

EAST CAROLINA FIREMEN MEET HERE TUESDAY

Around 100 Visitors From Sixteen Towns Are Expected

More than 100 visiting firemen from 16 towns in the Eastern Carolina Firemen's association are expected here next Tuesday night for the organization's regularly quarterly meeting. Preparations are now underway to entertain the visitors. Chief H. D. Harrison, of the local volunteer company stating that every effort possible would be made to make the evening a pleasant one for the firemen.

A definite program is now in the making and arrangements are now complete for feeding the visitors and invited guests barbecue, slaw and chicken chowder. Sherwood Brockwell, state fire marshal, has been invited to attend and address the firemen, but it could not be learned today whether or not he would be able to be here at that time.

The meeting will be held in the Woman's club hall, according to plans announced, and supper will be served at 7:30 o'clock.

The sixteen towns comprising the association are as follows:

Plymouth, Robersonville, Bethel, Belhaven, Washington, Greenville, Farmville, Beaufort, Morehead City, New Bern, Kinston, LaGrange, Ayden Mount Olive, Snow Hill and Williamston.

This is the second time the association has been entertained here in the past few years.

A number of local citizens, including the board of town commissioners and officers of the town and community, have been invited to attend the meeting.

EX-PRESIDENT COOLIDGE DIES

Passes Suddenly of Heart Attack in Plymouth, Mass. Yesterday

Calvin Coolidge, former President of the United States, died suddenly of a heart attack at his home in Northampton, Mass., yesterday about noon. He was 60 years old July 4, 1932.

Mrs. Coolidge, returning from a shopping tour, discovered his body lying on the floor, where he apparently had fallen as he went to his room to rest and recover from what he thought was a minor attack of stomach trouble. He had been dead only a few minutes.

With his secretary, Harry Ross, Mr. Coolidge had returned home from his law office for luncheon earlier than usual because he felt ill. But he had suffered from what he thought was indigestion for two or three weeks, and neither he nor his secretary regarded the attack as serious.

The funeral service will be held Saturday morning at 10:30 o'clock in Edwards Congregational church, of which he was a member.

The body will be taken by automobile to Plymouth, Vt., where the committal service will be held at 3 o'clock.

Retail Stores in County Did \$3,306,000 Business in 1929

There were 172 retail organizations in this county back in 1929, the group doing a business figured at 3,306,000. Of the 172 business firms, 48 were located in Williamston and 31 in Robersonville. The group here did a \$1,709,000 business, and the 31 at Robersonville was second with a \$1,080,000 business. The other 93 retail concerns handled a business valued at \$1,017,000.

There were 28,311 retail stores in the State that year handling a business of \$653,418,597. There were 49,900 employees working full time and 13,035 part time, the pay roll for all being \$58,066,216.

The number of retail establishments has been materially decreased since that time, and a marked drop in sales has been experienced.

Services Sunday Afternoon at the Piney Grove Church

A reorganization of the church at Piney Grove Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock, it was announced yesterday by Rev. W. B. Harrington, Baptist minister who will preach at that time.

Two Men Charged With Hunting Without Permit

Lee and R. J. Hardison were adjudged guilty in Justice Hassell's court here this morning of hunting on the lands of W. W. Griffin in Williams Township without permission. They appealed to the higher courts.

GET YOUR TAGS

The days of grace are about over, and automobile owners displaying old license tags are being stopped by patrolmen and other officers and advised to purchase new tags. No arrests have been made, the patrolmen merely giving the owners a slip of paper as a warning. Arrests and prosecutions will be in order after next Tuesday, it is understood. It will have to be all new licenses then or the owners will have to face the consequences, according to information received here.

While the sale of tags continues to lag behind previous records, a fair sale was reported at the local bureau this morning. Up until last night, the bureau here had sold 1,245 tags.

CALL 9 CASES IN COUNTY COURT

Court Collects No Fines at Session Held Last Tuesday

A quiet and uneventful day featured the county recorder's court held last Tuesday when Judge H. O. Peel called nine cases for trial. The court operated after the depression style, collecting no fines and meting out road sentences.

