

UP and DOWN THE AVENUE with the EDITOR

● ● Halifax County leads the world . . . in auto deaths. According to figures received here this week, Halifax County is the worst in the State, North Carolina in the Nation, based on population and gallons of gasoline used. This was for 1938 . . . and 1939 is starting off mighty bad . . . If Halifax County wants to lead, let's make it at something else than highway deaths.

● ● Signs of sense and union: The Episcopal Church (All Saints) and the Presbyterian Church will hold union services each Sunday night during June, July and August . . . maybe those Methodists have taught us something, after all . . . Charles U. Harris has been elected Rector pro-tem of All Saints Episcopal . . . Beginning Sept. 1, he will be given a year's leave of absence to attend the Graduate School of Applied Religion.

● ● The stores that usually close on Wednesday afternoons during June, July and August in Roanoke Rapids have signed the petition 100 per cent and will close starting the first Wednesday in June, says Mrs. Lillian Bell Thorne, Merchants Association secretary . . . She also advises that President Roosevelt will speak at 9:30 p.m. May 22nd to the Retailers National Forum, in what is said to be the President's first talk to the retailers of the nation.

● ● No picture yet of the graduating class of Roanoke Rapids Hospital, due to the illness of graduate Letha Bell Lewis, now threatened with pneumonia . . . Mrs. F. S. Kemp is improving at the hospital . . . Only birth of the week: to Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Carpenter, a daughter, on the 16th . . . Reno Allsbrook of New York is visiting his brother, W. C. Allsbrook . . . Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Temple Jr., Waycross, Ga., have been guests of Mr. and Mrs. Allie Wood . . . Dr. and Mrs. T. W. M. Long and family have returned from Bermuda and the boat-convention of the N. C. Medical Association of which the Doc is secretary-treasurer.

● ● Owl players keep going up. Latest is Vic Bradford, our star outfielder of last year, University of Alabama football and baseball star . . . Vic signed a contract Saturday with the New York Giants . . . Congratulations, big boy. He will finish the season with Jersey City of the International League.

● ● 10 years old Watson Fann tried to run away from home this week but didn't quite get away with it. He went to Weldon depot, hung around part of the day, then sold his bicycle for \$5 . . . Ticket agent Alston became suspicious when the lad bought a ticket to Fayetteville. He notified R. R. police and officer Carl Green went over, just in time to nab young Fann off the train as it was pulling out.

● ● Speaking of bicycles . . . since the new paved streets, the number of bicycles in Roanoke Rapids seems to have doubled . . . we even support a bicycle repair shop here now . . . which means car drivers

must be more careful than ever before, especially at night . . . that bicycle lights must conform with the law . . . and that stolen (or borrowed) bicycles are reported to the police every day . . . If you don't want yours borrowed, better take better care of it.

● ● No-U-Turn at the Avenue on 2nd, 10th and 11th is what the big white painted signs on the street will say . . . and STOP before entering the Avenue from those streets . . . so maybe, if everybody will heed those signs we won't have any need for stop-lights which are, after all, something of a nuisance, even tho necessary in some cases. What with no parking on the South side of 10th between Jackson and the railroad, some of the traffic problems will gradually get ironed out . . . provided people can read and heed.

MEIKLES LEAVING FOR SCOTLAND TRIP

Mr. and Mrs. A. Meikle plan to leave Roanoke Rapids Sunday for a visit to their birthplace in Scotland. They will visit the New York Worlds Fair three days in order to give the folks across the water a first-hand description of the wonders of the world's latest and largest fair.

They will sail from New York Wednesday night and plan to return to the United States July 3rd. It is their first trip back to Scotland in 26 years.

Mr. Meikle came to Roanoke Rapids in 1927 as Superintendent of Patterson Mills Co., a position he still retains. He has done a splendid job there and has recently supervised the installation of new machinery in many parts of the mill which has modernized the plant until today, Patterson Mills Co. is outstanding in its field. The management of the mill speaks most highly of his ability and he is today receiving letters and messages of good-will from New York and Chicago offices wishing Mrs. Meikle and himself bon-voyage.

He is best known to the general public for his famous Christmas Scene of the Nativity, showing in life-size figures the events following the birth of Christ. This scene, covering several city lots next the Meikle home, is erected by him every Christmas season and thousands of visitors make an annual pilgrimage there to admire and worship. Here, each Christmas afternoon, the citizens of Roanoke Rapids gather for the singing of Christmas Carols.

To the young, Mr. Meikle is Santa Claus. For many years, he has journeyed to the Shriners Hospital

for Crippled Children in South Carolina and on Christmas Eve he plays Santa Claus to scores of little crippled children. But before he goes, he comes around to visit Roanoke Rapids' homes, with his note book and big pencil and little bell a'ringing.

For one who has brought much happiness to others, we wish a happy trip home and a safe return.

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BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Enfield—Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Martin of San Antonio, Texas, announce the birth of a daughter, Mary Frances, on Saturday, April 15th. Mrs. Martin is the former Miss Lucille Lawrence, of Enfield.



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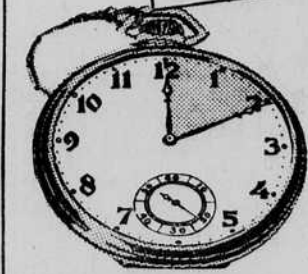
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Local Dealer Sees New RCA Models

E. W. Smith, local RCA-Victor dealer, and Tommy Adams, radio-trician, spent Wednesday in Kinston, where they attended a sales meeting of the company, and saw a pre-view of the new Victrola and radio models manufactured by that company.

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