

Roanoke Ramblings

Big Beet—

Mrs. Anna Clary, who lives in Hometown, sent a huge beet, one of the largest anyone at the Herald office had ever seen to the office the other day. The beet which weighed one pound and 14 ounces measured 15 inches in circumference. Production Manager Doug Debnam who was given the beet by Bill Clary, an employee of the Herald, took it home with him and said that he'd let us know how good the beet was.

Summer School of Music

Mrs. Harriet Lyon Zercher, Supervisor of Music in Greenville County, Va., a graduate of the University of Illinois, is conducting a summer school of music giving both private and class lessons in piano and voice. Classes will start Thursday, July 1, and will meet twice weekly. Mrs. Zercher may be contacted by Telephone 160-W or Box 831, Emporia, Va.

Congressman Is Home

Congressman John H. Kerr has returned to his home in Warrenton following adjournment of the nation's lawmakers.

Rejoins Division

Pfc. Neal Stewart who was a member of the famed 82nd Airborne Division rejoined his outfit recently and is now stationed at Fort Bragg.

Summer School Student

Among students attending the first semester of Summer School at Presbyterian Junior College, Maxton, is C. C. Churchill of Roanoke Rapids.

The Mighty Oak

Once there were some trees—some little baby trees. But no men. Nor a town called Roanoke Rapids. The oaks grew and came. They lived around the oaks. And in the summer they rested under the shade of the mighty oaks and their children played there. Then a town was formed by the men and soon came to be called Roanoke Rapids. But when there is a town and men, roads are needed. Even more than trees. So the men, who were much smaller than the oaks and of course much younger, but men, chopped down the trees. And now they will soon have a paved street—on Third and Washington. And the men? They are happy about the coming road, but a little sad, too, remembering the oaks.

Nurses Pass State Exams

Roanoke Rapids can boast having eight graduates of Roanoke Rapids Hospital among the 263 nurses who passed the North Carolina examinations recently. Those who qualified were: Miss Nina Gray Bass, Miss Annie Gay Long, Mrs. Nell Wilder-Lynch, Miss Ursula Louise Mooring, Miss Willie May Murray, Mrs. Mildred Davis Shearin and Miss Frances Ann Smith.

Rosemary Church Bible School Has Ninety Graduates

The following have received certificates after meeting the requirements in the Rosemary Methodist Church Vacation Bible School: Beginners—Judy Byrd, Libby Dean Massey, Billy Massey, Dickey Adams, Wayne Butler, David Miller, Shirley Parrott, Mary Taylor, Sylvia Faulkner, Nancy Garner, Scott Garner, Bobby McCormick, Cameron Little, Betty Carol Smith, Brenda Massey, Clifton Riggins, Jr., Effie Ann West-brook, Michael Ford, Dannie Edwards, George Lewis Daughtry, Betty Anne Stevens, Angela Coston, Bobby Tickle, Gail Bradshaw, James Davis, Robert Reggan, Brenda Frances Speight, James Hasty, Winifred Bristow.

Primaries—Ann Barnes, David Birdsong, Doris Cahoon, Vernon Daughtry, Jan Davis, Rebecca Davis, Vickie DeBerry, Louise Ellis, Mary Faulkner, Phyllis Faulkner, Johnny Johnson, Bob Kinker, Joanne Lackey, Jimmie Leggett, Charles Mason, Priscilla Medlin, Edwin Moyley, Virginia Paul, Virginia Spence, Betty Lou Thompson, Howard Tickle, Marjorie Wayne, Dennis Woodruff, Charles Zucker, Robert Zucker, Kenneth Parrish.

Juniors—Tommy Barnes, Merwin Brinson, Geraldine Brown, Hugh Cameron, Janie Ray Clark, Barbara Ann Dail Phyllis Edmonds, Frances Faulkner, Amelia Harris, Marion Hudson, Frances Eady Johnson, Jackie Johnson, Linda Lee Johnson, Evelyn Marie Joyner, Donald Leggett, Hilda Leggett, George Livesay, Howard Massey, Barbara Faye Miller, Craig Parrish, Margaret Ann Shell, Willis Stevenson, Jr., Adell Taylor, David Thompson, Jay Thompson, Jr., Edward Woodruff, Norma Faye Shearin.

