

THE ENTERPRISE

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ESTABLISHED 1898

CHARGED WITH VIOLATION OF FEDERAL ACT

Woman Fails In Her Effort To Pose As Man Near Here Last Tuesday

As man and wife, J. T. Hatfield and "Charlie" Smith, both colored of South Carolina, were jailed here Tuesday night, charged with violating the Mann Act. The case is a very unusual one, and it is agreed that Hatfield posed a good story in his and the benefit of the women. It baffled officers when they first attempted to describe its nature. Apparently it was a violation of the White Slavery Act, but is could hardly be white slavery; there is no act termed "Black Slavery Act," so the officers just decided to charge the case as an apparent violation of the Mann Act.

The man and woman were arrested Tuesday night following an investigation by Will Lee, a farmer living near here. The couple went to his home Monday and asked permission to park their car under one of his barns, the woman wearing overalls, big shoes and a man's cap. Lee gave them permission to park there, and the following day he became suspicious and he notified officers.

According to Hatfield's story, he left Florence, and started to Norfolk, when the Smith woman asked permission to go along to see her sister. He had been out of work there for some time, and stated that he was going to Norfolk to seek work there. Passing the new colored school building, now under construction here, he stopped and asked if the services of a brickman were needed. That was Saturday and he was told to report for work Monday morning. Without money, the two decided to camp it out on lodging expense. Saturday and Sunday night they camped in the woods near here, both sleeping in a Chevrolet coupe. Monday, the mercury was too low for them, and the sought shelter on the Lee farm premises where they slept in the car that night. Hatfield stated that it was his intention to work awhile here and continue on to Norfolk, carrying "Charlie" along with him as he went. He added that she was without traveling expenses.

MAIL SCHEDULE CHANGED HERE

"Mail Early," Postmaster Price Urges Local Office Patrons

Following a change in the schedule of the Coast Line's morning train, mail ordinarily dispatched from the local post office shortly before seven o'clock is now being closed at 8:15, allowing patrons an additional hour to forward letters and packages. Incoming mail is generally in the lock boxes shortly before nine a. m. No other schedules are affected by the early morning train change.

As a result of the change, it was stated that the mid-day and afternoon mails are running unusually light at this time, throwing a greater part of the work in the morning and evening hours. This, it was pointed out, will be remedied when the routing changes are well established.

"Mail early and wrap packages securely," Postmaster Jesse T. Price added. Patrons here have been circled in an effort to avoid that last minute rush so common in years gone by.

FARM MEET AT COOPER SCHOOL

Meeting Monday Night Is Third Scheduled In As Many Weeks

Holding two successful meetings already, farmers in the Jamesville community will meet in a third session in the old Cooper's schoolhouse there next Monday night at 7 o'clock, it was announced yesterday by Professor W. T. Overby, agricultural teacher in the Jamesville Schools.

During the first two meetings, the farmers discussed gardening as a means of saving themselves from poor prices prevailing for "money" crops. Plans for cultivating a general garden were advanced last Monday evening at the meeting, and next Monday the farmers will ask information as to preparing hot beds and cold frames. Professor Overby states that he is expecting a goodly number of farmers out for the next meeting, that the interest in gardening has been marked so far.

Joe Smallwood Kills Wife On Main Street Yesterday

Admits Act at Preliminary Hearing Held Today, and Swears He Was Justified, But Refuses To Give Reason When Questioned by Officers

Maintaining that he had a reason, but refusing to divulge it, Joe Lock Smallwood, 25-year old negro shot and killed his wife, Malvina Smallwood, on Main Street here near the railroad underpass late yesterday afternoon. Using a single barrel shot gun, Smallwood fired one load of shot into the woman's side which penetrated the heart and caused instant death. The husband is understood to have told his wife a week before the murder, that he was going to kill her.

According to the story told by Sarah Bryant, an eye witness to the killing, the wife went to the home of Tom May, on West Main Street, to see her child being cared for by the Mays. Nursing the small child of Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Hallman, the woman left the baby in the carriage and entered the May home. The husband who was in the home of Fannie Ruffin, just across the street, sent a message to his wife asking if he might see her. He came out, and after a few words were spoken, Smallwood fired the fatal shot. He borrowed the Ruffin gun and carried it along with him when he went out to meet his wife.

