

UP AND DOWN The Avenue WITH THE EDITOR

To call a policeman or fire department Dial 668-1.

J. H. Moss and son have opened a grocery store in the Daughtrey store building at the corner of Second and Hamilton Streets.

Here's a good one from the Atlantic Sportsman: "The people are asking why Mr. Hoover, who fed the Belgians during the War, cannot feed the Americans in 1931. Well, you see, during the war he was working under a Democratic administration." And if that isn't strong enough for you, Jim Thomason, who has returned from contracting in Maryland, has some new ones on Hoover. You better get him to tell them to you.

Why can't carnivals and circuses leave us alone at times like these? With the Red Cross Drive coming next week, with Associated Charities needing money badly, with relief work necessary in many cases here at home, these sort of things come in and take away thousands of dollars. For entertainment we can well entertain ourselves with local shows and amusements. That money stays at home. It looks like with picture shows, legion boxing shows, football games, church and school plays, we have enough varied entertainment to satisfy anybody.

The Garden department of the Women's Club meets next Monday afternoon with Mrs. C. A. Wyche at 3:00 o'clock, at her home on the Weldon Road. All members are asked to attend and any one interested in this department will always be welcome, even if they are not club members.

The Ninth Grade Junior Girl's Reserve Club is helping the Associated Charities to put on a drive to get money for milk which will be given to the undernourished children of Roanoke Rapids. They have planned to put milk bottles in several stores by permission of the owners, in which people may drop their money to help. The bottles may be found at the following stores: Rosemary Drug Co.; Taylor Drug Co.; Duncan Pool Room; Coburn's Shoe Store; Taylor-Matthews; Roanoke Pharmacy; M. System; Star Barber Shop, and City Barber Shop.

Two particularly important results are forthcoming when attendance is good at the local schools. It means more State and county money for the local district, appropriations being based on attendance. It means better students, for those attending regularly keep up in their studies and do not lose interest in their work.

Last week, we printed the record attendance in the local graded school when 15 out of 39 rooms had perfect attendance on one day and only 37 out of an enrollment of 1,512 were absent. Now comes a report from the local High School which has an active enrollment of 653. On Monday week there were only 8 absent in the entire High School and 11 of the 17 High School rooms had perfect attendance. That is a wonderful record and congratulations are in order to the Jr-Sr High School students, teachers, the school officials and the parents of those children.

E. W. Liles of Aurelian Springs was in our office yesterday and his progressive farmer has a few things to be proud of. He has one pet acre on which he alternated cotton and Irish potatoes. He first dug up and sold two rows of green potatoes; then he harvested 38 fertilizer sacks of potatoes; then he picked 1,890 pounds of seed cotton. All from one acre. On the next acre he planted three foot rows of cotton from which he has already picked 1,960 pounds. Come on, farmers, tell us about your special crops.

Keeping constantly after the Seaboard Air Line officials for the past few months, the local Kiwanis Club has at last succeeded in getting action on the railroad crossing at the depot. This crossing is now being repaired and will be finished this week. Those who have bounced over the rough crossing for the past few years will thank the Kiwanis Club for the improvement. The delay has been caused by the fact the Seaboard is in the hands of receivers and a court order was necessary before the work could be done.

ONE KILLED WHEN SIX MAKE DASH

From Halifax Prison Farm; 2 Captured and Three Said to Be Located Today

TWO GUARDS FIRE

At noon today Halifax reported that officials had the three escaped prisoners from Caledonia State Farm hemmed up in a swamp and officers were closing in on them. They have been at large since Tuesday when six escaped from a cotton field where 33 prisoners were picking cotton.

George D. Cashwell, 22, white, was instantly killed during the escape as he fled from the field. He was probably shot by either Guard M. H. Byrum or Guard S. S. Hunninger, both of whom fired. The guards were exterminated by Coroner Williams.

