

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 17.

ROANOKE RAPIDS—ROSEMARY, N. C., THURSDAY, APRIL 30th, 1931.

NUMBER 3.

FIEND WATCHES TORCH VICTIM BURN

SMALL BOY SET AFIRE IN THELMA FIELD, DIES

Grand Jury Returns Murder Indictment When Suppressed Facts Are Made Public After Officer Investigates

A fiend incarnate has been discovered in Halifax County who burns his victims alive and with no other motive than the ghoulish desire to hear the death cries of the sufferers, if facts as related in an examining trial before Judge W. O. Thompson be true.

A horror story was unfolded in magistrates court here Monday night when relatives of Willie Williams, 6 year old colored boy who lived at Thelma, told of how the boy had met horrible death, according to the dying boy's statement, at the hands of Samuel Stovalle, 17 year old Negro boy.

The tragic episode was laid in a newly plowed field near Thelma, on April 11th. For more than two weeks, the matter was concealed, as such things are among the colored race. Even the relatives of the victim said nothing to the officers or white residents. But they discussed it among themselves with many a shudder of fear and finally the story reached the ears of deputy sheriff Harry House, who made an investigation last week.

A 16 year old Yearlady boy was found who had been with the other two in the field on the day of the burning. He had been plowing and was at the other end of the field working when he heard the screams of the small child.

Yearlady told the court of arriving at the scene in a short time to find Willie Williams lying on the ground, his clothing aflame all over, the flesh of his body cooking. He finally extinguished the blaze, wrapped the boy up and carried him home. He died 36 hours later.

The dying boy told how Stovalle had, without any apparent reason, built a fire, grabbed him and put him in the fire and held him there, saying he was going to burn him up.

When Yearlady arrived, Stovalle, stomped out the fire he had built, left the child with his clothing burning and was standing several feet away watching the scene as the rescuer beat out the flaming clothing.

The father of the dead boy is said to be a janitor at one of the schools here who only goes home on Saturday nights. After the investigation by the father came over last Saturday night and swore out a warrant for Stovalle. At the hearing Monday night, Judge Thompson bound him over to the grand jury on a charge with intent to commit murder and the grand jury returned an indictment on this charge yesterday. The trial will be held at the June term of Superior Court.

Girls Glee Club Orchestra Tie for First Places

At the twelfth annual North Carolina music contest in Greensboro, Roanoke Rapids brought back two blue ribbons. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr. R. L. Martin, played two numbers. Assembly as the warming up number and Sweet Dreams as the Greensboro number. The orchestra tied for first place with Greenville, and their score was 2, which was very good. Burlington was second. The girls Glee Club tied up with Burlington, Lumberton, China Grove, Roanoke Rapids. These four entries' grades were very good. The mixed chorus of our school tied for second place with Lenoir. Mt. Everest won the cup in this contest. This year if there was a tie for first place no cup was awarded but the two contestants got blue ribbons.

ROANOKE RAPIDS METHODIST CHURCH

John W. Harrel, Minister. Sunday School at 9:45 a. m. Morning worship at 11 a. m.—Communion. Anthem—"Hear Then In Love"—Wooler. At the evening service, 8 o'clock the sermon for the graduating class of the Nurses Training School of Roanoke Rapids Hospital will be delivered by Rev. Leon M. Hall of Wilmington. Special music by the choir—Anthem, "Come Holy Spirit"—Gourrod—and "O Master Let Me Walk With Thee"—Speaks. The public is most cordially invited to attend these services.

To Start Work on New Catholic Church Here Next Month; Buy Lots

Construction of a Catholic Church and Parish House will start here some time next month.

Bishop Hafey of Raleigh was here this week and closed a deal for the property which is located on the corner of 7th and Hamilton Streets.

The church purchased the corner lots on Hamilton Street and also those lots on the back street. Work on a brick chapel will begin at once, according to the Bishop. A parish house for the resident priest will also be constructed at this time.

There has been some talk of building also a parochial school but there are no plans for this in the immediate future. This will probably be the center of religious activities for Halifax County Catholics, their present services being conducted at Halifax.

GANGSTERS GET 2 YRS. IN PRISON

Hold Up Men at Roanoke Junction Sentenced in Superior Court

THREE DAY SESSION

Superior Court adjourned yesterday after a short three day session, with an unusually light docket made possible by the new Recorders Court recently established in Halifax County. Special Judge Clayton Moore, of Williamston, presided with Solicitor R. Hunt Parker prosecuting. The grand jury had not made a final report last night.

