

Hatchery Operation Is Assured

The Weldon Rock Fish Hatchery will operate this year as usual and there is no danger of it being closed, according to R. Bruce Etheridge, Director of the North Carolina Department of Conservation and Development.

Etheridge telegraphed Eric W. Rodgers of Scotland Neck, a member of the Board of the Department of Conservation and Development, as follows: "Weldon Hatchery will operate this year as formerly without reference to changes in the dividing line between commercial and inland fisheries."

At the public hearing at Weldon two weeks ago on changing the line between commercial and inland fisheries for rock fish from Weldon to Williamston, Dr. Willis King of Raleigh, Executive Director of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (Continued on page 4, Sec. A)

Roanoke Ramblings

Free Car Service

One of our friends out in Pleasant Hill brought in the following:

"Folks, if you want free car service, just park on the street near Tri-City Motors. They'll do the work with a big heart. Saturday, Mrs. Thomas M. Ferguson of Pleasant Hill and her son, Edelyn, were in town shopping and left their car near that company. When she returned about two hours later, she only had the car keys, but no car to use them in."

"Mrs. Ferguson was a little upset, thinking someone had stolen the car, so she began inquiring around about it. Nobody seemed to know its whereabouts, so she started to go down the street in search of a telephone to report a car stolen, but on her way she saw her car in the Tri-City workshop, getting a good working-over. The explanation they were given was that the wrong Chevrolet from the street, washed out the radiator, installed a new exhaust pipe, adjusted the valves and were planning additional work on it."

"After Mrs. Ferguson got over her scare, she asked the mechanic that the charges were, to which he replied, 'No charge, just our mistake.' Mr. Ferguson said this proves a woman can be one hour early instead of always late. If I had only been one hour later with my shopping, my car would be ready for that state inspection now!"

Honesty Worth \$20

Mrs. Dorothy Bond of Weldon can testify that honesty is of at least some value. Recently, she spotted a stack of checks lying on the counter at Mac's Truck Station, where she works. Looking at them, she saw they totaled more than \$5,000. They had evidently been left by some trucker, she reasoned, so she put them in the safe and notified a man in Oklahoma, whose address was listed on some of them. He got in touch with the driver, or the driver got in touch with him, and they finally got the checks back where they belonged. Then, he sent Mrs. Bond 20 dollars as a reward.

65th Birthday Observed

Mrs. J. M. Taylor of 307 Washington Street celebrated her 65th birthday last Saturday, March 6. Understand she received many, many cards and lovely gifts for which she is deeply appreciative.

While He's 76

Mr. Alex Bullock of Charlotte Street observed his birthday last Sunday. He's the new city sanitary inspector and he's 76 years young.

But Richard's 15

Richard Davis, pride and joy of the T. J. Davis household, took a little trip up to New Jersey this past week end with his police chief Dad and Warren High. Sunday, on the way back, Richard celebrated his 15th birthday. He was told by his Dad to order anything he wanted - it would be his birthday gift. "But just because we're riding the Cape Charles ferry," added the chief, "don't try to buy the boat. I just mean order anything you want to eat." Richard did.

Bill Harris Honored

Bill Harris, son of Mr. and Mrs. B. W. Harris of Roanoke Rapids and a senior at Louisville College, was one of nine students initiated into the Louisville College chapter of Alpha Pi Epsilon, national commercial honorary fraternity, on March 2nd. Membership in the fraternity is by vote of the members who judge the scholarship, leadership and abilities of the pledge.

Something New

The Roanoke Rapids Merchants Association, always ready to tip off folks when swindlers invent something new, came up with this one in a special bulletin this week:

"Here's a new variation of an old swindle that is current. (Continued on page 4, Sec. A)

What Roanoke Rapids Makes
—Makes Roanoke Rapids

THE ROANOKE RAPIDS HERALD

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Mendes Takes Last Minute Speaking Opportunity



"We have five Senators just waiting to jump on something like this," Toby E. Mendes, Textile Workers Union of America representative, told about 140 textile workers and friends Saturday night, referring to the presence of Internal Revenue agents in Roanoke Rapids three weeks ago. Mendes charged in the speech that R. A. Pope, Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue in Roanoke Rapids, was a "cat's paw" in pre-election maneuvering, a charge which Pope has denied. Seated in rear of Mendes is Herman Pittman.

