

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER DEVOTED TO THE UPBUILDING OF HERTFORD AND PERQUIMANS COUNTY

Volume II.—Number 15.

Hertford, Perquimans County, North Carolina, Friday, April 12, 1935.

\$1.25 Per Year

James Smith, Convict, Caught In Hertford

Makes Dash For Freedom While Working With Road Gang

GUARD SHOOT

Escaped Negro Led Officers a Merry Chase Before Capture

Escaping from his guard on Friday while working on the road near Center Hill, James Smith, Negro convict from the Woodville Prison Camp in this county, led the officers a right merry chase until his capture late Sunday night at the home of Henry Parker, on Dobb Street in Hertford, where he had sought refuge and aid after suffering gunshot and bullet wounds earlier in the day. After first aid attention by the prison physician, the wounded man was taken to the Albemarle Hospital in Elizabeth City.

Smith, who is said to be about 19 years old, was sentenced from Wake County to from three to five years for breaking an entering. As a result of his escape and the various thefts from houses into which he entered while eluding the officers, he will in all probability have a long time added to his sentence.

Smith made a dash for freedom by rushing into the dense woods beside which he was working around 11 o'clock on Friday morning with the gang. The guard fired at the fleeing man, emptying both loads of his gun. With the guard unarmed, the convict stopped long enough to take off his heavy boots in order to make better time.

Sometime during that afternoon Hugh Harrell, who lives near the scene of the escape, found that during the absence of the family from home, a suit of convict's clothes had been left in his house and that a suit of his own clothing was missing. Meantime Perquimans County officers, prison guards and others, with the aid of bloodhounds, were searching for the escaped convict. He was nabbed around 9 o'clock that night, as he climbed a fence, after crossing a field near the home of T. W. Nixon. The officer who made the capture fired both loads of his shotgun as a signal to the searchers that the man-hunt was ended, and James again embraced the opportunity of running while the officer was unarmed.

Successfully eluding his pursuers, Smith reached Hertford and became lost. He took a nap in Anderson Blanchard's fish market for a while Saturday night. They knew him there but did not know he was the escaped convict.

Seeing smoke coming from a chimney of the colored school building in Hertford as he started to church Sunday morning, J. W. Thompson, principal of the school, went in to investigate and found a man, who told the principal he had done no harm, only spent the night. Later it was discovered he had carried off three sweat shirts and a pair of football shoes. Trailing him by the cleats on the stolen football shoes, officers found he had broken into the office of White & Lassiter's mill, in the country, and had stolen other clothing. As the searchers neared the home of Shoderach Hurdle, not far distant, where Smith had once been employed, he was seen to run out of the house. After calling to the fleeing man to halt, with a warning that he would fire, the Sheriff fired his revolver but to no apparent purpose. A deputy also fired his shot gun. The man still ran, escaping in the woods.

That night, suffering from cold and exposure and with a bullet in his arm and a buckshot in his back, the hunted man sought refuge at the home of Henry Parker, who notified the Sheriff.

Citizens Urged Attend Mass Meeting Tonight

A mass meeting to nominate candidates for the office of Mayor, and three town councilmen, will be held tonight at the Court House in Hertford at 8 o'clock.

The meeting is called by the Town Board of Elections, of which Silas M. Whedbee is chairman. W. T. Elliott and B. C. Berry are the other two members of this committee.

All citizens of Hertford are urged to attend the meeting.

The nominees will be elected at a town election to be held in May.

The registration books will be open from May 20 to May 27.

GUILFORDIANS MEET SATURDAY AT PINEY WOODS

Guilfordians of this district will meet in their second annual gathering on Saturday night of this week at 8 o'clock. The meeting will be held at Piney Woods Friends Church, Belvidere.

A special program has been arranged by Miss Mabel Lane, secretary of the organization formed last year when the Guilfordians met at the Community House in Hertford.

Speakers will include Clarence E. Tobias, secretary of Guilford College, who made an address at the meeting last year and made such a fine impression on his hearers, and Byron Harworth, of Burlington, an alumnus of Guilford College.

