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# THE ENTERPRISE



VOLUME XXXVIII—NUMBER 43 Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Tuesday, May 28, 1935 ESTABLISHED 1899

## COLORED MAN IS KILLED HERE BY HIT-RUN DRIVER

### Henry Purvis Is First Man In County To Lose Life on Highway in 1935

The first highway fatality in Martin County in nearly five months was reported here last Saturday night when Henry Purvis, 54-year-old colored man, was struck and fatally hurt by a hit-and-run driver. Purvis, his legs broken and skull fractured, died early Sunday evening in a Washington hospital without regaining consciousness.

Walking along the highway a short distance this side the railroad underpass on West Main Street, Purvis was believed to have been struck from the rear by a car going out of town. He was thrown several feet to the side of the road, and is believed to have lain there at least 20 minutes before he was found nearly dead by a passing pedestrian. People living only a few feet away heard the car hit the man, but they thought it was just an ordinary noise and made no investigation. According to the story told officers by those living nearby the car did not stop.

Deputy J. H. Roebuck who reached the scene shortly after Purvis was found, said he saw no car tracks on the shoulder of the road, indicating that Purvis was walking on the concrete when he was struck. Patrolman Hunt was called and he made an investigation, but no developments have been reported so far.

Purvis was carried in an ambulance to the hospital a short while after he was found. Funeral service will be conducted tomorrow afternoon, and interment will follow in the Odd Fellows' cemetery.

While the fatality was the first reported on the highways in this county this year, it will be recalled that only one had been killed up to May 27 last year, making the records equal for the time of year. From May 27 till the first of this year there was an average of almost one death every two weeks on the highways in this county. Apparently the good beginning means little when the bloody killings are counted at the end of the year.

## Escapes Uninjured When Car Plunges Off Fill Near Here

### W. R. James, Bethel Man, Has Narrow Escape Early Today

W. R. James, Bethel man handling the delivery of News and Observers to Plymouth, ran his new Ford V-8 off a 10-foot embankment and into the swamp just this side of Sweet Water Creek early today. James escaped uninjured and no great damage was done to the car, it was said.

Driving at an apparently rapid speed, James is said to have lost control of the car when a tire blew out. The machine literally sailed through the air, striking the ground a number of yards from the road and bouncing into the shallow water still further on. The car with its stream lines resembled a pre-historic dinosaur squatting among the cypress stumps and bushes.

## Many Taking Part In Skeet Shooting

The Skeet field operated by Ufbin and Rossell Rogers is attracting many shooters twice weekly. Sunday afternoon, marksmen were at the field near Corey's store from as far away as Farmville and Robersonville. Cecil Lilley, Farmville man, made the highest score, 44 hits out of 55 shots, and won a ham as a prize. Bill Spivey and W. Burras Rogerson tied with 21 hits out of 25 shots each to lead county entrants.

The ole skeet coat is still waiting a real marksman. The first person making 25 hits out of 25 shots gets a coat. Not everyone is trying to get the coat for there have been some low scores, some as low as 1 out of 25, in fact.

## Car Stolen Here Thursday Has Not Been Recovered

The 1935 Ford V-8 stolen from Mr. L. P. Linsley from in front of his home on Houghton Street here last Thursday has not been recovered. Believed to have been stolen by an escaped convict, the car was reported seen in Wilson last Saturday. Officers there trailed the man and car but they were outdistanced in the chase.

## Many Improvements Being Made To Local Ball Park

Williamston's baseball team will start taking shape tomorrow for the opening game with Tarboro in the Coastal Plain League here next Thursday afternoon. Already a number of the players are "working out" daily, and several more are expected here tomorrow and Thursday to take their positions.

Considerable improvements have been made to the diamond and field, making the park one of the best in the circuit. The grandstand has been enlarged to seat approximately 600 people, and bleachers are being built for the outdoor fans. A fence around the park is expected to increase the paid admissions.

