

Watch the Label on Your Paper As It Carries the Date When Your Subscription Expires

THE ENTERPRISE

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

VOLUME XXXII—NUMBER 42

Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Tuesday, July 23, 1929

ESTABLISHED 1898

1 OUT OF EVERY 3 PUPILS IN STATE NOT PROMOTED

66 Per Cent of White and 48 Per Cent of Negro Pupils "Make Their Grades"

HIGHER GRADES LEAD

Fewer Failures in High School Than in Any Other Department; First Grade Has Most Held Over

Only 66 per cent of white pupils and 48 per cent of Negro pupils enrolled in North Carolina public schools in 1927-28 were promoted to a higher grade, according to the current issue of State School Facts, publication of the State Department of Public Instruction.

The percentage of pupils promoted at the end of the year is directly related to the attendance of the pupils and the length of the school term, the study shows.

For both races a smaller percentage of the elementary pupils are promoted than high school pupils. Only 65.5 per cent of all elementary white children were promoted, whereas 72.4 per cent of the pupils enrolled in the high schools passed into a higher grade the following year.

The situation in the colored elementary schools was even worse than in the white schools, only 47 per cent of the total enrollment being promoted. In the colored high schools, however, where comparatively few Negroes are enrolled, the percentage of promotions is relatively higher.

"It is rather interesting to note," the publication continues, "the percentage of pupils promoted for each grade. In the elementary white schools the second and third grades have the larger percentage of promotions, 69.9. In the high schools the percentage of promotions increases from 66.6 in the eighth grade to 87.7 in the twelfth grade.

DISPUTE LEADS TO SHOOTING

Parmelee Man Wounded Following Quarrel Over Dog Sunday

Mack Nelson, of near Parmelee, was shot, but not seriously, and his son Berlie, was fired at but not hit, last Sunday evening following a quarrel with Daniel Stalls over a dog.

Stalls, who lives on the Williams farm, near Parmelee, accused Nelson of stealing his dog and procured a warrant for Nelson. Before the warrant was served, Nelson is said to have heard he was wanted and he is said to have turned the dog loose. Sunday, after the dog had returned to its home, Nelson took his son and went over to the Stalls home where it is understood they staged a cursing attack. Stall, listening to the vile words, ignored their source until the two men included his wife. He introduced his gun by firing a random shot as a warning, but the next load intended for the younger Nelson, failed its mark and hit the older man. The shot was very small and caused little injury.

Jamesville Colored Man Bitten by Snake Sunday

Thomas Lilley, an elderly colored man of near Jamesville, was bitten by a poplar leaf snake Sunday while curing tobacco. The snake struck the old colored man as he reached for a stick of wood to place in the barn's furnace.

Kerosene and other home remedies were used until a doctor could be reached.

WATTS THEATRE

Wednesday July 24
TOM TYLER AND FRANKIE DARRO
in "The Pride of Pawnee" ALSO COMEDY

Thursday-Friday July 25-26
Dorothy MacKail and Jack Mulhall
in "2 WEEKS OFF" NEWS and COMEDY

MUSIC BY PHOTOTONE

Standard Fertilizer Co. Will Add Another Unit to Plant

A contract for the erection of an additional unit to the Standard Fertilizer Company's plant here on the Roanoke river will be let tomorrow, it was official announced here today by General Plant Manager C. G. Crockett. Several contractors are said to be planning on entering bids for the job.

Official announcement of the contract letting tomorrow was not made until this morning, and the approximate cost, size and other details were not available at that time.

Officials from Baltimore will be here for the letting tomorrow, including Mr. George Whiting, president of the Standard Wholesale Phosphate and Acid Works, of that city.

According to present plans, the new addition will be completed and made ready for use in time for the next season's business. With the completion of the new unit which will be

located on the lower side of the present building, the plant will have a capacity of thousands of tons annually.

During the past season, the Standard Fertilizer Company operated its plant here night and day to meet the demands of farmers in all parts of the State. But even then it was unable to cope with the needs of the farmers, and the officials are agreed that an additional unit, adding more than one-third to the plant's capacity, is necessary.

Before the first unit was completed in 1927, General Manager C. G. Crockett stated that the Standard Fertilizer Company was coming here to take step with the march of progress in Eastern Carolina, to grow as the section grows. That the company is adhering to the policy advanced at that time is made certain by the expansion of its equipment and spending huge sums of money.

