

Warrants Served On Patrolmen Here

Schools In City Ready To Open For Fall Term

Roanoke Rapids schools are all set for the fall opening next Tuesday morning, September 1, according to an announcement this week by Superintendent I. E. Ready.

Pre-school registration of new students will be held at 9 a. m. on Monday, September 1. All first grade students will register at their respective buildings.

Students in the first five grades will report to their respective buildings at 8:30 a. m. They will be dismissed at 10:30.

High School students will report to the High School Auditorium at 9 a. m. and remain outside until the sixth grade students leave.

Registration of piano students will be at 11 o'clock on Saturday morning, August 30, in the High School Auditorium.

Registration of Adult Class Students Monday In Textile School Building With Variety of Subjects Offered

Registration for adult classes in the Textile school of the Roanoke Rapids High school will be held at 1 o'clock Monday afternoon, September 1, and again at 7 o'clock that evening in the Textile school building.

Any person, veteran or non-veteran, who wishes to enroll should register at one of these hours and may be enrolled in any of the following classes: Machine Shop, Designing, Spinning (including calculations), Weaving and Loom Fixing.

Rushed to the office of Dr. R. B. Blow in Weldon, from the scene of the accident near Halifax Manufacturing Co. in South Weldon, Thomas was pronounced dead upon arrival.

NC Leads Nation Number Spindles Used In South

Washington - North Carolina leads the nation in the number of cotton spindles which were used in the weaving of cotton goods during July, 1947, the Department of Commerce has reported.

North Carolina had nearly 6,000,000 spindles in operation last month, which represents over half a million more than all the New England states put together.

Roanoke Rapids Is Surplus Labor Area Reports Parker

With a surplus of 350 workers in the county, especially in semi-skilled and unskilled classifications, Roanoke Rapids has become a labor surplus area, Manager Elton C. Parker, of the local office of the North Carolina Employment Security Commission, announced this week.

As a result, Parker says, in his August Labor Market Digest, "(it) is having a two-fold effect on local industry; first, it tends to reduce labor turnover; secondly, employers have more opportunity to do selective hiring."

Demands for workers continues to be moderate in clerical, sales and skilled jobs, says the Digest. Fifty-eight per cent of the 350 unemployed are women, 30 per cent are veterans and 12 per cent are male non-veterans with the female workers available for work being classified into two groups: semi-skilled, including approxi-

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Seized Machines Prior to Removal From City



Just prior to being loaded into a truck to be taken to Halifax last Friday is this group of coin-operated machines seized in a Thursday night round-up by city police. An official of the Amusement Machine Co., located at 6 East 12th Street said about five or six of the machines were in the company's warehouse for repair and were to be operated only in Virginia.

A hearing of charges in connection with possession of illegal machines will be held in Mayor's Court this Monday.

13 New Teachers Added As 1947-48 Faculty Set For Schools' Reopening

The city schools, which open Tuesday, will have 13 new teachers, according to a list released today by Superintendent I. E. Ready. Eight of these teachers are in the Junior-Senior High school, one in the sixth grade, two at the Rosemary school and one each at Central and Clara Hearne schools.

Complete list of the faculty for the Roanoke Rapids schools for the year 1947-48 was given as follows: Administrative Section: I. E. Ready, superintendent; Ruth Chapman, superintendent's secretary and bookkeeper; E. Woodruff, high school principal's secretary; Mrs. Margaret Taylor, elementary supervisor's secretary; Roy Medlin, head of the maintenance department, and Mrs. R. E. Bryan, manager of Coltrane Hall.

Junior-Senior High School: J. W. Talley, principal; Nancy Abel, commercial; George W. Baird, band and chorus (new in city schools); Winifred Beckwith, English; James Russell Beddard, general science and biology (new); Jessie Helen Belche, social science.

Mary Guy Boyd, librarian; Daniel Cagle, mathematics and athletics; Martha Rob Cherry, home economics; Martha Craddock, social science; Mary Ella Currin, home economics.

