

Roanoke Ramblings

(Editor's Note—Wiley Warren, Jr., who has been writing sports for the Herald for the past several years, is leaving Sunday to enter Wake Forest College. Before leaving, Wiley decided to submit to the citizens of the city some of his opinions and recommendations for the betterment of morale among the young people here. So we are letting Wiley have part of the Roanoke Ramblings column for the purpose.)

By WILEY WARREN

Basketball — the king of the nation's sports attractions is finally reaching a record high in the eyes of youthful admirers here in Roanoke Rapids.

For many years, the cage sport seemed to be hidden under the bushel basket. However, now it appears that the game which was founded by Dr. James Naismith in 1891, is ready to emerge from his hiding place and join Mr. Baseball at the top ranking of Roanoke Rapids sports.

Outdoor courts all over the city have been erected. They're not regulation sizes of course, but they will serve the purpose until Roanoke Rapids can provide a YMCA or some kind of recreational center to accommodate its youth.

One of the busiest places during the Christmas holidays was the local armory. The gym which has only two basketball courts in constant use by youngsters throughout the day. At times, the court was so crowded that half-court contests were played in order to keep two games going on at the same time.

Even now, the armory stays virtually packed with kids. After the varsity's practice, which is usually over at 6:30, youngsters swarm to the gym from every part of the city for an hour or two of basket-tossing.

On Saturday and Sunday, there is more competition or at least more kids to play.

The only hitch is that they have no organization, or no one to coach them or referee their games. What's more, they're all willing to learn, always ready to lend an ear to advice about the game.

And to top it all off, there's loads of talent among those youthful worshippers, but the question is: will it ever be put to use?

Only by guidance, only by constant and unfailing interest, can the youth of Roanoke Rapids be directed towards more skill, more dexterity in basketball and other sports, which are admittedly popular because they enhance the character and the health of the "citizens of tomorrow."

A full-time, city-sponsored recreation director — not just a summertime fill-in (in capable as they are) — has answered the question in innumerable other cities.

Roanoke Rapids, which boasts of industrial might, financial power and innate progress, could do much worse thinking than that of considering the hiring of a recreation director for the city.

In other cities, many of which are members of the North-eastern Conference, boys between the ages of seven and 12 play at halftime and usually provide the spectators with more excitement and laughter than the varsity games do. Why not place such an idea in practice here?

Is it that they have more love and respect for their kids than the parents here do? It's not that is it?

It sometimes seems that the people here are not willing to go to a little extra trouble or expense for the sake of their youth. Wouldn't you like to keep your kids out of mischief?

You can if you will.

Will Take Physical Ed
Wiley told the Rambler he would study physical education and journalism at Wake Forest. He wants to be a coach, he said, and will go out for basketball and probably baseball.

Young Britton Home
PFC James G. Britton, 18, son of County Coroner and Mrs. Rufus Britton, of Roanoke Rapids, spent nine days at home during the holidays, according to his Dad. (We caught Rufus at the fire station just after that, yesterday morning.) James, who entered the service July 14, 1946, is stationed at Randolph Field, San Antonio, Texas.

Our Correspondent III
Miss Katie Riddick, Enfield (Continued On Page 4, Sec. A)

What Roanoke Rapids Makes
—Makes Roanoke Rapids

VOLUME XXXIII

Local Negro Held For Capital Crime

Faces Possible Death Sentence For First Degree Burglary

Lodged in city jail early Sunday morning on a charge of first degree burglary, a crime punishable by death in North Carolina, Robert Boone, 29 year old Roanoke Rapids Negro of the Lincoln Heights section, pleaded guilty when arraigned at preliminary hearing in Mayor's Court Monday afternoon.

In ordering that Boone be held without privilege of bond and in binding the case over to the January term of Halifax County Superior Court however, Mayor W. B. Allsbrook said he did not think Boone would be convicted of the first degree charge.

Boone's statement, which was in the mayor's possession during the hearing, disclosed that he admitted going to the home of another Negro, Ernest Price, a taxi driver, early Saturday night for the purpose of stealing some meat. Boone, in the statement, admitted he knew Price had just butchered some hogs and that he would not be at home as he was driving his taxi at the time.

Finding the back door locked, Boone said he forced entry, stole two middle of meat and took his leave by the back door, closing it as quietly as possible behind him.

Police officers who made the arrest — Capt. C. R. Green, and Officers Charles Allen and Harvey Kellett — reported that Price's wife and their eight children (the eldest an 11 year old girl) were asleep in the house at the time.