Manager Spivey, Hubert Coburn and Jack Biggs left yesterday for Richmond and are expected here early this afternoon with the big Mack bus to be used in transporting the ball team this season. The bus will be painted in time for use Wednesday of next week when the club goes to Tarboro.

## Report 22 Cases of Infantile Paralysis In East Carolina

No cases reported in this county as far as it could be learned.

While at least 22 cases of infantile paralysis have been reported in eastern North Carolina during the past few days, the situation is not viewed with any alarm by public health officials, according to reports reaching here today. A few deaths have been reported as a result of the attacks.

As far as it can be learned there are no victims of the dreaded paralysis, and should any develop they will probably be detected quickly. It was reported that a two year old colored child in this section had fallen victim to paralysis, but the report was declared unfounded by local doctors yesterday.

Even though reports are correct that there are now 22 cases in North Carolina there is little need of alarm or any extraordinary precaution health service officials said. They urged that each case be isolated for at least three weeks. They expressed the belief that efforts at any general quarantine in the past had been and in the future would be futile.

"It is utterly foolish to try to stop people from riding on street cars and going to theatres and other gatherings," a prominent physician of the health service said. "One can't tie up all commerce in a state just because 20 or 25 people are ill. Such efforts in the past have not been successful."

The federal health officials refused to view the reported 22 cases in North Carolina as an "epidemic." They said under normal conditions infantile paralysis cases are expected to average from one to two for each 100,000 persons. Under this rule North Carolina could have as many as 65 cases before any unusual prevalence would occur.

The federal officials said the presence of 22 cases might indicate some little unusual outbreaks of the disease in North Carolina sections, pointing out, however, that this is the wrong time of the year for protracted epidemics, they said there was little likelihood the disease would spread in North Carolina if proper precautions were taken to isolate each case.

Dr. J. C. Knox, state epidemiologist, although concerned about the steady daily increase the past week, was hesitant in declaring the real danger of an epidemic. Eleven counties are represented in the official total.

Wake county with six cases and Pitt with five were the only counties with more than one reported. Those with one case are: Johnston, Sampson, Craven, Bertie, Halifax, Harnett, Franklin and Wayne. Rocky Mount, in Edgecombe County has one case.

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## FINAL PROGRAM WILL BE HELD AT SCHOOL TONIGHT

### Rev. C. H. Dickey Preaches Commencement Sermon Sunday Morning

An important feature in the closing exercises for the local schools was the commencement sermon by Rev. Chas. H. Dickey, pastor of the local Baptist church, last Sunday morning. The final program will be held this evening when Dean D. B. Bryan, of Wake Forest, delivers the commencement address and certificates and diplomas are awarded.

No large crowd was present for the commencement sermon, but it was regarded as one of the high spots in the finals program.

The speaker referred to a recent pronouncement by H. G. Wells the noted British novelist and historian who, upon being asked to name the three greatest men in history named them in the following order: Jesus of Nazareth, Buddha and Aristotle, and said that the Penniless Teacher from Galilee headed the list. Mr. Wells then went on to state that the basis of the historian's judgment in determining greatness was to ask this question of his character. What did he leave behind that would grow?

The speaker, taking the historian's test of greatness proceeded to lay down three points from the teachings of Jesus that justified the historian in saying that he was the greatest man who ever lived. These propositions are not new now, the speaker said, but they were new when first announced. They are: The tremendous importance and value of the individual; the Fatherhood of God; and growing out of this conception, the brotherhood of man.

"No great importance was attached to the individual, as an individual," Mr. Dickey said, "until the life and teachings of Jesus paramounted his worth. In olden times the clan was important, or the race, but not the individual. A few persons, as kings, queens, lords and princes were rated of being important but the bulk of mankind was not. It existed for the state, or the nation. That conception carries over in certain European countries today where the individual exists for the state, and not the state for the individual."