All former students and friends of Guilford College are invited to attend.

Riot At Prison Camp Causes Investigation

The riot which occurred at the Woodville Prison Camp in this county on last Thursday resulted in a great deal of publicity and was the occasion of an investigation which may have far-reaching results as to the control of prisoners in North Carolina.

Coming as it did at the time of the official investigation of the atrocious treatment of two prisoners at the Mecklenburg County Prison Camp which resulted in the amputation of the feet of two youthful Negro convicts, when the people of the State are more or less cruelly-conscious, the matter has created something of a sensation.

The investigation of the Woodville Camp affair brought to light the fact that, while the North Carolina public has for some years, since the Morrison administration, been under the impression that the whipping of prisoners is not allowed in North Carolina, the custom of whipping prisoners has been and is pretty general throughout all of the prison camps.

A general order to every prison camp in the State was issued this week by Capus M. Waynick, Chairman of the State Highway and Public Works Commission, that the use of the lash on convicts is strictly forbidden. New regulations for the control of prisoners are to be issued this week.

Twelve of the prisoners at the Woodville Prison Camp were whipped by order of the Camp Superintendent, J. M. Tolar, acting under orders of a superior officer, as a part of their punishment for the part they played in the revolt on Thursday.

There were 179 prisoners at the Woodville Camp, twenty-five of whom were involved in the trouble on Thursday. All of these 25 were long termers, some of them having been convicted of murder. The twenty-five prisoners, it was reported, refused to work or to leave their cage on Thursday. They tore up cell equipment, threatened to break out windows, cursed the guards and prison officers, threatening their lives with bricks, stove legs and other pieces of iron, urging others to join them, and pretty generally raised a riot.

All tear gas available was used in an effort to quell the riot. Two prisoners were shot. These two men were afterwards taken to the hospital at Central Prison, Raleigh. Further investigation is being made into the shooting of these two men. Reports from the camp were to the effect that the men were shot when they advanced across a dead line set up for them not to pass. However, it has been said that one of the men was shot in the back.

Officers from Perquimans, Chowan and Pasquotank Counties were on hand to assist in quieting the disturbance. After an additional supply of tear gas had been secured, which officers threatened to use, the men agreed to leave the cage from which they had previously refused to emerge. Later twelve of the ringleaders were laid across mattresses and flogged with a leather strap. Dr. W. A. Hoggard, camp physician, in whose presence the punishment was administered, is quoted as saying that the prisoners were whipped moderately.

That the rebellion at the camp arose because of treatment of Jesse Johnson, farm foreman, to which the prisoners objected, and because of poor food served, was indicated by reports which the two prisoners who were wounded and taken to Raleigh are said to have made.

H. C. STOKES ELECTED BETTER HOUSING HEAD

Canvassers Will Be Selected to Furnish Report

H. C. Stokes was elected chairman of the Better Housing organization for Perquimans County, at a meeting held in the Court House on Monday afternoon, at which J. H. McMullan, of Edenton, who is head of the Better Housing Program for this district, presided.

Mr. McMullan explained in detail the workings of the Better Housing organization, and stated that every county was supposed to have its own organization. Seven thousand such organizations are already functioning, according to Mr. McMullan.

A full time secretary will be employed to take over the work of taking applications, filling out blanks, etc., for those who wish to apply for loans through this channel. Two canvassers will also be furnished by the FERA to canvass the county in an effort to find out those who wish to make repairs to their homes, or who wish to build.

Former Pastor Will Preach Here Easter

Many old friends will be glad to greet Rev. Mr. F. M. Shamburger and Mrs. Shamburger, of Oxford, who will spend next week in Hertford.

Mr. Shamburger was formerly a pastor of the Hertford M. E. Church, having left here about twenty years ago.

The Shamburgers will attend the annual meeting of the Woman's Missionary Society which will convene in Elizabeth City next week, but will come to Hertford every night to be the guests of friends here.

It is announced that Mr. Shamburger will preach at the Hertford Methodist Church on Easter Sunday morning.