RARE OLD LETTER TELLS OF TRIP TO WILMINGTON AND LIFE IN AN ARMY CAMP DURING MEXICAN WAR

Was Written in January, 1847, by Alfred Robinson While at Southport

Smithville, N. C. January 26, 1847.

Dear Father and Mother, Sisters and Brothers:

I take this opportunity in writing to you these few lines to let you know how I am and how I got along. I am well at present and am in hopes that these few lines may find you and Bro. William's family (William Daniel) enjoying the same blessing.

Dear Father and Mother, you know when we started the weather was very bad, but we got along very well also the people of Williamston made us march off in the snow and sleet, but when we got up to Capt. Cooper's, (father of the late A. B. Cooper who lived in Hassell), the Hamilton gentlemen furnished us with wagons and carts and carried us to Tarboro where we arrived on the next day by 1 p. m.

There the citizens met us at the foot of the bridge with music and firing of cannon and marched us to the best tavern and gave us the finest dinner you ever saw. After dinner they furnished us with three good two-horse wagons and carried us up to the depot, Rocky Mount, that same day in the evening and there we ate supper and at 1 o'clock in the night we started off in the cars and such rumbling you never heard in all your life.

We arrived in Wilmington next day at 2 p. m. and took the steamboat to Smithville where we arrived that same evening and took up quarters in the barracks and there we joined the Company H, commanded by Capt. John Duggan, of Edgecombe.

Dear Father, I have seen a great deal already and expect to see a great deal more. Last Sunday I and Uncle John went over to Fort Caswell and there I saw the greatest work I ever saw in my life, as I had never seen a fort before. I would write you all about it, but I have no time or space.

We are now drilling every day. There are two companies here at this place, both Edgecombe and Martin County men and no others and we have a jovial crew here you may depend.

Today we reviewed a stand of colors and they picked me out as the Bearer as I was the likeliest and biggest man they had out of 160.

The fare we have here is about as good as I expected. We have pork and bean soup coffee and light bread and that is all.

I can't tell you how long we have to stay here, or if ever we have to go away from here or not, but I expect we will stay here at least a month longer. It is about 210 miles from where you live. I want you to tell the boys and William that we have a plenty of raccoon oysters here right before our door and some of our men have eaten so many of

Want Big Crowd at Meeting Here Friday

"We want a crowded house next Friday evening at 8:30 o'clock in the City Hall where citizens will assemble to discuss plans for boosting the local tobacco market this year," a member of the tobacco board of trade and a veteran tobaccoist stated this morning. "We don't want any money and will not ask any," the trade member stated, "but we do want every one interested in the welfare of the market to meet with us that evening."

The meeting will last only a short while, and will be a very interesting one as a regular program is being arranged.

them that they don't need no physician to clear them out. While I am writing these few lines, Warren Williams came in and said he'd be down when he held the oyster in one hand he had to wipe the water out of his eyes with the other they were so salty. So you know we have something for a relish here.

Dear Father, I want you to write me as soon as you receive this as I would be very glad to hear from you all.

I want you to tell Aunt Polly that Uncle John is well at present. He has had a very bad cold since he left, and that we have not received any money yet but that we hope that we will shortly and then he will send her all he can spare. He wishes to be remembered to his wife and children and to you all. Give my love and respects to Bro. William and Sister Sallie and all their children, Sister Polly and her children, Bro. Nicholas and his wife and all the rest of my brothers and sisters and all my friends and tell Bro. William that I will write to him shortly.

Patrick Hardy is well and very well satisfied. He sends his love to William and his family too to you all. I have a great deal more to write but it is midnight and I and Uncle John are sleepy so I must close and my prayer is that the Lord may spare our lives so that we may see each other again in this world and if it should be His will to take us away, that He may enable us to meet at his right hand where parting will be no more.

Your affectionate and loving son,
ALFRED ROBINSON.

Discuss Pure Seed Program of Governor

Farmers and county agents of the Sandhill section met at Carriage recently to discuss the pure seed program advocated by Governor O. Max Gardner.

The subject for the Wednesday evening prayer meeting at the Christian church will be "What Jesus Taught About God." "We are endeavoring to discover the true teachings of Jesus on vital life questions and apply them to our modern life," Pastor Weigman stated yesterday.

