

Roanoke Ramblings

What Roanoke Rapids Makes —Makes Roanoke Rapids

THE ROANOKE RAPIDS HERALD

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Miss Minnie Johnson, crowned "Queen for a Day," at the BPWC regular dinner meeting last Thursday night, receives the congratulations of Al Drew, popular radio announcer, who acted as master of ceremonies of the contest in which Miss Johnson defeated three other candidates for the honor (Story on Page 6, Section B).

\$1,500,000 Addition To Paper Mill Here

Installation of new equipment costing approximately one and a half million dollars will begin immediately at the Halifax Paper Company in Roanoke Rapids, K. F. Adams, company executive, told the Herald this morning.

Building Permits Total \$891,680; 99 Homes

Two permits for new residential construction, totaling \$6,700, were issued by City Building Inspector Henry Fitts this week and they brought the grand total of building for November to \$113,730, and for 1947 to \$891,680.

The two home building permits, which brought the total of new residences for which permits have been issued so far this year to 99, were issued to J. A. Wilbourne for one story residence on Washington Street with five rooms and bath at an estimated cost of \$6,000 and to W. A. Myrick for a one story two room residence on Henderson Street, \$700.

Five Farmers Nominated For Halifax County Soil Conservation Committee

Five local farmers have been nominated for the Halifax County Soil Conservation Committee, according to G. G. Alston, supervisor of the Fishing Creek Soil Conservation District. These men will be voted on in an election to be held the week of December 1-6, 1947, as provided by the last Legislature. The three receiving the highest number of votes will be elected.

The candidates are: George Alston, Route 1, Littleton; L. G. Barnhill, Scotland Neck; R. C. Batchelor, Route 2, Scotland Neck; B. B. Everette, Palmyra and W. D. Harris, Route 1, Enfield.

The Soil Conservation Committee will have the responsibility of representing the people of Halifax County and developing and directing a soil conservation program. The chairman of this committee will represent the county on the Fishing Creek Soil Conservation District Board of Supervisors. The Committee will set up annual soil conservation goals and, with assistance

from personnel of agricultural agencies, develop plans for meeting these goals. In short, they will provide a medium through which any agency, organization, or individual interested in soil conservation can work in reaching the farmers of the county.

The candidate receiving the highest number of votes will serve for a period of three years, the next highest, two years and the third man, one year. Candidates are nominated by submitting a petition to the State Soil Conservation Committee in Raleigh. The signatures of 25 qualified voters residing in the county are necessary to place a name in nomination.

POST OFFICE TO BE OPEN WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS In order to provide adequate service to patrons throughout the holiday season the local post office will remain open Wednesday afternoons beginning next Wednesday Nov. 26th until after Christmas. Postmaster L. G. Shell announced today. The office will be closed next Thursday Thanksgiving Day.

SUPERIOR COURT TERM A two weeks mixed term of Superior Court will begin Monday November 24th in Halifax with Judge J. Paul Frizzelle of Snow Hill presiding.

6,186 BALES The Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, in Washington, D. C. reported today that 6,186 bales of cotton had been ginned in Halifax County up to and including November first, as compared with 6,412 bales for the crop of 1946.

AUTO RECOVERED An automobile belonging to Johnnie Ethridge of Weldon was taken away from its parking place near the Rosemary Manufacturing Company mill Monday night. It was recovered later in the evening on 10th Street.

STARTS OUT RIGHT Holding his first court since assuming office, Mayor W. B. Allsbrook told offenders and courtroom spectators Monday afternoon that first offenders on public drunkenness charges would be fined five dollars and the costs. For a second offense, said the mayor, the offender would get a 30-day suspended sentence and a three-time break of the ordinance, Allsbrook concluded, could expect 60 days.

Throughout the afternoon, all persons charged with public drunkenness were fined five dollars and the costs. COMPLETE BASIC Three Roanoke Rapids youths have completed eight weeks basic training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina and have been assigned to the same company C Company of the 2nd Infantry the Army reported this week.

SCHOOLS TO CLOSE All schools in the Halifax County Administrative Unit will be closed on November 27 and 28 in observance of the Thanksgiving holidays County Superintendent W. Henry Ovetman announced today.

