

1930 CENSUS
Roanoke Rapids Township
16,612

THE HERALD

OF THE TWIN CITIES—ROANOKE RAPIDS—ROSEMARY

31 PER CENT
Of Halifax County Population
IN THIS TOWNSHIP

VOLUME 16.

ROANOKE RAPIDS—ROSEMARY, N. C., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11th, 1930.

NUMBER 35.

COUNTY AUDITOR BURIED YESTERDAY

TAKE LAST OF STORE BREAKERS

Willie Taylor, Wanted For Oak Store Robbery, Arrested

Willie Taylor, about 28 years of age of Roanoke Rapids, the last member to be arrested of a gang of robbers who last January entered and robbed the Oak Store of Roanoke Rapids, Monday was taken into custody by Deputy Sheriffs G. F. Gray and L. E. Keeter at the home of his sister Mrs. Sarah Harris, of Roanoke Junction.

Taylor told the arresting officers that he had just about made up his mind to voluntarily surrender to the police. One of the officers replied that it was too late now since he was already arrested.

After the store robbery here Taylor suddenly disappeared. Since that time he had been traveling from place to place evading arrest. A few days ago he returned to his home here it was said that a family disturbance led to his arrest Monday. Taylor, according to information, suspicioned his wife of being untrue to him. A quarrel that ensued reached local officer's ears and Taylor was arrested on the theft charge nearly a year old.

The four men who robbed the local store were Taylor, James and Ernest Peavy and Joe Bates. The latter three were tried at the April term of the Halifax Superior Court, and found guilty. James Peavy and Joe Bates were sentenced to the state penitentiary, at Raleigh, for a period of from two to four years. They are now serving their terms. A petition asking for Peavy's pardon was made recently. Ernest Peavy was sentenced to six months on the county road. This sentence has been completed.

Loot valued at between \$500 and \$700 was obtained by the robbers. Most of the stolen goods was returned.

When it became known that Taylor was implicated in the robbery of officers went to his home here and searched for the stolen goods. Instead of merchandise from the Oak Store they discovered seven pints of contraband liquor hidden in a baby cradle. A charge of violating the dry law was also placed against him. And when he is arraigned in the Halifax Superior court he will answer to this charge in addition to that of theft.

RALEIGH RECTOR IS SPEAKER HERE

Dr. Barber on Program at Banquet Starting Annual Drive For 1931 Budget

Dr. Milton A. Barber, Rector of Christ's Church, Raleigh, was the principal speaker at a meeting of the membership of the local Episcopal Church held in the basement of the Roanoke Rapids Baptist Church last Friday night.

The duties of the church membership from the standpoint of diocese, state and nation were discussed by Dr. Barber. Nearly one hundred members of the local church heard the program and enjoyed the banquet.

W. F. Joyner, representing the vestry, talked on the duties of the members to the local church. Mrs. W. L. Long, representing the Womens Auxiliary told of the duties of the ladies of the church. She pointed out that as members of the auxiliary, they were affiliated with a national organization of thousands of members. James Joyner representing the young peoples Service League, told how the young folks could help the church. The program was preparatory to the annual church budget drive which was held Sunday. Rev. J. N. Bynum opened the program. Music was furnished by the Yellowjacket quartet. Senior Warden, T. W. Mullen, presided.

Miss Evelyn Brown, employee of the Citizens Bank and Trust Company, has been a patient in the Roanoke Rapids hospital.

Milton Spirito of Brooklyn hid under a bed in a hotel with robbery as a motive but fell asleep.

State Auto License Tags Go On Sale At Weldon December 15

State motor license tags for this section of the State will go on sale Monday, December 15, at the headquarters of the Carolina Motor Club in Weldon.

The headquarters are located on First Street and a banner across the street will designate the place to strangers. The tags will be sold from December 15 to January 15.

The price will be the same as last year and cash only will be accepted. Car owners must bring the State license card which is now being mailed out from Raleigh or the title to the car.

The tags for 1931 are gold letters upon a black background, similar to the present New York license tag.

LIFELONG FRIENDS IN FATAL FIGHT

Harry Thompson Under Bond in Death Of David Whitson

Harry Thompson, age 25, was placed under a \$1,000 bond for appearance in the corporation court at Norfolk, in connection with the death of David Whitson, 27, and the case will be set for trial within the next week.

