

THE ENTERPRISE

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Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Tuesday, July 14, 1931

ESTABLISHED 1898

MAKE RECKLESS DRIVERS PAY FOR DAMAGES BY CAR

New Law, Effective July 1, Would Fix Financial Responsibility

The new financial responsibility law for North Carolina, enacted by the 1931 legislature, went into effect July 1st. The new law aims to fix responsibility for reckless driving on the highways and secure the collection of damages where such damage results from careless or reckless driving. Heretofore owners of motor cars on the highways have been liable for damages by court action. It was simple enough to bring suit and collect if you won a judgment. But persons without financial responsibility could go on the road and do incalculable damage, and there was no recourse at law. The new law aims to get that class of people.

As presented by one of the insurance companies the provisions of the laws are as follows:

"The financial responsibility law pertaining to the operation of motor vehicles in the State of North Carolina, effective July 1, 1931, compels the commissioner of revenue to revoke the license and registrations of a person when a judgment in excess of \$100 has been rendered against such person, arising out of the use of a motor vehicle, where such judgment remains unpaid after 30 days unless such person shall furnish proof of his ability to respond in damages for future accidents.

"The failure on the part of operators to fulfill the requirements of this law will cause the commissioner of revenue to revoke their operating license and registration certificates, thereby depriving them of the privilege of operation a motor vehicle.

"If any person fails to return operator's license and registration certificates, thereby depriving them of the privilege of operating a motor vehicle, he shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$1,000.

"If any person shall forge any operator's license and registration certificates after failure to prove financial security, he shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$1,000.

"If any person shall forge any evidence of financial security he shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$1,000, or not more than 30 days in jail, or both.

"The law is designed to protect the public from operators of motor vehicles who are unable to pay for the damage caused by an accident. After a judgment has been rendered, and is not paid, the owner must present evidence of financial responsibility before he can again operate his automobile.

Financial responsibility may be established in the following manner: A certificate of insurance issued by an insurance company licensed to do business in the state, certifying that the owner carries public liability insurance of not less than \$5,000 for one injured person and not less than \$10,000 for two or more persons injured in any one accident, and property damage insurance of not less than \$1,000 for damage to property.

A bond of either a surety company or two persons sureties.

JUSTICE TRIES SEVERAL CASES

Poplar Point Negro Gets 30 Days in Jail on Disorderly Conduct Charge

Charged with disorderly conduct, Frank Roberson, colored, of Poplar Point, was given a 30-day suspended jail sentence here last Saturday in Justice of the Peace J. L. Hassell's court. The defendant was released upon the payment of the cost and assured good behavior during the next 12 months.

Dealey Purvis, charged with an assault with a deadly weapon, was bound over to the recorder's court under a \$50 bond.

Charged with fighting, Jay Jones and C. B. Roberson appeared before Justice Hassell late Saturday night. Judgment was suspended in the case upon the defendants paying the cost.

Judgment was suspended yesterday in the case charging Fred Smith with disorderly conduct.

Charged with passing a worthless check, W. M. Myers was found not guilty in the justice of the peace court last Friday.

W. J. Hodges Exhibits Large Fig Grown Here

One of the largest, if not the largest, figs ever grown in this section, was exhibited here last Saturday by Mr. W. J. Hodges. Grown on a tree in his garden at his home on north Haughton Street, the fig measured 3 1/2 inches in length and 8 1/5 inches in circumference.

County Commissioners Hear Complaints as to Valuations

The Martin County Board of Commissioners, sitting as a board of equalization and review at the courthouse here yesterday, heard around 40 taxpayers lodge complaints against values placed on their property by assessors, and then adjourned late in the afternoon until this morning, when they resumed the hearings. Definite decision was reserved in the case of all the complaints, although it is likely that adjustments will be made in some cases.

Most of those appearing before the board Monday were said to be rather indefinite in making their complaints, which were made more on the line of general principles

than on actual merits. There were some cases found where property in one neighborhood is valued much higher than like property in other sections where similar conditions prevail. These will probably be ironed out by the commissioners when each case is taken up individually and reviewed by them at a later date.

The commissioners also found instances where property was listed much too low, and the absence of solvent credits is particularly puzzling in some cases where it was felt sure people had them. The board did not anticipate having very many additional complaints at the session today.

