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Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Friday, March 21, 1930.

ESTABLISHED 1898

SCHOOL PLANTS IN THIS STATE COST \$107,856,892

Building Program Begun in School Year 1921-22 Is Nearing Completion

INCREASE DECREASES
Average Per Pupil Is Now \$162.74; In 1904-05 Average Was Only \$8.34 Per Pupil

Raleigh, March 18.—The total appraised value of property used for elementary and secondary school purposes is now \$107,856,892, according to the current number of State School Facts, publication of the State Department of Public Instruction, which devotes its next two issues to an analysis of public school property.

The present total value of school property, School Facts points out, exceeds the value for 1921-22 by \$6,927,527, and is the lowest amount of increase since 1920-21, when there was a difference of \$4,144,295 between the 1920-21 and 1919-20 values. The annual percentage of increase, 6.9 per cent, is the lowest during the past twenty-five years.

Since 1925-26 the departmental publication further points out there has been a decrease in the amount and percentage of annual increase in value of school property, thus indicating that the school building program begun in 1921-22 is nearing completion, and that buildings erected now are largely to take care of growth and final consolidations.

Approximately 90 per cent, or \$96,954,249, of the total value of school property is used by white children, and 10 per cent by colored children. That part used by the white race is discussed in detail in the current issue of School Facts.

White school property has increased in value from \$2,712,112 in 1904-05 to \$96,954,249 in 1928-19. The total number of school houses for white children showed an increase from 5,115 in 1904-05 to 5,769 in 1928-19. Since that year there has been a very noticeable decrease in number of school houses, until now there are only 3,672 in use by white children.

In 1904-05 the average school house used by white children was worth \$503. At present, 1928-29, the average value of a school house is \$26,404. In 1904-05 the average per pupil value of school property was \$8.34, whereas now it is \$162.74.

BEAR GRASS HONOR ROLL

Large Number of Students Appear on Select List for Sixth Month

The scholastic honor roll for the sixth month in the Bear Grass School follows:

First grade, section A—Rachel Ayers, Mildred Rawls, Esther Rawls, Edna Rawls, Ronald White, Carrie Terry, Isabel Mizelle.

First grade, section B—Luther Jones, Warren Jones, L. E. Shaw, Ernest Capps, Ernest Brown, Gladys Bailey, Mary Knox, G. T. Bailey, Hazel Bullock.

Second grade—Annie Mae Bailey, Doris Rogers, Evelyn Hodges, Fannie Price, Ruby Dare Bennett, Magdalene Harrison, Mack Mobley, Albert Bennett.

Third grade—Eddie Britton, Della Jones, Kathlene Rogerson, Ophelia Rogerson, Ethel White.

Fourth grade—Irene Hodges, Elizabeth Bailey, Vada Shaw.

Fifth grade—Susie Harris, Evelyn Mobley, Hilda Roebuck, Lena Shaw, Marjorie Terry.

Sixth grade—Fred Ayers, Joseph Keel, Garland Whitehurst, Ernestine Britton, Ada Mae Harrison, Mary Elizabeth Keel, Ruth Taylor, Sara Roberson.

Seventh grade—A. B. Ayers, Jr., Mayo Bailey, Luther Britton, Magnolia Rogerson, George Roberson, Annie Cowan.

Episcopal Services For Two Churches Announced

Rev. A. H. Marshall, Rector
Third Sunday in Lent—Sunday school at 10 a. m.; Morning Prayer and Sermon at 11:00 o'clock.

Lenten week-day services every Tuesday and Friday afternoons at 4:30. Holy Communion, Wednesdays at 10 o'clock a. m.

St. Martin's Church—Hamilton Sunday school at 10 a. m. Holy Communion and Sermon at 3:30 p. m. Evening Prayer and Sermon at 7:30. Lenten week-day service every Tuesday evening at 7:30.

You are cordially invited to attend these services.

Elder Harrison To Preach At Smithwick Creek, 22-23

Elder Newcome H. Harrison, of Washington County, will preach at Smithwick's Creek Church Saturday and Sunday, March 22 and 23.

