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8 HOMES BROKEN IN BY ROBBERS LAST NIGHT

ROANOKE RAPIDS 20 YEARS AGO



The above scene of Roanoke Avenue was taken twenty years ago and shows the entire business section of that block.

Of particular interest are the

high curbing, the light and telephone poles on the Avenue, the horse and buggy. There were no buildings on the other side of the

street, but the presence of lumber in the background shows that Roanoke Rapids then, even as today, was building and growing.

Believed Work of Crazy Negro; Hoffler Fires At One Stealing Bike

Firearms Ready For Next Attack; Try Doors of Five Other Homes; Enter Sleeping Rooms to Steal Money; Enter By Screen Doors

For the first time in the history of Roanoke Rapids early this morning saw an outbreak of house-breaking with eight homes entered and robbed and five other homes attempted.

Biggest loser by far was Mac Johnson, whose home on Hamilton Street was entered, the thief coming into Mr. Johnson's bedroom, passing within a foot of Mrs. Johnson's bed and getting a pocketbook containing about sixty dollars in cash. Going outside, the robber coolly emptied the purse and placed it back inside the house with Mr. Johnson's knife and keys. No one in the house was disturbed.

All the homes were entered by using a special contrivance to raise the hooks on the screen doors. After punching a hole in the screen, it was a simple matter to lift the hooks.

The roughly made instrument was found near one of the houses entered.

Soon after an attempt had been made to enter his home on Hamilton St., Q. Hoffler saw a Negro coming from near the John Crutchfield home with a bicycle which belonged to the Crutchfield child. Mr. Hoffler called to the Negro to

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UP AND DOWN WITH THE The Avenue Editor

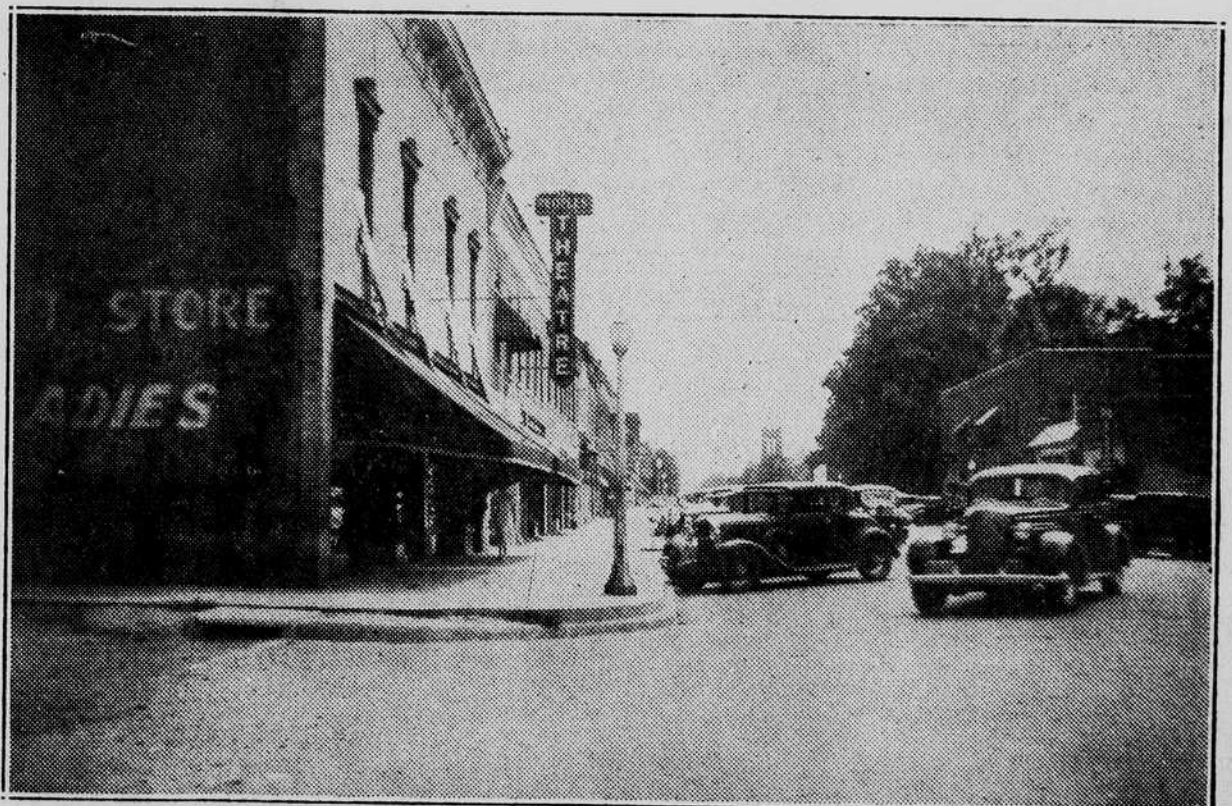
OUT of town guests here over the week-end who attended the announcement party of Miss Josie Chase were Miss Josephine Shaffner, John Shaffner III, William Shaffner and John Foster of Winston-Salem, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Goodmon of Williamston and Mr. and Mrs. Steve Lipscomb of Richmond.

REQUEST to local Sea Board officials that the temporary crossing at the station be improved and left there permanently in order to facilitate traffic and lessen accidents at the crossing from three-way traffic, brought reasons why such would be impossible. The temporary crossing is too near the freight depot building and railroad officials fear this would mean more chances of accidents rather than lessening the hazards. If the freight depot were farther away, this could be worked out, leaving the splendid new crossing for Weldon traffic, the temporary crossing, made permanent, for Littleton traffic.

SCOUTMASTER Bill Alligood and six Scouts of The Flaming Arrow Troop, Carlton Cannon, Gene Shell, George Nethercut, Jim Joyner and Franklin Harris are spending this week in New York City.

WINDSOR has come thru in fine shape these last two times the Roanoke Rapids baseball team has visited there and it now appears the feud, which might have sprung up, can be forgotten. Just a few persons were making it difficult and these have been put in their proper place by proper people. The team and management wishes to express special appreciation to Sheriff Dunstan of Bertie County, who has made it a point to attend the last two games, after hearing reports of an unsavory nature. He has not only shown himself a good officer but a true sportsman as well, coming around to the visitors' dugout to (Turn over)

---AND THE SAME BLOCK AS IT IS TODAY



This picture was taken from almost the same spot as the one above, just twenty years later. This block as it is today shows

the new paved Avenue, curbs and gutters, the new buildings, the new White Way, the replacement of poles by underground wires.

Gone is the horse and buggy. Next week we show the contrast in the South end business section over a period of 25 years. (Photos by Morgan.)