

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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

Friday, April 23, 1943.

Hertford, Perquimans County, North Carolina. Volume X.—Number 17.

\$1.50 Per Year.

JURY RETURNED VERDICT OF NOT GUILTY IN CASE CHARGING YOUTHS WITH RAPE

Deliberation Lasts 45 Minutes; Girls Curse Youths

After deliberating for a short period of forty-five minutes, the jury selected to hear the case against Gaither Chappell, Sherman Copeland and Percy Winslow, charged with assault with intent to commit rape, returned a verdict of not guilty. The boys immediately left the court room, after being freed by the jury.

There was much speculation between the close of the testimony and the time the jury reported as to the verdict, but the majority of court spectators were of the opinion that the youths would be freed. State Solicitor Chester Morris announced to the Court that he would not demand the death penalty against Gaither Chappell, after Dr. L. P. Williams, of Edenton, testified that Belva Haddock, who charged Chappell with rape, had not been violated.

The defense closed its testimony late Thursday afternoon and the attorneys began their pleading Friday morning. Judge Walter Bone charged the jury, after it had returned from lunch around 2 o'clock. The jurors received the case at 2:45 and brought in their verdict of not guilty around 3:30.

An anti-climax to the case occurred when the two prosecuting witnesses, Belva Haddock and Dolly Mills, cursed the youths and their families, following the trial. The youths and their parents had gathered on the sidewalk in front of the Courthouse when the two witnesses passed back. The Haddock girl, facing the group, said, "There's the black-headed . . . now." The two then walked to the corner of the Courthouse and returned to heckle the youths by saying, "We cost you a lot of money, anyway . . . we only did it for damn meanness."

The April Term of Court was concluded, following the case against the three youths. The entire Civil Docket was continued until the next Term of Court, excepting those cases which were not for jury trial.

Easter Services At Methodist Church Started Thursday

The Easter idea will be carried out in all of the services at the First Methodist Church this week-end and through next Sunday.

The sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be administered Thursday evening at 8 o'clock. It will be remembered that it was on Thursday evening of Passion Week that Jesus instituted this supper, and it is in keeping with that eventful hour that the service is being held. Good Friday services will be held Friday evening at 8 o'clock, at which time the pastor, the Rev. B. C. Reavis, will preach, using "The Words of Jesus on the Cross" as the subject of the sermon.

On Easter Sunday morning the Easter idea will be carried out in all departments of the church school and at 11 a. m. special Easter music will be rendered by the choir and the sermon by the pastor will be entitled "Easter, and Its Message of Hope." At the morning service members will be received into the church both by baptism and vows and by certificate. At 4 p. m. there will be a baptismal service in the main auditorium of the church for any who wish to dedicate their children to the Lord in holy baptism. At this time the children will be baptized with water from the Jordan River in the Holy Land. At 7:15 p. m. the young people of the church will meet in the auditorium of the educational building for worship, prayer and meditation.

At 8 p. m. an Easter pageant by Vera Whinery with incidental music by I. E. Meredith will be given by the children and young people of the church. This will take the place of the regular Sunday evening service and promises to be a most worth while program.

COUNTY MISSION STUDY CLASS TO BE HELD ON APRIL 28

The County-wide Mission Study Class of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Baptist Church will be held at the Hertford Baptist Church on Wednesday afternoon, April 28, beginning at 2:30 o'clock. Please note the change of date and the hour of meeting.

GONE AGAIN

Isaac Johnson, Negro, convicted in Perquimans Superior Court on a charge of forgery, has escaped jail for the second time within a week. Johnson and two other prisoners escaped, only to be recaptured by the local officers last week. However, in the jail break this week Johnson alone left the building. The break was discovered Wednesday morning when the officers arrived at the jail to feed the prisoners. It has not been learned just how Johnson escaped, as he was locked in a separate cell late Tuesday night.

Three other prisoners, awaiting commitment to the roads, elected to remain in jail and not follow Johnson in his flight.