New Head of Employment Office Here

Elton C. Parker, manager of the local office of the North Carolina State Employment Service since February of this year, has been transferred and promoted to the position of placement specialist in the State Administrative Office in Raleigh.

Fred W. McNeil, Jr., an employee of the NCSES since April of 1946 when he began work as an interviewer in Morganton, has been named to succeed Parker as manager of the local office.

McNeil worked as an interviewer until January first of this year when he was promoted to Veterans Employment Representative. He served in that position (Continued on page 6—Sec. A)

Final Total Chest Fund \$14,184.34

Final results of the 1947 Community Chest drive announced today by Henry Akers, Chairman of the campaign, show that the drive went over the top by the sum of \$154.34. Total pledges of \$14,184.34 have been reported although the quota called for only \$14,030.

The amount was accumulated as follows: South Ward, \$1,681.75; North Ward, \$756.00; Special Group, \$1,641.39; Halifax Paper Company, \$912.50; Manchester; Virginia Electric and Power Company, \$413.50; Roanoke Mills Co. No. 1, \$1,592.75; Roanoke Mills Co. No. 2, \$1,670.75; Patterson Mills Co., \$1,419.04 and Rosemary Manufacturing Company, \$3,653.66.

Akers was most complimentary in his praise for the many workers who so generously gave their time in soliciting pledges. He pointed with pride to the fact that so many local citizens contributed to the success of the drive.

"The Community Chest Fund is a community project and everyone benefits indirectly if not directly," Akers said, "and it has been a pleasure to have served as chairman of the drive in which the people of Roanoke Rapids cooperated for the benefit of all."

The Local Week . . .

They are: Pvt. Willard F. Parham, whose mother, Mrs. F. S. Parham, resides at 1931 Roanoke Avenue; Pvt. William L. Reid, son of Mrs. J. W. Reid, 1514 B Street; and Pvt. Charles C. Etheridge, son of Mrs. C. V. Etheridge, 756 Jefferson Street.

SWEET SALE Ladies of the First Methodist Church will sponsor a "sweet sale" in the annex of the church on Friday, November 21st, at 7:00 p. m. Pies, cakes, candy and cookies will be sold during the evening.

ANNUAL TURKEY DINNER The Woman's Society of Christian Service of the Oak Grove Methodist Church will have its annual Turkey dinner at the Gaston School Cafeteria Tuesday evening, November 25th, beginning at 6:30. Farm products and handicraft will also be on sale by the ladies at this event.

UNION SERVICE A joint Thanksgiving service will be held in the First Presbyterian Church in Roanoke Rapids at 10:00 A. M., Thursday November 27th, it was announced today by the Rev. John M. Walker, Jr., pastor, and the Rev. Edmund Berkeley, rector of All Saints Episcopal Church. Officers at the service, to be attended by both congregations, will be for the orphanages of both churches, the ministers announced. Mr. Berkeley will preach the sermon.

Two-Way Radio Aerials Too Much For Pen Grad

Three minutes after local police received a call reporting theft of a 1947 Ford truck belonging to Fred Hopkins from its parking place on 10th Street Monday night, they were able to report the driver in custody and the truck recovered.

And a mere 44 minutes after Hopkins discovered the vehicle missing (at 9:00 p. m.) the driver was in the Roanoke Rapids jail.

It was all due to the two-way radio and the alertness of Deputy Sheriff James Mountcastle and Weldon police officer H. J. Ward in responding to a call broadcast by local officers T. L. Glosson and L. A. Nelson, who handled the case from start to finish. The arrest was effected without incident about two miles north of Halifax on U. S. (Continued on page 6—Sec. A)

W. C. Moody Funeral Rites Here Sunday

Funeral services for William C. Moody, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Moody of 138 Jefferson Street, who was killed in action in Europe during World War II, were conducted from the home at four o'clock Sunday afternoon with the Rev. Gordon L. Price, pastor of the First Baptist Church, officiating.

Burial was in Roanoke Rapids Cemetery with military rites at the graveside conducted by Halifax Post 3702, Veterans of Foreign Wars. The Ladies Auxiliary of the V. F. W. was in charge of flowers.

