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THE ENTERPRISE

Advertisers Will Find Our Columns a Latchkey to over 1,000 Homes of Martin County.

VOLUME XLI—NUMBER 1

Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Tuesday, January 4, 1938.

ESTABLISHED 1899

Record Issuance Of Marriage Licenses In County In 1937

Nearly 300 Weddings in County During Period

A record issuance of marriage licenses was reported by Register of Deeds J. Sam Getsinger in this county last year. Nearly 300 or 293 weddings took place to make it one of the most eventful years for Dan Cupid in this county. The issuance was more than double that of 1931 when only 123 licenses were sold by the county bureau.

It was the first time since 1932 that the number of marriages of white couples exceeded those of the colored. The margin was small however, 147 licenses going to white and 146 to colored couples.

The last month issuance was the largest for any period on record, 35 of the 63 licenses issued, goin to white couples.

Licenses were issued during December, as follows:

White
James Buchanan Harrington and Daisy Beatrice Roberson, both of this county.

William Bryant Ayers and Mary Lillian Hodges, both of Martin County.

Otis E. Frances, of Ahsokie, and Elizabeth Castelloe, of Windsor.

J. P. Collins, of Plymouth, and Mrs. Rose Watkins, of Palmyra.

Nathan C. Phelps and Ella Mae Jones, both of Roper.

George Gay and Mary Hoggard, both of Plymouth.

John Stuart Whitley, of Raleigh, and Sarah Frances Peel, of Williamston.

Ronald Davenport and Burl Voliva, both of Columbia.

Jas. Luther Harris, Jr., of Raleigh, and Eva Naomi Harrison, of Williamston.

Benjamin Earl Allen and Edna Mae Adams, both of Washington.

Charlie Moore Mills, of Williamston, and Eula Faye Bailey, of Cross Roads.

William Harden and Mary Florence Stalls, both of Dardens.

Richard Everett and Louise Matthews, both of Martin County.

Wm. Alton Rogers and Ora Bell Warren, both of this county.

Thos. J. Taylor, of Bethel, and Sarah Edmondson, of Hamilton.

LeRoy Beach, of Hamilton, and Mary Eunice Harrell, of Edenton.

Fletcher Langley and Della Louise Bullock, both of Robersonville.

Alonzo Thomas Revels and Laurice Mae Bailey, both of this county.

Willie Brown, of Edgecombe county, and Carrie Bell Bland, of Martin County.

Jasper J. Bennett and Eula C. Hardison, both of this county.

Bruce Moseley, of Robersonville, and Lillian Bullock, of Greenville.

Robert Brown and Helen Jernigan, both of Bertie County.

Hardy Parrisher and Mabel Coltrain, both of Williamston.

William Lewis Akers, of Franklin, Tenn., and Ruth Evelyn Roberson, of Robersonville.

Ralph B. Holliday, of Williamston, and Margaret MacLean Holliday, of Jamesville.

H. Bruce Holloman, of Williamston, and Virginia Bell Wilson, of Pitt County.

Wm. J. Hardison and Callie Gardner, both of this county.

J. Ulysses Peel and Thelma Todd Burroughs, both of this county.

Jos. Hilton Forbes, of Everetts, and Beulah Marie Hardison, of Jamesville.

H. Kenneth Harrington and Vera Virginia Peed, both of Jamesville.

Johnnie H. James and Mary Gladys Bailey, both of Robersonville.

Albert P. Coltrain and Ella Louise Perry, both of Williamston.

Chas. Delma Hopkins and Elizabeth Pender Pugh, both of this county.

Colored
Isaac G. Whitley, of Parmele, and Elizabeth Andrews, of Robersonville.

Willis Thompson and Dorothy Huff, both of Williamston.

James Battle and Beatrice Outland, both of Pitt county.

Anocles Peel, of Martin, and Lucille Pierce, of Beaufort County.

Norman Little and Maybell Lynch, both of this county.

Felton Gray and Mary Emily Brown, both of Martin County.

Oliver Andrews, of Robersonville, and Christina King, of Hassell.

Ernest Wooten and Clara Eborn, both of this county.