Health Service Now Treating Draftees In Veneral Clinic

The Perquimans County Health Department, functioning now with nearly complete service for over a month, reports this week that it is treating 77 patients in the veneral disease clinic. The clinic was opened on March 17. Many of the patients are those deferred by the local Draft Board. Twelve other registrants have been put under treatment by private physicians or by clinics elsewhere. Others will be brought under treatment as blood tests, surveys and contact examinations discover those in need of this treatment. Clinics are held every Tuesday afternoon.

Other clinics now being held by the department includes Food Handlers and Domestic Servant Clinics. These are held Wednesday afternoons. Health cards are issued only by the Health Department, but the required physical examination and vaccinations for typhoid fever and smallpox may be given by the family physician. Health cards must be held by the employer, and are good only for employment in the same position until cards expire.

Pre-school clinics have been completed at all white schools and at colored schools in Hertford and Winfall. These clinics will be continued and will be held at every school in the county.

Vaccinations of school children are being conducted in all schools and each child will have an opportunity to obtain necessary vaccinations for typhoid fever, diphtheria and smallpox before the close of school.

A general vaccination clinic is held at the Health Department on Saturday mornings from 9 o'clock to 12, and vaccinations may be obtained then by any who are unable to get them at the schools, or who may miss these vaccinations.

Well-baby and prenatal clinics will be started as soon as the rush of doing necessary work in the schools has been completed. Tuberculosis control work will also be undertaken.

Sanitation work is progressing, and the Perquimans County Health Department has been placed on the honor roll of departments in which restaurants and other grading meets State requirements, by the State Board of Health.

Mrs. Jonas W. Futrell 2nd Vice President Of State PTA Congress

Mrs. Mayon Parker, district director of the North Carolina Congress of Parent-Teachers, was in Charlotte last week attending the State Convention.

Mrs. J. W. Futrell, of Hertford, also of District 9, was elected second vice-president of the State Congress. The newly-elected president of the organization is C. W. Phillips, of Greensboro.

Mrs. Parker appeared on the program with other State directors in a round table discussion of "Local Projects for Child Protection."

Dates were set at the Convention for the Summer Institute to be in Greensboro at Woman's College June 25-July 1. Mrs. Parker urges all P. T. A. groups in District No. 9 to make plans now for sending a representative.

EASTER SERVICES AT BERA

Services at Berea Christian Church on Easter Sunday will be as follows: Sunday School, Bible Lesson at 11 a. m. At 12 noon and at 7:45 p. m., the Rev. Charlie Harrison of Atlantic Christian College, will preach. The public is invited to attend all these services.

Drainage Of Bear Swamp Begins Soon Bonner Announces

Total Conservation Project Involves Almost \$70,000

Congressman Herbert C. Bonner, in a letter to The Weekly, states that he had a lengthy conference late last week with Arnold Davis, executive assistant, and A. E. Jones, chief of operations, of the Soil Conservation Service, Department of Agriculture, discussing the Bear Swamp drainage project in Chowan and Perquimans counties. The Soil Conservation Service, according to Mr. Bonner, has definitely agreed to proceed with four miles of drag line work on the main canal in the Bear Swamp area, with an understanding that every possible assistance will be given by local interests in this initial phase of the entire project.

Dr. Hugh H. Bennett, chief of the Soil Conservation Service, is most enthusiastically interested in the project, as well as are other officials in the Department of Agriculture, and Mr. Bonner feels confident that great benefit will be derived from the small part of this work that is now being initiated. He expressed the hope that all in the community will be so interested and appreciative of the assistance they are now receiving as to thoroughly organize the whole area for the purpose of eventually completing the entire project.

Dr. Bennett's office last week contacted contractors, asking for bids on drag line work for four miles of the project, which he stated upon completion will show immediate results.

A detailed survey has been made of the Bear Swamp project and complete descriptions of the project are on file in the Washington and regional offices. The drainage district commissioners have signed a memorandum of understanding and working agreement, whereby the Service approves the agreement with the Bear Swamp Drainage District, which provides that a complete construction job of the main ditch and laterals will be undertaken. It also provides that the Service will spend about \$35,000 and the local people about \$17,000 on the main drainage work and laterals. In addition, the farmers would spend an estimated \$18,000 on farm drainage installations, making a total project cost of \$70,000 and establishing a 50-50 cooperative basis as a general policy.