Both young men were from Rosemary. They had been close friends for several years. Thompson was a railroad brakeman and Whitson had worked for Traynham & Grimmer Grocery Co. They left here together a year ago and went to Norfolk. Whitson was married and Thompson was living with the Whitson family in Norfolk.

On November 5th, while the two men were together, Whitson was stabbed near the heart. He died November 15 from pneumonia which developed from the wound, a portion of one lung had been pierced by the knife.

It seems there were no other witnesses to the altercation. The two men left the Whitson home a short time before the trouble. They separated and Thompson says he went to the house of a friend. He states that later on Whitson came to the place and called him out. What started the argument is not clear but the two men were soon engaged in a tussle. Thompson claims Whitson abused and struck him and opened his knife. When the fight was over, the survivor says Whitson had stabbed himself.

In a deathbed statement, ten days later, Whitson, however, told the coroner's investigator, Detective Leon Nowitsky, that Thompson had stabbed him. He also told the detective about the lifelong friendship which had existed prior to the trouble.

After the fight, Thompson took Whitson to his home and continued to stay there with him for several days until the wounded man was removed to a hospital. After the death, Thompson went to jail to await action of the grand jury.

He has employed A. C. Zollicoffer, local attorney, to defend him. Thompson's mother, a sister, Mrs. Carl Green, and a brother, A. B. Thompson, live here. Relatives of Whitson also reside here.

Suffers Scalp Wound When Struck By Auto

Miss Ruby Clary, 20, of South Rosemary, suffered a scalp wound when struck by an automobile while walking along the road at South Rosemary, last Saturday night. She is recovering at the Roanoke Rapids hospital and will be able to return to her home in a few days. The name of the driver of the car was not learned.

Miss Clary figured in an automobile accident near Vulture in Northampton county last October, in which her twin sister, Ruth, and Buddy Thompson were killed. She was injured in the accident and was confined to the local hospital for several days.

Miss Martha Daughtrey and Mrs. W. H. Daughtrey have returned from a visit to friends in Greensboro and Gibsonville.

NEWTRAFFIC POLICE FOR NOON RUSH

Eleven Patrolmen On Duty Each Noon To Regulate Traffic

An inspection of Roanoke Avenue any day at noon will prove that the traffic situation is being kept well in hand by eleven new patrolmen, resident in new belts and official badges.

The new equipment arrived this week from the Carolina Motor Club and the eleven patrolmen are High School boys who are assisting in regulating Avenue traffic while the schools are being dismissed at the noon hour when some two thousand school children at the three buildings are set free.

Police Chief Massey will continue to hold down his position at the corner of Fifth and the Avenue, at the Presbyterian Church. He will probably be assisted by one of the patrolmen. Two patrolmen will be stationed at each of the following intersections: the Telephone Building corner, the corner in front of the High School and the Joyner Motor Co., corner and the Citizens Bank corner.

The boys all have study periods before noon and do not miss classes. They go on duty five minutes before noon and are on until ten minutes after noon. They are meeting every Monday morning to discuss problems which come up during the week. Next Monday morning they will elect permanent officers, a captain and two lieutenants.

Charles Ogletree is acting captain this week and his acting lieutenants are Wilton Brown and Francis Starke. The Patrolmen are Carlton Taylor, James McNeil, Graham Bell, Carl Thompson, Carlton Nethercutt, Marion Floyd, Dallas Shearin and Marvin Arderton.

At chapel this week, the High School pupils agreed to cooperate with the traffic officers by crossing at intersections and not cutting across between corners. There is still some trouble with the younger children who insist on running between the blocks. Parents are asked to insist that their children obey the traffic rules. Motorists are cautioned to obey all signals of the patrolmen. Pedestrians are requested to follow the rules the same as the children thereby setting the proper example.

Rosemary Building And Loan Banquet

O. K. LaRoque, in charge of the Building and Loan Associations of the State, will be the principal speaker at a banquet to be given by the Rosemary Building and Loan Association on the night of December 15. The supper will start at seven o'clock in the Domestic Science Rooms of the High School. About 65 stockholders and guests are expected.

Santa Claus Coming To Local Store

Old Santa Claus in person will arrive in Roanoke Rapids on Saturday morning, December 13, and will be ready to meet all of the children of the community from noon until 8 o'clock that night at B. Marks Department Store.

