

People Of County Offering Help To 'Homeless' Group

Destitute Case Is Worthy Of Aid Sheriff Chas. B. Roebuck Declares

Advised of the pitiful plight of Ammie Ambrose's nine-member family, local people were quick to respond to the call for help. However, there hasn't been sufficient time as yet to determine if the response will meet the urgent need of the destitute family.

Dr. A. J. Edens led the response with a \$5 cash contribution soon after the appeal was made public. J. Edward Corey was next with a \$5 cash donation, and the Smith-Douglas Company added \$10 to the fund after representatives saw a picture of the shack in which the little group weathered, after a fashion, the recent snow and cold weather.

Mr. W. T. Stinnette, volunteering his services, said, in part:

"I just read about the family of colored people. If anyone will give the lumber and materials I will be glad to help a group repair the house without charge."

A casual examination shows that the shack is in such a bad state of repair that possibly it will be better to abandon it, using some of the timbers in the construction of a two- or three-room camp house on another foundation. However, more cash contributions are needed along with material offerings before a definite reconstruction program for the family can be undertaken.

The case has been checked and it is a most worthy one. It isn't planned to make a personal solicitation in behalf of the members of the pathetic family whose ages range from three to nearly seventy years, but contributions will be received either by Sheriff C. B. Roebuck or The Enterprise and directed to the most effective program possible.

Other contributions received soon after the first appeal was made to the people of this section, include the following:

Mrs. H. S. Hardy, Everetts, \$3; Joe Everett, Robersonville, \$5; Mrs. N. M. Mobley, Parmele, \$5; J. C. White, \$2.50; Evelyn McFadden, \$2; Carrie McFadden, \$1; R. S. Critcher, \$5.

Other contributions will be acknowledged from time to time in the name of Ammie Ambrose, the aged grandmother, who, it will be recalled, had stolen from her last November nearly \$300 in cash the family had worked for and saved to repair their home.

The family has been helped by neighbors and the grandmother went to the welfare department for a pension, but the \$15 grant per month is not sufficient to hardly hold body and soul together under the conditions. Members of the family have not begged even though they are living a plank or two removed from staked out doors, and hunger has stalked them from time to time, to say nothing of their scanty clothes.

The current appeal for funds is designed to provide a wall around and a roof over the heads of the destitute.

In reporting the case earlier in the week, The Enterprise stated (Continued on page six)

Officers Destroy Big Liquor Still

Raiding in Bear Grass Township last Tuesday, ABC Officer J. H. Roebuck and Deputy Roy Peel found a large liquor still but did not find the manufacturing site. Apparently the owner was moving to a new location and had not had time to place the still in operation.

The still was made of copper and had a capacity of about 100 gallons. It was one of the largest kettles found by the officers in this county in recent weeks.

Raiding in the mill neck section of Jamesville Township yesterday the officers found and destroyed another plant, equipped with a fifty-gallon capacity oil drum and one fermenter containing 50 gallons of cheap beer.

Town Lets Contract Today To Sanford Firm For Well

Williamston's town commissioners in special meeting early this afternoon acted to relieve the local water shortage when they let a contract for another deep well to the Carolina Drilling and Equipment Company of Sanford. Bids were submitted by two firms, the Layne-Atlantic of Norfolk and the one at Sanford. The Norfolk firm submitted a base bid of \$9,800 and the Sanford firm had a bid of \$6,500. Both bids were based on a guarantee of 250 gallons of water per minute, the water to contain not more than 75 parts salt in a million and it is to be approved by health authorities.

The Layne-Atlantic Company agreed to dig three test wells with the condition that should additional ones be needed they would be dug at \$1,000 each, based

on 500 feet. The Sanford firm specified no limit to test wells, agreeing to accept the decision of the town engineers and state geologists.

Layne-Atlantic submitted a contract price of \$10 per gallon for the next 100 gallons in excess of 250-gallon guarantee, and \$5 per gallon for the next 100 gallons or proportional part thereof. The Sanford firm contracted at \$20 per gallon for the first 100 gallons in excess of the 250-gallon guarantee, and \$10 per gallon for the next 100 gallons in excess of the 350.

Based on a 450-gallon-per-minute supply, the bids compare: Carolina Drilling and Equipment Company, \$9,500, and Layne-Atlantic, \$11,300. Both bids did not include screens which the town will furnish.

MEETING

A meeting will be held in courthouse here next Monday evening at 8:00 o'clock when workers and leaders of various governmental agencies and relief organizations are to discuss 'needs and resources of the people of Martin County', it was announced yesterday.

Mass unemployment, flaring up as a result of the paralytic stroke dealt industry in this section by weather conditions recently, caused concern, and it is likely that such conditions will be discussed along with an explanation of agency policy.