Funeral Services Conducted Friday For Henry Godfrey

Funeral services for Henry Clay Godfrey, of Hertford, Route Three, were conducted Friday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock, at the New Hope Methodist Church, with the Rev. J. D. Cranford officiating.

Mr. Godfrey, who was 69 at the time of his death, died at State Hospital in Raleigh, at 1 o'clock, on Wednesday, April 14, following several years of illness. He was a native and life-long resident of Perquimans County.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Mary Godfrey; two daughters, Mrs. Earl Whitehurst of Elizabeth City, and Mrs. Elsie Banks of Woodville; five sons, Linwood Godfrey of New Hope, Wilbert Godfrey of Norfolk, Va., Woodrow Godfrey of Woodville, Walter and H. C. Godfrey of Elizabeth City; four sisters, Mrs. Emma Colson, Mrs. Lena Simons and Mrs. Elmira Layden of New Hope, and Mrs. Alice Tillett of Camden; four brothers, J. T. Godfrey of New Hope, Octavius Godfrey of Salisbury, A. D. and A. L. Godfrey of Woodville. Several grandchildren and many nieces and nephews also survive.

Good Friday - Easter Services At St. Ann's

Good Friday, April 23, 3 p. m., devotion of "The Seven Last Words"; 8 p. m., Stations of the Cross, Rosary, choir rehearsal.

Holy Saturday, April 24, Confessions 4 to 6 p. m., and 7:30 to 9:30.

Easter Sunday, April 25, sunrise service mass 6:30 a. m., second mass 8:30 a. m., third and last mass 11, sermon on "The Easter Communion" and Holy Communion at all the masses. Confessions Easter morning 6 to 6:25, 7:30 to 8:25, 10 to 10:55. Everybody is invited to all the services at St. Ann's Catholic Church, corner of N. Broad and Albemarle Streets, Edenton, by the Reverend Father F. J. McCourt, Pastor.

Special Easter music and singing Sunday.

Traffic Violators Face Heavy Fines In Recorder's Court

Judge Issues Warning Tuesday; Large Docket This Week

Motorists convicted of speeding and driving drunk in the Perquimans County Recorder's Court from now on can be prepared to pay heavy fines, according to Judge Charles E. Johnson, who announced in Court on Tuesday: "In accordance with rules outlined by the National Government relative to speed limits, while our State has not yet lowered the limit, persons convicted in this Court of the charge can expect to pay a fine of \$25 and costs, and those convicted of driving drunk will not be given the usual fine of \$50 and costs, but can expect a heavier fine." Judge Johnson stated he was making this announcement for the benefit of motorists, patrolmen and the clerk of court.

Although there were thirty cases on the docket when court opened Tuesday morning, following a recess of a week due to Superior Court being in session, only one-half day was needed to hear two-thirds of them and the balance was continued until the next term of court.

Continuing its efforts to aid the Government in seeing that all able-bodied men were working, the Court sentenced James Green, Negro, to 30 days on the roads, on finding him guilty of vagrancy. Green testified he had worked two days in the past two weeks. The Court also ordered a warrant issued for Haywood Goodwin, a white man who had been reported as failing to have a job.

Other cases disposed of included a charge of larceny against Oneida Riddick, Negro. She was found guilty and sentenced to 30 days in jail.

Walter Hancock was found guilty of reckless driving and, the State took a nol pro in the cases charging James Lamb and Joseph Shugar with reckless driving.

Joseph Eberhardt paid a fine of \$100 and costs of court after pleading guilty to driving drunk.

Wilbur Phthisic, charged with being drunk, was returned to jail to await a hearing next week, when Judge Johnson ruled the defendant appeared in court under the influence of liquor.