Intermediates—Peggy Ann Brown, Marie Leggett, Jean Miller, Mary Ann Thompson, Dallas Barnes, David Camp, W. B. Hux, Carl Thompson, Jr.

Halifax County has a population of 56,512 at present. It ranks 15th in comparison with the population of other counties in North Carolina.

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ROANOKE RAPIDS, N. C.,

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STORM WREAKS HAVOC NEAR GUMBERRY

Pharmacy Break In Is Solved

Police reported the recent Roanoke Pharmacy break-in cleared up today with the arrest early yesterday morning of a 24 year old resident of the Bunker Hill section, described as a drug addict.

Identified by arresting officer T. L. Glosson as L. E. Draper, the man was apprehended at his home at the end of Madison and Jackson Streets at 7:30 Monday morning. Also participating in the raid on Draper's home were officers C. D. Allen, Warren High and H. C. Kellett.

Found in the house were some pen and pencil sets and a radio. A microscope (stolen from Roanoke Mills Clinic on the same night the pharmacy was entered), a typewriter, another radio and several other items had been carefully packed in a steel drum and hidden in some woods down on the canal.

According to Glosson, who headed the investigation of the twin break-ins, Draper admitted that he entered the clinic and drug store on the night of June 14.

Goods stolen in the break-ins included a quantity of habit-forming drugs, some ether and a microscope from the clinic, a typewriter, two radios, pen and pencil sets, knives, cigarette cases and lighters, wrist watches, and flashlights. Glosson reports that most of the goods, valued at from \$1500 to \$2000, have been recovered.

Draper, who is in the Halifax County Jail in default of \$1500 bond in the pharmacy case and \$500 bond in the clinic break-in, waived preliminary hearing in Mayor's court Monday afternoon. Trial will be in Superior Court which begins August 16.

Dog Owners Are Warned

A last call to dog owners in Roanoke Rapids to have their dogs vaccinated against rabies was issued today by Police Chief T. J. Davis. Chief Davis, in cooperation with Health Inspector Dr. W. A. Carter and Deputy J. G. Butts, warned owners that they have until July 10 to have the vaccination performed.

Failure to vaccinate dogs will entail a fine of \$50 or 30 days in jail, the Chief said. He stressed that it is important that everyone has his dog vaccinated to prevent rabies.

"The police department will cooperate with the Health officials in every way to see that the plan is carried out," he promised.

Pointing out the importance of rabies prevention, the Chief told of a recent case in which an inoculation would have prevented needless worry. Mr. and Mrs. Clara F. Massey's small five year old child was scratched by his dog two weeks ago. Fearing the dog died, and fearing he might have had rabies, the parents sent off the dog's head for examination in Raleigh. The report was negative, and the parents relieved.

Dog owners may take their pets to the following places for inoculation:

Thursday, July 1 — Tripps Grocery (Belmont), 11 a. m. to 12 noon; Lincoln Heights, 12:30 p. m. to 1:30 p. m.; Old Fire House, 2 p. m. to 3 p. m.; Boy Scouts Hut (Patterson Mills), 3:30 p. m. to 5 p. m.

Friday, July 2 — Medlins Old Store (South Rosemary), 11 a. m. to 12 noon; Banty's Store, 12:30 p. m. to 1:30 p. m.; J. M. Sykes Stores, 2 p. m. to 3 p. m.; J. D. Batts Store, 3:30 p. m. to 5 p. m.

Saturday, July 3 — Jasper Wilkins Shop, 10 a. m. to 12 noon; Marthas Grocery, 12:30 p. m. to 1:30 p. m.; Mitchell's Saw Mill, 2 p. m. to 3 p. m.; Morris Store, 3:30 p. m. to 5 p. m.

