

# THE ENTERPRISE

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## Plans Go Forward For Pageant And Dance On July 30

### Nineteen Firms Sponsoring Nineteen Entries In Beauty Contest

More recent plans for the Junior Chamber of Commerce Second Annual Beauty Pageant and Dance were announced by Chairman Ernest Mears today.

The Beauty Pageant will begin at 8:30 p. m. and the dance will begin at 10:00 p. m. July 30, in the High School gymnasium. Hyde Fair and his Savoy Sultans, Louis Jordan's greatest rival, direct from the Savoy night club in New York, will furnish the music for the dance.

The pageant will include two contests to determine the junior and senior queens to reign over the festivities. The senior queen will be selected from an array of beauties between the ages of 18 and 28 and the junior queen will be selected from an age group ranging from 4 to 7 years.

The selected queen of the senior group will be given an all-expense paid trip to the Miss North Carolina beauty contest to be held at Wrightsville Beach, August 16 & 17. The second and third place winners in this same group will also be given prizes. The winner of the Wrightsville beauty contest will be sent to Atlantic City, N. J., to compete for "Miss America of 1947."

To date nineteen Misses and their sponsors have entered the senior contest and a few more are expected to follow. The entries are as follows: Lucy Andrews-Miss Belk-Tyler's, Truliah Ward Bailey-Miss Margolis Bros., Thelma Carrow-Miss Manning Truck Line, Mary Dean Harrison-Miss Blug Star Cleaners, Thelma Harrison-Miss Peele's Jewelers, Frances Jarman-Miss Baker Oil Co., Dorothy Leggett-Miss Westinghouse, Rose Leggett-Miss Wear-Right Shop, Angela McLawhorn-Miss Sinclair Ser. Sta., Martha Mendenhall-Miss Harrison Office & Supply Co., Elizabeth Parker-Miss Lindsley Ice Co., Lennie Perry-Miss Williamston Motor Co., Margaret Roberson-Miss Darden's Dept. Store, "Lib" Taylor-Miss Western Auto Associate Store, Frances Thomas-Miss Dixie Motor Co., Dorothy Umphlett-Miss Alpha Cleaners, Anne Weaver-Miss Williamston Hdw. Co., Rose Worthington-Miss Woolard Furniture Co., Alice Wynne-Miss Charles H. Jenkins Motor Co.

The entries of the Junior Beauty Contest are as follows: Beth Spivey-Mr. and Mrs. V. J. Spivey, Sally Gray Griffin-Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Griffin, Diana Cherry-Mr. and Mrs. Walter Cherry, Betsy Davis-Mr. and Mrs. D. R. Davis, Genie Glover-Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Glover, Lou Godwin-Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Godwin, Jr., Bertie Harrison-Mr. and Mrs. I. J. Harrison, Constance Chesson-Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Chesson, Laura Frank Crawford-Mr. and Mrs. Asa Crawford, Barbara Roberson-Mr. and Mrs. Joe Roberson, Mary Emma Peele-Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Peele, Lela Frances Harrell-Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Harrell, Elva Jo Williams-Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Williams, Jr., Martha Rawls-Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Rawls, Marion Holmes Cobb-Mr. and Mrs. Marion Cobb, Frankie Carstarphen-Mr. and Mrs. Frank Carstarphen, Sharon Williams-Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Williams.

## Loses Control Of Auto On Bridge

Losing control of his car just as he entered a curve in the Roanoke River bridge detour here this morning at 6:30 o'clock, Claude Saunders Griffin, young county farmer, crashed into the guard rail and barely missed going into the swamp, reports stating that the vehicle was about half on and half off the bridge when it came to a stop.

## Polio Chairman To Speak Here

State Chairman Philip Randolph of Infantile Paralysis Prevention, will speak at the Martin County AMVETS Post No. 26 meeting tonight at 8 o'clock in the courthouse.

Mr. Randolph will give additional information as to the need and purchase of an infants' iron lung. The project of obtaining a lung was recently undertaken by AMVETS (American Veterans of World War II). There is only one such lung in the state, located in Durham. Dr. J. T. Liewellyn is president of the Martin County Chapter Infantile Paralysis Prevention.

All interested persons are invited to hear Mr. Randolph.