After the shooting, Smallwood returned the gun to the Ruffin home and

casually walk away, traveling toward the business section until he reached Elm Street when he turned and started toward the railroad where he was overtaken by Messrs. Jno. L. Rodgers and Bill Haislip, who took him into custody and returned him to the scene of the murder. He was later placed in jail by Chief W. B. Daniel.

A preliminary hearing was held this morning at 9:30 o'clock before Justice of the Peace J. L. Hassell who ordered him held without bond for the superior court, probable cause appearing in the case. The trial will be held next week at the regular term of superior court.

Six witnesses, Lucy May, Janie Ore, Sarah Bryant, John Whitley and Coroner S. R. Biggs, were recognized to appear before the grand jury here next Monday.

Coming here from Indian Woods, in Bertie, about six years ago, Smallwood married Malvina Johnson and has three children. He has been a rheumatic for a year or more, depending upon his wife to make the living. During that time he has been a consistent beggar. On several occasions he has attacked his wife, and has been before the courts for assault.

Superior Court Begins One-Week Term Here Monday

26 CASES APPEAR ON DOCKET FOR TRIAL AT TERM

Twelve of 26 Cases Entered Through Appeal from Recorder's Court

The regular December term of the Martin County Superior court opens here next Monday for a one-week session, trying both criminal and civil actions during the period. Judge E. H. Cramer presiding at the last session held for the trial of criminal and civil cases, is scheduled to preside again during the next week's term.

Up until noon yesterday 26 cases had been placed on the criminal docket for trial, and late activities in the sheriff's office indicated that the number would be increased before the tribunal begins its session next Monday morning.

Up until yesterday afternoon, it appeared that the term would be one of the few held here recently that did not carry a murder case on its docket. However, Joe Smallwood went on a rampage just in time to get a preliminary hearing today and have his case scheduled for next week. The number of stealing charges is slightly larger than in some time, but the nature of the docket has been improved. The total number of cases is about the same as the number heard during the September term of the court.

Twelve of the 26 cases appearing on the docket yesterday go before the court next week from the county recorder's court on appeal. Eleven others were entered direct by warrants, and the first three were continued from previous sessions of the superior court. The cases:

Johnson Rogers, abandonment and non-support; Robert Neal, Jr., Kelly Neal and Sam Stephenson, assault; T. S. adley, larceny and receiving; Sylvester Wynn, assault with a deadly weapon; N. S. Godard, seduction; John Bonds, violating the liquor laws; Hugh Jones, assault and operating a car while under the influence of liquor; Henry Price, assault; Joe Turner, larceny and receiving; Robert Robertson, assault with a deadly weapon; Edgar Edmondson, assault; Edward Eason, house breaking and larceny and receiving; Arlander Brown and Simon Jenkins, larceny and receiving; Will Hines, Buck Brown and Leroy Saunders, larceny and receiving; Loving Good Modica, house breaking and larceny and receiving; Johnson Corey, operating car while intoxicated; Oscar Jones, drunk and disorderly; Barthonia Bennett, arson and assault; D. L. Whitehurst, two charges, violating liquor laws, disorderliness; Geo. Lee Jones, aiding and abetting larceny and receiving; Henry Edwards, stealing, two charges, and Joe Smallwood, murder.

To Conduct Singing Class In Church At Everetts

Beginning next Tuesday night, J. E. White, of Bertie, will conduct a 10-days singing school in the Everetts Baptist Church. Classes will be held each Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday until the 10-day period ends. The school is open to all the community and the public is invited.

SCHOOL HEADS HOLD MEETING

Professor Plyler Host to 15 Principals and Teachers In Hamilton Thursdays

Meeting in Hamilton last evening, fifteen members of the Martin County School Masters' club, enjoyed a delicious turkey dinner served by the parent-teacher association of that place. It was the regular meeting date for the club, and Professor Plyler acted as host.

Observing announced the class work in the various schools, several of the principals had interesting reports to make, stating that they found the practice both interesting and profitable.

Following a short discussion on the educational commission's report, the group adjourned and will meet with Professor Lee at Bear Grass the 15th of next month.

Local Man Held for Next Term of Federal Court

Arested by federal officers here late yesterday afternoon with three pints of whiskey on him, Levi Reddick was held under a \$500 bond for his appearance before Judge Meekins in Washington next April.

