

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, MAY 7th, 1931. NUMBER 4.

MAYOR STARTS CITY DIVE CLEAN-UP

Mrs. Plummie Byrum Suicide

STEADMAN OF HALIFAX IS MEMBER

Editor of Greensboro Daily News Is Made Chairman of New Commission

REPRESENT STATE

Governor O. Max Gardner submitted to the Senate Monday, for its confirmation his appointees to membership on the State Highway Commission. The new Commission consists of seven members. Under the provisions of the State Road Law, enacted the present General Assembly, the commissioners are appointed to represent the State at large and no member is the representative of any particular district.

The list announced by the Governor is composed of James H. Clark, Bladen County; N. L. Stedman, Halifax County; T. L. Bland, Wake County; James L. McNair, Scotland County; E. B. Jeffress, Guilford County; C. A. Cannon, Cabarrus County; and Will W. Neal, McDowell County.

The Governor appointed E. B. Jeffress Chairman of the Commission and T. L. Bland as the Republican member.

In announcing the personnel of his Commission the Governor stated that he had maturely considered all the recommendations made from every section of the state and in addition had conscientiously considered nominations made by himself with a view to selecting seven of the most able men in North Carolina to compose the commission which he considers perhaps the most important and useful body he will appoint during his entire term of office. No member appointed was a candidate for the position.

"There is not a man on the Commission," stated the Governor, "who is not endowed by ability and interest with high capacity to successfully develop our highway and road policy and to insure the efficient and economical administration of the road law. I consider the composite membership of the Commission one of the best balanced, most cohesive and constructive bodies to be found in North Carolina."

Mr. Clark of Bladen County, a brother of Congressman Bayard Clark, is the president of James H. Clark and Company, Incorporated, dealers in general merchandise, cotton and guano of Elizabethtown. He is president of the Bank of Elizabethtown, and is Chairman of the County Board of Education of Bladen County.

Mr. Stedman of Halifax County is a business man and banker. He is senior partner in the Halifax Dry Goods and Notions Company, the Halifax Hardware Company, the Halifax Milling Company, N. L. Stedman and Company, Stedman Stores Company, operators of a chain of grocery stores, and a firm operating a number of public gins in Halifax and Northampton Counties. He is also a director of the Bank of Halifax. Mr. Stedman has been a member of the Boards of Education and of County Commissioners of Halifax County, and has represented his county in the State Senate.

Mr. Bland of Wake County is president of the Griffin and Bland Hotel Company, operating several large hotels in North Carolina and Virginia. He is a director of the Raleigh branch of the North Carolina Bank and Trust Company, the Capital Construction Company, and the Occidental Life Insurance Company of Raleigh; of the Rocky Mount Mills, the Rocky Mount Insurance and Realty Company, of Rocky Mount, and of the Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company of Tarboro.

Mr. McNair of Scotland County is

(Continued on back page)

Motor Army To Pass

An army force, motorized, of 35 officers and 630 enlisted men, with tanks, armored cars and trucks, field artillery motorized, mounted machine guns, etc. will pass by here from Fort Eustis, Va., to Fort Bragg. The army will leave Fort Eustis on May 13, and will camp near Jackson that night, passing by Roanoke Junction some time the morning of the 14th on the way to Raleigh where camp will be made the second night.

ONE MORE WIN GIVES JAX CONFERENCE TITLE - ALSO AFTER STATE RACE TITLE

Local High School Baseball Team Is Slipping Quietly Into Hall of Fame With Little Excitement From Fans

The Roanoke Rapids High School baseball club has a fine chance to win both the State title and the Northeastern Conference title this year. By defeating Chapel Hill at Henderson Wednesday, they went into the Eastern finals of the State race, playing the winner of the Erwin-Roland tilt this week in the finals.

They also defeated Rocky Mount 7 to 5 on Tuesday to take the lead in the Eastern Conference. They will play Elizabeth City there Friday and this win will give them the Conference championship.

In the State race, if Erwin wins over Roland the Eastern finals will be played at Rocky Mount. If Roland wins, the local boys will play them at Goldsboro. If they defeat Elizabeth City this Friday, it will be the third Conference win for the local High School.

They defeated Chapel Hill 8 to 7

SHOTGUN IS DEATH WEAPON

Body Found By Her Friend, Miss Rainey, About 4 O'clock This Afternoon

WAS DESPONDENT

Mrs. Plummie Byrum, formerly Miss Plummie Squier, well known here all her life, was found at her home on the Lawrenceville road late this afternoon. She had been dead for hours.