Thursday, July 8 — Elmore's Store (Near South Neck), 11 a. m. to 12 noon; Log Cabin Service Station, 12:30 p. m. to 1:30 p. m.; Palmyra, 2 p. m. to 3 p. m.; Hobgood, 3:30 p. m. to 5 p. m.

Friday, July 9 — Hills Cross Roads, 11 a. m. to 12:30 p. m.; Mary's Chapel, 12:30 p. m. to 2:30 p. m.; Whites Cross Roads, 3 p. m. to 4:30 p. m.

Saturday, July 10 — Burnett's Stables (Scotland Neck), 11 a. m. to 2 p. m.; Cotton Mill Yard (Scotland Neck), 2:30 p. m. to 4:30 p. m.

County Commissioners Reverse Stand

Tax Increase Is Nullified At Meeting

Halifax — The Halifax County Commissioners, meeting in special session here Monday, reversed themselves on the tax rate which last week had been set at 90 cents and adopted a tentative general budget calling for an expenditure of \$721,168.65, based on a tax rate of 65 cents.

Last Monday at a special meeting, three of the commissioners were on time, and by a vote of two to one, before the arrival of Chairman D. G. Dickens, they voted to set the tax rate at 90 cents.

Yesterday's meeting was called for the purpose of instructing the auditor to publish the proposed general county budget.

The full membership of the board was present for the meeting, in contrast to last Monday's meeting when the session began with only three members of the board present and Chairman Dickens arriving late.

On a motion by Commissioner Meade H. Mitchell and seconded by J. R. Wrenn, the auditor was instructed to publish a budget estimate of \$721,168.78, including \$38,918.75 for debt service, based on a 65 cents tax rate.

Voting for the motion were commissioners Mitchell and Wrenn.

Voting against the motion were Davis and Alexander.

Chairman Dickens voted for the motion.

Commissioner Alexander explained his negative vote by saying that he was voting no because the proposed budget increases the amount asked by the school officials by \$277,000. He added that he had spent four days inspecting the county schools and had studied thoroughly the needs of the schools.

"I am voting no on this question because it reduces the amount requested by the schools by \$277,000 and reduces what I think is necessary for the schools for current outlay by \$277,000," Alexander added. He quoted Supt. I. E. Ready of the Roanoke Rapids school system as saying that \$50,000 of the amount requested could be delayed without serious handicap to the schools.

John Davis, who along with Alexander, was one of the two commissioners who have been attempting to get more money for the schools and who last week voted for the increase in the tax rate, concurred in Alexander's statement.

It was explained that included in the proposed budget is an estimated \$200,000 for capital outlay for the schools and \$150,000 for current expenses. In addition it was also pointed out that under the present plan of division of proceeds from the Halifax ABC board the schools received 60 percent.

The budget will be advertised for several weeks in newspapers in the county before a final action is taken on its adoption.

Halifax Couple Report Theft In Baltimore

Halifax—Mr. and Mrs. Quentin Gregory, who attended the graduation of Miles Gregory from Episcopal High School in Alexandria, Va., recently, report that clothing was stolen out of their car while they stayed overnight at a motor court in Baltimore, Md.

Listed among the items stolen is a pair of field glasses belonging to Mrs. Gregory. Police in Baltimore have tried to locate the thief, but no new developments have been reported.

Warren County Goes For Scott

Warrenton (Specila) — Kerr Scott carried Warren County by 174 votes in the second primary run-off for governor.

About 2500 voters went to the polls last Saturday which was approximately the same number who cast their vote in the first primary.

John H. Kerr, Jr., local attorney, headed the Johnson for Governor campaign while J. Edward Rooper, Jr., was in charge of the Scott campaign.

Former License Examiner Arrested; Will Be Tried Under Little-used Law

Irwin K. Weeks, former driver's license examiner in Halifax and Hertford counties, was arrested last night by Deputy Sheriff Dick Bracy in Scotland Neck. He is being held under \$1000 bond and will appear in Recorder's Court next Tuesday in Halifax.

