



# The Blackbird



Published by Journalism Class of Rocky Mount Senior High School

VOLUME XXV

ROCKY MOUNT, N. C. TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1953

NUMBER 1

## Town Meeting Discusses Atomic Power Here For First Time In North Carolina

"Atomic Power — Mankind's Boon or Destruction" is the topic of America's Town Meeting of the Air scheduled for tonight in the senior high school auditorium. The program will be broadcast over the nation through the American Broadcasting Company. This is the first time the Town Meeting program has gone out over the air from a North Carolina city.

Speakers are Dr. Paul Aebersold, director of Isotope Research at Oak Ridge, and Dr. Ralph E. Lapp, Director of Nuclear Science Service in Washington. Moderator is Gunnar Back, a well-known member of ABC network's Washington news staff.

### Originated By Carolinian

Town Meeting was originated by Georgie V. Denny, Jr., a North Carolinian, in 1935. Mr. Denny is largely responsible for the success of the program today. This forum is recognized as the leader in the field of educational programs. It has always been distinctive among radio forums because it permits interplay of expert opinion along with that of experts. An important feature of every program is the audience participation. The studio audience is given the chance to "heckle" the speakers.

Since its beginning, it has continued to bring the radio audience contemporary issues discussed by people who have often been leaders in formulating the policies to be discussed. Participants have come from every field of national importance and have included some of the most outstanding authorities in the United States.

### Received Peabody Award

The program has received over fifty awards and is a two-time winner of the Peabody award, radio's equivalent to the Pulitzer prize.

Doors of the new school auditorium open at 7:30 p. m. tonight for a special program before the regular broadcast at nine o'clock. After the broadcast, the speakers will answer additional questions from the audience.

The local program is sponsored by the Public Affairs Committee and the Rocky Mount Chamber of Commerce.

## Musettes Teach First Grades

Musettes are really "on the ball" this year, having completed several projects already.

At the beginning of the year the Musettes arranged vases of flowers for the new teachers in all of the schools. Posters were also made welcoming the students and teachers back. Many other projects have been planned under the capable advisement of Mrs. Ora VanBuskirk and Miss Ella Moore.

Six of the Musettes substituted as first grade teachers at Braswell school beginning September 16 for three days. These girls—Barbara Sultan, Jessie Pittman, Betty Sue Cash, Peggy Jo Geddie, Nancy Hollingsworth, and Wilma Jean

## Special Choir Sings

### For District Teachers

Members of the senior high school choir have been selected by Mr. Parry to take part in a vocal clinic in connection with the District Teachers Meeting at East Carolina College, October 20-23.

Dr. Keister, the new choral and violin teacher at ECC, will rehearse and direct the choir in the following numbers: *O Lamb of God* by Christiansen; *Lord, To Thee Our Hearts Are Raised* by Glinka; *What God Does, Ever Well Is Done* by J. S. Bach; *Ben Loe County* by James Hall; and *Polly Wolly Doodle* arranged by Charles.

Sopranos are Peggy Jones, Barbara Smith, Connie Taylor, Edith Ann Johnson, Nancy Newbold, Norma Faye Bulluck, Pat Alexander; altos — Betty Brigman, Christine Hufman, Shirley Burnette; tenors—Linwood Pittman, Gordon Waters, Bobby Patterson; basses—George Strickland, Harry Gray, and Dick Norment.

## Harris, Lotz Here For First Assembly

Rebecca Harris and Jack Lotz will present the first paid assembly of the year, a Roth program, to the student body in the new auditorium this Friday. The program consists of choregraphical speaking with narrations. There will be Spanish and Latin American dances with narrations by Jack Lotz.

As of this date only three paid assemblies have been scheduled. They are the program to be given Friday; Rodman, April 30; and Carl Johephs, February 5.

These assemblies cost the students only twenty cents for the year.

## Three Additional Teachers Join RMSHS Faculty



Shown here are three new Rocky Mount senior high school teachers. They are, from left to right, Miss Louise Parker, Latin and psychology, Miss Winifred Harris, dramatics and world history, and Mr. Ernest Black, band director.

Rocky Mount senior high school faculty has three new members this year—one each in the dramatics, Latin and music departments.

Miss Winifred Harris, teacher of dramatics and world history, is a graduate of Rocky Mount high school. She got her A. B. from Salem College in Winston-Salem with a major in French and English.

