

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

Volume XXI—Number 9.

Hertford, Perquimans County, North Carolina, Friday, February 26, 1954.

5 Cents Per Copy

Ag Conservation Program Payments NOW Being Made To 688 Local Farmers

Checks To Individuals And Firms Amount To \$33,663.31

Through the 1953 Agricultural Conservation Program \$11,522.34 is now being brought into the county through checks to 688 farmers, announced Leonidas L. Lane, Chairman of the Perquimans County ASC Committee. Also Mr. Lane reported that under this program credit for conservation services and materials was received by business concerns in the amount of \$22,140.97. A total of 631 farms in the county were assisted in using liming materials on crops and pastures, fertilizer on pastures, establishing and improving permanent pastures, sowing small grain and sowing winter cover crops.

The lime and fertilizer applied to the soil improved conditions which in turn resulted in an increase in the production of crops and improvements in pasture and forage. Farmers of Perquimans County have found that using winter cover crops as a regular practice in their farming system is a sure step to continued production.

The intent of the 1953 AC Program was to obtain the greatest possible conservation with available funds, and to assist farmers in increasing conservation activities on their farms.

Peggy Harrell And Lois Byrum Winners Of 4-H Contests

Miss Peggy Harrell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. T. Harrell was crowned Miss Perquimans High of 1954 and Miss Lois Byrum, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Byrum, was crowned Miss Grammar School of 1954 at the annual 4-H Club Beauty Contest held at Perquimans High School on Thursday, February 18.

Runners-up in the high school contest were fifth place, Jean Edwards; fourth place, Jean Edwards; third place, Marjorie Brinn; second place, Lois Violet Winslow.

Runners-up in the Grammar School Contest were third place, Wyndia Lynn Chappell, and second place, Julie Lane.

The theme this year was "Beauty In The Carolina Moonlight." Stage decorations included a huge moon which each contestant stepped through as she came on the stage.

Bobby Smith, contest chairman, served as master of ceremonies. Myrtle Gordon Williams, president of the High School Club and also County Council president, gave the welcome. The chief usher was Wallace Baker, Jr., an active member of the High School Club.

Included in the chorus and those helping the usher were: Deborah Nixon, Iris Wilder, Beth Skinner, Mabel Wrae Matthews, Nancy Lane, Alma Jane Godfrey, Jean Keel, Gail Pierce, June Faye White, Jane Keel, Julia Mae Boyce, Myrna Skinner, Jean Hunter, Lucy Lamb, Lois Ann Hurdle, Laura Ellen Elliott, Alice Owens, Annie Reed Stokely and Frances Byrum.

Paula Smith and Carter Rogerson were the crown bearers, and the pianist was Jean Long.

There were seven talent acts, including Wayne White, the Elizabeth City Majorettes, Margaret Ann Banks, Johnny Phillips, Nellie Sumner, Georgia Perry and the chorus.

The grammar school girls in the contest were Betty Brown, Helen Sutcliffe. (Continued on Page Five)

Rotarians To Fete H. S. Athletic Teams

Hertford Rotary Club will honor the players, managers, and coaches of Perquimans High School football and basketball teams at a dinner to be held at the Hotel Hertford on Tuesday evening March 2, it was reported today by C. R. Holmes, president of the club.

A. W. Hefren, Max Campbell and Dr. A. B. Bonner compose a committee on arrangements for the event which will pay tribute to the two teams on the splendid record achieved during the past athletic seasons. The football team was outstanding in the state, winning the Northeastern championship, and lost a close battle for the eastern state title. The basketball team has won the Albemarle Rural Conference championship with a record of 14 victories and no losses, and this week are competing in the conference tournament.

A member of the Athletic Department of the University of North Carolina will be the guest speaker at the dinner.

State Playoff Here

Perquimans High School has been awarded one of the first round tournaments in the State Basketball Elimination play-offs, it was announced on Tuesday by E. C. Woodard, school principal, who stated the tourney will be played in the local gym on Thursday and Friday nights, March 4 and 5.

