

REMEMBER

Vernon Edgar Whitley, Marvin William Scott, William H. Camp, Jr., Robert E. May, R. H. McCommons, James W. Whitley, Grover Woodruff, Winfield Hasty, Daniel E. Faison, Robert Lee Moore, Curtis E. West, Edgar H. King, Robert Lee Ingram, Thomas A. Cooper, Marvin F. Matkins, James G. Whitley, Thos. H. Cook, Jr., Elmer E. Chambliss, Randall White, Robert L. Harris, Joseph A. Crouch, Davie L. Harper, Brutus W. Rook, Robt. E. Northington, Eugene Basill Glover, William C. Moody, Frank W. Harris, Wayne C. Green, Rufus S. Finch, Lawrence W. Myrick, Walter G. Cooley, Charlie L. Whitley, Melbourne Barry Jones, Robert A. Rogers, Rufus J. T. Woodruff, Clinton P. Deberry, Herbert S. Edwards, H. Charles Leatherwood, Jr., John Wayne Thomas, Alex Bullock, Jr., Frank P. Hunter, Cecil Coburn, Wilbur Anderton.



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VEPCO WORKERS' STRIKE IS SCHEDULED NEXT MONDAY

Softball League May Start Season May 1

A very successful meeting of several citizens interested in organizing a softball league in Roanoke Rapids was held last Tuesday night in the Municipal Building. Industrial plants represented were: Halifax Paper Company, Roanoke Mill No. 1, Roanoke Mill No. 2, Rosemary Company and Patterson Mills Company.

From interest, enthusiasm and tentative plans it appears that Roanoke Rapids will again have old-time softball this season. A five team league is assured with six clubs as a possibility—Rosemary Manufacturing Company may have two entries.

Officers elected at the meeting are: President Thornton Wilson; secretary, George Gurley; directors, Henry W. Ellerson, Jr., William Poindexter, Robert Rogers, Bob Ryles and Jimmie Cranford.

Henry Loy was unanimously elected Amateur Softball Association commissioner for this district and will be recommended to the state association.

Another meeting will be scheduled at an early date at which plans will be completed and it is believed that play will begin about May 1.

Tournament Is Broken Up By Gun Play

The Negro basketball tournament in the gymnasium of the Garysburg school was broken up Saturday night when Morris Long pulled a pistol from his pocket and started shooting. A Negro girl was wounded.

Sheriff J. C. Stephenson, of Northampton County, said the object of Long's wrath was Charlie Moody who Long accused of stepping on his toe. The bullet missed Moody and struck his sister, Geneva Moody, in the shoulder, the sheriff said. The girl was taken to Roanoke Rapids hospital for treatment.

FOR HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

To the Voters of Halifax County:

I hereby announce my candidacy for the office of representative from Halifax County to the General Assembly, subject to the Democratic primary May 25, 1946. Your vote and support will be appreciated.

W. J. COLLIER,
Littleton, N. C., Route 1.

First In History

For the first time in the history of the Roanoke Rapids Police Department, it was said today, every arrest made over the week-end here was white, including one woman. No negroes were arrested for any law violation.

County Board Of Elections Holds Meet

The County Board of Elections in a meeting last Saturday, elected S. W. Dickens, of Enfield, chairman, and Robert C. Shields of Scotland Neck, secretary.

The filing time for all legislative, county and township offices expires at 6 p. m., Saturday, April 13. Notices of candidacy must be in the possession of the board by that time or they cannot be accepted.

The chairman of the board will be in the auditor's office in the Court House at Halifax on Saturday, April 13, from 11 a. m., to 6 p. m., to receive filing notices. However, notices may be mailed to the chairman at Enfield at any time prior to that day. Blanks may be obtained from the board.

Rosemary PTA Meeting April 3rd

The Rosemary School Parent-Teacher Association will have regular monthly meeting at 3:30 o'clock, Wednesday afternoon, April 3.

A feature of the afternoon will be an illustrated talk by Miss Clara Horne, on "Birds of North Carolina." Miss Hearne is President of the North Carolina Bird Club and has a thorough knowledge of the birds in our State, particularly those in this section gained through study and observation. Slides will be shown to illustrate the talk. All parents are cordially invited.

Additional entertainment will be provided by a group of children selected from the various grades who will join in a singing program, under the supervision of Miss Margaret Manning.

Negro Is Scheduled To Die On April 5th

Thomas Hart, Halifax County negro, is scheduled to die in the gas chamber at State's Prison, Raleigh, Friday, April 5. The State Supreme Court handed down a decision last week upholding Halifax County Superior Court in the conviction of Hart of first degree murder.

