

# CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

1949

## THE ENTERPRISE

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VOLUME LII—NUMBER 101

Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Thursday, December 22, 1949

ESTABLISHED 1899

### Handled Thirty Cases On Monday In County Court

#### Tribunal Will Not Hold Another Session Until January 9th

Judge Chas. H. Manning and Solicitor Paul D. Roberson handled thirty cases during a long session of the Martin County Recorder's Court on Monday of this week. Quitting about 3:00 o'clock, the court announced that its next session would not be held until Monday, January 9. The day after Christmas and the day after New Year's are recognized holidays.

Fines imposed at the session this week amounted to \$555.

#### Proceedings:

Charged with bastardy, Lonnie Brown, Jr., was sentenced to the roads for six months, the court suspending the judgment on condition that he pay the cost and \$3 a week for the support of his child.

Charles Sheppard was fined \$25 and taxed with the costs for operating a motor vehicle without a license.

Guilty of an assault with a deadly weapon, Jasper Perry was sentenced to the roads for three months, the court suspending the judgment upon the payment of a \$25 fine, court costs and \$18 doctor's bill.

Pleading not guilty of bastardy, Floyd Melton was adjudged guilty and was directed to pay \$4 a week for the support of the child and the court costs. He appealed to the higher court and bond was required in the sum of \$100.

Charged with non-support, Sam Manning was directed to pay \$5 a week for the support of his family and the court costs.

Garland Gray Mobley was fined \$25, plus costs, for allowing an unlicensed driver to operate a motor vehicle.

Judgment was suspended upon the payment of the costs in the case charging George Bonds with assaulting his wife. A second case, charging Bonds with non-support, was not pressed.

Pleading guilty of careless and reckless driving, Jonah Clemons was fined \$25, plus costs.

James Glover, Jr., was fined \$25 and taxed with the costs for operating a motor vehicle without a driver's license.

Charged with possessing illicit liquor, Charlie Mason, Lewis Chance and Gene Anderson were each fined \$50 and taxed with the costs. It was reported that the three were busy transferring part of a gallon of raw liquor into a pint bottle when they were booked for trial.

Archie Hardison, charged with driving a motor vehicle without an operator's license, was fined \$25, plus costs.

Fleeting guilty of operating a

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### Few Cases Heard In Justice Courts

Only a few cases were heard in the justice of peace courts here during the past few days.

Drunk and down, Alec Bonds was sentenced to jail for thirty days by Justice John L. Hassell. Judgment was suspended upon the payment of \$7.50 costs.

Janius Thomas, charged with operating a motor vehicle with improper equipment, was taxed with \$5.85 costs in Justice R. T. Johnson's court.

Judgment was also suspended by Justice Johnson in the case charging General Columbus Freeman with disorderly conduct and R. H. Roberts with failing to pay taxi fare. The defendants were taxed with the costs.

### Capt. W. H. Harrell Died Tuesday Night

#### MEETING

A representative of the North Carolina State National Guard headquarters will meet with the newly organized unit in the Legion Hut here Tuesday evening, December 27, at 8:00 o'clock, and young men between the ages of 17 and 35 are invited to attend along with the recruits.

During the meantime, Captain Jimmy Harris and Thad Harrison will be glad to explain the project to interested parties dropping by the Woolard Furniture Company.

### Stresses Safety For The Holiday Season This Year

#### "Don't Let Death Take Your Holiday." Safety Council Urges

"Don't Let Death Take Your Holiday!"

That is the slogan of a nationwide campaign by the National Safety Council to hold down the Christmas-New Year holiday accident toll this year.

Council figures show the year-end holiday season is the most dangerous period of the year, and that accidents annually mar the holiday celebration in thousands of homes throughout the nation.

In a united effort to focus public attention on the extra holiday hazards and the extra caution needed to meet them, city and state officials, civic groups, local safety councils and 160 national organizations are joining with the Council in the Christmas safety campaign.