"The worth of man—any man and all men, grows out of the great doctrine of God's Fatherhood. In those majestic passages from Genesis it is poetically announced that in the beginning, God created man in his own image; that he breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and man became a living soul. The Psalmist later declared the God had made him a little lower than the angels and had crowned him with glory and honor."

The preacher then went on to say to the class that individuals who had been made in God's own image should live beautiful lives of such nature as would reflect his high origin, adding that they should walk through the earth as a rose vine would could it be uprooted from its place, and start moving about, losing from every center it held to the breeze the sweetest perfume of life.

"Growing out of the doctrine of God's Fatherhood of all man comes its corollary, the brotherhood of man. It follows that is God is our Father, then all men, regardless of race or geographical location, are brothers. If this idea should ever hold sway in the earth it would sound the death knell to man's inhumanity to man, and usher in a society where every man is brother to every other man, and where each would do to all others as he himself would have them do to him. Its effect on many of the established institutions would be immediate, for where brotherly love reigns, man's inhumanity to man ceases."

## Mrs. Bob Copeland Has Regained Consciousness

Mrs. Robert Copeland, local young woman who was critically injured in an automobile wreck near Greenville the 5th of this month, was reported some better today. It was learned from the Richmond hospital that she had regained consciousness yesterday and was able to recognize members of her family.

## Range Shelter Addition To Development of Poultry

The poultry range shelter is a recent addition to the development of practical poultry production and, as the name implies, supplies shelter for the birds during the developing age. The greatest value of the shelter is cheapness of construction. Due to the way it is built it can be readily moved from range to range thus reducing the hazard of soil infection. Plans for building these shelters may be secured by writing the Poultry Department at State College, Raleigh.

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## Cars Damaged in Collision Saturday

No one was hurt but the old Model T Ford driven by Perlie Hardison and the Model A Ford driven by Leon Rawls were badly damaged when they crashed about one mile off the hard surface on the Bear Grass Road last Saturday night. The front end of the Hardison car was battered badly, and a large portion of one side of the Rawls car was ripped apart.

Hardison was charged with reckless driving and at a hearing before Justice Hassell last night he was bound over to the county court for trial next Tuesday.

## Young Martin Man Gets Degree at Wake Forest

Elwood H. Ange, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Ange of Jamesville, was graduated from Wake Forest College this morning, the only young man to earn his degree there this year. Young Mr. Ange majored in mathematics and was awarded the bachelor of science degree. He is only 20 years old.

## Extensive Program of Public Works Is Possible in County

### Survey Indicates Many People in County Are in Favor of Public Health Program

A recent survey conducted here and there over the county shows that Martin people are heartily in favor of the proposed public health program for this county. Many inquired about the cost, and upon learning how little the program would affect the tax rate they were agreed that the program should be advanced.

Martin County has been fortunate in that no serious epidemics have been experienced among its people. However, a true picture of health conditions cannot be gained under the present arrangement with its inadequate facilities. Numbers of people die in the county annually and the causes for death are often guessed at, making it impossible to determine whether the county has a high death rate.

## TO CONSOLIDATE 4 RURAL ROUTES HERE SATURDAY

### Patrons Urged To Mark Mail with Route and Box Numbers

Beginning next Saturday three rural letter carriers will handle the territory now served by four and formerly by five carriers, the consolidation being in keeping with the policy of the department to consolidate rural free delivery routes when vacancies occur. Old R. F. D. No. 5 was consolidated with the other four following the death of J. E. Harrell some time ago. Number 4 is now being consolidated with the other three since M. D. Watts resigned several months ago.

The service to rural patrons will not be greatly impaired, but the mail will reach the boxholders from one to several hours later than the time they are now receiving mail. As a result of the change all boxes will be renumbered and patrons are urged to make note of the changes, always placing box number and route number on their letters and packages. This was pointed out as being very important to prevent the delivery of mail to the wrong parties and to speed up delivery.