Police chief T. J. Davis said Boone also admitted knowing that Price's family was asleep in the house at the time he entered the back door.

Price reported the theft to the police later in the night when he discovered the meat missing and named Boone as a possible suspect. When the three officers arrived at Boone's house at about one o'clock Sunday morning, he was cooking some meat but denied getting it from Price's home, claiming instead that he had bought it from a Negro merchant.

He later retracted that claim, according to police, and made a complete statement in which he admitted the larceny and the breaking and entering.

Boone was transferred to the county jail Wednesday morning to await trial at the January term of Superior Court which opens in Halifax on January 26.

74 County Citizens Chosen For Superior Court Jury For Term Beginning 26th

Seventy-four Halifax County citizens' names have been drawn for jury duty for the January term of Halifax County Superior Court which begins January 26. Of the 39 names drawn for the first week, 14 are from Roanoke Rapids, five from Enfield, six from Scotland Neck, four from Weldon, three from Palmyra, two each from Littleton and Brinkleyville and one each from Halifax, Butterworth and Concoconara.

For the second week, 35 names were drawn, and of that number 12 are from Enfield, eight from Roanoke Rapids, four from Halifax, three from Scotland Neck, two each from Brinkleyville, Palmyra and Faucetts and one each from Weldon and Rose-neath.

The complete venire follows:
FIRST WEEK
George E. Harrison, Roanoke Rapids; John F. White, Enfield; L. M. Council, Halifax; Willie Floyd Walker, Littleton; M. C. Boseman, Weldon; Charlie P. Price, Roanoke Rapids; Howerton Gowen, Roanoke Rapids; E. M. Simmons, Concoconara; Wilmer G. Collier, Roanoke Rapids; Cecil Maynard Hale, Jr., Littleton; T. B. Browning, Roanoke Rapids; Thomas Sorie, Enfield; J. T. Madry, Scotland Neck.

SECOND WEEK (Feb. 2)
P. D. Johnston, Scotland Neck; J. W. Arent, Halifax; L. G. Sledge, Faucetts; Forrest Dickens, Faucetts; E. A. Smith, (Continued On Page 4, Sec. A)

Masons Install Officers

At the regular monthly meeting in January, the Roanoke Lodge AF and AM of Weldon installed the following officers to serve this year:

B. F. Turner, Worshipful Master; R. M. Mason, Senior Warden; L. W. Edwards, Junior Warden; Paul E. Merchant, Secretary; W. M. Josephson, Treasurer.

U. B. Pierce, Senior Deacon; S. A. Taylor, Junior Deacon; H. L. Ward and Willard Ferrell, Stewards and M. V. Edwards, Tiler.

The following Oxford Orphanage Committee was appointed: A. P. Ellis, chairman; A. J. Eisman, H. L. Ward, L. C. Draper, W. B. Joyner and S. D. Knight.

Halifax Scout Meet Slated For Weldon

The Halifax District Committee, Boy Scouts of America, will meet in Weldon Monday night at 7:30 p. m. at the Weldon First Methodist Church, it was announced today by John Hines, District Chairman.

In making the announcement, Hines stated that the presence of all operating committee chairmen is imperative. All Scouts and friends of Scouting are cordially invited to attend the meeting also.

In connection with the District meeting, D. E. (Doc) Bennett, Halifax District Scout Commissioner, states that he expects every neighborhood commissioner, Scoutmaster and troop committee chairman to attend the session and sit in on the Scoutmasters' Roundtable in line with the double track plan of district operation.

City Enters Pedestrian Contest

An impressive certificate recognizing the entry of Roanoke Rapids in the Ninth Annual Pedestrian Protection Contest was awarded to T. J. Davis local police chief, this week.

Well finished, harmonious furniture is an essential of a pleasing, home-like room.

THE ROANOKE RAPIDS HERALD

Growing With
Carolina's Fastest Growing City

ROANOKE RAPIDS, N. C. Thursday, January 15th, 1948

Herald Classified Advertising
Gets Quick Results

NUMBER 11

Dimes In Time



Baby Girl Saved. The life of eight-month-old Sandra Sue Fouch (above) of Circleville, O., was saved when the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis rushed a baby respirator to her in the nick of time at a Columbus, O., hospital. Many instances such as this are made possible by the dimes and dollars contributed to the annual March of Dimes appeal January 15-20.

