



THE ROANOKE RAPIDS HERALD

CAROLINA'S FIRST
TABloid NEWSpaper



VOLUME XXVIII

ROANOKE RAPIDS, N. C.

THURSDAY, JULY 22, 1943

NUMBER 51

GARNER DEATH IS UNSOLVED

SATURDAY IS ELECTION DAY FOR TOBACCO

14 Polling Places In County Meetings Are Held

All producers engaged in the production of flue-cured tobacco in 1943 are eligible to vote in the tobacco referendum that will be held Saturday, July 24th, from 9 a. m. to 5 p. m.

Led by County Agent W. O. Davis, meetings will be held at Ringwood Cross Roads, at the white school house in Enfield, and the white school in Scotland Neck on Friday for the purpose of explaining the tobacco referendum. Similar meetings are currently being held at the Court House in Halifax, and at Littleton today.

Fourteen polling places in the county have been established for Saturday's voting on the referendum, and they are as follows: for the Brinkleyville, Essex and Hollister communities at Hollister; Glenview and Ringwood vote at Ringwood; Airlie and Aurelian Springs vote at the Aurelian Springs School; Conoconnara and Slashes communities vote at Tillery.

The election will be held in the Town Hall in Enfield for that section and for Hardrawee; Darlington and Heathville growers will vote at Darlington; the Halifax election will be held at the Court House; Calvary and Thelma, Weaver's Chapel and Littleton vote at the Town Hall, Littleton; growers in Palmyra section will vote either at the Mayor's office in Hobbard or Everett's Store, Palmyra.

Roseneath voting place will be at C. E. Cotten's Store; Dawson and Scotland Neck No. 1 and 2 vote at the Town Hall in Scotland Neck; Weldon votes at the Town Hall while growers of the Roanoke Rapids section will cast their ballots at Harrison's Gin.

NO "LOAFERS" AT MONDAY'S CITY COURT

An unusually light docket at city court was disposed of in short order at the regular Monday session this week by Mayor Kelly Jenkins.

The Governor's "work or fight" ultimatum recently handed down, obviously was responsible for not a single violation of the "no loafing" ordinance.

Altho' neither the city dads or county commissioners have as yet taken definite action outlawing the sale of beer on Sunday, observers report that its scarcity coupled with the fact that most "beer emporiums" are closed for business on the Sabbath, resulted in it sort of "freezing itself."

CORPORAL



Cpl. Wm. T. O'Berry, shown above, is the son of Mrs. Della L. O'Berry, 1924 South Roanoke Ave. He is a former employee of Halifax Paper Co., and married Miss Shirley Moore, of Triplet, Va., who is making her home with her parents for the duration.

FUNERAL FOR WOODRUFF IS HELD MONDAY

Soldier Who Died On West Coast Given Military Rites

Funeral Services with full military honors were given Sgt. Grover Woodruff, son of Mrs. Mary E. Woodruff, at the Roanoke Rapids Cemetery here Monday evening at 7 p. m. The local man died from drowning on Saturday, July 10th, at Moses Lake, Washington. The body arrived Monday afternoon accompanied by Sgt. Baron Kinsey of the Army Air Corps, who was stationed at the Washington State post.

Mrs. Woodruff was notified of her son's death last week, by a wire from the company commandant, stating that a letter of detail would follow. Mrs. Woodruff received a letter from army officials this morning, but said that few details surrounding the death of her son were divulged, stating they had not completed their investigation.

It is thought, however, that he was not killed while on maneuvers. It is said that Sgt. Woodruff had recently arrived at Lake Moses, Wash., and after the completion of one or more short classes, expected to be shipped overseas. Sgt. Kinsey, who accompanied the body of the Roanoke Rapids man, knew little of the circumstances surrounding his death, and was not a close personal friend of Woodruff's, but spoke highly of his splendid record with (Continued on Page 8—Sec. A)

HOLD NEGRO FOR THEFTS AT HOSPITAL

James West, 17-year old colored boy who lives in the Lincoln Heights section, was arrested at noon today by City officer Clayton Matthews, and is being held in city jail in default of \$100. bond on charges of stealing several cartons of fine surgical steel blades used in the operating room at the local hospital. The Negro had been employed as an orderly there for several weeks. Hospital attendants are conducting a further check for goods that might have been stolen during the tenure of his employ there.

The arrest of the young Negro boy came about when he sold a pocket knife to Stanley Clark, who was then employed at the lunch counter in the local bus terminal, for the sum of ten cents. Clark reported to Officer Matthews that he bought the knife in good faith. His suspicion was aroused when West returned and tried to "buy back" the knife. When Clark stated his reluctance to part with it, the colored boy offered him a carton of six fine steel surgical blades in trade.