Perquimans Glee Club Enters Music Contest

The Perquimans High School Glee Club, under the direction of Miss Kate M. Blanchard, will go to Elizabeth City on Friday to compete in the preliminary music contest. The winners will go to Greensboro for the State Contest.

The members of the Glee Club are Maude Keaton, Dorothy Mae Hoffer, Katherine Jessup, Mary Thad Chappell, Anna Penelope Tucker, Lila Bud Stephens, Celia Blanche Dail, Elizabeth Caddy, Mary Sumner Feild, Dorothy Strange, Virginia Harris, Eugenia Gregory, Margaret Broughton, Julia Broughton, Ellie Mae White, Blanche Moore Berry.

The soloists include Dorothy Mae Hoffer, alto; Maude Keaton, soprano; Zack White, unchanged boy's voice. Joyce Harrell is pianist.

Through Capitol Keyholes

By BESS HINTON SILVER

TOUCHY—AS the length of the General Assembly grows members are beginning to display evidence of developing "nerves." Arising to points of personal privilege to "bawl out" some member or some newspaper editor, are becoming numerous as they have a habit of doing in sessions that run into the payless period beyond the constitutional 60 days. Finger-pointing and fist-shaking will soon be the order of the day if the boys don't get their troubles ironed out and go back home.

LITTLE CHANCE—A private poll of the Legislature reveals that the batch of bills sent down from Washington by Secretary Ikes designated to put cities and counties in the business of generating and selling power have little chance of passage. Two measures, drawn by the State Rural Electrification Commission, are much more modest and have the backing of the Ehringhaus administration. However, if they get by it will be a close squeeze.

LIQUOR—There can be no doubt that sentiment in favor of the Hill liquor bill is growing among members of the Legislature. It still appears doomed but only a few converts are needed to put the measure across. Members show a decided notion not to cut the appropriations bill drastically and if these troubles over taxes are not settled pretty soon you are going to see a great drive to put the Hill bill through.

EARLY BIRDS—John A. McRae, of Charlotte, has joined Colonel T.

WINFRED SMITH WILL ENTER STATE CONTEST

Wins Second Place In Beaufort Livestock Judging

Winfred Smith, of the Perquimans High School, will represent the Perquimans Chapter of Young Tar Heel Farmers in the State Livestock Contest to be held in Raleigh in June, as a result of winning second place in the District Livestock Judging Contest held in Beaufort County on last Saturday.

Russell Nixon tied with another boy for third place.

The representatives of the Perquimans County Chapter made a most excellent showing and a creditable record, according to G. C. Buck, Vocational Agriculture Teacher of the Perquimans High School.

Winfred Smith and Russell Nixon were in competition with representatives from seventeen other schools in judging dairy cattle and swine. After all scores had been tabulated it was found that young Smith had made the second highest score, his score being 171.2, and Nixon had made a tie with another for third place.

The two highest scoring boys in the contest, one of whom was Winfred Smith, will represent Perquimans at the State contest in Raleigh.

Petition Circulated To Try To Save Trees

In an effort to save the trees on Church Street, a petition, addressed to the State Highway and Public Works Commission and to the Mayor and Board of Commissioners of the Town of Hertford, is being circulated, asking that the trees be saved.

The petition sets forth that this street is one of the main entrances into the town, that the destruction of the trees would greatly mar its beauty, and also states that the street can be widened to a width sufficient to accommodate the traffic conveniently and safely without cutting the trees, and further suggests that parking on this street could be prohibited with little inconvenience to those living on the street, as every home has a driveway.

Mrs. J. E. White Heads Missionary Union

Mrs. J. E. White, of Hertford, who has long been prominent in local missionary work, was elected Associational Superintendent of the Chowan Association of the Woman's Missionary Union, at a meeting held at Eureka Baptist Church in Gates County last Thursday.

The meeting on Thursday, which is the regular annual gathering of the women of the Association, was attended by a large number of ladies of the Hertford Baptist Church.