TOWN BOARD IN REGULAR MEET MONDAY NIGHT

Cooperation Asked in Disposal of Rubbish; Few Other Matters

Members of the town board of commissioners, in session here last night, had only a number of minor matters for consideration, the work of the street cleaning department taking up most of the time of the board. Mayor Coburn and all members of the board, L. P. Lindsley, N. C. Green, Luther Peel, E. S. McCabe, and G. H. Harrison, were present. The meeting was originally scheduled for last Tuesday night, but was postponed because of the absence from the city of several members of the board.

After auditing and approving a number of current accounts, the commissioners turned their attention to workmen's compensation insurance, and although the rates for this type of insurance seem to be high, a majority appeared to be in favor of retaining the insurance rather than take a chance on some one being hurt while in the employ of the town, for which the town would be liable under the terms of the workmen's compensation act.

No record vote was taken on the proposition, but it is presumed that the municipality will continue to carry the insurance.

Following a discussion of removing trash throughout the town, the board decided to call upon the citizens to cooperate by placing all rubbish in barrels or boxes inside their yards, where it will be called for twice each week by the street cleaning force. Heretofore, it has been customary to put rubbish containers on the outside of yards, but since the streets have been paved, it was decided that a better appearance could be maintained by keeping the trash boxes inside the yards.

Superintendent of Streets Jesse W. Harrell stated that the trash wagons would call twice each week in the future, and that the wagons and carts would make regular rounds, calling at each home on the same day each week. Townspeople are asked to bear this in mind, and have their rubbish and refuse placed within their yards where the truck or wagon can get to it on the same day twice every week.

Tannic Acid Kills Fish In Roanoke Near Salem

Roanoke, Va., July 12.—Roanoke River below Salem as far as Roanoke and probably for some distance farther downstream was a poor habitat for fish yesterday. It presented the strange spectacle of thousands of fish fighting to get out of the water, leaping into the air and crowding the banks of the stream. The surface of the water was thick with them late yesterday afternoon, many of them dead and others apparently dying. Hundreds were caught by hand.

Release of a large quantity of waste liquor from the Salem tannery was given by C. E. Momaw, game warden, and C. W. B. Korb, game warden, president of the local chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America, as the explanation of the phenomenon. This liquid, containing a high percentage of tannic acid, was discharged into the stream on Monday night from the storage ponds in which it had been kept awaiting high water.

Methodist Sunday School Picnic Set for Tomorrow

The local Methodist Sunday school will hold its annual picnic at Colerain Beach tomorrow afternoon, according to an announcement made by the committee in-charge. All members are asked to meet at the church tomorrow afternoon in time to leave for the half-day outing at 1:30 o'clock.

The several other Sunday schools in town are planning for picnics, but the Methodists are the first to complete their arrangements.

LOCAL MASONS WILL JOIN IN ANNUAL PICNIC

To Take Part in Event at Eden House July 30th; Benefit Orphanage

Arrangements will be completed at a meeting of the members tonight to have the Skewarkee Lodge take part in the annual Masonic picnic to be held at Eden House Beach the 30th of this month, one of the local lodge officers stated this morning.

The picnic, strictly a charitable act, has been held for many years by the Masonic lodges of Hertford, Bertie, and Northampton counties, and Martin comes in this year to make it a four-county affair.

Each lodge makes a definite contribution to be used in serving dinner to the visitors, the receipts derived therefrom going to the Oxford orphanage.

Mr. C. K. Proctor, superintendent of the orphanage, with a number of the orphanage children, will attend the picnic this year, it was stated.

The picnic goes to Eden House this year for the first time, the committee having selected the location on account of its accessibility to a large part of eastern North Carolina. Thousands of people are expected to attend the picnic on the 30th, a time when old friendships and new ones meet to advance a worthy cause.

GAINS PLACE ON STATE PATROL

Wiley Crawford One of Few To Get Place on New Highway Patrol

Wiley Crawford, local young man, earned a place in the State Highway Patrol following tests and examinations held at Morehead City during the past fifteen days. Young Crawford, successfully completing his final examinations last Saturday returned home Sunday, and is now subject to call to Raleigh where he will be given practical training before going in as a regular patrolman about August 1.

More than 100 young men from all over North Carolina trained for positions on the patrol force, but only 36 of the number gained places, many of the others being in line for positions when vacancies develop. Dennis Roberson, of Robersonville, and the only other young man from this county to train at the Morehead camp, passed his tests and examinations and while he did not gain a place, it is understood he is subject to call at any time.

Crawford stated that thorough training tests were required, and that a full work schedule was arranged for the boys while they were at the camp.

