THE ENTERPRISE IS READ BY

VOLUME LI—NUMBER 101

Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Tuesday, December 21, 1948

ESTABLISHED 1899

Tenant Farming At Lowest Level

Sharecroppers Drop From 776,278 In 1930 To 446,556 In 1945

One of the great changes in the structure of American agriculture in recent years—a change of deep social and economic significance to the nation at large as well as to agriculture itself--is the increase in farm owne ship and the big decline in tenant farming.

Figures compiled by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics of the U.S. Department of Agriculture disclose that approximately 72 percent, or more than seven out of every ten, of all farm operators this year were owners, in full or in part. (Part owners operate land they rent in addition to their own.) This farm ownership proportion is the highest since such figures were first compiled in 1900 and compares with a ratio of well under 60 percent in

At the same time, the number of tenant-operated farms declined to approximately 27 percent this year, the lowest such proportion since 1880. An interesting aspect of this decline is the greater relative decrease in the number of share-croppers than in tenancy as a whole in recent years.

These changes strengthen the basis of the nation's agriculture and, combined with other developments such as greater farm income and savings, indicate marked progress in the well-being and security of an increasing number of farm families.

One of the important factors in the decline in tenancy was the general prosperity in agriculture in recent years, a development which gave many tenants the financial means to buy farms of their own. Likewise, greater opportunities for employment off the farm in business and industry since 1940 led many tenants to give up farming entirely. Contributing to this trend were the great technilogical improvements in farming and rapid mechanization in recent years which permitted agriculture to raise more food fewer people.

established in 1935 when approxi- use hardly will reach a peak bemately 2.9 million farms, or 42 fore the middle of next month, percent of all farms, were tenant- quite a few farmers will have operated. In the following decade handled the task by the latter of the number of tenant farmers de- this week. clined more than a million and Reports indicate that the countheir proportion to all farm opera- ty will kill and pack an ample tors fell to 32 percent. A sample supply of meat this season. survey of 11,000 farms conducted by the Department of Agriculture early this year indicated that the Gets Permanent proportion of tenance at that time had declined further to around 27 percent.

highest number of share croppers on record was 776,278 in 1930. Fifteen years later, in 1945, the number had dropped to 446,point to 1945.

Returns Home After Long

Mr. Edward Joyner who suffered a broken back in an accident at the plant of the North Carolina his mother, Mrs. Evar. Woolard and family in the Peel Apartments on North Haughton Street. He is getting along very well.

SCHEDULE

Attention is again called to the three-day Christmas holiday to be observed by business firms in Williamston and most other towns and cities in the state. The stores are being held open each evening this week, but they will be closed from Christmas eve through next Monday.

The schedule will not apply to the post office and federal agencies, but all county and state offices will be closed for the three-day period, ending December 27.

URGES PAY BOOST FOR PRESIDENT



URGING CONGRESS TO INCREASE the salary of the President, Herbert Hoover (left), former Chief Executive, outlines his proposals to Sen. Ralph E. Flanders (R-Vt.), head of the Senate Civil Service Committee, in Washington. Under the Hoover plan, the pay raise would be taken care of by government absorption of White House expenses. He also suggested "study" of income tax exemptions for Presidents. (International)

OPEN EVENINGS

Offering further accommodations for their patrons, local merchants are keeping their stores open evenings this week until about 9:00 o'clock.

Williamston business firms are offering complete stocks at prices in keeping with and actually below those existing in many shopping centers. Shop with the Williamston merchants and save the difference and with the assurance that your patronage will be appreciated.

Farmers Killing Supply Of Meat purchases by the following:

Delayed by unusually warm peak in farm tenancy was meat packing business for home

Rating In Army

Campbell College The Lis Company. Pulp Company several weeks ago, Tactical School at Tyndall Air Hardy's Store, Martin-Elliott His 28 year-old see Bishard left a Washington last Force Base, Tyndall Field, Flori- Company, Worrell Appliance, however, remained doubtful. He one, Bertie County people last

> Michael S., are residing at Apt. ture Company, B. S. Courtney & izer. 20 B, Victory Circle, Panama City, Son. Western Auto Associate. So the two engaged in a little

Minor Accident On County Road Building & Loan.

