mother's position in the matter Purrington struck her first with a shovel. He knocked her down and while she lay senseless, he took a chair and continued the attack. For a time, it was thought she would die, but it now looks as if she will survive the brutal attack.

Purrington was arrested and placed in jail by Sheriff Roebuck. A preliminary hearing will be held as soon as the girl's condition permits. During the meantime, Purrington will be held in jail.

The young negro is the son of Jack Purrington who was shot and killed two years ago by another colored man following a row over a dog. Prior to that time he had caused two of his jealous concubines to quarrel which resulted in one of blowing the other's head off with a shot gun.

Presbyterians To Have Services Here Sunday

The Presbyterians will hold their regular services here in the Woman's club hall both Sunday morning and evening, at 11 o'clock in the morning and at 7:30 p. m. Rev. Mr. Yandell, who was here with the mission last spring, will conduct the services it was announced.

During the morning service, the church will organize a Sunday school, it was stated in a recent announcement. The public is invited to attend the services.

BIG PARADE ON CHRISTMAS DAY TO OPEN SHOW

Several Professional Acts As Well As Local Talent To Be Presented

MANY TICKETS SOLD

Exposition Gets Under Way at 3:00 O'Clock Tuesday and Continues Throughout Week

Several high-class free acts have been booked and plans are practically complete for Eastern Carolina's and Tidewater Virginia's greatest peanut exposition, Mr. Newell C. Bartlett stated here yesterday afternoon. A unique program has been prepared for the entire time of the show, and thousands of people are expected here during the exposition beginning Christmas day and continuing through the remainder of the week.

Following the parade of floats at 3:00 o'clock Tuesday afternoon of Christmas day, the exposition's opening exercises will be held at 3:30 in the exposition building, the Brick warehouse, Dr. A. S. Oliver, president of the Eastern Carolina Chamber of Commerce, presiding at that time. Invocation will be by Dr. O. P. Fitzgerald, of the local Methodist church. Elbert S. Peel will introduce Judge Clayton Moore who will make the welcome address. Hon. Thad A. Eure, of Winton, will make the response, following which, Mayor R. L. Coburn will be formally put in charge as floor manager of the exposition.

The Carolina Buccaneers, of Chapel Hill, will render their first musical number at this time, and play between the professional acts. The Delmore Trio and the Parents will appear in the first free acts' program. At 4:30, local talent will present "The Peanut in the Making" under the direction of Mrs. John D. Biggs. Following a review of the exhibits, the doors will close at 6:30.

The night program will be formally put underway with a concert by the Buccaneers, at 7:30. Following the free acts by the Delmore Trio and the Parents, home talent from several of the towns in this county will have charge of the program. Many of Robersonville's best singers are practicing regularly for the cantata, which is scheduled in the program at 8:30. At 9, Everett's best home talent will present the Zanders-Gump wedding. Hamilton and Jamesville will also be represented that evening, making the program a strictly Martin County one.

The dance starts at 11 with the music by the Carolina Buccaneers. The doors close for the day at 1 o'clock.

While there have no definite reports made at this time, it is understood that tickets to the show are selling very rapidly in many sections.

CHARGED WITH WHITE SLAVERY

Bertie County Man Also Is Charged With Stealing Automobile

A federal warrant, charging Ernest L. White, of Hopewell, Va., with the violation of the Mann White Slavery Act, was issued here last night by the local United States commissioner, J. T. Cullipher and his attorney, E. R. Tyler, of Roxobel, Bertie county, brought the charges against White, definitely stating that White had carried the wife of Cullipher to Akron, Ohio, Washington, D. C., Philadelphia and Baltimore where they had lived as man and wife for several weeks.

Mrs. Cullipher and White left Bertie county several weeks ago in a car stolen from Mr. Cullipher. Their travel carries many experiences, but at Baltimore disagreeable conditions arose and Mrs. Cullipher with her three-year old child drove her husband's car out of Baltimore and on toward home while the lover was getting a shave. White followed as far as Hopewell, Va., but lost the trail there. He stole an automobile and started for North Carolina. While on the way to this State, he broke into a filling station and stole about two bushels of candy, coffee, and other articles. At Rich Square, he was captured and officers found that he was transporting liquor in the stolen car. He is now being held there under the liquor charge by Northampton officers. Besides the liquor charge, White will face several other coming under the regulation of federal authorities.

Teachers in the local school will not leave for their respective homes until after a meeting of the county teachers here tomorrow, it was stated this morning by the principal.