The warrant, issued by Atty. Gen. Harry McMullan, charged that Weeks allegedly accepted money paid to influence his issuance of driver's licenses to applicants who originally had been turned down.

Weeks, who had served as an examiner in both Hertford and Halifax counties since last September, resigned May 24. He is a resident of Scotland Neck and is a Sunday School superintendent at Nahulah Presbyterian Church in the Rosemeath community.

Officials of the State Department of Motor Vehicles said that Weeks will be prosecuted under a little-used law passed in 1913. It would be impossible to try him for bribery, since North Carolina laws dealing with bribery do not cover persons holding the type of State job that Weeks had, according to Asst. Atty. Gen. J. E. Tucker.

The 1913 law makes it a misdemeanor, punishable in the discretion of the court for "... any agent, employee or servant who requests or accepts a gift or gratuity or a promise to make a gift or to do any act beneficial to himself, under an agreement or with an understanding that he shall act in any particular manner."

Warrenton — Larry Limer, who was struck in the face by a batted baseball while watching a game at Norlina recently, is progressing rapidly toward full recovery. The young fan, who suffered a crushed bone in his face, was taken to the Maria Parham Hospital in Henderson for treatment and then released.

Halifax County Voting Reflects State's Trend As Scott Gets Majority

Halifax County joined the ranks of many other counties in the state and changed its vote in the second primary to give W. Kerr Scott a victory over Charles M. Johnson in the gubernatorial runoff primary.

Scott received a total of 2804 votes to Johnson's 2506 in 16 of the 17 precincts in Halifax County.

In the first primary on May 29 Johnson was the top man with 2,379 votes to 2,243 for Scott. In that voting young Mayme Albright received 2,058 votes in the county.

Scott's majority in the county in the second primary, in which the total vote cast was much lighter, was due, many political observers in the county believe, to the influence of Albright's supporters who for the most part changed their allegiance to the former commissioner of agriculture.

Community Benefits From Lionism Are Pointed Out To Warrenton Lions Club

Warrenton—The regular meeting of the Warrenton Lions Club was held Friday night in the Hotel Warren with 25 members and guests present.

District Governor Beame of Louisville, the guest speaker, discussed the forthcoming Lions Club convention which is to be held in New York in July. In addition, he pointed out various beneficial phases of Lionism in the community.

In connection with the benefits of the community from having a Lions Club, it was mentioned that during the past year the Warrenton Club has contributed to the TB Christmas Seal Sale, raised the largest amount of money per member of any club in North Carolina for the blind White Cane Sale, helped the local baseball club, contributed to the North Carolina Symphony Band, distributed Christmas baskets for the needy, helped with the Clean-Up Drive in Warrenton and given glasses to the needy people of the county who required them.

The district governor stated that the Lions Club is the largest civic organization in the United States. In the past, he declared, other states had been

Stores Stay Open

Local stores will remain open all day on Wednesday, July 7, according to the Roanoke Rapids Merchants Association. Stores and banks will close Monday, July 5, in observance of Independence Day which falls on Sunday this year.

Physician Passes Admittance Tests For U. S. Board

Warrenton—Dr. Thomas Holt, Warrenton physician, has returned from Chicago, Illinois where he successfully passed the examinations for admission as a Diplomate of the American Board of Otolaryngology.

A graduate of the University of North Carolina, Dr. Holt received his M. D. degree at the Medical College of Virginia. After the war he entered the University of Virginia Hospital for his graduate work in Otolaryngology.

He is now associated with Dr. J. L. Lane of Rocky Mount in the practice of Ophthalmology-Otolaryngology.

Vacancies Still Exist In N. C. National Guard

Raleigh—Officers of the North Carolina National Guard headquarters announced here today that there are still vacancies for between 600 and 700 men in the units of the National Guard throughout the state.

