

Maybe He's Right Your editor has a 16-year-old son, named Walter, who is quite diligent in writing to his father. The last few lines of his last letter were amusing, so I am letting you in on a look-see at them: "We have only 3 more days until school is out and I feel sure they will be the longest ones I have ever spent in school. "I have finally figured out why we have schools. It is not to teach a person to think for himself, but to keep him out of mischief. (I seem to get into enough of it anyway) The only reason that the girls go to school, too, is to make the boys more willing to go. They use them as bait."

What Roanoke Rapids Makes - Makes Roanoke Rapids

VOLUME XXXII

Harness Racing Season Opens At Chockoyotte

Without out of town race fans, some of them from as far away as South Carolina, comprising a major part of the crowds, Chockoyotte Park was the scene for the opening of the 1947 schedule of the Atlantic Coast Racing Circuit on Saturday and Sunday, May 31 and June 1. The fame of Chockoyotte one of the fastest tracks between New York and Florida, having been spread far and wide since. Last year when records fell in bunches here, approximately 1200 fans witnessed some fast harness racing on each of the two days.

RECORD FALLS

In the free-for-all pace, Colgate, owned by Blackwell Pierce, of Weldon, brought down his own record of 2:10 (which he had tied in the first heat) to 2:09 and four fifths in the second.

SATURDAY RESULTS

Results of opening day races were: 2:28 trot-Majel, owned by Waters and Robbins, of Washington, N. C.; first; Shirley Temple, T. E. Glover, Roanoke Rapids entry, second; Scottie Hanover, W. A. Horner, of Richmond, Va., third. Time: 2:20.8. Second heat ended in the same order but the time was 2:24.4. 2:23 pace-Irish Hanover, Tommy Crank, owner, of Elizabeth City; Sunlight, C. Horner entry of Waverly, Virginia; Marion Benjamin, Jr., Taylor, Washington, N. C., Time 2:18.4. The second heat ended in the same order in the time of 2:16.8.

SUNDAY RESULTS

2:28 pace-First heat: Clint Stone, owned by D. M. Jackson, of Elizabeth City; Charlie Boy, W. A. Horner, owner, of Richmond, Va.; Tommie R. Direct, owned by Mr. Benthal of Suffolk, Va. Time: 2:18 and three-fifths. In the second heat Charlie Boy took it away from both Tommie R. Direct, who finished second, and Clint Stone and came in at 2:19.

RETURN TO CHOKOYOTTE 21st.

Following the races here, the racing circuit moved to Elizabeth City and from there will go to Suffolk, Va. Next racing at the local track will be on the 21st and 22nd, of this month.

Students Escape Death As Bus Smashes Auto

Five Weldon High School students miraculously escaped serious injury and possibly death about 10:30 a. m., Tuesday when the automobile in which they were riding was struck and completely demolished by a northbound passenger bus north of Weldon. The students, riding in a car belonging to John A. Sutter, of Garysburg, and driven by his daughter, Elisabeth, were on their way to see the fire which had destroyed Bell's Service Station, a few hours earlier. The car was dragged approximately 40 feet after having been struck by the bus, but neither of the occupants of the smaller vehicle nor any of the bus passengers were hurt. Highway Patrolman A. F. Fields, who investigated the accident, said the action of the driver in looking for his brakes and sliding approximately 30 feet before the im-

CHIEF CALLS FOR COOPERATION OF LOCAL PARENTS

Cooperation of parents in keeping children out of the city streets during the summer vacation months was requested today by Police Chief T. J. Davis in an interview with a representative of the Herald. In asking the parents to observe the precautions which could prevent possible tragedy, Chief Davis pointed out that much of the ball playing in the busier streets which has taken place during past years very easily be transferred to the safer location of a city park.

Youth Dies As Auto Goes Into Spin

David Hale, 24, of Enfield, died en route to a hospital following an automobile accident which occurred late Tuesday night about a half mile west of Enfield on state highway 481. Johnnie Serie, also of Enfield, driver of the car, suffered minor bruises and shock in the accident which happened when he lost control of the vehicle as it was rounding a curve. As the car turned over, Hale was thrown out and fatally injured. Corporal C. L. Teague, state highway patrolman, reported. The automobile was proceeding west on highway 481 in the direction of Enfield and turned over several times after it went out of control. Taking part in the investigation along with Teague were Deputy Sheriff C. F. Strickland and Coroner Rufus Britton. A coroner's inquest will be held Friday night at 7:30.