The cold body was found by Miss Ruth Rainey, who lived with Mrs. Byrum, when she returned from Roanoke Rapids after the storm this afternoon.

Death had been self inflicted. Mrs. Byrum had evidently sat on the side of the bed, pulled off her shoe on the left foot and pulled the trigger of a single barrel shot gun with her toe.

The load took effect under the left ear and carried away the entire back of the head. She had then toppled to the floor with the gun under the body.

Miss Rainey left at about nine this morning to come here and give lessons in bookkeeping to her pupils. She begged Mrs. Byrum or "Miss Plummie" as she is well known here, to come with her as she often did. But the latter told her she would stay at home although she was feeling despondent, as she had for several weeks. Friends tell of hearing her talk of taking her life but they never took her seriously.

Julian Glover, manager of the Central Cafe was at the house about noon to purchase some chickens. But the house was locked. Miss Rainey says this was unusual and Mrs. Byrum killed herself between nine and noon, is the theory advanced by officers.

It was about four this afternoon, when Miss Rainey returned to find all the doors locked from the inside. The daughters of Kidd Rook, neighbors, told her that they had seen nothing of Miss Plummie during the day nor after the storm. The looks of things around the outside, such as the garage door blown open by the storm, led Miss Rainey to fear the worst. She broke in the front door and found the body in the front bedroom.

She called her sister, Mrs. Babcock, and J. R. Wrenn, who called deputy sheriff Gray and Chief Massey. They went over from here and locked the room, notifying the coroner of Northampton, who had not arrived at 6:30 this afternoon.

Mrs. Byrum was well known here. She lived on a nice farm just over the river and was a constant visitor here. For many years she drove an old model gray Hupmobile. She was reputed quite well to do, owning three or four prosperous farms. Her husband was killed at Franklin about 15 years ago. He was a freight conductor and was caught between two cars. The deceased had no near relatives. Her closest kin was an aunt, Mrs. Annie Person, of Portsmouth.

STORM

One of the worst wind and rain storms in history visited here this afternoon at 3:30. Huge trees were uprooted, plate glass windows fell, awnings were ripped away. No report of injury to persons were received at press time but property damage here will reach hundreds of dollars. The storm came from the South and blew a gale for several minutes.

GUILTY IN VAGRANCY CHARGES

Police Arrest Six In One Place After Complaint By Several Citizens

GOT TOO BOLD

Using Chicago methods in dealing with undesirables, vagrancy charges were pushed by Mayor George Taylor after a raid on a city dive had resulted in five arrests and warrants for a sixth woman.

As with Al Capone and other Chicago undesirables, the police were unable to get sufficient evidence to warrant bringing the women to court on more serious charges, so the vagrancy law was brought into full play and five of the women were found guilty by Mayor Taylor in City court yesterday afternoon.

Mrs. Eva Hudson, Mrs. Willis Mabry and Glynn Long were given a 30 days jail sentence which would be suspended if they paid the cost and agreed to leave the city at once and not return for twelve months. According to some in the court room, the women stated they were already on their way out of town.

Mrs. Frances Short and Isabelle Lewis, arrested on the same charge, were found to be under 16 years of age and were bound over to the Juvenile Court. A warrant was issued on the same date for Belle Long but the warrant has not been served by Chief Massey, who believes the woman has left town.

The women were living on Second Street, that section known to some facetiously as "Quick Street," over the vacant store formerly occupied by the Ever-Ready Cleaners. Officers report that some of the women moved here recently from that section on the Weldon Road known as "Skunk Bottom."

They report the place as being quiet for a time and then the girls became very bold. Vile language was heard and the disturbance became so annoying to business men and the passing public that complaints were made. Mayor Taylor took the case in his own hands, had the warrants issued and tried the women. The officers were unable to get necessary evidence to try the women on serious charges but were able to easily prove the vagrancy charges, which seemed sufficient to cause them to leave town rather than serve the 30 days sentence in jail.

If they return in twelve months, they must serve the full sentence.

TRUCK KILLS NEGRO MAN YESTERDAY

Highway Across River Scene of Horrible Death By Logging Truck

INSTANT DEATH

Charley Mills, 30 year old Negro laborer, met instant death late yesterday when he failed to catch hold of a log truck and fell under the wheels.

The accident took place on the highway between the last two bridges between here and Camps Store. The log truck heavily loaded was making the last trip of the day from the Martins Hill to the saw mill near Camps Store.