START WORK ON RIVER MOUTH IN EARLY SPRING

Warren Urges Engineers to Give Roanoke Project First Consideration

Washington, D. C. Dec 3rd: Representative Lindsay Warren expressed himself as highly pleased over the action of the secretary of war in including in the construction work for the next fiscal year the project for the improvement of the mouth of Roanoke River. On account of the serious condition that has been existing there for several years, Mr. Warren urged the Chief of Engineers to give priority to the project over all others in his district. It is expected that the work, which will cost \$46,500, will be started in the spring. The Department also recommended Mackeys Creek for immediate work which will cost \$1100. The contract for the lock in the Albemarle and Chesapeake Canal will also be let shortly, according to Mr. Warren, who said that private interests owned the Government \$500,000, in order that there might be no delay.

Mr. Warren stated that early construction of the projects for Pamlico River, Silver Lake (Ocracoke), Far Creek, Knobs Creek, Edenton appropriated additional funds to speed up waterway improvements.

The First District member is one of a group who will insist upon larger appropriations at this session for that purpose.

SCOUTS TO HOLD COURT OF HONOR

Members of Local Kiwanis Club To Attend Meet Tonight at 7:30

Holding a court of honor in the courthouse here this evening at 7:30 o'clock, the Williamston Boy Scouts will have as their guests the members of the local Kiwanis club and any other interested friends who care to attend. Classification of the Scouts will feature the ceremonies and awards will be made those troop members earning badges, it was stated by Scoutmaster Wheeler Martin today.

The boys are very much pleased to have the opportunity of entertaining the Kiwanians and their friends, and they are anxious that all the members be in attendance upon the meeting.

Predict Lower Prices for Irish Potato Growers

With an anticipated increase of 16 per cent in the Irish potato crop next spring, some farmers are predicting a price drop ranging from 35 to 40 per cent lower than those paid the past season.

It has been suggested that more farmers should grow potatoes for home use and the large farmers should reduce their acreage and limit the sales on the open market.

Business Visitor

Mr. Clyde Everett, of Robersonville was a business visitor here this afternoon.

"I PREACH IN A SMALL TOWN"

By CHAS. H. DICKEY

Appearing in the "Homiletic Reputated religious journal published by Funk and Wagnalls Company, is an interesting article by Rev. C. H. Dickey, pastor of the local Baptist church. The article entitled, "I Preach in a Little Town," appears in the current issue of the religious journal under the heading of Social Christianity. It was read by the author before a congregation in the Baptist church recently and at our request, we were given permission to re-slade-Rhodes and Co., of Hamilton,

I have my ministry in a little Southern town which has a population of twenty-seven hundred souls. I do not know how I came to be here, except that this town and I were made for each other. When I came here to live I had just resigned a church in a small city six hundred miles away. I had been there more than three years and had enjoyed the advantages which a small city offers. I did not come here, with my eyes closed. Before accepting the charge I came to see the church and the small-town community where my family and I would live, move, and have our being in the event of my acceptance.

It is a momentous day in the minister's household when another church takes notice of him. It offers an opportunity for a reevaluation of his church and people. He sees them in a different perspective at the moment when there is reasonable likelihood that he may soon be going from them. If all has been well, they shine forth with accentuated brilliance. If, on

Series Of Wholesale Thefts Uncovered by County Officers

Tax Supervisor Predicts Property Value Decrease

Preparatory to re-assessing all property in the county next month, Tax Supervisor Thos. B. Slades has tentatively appointed thirty citizens, three in each township, to assist in the work, it was learned yesterday. The appointments, suggested by the county board of commissioners have not been officially announced at this time, but will probably be made public next week.

Other than that he expected a reduction in the total property valuation in the county, Mr. Slade would make no comment concerning the huge task of re-determining property values throughout the county. But he did say that

the size of the revaluation figures was not to be looked upon as all important, that a small total would mean a higher tax rate and a big total would effect a smaller rate. "A uniform valuation is the important feature of the re-valuation work," the tax supervisor declared.

Next Wednesday, the supervisor with Mr. T. C. Griffin, chairman of the Martin County Board of Commissioners, goes to Raleigh to attend a state meeting of tax supervisors. There he will be instructed as to what course of procedure will be followed through out the State in the re-assessing of all properties next month.

