

AVID HARUM STORY
Farmer: "Be this the Woman's Exchange?"
Woman: "Yes."
Farmer: "Be you the woman?"
Woman: "Yes."
"Then, then I think I'll keep Maggie."

BE BETTER BOYS
There is a judge around here who is prone to pass up a murder case before he'd miss a chance to sentence a thief—he hates stealing just that much.

The tale is told that he was once in the position of presiding over the trial of four young boys charged with stealing over a thousand dollars worth of cigarettes. It was their first arrest—their first black mark.

The trial over and their guilt decided, the judge calmly looked them over — there they stood before the bar of justice, the eldest of them not 21—awaiting sentence.

"Boys," began the judge in a kindly tone of voice. "I'm sorry to see you all in this court. You're such fine looking boys. You should be just now starting out in life. But — you've been arrested — you've had a fair trial and you've been found guilty; and your fate is in my hands."

"Here he sighed. "I'm going to have to put you boys away for a little while, but I want you all to accept this in the spirit in which it is given. I want you to regard it as a deserved punishment and to take it as a lesson. When you come back I want you all to be better citizens and better boys than you were when you committed this crime."

"Mr. Clerk — I want it put down here that these boys will be confined to the state prison at Raleigh, North Carolina, at hard labor for a period not less than twenty-nine and not more than thirty years."

As we said at the start, he just didn't believe in stealing—period.

Said one colored boy just back from the war to another: "Boy! Dem English has a gun dat'll shoot 25 miles!"

"Shoot, big boy," replied the other, "Dem Germans has one all dey needs is yo' address!" (Archibald Rutledge.)

LE DELUGE
We trust our efficient sports writer, Wiley Warren, will pardon our intrusion into his field just this once but we thought you might get a lift out of this story.

Last week when the Jays went on their rampage against the New Bern lads and base hits were flying around like you-know-what-was-flying-around-last-month several fans sitting in the stands next to the Rambler were discussing two ball games in which a touring team called the Florida All-Stars took part.

In the first game, the boys from the Peninsula State trounced Seaboard in a wild-swinging affair very badly — the exact score the Rambler didn't catch, but this fan said the All-Stars hit 28 home runs. It was so bad that, even though starting the tilt at two o'clock, they had to call it on account of darkness was played against a Weldon nine and after eight straight home runs in one inning each of which went through a different pane of glass in a business establishment just across from the diamond) the Weldon team decided to quit. (A decision which was helped along by the appearance on the scene of the irate owner of the window glass, accompanied by various and sundry representatives of the town constabulary.)

Policeman: "Open the door, lady, I have your husband here. He was run over by a steam roller."
Lady: "I'm not dressed to see anybody; push him under the door and call a doctor."

AH, THE BEACH!
The Rambler continues his visits to the beaches of the nation! He was almost cured of his desire to visit same last week. And this is how it all transpired:

After stretching out on the bleak wind-swept sands at Virginia Beach last Sunday (first covering up with a nice warm blanket as only a true tourist will do) he was roused suddenly by the peeping out of the sun which had finally arrived from North Carolina.

Rubbing his eyes, he looked around the beach and an encounter with three objects a few yards down the beach which looked very much like alligators. Huge dark objects moving around at intervals were — and fearsome to behold. They wriggled and they writhed. They raised up and then they rolled. The Rambler was torn between a desire to quit the locality and that of becoming a hero by saving the common people!

Should he run or should he attack the beast? (His sole armament consisted of one soft drink bottle and a paper pie plate for a shield.) He was saved from making a hasty decision by the sudden appearance of a foot at which time he realized that they were only human beings like himself—covered with blankets to keep off the wind—who had fallen asleep and were changing position at intervals as first one and then another spot became uncomfortable.

HERE AND THERE DEPARTMENT
That genial gent who "ases" for the taxes — A. E. Akers — was up in Roanoke, Virginia, this

(Continued on page four—next A.)

What Roanoke Rapids Makes — Makes Roanoke Rapids

Local National Guard Unit Officially Recognized At Friday Night Inspection

Company E, 119th Regiment, 30th Infantry Division, North Carolina National Guard, was officially recognized by the federal government last Friday night when Major Pierce, of Raleigh, Third Army representative, inspected the local unit—it was announced this week by Captain Raleigh Seay.