The Council pointed out that traffic accident deaths on both Christmas Eve and Christmas Day run about twice as many as the annual daily average. Heavier travel and the festive spirit of the holiday season add to the normal winter hazards of bad weather, slippery roads and added hours of darkness.

"Every family in America should put one extra gift under its Christmas tree this year," said Ned H. Dearborn, president of the Council. "That gift is life. It could be the life of some member of the household, or of a stranger. But it will be saved because someone has used just a little extra

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### Dozen Speeders In County Court

A dozen cases in which the defendants were charged with speeding were handled in the Martin County Recorder's Court last Monday. All but one of the defendants pleaded guilty, and all were fined \$15 each, plus costs.

The defendants were, Braxton Dunn of Kinston, Sam Jones of Robersonville, Roy Boston of Williamston, Curtis Overton of Norfolk, David Willie Branton of Robersonville, Curtis Lee Cherry of Windsor, Walter Singleton of Washington, Mrs. Alice Ward of Clearwater, Fla., John Gazzo Moore of Norfolk, Fred Miller Castelleo of Windsor, and William J. Temper of Springfield, Mass. Pleading not guilty, J. Willis Wier, III, of Williamston, was adjudged guilty and drew the regular \$15 fine.

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### John A. Gardner Died In Hospital Tuesday Morning

#### Well-Known County Farmer Had Been In Declining Health Some Time

John A. Gardner, well-known Jamesville Township farmer and community leader, died in a Washington hospital Tuesday morning at 7:45 o'clock. He had been in declining health for some months, receiving treatment in various hospitals at intervals during that time. He entered the hospital about two weeks ago and underwent a major operation last week.

The son of the late Thomas and Emily Hardison Gardner, he was born in this county 72 years ago on April 28, 1877, and lived in the Jamesville - Williams Township community all his life. Mr. Gardner was a successful farmer, a good citizen, thoughtful father and friend. He interested himself in the schools of his section, and worked diligently for his church, exemplifying in his daily walk through life its principles and teachings. He was a member of the Siloam Methodist Church in Williams Township for half a century, and figured prominently in its leadership down through the years. He was highly regarded by all who knew him.

He was married about forty-three years ago to Miss Eva Viola Barber who died last April.

Surviving are five daughters, Mrs. Dick Hardison of Jamesville, Mrs. Irving Goodman and Miss Eloise Gardner of Norfolk, and Misses Hilda and Dorothy Gardner of the home; three sons, J. Ernie Gardner of Jamesville, and Rannal and James Gardner of the home; a brother, Mr. Wheeler Gardner of Williams Township; a sister, Mrs. Robert Parrisher, also of Williams Township, and fourteen grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted Wednesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock in the Siloam Methodist Church by Rev. Mrs. B. E. Bingham of Roper, assisted by Rev. W. B. Harrington, county Baptist minister. Interment was in the Gardner Cemetery near the church.

Special Programs  
Largely Attended

The special Christmas programs in the Memorial Baptist Church last Sunday afternoon and the one in the high school auditorium that evening attracted capacity crowds. Both programs, rating high in the Christmas entertainment plans, were well received by the record-size groups. Most of the evening religious services were cancelled for the program at the high school.

More than two hundred participated in the Christmas cantata, "Come Ye To Bethlehem," directed by Mrs. Beecher Patterson in the high school. Miss Ida Privette directed the Baptist choir in the Sunday afternoon program.

Beginning Wednesday, local stores are remaining open until 7:00 o'clock each evening through Saturday of this week. Four stores, Rose's 5 & 10, Eagles' 5 & 10, Bulluck's and Leder Bros. have announced that they will remain open until 9:00 p. m. until Christmas.

The Enterprise, going to press a bit early with its editions this week, will follow a recognized custom and skip the first issue next week, returning the latter part of next week with an edition.

#### SCHEDULE

All local business firms, including the post office, will close Sunday and Monday for Christmas, and a two-day closing will be in effect Sunday and Monday, January 1 and 2, for New Year's.