Moody was killed in action on January 16, 1945 at Petit-Longlier, Belgium while serving as a corporal in the Third Armored Division of the First Army in the Battle of the Bulge. 23 years old at the time of his death, Moody had been in the Army since March 13, 1940.

He was the first European casualty from Roanoke Rapids to be buried in the Roanoke Rapids Cemetery.

Sgt. John A. Flanagan, United States Army, was detailed as military escort from Philadelphia to Roanoke Rapids.

Survivors include the parents, one brother, James A. Moody, of Roanoke Rapids, and one sister, Mrs. W. W. Crew of Ft. Knox, Kentucky.

Bernard Allsbrook Named Mayor At Special Meeting

1947 Christmas Seal Sale Begins in County Monday

The annual Christmas Seal Sale for Halifax county will get underway at 8:30 p. m. Monday, November 24, with a Christmas Seal Party over local radio station WCBT. It was announced today by W. H. Pruden, of Roanoke Rapids, President of the Halifax County Tuberculosis Association, and Mrs. L. C. Marshall of Enfield, Seal Sale Chairman for the county.

"We sincerely hope," Pruden said, "that the people of this county will contribute liberally by buying the Christmas Seals so that the Tuberculosis Control Program in Halifax County can be made second to none. We hope there will be a large listening audience for this half-hour show in which the services of top flight radio, screen and recording artists have been enlisted by the Los Angeles County Tuberculosis and Health Association."

Dr. Robert F. Young, County Health Officer, said today "the team of oxen pulling the sleigh loaded with Christmas trees pictured on the Christmas seals this year is symbolic of the teamwork which is absolutely necessary if the dreaded disease, tuberculosis, is to be eradicated on the Christmas seals this year."



W. H. PRUDEN

Board's Vote On Selection Is Unanimous

W. Bernard Allsbrook, former mayor and for the past five months city attorney, was appointed by unanimous vote of the board of city commissioners, meeting in special session last Thursday night, to succeed the late J. T. Chase as mayor of Roanoke Rapids.

Allsbrook, who served as mayor from May 2, 1939 until May 6, 1941 after a two year term (from May 4, 1937 until elected mayor in 1939) on the board of commissioners, told the Herald he planned to carry out the program already initiated by the present board and his predecessor.

"The street paving project is well under way and paving should start in the early spring. Other major projects already begun are the completion of the cemetery and an addition to the present fire department building," Allsbrook said.

Halifax County Native The new mayor was born in Scotland Neck July 6, 1908 and received his elementary and secondary education in the city's schools and at Oak Ridge Military Institute. He was graduated from Wake Forest College in 1929 with the degree of Bachelor of Science and after three years of reading law at home, returned to that school in 1932 for a post-graduate law course. He got his license to practice law from that school in August, 1932 and came to Roanoke Rapids on October 15th of the same year.

Civic Activities A charter member of the Roanoke Rapids Lions Club, Allsbrook is still an active member and served one term as club president. He also served one year as Deputy District Governor of District 31-C, Lions International, and for one term was a director of the North Carolina State Association for the Blind.

At present, Allsbrook is chairman of the Board of Deacons of the Rosemary Baptist Church and teaches the Mens Bible Class of the church.

Don't Shoot Please With the holiday season drawing nigh local citizens of long residence and newcomers to the city were reminded that it is against the law to shoot firecrackers or even to have them in their possession.

Due to an act passed by the North Carolina General Assembly at its last session North Carolina is protected by law from sounding like a shooting gallery and, agree or disagree, it's the law. The reminder came from the Roanoke Rapids police department which likes to keep its business to an absolute minimum.

Hollister Student Plans ECTC Drive

Greenville, Nov. 19—The World Student Service Fund drive conducted annually on the campus of East Carolina Teachers College by the YWCA and the YMCA is now being planned by the two organizations and will be conducted January 13-16, under direction of the presidents of the two groups, Alma Arrington of Hollister and Paul Craver of Lexington. Funds collected will be used to help needy students and teachers in countries devastated by the war by providing school supplies, clothing and food for them.

COMMISSIONERS MEET

The board of city commissioners of Roanoke Rapids will meet tomorrow to discuss the opening up of the new addition to the cemetery. It will be Mayor Bernard Allsbrook's first board meeting since he assumed the office last week.