Four teams, Williamston, Colerain, Belhaven and Perquimans have been assigned to compete in the tournament here. Williamston will meet Colerain at 7:30 o'clock Thursday night while Perquimans will play Belhaven at 9 o'clock the same evening.

The winners of these two games will play Friday night for the right to advance to the next round of play in the state eliminations.

Both the winners and runners-up of the local tournament will be awarded trophy cups and the right to play in the next round of the elimination.

Board Of Education In Special Meeting On Building Project

Members of the Perquimans County Board of Education met in special session in the office of Superintendent of Schools on last Monday night for the purpose of reviewing a survey of local school building needs, and considering plans for a construction program to be carried out in cooperation with the State system from funds to be supplied through the sale of State bonds.

The first of these projects, construction of an addition at the Perquimans Central Grammar School, has been approved, and J. W. Griffith, architect for the project, reported to the Board sketches of plans for this project have been presented the State Board for its approval.

A survey of needs for every school in the county was reviewed at this meeting and recommendations of this survey are to be presented to the State Board for allocation of funds to Perquimans County. The amount of funds allocated by the State will be the determining factor in the number of the projects and recommendations to be carried out under the present building program.

A letter was read to the Board advising that G. E. Crawley of the State Department of Education will visit this county Wednesday, Thursday and Friday for the purpose of making a complete survey of all present school bus routes.

Mr. Biggers, Superintendent, reported to the Board that Mrs. Annie Ray Moore, Health Educator, spent part of last week visiting classrooms in the grammar schools and consulting with teachers on the subject of health education and pre-school clinics.

Norwood Elliott Honored At E. C. C.

A Perquimans County student, Norwood Elliott, of Chapanoke, has been designated as "Mr. Student Teacher" of East Carolina College for 1954, according to an announcement received here last week.

Elliott, a graduate of Perquimans High School, was chosen for the high honors from a list of nominees by a committee composed of two students, two faculty members and the Dean of Men.

In a letter notifying Elliott of his selection for the honor, C. R. Brewett, E. C. C. Director of Student Personnel writes, "In view of the very fine calibre of students who were nominated for this honor I consider it especially noteworthy and something that should esteem highly."

As Mr. Student Teacher, Norwood will be ECC's official delegate at a meeting of the North Carolina Education Association in Raleigh on March 19th.

World Day Of Prayer Observance Planned

The World Day of Prayer will be observed March 5 by people of every denomination all over the world. The purpose of the day is to invite all Christians in a bond of prayer, and to make an offering for home and foreign missions.

The Hartford churches will observe the day in the Methodist Church at 4 o'clock in the afternoon with Mrs. W. H. Pitt in charge of the service. Everyone is invited and urged to attend.

Hearing Waived By Defendant Charged With Check Forgery

Eleven Cases Are Heard By Recorder At Session Tuesday

James Spruill, 31, Negro of Route 3, charged on two counts of larceny and check forgery, waived a preliminary hearing in Perquimans Recorder's Court last Tuesday and the case was ordered placed upon the docket of the Superior Court. Bond for the defendant was set at \$1,000.

Sheriff M. G. Owens arrested Spruill following an investigation and reports he secured a confession from the defendant in which he admits forging the name of Sarah Virginia Madre and Elizabeth Hall Spruill, his mother, on checks mailed to the women by the County Welfare Department.

Sheriff Owens began the investigation when Superintendent of Public Welfare Edgar White notified him that he had received complaints that the checks had not been received by the two women.

Sheriff Owens obtained the cancelled checks and compared the endorsements with the handwriting of the two women. He then obtained handwriting of Spruill and compared it with the handwriting on the checks in question. Spruill then confessed to taking the checks from the mailbox and forging the signatures of the payees and cashing them.

Other cases disposed of during the court session on Tuesday included those of James Bray, Rosaline Whitehurst and Anthony Raia, each of whom paid the costs of court after pleading guilty to charges of speeding.