A motion of non suit was allowed

(Continued on Page Two)

Town Board Without Opposition Coming Election Of Offices

When the official filing time for candidates in the coming town election had elapsed last Thursday only the present members of the Board had filed their names as candidates, and paid the usual \$5 filing fee, thus the Primary, scheduled for April 24, will not be held and the election on May 4 will be but a formality.

Mayor V. N. Darden and the four commissioners, W. H. Harcastle, Z. A. Harris, B. C. Berry and M. J. Gregory, will be returned to office without opposition. However, during the election on May 4th, voters will pass upon a bill calling for the tenure of the offices to remain at two years or to be extended to four years.

Little interest has been manifested in the election and it is doubtful if many voters will appear at the polls. However, the residents are urged to vote in order to express their opinions regarding the term of the officers.

Farmers Urged To Attend Meetings On Soil Conservation

L. W. Anderson, County Agent, this week urged farmers of the county to attend the series of meetings to be held, beginning next Monday night relative to establishing a soil conservation district in Perquimans and Chowan Counties.

The meetings will be held Monday night at Hertford; Tuesday night at Belvidere, and Wednesday night at New Hope. The meetings will start at 8:30 o'clock. A representative of the State Conservation Service will give explanations on the work of soil conservation districts.

If sufficient interest is shown in these meetings next week plans for establishing the local district will be pushed forward.

COMMITTEE ANNOUNCES COUNTY NEAR WAR BOND QUOTA; STRIVING FOR BOMBER

Perquimans Victory Corps Established At High School

The name of Air Scout Patrol has been assigned to the Victory Corps, now completely established at the Perquimans County High School, E. T. Johnson, Superintendent, announced this week. The Victory Corps, in addition to carrying on extra activities, have constructed an obstacle course on the school grounds and are now following a strict routine of physical exercise.

This obstacle course, a form of exercise now famous in all army camps, is believed to be the first one constructed by Victory Corps in Northeastern North Carolina.

The local Victory Corps is under the direction of Don King, Boy Scout executive of Elizabeth City.

Sales Total \$109,881 Up To Tuesday Night; Quota \$125,900

Perquimans County is nearing its Second War Loan quota, according to an announcement made on Tuesday evening by R. M. Riddick, chairman of the War Finance Committee. A total of \$109,881.25 worth of bonds had been sold or pledged through the War Finance Committee up to that time. The quota given Perquimans is \$125,900.

In connection with the pledges the War Finance Committee has turned over to the local bank, Mr. Riddick urges all residents of the county who pledged to buy bonds during this month to purchase same in order that Perquimans County may get full credit for sales during April.

The Finance committee and the Women's Division of the War Savings Staff is hoping that total sales for the month will equal an amount great enough that Perquimans County will be given a bomber as a name-sake. Mrs. Roberson, speaking of the bomber campaign, said: "I believe that Perquimans will get its bomber, for I think the people of the county will rally to this cause and buy additional bonds in order that the goal may be achieved."

In addition to the sale of War Bonds, the Women's Division sold over \$350 worth of stamps and bonds at their booths during the past weekend, Mrs. Roberson reported. The booths, built by members of the Future Farmers of America, are located on the downtown streets, making it easy for people to purchase War Stamps. The Women's Division is urging all children and adults with Stamp books to fill out these books during April and turn them in for War Bonds.

Mr. Riddick highly praised the various township solicitors, who have done a splendid job in making a house-to-house canvass gathering bond pledges during the drive. Although some townships have made incomplete reports, the chairman stated that most of the reports are in.

During the first two days of the drive Perquimans County bought ninety-five thousand dollars worth of War Bonds. Some sixteen thousand dollars worth of bonds must be purchased yet, if the county is to meet its war loan quota, and sixty-six thousand dollars worth of bonds must be purchased if Perquimans is to be honored by having a bomber named for the county. The War Finance Committee believes the county's quota will be reached before this weekend, but is hopeful that the citizens will respond to the drive for a bomber and purchase additional bonds before the campaign closes April 30.

Resident Of Bethel Died Friday; Funeral Held Sunday 4 P. M.