## Construction Amounts To \$200,000 Past Six Months

Appearing before a regular meeting of the local board of town commissioners recently, Building Inspector G. P. Hall stated that permits for nearly \$200,000 worth of construction and repairs were issued in the first six months of this year. Construction cost totals were well ahead of those for the corresponding six months before the outbreak of the war in 1941 and were much larger than those of a year ago, the inspector said.

Permits were issued in the sum of \$98,550 for thirty-one new homes. While the average cost was listed or estimated at about \$3,100, the price range was from \$900 to about \$9,000. Repairs to homes amounted to \$15,300 during the period. The inspector pointed out that most of the home building during the period was handled by colored citizens. It

### NO MEETING

Tentatively scheduled for Thursday night of this week, a meeting of the Williamston Tobacco Market Boosters has been postponed, it was announced last evening by Elbert S. Peel, the chairman. A date for the meeting will be announced later, the chairman said.

## Alleged Attacker In County's Jail

Raleigh Speller, 46-year-old Negro charged with attacking Mrs. Aubrey Davis just this side of Windsor late last Friday night, was held in the Martin County jail a few hours following his arrest near the scene of the attack. Arrested by Patrolman C. E. Whitfield and Bertie officers, Speller was transferred to Patrolman W. E. Saunders' patrol car between here and Windsor. While no mob action was reported, officers, taking every precaution against possible violence, removed Speller from the jail here about 3:00 o'clock Saturday morning and placed him in another jail.

Reports reaching here state that Mrs. Davis, about 50, went to the back porch to fasten a screen door and was grabbed by Speller who struck her in the face and dragged her into the yard. A scuffle followed and Speller soon withdrew and was found thirty minutes later at a Negro filling station about one-half mile away. Buttons and clothing torn from him during the scuffle are said to match those found on him when he was arrested. His face was also scratched, and officers are certain they have the right man.

The attack was one of two reported in eastern Carolina last week-end.

## Great Increase In Gas Consumption

Motor vehicle usage as measured by gasoline consumption, showed a big increase during 1946, according to Coleman W. Roberts, president of the Carolina Motor Club.

Mr. Roberts reported that during the past year a total of 437,997,000 gallons of gasoline were consumed for highway use in this state, an increase of 155,625,000 gallons or 35.5 percent over 1945.

"For the nation as a whole," Mr. Roberts said, "motor vehicles burned up the huge total of 19,339,492,000 gallons, a gain of more than 6,500,000,000 gallons, or 33.8 percent over the preceding year."

"California led all the states in the amount of gasoline used by motor vehicles, followed by New York and Pennsylvania. Biggest percentage increase was registered by Nevada with a 48.6 percent climb in gasoline consumption during the year."

## Postmasters To Meet In Raleigh

North Carolina's postmasters are scheduled to hold a meeting in Raleigh on Friday and Saturday of this week, it was announced by the secretary, Mrs. Mattie F. Greer of Boomer.

An interesting program, carrying addresses by officials from the Post Office Department, and the national president of the organization, has been planned.

## Mental Subject Again Attempts To End Her Life

### Friends and Neighbors Donate Funds for Care of Second Subject

North Carolina's disgraceful failure to provide room for its mental subjects was brought out in bold relief this week when neighbors and other friends made individual cash contributions to have a patient housed in a private institution. There's no room in the State Hospital for the subject, the superintendent advised. The action taken will relieve the case temporarily, however, and when the contributions, amounting to approximately \$100, are exhausted the private institution will be obliged to discharge the patient.

While individuals took action in that case, another mental subject in the county tried twice during the week-end to end her life by slashing herself with razor blades. Private physicians appealed to the hospital head this week, urging him to give the case consideration. The county welfare department head also appealed to the hospital, and arrangements are being made to deliver the young woman to the institution Wednesday. The first appeal to the hospital was made last week when the young woman cut a fourteen-stitch gash in her arm. Correspondence, directed to the hospital, went unanswered. Last Saturday evening the subject broke away and before she could be stopped she had slashed her leg. The family physician sewed up the wound but the young woman tore out the stitches. Monday, she slashed herself on the wrists. Members of the family have held or watched her twenty-four hours a day for some weeks, but she would break away, pick up a razor blade hidden out of the reach of others and try to end her life. Last reports state that she was wrapped in a sheet and tied.