James White, Negro, submitted to a charge of failing to dim lights on his car, and paid the costs of court. A fine of \$25 and costs were taxed against Frank Short who entered a plea of guilty to charges of speeding and driving without a license.

A verdict of not guilty was returned in the case against Buster White, Negro, who was charged with assault with a deadly weapon.

Probable cause was found in the case in which Willow Bay Blanchard, Negro, is charged with assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injuries and the case was moved up to the Superior Court.

A fine of \$2 and costs were taxed against Cornelious Shannon, Negro, who entered a plea of guilty to a charge of being drunk in a public place.

A fine of \$25 and costs were paid by Robert Norfleet who submitted to a charge of reckless driving.

Emma Winslow, Negro, was found guilty on a charge of assault with a deadly weapon and she was sentenced to two days in jail.

Sheriff Owens First Candidate In Local Political Picture

Sheriff Melvin G. Owens today started the political ball rolling in Perquimans County when he announced that he will seek reelection to his office in the May 29 primary.

Owens, who is the first to officially announce his candidacy for an office in Perquimans County, was elected as sheriff in 1946.

With the exception of serving thirty-eight months in the armed forces, Sheriff Owens has been serving as a law enforcement officer since 1930. Having served with the Hertford Police Department and deputy sheriff of Perquimans County.

Sheriff Owens states that he appreciates the wonderful support given him in the past and hopes that the voters of Perquimans County will continue to support and re-elect him.

Fatal Accident Ruled Unavoidable

Perquimans County's second fatal highway accident of this year occurred at about 10 o'clock last Saturday night in front of the Perquimans Training School near Winfall when Will White, 65, Hertford Negro, was struck by an auto driven by Norman Gatling, Negro. White died of injuries on arrival at Chowan Hospital.

According to Sheriff M. G. Owens and Patrolman W. B. Riddick, who investigated the accident, White was riding a bicycle toward Winfall at the time of the collision. Gatling told the officers he was traveling in the same direction as White and failed to see the bicycle and rider until just before the collision.

No charges were filed against Gatling, and the accident was ruled unavoidable.

Indians And Squaws Close Cage Season With Double Wins

Howard Williams Hits For 31 Points In Final Contest

Perquimans High School's basketball teams closed their 1954 season last Friday night winning a double victory over the Camden girls and boys. The Squaws avenged an earlier defeat from Camden by trouncing the Camden girls 53 to 47. Mary Winslow, with 20 points, led the Perquimans scoring. Edwards hit for 13, Russell 9, White 8 and Stokes three. Pat Meiggs, with 28 points was the mainstay in the Camden offensive. Meiggs fouled out of the game shortly before the close of the third period.

The Squaws led 14-13 at the close of the first period and dropped behind 29-23 at halftime. Coach Perry changed his team's tactics in the second half and the Squaws trailed 37-35 at the end of the third quarter. In the final canto the local girls, sparked by some good shooting by Russell hit for 18 points while holding Camden to only 10 tallies.

The victory assured the Perquimans girls fourth place in the final conference standing.

Howard Williams and John Morris played their final season's game as members of the Indian squad. Williams sparked the Indians to an easy 65-45 victory scoring 31 points. He tallied 15 points during the first half and 16 in the second half of the contest. Coach Perry used his regulars during the first two periods; the Indians rolling up a lead of 18-6 in the first chukker and moving to a 36-14 advantage at half time. White, Ross, Phillips and Winslow saw action during the second half, replacing Towe, Allen and Mathews. Camden scored 18 points in the third period to close the gap to 48-32 but the superiority of the Indians could not be overcome.

In the final period the Indians tallied 17 points while Camden hit for 13 points.

Scoring for Perquimans was as follows: Williams 31, Morris 2, Mathews 15, Towe 8, Allen 4, Winslow 5. For Camden Staples with 14 points was high man for his team while Williams was second with 11 points.

