

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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Hertford, Perquimans County, N.C., Thursday, March 23, 1978

15 CENTS



EARLY MORNING FIRE — bat house fire resulting in the death of William Gay Allison, 68. The loss are shown on the scene as they com-



MORNING AFTER INVESTIGATION — Friday morning. At far right, trying to determine the cause of the fire. (Staff photos by Kathy M. Newbern)

Man dies in house fire

RABBITS CORNER — William Allison Gay, 68, died as the result of a fire in his home here on the Pasquotank County side of the Woodville community.

The Inter-County Volunteer Fire Department was alerted at 3:38 Friday a.m. to respond to the burning structure. A mutual aid assistance alert was also sent out to

the Elizabeth City Fire Department and the Hertford Volunteer Fire Department.

Firemen said they were unable to remove Gay from the house until after the blaze had been extinguished. His body was then taken to Albemarle Hospital.

Also assisting on the scene were members of the County Rescue

Squad, the Elizabeth City Police Department, and the N.C. Highway Patrol.

A total of six fire vehicles responded. The house and its contents were a total loss. Firemen were back on the scene later Friday morning to try to determine the cause of the blaze.

Holiday fatalities estimated

CHARLOTTE — The N.C. State Motor Club, estimating 12 people may die in traffic accidents on North Carolina highways over the long Easter weekend, urges motorists to drive with extra care during the holiday period.

The toll will be counted during a 78-hour period from 6 p.m. Friday, March 24, until midnight Monday, March 27. Last year, 15 fatalities were recorded for a similar period of time.

Mrs. Ruth Threath, President of the statewide motor club, urges all

motorists to redouble their efforts to observe traffic safety rules, with special emphasis on the 55 mile per hour speed limit.

"That's an excellent prescription for any time of the year," she noted. "But particularly important on a weekend when traffic is expected to be heavy."

Mrs. Threath also suggested that motorists guard against drinking alcoholic beverages when driving and called on all vehicle occupants to sue safety belts available in almost all cars.

"With auto crashes the largest killer of young people in this country it is foolhardy for people not to take the simple step of buckling up."

Violations at the top of the list contributing to accidents are speeding, driving under the influence, failing to yield and unsafe movement.

"The purpose of our predicting the number of fatalities that will occur is to make the traveling public more alert and more safety conscious," Mrs. Threath said.

Governor supports career center idea

The county superintendent of schools from Edenton-Chowan, Perquimans, and Gates and Board of Education members of the respective counties met on March 1 with Joe Pell, Executive Assistant to Governor Jim Hunt, to discuss the proposed tri-county career center for the three-county area.

Walter B. Jones Jr., Eastern Representative for the Governor's office, said, "Governor Jim Hunt commends this group for its interest in education and this project has the full support of the Governor. And, at the present time, the Governor's office is conducting a study to secure funding." Jones continued, "The Governor's office will be working jointly with the State Board of Education and Dr. Craig Phillips as well as the other related agencies." Jones, who resides in Farmville, N.C., will act as a coordinator between the three-county local group and the Governor's office.

Schools begin statewide annual testing program

The Perquimans County school system is preparing to begin countywide testing as well as administration of the statewide Annual Testing program.

The 1977 General Assembly passed two laws which established the Annual Testing Program and the Competency Testing Program. The Annual Testing Program will test students in grades one, two, three, six and nine. The Competency Testing Program will test the eleventh graders.

According to local test coordinator, Paul Ward, testing for grades one and two will begin during the week of April 3. Grade one testing will last five days; grade two testing will last six days. No tests will be given on Mondays or Fridays. All other grades (three, six, and nine) involved in the Annual Testing Program will also be tested starting the week of April 3.

THE ANNUAL TESTING PROGRAM

The Annual Testing Program was designed to insure that each pupil receives the maximum benefit from the educational process and to determine the effectiveness of that process. To determine this, the students in grades one, two, three, six, and nine will be tested across the state during April.

The Governor appointed a testing commission to choose the best tests available for this program. This commission, composed primarily of teachers, but also having other educators and measurement specialists, has examined the

available tests and recommended to the State Board of Education the tests that they feel are best. The State Board of Education made the final decision on the tests that will be used.

The tests for grades one and two that have been chosen are the Prescriptive Reading Inventory (PRI) and the Diagnostic Mathematics Inventory (DMI). These tests are criterion-referenced tests. This type of test is designed to reveal whether or not students have mastered, or learned, certain specific objectives. Criterion-referenced results are reported in terms of the success or failure of students on each objective. This format should provide information on specific skill weaknesses and strengths of students in the areas of reading and mathematics.