Smithwick's Creek Church Case Postponed; To Start Trial on Monday Morning

INTENSIVE DRIVE FOR BUSINESS TO BE STAGED HERE

Decided Upon At Meeting Of Heads of Community Builders' League

Meeting last Wednesday evening in the office of the president, Mr. L. T. Fowden, the directors of the Community Builders' League of this town added to their plans for furthering the "patrol" of the independent business movement, which has been under way here during the past few weeks. It was pointed out that the campaign is just starting, that the movement will be placed before the home people in every way possible. Plans were made at the meeting to engage one of the speakers from "Old Man" Henderson's camp out in Louisiana, and several contests were discussed.

During the next few weeks, the directors plan to direct an urgent appeal to the people of the community, and already the movement is being heartily received on every hand, it was pointed out. Local business, and by that is meant practically every independent business house in town, is reporting results.

The directors expressed themselves as being well pleased with the support given the league by the people of the community, and they ask their continued support.

Communities in all sections of the country continue the drive in behalf of home industries, and according to reports the movement is meeting with a tremendous success.

In this issue the league is addressing appeals to all the people. The appeal is worthy of your attention and is deserving of your consideration.

Since the league was formed here about a month ago, its officers and directors have carried on an unselfish work, devoting their time to the undertaking. Pamphlets and papers have been mailed to hundreds, and even thousands of people in this community.

REPORT IS MADE BY GRAND JURY

Recommends That County Home Secure Another Cow Immediately

A drive to close all slot machines in Martin county was recommended by the grand jury in its report to the court here this week. The recommendation was made following Judge Sinclair's charge last Monday when he pointed out the apparent danger of the gambling devices.

While attention is given the problem late in the season, the court pledged its support in enforcing the compulsory school attendance law for all children, both white and colored, under fourteen years of age. The enforcement of the law was discussed by the members of the jury with Superintendent R. A. Pope, the body insisting that the law be rigidly enforced. The importance of the child's attending school was also stressed in Judge Sinclair's charge to the eighteen men last Monday.

Continuing their investigations, the jury reported satisfactory conditions as prevailing in the jail and county offices.

A situation, classed as a deplorable one, was uncovered at Martin County's modern home, when the committee found that approximately 30 people depended upon one cow for their milk. The jury filed a request asking the commissioners to furnish the home another cow. It was also pointed out that a large cook stove was necessary at the home, the keeper finding it very inconvenient and nearly impossible to feed the inmates with the present equipment. General conditions at the home were reported as being very satisfactory.

Izaak Walton League May Be Formed Here

All sportsmen and other citizens of the county interested in the organization of an Izaak Walton League in this county are asked to meet with Colonel Seymour Bullock this evening at 7:30 o'clock in the town hall. Leagues have been formed in practically every county in the State, it is understood, and the officials of the Department of Conservation and Development are anxious to perfect an organization in this county.

Durward Everett Continues Ill in Richmond Hospital

According to reports received here, Mr. Durward Everett, cashier of the Bank of Robertsonville, continues very ill in a Richmond hospital. Mr. Everett was taken suddenly ill in Richmond a few days ago.

STATE BAPTISTS TO HOLD MEET IN GREENVILLE

LARGE CROWD DISAPPOINTED WITH DELAY

Litigants, Witnesses, and Spectators Gather for Hearing Yesterday

SPECIAL VENUE OF 40
Selection of Jury Next Monday Is Expected To Be Difficult Task; Many Preachers Here

The Smithwick's Creek Church case, postponed yesterday morning for the second time, is to be called next Monday morning at 10 o'clock, according to an agreement reached by the parties interested. The case was first scheduled for a hearing last Wednesday morning, and it was thought at that time that no other delay would be necessary.

The postponement, although resulting out of necessity, came as a bitter disappointment to many, people coming here in large numbers from miles around. The special venire of forty Fitt County citizens selected last Tuesday, and witnesses, litigants, and spectators were here in large numbers, overcrowding the courtroom that they might hear the case.

There were about a dozen Primitive Baptist preachers present for the trial, and they are expected to return next Monday to appear as witnesses. The list includes T. W. Keene, of Raleigh; A. B. Denson, of Rocky Mount; John W. Griffin, of Altamahaw; H. L. Hutchins, Selma; J. S. Corbett, of Greenville; N. H. Harrison, Plymouth; Joshua L. Ross, of Pitt County; Tillman Sawyer, of Ayden; Elders Clifton and Stubbs, of Washington County; and William Grimes, John N. Rogerson, and B. S. Cowin, of Martin County.