Manager Norinsky received a radiogram from Santa today stating he would arrive here in time for dinner Saturday. He will probably come by plane. Leaving at midnight for the South, he is making a final trip around before returning to the North Pole.

Meanwhile B. Marks breaks all former records in advertising by carrying a double page ad in The Herald for the fourth time in five weeks telling the world about their Christmas bargains. They invite the old folks to come with the children Saturday afternoon to see Santa.

Warns Dog Owners

Chief of Police Clifton Massey this week issued a warning to all local dog owners that city dog licenses must be paid before December 31. The 1930-31 dog licenses have been due since last July 1.

Clement Kitchin Still Very Ill

Clement Kitchin of Scotland Neck, Representative to the 1931 General Assembly is very ill at a Tarboro Hospital. It is reported he is suffering from pernicious anemia and high blood pressure. It is uncertain at this time whether he will be able to attend the Legislature which meets in January. In case doctors forbid his attendance, a special election will be called if Mr. Kitchin resigns.

WRITER IS JUSTLY MAD

News and Observer Tampers With Weldon-RR Game Writup

The day after the Weldon Town team defeated Roanoke Rapids town team at football, a news dispatch appeared in the Raleigh News and Observer, stating that Weldon High School had defeated Roanoke Rapids High School. The dispatch was dated at Weldon.

Last week, The Herald sports editor took a crack at whomever sent the dispatch, asking them to be more accurate in distinguishing between the teams in the future, calling the action unsportsmanlike, as the two High School teams did not play this year for reasons already explained in this paper.

However, the sender of the dispatch did not like the idea of being termed unsportsmanlike so he got a copy of the wire which he sent to the News and Observer. In that wire he did not mention either High School and the conclusion now is that some smart rewrite man for the Old Reliable fixed things up. Of course, our sports editor could not know this. All he knows is what he saw in the News and Observer under a Weldon dateline. And he knew that hundreds of fans over the State read the same thing.

The Weldon correspondent also is innocent of any wrongdoing and we print herewith a copy of the telegram he sent the Raleigh paper. "Weldon defeated Roanoke Rapids 6-0 in a close, well-fought game at Rosemary today. Both teams played clean football. A large crowd attended. Roanoke Rapids crossed the 50 yard line once but was held for downs on the 40 yard line. Weldon's touchdowns were scored by Partin on a long pass from Hux. Green starred for Weldon."

To the Weldon correspondent, apologies for sports editor Alligood, no criticism.

New Manager

Miss Emilie Cobb, of Rocky Mount, this week took charge of the Roanoke Rapids Beauty Shoppe, located over Hunt's Five and Ten Cent Store. Before coming to Roanoke Rapids Miss Cobb was connected with one of Norfolk's leading beauty parlors. She comes here well recommended in her profession.

Knocks Truck Off

An automobile driven by Bud Martin collided with a truck parked on the side of the road near South Rosemary last Saturday night. The truck was knocked over an embankment, but the extent of the damages could not be learned. The truck was owned by Sam Williams, colored, of Roanoke Rapids. Martin escaped uninjured.

Christmas Trees Here Are Trimmed-Lighted

The huge Christmas tree of the Rosemary Merchants Association was trimmed and lighted by the Power Company last night and will be ablaze every night from now until Christmas. It is one of the largest trees ever used, according to the claims of many. One hundred and fifty large colored lamps were necessary to trim it.

Tonight, the Power Company will light up a smaller tree in Roanoke Rapids, standing in front of the Electric Building. A small space on the Avenue has been roped off by permission of the Town Board to protect the tree from traffic.

DRIVER IS INSTANTLY KILLED

Virginia Man Crushed In Wreck Near Jackson Saturday

Frank Baker, 20, of Newport News, Va., was instantly killed last Saturday night when the automobile he was driving turned over and wrecked on the highway between Conway and Jackson, in Northampton County, about two miles from the latter town. The accident occurred at about seven o'clock. The automobile, a Chevrolet Sedan, was badly damaged.

Baker's injuries consisted of a fractured skull and crushed chest. Following an inquest the Northampton county coroner returned a verdict that the youth died from a fractured skull received in an unavoidable automobile accident. Baker was removed to a local undertaker's establishment, where he was prepared for burial. His body was taken to Goldsboro Sunday night where funeral services were held on Monday. Burial was also made there.