Major W. R. Bloxton, assistant to State Adj. Gen. J. Van B. Metts, said today that the exact number of vacancies will not be known until a unit by unit inspection of the National Guard in North Carolina can be made.

North Carolina's quota for the National Guard is 6,013 men. Bloxton said that the men selected to fill the vacancies will be boys between the ages 17 and 18 and veterans with three months, but less than 12 months service.

Bloxton explained that both groups are free from the draft call, if they are accepted for duty with the National Guard or the Reserve. Veterans not subject to the draft may also enlist in the National Guard.

The opportunity for youths in the 18 through 25 age group to attain draft exemption by enlisting in the guard expired when President Truman signed the new draft bill.

Caswell A. House Added To Police

Caswell A. House of Littleton has been appointed to the Roanoke Rapids Police Department and will take over as desk dispatcher on the third shift, Chief T. J. Davis announced today.

House will begin his new duties Thursday night, working from 12 midnight to 8 a. m.

Get Meat, Not Money

Detroit—After dynamiting the safe of the John B. Anderson Meat Company, thieves were unable to open the safe. Not to be overdone, they loaded up with several hundred pounds of hams, hot dogs, bacon and butter, valued at approximately \$500.

Unusual Arrangement

Los Angeles — When Elaine Dunham won a divorce from Maurice Dunham, it was the property settlement that intrigued the judge. It provided that Mrs. Dunham would continue to provide board, at \$40 a month, for her husband until the end of the beef season next November 1. She'll live in the house — he in the pump house.

ATTEND YOUTH MEET

Warrenton — Miss Mildred Cox, Alvis Fleming and Billy Collins, delegates from Warren Plains Methodist Church, attended the North Carolina Conference for Young People at Louisville in Louisville last week.

Harvesting of lima beans in North Carolina will reach its peak about July 1.

Crops On 14 Northampton County Farms Battered By Heavy Wind And Hail

By BILL McCLUNG

Gumberry—A freak hail and windstorm struck in the Gumberry section of Northampton County about mid-afternoon Sunday and virtually laid waste the crops of 14 farmers, wrecking at least three tenant houses but injuring no one. Power lines were torn down and huge trees fell across the highway in several spots in the wake of winds which whose own farm escaped serious damage, but who works the farm of Dr. R. B. Blow which was damaged extensively, showed the extent to which the crops were damaged.

The greatest devastation was wrought along a one and one-half mile stretch of Route 195 in the area in which the farms of Mrs. W. G. Edwards, which is operated by Ellis Taylor and the farm of Paul Buffalo, Sr., are located but the crop destruction extended for a distance estimated to be about three miles in length in a north and south direction.

Farms along one side of wooded areas had their crops virtually devastated, while those on the other side of the wooded areas suffered only slight damage from winds.

A tour of the area with Bob Barnes, a resident of Gumberry,

Josey Named New Solicitor

Halifax — The Halifax County Commissioners, in session here Monday, accepted the resignation of Wade H. Dickens as county solicitor, and named Robert C. Josey, III, of Roanoke Rapids to fill Dickens' unexpired term.

Dickens had submitted his resignation last week.

Josey, who received the Democratic nomination to the post for the next four years, is slated to begin filling Dickens' unexpired term July 1.

Halifax ABC Members Study Edgcombe Plan

Two members of the Halifax County Alcoholic Beverages Control Board made an investigation of the Edgcombe County ABC Board law enforcement system last Friday as part of a plan being considered to set up a similar law enforcement unit in this county.

Studying the Edgcombe ABC Board system were Chairman J. F. Vincent of Roanoke Rapids and H. W. Rothrock of Enfield.

At present the Halifax ABC Board pays \$600 monthly into the county general fund to help pay the expense of the Sheriff's Department which now handles ABC law enforcement in Halifax.

The Edgcombe Board employs five officers with salaries totaling \$1200 monthly and have radio-equipped cars to combat ABC violations.

An ABC official said today that as yet no definite action on the matter has been taken by the Board.

