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# THE Northampton County TIMES-NEWS

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Volume LXXIV, No. 21

Rich Square LE 9-2859  
Jackson LE 4-2656

Rich Square and Jackson, N. C., Thursday, June 3, 1965

Covers All of Northampton's Towns and Communities

8 PAGES



**STRUCK BY LIGHTNING**—The brick shell is all that remains of the J. P. Brown, Sr. home near George after it was struck by lightning during an electrical storm on Thursday, May 27. Four fire departments, Woodland, Rich Square, Conway and Jackson joined in fighting

the fire, which started around 4:30 p.m. with the Woodland firemen remaining on the scene throughout the night. Much of the furniture downstairs and appliances were removed from the burning building and saved. The house was occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Billy Jenkins.

## Fire Chief Warns Fire Followers

WOODLAND — The Fire Chief of Woodland's Volunteer Fire Department, Charles Whitley, has issued a final warning to all fire followers.

Whitley warns that in the future persons who follow fire fighting equipped on road a fire, and are present at the scene of fires and in any way, restrict or block traffic at the scene of a fire, will be issued warrants by the fire department's traffic department.

Whitley, who has issued previous warnings, says the action of issuing warrants, has been taken due to vehicles that blocked the road where fire trucks had to enter and exit to fight the fire at the Joe P. Brown home near George last Thursday. He stated the traffic caused a longer delay in fire trucks moving back and forth to the scene of the fire.

## Court Finds Manslaughter Charge From 1964 Accident

JACKSON — A preliminary hearing in Recorder's Court last week of a 1964 traffic accident resulted in a charge of manslaughter being placed against Benjamin Pope of Sharpsburg.

Pope, 52, was bound over for trial in Superior Court after probable cause was found in the hearing. He posted a \$400 bond.

Pope was allegedly involved in traffic accident near Rich Square on Highway 255 on April 7, 1964, in which three Negro men were killed.

Other cases handled yesterday by Judge Jay included the following:

Percy Lee Shaw, Jr., 27, of Roanoke Rapids, speeding, \$10 and costs.

C. E. Murphy of Southport, disturbing the peace and engaging in an affray, not guilty.

J. E. Jenkins of Abbeville, engaging in an affray, not guilty.

Richard Cooper of Abbeville, engaging in an affray, not guilty.

Raymond Cain, 23, of Rich Square, driving while license revoked, 12 months roads suspended upon payment of \$200 and costs.

James D. Moore, 20, of Locomo, reckless driving, prayer for judgment continued upon payment of costs.

Robert Harvey Joyner, 35, of Rocky Mount, speeding, \$10 and costs.

Ben Johnson of Jackson, assault with a deadly weapon, 12 months roads suspended upon payment of \$50 and costs and restitution and placed on probation.

Cliff Edwards, 20, of Jackson, forgery, pleaded guilty to forcible trespass, 60 days roads suspended upon payment of \$25 and costs.

Bennie Powell, 23, of Jackson, aiding and abetting in forgery, pleaded guilty to forcible trespass, 60 days roads suspended upon payment of \$25 and costs.

Ned Parker of Seaboard, assault on a female, six months roads suspended upon payment of \$25 and costs.

Norwood Tidwell of Weldon, assault with a deadly weapon not pressed with leave upon payment of costs.

Carl Hugo Parker, 29, of Murfreesboro, no operator's license, \$50 and costs.

Thurman Powell, 23, of Seaboard, reckless driving, costs.

## Thursday Thunderstorm Destroys Farm Home

GEORGE — The J. P. Brown, Sr. home near George was struck by lightning during a thunderstorm on Thursday, May 27, and burned all but the brick shell in spite of the efforts of the Woodland, Rich Square, Conway and Jackson volunteer fire departments. The home was occupied by Billie and Audrey Jenkins. Mrs. Jenkins is the daughter of the late J. P. Brown.

Neighbors and firemen made an effort to remove furniture and personal belongings but could not reach the upstairs.

Almost all of the downstairs furniture and appliances were removed before the fire reached the downstairs.

Mrs. Jenkins said that no estimate had been made of the loss but that they doubted that the building could be salvaged. Twice before a building on that site has burned from causes other than lightning.

The fire departments kept a watch on the building until Friday to be certain that the fire was extinguished.

The Jenkins are temporarily staying at the home of Roy Griffin until they can make permanent plans.

They lost most of their clothing and almost all of their bedroom furniture.

The fire gutted the building in spite of the fact that the Woodland fire truck was at the scene by 4:45 p.m.

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## Rev. Key Moving To Tennessee

LASKER — The Rev. Floyd Key, pastor of the Lasker and Creeksville Baptist Churches, has resigned to accept the pastorate of a church in Springfield, Tenn. A pastor has not been named to succeed him.

The Rev. Mr. Key will conclude his services on Sunday, June 6, directing the twenty-member choir of Lasker Baptist Church, in a singing service at 8:00 p.m. to which the public is invited.