As it hit the highway from the steep side road, Mills endeavored to jump on and ride to the mill. He made a leap for the cab, slipped and fell. The rear wheels passed over the entire right side of the body, crushing it to a pulp. He was dead when the others reached him. Another Negro was with him and he caught the truck on the other side.

Joe Powell was driving the truck which was owned by I. A. Coleman, lumberman of Littleton. Mr. Coleman was on the hill at the time of the accident. He arranged for the funeral today. The Coroner's jury rendered a verdict of unavoidable accident.

Mills lived near Aurelian Springs and was working for Mr. Coleman. The 5:30 mill whistle had just blown when the accident occurred.

COUNTY WOMEN PLEDGE HELP TO COTTON FESTIVAL HERE

Committees for the Cotton Week and Cotton Festival here the week of May 18th were announced Monday at the monthly meeting of the Womens Club by Mrs. R. P. Beckwith, chairman of the Festival activities.

She told the 35 members present that the success of the Cotton Week depended on the work and cooperation of all the members of the Womens Club, the local mills, the business men, the farmers and the womens clubs of the county.

On behalf of the latter, Mrs. Hazel Wheeler stated the rural clubs would join, take part on the program enter the contests and give special programs by the rural school children.

In the cotton dressmaking contest, the entries have been added to and the list is now as follows: best morning dress, best sports dress or suit, best afternoon dress, best evening dress, best school girl dress, best child's dress. There was also added prizes for the best Cotton poster by primary and graded school children and the best essay written on Cotton. These contests can be entered by any person in the county.

Much interest is being manifested in the election and crowning of the Cotton Queen. The coronation ceremonies take place Friday night, May 22nd.

The Womens Club hopes to have a special Cotton Edition of The Herald next week which will explain all the programs in detail and will carry cotton advertising from local and cotton business firms. This will depend on the success of the advertising committee, Mrs. George Hayes, chairman.

While the Cotton Festival took much time and attention at the Womens Club Monday, there was an interesting program arranged by the Better Homes department with Mrs. A. L. Taylor in charge. The principal address was by Mrs. Neville, representing the county rural clubs. Club members were especially interested in her report of the curb market here. A report of the State Federation meeting at Greensboro was given by Mrs. Bahnsen Weathers. Mrs. C. A. Wyche presided.

Legion Post Back Boy Scout Troop; Poppy Day May 30

Some thirty members of Damask Post American Legion were entertained at their regular meeting Tuesday night by a string quartet composed of Jay Sanderson, Lewis Johnson, Russell Buxton and Crawford.

The Post voted unanimously to sponsor a troop of Boy Scouts. This work will be under the leadership of Commander Ned Manning, assisted by "Big" Speight. Several Legionnaires volunteered to help in this work, which is one of the major activities of the Legion.

The Post will interest the wives, mothers and sisters of the members in selling poppies on Poppy Day, May 30th. The money from this will go to the wives of the uncompensated veterans at Oteen Hospital and to underprivileged child work.

Damask Post has a membership now of 95, the highest number in its history. The goal of the post is 100 members by June 1st.

FIRE TEAM

Squad From Local Fire Department Return From Fire School

The team of eight firemen from the R. R. F. D., that attended the State Fire School April 14 to 17th, returned and brought with them plenty of new data on fire prevention and fire fighting.

The boys received instructions not only from the fire chiefs in the large towns of this State but from the largest cities in the entire United States. Not only did they get the actual experience but they brought with them notes from all lectures and pictures taken from actual fires in larger cities.

The Third Alarm was shown as an educational picture which was attended by all members of the party. This picture will be shown at the Peoples Theatre this month.

The members of the Fire Department wish to thank the citizens of the Twin Cities for their cooperation in this task, and can assure them that they can handle the great fire demon with more satisfaction in the future.

CHARITIES BODY HAS NO FUNDS

To Continue Good Work of Last Year, Another Canvass Will Be Made

OFFICERS ELECTED

The associated Charities met at the Episcopal Church Sunday afternoon for its annual meeting to hear reports of work done and to elect officers for the ensuing year. Only a very small number attended but enough to carry on the business of the meeting.

The treasurer reported the receipts of the Association for the year ending April 30th were \$1073.43. Of this amount all but \$11.15 had been spent for the needy. So they are starting the year with just \$1.15 more than they started with last May at the organization of the Association.