The case charging Ellic Wallace with violating the liquor laws was not prosed.

Gus Knight was sentenced to the roads for a period of three months when the court adjudged him guilty of an assault upon a female.

Woodrow Bland, one of the famous tribe members, was found guilty of carrying a concealed weapon and was sentenced to the roads for a period of four months. In a second case charging him with larceny and receiving, Bland was found guilty and the court sentenced him to the roads for a period of six months. J. H. Whitfield, jr., also charged with larceny and receiving, pleaded guilty to the charge, the court continuing the case for him.

Judgment was suspended upon the condition that the defendant pay the costs in the case charging J. R. Coltrain with an assault with a deadly weapon. Notice of appeal was given by the defendant.

The case charging Lewis Ruffin and Henry Price with trespass was continued one week.

Adjudged guilty of larceny and receiving, Joe Davis was sentenced to the roads for a period of three months. The case charging Henry Bateman with an assault with a deadly weapon was continued.

Special Service At The Baptist Church Sunday

"What's Going On in the Religious World" is the title of a special feature to begin at the Baptist church Sunday evening at 7:30 o'clock, and which will run on, at least, for the remaining Sundays in this month.

This will be a rapid-fire review of the things that are taking place in the religious world of today, and the things which are calculated to be of interest to the church and to all church people.

This series will be wholly non-sectarian, and will review, from time to time, the events in all, or in no, denominations as the events may justify. The comment will undertake to do once each week in the religious world what Arthur Brisbane does each day in the world at large; that is, to select religious movements, happenings and events, sketch them, interpret them, and give the hearers the essence of the latest religious news in the world.

That the religious world is in a ferment today is a well-known fact, and there are few days which pass without some interesting movement, happening, or fact occurring, the relation and interpretation of which would be calculated to broaden the religious horizon of the average church attendant.

State Favors Doing Away With "Lame Duck" Session

Ratification last Wednesday by the North Carolina general assembly of the "lame duck" amendment to the United States constitution brought to 18 the total number of states so acting.

Half the required number of states now have accepted the amendment. During the present month it is expected the 18 additional state ratifications necessary to place the amendment in force will have been completed.

The passage of the amendment will mean that no senators or house representatives would return to Washington to take part in framing the laws of the land after they were defeated at the polls back home.

EHRINGHAUS IS INSTALLED AS NEW GOVERNOR

Outlines Platform Under 24 Points In Inaugural Address Yesterday

North Carolinians in great numbers from all over the State went to Raleigh yesterday to see the Hon. J. C. B. Ehringhaus take the oath of office as Governor of North Carolina and hear him make his inaugural address. A few were from here, including Judge Clayton Moore.

The cardinal points of the new governor's address are as follows:

1. A balanced budget immediately.
2. Levy of no new taxes.
3. Immediate revaluation of property.
4. Relief from the 15-cent state-wide levy for support of schools.
5. Drastic curtailment in spending.
6. Economy in general government set-up.
7. Abolition of entertainment fund for chief executive.
8. Abolition of position of executive counsel and granting to governor of power to appoint pardon commissioner.
9. Transfer of local government commission to treasury department.
10. Consolidation of highway and prison departments. Consolidation of all motor vehicle collections.
11. Elimination of duplications in governmental functions.
12. No new commitments involving additional state money.
13. No diversion of highway funds.
14. No new construction of highways for next biennium.
15. Broader supervision of local governments.
16. Consolidation of counties or of counties and towns.
17. Elimination of consolidation of local government statutory offices.
18. Interpretation of local salary limitations to allow reductions.
19. Supervision of local expenditures and tax levies.
20. Extension of local debt maturity dates.
21. Reduction in cost of tax foreclosures.
22. Foreclosure postponement of back taxes.
23. Discontinuance of unrestrained fee expenditures.
24. Stimulation of livestock, dairy and poultry industries.