Coroner Jury Exonerates Negro Youth

A coroner's jury at Littleton returned a verdict of justifiable homicide Tuesday night in the death Saturday night of a 35 year old Warren County Negro, Paul Hawkins.

Hawkins was killed by his son, Murphy Hawkins, 15, after he had caused a disturbance around the home of his estranged wife and attempted to enter the house through a window.

Murphy and five other children were alone in the house, located on the property of county commissioner D. C. Dickens near Littleton, at the time, as the mother had gone to town.

The elder Hawkins had thrown sticks through the windows, and tried to set fire to the beds by throwing matches in through the windows. It was testified, before he tried to gain entry through a window. Two warning shots failed to stop him, and the boy, not knowing who the man was, finally blasted him in the throat with a charge of number four shot, killing him instantly.

Dickens summoned members of the sheriff's department and investigating officers were Sheriff H. A. House, and deputies E. L. Crawley and J. W. Dickens.

The boy was not arrested prior to the hearing conducted in Littleton by County Coroner Rufus Britton.

Sheriff House said the wife had had her husband indicted several times in Warren County, prior to their separation, on charges of beating her.

Emporia Child Killed When Struck by Auto

Willie Ben Knight, Jr., four years old, of Route 3, Emporia, died en route to Roanoke Rapids Hospital Sunday afternoon after having been struck by an automobile on Highway 58, outside of Emporia about 4 o'clock that afternoon.

Patrolman Carol Petteway said the boy was struck by a 1946 Dodge four door car driven by Billy Claude Edwards of Route One, Henderson, N. C.

In the car with Edwards, was Thurston Allen of Route Two, Henderson, and the car belonged to Terry T. Allen of Route Two, Henderson.

Among the witnesses was Dorothy Knight, a sister of the victim.

Dies In Washington

Mrs. J. McFarland Williams, who resided in Roanoke Rapids with her niece, Mrs. M. S. Brown, for several years, died Tuesday at her home in Washington, D. C.

Funeral services were conducted at the graveside in Ashville today.

Letter Assures Fishermen That No Rockfish Change Will Be Made This Year

In a letter written to George A. Hux, president, and B. F. Turner, secretary-treasurer, of the Halifax County Wildlife Club recently, Thomas J. White, chairman of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, advised that no action on the proposed change of the commercial fishing line from Weldon to Williamston could possibly be made in time to affect the rockfish season this year.

Action on the proposal has been deferred until a later date. In the letter, White said in reference to the open hearing held at Weldon on February 24th, "I regret exceedingly that

No. 1 Mill Workers To Vote Tomorrow

By JERRY ELLIOTT

Approximately 775 workers at Roanoke Mills Company's No. 1 mill will vote tomorrow on whether or not they wish to be represented by the Textile Workers Union of America, CIO, in bargaining with the management.

Union Confident
Union officials issued several statements yesterday and today in which Toby E. Mendes, national representative of the TWU, expressed "complete confidence that the River Mill workers would vote the union in by a sizeable majority in the plant election to be held here tomorrow under the direction of the National Labor Relations Board."

Mendes, in charge of the Roanoke Rapids CIO office since January of 1947, indicated that, in his opinion, "sentiment for the union has now reached its

highest peak since the start of the campaign."

"Everything is working out exactly as we planned," he said. "Our committees inside the mill

Frank C. Williams, president and treasurer of Roanoke and Patterson Mills Company, today issued the following statement to the Roanoke Rapids Herald: "I appreciate your paper offering me space for comment but I do not think it necessary or advisable to make any public statement at this time."

have been alerted to counteract any possible effects of Frank Williams' last minute speech which he will unquestionably deliver today. The workers have been told what to expect and I have complete confidence that they will politely listen to Mr. Williams' promises and then (Continued on page 4—Sec. A)

County Farm Advisory Board Appointed

In response to a request by County Agent W. O. Davis, the board of county commissioners named a board of prominent citizens to comprise a County Board of Agriculture to serve in an advisory capacity.

The action was taken at the regular monthly meeting of the board held in Halifax March 2nd and the following were selected for membership on the board:

W. A. Thorne, Roanoke Rapids banker; C. J. Leonard, Enfield merchant; J. E. Martin, Tillery merchant; W. A. Pierce, Weldon farmer; Louis P. Hux, Littleton farmer; George W. Alston, Littleton farmer; Thomas B. Moss, Enfield farmer; W. A. Kitchin, Scotland Neck farmer; and T. D. Temple, Scotland Neck farmer.

