

Advertisers Will Find Our Columns a Latchkey to Over Sixteen Hundred Martin County Homes

# THE ENTERPRISE

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## FIRES DAMAGE WOODLANDS IN THIS SECTION

### Several Hundred Acres Are Burned Over in Williams and Griffins Districts

## DESTROYS BUILDINGS

### Carelessness Given As Cause for Several Fires; One in Griffins Started from Barn Fire

The drought, resulting in a heavy damage to crops, is now being advanced as one of the main causes for much disaster in the woods of this county, and section, fires having burned over hundreds of acres of dry and withered trees and brush. Once started, the flames have swept over hundreds of acres in Griffins township and small tracts of timber in the western part of the county.

Burning rapidly, the fire in Griffins township threatened vast tracts of timber, making a concerted effort on the part of the farmers there necessary in checking its advance.

Several of the fires are believed to have started as a result of carelessness, but the one in Griffins is said to have started from a burning tobacco barn last Sunday morning.

Eating its way through the dry woods in Williams township, the fire swept over 200 acres of woodland and destroyed all the buildings on the Clayton Hardison farm in that district. The flames are said to have threatened the home and buildings of Mr. Julius Hardison in the same district, but aided by neighbors the fire was fought back. The fire there was described as one of the worst ever seen by many people.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL MEETING HERE

### Convention in the Baptist Church Here at 2:30 Sunday Afternoon

Next Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock in the auditorium of the Memorial Baptist Church, there will convene a session of the Roanoke Baptist Sunday School Association.

The program will last for a couple of hours, and several short addresses will be made.

Those in charge of the program have declared it to be a very interesting one. There will be several speakers from the association present.

It is hoped that a goodly number of people of local congregations will avail themselves of the opportunity to hear the program; and especially should the proceedings be of interest to all Sunday school workers, irrespective of denominational affiliation.

## ROBERSONVILLE SCHOOL OPENING

### Commercial Work Will Be Offered To Anyone In County This Year

Monday morning, September 15, at 9 o'clock, the Robersonville schools open for the 1930-31 term.

Any person in the town, or in any other town, will have an opportunity to take work in the school's commercial department, it was stated by Principal R. I. Leake yesterday afternoon. A monthly charge of \$4 will be made for the entire course, consisting of bookkeeping, typewriting, and stenography. Students regularly enrolled in the junior and senior classes of the school may take commercial subjects counting towards graduation at a cost not exceeding \$1 per month.

Any one interested in the commercial department are asked to write or see the principal of the Robersonville schools.

## Everetts Woodmen Will Meet Next Monday Night

The members of the Everetts Modern Woodmen Camp, after a two-months period of inactivity, will return to their regular schedule of meetings next Monday evening at 8:00 o'clock, it was announced yesterday by the secretary, Mr. Paul Bailey. All Modern Woodmen are cordially invited to attend the meeting.

Special work has been planned for the next Monday evening meeting and two candidates will be initiated, it was stated.

## Services at the Church Of the Advent Sunday

After a short vacation spent with relatives in Ohio, Rev. Arthur Marshall will return to his charge here tomorrow and will hold services at 8:00 in the Church of the Advent Sunday evening. It was also stated in the announcement that the Church school would convene at the usual hour, 10:00 a. m.

In the afternoon at 3 o'clock, the minister will hold services at the Trinity Mission, near Bear Grass.

## First Week Sales Here Are Smallest In Twenty Years

The first week of the 1930-31 season was brought to a close today with all warehouses in Eastern Carolina reporting the lightest sales in twenty years.

The prices have not been very disappointing to growers as they did not expect much.

Prices have changed but little since the opening day last Tuesday but some strength has been noted on some of the grades, but in cases the variation was not noticeable to the extent to effect a great change in the average price paid.

Sales on the local market have

averaged around nine cents thru the week. Today's sales will go around the 65,000 pound mark.

The government grades for the first three days on the local market averaged as follows: C5 LP, \$16.10; X1 LP, \$14.60; X2 LP, \$11.40; X3 LP, \$8.05; and X LP, \$5.15.

The government marks used are represented by "X" for lugs, "C" for cutters; "C" 5 LP means a 5th grade cutter of lemon color, primary nature; "X" represents lugs which are graded 1 for best up to 5 for poorest, followed by a letter indicating color as "L" for lemon.

