

# THE ROANOKE RAPIDS HERALD

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ROANOKE RAPIDS, N. C., THURSDAY, MAY 18th, 1933.

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## CITY COPS MOVE TO STAMP OUT PETTY CRIME WAVE

### LAST ATTEMPT TO REVIVE 242 FAILS

#### Spite Bill Dies Double Death In Legislative Battle

(Special to THE HERALD)

Rearing its evil head like a tromped snake, Senate Bill 242, most notorious "local" bill of the past session, was voted down again by the House when its sponsors sought to revive it Friday in the dying days of a long session.

Decisively killed on the third reading two months ago, the sponsors of this bill tried to lull opponents to sleep with promises that all was over. The writer was approached by emissaries with the olive branch prominently displayed. The dove of peace was referred to by those who had been defeated.

But from reliable sources came rumors and rumblings of future trouble. It was necessary for a group of citizens to leave their homes and business day after day to hold the interest and attention of Raleigh legislators who had befriended us in our hour of trouble. They had other problems to consume their time. It was a most difficult task, these weeks of watchful waiting.

The storm broke last Friday. For a few short hours before and during the morning session (a session when our friends were few in attendance) there was conference after conference.

Practically every member of the House was lobbied. There was a hurried conference between Senator Long of Halifax, 242's sponsor, and Representative Taylor of Halifax. Robert Grady Johnson of Pender, arch-supporter of 242 in the House committee hearing, and incidentally very desirous of the Speakership next session, was much in evidence.

The fatal hour for which 242's supporters worked two months after defeat, had arrived. Tool

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#### High Point Youth Charged Murderer Of Boy Playmate



Griffith Welch, 15-year old High Point boy who is charged with the first degree murder of little Bobby Clarence Sechrest, 5½-year old son of Mr. and Mrs. S. Wade Sechrest of High Point. The Welch youth claims little Bobby was fatally injured in a bicycle accident, and that he hid his body in a sewer manhole, tho he has changed his story materially several different times.

—COMPLETE STORY INSIDE—

There will be no evening services at the First Presbyterian Church next Sunday. Rev. S. H. Bradley will be in Littleton in connection with the Revival he is conducting there at that time. Sunday morning services will be at the regular time.

#### Two Store Breaks Last Night Stir Police To Action

That Roanoke Rapids policemen, coupled with the aid of Mayor Kelly Jenkins are doing everything within their power to stop the series of petty robberies that have occurred within the last few weeks was disclosed in an interview with Mayor Jenkins this afternoon, tho they are working at a handicap with a lack of men to cope with the situation. Only two men are maintained for night patrol duty, one in the North and South wards, and as their beat is rather long, it is humanly impossible for the men to be everywhere at once.

Since the Leggett store robbery here some few weeks ago, in which over \$200 in merchandise was taken, there have been several robberies, store breaks and attempted breaks of smaller nature, and to date our city police force is not credited with a single arrest in any of these cases.

Stirred to activity by the last two store breaks that occurred

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#### CHILD IS INJURED BY AUTO

#### Daughter Of World's Smallest Mother Is Injured In Accident

Dottella Buck, 8-year old daughter of Mrs. Dolletta Buck, who is acclaimed the World's smallest mother, while on her way to play a 3-day engagement in the city with her mother and brother, was struck by a car driven by I. B. Rainey, Roanoke Rapids man, on the Weldon-Rocky Mount Hiway at 3:30 P. M. this afternoon, Thursday, May 18th.

The little girl is in Roanoke Rap-

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#### DISCUSS SUMMER CLOSING HOURS

#### Young Carolina Marine Honored By Nicaraguans



For twice leading his patrol into the bandit-infested jungles of Nicaragua to recover the bodies of two dead comrades and to rescue three other lost aviators, Sergeant Theodore M. Stephenson, a U. S. Marine from Pinehurst, N. C., was awarded the Cross of Valor by Jose M. Moncada, former President of the Central American Country. Sergeant Stephenson was a sub-lieutenant in the Guardia Nacional, or native military force, during the recent Marine Corps occupation of Nicaragua, and the medal was for "extraordinary services rendered the Republic." It was presented to him at a special military ceremony held recently at Philadelphia, Pa.

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Willis announce the birth of a fine, 8-pound baby son Monday night. The baby has been christened Larry Covington. Mrs. Willis is the former Miss Mary Dixon, and Larry is an employee of the Herald composing room.

#### Would Close Stores At Noon Wednesday During Summertime

At a meeting attended by a representative group of city merchants and business men this afternoon the question of closing business houses at noon Wednesday during the months of June July and August, was brought up, and almost unanimously approved by those in attendance.

For the past five years, this system has been in effect in Roanoke Rapids, and has been very successful, according to its proponents. For the benefit of those who did not attend the meeting, a petition will be presented to them to sign, and it is hoped that plans will be completed by next week, at which time an announcement will be made.

A majority of the stores in Eastern Carolina close Wednesday afternoons as an added holiday for their employees, and it is said the experiment has been highly successful in the towns in which it has been tried.

It was also brought up at the meeting the increasing number of petty robberies and store breaks that have occurred in the city the past few weeks and a committee was appointed to confer with Mayor Kelly Jenkins, and to offer their co-operation to the fullest extent in an effort to stamp out the robberies.

#### Sixth Division Of Kiwanis Club Holds Meeting At Ahoskie

Ahoskie, May 12.—Two hundred Kiwanians and their ladies gathered here tonight for a inter-club meeting of the clubs in the Sixth division of the Carolinas Kiwanis District, with the Ahoskie club as host, and clubs of Elizabeth City, Williamston, Roanoke Rapids,

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## SLAYING OF FIVE YEAR OLD BOY AT HIGH POINT AROUSES INDIGNATION

PICTURE ABOVE; DETAILS INSIDE