Davis said that the reduced quota would take 2500 acres of tobacco out of cultivation this year and that next year 15,000 acres of peanuts would be taken out of cultivation. He suggested the appointment of such a board to serve in an advisory capacity, in an effort to replace this lost acreage with other money crops so that the farm income for Halifax County would not be cut too drastically.

\$400 To Enfield

The board passed a resolution authorizing the payment of \$400 annually as an appropriation for the Enfield Fire Department to cover calls outside the corporate limits of Enfield. The department had qualified under the laws relating to the State Volunteer Fire Department.

Hobgood School Situation

The Board of Education met with the Board and discussed the Hobgood School situation. It

COTTON HOUSE BLAZE

Firemen were called to Roanoke Mill Number One yesterday about noon where a fire had started in the cotton house. The firemen reported that the overhead sprinkler system took care of most of it; and they returned to the station within a few minutes.

Parking Meters Arrive Here Monday

The parking meters for the city arrived Monday and installation is awaiting the arrival of an engineer to supervise the work, it was learned today.

George Justice, head of the city street department, and his men finished re-marking the parking spaces in the sections of the city in which the meters are to be installed early this week.

Angle of parking, formerly set at 45 degrees, has been cut to 40 degrees with the result that there are now 80 spaces in the downtown section of the Avenue to be metered - equipped; 132 in the two blocks of the Avenue in the uptown section; 38 on 10th Street and 45 on 11th Street for a total of 295.

The new angle of parking will provide four feet of added clearance on Roanoke Avenue, Justice disclosed.

Directions For Use
Police chief T. J. Davis has released the following directions in

The Local Week

McGOWAN NAMED

Enfield—John W. McGowan of Enfield has been named by the State Board of Welfare as a member of the Halifax County Welfare Board. It was announced this week in Raleigh. The State agency names one member in each county for the Welfare Board.

ONE BUILDING PERMIT

Only one building permit in the amount of \$140 was issued this week in the office of City Building Inspector Henry F. F. The permit went to L. H. Humphrey, for the construction of a car shed on Vance Street between Seventh and Eighth Streets.

AGED VEHICLE OK

J. C. Copeland of Roanoke Rapids took his 1927 Model "T" Ford pickup through the Motor Vehicle Inspection Lane in Weldon last Thursday and the aged vehicle came through with flying colors. As they passed the approval seal on his "tin Lizzy", Copeland gleefully commented, "Ha! They didn't stop me a bit!"

BIDS OPENED TODAY

Bids on the \$400,000 paving project are being opened this afternoon, beginning at 1:30 at

New Jersey Resident Fights Extradition To Roanoke Rapids

George Nigro, 33 year old white resident of New Brunswick, New Jersey, was freed on \$150 bond this week, pending extradition hearing on charges he obtained \$1,075 from Godwin-Wilkes Motors, Inc., of Roanoke Rapids last July by selling them a stolen truck.

Nigro was arrested Saturday night in the New Jersey city by New Brunswick police, assisted by Roanoke Rapids police chief T. J. Davis and officer Warren High.

Nigro is fighting extradition and a hearing will be held as soon as the necessary papers reach the Middlesex County (N. J.) police department, Chief Davis reported.

Local Rotarians Plan To Attend District Meeting

Ben H. Lancaster, president of the Roanoke Rapids Rotary Club, said today that W. A. China, Dick Taylor, Hugh Godwin and himself, and possibly several others, would attend the annual conference of the 189th District of Rotary International to be held in Raleigh from March 28th through 30th.

The dates for the conference were announced today in Raleigh by District Governor L. Victor Huggins of Chapel Hill; and representatives from the 37 Rotary Clubs which comprise the 189th District will participate in the conference to discuss ways of increasing the effectiveness of their Rotary service activities during the coming year.

Principal speaker at the conference will be Ralph S. Dunne, Chairman, Districting Committee, who will address the Rotarians as the special representative from the Rotary International Headquarters.

Nomination of the District Governor for the fiscal year 1949-50, of the more important matters to come before the conference.