## Mrs. Davenport's Funeral Held In Oak City Friday

### Prominent Citizens Had Been In Declining Health For a Long Time

Mrs. Luther J. Davenport, well-known Oak City resident, died at her home there last Wednesday evening following a long period of declining health. An invalid for several years, she suffered a stroke early last week, the end coming rapidly. Mrs. Davenport on the day she was last stricken had enjoyed her evening meal and seemed to be getting along unusually well when members of the family heard a slight commotion in her room. Rushing there they found her unconscious.

The former Miss Cassie Woolard, she was born in Beaufort County 61 years ago, the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Woolard of Bath. She was first married to John W. Whitley who died in 1907. One son, V. W. Whitley of Roseboro, survives that union. She was later married to Mr. Davenport and the family located in this county about 1909.

Besides her husband, surviving are three sons, N. E. Davenport of Oak City, W. L. and Otis Davenport, both of Raleigh; three daughters, Miss Madeline Davenport, Mrs. F. L. Barrett and Mrs. W. T. Brown, all of Oak City; five sisters, Mrs. B. O. Barbage, Mrs. Mark Edmondson, Mrs. Bessie Satchwell, Mrs. Alice Sparks, all of Bath, Mrs. Albina Short of Baltimore; two brothers, W. C. Woolard of Norfolk and E. M. Woolard of Greenville.

Mrs. Davenport was held in high esteem in both her native and adopted communities. She was devoted to her home and family and had many friends.

Mrs. Davenport had been an active member of the Oak City Christian Church for a number of years, and a former pastor, Rev. J. M. Perry of Robersonville, and the present pastor, Rev. L. D. Thomas of Rocky Mount, conducted the last rites at the home last Friday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock. Burial was in the Oak City cemetery.

## Martin County Tax Values

With the listings of \$17,818,703 for 1947, Martin County now has the largest assessed property valuation since 1918-19 when the total listings were approximately 21 million dollars. The total listings this year—\$8,59,249 personal property, \$9,150,245 real estate and \$2,009,209 corporation listings—are \$1,966,926 larger than those recorded in 1946. Corporation listings, despite reductions reported for the Coast Line Railroad Company, Western Union Telegraph and the American Railway Express Company, show a gain of \$22,853.

The figures below show a comparison, actual and percentage, in gains of real and personal property values, exclusive of corporation listings, by townships and races:

WHITE		COLORED	
1946	1947	1946	1947
Jamesville	\$ 1,846,899	\$ 2,365,714	\$ 518,815
Williams	376,963	403,893	26,930
Griffins	743,642	803,483	59,841
Bear Grass	706,637	759,364	52,727
Williamston	3,220,242	3,840,796	620,554
Cross Roads	659,464	713,153	53,689
Robersonville	2,374,679	2,721,332	347,203
Poplar Point	390,105	409,517	19,412
Hamilton	951,399	1,019,056	67,657
Goose Nest	1,233,971	1,262,551	28,580
Totals	\$12,504,001	\$14,299,409	\$1,795,408
GAIN		PERCENT	
Jamesville	\$ 166,156	\$ 176,289	10,133
Williams	51,683	53,532	1,849
Griffins	31,325	32,470	1,145
Bear Grass	46,483	52,503	6,020
Williamston	285,390	330,818	45,228
Cross Roads	55,354	65,456	10,102
Robersonville	283,595	322,542	38,947
Poplar Point	18,223	19,224	1,001
Hamilton	151,595	169,031	17,436
Goose Nest	281,616	288,220	6,604
Totals	\$1,371,420	\$1,510,065	\$ 138,665

## Jaycees Starting Third Year Under A New President

### Wheeler Manning Succeeds Ernest Mears As Head Of Organization

The local Junior Chamber of Commerce, which has risen to be one of the top ten in the State, began its third year at a meeting and dinner in the Woman's Club last Friday evening. Presiding over the meeting was the newly elected president, Wheeler M. Manning, who gave just recognition to the past achievements of the club and unfolded a pattern of the new tasks that lie ahead. In recognizing the progress of the club during its initial years President Manning introduced Committee Chairman Charles H. Manning who presented to past-Presidents Clarence Griffin and Ernest Mears engraved gifts, as token of the club's appreciation for their leadership during their terms of office.