Simeon Garris, Willie Stewart and Lee Conwell were sentenced to two years each in the State prison for larceny. They were charged with holding up at the point of a gun Ed Holmes and Grady Llye. The robbery took place at Roanoke Junction in February and the haul netted \$7 from Holmes.

Bull Rider, local Negro criminal, charged with store robbery in Littleton, was given a year with a suspended sentence.

Arthur Bunn, break and entering. Sentence, not more than 4 nor less than 2 years in State Prison. Herbert Walker and Geo. Clay, larceny of auto, 12 months on road. Judgment suspended on payment of costs. Lee Hockaday, house breaking. Sentence, 4 months on road. James Jones, larceny of auto, judgment suspended upon defendant paying Madry \$15 and costs of action. Charlie Lewis, larceny, 8 months on road. Robert Judd, assault with deadly weapon, defendant plead guilty to simple assault. Fined \$5 and costs.

Mary Vincent, auto violation, 6 months at county home. Dave Outlaw, forcible trespass and larceny, 1 year on road. Geo. Roberts, larceny. Having been confined 80 days in jail, action dismissed by order of court. A. D. Robertson, Audrey and Bud Lynch, larceny, 6 months on road. John Doe, alias Wm. Kidd, alias Emmett Kidd, larceny of auto, defendant plead guilty of temporary larceny of auto, 6 months on road. Allen Connor, liquor, allowed to Dec. 1, to pay balance of cost. Continued. Robert Harris and Simeon Garris, larceny, 2 years in State Prison. Joseph Judge forgery, 1 year in State Prison to be transferred to insane asylum, if examination by prison authorities show him to be mentally incapable.

Willie Haisley, reckless driving, let off with payment of cost. Willie Lawrence Alston, house breaking, 75

(Continued on back page)

To Preserve Lindbergh Homestead



The old Lindbergh homestead just within the city limits of Little Falls, Minn., where the now famous aviator spent his boyhood, and which the state of Minnesota by legislative enactment has just created Lindbergh park. Souvenir hunters are responsible for the dilapidated condition of the house.

NURSES TO RECEIVE DIPLOMAS

Baccalaureate Sermon Sunday Night; Commencement Next Thursday Night

PUBLIC IS INVITED

Commencement exercise of the graduating class of the Roanoke Rapids School of Nursing will be held next Thursday evening, May 7, when eight nurses will receive their diplomas.

The graduating class is Misses Lottie Eva Matthews, Seaboard, Margaret Janet Harvey, Littleton, Eva Petaway Williams, Warrenton, Mable Alston, Weldon, Janie Lee Lassiter, Roanoke Rapids, Synretha Lyerly, Rosemary, Bertha Mae Harris, Roanoke Rapids, and Nettie Frances Patterson, Alma.

The following invitation is made to the general public:

The Graduating Class of the Roanoke Rapids School of Nursing Request the Honor of Your Presence at the Commencement Exercises

Thursday Evening, May Seventh, Nineteen Hundred and Thirty One at Quarter Past Eight O'clock Junior Senior High School Auditorium Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina

The public is also invited to the other ceremonies of Commencement Week which begins this Sunday night when Reverend Leon M. Hall of Wilmington, former local pastor, will deliver the Baccalaureate Sermon at the Roanoke Rapids Methodist Church.

At the graduation exercises next Thursday night, Representative D. Mac Johnson of Enfield will deliver the principal address. The pins will be presented to the graduates by Dr. John Martin and Dr. T. W. M. Long will present the diplomas.

Following these exercises, a reception and dance will be held at the new Nurses Home on Jackson Street.

Henderson Visitors See Local Schools and Mills

A tour of inspection of the Twin Cities, which included visits to the schools, mills and other places of interest here, was made Tuesday by visiting members of the Literay Club of Henderson, who were the guests of Mrs. T. R. Manning. Members of the local Study Club were also present at a joint meeting and luncheon. Visitors from Henderson were Messrs. Asa Parham, Rob Davis, Legg, Watkins, Harris, Hughes, Alderman, Pat Parham, Singleton, Bridgers and Sam T. Peace. Study Club members were Messdames C. A. Wyche, R. L. Towe, Pendleton Grizzard, F. L. Nash, A. E. Akers, Frank Williams, W. S. Dean, Frank Hawley, George Hayes, T. M. Jenkins, A. L. Taylor, R. P. Beckwith, Hugh Bradley, Julius Goodman, Ridley Meacham, W. H. Fruden and Miss Susan Holliday.