The report here is that two of the convicts were captured by a Negro who was out hunting and who held the two at bay until officers came from the prison camp.

Cashwell, sent to prison from Alamance county, twice previously made his escape from State's prison but his third effort cost him his life.

The six men, members of a squad working a field, had evidently planned their break for freedom well. Three went in one direction and three in another. Guards overseeing the work fired and Cashwell fell mortally wounded.

C. C. Cranfield, Forsyth man who had been in prison only two months, to serve a 22 1-2 year sentence for murder, W. D. Weaver of Durham county and Jack Stearns of Guilford county are still free.

Captain N. E. Raines, supervisor of the prison farm reported to State's prison that he believed the three men were surrounded and would be caught.

Another long term murderer, Varnell Gates, of Haywood County, serving 22 1-2 years, and Robert Jones, Wake County man serving a two year sentence joined in the escape but they were caught yesterday afternoon.

In reporting their recapture Captain Raines did not give any details. He merely reported that they had been taken and were not wounded.

Prison records showed Cashwell to be 22 years old.

His record listed an escape December 5, 1930, and his recapture April 30, 1931 and another escape and recapture on July 14, 1931. During his period of freedom after his first escape he was arrested in Guilford County and convicted of highway robbery under the name of Dick Knight and had a three year sentence to serve.

His father, Robert Cashwell, was (Continued on page seven)

SICK MAN SHOT GUN SUICIDE

Saying he had a better remedy than a doctor's prescription to make him well, Roland Hill, 24 year old Negro, living near Enfield, locked himself in his sickroom and blew his head off yesterday afternoon.

He had been sick for several days and was being treated by an Enfield doctor. When his wife came to his room to give him regular medicine yesterday he refused to take it, telling her he knew a better remedy.

She was in the kitchen when she heard a loud noise and thought a tire on their car had blown out. Failing to find a flat tire, she returned to the house and went to Hill's room to find the door locked. Peering in an outside window she could see her husband lying on the floor, a single barrel shotgun by his side.

The room was forced open and Hill was found dead. He had placed the gun at his throat and pulled the trigger with a stick.

His father recalled that in 1928 Hill had been sick and subject to spells when his temperature was high. During recurrent spells he was closely watched. His last illness was similar. The Coroner deemed an inquest unnecessary.



RED CROSS DRIVE ON NEXT WEEK

Red Cross Must Further National Relief Plans Local Chairman States

The American Red Cross has been assigned a definite place in the national plan of winter relief, Red Cross Drive Chairman, J. W. Crewe, Jr., declared today in explaining necessity for greatly increased enrollment in the Red Cross locally this fall.

He called attention to the fact that Walter Gifford, as chairman of the President's Committee, has emphasized that the Red Cross Roll Call, which begins November 11, to enroll members for the coming year, falls within the period set aside by the committee for raising relief funds in all communities.

Mr. Crewe also pointed out that Mr. Gifford has said that appeals for relief from various relief sources are not to raise a national fund, but are "for maximum local funds."

In this connection he also cited a statement from James L. Feiser, acting chairman of the National Red Cross organization, who said:

"In considering plans for the emergencies of the coming year, the President and members of his special committee realize that the American Red Cross has a definite part to play in meeting the country's needs through the carrying forward of its regular service program—local, national and international. This is in addition to the special unemployment relief work being undertaken by a large number of our chapters in deference to specific community requests. Therefore, normal Red Cross operations must continue without interruption."

"The Red Cross has a vital part to play in your community and in the nation."

Mr. Crewe made public a statement by Mr. Gifford in which he said:

"The American Red Cross, through its local chapters and the national organization, has its usual and important task to perform in meeting the country's needs during the coming year. We must keep this great national organization at full strength."

"As director of the President's organization on unemployment relief, I earnestly urge every community to give the greatest possible support to the Annual Red Cross Membership Roll Call. Every American should be glad of the opportunity to participate in the humanitarian work of the Red Cross through individual membership."

