



# THE ROANOKE RAPIDS HERALD

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# NEW BUILDING ON AVE.

## WELDON ENDORSES WILSON

To make it unanimous for the towns of Halifax County, the Mayor and Board of Commissioners of Weldon yesterday endorsed Carroll L. Wilson of Roanoke Rapids as a member of the State Highway and Public Works Commission.

Last Friday Mr. Wilson's friends filed with the Governor endorsements signed by more than four-thousand Halifax County citizens. Since that time several hundred more citizens have endorsed Mr. Wilson, and these have been forwarded to the Governor's office.

Similar action has already been taken by the Mayor and Commissioners of Roanoke Rapids, Scotland Neck, Enfield, Halifax and Hobgood. The Weldon endorsement to the Governor follows:

March 19, 1941

Hon. J. Melville Broughton,  
Governor of North Carolina,  
Raleigh, North Carolina

Your Excellency:

We, the undersigned Mayor and members of the Board of Commissioners of the town of Weldon, North Carolina, do each hereby endorse and respectfully request that you appoint Carroll L. Wilson of Roanoke Rapids, N. C. as Highway Commissioner.

Mr. Wilson is a graduate of Yale University of the class of 1919, and we know his education, training and administrative ability fully qualify him to discharge the duties and responsibilities of this high office.

Mr. Wilson is a man of the highest integrity, likeable and enjoys the full confidence of the people who know him. He was County Finance Chairman for the Roosevelt-Wallace campaign. He is President of the Young Democratic Club of Halifax County and has been County Chairman for the Jackson Day Dinners. He has always been a strong and active supporter of the Democratic Party and is impartial, unafraid and unbiased in matters of public and social interest.

We do each strongly recommend him for appointment to this high office, and if appointed, believe that he will serve in an exemplary manner most satisfactory to the citizens in the District involved and the State at large.

With assurances of our highest esteem and respect, we are

J. T. MADDREY  
Mayor

D. W. SEIFERT  
Commissioner

PIERCE JOHNSON  
Commissioner

W. A. PIERCE, JR.  
Commissioner

CURTIS R. TURNER  
Commissioner



Hundreds of interested spectators daily watch the big power shovel, pictured above, as it excavates for the basement of the building soon to be occupied by the J. C. Penny Co. on Roanoke Avenue, actual construction of which started this week.



The car shown above was a new model coach. It received the battering it took to change it into the object in the picture while its driver remained a passenger. And a very live one too. Incredibly but true, the young man, William Moseley of La Cross, Va., received only a slight cut as the machine turned over Friday morning, March 14, four times and pitched forward approximately 100 feet to land on its top, crushing it in as seen here. Rescuers worked almost two hours getting him out. Checked over at the hospital, he was found uninjured. The accident happened on the highway through Hillcrest Farm west of the city. (NewsKut by Brigman)



Above photo shows members of the faculty and student body of the William R. Davie school and county school officials as they participated in the junior-senior reception and banquet held there Friday night, March 14. (NewsKut by Brigman)

## ENLARGE BUSINESS DISTRICT

### Many Changes In Business Set-Up City's Main Stem

Stories of the new era of the "building boom" that has hit many cities over the country as a result of the nation's defense program are almost paralleled by the expansion taking place today right here on Roanoke Avenue. Many new buildings are going up on the city's main thoroughfare of commerce, and extensive alterations and additions are being made to other buildings in order to accommodate present occupants.

The "new appearance", which Roanoke Avenue bids fair to assume within a relatively short time, may be attributed to the normal expansion of this ever-growing city as a trading center, however, rather to any "boom" motivated by the defense program.

The first-of-the-week saw actual construction work start on the new building to be occupied by the J. C. Penny Stores Company, in the 1000 block on the Avenue. A large power shovel and a crew of workmen are now engaged in excavation work for the basement of the building, which will have a 50-ft. front on Roanoke Avenue—extending back 120-ft. The Penny store will be equivalent to a two-story building (with full basement) with offices located in the front of the building and a mezzanine floor occupying some 40-ft. at the rear of the building.

The building contract for the J. C. Penny store has been awarded to John W. Coffey and Son, of Raleigh, and John N. Coffey, superintendent of construction, estimates it will require approximately three-months to complete the building. Hugh P. Hill, Jr., superintendent of construction for the Penny organization, from the Atlanta office, was in the city today and expressed his pleasure at the progress made to date and estimated the store would be in operation here July 1st, it is said.

Work on the extension of the Southward store (adjacent to the Penny location) of the A & P Tea Co. will start just as soon as the "party wall" for the new Penny building has been completed. At present the A & P Tea Co. occupies a 50-ft. x 90-ft. store on Roanoke Avenue, but this store will be extended back to the alley giving a total floor space of 50 x 140-ft. It is understood that many new fixtures will be installed in A&P's new, larger headquarters here, and that the store will be one of the most modern and up-to-date to be found in the Carolinas when completed.

Just across the street from the (Continued on Page 8, Sec. A)

## MINSTREL STAGED TONIGHT

### Last Showing Is Friday Night At H.S. Auditorium

The eleventh annual Kiwanis Show, "All-American Follies of 1941", ran the curtain down on the first performance tonight at the high school auditorium, after showing to one of the largest and most appreciative audiences ever to see a Kiwanis presentation here. The second and final showing will start promptly tomorrow night at 8:15.

The 150-musical, minstrel, and skit performers "gave" for about two hours and the several hundreds in the large auditorium responded with enthusiastic cheers and encore calls.

The entire show was well cast and well directed. Not a dull moment allowed the audience to relax.

To name a few of those that might have been a bit more outstanding than the others, the "All Wet 'Girlies'" in the bathing beauty revue would probably head the list. Ray Rogers, Will Nelson, Shag Thorne, Shaker Teele, Virgil McDowell, John Dunn, Lou Yerger, and Frank Sherry strutted their stuff in this scene . . . one that is said to be typical of the "great American" scene.

The "Boarding House" number (Continued on Page 8, Sec. A)