President Manning announced the various committee appointments for the new year and distributed lists to all members present. He made an announcement concerning the plays for the coming Jaycee Beauty Pageant and dance to be held in the High School Gymnasium July 30, and appointed special committees for the promotion of the pageant.

Special emphasis was placed upon the duty of the Jaycees to attend the weekly meetings of the Williamston Tobacco Market Boosters and to assist in every way possible toward the promotion of the Williamston Tobacco Market.

Committee Chairman Ernest Mears and Edwin "Pip" Peele gave reports on the progress of the forthcoming Beauty Pageant pointing out that the number of contestants for the title of "Miss Williamston" had exceeded twenty in both the Junior and Senior classes of competition.

Guests for the evening were Joe (Continued on page eight)

### ROUND-UP

Eight persons, facing various law violation charges, were rounded up and jailed here over the week-end. Two of the number were young white men. Unable to gain admittance to the State Hospital, one mental patient was detained in the jail. Two others were booked for drunken driving, three for possession of illicit liquor and one for an attack.

The ages of the group ranged from 21 to 46 years.

## Much Sugar Used In Making Illicit Liquor

### Officers Report 1,200 Pounds At Plant Last Week

### Appeal To Sugar Dealers To Cooperate In Drive Against Trade

Pointing out that much sugar is being used in the manufacture of illicit liquor in this county, ABC Officer Joe H. Roebuck this week directed an appeal to sugar dealers, urging them to cooperate with the enforcement agency by keeping as much sugar as possible out of the hands of the illicit liquor manufacturers.

"It is really surprising to learn how much sugar is being diverted from legitimate channels to the liquor business right here in our county," the officer said. "We raided a plant in the Free Union section of Jamesville Township last Saturday and learned that 1,200 pounds of sugar had been used there in recent days," the officer declared, adding that the sales apparently had been made by a wholesaler to little country stores and then delivered to the liquor plant operators.

The officer pointed out that very little molasses is now being used for the manufacture of illicit liquor in this county. In their raids last week Officers Roebuck and Roy Peel found 100 pounds of sugar. During the meantime sugar stocks are running low in many stores in this section.

Reviewing enforcement activities of the past week, Officer Roebuck said that Constable Paul Holliday and two assistants wrecked a 50-gallon capacity kettle and poured out one-half gallon of liquor and fifty gallons of sugar beer at a plant near Darden at 8:30 o'clock last Monday night. Hosea James, colored man, was caught at the still and in the county court this week he was fined \$50 and taxed with the costs. A road sentence was suspended.

Last Thursday Officers Roebuck and Peel wrecked two stilleries in the Great Branch section of Robersonville. They searched and poured out 100 gallons of sugar beer. One of the plants was equipped with a 50-gallon capacity copper kettle and the other had an oil drum for a kettle. Returning to Jamesville Township that afternoon, the officers wrecked a plant and poured out 50 gallons of sugar beer.

A large plant, equipped with a 100-gallon capacity copper kettle and four fermenters, was wrecked in the Free Union section of Jamesville Township last Friday. The officers poured out 100 gallons of sugar beer and confiscated 100 pounds of sugar and a small quantity of meal. The operator had just started a fire under the kettle, but aided by signals, he escaped just ahead of the officers.

Saturday morning the officers wrecked a plant in the same part of the county but could not find the still. Eight fifty-gallon fermenters were destroyed. (Continued on page eight)

## Divorce Actions Filed In Court

Several divorce actions, most of them based on two-year separation grounds, were filed in the Martin County Superior Court a few days ago.

Based on two-year separation grounds, the following divorce actions are now pending in the court: John H. Gant against Carrie Bell Gant, H. B. Lilley against Ruby Lilley, and Joe Scott against Martha Scott.

In a third case, Hilda Goode against Herbert Goode, the plaintiff points out that the defendant was already married to a woman, Evelyn Goode, in Georgia, that when she (the plaintiff) married him he had not gotten a divorce. On that grounds she is asking a divorce. It is understood that Goode was convicted in the courts of this state for bigamy, that he is shortly completing a sentence in Halifax prison.