After the service there will be a short choir practice. The public is cordially invited to these discussions at the mid-week service, it was announced.

Field of Early Tomatoes Pays An Excellent Profit

C. E. Carpenter, of Lincoln County, reports a good profit from a field of early tomatoes. Mr. Carpenter sells in the near-by towns.

PEANUT CO-OPS MEET HERE TO DISCUSS PLANS

Association Representative Here To Explain Plans For Reorganization

MANY NEW FEATURES

Harry Waldo, of Hamilton, Renominated As Director From Martin County

Mr. Harry Waldo, of Hamilton, was renominated as a director of the Peanut Growers Association at a meeting held here yesterday afternoon in the Atlantic Hotel, when Mr. J. Rives Worsham, of the association, met with a few farmers and discussed plans for the reorganization of the association.

Mr. Worsham explained, in brief, the plans that will be followed in the association's reorganization, stating that the functions of the marketing organization will be vastly different from those of the old association.

The new reorganization plans as were mentioned yesterday by the association man will make it possible for the farmer to place his peanuts with the association for storage, giving him the right to sell at any time he wishes.

Mr. Worsham also pointed out that according to reports, farm relief will be given farmers through organization, and while it is not known just how the relief measures will be handled, it is his belief that they will be connected with the farmers' organization.

Mr. Waldo is optimistic as to the predicted success for the association under the new plan of organization, stating that under the new system success is more certain than was found to be true with the old organization.

Mr. Harry Waldo, renominated a director here yesterday, has been connected with the association for the past several years and has given the work marked attention. Ballots will be distributed and his election will be certified by an official count to be made by the secretary, Mr. Chas. M. Peel, early next month.

CHILDREN USE LIBRARY BOOKS

More Than 1,200,000 Read by Children in Standard Elementary Schools

More than 1,200,000 library books were read by the children in the standard elementary schools of the State during 1928-29, according to the records just compiled by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, from the reports for these schools.

In the standard elementary schools of the State alone, there are now more than 279,000 volumes with more than 113,000 of these in the rural schools. And these carefully selected, interesting books have been widely read, for the records from the schools show more than 70,000 rural children reading library books and 600,000 volumes loaned during the year.

In the standard elementary schools in the cities of the State there are today more than 165,000 library books being read by 60,000 children. The circulation record of 1,200,000 volumes read by rural and city children is for the standard elementary schools only.

In many other elementary schools throughout the State, libraries are being built up, and the children are eagerly taking advantage of the opportunities offered them for acquaintance with good books.

Five years ago, except in some of the cities, very few elementary schools had even small libraries, and only here and there in the rural schools were books found suitable for the children below the high school. At that time, in the larger rural schools, there was a total of less than 8,000 books for the more than 100,000 children enrolled.

These figures very clearly indicate that the schools are bringing up a generation of readers.

Wednesday Service At Christian Church

The subject for the Wednesday evening prayer meeting at the Christian church will be "What Jesus Taught About God." "We are endeavoring to discover the true teachings of Jesus on vital life questions and apply them to our modern life," Pastor Weigman stated yesterday.

After the service there will be a short choir practice. The public is cordially invited to these discussions at the mid-week service, it was announced.

N. C. SPENT LESS FOR SCHOOLS IN 1928 THAN IN 1927

Reduction of \$2,000,000 for Capital Outlay Is Cause of Smaller Total

\$35,655,440.70 EXPENDED

Current Operation and Maintenance Costs Show Increase of Around Million Dollars

North Carolinians spent \$1,000,000 less for their public schools in 1927-28 than they did in 1926-27, so declares State School Facts, the official publication of the State Department of Public Instruction in its current issue.

"A comparison of the two years," the publication continues, "shows that in 1926-27 the total sum of \$36,701,501.36 was spent for these schools, whereas during the school year 1927-28 the sum of \$35,655,440.70 was expended for all public school purposes below college grade.

"The explanation of the decrease," the publication states, "is the fact that more than two million dollars less were spent for capital outlay purposes—new buildings, sites, and equipment. In 1926-27 more than \$11,000,000 were paid out for this class of expenditures, whereas in 1927-28 slightly more than \$9,000,000 were put into new buildings and school equipment.

"The year 1927-28 marks the lowest point that capital outlay expenditures have reached since 1921-22, when the cost of the new buildings erected and equipped slightly exceeded \$6,000,000."