Local People Frightened As Ferry Loses Rudder

Crossing on the ferry from Portsmouth to Norfolk this week, a party of local people were a bit frightened when the boat lost its rudder in mid-stream. "I wasn't very frightened, but it did puzzle me when I wondered how we ever got going to get to shore," Mr. J. L. Hassell, ferry operator soon had the boat under control when they switched to the mechanism at the other end of the boat, turned it around and continued on across. It was a bit troublesome to back the cars off the boat, but no damage resulted and little time was lost.

Honor Roll for Griffins School for Second Month

The names of 13 pupils appear on the Griffins' School honor roll for the second month, as follows:

- First grade: Nannie Margaret Roberson,
 Second grade: Virginia Corey, Thelma Coltrain, Elbert Ward;
 Third grade: Hazel Perry, Louise Coltrain, Vera Ruth Griffin, Eloise Hodges and Bruce Peel;
 Fourth grade: Howell Peel, Clifton Ward;
 Fifth grade: Evan Griffin.

Usual Services at the Local Methodist Church Sunday

The new year is well underway. If we are not to have many regrets over lost opportunities as in 1932, we have got to keep very near to God and His church. Don't miss next Sunday. Each service lost will be an individual loss and a weight that will impede progress both for you and the church. Every Sunday meet with us at the usual hours. The public is cordially invited.

Macedonia School Honor Roll for the Past Month

The Macedonia honor roll for the third month is composed of the following children:

First grade: Audrey Coltrain, Susie Revels, Fred Bennett, Bill Peele, Cecil Whitehurst.
 Second grade: Emma Belle Ward.
 Third grade: Ethel Bennett.
 Fourth grade: Mary Revels, Susie Pearl Ward.
 Sixth grade: Sarah Griffin Holliday, Mildred Ward.

MARTIN NATIVE

For the first time in its history, Williamston has one of its native daughters in the Governor's mansion at Raleigh. Mrs. Matilda Haughton Ehringhaus, the daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. Thomas Benbury Haughton, was born here in the Episcopal rectory, then located on the corner of Main and Haughton Streets. Her father died when she was only four years old, and her mother moved with her five daughters and one son to Washington, where Miss Matilda married Governor Ehringhaus.

30 PERMITS TO MARRY ISSUED IN DECEMBER

Number of White Marriages Greater Than Colored for First Time in Years

For the first time in years the number of marriage licenses granted to white applicants was greater in 1932 than the number issued to colored couples, it was learned this week from a review of records filed in the office of Register of Deeds J. Sam Getsinger. And the gain was a substantial one. Back in 1931 there were 59 licenses issued to white applicants and 64 to colored couples. During the past year there were 83 licenses sold to white applicants and 71 to colored couples, making a total of 154 for 1932, as compared with 123 for 1931. And it might be added that times are improving, using the greater number of licenses issued in 1932 over 1931 as supporting evidence to the belief.

December was a bumper month for the license bureau, Register of Deeds J. Sam Getsinger issuing 30 during the period, 22 to white and 8 to colored applicants.

MARKET FIRST OF POTATO CROP

Section Shipped Around 50 Cars To Markets in the North Last Season

Three carloads of cured sweet potatoes have been shipped from this point during the past few days to northern markets. It is understood the shipments were made independently, that no cooperative orders had been filled. First quotations were around 50 cents a bushel, later reports indicating the market to be some stronger. The sweets are selling for around 40 cents a bushel at this point, but they are not cured ones.

Approximately 50 carloads of the cured potatoes were shipped from this county to northern markets last year, and it is believed that equally that many will be offered for sale on the same markets again this year, by Martin County farmers.

North Carolina To Have Three Former Governors

Raleigh. — North Carolina with three living ex-governors on the morning of December 28, 1921, and lost one before the day ended, will have three more when J. C. B. Ehringhaus takes the oath of office and O. Max Gardner joins A. W. McLean and Cameron Morrison, the surviving exes.

The state rarely has had more than three former living governors, and then seldom for a long time. Glenn, Kitchen, and Craig were in immediate succession and Jarvis lasted long, but he died during the Kitchen regime. Craig, ill most of his reign, outlived Bickett. And Bickett, who had operated on such even keel, seemed good for 25 years. He died within a year after leaving the mansion.