Senator Allsbrook Among Guests of Officer Group

The regular monthly meeting of the Halifax County Law Enforcement Officers Association was held Wednesday evening at the New Rosemary Cafe in Roanoke Rapids. The association, composed of all the law enforcement officers in Halifax County had present as guests during its dinner meeting last night, State Senator Julian R. Allsbrook, J. T. Chase, Roanoke Rapids mayor; Howard Pruden and James Sears, city commissioners; Solicitor Ernest Tyler, H. W. Zimmerman, State Bureau of Investigation, and Jesse Helms, local radio announcer. The association is headed by Sheriff H. A. House and Roanoke Rapids Police Chief T. J. Davis is vice-president.

Former Resident Elected President of Biltmore College

Major Ray Sumner, former resident of Roanoke Rapids, has been elected by the board of trustees of Biltmore College, Asheville, as president of the college. Major Sumner will assume the duties of his new position on June 5 with the summer session of the college. While in Roanoke Rapids Major Sumner was manager of the War Manpower Commission and made many friends here. He is still a frequent visitor to the city. Since leaving Roanoke Rapids he has been a member of the college faculty at Oak Ridge Military Institute.

Fire Destroys Service Station Near Weldon

Fire of undetermined origin completely destroyed Bell's Service Station, one and one-half miles north of Weldon on Highway 301 early Tuesday morning. The Weldon fire department answered a call at 3 a. m., but upon arriving at the scene of the blaze found themselves unable to save the building.

Enfield Firm Gets \$15,000 REA Loan

Washington, D. C., June 2. 1947. Congressman John E. Kerr announced today that the Rural Electrification Administration informed him that they had approved an application for a loan to the Halifax Electric Membership Corporation. The loan in the amount of \$15,000 will be used for the construction of office headquarters in Enfield. Mr. Blufford Dunn is president of this corporation.

Alexander Is Named Successor To Commissioner G.H. Johnson

Collier Is Elected Head Of City Commissioners

M. D. Collier, long time veteran of the Roanoke Rapids Board of Commissioners, was elected chairman of the new board in its first meeting since its installation Tuesday afternoon. Mayor J. T. Chase, presiding over his first meeting since taking the oath of office on Monday, gave prompt attention to appointment of finance, fire and street committees and an additional committee to study the means of effecting better street lighting. Named on the finance committee: A. M. Cameron and J. W. Sears and on the street committee: Collier and W. H. Pruden. Pruden was also appointed to work with the sanitary department on mosquito control and, in this connection, the board approved a program of spraying DDT which was carried out last year under the supervision of Street Superintendent George E. Justice. Mayor Chase, Collier and Pruden will form a committee to study the contract with the Virginia Electric & Power Company and report to the board on ways of improving lighting on the city's streets. The mayor and Chief of Police T. J. Davis were to investigate the system of bus stops throughout the city and report to the board in that respect at a continuation of the meeting next Tuesday afternoon.

Monthly Water Sales Show Big Increase

Three hundred million nine hundred fifty thousand gallons of water were consumed by Roanoke Rapids residents during the period January 1 through May 31, according to figures supplied by B. E. Lancaster, superintendent of the Roanoke Rapids Sanitary District, today. The three hundred million and odd gallons represented an increase of approximately forty million gallons over the quantity distributed for the same period in 1946. From January 1 to June 1, 1946, 261,783,000 gallons were distributed and \$29,070.47 was collected.

Playgrounds Draw 1,300 In Two Days

Coach Cranford Hoyle, director of the city recreation for the summer, revealed today that the overall attendance at the playgrounds for the first two days greatly exceeded the 1300 mark. Leading the attendance was the Central School playground which recorded 380 youths in the two morning and afternoon sessions. Clara Hearne School was the runner-up to Central with 350 attendance in the four periods. Vance Street School also reached the 300 bracket, but Rosemary School, which included boys mostly, fell short of the latter figure as they totaled only 260.