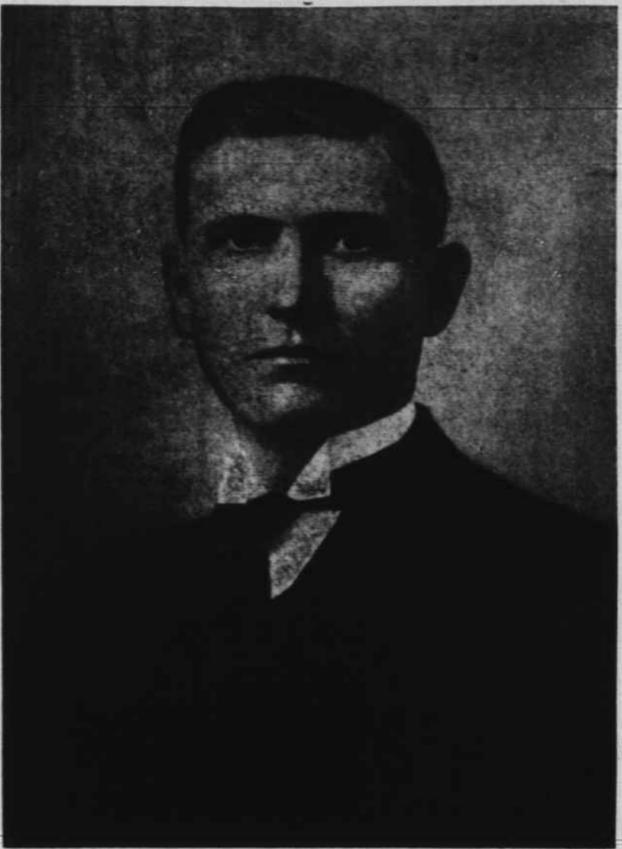
Preston Spruill and Millie Savage, both of Palmyra.

Joseph James Land and Olivia Johnson, both of Martin County.

Phillip Spruill and Marie Gaynor, both of this county.

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ENTERPRISE EDITOR PASSES AFTER LONG ILLNESS



W. C. Manning

W. C. Manning, for thirty years editor of The Enterprise, who died Sunday morning at the home here of his daughter, Mrs. Elbert S. Peele, after an illness extending back over a period of nearly three years. Mr. Manning had been more or less inactive during the long period of his illness, but was confined to his bed only during the last three weeks. (Above picture was taken about twelve years ago.)

Good Report Made by Enforcement Officer

ALL BRAND NEW

"We haven't seen an old automobile license tag in use this year," Patrolman W. S. Hunt said today after scouting the highways of this section long hours each day since last Saturday.

The sale of tags is well advanced over that of a year ago, the State department recently stating that 100,000 more tags had already been sold this year than up until the same time a year ago.

A report from the bureau at Williamston states that approximately 4,000 tags had been sold to date to auto owners in this section.

Miss Eliza Nelson Dies Near Hassell

Miss Eliza Nelson died Sunday afternoon at the home of her brother, J. C. M. Nelson, near Hassell, following a stroke of paralysis.

Miss Nelson was born in Pitt County 61 years ago and was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Nelson, well known resident of that section. After the death of her parents some years ago she moved to this county and had made her home with her brother since that time. She was known as a devout Christian, William Grimes, Primitive Baptist by a wide circle of friends in the Hassell section.

The funeral service is being held at 4 o'clock this afternoon from the home of her brother, and interment will follow in the family burying ground in the community. Elders his life held much for his family and minister, is conducting the service. Miss Nelson had been a member of the Concho Primitive Baptist church for a number of years.

She is survived by three brothers, J. M. C. Nelson, Jim Nelson and Walter Nelson; and two sisters, Miss Eunice Nelson and Mrs. Alice Triplett, all of whom reside in the upper section of this county.

Mrs. Wheeler Martin is visiting her parents in Wake Forest.

