

Three Roper Men Are Foiled In An Extortion Attempt To Get \$5,000 From Two Women

William Lawrence Tarkington, Thomas Nixie Tarkington and Fred Franklin Tyson, Jr., Caught In Net Set By Officers

William Lawrence Tarkington, 25; Thomas Nixie Tarkington, 21, and Fred Franklin Tyson, Jr., 21, all of the Roper section in Washington County, were arrested early Friday morning in the Pea Ridge section. They are being held in connection with extortion letters sent to Mrs. Irene Dunbar of Edenton and Mrs. Cedric Davenport, who lives near Roper.

Upon her return from a visit to relatives in Pennsylvania over the Christmas holidays, Mrs. Dunbar found a letter in which she was instructed to place \$2,500 near an oak tree along the Albemarle Sound in Washington County, and if she did not, one of her daughters would be killed.

Mrs. Davenport's letter was similar except she was instructed to place \$2,500 on a tree near the southern end of the Albemarle Sound bridge. Mrs. Davenport's letter also contained a threat that if the money was not paid her daughter would be killed. Both letters demanded the money to be paid in \$20, \$10 and \$5.00 bills.

Mrs. Dunbar, who was frightened by the letter, told friends about it, who in turn notified Chief of Police George I. Dail. Mrs. Davenport reported the receipt of her letter to Sheriff J. K. Reid of Washington County.

Dail and Reid immediately contacted the FBI and SBI, who lost no time in making an investigation and planned for the apprehension of the men. Taking part in the carefully carried out plan were FBI agents in charge of M. P. Chiles, special agent in charge of the Charlotte Division; SBI agents in charge of Supervisor George Canady of Kinston; Sheriff J. K. Reid of Washington County; Chief of Police George I. Dail of Edenton and members of their departments; and members of the N. C. Highway Patrol under the direction of M. C. Byrum of Williamston.

Public Hearing On Zoning January 14

At the January meeting of Town Council next Tuesday night, January 14, a public hearing will be held on a proposed change in the town's zoning ordinance. A request has been made that the south side of West Queen Street between Granville and Mosely Street be re-zoned from RA-7 residential to RA-5 residential.

The purpose of the rezoning is to permit the former Baptist parsonage to be used as an apartment house. Anyone interested in the proposal is invited to attend and take part in the hearing.

SCHUMAN CHOR REHEARSAL

Announcement is made that the Schuman Choir will meet for a rehearsal Friday night, January 10, at 8 o'clock. The rehearsal will be held in the Penelope Barker house and every member is requested to be on hand.

Postgraduate Medical Courses Scheduled Be Held In Edenton

The first two postgraduate courses in medicine of 1958 sponsored by the University of North Carolina School of Medicine will get under way January 15-16.

The first course will be held in the Ahoskie-Edenton-Elizabeth City area. This course will begin Wednesday, January 15 and lectures will be given each Wednesday for six weeks. The first group of lectures will be held in Edenton and the location of the following five series will be rotated among the three towns.

Both courses are co-sponsored by the UNC Extension Division. The Eastern N. C. course will be co-sponsored by the First District Medical Society while the Raleigh course will be co-sponsored by the Wake County Medical Society.

The monkey wrench was thrown into the plot when Thomas Nixie Tarkington and Tyson went to the bridge to pick up Mrs. Davenport's money. However, they thought they heard somebody moving around in the woods and started back to a nearby service station, when the officers pounced upon them. Officers reported that an automobile several times passed the spot where Mrs. Dunbar was ordered to place her money, and while it slowed down, nobody got out of the car to look for the money.

William Lawrence Tarkington, who is charged with writing the extortion letters, was later arrested at his mother's home. Officers reported that William Lawrence wrote the letters and was to give his brother \$600 and Tyson \$500 for their part in the plot.

Mr. Chiles described the work of the officers who investigated this case as an example of outstanding law enforcement and stated it was another example of splendid teamwork among law enforcement officers.

The three men were arraigned Friday before United States Commissioner Lloyd Sawyer at Elizabeth City and all three were bound over to the next session of the Federal Grand Jury at Elizabeth City. Bond was set for William Tarkington at \$10,000. Each of the other two men was placed under \$5,000 bond. They were placed in the Pasquotank County jail in custody of the United States Marshall and later were transferred to the William County Jail at Wilson.