John Hines Displays Hen Egg in Shape of Peanut

Following publication of the recent story about the large egg laid by a hen belonging to Dr. R. J. Nelson, of Robersonville, wherein Dr. Nelson's pullet was declared to be the champion large-egg layer of the section, County Game Warden John W. Hines came to town yesterday claiming to be the possessor of a hen that lays the most freakish-looking eggs in the county. As evidence he was displaying an egg about the size of and shaped almost exactly like a jumbo peanut. It was laid by a Plymouth Rock hen, had a hard shell, and just like any other egg except for its unusual size and shape.

Baptist Philatheas Suspend Meetings Until September

The Baptist Philatheas class here has suspended its regular meetings for the remainder of the summer, it was announced yesterday. The next regular meeting will be held in early September, it was stated.

NEGRO IS BADLY CUT BY ANOTHER EARLY MONDAY

Tom Dove Carved Up For Paying Attention To Wife of Another

Tom Dove, colored man originally from South Carolina, but a resident of this place for some time, was painfully but apparently not seriously stabbed in several places about his body yesterday morning by Booker T. Bradley, colored. Bradley escaped and Dove stated that he was at a loss to advance any reason or cause for the attack made upon him.

At a doctor's office here, Dove laughed while the physician closed the wounds, the blood soaking the man's shirt and trickled down his trousers legs during the sewing period.

A short while before the attack, Bradley had Isom Williams get and carry away his clothes, Bradley apparently reasoning that he could make a quicker get-away with his clothes in some other spot. Williams, after removing the clothes to a home on the railroad, reported to Bradley, and the two went to the home of Gus Withgins, near the river hill, where, without warning, Bradley attacked Dove.

Officers worked ahead of Bradley following the attack, and he was forced to flee without many of his clothes. He was arrested late Monday afternoon by Chief W. B. Daniel and Sheriff C. B. Roebuck and lodged in jail here for hearing before the recorder today.

Bradley stated after his arrest that he attacked Dove because the latter had been paying attention to his wife. The whole matter will probably be aired in Judge Bailey's court this morning.

Bradley, formerly of Hamilton, is said to have left a board bill unpaid in Moore County several weeks ago, returning to this county, where he had evaded officers since that time.

FIREMEN HOLD REGULAR MEET

Elect Delegates To State Meeting in Statesville Next Month

Members of the local fire company held their regular semi-monthly meeting in the mayor's office in the town hall last night. Aside from the regular business, W. Ira Harrison, W. C. Manning, and Julian H. Harrell were elected delegates to the meeting of the State Firemen's Association which will be held this year in Statesville, beginning August 24 and continuing through the 27th.

Six or eight members of the local department are attending the quarterly meeting of the Eastern Carolina Firemen's Association in Greenville tonight. The Greenville department has made elaborate plans for the entertainment of the visiting firemen, including a banquet, and members from here who planned to attend were anticipating an enjoyable occasion.

Henry K. Parker Dies At Home Near Windsor

Henry K. Parker died at his home near Windsor Friday morning at 3:30 o'clock, after a lingering illness. Mr. Parker was 74 years old, a prominent farmer and a member of St. Thomas' Episcopal church in Windsor. He leaves his wife, who before her marriage was Miss Lucy Bernard; one daughter, Mrs. Herbert Spivey, of Portsmouth, Va.; five sons, Sam, John and Robert Parker, all of Windsor; William and Gilliam Parker, of Williamston; also one sister, Mrs. Annie Jenkins, of Murfreesboro. He was buried at the home place last Saturday afternoon. A large number of friends and relatives were in attendance at the services.

Local Masonic Lodge To Install Officers Tonight

Officers, both elective and appointive, will be installed in the Skewarkee Lodge here tonight at a regular communication of the officers.

Watts Theatre To Run Bargain Show Saturday

Manager J. W. Watts, jr., of the Watts Theatre here, announced this morning that he would run a special bargain matinee Saturday afternoon from 1 to 5 o'clock, when the admission will be 10 cents to everybody.

Sandy Ridge School Election Will Be Held Next Monday

BERTIE COUNTY UNABLE TO PAY CURRENT BILLS

Court Decision Halts Sale of Refunding Bonds and Presents Puzzle

Windsor, July 13.—For the first time in the long and illustrious history of Bertie County its board of commissioners last Monday was without funds with which to pay the county's current bills.