Losing control of the 1941 Chev- Police Issue Warning rolet he was driving George Edward Gardner ditched it on the Skewarkey Road leading from to S. L. Andrews.

trolman J. T. Rowe.

Sale Of TB Bonds Amounts to \$730

raised \$730 in Williamston to car ry on the fight against tubercusale of bonds is in addition to the of the plaintiff. several hundred dollars worth of the little TB Christmas seals. Ac- fered in the case, Williams barcording to the last reports, the \$2,- gained to buy a farm in Poplar 000 quota in the county had not Point the latter part of 1946. His been reached, but the chairman mother-in-law, the defendant, of-

Peanut Company, Charles H. Jen- plained that he had borrowed and were well received. kins Motor Company, Standard money to finance its operations. Williamston Motor Company, appeal will be perfected. The o'clock. Roanoke Chevrolet Company.

Peele, W. I. Skinner, J. E. King, farm within ten days after the Ann's Specialty Shop, Clark's final judgment is docketed. Attor-Pharmacy, Davis Pharmacy, Har- ney Clarence Griffin was named rison & Carstarphen, E & W Groc- referee to determine the status of ery, Margolis Brothers, Farmer's the accounts between the parties. Supply Company, Moore's Grocery, Central Cafe, R. S. Critcher, Williamston Parts & Metal Company, Blue Star Cleaners, Enter-Major Oscar S. Anderson, Jr., prise Publishing Company, Ayers son of Mr. O. S. Anderson of Wil- Electric Company, Eagles Stores, liamston, was recently notified by Roses 5 & 10, Williamston Supply

ent assignment is with the Air Darden's Department Store, D. L. crop.

Against Unlocked Cars liberally. While offering every protection the father had a yield of 109.4 Route 64 to Route 17 last Friday possible, local police this week bushels per acre. The son promidnight, causing damage esti- issued a warning against leaving duced only 47.6 bushels per acre. mated at about \$75 by Patrolman packages and other valuables in Looking at his father's 7.5-acre M. F. Powers. The car belonged unlocked cars on the streets and field, young Jones said he had in the parking places. It was never seen so much corn on one Gardner, going from the scene pointed out that although only one piece of land. From now on, he of the accident for someone to pull theft had been reported, thieves plans to use hybrid seed and ferthe car out, was detained by Pa- should not be invited or aided in tilize according to recommenda-

Close Early Last Cpl. Newsome In

pear Just Would Have To Hang Up Stocking Here

With very few cases on the criminal docket and only two or three minor civil actions on the ducted Wednesday afternoon at calendar, the Martin County Sup- 2:00 o'clock in the Barnabest erior Court on Monday of last Missionary Baptist Church near week opened what was thought Williamston for Cpl. Thaddeus few criminal cases were handled Newsome, III, Martin County the first day and the court was young colored man who was fatmurder case. Considerable time in Japan on March 5, 1946. The was spent handling that case, but pastor Rev. J. W. Rogers will coneral divorces and a civil action or two. But the longer the court re- S. Highway No. 64. mained in session, the more baffling and complicated the cases ly to the church from a Greenville became, and about Thursday funeral home. Judge Walter J. Bone, presiding II, and wife, he was born near house ed wiring home for a stocking to hang up in Williamston for

Friday morning, only a speech to the jury by Attorney H. S. Ward and the judge's charge stood ed for eight months in the Norbetween the court and adjournment. The wheels of justice continued to move slowly all that are two sisters, Isoline Hassell of morning, but by early afternoon Norfolk and Myrtle Newsome of and after the jury quickly considered the issues in the case of Arthur Williams against Victoria Selling 65 TB bonds, the Martin Hassell, the court saw its chance County Tuberculosis Association and adjournment was ordered in the early afternoon.