Bear Grass Church Will Entertain Presbytery Soon

On next Tuesday, January 10, at 10:30 a. m., the Presbytery of Albemarle will convene for its January session in the church at Bear Grass. The meeting will be moderated by Rev. F. M. Dick, of Ahsokie. Ministers and elders from each church in the Presbytery will be present. Lunch will be served by the ladies of the woman's auxiliary.

Curb Market Opens Here Tomorrow at 8 O'clock

The curb market will be open here Saturday morning at 8:30 a. m. The patronage of the last year was greatly appreciated and with the beginning of another year, we are aiming to please every one coming to the market, Miss Lora E. Sleeper, home agent said.

American Legion Post To Hold Meeting Monday at 8

A regular and important meeting of the John Hassell Post of the American Legion will be held in the legion hall here next Monday night at 8 o'clock, it was announced this morning. All members are urged to attend, and all ex-service men are invited.

LUXURY SALES TAX COMING TO FRONT AGAIN

Senator Hinsdale Plans To Introduce Bill Within Next Few Days

Raleigh, Jan. 4.—The luxury sales tax, or as it is often times called, the selected commodity tax, over which the 1931 general assembly chewed its much used tongue for several months, is to be introduced in the senate the latter part of this week or the first part of next, it was learned today from Senator J. W. Hinsdale, of Wake, author of the bill and one of its chief supporters in 1931.

"There is very little difference between the bill as it was finally drawn in 1931 and the one which I intend to offer within the next few days."

"I estimated then that such a tax would raise in the neighborhood of \$8,000,000. I think that under present conditions it will raise about 15 percent less than that amount."

Mr. Hinsdale added, "I think there is very little doubt but that this legislature will adopt either this form of a sales tax or a general sales tax."

It will be remembered that the 1931 general assembly wrangled over a sales tax for months, and that it finally adjourned without passing the measure.

With \$12,500,000 deficit to consider and other sources of revenue drying up, the 1933 law makers will find taxation their greatest problem this legislative term.

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Town Fire Loss Is But \$3,559 in 1932

BLANDS MOVE

Reuben Bland, the noted "papa," once shown off to the nation's president but later rated along with a pocosin bull, has moved to Pamlico County to make his home with his son, Joe Bland. Joe lives at Arapahoe, and it is expected that a few of the flock will follow the father of 34 to the new home. Martin County bids the old gentleman fond adieu.

MARTIN SOLON IS VICTIM OF THIEF

J. C. Smith Robbed of His Handbag and Overcoat in Raleigh Tuesday

Hardly before the legislature convened, the bulls sheared J. C. Smith, Martin County representative, at Raleigh Tuesday night.

Reporting the incident, the News and Observer said:

Representative Smith, of Martin, who arrived Tuesday in a brand new car, still had his car yesterday, but that was all the worldly goods left him in Raleigh except the clothes on his back.

The Martin county lawmaker retained his good humor yesterday, but any one could see that he must have called somebody names when he discovered that he had been robbed in the shadow of the Capitol.

In attending the Democratic caucus, Mr. Smith drove his new Chevrolet up to Capitol Square. He locked the doors and pulled up the windows. When he returned to the car, following the caucus, he discovered that one of the windows had been run down and that somebody had stolen both his bag and his overcoat.

In case any one should be interested in knowing what the well-dressed member brings with him to the legislature, here is what the bag contained: Three shirts, one suit of underwear, one suit of pajamas, a shaving outfit, a pair of socks, half a dozen handkerchiefs, and a carton of cigarettes.

Presbyterians Announce Sunday Service Schedule

Sunday, January 8, 1933: 2 The usual services will be held in Williamston, Bear Grass, and Roberson's Chapel. Prayer-meeting will be held at Ballard's Farm tonight at 7 p. m.

At Roberson's Chapel the monthly worship service and sermon will follow the usual Sunday school hour and at the conclusion the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be observed.

Start the New Year right, go to church somewhere every Sunday.

Cigarette Prices Reduced By The Big Companies

New York, Jan. 3.—Cigarette prices were back today where they were two years ago as a result of cuts announced by most of the leading manufacturers.