FOUR MEN ARE PLACED IN JAIL YESTERDAY

Officers Catch Men Before Owner Misses His 41 Bags of Peanuts

HEAR CASE TONIGHT

E. J. Edwards and Son, W. C. Edwards, Hines Boy and Benjamin Drew Connected With Case

A series of thefts involving several hundred bags of peanuts, and a quantity of cotton and peanuts gathered from owners in this, Pitt, and probably in Beaufort counties, is believed to have been uncovered by Sheriff C. B. Roebuck and Deputy Sheriff G. H. Grimes early yesterday morning when they arrested E. J. Edwards and son, W. C. Edwards, and a young man by the name of Hines on the Rainbow farm, near Hamilton. Complete reports on the various thefts in this county during the past few weeks could not be had late yesterday, but it was Sheriff Roebuck's belief that the arrests made yesterday morning before daylight will lead to one of the largest wholesale robberies ever uncovered in this county.

For two weeks, or more, the officers had been working on a series of theft cases, but the clues offered in each one were so limited that the officers could not prefer a substantial charge against any party or parties. Early yesterday morning, the officers were favored with a break and effected the arrest of the three men and discovered stolen goods before the owner missed them.

According to various reports, the thefts had been handled on such a large scale that many farmers guard their storage houses and barns night and day, and it was while Mr. Haywood, Rogers, of near here, was caring for his peanuts that the thieves were seen hauling 41 bags of the goods from Mr. T. U. Rawls' farm in Bear Grass township.

Shortly after midnight, Mr. Rogers heard a truck pass his home and suspiciously raided by thieves, he called his brother who lives near him. While the two were guarding their own crops, they saw a truck, loaded with peanuts, pass Ira Peed, a farmer in the same community having lost 39 bags of his crop several days before, and other neighbors were asked to assist. Four of the group trailed the truck, and another notified Sheriff Roebuck. The four men followed the truck over the various courses, a distance of 15 miles from the point where they had been stolen to the Rainbow farm near Hamilton. They reached the Edwards home in time to see the thieves unload their loot. During the meantime, Sheriff Roebuck and Deputy Grimes, followed the trail and reached the Edwards home. The officers passed Edward and Hines as the two boys were leaving the farm, but no arrests were made at that time.

Upon reaching the house and learning from the four men who had gone ahead, the officers arrested the elderly Edwards who was fully clad at 3:30 in the morning. It is believed that Edwards was one of the part to the theft, as he, thinking Sheriff Roebuck to be his son, motioned to him stating that some one was in the front of the house. Edwards was arrested there. The two boys went to Tarboro, changed clothes, borrowed a car and rushed back to be arrested upon their return. When they failed to return, Robert D. Exum, owner of the car, went to look for them. He trailed them to the jail here and learned that one of the boys had registered in his name. The sheriff accommodated him and rubbed his name from the book.

After daylight yesterday morning, (Continued on the back page)

Peanut Company Offers Its Services To Co-op Farmers

FEWER HUNTERS REPORT SHOWS

This Season's Sale In The County Is Smaller By \$785.25

A sizeable decrease in the revenue derived from the sale of hunting and trapping licenses was reported in this county for the current season by Game Warden John W. Hines yesterday, the sale dropping from \$2,800 last year to \$2,014.75 this season. Warden Hines stated that the season was not over by several weeks, but that it was not likely the sale would increase much between now and the end of the hunting period.

So far during the season, Mr. Hines stated, there have been 907 county and 190 state hunting licenses, and 73 all other types of hunting and trapping licenses. The sale by the several townships with agents:

Williamston, 332 county and 90 state; Robersonville, 96 county and 40 state; Hamilton, 85 county and 9 state; Cross Roads, 73 county and 12 state; Bear Grass, 17 county and 12 state; Jamesville, 64 county and 10 state; Goose Nest, 240 county and 18 state.

COLUMBIAN CO. HEAD TELLS OF CONDITIONS

Official Asserts Company's Position Is Secondary to That of the Farmers

That the general depression in business has developed a period of inactivity in the peanut trade, resulting in low prices for farmers' goods, was pointed out in a letter received here by Mr. G. H. Harrison from Mr. H. C. Smither, president of the Columbian Peanut Company, Norfolk; Mr. Smither stated in his letter that his company exceedingly regrets the market conditions and that it is making its interests secondary in an effort to assist the farmers.