The third, sixth, and ninth grades will be administered a norm-referenced test. The State Board of Education has approved the California Achievement Tests (CAT) for use in these grades. It consists of reading, spelling, language and mathematics. This type of test is designed to compare the performance of North Carolina students with the performance of a representative national group called the "norm" group. Scores measured against the performance of a norm group are reported in the form of percentiles, standard scores, grade equivalents, or other derived scores.

The test score, along with a guide for understanding these scores, will

be available at the end of the 1977-78 school year. The results for each child will be sent to the student's parents, teachers, and school. Results that show average scores for the State and various regions within the State will also be available for parents, school people, and law makers. The parents will be able to determine how well their child is doing in comparison with the nation, the State, and/or other similar children within the State.

Teachers and local school personnel have received special training to make sure the tests are administered in the same way all across North Carolina. The State pays for the materials and scoring for the basic testing program.

COUNTY TESTING

Ward added that testing on the local level will also take place during the test period mentioned.

Those grades not included in either of the two statewide testing programs will be tested locally. Grades four, five, seven, eight and ten will take the complete battery of the California Achievement Test (CAT) which includes all tests taken in grades three, six, and nine in addition to a reference skills test and an academic aptitude section. All scoring reports received for the State testing will also be provided for these grades.

NOTE: Information on the Competency Testing Program affecting all eleventh grade students in the state will be released in upcoming issues.

Elected to co-op post

RALEIGH — Edward E. Brown Jr., manager of Albemarle Electric Membership Corporation, Hertford, has been elected secretary-treasurer of the North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives.

He was elected to the post at the 1978 Annual Meeting of the association held in Raleigh. The organization represents all 28 of the state's EMC's.

As manager of the EMC, Brown has been a director of the statewide BMC board since 1974. He served as secretary-treasurer of the organization during the past year, and also sits on the board of N.C. EMC,

which oversees the co-ops' power supply matters.

The Jamesville native joined Albemarle EMC in November, 1973, after serving for about five years on the staff of the statewide BMC organization. He was director of advertising and associate editor-advertising manager of the EMC magazine, Carolina Country.

He has a bachelor's degree from N.C. State University and a master's degree in journalism from UNC-CH.

He is married to the former Jean Andrews of Plymouth and they have two children, Denise and Tripp.



EDWARD E. BROWN JR.

ESC office announces amendments

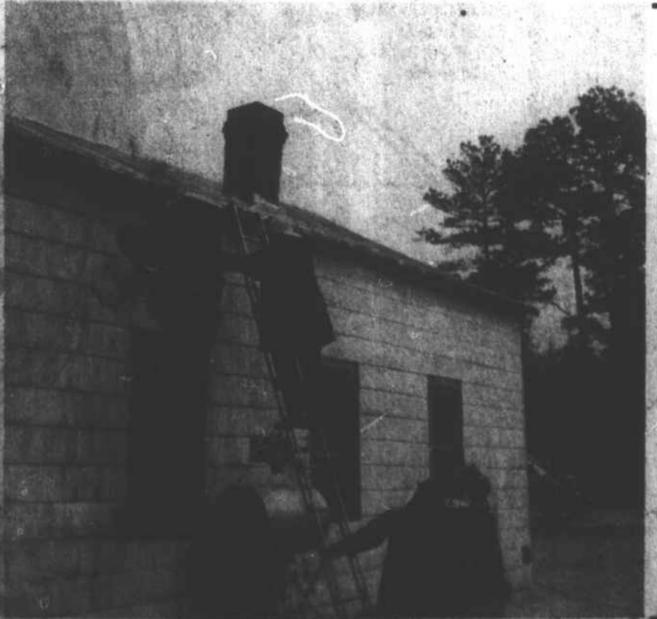
Recent amendments to the General Statutes of North Carolina require some employers of domestic and agricultural workers to pay unemployment insurance for the first time.

Payments are due soon, reports Mrs. Alice Bond, manager of the local Employment Security Commission Job Service Office.

Complying with federal statutes, the General Assembly last year extended unemployment insurance coverage to an additional 262,000 workers in North Carolina including some domestic and farm workers.

Any employer of domestic workers in private homes, college clubs, or college fraternities or

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CHURCH DAMAGED IN FIRE — Bethel and Hertford volunteer firemen responded to a fire call at a small wooden church, one mile south of Hertford on U.S. 17 at around 11 a.m. Tuesday morning. The Disciples Church of Christ received exterior damage and at press time, the full extent of the fire damage had not been determined. (Staff photos by Yvonne Baker)