Britton Succeeds Hux As President Roanoke Firemen's Association

Rufus Britton, of Roanoke Rapids, was elected to head the Roanoke Firemen's Association succeeding George Hux of Halifax at the organization dinner meeting Tuesday night in the basement of the First Baptist Church.

Other officers chosen by the association were: Joe Price, of Whitakers, first vice-president; A. B. Brown of Rich Square, second vice-president; Jim Bellamy of Enfield, secretary-treasurer; C. E. Shaw of Halifax, assistant secretary-treasurer and Hux, critic.

Hux explained in opening the meeting that rules of the association prohibited reelection of the president and sent a committee, composed of representatives from Rich Square, Enfield, Weldon, Roanoke Rapids, Whitakers and Halifax, out to nominate a slate of candidates.

W. C. King, local fire chief, acted as master of ceremonies and introduced representatives of the various departments and the guests. Billy Norwood, of Rosemary Manufacturing Company, was the guest speaker for the occasion and he endorsed Rea. (Continued on page 6—Sec. A)

Wins \$1000 Prize

"I haven't decided what to do with it all," said Mrs. W. Kell Gay of Seaboard who had just been handed a check for \$1,000 by a representative of Proctor and Gamble, soap manufacturing concern, Monday morning. "But I'm going to put part of it away for my little boy's schooling."

Mrs. Gay, winner of the thousand dollar prize in the recent Giant Drefit Carnival Contest, referred to her 19-month old son, W. K. Jr. She said she was "going to play Santa Claus to myself with part of it."

Her husband is in partnership with his brother in the Gay Brothers Hardware Company in Seaboard and the family formerly resided in Greensboro.

She submitted her entry in September, only a few days before the contest deadline date for entry.

Halifax District Scout Group Installs Officers

At the annual meeting of the Halifax District Committee Boy Scouts of America John H. Hines was elected District Chairman succeeding W. H. Pruden who has served as District chairman for the past year.

Rev. Edmund Berkeley was re-elected vice chairman and D. E. Bennett was elected District Commissioner replacing McRae Faison.

Hines announced appointment of the following men as Operating Committee Chairmen for 1948: C. L. Elting finance; Edwin Akers training; George Nethercutt advancement; Emery Vaughan health and safety; Dr. D. A. Green organization and extension and Houston E. Fuller camping and activities.

The following men were appointed members at large and they will be chosen to serve on the various operating committees: A. E. Akers S. H. Crumpier Clyde Liske Howard Pruden J. W. Sears A. O. Pendleton W. C. Jones Jesse D. Lee Virgil E. McDowell John W. Mc Gwigan J. R. Meikle W. A. Pierce I. E. Ready and Willie Mincher.

Activities Reports

Reports on Scouting activities for the past year were made by Clyde Liske finance chairman Jack Vincent organization and activities George Nethercutt advancement John Hines intracultural chairman and Rev. Edmund Berkeley Cubbing chairman. These men reported that Scouting was not as active as it should be due to the lack of Scoutmasters.

Scout Executive John B. Hackney made a very inspiring address stating that there were several reasons for Scouting being retarded throughout the entire council one of which was the fact that new field executives are taking over most of the service areas.

Dwight Dobbins Eagle Scout of Troop 142 conducted the installation ceremony and he was assisted by Scout Roger Buxton and Cub Scout Steve Atwill. The meeting was concluded by all members joining in the Scout masters Benediction.

"THE PURPOSE OF OUR organization," declared George Hux retiring president of the Roanoke Firemen's Association Tuesday night "is to exchange ideas in fire prevention and fire fighting. One of the benefits of having such an organization is the fact that we can go from one member town to another to aid our fellow firemen without having to go through a lot of red tape. Another benefit is that we can keep ourselves covered by insurance while we're helping other member departments."

Hux made his remarks at the close of the dinner meeting in the basement of the First Baptist Church Tuesday night. The meeting was attended by representatives of all member departments with exception of Scotland Neck and by various guests whose speeches were not without humor.