The trial of the Williams-Hassell case required a full day and losis. The amount raised by the a half, the jury finding in favor

According to the evidence ofexpressed the opinion that that fered the down payment and the the farm and that Williams was in the large church was taken. \$25 Bonds-Harrison Oil Com- entitled to share in the proceeds

judgment directs the defendant to \$10.00 Bonds—W. G. (Bill) give the plaintiff a deed to the Injures Leg In

In Corn Contest

O. W. Jones, Martin County Nethe Department of the Air Force Company, White's Heating and gro farmer of Oak City, Route 1, him from the wheel and wrench-556. This represented a decline that he had been appointed per- Sheet Metal Company, G & H has convinced not only himself ing the muscle in the back of his manent captain in the USAF, date Builders Supply Company, but also his son that it pays to use leg. He was treated locally and living near Robersonville, went nected disability or service-conwith a drop in all farm tenancy of rank retroactive to July 1, 1948. Thrower Appliance Company, B hybrid seed and plenty of fertilizing the muscle was found to be torn.

entering the service in 1941 was \$5.00 Bonds-Wier Coffee Shop, Negro county agent for the State be up soon. president, of the Anderson Con- Sam Zemon, Willard's Shoe Shop, College Extension Service, Jones Stay In The Hospital struction Company in Birming- Alpha Cleaners, Proctor Shoppe, attended a corn result demonstraham, Alahama. During the war Peele's Jew - Sixolair Ser- tion project conducted in 1947 and he served 28 months overseas with vice Station, G & C Soda Shop, decided then and there that he the 8th AF in England. His pres- Woolard Hardware Company, would use hybrid seed for his 1948

Major Anderson's wife and son, Mrs. J. G. Staton, Woolard Furni- spending a lot of money on fertil-

Store, Muse Jewelry Company, friendly competition. The elder R. L. Ward Coal & Wood, F. U. Jones bought a bushel of N. C. 27 Barnes, Johnnie Gurkin, Griffins hybrid seed and planted 7.5 acres. Quick Lunch, Ward & Holding He used 16-inch spacing in 3.5-Oil Company, Martin County foot rows and followed recommended fertilizer practices. Young Jones planted his crop with regular field corn and did not fertilize

When the corn was harvested,

It Was Beginning To Ap- Young Colored Man Was Fatally Burned While Serving In Japan

Funeral services will be con making progress Tuesday ub un- ally burned in a motor vehicle actil it tackled the Dave Brooks cident while serving in the army handling the listings of both real Wednesday the court granted sev- duct the rites and burial will be taxation in this county have been in the family cemetery just off U. completed and final instructions

The body will be carried direct-

Williamston on June 29, 1924, and spent most of his life on the farm. He was graduated from the local colored high school and before en- 1949. tering the service in 1944 he workfolk Navy Yard

Surviving besides his parents the home and one brother, William Earl Newsome, also of the

He was one of eight Martin ville. County colored men to have been killed during World War II. His body is the twenty-second of a Martin County man to be returned for burial in native soil

amount and possibly more would deed was made in her name. It attracted capacity congregations 1951 or 1952. Any action calling be raised before the drive is com- took two sellings seasons to bring in the local Baptist and Christian for a revaluation in either one of out the misunderstanding, the de- Churches Sunday evening, the those years will be discretionary. The association recognizes the fendant claiming that she bought Baptists reporting that every seat In their meeting on the 28th the

pany, Williamston Lumber Com- of the farm only as a tenant. Wil- bined Methodist and Christian sonal properties, including such pany, F. C. X. Service, Colonial liams maintained that even Church choirs in the Christian items as farm produce, and deterweather during the past several Stores, Branch Banking & Trust though the deed was made to his Church and the Baptist choir in mine so far as possible a schedule in the Martin County Chapter, ment abroad the latter part of weeks, hog killings are now get- Company, Guaranty Banking and mother-in-law, that he had ad- the Baptist Church, handled their of values to be assessed for taxa- Chairman W. H. Carstarphen said this week. and fiber than ever before with ting under way on a fairly large Trust Company, Wells-Oates vanced under the assumption that assignments masterfully, and the tion purposes. The new automo-yesterday. ting under way on a fairly large to the farm and expressive like Blue Book will be studied scale in this county. While the Book will be studied to the programs were most impressive like Blue Book will be studied to the programs were most impressive lake with the possibility that the large with the large with

Fertilizer Company, Belk-Tyler The defendant gave notice of over the amplifiers Wednesday reduction in motor vehicle values twenty-three cases involving ser-Company, Lindsley Ice Company, appeal, but it isn't likely that the evening of this week at 8:30 unless a definite downward trend vice to war veterans and their of war victims together.