## J. M. EDMONDSON DIES WEDNESDAY

### Funeral Conducted by Rev. E. P. West in Hamilton Yesterday Afternoon

Joseph M. Edmondson, aged citizen of Hamilton, died at his home there last Wednesday following a stroke of paralysis suffered the Sunday before. Back in 1928, Mr. Edmondson suffered a stroke and since that time he remained an invalid. From the second stroke, he never regained consciousness.

Mr. Edmondson, 73 years old, was born on a farm in Robersonville township where he lived and farmed until he married about 35 years ago. Leaving the farm, he graded lumber for a number of years and just prior to his first stroke, in 1928, he worked as a builder and kept bees. He married Miss Mollie Powell, who survives. They never had any children.

Joseph Edmondson was of the honest, sturdy type. When the land boom was on in 1919 he sold a small farm for a big price on the cash down and deferred payment plan. Unlike many folks, Mr. Edmondson when the crash came and realizing that the buyer was unable to meet the obligations, returned to him the cash advanced and relieved him of the obligation.

He was an ardent Mason. Years ago he walked from Everetts to Williams- ton regularly to attend the lodge meetings.

Rev. E. P. West, pastor of the Hamilton Baptist Church, of which Mr. Edmondson was a member, conducted the funeral services in the church yesterday afternoon. The burial was in the Hamilton cemetery with Masonic honors by the Concho lodge assisted by members of Stonewall lodge.

## Presbyterians Announce Program of Services

The union church service will be held in the Presbyterian church Sunday evening at 8:00 o'clock. Under the present plans there will be two more Sunday night union services. Rev. C. H. Dickey will bring one of the messages and Rev. Dwight A. Petty the other. According to the regular rotation, Rev. Mr. Petty will preach in the Presbyterian church and Rev. Mr. Dickey in the Methodist church. A cordial invitation is extended to all the members of the various denominations to attend these final two services.

Other services at the Presbyterian church. There will be no 11 o'clock service in the Presbyterian church, but the members are urged to attend Church school at the regular hour and the union service at night.

Sunday school will be held on the Leggett farm at 4 o'clock Sunday afternoon.

Regular services at Bear Grass at 7:30 p. m.

Farm Life

Rev. Z. T. Piephoff, of the Presbyterian church, will preach in the Farm Life Schoolhouse auditorium Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock. The citizens of Griffins township are invited to these services.

## Sunday Services At The Local Baptist Church

Sunday school Sunday morning for all grades and a teacher for each class. The pastor will preach at the 11 o'clock hour Sunday morning.

The Young Peoples' Unions will have their meetings in the church as usual Sunday evening.

The union evening service will be held in the Presbyterian church Sunday evening at 8 o'clock, Rev. Petty preaching the sermon.

## No Preaching Services at Christian Church Sunday

The Bible school of the Christian church will meet at 5:45 Sunday morning.

## DROUGHT KILLS NUMBER TREES

### Thousands of Small Oaks Die Along Highways In This Section

As a result of the extended drought, thousands of trees, small oaks mostly, are dying in this section. Crops have suffered a great damage from dry weather, and when the trees in the forests begin dying the situation takes on a more serious aspect.

One riding the highway from here to Greenville can see thousands of trees that have been killed by the dry season. And while practically all of them are small oaks, there are large ones that have weathered the storms, dry spells, and winds for a century and more. In 1911 many trees died from dry weather, but the number affected by the dry season this year is said to be far greater. People traveling the highways of this section regularly say that practically all the dead trees died during the past several days.

If the dry weather continues through this month, it is believed that the oak will become extinct on some types of land.

## Robersonville Negro Badly Hurt Following Liquor Row

### James Salsbury, colored of Robersonville, was dangerously hurt when struck in the head with an axe handled by George Wright, also colored, there last Tuesday night following an argument over a liquor debt.

Wright apparently saw the argument was against him and he ran. Salsbury was fought his friends gave chase. The fleeing negro ran to shelter in the home of a colored man who forbade Salsbury and his gang to enter. The command was ignored, and when Salsbury began waving a large knife, Wright is said to have struck him in the forehead, tearing an opening to the brain. Wright took to his heels again and with the other members of the gang after him, ran to Harvey Roberson's filling station where the Salsbury followers came very near getting Wright over Mr. Roberson's protests.