Makes Report On Paralysis Drive

The drive to raise \$2,600 for the Martin County Infantile Paralysis Fund was \$120.11 short of the goal this morning, but Chairman L. B. Wynne expressed the hope that unreported centers, including Hamilton and Bear Grass and four colored schools, would carry the campaign over the top. Reports are expected from those areas today or tomorrow.

Funds raised and submitted but not previously reported include the following schools, Williamston High School, \$46.71; Everetts, \$50.05; and Williamston, colored, \$70.48, the late reports boosting the total collected and reported to \$2,479.89.

Reviewing the canvass to date, Chairman Wynne said that \$915.75 had been received in answer to direct mail appeals, \$1,134.13 from the white schools, \$216.01 from the colored schools; \$87.71 from Robersonville's Trio Theater, and \$72.50 from the Hamilton Theater, and \$119.04 from the coin collectors.

Pressman Badly Hurt In Accident

Bruce Whitley, Enterprise pressman, was badly but not seriously hurt yesterday morning shortly before 8:00 o'clock when a board slipped and dumped him into a five-foot motor pit beside the publishing company's newspaper press. He was removed to the hospital here where thirty stitches were taken to close a gash in his left arm. He was resting well this morning, but it could not be learned when he would be able to be out.

He was oiling the press and making ready for a paper run when one of the boards covering the pit slipped and he fell about five feet to the concrete floor. The press was not in operation at the time.

Apparently his injuries were limited to his left arm, reports stating that no bones were broken.

Some Firms To Have a Holiday Next Monday

The local post office and banks will be closed next Monday in observance of Washington's birthday. Few other business, if any, will have a holiday that day.

Industry In This Section Resumes Normal Schedule

Economic Plight Reminds One Of Depression Days In Thirties

Closed down by weather conditions and bad roads for as long as two weeks and longer in some cases, heavy industry is gradually resuming normal schedules of operations in this section, but the resumption of activities did not come until hundreds were thrown into an economic plight reminiscent of the Hoover days back in the thirties. Many filed for unemployment compensation, but the payments did not come fast enough to head off near want in some cases.

Industry, plagued by one of the worst winters in years, had not operated at full production in this section for months, with some few exceptions, of course. Bad weather on the peanut crop at harvesting time last fall curtailed operations in the two local cleaning plants, and operations are being staggered even now.

The Williamston Lumber Company resumed a full-production schedule yesterday when everyone of its men except one was back at work. The plant had operated on a limited scale during recent days.

The Wells-Oats Lumber Company is still closed down, but operations are to get under way at the plant on East Main Street the early part of next week.

The basket factory is not yet back in operation but it was learned unofficially yesterday that every effort is being made to put the plant back in production on or about the first of next month. A new dry kiln is being built to dry basket bottoms.

With the exception of a few days lost last week, the Standard Fertilizer Company plant has maintained production schedules. The smaller industrial plants in this immediate section are also back in operation.

No official report has been received from the pulp mill, but the plants is operating on a limited schedule, at least, with the possibility that full production will be resumed soon.

To Hold Training School In County

A three-day recreational training school, one of two scheduled in North Carolina, will be held in the American Legion hut here next Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 7:30 until 9:30 o'clock each evening.

The school is to train county and home agents, 4-H neighborhood leaders and 4-H club members and advance a successful recreational program in the county.

Six counties, Chowan, Bertie, Washington, Edgecombe, Halifax and Beaufort, are to send six delegates each and this county is to have twenty representatives attend the school.

Miss Virginia Gregory of the State Recreational Commission, will conduct the school, and Jesse James, assistant state 4-H club leader, will represent the State Extension Service.

First Highway Fatality Of 1948 Shows Up In Record

Last week was a hectic period for the accident record. Motorists had been flying low on the highways of this county without serious accident until last week when aided by fog, snow and bad road conditions the Grim Reaper claimed one life. Six persons were injured and another was killed in a single accident which rates among the most costly since three persons were killed on the Robersonville-Stokes Highway back in December, 1946. Most of the wreck: last week were minor ones, members of the highway patrol explaining that vehicles skidded into one another in several instances and

Town's Fire Loss In 1947 Largest In Several Years

Forty-one Calls Received by Volunteer Firemen Here During Period

Williamston's fire loss in 1947 was the greatest in any similar period during recent years. Fire Chief G. P. Hall said this week. While losses were confined to sixteen cases, the volunteer firemen were kept fairly busy during the year handling forty-one calls.