On the other hand, as the publication points out, the amount of money spent for the current operation and maintenance of the schools increased one million dollars over the preceding year. It cost \$26,580,686.40 to operate the elementary and secondary schools during 1927-28, whereas in 1926-27 twenty-five and a half million dollars did the job.

There is a tendency for the current expenses to increase from year to year, but the rate of increase this past year is the lowest within the past eight years. This million dollars represents a 4 per cent increase, whereas in 1920-21 there was a 40.8 per cent increase; in 1921-22, 15.3 per cent; in 1922-23, 11.1 per cent; in 1923-24, 10.6 per cent; in 1924-25, 10.2 per cent; in 1925-26, 8.5 per cent; and 1926-27, 12.0 per cent. The increase the past year, therefore, is less than half the percentage of increase of any the preceding seven years.

RAIN AND COLD HINDERS TRIP

But 79 Colored People Face Bad Weather and Go on Norfolk Excursion

In spite of unfavorable weather, 79 colored people in this section faced a heavy downpour of rain and a cold wind to go on the excursion to Norfolk last Sunday. So cold was the breeze that the trip planned to the beach was called off and the excursionists camped around Norfolk until midnight, the time the train started on its return trip.

The train of six cars pulled out from the local station early Sunday morning, returning and discharging its passengers here shortly after 5 o'clock yesterday morning.

The promoters, believing that the excursion would have been a big success had the weather been favorable, are planning a second trip the early part of September, it was stated yesterday.

New Bulletin on Sweet Potatoes Free for Asking

"The Effects of Synthetic Nitrogen and Concentrated Fertilizers on Cotton and Sweet Potatoes," is the title of Experiment Station Bulletin 266 recently published at the State College of Agriculture. Copies will be sent free to citizens of the State making request to the agricultural editor.

JAMESVILLE MAN BELIEVED TO BE MOST SNAKE-BITTEN MAN IN COUNTY; VICTIM THREE TIMES

Mr. J. E. Hedrick, of Jamesville, is, it is believed, the section's most snake-bitten man. Mr. Hedrick is of middle age and already has three bites to his credit.

Mr. Hedrick yesterday, in describing the bites, stated that when he was eight years old and living in Davidson County, he was bitten by a copperhead pit viper. The snake is known here as the poplar leaf. An hour after he was bitten Mr. Hedrick became unconscious, and until a doctor could be called he was treated by his father.

After a few days' stay in bed, he was up and about his duties again. He was next bitten while in a mine in Alabama by a highland moccasin. The wound was just below the knee, and in treating it he immediately corded his leg just above the knee and bled the

Commissioners Hold Meeting Last Night

Tobacco Opens Higher On Georgia Markets

Tobacco prices received by farmers on two of the Georgia markets opening today, were reported in individual wires at noon today to be 7 to 13 cents per pound higher than the opening price last year. One report from Metts, Ga. stated that the opening sale there would average around 22 cents per pound. Another report from Nashville, Ga., stated that the average price there would range around eighteen and one-half cents per pound for the day.

The average price paid on the opening in the belt ranged from 7 to 12 cents, the price on the opening showing more strength. Neither quantity nor quality were mentioned in the reports.

MUCH INTEREST IN OLD LETTER

Was Written by Soldier in Camp During Mexican War in 1847

Written in 1847, the letter from Alfred Robinson to his father, Harmon Robinson, is of marked interest in that it was dispatched without an envelope and was mailed before the government used postage stamps. Letters of that day were folded to a convenient size and addressed on the back. The rate of postage was five cents, the amount being affixed by a metal stamp.

Alfred Robinson with about a dozen neighborhood boy friends left his home in Griffins township, the farm upon which Mr. Claudius Roberson now lives, and joined the army to take part in the Mexican war. After training at Smithville, now Southport, Brunswick county, for several weeks they embarked for Mexico where the boys fought valiantly until Mexico was conquered. All of the boys from Griffins returned home alive. Alfred joined the Confederacy in 1861 and was killed at Fort Harrison by an exploding shell which blew his body to atoms. He has now living in the county a number of grandchildren, among them are Arthur Roberson and Thos. L. Roberson.