Clark accepted the latter bargain, and suspecting the blades had been stolen, turned them over to Matthews, who investigated the case resulting in the arrest of the colored youth today. Hospital attaches reported the blades were valuable, and particularly hard to obtain today because of the acute shortage of fine surgical steel. Several cartons of them were found to be missing. Because of their small size (they are about two inches in length) it would be comparatively easy for an attendant in the operating room to hide several packages of them on his person.

COUNTY LADY IS SAFE AS A JAP PRISONER

Relatives of Mrs. Harry M. Hodges, Jr., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Taylor of near Enfield, and a sister of Lt. Col. T. J. Taylor, former staff member of Roanoke Rapids Hospital, have received word from the Office of the Provost Marshal General in Washington, that the Halifax County woman, who was interned in Manila by the Japanese, is safe and in good health.

The war department stated that efforts to verify the message had not proved successful. The letter is reported to have said that since Jan. 1, 1943, Mrs. Hodges has been at the University of Santo Tomas, Manila, along with other British and Dutch civilians.

Her husband, Harry Hodges, is a former Carolina athlete and a coach at Gullford College. He is a son of H. M. Hodges of Fayetteville. (Continued on Page 8—Sec. A)

GETS WINGS



Lt. Carlton L. Grissom, received his commission and wings as a pilot at Douglas, Arizona, on June 22nd. Lt. Grissom visited his mother and relatives at their home, 907 Madison St., recently, and has now returned to his new base at Pyote, Texas.

LEE TO PITCH IN CITY OVER THE WEEK-END

Romancos To Play Two Double-Headers With Concord

Coach Claude "Wimpy" Plott and his flashy Concord Cannonballs will roll in this week-end to clash with Coach Doug Worsham and his State Champion Romancos. The visitors will be here for a double-header Friday night at the Romanco's home base, Ledgerwood Park, and will remain overnight and clash with the Romancos again Saturday night in a double-header. Starting time both nights will be 8:15 p. m.

Howard Pruden, business manager of the Romancos, announced today that a big surprise would be in store for local softball fans Friday and Saturday night. Dick "Swink" Lee, former Romanco ace pitcher who teamed up with Russ DeBerry for three years to hang up one of the greatest records in the country, and make the Romanco softball team known from coast to coast, will pitch a part of the double-header Friday and Saturday night. Lee is home on leave from an Army Medical unit which is stationed at McDill Field, Fla. It will probably be the last time Russ DeBerry and Swink Lee team up together for the duration.

Coach Claude Plott has made a great record in softball for the past five or six years in the Western part of the State. His Concord Cannonball teams are always rated tops in his section. In addition to coaching and managing the (Continued on Page 8—Sec. A)

BODY FOUND TUESDAY ON SAL TRACKS

Last Seen At 2 A. M. By Wife; Money Is Missing

A coroner's inquest into the death of C. Leslie Garner, whose badly mangled body was found on the Seaboard railroad tracks just back of his home within a few hundred feet of the depot, resulted in a verdict of: "We, your coroner's jury, are unable to render a verdict from the evidence presented, and recommend that a further and fuller investigation be made."

The jury debated some 30-minutes, after hearing half-dozen or more witnesses to-night.

The 25-year old insurance agent is reported to have been last seen by his wife, Mrs. Glenn Long Garner, when he returned to his home on Henderson St. about two o'clock Tuesday morning. It is reported he told his wife he was going to step outside the house for a few minutes before retiring, and that she dropped off to sleep, and did not know of the tragedy until shortly after 6 o'clock that morning when his remains were discovered by Vester Finch, local textile worker walking down the tracks on his way to the mill where he works.

Coroner Rowe immediately impanelled a jury which visited the scene of the accident, and viewed the remains. Local officers and Seaboard detectives are reported to have been investigating the case.

Young Garner had been an agent for the Southern Dixie Life Insurance Co., of which Stuart G. Wilson is local manager, for nearly two years. He was formerly employed in local textile mills here. Wilson reports Garner was engaged Saturday and Monday getting in the bulk of his monthly collections and should have had between \$150. and \$200. on his person Monday night, prior to his regular check-up at the insurance office Tuesday. Relatives report he is known to have worn a money belt. No evidence of the belt was found on the remains, and only a small amount of change was reported found in one pants pocket when the body was discovered.

It is supposed Garner's body was run over by one, or possibly two Southbound freight trains, which passed through the city on their way to Norlina between 3 and 4 o'clock Tuesday morning. Parts of the body were found for a distance of 50 to 60 feet up and down the right-of-way of the Seaboard tracks.

The coroner's jury was composed of: J. V. Moore, J. W. Shay, Lloyd (Continued on Page 8—Sec. A)