Appointed April 1 Last Year; Record Shows Much Work

Believe Record Will Equal That of Any in the Entire State

The report of activities by Joe H. Roebuck, one-man law enforcement division of the Martin County Alcohol Beverage Control Board, recently submitted, presents a record of accomplishments that doubtless cannot be duplicated by any one peace officer in the State. Mr. Roebuck was employed as special enforcement officer by the ABC board on April 1 last year, and up to January 1, 1938, a period of nine months, his report shows the following:

He traveled a total of 7,145 miles, much of it, of course, over little traveled back woods paths, destroyed 79 illicit whiskey stills of various sizes and descriptions, from small crude galvanized-barrel outfits to the large and modern steam plants.

A total of 30,128 gallons of beer was poured out and 257 1-2 gallons of liquor seized. Thirty-seven arrests were recorded and fines assessed against convicted lawbreakers totaled \$1,399, which amount, it is understood, will more than offset the cost of the enforcement work. In addition to this two automobiles used in the unlawful transportation of whiskey were confiscated.

All in all, the officer has made an enviable record, and it is believed that as a result of his work there are fewer liquor law violations than at any other time in recent history of the county.

Three Youths Enter CCC Service From The County

Three young men, Wm. Edgar Price, of Hamilton; Hubert Whitaker, of near Williamston, and Clayton Hadley, of Oak City, entered the Civilian Conservation Service in Raleigh yesterday. Following a short training period, the boys will be transferred to a camp on the west coast, possibly in the state of California.

Uneventful Meet Held On Monday By Commissioners

Routine Business Holds Board in Session Half a Day

Holding their first meeting of the calendar year on Monday, the Martin County commissioners centered their attention on routine matters, and the session was entered in the records as an uneventful one. Commissioner R. A. Haislip, of Hassell, was unable to be present, and Commissioners C. C. Fleming, R. L. Perry, C. A. Roberson headed by their chairman, Mr. J. E. Pope, handled the small calendar of business.

Reports from the heads of the various county departments, were received, their contents receiving attention by the commissioners.

That recommendations by the board to the State Highway and Public Works commission do not always receive consideration by the State agency was established at the Monday meeting when the commissioners ordered resubmitted to the commission a resolution urging the inclusion of a certain road in the upper part of the county. The commissioners would have included in the State highway system a road beginning at E. P. Leathers' farm on Highway 125 and running across the A. C. L. Railroad tracks and the O. L. Joyner farm to the old Hobgood or Hopkins road. In December a year ago the commissioners urged that this road be included in the State system.

While they were repassing the year-old resolution, the commissioners passed another resolution urging the highway commission to take over and maintain a mile-long road starting at the Sue Jolly farm on what is known as the Manning Road in Jamesville Township and running via the farms of Geo. W. Martin and Henry Modlin to the Jamesville and Washington Highway No. 171, having for its termination the old J. H. Lassiter farm. The petition carried the names of nine citizens.

Lawrence Lilley was relieved of the payment of \$1 dog tax listed in error in Williams Township.

A correction was ordered in the tax listings of S. T. Harris, Williams, a reduction from \$1,500 to \$1,300 having been effected.

At one o'clock, the board ordered a recess for all county offices during the funeral of W. C. Manning, former county official.

Town Board Holds Its Regular Session Here Last Evening

Several Matters of Minor Importance Handled at Meeting

Several matters of minor importance were disposed of at the meeting of the town board of commissioners last night and steps were taken that will doubtless lead to the completion of more important work, including the opening of a new street and extension of the water mains to provide better fire protection in the section near the high school building.

The commissioners passed an ordinance providing for the police department to impound for nine days all vicious dogs found at large, and at the end of the period of impounding the mayor is to decide whether the dog will be destroyed or returned to its owner.

John Wier appeared in behalf of himself and several other parties, seeking permission to place penny-in-the-slot weighing machines in front of their places of business on the sidewalks of the town. After discussion, the board rejected the plea, and directed officers to inform those who had already placed the machines to remove them from the sidewalks.

The board also passed a resolution of appreciation directed to the Virginia Electric & Power Co. for its part in helping to provide for the lighting and decorations of the streets at Christmas.

Approval was given for the purchase of a short-wave radio set to be placed in police headquarters. A second-hand set, costing \$20, has been in use there for some time, and it was decided to buy this instead of a new set, which would have cost \$39.50. This action places the local police on the receiving end of all messages broadcast over the State Highway Patrol radio system.