Mr. J. A. Ward, carrier on number 1, will take over number 4 in its entirety. He leaves, beginning Saturday morning, the postoffice and goes to Plenny Peel's just as the number 4 carrier goes now. He picks up the old No. 1 route there and goes to N. T. Tices, to colored school, near Ed Griffin's, to Perry's Cross Roads on Washington Highway, down highway to Corey's store, from there to Smithwick's Creek, to Claude Hardison's and back to Tice's. He picks up old No. 4 there and goes to J. J. Manning's to Phillip Williams' and back to J. J. Manning's. From there he goes to John A. Griffin's filling station and on to Eason Lilley's store, to W. H. Hopkins, to Mrs. J. R. Tyre's, back to Hopkins' and on to Williamston via Holly Springs, a distance of 52.3 miles.

Number 2, Mr. J. R. Leggett, carrier, goes out Washington Road to old Skewarkee, then to Coltrain place, to Bear Grass, and on to J. N. Rogers' then to McDaniel's filling station, to J. S. Peel's to J. S. Whitehurst's, to J. C. Taylor's to J. B. Ayers' to Leggett Mill, to Roebuck's corner, to Kneezier Harrison's, to G. A. Harrison's, to Roy Harrison's, to Sam Rogers' and on to Bear Grass. From there he goes to Corey's store and on to Batts' Cross Roads and back again to Bear Grass. He follows the short route to highway at Staton's farm via Black Swamp. He turns toward Washington on the highway but turns off to go to Fred Taylor's, to Cedar Hill church by Ellis Malone's to S. H. Mobley's. Turning around there he goes to Perry's Cross Roads on Washington highway and comes toward Williamston, turning off at the Old Mill Inn and going to Geo. Butler's. He retraces to Old Mill Inn and travels toward Williamston, turning off to go to W. L. Jones' and then back to highway and on into Williamston, a distance of 60 miles.

Mr. John Edmondson will handle No. 3 unchanged, but at the end of the fair grounds — he takes up old No. 2 and goes to J. S. Meek's, to Bailey corner, to Joe Wynne's corner, to Cross Roads church, to J. B. Ayers, to E. A. Roberson's to McDaniel's filling station and on to old Greenville road and into Williamston, a distance of 54 miles.

Miss Jane Carraway who has been ill for the past two weeks was reported improved today.

Accurate figures could be used in directing a beneficial health work against such common diseases that are now taking too many lives and causing no great concern among the people, as a whole.

The county commissioners have promised action in connection with advancing the program when they meet next Monday. Some time ago they said they favored the program personally and would support it provided property values showed a sufficient increase to launch the service without effecting a rate increase. Unofficial reports from several of the list-takers indicate there will be a substantial increase in property values.

## MOVE OFFICES

The Martin County ERA offices will be located on the second floor of the City Hall here within the next few months or just as soon as necessary alterations to the auditorium can be completed. Workers are now dividing the auditorium into offices, and the project will likely be completed within the next three weeks.

## MRS. W. J. LILLEY SERIOUSLY HURT IN FALL ON KNIFE

### Continues Unconscious In Washington Hospital at Noon Today

Mrs. Wm. Jesse Lilley was critically injured yesterday morning when she fell down the door steps at her home in Griffins Township and stuck the six-inch blade of a case knife its full length into her head. Reports from a Washington hospital today stated that she was still unconscious, and there was much doubt as to recovery. However, her condition was reported as unchanged since she was entered in the hospital soon after the accident. Hospital doctors were considering an operation this afternoon, reports from the hospital this morning stated.

With a case knife in her hand, Mrs. Lilley started into the yard when the top step broke, causing her to fall on the blade of the knife. Entering near the eye, the knife blade was driven its full length into her head, some believing the knife curved around her skull bone. Messrs. John Ward and Robt. Leggett, mail carriers, were delivering a package when Mrs. Lilley fell, but neither of them could pull the knife out. Mr. Lilley, after several attempts, finally succeeded in removing the blade. The handle of the knife was broken where it connected with the blade.

Dr. J. S. Rhodes was called by telephone immediately and he advised her removal to the hospital.