Rondell Beach, stepson of Mr Kelly Davenport, suffered a painful leg injury Tuesday evening, Goes All Out For December 14, as a result of a bicycle accident.

Riding his wheel in the alley behind Woolard's Furniture Store, he ran over a stump, throwing Major Anderson attended & W Tire Company, Baker Oil er in producing corn.

Rondell is confined to his bed use ling the Friendship Train.

Ble for the Red Cross to render company.

Company.

According to R. M. Edwards, able to use his leg but expects to large groups.

Bertie County

da, as an instructor in the supply Martin Supply Company, Wil
just didn't like the idea of payweek voted a tax levy upon themFriendship Trains created, Marof The Viccar Theatre will be selves to finance the construction tin County, at the bidding of awarded to some lucky boy or of a \$600,000 fifty bed hospital. faithful workers and canvassers, girl attending the special Christ-The federal and state governments will furnish about \$466,800 of the amount.

A site has not been selected, but Plows Into Car it is proposed to locate the hospital on the county farm between here and Windsor.

BERRIES IN DECEMBER

Nature came through with a rather unusual freak last Friday-a strawberry in December.

Mr. S. C. Ray was raking in his strawberry bed at his home here on Beech Street and raked out a full-grown strawberry. The berry was well developed and ripe.

Court Drags To A Hold Funeral For Tax List-Takers Are Load About 30,000

To Start Listing **Properties Early** Part of January

M. Luther Peel Appointed To Supervise Listings For Next Year

Tentative arrangements for and personal property for 1949 will be issued on the 28th of this month when the list-takers and tax supervisor meet in the commissioners' room in the court-

M. Luther Peel has been reappointed tax supervisor and he will be in charge of the listings for

O. W. Hamilton, Jamesville. Chas. L. Daniel, Williams.

W. Tom Roberson, Griffins. Wheeler Rogerson, Bear Grass. Oscar S. Anderson, Williamston.

L. G. Taylor, Poplar Point. LeRoy Everett, Hamilton. Jesse F. Crisp, Goose Nest. The commissioners in their De- swiped.

cember meeting ruled that there would be no revaluation of real estate for the new year, but they did order a horizontal increase in Little or no damage was done to all real property listings. The the truck. Special Program all real property listings. The authorities are expected to sponsor a law, making it legal to call The special Christmas programs for a revaluation in either 1950,

list-takers and supervisor will The choirs, including the com- study the current values of peralso with the possibility that the by the chapter last month, the with much of the food going to The Baptist choir will be heard group will consider a horizontal newly elected chairman said that orphanages and agencies trying to is reflected in the little book.

A schedule for listing property period along with aid extended Sumner and Mayo Little, did a will be announced immediately nine servicemen and their fami-splendid job in this county and after the December 28 meeting, lies. Financial assistance in the they were ably aided by township and property owners will find it amount of \$261.71 was extended to volunteers and canvassers. Bike Accident to their advantage and convenience not to wait too long in list- ers when their truck was wrecking their holdings.

among victims of war in foreign | first application to the Veterans' lands, Will Little, colored farmer Administration for service-con-

and neighbors. The last report it was explained. said that he had gathered and de-To Get Hospital livered to the center in Roberson-

> While the movement did not met the challenge all right.

On Highway 64 charged. There will favors for everyone.

Driving west on U. S. 64 last Officers Wreck Still Wednesday evening, James D. Bullock, RFD 1, Stokes, slowed down to allow a car in front of

dent, Patrolman M. F. Powers Robersonville Township last Frisaid that very little damage was day, the officer and his assistant, done to the Ford, that repairs on Deputy Roy Peel, wrecked a 30the Dodge coupe driven by Crowe gallon copper kettle and poured would cost \$100 or more.

TOBACCO CARDS

The office of the county agent this week issued a call for tobacco marketing cards, explaining that the farmers' card is to be checked against the warrants issued at the warehouse. The checking process, it was explained, helps eliminate, errors and credits the farmer with the poundage sold.

Only a few hundred farmers in the county have not returned their cards so far, it was learned.