6 City, Town Chairmen Named for March of Dime Drive Beginning Today

(Editor's Note — Due to a misunderstanding, Charles L. Wills was listed in last week's issue of the Herald as city chairman for the March of Dimes drive for Roanoke Rapids. To correct the error, the Rev. Edmund Berkeley is the local chairman of the drive. The Herald regrets the mistake.)

Names of six Halifax County residents have been released by the committee for the March of Dimes drive in the county as city and town chairmen.

They are: Rev. Edmund Berkeley, Roanoke Rapids; Macon Moore, Jr., Littleton; Mrs. F. W. M. White, Halifax; James L. Mountcastle, Weldon; Edwin Branch, Enfield and Earl Bradley, Scotland Neck.

Spokesman for the committee said that last year's drive netted about \$3800 and that leaders of the drive hope to better that amount in the 1948 campaign.

The March of Dimes, founded by the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt to aid fellow sufferers from infantile paralysis, begins its 1948 drive for funds today and ends the campaign on January 31st.

The drive is now headed by Basil O'Connor, president of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, an organization which is marking its tenth anniversary this year.

January Building Permits Total \$33,875 In First 15 Days; \$23,700 For Homes

A total of \$20,275 in building and bath, at an estimated cost of \$4,000; to Ed Turner, for a one story brick residence, with five rooms and bath on Jefferson Street, between 10th and 11th, \$7,000; to S. P. Pridgen, a one story residence with four rooms and bath at 1211 Hamilton Street, \$1,200; and to C. E. Paul, a one story residence with five rooms and bath on Cedar Street at an estimated cost of \$8,000.

The other permit went to Earl C. Wright for the construction of a one story woodshed at 1003 Jackson Street at an estimated cost of \$75.

The Local Week . .

BANKS TO CLOSE
All banks in the city will be closed this Monday, January 19, in observance of Robert E. Lee's birthday.

FIRE SUNDAY
For the second Sunday in a row, firemen were summoned to fight a blaze. A small house occupied by some colored people, which was located about four and a half miles out on the Theima road, near Hillcrest Farm, burned before fire fighting personnel and equipment arrived. The fire was caused by the explosion of an oil heater, the firemen reported. The house was in a row, and the occupants of the other houses had summoned the firemen in an effort to save their homes. They had succeeded in putting out the fire in the house next door to the destroyed dwelling before the firemen arrived.

NETHERCUTT NAMED
George Nethercutt, Roanoke Rapids accountant and former college baseball star, has been named business manager of the Roanoke Rapids Jays, club officials announced this week.

WASTE FLARES
The fire siren sounded Wednesday morning about 11 o'clock when firemen were summoned to the Rosemary Manufacturing Company. Firemen reported that some waste in a weave room had caught fire, possibly from some sparks from a nearby pump room, but there was no damage and the engine returned to the fire station at 11:25. Early this morning, the firemen were to the Camp Store section where a defective stove pipe burned a small hole in the roof of a house occupied by some colored people.

Roanoke River Basin Group Reorganized; Dam Bids High

Buggs Island Project Is Delayed As Bids Top Estimates

Norfolk, Va. — High construction costs has blocked the government's plan to award a contract for the main dam of the \$58,000,000 Buggs Island power and flood control project on the Roanoke River.

When bids were opened in the office of Col. G. T. Derby, U. S. Army District Engineer, the lowest was found to be more than a million dollars above the maximum permitted by the government for the dam.

Col. Derby announced that award of the contract could not be made on the basis of the bids submitted, owing to their being more than 25 per cent greater than the engineering corps' base estimate.

Government Estimate
The low bid was \$15,794,454.60. The government estimate was \$11,704,235 with the 25 per cent allowance for increased construction costs raising the maximum to \$14,630,294.

Morrison-Knudsen Co., Inc., submitted the low bid, as representative of a group of construction companies which included: Walsh Construction Co., New York; B. Perini & Sons, Framingham, Mass.; Henry J. Kaiser Co., Oakland, Calif.; Ralph F. Mills Construction Co., Roanoke; Blythe Brothers, Charlotte, N. C.; and Peter Kiewit Sons, Inc.

The second low bid, \$1,430,391.80, was submitted by J. A. Jones, and the Jones Construction Co., of Charlotte.

Col. Derby said his office would study and analyze the bids submitted before making recommendations to the next step.

The project calls for a dam 66,800 feet long, and 144 feet high.