## Modernization Seen As Key To Upturn

An estimate that American industry can "put this country on the high road to prosperity within the next 60 days," is made by James A. Moffett, Federal Housing Administrator, in an article just published in 'Mill and Factory', an industrial trade magazine. The means by which this could be achieved, Mr. Moffett says, are through the modernization, replacement, and repairs needed by industry in its plants.

He quotes figures of Frederick V. Geier, industrialist, of Cincinnati, to the effect that the potential demand for new machinery, accumulated during the 5 depression years, amounts to \$18,500,000,000.

## Holiday for Postoffice and Local Banks Thursday

Memorial day, Thursday, May 30, will be observed as a holiday by the two local banks and postoffice. No rural deliveries will be made by the post office and no window service will be offered. The banks and postoffice will be the only places of business to close, it is understood.

## LITTLE HAS BEEN DONE SO FAR TO HELP OFFICIALS

### County Asking For About \$25,000 To Build New School Property

While plans are being considered, nothing very definite has been accomplished to make available to this county or its municipalities a part of the millions of dollars, possibly a hundred million, to be pumped into this State under the New Deal's greatest drive for national recovery. Martin County and its municipalities figured in a very small way in the first release under the recovery movement, and unless more interest is taken in the vast program about to be launched in the country, very few results can be expected from the second release, it is believed.

Only a few thousand dollars were made available to this county under the old PWA program, the main projects being at Bear Grass where an addition to the school was built, and at Williamston for a gymnasium. Other projects were proposed but the proposals were pushed too late for consideration.

Applications for a \$25,000 building program has been entered by the board of education for school buildings and additions to school property. These preliminary applications call for a teachers at Bear Grass, an addition to the Farm Life plant, a high school building at Jamesville, and a building for colored pupils at Robersonville. There are other needs that should be handled in the county, Mr. Dobb, but his requests have been advanced, and in fact the people have not mentioned them. The crowded situation in the Williamston schools continues, the people being apparently resigned to the conditions. Three damp, poorly lighted rooms are still in use for classes in the old grammar grade building basement. An addition, costing probably \$10,000 or more could be easily arranged, no doubt, if the people would interest themselves in the movement.

Improvements to the Oak City school water and sewer system are being considered, and it is understood that applications will be made to procure the necessary funds to revamp the entire system.

The town of Williamston is considering an extensive program, a large portion of which is almost imperative and all of it badly needed. The program calls for an expenditure of approximately \$63,500. A fast diminishing water supply here is probably causing the most concern just now. Pumps are operated night and day to maintain the supply, the officials estimating that \$10,000 will be necessary to make available an adequate water supply. Approximately \$16,500 is needed to expand the water and sewer systems, including a line out Houghton Street to that section commonly called "Doodle Hill." Drainage projects considered necessary will cost around \$7,000. The river wharf, probably one of the town's greatest assets, is in a bad state of repair, the authorities estimating that \$12,000 will be necessary to handle that project.

The only strictly recreational feature included in the proposed program is an \$18,000 swimming pool.

Local authorities are doing all they can to advance the program, but so far they have received very little encouragement from the people or from those in charge of the PWA funds.

It is generally believed that now is the opportune time to advance public projects, including a number not mentioned in the tentative list already prepared by the town and county officials. Public officials over the entire country are preparing applications for funds, and within the next few months projects costing in the billions of dollars will be underway. As long as the money lasts, it is generally believed that all worthy proposals will be seriously considered by the PWA authorities.

A new ruling released in connection with the PWA program provides for a grant of 45 per cent of the material costs and labor for handling the projects. The remaining 55 per cent of the cost to go for materials can be borrowed from the government at the rate of 3 per cent interest.

## E. L. Ward Escapes Injury When Truck Turns Over

Mr. Exum L. Ward escaped injury yesterday afternoon when the truck he was driving turned over near Hamilton. Very little damage was done to the vehicle.