EPISCOPAL PAGEANT SUNDAY

Sixty Persons To Take Part in Beautiful Pageant at Local Church

CHICAGO DIRECTOR

On Sunday evening, November 8th, at 7:30, a pageant entitled "Go Ye," will be presented in All Saint's Episcopal Church. This pageant is sponsored by the Katherine Webster Branch of the Womens Auxiliary and will be under the direction and inspiration of its author, Mrs. Luma E. Finch of St. Peter's Church, Chicago, who brings with her appropriate costumes and scenery. This pageant has been successfully given in a Rocky Mount, Warrenton, Oxford and South Hill, as well as at St. Peter's, one of the largest churches in Chicago. Many other churches are planning to give it in the near future.

This pageant shows in pictorial form the work of the church in its various phases of activity. About 60 people will be used in the cast. The presentation opens with the entrance of the Mother Church, the central figure of the pageant, represented by Miss Nora Oates, preceded by the Crucifier, Robert Vick, and the martyrs, Mr. Frank Joyner and Mr. James Lyerly. The Church proclaims her great commission and asks for help in its fulfillment. The first response comes from Womens Auxiliary, represented by Mrs. J. N. Byrum, accompanied by Prayer and Praise, Margaret Long and Maria Long. In succession appear some of the Laborers in the Vineyard, a college chaplain, represented by Mr. William Allgood, a nurse, Mrs. W. F. Joyner, a teacher, Miss Elmyra Jenkins, a deaconess, Mrs. A. N. Martin, Mr. T. M. Mullen and Mr. W. J. Long as business men represent the Budget and Quota and show how important they are to the spiritual work of the church. Mr. Hunt Parker presents the cause of the Church's Advance work. Rev. Francis Joyner and Acolytes, Graham Jarman and Lunsford Long, appear in the Vision. Mr. Winfield Crewe as Young Manhood and Miss Phala Vick as Young Womanhood, accompanied by youth, pledge their allegiance to the Cross. Young people dressed in costumes of foreign lands represent the Sheaves of the church's harvest. Miss Mabel Regan as Education, accompanied by Light and Knowledge, Mr. Roger Cullom

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LEGION PROGRAM

Next Wednesday, Nov. 11, Armistice Day, will be celebrated by the Damask Post of the American Legion. 10:30 a. m.—Armistice Day program at the Roanoke Rapids High School auditorium. Speeches will be made by Rev. S. H. Bradley and Legion members. The public is urged to attend the brief services. All Legion members requested to meet in front of the school.

8:00 p. m.—Legion Boxing Show and Celebration at Simmons Gym. Mutt Gordon, Portsmouth, vs. Shelby Rice, Hopewell. Joe Tejera, Hopewell vs. Glenn Morgan, Norfolk. Jimmy Gilbert, Rocky Mount, vs. Roy Briley, Danville. Freddie Mills, Roanoke Rapids, vs. Perry Gregory, Weldon. Battle Royal.

MAN HIT BY ROCK IS DEAD

Autopsy Shows White Man Dies After Hit by Thrown Rock Near Darlington

SEEKING NEGRO

An autopsy performed this morning by physicians on the body of George E. Hedgepeth, 38 year old Darlington man, led to the discovery that he died Tuesday from an injury sustained when struck on the head by a stone thrown by a Negro man.

Due to the peculiar way in which Mr. Hedgepeth died, his physician requested Coroner Williams to order an autopsy. The examination was made by Doctors Suiter, Mitchell and Jarman.

Lifting the skull they discovered an inflammation on the brain directly under the wound and expressed the belief that the blow received by Hedgepeth on the head was directly responsible for his death.

Coroner Williams immediately issued a warrant for the Negro's arrest and officers are in the Darlington section searching for him this afternoon. His name is not known here.