LeRoy Kirkpatrick, of the same city, in announcing for Governor on the Democratic ticket. In Raleigh various stories are being told about the intentions of Clyde R. Hoey, Shelby Attorney, and Congressman R. L. Doughton regarding the Governorship. But make no mistake—Lieutenant Governor A. H. Graham is going to run for Governor or bust a trace. All efforts to get him attracted by other jobs and what-not have failed entirely and a lot of folk believe his campaign is well underway.

RAIDS—The raids on your gasoline tax money have gotten away to a good start. The General Assembly has voted to spend \$500,000 of it annually in keeping up City Streets and it looks like \$1,630,000 is going to be diverted to the General Fund during each of the coming years. It also appears likely that some of the gasoline taxes are going into county treasuries before long in the form of paying the counties for roads they built before the highway commission had the money. Better get your own road in shape before the diversion party gets any livelier.

SCHOOL BOOKS—State rental of school books by the time the boys and girls hear the first bells next fall is still likely. The books companies are said to be realizing that fact and good authority says that the publishers will be willing to sell the books to the State on credit and collect as the rentals come in. Such a plan would not call for an amount of money large enough to require a bond. (Continued on Page Five)

Two Homicide Cases Held For Court Term

Citizens Urged To List Their Taxes

List your taxes during the month of April and avoid being penalized. The list takers for the various townships throughout the county are now engaged in taking the tax lists and are anxious to get the work done during the time allotted.

Mrs. P. H. Small, tax list taker for Hertford Township, is at the Court House every Friday and Saturday for the purpose of listing taxes. During the week from April 20 to April 27, inclusive, Mrs. Small announces that she will be at the Court House every day. The hours are from 9 in the morning until 5 in the afternoon.

Holy Week Services At Holy Trinity

The following services have been announced for next week, which is Holy Week, at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Hertford.

On Tuesday and Wednesday at 9 o'clock in the morning there will be the celebration of the Holy Communion.

On Thursday night at 8 o'clock there will be the memorial service of the Lord's Supper.

On Good Friday there will be a service from 2 to 3 o'clock, commemorating the last hour of our Savior on the Cross.

There will be evening prayer on Friday night at 8 o'clock.

On Saturday the rector, Rev. E. T. Jillion will be at the church at 4:00 o'clock for baptism.

On Sunday, Easter Day, there will be the celebration of Holy Communion at 9 o'clock as usual.

There will also be a celebration of Holy Communion at 11 o'clock and a sermon by the rector.

13 Cases Scheduled On Civil Calendar

Thirteen cases appear on the civil calendar for the April Term of Superior Court which convenes on Monday. It is, of course, impossible to say how many will actually be for trial.

As the calendar has been arranged the cases are set as follows:

Wednesday, Darden Bros. vs. G. W. Butler et al; Darden Bros. vs. W. Gaither et al; Lydia Whedbee vs. J. F. Winslow; J. I. Perry vs. Daisy Perry et al; J. Broughton et al vs. W. G. Wright et al.

Thursday, Thomas H. Gordon vs. Dr. W. B. Sharp; First & Citizens National Bank vs. J. S. Trueblood; P. C. Cuthrell vs. G. W. Gregory et al; Sallie J. Kirby vs. S. P. Jessup, Admr.

Friday, Growers Peanut Co. vs. E. J. Broughton et al; Hollowell Chevrolet Co. vs. Joseph Small et al; T. W. Perry vs. Mack Harris; Annie Small Harrell vs. Richard Steward et al.

Divorce cases are to be heard at any time at the pleasure of the court, and motions in any cause to be heard at the pleasure of the court.

Cases not reached on day set will go over and take precedence on next day's calendar.

Stop Watch Used To Check Speeding

In an effort to put a stop to speeding on the streets of Hertford, in compliance with a recent order of Mayor E. L. Reed, special night officer M. G. Owens is using a stop watch in checking up on speeding automobiles.

One arrest has been made since Mr. Owens received the new stop watch. George Congleton was charged in Recorder's Court on Tuesday with speeding. Officer Owens testifying that he was driving at the rate of 35 miles an hour when arrested Sunday night on Market Street.

