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# THE ENTERPRISE

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## County-Wide Tax Defeated By 170

### 2,956 Children Enrolled at Opening of County White Schools Monday

#### Enrollment Opening Day Is Largest Ever

#### THREE SCHOOLS HAVE SMALLER REGISTRATIONS

#### Adjustments Are Subject to Cause Fluctuations in the Opening Figures

Approximately 2,956 white children entered the eleven eight-months schools in this county yesterday, an increase in opening-day enrollment of nearly 300 more than the number reported last year. Marked variations, resulting mostly from consolidations and other factors, were reported in several of the schools, the combined enrollment being much larger than was generally anticipated.

Sizeable gains in opening enrollment figures were reported in the several of the schools, only three units, Gold Point, Hassell and Hamilton, showing losses. Robersonville, with 180 pupils registered, reported the largest high school enrollment, with Williamston following closely with an enrollment in that department of 175.

Poverty and want is said to have affected the opening-day enrollment in several communities, one truck serving Hamilton missing 21 children because the little folks did not have proper clothing to wear. The smallest primary enrollment in the school's history was reported at Hamilton on account of actual want, it was stated.

So many changes have been effected under the new school laws, that much difficulty is being experienced in practically all the schools, and marked fluctuations are expected in attendance records. Bear Grass made signal gains in its opening-day registration as compared with that of last year, but today's attendance was reported under that of yesterday.

In the table below, opening-day enrollments are given for the last term and for this year. Jamesville failed to report its enrollment separately last year and again this year, but a big gain is evident in the elementary grades and it is believed that there is a slight increase in the high school number. Hamilton lost its high school and while no report could be had this morning for its elementary enrollment, it is estimated that 125 enrolled in the elementary grades. The table:

School	1930	1932
Dardens	81	85
Jamesville	316	375
Williamston	462	529
Everetts	133	42
Bear Grass	204	32
Gold Point	80	70
Hassell	77	62
Hamilton	157	19
Oak City	262	81
Robersonville	296	174
Parmele	75	76

\*Estimated. Dardens, Gold Point, Hassell, Hamilton and Parmele have no high school enrollments. Jamesville failed to list her pupils separately in the report and a distinction between the high school and elementary numbers cannot be made for the county as a whole. It is believed that approximately 2,300 enrolled yesterday are children in the elementary and primary grades, leaving about 656 in the six high schools.

#### OAK CITY SCHOOL GOOD OPENING

#### 383 Register for Work in The Schools There Yesterday

A splendid opening for the Oak City schools yesterday morning was reported by the principal, Mr. H. M. Ainsley, today. A goodly number of parents was present, and a marked interest in the school work there was very evident, it was stated.

#### MARKET REPORT

The Williamston Tobacco Market had one of its largest sales of the season yesterday when 226,000 pounds of the leaf were sold for an average of approximately seven cents. The sales continued all day.

Today's poundage is estimated at about 85,000 pounds, with the price about the same, probably a little stronger, but not much.

So far this season, the local market is leading its last year's sales, and yesterday new buyers were on the market, a stronger tone resulting. However, the prices continue low, with the inferior grades commanding very little money. The better grades are about the same.

#### TEXAS SOLONS IN THROES OF HUGE COTTON BATTLE

#### Legislature There Not Expected to Sanction Long's Cotton Holiday Plan

Austin, Tex., Sept. 14.—The Texas House of Representatives today dealt a crushing blow to advocates of an extensive cotton curtailment movement when it voted down amendments proposing 25 to 50 per cent reductions of the present acreage.

The proffer amendment limiting acreage to 50 per cent of the present amount was voted down, 70 to 45. A second, which would reduce the acreage 25 per cent, likewise was defeated, 68 to 45.

Texas partisans of Governor Huey P. Long, of Louisiana, who is demanding complete cotton prohibition in 1932 have rallied for a final fight in the legislature, although faced by a strong opposition force committed to a program of acreage reduction rather than a total ban.

Meanwhile, three Governors of three other cotton-growing States today cast their lot with Governor Long. Governor Sterling, of Texas, has advocated a curtailment law only.

For Long Plan Governor Blackwood, of South Carolina, called his Assembly into special session with an appeal for a law forbidding cotton planting in 1932, saying: "We have for a long time listened to the doctrine that the people of the South must be emancipated from cotton-growing slavery. Now comes a crisis that means despair if we do not accept the alternative that presents itself."

In the Texas legislature, T. J. Gaughan, of Camden, Ark., representing Governor Harvey Parnell, of Arkansas, was one of six Arkansians introduced to the Senate who urged Texas to prohibit cotton planting next year.

Senator Margie Neal received a telegram from Governor Russell, of Georgia, saying he believed the majority of Georgia cotton farmers and members of the Georgia Assembly favored a cotton holiday in 1932. He said he would convene the Georgia legislature immediately upon action of the Texas Legislature in passing a cotton prohibition measure.

