

Local Masonic Lodge Is Now At It's Peak

Highest Membership In History; 13 In Service; Officers Installed Last Night.

St. John's Lodge No. 13, A. F. & A. M. last night installed officers for the new year to preside over the largest membership in the history of the lodge.

The lodge has just closed one of its most successful years in its history and the spirit and morals is great. Nineteen new members were raised and four came in by transfer during the year.

In a letter recently sent to the membership by the secretary, he stated, "The challenge to Free Masonry is greater today than ever before, and I know that we, as a Lodge, are going to continue to carry on with more zeal in the New Year."

Amos Q. Brinson, now in the Armed Forces is retiring Master and the following were installed for 1944: J. O. Smith, Master; O. P. Johnson, Sr. Warden; Reuben Kink, Jr. Warden; F. W. McGowan, Secretary; J. E. Jerritt, Treasurer; H. J. Sloan, Sr. Deacon and H. D. Maxwell, Jr. Deacon.

The following members are in the Armed Services: A. Q. Brinson, D. Y. Hollingsworth, Robt. C. Wells, J. B. Wallace, H. D. Maxwell, Jr., Robert L. West, F. Marshallburn, Jas. F. Strickland, Lucian H. Fussell, Rommie L. Holt, R. S. Long, Aubrey W. Turner and G. M. Turner, Jr.

Negro Farm Agent Makes First Report To Commissioners

PLANS WORK WITH 4-H CLUBS AND BOY SCOUTS; COMPLETES HEIFER PROJECT.

Claude L. Taylor, Duplin County's first Negro Farm Agent, reported to the board of commissioners Monday on his accomplishments and projects for 1944.

The first project as Negro County Agent has been brought to a close by delivery to colored farmers of Duplin County a total of 23 grade Jersey heifers which were shipped in by G. Booker of State College, Raleigh.

The next project undertaken will be a mobilization of a Negro 4-H club. The goal being to have at least 75 per cent of the members produce enough food each to feed one person serving in the armed forces.

Taylor has been here only a short time but is reported to be doing a fine job. He is popular among the colored people and is said to be very well qualified for the job.

Grove Church Gets Army Certificate

ATLANTA, GA., Jan. 3 — In compliance with a new policy of the War Department Grove Presbyterian Church at Kenansville, N. C. has been awarded an Army certificate due to the fact that J. G. Morrison, pastor, is now serving as chaplain in the Army.

The certificate, 16 1-2 x 12 1-4 is handsomely engraved, prominently displays the chaplain's insignia and is suitable for framing.

Chaplain Lindquist stated that the certificate would be mailed to the church immediately.

Eggs keep fresh longest if they are not only kept cold, but also kept dry.

RATION DEADLINE

CANNED FOODS Green "D"-"E"-"F" (Book 4) expire January 20, 1944. FUEL OIL Period "2" coupons valid thru January 24, 1944 and Period "3" coupons thru February 21, 1944. GASOLINE A-S coupons expire February 8, 1944. MEATS, FATS Brown stamps "R"-"S", now valid, expire January 29, 1944. SHOES No. 18 (Book 1) valid indefinitely, Plane Stamp No. 1 (Book 3) now valid. SUGAR No. 29 (Book 4) good for five pounds thru January 15, 1944.

Merchants May Sell Certain Womens Shoes Without Coupons

Amendment 49 to the Shoe Regulations provide for the sale of a certain percentage of low priced women's shoes ration-free under the following conditions: 1. During the period from Jan. 17th, to the 29th, inclusive, any establishment which sells shoes principally to consumers over the counter may transfer to consumers, ration-free, any women's shoes on hand Jan. 16, 1944 if the price charged does not exceed \$3.00 per pair and the total number of pairs transferred ration-free does not exceed 15 per cent of the number of pairs of women's shoes in the inventory of the establishment on Sept. 30, 1943 as reported on OPA Form R-1701A (line 4).