William Lawrence Tarkington, who worked in Edenton, and his brother, Thomas Nixie Tarkington, are single and reside on a farm in the Pea Ridge section of Washington County. Tyson, who is also unmarried, is a neighbor to the Tarkington brothers.

CIVIC CALENDAR

A rural health conference will be held in the Edenton armory Wednesday, January 15, which is open to the public. The program will last from 1 to 4 P. M. Edenton's Parent-Teacher Association will meet Tuesday night, January 21, at 8 o'clock in the Elementary School auditorium.

Edenton Rotarians will entertain the Edenton Aces, 1957 State Class A football champions, at a banquet Thursday afternoon, January 16, at 1 o'clock in the Parish House.

The third polio booster shots will be given by Edenton physicians at the Penelope Barker house Friday, January 17, from 6 to 8 P. M.

The Schuman Choir will meet Friday night, January 10, at 8 o'clock at the Penelope Barker house.

Edenton Jaycees will hold their annual distinguished service dinner at the Penelope Barker house Friday, January 17, from 6 to 8 P. M.

Red Men Install Group Of Officers

Officers for Chowan Tribe of Red Men were installed Monday night, with Hurley Ward taking over the sash of the chief, Albert Cullipher. The other elective officers who were installed were: Prophet, Albert Cullipher; senior sagamore, Caswell Edmondson; junior sagamore, Leroy Harrell; chief of records, J. Edwin Buffal; collector of war-pump, Jack Barrow; keeper of

The first lectures at both locations will be delivered by Dr. W. Norman Thornton, Jr., professor and chairman, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of Virginia School of Medicine. These lectures are designed to cover some of the more important obstetrical and gynecological problems which the general practitioner is called upon to handle.

The Edenton lectures will be held at the Hotel Joseph Hewes and the Elizabeth City meetings will be held in the Virginia Dare Hotel.

Physicians desiring literature and technical information concerning these courses are requested to write to the Office of Continuing Education, UNC School of Medicine, Chapel Hill.

Aces Honored

Edenton's Rotary Club will be host to the Edenton Aces, 1957 State Class A football champions, their coaches and managers, at a banquet to be served in the Parish House Thursday afternoon, January 16, at 1 o'clock.

The Rotarians, all loyal supporters of the Aces, annually entertain the squad and again this year are especially proud of the boys who won their second consecutive state crown.

The program will be in charge of Gerald James, principal of the Edenton Junior-Senior High School.

Masons Install 1958 Officers

Officers for Unanimity Lodge No. 7, A. F. & A. M., for the year 1958 were installed at a meeting held Thursday night of last week when Daniel P. Reeves became the new master, succeeding William W. Adams.

Other officers installed were: J. Ernest Ward, Jr., senior warden; McKay Washington, junior warden; R. E. Leary, treasurer; Louis George Wilkins, secretary; J. A. Bunch, senior deacon; Lonnie Harrell, junior deacon; Dr. A. F. Downum and J. C. Parks, stewards; James H. Griffin, tyler, and R. A. Tarkington, chaplain.

The installation ceremony was performed by W. P. Goodwin with J. Edwin Buffal, marshal, assisting.

The various officers expressed their appreciation for being placed in office and pledged their best efforts to make 1958 a successful year. After the meeting Mrs. D. M. Reeves, mother of the new master, served refreshments in the dining room.

Fishermen Ask For More Area In Local Waters

A delegation of fishermen from the Edenton-Hertford area were represented by Carroll Holmes of Hertford and W. M. Darden of Plymouth at a meeting of the State Fisheries Commission held in Raleigh Monday in behalf of the commercial fishing industry.

A request was made to allow gill net fishing during the closed season on shad and herring—April 21 to June 1—and the committee went along with the request.

The Commission was also asked to allow fishing in waters from the Albemarle Sound bridge to the Norfolk Southern Railroad bridge and from the head of Albemarle Sound up the Chowan River to the Chowan River bridge. Permission was requested to use three-inch and larger mesh nets.

The Commission agreed to hold a public hearing on this proposal at Morehead City on April 12 at 2 P. M.

During the meeting the Commission backed State Fisheries Commissioner Gehrman Holland's request for a \$7,500 seaplane to be used in enforcement of commercial fishing laws over the state's 6,000 square miles of water.