District Governor To Visit



Leonard V. Huggins

On July 28 the local Rotary Club will host to Leonard V. (Vic) Huggins, governor of the 19th District of Rotary International, a district which includes 36 clubs on Northeastern North Carolina.

Huggins will visit the local club to advise and assist President Ben Lancaster, Secretary Richard M. Taylor and other officers on matters pertaining to club administration and Rotary service activities. Huggins, a Chapel Hill resident and hardware merchant, is one of the 173 district governors of Rotary International who are supervising the activities of some 6,200 Rotary clubs made up of 305,000 business and professional executives in 78 countries throughout the world.

Rotarians aver that "wherever Rotary clubs are located, their activities are similar to those of the local club because all are based on the same general objectives — developing better understanding and fellowship among business and professional men, promoting community-betterment undertakings, raising the standards of business and professions, and fostering the advancement of good will, understanding and peace among all the peoples of the world."

Funeral Services For John I. Wyche Held In Weldon

Funeral services for John I. Wyche, Sr., 68, of Weldon, who died Sunday morning, were held Monday afternoon at 4 o'clock from the Weldon Methodist Church with the Rev. D. L. Fouts in charge. Interment was in Cedarwood cemetery.

John Ira Wyche was born in Greensboro County, Va., July 21, 1879, son of the late Benjamin Walker and Mattie Elizabeth Green Wyche. He attended the public schools in Emporia, Va.; Virginia Polytechnic Institute; Randolph-Macon Academy and was graduated from Smithland Business College in Richmond.

He came to Weldon 45 years ago and for a number of years was associated with the firm of Wyche, Bounds and Company, which was later operated by him individually.

He later became interested in the Merchants Distributing Company of which he was serving as president and general manager at the time of his death.

He had been a member of the board of stewards of the Weldon Methodist Church and of the Men's Baraca Class, in which he served as treasurer.

Surviving are his wife, the former Alice May Vincent; three daughters, Elizabeth, of the home; Mrs. Sam B. Underwood, Jr., of Greenville, and Mrs. A. L. Conrath, Jr., of Jackson; three sons, John I. Wyche, Jr., of Weldon; Ben W. Wyche and J. Vincent Wyche, of the home; four sisters, Mrs. Clayton Land, Mrs. Peter Prince and Mrs. Meadie Taylor, all of Emporia, and Mrs. William Hayes of Portsmouth; one brother, Benjamin W. Wyche, of Emporia, and five grandchildren.

Plans have been completed for the Georgia - Carolina Hampshire type conference to be held in Orangeburg on September 8-9.

The first annual fat stock show and sale ever to be held in Stanly County was recently staged in Albemarle.

The ration during the dry period of a cow should be slightly laxative and cooling to the digestive system.

THE ROANOKE RAPIDS HERALD

Growing With Carolina's Fastest Growing City

Herald Classified Advertising Gets Quick Results

VOLUME XXXII ROANOKE RAPIDS, N. C., THURSDAY, JULY 24th, 1947 NUMBER 38

County Democratic Committee Meets To Appoint Board Member

There will be a meeting of the Democratic Executive Committee of Halifax County tomorrow, Friday, July 25, at 11 a. m., in the Court House at Halifax for the purpose of filling the vacancy on the Board of Education caused by the resignation of Ralph C. Rives of Enfield.

The meeting was called by J. Waldo Whitaker, chairman.

After Twenty Years Miss Elizabeth Tait Resigns As Teacher In City

After over 20 years' service in the Roanoke Rapids School system, Miss Elizabeth Tait sent in her resignation last week to I. E. Ready, superintendent of the local schools.

Miss Tait was serving, at the time of her resignation, as principal and teacher of the fourth grade at Clara Hearne School.

An active member of the Rosemary Baptist Church, Miss Tait was for the past several years superintendent of the junior department of the Sunday School of that church.

Reason for the resignation was given by Miss Tait in her letter during the past week as "the declining health of her mother. Her plans are at present to stay with her mother in Mobile, Ala."

Since coming to Roanoke Rapids, Miss Tait had endeared herself to a host of friends, many of whom have expressed their thought "that the community suffers a great loss at her leaving."