Hedgepeth had an argument with the Negro near his home on the 18th of last month. The latter threw a rock at the white man, the rock striking him on the head. On Oct. 23, Mr. Hedgepeth, who had been in bed for a few days after the fracas, complained of violent headaches. On October 30th, Dr. Suiter of Weldon was called to the house. He grew steadily worse and died on November 3rd.

Dr. Suiter, being unable to determine the exact cause of death, with the condition of the patient resembling meningitis, called for the autopsy.

Funeral services were held this afternoon at the family cemetery near Darlington. The deceased was single and is survived by his mother, Mrs. Zillie Hedgepeth, 85 years old, one brother, G. F. Hedgepeth, and several sisters. He was a cousin of M. H. Hedgepeth, local grocer.

City Committee

At a meeting of the City Board of Commissioners on Monday a committee of Mayor Jenkins and Commissioners F. C. Williams, and M. D. Collier were appointed to work with the Sanitary Board in connection with drainage and storm sewers for the city. It is hoped some plan may be worked out to install these type sewers at the same time the sanitary sewers are being put in.

Thursday afternoon of last week, little Miss Margaret Martin entertained a few of her friends at her fifth birthday. Many games were enjoyed during the afternoon after which ice cream and cake were served by her mother, Mrs. Alfred Martin. Those invited were: Nellie Stewart Taylor, Sara Elizabeth Pope, Audrey May Parrish, Emily Dunning, Elizabeth Beckwith, Mary Norfolk Vick, Harvey Taylor, Daniel Kirk, George Crizzard, Billy and Hurley King, John Haywood Cullom.

John Vincent, of Quantico, Va., is a visitor here this week.

UNREPORTED ITEMS AMOUNT TO \$43,306.83 SAYS AUDIT OF FORMER SUPERIOR CLERK

Poor Records Make It Impossible For Auditors To Make Proper and Complete Tabulation; Items In Doubt Are Not Included

ONLY AUDIT LAST 14-YEAR PERIOD

The special audit of S. M. Gary, Clerk of the Superior Court of Halifax County, shows a net shortage of \$22,613.50 over a period of the past fourteen years in the late Clerk's records, with auditors admitting that it was impossible to get all the figures and that many items chargeable to Mr. Gary's accounts were omitted from the audit.

Total items which had not been reported by Mr. Gary amounted to \$43,306.83, the audit shows, but credit was allowed of items that had not been applied to the amount of \$20,693.33. The audit also states that inadequate records in the Clerk's office from 1917 to 1926 made it impossible to get any true facts for that period.

For the many years prior to 1917 which Mr. Gary held the office, no audit was made. Due to the type of records kept in those days, coupled with the fact that those in existence were totally inadequate, it would have been a foolish waste of county money to seek shortages for those years. The statute of limitations also made this a useless task.

This fact is borne out by a study of the following list of unreported items uncovered by the auditors by years. Readers will note the steadily decreasing amount found as the years recede. They will also note the jump in 1926 and the following years. It was in 1926 that the first real county audit was made and a new bookkeeping system installed which made it possible for auditors to ascertain some of the facts in this latest audit.

Unreported Items By Years 1917, \$258.79; 1918, \$722.50; 1919, \$1,594.07; 1920, \$1,355.00; 1921, \$1,525.05; 1922, \$913.27; 1923, \$1,375.70; 1924, 1,942.59; 1925, \$1,480.01; 1926, \$4,597.97; 1927, \$8,683.16; 1928, \$3,138.96; 1929, \$4,678.08; 1930, \$9,955.72; from Jan. 1931 to the time the audit started, \$1,085.90. Total, \$43,306.83.

It will be seen that the bulk of unreported items, totaling some \$32,000 of the total \$42,000, was discovered in the last five years. This was due to the new style of bookkeeping installed in 1926, which made it easier for the auditors to discover discrepancies.