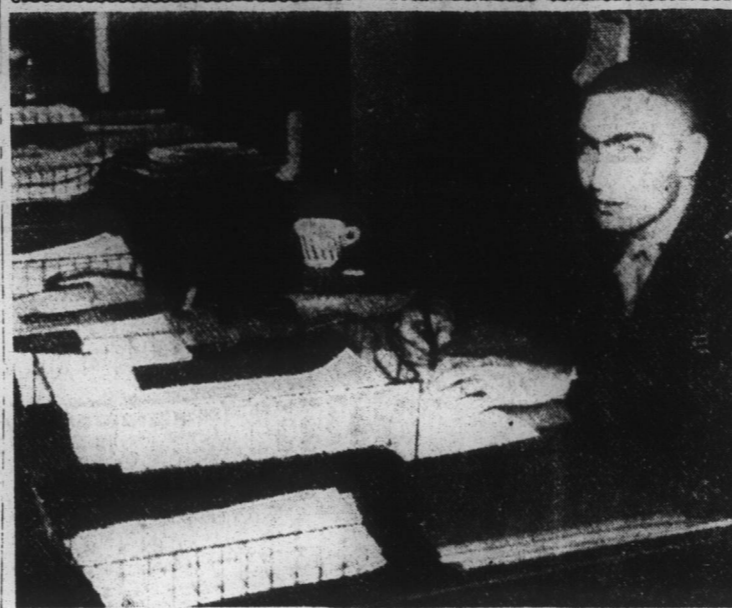
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New Squadron Adjutant



Second Lieutenant Ronald H. Gison, a recent graduate of Basic School, Marine Corps School, Quantico, Virginia, has assumed the adjutant post of Marine Attack Squadron 211 of World War II, Wake Island fame, at Edenton NAAS. As the squadron adjutant, Lieutenant Gison will control the many and varied administrative matters for the squadron commander, Lieutenant Colonel H. A. Eisele. The newly reformed squadron is flying the Douglas Skyhawk jet A4D-2. Lieutenant Gison, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert C. Gison of Gloucester, Mass., was graduated from Boston University, class of 1956. He and Mrs. Gison, the former Joan Kortkamp, are now residing in Edenton, where the squadron is operating from the Naval Auxiliary Air Station.—Official U. S. Marine Corps Photo.

Three Prisoners Gain Freedom In Local Jail Break

Rush Jailer Bertram Byrum While Taking Water Into Jail

Bertram Byrum, Chowan County's new jailer experienced a jail break shortly after 7 o'clock Monday night when three colored men gained their freedom from the Chowan County jail.

The trio, Jasper Cobb, Frank Roscoe and Stewart Burns, made a break for freedom when Mr. Byrum entered the jail with a bucket of water. Mr. Byrum was rushed and in the scuffle he received minor injuries on his hands and knees as the Negroes made their getaway.

Cobb and Roscoe were confined in jail awaiting trial at the March term of Superior Court in connection with the theft of a quantity of cigarettes from the W. D. Holmes Wholesale Grocery. Burns had only a few more days to serve on a sentence for disorderly conduct.

Cobb's freedom didn't last very long, for he was captured in Norfolk Tuesday morning. The other two have not been apprehended.

At first it was believed the escapees stole an automobile, but it was later learned that they had not.

January 25 Set As Deadline For Nominations To Name Chowan Outstanding '57 Young Farmer

Wesley Chesson, Jr., Chairman of the Edenton Junior Chamber of Commerce project to name this community's most outstanding young farmer for 1957, announces that nomination forms are now available from local Jaycees or at Hobbs Implement Company. Mr. Chesson points out that the "farmer" search is aimed at honoring the community's agriculturalists who have made exceptional career progress without neglecting good conservation practices or responsible roles in community life. The Jaycees also hope that a better understanding of the farmer and his problems will result—and that more young people will become interested in farming as a lifetime career.

All farmers ages 21 to 36 are eligible for nomination. Nominees may be land owners or renters. The local search is part of a

ROTARIANS MEET TODAY

Edenton Rotarians will meet this (Thursday) afternoon at 1 o'clock in the Parish House. At this meeting business will be transacted, so that no program has been arranged. President Robert Marsh urges a 100 per cent meeting.

47 JAILED IN DECEMBER

Jailer Bertram Byrum reported to the County Commissioners on Monday that during December 47 persons were placed in the Chowan County jail. The expense amounted to \$396.23, which included jail and turnkey fees, soap and powder and telephone bill.