Minor Accident

damage resulted when a truck and Company. There are over 2,500 The following list-takers have a car sideswiped each other near pounds of flour in the car, several been named for the ten townships: Holly Springs Methodist Church hundred pounds of sugar and five on Highway 64 last Thursday eve- or six bags of pecans, soy beans ning at 6:15 o'clock.

liamston Peanut Company, was Gordon G. Bailey, Cross Roads. traveling toward Williamston, and Henry S. Everett, Roberson- the car, a 1946 Mercury owned by uals contributed over \$300 in cash Oliver Peel of Dardens and driven by Romas Hiwatha Cordon, canned milk and other foods. also of Dardens, was traveling toward Jamesville when they side-

Damage to the car was estimated at \$120 by Patrolman J. T. Rowe who made the investigation.

Red Cross Busy

sensationalism offered by storms, are being shipped out of this floods and other catastrophes, State, and special trains are movwork of the Red Cross goes on be-

families were cared for during the The chairmen, Messrs. Jesse ed and one of their number was New School Units killed and several others injured. Unfortunately direct aid is necessarily limited to disabled vet-Friendship Train erans and their dependents, and dependents of decreased serviceerans and their dependents, and men and veterans during the Advised of the need existing period pending adjudication of the

canvasser, a portion of corn, Lit- but the welfare department and tle took his car and trailer and other relief agencies are supposed carried the appeal to his friends to handle individual needy cases,

At Show Friday Morning

The new Super DeLuxe bicycle create the excitement the first which is being displayed in front the lunchroom at Robersonville is mas show for children only on Friday morning, December 24. Doors will open at 9:30 a. m. and

regular admission prices will be charged. There will be gifts and

In County On Friday

Declaring that business is slowhim to make a left turn into the er than usual on the illicit liquor Prison Camp Road and Carlos D. manufacturing front, ABC Officer Crowe, of Newton, plowed into J. H. Roebuck is finding stills few the rear of Bullock's 1947 Ford. and far between. Raiding on a Investigating the minor acci- little island in Collie Swamp in out 250 gallons of beer.

Pounds Of Foods

Brief Dedication Service Being Held at Railroad Station Tuesday

Approximately 30,000 pounds of foods and farm produce have been loaded in the Friendship Train car in this county and it will be dedicated at a special service Tuesday morning at 9:00 o'clock with the several ministers taking part. The public is invited to attend the service which will be

The people of the county responded splendidly to the call, and the canvassers worked hard and succeeded in their task.

Complete figures of the loading could not be had immediately, but the deliveries include about 23,000 On County Road pounds of shelled corn, about a dozen 100-pound bags of shelled peanuts, five of which were do-No one was hurt and no great nated by the Williamston Peanut and a large assortment of canned The truck, driven by Caesar foods. Approximately 100 cases Purvis and owned by the Wil- of canned foods including milk were donated.

> Williamston firms and individin addition to dozens of cases of

> All the townships in the county came across with liberal gifts, Poplar Point possibly leading with the largest poundage for the smaller districts

Volunteers, although few in number, worked willingly in sorting, packing and loading the food Thursday and Friday nights.

The special train is moving out of Salisbury this week but the car in this county will be shipped by Handling Cases regular freight direct to the port in Norfolk for reshipment over-

Religious organizations will

Almost Completed

Construction work on three new school units in this county is almost completed, but it is likely that occupancy will be delayed pending the delivery of radiators. It was also learned that the plumbing work has not been completed, but the new units, one at Robersonwill P Trass and one at Williamston, could be used if the radiators could be made ready.

Aside from the heating and plumbing, the contractors are applying the finishing touches to the structures.

The addition at Bear Grass is 34,819; "The one at Wilcosting \$13,942 exclusive of plumbing, wiring and heating which the county is handling.

SUGGESTION

If anyone has exhausted his wits and worn his patience to a frazzle seeking a gift for a friend or a relative, the publishers suggest a subscription to The Enterprise as a yearlong gift. Possibly a friend in some distant state or one right around the corner would appreciate and enjoy keeping up with the activities in Martin County.

A gift card will be mailed for the donor, and the sub scription will start with the current Christmas issue.