Former Official Resigns June 3; Left Post Vacant

Home Building Continues Rise Through May

Permits for building at an estimated cost of \$127,550 were issued by the Roanoke Rapids city building inspector during May, which, although representing a general decline from the \$188,450 figure registered during the same month in 1946, under breakdown reveals continuation of the phenomenal rise in home construction shown in a compilation of April figures.

NEW COMMISSIONER LONG ACTIVE IN BUSINESS LIFE

Appointment of C. Shields Alexander, of Scotland Neck, as a member of the Halifax County Board of Commissioners to succeed G. Herbert Johnson who resigned, effective Monday, June 3, was announced today by George A. Hux, clerk of Superior Court. Johnson, also of Scotland Neck, a county commissioner since December 7, 1942, and in public life since 1901, gave poor health as the reason for his resignation. He had recently resigned his post as a member of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board. In announcing the appointment of Alexander, Hux said he had canvassed the field of possibilities in the four townships which comprise the district, Conococton, Scotland Neck, Rosemead and Palmyra, and had found that Alexander was favored by a large number of persons. Hux said he had received numerous letters of endorsement of Mr. Alexander from citizens in the area and he is sure Mr. Alexander's services will not only be a credit to himself, but a credit to Halifax County and the people in his district. Mr. Alexander is a well known business man of Scotland Neck. He is 53 years of age and was born in Scotland Neck. Until her recent death Mr. Alexander's mother had resided in Littleton since 1925, and he has two sisters who now live in Littleton and have for several years, Mrs.

Check Bounces, Writer Tripped; Auto Returned, But It's Stripped

Several weeks ago Sam Ewell, Enfield business man, "sold" an automobile and was "paid" by the buyer with a check for \$1,000. Soon after the "sale," Ewell discovered the check was no good and the law was set out in search of his automobile and the purchaser. This week, the car was recovered and returned to him, but ruefully, reported Ewell, it returned minus a spare tire and, during its absence, several windows had been smashed and the motor had suffered from overheating. Lodged in Nash County jail after having been arrested in Rocky Mount this week, was a negro, at various times giving his name as Johnnie C. Clark, James Clark and Sambo Clark, who, during those various times, had, it was alleged, affixed his current name to, and passed, several phony checks. One of these resilient pieces of paper, it was further reported for \$1,000, was given in Henderson in payment for purchase of an automobile. Since it was also reported that Clark, whether Johnnie C. James or Sambo, had passed another in Enfield, it is generally assumed that it, as well, was in the amount of \$1,000 and -like its ill-fated brother in Henderson- was tendered as payment for purchase of an automobile.

Nursing School Chooses Entry

The title "Miss Roanoke Rapids Hospital School of Nursing for 1947" has been awarded Miss Margaret Nelson of Vaughan, N. C., it was announced today by Mrs. Mary P. Bounds, director of the school. Miss Nelson was selected for the honor among the 44 local student nurses on the basis of personal appearance, aptitude for nursing and spirit of service. As recipient of the title, Miss Nelson will compete against winners from 38 other schools of nursing in North Carolina for the coveted title of "Miss North Carolina Student Nurse of 1947." Her photograph and a statement of her qualifications have been forwarded to headquarters of the State Nurses' Association in Raleigh by officials of the local nursing school. The next step in the elimination process in the state will be a grouping of the 38 winners into nine groups corresponding to the nine nursing districts in the state. The board of directors of the Nurses' Association in each of the respective districts will serve as judges, and will announce their selections not later than June 21 in the second round eliminations. The lucky nine who survive this second round will be guests of the North Carolina Hospital Association in Raleigh on July 4th for final judging. The winner of this last elimination will be awarded the title of "Miss North Carolina Student Nurse of 1947," a title which will be accompanied by an all-expense-paid vacation at the beach or some other suitable award.

