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# COMMENCEMENT WEEK STARTS SUNDAY WITH UNION SERVICE

# 36 SENIORS GRADUATE **NEXT WEEK**

All Twin City Churches Join For Baccalaureate Sermon This Sunday A. M.

#### FINALS NEXT FRI.

Thirty-six Seniors of the Roanok Rapids High School will receive their diplomas at the graduation exercise to be held in the High School Audi torium on Friday night, June 5th. Although details of the extensive pro gram have not been completed, according to word coming from Supt. C. W. Davis late this morning, the program for the annual Baccalaureate sermon to be given next Sunday morning is completed, the Reverend Francis Craighill, pastor of the Epis copal Church, Rocky Mount, deliver ing the sermon.

A full week of social activites

will be egaged in by the graduating Seniors the coming week, climaxing with the presentation of the "sheep skins' 'to the local boys and girls on Friday evening at the commence ment exercises at which Hon. W. A Harper, president of Elon College,

The annual Baccalaureate Serme will be given at the High School Auditorium Sunday morning May 31st, at 11 a. m. It will be a union meeting .f all Twin City Churches.

The program is as follows: Prelude "Faith," Mendelssohn Miss Gladys Cox.

Processional, "God of Our Fathers," Community Choir. Hymn, "Holy, Holy, Holy," con-

Invocation, Rev. A. P. Mustian.

Anthem, 'God So Loved The World,' Stainer- Community choir.

Responsive Scripture reading led by

Dr. D. M. Sharpe,
Prayer led by Rev. J. W. Harrell.
"Father In Heaven," Doun-Mixed quartet.

Announcements, Supt. C. W. Davis. Hugh Bradley.

Baccalaureate Sermon, Rev. Fran-Hymn, "Faith of Our Fathers," con

Benediction, Rev. V. H. Grantham.

Postlude, Tschaiskowsky—Miss Cox Following is the 1931 Graduating Class, comprising thirty-six boys and girls of this community:

Mary Allen, Constance Barrow, Audrey Byrd, Ruth Baird, Margaret Cranwell, Margie Collier, E u l a Crumpler, Lucille Hodges, Blonnie Hodges, Crichton Harris, Pauline Kendrick, Daisy McCommons, Etta Mincher, Annie Mae Odell, Joanna Rook, Lucy Shearin, Ruby Shell, Sybil Simms, Edna Smith, Ruby Tickle Elizabeth Wilson, Mary Zeiler, Mark
Allen, Marvin Anderton, Jimmie
Beckwith, Roger Cullom, Charles
Dickens, Marvin Floyd, Calvin Kennemur, James Lynch, Aven Moody,
Charles Octobres Wilst Parell Parell
Charles Octobres Wilst Parell
Charles Octob Charles Ogletree, Uriel Powell, Fran-cis Starke, Dallas Shearin, Colon

The class of '31 is one of the largest

A large attendance of the Bacca laureate Sermon is expected for next Sunday morning.

### Kill Mad Dog

A dog, which from its actions, was supposedly mad, was shot and killed Wednesday morning near the ice plant. Three men, whose names could learned today, saw the dog coming from the direction of the Avenue and travel down Madison Street. It staggered and frothed and they followed the dog, warning severa persons to get out of the way. Bor rowing a gun from a nearby house they caught up with and killed the

INFANT DAUGHTER DIES The infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Sledge died Sunday, May 24th. Funeral srevices were held Mor-day with interment at Roanoke Ra-pids cemetery.

CHURCH SUPPER SATURDAY The Ladies Aid Circle No. 2 of th Christian Church will serve supper in the Church basement Saturday even-ing, June 6th, from 6 to 8 o'clock, benefit of the Church indebtedness.

### It's All Over Now

The 1931 General Assembly of North Carolina adjourned last night at 9:49 at the end of the 141st day, the longest session in

history.

Reduction of land taxes by State maintenance of schools, except for a 15 cent ad valorem tax, and by State maintenance of county road systems by means of extra gasoline tax, were the main features of the session.

Governor Gardner spoke for a

few minutes at the close of the session, which ended with cheers and singing "Until We Meet

Senator Allen C. Zollicoffer and Representative T. W. M. Long will return home today

# **227 WILL** START IN SCHOOL

### Pre-School Clinics Show Large Number of Beginners For Next Year

Pre-school clinics were held at Rosemary School and Central School few days ago. The number of chiliren examined was 187, the largest umber to be examined in any clinic h e l d here so far. In addi-tion to this number there were about o children whose names were sent n to be enrolled in September but for various reasons could not attend the This indicates that there will be 227 beginnners to enter school in drafted each month by the treasurer september. This is a slight increase of Associated Charities. ver the number planned for last fall. This number will probably reach 250

by the end of the first month.

