



# THE ROANOKE RAPIDS HERALD

CAROLINA'S FIRST TABloid NEWSpaper



VOLUME XXVIII

ROANOKE RAPIDS, N. C.

THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 1943

NUMBER 34

To Train Cadets



GEORGE B. ROGERS

of Halifax, has been chosen to lecture to boys in Primary Flying School at their West Coast headquarters, about life and flying at Ryan Field, Tucson, Arizona. Full details will be found on Page 11 - Section B, this issue.

# Red Cross Drive Is Short Of Goal

**ALL RETURNS NOT YET IN; FEAR SHY OF \$10,000 GOAL**

While reports for the 1943 War Fund Drive of the local chapter of the American Red Cross are far from complete, on the basis of early indications, local chapter officials fear that a great deal more effort must be expended to meet their goal of \$10,000.00. Gordon L. Price, chairman of the local chapter, could not be reached for a statement before press time Thursday, but L. S. Neal, chairman of the roll call drive of the local chapter stated it appeared the drive was falling short so far.

The drive was started Monday, March 8th, and has continued with workers canvassing the local industries and business sections of Roanoke Rapids and outlying districts. (The local chapter includes the town of Littleton and much of the territory between the city and there.)

First reports were encouraging. It is known that several city industrial plants have actually topped the goal set for them, but it now appears the total goal set for the local chapter will not be reached without additional impetus being given the drive.

Just how this additional effort will be organized or what forms it would take, Mr. Neal hesitated to say in his preliminary report today, but stated he was confident officials of the local chapter would be able to work out something to supplement the funds already raised and thus reach the quota for Roanoke Rapids.

The War Activities Committee of the Motion Picture Industry has now completed its plans for the Special Red Cross appeal in theatres throughout the week of April 1st-7th, and this appeal will be made at local theatres, according to announcement made today by M. M. Wilson, city theatre manager.

## OTHO L. SMITH DIES TODAY AT HOSPITAL

Was Pioneer Resident Of City; Here When Mills Were Built

Otho Lee Smith, 72-year-old pioneer city resident died at Roanoke Rapids Hospital at 4 o'clock this morning. He had been in the best of health until he suffered an attack of appendicitis a week ago today. Funeral services will be conducted from the First Baptist Church tomorrow afternoon, Friday, March 26th, at 3:30 p. m. with Rev. Gordon Price officiating. Interment will follow in Roanoke Rapids Cemetery.

Mr. Smith was one of the oldest residents in the city, having first moved here in December, 1897, when he helped install the machinery at the "river mill," later serving as assistant superintendent for Roanoke Mills Co's. No. 1 mill. He was employed for a short time in Weldon as assistant superintendent at the two textile mills there operated by Mr. Shaw. Outside of a few years spent in Georgia, where he was interested in a plant manufacturing paper cones used in textile mills, he has been a resident of the city since 1897.

Returning to Roanoke Rapids in 1920, he established a laundry business here, and operated it until the plant burned in 1926. He then established the Ever-Ready Cleaners, and was active in its management up to the time of his death. He was also once interested with E. B. Glover in the furniture business here, and was an extensive local property owner.

Mr. Smith was born April 24th, 1870, near Greenville, South Carolina. He married Miss Georgina Wood, who survives him, on December 8th, 1898. At the time of his death he was secretary and treasurer of the Woodmen of the World, and was an active member of the First Baptist Church. He made his home with his wife and daughter, Mrs. T. B. Glover, at 107 Jackson Street, where the body will lie in state awaiting funeral services tomorrow.

Surviving Mr. Smith is his wife, Mrs. Georgina Wood Smith; two daughters, Mrs. W. G. Ellis of Asheville and Mrs. T. B. Glover of this city; one son, George O. Smith; 3 grandchildren, Eugene Glover, Yvonne Hayes and Margery Anne Smith; two sisters, Mrs. Anna Spence of Piedmont, S. C., and Mrs. Emmie Thompson of Greenville, S. C.; and one brother, J. C. Smith of Petersburg, Va.

## Ballet Dancers? No, WAACs In Training



Lady, remember all of those figure-slimming exercises you planned to take but never did? In the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps they do them and like them - really like them, for the carefully planned program of physical exercise prescribed for all trainees, prepares them for their duties with the Army and at the same time insures trim appearance and sparkling good health. You should try it.

## BOY VICTIM OF DROWNING AT JACKSON

Freak Accident Sunday Afternoon Takes Life Of Three Year Old Boy

Albert Freed Keller, Jr., 3-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Keller of Burlington, was drowned following an automobile accident near Jackson at 5 o'clock Sunday afternoon. Mrs. Patricia Kennedy Keller, the child's mother, and L. R. Keller, an uncle, who was a student of Duke University, escaped serious injury in the accident.

Details of the strange accident reveal that the child's foot struck the steering wheel of the car, driven by his uncle as he was in the act of climbing from the front to the back seat, causing the driver to lose control of the automobile and plunge into a bridge.

The child was thrown clear of the car into the water, where it was recovered some time later.

The party was returning to their homes from a visit to relatives in Norfolk. Mrs. Keller was given first-aid treatment at the Roanoke Rapids Hospital following the accident, but was released shortly after admittance.

Funeral services for the child were conducted in Burlington on Monday afternoon.

## INQUEST IN WEAVER CASE IS POSTPONED

Coroner Will Re-Open Hearing In Death Of Dick Weaver April 22

An investigation into the death of Dick Weaver, city textile worker, who was the city's first automobile fatality of the year, was conducted by County Coroner F. N. Rowe at the municipal building here last Friday afternoon.

At Friday afternoon's hearing Coroner Rowe, assisted by E. R. Tyler, solicitor for this district, and H. E. Dobbins, Chief-of-Police of Roanoke Rapids, examined state's witnesses behind closed doors. Although the jury had been summoned, they were not impaneled at Friday's hearing. Announcement was then made that the formal inquest would be postponed until Friday, April 2nd, at which time the jurors and witnesses were again summoned to appear.

Weaver was run over by a car driven by Raymond Johnson about 11 o'clock Saturday night, March 13th. Johnson took the injured man to the hospital where it was found his injuries included two broken legs and possible skull fracture. He died shortly after noon the following Tuesday.

## GASOLINE IS AVAILABLE FOR FISHING

But Non-Occupational Fishermen Still Worry How To Get To River

H. B. Speight, chairman of Halifax County Rationing Board No. 1, serving Roanoke Rapids, Weldon and Littleton townships, stated this afternoon that a certain amount of gasoline would be available for "non-occupational fishing" on the Roanoke River for the coming Rock Fish season, but that extra allowances for transportation to and from the river banks for non-occupational fishermen would not be granted.

Occupational or commercial fishermen, those who spend a great deal of the season on the river banks, will be called upon to visit the local rationing board and show their exact status before extra allowances will be made them, Speight said.

Gasoline coupons granted for use in water craft are "E" tickets, calling for one gallon for each ticket.

T. S. Johnson, state director of the OPA, in an interview this week pointed out that:

"As the ban on pleasure driving has been lifted, plus the fact that coupons applicable to water craft are not reduced, fishing trips will again be possible. This supplement of family food rations will be most welcome especially in those sections of the state where fishing abounds.

Willis King, supervisor of state fish resources of the Department of Conservation and Development, stated today that no signs of widespread joy have yet come to the department's attention, but that he expects it to be greeted with enthusiasm as soon as the implications are realized by the anglers.