This was the only case to come up for trial at Recorder's Court on Tuesday. The defendant plead guilty and the case was dismissed upon the payment of the court costs.

CHURCH HOURS CHANGED
The hour of evening services at both the Baptist and Methodist Churches has been changed from 7:30 to 8:00 o'clock.

REV. ASHBY SPEAKER
Rev. C. A. Ashby, rector of St. Paul's, Edenton, preached at the service held at Holy Trinity Church in Hertford, on Wednesday evening.

April Term of Superior Court Will Convene Monday

CRANMER JUDGE

George Glover and Robert Bragg Held In Connection With Deaths

The April term of Perquimans Superior Court, for the trial of both criminal and civil cases, will convene in Hertford next Monday, with Judge E. H. Cranmer, of Southport, presiding.

Two homicide cases will go before the grand jury, both of which have been heard in Recorder's Court, where probable cause was found.

George Glover, colored, is held without bond on the charge of murder, as a result of the death of Solomon Freeman, also colored, who died in a Suffolk, Va., hospital as a result of being shot by Glover. This case was heard in Recorder's Court last week.

Robert Bragg, colored, is under bond to answer to the charge of manslaughter as a result of the death of Charlie Dillard, also colored, who was instantly killed on the highway near Winfall when struck by a car driven by the defendant on March 3.

The case of O. J. Mansfield, charged with selling liquor, is set for this term. Mansfield was convicted in Recorder's Court and sentenced to sixty days on the road. He appealed to Superior Court.

Bill Sessoms, colored, is under bond to answer to the charge of assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill.

Walter Wright is held in jail to answer to the charge of larceny of chickens. He is also one of three defendants in another case wherein the charge is larceny, the charge growing out of the stealing of a quantity of meat. The other two defendants in the latter case are Claude Lewis and Charlie Brown. All are colored.

Norman Byrum, who recently completed a road sentence in connection with raising a disturbance at the home of a neighbor where a woman lay dead in the house, will be tried on an appeal from Recorder's Court on the charge of assault with a deadly weapon, and larceny. Byrum is charged with stealing liquor which was stored in a cell in the jail to be used as evidence and with participating in a disturbance in the jail wherein, in one of the prisoners is alleged to have been struck on the head with a stick.

Lillie Forehand, colored, who was recently sentenced in Recorder's Court to twelve months in jail with leave of the sheriff and commissioners to require her to clean county-owned property, and was fined twenty five dollars, appealed to Superior Court, and will be tried at this term.

Aid Society Meets At Meadow Grove Church

The Ladies Aid Society of the Meadow Grove Christian Church met Thursday afternoon, April 4, at 3:00 o'clock with Mrs. W. P. Chappell. The president, Mrs. S. G. Chappell, called the meeting to order, and "Marching To Zion" was sung as the opening hymn. Scripture reading by the president was Luke 24:1-12, and was followed by prayer by Mrs. Ida Edwards. Each member responded to the roll call with a text on "Faith." The minutes of the previous meeting were read, and a half an hour devoted to Bible study with Mrs. Joe White as teacher. A Bible contest was enjoyed by all. Mrs. Joe White and Mrs. S. G. Chappell gave appropriate Easter readings. Following a short business session, "The Old Rugged Cross" was sung, and the president pronounced a benediction.

The hostess served delicious refreshments. Those present were: Mrs. J. R. Chappell, Mrs. Joe White, Mrs. Ida Edwards, Mrs. Anna Lane, Mrs. S. G. Chappell, Mrs. L. P. Chappell, Mrs. Louis Winslow, Miss Lillian Hendren and Mrs. W. P. Chappell.

SERVICES AT PARKVILLE

Services at Parkville M. E. Church next Sunday as follows:
10:00 A. M. Sunday School; 7:30 P. M., preaching by the pastor, Rev. A. W. Manning, of Elizabeth City.
On Easter Sunday there will be a special Easter program at 7:30 o'clock in the evening.