Arrested by Chief Gray, five of the members to the row were lodged in the jail here. The hearing was scheduled for today before J. P. Hurst, of Robersonville, but at 2 o'clock this afternoon, it had not been held.

The injured man is said to be getting along very well.

## AGED CIVIL WAR VETERAN DIES IN THIS COUNTY

### John R. Nelson Laid To Rest Near Robersonville Last Friday Afternoon

Mr. John R. Nelson, 87 years old, died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. James Ross, in Robersonville, early last Thursday morning following an illness of several months' duration. In spite of poor health, Mr. Nelson was fairly active about his home, near Robersonville, until a few weeks ago when he went to live with his daughter. In his death the fast-fading Gray Line in this county is narrowed down to four, Mr. Nelson being older than any member of the remaining group.

Up until shortly before the end, the aged Civil War Veteran displayed a spirit that characterized a beautiful and noble life. Patiently and without murmur he awaited death.

It was in the early part of the war that Mr. Nelson, then a young man of only 18 years, volunteered for service in the Southern Armies, and it was in Company E of the North Carolina Regiment that he faced his first duties as a drummer. Only a few months passed however, when he placed aside his drum to shoulder one of the heavy muskets common to the soldier of that day.

Wounded in the arm in a battle near Kinston, Mr. Nelson was forced from service for a while, but he was back with the active troops before the close and took part in the last fights at Bennettsville, near Greensboro. His experiences and hardships during the struggle would, no doubt, require countless pages, but they were behind and he started his homeward journey to start life anew.

Taking the plow handles, he accepted his part in the reconstruction readily, and during his life as a farmer he firmly established a warm friendship with his fellowman.

Mr. Nelson married Miss Agnes Moore, who lived near Flat Swamp Church, on November 24, 1870. They raised 11 children. Mrs. Nelson died only a few years ago. The children are Mrs. Lydia Coburn, Blackstone, Va.; Bob Nelson, Grifton; Charlie and Sam, of Newport News; Ollie, Williamston; Mrs. Nannie Coburn, Mrs. Fannie Alford, and Mrs. Hattie Ross, of Robersonville; Luther, Parmelee, and Heber, of Robersonville. There are 40 grand-children, and 15 great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held in the Robersonville Primitive Baptist Church, of which he had long been an ardent and faithful member, last Friday afternoon by Elders Rogerson and Cowin. Interment was made in the family plot on the home farm, where he had lived all his life.

## Share In Participating Fund for County Increased

### Martin county's share in the school equalization fund was increased by approximately \$890, recently when the board at Raleigh allowed that amount to care for part of the costs in operating the Bear Grass School an extra period.

The extra two months were added to the term at Bear Grass too late for the board to care for the school in its allocation of funds some time ago.

## AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF ASA BIGGS

Former Congressman, United States District Court Judge, and United States Senator; Material Used Herein Was First Published in 1915 By The North Carolina Historical Commission

April 22nd: Left Norfolk this morning 9 o'clock in the Fredericksburg, run 18 miles in an hour and a half, passing got a view of the Rip-Raps and Old Point Comfort. The Rip-Raps is an important work—with the aid of a spy-glass I could ascertain how it was built. It is a solid bed of stone in 18 feet of water, about 5 acres. There are three or four houses on it, and a wharf projects from it. It is truly a great work, and as is the necessary consequence must have cost an immense quantity of money. But they appeared inconsiderable, when compared with the battery and apparatus on Old Point. Here you see port holes in every direction, and flags flying. I was informed that 100 guns could be made to bear on the size of a Hhd-head. It is a magnificent spectacle. Any attempt to pass up the river by an enemy would meet with warm work, too warm for comfort. It think it would be utterly impossible for an enemy to pass up between Battery and the Rip-Raps.