"Uncle John," referred to in the letter, was John C. Getsinger who came as a stowaway from German at the age of eleven years. He drifted to this county and married, establishing himself as a farmer in Griffins township. He also survived the war, and joined the Confederacy in 1861. He served through the war, returning home at its close to live to a ripe old age.

Of the names mentioned as relatives of Harmon and Alfred Robinson in the letter, there are today more than three hundred grandchildren. The Cooks, Mannings, Getsingers and several other families living in Williamston are among them. Others are scattered all the way from Main to Texas.

RAIN HALTS GAME WITH SCORE TIED

Martin-Beaufort Contest Is Called in Seventh With Count at 4-All

In the second game of the last half of the Bright Belt Baseball league here yesterday afternoon, the Beaufort Bears and the Martin Monks tied 4-4. In the fourth frame the local nine was leading, 4 to 2, but after pausing for a while on account of a shower of rain, the Bears returned to knot the score. A wet diamond and a slippery ball made play difficult, and it was in a sea of mud that the last three innings were played. A heavy downpour of rain in that period stopped the game.

Boys and Girls' Short Course Next Week

The annual boys and girls short course will be held in Raleigh next week. Each club from Martin county should be represented this year, Miss Lora E. Sleeper stated this morning. The agent added that an excellent program had been planned for the week, and that she will be glad to have the names of club members over 14 years of age who care to go. Those boys and girls planning to go should notify Miss Sleeper immediately so provision can be made for transportation.

Club Member Begins to Realize on Investment

After two years of preparation, William C. Winstead, calf club member of Person County, began shipping cream from his eight cows last week.

PAVING WORK AGAIN CENTER OF DISCUSSION

Petitions Presented for the Paving of Three More Sidewalks

MIGHT PAVE STREET

State Has Practically Agreed to Pave 18 Feet of Houghton Street; Other Proceedings

The town commissioners met in special session in the mayor's office here last night, and discussed a number of current problems, but mainly centered attention on the town's paving program and work now under way.

Three petitions for additional sidewalk paving were entered, the board altering the program to include a sidewalk on the corner of Houghton to Smithwick street down the south side of Simmons avenue, also a parallel walk on the south side of Academy street from the Houghton intersection to Smithwick street. Another walk was included in New Town running the distance of a block in front of the homes of Messrs. J. S. Getsinger, M. D. Watts and others.

Remembering that the program had been added to and that other improvements had been included, the members of the board called for an estimate as to what has been the cost of the work already completed and the anticipated cost for the completion of the program as altered. Until this information is made available, there will be very few if any more alterations made in the program. However, it was the general belief of the meeting that Houghton street would be included in the program should the expenditures for the present program be well below the amount held in reserve for the paving.

It was pointed out at the meeting that the State had practically agreed to care for eighteen feet of the street and would probably carry the paving to the town limits. No contract has been made to that effect at this time, but it is understood that the town can depend upon the State's aid.

Turning their attention from paving matters, the commissioners listened to sanitary reports and instructed the chief of police to investigate thoroughly the town's backlots. Several old-shacks in the rear lots will have to be torn away or cleaned, the commissioners decided. The extension of the fire zone was also considered, but the matter was postponed until an attempt could be made to effect arrangements whereby risks could be lessened.

The board, it is understood, will meet again within the next day or two to handle other problems demanding immediate attention.

RAIN HALTS GAME WITH SCORE TIED

Martin-Beaufort Contest Is Called in Seventh With Count at 4-All

In the second game of the last half of the Bright Belt Baseball league here yesterday afternoon, the Beaufort Bears and the Martin Monks tied 4-4. In the fourth frame the local nine was leading, 4 to 2, but after pausing for a while on account of a shower of rain, the Bears returned to knot the score. A wet diamond and a slippery ball made play difficult, and it was in a sea of mud that the last three innings were played. A heavy downpour of rain in that period stopped the game.

Boys and Girls' Short Course Next Week

The annual boys and girls short course will be held in Raleigh next week. Each club from Martin county should be represented this year, Miss Lora E. Sleeper stated this morning. The agent added that an excellent program had been planned for the week, and that she will be glad to have the names of club members over 14 years of age who care to go. Those boys and girls planning to go should notify Miss Sleeper immediately so provision can be made for transportation.

Club Member Begins to Realize on Investment

After two years of preparation, William C. Winstead, calf club member of Person County, began shipping cream from his eight cows last week.