"Cotton Holiday" Favored Columbia, S. C., Sept. 14.—Convened in extraordinary session today for the first time in 17 years, the South Carolina General Assembly tonight cleared its path for action on the proposed "cotton holiday" in 1932.

Committees of both houses late today approved similar bills making it

#### Begin Revival at Holly Spring Church Tomorrow

Beginning tomorrow night at 7:30 o'clock, Rev. C. T. Rogers, local minister, will start a series of revival services in the Holly Springs Methodist church, four miles from here. Services will be held each evening at 7:30 o'clock during the next ten days, it was announced by the minister today. The public is cordially invited out to hear Mr. Rogers.

#### 704 ENROLLED IN LOCAL SCHOOLS FOR 1930-31 TERM

#### Registration Yesterday The Largest in the History Of Local Schools

Opening the new term yesterday, the local schools reported an enrollment of 704, one of the largest ever recorded on an opening day here. A gain of 67 was reported in the elementary grades, a loss of 2 resulting in the high school. In commenting on the registration number, Principal William R. Watson stated yesterday that the indications point to an increase of 10 or 15 pupils in the high school within the next few days, and that there are approximately 20 children who will enter the lower grades within the next few days.

The principal was anticipating an opening-day enrollment of around 737, but it was learned yesterday that a goodly number of children were without proper clothing and were unable to attend. In an effort to provide schooling for any such children, the principal is urging pupils acquainted with the cases to report them to their grade teachers. The cases will be investigated and all help possible will be rendered the less fortunate ones. "This is important to both school and pupil, and especially to the children," the school man stated, in urging the pupils now attending to report cases where other children were unable to attend the school.

Several variations are noted in the grade enrollments this year, resulting partly because several communities, Sandy Ridge truck route in particular, failed with a full representation.

The first graders turned out in full, 89 of the little folks in the district reporting for work yesterday morning. An unaccountable drop was reported for the second grade, only 69 little knowledge-seekers registering for work in that grade yesterday morning. The third grade was out in big numbers, 50 going into one room and 39 into the second room. Registrations in the other grades were as follows:

The opening of the term was featured by the presence of a large number of parents, both from the country and town. Rev. C. T. Rogers opened the informal exercises program with a devotional, and R. L. Coburn extended a welcome to the teachers and children coming here for their first time. Rev. C. H. Dickey, representing the churches, and Editor W. C. Manning, representing the civic clubs and organizations, also made short talks.

During the term the school will operate on the same schedule in effect last season, Principal Watson stated.

#### Honey Bees Block Traffic In A West Virginia Town

Rowlesburg, W. Va.—Bees be bees, as Ellis Parker Butler didn't say, but these particular bees almost be traffic policemen. Anyway, they had the "stop and go" sign on Rowlesburg's main street for a while on an afternoon recently.

About two bushels of bees swarmed in front of the Hollis store, sending pedestrians scurrying in all directions and halting the movement of automobiles and all other traffic.

W. C. Wilson and others volunteered to save the day. When they approached the bees, however, the insects became frightened and after buzzing around for a time, flew to a tress on the old Shoch property, where they were eventually surrounded and forced to "beehive" themselves.

#### First Bale of 1931 Martin Cotton Ginned Last Week

The first bale of the 1931 cotton crop was ginned in Hassell last week, as far as it could be learned here. Several other gins in the county are now operating, but it is believed that Farmer Andrew Wynne, of Gold Point, was the first to reach the gin.

The bale, weighing 505 pounds, was sold for 6 cents a pound to the Salisbury Supply Company, Hassell, Mr. J. W. Eubanks, manager of the Hassell Gin Company, stated. Located in one of the best sections of the county for cotton, the Hassell Gin Company handles many bales each season.

#### County Board Wrestles With Tax Problems Again Today

#### Hold Third Session This Month In An Attempt To Settle Budget Problems and Determine County Tax Rate; Will Hardly Finish Work Today

Meeting for the third time this month, the Martin County commissioners today made another attempt to establish a tax rate and dispose of a number of other matters, but at noon today it looked as if there would be much unfinished business carried over to another session. Commissioners Coltrain and Pope stated about noon that the board could hardly complete its work, and that it looked as if another meeting would be necessary to determine the county tax rate.

This morning, the board members spent much time in hearing various committees from the several schools, but final action had not been taken on

any measure up until noon, one of the board members stated. Before the tax rate can be determined the board will find it necessary to take some action on the supplemental budget for the schools, considering therein an allotment for additional instructional service, additional pay for principals working before and after the schools close, and a number of other items, directly or indirectly connected with the schools. Just when the authorities will settle these issues was uncertain at noon today. They might consider and pass upon them before the day is spent, and if they fail to do so it is not known when they will meet again for final action.