2. When such shoes are offered for sale in any notice or advertisement they shall be referred to as "OPA release - women's low-priced shoes." The shoes need not be specifically marked. 3. Each establishment shall keep a record to be attached to its inventory Form R-1701, showing for each pair of shoes transferred ration-free, the name and address of the buyer, date of transfer, the type, style number, and selling price. 4. No replacement currency will be granted for the shoes sold ration-free under this amendment.

Billie Whitfield Home On Furlough From Pacific War Zone

Billie Whitfield, son of Mrs. Wm. Whitfield of Kenansville, arrived home Wednesday morning for a 13 day stay. Billie has been stationed on a destroyer in the Southwest Pacific War Zone giving those Japs "Hell".

He tells the story of troop landings at Treasury Island three days before the battle of Bougainville. Billie is a radio operator on a destroyer, and his boat was patrolling around the Island. He and the other fellows were at battle station about mid-afternoon when approximately 60 Jap planes suddenly popped into the sky. 14 dive bombers dove for the ship and the boat shot down 5 out of 14. American fighters finished seven more, he said. In the attack his boat was struck by two bombs, one going just a few feet away from his locker and bunk, taking with it all his clothes except what he had on. Eight members of the crew were killed.

The boat was able to get into its base under its own power. Billie is wearing three stars, one for Expeditionary citation, one for the battle of New Georgia Islands, and the other two for duty with troop landings at Vella La Vella and Treasury Islands in the Northern Solomons.

He has now been in service since June, 1942 and in the Pacific about a year. This is his second visit home. His first was soon after the battle of New Georgia Islands last summer. Billie says the Japs are hard fighters but the Americans are too much for them and boats and equipment are more plentiful and superior. Billie has recently been promoted to Lieutenant and class.

SPEAKER TO BROADCAST



R. GREGG CHERRY

Expression of the hope that Masonry will use its widespread influence in the postwar era to aid in consolidation of public opinion in favor of a peace which will be not only just but will be enduring and will embody a worldwide application of those fine principles of brotherhood and love of fellow-man upon which the Masonic orders are founded" featured an address here tonight by Major R. Gregg Cherry of Gastonia, legislator and 1944 gubernatorial candidate, to St. John's Lodge No. 13, A. F. & A. M., of Kenansville. "Masonry has already been of inestimable value to the nation in many ways and through many channels," declared Major Cherry. "It has aided in promotion of that patriotic fervor which contributes so much to national unity. Inevitably, when our country faces a crisis such as the present world conflict has brought, one sees a rapid and widening increase of new interest in the fraternal orders such as the Masonic bodies and all the fine things in community and national life for which they stand."

LIST JURORS JAN. COURT NEXT WEEK

H. S. Johnson, A. O. Grady, W. H. Wilkins, W. C. Williams, Earl D. Smith, W. L. Bryan, J. E. Hamilton, C. L. Carter, W. L. Hinson, Robt. Pickett, Albro James, L. N. Southernland, H. L. Lanier, Clyde S. Brinson, E. D. Kornegay, Jonas Smith, L. M. Sanderson, W. H. Hall, L. F. Johnson, P. T. Fountain, J. J. Benson, R. Young, Ellis Raynor, Sr., S. B. Brinson, A. E. Pierce, Kirby A. Thigpen, Duff Kornegay, W. B. Register, J. J. Blanchard, B. D. Grady, C. V. Thomas, C. T. Grady, McNeil Sholar, Herman E. Rouse, A. O. Fostic, R. F. Pate, E. A. Walton, C. C. Ivey, John Houston, V. B. Teachey, H. J. Phillips, W. D. Hall, J. R. Halso, Lewis Jones, L. R. Woodcock, S. J. Waller, J. Milton West, Chancy Sumner, W. D. Pate, Solon C. Carr, A. B. Wells, Roy Sanderson, Wells Thomas, P. T. Cameron, W. J. Rouse, R. C. Moore, M. H. Southernland, Nash Johnson, Wilbert Hanchey, Arlie Goodson, M. E. Holt, Sam S. Sullivan, Geo. A. Pollock, James Lanier, Jr., Leroy B. Carter, K. B. Jones, Jno. E. Kennedy, Jr., Q. B. Teachey, C. F. Walker, Ralph Batts, Earl Williams, Ralph Brown W. J. Boyette, L. F. Brown, J. C. Bishop.