The majority of the prospective pupils are in very good physical condiion. Some, however, need the attenion of a doctor to get them in shape for school life. In such cases the parent was advised to see the family physician. About ninety per cent of the mothers came with the chidlren. Introduction of speaker by Rev. In several cases the father came instead of the mother. This cooperation from the parents was indeed gratify-

ng.
The children of the primary grades ad made favors for all the little tots who came. The favors consisted of May-baskets, Japanese lanterns, cardoard animals, horns, etc. As the child's examination was finished he ent away with a very good impress on of his first day at school.

The clinics were directed by Dr Mitchell, the county physician, who was assisted by Miss Dickens, the county nurse; Miss Rook, the local school nurse and Miss Hearne, the lementary supervisor of the schools.

Under New Revenue Act, Hali fax Land Tax Cut \$133,673

Raleigh, May 28 .- Tax reductio of nearly \$10,000,000, or to be exact \$9,667,186, will result to the property owners of North Carolina for each of the next two years under the Revenue Bill which is about through the General Assembly, according to a table of figures prepared by the State Tax

This table shows that on the as essed valuation of \$2,978,710,228 for the year 1930 in the whole State, the 100 counties had a total tax levy of \$14,135,244 for current expense of the six months school term. proposed 15-cent tax rate the total levy will be \$4,469,058, by which it ears will be \$9.667.186 less than in

Halifax County, the report shows had an assessed valuation in 1930 of \$39,085,475, on which the tax rate was 49.2 cents for current expense of the six months school term, which made the total tax levy for this ounty \$192,301. The proposed 15cent levy on the same valuation bas-is will mean \$58,628 in taxes in 1931 and 1932, or a reduction in the coun-

ty of \$133,673.

This amount it is pointed out, will

# ASKS FOR MONTHLY PLEDGES

Associated Charities Works Out Easy Pay Plan For Annual Campaign

### DRIVE STARTS 11TH

Quiet times mean nothing to Asociated Charities, local organization which has just finished its first year of regulating the charity work in the community. They refuse to be inti-midated and are planning an ambiti-ous campaign for funds here on June 11, 12 and 13,

Another nieeting of the finance ommittee was held last night at which definite plans for attack were dopted. Too many people were content last year to give a quarter or half dollar just as they would to anyone begging for a hand-out. And a lot of those people used Associated Charities as an excuse for a whole year not to give to anyone else or else continued their old policy of giving to anybody who asked if they ouldn't get out of it.

What Associated Charities wants the people of this community to do s to give to Associated Charities all the money they would ordinarily give away to local charity in a years time In order not to make it too hard or anyone, they plan to go to each citi en and have him sign a pledge card, paying a monthly stipend, the first month cash with the pledge, the balance in monthly installments to be

It is understood that there are so ho cannot afford to do this. Those unemployed or on short time are ask ed to give only what they can afford to at the time of the drive.

The entire community is being vided into sections for the drive, S. D. Brown has charge of the Rosemary Mfg. Co. and the mill village. J. H Hines has charge of Roanoke Mills No. 1 and village. Guy Murray is in charge of the drive for Roanoke Mills No. 2. E. A. Tellaga will be captain of the force at the Halifax Paper Corporation A. Meikle will lead the forces at Patterson Mills Co.

The Womans Club will be asked to et special pledges from their members and other women of the com munity, while the Kiwanis Club has agreed to take charge of the drive in the business section.

A. N. Martin and George N. Taylor ere captains of two teams in the Kiwanis Club which will visit every store and office in the business see tion for a pledge from corporations companys and individuals.

announcements o f Special drive and the need of the work will e continued thru the church pulpits the press and the schools until the

Next week we hope to have the his-cory of some of the cases as reported by Rev. J. N. Bynum, president of Associated Charities, and this paper would appreciate testimonials from any persons who have been helped during the past year, so the public may know just what good has been

### REGISTER

Registrars Jeff Welch and John Clark report a fair registration of voters in the two precincts here o he opening day last Saturday.