Shortly after it was learned that the case had been postponed, the minority faction, it is said to have announced services to be held at Skewarkey at 11 o'clock yesterday morning. Elders Gilliam and Hutchins preaching. A picnic dinner was served.

According to unofficial reports, members of the minority faction were planning to serve the judge and jury at the courthouse yesterday dinner, but the postponement of the trial interfered with the plans.

Judging from the conversations with parties acquainted, yet not interested particularly in the case as far as they are concerned, the selection of a jury next Monday morning is likely to be a difficult task, one so difficult that it might be necessary to call for another special venire. Until then no official developments will result, it is understood.

DR. BIGGS MADE AGENT OF BANKS

Will Leave Tomorrow For Rutherfordford; Will Move There

Appointed liquidating agent for the several defunct banks in and around Rutherfordford, Dr. John D. Biggs with Mrs. Biggs leaves here tomorrow for that town where they will reside during the next two or three years, the time allotted for the completion of the work. The appointment was made recently by the State Corporation Commission, Dr. Biggs completing his local business transactions this week, making ready for the trip tomorrow.

While Dr. and Mrs. Biggs will reside in Rutherfordford during the coming two or three years, Williamston will continue to look upon them as citizens of its own.

Dr. Biggs, for years connected with the Farmers and Merchants Bank here, and one time president of the North Carolina Bankers' association, goes to Rutherfordford well qualified in the duties before him.

Fails To Win Insurance Suit By Only One Vote

H. L. Glasgow, formerly of Robertsonville, failed to win a verdict against the Mutual Life Insurance Company, of New York, by the narrow margin of one vote, a mistrial being ordered by Judge I. M. Meekins, in federal court held in Raleigh last week.

The case was carried to court when the insurance company refused to pay Mr. Glasgow a thousand dollars a year during the last three years, the plaintiff pointing out that he was totally disabled. According to the terms of the policy he lost when he failed by one day to pay his premium.

Mr. Glasgow alleged that the payment of any premium was waived when he became disabled. The jury found that Mr. Glasgow was totally disabled and eleven to one found that he had properly complied with the terms of the policy in the payment of his premiums.

CHURCH SURVEY MADE COMPLETE HERE THIS WEEK

Resume Shows Total of 674 White Members of Churches

BAPTISTS ARE IN LEAD
Church Membership of Town Is Divided Among Thirteen Different Denominations

Williamston has a white church population of 674 members, according to a survey completed this week, the number being much smaller than was generally believed. The Sunday school membership was very close with 666 pupils enrolled. One hundred and eleven of the 674 church members are on the rolls of churches outside the town, it was revealed by the survey.

The church membership here is divided among thirteen denominations, a surprisingly large number for a small town. The division is as follows: Missionary Baptist, 200; Primitive Baptist, 13; Free Will Baptist, 6; Catholic, 3; Christian, 128; Episcopalians, 115; Greek Orthodox, 5; Holiness, 19; Jewish, 4; Lutherans, 1; Methodist, 149; Presbyterians, 30; Universalists 1.

There are 472 non-church members, the census shows, that number representing all ages, but principally children.

Of the \$66 Sunday school attendants 195 attend the Baptist, 168 the Christian, 73 the Episcopalians, 57 the Holiness, 140 the Methodist and 33 the Presbyterian Sunday Schools, the other denominations having no buildings here.

While the list is not actually complete, the number not included in the census is believed to be very small, according to those in charge of the work.

DEATH OF MRS. I. V. WILLIARD

End Came on Wednesday Following Attack of Double Pneumonia

Mrs. I. V. Williard, 22 years old, died at her home here on Watts Street early last Wednesday morning following an illness of only a few days' duration, death resulting from a double pneumonia attack.

The funeral service was conducted at the home yesterday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock, Rev. C. B. Mashburn, of the Robertsonville Christian Church, assisted by Rev. C. H. Dickey, of the local Baptist church, Rev. D. W. Petty, of the local Methodist church, Rev. Z. T. Piephoff, of the local Presbyterian church, Rev. J. A. Satterfield, of the Rocky Mount Presbyterian Church, Capt. G. C. Block, of the Salvation Army, Rocky Mount, officiating. A few remarks were made by C. F. Connelly, of the Lakeland Salvation Army Post. Interment followed in the Williard burial ground, near Washington.