Richard Merchant Buried In Weldon

Funeral services were held on Wednesday afternoon from Grace Episcopal Church, Weldon, for Richard H. Merchant, 66, of Baltimore, Md., former resident of Weldon and Halifax, and father of Postmaster Paul Merchant of Weldon. Rev. Lawson Cox was in charge of the services.

Masonic burial rites were held at the graveside in Cedarwood cemetery.

Mr. Merchant, a retired employee of the B. and O. Railway Company, died in Baltimore City Hospital Monday after a short illness. He was a member and past master of the Royal White Hart Lodge, No. 2, AF and AM, of Halifax.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Susan T. Merchant, and six children, by his first wife, the late Eva Maddox Merchant; two daughters, Mrs. Elsie W. Rose and Mrs. Elizabeth M. Hall of Rocky Mount; four sons, R. E. Merchant, George M. Merchant and Benjamin D. Merchant of Chester, Pa.; Paul Merchant of Weldon; one sister, Mrs. Richard Morris, of Baltimore, eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Halifax In First 100 In Nation In Peanut Product'n

Halifax County was among the first 100 counties in the nation in peanut acreage during 1945, according to figures released in Washington this week by the Department of Commerce.

Ten other counties ranked in the same class. They were: Northampton, Bertie, Edgecombe, Martin, Hertford, Pitt, Chowan, Gates, Perquimans and Bladen.

Pitt County led the nation in tobacco acreage in 1944, the figures, as received by Senator Hoyt Tuesday, showed. The 1944 figure is the latest available on the tobacco acreage program and shows that Johnson County was second and Robeson County was third. Wake, Wilson, Nash and Columbus Counties were among the top ten in the nation also.

Aurelian Springs Harris Family Enjoys Reunion

On Sunday, July 20, Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Harris of Aurelian Springs enjoyed a family reunion at which a barbecue and Brunswick stew dinner was enjoyed by all. Their 11 children were all together for the first time since May of 1942.

Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Ben Harris of Whitakers; Mr. and Mrs. Casper Holloway; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Harris and family; Mr. and Mrs. Linwood Harris, all of Emporia; Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Carver and family; Mr. and Mrs. Peter Jordan of Roanoke Rapids.

Johnny, Ruth, Tom and Cleveland of the home, and Mae Harris of Emporia; Sgt. Lewis Hobbs and Miss Ethel Daniel, friends of the family, from Emporia, and Grady Thompson, a relative, from Essex, also enjoyed the reunion. Photos, both group and single snapshots, were taken during the late afternoon.

White Schools In County To Open September 4th

Jones Released After Court Rules Girl's Death Accidental

Harding Jones, of Gaston, was held blameless in the accidental death of 10-year old Betty Louise Cobb on July 11th in a hearing held Monday of this week in Mayor's Court.

After Jones had been identified as the driver of the car which struck the girl, Coroner Rufus Britton and patrolman C. C. Deese, of the Roanoke Rapids police department, testified that the accident was purely unavoidable.

Jones had been held under \$1000 bond on the technical charge of manslaughter since the tragedy.

White Schools In County To Open September 4th

McFee Tells Merchants To Watch Expenses And Service To Customers

"More small businesses have failed in the last six months than failed in the entire six years immediately preceding," Charles B. McFee, Jr., managing director of the Virginia Retail Merchants Association, told members of the local merchants' group in a talk at the annual outdoor meeting at the Roanoke Rapids Country Club Wednesday afternoon.

"Venturing out on a limb," McFee continued, "I'll say that there will be more small business failures in the next two years than there have been in the past 10."

Rodgers Blasts Charges Against Buggs Island Says Long's Testimony Refuted By Army Engineers

Scotland Neck — Declaring that "the advocates of flood control, hydro-electric development, controlled stream flow and other benefits to be brought about by the damming of the Roanoke river at Buggs Island, Va., are just as much interested in the welfare of the nation as W. Lansford Long of Warrenton, N. C., and do not desire any more than Mr. Long does to inundate tungsten mines which may be valuable to the United States government," Eric W. Rodgers of Scotland Neck, secretary of the Roanoke River Flood Control Committee and the Roanoke River Basin Association, issued a statement here today in reply to one issued by Mr. Long in Washington this past week.

