

# THE ENTERPRISE

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VOLUME XXXIV—NUMBER 53

Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Tuesday, September 1, 1931

ESTABLISHED 1898

## OPENING PRICES LOWER THAN YEAR AGO

First Hour's Sales Here Average \$6.84; Upward Trend in Later Prices

## DEFEAT LOOMS FOR EXTENDED TERM IN COUNTY

### Indifference of People Who Favor Adopting Plan Will Likely Be Decisive Factor

### REGISTRATION BOOKS CLOSING SATURDAY, 5TH

#### People in Several Districts Of County Oppose Extended Term

More than 1,200 people have registered in eleven of the voting precincts of the county for the school election to be held in this county on September 14, several of the eleven registrars reporting having stated that many of those registering in their precincts were opposed to the proposed county-wide extended term. A careful study of these reports and the registration figures indicate that the contest on the 14th will be very close, unless there is a marked support developed in some of the districts between now and next Saturday, the day the registration books close.

It is going too far to say that some of the districts are bitterly opposed to the extended term, but reports received from Gold Point, Hassells, and Williams stated that a majority of the voters in those precincts is opposed to the extended term, with "sentiment divided" in Griffins and little interest in the election in the Hamilton voting precinct. Poplar Point has not been heard from, but a small registration, due to the size of the district, can be expected there. Just what the people think of the proposed extended term in the other districts is not known, but if they fail to show a marked interest in the election, there is certain defeat for the extended term.

The registration books close next Saturday, and for one to vote in the election to be held on September 14, he or she must register on or before Saturday, September 5. Regardless of whether you have registered before, or how many times you have registered before the present registration was ordered, one wishing to vote in the election September 14 will have to register in this new registration. If you have not registered since the books opened the early part of last month, and if you wish to take part in the election, it is necessary that you register before next Saturday night.

According to reports coming from two or three sections, the proposal is not fully understood by many. The election, if carried, will create a county-wide two months extended school term, calling for a special tax levy not to exceed 20 cents on the \$100 property valuation. The passage of the election will eliminate all special tax levies for schools in the several districts now supplementing their school budgets, and in the place of the present levies, which are as high as 35 cents in some districts, the 20-cent rate would be levied.

If the election fails, then the old levies will continue unchanged; that is, Bear Grass will continue to levy 35 cents instead of a rate not to exceed 20 cents, and so on throughout the county.

The passage of the proposal, it is conservatively estimated, will result in a saving to 90 per cent of the taxpayers and provide equal educational advantages for all children.

The eleven precincts, Poplar Point not reporting, had registered 1,228 people up to and including last Saturday, as follows:

Gold Point	49
Robersonville	194
Hassells	95
Williams	90
Bear Grass	119
Williamston	209
Oak City	80
Jamesville	96
Griffins	147
Everetts	88
Hamilton	61

### Venus Ballard, 105 Years Old, Dies In This County

Venus Ballard, one of the county's oldest colored residents, died at her home, near Robersonville recently at the age of 105 years.

### LOCAL YOUTH IS INJURED BY HIT AND RUN DRIVER

#### Tom Summerlin Not Expected to Recover From Injuries

Tom Summerlin, local white boy, suffered a broken hip and other injuries late Sunday night when he was struck by a hit-and-run driver on the highway near Parmele. He was removed to a Tarboro hospital, where he was reported in a dying condition at 1:30 o'clock this afternoon.

Traveling toward their homes from a Tarboro, young Summerlin, his brother, Claiborne Summerlin and Edwin Cox stopped to repair a tire. They drove off the pavement and one of the boys was looking for the tools under the seat, when a car, meeting them, left the right hand side of the road and struck Summerlin, who was standing on the edge of the road beside the parked car. Cox, who was standing near Summerlin, escaped by only a few inches. Claiborne and young Cox picked up the boy and after repairing the tire carried him to Robersonville, where he was given medical attention before he was removed to the hospital. The boys were unable to describe the hit-and-run car and its driver continues at large.

### CHINA SUFFERS FROM FLOODS

#### 250,000 Lose Lives and Over Million Homeless, Late Reports State

More than one million people are homeless and 250,000 others are believed to have lost their lives in recent floods inundating large sections of China.

Uncertainty still veiled this week the extent of the disaster in Kiangsu Province, where eight miles of dykes along the Grand Canal collapsed. An aerial survey led authorities to believe early Chinese estimates vastly exaggerated the number of deaths.

Nevertheless, it was still feared that many hundreds, and perhaps thousands, died in Kaoyu and other nearby cities when dykes collapsed last Tuesday and Wednesday. In the countryside villages perhaps even a greater toll was taken.