A large stack of accounts, including the vouchers for salaries of county officers, employees and the outside poor list, were left in the Register of Deeds' office with vouchers already signed by the board of commissioners in their regular meeting Monday, but none of them were delivered because the county is overdrawn at the bank and no funds are available to pay the vouchers with.

On several occasions during the past school year the school funds were short and teachers' checks were held up and a part of the last month's salary due the county's teachers is still unpaid, but Monday was the first time the county commissioners have failed to pay off courthouse employees and current operating expenses.

The situation was brought about by the Supreme Court decision last week which held the law permitting the issue of funding bonds by counties, which was passed by the legislature this year, to be unconstitutional. Bertie County had everything in readiness to sell \$120,000 in funding bonds to take care of the overdrafts caused this year by poor tax collections, and with the money from these bonds he able to carry the county through the summer until the new tax books are opened.

But the supreme court decision has complicated matters, held up the sale of the bonds, and thrown Bertie financial affairs in a muddle. The sale of the funding bonds is being handled for the county by Bray Brothers, Greensboro brokers. They hope to be able to get at a solution of the puzzle some time in the near future, negotiate the sale, and furnish the county with funds, but they are not able yet to say exactly when this will be done.

In the meantime, the county is paying no salaries or bills.

GO FOR BOY BUT GET DISTILLERY

Deputy Marshall Locates Distillery in Bertie Last Week

Deputy U. S. Marshall Dennis Roberson missed his man but picked up new and unexpected business last week while working in Bertie county.

Mr. Roberson went to the home of Daniel Ward in that county with a warrant calling for the arrest of a boy who generally made his home there. And while searching for the boy, the officer and assistants found a still, worm, cap and other equipment, including a bag of sugar. Continuing their search on the premises, the officers found the kettle, two kegs and several coca cola barrels. However, there were no signs indicating recent use of the kettle.

Following a hearing held here, Ward was released under a \$200 bond on the charge of possessing equipment designed for use in manufacturing liquor.

Prominent Bertie Man Held For Federal Court

C. T. Harrell, prominent white man of Bertie County, and his son, William T., 19 years old, were arrested at their home near Roxobel last Friday by federal prohibition agents in connection with the illegal manufacture of liquor. A Chevrolet car fell into the hands of the officers and is now being held by the government, pending the outcome of the trial of the man and son in federal court next October.

At a hearing held here, that afternoon, the defendants pleaded guilty, the father being released under a \$1,000 bond and his son under a \$750 bond.

Referee Has Case Tried Here Under Adjudication

Completing the evidence in the Dill-Cramer-Truitt Corporation case against Downs, here last Friday afternoon, litigants are now awaiting the decision of Attorney J. Calvin Smith, referee. Much time and study will be necessary in making the decision, and it will be several weeks before the referee hands out his opinion, it is believed.

SURVEY DYMOND CITY ROAD MADE

Road Is 2.6 Miles in Length, Will Probably Be Made 24 Feet Wide

State Highway Commission engineers yesterday completed a survey of the proposed road through the old J. & W. tract of land to the site of Dymond City. A report has been made to the State Highway Commission, and it is expected that the road will be built as soon as convict labor for the undertaking is available in this section.

The survey was made by Mr. E. S. Peabody, district engineer, of Washington, assisted by Mr. W. A. Cherry, of this place, who is in charge of the roads in this section. According to preliminary plans, the road will be 24 feet wide and 2.6 miles in length. It will lead up to what will probably be headquarters of the 15,000-acre cattle ranch being established on the old J. & W. property.

MANY ACCIDENTS PAST WEEK-END

Six Dead and 13 Hurt Over Week-End; Autos Lead in Causes

Six accidental deaths were reported and 13 people were injured in North Carolina during the past week, the toll closely following the record set during the first week-end of the month.

Three people, Mrs. John Hatley, M. Luther Hatley, H. G. Dick, were killed outright or died in a hospital following a train-auto collision six miles north of Albemarle Sunday morning.

Elizabeth Bass, colored, of Raleigh, was drowned in Roanoke River, near South Hill, Va., when she was thrown from the car in which she was riding into the stream. The car collided with a truck on a narrow bridge.

Kyle Bush, 21-year-old man of Hudson, N. C., was killed when his car overturned and pinned him underneath it near Lenoir.

Arthur L. Sprinkle, of Marion, N. C., was drowned in Myrtle Sound Sunday afternoon.

Several other people were hurt in the train-auto collision and the two automobile accidents. Several others were hurt, two seriously, in automobile accidents reported in various sections of the state. No accidents were reported in this immediate section over the week-end.