Answer Is Filed To Lawsuit Against Weldon Officials

Buggs Island Group To Go To Capital

Directors of the Roanoke River Flood Control Committee and the Roanoke River Basin Association will go to Washington next Monday to appear before the Sub-committee of the Senate Appropriations Committee to argue for the appropriation for the fiscal year beginning July 1.

An appropriation was voted in the amount of \$9,000,000 for Buggs Island and \$1,700,000 for Philpott by the House of Representatives. This was a cut from \$10,200,000 for Buggs Island and \$2,200,000 for Philpott.

Directors of the two groups will argue before the Senate Appropriations Committee that the economical program would be to allow the full appropriation so that the work may be speeded up and not so much money lost on overhead expenses.

The hearing is scheduled to start at ten o'clock Monday, March 15, in the Senate Appropriations Sub-committee hearing room.

Officers and Directors of the two groups, most of whom are expected to attend the hearing at Washington, are as follows: Roanoke River Basin Association: Officers: Bolling Lambeth of Bedford, Va., Chairman; Frank C. Williams of Roanoke Rapids, N. C., Vice-Chairman for North Carolina, H. A. Ford of Martinsville, Va., Vice-Chairman for Virginia and Eric W. Rodgers of Scotland Neck, N. C., Secretary-Treasurer. Directors: Judge W. H. S. Burgwyn of Woodland, N. C., C. J. Davis, Rocky Mount, Va., H. L. Hardie, Clover, Va., G. B. Updike, Danville, Va., Y. M. Hodges, South Hill, Va., C. S. Alexander, Scotland Neck, N. C., John W. Clark, Franklinville, N. C., W. P. Beathall, Rich Square, N. C., D. W. Seifert, Weldon, N. C., A. R. Daniel, Blackstone, Va., J. B. Wilborn, South Boston, Va., S. B. Freeman, Clarksville, Va., A. T. Greene, Chase City, Va., W. L. Hamersley, Randolph, Va., T. B. Nolan, Altavista, Va., A. R. Parker, Danville, Va. and John B. Hooker, Stuart, Va.

Roanoke River Flood Control Committee: Officers: W. H. S. Burgwyn of Woodland, N. C., Chairman, Frank C. Williams of (Continued on page 4—Sec. A)

New Scout Executive



Freeman E. Self

Newly elected to succeed John B. Hackney as Scout Executive of the East Carolina Council, Boy Scouts of America, Freeman E. Self has been connected with Scouting for the past 25 years.

Self, who has headquarters in Wilson and serves 21 northeastern North Carolina counties, came to this council from the Georgia-Carolina Council at Augusta, Georgia, where he enjoyed outstanding success.

The new Scout leader was born in Savannah, Georgia, attended public school in Atlanta, graduated from Georgia Tech and took graduate work at Emory University. He became a Boy Scout in 1923 in Atlanta, gained the rank of Eagle Scout and then became Scoutmaster of his old troop.

He served on the camp staff in the Atlanta Area for nine years, 1927-1936 and received his first appointment as Scout Executive in 1936 when he was assigned to the North Georgia Council with headquarters in Rome, Ga. During his time with that council, the membership doubled.

He became Scout Executive of the Georgia-Carolina Council in 1943 and in the five years he served there, a 50 per cent gain in membership was recorded. Self is married and has one child.

47 Year Old Negro Papermill Worker Succumbs To Burns

Augard Ingram, 47 year old Negro papermill worker, died Tuesday afternoon about 3:30 in Roanoke Rapids Hospital after having been severely burned in an accident at his place of employment about 11:30 that morning.

Coroner Rufus Britton, who investigated and deemed no inquest necessary, said Ingram was burned when a spark fell into a bucket of gasoline. An ambulance took the man to the hospital where he walked from the entrance around to the colored ward, wrapped only in a blanket.

Funeral services will be held at the Cool Springs Church this afternoon at 2:00 o'clock under the direction of Wrenn Funeral Home.

Survivors include his wife, Betty, and several brothers and sisters.

STATE MEN LEAVE MONDAY

State Income Tax men George C. Green, Jr. and William T. Early will be at the Municipal Building courtroom from now through Monday to assist residents in filing their 1948 state income tax returns.

20 Year Old Baltimore Fugitive Is Arrested In Northampton County

Leon Booker, 20 year old Baltimore, Md. Negro, wanted in that city for a series of shooting affrays, was arrested in the western part of Northampton County Saturday on a tip from an unidentified Negro woman.