Fire damage to buildings amounted to \$29,410 and contents destroyed were valued at \$22,200, making a total of \$51,610. More than four-fifths of the loss, \$44,000, was confined to the basket factory when it was operated by the Williamston Package Company. Insurance covered most of the losses reported during the year, but the basket factory owners accepted a fairly heavy loss in the fire that destroyed a large storage house and contents and wrecked the large dry kiln.

Of the forty-one calls answered by the local department in 1947, about one-fifth of them or eight were received from out of town. There was only one false alarm as compared with none in 1946 and four in 1945.

In 1946 there were only eleven fire calls received by the department and losses were reported in only four cases. The loss, about one fifth of the 1947 damage, was estimated at \$10,925.

The year before that, fire losses were comparatively large, the records showing that fire destruction amounted to \$39,185. There were 34 calls in 1945, but losses were reported in only seven instances.

Studying the cause of most of the fires, Chief Hall said that the number of roof fires is dwindling. At one time, fifty percent of the fires were traceable to sparks falling on inflammable roofs. The trend is being picked up by oil stoves which accounted for about one-fifth of the fires last year. Grass fires accounted for six of the calls, and fires were traceable to four defective flues. Cigarettes accounted for two fires, according to the fire chief's reports. There were nine causes of fire listed, the records showing that the origin could not be determined in three instances.

While no record loss was reported in 1945, local firemen were called to some unusual fires, including a tree fire on Rhodes Street and a light pole at the high school. The 32 other calls that year were listed as follows: cigarettes, 2; short circuits, 2; sparks on shingles and tar paper covering (Continued on page six)

PARENTS-TEACHERS

A regular meeting of the local Parent-Teacher Association will be held in the high school auditorium next Monday evening at 8:00 o'clock, President H. P. Mobley announced today.

A concert by the high school band will feature the entertainment program. Reports will be received and other business will be handled following the concert.

Last Call Made For TB X-rays In County

Eleven Thousand X-rayed In Mass Survey To Date

Twenty-three Active And Inactive Cases Found So Far In Survey

A last and urgent call is being directed to the people of this county who are fifteen years old or older and who have not already done so, literally begging them to have their chests X-rayed before the mass TB survey is brought to a close on Friday of this week.

Up until yesterday afternoon at 5:00 o'clock, 10,848 persons had been X-rayed in the county, and the eleven-thousand mark was passed early today, leaving the survey possibly 3,000 short of a desired or near-perfect goal. The survey was interrupted by weather conditions in some sections of the county, but those who were unable to report when the mobile X-ray units were in their respective communities are urged to make every effort possible and have their chests X-rayed either at Williamston or Jamesville before 5:00 o'clock on Friday of this week. Missing the unit when it was in Bear Grass, about twenty pupils in the school there were brought to Williamston for their X-rays Tuesday. Others who missed the unit when it was in their respective communities will be welcomed in the centers where the survey is still in progress.

Commenting on the survey to date, Dr. R. F. Bell stated that 109 suspicious cases had been found, that that many persons had been asked to report for further examination. Of the 109, 74 have already returned, the health authority explaining that twenty-three active and inactive cases had been found. The health official has already recommended that five persons enter a sanatorium as soon as possible.

A clinic where further examinations are given will be held on Friday of this week and another is scheduled for all day next Monday in the health department offices. No more X-rays will be taken after Friday of this week, but a clinic will be held next Monday, the further examine suspicious cases. The clinic at that time will mark the close of the survey which was launched in this county on January 27. All those who have been or will be asked to report for further examination will find it to their advantage to do so before the clinic is closed next Monday, February 23.

Today, the survey is underway in Williamston, as usual, and two other units are operating in the lower part of the county, one in Dardens and the other in Jamesville for the first time. Tomorrow, in addition to the unit here, one will make a second stand in Jamesville, and another will be returned to the pulp mill where the work could not be completed yesterday. One report stated that 348 were X-rayed at the pulp mill, that the supply of blanks was exhausted, making a second schedule there advisable. Over in Williams Township at No. 90 filling station, 78 persons were X-rayed yesterday. Approximately forty were X-rayed at the fertilizer plant here.

Brought here by the North Carolina Highway Patrol (Continued on page six)

Order Transfer of Whit E. Saunders

Whit Saunders, popular member of the North Carolina State Highway Patrol with headquarters here for a number of years, has been ordered transferred to Washington, the change to become effective if and when a house can be found there.

Learning of the transfer order from other sources, local people and others in the county voiced telegraphic opposition, appealing to patrol officials to reconsider and leave Mr. Saunders here. Up until early today no direct answer had been received to the appeals.

Colored High School Band To Give Concert Sunday

The local colored high school band, recently organized despite many obstacles, is giving a special concert in the school building on Washington Street Sunday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock. The program, a benefit performance, is sponsored by the Household of Ruth, G. U. O. of O. F.