An old problem cropped up when it was reported the old plank walk over the ravine on the Smithwick Street short-cut into New Town was in bad condition again. Permanent improvements would cost about \$200, and the board decided to await the outcome of negotiations between a member of the board and J. B. Cherry, who owns a lot over which it is proposed to run a new street, straightening Smithwick and doing away with the necessity for the present short-cut and plank walk.

R. E. Manning, street superintendent, reported the sidewalks recently completed by town forces on Warren street cost only \$1.10 per square yard, against a contract bid of \$1.50, resulting in a saving to the town and abutting property owners of \$102.40 on the 256 yards required. It was ordered that the individual assessments for this work be prepared and the property owners notified.

Considerable discussion was devoted to the proposed extension of the town water mains to provide for two fire hydrants on the property in front of the high school. Recent building activities there have caused the demand for the added protection, and it is likely that a connection will be made by extending a main 450 feet up Smithwick street to connect with the line on Grace street from the Wynne Service station. This will eliminate the present "dead-end" and provide additional pressure at the hydrants on the school property as well as allow for the placing of the two new hydrants. The superintendent was instructed to prepare a definite estimate of the cost and report either at a special meeting of the board within the next few days or at the next regular meeting.

Child Dies At Home Of Parents Near Here

Martha Louvenia Griffin, four years and five months old, died at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. David T. Griffin, in Griffins Township last Thursday evening.

The victim of a disease strange to the blood, the little girl had been in ill health for some time. She was greatly beloved in the home and community, and her suffering was borne with a manly patience.

Funeral services were conducted at the home last Friday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock by Elder P. E. Getsinger assisted by Elder Hines, of Wilson, and Rev. W. B. Harrington, Baptist minister of this county. Burial was in Tice Cemetery at Hayes Swamp in Griffins Township.

Mutual Fire Insurance Group To Meet Saturday

The annual meeting of Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Association stockholders in this county will be held in the courthouse next Saturday morning at 10 o'clock, Jas. L. Coltrain, secretary, said today.

W. C. Manning Passes After Lengthy Illness

FEW CLAIMS

Not a single claim had been entered in this county early this morning for unemployment compensation, according to information coming from the Williamston office at noon.

Claims are being received from the unemployed in other counties, however, and before the week is spent possibly more than 200 people covered by the act will ask compensation. Few of the claims will originate in this county, it is believed, reports stating that most of the applications are expected from Beaufort and Tyrrell Counties, two of the units included in this district.

Joseph Lassiter, 77, Of Jamesville, Dies Saturday Evening

Death Is Caused by Stroke of Paralysis Suffered About a Week Ago

Funeral services were held Sunday afternoon at 2 p. m. for Joseph Henry Lassiter, 77, prominent farmer of the Jamesville section, who died early Saturday evening as the result of a stroke of paralysis suffered about a week before. The final rites, held at the late home, were in charge of the Rev. J. M. Perry, Christian minister of Robersonville, assisted by the Revs. W. B. Harrington, of the Jamesville Baptist church, and D. W. Davis, of the Washington Christian church.

The son of the late Joseph Lassiter and Louisa Harrison Lassiter, he was born in Bear Grass Township on July 30, 1860. He received his early training on the home farm, where he developed the characteristics that won for him a wide reputation who will be deeply missed honest hard-working man. Following his marriage, he moved to a farm about three miles from Jamesville, where he spent the remainder of his life. He was an active member of the Fairview Christian church for many years.

Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Mary Frances Lassiter, four sons, Lawrence, of Kenly, R. H. of Portsmouth, Va., Clyde and Herbert Lassiter, of Jamesville Township, two daughters, Mrs. Mamie Jackson, of Portsmouth, Va., Mrs. Lydia Perry, of Jamesville Township, and one niece, Mrs. Amos Perry, of near Williamston.

Daniel M. Griffin Dies At Home In Griffins District

Not 25 Years Old, He Had Been Treated for Some Time for Lukemia

Daniel Marvin Griffin, promising young county man, died at his home in Griffins Township last Friday morning at 8 o'clock following an illness of long duration. Suffering with lukemia, Mr. Griffin had received treatment in hospitals during the past several months. The end was expected.