Katherine Dunlap, music; Vernie Eddins, Latin and director of guidance; Ada Edwards, mathematics; Harold Fildes, industrial arts, building trades and printing (new); Virginia Ferguson, mathematics (new).

Marjorie Fleetwood, social science; Mrs. Betty Godwin, English; Robert P. Hollar, science; Cranford Hoyle, physical education and director of athletics.

Mrs. Iris Davis Hunsinger, English and Junior high school advisor; Evelyn Josephson, English and speech; D. L. Kidd, Jr., industrial arts; R. G. Knight, industrial arts and drawing; Mrs. Elsie Cherry Lewis, science.

Mrs. Ethel S. Michie, social science; Will Nelson, textiles; Mabel Parchman, mathematics; Mrs. Thelma Garriss, principal and third grade; Mrs. G. E. Brown, first grade; Betty Gates, second grade; Virginia Gates, special primary; Mrs. Winifred Detman, fourth grade and Margaret Garriss, fifth grade and music.

Elementary Supervisors: Clara Hearne, general; Mrs. Lucy Brown, physical education and Elizabeth Lang, music. School nurse will be Mrs. Kathleen Suter.

The Local Week . . .

Banks Close Monday: All banks in the city will be closed Monday, September 1, in observance of Labor Day. It was announced Wednesday.

Negro Woman Drops Dead: Stella Hawkins, 58-year-old negro woman who lived seven miles west of Enfield, fell dead while on her way home from a store near her home Wednesday.

Coroner Rufus Britton, who investigated the death, deemed no inquest necessary.

Interracial Group Leaves: The interracial church group which invaded the county last week left without incident last Thursday morning in response to a County Board of Health order to either find an authorized trailer camp or leave the county by 10 a. m. Thursday.

They were thought to have gone to Florence, S. C., where they have a member church. It was reported from Enfield that the caravan had gassed up in that town last Wednesday night.

Bryant Asks Jury Trial: Attorneys for I. P. Bryant, superintendent of the Halifax County Home, requested a jury trial for their client when a case under

Conflicting Stories Told By Prisoner, Accused Men About Alleged Brutality

Three long slender saplings stood in the home of Freeman Myrick in Littleton Tuesday.

Three former state highway patrolmen, shorn of rank, accoutrements, commissions and uniforms by their own resignation and confession to having made a mistake in "manhandling" a recaptured escapee from a Halifax county prison road gang last Thursday, in company with the acting police chief of Littleton, today awaited issuance of warrants for their arrest.

Claude Gregory, 45, serving a sentence of from six to seven years from Cleveland county for larceny, and Marion Williams, 19, serving two years for drunken

and curious milled about, a car containing three highway patrolmen, later identified as Corporal C. L. Teague, A. F. Fields and John W. Wilson, drove up and stopped.

Saying they wanted to see where the prisoner had been recaptured, the patrolmen borrowed Dickens' car and with Gregory and Jenkins in the back seat, the three climbed into the front seat and drove back down into the woods from whence Gregory's captors had brought him.

At this point three stories emerged. Says Teague in the confession signed by the three patrolmen: "When I arrived at the scene where Gregory had been apprehended, he was sitting in a car which was parked in a woods path. Having worked in and around the area for several hours, I was curious to know just where the prisoner was apprehended. In company with Patrolmen Fields, Wilson and Officer Jenkins and the convict, I rode back down in the woods where he was apprehended. I had no intention at that time of doing anything to the convict, but after we arrived at where he was recaptured the convict made some slurring remarks about the Highway Patrol and displayed a very belligerent attitude. To this, I became rather incensed, possibly due to my fatigue and physical condition."

"At this point he was removed from the car and manhandled by one. He was not handcuffed to a tree as has been reported and he was not seriously injured. "This was in the presence of Officer Jenkins, who had nothing to do with the manhandling of the convict, also Patrolmen Wilson and Fields, who had practically nothing to do with this incident. He was neither severely beaten or seriously injured. He appeared to be normal when we turned him over to Superintendent Griffin of the Prison Department. Superintendent Griffin had no way of knowing what had occurred."