Booker was the object of a widespread manhunt throughout the states of Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and North Carolina and the arrest was made by State Highway Patrolmen Corporal Logan B. Lane and Carol Petteway, acting in conjunction with a Virginia trooper and deputy sheriff.

Accompanied by his wife, Booker told the patrolmen they were on their way to Florida. They asked the woman for lodging while he supposedly sought work, but she became suspicious and notified authorities.

Baltimore authorities were expected to arrive the early part of the week to return the young Negro to the Maryland city. His wife was not detained, but he was lodged in the Halifax county jail.

Corporal Lane said the youth had been in prison on three different occasions since he was 12 years old, mostly for theft, but that he had been involved in several shooting affrays.

Defense attorneys last week filed an answer in Halifax County Superior Court to a suit filed January 17th by George C. Green, Weldon attorney, against the chief of police, mayor and city commissioners of the Town of Weldon.

The suit, in which Stuart Smith of Scotland Neck has been retained as attorney for plaintiff, seeks to recover \$675 in salary and \$425 in expenses paid police chief P. R. Kitchin while he was attending the FBI National Police Academy in Washington, D. C. in April of 1946.

Named as co-defendants in the action along with Kitchin were Mayor J. T. Maddrey and commissioners W. A. Pierce, C. R. Turner, Walker Campbell and Pierce Johnson.

The original complaint contained nine allegations and the answer by defense attorneys Allsbrook & Benton of Roanoke Rapids admitted to five of these, denied three entirely and denied the other for the most part, admitting only that the plaintiff had demanded the mayor and board to recover the sum of \$1,100 from Kitchin previous to the present action.

Of the five to which the defense admitted, they dealt merely with legal identification of the principals and specifications of amounts received by Kitchin while at the school.

Request Dismissal
Quoting from General Statutes 160-20, as follows, "The Board of Commissioners may appoint town watch or police to be regulated by such rules as the Board may prescribe," the answer asked that judgment be entered in favor of the defendants, dismissing said action and that plaintiff be taxed with the costs.

The answer set forth in detail that police protection for the town during the attendance of Kitchin at the academy was not lacking and that he retained jurisdiction over the police work. It stated that no additional policemen were hired, but rather that the members of the force doubled up on shifts and that Kitchin came to Weldon over the week ends while enrolled at the school.

Pointing out the improvement in crime detection methods with resultant improvement in all ranks through knowledge acquired by the chief of police, the answer, in effect, said the commissioners were entirely justified in sending Kitchin to the school and paying his salary and expenses in addition.

12 Die Here In Accidents During 1947

Halifax County, which had 10 traffic deaths in 1946, registered 12 during 1947, a report released Friday by the Department of Motor Vehicles disclosed.

The report showed 836 persons lost their lives and 6,524 sustained injuries as a result of 12,511 traffic accidents on North Carolina streets and highways.

This 1947 figure was 19 per cent lower than the 1946 report of deaths and injuries, 1,028 persons were killed during 1946. The latest compilation reveals a 35 per cent reduction in highway deaths since 1941, when 1,286 were killed, an all-time high for the state.

Although fatalities showed a downward trend, the report showed that total traffic accidents were 22 per cent higher for 1947 than for 1946, when 10,287 accidents were reported.

White-Hurst Speaker At Baptist Meeting

Rev. B. Marshall White-Hurst was one of the principal speakers Tuesday night at the rally of the Baptist Sunday School workers of the Roanoke Baptist Association in Tarboro.

The meeting, attended by representatives from 80 churches in seven counties, was one of similar South-wide meetings of Southern Baptist Sunday School forces to unite plans and action in the expanded 1948 Bible teaching program.

Rev. Bazemore stated that "Baptist Sunday Schools in the Roanoke Association are now in strongest position in their history, with over 16,000 members, having a vital Bible teaching program, and looking forward to an expanded program of growth and work in the year 1948."

Other speakers included Rev. Carl Ousley of Tarboro, Rev. C. W. Bazemore, Roanoke Association missionary of Scotland Neck, Rev. W. A. Nichols of Scotland Neck.

Corporal Lane said the youth had been in prison on three different occasions since he was 12 years old, mostly for theft, but that he had been involved in several shooting affrays.