The son of Mrs. Cieta Griffin and the late Joseph Ed Griffin, he was born in Griffins Township not quite 25 years ago. He lived there all his life and successfully farmed until his health failed. Mr. Griffin was a young man of sterling qualities, and his life held much for his family and community. He enjoyed an extensive friendship throughout his community where he was a rising leader. Several years ago he married Miss Vida Harris who survives.

Besides his mother he is survived by the following brothers and sisters, Herbert, Robert, Williford, Carl, Selma, Evelyn, Lola, Leona, Elsie, all of this county, and Wilson Griffin, of Dardens.

Funeral services were conducted Saturday afternoon from the home at 2 o'clock by Rev. W. B. Harrington and Elder P. E. Getsinger. The services were attended by one of the largest crowds present at a funeral in that district in recent years.

Interment was in the Manning serial ground, near the home, in Griffins Township.

Clerk of Court L. Bruce Wynne was in Robersonville this morning attending to business.

Outstanding Figure In Life of County for Third of Century

Funeral Services Held in Christian Church Yesterday

By W. H. BOOKER

William Christian Manning, 67, editor of The Enterprise and for over a third of a century a leading figure in every phase of the religious, civic, political and business life of Williamston and Martin County, died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Elbert S. Peele, here Sunday morning at 9:45, after an illness extending over a period of nearly three years. Chronic high blood pressure and complications followed by pneumonia was given as the cause of his death. He was able to attend to some of his duties up to about three weeks ago, since which time he was confined to his bed, gradually growing weaker until the end came peacefully Sunday morning. All the members of his immediate family were at the bedside at the time.

In addition to his newspaper work, which brought him a wide measure of renown for his editorial writings, he was, as president of the North Carolina Christian Missionary Convention for 15 years, head of the Christian church in the state. He was also president of the State Board of the Christian Church and president of the Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Association of North Carolina at the time of his death, a member of the board of trustees of Atlantic Christian College, Wilson, and had served on the executive committee of the North Carolina Press Association, as well as register of deeds for Martin County from 1898 until 1908.

Mr. Manning was born in Griffins Township, near Jamesville, on February 3, 1871, the son of Hon. John W. and Sarah Daniel Manning. His father served with distinction in the Confederate Army during the Civil war, later represented the county in the legislature, and the farm on which he was born came into the hands of his family by direct grant from the King of England.

He received a rural school education in this county and attended the old Washington Collegiate Institute in Washington. He afterwards taught school for a few years and farmed until he was 28 years of age. Elected register of deeds of Martin County in 1898, he continued in that capacity until 1908, when he purchased The Enterprise and branched out in the real estate business.

He established the Williamston Telephone Company in 1900 and some eight or ten years later the Williamston Electric Company, which furnished the electric power for the town until the municipality took over the operation. He continued to operate the telephone company and extended its service to include many rural sections and the town of Plymouth, until it was purchased by the Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company in 1926.

Deeply interested in education, he served as a member of the board of trustees of the local schools for many years and was largely instrumental in securing increased facilities and modern buildings for the county system.

During the World War, Mr. Manning was appointed food administrator of the county, served as head of the publicity bureau, was an officer in the "Home Guards" and chairman of the Council of Defense for Martin County. He was also United States Commissioner for many years.

Fraternally, Mr. Manning belonged to Skewarkee Lodge No. 90, A. F. & A. M., of which he was past master; Concho Chapter No. 12, R. A. M.; Calvary Commandery No. 25, K. T.; Sudan Temple, A. O. N. M. S., of New Bern; Roanoke Camp No. 107, W. O. W., the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Improved Order of Red Men, and the Charitable Brotherhood. He had served as Trustee deputy grand master for the Grand Lodge of Masons and was an earnest worker for the Masonic orphanage at Oxford.

Known far and wide for his ever willingness to help anyone or any worthy cause, Mr. Manning was probably called on to give aid along these lines more often than any man who ever lived in the county. And he always gave liberally of his time and means to those in need; he was ever ready to give sympathy and bearing to their stories of distress, and his words of encouragement have

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