Cigarette Consumption In U. S. Is On Increase

Production of flue-cured tobacco in the United States more than doubled since 1921, according to government estimates. Flue-cured tobacco is used chiefly in the manufacture of cigarettes and the gain in production of this type of tobacco is the result of the increasing numbers of men and women who are reaching for cigarettes. According to government records, production of flue-cured tobacco last year amounted to more than 870,000,000 pounds, as compared with only 372,000,000 pounds in 1921. Production in 1930 set a new record for flue-cured tobacco, the next largest being about 750,000,000 pounds in 1929.

Margolis Brothers Begin Clearance Thursday, 16th

The annual store-wide July Clearance Sale of Margolis Brothers will begin Thursday of this week, July 16, and will continue for several days. Mr. Margolis says his firm is cutting and slashing prices in order to make room for fall and winter stocks and that every item in the store, regardless of former price, will be further reduced during this clearance. Extra clerks have been secured for the sale and every convenience for the customer is being provided.

Heaviest Rains of Season Are Reported in County

During the past week-end heavy rains fell throughout this section, several sections reporting the heaviest downfalls of the season. Although the rains have been heavy during the past few days, it is believed that no damage has resulted so far to crops in this county.

Small streams were swollen by the downpour Sunday afternoon late, and a rise was reported in all the larger streams of the section.

ISSUE NOT CLEAR BECAUSE STATE TO BE IN CHARGE

Question Is On Consolidation of School With One Here

A close election is predicted in the Sandy Ridge School district, Williams Township, next Monday, when the citizens vote on the consolidation of that school with the one here. The registration books were closed last Saturday, 125 citizens qualifying to take part in the election to be held at the schoolhouse in the district next Monday between sunrise and sunset.

The books will be opened for challenge of any of the names entered upon the books, it is understood. Messrs. Golden Godard and N. R. Griffin, the judges of election, and Mr. Lee Harrison, registrar, will handle the contest.

The proposition before the citizens there is a peculiar one, and especially so, just at this time when the state is introducing so many major changes into the school system. With this condition existing, and no definite information to be had as to what might be expected from the turn of the election, it is impossible to predict the outcome.

It was learned from a member of the equalization board, however, that the transportation system maintained in the district in the past, would be changed. The order of this change could not be learned, but with the continuation of the school under the old system, there are only two alternatives to follow: In one case, pupils would be allowed so many cents each day for transportation. In the second case, trucks might be rerouted to serve a second school.

The status of the Sandy Ridge school case can not be definitely learned until several hundred other similar cases are settled throughout the state. There were approximately 55 pupils who attended regularly last year, a number of others coming to the school here at their own individual expense.

The election calls for a special levy of not more than 35 cents on the \$100 valuation, the cost in this district having averaged around 22 cents for several years.

HOME AGENT'S JUNE REPORT

Canning More Poular Than Ever Before in County, Home Agent Says

That canning is more popular in the county this year than ever before is evidenced in the report of the home agent, Miss Lora E. Sleeper, for the month of June. More than \$160 was spent by home demonstration club members during the period, the report stated, and many vegetables and fruits have already been preserved, with the possibility that an adequate supply of food will be made available in all club members' homes during the coming winter.

The agent's report in detail: "During the month of June the home agent traveled 1,009 miles in the county, conducting 14 meetings with the girls, with 119 in attendance, and 13 with the women, with 125 in attendance. Twenty-one days were spent in the field and five days in the office. Eleven articles were prepared for the press, 89 bulletins were distributed, 25 individual letters written, 4 circular letters were prepared with 628 copies circulated. Eighteen different homes were visited. A total of \$147.80 was taken in through the curb market. The women continue to buy canning equipment, there being \$57.30 spent the past month. Women who have never done much canning are this year canning in larger quantities than ever. The total taken in through the curb market to the present time is \$465.61. This includes the sales to July 1, this year."

W. G. Peel Is Again Honored by Company

Mr. W. G. Peel, prominent local agent of the Life Insurance Company of Virginia, has again been honored by his company, and tonight he leaves for an extended trip to Canada at the insurance company's expense. Mr. Peel will join a group of other honor men of the company in Washington City, and travel by special train from there.

Dr. Carl Rothrock, of Lewistown, Pa., who was caught in a recent storm at a nearby State forest park, reports that rain, which froze as it fell, encased a live rattlesnake and held it fast to the ground until the clouds passed and the sun melted the ice.