The letter, advancing its position relative to market conditions and its attitude toward the growers, follows: "We certainly regret to see conditions as they are in the peanut territory this season. We are very much disappointed in what we have been able to do at Williamston, so far, but conditions have been against us. In fact the depression in business seems to have hit peanuts and the consumption has fallen off with the trade. We are not having near the demand we had last season and with farmers forcing their peanuts on the market it means simply a "buyer's market," and you know what that means. We have told our Mill Managers not to make low offers on peanuts, as we did not want to seem to be forcing the price of peanuts down and to buy only such peanuts as were brought to the mills. As it now stands we are simply piling peanuts up and the quality is the poorest we have ever seen, and it is problematical when we can sell them. In our opinion, this season, we have lost considerable money on everything we have bought so far. It has come to the point that we would rather help the farmer this season than to work for ourselves, and consequently, we offered the Peanut Cooperative Association the use of all our plants in North Carolina and Virginia, which we would use for them in the milling and distribution of their crop this season. The company had rather not make any money this season at all, than to see peanuts sold at such low prices, and if the company can cooperate with the peanut growers to improve the price we are glad to do it, and will give our time and attention to this. The managers of the Cooperative Association are now working on our proposition and if they succeed in getting enough farmers to pledge their peanuts they may possibly take advantage of our offer. "We are simply mentioning this fact to you, as we understand we have been criticised for apparently attempting to lower the price of peanuts and such is not the case. The farmers' interest, as a matter of fact, is our interest, and unless the farmer can sell his peanuts at proper prices, it may mean our investment in peanut mills may go to naught."

Bundle Day Tuesday Was Not Very Successful Here

The drive for bundles for distribution among the needy here last Tuesday afternoon did not meet with much success, it was stated by those in charge of welfare work. Many articles, useful to men, were collected, but the offerings for the children were limited.

WOMEN TO HOLD MEET THURSDAY

Necessary To Change Date of Meeting On Account of Christmas Holiday

The December meeting of the Woman's club will be held next Thursday at 3:30 o'clock. The date was changed on account of the regular meeting coming on Christmas day.

Mrs. J. H. Moore and Mrs. Carr, of Greenville, will appear on the program and a very interesting meeting is expected.

The session will be the last one of the year and the charity work program will be the most important work coming up for discussion. Anyone, whether he be a member of the club or not, and who is interested in this work, will be welcome to attend the meeting, it was stated.

County Teachers Will Meet Here Saturday

The Martin County Teachers association will hold its third monthly meeting in the high school building here tomorrow, according to an announcement made in the office of the county superintendent here a few days ago. The meeting, scheduled to have been held Saturday of last week, was postponed to accommodate the teachers in those schools closing for Thanksgiving.

The Town

I shall never forget the first time I saw this town. One day in October I left my family and came to see the church which was about to be tendered to me. I did not know one person in Williamston, N. C. I think I had never heard of the place until three weeks before, except I remembered once to have seen a press notice bearing that heading, and giving an account of an unsavory crime which had been committed near the town.

The little jerk-water train, running over a branch-line road, rolled into town that evening at just about nightfall. I detrained and was met by three

Church Officials

In a moment we were off as the we were going for several miles. But when we had covered three blocks we had already passed through the principal business part of the town and were drawing up before one of the two hotels. I was turned over to the keeping of the proprietor until the next morning when I should preach in the little church of which I am now pastor.

After supper that evening (they still call it that) I went to spy out the land. Until this day the people here do not know of my nocturnal activities in this little town on my first evening here. As I went out of the hotel door, I had covered but a single block when I was entirely out of the business section in that direction. Feeling that I had taken the wrong end of the street I hastened back to the hotel to get my bearings, then proceeded up the west end of the same street. I walked three blocks and was out of the business part of town again. Making another sally I noticed a crooked street called "Graball," and followed it. But after traversing a single block I had come back to the railroad tracks from which place I had been spirited away only two hours before.

Having discovered in so short a time that practically all of Williamston's business was carried on in five blocks, I wanted to see the church building which housed the congregation of which I might become the pastor, and the house where in that

(Continued on page five)