The officers elected for the year were as follows: Rev. J. N. Bynum, president; Mr. Ned Manning, vice president; Mrs. Geo. Hayes, secretary; Mr. T. M. Jenkins, treasurer. The Relief Committee will stand as of the past six months: Mrs. T. M. Jenkins, Rev. V. H. Grantham, Mrs. George Hayes, Mrs. Will Taylor, Mrs. Clyde Wheeler, Mrs. W. F. Joyner. A committee of two was appointed to audit the treasurer's books.

The Association finds it necessary to go to the community with another canvass for funds. This will be arranged for within a short time by the finance committee. All who are interested in helping the less fortunate should plan now to make a contribution.

Later articles will tell the people what has been done by the Association. Much relief has been given but not all that was needed. However, not a single one that appeared worthy upon investigation has been refused help to some extent. They have supplied groceries, clothing, medicine, and in several cases, some work.

Some few people, mostly from the country continue to go from house to house begging. In some of these cases they have been found unworthy by the Association and refused. But because many believe their stories and give them something they are encouraged and continue to annoy the public. Some have been made beggars by the people giving to them instead of sending them to the Relief Committee of the Association that they might investigate and give the best relief. Cooperation with the Association in this way will save lots of annoyance to residents.

Basco Girls Defeat Silver King Team

Staging a great batting rally in the early innings, Coach Glenn Gurley's Rosemary Basco Girl's Team defeated the Roanoke Silver King girls 9 to 6 in Roanoke Rapids Monday. Lois Stansbury, High School basketball star, pitched a steady game for Rosemary, although she got very good backing from her team mates. She was opposed on the mound by Stainback, another High star.

Miss "Weinie" Hux was the batting star for the downtowners and also was the big noise with her fancy fielding at first base. The Misses Stainback, Nethercutt and Batton featured at bat for Coach Gurley's outfit. The Rosemary team is planning on playing a regular schedule this season.

SPECIALIST

Clothing School for Home Demonstration Club Leaders of County

Miss Willie Hunter, State Clothing Specialist, assisted by Mrs. Hazel E. Wheeler, Halifax County Home Demonstration agent will conduct an all day clothing school for Halifax County's twenty-seven clothing leaders in the County Club room at Halifax on May 14.

This is the second clothing school for club leaders this year. The first school was held in the club room on March 9. The lessons were "Patterns" and "Making a Guide Pattern and Fitting." The second school will be on "Line and Design in Clothing."

The County Clothing leaders are: Mesdames R. L. Applewhite, W. H. Hedgepeth, R. H. Sawyer, Norman Davis, Rudolph Anderson, H. M. DeBerry, L. G. Barnhill, J. H. Pope, L. C. Barbour, T. R. Whitehead, A. C. House, R. L. Capps, S. E. Gupton, Paul Boseman, W. E. Powell, Miss Lula Neville, Miss Winnie Burt, Mesdames W. D. Dickens, C. H. Hale, L. M. Butts, E. C. Dickens, C. L. Kelly, V. C. Matthews, N. E. Ranes, E. S. Fulghum, Tom King, E. S. Jenkins.

COTTON

Roanoke Rapids Market: 9 1-4.

DOCKET IS ALL WHITE

Records Court adjourned Tuesday afternoon after disposing of six cases, a very light calendar for this court. It will be noticed that in every case the defendant is white a rather unusual occurrence.

C. F. White, white man of Scotland Neck plead guilty to operating a car without license, prayer of judgement was continued upon payment of cost and upon purchase of license.

William Haislip, young white boy, of Scotland Neck, who was tried a month ago on a liquor charge and judgment was suspended on good behavior, was back to try and prove this to the court, however, Chief Moore had doubts as to this. Judge Daniel left the case continued under the same order.

L. E. Bradshaw, white man of Roanoke Rapids, was charged with taking a suit of clothes, the property of Monroe Feigh. Sentence three months in jail, suspended on payment of cost, capias to issue May 7.

Roland Massey, continued to May 19th.

Clarence Lyerly, white man from Roanoke Junction plead guilty to assault upon wife. Judge Daniel sentenced the defendant to six months on the roads. The defendant will take an appeal.

145 ATTEND SENIOR H.S. BANQUET

Junior Class Acts Host To Graduating Class And School Board

Wednesday night the High School Junior Class entertained the Seniors by giving their annual banquet. The banquet was a large success. The food was prepared by Miss Blount (Continued on back page)

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COME! COTTON FESTIVAL HERE MAY 18 - 23