## File Damage Suits In Superior Court In Past Few Days

### Victims of Highway Wreck Are Asking \$15,000 In Damages

Several civil suits, the plaintiffs seeking from \$2,500 to \$10,000 damages, were filed during the past few days in the Martin County Superior Court and are tentatively scheduled for trial in September, it was learned from Clerk of Court L. Bruce Wynne.

J. B. Sullivan and his wife, Mrs. Margie Sullivan, are asking \$15,000 damages in their cases against Amos Cox and Vance Harrington. In the complaint it is pointed out that the defendants were driving toward Greenville on the night of last January 18 when about one mile out of Bethel their car crashed into a truck parked on the highway. It is alleged in the complaint that the driver of the truck, Amos Cox, had deserted the truck and left no rear light on it, that rain was falling, making it impossible for Mr. Sullivan to see the truck until he was within a few feet of it. Harrington owned the truck and the complaint alleges that Cox was acting as his agent. Reports state that the defendant carried proper insurance for his protection.

In his complaint, Mr. Sullivan states that he was seriously cut on the face and neck, that other parts of his body were badly bruised and that bones in his right hand were broken, that he received severe and lasting shock. He is asking \$5,000 damages.

In her complaint, Mrs. Sullivan points out that she received serious injuries to her face and other parts of her body, that she lost nearly all of her teeth and that there was a bone injury to her right foot. Unconscious for several days, Mrs. Sullivan was treated in the local hospital for quite some time. She is asking \$10,000 damages.

The complaints were filed by Peel and Manning, local attorneys.

A third suit was filed in the court last week, the plaintiff, Mildred Ray, seeking \$2,500 damages from the defendant, Grace Maynard, as a result of an assault with a deadly weapon committed on the night of last July 31.

In the complaint filed by Attorneys Critcher and Gurganus, the plaintiff says, in part: "That by reason of said unlawful assault on the plaintiff with a pistol with intent to kill, plaintiff was frightened, feared that her life would be taken without cause, that she was humiliated and embarrassed before her friends and people then in the cafe, and as a result thereof she suffered a nervous breakdown and mental anguish, could (Continued on page eight)

Registrations Of Cars Increasing

Motorists in North Carolina paid a total of \$11,132,000 in registration fees during 1946 as compared with \$9,489,000 during the previous year, Coleman W. Roberts, President of the Carolina Motor Club, reported today.

On the basis of figures supplied by A. A. National Headquarters in Washington, D. C., Mr. Roberts said that for the nation as a whole registration collections by states amounted to \$441,910,000 as compared with \$385,694,000 in 1945.

"When other miscellaneous collections, such as dealer license fees, operators' permit fees, and the like are added in," Mr. Roberts said, "total state motor registration taxes amounted to the record breaking sum of \$520,780,000."

"These registration fees are, of course, in addition to the gasoline taxes and many other taxes on the motorists by the various levels of government."

"Total special taxes paid by motor vehicle owners during 1946 are estimated at the all-time high total of \$2,400,000,000 compared with the pre-war record of \$2,150,000,000."

**Minister's Condition Showing Improvement**

Quite ill at his home for over two weeks, Elder B. S. Cowin was reported much improved over the week-end. He was said to be able to sit up during brief intervals, and Sunday he received almost two hundred visitors.

## Two Minor Auto Wreck Reported

No one was injured but property damage approximating \$600 resulted in two automobile accidents reported in the county last week-end.

Driving toward Plymouth early last Friday night, Woodrow W. Daughtrey struck B. N. Holliday's car parked in front of Clark's cafe in Jamesville, doing about \$200 damage to Holliday's 1940 Oldsmobile and about the same amount to his own, a 1946 Chevrolet. After knocking the Holliday car partly around, Daughtrey's car swerved to the left and came to a stop a short distance away. Officer Paul Holliday and Patrolman W. E. Saunders investigated the accident and detained Daughtrey temporarily. Daughtrey was the first man booked for trial under the new highway safety laws that went into effect the first of this month.

Apparently driving at a rapid speed, David Brinkley Gurkin lost control of his 1937 Ford, ditched and turned it over on a curve in the dirt road connecting Highway 17 and 64 just back of Dennis Hardy's store last Sunday afternoon at 3:15 o'clock. No one was hurt. Damage to the car was estimated at \$200 by Patrolman W. E. Saunders who made the investigation.