

# THE ENTERPRISE

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## Clear Few Civil Cases This Week In Superior Court

### Several Divorces Granted And Few Orders Issued Last Tuesday Morning

After spending Monday studying the calendar and handling special proceedings, the Martin County Superior Court, in the second of a two-week term, started the trial of divorce and civil cases Tuesday morning.

Divorces, based on two-year separation grounds, were granted, as follows:

Wallace Moore from Annie E. Moore, Effie Edmonds from George Thomas Edwards, Leneve S. Bunting from John Thomas Bunting, Lois Donaldson Mobley from George Mobley and Doris Griffin Pipkin from Joseph Pipkin. In the last case, the plaintiff was given custody of her daughter.

The case of H. H. Cowen against C. E. Jenkins was continued on account of the illness of the plaintiff. The case centers around a boundary line dispute, the court, in a special order, allowing the plaintiff to remove a fence from the property in dispute.

The case of Martha M. Ward against Roy L. Ward was continued after the complaint and answer were read in open court. A judgment handed down by special order, was placed in the action in which the plaintiff sought alimony without divorce.

In the case of Walter Bailey and others against Velma Bailey and others, the court allowed the plaintiffs ten days after adjournment of the current court term to file an amended complaint, and the defendant was given five days thereafter to file answer.

In the case of Frances Early against Edward Earley, the court directed the defendant to pay \$100 at once to the plaintiff and set the case, calling for alimony without divorce, for trial at the special term of court in April.

A judgment of non-suit was entered in the case of R. S. Copper against A. E. Grimes.

In the alimony case without divorce brought by Dessie M. Brock against R. J. Brock, a voluntary non-suit was entered, the plaintiff receiving the home and \$2,000.

Starting on the damage suit brought by Peel, administrator for Chloe Peel, a small child killed in a train accident in September.

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## Alleged Deserter Arrested Tuesday

Pvt. Harold J. Simpson, allegedly absent without leave from the 1100th Air Force group in Washington, D. C., was taken into custody by Sheriff M. W. Holloman and Deputy Roy Peel in Oak City Tuesday.

Placed in the county jail, the young man is being returned to his station near Washington. Military police have been in the county several times searching for the man who disappeared from his station early in February.

## Mule Runs Into Car Last Night

A loose mule belonging to Chester Revels ran into T. C. Griffin's car in Griffins Township early last evening and was badly injured. The animal, one of its legs broken and badly cut, was given a fatal dose of medicine by a veterinarian.

The mule dashed out of a lot and ran into the path of the Griffin car, causing much damage to the machine, reports stated.

## Undergoes Operation In Duke Hospital Today

Suffering with a throat ailment, Mr. Henry Handy is undergoing a major operation in Duke Hospital, Durham, today. "If everything goes well, I hope to be home in 10 or 15 days," Mr. Handy advised friends yesterday, adding, "until then, keep the ole home fires burning."

## Start Census Work In The County Saturday, April 1

Arrangements are just about complete for starting the 17th decennial census in this county on Saturday, April 1, Crew Leader Evan Griffin announced this morning. Thirty-two enumerators are completing a special course of instruction tomorrow, and they are to start counting noses and gathering other data the following morning.

Martin County people are being called upon to cooperate in every way possible with the census takers. Their pay is limited, and the public is assured that all information given the enumerators will be treated strictly confidential.

## Legal Whiskey Sales Continue Downward

### SCHOOL PLANS

Plans for an addition to the local high school and a gymnasium in Robersonville will be placed before representatives of the State Board of Education in Raleigh tomorrow. Plans are being drawn for other school construction projects in the county and will be submitted later for approval.

Preparations for launching the school plant expansion program are being advanced as rapidly as possible, but it could not be learned when construction work would get under way on any of the projects.

## Postmistress At Parmele Office

Mrs. Blanche E. Roberson has been recommended by Congressman Herbert C. Bonner for appointment as permanent postmistress at Parmele.

Mrs. Roberson has been serving as acting postmistress since May 4, 1949, when she took over the post office duties at Parmele at the death of her husband, the late Nicholas Roberson. He had served since his appointment in 1935.

Mr. Bonner made the recommendation this week after receiving from the Civil Service Commission a list of three persons eligible for the position.

## Many Attending Cancer Clinics

District Cancer Detection Diagnostic Clinics are being well attended, according to reports reaching here.