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### Flare-Up In The Liquor Business Checked In Bud

#### Officers Destroy Number Of Illicit Plants During Past Few Days

Flaring up apparently in anticipation of an increased demand during the holiday season, the illicit liquor business was quickly checked in the bud, according to a report coming from the office of ABC Enforcement Officer Joe H. Roebuck this week. Five plants were wrecked in rapid order, the officers pouring out large quantities of mash and raw liquor.

While there is still some of the illicit business, the officer advanced the opinion that operations are not near as extensive as they were a year ago. Prices for the raw liquor are said to have tumbled in recent months, but staged a limited comeback during the past few days.

Aided by Deputies Roy Peel and Raymond Rawls, the officer wrecked a large plant in Cross Roads Township on Tuesday of last week. The outfit was equipped with a 100-gallon copper kettle, four 50-gallon and two 500-gallon fermenters. The raiders poured out 1,200 gallons of raw liquor and confiscated 400 pounds of sugar and 100 pounds of corn meal.

Last Friday, the officers wrecked a plant equipped with a 50-gallon drum and three fermenters, in Bear Grass Township, and poured out 100 gallons of sugar mash. Moving into the Oak City section that afternoon, the raiders wrecked a cheap 20-gallon drum still and poured out fifty gallons of nasty sugar mash.

Last Saturday a 50-gallon oil drum still was torn up in the Hassell section of Hamilton Township the officers pouring out 250 gallons of mash and two and one-half gallons of inferior liquor. The operators had just disappeared, leaving the plant smoking when the officers reached it.

Going to the store of Thurston Davenport, colored man who lives near the old Bear Trap Millpond, the officers Sunday morning confiscated a pint of illicit liquor and booked the man for trial in the county court on January 9.

Working in the Reedy Swamp section of Williamston Township Sunday afternoon, the officers wrecked a 40-gallon copper kettle and poured out 100 gallons of sugar mash.

Tuesday afternoon Officers Roebuck and Peel wrecked a plant

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#### THE RECORD SPEAKS . . .

The 135 automobile accidents reported on Martin County highways during the first fifty weeks of 1949 are running neck and neck with the 136 reported in the same period of 1948. Fewer people have been injured, but more have been killed and the property damage this year is less than in 1948.

Just to ponder over: there were eleven accidents in the county during the Christmas period in 1948.

The following tabulations offer a comparison of the accident trend: first, by corresponding weeks in this year and last and for each year to the present time.

50th Week						
Accidents Inj'd Killed Dam'ge	1949	2	0	0	\$	450
1948	1	0	0	0		350
Comparisons To Date						
1949	135	60	7			\$29,675
1948	136	78	2			\$2,935

### \$421,000.00 Building Program Approved For County Schools

#### Making Plans For Taking The 1950 Census in Nation

Preliminary plans for taking the 1950 census in the nation are well advanced, but only the office personnel and leaders have been named. Reports state that the enumerators—those who get out and make the actual count—will not be named before March, that a time and place for applicants to file for the jobs will be announced next February or March.

Webb Williams, Elizabeth City man, will direct the census survey in this the First Congressional District, at the direction of Congressman Herbert Bonner with the approval of the Census Bureau, of course. The district office will be maintained in the

Original Washington where twenty office employees will carry on while the eighteen crew leaders and approximately 2277 enumerators handle the outside survey in this and the other thirteen counties in the district.

Approximately 4,500 enumerators, directed by 254 crew leaders, will handle the census survey in North Carolina. Approximately 150,000 will be employed to handle the task in the nation, according to preliminary estimates.

The actual survey requires comparatively little time, and heretofore there has been no big rush for the jobs in this county. The rate of pay has not been announced.

#### Include Five New Projects In Plan Suggested Monday

#### Seven Colored Schools Are To Be Consolidated Under The New Plan

A \$421,000.00 school building program for Martin County was all but finally adopted this week when members of the board of education met with a panel group from the State Board of Education in Raleigh and discussed the needs for plant expansion. Final approval will come only after plans and specifications have been submitted to the Division of School House planning in Raleigh, but it is fairly certain that the five projects included in the preliminary program will be retained there.