TAX LISTING

Completing the listing of taxes the early part of the week for 1948, Linstaker O. S. Anderson said today that indications point to a fairly sizeable increase in assessed valuations for this township. However, he would make no estimate on the size of the gain. "We lost on peanut holdings and a few other items, but building construction and the purchase of new cars last year offset those losses and should push on toward a fairly sizable figure," Mr. Anderson said. None of the listmakers has turned in a completed book as yet, and the trend in values for the county cannot be determined at this time.

Beloved Resident Died Tuesday At Jamesville Home

Funeral Service Thursday Afternoon For Mrs. J. L. Davenport

Funeral services are being conducted this afternoon at 3:00 o'clock in the Jamesville Methodist Church for Mrs. Mary Ella Davenport, beloved citizen of Jamesville, who died at her home there Tuesday morning at 9:45 o'clock. Her pastor, Rev. B. E. Bingham, of Roper, assisted by Rev. W. B. Harrington, county Baptist minister, is conducting the last rites and burial will follow in the Methodist Church cemetery. The grandchildren will serve as active pallbearers.

Mrs. Davenport, 76 years of age, had been in declining health for several years, but was very active until about the middle of 1945. She suffered a broken hip in September of that year, and after undergoing hospital treatment for a long period she was just beginning to get about again when she suffered a stroke in November, 1946. She had been an invalid since that time, but she accepted her affliction without complaint, remaining cheerful until just before the end. Her condition had been critical for about a week, but Tuesday morning she ate and seemed to enjoy her breakfast, and dropped off to sleep, the end coming while she was sleeping.

Mrs. Davenport was born in Pitt County near Bethel on February 12, 1872, the daughter of the late Rev. Samuel and Nancy Ward Moore. In early womanhood she was married to J. L. Davenport and moved to Martin County, living in Oak City and Hamilton a few years before locating in Jamesville.

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Justice Hassell Hears Five Cases

Justice John L. Hassell handled five cases in his court here this week after remaining idle during most of last week on account of the weather. Charged with being drunk and disorderly, Edward T. Schmidkofer, 38-year-old service man, was fined \$5, plus \$7.50 costs. Perlie Williams was fined \$10 and required to pay \$7 costs for crashing a red stop light. Judgment was suspended upon the payment of \$5.50 costs in the case charging Odell Hart with disorderly conduct.

Jimmy Watts, colored, was required to pay \$5.50 costs in the case charging him with disorderly conduct. Lawrence Wiggins, charged with disorderly conduct, was fined \$5 and taxed with \$6.50 costs.

Declares Machine Politics In State On Its Way Out

Candidate for Governor Says Machine Tries Pick Governor In Advance

"Under the Democratic Party, North Carolina has had good and honest government and some real political leaders, but today most of these leaders are gone and the machine they created has outlived its makers," R. Mayne Albright, candidate for governor, declared in a recent statement.

"Today the machine itself, operated through a few state department heads and county leaders, and financed by industrial interests, is openly attempting to select governors years in advance and to control the state of North Carolina," Albright continued.

"Elections should be won by votes—not dollars," he said. "The people of North Carolina do not want to see the highest office in the state sold to the highest bidder."

"The chief question before the people of North Carolina in the coming elections is who controls the State—the people or the machine? Unless this question is answered satisfactorily at the polls none of the pressing problems of schools, roads, health, wealth or progress will be adequately solved and our future citizens and our dependent citizens will continue to suffer while the State continues to build up a \$100,000,000 surplus."

"The danger of money in campaigns is that it defeats popular government and puts the public interest secondary to that of the special interests which provide the money. I believe the people of North Carolina are impatient with machine control, resent the improper use of money in campaigns, and that they will go to the polls this year in unprecedented numbers to elect the candidates who best represent the interests of all the people of North Carolina."

Albright, in his Field Headquarters, "The Challenger" has now covered 66 counties in his 'take it to the people' campaign. His statement today reemphasizes the need for a 'new political awakening in order to take advantage of this time of opportunity to restore the government to the people and to launch North Carolina on a real program of progress.'"

Albright is the only candidate who has called for a special session of the General Assembly to give emergency aid to teachers, public employees, and for school buildings. In his platform he has continually stressed the need for higher salaries for teachers and state employees; state aid to counties in school building and repair; better 'home to market' or 'home to school' roads; planned progress in agriculture, and in per capita income; and "clean politics."

"I believe we have all the possibilities for moving into a new era of real progress," Albright says. "North Carolina is rich in human resources and natural resources and at the beginning of this new era we have new skills, new training facilities, new capital resources and a very large and growing state surplus. I believe (Continued on page six)

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