Some 260 voters came to the pollin ciaces to register on that day. About 175 of these were in the North end. The books will be open all day this Saturday and all qualified voters are urged to register at once. It pointed out that husbands could not

egister for their wives.

but for the election of city official but for the election fo city officials on July 7th and for all subsequent city elections. Everybody must re

Mr. Welch will be at the polling place, the old Methodist Church or nd and Jackson Streets all day Sat urday and Mr. Clark will be at warehouse on Eleventh Street has use on Eleventh Street back of the old Patterson Store building.

be felt appreciably in the tax bill of the individual taxpayers in ever county in the State.

### BAD STORM QUEEN OF COTTON M o s t Pangerous Electrical Storm of Years Here Tuesday Night

The worst electrical storm in years struck here Tuesday night and did considerable damage in addition to frightening most people out of their

It seemed that every flash of lighting struck something nearby and for half hour the storm raged.

The narrowest escape reported was that of Mrs. Cleophus Bray, who had been taking a nap before going down to her husbands cafe. She had been up a matter of two minutes and had left the bedroom when lightning struck the iron bed on which she had been lying and burned the metal as if a blowtorch had been applied Elec ricians say she would have been killed if she had been on the bed.

Thirty street lights in the city we

niown out by the lightning. In front of the Peoples Theatre, one blinding flash crashed down a brass rail and knocked a boy down who was leaning against the rail. Inside the theatre a bolt struck the equipment putting one of the loud speakers out of commission.

A switch in No. 2 Roanoke Mill was burned out when lightning struck there. All over town, radios, floor lamps and every kind of electrical equipment, popped and sparkled with every flash of lightning.

# BELMONT

Jim Thomason Home Partially Destroyed By Mean Fire Saturday Night

A disastrous fire which did a to al damage estimated at \$2,500 guted part of the Jim Thomason resilence in the Belmont section Satirday night.

The fire was discovered at nine o'clock by J. R. Myrick who lives two doors from Mr. Thomason. The fanily was down town and Mr. Myrick urned in the alarm.

The distance from town, coupled

with the fact that there are no fire plugs in that section, gave the fire a good headway. The Fire Department answered the call quickly but was forced to use a bucket brigade and hemicals.

The fire was exceptionally difficult to fight because it had worked of the rain. ts way up from the bathroom where t seemed to have started and had gotten under the roof by the time the Depsatment reached there. It the roof to get to the fire.

Part of the furniture was carried to the front yard by volunteers but the bulk of it suffered from either fire or water. An estimate put the damage to the house at \$1,500 and to the furniture at \$1,000, both par ially covered by insurance.

The Thomason family was located lowntown and returned home to find the place just about in ruins. Only the quick work of the firefighter

# LAST MEET

Parent - Teachers Association Re-Elects Mrs. Kirk President for Next Year

The Roanoke Rapids Parent-Teach er Association held their last meeting of the year for the High School on Thursday afternoon in the Vocation of building. Mrs. J. E Kirk, who has served as president for the past year was reelected. Mrs. T. O. Wilson was chosen vice president, Miss Aline Cannon, secretary, and Mrs. Clarnce Grimmer, treasurer.

The various committees made their annual reports. C. W. Davis, chairnan of the school grounds stated tha much work had been done on th grounds and that the new tennis courts were almost completed, and ion would use them during the sum ner. Mrs. F. G. Jarman, library Mrs. J. N .Bynum has been quite ac tive as chairman of the Social Service

The president accepted the pres ency for the next year and thankeall members of the association for their cooperation during the past

Misses Gertrude Bray and Lillia Williams spent Sunday in Fitzhugh, Va., visiting friends and relatives. Joe Pearce of Hopewell, Va., pending some time in town.

# FESTIVAL.

Miss Ruth Transou Is Crowned Queen In Ceremony Friday Night

### MODELS PARADE

As a climax to celebration of Cottor Week by the clubs of Roanoke Rapids-Rosemary. Miss Ruth Transou was crowned Queen of Cotton by Herman Tickle, as King Cotton, Friday

man Tickle, as King Cotton, Friday night, May 22nd, in the Roanoke Ra-pids High School Auditorium. The prgoram began by the Rose-mary Band playing "The King Cot-ton March," and Southern Melodies. Graham Poyner with sixteen girls dressed up in unique cotton costumes sang "Come On Down South." speech of the evening was made by a former representative of Halifax Count, W. J. Norwood, and if everyone doesn't wear cotton after hearing that speech they will at least have a guilty conscience. Robert Lowe, Coby Williams, Edgar Kirk, Francis Starke, Norman Speight, James Lynch, John Glover and Otis Reynolds dressed as darkies sang "Sou-thern Melodies, which were much en-

The Fashion Show was a lovely dispiay of cotton dresses, sports, even-ing, afternoon and morning, modeled by many pretty girls of the Twin Cities. The pages were Harry Hunt-ington Weathers and Elizabeth Caldwell Beckwith.