The program calls for five projects:

An elementary Negro school building in Williamston, estimated to cost \$105,000;

A second story and annex for the one-story white school building; to house class rooms, cafeteria, music department and vocational agriculture, estimated to cost \$130,000;

A new gymnasium, music department and cafeteria for the Robersonville white high school, estimated to cost \$105,000;

Additional rooms for the Robersonville colored school, estimated to cost \$27,000;

A colored high school for Oak City, estimated to cost between \$73,000 and \$74,000.

The figures above do not include the sites for the colored elementary school in Williamston or the colored high school in Oak City.

The program leaves about \$18,000 balance in the special building fund for the county, and that will be spent along with additional county funds for Negro schools, leaving other needs to be met as they arise.

It was pointed out that architects will start working on the plans immediately, that possibly the preliminary work can be completed and bids asked for about next February. If no obstacles are encountered, construction work can get underway by early spring with the possibility that some of the buildings will be ready for use the latter part of 1950.

The building program will bring about the consolidation of at least seven Negro schools. The units to be consolidated can be determined only after space conditions are appraised at the completion of the building program.

As far as it could be learned no further consolidation of white schools is on the program for immediate consideration.

### Few Marriages Here Recently

Unless Cupid makes up for lost time during the next day or two, he'll report a mighty poor holiday business in this county.

Very few marriage licenses have been sold by the register of deeds here up until early Wednesday morning. Recent licenses went to the following couples:

Dennis C. Mobley, RFD 3, Williamston, and Betty Speller, RFD 4, Windsor; Rufus Wynne, RFD 3, Williamston, and Christine Leggett, Windsor; Obed Linwood Lee of Edenton and Mattie Edmondson of Williamston; and Jimmie Darrell Keel and Betty Jean Moore, both of Williamston.

#### GREETINGS

It is with a great deal of pleasure that The Enterprise presents an array of greeting messages from local firms and individuals to all the people everywhere. Devoid of all the commercial aspects, the messages portray the genuine Christmas spirit.

Each message is directed to every reader personally. Read each one carefully and reap a merrier holiday season this 1949 Christmas.

#### Appreciative Of Treatment Here

Painfully hurt in an automobile accident near here a few weeks ago, Mr. Hunter Brown of Pensacola, Florida, wrote to Harrison and Carstarphen local insurance men, and expressed his appreciation for the treatment and courtesies received while he and Mrs. Brown were in the local hospital.

The letter reads, in part: "There is something about your little city that I think you should know. Never in our lives were we more sympathetically and cordially received than at your hospital by Dr. V. E. Brown and his associates following our automobile accident. My wife's nephew is a prominent doctor in Norfolk, therefore, we were in Williamston only long enough to have Dr. Brown approve our taking an ambulance back to Norfolk. Everything possible was done for our physical and mental comfort, and we shall always have a feeling of gratitude and appreciation for the kind treatment we received at the hands of your citizens."

In accordance with a law passed by the last legislature, four additional county towns—Everetts, Parmele, Hassell and Hamilton—are sharing in the net profits for the first time. The store towns—Jamesville, Williamston, Robersonville and Oak City—are receiving about the same percentage of profits under the new plan as they did under the old, but where the county has been receiving about 46 percent of the net profit it is now receiving a scant 41 percent.

The new plan of "splitting" the profits of the pie places the State of North Carolina almost in the number one favored position. The county is receiving from the third quarter profits \$10,417.08 and the State of North Carolina is receiving \$10,232.19. The remainder of the \$25,664.90 in profits is divided, as follows: Williamston, \$1,825.18; Robersonville, \$648.46; Oak City,

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#### STILL GOING UP

Decorations, carrying out the Christmas motif and giving the whole town an invigorating holiday air, are still going up. While the public buildings continue to offer the ole, bleak appearance, individuals are moving forward with their decorations on a scale reminiscent of the days before the war.

Lights are to be on for the judges in the decorations contest Thursday night between 9 and 11 p. m.