In Long's statement he said he was "deeply and sincerely interested" in flood control on the Roanoke river but declared that he was opposed to hydro-electric production at Buggs Island, "not economically justified." Long further said that "my personal interests mean nothing" and his fight against the project was being made "more on the basis of the welfare of the nation than with regard to my personal fortune."

Long said his opposition to the hydro-electric phase of the project was that it would require a deeper lake and that there was "danger of inundating land covered potentially rich deposits of tungsten ore." He added that the value of this tungsten ore conceivably might be "more than \$100,000,000 . . . it is possible that ore values exist far in excess of the cost of the proposed Buggs Island project" and "if the government continues to make these appropriations a n d eventually builds the dam it will find itself in a position for economic and strategic reasons of having let the water out of the reservoir and charge off as a loss the whole cost of the project."

Rodgers who appeared before the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee at Washington two weeks ago at the same time as did Long asserted that Long had made essentially the same declarations before the committee and at that time his allegations had been disputed by the army engineers and Congressman John H. Kerr who was leading the fight for the Buggs Island project.

In his statement issued today Rodgers said that when Long appeared July 11 before the Senate Subcommittee "he was told then by army engineers that apparently he was assuming the lake behind Buggs Island would always be at the top level, but this would not be the case, since the water, except during times of flood, would be constantly maintained at the lower power level, and that the army engineers expressed the opinion, based on exhaustive study, that there would be no damage to Mr. Long's tungsten mines by reason of the construction."

Rodgers went on to say that at the hearing, the presiding senator of the subcommittee questioned the army engineers and obtained from them the statement that construction could go forward for a year or longer without raising the water levels to such an extent as Long fears. Rodgers also said that "the presiding officer of the Senate committee also had assured Mr. Long that the United States Senate had no desire to do any damage to a natural resource needed by the government and before construction had progressed to the point where Mr. Long feared damage would be done the Senate would have the proper federal experts make an investigation of Mr. Long's property to determine whether or not there would be the damage which Mr. Long fears."

These two assurances, the first from the army engineers and the second from the presiding officer "should appear to be sufficient to satisfy Long that no one is desirous of damaging his property by inundating the tungsten mines."

Rodgers expressed belief that

Board Of Education Appoints Two To Committees

White schools in Halifax County will open September 4th and colored schools will open September 1st, according to an announcement from the office of W. Henry Overman, county superintendent, released yesterday.

Opening dates were decided in a special meeting of the Halifax County Board of Education held on July 15 in addition to several other items of business, including the appointment of Mrs. Louise Butts, of Halifax, to the District No. 1 School Committee, and Wayland M. Bunch, of Hobgood, to the District No. 4 Committee.

Repairs and additions to the Scotland Neck graded school building (work which will begin this week, according to the announcement) was also authorized by the board as was membership in the State School Board Association.

Meter changes for the past week were listed by the Sanitary Commission office as follows:

Meters Removed: S. S. Smith, 711 Madison street; Dr. R. A. Adams, 911 Madison street; Croatan Cafe, 247 Roanoke Avenue, and F. W. Royal, 723A Jefferson street.

Meters Transferred: G. E. Brown, Third and William, moved to 438 Charlotte; Frank Rhone, from 900 Vance to 308 Henry Street; Dr. J. H. Cutchin, 1003 Jackson Street, to 911 Madison Street.

Meters Installed: Carl's Cafe, 247 Roanoke Avenue; Tommie Boone, 204 Hamilton; Fitts-Crumpler Company, 258 Roanoke Avenue; J. O. Matthews, 1027 Washington Street, and H. S. Parker, 200 Washington.

Meter Changes Listed By Water Dept.

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Meters Installed: Carl's Cafe, 247 Roanoke Avenue; Tommie Boone, 204 Hamilton; Fitts-Crumpler Company, 258 Roanoke Avenue; J. O. Matthews, 1027 Washington Street, and H. S. Parker, 200 Washington.

Mills Close For Annual Vacation

Beginning Sunday, July 27th, the local textile mills will be closed for their annual summer vacation.

In making the announcement, mill officials said that all employees who have been regularly employed by the company for twelve months prior to July 27, 1947, will be eligible for vacation pay to be computed at 2 per cent of straight time earnings from July 1, 1946 to June 30th of this year.