Missionary Talks Pink Hill Church

Rev. Stacey C. Farris, native of Rose Hill and brother of Rev. M. P. Farris, pastor of the Pink Hill group of Presbyterian Churches, spoke to the citizens of Pink Hill in the church there Monday night.

Rev. Farris, a native of Rose Hill, has been a Presbyterian missionary to China since 1912. He and Mrs. Farris returned to this country in December on the liner Gripsholm.

Warsaw Church Catches Fire

The Warsaw Methodist church caught fire in the attic Sunday about a half hour after services and every one gone. The fire started at the flue just above the ceiling and when discovered by nearby residents was blazing pretty well. The fire department was called and a hole had to be cut through the roof to get to the attic. The interior was damaged with water and smoke.

Dr. Ralph A. Herring of Winston-Salem, N. C., will be heard on the program of The Baptist Hour next Sunday morning, 8:30 to 9:00 EWT over WPTF of Raleigh and WBIG of Greensboro, according to Dr. S. F. Lowe, Atlanta, Ga., Chairman of the Radio Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention. His subject, "The Primacy of the Spiritual," will be of special interest everywhere in these crucial days through which we pass, according to Mr. Lowe.

Dr. Herring, popular pastor of the First Baptist Church of Winston-Salem, is a trusted servant of the Baptist Demonstration, being past Vice President of the Southern Baptist Convention, now President of the North Carolina Baptist Convention, and also serving as Trustee of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary of Louisville, Ky., and North Carolina member of the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The Baptist Hour Programs are broadcast over independent Southern network of 32 stations, covering the territory from the East Coast to the far Southwest, and sponsored by the Radio Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention. The speakers for the following three Sundays of January will be: On Jan. 16th - Dr. Douglas S. Freeman of Richmond, Va., on Jan. 23rd - Dr. Harold W. Tribble of Louisville, Ky., on Jan. 30th Dr. C. C. Warren of Charlotte, N. Carolina.

Naval Operating Bases Seek War Workers

As the Allied offensive gain momentum, more and more ships of our fleet must be serviced for further action at the Naval Operating Base, Norfolk, Va., to carry on this vital task hundreds of skilled and unskilled workers must rally to the recruiting drive now being conducted by the 4th U. S. Civil Service Region for this important Naval establishment.

Positions open are: Electricians, Electroplaters, Machinist (Inside Pipefitters, Plumbers, Sheetmetal Workers, Elevator Mechanics, Refrigeration Mechanics, Automotive Mechanics, Machine Operators, Toolmakers and Sr. Laborers at salaries ranging from \$7.00 an hour to \$12.00, plus time and a half for overtime in excess of 40 hours a week.

An immediate appointment and free transportation to the place of duty, plus free meal tickets if the authorized travel is for six or more hours and embraces customary meal times, are offered all persons who qualify for these important war jobs. In addition all workers are assured of adequate housing facilities upon reporting for duty. Trailers, Dormitories and Unfurnished Apartments are available at reasonable cost.

Further information for these positions at the Naval Operating Base may be obtained from F. J. Baars at P. O. Warsaw, N. C. Appointments will be made in accordance with War Manpower Commission policies and Employment Stabilization Plans. Applications are not desired from persons already using their highest skills in war work.

To Active Duty In U. S. Marines

Quantico, Va., Dec. 29: John VanBuren Pruitt, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. John VanBuren Pruitt, Rose Hill, N. C., today was assigned to active duty with the U. S. Marines after successfully completing the reserve officers training school here. The new lieutenant was commissioned eight weeks ago and has been in the post-graduate course since that time. His graduation today was in the traditional ceremony of this famed old Marine Corps base.

MAY ADD COST OF JAR Housewives will have to pay approximately 2 cents more per jar for anything sold in glass containers where the processor has started packing in glass since 1941, due to the greater labor cost.

Wallace Merchant Is Slain For Thirty Pieces Of Silver

COUNTY BRIEFS

SCHOOLS REOPEN Duplin schools reopened Monday morning after more than a week's vacation.