Held in Rocky Mount each Wednesday, the clinic last week handled thirty-three persons. Several from this county have visited the clinic in Rocky Mount and a few have attended a similar one in Elizabeth City.

Priorities for examinations may be had by writing to the Cancer Control Center, Municipal Building, Rocky Mount, N. C. Martin County people are invited to attend the clinic which is operated by the Edgecombe-Nash Medical Society, in cooperation with the State Board of Health and the American Cancer Society.

## SEINE FISHING

Seine fishing, started in the Roanoke at Jamesville a week ago today, is progressing fairly satisfactorily, reports this morning stating that the big net is dipping up between 600 and 1,000 herring each haul, and that the operator, C. C. Fleming, is more optimistic over the prospects than he has been in several seasons.

A few shad are being taken and the white perch are beginning to run, it was reported.

dential, Mr. Griffin stating that the information cannot be used for taxation or regulation purposes. The facts are not to be revealed to individuals, and will be used collectively along with those gathered throughout the nation in preparing total population counts and other data important to the government.

Six enumerators will handle the job in Williamston and the task is to be completed in four weeks. Those taking the census here are, Mrs. Daisy Rogers, Mrs. Ruth R. Barnhill, Mrs. Mac A. Riley, Bob Everett, Jr., Mrs. Elizabeth T. Brandon, and Mrs. Strelsa Griffin.

## Total of \$5,231,216 Spent for Whiskey Since July in 1935

### Sales In Fourth Quarter Of 1949 Smallest For That Period In Six Years

While holding to a formidable figure, legal liquor sales in this county during the fourth quarter of 1949 continued to slide downward, the records showing that they were just a little over half what they were in the corresponding quarter of 1948 when they pushed to an all-time peak of \$279,578.90.

Last quarter the four legal stores in the county reported \$153,889.10 in liquor sales, pushing the total since the stores opened in July, 1935, to \$5,231,216.30. While sales dropped from \$190,892.05 in the fourth quarter of 1948 to \$153,889.10, profits fell from \$41,864.53 in the period ending December 31, 1948, to \$32,557.10 last quarter.

Unofficial reports indicate that possibly a switch is being made from the legal brands to the white stuff made at home, the shift coming in the form of an economy move.

The 1949 fourth quarter audit shows that the cost of sales amounted to \$115,405.95, exclusive of \$6,126.92 operating expenses, leaving a profit of \$32,356.23, plus \$200.87 cash discounts.

At the end of the period, the AEC Board had \$73,624.41 in cash, \$54,163.99 in inventories and \$435.85 in fixed assets. It owed \$42,356.54 to distillers and \$56,242.41 to the county and towns.

Fourth quarter profits were divided as follows: Martin County, \$13,175.68; State of North Carolina, \$13,037.57; Reserve for law enforcement, \$1,951.95; Town of Williamston, \$2,308.49; Town of Robersonville, \$820.19; Town of Oak City, \$301.94; Town of Jamesville, \$288.77; Town of Hamilton, \$257.47; Town of Parmele, \$207.52; Town of Everetts, \$130.66; Town of Hassell, \$76.86.

Profits reported by the individual stores for the fourth quarters in 1948 and 1949 are compared as follows:

	1948	1949
Williamston	\$23,380.47	\$16,688.90
Robersonville	10,777.84	9,265.06
Oak City	5,387.51	4,695.11
Jamesville	2,318.63	1,708.03
Sales in the four stores during the fourth quarters in 1948 and 1949 are compared as follows:		
	1948	1949
Wmston	\$103,894.95	\$77,479.60
Rville	49,604.20	43,875.35
Oak City	24,840.10	22,304.00
Jamesville	12,552.80	10,239.15
<b>\$190,892.05 \$153,889.10</b>		

A year ago, the store in Williamston handled right at 56 percent of the sales. Last quarter, the figure had dropped to 51.9 percent, a reduction of about 4 percent.

A review of the sales and profits, by quarters, from the time the stores were opened in 1935 through last December 31, follows:

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## Herbert Roebuck For County Board Of Commissioners

### Other Candidates Mentioned for Robersonville-Cross Roads Seat

Herbert Roebuck, well known county citizen and a leading farmer in Cross Roads Township, yesterday announced his candidacy for county commissioner from the Robersonville-Cross Roads district. Mr. Roebuck, contacted by a goodly number of friends, had considered his candidacy for several weeks before formally announcing himself. No official announcement has been made by Commissioner C. Abram Roberson, incumbent, but it was reported that he had contacted Mr. Roebuck file for the county board seat.