Perquimans Indians Favored To Cop Tourney Title

The Perquimans Indians, undefeated in conference play during the past season, are favored to win the Albemarle Rural Conference tourney being played this week-end at Camden High School gym.

The Indians are ceded number one in the tournament and will play Moryock, eighth seeded team, Thursday night at 7:30 o'clock. The Perquimans girls' team ceded fifth in the girls' division, play against Weeksville on Thursday night at 6:30 o'clock.

Tournament play was started Wednesday night with four games being scheduled. In the boys' division Griggs played Kitty Hawk and Manteo played Weeksville. Manteo girls, ceded number one played Kitty Hawk girls and Central played Griggs.

Other games scheduled Thursday included games between Central and Camden boys and Camden and Moryock girls.

Semi-finals of the tournament will be played on Friday night when winners of the first round games compete for the right to play for the tourney championship on Saturday.

Next Cancer Clinic Scheduled March 5

The Northeastern Cancer Clinic will be held on Friday, March 5, in Elizabeth City, at the Health Center with registration beginning at 1:00. A free chest X-ray will be given to anyone wishing it along with the examination of the five areas of the body where cancer is most easily found and cured. There are no limitations as to sex, race, physical or economic status at the center. However, there are age requirements. Women should be 35 or more; men should be 40 or over unless referred by a doctor, or unless one of the "Seven Danger Signals or Symptoms" are present. Only 30 people can be seen at the Center each month due to limited facilities, so it is suggested that anyone who wishes to be assured of an appointment should write the Cancer Center, Elizabeth City, N. C. for a priority. Examinees are asked to bring a robe or housecoat with them.

Edenton Road Street Project Started This Week; New Width To Be 36 Feet

No Loss Reported In School Break-in

Thieves broke into the Perquimans Training School at Winfall on Thursday night of last week, according to a report released this week by Sheriff M. G. Owens, but no loss was reported in the attempted robbery.

Entrance to the building was gained by the intruder by forcing a door in the east side of the building. It is believed the robber was seeking money as several locked closet doors and desk drawers were jimmied open and some damage resulted to the door frames and desks.

Sheriff Owens stated he has secured some finger prints from the scene and will continue his investigation of the break-in.

Division Captains Named For Annual Red Cross Drive

Preparations for the annual Red Cross Membership drive in Perquimans County are being completed this week by Henry C. Stokes, Jr., and George Fields, co-chairmen of the campaign. They announced yesterday the drive will get underway next week with volunteer workers making house to house canvass to raise the county quota of \$1,289.

In announcing the opening of the drive Mr. Stokes and Mr. Fields stated the volunteer solicitors will be directed by team captains. Bobby Elliott will supervise the solicitors for the business area; Mrs. Julian A. White, Hertford residential area and Miss Kimsey Perry, rural communities. W. C. Stroud will supervise solicitors for the Colored division and he will be assisted by Mrs. M. B. Taylor.

As previously announced the national budget for the Red Cross has been cut for this year, and in line with this cut the quota assigned Perquimans County is less than last year. The co-chairmen of the campaign are hopeful the 1954 drive for funds can be organized quickly and the quota reached within a short time.

C. P. Morris, chairman of the Perquimans Chapter of the Red Cross also announced today the resignation of Mrs. Blanche Kanoy as treasurer of the chapter. J. Emory White has been named to the office.

Baseball Fans To Meet Next Tuesday

Baseball fans of Perquimans County, interested in seeing a home-talent team organized to play in a revived Albemarle League during the coming summer, are asked to meet in the Court House in Hertford at 8 o'clock next Tuesday night, March 2.

Interest in reviving the Albemarle League is current in several communities of this section, and at a meeting held last week in Edenton representatives from Elizabeth City, Colerain, Plymouth, Edenton and Hertford discussed the possibilities of organizing the league this year.

Preliminary plans agreed to for the present calls for each team to be composed of home talent, none of whom are to be paid players. Promoters seeking to revive the league believe baseball can be offered to the various communities under these plans.