From a price of \$6.85 per thousand, the R. J. Reynolds, American Tobacco and Liggett & Myers Companies have lowered their quotations to \$6. The new price is subject to the usual discount allowed jobbers.

Hold Fire Insurance Meet Here Saturday, January 14

A regular annual meeting of the Martin County Branch, Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance association, will be held in the county courthouse at 10:30 a. m. Saturday, January 14, according to a recent announcement made by the secretary, Jas. L. Coltrain.

Election of officers will be held at that time, and members are urged to attend, the secretary said.

Urge Using Precaution in the Packing of Hog Meat

All people killing hogs with the prevailing warm weather are taking big chances on meat spoiling. A steam pressure cooker used for canning much of the meat will save the meat, money and increase health by distributing meat over a longer period of time, Miss Sleeper advises.

OPENS BARBERSHOP IN GORDY BUILDING HERE

A fourth barbershop for the town will be opened tomorrow in the Gordy building, next to Ambers' pressing club by V. A. Lassiter.

FIRE COMPANY HAS AVERAGE 2 CALLS MONTH

Fire Loss Last Year Was Smallest In the Past Several Years

Williamston had a fire loss last year estimated at \$3,559, a very small loss considering the many fire traps and the large number of buildings and the amount of property subject to damage at any time. In 1931, the loss was estimated at \$4,850, making the 1932 loss the smallest reported in several years.

The largest single loss resulted to the tenant house belonging to Mrs. Alice Godard located on Railroad Street, near the Atlantic Coast Line station. The loss, was estimated at \$1,200. While the house was wrecked by the blaze, the fire company held down the damage to adjoining property to a small sum. The next largest loss was done to the tenant house of Mr. A. D. Griffin in New Town and to the contents belonging to N. C. Blake. Damage to the home was estimated at \$175 and to the contents \$893.53. The remainder of the damage was distributed among 13 pieces of property, the company receiving 25 calls during the year, or a call every two weeks on an average. Three calls were made out of town during the year, one to Windsor on February 18, another to Everetts on April 4th and a second to Everetts on August 31st.

On an average 13 members of the volunteer company answered each of the 25 calls made upon the department during the year. There are 17 regular members of the company including the chief and assistant chief. Twenty-four regular meetings and drills were held, making an average of once each week during the year that the company carried the apparatus out for service or for practice.

In addition to the saving effected in insurance rates because of the standard equipment and the rating of the fire company, tangible losses were held to a minimum under the conditions. Without the fire-fighting equipment, it is believed that the town's fire loss last year would have been greater by thousands of dollars.

The company made some errors during the period, but the work of the members was a conscientious one, not a single member failing to cooperate in the fire-fighting work when called and when it was possible for him to attend. Very little compensation is received for the volunteer services, the members receiving hardly enough to pay their pressing and cleaning bills for clothes soiled while calls are being answered.

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FIRE AT GOLD POINT MONDAY

Business District of Village Is Nearly Wiped Out By Blaze

The business district of Gold Point was nearly wiped out last Monday morning when fire destroyed a meat market, a vacant store, and another store occupied by A. B. Whitfield, merchant. The fire was discovered about 5 o'clock, but before it could be checked the three buildings and all the contents were destroyed.

No estimate of the damage could be obtained here, but the loss is understood to be limited as the buildings were old and somewhat dilapidated, and the stock of merchandise carried in the Whitfield store was small. A small amount of insurance was carried on the Whitfield stock, it was reported.

The fire was first discovered in the second story of the Whitfield building, where a colored lodge held its sessions. The other store destroyed by the blaze was used at times by the Holiness church.

Only Three Contagious Diseases Last Month

Except for three cases, contagious diseases were nearly extinct in this county during December, it was learned from a review of the health report in the office of Dr. J. H. Saunders, county physician and health officer. There were many cases of influenza, but that disease is not reportable, and the number of flu cases during the period could not be learned.

Two cases of chickenpox were reported in Williamston Township, and one case of meningitis was reported in Bear Grass, the last case causing death.