Job Openings Decrease Here Figures Show

Job seekers now outnumber available jobs in Roanoke Rapids and job openings are decreasing, according to an announcement this week by Elton C. Parker, manager of the local office of the U. S. Employment Service. This is, in part, accounted for by the fact that high school and college students are now seeking summer employment to occupy their vacations. At the end of April there were 120 job openings listed with the local office, but at the end of last month this figure had slumped to 86. One hundred and sixty-three persons meeting employer specifications were referred to local business establishments during May, of which number 60 were veterans of World War II. Although there has been an increase in the number of job seekers (there are now 201, including 65 World War II vets, listed) claims for unemployment compensation and readjustment allowances have been kept at a minimum since the first of the year with the past month showing little or no increase. In releasing the information, Parker requested all employers to list their job openings with the local office in order that qualified persons may be referred to them.

Local Girls Graduate From Woman's College

Four local girls are among the seniors who graduated from the Woman's College of the University of North Carolina Monday morning. They are Misses Katherine Wood, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Wood, 314 Jackson street; Miss Helen E. Daughtry, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Daughtry, 306 Hamilton street; Marilyn F. Vincent, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Vincent, star route, and Evelyn Nancy Shaw, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John A. Shaw, star route.

Halifax County Court House News

Results of cases tried in Superior Court this week were: Moses Easter, Roanoke Rapids negro, found guilty of fornication and adultery and placed on good behavior probation for two years and to pay costs of court. Claud Harris, colored, also of Roanoke Rapids, found guilty of a crime against nature and sentenced to from three to five years in state penitentiary. Maggie Davis of Roanoke Rapids, found guilty of damaging personal property, was given a six months' suspended jail sentence on condition that she pay costs of court and pay Dorothy Hobbs \$50 damages. She was also placed on two years good behavior probation. J. H. Everett of Rocky Mount, found guilty of issuing a worthless check and proper judgment was continued for two years on payment of costs. Buster Davis, Enfield negro, was found guilty of breaking and entering. He was given an 18 months' suspended sentence on condition he pay a fine of \$50 and costs of court. He was placed on good behavior for five years. Robert Lee Carter, 14-year-old Weldon negro, charged with rape, entered a plea of guilt to assault and was sentenced to from two to four years in the state penitentiary. Douglas White and Lewis Lynch, charged with assault with intent to kill, were released when the jury failed to agree. Roger Avery and Hilliard Peterson were charged with assault and robbery. The state took a nolle proesse as to Peterson. Avery was found guilty of forcible trespass and given two years' probation and ordered to pay costs of court. Reginald Taylor, Weldon negro, charged with secret assault and robbery, was found guilty of highway robbery and given from seven to 10 years in the state penitentiary. Mr. and Mrs. Francis Taylor and son, Francis Allen, of Colerain, spent the week end in town with relatives. Mrs. Nettie Morris spent Sunday in Rocky Mount with Mrs. A. T. Griffin.

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REMODELING

J. F. Rochelle, screen porch addition to residence, \$1,000; J. M. Vincent, repairs to residence on Hamilton Street between Second and Third Streets, \$1,000; J. V. Finch, addition to present building on "B" Street between Railroad and 3rd Streets, \$3,900.

New Mayor, City Board Take Office

Mayor J. T. Chase and members of the Board of Commissioners were sworn in Monday before Justice of the Peace A. E. Akers in the Municipal Building, providing Roanoke Rapids with several new office holders. Heading the list of recently elected and incumbent city officials sworn in was the mayor who took the oath at 9:30 a. m. following which he presided over his first session of Mayor's Court. Under a new law, the three incumbent commissioners, R. I. Starke, W. H. Pruden and M. D. Collier, were sworn in anew in addition to the three new members of the board: A. M. Cameron, D. C. Clarke and J. W. Sears.

Guest Speaker At Bethlehem Baptist Church

Rev. Lee Pridgen, associational missionary of the Tar River Association, will be guest speaker at Bethlehem Church June 15 at 8 o'clock in the afternoon and again at 8 in the evening. The pastor of the church extends a cordial invitation to the public to attend these services.

Awarded Degrees

Misses Edith Burg and Amanda Jane Tillman of this city have been awarded the degree of master of arts by Teachers College, Columbia University, Dr. Milton C. Del Manso, provost, announced today. The degree was conferred Tuesday at the 1947 annual commencement exercises of Columbia University.