#### Many Mourn Death Of Mr. A. Anderson

#### SCHOOL TODAY?

"And what are the children going to school for today?" one local citizen asked this morning, thinking that the election yesterday abolished all the eight-months schools in the county.

Thinking that the defeat of the election yesterday would limit all school terms to six months, the man voted against the measure. Little did the man think that the passage of the election would have limited the special rate to 20 cents instead of 35 cents, the present limit in this district.

#### MELON THIEVES IN ROLE OF BEAR

#### Unable To Tell Negro from Bear, Men Start Hunt in Williams Township

Two colored men in Williams Township succeeded a few days ago not only in frightening two other colored men but caused them to start a big bear hunt.

The two men, named Fagan and Knight, who played the trick, were in a watermelon patch stealing melons. Hearing the other two colored neighbors coming, they got down on their hands and feet and began to crawl away. This so frightened the other two that they ran away, raised a bear hunt, got most of the men and dogs in the township in the drive, but could find no bear.

Dick Fagan straightened things out by telling the crowd that his brother, Abram, and Wiley Lanier did not have sense enough to tell a negro from a bear.

#### Substituting In the Local Faculty for A Few Days

Miss Mary Benson, of Benson, is teaching in the local schools here this week, substituting for Miss Martha Louise Anderson for a few days.

#### HAD LONG BEEN PROMINENT IN BUSINESS HERE

#### Funeral Services Are Being Conducted from Home Here This Afternoon

This section lost another of its leading citizens when Mr. Arthur Anderson, prominent merchant, died at his home here Sunday morning at 9:45 o'clock of heart disease, his death coming just 12 days after that of his wife. Suffering heart trouble for a number of years, his condition became suddenly worse at the death of his wife, and several days before he died it was believed that he could not live, but a very short while.

Last Saturday was the first one in 40 years that he had failed to report for his usual duties at his store, and late that night he suffered a severe heart attack that resulted in his death the following morning. His death, following so closely that of Mrs. Anderson, brings a deep sorrow to his relatives and the entire community.

Mr. Anderson, the son of Mr. Arthur Anderson and wife, Louisa Pippin Anderson, was born near here and attended the local schools in his early youth. In early manhood, he taught school in the county, later coming here to work for Buck Slade. About forty years ago he formed a mercantile partnership with his brother, the late Mr. J. W. Anderson, the firm known now as O. S. Anderson and Company.

Interested in the welfare of his fellowman and his community, Mr. Anderson commanded a leading part in the educational advancement of the local school as well as those throughout the county. He served as a member of the local school committee for a number of years, a period that called for a whole-hearted and serious leadership. In his business career he made hundreds of friends, enjoying one of the largest patronages of any merchant in the county for a long number of years. He will be missed by many, and especially by those who have turned their business transactions to him for almost a half century. His home life was one of perfect accord, his friendly spirit and cheerfulness gaining for him a wide circle of friends throughout this section.

Up until about a month ago, he was found regularly at his duties, handling them with accuracy and dispatch for a man of his age, 72 years. Even though troubled with heart disease, he continued the work he loved so well until just a day or two before his death.

Two children, one daughter, Miss Martha Anderson, and one son, Mr. Oscar S. Anderson, both of Williamston, survive. He also leaves three grandchildren, Oscar, Jr., Martin and Arthur Anderson.

Funeral services are being conducted from the late home on Haughton Street and Simmons Avenue at 3:30 this afternoon by Rev. C. H. Dickey, pastor of the local Baptist church, assisted by Rev. W. R. Burrell, pastor

#### HOW THEY VOTED

Tabulated by The Enterprise, and recognized as fairly accurate, the following table shows how they voted on the school election held in this county yesterday:

Precinct	For	Against
Jamesville	154	98
Williams	16	118
Griffins	153	172
Williamston	303	127
Bear Grass	86	115
Cross Roads	85	114
Robersonville	182	187
Gold Point	21	66
Goose Nest	42	81
Hassell	2	113
Hamilton	92	39
Poplar Point	3	79
Totals	1,139	1,309

#### CROP REPORT SAYS TOBACCO OFF 14 PER CENT

#### Production in This State Is Estimated at 502,265,000 Pounds in 1931

The Federal and State crop reporting service, last week issued the bulletin as to tobacco crop prospects in the State and Nation:

Tobacco growers in the State reported the average condition of the tobacco crop on September 1st at 76 per cent of normal, compared with 75 on September 1st last year, and a 10-year average of 78 on that date. This indicates a total production of 502,265,000 pounds, or a reduction of 14 per cent from last year's large crop.

Conditions through the tobacco belt have been somewhat in contrast to last year. 1930 was extremely dry in most of the producing area, while this season began with comparatively dry conditions, followed by a season of rain, during which quite a large proportion of the crop was damaged before it could be harvested. The second growth, as a result of rainy weather, resulted in a larger proportion of inferior grades.