Inadequate Records

That the auditing firm, Hollowell, Gorham & Co., of Greensboro, labored under terrific handicaps in making the audit is best seen in their own words. "The inadequacy of the records prior to the year 1926 made the audit both tedious and difficult, especially subsequent to Mr. Gary's death, he having died during the course of the audit. It was necessary in many cases to trace transactions to their origin, which procedure caused delays that would have been eliminated in the presence of Mr. Gary."

It is also possible that the larger amounts of the last five years were found because the auditors started at the last two year period (1929-1930) and worked backwards, getting many of the necessary facts before Mr. Gary's death.

In an exhibit of the audit showing the allocation of unreported money to various funds, the audit has the following to say: "The inadequacy of the records in Mr. Gary's office preclude the possibility of making a satisfactory detailed audit of each of the accounts described above. Therefore, in accordance with the instructions of the Board of Commissioners the audit was commenced with the last two years of the administration and then each of the next preceding two years in their order to Dec. 1, 1916."

Many Items Omitted

That the final totals arrived at are not true totals of shortages or discrepancies and that the amounts would probably be larger than the audit shows is also evidenced in the statements of the auditors concerning omissions which they were forced to make because of lack of proper information.

As regards the audit of unreported

items, the auditors state, "Therefore, in the absence of satisfactory explanations, many items which appeared chargeable to Mr. Gary's account are omitted from the deficiency account."

And concerning the item of fees, the audit says, "In addition to the items that are charged to Mr. Gary's account as having been collected and not returned to the county, there were numerous entries indicating fees charged out their collection could not be established, therefore, these items are not included in the deficiency account."

It is thought the reason why the above are not included was that it would be impossible to substantiate them in case of suit against the estate or bondsmen of Mr. Gary on the part of the county to recover. It was stated at Halifax yesterday that such a suit was now in process of being started. It is assumed that, in addition to the alleged shortage, the county would also sue for the amount of the special audit which cost \$5,200.00.

Lowering The Total

While a detailed study of the audit figures have not been made to date by this newspaper, in order to be able to explain the credits which brought the totals down from \$43,306.83 to \$22,613.50, those which are listed under "Unapplied Credits" are:

Cash, \$14,824.88. Liberty Loan Bonds, \$1,200.00. Cashier's Checks, \$221.90. Certificates of Deposit, \$184.20. Remitted to Treasurer During Audit, \$4,262.35.

The above make a total of \$20,693.33. The circumstances surrounding the last named item paid to the Treasurer during the course of the audit is not known at this time nor are the details of the first named large cash item which had been "unapplied" to the Clerk's accounts.

The Liberty Loan item of \$1,200 may shed some light on the way these various items were discovered and credited for the audit says, "The Liberty Bonds were found among Mr. Gary's effects in his office and deposited with the Bank of Halifax for safe keeping."

School Fund Hit

The unreported items were found in the following accounts: Trust Funds, \$13,394.27; Cash Bonds, \$12,742.90; Criminal Court Cases, \$11,561.78; Civil Court Cases, \$1,219.58; Fees, \$588.07; Partial Payments on Court Costs, \$413.90; Monthly Reports, \$3,386.33. Total, \$43,306.83.

The auditors allocated this amount to the following funds: Trust Fund, \$12,453.20; Commission on Trust Funds, \$941.07; Fees, \$2,630.35; Court Costs, \$7,518.75; School Fund, \$19,682.47; Witnesses, \$680.99.

Last Thursday afternoon at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Grimmer, Miss Beverly Grimmer celebrated her tenth birthday. The guests were all dressed in Halloween costumes. Halloween decorations were used throughout the occasion. Games appropriate to the occasion were played. The refreshments also carried out the idea of Halloween orange ice and cake being served. Those invited were Katherine West, Beatrice Kemp, Lillian Lee, Virginia Kirby, Katherine Kirby, Sara Crawford Towe, Margaret Towe, Ann Campbell Taylor, Edith Bugg, Katherine Traynam, Mary Taylor and Lucy Bynum.