Mrs. Williard was born in Lakeland, Fla., the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Sheffield. She was married in 1925 to Mr. I. V. Williard in Beaufort County, the two coming from there to Williamston two years ago to make their home. Her death, occurring very suddenly, comes as a shock to her friends here.

Among the many attending the funeral from out of town were Mr. L. L. Sheffield and daughter, of Lakeland, Fla.

Baptists Announce Program of Services

"The Lord came down to see the city which the sons of men builded" is the text for Sunday morning's services; while Sunday evening the theme will be, "Jesus betrayed, arrested and forsaken."

The pastor kindly requests that the people planning to attend the preaching services arrange to be on time for the beginning of the hour's worship. Coming in late would seem to be unnecessary, and tends to disturb the order of the service.

The regional B. Y. P. U. Convention is now in session at Goldsboro, a delegation attending from this church.

The mid-week service will be held Wednesday evening, and the Sunday school and Young People's Union will go on with their regular schedule of services each Sunday.

The pastor and congregation poignantly regret that Dr. and Mrs. John D. Biggs are leaving the community at an early date to take up their residence in Rutherfordford. Our best wishes go with them.

Our prayerful sympathy and interest for those homes which have recently suffered bereavement in our town.

Jamesville and Everetts To Play Saturday Night

The Everetts and Jamesville High School basketball teams will meet on a warehouse court tomorrow night, according to an announcement made here last night. This is one of the last games to be played between the two teams this term, it was stated.

Gibson Murder Case Begun in Court Here

SAWYER ESCAPES ELECTRIC CHAIR

Slayer of J. I. Britton Saved From Death by Action Of Governor

John Sawyer, convicted murderer of J. I. Britton near Everetts last July, was saved from the electric chair this week when Governor Gardner commuted his sentence to life imprisonment. Execution, scheduled to take place next Friday, was staid when the State official received a report on Sawyer's mental condition, said by an alienist's commission to be unbalanced. While very few details were given in the case, it is thought here that Sawyer's capers figured to a great extent in the report to the Governor.

The Governor's action brings the case to a close as far as society is concerned, Sawyer and prison people having it to themselves for the remainder of his life.

Sawyer shot and killed J. I. Britton in a tobacco field, near Everetts, July 26 of last year. He was tried in the superior court here and sentenced to die November 1 last year by Judge W. A. Devin. An appeal was perfected a short while before the day of execution, and the Supreme court reported no error in the case a few days ago. The Governor intervened, bringing the procedure to a close.

HOLLOMAN CASE IS DISPOSED OF

\$60 Monthly for Support of Dependents or 2 Years On County Roads

Charged with abandoning his family here in May, 1929, H. B. Holloman, after pleading guilty at the Wednesday session of superior court here, was sentenced to the roads for two years, or agree to pay \$60 each month for a period of five years for the support of his wife and four children. Up until this morning, the defendant in the case had been unable to raise the bond required, the road presenting itself as the man's only alternative.

The case created much interest, many women taking their seats in a crowded courtroom to hear the evidence. Facing only the abandonment charge here, Holloman was represented by Attorneys Horton and Tyler.

Only two witnesses, Mrs. Holloman and Sheriff Roebuck, were examined for the State. Mrs. Holloman stated that she and Hugh Holloman were married at Perry Cross Roads in Bertie county fourteen years ago, that they have four children who are 13, 12, 10 and 9 years old. Continuing her evidence, she stated that since her husband left her she has kept and cared for three of the children by sewing and by the help of friends. The other of the children is with its grandmother.

Mrs. Holloman stated that after their marriage they lived in Bertie county for four years where Mr. Holloman kept a little store. Ten years ago they came to Williamston where her husband worked in the B. S. Courtney Furniture store until May 25, last year when he came home after midnight and told her he was leaving. He left her \$5.00 and \$15 balance due him by his employer. He contributed nothing more. She said she knew nothing about what he did after he left here.

Taking the stand, Sheriff Roebuck stated that he forwarded a warrant for Holloman's arrest to Lenoir officers, that he went there for Holloman on the 9th of March and returned with him on the 10th. Holloman said very little at that time, according to the officer's testimony. Sheriff stated that Lenoir officers informed him that Mrs. Modlin who was living with him in the apartment asked to be permitted to go into the jail with Holloman, which request was denied as she had a 9-weeks old baby, and she immediately left for Martin county.