April 23rd. This morning about 7 o'clock we passed Mt. Vernon. Instantly I became melancholy and the reflection that there lies the great and good man, our Country's Benefactor, struck me with awe. The Situation of my country in '76, the abject slavery to which we were reduced, the fearless and intrepid Spirits that dared to stand

### Visits Capitol

In the fourteenth installment of his autobiography, Judge Biggs gives some interesting facts about Congress, stating that its members argue much over nothing and do little. He was apparently perturbed over the useless costs involved. Next week, Judge Biggs concludes his visit to the capital and continues toward New York.

up and defend our rights, the melancholy spectacle which we presented during the great struggle for liberty, the grand instrument with all his virtues shining that effected so much; who by his address could check those disposed to murmur—establish the wavering, and inspire the whole with that love of liberty and equal rights that can effect almost impossibilities, the important advantage we derived from his firmness and wisdom in establishing our republic, all passed in review before my imagination, and could not fail to produce sensations uncommon. A profound reverence for the tomb of Washington, and an earnest desire that the same principles which he taught may continue to be

## 'Clean Up or Close Up' State Sanitary Inspectors Tell Hot Dog Stands and Hotel Owners

## Plan Poultry Raising Course In Oak City Schools This Fall

## PRINCIPAL WILL OFFER COURSE FREE TO PUPILS

### Home Economics Department Discontinued In School There

## COURSE IS OPTIONAL

### Principal Expresses Deep Regret That It Was Fund Necessary To Discontinue Department

In an effort to offset the handicap resulting from the discontinuance of the home economics department in the Oak City schools, Principal H. M. Ainsley is planning to offer special work in poultry husbandry there during the coming term. The course, which will be free to all, will be given to those pupils interested in and desirous of taking the work.

In offering his services free, Mr. Ainsley stated that he was only too willing to do so as the need for the particular course appeared to be very great in that section of the county. The course, planned after one given at Columbia University, will deal with practical poultry raising including selection of breed, housing, brooding, feeding, and culling. It is agreed that when every farmer in Goose Nest is stocked with an adequate poultry flock, the wealth will be greater and the health of its people better.

It was with a keen and deep regret that the school principal discussed the loss of the home economics department in the school this year. The school has had the particular department for several years, Mr. Ainsley declaring that a valuable work had been accomplished during that time, that the benefits from it were probably greater than those derived from any other phase of school work considering costs.

"Its effect has blessed the home life of many families in the district. Girls have not only learned many things that they could not have learned at home, but they have also learned more of the things that give them a pride in home life," Mr. Ainsley stated.

The discontinuance of the department was referred to as apparent false economy in that the State and Federal governments paid a greater part of the costs. Goose Nest township is strictly an agricultural section, but economy was considered necessary, and the department that the people need most to make better and happier homes was discontinued.

Much favorable comment has already been made relative to Mr. Ainsley's willingness to help the people of the section, and no doubt his efforts will be well spent.

JOHN R. NELSON



Dies at home of his daughter in Robersonville. Mr. Nelson was one of the county's few remaining Civil War Veterans.

## TWO MEN KILLED IN AUTO WRECK

### W. J. Smith and W. J. Gardner Killed Instantly as Car Strikes Freight

William J. Smith and W. J. Gardner, of Bethel, were instantly killed and W. D. Gardner and C. M. Burton, also of Bethel, were slightly injured early Wednesday morning when their car, a Chevrolet sedan, crashed into a fast-Norfolk-Southern freight, a few miles east of Grimesland.

The party was on its way to Vandemere for a fishing trip when the accident happened. Mr. W. J. Gardner, driver of the car, stated that he was not traveling very fast, but in a heavy fog, he was unable to see the train until he was almost upon it. He turned his car to parallel the track and miss the train, but his efforts were too late to prevent a crash. The right side of the machine was demolished, Messrs. Smith and Gardner receiving fractured skulls from the impact.

The train crew did not know anything about the accident until the train reached Wilson. Parties, living nearby, took the two wounded men to a hospital and the bodies were removed to an undertaking establishment in Greenville.

Mr. Smith, one of the leading citizens of Pitt county, was 59 years old and a native of this county. He moved to Bethel about 25 years ago, but had business connections in this county at the time of his death. He headed the Bethel Manufacturing Company and had served on the Pitt County Board of Commissioners several terms.

Three children, J. C. and W. J. Smith, of Pitt county, and Mrs. J. P. Nowell, of Ahoskie, and two brothers, R. L. Smith, of Robersonville and Sam Smith, of Belhaven, survive.