It was also reported this week that George Taylor, Jr., well known Everetts man, had been contacted, and that he was considering entering the race. Like Mr. Roberson, he has made no official announcement, and the entire county, are limited to the in-closed, as yet.

Commissioner contests, while voted on by the people throughout try list there cannot be considered individual districts. In other words, if three men entered the race in one district, and only one file in each of the four districts, all but the three will be declared nominees, leaving the three candidates in one district to go into the primary. The vote on candidates for places on the County Board of Education is also county-wide but the contest is not limited to districts. In other words, a board of education may be chosen from one district.

Politics on other fronts remain unchanged, but a full slate of candidates is expected within the next few days as the time for filing draws nearer to a close.

## Up For Fishing Without License

Fishermen, taking advantage of the springlike weather earlier in the week, visited the creeks in this county in fairly large numbers, but several forgot to get licenses and were carried before Justice R. T. Johnson.

James Ezzell, Cooper Owens, LeRoy Worrell and Julius Baker were each fined \$5 and taxed with \$5.85 costs for fishing without licenses.

Charged with an assault, Lazarus Williams was bound over to the county court for trial.

Lafayette Paarsall, just recently cleared of a charge in the superior court, was before Justice Johnson on a disorderly conduct charge. He was sentenced to the roads for thirty days, the court suspending the sentence on condition that the defendant leave and remain out of town for twelve months.

## Television Coming Into Its Own In This Part Of State

Television, limited to the large cities, is assured this section when a station is opened in Norfolk Sunday, preliminary tests proving that the pictures can be screened very satisfactorily.

Television was introduced in this section last year when Slade Rhodes Company, Hamilton, purchased the first receiving set. Programs could be had when conditions were perfect, but the innovation did not prove very satisfactory. However, several sets were purchased by individuals and they are now ready to exploit the Norfolk station programs, and others are expected to enter the market for sets.

Beginning Sunday evening at 6:15 television programs will be shown nightly until 11:30 from the window of the Worrell Appliance Company, local dealer for Stromberg-Carlson television receivers.

The programs will be received from Station WTAR-TV, Norfolk's new television station

## Extensive Drainage Program Proposed For Martin County

### Suggest 10-Cent County-wide Rate To Finance Plan

#### County-wide Work Would Supplement Individual Drainage Projects

The people of this county are expected soon to have an opportunity to do something about inadequate drainage resulting from clogged and choked creeks, and other small streams if plans now under way are approved.

Recognizing the tremendous loss in crop income and the increasing threat to health conditions, a goodly number of leaders in the county are proposing to petition the board of commissioners for a county-wide special election. When approximately 800 voters sign the petition, formal request will be made to the commissioners for the election. It is estimated that a county-wide ten-cent rate will provide sufficient funds to finance the program. The 10-cent rate will raise approximately \$20,000 a year, and in the course of a few years the main creeks and smaller streams could be cleared out and conditioned for taking water away more rapidly.

The petition, now being circulated, reads, in part: "That the cleaning out and drainage are proposed for the purpose of establishing more effective conservation practices on our lands, increasing crop yields and farm income, and advancing the economic welfare and public health of the people of Martin County."

The program will not supplant the several independent or district drainage projects now being advanced, but will supplement that work, it was explained. In fact, it was pointed out that the drainage of the main drainage streams should be cleared if the district projects are to prove more effective.

Reviewing the district projects, Chief Soil Conservationist H. F. McKnight said that a number of farmers in Griffins Township are going ahead with a drainage plan of their own. The project, centered in the Farm Life area, extends back about two miles from the old Roberson Mill and will cost approximately \$6,000. The project is being financed by individual subscription and without a special tax levy. A contract has been awarded to the J. S. Hill Construction Company and a right-of-way is being cleared.

Organization of the Bear Grass drainage district project is just about complete, and assessments are to be announced within a short time, according to unofficial information received here.

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## Ministerial Group Plans Holy Week Services Here

### The Williamston Ministerial Association Announces The Following Services For Holy Week, April 3-7.

Each morning at the Watts Theatre at 10:00 o'clock.