Sheriff was told, he stated on the stand, by Mrs. Wilson, a widow with whom they lived, that they had rented rooms and did light house keeping for two months as many and wife and seemed very happy. Officers, it was stated on the stand, had questioned her about her marriage and she said they were married and when questioned as to her papers, she stated the marriage was only a temporary one.

The defense did not offer any testimony, but asked permission to support family to the amount of \$25 per month. The State thought that if a monetary sum was to be fixed, it should be at least \$60. per month. The road sentence followed the discussion.

Services Announced For Christian Church

Regular services will be held at the Christian Church Sunday, Sermons at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. by the pastor. Sunday school at 9:45. A cordial invitation is extended to all.

FEW CASES ARE COMPLETED IN FIRST FEW DAYS

Considering Holding Session Tomorrow Unless Docket Is Cleared

EIGHT CASES TRIED
Little Difficulty in Getting Jury for Gibson Case Anticipated. Terry Case Also Ahead of Court

With two or three baffling cases, yet unimportant ones, before it, the superior court in session here has made very little progress since last Tuesday. The order of cases has been completely wrecked, and witnesses have come and gone several times and yet scheduled causes have not been called. The court continues to drive, and if it fails to complete the criminal docket today, it will hold a session tomorrow.

The Terry case continues ahead of the court, and its trial is likely to require much time. House breaking is the main issue in this case.

After disposing of a number of minor cases, the court started work on the Gibson murder case yesterday about noon. Very little trouble was experienced in selecting a jury, the regular body with one exception serving. In carrying the case to trial, the State is requesting a verdict of second degree murder or manslaughter. Very little progress was in evidence yesterday afternoon, and just when the case will reach the jury was a matter for speculation this morning.

The proceedings since last Tuesday noon follow:

State vs. Johnnie Jones, judgment suspended in the case charging him with an assault. In a second case, charging him with resisting an officer, he was sentenced to the roads for six months.

Ed Goss was found guilty of larceny, judgment being suspended upon the defendants paying to J. M. Oakley \$21.50 damage sustained, and the costs of the case.

Willie Harris, Robert Price, Alexander Page and Henry Harris, larceny. Judgment suspended as to Alex Page until next term upon his paying one-third of the costs. All three entered pleas of guilty, but judgment has not been entered as to the other two defendants at this time.

In the case charging John Page with carrying a concealed weapon and being disorderly, he pleaded guilty and was fined \$50 and costs on the first count and given 30 days in jail on the second to be assigned to the Edgecombe roads. Sentence was suspended for 12 months upon his good behavior.

In the case charging William Harrington, Sam Langley, and Bill Davis with stealing a quantity of leaf tobacco from a Robertsonville warehouse, the jury returned a verdict of not guilty as to Langley and Davis, but found Harrington guilty. Judgment had not been pronounced in this case this morning. There are several other charges against Harrington.

The jury found Roy Moore, charged with stealing peanuts, not guilty.

Peter Sprull pleaded guilty of an assault on a female and was sentenced to the roads for six months.

Will Worley was found guilty of larceny but judgment has not been pronounced at this time.

George Roberson, charged with entering a dwelling house in Robertsonville at night, plead guilty. Both the State and defense announced a willingness to have him sent to the State Reformatory or the Stonewall Jackson Training School, and the court is awaiting information as to whether there is room for him or not before pronouncing final judgment.

The case was first docketed as first degree burglary, but owing to his weak mind and youth, the extreme penalty was not asked.

American Legion To Hold Meet Monday

The regular meeting of the American Legion will be held at the City Hall next Monday night at 8 o'clock. All the ex-service men of the county are urged to come to this meeting as it will be for them and the Legion exists only for the good of those men.

After the meeting a lunch will be served, and a good time is promised, the commander assures.

Free Picture Show in Greenville Sunday

"An Equal Chance," a Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer production will be shown in Greenville next Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock in connection with the Shriners Hospitals for crippled children. The picture, which will be shown free to the public, gives a graphic exposition of that great charity in behalf of crippled children.

No collection will be mentioned, and the general public is invited to see the picture.

SERVICES ANNOUNCED FOR CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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