A native of Tennessee, the Rev. Mr. Key graduated from Wake Forest Seminary. He became pastor of the Lasker and Creeksville churches in September, 1957, while still enrolled at the seminary.

After moving here, he married the former Jimmie Judd, also of Tennessee. They have two daughters, Peggy Ruth and Kelly.

## Association Of Ministers Formed At Monday Meeting

RICH SQUARE — Ministers representing all areas of the county met here at the Rich Square Methodist Church on Monday, May 31 for the purpose of forming a county-wide association of ministers.

Thirteen ministers attended Monday's meeting and chose the following as officers of the association: President, the Rev. Donald Dunlap, pastor of the Conway Baptist Church; vice president, the Rev. A. M. Jones, pastor of the Rich Square circuit; secretary and treasurer, the Rev. J. E. Sutton, pastor of the Millwaukee charge; chaplain, the Rev. S. W. Edward, pastor of the Second Baptist Church at Potocasi.

The officers are to meet and formulate by-laws and guidelines for the association and present them to the ministers at the group's next meeting.

The Rev. Sutton stated that "it is hoped that every minister serving churches of Northampton County will join and help to get the association off to a good start. It is also hoped that by organizing the association that the ministers of Northampton County can offer a program of communication among all churches in the county."

The next meeting will be held at Roberts Chapel Baptist Church in Pendleton on Monday, June 21, at 10:00 a.m.



**SPILLED LOAD**—A truck loaded with gravel overturned near Rich Square Monday afternoon, spilling the entire load of gravel, but leaving the driver unharmed. Johnny Stallings, 24, of Weldon, driver of the truck for Weldon Roofing & Sheet Metal Works of Roanoke Rapids, lost control of the vehicle after crossing the swamp

bridge, two and one-half miles west of Rich Square and hit the soft shoulder of the highway, causing the truck to overturn down the embankment. State Trooper B. E. Edwards was the investigating officer. No charges were preferred.

## Ready To Hire Teachers For Choanoke's 'Headstart' Plan

MURFREESBORO — Teachers and staff are to be hired immediately for the Choanoke "Headstart" Plan, it was announced Monday at the same time that the area director and the area consultant were announced.

Jimmie L. Pittman, 46, of Gaston is the director and Clyde A. Erwin, Jr., 36, of Chapel Hill, consultant for the six superintendents in the Bertie, Halifax, Hertford and Northampton counties area of Choanoke Development Association.

To be employed are: an area bookkeeper and secretary, two supervisors for each county; one secretary for each county; an area total of 114 teachers who hold "A" certificates in primary education; 114 teacher's aides; 46 lunchroom supervisors; and one maintenance custodian for each county. It is anticipated

that each class will have an average of 20 pupils.

Teachers and supervisors will be enrolled in a training course the week of June 14. The program will operate from June 21 through August 13.

Personnel and staff job applications should be submitted to the school superintendents in the area. They in turn will assist the area director in the employment of staff. The four county extension officers and the health and welfare departments will be asked to assist in the employment of staff personnel effected by their respective agencies.

Appointments of Pittman and Erwin were announced by Choanoke President Fred L. Cooper of Roanoke Rapids, Choanoke Area Education Chairman R. P. Mar-

tin of Winton and Executive Director Roger R. Jackson, Jr., of the Economic Opportunities Division of CADA.

Pittman, the new area director, is a native of Micro in Johnston County. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Pittman of Route 2, Selma. He has for one and one-half years served as principal of Gaston High School in Northampton County, is a veteran of 21 years service in the U.S. Army, retiring in 1963 as a Lieutenant-colonel.

He attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill for three years before World War II and received his B.A. degree in economics from Seattle University, while in the Army. During his military service, he also took courses in education at the University of Vir-

ginia and the College of William and Mary. He acquired the M.A. degree in education and public school administration from East Carolina College in Greenville.

Pittman's military career in America and foreign countries included Battalion Administration. He also was division chief of an Army Service School, and for three years was an ROTC professor at Bucknell University. His wife is the former Miss Myrtice Best of Savannah, Ga., and they have two children.

Pittman has been admitted to the University of North Carolina graduate school of education for advanced work toward the Ph.D. degree in education. His studies there will begin in September.

Erwin, the new area consultant, See TEACHERS, Page 4

## ABC Petition To Be Presented At June Commissioners Meeting

JACKSON — A petition requesting a referendum on the establishment of ABC stores and the legal sale of beer and wine continues to be circulated in Northampton County according to Bart Burgwyn.

Burgwyn, spokesman for the Citizens Committee, informed the TIMES-NEWS that "more than sufficient names appear on the petition to call for the referendum; however, all have not

been certified as registered voters."

Burgwyn further states that "since these signatures must be checked by the chairman for registration it is necessary for signatories to appear the same as on the registration books in order for the chairman of the Board of Elections to identify them. In view of this and the fact that there is no doubt will be double signers and errors in naming the

voting precinct the committee will not take any chances and will not deliver the petition requesting the referendum until it is definitely established that the signers are sufficient in number to be properly certified and in proper order."