A Minuet by six dainty misses, dressed in pastel shades of organdy vas most attractive. It was composed of Mildred Blow, Merle Cole, Emily Dunning Marie Cates, Elizabeth Ward and Mary Louise Wells. Miss Gladys Steinberg, emerging from a huge cotton bole, gave a solo dance Misses Mable Johnson, Ella Lee Tay-lor and Evelyn Johnson, representing darkies, sang "When A Black Man is Blue.'

The final program of a week of celebration was staged by Mrs. Lyle Wilson assisted by Misses Traynham Wyche, Virginia Smith and Mr. Graham Poyner, with Mrs. R. P. Beck-with, general chairman of cotton week

The High School Auditorium wa well filled for the occasion in spite

The following stores had models in the Fashion Show: Crowders Dept. Store Rosemary Dress Shop, The Quality Shop, B. Marks, Fligels vas necessary to chop up portions of Style Shoppe, Mrs. K. Jenkins and

Miss Transou was elected Cotton Quee when last minute voting put her far ahead of her rivals. Miss Pauline Brewer received the second high est number of votes.

# **CLOSE TIGHT** WEDNESDAY

All Stores in Twin Cities Will Close Wednesday Afternoor During Summer Months

Rosemary will close Wednesday af-ternoon of next week and will continue to close every Wednesday af ternoon in June, July and August.

A.N. Martin, president of Rosema Merchants Association announces 100 per cent cooperation in the South end the closing in the North end state that he didn't miss a door and the town will be closed like Sunday every Wednesday afternoon.

This is done in order to give the the hot summer months, due to th fact they must stay open so late each evening. This is the first time there has been such hearty respon on the part of the merchants.

The public is requested to coop rate by getting orders for delivery in early Wednesday morning of each close their doors at one o'clock

Baseball, golf, picnics with the fa nily and short trips will be indulged in by store owners and clerks on office and other offices will closed. Drug stores will alternate in for the henefit of farmers who must have certain articles on short

Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Smith and children, Bobby and Louis, spent Sur cay in Lasker visiting relatives,

### Saturday Poppy Day

This Saturday, May 30th, is Poppy Day and poppies will be sold here by the Damask Post of the American Legion.

Wives, sisters and sweethearts of the local Legion members will be among those enlisted to pin a poppy on every citizen. Contributions are voluntary.

The proceeds will be used in part for the dependents of wounded veterans at Oteen and for Legion work among the underpri-vileged children of the State. Wear a poppy Saturday.

## **TOURISTS PASS 100** PER DAY

New Bridge Will Probably Increase Atlantic Coastal Hiway Traffic

### **DeLYSLE REGRETS**

The following telegram was receiv Jack DeLysle, executive vice presi-cent of the Atlantic Coastal Highway Association at Norfolk: My sincerregrets last moment convention meeting here made impossible my attending your bridge opening Drove down night hoping to find opening scheduled for Monday morning. Congratulations and best wishes to your

It will be remembered that Capt. DeLysle was responsible for this nd went before the Bureau of Roads, where he told of the Federal highway being taken from this community and moved to another road. He obtained orders to have the road returned to ederal government aid.

Thousands of maps have been disributed over the country by the Atantic Coastal Highway Association, especially to traffic traveling be ween Maine and Florida. The result has been a steady stream of tourists hru here for the past few months most of them coming from Florida and other Southern points and going to their homes in the East. On some

ver before in the history of the city. Capt. DeLysle points out that this Fall the tourist trade will start back South again, and they will be advised by maps and other Association pro poganda to use the Atlantic Coastal Highway, which follows Highway 17-1 thru this city.

With the completion of the new bridge, traffic will probably increase as many avoided the old bridge.

# NEW PLANT

Filter Plant Almost Ready for Use; Final Tests Being Made This Week

Chemists and engineers are her this week making tests and getting ready for the opening of the filter which is nearing completion.