RESIGNS Paul Stephens has resigned his job with the Board of Education and has been replaced by C. B. Guthrie. Mr. Guthrie's job has to do with school property maintenance.

NO BRIDGE IN HEAVEN The ladies, young and old, in Kenansville have enjoyed a large part of the holidays playing bridge. One night this week a certain lady was dressing to go to a bridge party when her mother called, telling her mother replied: "They don't play bridge in Heaven, sometimes I wonder if you would like to go there."

TT GAS COUPONS EXPIRE TT gas coupons are now invalid. They expired Dec. 31st.

OIL SHORTAGE RELIEVED The fuel oil shortage facing Duplinites a few days ago has now been relieved for the time being according to one distributor.

COAL SHORTAGE The coal shortage in Kenansville and Warsaw is becoming acute. The supply is just about exhausted but one dealer says he should receive a car some time next week.

\$1.00 SUBSCRIPTION This week a number of readers of the Times have come into the office to subscribe. On being told that subscription rates have been advanced to \$2.00 they inquired if they could subscribe for 6 months. Yes you may subscribe for as little as three months now. Most of them, however, handed us the \$2.00.

IN CLERK'S OFFICE Mrs. Douglas McBride, the former Miss Esther Stevens, has accepted work in the office of the Clerk of Court. She began work last Monday.

BUILDING STORE C & D Cash Store in Pink Hill will soon move into its new home. The proprietors are constructing a new building across from the school house there.

INJURES THUMB Mrs. Sudie P. Miller, former employee of the Duplin Times, and now owner and publisher of the Burgaw Pender Chronicle, injured a thumb last week while operating the Linotype machine.

COMMISSIONERS MEET The board of county commissioners held their regular monthly session Monday with all present. Only routine matters were taken up.

A. BROOKS HOME A. Brooks, popular Warsaw merchant has returned from the Goldsboro hospital where he was a patient for several weeks. First he was stricken with acute appendicitis and after recovering from the operation, suffered an attack of flu and pneumonia. He is said to be getting along nicely.

MR. SANDLIN OUT I. J. Sandlin, Beulaville merchant who recently returned from a Kinston hospital, is able to be out some. He walks to the store occasionally and is looking well. He suffered a case of double pneumonia.

Pink Hill Boys Get Suspended Sentences

Elbert and James Spence, cousins, of Pink Hill were tried before Recorder Joe Dawson in Kinston charged with forcible trespass and were placed under 12 months suspended sentences.

Elbert, now under a probation order by a Virginia court imposed on a charge of bigamy, was ordered to be of good behavior for two years, pay costs and his driver's license revoked for one year. James drew an order for good behavior for two years and was assessed court costs.

Sandlin's Stables Burn in Beulaville

The stable and warehouse of I. J. Sandlin & Co. in Beulaville were destroyed by fire of undetermined origin. Six mules were burned to death. The loss was estimated at \$10,000.

Judge Frizzelle Preside Two-week Term Court Here

Judge J. Paul Frizzelle, of Snow Hill, will hold a two-week term of superior court beginning Monday, Jan. 10th for the trial of civil cases. At another place in this paper will be found the list of jurors drawn. Sixty cases are docketed to be tried.

Paul Edmonds Heads Polio Drive

Paul Edmonds of Warsaw has been named as Duplin County Chairman for the Infantile Paralysis Drive to be held the last two weeks in January. He was named by the state chairman, Ralph MacDonald.

Snow And Rain, Again Fills Streams

According to "Red" Kornegay, Red says that in the B. F. Grady section, as well as most sections of the county, for the past several weeks farmers have been having to haul water for stock. The drought that almost dried up this country is thoroughly broken. The snow recently aided but not sufficiently. The rain which started late Saturday night continued almost steadily until Tuesday morning and at this writing (Tuesday) it looks as if we are in for more. The downpour Monday morning literally filled all the streams in this country.

Three Robberies in Town of Teachey Last Friday Night

Sometime after one o'clock last Friday night someone broke into the Post Office and two stores in Teachey. In the Post Office they took \$17.40 in pennies and some stamps. They entered by cutting through two doors. In the store of David Wells they stole 1 carton of cigarettes and in the Cottle store they took \$60 in change from the cash register.