"I realized that I have made a mistake and this statement is made in my own handwriting and of my own free will and accord, without promise or hope of reward."

Says Gregory in effect (in an interview Monday morning attended by a Herald reporter): The patrolmen took him down into the woods a short distance and handcuffed him to a tree. They cut down some saplings and started beating him. One of them used his cartridge belt as a flogging implement. He said he asked the blue-uniformed man who was not participating in the beating to get them to stop beating him; and that he realized several times. He didn't mention the beating, Gregory said, until late that night, after he had worked on the road all afternoon, been checked back into the prison camp near Halifax and was being locked up for the night. He said he asked the steward to give him something to rub on his bruises and, when asked how he had gotten them, told the steward that the highway patrolmen had beaten him up.

The next day, according to Gregory, he further complained about the bruises and was put in the prison hospital, where Dr. Francis M. White, prison physician, said his injuries were not serious.

(Saturday, at the instigation of Solicitor E. W. Tyler, who had been informed of the alleged beating by W. T. Person, a thoroughbred railroad man, a alleged examination was made and Dr. White reiterated that the injuries were not serious. Person told a reporter Tuesday night that he was not in the group standing on the road at the time of the incident.)

Gregory said that, when interviewed Saturday night by some people who said they were from Raleigh, he thought they might be newspapermen.

Myrick, when interviewed Tuesday morning at his home in Littleton, told a Herald reporter substantially the same story as the patrolmen and Tyler, the prisoner until the time they went back into the woods when, he said, he heard a man holler, "Oh, Lord, don't let them kill me" and then a series of yells that sounded like, "Oh, Myrick very pointedly stated that he could not swear that Gregory was the man doing the yelling although he (Myrick) said he could hear blows as if someone were beating a man.

Myrick showed the reporter (Continued on page 2-Section A)

Condition of Georgia Bank Cashier Reported As 'Not Serious'; Martin Charged Attempted Armed Robbery

Additional information on the recent bank robbery attempt in Duluth, Ga., by James T. Martin, 31, former Roanoke Rapids textile worker, was received this week by the Herald in a telegram from the Duluth police department.

Confirming the fact that Martin had slugged Bank Cashier Everett Bagwell with an Army 45 automatic, the telegram stated Bagwell's condition as "not serious" and said he suffered a flesh wound near the top of his head.

Martin was apprehended by Duluth police approximately 45 minutes after the incident about one and a half miles north of Duluth after he had discarded excess clothing, a brief case and the gun.

Charges against the former local resident, who rose to the rank of captain in the Army's Medical Administration Corps during the late war, were listed as attempted armed robbery, the telegram stated, and he is being held for trial in Hall county jail at Gainesville, (Duluth, located about 20 miles west of Athens, Ga., had a prewar census count of 608).

Martin used the pretext of wanting to see Bagwell on government business to lure the cashier into a back office where he slugged him with the automatic. The attempted robbery took place on August 14 about 3 o'clock in the afternoon and was thwarted when Bagwell's wife and a woman bank employee, alarmed by Bagwell's groans, ran out the front door of the bank screaming.

Martin's foster parents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Martin, reside at 307 Henry street.

Six Births Reported Here From Aug. 18-23

Six births were reported at Roanoke Rapids hospital this week.

To Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Muthig, of Roanoke Rapids, a baby boy, August 18.

To Mr. and Mrs. Grizzard, of Emporia, a boy; to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wiley, Freeman, Va., a baby boy; to Mr. and Mrs. James Daniel, of Aboite, a baby boy, August 21.

To Mr. and Mrs. John Cox, of Roanoke Rapids, a baby girl; to Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Bradley, of Emporia, a baby girl.

Giving long life to harness is simple. All that is necessary is to keep it clean and well oiled with a good harness oil.