The huge concrete reservoir is fir ished and ready for its millions gallons of purified water. The brick building which houses the filtration School patrolmen. system is completed and pumps and cther more delicate equipment are now being installed and tested.

A complete labratory for tests ar experiments has been built. will probably be pumped into the sediment basins for the first time today and complete tests of the plant made

the latter part of the week.

The grounds around the plant eservoir will be cleared, grass and shrubbery will be planted and the enctions in this part of the State.

Individual filter plants at the var us mills will be discared in the nes

OPEN CHURCH NEXT MONTH Work is progressing rapidly on the Catholic Church building which is being erected on the corner of 9th shout finished and the roof will be tarted this week. Dedicatory service<sub>3</sub> of the new church is planned for Sunday, June 14th.

Coroner Billy Williams was tichmond on business Wednesday.

### **NEW BRIDGE OFFICIALLY DEDICATED**

NUMBER 7.

Big Crowd Is Present at Ceremony When the Ribbon Is Cut and **Bridge Opened** 

### 30 TON CAPACITY

The new bridge over the Roanoke River was officially opened to traffic here Monday afternoon with suitable ceremonies under the direction of the Public Affairs Committee of

the Kiwanis Club.

A large crowd from Halifax and
Northampton Counties jammed the
South entrance of the bridge where the ceremony was held. A white rib-Lon barred traffic until the end of the program when the ribbon was cut by Miss Ruth Transou, Cotton Festival Queen, and a parade of 150 automobiles filed across the new structure.

The Rosemary Concert Band was secured by Chairman A. N. Martin to give a final touch to the program with several selections. Carroll Wilson, president of the Kiwanis Club,

presided. County Commissioner W. F. Joyner gave a history of the old bridge and the new one. He told of the ferry used before the old bridge was built in 1907 as a toll bridge. Later it was bought by the State. A year ago, a middle span gave way and crashed to the river surface under the weight city for your official opening. On heof a heavy truck. Mr. Joyner said
thalf of our Association assure you of
our continued cooperation."

of a heavy truck. Mr. Joyner said
that in 1907 the bridge was adequate,
but was useless in the present day heavy traffic. He told of the struggle to get the new bridge when the highway and bridge to retain the Highway Commission wanted to put Federal Highway markings as a a new span in the old bridge and of a new span in the old bridge and of part of the Atlantic Coastal High-final success by the Kiwanis Club in way. He made a trip to Washington getting the modern 30 ton bridge now getting the modern 30 ton bridge now finished.

N. L. Stedman of Halifax was introduced by Mr. Joyner. Mr. Stedman was recently appointed by Governor Gardner as one of the five men on the new State Highway Commission. He congratulated the people of the two counties on obtaining the new bridge and pledged his interest and support in the future welfare of this co

nity.
Northampton County was represented by Buxton Midgette, young attorney of Jackson, son of Superior Court Judge Midgette. Mr. Midgette brought greetings from the people days more than 100 cars passed thru here going North, There have been more foreign cars which would help his county people thru here these past few months than in their desire to make Roanoke Rapids the leading city of Eastern Carolina.

> Solicitor R. Hunt Parker introduced the main speaker of the program, Charles Ross, Raleigh, legal advisor to the State Highway Commission. Mr. Ross admitted the handicap of speaking to such a large crowd in the pen air and it was difficult for many in the back of the crowd to hear him. Those nearer the front enjoyed his remarks and his history of road and bridge building which has been the envy of other States. He brought greetings and congratulations from the State Highway Department and lauded the efforts of local people responsible for obtaining such a splen-

The bridge was declared officially opened as the band played, the ribon was cut and the cameras flas

Traffic was kept in line, well parked, and the parade across the bridge was in perfect order under the direct-

School patrolmen.
Only one incident marred the day when Jake Matthews was taken ill and fainted. He was carried out of the thick crowd by Sidney Matthews who was standing near and taken home. His condition was not serious.

Otherwise, the crowd was in fine holiday spirit and seemed to be rather proud at the addition of this splendid structure to other community benefits. The bridge was given final inspection Monday morning by State Highway engineers and given final approval. It will be several days, however, before the road is com-pleted and the ramp built to the mill

The next step, which will start soon is the tearing down of the old bridge.

REST ALLROUND ATHLETE Henry House of Weldon was presented the Patterson award at the University of North Carolina on award night Monday as the best all-round athlete at the University, Henry starred in football and baseball and it wall know here here and is well kno... how where he