B. F. Grady PTA Meets

The regular Jan. meeting of the B. F. Grady P. T. A. will be held Monday, Jan. 10th at the regular hour in the school auditorium. A large attendance is requested.



DAUN KENNEDY. This charming young RKO Radio actress stepped right out of the messenger girl ranks into the Kay Kyser musical "Around the World." Now she has a contract, and a part in "Government Girl." The studio considers Daun a most promising starlet.

EMPLOYMENT AID FOR VETERANS

Regardless of priorities set up in local employment stabilization plans, all honorably discharged members of the armed forces will be helped to find a job to their liking, whether on war work or not, according to the War Manpower Commission. If the veteran takes a job and is dissatisfied, he has the privilege, for 60 days, of seeking other work.

TO SPEED VETERANS' PROMTS

Action has been taken to eliminate delays between the date a soldier is discharged for physical disability and the time he may begin to receive a pension or other veterans' benefits, according to the War Department. Steps have been taken so that before the soldier leaves the army, he may get not only competent advice on the merits of individual claims, but also a pension or bonus.

Stedman Carr Is Shot In Robbery Attempt; Richard Setser Confesses and Will Be Tried For Life Next Week; Judge Stevens Will Hear Case In Burgaw.

Stedman Carr, Wallace merchant, was the innocent victim of a fiend's gun Friday afternoon Dec. 31st, when he answered a call to go to Willard and purchase some fur.

Mr. Carr had frequently driven to Willard to purchase fur from various hunters and on Tuesday before Christmas he received a telephone call to go to the same house to buy some fur. This time he went alone. He knocked on the front door and a voice said "come in". Entering the hall, the voice from a room again said "come in". As he entered the room he saw a man holding a gun who ordered him to throw up his hands. As he did so he turned his body slightly and a load of buckshot entered one side of his abdomen and came out the other. He ran and as he fell down the steps another shot rang out but missed him. With his abdomen torn, literally to shreds with the buckshot, the victim drove his truck to Dr. Robinson's office in Wallace, approximately one mile, where first aid was given. He was rushed to a Wilmington hospital where he died the next morning at 9:35 o'clock from loss of blood. The last words he spoke to his wife, it is reported were: "don't leave anything undone to find out who did it and see that justice is done."

At the coroner's hearing in Burgaw Tuesday night Sheriff J. T. Brown of Pender County revealed that Richard Setser, 20 year old youth of Willard, had confessed the murder. At first he implicated his wife's father, Carl Piner and her brother Clifton. He said he and Clifton planned and pulled the job in order to rob Mr. Carr and buy an automobile. He said the plans were to kill him on Tuesday before Christmas but they failed. He was to get Mr. Carr to the old Piner house and Carr was to do the job. It was revealed at the hearing, however, that Piner and his son were on a hunting trip at the time of the murder.

Piner's young son, age eleven, testified that he carried a note written by Setser with a red pencil, to the home of Mr. Stevens at the Willard test farm. The note read: "Mrs. Stevens, call Stedman Carr, phone 276-6, 276-6. Tell him to come up to the old house and get the furs I called him about the other day. He will understand when to come. (Signed) Carl Piner. This note was probably the evidence that persuaded Setser to confess.

Setser came to this section from the mountains of western Carolina and is reported to have a prison record behind him.

He will be tried for his life next week in Pender County Superior court at which time Judge Henry L. Stevens will preside. It is reported that Rivers Johnson of Warsaw will aid solicitor Clifton Moore in the prosecution. The court will appoint a lawyer to defend Setser.

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ALMANAC

- 1 - New Year's Day, Washington states 1st of United Colonies, 1776.
2 - Louisiana State University opens, 1825.
3 - Postal Savings Bank formed, 1911.
4 - Cornelius Vanderbilt dies, 1877.
5 - Government of Haiti operation of Haiti Cross society, 1825.
6 - Birth of the Red Cross, 1864.
7 - Owen Sound, Ontario, Canada, founded, 1827.