Don't forget to look for the names hidden in the ads of The Herald. If your name appears you are entitled to a free ticket to the Peoples.

END OF COUNTY SCHOOLS

The Largest Graduating Classes In Halifax History To Get Certificates

FINISH TOMORROW

The largest 7th grade graduating class in the history of county schools of Halifax will receive their graduating certificates at the closing exercises to be held at Halifax in an all day session tomorrow.

One hundred and thirty 7th grade pupils will comprise the class of '31 who will parade before County Superintendent A. E. Akers tomorrow morning the morning program opens with music by the South Rosemary Harmonica Band.

The invocation will be by Rev. Carleton Wilson and devotional will be in charge of the Halifax 7th grade. A chorus number will be sung by the graduating class of Hobgood and another by the class from Aurelian Springs. The main address of the morning will be by Dr. John Carr, professor of education at Duke University.

A picnic dinner will be served at noon on the Halifax school campus and in the afternoon there will be an original play by the children entitled The May Queen's Visit to The Earth of Children. The public is invited to attend the day's program.

Friday night, the High School commencement exercises of Aurelian Springs will be held at the school. Sixteen High School graduates will be presented diplomas by R. L. Towe, chairman of the County Board of Education. The Commencement Address will be delivered by J. C. B. Ehringhaus.

The rural colored schools will hold their county commencement exercises at Halifax courthouse on Saturday morning, May 2, when 62 of the 7th grade pupils will receive graduating certificates. This is the largest colored graduating class in the county's history.

The address will be given by N. C. Newbold, director division of Negro education. Supt. Akers will award the certificates. Rural supervisor, Willie M. Jeffries will award perfect attendance certificates. Music will be furnished by the colored schools of Littleton and Eastman High School.

Clean-Up Week Ends Here Saturday Night

All the smoke you have been seeing this week did not come from the mills or trains. Most of it was from piles of dead leaves and weeds, scrap paper and other burnable debris, which have gone up in smoke during this Clean-Up Week. The town wagon has been piled high all week with other refuse.

Take a drive around the town Sunday and see if everything has been done that could be done to give the streets, alleys and yards the necessary Spring clean-up. Have you done your share?

The work has been sponsored by the Civics Department of the Womens Club. They remind the public that Clean-Up Week does not end until this Saturday night and there is still time to do a lot of work.

CLEARED OF CHARGES

Louis Harrell, young white man of this vicinity, charged with several others of breaking in the filling station of H. L. Bell and a store in Littleton, was cleared of the charges in Mayors Court here. No evidence was brought out showing Harrell had any connection with the robberies.

Wm. D. Thompson, white, plead not guilty, verdict not guilty. James Palmer, colored, liquor, pled not guilty, verdict guilty, 2 months on road.

WOMANS CLUB MONDAY The Womens Club will hold its regular monthly meeting on Monday afternoon in the Domestic Science rooms of the High School at three o'clock. This is an important meeting and all members are urged to attend.

Faced with a jail sentence or the bath tub, Thomas Benn of Los Angeles, took his first bath in 20 years

COTTON FESTIVAL HERE WEEK OF MAY 18 - 23

Who? You're Wrong



It's William E. Woodward. His striking resemblance to former President Calvin Coolidge has fooled hundreds, even personal friends of Mr. Coolidge. He is as reticent as the former President, carries himself in the same manner, and is a native of Landgrove, Vt., within 25 miles of the Coolidge home at Plymouth.

TAKES LIFE

Former Resident Here Takes Own Life at Greenville; Cause Unknown

Frank M. Fitts of Raleigh, formerly of this city, died in Greenville yesterday afternoon, after slashing his throat with a broken milk bottle, according to a Greenville dispatch. He was a traveling salesman.

Funeral services will be held at Warrenton tomorrow afternoon. The father of the deceased was a former jailer of Warren County, moving his family here where he was a policeman for several years.

The reason for suicide was not known. A note was left requesting that his wife in Raleigh and relatives be notified. He was a brother of Mrs. V. T. Lamm, Collins, Henry and Oliver Fitz of this city, and William, Dr. Nathan Fitz, and Rev. Robert Fitz, former residents here.