Fire Setting Attempt Fails

A fire-bug's attempt to set fire to W. L. Moody's grocery store on 210 East Second Street Sunday night was frustrated by Moody's observant neighbors.

Someone saturated cotton with kerosene, placed it behind a Coca Cola hanging in front of the store, and stuck a match. Neighbors sighted the fire almost immediately and extinguished it with mud.

Local Sea Scouts At National Meet In Jacksonville

Four members of the Roanoke Rapids Sea Scout ship are at the U. S. Naval Air Station in Jacksonville, Fla., for the annual Sea Scout National Rendezvous. The rendezvous will last a week and will include courses in indoctrination into Navy life and give the scouts an idea how the U. S. Navy works.

A full week's program, including special aviation exhibits, tours of the naval air station and "liberty" in Jacksonville has been arranged for the Sea Scouts.

The four attending from Roanoke Rapids are: Dwight Elting, Billy Murray, Bob Murray and Noah Sadler.

Leaves Literally Stripped

Fields of corn, cotton, tobacco and peanuts were literally stripped of their leaves as though some huge hand, working very fast had gone through the fields and deliberately stripped the stalks of their leaves. The corn, part of which was still standing upright had been literally shredded.

On Mrs. Edwards farm, which Taylor operates three tenant houses were severely damaged. One of Taylor's tenants, Emmitt Hardy, a Negro, whose house had the roof damaged seriously, said that he and his family of three children were in their home at the time the storm broke.

Tried To Hold Door
Hardy said, "I stood and tried to hold the front door and could feel myself being pushed back time and again." The barn and stable behind the Hardy house was completely destroyed and a wagon which had been setting in the barnyard was rolled about 100 yards into a peanut field.

About 100 yards distant from the Hardy house, James Green, another Negro tenant on the farm and his wife and three children, were in their house when the storm broke. The kitchen was torn from their home and the smokehouse was made a shambles. The Greens ran from their house when the kitchen was torn loose.

The most badly damaged house on the Taylor operated Edwards farm was one which was occupied by the families of Harding and George Green, Negro tenant farmers. The barn which was located behind the house had the roof blown from it and the roof timbers and huge sheets of tin were blown against the house and badly damaged it. Part of the force of the wind carried pieces of tin from the roof across the highway more than 500 yards away.

The 14 farms in the area which were heavily damaged by the blow included those of E. L. Hart, Z. L. Davenport, Sr., and Z. L. Davenport, Jr., W. A. Cook, John Howell, V. L. Little, J. H. Edwards, Dr. R. R. Blow, T. J. Kee, Paul Buffalo, Sr., and Paul Buffalo, Jr., and Douglas Boykins.

The farm of P. B. Stevenson which adjoins that of Paul Buffalo — escaped damage as did many others in the immediate section.

Corn Virtual Loss

Barnes and several other farmers of the area estimated that the corn crop on the 14 farms was a virtual loss, tobacco was damaged to the extent of an estimated 40 to 60 per cent and cotton was damaged as high as 80 per cent in most places. There was a feeling that perhaps the peanut crop had not been two hard hit.

Some freakish things occurred during the storm.

At the home of Z. L. Davenport, Sr., a bolt of lightning struck in the bathroom and tore a huge hole in the floor, but that was the only damage sustained by the house.

V. L. Little, who operates a store on one of the back roads in the section, showed us where a large tree had split in half and fallen alongside his house, tearing off one corner of the roof, but not damaging two cars which were parked in the drive way alongside the house. His barn and stable were almost completely destroyed.

Another peculiar thing which the storm left in its wake were trees which apparently had been torn down by a northerly wind and crops which had been damaged by a westerly wind. To residents of the area it indicated that the winds had either come from two directions and swooped into the area or else the storm had been a "twister."

Several residents of the area recalled the storm of July 20, Sunday's storm was much worse than that one of 12 years ago, but there were others of the opinion that the early storm was much worse.