Armed Forces To Issue Medals To Veterans

Washington, D. C. — General distribution of the American defense service medal and the World War II victory medal to eligible veterans will start August 1, 1947, the Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard have jointly informed the American Legion.

More than 18,000,000 medals are expected to be distributed. Each service is preparing to issue instructions individually thru local information media as to when, where and how applications for the medals are to be made. Veterans must apply only to that branch of the armed forces in which they served.

Cement Blocks Made Stronger By Spot-Check

Raleigh — Reports from laboratories indicate improvement in the quality of cement and cinder blocks manufactured in North Carolina since minimum standards authorized by a new law went into effect July 1, it was announced by Supt. C. D. Baucum of the State Department of Agriculture, weights and measures division.

Baucum said some reports show masonry blocks now being made with a load-bearing strength of 1400 to 1500 pounds per square inch of gross bearing area, which is double the state's minimum requirement of 700 pounds per square inch.

Where manufacturers do not have adequate testing equipment, Baucum explained, they may have their blocks tested by the Pittsburgh Testing Laboratory at Greensboro or by Froehling and Robertson, Inc., at Charlotte. Regular tests are required and authentic reports on the tests must be sent to the weights and measures division. Many manufacturers have inquired where the tests might be made.

In addition, the division plans spot checks of blocks in manufacturing plants and blocks that already have been delivered to construction jobs.

Regulations designed to protect (Continued on page four—next A.)

There were approximately \$40,000, 718,000 layers on hand on United States farms during May.

Unionized

By a vote of 42 for and two against workers at the Grant Brick Works on the Weldon-Roanoke Rapids Highway, Tuesday accepted the United Stone and Allied Products Workers Union, of the C. I. O., as their representative.

The election, held under the supervision of Harold W. Deas, of Winston-Salem, representative of the NLRB, resulted in union organization at the plant for the first time.

Complete tabulation of the voting was as follows:

For the Union: 42
Against: 2
Not voting: 2

C. A. Wyche Funeral Held Here Monday

Clarence A. Wyche, 69, died in Roanoke Rapids Hospital Saturday evening at 6:30 after a short illness.

On Monday afternoon, at four o'clock scores of people from all walks of life crowded into the First Presbyterian Church of Roanoke Rapids where funeral services, conducted by the Rev. J. W. Walker, were held. Interment was in Roanoke Rapids Cemetery.

Clarence A. Wyche was born March 14, 1878, in Granville County, the son of the late Perry Wayne Wyche and Rebecca Southall Wyche.

He spent his early childhood in Granville County and came to Roanoke Rapids as a railroad telegrapher when a young man.

At one time he was secretary and treasurer of the Rosemary Manufacturing Company, stepping from that position into the presidency of the First National Bank of Roanoke Rapids.

At the time of his death he was general manager of the Halifax Farmer's Supply Company, a post which led to many contacts with people who lived outside of the city.

Survivors include: his wife, Lemmie Jordan Wyche, one daughter, Mrs. David C. Clark, of Roanoke, of Petersburg, Va., and five sons, one son, Francis grandchildren.

Flag Lowered

Out of respect to Mr. Wyche, the flag on the post office building was lowered to half-mast. It was the second time it has been lowered in mourning for a local person — the first time was for the late Dr. T. W. M. Long, another of the city's pioneers.

Three Halifax Drivers Lose Right to Drive

Only three drivers from Halifax County were listed in the revocation notice of the North Carolina Highway Safety Division for the period from June 27 through July 11, received this week.

One driver from Gaston, George Louise Neal, fell victim to license revocation and in North Carolina a total of 474 drivers lost the right to drive for varying periods.

Halifax County revocations were: George Mason and Johnny Scott of Roanoke Rapids, and John Whitehead of Palmyra.

Almeta Pleasants Home From Duty At Alaskan Post

Miss Almeta Pleasants, who has been affiliated with the Red Cross in Alaska, is spending her vacation here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Pleasants.

Miss Pleasants has done recreation and craft work with patients in the 185th General Hospital, Fort Richardson, Alaska, for the past 17 months. She is a graduate of the local High School and of the Woman's College of the University of North Carolina, Greensboro.

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