The negro was found guilty last fall for the murder of Marjorie Blackwood, Negro, and the second-degree murder of her brother, Al Preston Blackwood, on the Thomas Myrick farm near Littleton last August 1. The murders followed a quarrel Hart had with Marjorie.

The chief point at issue before the State Supreme Court in the Hart case was whether the Halifax court erred in refusing to set aside a verdict and order a new trial on the ground that it was improper, unfair, and prejudicial for a witness for the State, Halifax Deputy Sheriff J. A. Draper, also to serve as an officer of the jury. Another question was whether the defendant as a matter of right is entitled to have an adverse verdict set aside and a new trial ordered when he made no objection at the time.

The record in the case shows that the Halifax Court, the State and the defendant all were inadvertent to the fact that Draper was serving as a sworn officer of the jury at the time the State tendered and swore him as a witness.

Clara Hearne PTA Meeting Next Tuesday

The Clara Hearne Parent-Teachers Association will meet Tuesday afternoon at 2:00 for the purpose of discussing finances in relation to the child and family. This meeting will be the last regular one of the current year. Children are invited.

Speakers on the program will be Mrs. David C. Clark who will discuss "The Family Pocketbook;" Mrs. Edward Manning who will speak on "Allowances Provide Children with Valuable Experience." A film, "Where Your Money Goes," will be shown after the discussions.

Refreshments will be served.

Negotiations Between Union And Company Break Down; Public Warned to Prepare For Shutting Off of Power

2 White Men Placed Under Heavy Bonds

Roland Bishop and Kelly Enright, both white, have been arrested and charged with breaking and entering and larceny at Humphrey's Esso Service Station at the junction. The alleged crime was committed on March 18.

Bishop was arrested in Norfolk and returned here by Chief of Police H. E. Dobbins. Enright was picked up in Roanoke Rapids. They are being held for trial in Halifax Superior Court, Bishop's bond being set at \$1200 and Enright's at \$1000.

High School Band Concert On April 11

The Roanoke Rapids High School Concert Band under its director, R. I. Finley, will present its annual spring concert Thursday night, April 11, at 8 o'clock in the High School auditorium. Great pains are being taken by Mr. Finley and the band members to make this an enjoyable evening of music for all who will attend.

A wide variety of music will be offered on this program, including military marches, overtures, a tone poem, various selections and light music written by Vincent Youmans and the late Jerome Kern.

This annual concert is always the high spot in the year's activities for the band. In fact, the director and members begin to prepare for it as soon as school opens in September. There will be an admission charge of \$.50 for adults and \$.25 for children.

FOR THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

To the voters of Halifax County:

I hereby announce my candidacy for the State Legislature as a member of the North Carolina House of Representatives. Your support and influence will be appreciated.

JOSEPH BRANCH,
Enfield, N. C.

Contract negotiations between the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and the Virginia Electric & Power Company collapsed completely yesterday and the impending strike of the power and line workers of the company will come sometime Monday unless something of an unforeseen nature develops to prevent it.

Roanoke Rapids will be affected by the strike, there being about 100 employes in this area involved. The city will be completely without electric power. No arrangements have been made with local union officials to keep service to the city water plant, hospital or any other institution involving the public, it was learned today.

If the strike actually comes off as scheduled, said a prominent business man, it will create a serious situation within a short time. Another man, high in business circles and affairs of the city, without allowing his name to be used, said that "there should be some way to safeguard the public health at least, and suggested that a citizens committee, headed by the Mayor and composed of 15 or 20 business men, may, if formed, and acted quickly, could persuade local union officials to render emergency service to the water system and hospital.

Mayor Kelly Jenkins was out of the city today and could not be reached for an opinion on this suggestion. However, other city officials spoke freely in favor of the idea.

In Richmond, J. G. Holtzclaw, president of the power company, issued a statement expressing his regret that negotiations had broken down. He said the company had agreed to meet a union demand for a wage increase of approximately 20 per cent, which would make "wages of Veeco employees in this bargaining unit 57 per cent above the wages in effect Jan. 1, 1941." Mr. Holtzclaw added that he felt this offer met the company's obligation to give its employees good working conditions and wages in keeping with the wages of persons doing similar work in this area.

Virginia's Gov. Tuck earlier this week announced he would declare an emergency to exist unless he had assurances from the company and the union that there would be no interruption of power. Previously he had said the state would take over and operate properties of VEPCO if the threatened strike materializes.

No such action in North Carolina. (Continued on page 8—Sect. A)