A. W. Hefren and P. Edgar Morris represented Hertford at the meeting in Edenton and they have called for the meeting here next Tuesday to determine the amount of interest, if any, local fans have in seeing this county operate a "home player" team during the next summer. All baseball fans are asked to attend the meeting next week and voice their opinions concerning the organization of a team for this county.

Ruritan Club Offers Use Of Hospital Bed

The Durants Neck Ruritan Club held its regular meeting on February 17 at the New Hope Community House. Following a business session during which reports were made by various committees, Jo Tunnell, Vocational Teacher at Perquimans High School, showed a movie on the procedure of vaccinating dogs.

It was announced during the meeting the club has secured a hospital bed, the use of which is being offered free to any white family in Perquimans County.

The Education committee of the club, it was announced, will have charge of the program at the club's next meeting.

Highway Commission Is Cooperating With Improvement

Another street widening project was started in Hertford this week, when employees of the town began work on widening of the street from the State Highway Commission and made into a 36 foot thoroughfare.

The town employees will, in preparing the right-of-way, move back water lines, utility poles and will remove some trees along the street which now block the proposed right-of-way. Just as soon as this work is completed crews from the State Commission will move in to widen and resurface the street.

This much needed project was approved recently by State Highway Commissioner J. Emmett Winslow and when completed is expected to relieve congested traffic conditions. That part of Edenton Road Street from Dobb to Grubb has been incorporated into the State Highway System and the cost of this project, other than preparation of the right-of-way, will be borne by the State Commission.

This is the third street widening project approved for the Town of Hertford within the past year, the other two being located on Church Street starting at Grubb Street and extending to the town limits on the south edge of town. Completion of the work, including resurfacing, is expected sometime this spring.

Cotton Allotments Being Mailed To County Producers

Notices of revised farm acreage allotments and marketing quotas for the 1954 crop of upland cotton are being mailed this week by the County ASC Committee to Perquimans County cotton producers reported Helen Nixon, Office Manager of the Perquimans County ASC.

Congress recently amended the act governing determination of national, state, county and farm cotton acreage allotments. The new legislation gives North Carolina an additional 96,193 acres. Nationally, the increase is from 17,910,448 to 21,379,342. As provided in the new legislation the State ASC Committee apportioned additional acreage directly to farms where necessary to provide each farm with an allotment of the larger of (1) 65 per cent of the average planted acreage of cotton for the years 1951, 1952, 1953; or (2) 40 per cent of the highest acreage planted in any one year during such three-year period except that no allotment was increased to more than 50 per cent of the cropland on the farm. As the majority of farms in Perquimans County already have allotments equal to or greater than that allowed by either of calculations, only 85 farms were effected with a total increase of 55 acres. An additional 69 acres were given to the County ASC Committee to make individual adjustments in cotton farm allotments for 1954. With this additional acreage, the committee was able to bring each farm allotment up to 72 per cent (Continued on Page Five)

Town Officials At Rate Hearing Wed.

A number of officials of the Town of Hertford traveled to Raleigh last Wednesday to attend a public hearing by the State Utilities Commission during which the Virginia Electric & Power Company requested the Commission's authority to increase power rates to individual consumers and communities in some 22 counties of Northeastern North Carolina.

Representing Hertford at the hearing were Mayor V. N. Darden, Commissioners Henry C. Sullivan, Ray White, Town Attorney Charles F. Johnson and Town Superintendent F. T. Britt.

VEPCO seeks authority to increase its rates whereby the users of 200 kw, reported as the average per month, will pay \$6.80 for the power. At the present rate the charge is \$6.25.

Rates for the same amount of power charged by municipalities served by VEPCO, who in turn resell the power to local consumers, have been reported as follows: Enfield \$6.50; Edenton, \$7.25; Elizabeth City, \$6.85; Hertford \$7.25; Robersonville, \$7.50; Scotland Neck, \$7.50. These charges are ones made to residential customers. The same report revealed the REA charge for 200 kw amounts to \$7.50.