The 722,000 acres for harvest this year is 7 per cent less than last year, and this, combined with the lighter yields per acre, has resulted in the increased production prospect.

United States Crop The condition of the United States tobacco crop on September 1st averaged 77.7 per cent of normal, compared with 63.6 on the same date last year and a September average of 77.0 during the previous 10 years. Last month the condition was 74.1 per cent.

The production of blue-cured tobacco, the major type, is indicated to be 705,790,000 pounds, which amounts to 12,676,000 pounds less than the August 1st forecast, and 154,041,000 pounds less than the record production of 1930. The decrease from the August 1st forecast in the prospective production of the blue-cured type is accounted for mainly in eastern North Carolina, where the crop deteriorated slightly as a result of excessive rainfall during August.

Other types of tobacco, such as burley and fire-cured, show indications in excess of last year's production. With the exception of no change in the wrapper class, prospects for the production of cigar tobacco improved slightly during August.

Prospects for all types combined improved near 2 per cent during August, and the September 1st estimate of 1,488,000,000 pounds is slightly above the record crop of last year.

#### LOW PRICES

Marketing a barn of tobacco last week, a Poplar Point farmer took the proceeds and went to a store and purchased a 24-pound bag of flour and 5 pounds of meat. He had to borrow five cents and add to the proceeds received from his load of tobacco, an entire curing, to pay for the goods.

Marketing his entire crop one day last week, a township farmer received \$20 from the offerings. "Gentlemen, that is my entire crop," the farmer said. The initial price was \$15 for the lot, the buyers and warehousemen after weighing the man's words, increased the price to \$20. The tobacco was grown on four acres of land and suffered badly from wildfire. But the price, \$5 an acre, even then appears plenty low.

#### Favorable Vote In Only Three Polling Places

#### 1,139 PEOPLE IN FAVOR OF TAX, 1,309 OPPOSE IT

#### Several Districts Vote To Have Higher Tax Rates Continued This Year

An attempt to provide equal educational advantages for all children in Martin County failed in a county-wide election held yesterday when 1,309 citizens voted against a uniform rate of not more than 20 cents for the support of the seventh and eighth months of school. Only three precincts, Hamilton, Jamesville, and Williamston gave the measure a majority, Hassell climaxing the election with a vote of 2 for and 113 against the measure. And now, instead of support the seventh and eighth months of school on a uniform rate of not more than 20 cents, the property owners will continue to pay in their various districts from zero to 35 cents for the seventh and eighth months.

The count for the election was 1,139 for and 1,309 against, a majority of 170 citizens voting against the measure. Registration figures, reported at 2,431 after the books were supposed to have closed, September 5, bounced up to 2,448 when the final count was in last night, but there might have been some error in the early reports. In short, as one citizen from another town remarked this morning, after seeing hundreds of young men and women passing through on their way to the various colleges yesterday, "as the thousands flock to the colleges, Martin County people, or 1,309 of them, flocked to the polls and voted to have their children return to the cotton patches and tobacco fields and create profits for the big man and more poverty for the little one."

Bear Grass voted by a majority of 29 to retain a 35-cent rate instead of voting for a rate not to exceed 20 cents. Only in four voting precincts, Lulley's Hall, Macedonia, Griffins, and Farm Life, did the citizens vote for a six-months school in preference to an eight-months term. The Farm Life people favored the plan almost by a unanimous vote, but the other half of the district did not. In the other districts, all having the eight months term, the citizens did not vote on that issue but voted against a uniform tax rate. All but the 251 children living in the four districts mentioned are in line for a term of eight months, and it is generally believed that the rates in the remaining eleven districts will have to be raised to keep the schools open the extra two months unless more State aid is secured than is now in prospect.

From present indications, either an increased rate in this school district or a short term is certain. Just what the rate will be or whether the schools will run as long as they can and close can not be determined at this time.

Bear Grass school district is levying its limit, 35 cents, now. If that amount fails to support the extra two months, it is very clear that it will have to get help from somewhere, the Lord only knows where, or close down before the full term is completed. Williamston has a 35-cent tax limit for its extended term, and it rests in the hands of the authorities whether the 22 cents now levied will be increased or whether the school will be closed before the term is completed. Of course, if the 22-cent levy is sufficient, all is well and good, but if it

#### Election Outcome Proves Disappointing To Some

Coming here today, the Farm Life School Committee members expressed themselves as being greatly disappointed in the outcome of the school election held in the county yesterday. With 90 per cent of the citizens in the Farm Life district voting for the measure, the school representatives stated that their people wanted to have the extended term, but they were at a loss to tell how they could now arrange for it.

The district now has a 15-cent levy supplementing the six months term, and the school patrons are now making an effort to have it applied on the extended term.