First incomplete reports of deaths in Kiangsu Province were received as comparatively stable conditions returned to the Wuhan cities of Hankow, Hanyang and Wuchang. Water from the Yangtze still inundated the streets in these cities, however.

The Wuhan gendarmier headquarters estimated 250,000 persons drowned or succumbed to disease, starvation, or exposure in the three latter cities. The figures may be accepted as official and comparatively reliable.

The gendarmier census showed that 163,000 houses either collapsed or were ruined past repair, rendering 782,000 persons, half the population of the three cities, homeless and destitute. This total was lessened by deaths and the evacuations of those able to flee, but 500,000 remain there destitute and helpless.

### CHILDREN MUST BE VACCINATED

#### First-year School Children Should Be Vaccinated Before the 14th

All children becoming six years of age on or before the first day of next January and who are planning to enter the local school this fall are required to be vaccinated against smallpox, Principal Wm. R. Watson stated this morning. That the children might be free of sore arms before school opens the 14th of next month, the school man said it would be to the child's advantage to be vaccinated within the next few days.

The law requires all children to be vaccinated against smallpox, and it is important that parents remember that their children can start the term and continue without having to stop for vaccinations.

### Illinois Man Is Interested Spectator at Own Funeral

#### Benton, Ill., Aug. 30.—Surrounded by relatives and friends, Stephen R. Patton today attended his own funeral.

Patton, sitting with his brother, John Patton, 84, of Lenzburg, Ill., heard Mr. Maulding take for his text, "I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better."

The funeral was conducted at the Patton home on the south edge of alier, where he has lived for 41 years. He said he didn't want any flowers or oration when he is dead.

### LOCAL PATRONS ASK FOR BETTER MAIL SCHEDULES

#### Postal Authorities Asked To Take Steps to Remedy Present Conditions

Finding the schedules inadequate and the service the poorest in years, local postal patrons are pleading with postal authorities for additional carrier contracts. In several complaints entered during the past few days, the poorly arranged schedules were pointed out by local citizens who asked that contracts be made with the bus line to handle some of the mails. No reports have been received from the authorities, but when the poor facilities are considered, it is believed that arrangements will be made for an improved service.

At the present time, the mails are received here between 10 o'clock in the morning and 4:20 in the afternoon, a letter mailed after 4 p. m. resting in the office here almost 18 hours before it is started on its journey. It is believed that a contract with the bus line will make possible a much better service, for a letter then could be mailed here about 9 p. m. and reach its destination, in many cases, before it is dispatched under the present schedule.

The proposed schedule would even better the mail service here to Jamesville, Postmaster Jesse T. Price stated when questioned about the proposed change. A letter could be mailed here at 9:00 p. m. and reach Jamesville the next morning instead of noon the next day. Mail addressed to Norfolk or Raleigh and intermediate points would be delivered, if mailed here at 9:00 o'clock p. m., early the next morning. A letter mailed to Norfolk after 4 o'clock under the present schedule would reach Norfolk the next day, but too late for deliver until the following morning, it is understood.

This change, if made, would speed up, with few exceptions, all the mails dispatched here by almost 18 hours, including letters addressed to northern and western states, it is understood.

### MRS. W. LEGGETT PASSES TODAY

#### Burial Tomorrow Afternoon In Cross Roads Township Grave Yard

Mrs. Willie W. Leggett, 70 years old, died at the home of her son, J. W. Leggett, near Jamesville this morning about 2 o'clock. She had been in poor health for some time, and had been seriously for several days.

Living a greater part of her life in Cross Roads township, she moved the first of this year to live with her son in Jamesville township. Three sisters and several children survive.

Funeral services will be conducted tomorrow afternoon at 3:00 o'clock by Mr. Louis T. Holliday. Interment will follow in the Wynn burial ground in Cross Roads township.

Mrs. Leggett was, for a number of years, a member of the Christian church and was greatly beloved by all who knew her.

### Ernest Vick Held Under Bond for Auto Killing

Ernest Vick, arrested last Thursday in connection with an automobile wreck that resulted in the death of Frank Price, young Goose Nest township farmer, was given a preliminary hearing before Justice of the Peace J. F. Crisp last Friday afternoon and ordered held under a \$1,000 bond. Unable to raise that amount, Vick continues in the county jail.

Said to have been driving more than 50 miles an hour, Vick turned a Ford roadster over on a Palmyra road last Thursday afternoon, throwing Price from the machine and breaking his neck. Vick was not injured.

The case will be aired in the Martin County Superior court convening here the 21st day of this month.