Monday morning, the speaker will be Rev. John Goff, pastor of the Christian church; Tuesday, Rev. E. R. Shuller, pastor of the Methodist church; Wednesday, Rev. Thomas Hastings, rector of the Episcopal church; Thursday, Rev. Thad Ashley, pastor of the West End Baptist Church; Friday, Rev. Stewart Simms, pastor of the Memorial Baptist Church.

### Ministerial Group Plans Holy Week Services Here

The ministerial association expresses the hope that the merchants will work skeleton crews from 10 to 10:30 each morning next week to allow as many of their employes as possible to attend the services.

At the high school, Rev. Goff will speak on Monday, Rev. Hastings on Wednesday and Rev. Simms on Friday.

The Easter sunrise service this year will be held at the cemetery about 6:00 o'clock. In case of rain the service will be held in the Memorial Baptist Church. Rev. E. R. Shuller will be in charge of the service.

## Draw Forty-Eight People For Jury Duty Next Month

### Judge W. H. S. Burgwyn Will Preside Over Two-Week Special Term

Forty-eight persons, including three women, were drawn for jury duty next month by the county commissioners in their regular meeting.

Rated as a special term, the court will open on Monday, April 17, and run for two weeks, hearing only civil cases. Judge W. H. S. Burgwyn is to preside over the term.

The term is not to be confused with the regular sessions opening in the county Monday.

Names of jurors for the special term follows:

**First Week**  
Jamesville, Marion Waters and S. F. Davis.

Williams, L. D. Hardison and Charlie Hardison.  
Griffins, Robert A. Peel and Coy Griffin.

Bear Grass, Cortez Bowen.  
Williamston, Willie H. Modlin, James R. Bullock, John Gray Corey, Charlie Lee, James A. Wynne, Jr., Earl P. Bonds and J. D. Harrison, Jr.

Robersonville, J. C. Keel, J. S. Rogerson, G. D. Grimes, Jr., W. Ollie Powell and Carrie Roberson.

Hamilton, Bryant Ward and Irma Staton.

Goose Nest, M. H. Hyman, P. E. Manning and Pilly A. Williams.

**Second Week**  
Jamesville, Carroll Modlin, Archie E. Hardison and T. W. Holiday.

Williams, Park Hardison, Joe Johnson, Jr., and Delma Gurkin.  
Bear Grass, T. L. Roberson.

Williamston, Haywood C. Mobley, Haywood E. Wynne, Eli H. Bowen, Ralph E. Taylor, Walter T. Cherry, Clarence Rogers, J. C. White.

Cross Roads, Toba Bowen.  
Robersonville, Willie B. Everett, G. A. Wetherington, L. C. Roebuck and Levi Congleton, Jr.

Hamilton, H. A. Halslip, W. Norman Everett, E. C. Edmondson and W. F. Thomas.  
Goose Nest, Minton Beach.

## Prisoner Attacks Oak City Officer

Garland Bunting, Oak City police officer, was slightly hurt when a prisoner, Jodie Jenkins, 39, attacked him with an ice pick. The point of the weapon was driven through the officer's finger.

Called from his dinner early Tuesday evening, the officer went unarmed to arrest Jenkins for drunkenness and disorderly conduct. Jenkins, just back after a stay of twelve or more years in New York, resisted. The prisoner was turned over to county officers and placed in jail.

Given a hearing last night before Justice J. B. Whitfield in Oak City, Jenkins was bound over to the county court for trial. Unable to raise the \$250 bond, Jenkins was returned to jail.

## Old Bank Account Brought To Light During Discussion

### Several Hundred Dollars Are On Their Way To Owner In Virginia

About forty years ago, Thomas Paine Claude deposited approximately \$200 in the old Bank of Martin County and forgot all about it. During a recent discussion at Williamston's police station, the account was brought to light and the owner was identified. The original account, plus interest, will be delivered to the owner shortly, it was learned.

While working as a lawyer for the old Dennis Simmons Lumber Company at Jamesville, Claude deposited the money in the bank, possibly in 1909. A year or two later, he returned to his native Virginia and settled down at or near Drewryville, forgetting all about the deposit.