The other occupants of the ill fated machine, one Baker's companion, and the other a sailor, escaped uninjured. Their names were not learned. Baker was driving at the time of the accident, his companion was on the front seat with him and the sailor was the lone occupant of the rear seat. Baker's companion and the sailor gave corroborative testimony at the coroner's inquest with the exception of a slight variation as to the speed of the machine when it wrecked. One of them said he thought it was traveling between 25 and 30 miles an hour while the other said he thought the speed of the car rested between 30 and 35 miles an hour.

It is thought the blinding rain storm of last Saturday night was partly responsible for the accident. The machine ran off the pavement and when Baker attempted to switch it back the car swerved and turned over on its right side. Baker's companion and the sailor pulled themselves from the wrecked car. The injured man had to be extricated.

Baker and his companion, who owned the car, were going from Newport News to Goldsboro, N. C., where Baker's mother was visiting relatives. Mrs. Baker was to have returned to the Virginia city with her son. She was notified by telephone of the accident. Baker's companion told her over the telephone that her son was injured, and she did not learn of his death until her arrival here.

Following the coroner's inquest the sailor and Baker's companion returned to Newport News by bus.

No personal effects were found on Baker's body after the accident. Officers do not harbor the theory of theft or foul play. It was learned that Baker and his companion were close friends. The sailor was a stranger to the two boys. He was hitchhiking along the highway and was picked up by them.

Rosemary Grocery Will Inaugurate Cash Policy

The J. H. Matkins Grocery and Meat Market, at Rosemary, will be operated on a strictly cash basis on and after Monday, December 15, according to an announcement appearing in this issue of The Herald. The firm will eliminate its credit system, which has been in effect for the past five years, Saturday night, December 13, at midnight. Mr. Matkins believes he can better serve his customers and merchandise at lower cost by adopting a cash policy. The Matkins store is one of the oldest grocery establishments in Rosemary.

Clerk S. M. Gary In Hospital Here

S. M. Gary, clerk of the Superior Court of Halifax County, is a patient in the Roanoke Rapids hospital, recovering from a recent appendicitis operation. Mr. Gary spent an "uncomfortable" night Wednesday night, it was learned at the hospital this morning. His condition, however, shows some improvement.

Mrs. Edith Murray of Des Moines drives a coal truck.

We Will Answer All Questions To Our Best Ability

In answer to a question from one of our readers who did not understand clearly our outline of the water, sewerage and incorporation plans last week, we make the following statement.

Not only will the mill villages and lots be taxed for water and sewerage, but the mill plants, machinery and material will also be taxed. The mill officials have gone so far as to include the mills and plants on the river, which will derive no benefits from the sanitary system as they already have water and sewerage.

We will be glad to clear up any other points concerning the plan for the Big City. Just write to The Herald, signing the letter. It will not be necessary for us to use your name in the paper, but you will get the true facts in the case from us and they will be printed for everybody to see.

MOTHER TO JAIL FOR A MONTH

Local White Woman Is Charged With Abandonment

Mrs. Claudia Melton, local white woman, charged with the abandonment of her two children, a son and a daughter, both of whom, officers say, are under 10 years of age, was sentenced to serve 30 days in the Halifax County jail by magistrate R. L. Martin, last Saturday.

Mrs. Melton, another woman, Hattie Thompson, and two men, Peter Birdsong and O. H. Cook, of Gumberry, were arrested in the Melton living quarters located on the second floor of a business building in Roanoke Rapids Wednesday night of last week by Chief of Police Clifton Massey and Deputy Sheriff L. E. Keeter. Mrs. Melton had been living there only a short time it was learned.

The two men and Hattie Thompson were arraigned before Magistrate Martin on disorderly charges. Each was fined \$5 and costs, a total of \$31.50. There was not enough money in the crowd to defray the court expenses and Cook gave Chief Massey a check on the Farmers Bank, of Seaboard, to cover the amount. The three were released and Mrs. Melton was taken to jail.

Wednesday morning the check was returned here marked "insufficient funds." The afternoon of the same day Cook was arrested and lodged in the Roanoke Rapids jail where he will remain until the check is made good.