### JNO. W. GARDNER DIES THURSDAY

#### Was Well Known Farmer Of Jamesville Section; Funeral Friday

John W. Gardner, 78 years old, and a farmer in the Jamesville section, died at his home there last Thursday from an attack of pneumonia. He had been in feeble health for more than six months, but during the greater part of that time he was able to be up and care for his duties about the home.

Funeral services were conducted from the home Friday afternoon by Rev. W. B. Harrington, and interment followed in the family burial ground on the Lloyd Gardner plantation, near by.

A tiller of the soil all his life, Mr. Gardner was highly esteemed by his friends and neighbors. He was a member of the Poplar Chapel church for almost a quarter of a century.

Twenty-two years ago he was married to Mrs. Estelle Senate, formerly Miss Estelle Holliday, of near Jamesville. She with four daughters, Mrs. Jesse Martin, Mrs. Eb Hardison, Mrs. Will Moore, and Mrs. Louis Harrison, all of near Jamesville, survive. He also leaves two step-sons, Messrs. Bruce Senate, of near Jamesville, and Mr. Clyde Senate, of New York.

### CAR STOLEN AT DANCE FRIDAY IS RECOVERED

#### Found Loaded With Stolen Tobacco in Cemetery Here Saturday

Thieves last Friday night stole a Chevrolet car, and after forcing an entrance at the back door of the Farmers Warehouse here, drove into the building and loaded it with 400 pounds of Mr. Harry Meador's best tobacco. Archie Pille, owner of the car, reported the theft to Night Policeman Allsbrooks, who saw the machine pass a Main Street intersection a few minutes later. He trailed the car out Elm Street, the rogue losing the officer when he turned into the local cemetery and deserted the car and tobacco.

Unable to locate the car that night, the officer reported the theft to Chief Daniel, who with Sheriff Roebuck, trailed it early next morning and found the machine and tobacco parked in the cemetery. No arrests were made.

Pille, with Clifton Harris, both of Terra Ceia, and Misses Florah and Nettie Waters, of Aurora, were attending the dance here when their car was stolen.

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### SEVEN MARRIAGE LICENSES ISSUED

#### Four More Than Issued in Previous Month; Only Three From County

Seven marriage licenses were issued in this county last month, a marked percentage gain, but only an increase of four in number over the previous month. Only three of the participating couples live in Martin County, however; a majority of the others coming from Bertie, and one couple from as far away as Norfolk and Atlanta. Two of the three county couples marrying during the month were white.

Licenses were issued to the following:

White

Jesse Jones James, of Norfolk, and Clara F. Maness, of Atlanta, Ga.

Arch C. Council and Jennie Gardner, both of Martin County.

Julian H. Harrell and Frances F. Warren, both of Martin County.

Colored

Ben Gurley and Jessie Gilliam, of Bertie County.

J. D. Riddick and Daisy Woolard, both of Martin County.

Alfred Pettiford and Annie Gilliam, both of Bertie.

Alustus Towe and Frances Baker, both of Washington County.

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A Chevrolet coupe, stolen in Goldsboro last night and belonging to Mrs. O. N. Lovelace, of that town, was recovered here this morning by Chief of Police W. B. Daniel. Ira Andrews, colored boy formerly of Williamston but for several years a resident of the Wayne County town, was arrested in connection with the theft and is being held in the county jail here for Goldsboro officers.

### REYNOLDS LEADING BUYER

Reynolds, bidding for a starry crown in the first reports of the opening, bought heavily on this and other markets. The Export is on the market and is buying a quantity of the offerings, but at the lowest figure ever heard of, and Liggett and Myers are taking a number of domestic grades. The warehouses carried the burden, buying heavily in an effort to maintain a decent price.

Starting off at the lowest point possible, an average of little more than 2 cents, the prices gradually climbed, and as the sale progressed during the first two hours, the market appeared strong. At the first, an average of not more than 4 cents was predicted, but the 1-cent piles dwindled in number, and then prices ranged from 2 to 27 cents, the better grades resting around the 17 and 18 cent mark.

Many Turn Tags

Many tags were turned, and those who accepted the sales did so with disgust. Some of the scenes on the market this morning were pathetic, and some were comical, farmers, visitors, and warehousemen appearing disheartened. But, as a whole, there was little grumbling, and the auctioneer continued his monotonous song from one end of the warehouse to the other.

"I just ain't going to sell my tobacco for 2 cents and buy snuff at 80 cents," one farmer remarked. "I'll be damned if I take another dip," he said as he took one last glance at the tobacco he had raised, cured, and placed on the warehouse floors.

Low Prices General

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