Edlow Long, 88, died at his home in the Bethel Community Friday afternoon at 4:15 o'clock, following a long illness.

Funeral services were conducted Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock with the Rev. J. W. Byrum officiating. The choir sang "The Old Rugged Cross" and "Nearer My God to Thee."

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Nancy Sutton Long; two sons, W. F. Long of Edenton, Route 2, and J. C. Yong of South Norfolk, Va.; two half-brothers, J. J. Long of Edenton, and O. C. Long of near Edenton; two half-sisters, Mrs. Clara Williams and Mrs. P. L. Pratt of Edenton; five grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Pallbearers were: R. W. Long, Claude Long, I. C. Long, Ernest Long, Edgar Long and Seth W. Long.

Final Rites For Davis Child Held Tuesday

Lessie Vivian Davis, five-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Davis of Yeopim Station, died at the home of her parents at 6:30 o'clock, Sunday night, after a short illness.

She is survived by one brother, Witchard; one sister, Betty; two half-sisters, Mrs. Willie Sherlock of Weeksville, and Miss Helen Davis of Washington, D. C.

Funeral services, directed by the Lynch Funeral Home, were held on Tuesday afternoon at 4 o'clock at the Bethel Baptist Church. Burial was made in the Bethel Cemetery.

THIS WEEK'S HEADLINES

The final phase of the battle of North Africa, seemingly, got under way Tuesday when the British 8th Army launched an attack against the Axis forces at Enfidaville. This point is the important anchor of the Southern Axis forces. The British troops began the attack during the night and knifed into the Axis lines with infantry troops, while the Allied artillery laid down a heavy barrage.

The Allied air force, led by American flyers, have won a sweeping victory over the Axis airfleet during the past several days. The Allied flyers evidently are trying to prevent the Axis from gaining any strength over Africa, thus paving the way for Axis troops to escape from the attacking Allied ground forces.

The battle fronts were in a lull during most of the week. Little news, excepting increasing German pressure on the Cuban sector, came from Moscow and Berlin had little to report. The situation in the far Pacific was likewise quiet. However, American headquarters in the Pacific issued a warning that the Japs may attempt to strike a hard offensive blow while American forces are engaged in the battle of Africa.

Much speculation was going on among the "specialists on the Far East" following an announcement from Japan that Tojo had shaken up his Japanese cabinet, placing so-called pro-British and pro-American in the office of foreign minister. Some believed Tojo, foreseeing the Axis defeat, will try to wrangle a peace note to sever from the Japs.

Price Administrator Prentiss M. Brown announced this week that Ration Books No. 3 will be issued by mail sometime during June and July. These books will be issued to replace Books I and II and will not be used for additional rationing of other items. The books will carry stamps for canned goods, meats, shoes and sugar. Applications will be mailed by local boards to residents who must return applications not later than June 10.

Tire Certificate Declared Void By Rationing Board

Miss Helen Coffield, clerk of the Perquimans Ration Board, announced today that a tire certificate, No. 897,206, has been lost in the mails, and is thus void. Dealers should be on the look-out for this certificate and report same to the Board if it is presented for a tire purchase. The permit was issued to Preston Hall.

Employees of the local Board, Miss Coffield stated, have joined a State-wide OPA "Buy War Bonds" program. Each employee of the local office has pledged to buy war bonds each pay day.

Tire certificates issued this week pass as follows:

Passenger Type, Grade I—S. M. Long, 3 tubes; A. L. Godfrey, 1 tube; G. D. Goddis, 2 tubes; W. I. Bullinger, 2 tires and 1 tube; James Kynock, tire and tube; Walter Nowell, 2 tires. Grade II—Ruth Jones, 2; E. Stallings, 2; Addie Hoffer, 2; Sidney White, tire and tube; Delmar Spear, 1; Willard Hurdle, tire and tube; W. F. Tarleton, tire and tube.

Truck—Town of Hertford, tire and tube; Riddick & Roach, 2 tires and 2 tubes; W. L. Jessup, 3 tires and 3 tubes; Wallace Bright, 1, and Julian White, 2.