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MAN IS HELD FOR RAPE DRIVER IS CLEARED BY JURY; FATHER INDICTS

UP AND DOWN WITH THE
The Avenue Editor

● ● Roanoke Avenue looks prettier this Christmas than ever before. The Community Christmas Tree was located today in the front of the Hospital by a Power Co. crew and Mr. Ethridge's city crew. It was lighted tonight for the first time. Across the street, the Municipal Building is decorated with lights and candles and to morrow a big Holiday Greeting illuminated sign will be swung across the Avenue at this point. In the two business sections, the street lights are aglow for four blocks and White Way standards are wrapped with laurel. The store windows are beautifully decorated and kept alight until late every night. We especially invite all persons from out of town to make a trip to Roanoke Rapids after dark and travel the whole length of the Avenue.

● ● At each end of the Avenue is a sign across the street put up by the Merchant Association calling attention of all who enter and leave Roanoke Rapids that the Trade Days are now on and will be thru Dec. 24th. \$600 in cash and merchandise prizes are to be given to Roanoke Rapids shoppers. Merchants participating have big cards to that effect in their windows.

● ● The Joyner Motor Co. building, now occupied by Thompson Motor Co., is being remodeled so that a filling station will be built on the corner. The showroom is being moved back and the Avenue-9th St. corner will give a two way filling station.

● ● Halifax, one of the largest in the State, has about the least amount of paved roads and still less a percentage of concrete roads, according to Health Officer McGeachey. We have 35 miles of concrete road and 70 miles of hard surface of all kinds in the entire county. He is interested because six cars from the Health Department must cover every acre of Halifax County at some time or another. Like all of us, he wants Halifax County to have more hard surface roads. We are entitled to it.

● ● Crowds are growing every week at the Saturday night frolic of Rosemary Textile Workers at the band hall, 10th and Henry. This Saturday night, besides square dancing and other entertainment, a floor show will be presented. The public is invited.

● ● And in this same hall on Friday nights, crowds are increasing for the Firemen's Bingo Party. Last Friday night the place was packed with players and this Friday night additional tables have been made to take care of the crowd.

Take A Needy Family (See Page 17)

HARLOW HELD AS RAPIST

Melvin Harlow, city restaurant employee, was bound over to Superior Court on a charge of rape following preliminary hearing before Magistrate W. O. Thompson, here tonight. He will be held in the Halifax County Jail without bond until court convenes in January. The crime is a capital offense in this state.

Esther Waters, wife of J. H. "Jack" Waters, Patterson Mills Co. employee, was principal witness for the state, and the one against whom the alleged crime of rape was committed. Charges grew out of Harlow forcing her to accompany him to the Rosemary Graded (Continued on Back Page)

Santa Claus Will Arrive By Airplane

"Santa Claus" will visit Roanoke Rapids, and eight selected business houses tomorrow afternoon, Friday, December 11th, shortly after 3 P. M. Old "Santa" himself is scheduled to arrive at the airport landing field, on the Littleton highway at 3 o'clock, and will be escorted to the two business sections in a private automobile, for his appearance at several city stores.

It is all a part of a feature by Radio Station W-E-E-D, Rocky Mount, to start off the official Christmas shopping season with a "bang." Santa Claus will personally visit the following eight stores: Leggett's Department Store, Rosemary Drug Co., Rosemary branch of the Roanoke Bank & Trust Co., Roanoke Hardware Co., J. C. Wells 10th Street Grocery Store, Newsom Oil Co., Wellworth's 5c to \$1.00 Stores, and H. G. Hodges.

In the meantime, Christmas shopping is well under way in Roanoke Rapids. The special Christmas lighting season was turned on officially for the first time Monday night, and is going full blast from twilight on in both business sections. Tuesday night, city stores started observing their special holiday hours, and will remain open each evening until 8 P. M. from now 'til Christmas Eve. The stores will observe regular closing hours on Friday and Saturday.

Verdict Of Coroner's Jury

in the matter of Raymond and Walter Williams. Be it remembered that on the 8th day of Dec., 1936, I, T. M. Cooper, Coroner of said county attended by a jury of good and lawful men: H. G. Hodges, J. H. King, H. E. Lee, P. E. Greene, George Lampley and J. V. Womble by me summoned for the purpose, according to law—did hold an inquest over the dead bodies of Raymond and Walter Williams and after inquiring into the facts and circumstances of the death of the deceased and a consideration of all testimony to be procured, the jury finds as follows, to wit: That Raymond and Walter Williams were accidentally killed by an automobile driven by W. H. Daughtry. We further find, according to the evidence, that the accident was unavoidable, therefore no probable cause.

Inquest held and record signed in the presence of T. M. Cooper, Coroner of Halifax County.

Shortly after he had been absolved from blame in the death of two boys on Roanoke Avenue by the Coroner's jury, a verdict which termed the killing "accidental" and in which the jury found "no probable cause" for holding him, a warrant was issued for W. H. Daughtry late Tuesday night charging him with manslaughter, of having unlawfully, wilfully and feloniously killed the two children.

The warrant was sworn out by Henry Williams, the father of the dead boys, at the instance of Solicitor W. H. S. Burgwyn, who had prosecuted the case before the Coroner's jury. Daughtry was represented by Attorney J. R. Allsbrook.

The hearing on the manslaughter charge will be heard by Mayor Kelly Jenkins before whom the warrant was sworn out.

Daughtry filed bond for \$1,000 for his appearance at the hearing, the bond being signed by his business partner, Howard L. Fahey. Fahey and Daughtry are plumbers here.

The boys, Raymond, age 8, and Walter, age 13, were almost instantly killed when struck by Daughtry's car just past 4th Street on Roanoke Avenue a few minutes past 10 o'clock Saturday night. The two boys were riding on a bicycle, the older boy evidently pumping and the younger brother sitting on the cross bar. They were pronounced dead shortly after they reached the hospital a few minutes after the accident.

Funeral services for the two brothers were held at 4:30 Monday afternoon at the First Baptist Church by Rev. Gordon L. Price. Interment was in Roanoke Rapids Cemetery. Surviving are the parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Williams, a sister, Frances, 16, and a brother, Alton, 10. They live on the South Rosemary highway just South of

Dr. Long Undergoes Operation

Dr. T. W. M. Long is in the Roanoke Rapids Hospital recovering from an appendicitis operation. Stricken Monday morning, he was operated on at 8:30 Monday night by Doctors Jarman and Weathers.

His condition today was reported as uncomfortable but nothing serious. There are no complications.

Dr. Long, as State Senator from Halifax County, will be unable to attend the special session of the legislature which started today, called to pass social security legislation. He will be able to attend the regular session which starts in January.

Chockoyotte Creek. Mr. Williams is an employee of Roanoke Mills Co.

(Details of Inquest on Page 5)