Burgwyn reiterated that "the signature of the petition did not necessarily mean the signer had to vote for ABC stores or legal sale of beer and wine. The petition is only a request, which must be granted when legal requirements are met, to allow the citizenry to enjoy their American privilege by going to the polls and voting in secrecy to settle a question."

He urged, "All citizens to sign the petition so that we might exercise our rights by ballot." June 24 is the last day the petition can be presented. It is anticipated that the petition will be in order for presenting by June 7, 1965.

## Coin Collection Is Stolen In Lasker

LASKER — A coin collection, valued at between \$500 and \$600 by the owners, was stolen from the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Tony Rafalewski here Friday, May 26.

Mrs. Rafalewski discovered the loss when she returned home around 4:15 p.m. after being away from home since 8:30 a.m.

Sheriff E. Frank Outland, who is continuing his investigation,

has made no arrests in the theft. The coin collection consisted of five books of dimes, five books of nickels, 83 quarters, a frame of half dollars, a liberty head nickel, one 1717 coin, \$1 in Buffalo nickles, two 1883 half dollars, and two commemorative pieces bearing the picture of Washington Carver.

The sheriff's department is also investigating a break-in at the store of Mrs. C. K. Madry in Pendleton. On Sunday night, May 20, three watches and approximately \$150 in silver was reportedly stolen from the store. No arrests have been made.

Two young Jackson Negroes are free on bond after attempting to pass a forged check at Leggett's Department Store in Jackson. Benny Powell, 23, and Clinton Edwards, 20, were foiled in their efforts to cash the \$40 check they had forged on the name of F. J. Bowers of Jackson by Leggett's manager, Floyd Price, who recognized the signature as forged and alerted the sheriff's department while detaining the men.

Two Gaston Negroes posted bond for their appearance in court after being arrested for operating a still near Gaston. Deputy Sheriff Ed Ingram captured the two at the still site on Sunday morning. The still had a capacity of approximately five barrels.

## Shiloh Sets Annual Homecoming

GASTON — Annual homecoming day will be observed Sunday, June 6, at Shiloh Methodist Church here. Services will begin at 11 a.m. Lunch will be served at noon, followed by an afternoon service.

The service will also mark the beginning of a week of revival services.

The Rev. Charles Triehart, pastor, will conduct the homecoming services and the week's services, which will be held each evening at 7:30 through Friday, June 11.

Area choirs and the church choir will present special music each evening during the week.

All former pastors, former members and friends of the church are invited to attend the homecoming and revival.

See COURT, Page 4



## ZACKI WEBSTER HARRELL New County 4-H Agent

JACKSON — Zacki Webster Harrell began work in Northampton County on Tuesday, June 1 as the assistant county agent for 4-H work.

He graduated in May from North Carolina State College in Agriculture and Horticulture.

A farm boy raised in Chowan County, he graduated from Edenton High School.

He is staying for the present time at the Rich Square Hotel until the house he has rented in Jackson is available. He will then move together with his wife, Kathryn Byrum Harrell and their 18-month-old daughter, Kathy.

He is a member of the Rocky Rock Baptist Church.

Harrell was active in baseball and farm clubs while in school. He is the brother of Aubrey Harrell of Windsor, who served as a special rural development agent in Bertie County before becoming manager of the Bertie, Martin and Spruill Oil Companies in Windsor.

## Natural Bait Fishing Now Allowed At River

Northampton County citizens can now fish with natural bait in the Roanoke River at those points within municipality limits without a county-wide fishing license.

This has been made possible through a bill regarding fishing in boundary water in the state, which was ratified by the legislature May 27. The bill was sponsored by Halifax-Warren County Sen. Julian R. Aillsbrook.

The new law amends the general statutes to provide that where a county (such as Northampton and Halifax) is bounded by a body of boundary water (such as the Roanoke River) residents of the county are deemed to be fishing within their own county and would not have to have a county-wide license.

A boundary river or stream, for example, is a portion of a river or stream which either forms a county boundary line or follows the course of such

a line. The Roanoke River is a boundary line between Halifax and Northampton counties, so the bill will apply to these waters.

The law, in effect, provides that any resident of Northampton or Halifax County may fish in the Roanoke River without a county-wide license as long as he is fishing in that portion of the river within a city or town limits, or limits that go to the river.

In short, a resident of Jackson, for instance, can come to Halifax County and fish from the Weldon banks, without a Halifax county license, or a Roanoke Rapids citizen can go to the tailrace and fish from the Gaston banks without a Northampton County license.

It should be remembered that this law applies to fishing with natural bait only. A state fishing license is still required for fishing with artificial lures.



**THE WIND DOTTH BLOW**—And when the wind does blow this unique weather vane goes into immediate action, with the milkman hard at work. Where else but at Roanoke River Ranch, between Jackson and Rich Square, could be

more appropriate for such a contrivance. The gaily painted vane is on a fence surrounding the ranch stables, near the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Bloom.