The account was transferred to the Farmers and Merchants Bank here when the Bank of Martin County and the Farmers and Merchants Bank were consolidated about 1916 or 1917. After weathering the storms of two depressions, the Farmers and Merchants Bank was consolidated or bought out by the Branch Banking and Trust Company. It was about that time that Cashier C. D. Carstarphen attempted to find the owner of the money. No trace of the man could be established, and in the course of time the money was turned over to the University under the escheats law.

A few days ago at a bull session in the police department, the former bank cashier and others were talking about misplaced papers. Carstarphen happened to mention Claude's name and the deposit. Officer Arthur Perry explained that he knew a Thomas Paine Claude, adding that he had worked with him in Virginia nearly a quarter century ago, and knew where he lived.

Carstarphen, Perry, Gaylord Harrison and Sulton Carstarphen decided to invade Virginia and check up the following day. They found the aged man confined to his home with a broken hip, Claude telling them that his wife was very ill in a Richmond hospital at the time.

While delighted to learn about the money, Claude seemed to be more interested in old acquaintances back in Martin County. He asked about Dr. John D. Biggs, the Griffin brothers, and Ira T. Colman, and told an interesting story about the late Dr. J. E. Smithwick.

"While I was working in Jamesville I received word that my father was having yellow chills and was critically ill back in Virginia. Having complete confidence in Dr. Smithwick and feeling that the Virginia doctors did not know much about treating a victim of yellow chills, I persuaded him to treat my father. After making arrangements with doctors in Williamston for the treatment of Dr. Smithwick's patients in the Jamesville area while he was away, we left by train and reached Emporia about midnight. We hired a horse and buggy to make the eight- or ten-mile trip to my father's home, reaching there about daylight the next morning after having been spilled along the way when the buggy turned over.

"Dr. Smithwick discussed the case with the family doctor and prescribed treatment. My father got well, and I saw Dr. Smithwick many times after that and begged for a bill for his services. I paid for the trip, but he would not charge me a cent for his services, and I'll remember his kind act as long as I live," Claude told the group.

Just as soon as the papers can be handled, the money will be placed in the hands of the owner.

## County Commissioners To Meet Here Monday

Martin County's commissioners will hold their regular meeting here next Monday, Clerk J. Sam Getsinger explaining that very little new business had been placed on the calendar up until late yesterday.

## ANNEXATION PLAN

C. D. Carstarphen, chairman of the Martin County Board of Elections, has been instructed to make arrangements for special elections in North and West End on the proposal of annexation of the two districts to the town of Williamston.

No registrars or judges of election, however, will be named before April 8. There is some doubt if the election can be held before the regular primary election scheduled for May 27.

## Open First Aid Class April 3rd

The Red Cross will conduct a series of first aid classes in the county court house next Monday evening at 7:30 o'clock, Mrs. Edna Bondurant, secretary of the Martin County Chapter, announced this week.

Twenty-five have already enrolled and there are a few openings for others. Any one interested in taking the first aid course is asked to contact Mrs. Bondurant at once.

Ellis Fysal, Red Cross representative of Atlanta, will conduct the classes each evening for two weeks. There's no charge for the instruction.

Those enrolling in the classes include: B. F. Strickland and D. W. McCafferty of Jamesville, Stuart Maynard, John T. Rowe, W. B. Gaylord, Jr., James I. Lowry, Henry Taylor, Grady Luffman, T. Fearing, Elbert Peel, Jr., Bill Spivey, Jim Daniel, James Smithwick, Mary Taylor, Sarah Wobbleton, Elizabeth Parker, Agnes Beal, Mrs. M. M. Levin, Robert Gainer, Henrietta Mebane, Nora Slade, George Williams, Jr., Dorthea Chance, John Slade and thea Chance, John Slade, Alonza Jones and Herbert Whitfield.

## Education Board Will Meet Monday Morning

Members of the Martin County Board of Education will meet here next Monday. It is understood that possibly two or more delegations will appear before the board at that time, but the business to be discussed was not disclosed.

## THE RECORD SPEAKS . . .

After a costly period, motorists on Martin County highways settled down to fairly sober driving during the 12th week of the current year.

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.

12th Week	
Accidents In'd Killed Dam'ge	
1950	1 0 0 \$ 150
1949	3 2 0 400
Comparisons To Date	
1950	31 20 0 \$ 7,115
1949	27 13 1 5,800