The bids opened were for construction of the multi-purpose dam only. Contracts previously awarded were for the foundation and excavation work on the left bank of the Roanoke River facing downstream, construction of a village for government employees, access routes to the highway and the river, and clearing of dike areas.

Remaining phases of the Buggs Island project for which contracts have to be let include relocation of bridges and highways, construction of dikes, the power plants and switchyards.

"I'm a Tar Heel Born"

The baby girl, born to Mr. and Mrs. John Fitzgerald of Jacksonville, Florida, here in Roanoke Rapids Hospital on January 9th, may be a bit too young to be singing, but when she's a little older she can sound off with "I'm a Tar Heel born" just as loud as anybody else from the Old North State.

Her parents were on their way from New York to Jacksonville last week when the stork caught up with them ahead of schedule.

As a result, Roanoke Rapids, N. C. will be listed as the place of birth on the birth certificate for little Miss Fitzgerald.

Probably she'll never forget where she was born, her parents, who were accompanied on the trip by their two other children, named her Rose Rene, the initials of which—well, you get it.

Allocation Increased For Dam Project

Washington, D. C. — Another chapter in the construction of the Buggs Island Dam and Reservoir was begun this week when the President submitted his Budget for the fiscal year 1948-49 to Congress. The Budget calls for an appropriation of \$10,200,000 for this flood control, hydroelectric project.

This is the largest amount requested to date for the project and marks another success for Congressman John H. Kerr. Judge Kerr has been endeavoring for several months to have a larger amount than usual requested in the President's message. The 1947-48 appropriation for the project was \$4,800,000.

Army Engineers estimate that if the money requested is appropriated it will make the project about 28 per cent complete. It will bring to a total of \$19,000,000 the amount appropriated of the estimated \$68,000,000 required for completion.

Contacted in reference to the President's recommendation Kerr said that he was well pleased with the amount requested and would do everything possible to (Continued On Page 4, Sec. A)

Weldon Knitting Mills Will Reopen Within Next 30 Days New Management Discloses

Local Teachers Give To Fund For Overseas Instructors Relief

Local teachers contributed \$65 for the aid of teachers in war devastated areas, it was reported today by Miss Olivia Harmon, chairman of the International Relations Committee of the local unit of the North Carolina Education Association.

Miss Harmon, who was assisted by committee members Thelma Garriss, Rilla Woolridge, Jessie Helen Belch and Marvin Woodard, reported that the state association forwarded \$4,800 to the National Education Association in Washington for the Overseas Teacher Relief Campaign.

The drive was conducted because of the desperate needs of the teachers in the war-torn countries of the world and the International Relations Committee of the local unit of the NCEA had the responsibility of soliciting the funds for this campaign.

Other local teachers who assisted in the drive were: Misses Mary Lowder, Omara Daniel and Sara Cannon, and Mrs. J. B. Hunsinger.

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Local Man Is Elected Vice-Chairman For North Carolina

South Boston, Va. — Reorganization of the Roanoke River Basin Association was effected here last Friday at the annual meeting of the group in such a manner as to provide for greater representation of citizens living up and down the basin. The annual election of officers also was held and the 75 persons present for the meeting heard a report concerning the program for utilizing the full resources of the Roanoke River and its tributaries. They likewise heard a description of the work up to date from Fred L. Geis, Chief Resident Engineer representing the United States Army Engineers at the Buggs Island Dam Site on the river.

The Association was reorganized in order to provide seven directors from the lower end of the Basin, that is the North Carolina end, seven from the middle area of Virginia and seven from the western area of Virginia. Hereafter, each section of the River Basin had been represented by three directors. The 21 directors of the Association for the ensuing year and also voted to constitute the officers named by the directors as an executive committee to handle all affairs between meetings of the directors.

Bolling Lambeth of Bedford, Va. was reelected Chairman of the Association, and under the new set-up a Vice-Chairman was elected to represent each state. Frank C. Williams of Roanoke Rapids was elected to represent North Carolina and Heck A. Ford of Martinsville was elected to represent Virginia. Eric W. Rodgers of Scotland Neck was reelected Secretary-Treasurer of the group. The directors named for the three areas are as follows: Lower Basin or North Carolina Area: Judge W. H. S. B. B. Woodland; Frank C. Williams of Roanoke Rapids, C. S. Alexander of Scotland Neck, John W. Clark of Greensboro and Norfleet Station, D. W. Seifert, Weldon W. P. (Pat) Benthal of Rich Square and Eric W. Rodgers of Scotland Neck.