Woodmen Circle Elects New Officers for 1931

Woodmen Circle, Grove No. 63, of Rosemary held their regular meeting Friday night at which time the following officers were elected to serve the year of 1931:

Guardian, Mrs. Lela O. Bowers, Adviser, Mrs. Addie Hasty; Corresponding and Recording Secretary, Miss Julia E. Braswell; Banker Mrs. Poly Garris; Chairman of Auditors, Mrs. Ada V. Jones, 1 year, Eula E. Davis, 2 years, Mrs. Mattie Williams; Attendant, Mrs. Bessie Lee; Asst., Mrs. Priscilla Davis; Chaplain, Mrs. Ada V. Jones; Inner Sentinel, Mrs. Jimmie Buffalo; Outer Sentinel, Mrs. Eleanor Garris.

Delay Hotel Drive

Further plans for the hotel are being delayed until various corporations planning to subscribe stock get official sanction from the various boards of directors. Individual subscriptions are still needed to the amount of approximately one thousand dollars.

New Store Fronts

New store fronts are being put in the set of buildings this side of the Taylor and Collier Grocery Building the avenue. Some four store rooms are being done over both outside and in, improving the looks of that section of the business block very much.

HAWKINS DEATH IS SUDDEN

Popular Young County Auditor Dies From Pneumonia

Garnett A. Hawkins, 32 years old, Halifax County Auditor, was buried yesterday afternoon after his sudden death early Tuesday morning from pneumonia.

News of the shocking death spread through the county Tuesday and cast a cloud of gloom and sorrow. He was at his post of duty last Friday at the courthouse and went home feeling bad. Late that afternoon his condition was such that he was carried to a Rocky Mount hospital where he became rapidly worse and never rallied until his death early Tuesday.

Hundreds of people from every part of the county attended the funeral. Members of the Junior Order United American Mechanics, of which the deceased was a member, attended the services in a body and in regalia. The funeral services were preached by Rev. W. C. Wilkins at the residence in Halifax and internment was in the Pepper family cemetery near Hawkins Chapel. The deceased was a member of the Hawkins Chapel Methodist church.

The pallbearers were Messrs N. J. Sheperd, W. F. Joyner, N. W. Warren, N. L. Stedman, W. T. Clement, J. T. Futrell, Waldo Whitaker and T. H. Parrish.

Honorary pallbearers were S. M. Page, O. R. Elmore, W. G. Woodruff, J. A. Lipscomb, W. E. Fuller, W. E. Ross, R. R. Butts and E. W. Wright, J. L. Bell, L. G. Shell, A. E. Akers and Sheriff G. H. Johnson. Flower girls were Undine Hux, Clem Reid, Miss Dickens, Mrs. W. L. Johnson, Mrs. Norman, Mrs. H. B. House. There were many beautiful flowers.

Mr. Hawkins was the son of the late deputy Sheriff Charles M. Hawkins and Eudora Pittard Hawkins and was born and reared in Hawkins Chapel vicinity. As a younger man, he left the farm and served several years as tax collector in Faucetts and other townships of the county. In 1925 he was appointed Auditor of Halifax County by the board of County Commissioners and has served in that capacity ever since. Each year he became a more valuable man to the county, his duties and power were extended and he had recently been granted a raise in salary by the commissioners in recognition of extra work he was performing.

It has been said that he knew more about county affairs than any other man in the county and was considered by many as the most valuable official the county ever had.

He is survived by his wife and one young daughter; his mother, and several brothers and sisters. His wife was to ill to attend the funeral.

Mr. Hawkins was very popular in Roanoke Rapids and Rosemary. Although he was kept at his desk most of the past five years, there were many here who came in contact with him in a business way and had learned to admire him for his many sterling qualities. A young man, a splendid accountant, a hard worker, with a most pleasing personality, he was destined to go far in the business and political life of Halifax County. He will be sorely missed and his place will be most difficult to fill.

The Herald joins with the hundreds of friends in extending sympathy to the bereaved family.

D. W. Etheridge Sells Goldsboro Bakery

D. W. Etheridge, well known local baker and owner of the New Bakery at Rosemary, recently closed a deal for the sale of the Goldsboro bakery to the Georgia Cake Company of Atlanta, Ga. Mr. Etheridge has been operating the bakery at Goldsboro since last August 15. Since that time the local bakery has been under the management of Mrs. Etheridge. Mr. Etheridge, it is understood, will devote his time to the bakery at Rosemary.

Miss Virgil Barnes was recently called to Jackson on account of the death of her uncle.