Resigns

Chowan Commissioners at their meeting Monday morning received the resignation of Mrs. Jacqueline Lewis as Chowan County's assistant home agent. The resignation read as follows:

"It is with regret that I inform you of my resignation as of January 15, 1958. I have enjoyed my work in Chowan County, but feel that my first obligations are to my family at home.

Mrs. Lewis will return to her home at High Point, where she will be able to be with her husband and parents.

The Commissioners accepted the resignation with regrets and informed Mrs. Lewis that they were well pleased with the reports they have received throughout the county regarding her work. Mrs. Lewis has been assistant home agent for 7 1/2 months.

JAYCEES MEET TONIGHT
Edenton's Junior Chamber of Commerce will meet tonight (Thursday) at 7 o'clock in the Penelope Barker house. Now that the holidays are over, Warren Twiddy, president, urges every member to be present.

First Parents To Get New Birth Certificate At Chowan Hospital

Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Habit and their new baby, Michel Anthony, were presented with the first Hollister Inscribed Birth Certificate by T. L. Ridgeway, administrator, as they left Chowan Hospital this week.

"One of these beautiful birth certificates will be presented to all new parents as they leave the hospital with their new babies," Mr. Ridgeway said.

Each certificate shows a picture of the hospital, gives the patients' and baby's names, date of birth, hospital administrator's and doctor's signatures.

Hollister craftsmen design and LithoGrave these certificates to last for generations and only the finest diploma parchment paper is used. As a result this certificate will be just as beautiful as it is today when little Michel shows it to his grandchildren.

"We have many things to be proud of in our hospital," Mr. Ridgeway said, "but we are especially proud of our maternity ward. These new certificates are just one more step in our effort to provide the best possible service to our maternity patients."

First Rural Health Conference To Be Held Here Jan. 15

Everyone Is Invited to Hear Health Problems Discussed

The first District Medical Society, in cooperation with the State Medical Society, is sponsoring its first Rural Health Conference on Wednesday, January 15, at the Edenton armory.

The purpose of these rural health conferences is to bring up mutual health problems of our farm citizens and the physicians, as well as other health agencies, and discuss methods for their prevention or solution.

Interesting topics to be covered at the meeting are household poisonings, farm chemicals—their uses and misuses, sanitation on the farm, preventative dental care, water testing, insect and rodent control, and services offered by Red Cross, Health Department and other agencies.

Dr. William A. Hoggard, Jr., of Elizabeth City, chairman of the conference, has arranged an interesting program and a large crowd is expected. The meeting is open to the public and everyone is invited. Registration begins at 12:30 P. M., Wednesday, January 15 and the program lasts from 1-4 P. M.

Lectures, demonstrations, slides and panel discussions will make up the program. Dr. Zack Owens, past president of the State Medical Society, will summarize the program and give his views on "why your family physician is interested in community health protection."

Booster Polio Shots Planned Friday, Jan. 17

Edenton physicians are planning to give the third polio booster injection on Friday, January 17. The time is 6 to 8 P. M., and the place is the Penelope Barker house at the south end of Broad Street. The Edenton Junior Chamber of Commerce will help run the clinic.

Everyone from ages 6 months through 50 years who have not received their third shot should be present. And those who have never had any polio shots are urged to come also. Not only will the injections help protect the individual but will help prevent the spread of polio by those who have not had the shot. "Help yourself as well as others and get your polio shots," say members of the Jaycees.

Those who have completed their series of three shots are urged to get a booster (annual) dose at this time. The clinic is open to everyone. A donation of \$1.00 will be accepted to cover the cost of the vaccine.

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Sale Of 1958 State Auto License Plates Trailing Last Year

New Master



DANIEL P. REEVES
With new officers installed for Unanimity Lodge No. 7, A. F. & A. M., Daniel P. Reeves was installed as master for the year 1958. Thursday night of last week.

PTA Meeting January 21st

The Edenton Parent-Teacher Association will meet in the Elementary School auditorium Tuesday night, January 21, at 8 o'clock.

At this meeting the principal speaker will be Everett Miller, assistant superintendent of Public Education for the State of North Carolina. Mr. Miller will speak on the subject "Education in North Carolina and Legislation Present and Future."

Not only all members are especially urged to attend this meeting, but a cordial invitation is extended to everybody, even if not members of the PTA, to be present.