For the Middle Area: A. R. Daniel of Blackstone, Va., J. B. Wilborn of South Boston, H. L. Hardee of Clover, S. B. — man of Clarksville, Y. M. Hodges of South Hill, A. T. Greene of Chase City and W. L. Hammersley of Randolph.

Upper Basin Area: H. A. Ford of Martinsville, C. J. Davis of (Continued On Page 4, Sec. A)

175 Hear Broughton Deliver Lesson At Nahalah Sunday School

About 175 persons gathered at the Nahalah Presbyterian Church, located in the Rose-neath Community, Sunday to hear former governor J. Melville Broughton teach the Bible Class of the Sunday School.

Accepting the invitation of Irwin K. Weeks, Sunday School superintendent, to visit the local church, Broughton used for his text the International Uniform Lesson provided by the International Council of Religious Education, which was Isaiah 40: 28-31; John 14: 8-14.

Broughton was introduced to the gathering by Weeks.

RAT KILLING SLATED

A county wide rat extermination campaign is being planned for March 4th and 5th. This campaign is being conducted by the County Farm and Home Agents in cooperation with the Home Demonstration Clubs of Halifax County.

All farmers in the county will be contacted by mail and given definite information about cost and where rat bait may be obtained on dates set for the campaign, the agents announced, and asked that "all farmers cooperate in trying to eliminate rats on their farms."

CPL Directors Up Player Limit to 16; Name L. D. Hines Loop Vice-President

L. D. Hines, president of the Roanoke Rapids Jays, was elected vice-president of the Coastal Plain League to succeed Jack Lee of New Bern at a meeting of the loop's board of directors in Greenville last Thursday night.

The seven other club presidents were unanimous in their choice of Hines for the post.

But that was just about the only display of unanimity at the meeting, for the eight club presidents, who serve as members of the board of directors, argued heatedly on most other major items of business.

The fuse for the verbal explosion was lit when a motion came before President Ray Goodman proposing that five veteran ball-players (those with more than three years experience) and eleven limited service men be permitted on each club. The vote was four in favor and four against, so Goodman killed the motion by voting "no."

Then, the proposal was for four veterans, eight limited service men (more than 48 days experience but less than three years)

and four rookies (with less than 45 days playing experience). This time Goodman had to break the 4-4 deadlock again and he voted "yes."

Vote Questioned
Several of the club presidents thereupon questioned whether Goodman had the right to vote. League Secretary Edna Barnhill read the section of the League's constitution which said he did and the members in disagreement said that rule was in conflict with the rules of the National Association.

By Laws Changed
Among the by-laws changes made at the meeting were: All suspension of players shall be for 10 days rather than seven and a club may carry only one suspended player. Any player assaulting an umpire during a game is liable for 120 days suspension rather than the 90 in effect last year.

If a veteran or limited service player is suspended by the manager, he can be replaced on the roster by another veteran or limited service player but each club must have four active rookies on the roster at all times.

Admission Prices Same
The same admission prices were retained by the directors. They are: for adults, 60 cents; for children, 25 cents; and for colored adults, 40 cents.

The season will open on April 22 and close September 8, and the clubs will play 140 games with the usual July 4 and Memorial Day doubleheaders to be played a day later due to their falling on Sunday. In order to avoid the playing of an 141 game schedule, only one game will be played on Labor Day, September 6.

The club presidents also passed a rule whereby a player re-

moved from the game by a manager can remain in the park to assist in minor duties such as warming up a pitcher or other player (or as one president put it "shine the bats, sweep the dugout or chew tobacco") just as long as he doesn't pinch-hit, run bases or coach first or third basemen.

Another Meeting Soon
Another meeting will be held about a week hence when the directors will formally approve the season schedule and discuss broadcasting rights in the parks of the league.

Present for the meeting were the following club presidents: John Norton of New Bern, Guy Smith of Greenville, Frank W. G. of Rocky Mount, J. D. Lar-kins of Kinston, George E. Barnhart of Tarboro, L. D. Hines of Roanoke Rapids, Billie Barnes of Wilson and Ed Worley of Goldsboro.

Also present were Charles Allen of Durham, owner of the Class C Carolina League's Durham Bulls, the owner of the Tarboro franchise, St. Perry, general manager of the Durham Bulls, and about 20 coaches and players.