DEATHS

J. T. Taylor died at his home in Northampton County on April 17th. Funeral services were held the following Sunday at the Pleasant Hill Baptist Church with Revered Fountain of Weldon officiating. The pallbearers were J. T. Edwards, R. A. Daniel, J. T. Bass, J. F. Kinwell, J. L. Taylor, R. T. Kee. A large crowd at the funeral attested the standing of the deceased in the community. His wife and several children survive. Mrs. Taylor was unable to attend due to illness. The deceased was born May 6, 1851, and was one of the oldest residents of the county.

George L. Green, 52, died Friday at his home at Thelma after a lingering illness. He spent several weeks prior to his death at Duke Hospital. Funeral services were held Sunday and interment was in the family cemetery near Thelma. A wife and three children survive.

Edward Mason, 7 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Mason, Henry St. died of pneumonia early Tuesday morning. Funeral services were held at the Evans cemetery in Brunswick County, Virginia. November 15, 1929 the Masons lost another son, Carlton, age 7, who was killed by a truck here.

Taking Druggist Exam

Carl W. Hale, junior druggist for Rosemary Drug Co., is leaving the first of May to take special work at the University of North Carolina preparatory to taking the State Board of Pharmacy examination in June. If he passes, he will be a full licensed druggist, capable of making the most expert toasted sandwiches, strawberry flips, and other intricate and numerous specialties of the modern drug store.

A two-cent stamp was the net loot of two robbers who held up Mrs. Alex Marks of St. Louis as she was entering her home after shopping.

PROGRAM IS ELABORATE

Crowning of Popular Queen at Fashion Show; Dress Making Contest

TEXTILE SHOWING

The Halifax County Cotton Festival, sponsored by the local Womens Club, will be held here the week of May 18th, starting Monday on the 18th and lasting thru Saturday, May 23rd, when Halifax grown cotton and Twin City manufactured cotton will take the center of the stage.

This will be known as Cotton Week when the Womens Club joins with other organizations of the South in selling the idea of using more cotton goods to the rest of the country. "We Grow Cotton, We Manufacture Cotton, We Wear Cotton" is the slogan which has been adopted.

The events during the week will be climaxed on Friday night, May 22, when the Cotton Queen will be crowned at the Roanoke Rapids High School Auditorium. Nominations for the Queen will open on the morning of the 18th and close at noon Friday, May 22. Voting will take place during the week at Rosemary Drug Co. and Taylor-Matthews Drug Co. Rules will be published later. There will be a special musical program on the night of the Coronation of the Queen, as well as a fashion show.

Still another feature of Festival Week will be the Cotton Dress contest open to all Halifax County. Prizes will be awarded for the best home made cotton dresses in four divisions: best sports dress or suit, best house dress, best afternoon dress best child's dress, two to four years. The dresses will be judged on Thursday, May 21st, and prizes will probably be awarded at the Queen's program Friday night.

There will also be a showing of manufactured cotton goods at the old store rooms of the L. G. Shell Co., during the week, with a silver tea.

County women are especially urged to take part in these contests and shows. Local merchants will be asked to cooperate to make the Festival a success and an annual affair. All local clubs are asked to help with the work during the Cotton Week.

At the present time, the women of the South are organizing, and when women organize, they mean business. And when women mean business they usually mean trouble for some one.

These women are organizing to start a revolution. Not just a little mealy affair like one down in South America, but a revolution that promises to assume magnitude of the greatest sort. For generations, wives, mothers, and housekeepers have had a king, and to him they have been loyal subjects. However, in the last few years they have allowed a shiny Dictator called Silk to force King Cotton to abdicate. After following the dictatorship of Silk for a short time, the erstwhile followers of King Cotton are seeing their Southland in the slough of despond, and they are realizing that all that "glitters is not gold." They are seeing their fondest dreams of happiness and prosperity drift away, mirages on a desert of rayon. They are beginning to realize that once more they must flock to the standards of old and proclaim again as ruler King Cotton.

Yes sir, the women are starting something, and we are very much afraid that "Something" means trouble for old man Silk.

ZANDER-GUMP WEDDING

The Zander-Gump wedding will be duly solemnized by High School pupils at the High School auditorium on Friday night, May 1. The wedding march will start at eight o'clock. It is reported that the widow Zander has been here for some time and Uncle Bim will arrive today in his private dirigible.

A woman with 26 names was given power of attorney in a will filed in Chicago recently.