20 Years Ago

As Found In The Files of
The Chowan Herald

The Herald was forced to appear late due to a fire damaging the office, which was then located on East King Street.

John B. McMullan of Elizabeth City announced he would be a candidate for Solicitor for the First District.

C. E. Kramer, Chairman for the President's Birthday Party, announced the possibility of staging a fiddlers' convention in connection with the party.

Edenton Lions Club backed a movement for a paved road to the new Albemarle Sound bridge.

Mrs. Julien Wood was reported to be in a serious condition after being stricken with pneumonia.

Charlie Morgan had the misfortune to fall and break his collar bone while hanging paper in the Chappell Restaurant.

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Edenton Police Make Total Of 691 Arrests During Year 1957

During 1957 Edenton police made a total of 691 arrests, according to the annual report of Chief of Police George I. Dail. Of all the arrests miscellaneous traffic violations led the list with 211. Drunks were in second place with 136.

Other arrests included 15 for disorderly conduct, 38 for speeding, 41 assault cases, three for affrays, 29 for operating an automobile while intoxicated, 12 for careless and reckless driving, 36 for larceny, 27 for whiskey violations, 18 miscellaneous arrests, 12 for breaking and entering, 68 for operating an automobile without an operator's license, one hit and run, 27 runaways, 10 for driving an automobile without a town license, seven for operating an automobile after the state license expired and two for armed robbery.

Of those arrested 27 were released to parents and nine to other police.

Of the 691 arrested, 669 were found guilty as charged. The arrests included 337 white males, 30 white females, 249 colored males and 25 colored females.

Fines amounted to \$9,437.08 and costs \$5,272.21 for a total of \$14,709.29. Of this amount, \$3,334.43 was turned back to the town in way of officers' fees.

During the year the police answered 656 calls, investigated 76 automobile accidents, reported seven automobiles stolen, recovered eight stolen automobiles, worked 40 funerals, reported 415 street lights out, extended 226 court-tries, found 342 doors unlocked, made 248 investigations, answered 20 fire calls, and issued 6,783 traffic citations. The police made 11,218 radio calls, and were on the air 14 hours, 43 minutes and 28 seconds.

Some Refused Plates Due To Incorrect FS-1 Forms

Miss Goldie Layton, branch manager of the Carolina Motor Club, reports that sale of 1958 state automobile tags is trailing sales at the same time last year.

The sale of the new plates began January 2, when Mayor Ernest Kehayes purchased the first 1958 plate in Chowan County. Miss Layton urges automobile owners to secure their 1958 license plates as early as possible in order to avoid the rush and inconvenience which is bound to occur as the deadline approaches.

Miss Layton again emphasizes the fact that every motor vehicle owner must present a certificate of insurance, Form FS-1, before a license can be issued. Form FS-1 must be checked against the application card for a license to see if both agree. This is very important. Many people have gone to Miss Layton's office only to find that the certificate and registration renewal card did not agree and, therefore, they were refused a license and sent back to their insurance agent for a corrected FS-1 form. This, naturally, slows up the issuance of license plates and works a hardship on the motorist who is obliged to stand in line for a long period of time and then discovers a license plate cannot be issued.

This year an extra \$1.00 is added to every license plate costing \$10.00 or more. This dollar will be used for driver education.

Miss Layton's office is on East Water Street with office hours being 9 A. M. to 3 P. M., except Saturdays, when the office closes at 12 o'clock noon.

In order to speed up service in purchasing license plates, Miss Layton offers the following suggestions:

1. Have license card ready.
2. Be sure and have correct FS-1 form.
3. Have correct amount of money and include \$1.00 driver training fee.

If these suggestions are carried out, Miss Layton says more people can be waited on and less waiting by those purchasing licenses.

LEGION MEETING

Ed Bond Post No. 40 of the American Legion will meet in the Legion building Tuesday night, January 14, at 8 o'clock. Troy Toppin, commander, urges a full attendance at the first meeting of the new year.

A feature of the meeting will be a very interesting film on infantile paralysis, which will be presented by Tom Ridgeway.

AUXILIARY TO MEET

The Ladies' Auxiliary of Post No. 9230, Veterans of Foreign Wars, will meet Thursday night, January 9, at 8 o'clock in the Post home. Mrs. Dora Stillman, president, urges all members to attend.

A feature of the meeting will be a very interesting film on infantile paralysis, which will be presented by Tom Ridgeway.

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