Under the Fulbright Program through the Institute of International Education, she taught English conversation at the Ecole Normale d'Institute in Jullouville, France. While in France she had a chance to study at the University of Rennes in Brittany.

### Former Wilkinson Teacher

Miss Louise Parker, teacher of Latin and psychology, taught in Wilkinsin School before coming to RMHS. She taught in the schools of Raleigh and Wilson and at Benvenue School in Nash County.

Miss Parker, who is also a RMHS graduate, received her college training at Duke University where she received an A. B. degree. While at Duke she became a member of the Phi Beta Kappa, honorary scholastic fraternity, and the Kappa Delta Pi, national honorary educational fraternity.

### Ex-Paratrooper

Mr. Ernest G. Black, band director, comes to RMHS from Robertsonville, where he was band director last year. Mr. Black is a native of Portsmouth, Va. He served in the Paratroopers for eighteen months in 1946 and can go into the Air Force with a commission if he is called. He graduated from East Carolina College with a major in musical education. He plans to go to graduate school next year to get his Masters degree.

Mr. Black hopes to take the band to the Nash County Parade and to the ECC Homecoming on October 10.

## Clubs Issue Bids To New Members

Two clubs, Service and Good Sports, gave bids to juniors and seniors on Wednesday of last week.

Service Club bids were issued to Margaret Daughtridge, Kay Congleton, Eddie Pennington, Betty Ivey, Johnny Warren, Marty Parvis, Audrey Kennedy, Sue Yeverton, Bobby Wimberly, Sandy Thorpe, Jessie Pittman and Judy Brewer. Of these five are seniors and seven are juniors.

Good Sports bids were received by seniors: Penn Strandbery, Elizabeth Vann, Nancy Hollingsworth, Bunny Crowley, Key Congleton, and juniors: Mimi Brewer, Audrey Kennedy and Sue Yeverton.

Members of the Service Club are chosen on the basis of services done by them for the school. Both girls and boys are eligible for membership. Good Sports members are girls only. They are picked for their outstanding sportsmanship qualities.

## Delegates Attend Red Cross Meet

Dan Johnson and Lucinda Oliver recently attended a Junior Red Cross Leadership Training Center at Camp Green Cove near Hendersonville.

Approximately 140 delegates were present from the eight states in the south-eastern area. Lucinda and Dan were the only delegates from eastern North Carolina.

At the training center the members were given pointers on organizing J. R. C. Councils in their schools. They learned, too, of Red Cross activities in which Junior members may participate at home as well as abroad. Plans are already underway in the Rocky Mount senior high to take part in many of these activities.

Enrollment for membership will be in October and everyone is urged to participate.

## New Contest Begins Here

Dorothy and Bugs Bainger, local professional photographers who are known to all students at the Rocky Mount senior high school, are sponsoring a "Glamor Girl of the Month" contest. A ballot is being printed elsewhere in the Blackbird so you may vote for your choice.

The first contest will close Oct. 15 when all ballots must be in. There is no entrance fee. All you have to do is to clip the ballot from the Blackbird and deposit it at Barringer's, 129 Western Avenue. The winner will be notified. After she is photographed, a large portrait of the winner will be put on display in the window at Barringer's. Be sure to clip your ballot out of the Blackbird today.

## NEWSEES

Tommy is in his sophomore year been named to the Colgate University Dean's list for the coming semester. To be on the Dean's list requires at least a B-plus average for the previous semester.

Tommy is in his sophomore year at Colgate. He entered with an Alumni Memorial Scholarship in 1952.

Nash and Edgcombe boys who are ex-POW's from Korea are to be honored with a parade and banquet sponsored by the Rocky Mount Civic clubs. The date is not yet definite.

Dan Wheelless and Charles Brantley are two of the boys to be honored.

The Rocky Mount high school band and several other units are

to provide music for the occasion.

Constantine George (Deno) Pantelakos has been accepted for the Duke School of Medicine. He has recently completed undergraduate work at Trinity College, Duke University.

Mrs. Ora VanBuskirk, Mr. Earl Privott, Mrs. Gladys Robbins, Miss Irma Vause and Miss Alma Murchison attended the annual joint conference for the Classroom Teachers Association at the Hugh Morson high school in Raleigh, September 19.

Mrs. VanBuskirk is the local PTA president. Mr. Privott and Mrs. Robbins are district chairmen, and Miss Vause and Miss Murchison are local chairmen.