T. J. Alford told of the time W. C. (Big Boy) King had answered a fire alarm shortly after he had assumed the duties of Roanoke Rapids fire chief. King and another fireman looked and looked said Alford but they could see nothing but black smoke. "Well let's sit down," said King. "What for?" asked the other smoke-eater. "To wait for the flame to break out so we can see what we're doing," replied the chief.

Among others attending the dinner were: Howard Pruden, Sheriff Harry House, A. E. Akers, Jimmie Sears, A. M. Cameron, D. C. Clark, Ben Lancaster (who told the group of about 150 that "with all the speakers you have here, I don't see why Big Boy should call on a waterboy to talk!"), a majority of the members of the Roanoke Rapids police department, four State Highway Patrolmen, members of fire departments from Roanoke Rapids, Weldon, Rich Square, Enfield, Whitakers and Halifax, Julian Allsbrook, Bernard Allsbrook and friends of firemen throughout the district.

The opinion of the Rambler is that we generally take our fire department pretty much for granted—which we shouldn't. They form an indispensable part of our everyday life. We should think of them as an important asset to safer living.

The Rambler agreed, in this respect, with remarks made by all the speakers. Billy Norwood is a very entertaining speaker. WE HAD A CALLER the other day who told us to come on over to Cedar Street where Miss Ann Hildebrand was celebrating her seventh birthday party. Unfortunately we were quite busy and unable to attend, but we asked the caller to send in some information about the party and we'd be glad to put it in the paper. He seemed particularly anxious to have it in the paper because it was Ann's first birthday in Roanoke Rapids. Her first six were observed at her former home in Roanoke, Virginia. We hope she had a very nice time.

THE GOVERNOR of Virginia, Mr. Tuck himself, dropped in on Weldon last Thursday afternoon, we learned from P. Mitchell, a resident of that city, last Thursday night. His Excellency was on his way to Wilson and the entourage stopped long enough for a member of the party to transmit a telegraphic request for hotel accommodations in Wilson for the night. (Yes, related Z. P., he stepped outside to look at the gentleman.)

NOT LONG AFTER the train wreck, an engineer for the Seaboard pulled through Roanoke Rapids transporting some company officials to Norfolk at which point they were due to start an inspection of all company property from Norfolk to Norfolk. He blew his whistle at the scene of the crash—in fact he started blowing before he got to town and it looked to one observer as if he blew at some telephone poles that weren't even there.

\$15,000 Suit Filed

Mrs. Lillian Kennedy, mother of Mrs. H. E. Shearin of Scotland Neck, has filed suit against the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad for \$15,000.

Mrs. Kennedy contends she was injured on April 29, while traveling from Jessup, Ga., to Rocky Mount, when a suitcase fell on her head as a porter removed it from the baggage rack. Since then, Mrs. Kennedy said, she has been unable to perform any work.

She said she had warned the porter that the bag was unusually heavy.

Christmas Program To Open Here Friday, November 28

Roanoke Rapids' first gala Christmas opening will be launched on Friday night, November 28, with the arrival of Santa Claus.

The jolly patron of the Yuletide season will enter the shopping district on the fire truck, and will be preceded by the Roanoke Rapids High School Band.

Santa and the Band will parade from the corner of First Street and Roanoke Avenue to

Third Street and Roanoke Avenue in the South Ward and from the corner of Ninth and the Avenue to 11th and the Avenue, after which the band will proceed to Simmons Park where Roanoke Rapids and Weldon High Schools

will clash on the gridiron in a special game, renewing a gridiron rivalry that stopped in 1940.

All Christmas street decorations for the business district will be up by this time. Also local merchants will have their

special Christmas window displays and store decorations completely erected. The Christmas lights will be turned on for the first time on this occasion and the stores will be open for the convenience of shoppers from

seven until nine p. m. Mr. Carroll Carpenter and his crew, the Carroll Decorating Company of Hickory, N. C. will arrive in the city this week-end to decorate the streets.

The Merchants Association has gone to considerable expense to decorate the streets for Christmas and bring this gala opening to citizens of Roanoke Rapids and surrounding territory.

The Association invites everyone to attend the opening and visit member stores.

Throughout the Christmas season, loudspeakers in both the north and south wards will relay Christmas carols, origination in the studios of radio station WCBT, to the citizens.

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Roanoke Rapids Merchants' Association