Mr. Gardner, also a leading citizen in his county was a brick manufacturer, and had connections with other enterprises in the county.

The funeral of Mr. Smith was held at his residence yesterday afternoon at 2 o'clock by Rev. C. B. Mashburn, of Robersonville. Mr. Gardner's funeral was held at 4 o'clock by Rev. W. L. Barr, of Bethel.

## Methodists Announce Their Program of Church Services

### Dwight A. Petty, Pastor

After a three Sundays rest, we return to the pulpit refreshed. August is a vacation month, and many have been absent at church. We hope to see all of our people back in the services Sunday, which marks the beginning of our fall church work.

Sunday school, 9:45. Professor W. R. Watson, Superintendent. Morning worship at 11, sermon by the pastor. Communion at the close of the sermon.

We join in the union service at the Presbyterian church in the evening. The Methodist pastor preaches. Senior League, Monday evening. Hi-League, Tuesday evening.

Prayer service Wednesday evening at 7:30. Bible lesson, Psalm 15. Let's make our church a praying church through the prayer service.

## ORDERS HOTEL OWNERS MAKE IMPROVEMENTS

### Inadequate Water Facilities In Stands Causes Many To Suspend Business

## CHANGES ARE MADE

### Ratings Do Not Reflect Upon Sanitation as Much as They Do on Shortage of Equipment

"Close up or clean up," was the command given every barbecue stand operator in the town last Tuesday by State Inspectors B. L. Jessup and E. L. Hinton, of the State Department of Health. Several of the owners closed their places of business rather than meet the requirements, while the others got busy with paint brushes and tools to gain permission to continue business.

Conditions existing in some of the stands were described as appalling by the inspectors, but the ratings in other cases do not necessarily reflect upon the sanitary conditions of the stands, it was stated. Many factors enter into the rating, and when one or two are found unsatisfactory the percentage takes a marked drop. Inadequate water facilities were charged against practically every stand and constituted the greatest factor in the grading.

The inspectors did not confine their work to hot dog and barbecue stands, but visited the hotels and other public eating places. The Williamston Cafe and that of Theodore Roberson met the requirements and the hotel owners were ordered to make certain changes.

Practically all the hot dog stand owners have made or are making alterations, and expect to have their places of business pass inspection upon the visit of the inspectors.

Those owners continuing in business and those reopening their doors have donned their white aprons and coats, adding greatly to the appearance of things if not bettering sanitary conditions.

According to reports, many hot dog stands have been closed in several towns in this part of the State during the past few weeks.

The ratings on hot dog stands made public by the inspectors:

Jimmy Pappas, 72; Lewis Manning, 24.5; Simon Lilley (warehouse stand), 31; S. A. Mobley, 54; E. P. Whitley, 26; Noah Hoggard, 18; Theodore Roberson, 70.5; Willie Ruffin, 19; Eddie Brown, 10; E. Ramie, 44.5; J. C. Leggett, 56.5.

## SCHOOL OPENING AT JAMESVILLE

### Registration of Pupils Next Friday; Teachers Meet There Thursday

The Jamesville School will open for registration of pupils next Friday morning, September 12th, at nine o'clock when the children will be given instructions regarding text books, materials and regular class work activities. Principal A. L. Pollock stated yesterday.

The regular school opening will be on Monday, September 15 when the regular routine of school work will be started, the professor said.

The teachers will hold a meeting next Thursday afternoon at 3 o'clock when definite operating plans will be formulated and general arrangements for the term are discussed.

Principal Pollock stated that he is looking forward to a large enrollment this year.

## Water in Roanoke River Here At New Low Level

The Roanoke River is believed to have reached a record low level here, recently when freight boats operating in the stream scraped the bottom between here and Mourning's Landing, several miles down the river. The water at the dock here was hardly three feet deep, making it necessary for the boat line owners to extend the wharf several feet out into deeper water.

## Frank Weaver Grows of Large Honey-dew Melon

An unusually large honey-dew melon, grown by Mr. Frank Weaver on the Marlin farm and weighing seven pounds and fourteen ounces, was exhibited here today. Very few melons of this particular variety are grown in this immediate section, but in many places the honey-dew melon is preferred to the cantaloupe.

(Continued on the back page)