

# The Roanoke-Chowan Times.

ANDREW J. CONNER, PUBLISHER

"CAROLINA, CAROLINA, HEAVEN'S BLESSINGS ATTEND HER"

SUBSCRIPTION PER ANNUM \$1.00

VOLUME XXXVII

RICH SQUARE, NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, N. C., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1928

NUMBER 51

## OPPOSES BUILDING HOSPITAL

### Cost Too Much--Already Hospitals in Easy Reach--Would the Rich Patronize It?

Editor ROANOKE CHOWAN TIMES, Dear Sir:

Following your ideals of impartiality and fair dealing, you invite discussion on the question of establishing a hospital in the Roanoke-Chowan Counties, viz: Bertie, Hertford and Northampton.

This statement in your editorial of December the 13th, gives the best reason for NOT establishing such an institution: "Our good roads have shortened distances considerably, we can now travel, in a few minutes, distances that formerly required hours, and with greater ease."

For if one will look at a map, the reason for the non establishment, up to this time, is apparent. At Suffolk, Virginia, there is a splendidly equipped hospital, the same is true of Washington, Tarboro, Rocky Mount and Roanoke Rapids, all in North Carolina and nearby. These, with the magnificent hospital accommodations to gether with the high type of surgeons in Norfolk, Richmond and Baltimore preclude any opportunity of ever developing any but a losing proposition along this line in this area. The idea is magnificent and shows the world that the ROANOKE-CHOWAN TIMES has a heart, and that heart beats in sympathy for suffering humanity and wants to bring nearer the relief. But is the idea a wise one? Being a layman, there are many technicalities about which I am ignorant, but there are many common place questions entering into the hospital idea that must be answered by cold, unsympathetic figures.

A hospital is an institution in which the sick or injured are given medical or surgical care at any and all times.

Now what does the ability to render this medical or surgical care, at any and all times, require?

First of all a fire proof building with a large number of rooms and wards, for the separate accommodation of the two races of people in this section.

Equipment: The domestic equipment of this plant, with dishes, silverware, cooking apparatus, general and special, table linen for the employes and patients, furniture of special type and design, mattresses and bed linen in unlimited quantities, toweling and so on ad infinitum; the maintenance of a laundry; the scientific equipment, lighting system, electric ovens, bakers, X-ray machines, a laboratory, with special and particular equipment, the modern instruments for verification of diagnoses, comprising a startling number unfamiliar to the layman; the physical equipment of water, hot and cold, the well, the engine, the tank, the closets, the piping, the disposal and many other expenses too numerous to mention, are all items of cost and must be had.

Personnel: From the professional standpoint there must be a well established and recognized group of medical and surgical men in whom confidence must be absolute, there must be interns and assistants, there must be a corps of nurses under a superintendent, locally, there would have to be nurses of both races and orderlies, waiters and scullions, yard and garden men, electricians, pump men, mech-

anic plumber, fimen and laborers; then among the higher trained employes comes the expert X-ray operator, the technician, dietician, druggist, book keeper, housekeeper and many others. This will give some idea of the cost necessary to maintain a hospital, and the cost must be met by the income received from patients, whether from the patient himself or from some agency sponsoring him, such as a county paying for its indigent population who may be sent there. It must also be remembered that hospitals do not take tuberculosis or insane patients, nor contagious cases where it is known the case is contagious, obviously all other patients, who could, would leave.

Now come back to the human in us. Are our richest citizens, except in the direst emergency, going to this hospital or let their family go if it is possible to get to the noted and tested surgeons of the largest cities? Are the people who can and will go to this hospital able to pay the prices for a protracted illness or operation? Are the counties going to be willing to pay the price for its indigent poor who have to be sent there?

Cost: Costs are always based on the entire costs of an institution, and are known as overhead and are fixed charges. To meet these there must be a certain number of what are known as hospital days at so much per day. Now the question arises what will be the cost of a modern hospital building and equipment such as we all would demand? What will be the cost of operation? What will be the depreciation and lossage, the cost to maintain the standard that must be maintained to have any recognition?

With a two race population and the nearness to similar institutions, as we wish to establish, it seems to me there is but little hope ahead, unless such an institution be helped by an additional tax which, I think, the citizenry of these counties would object to paying. With these ideas about it, and they are not imaginary, I have given the matter much thought, I am of the opinion that the establishment of a hospital would be a losing proposition, and I offer this solution. If each county must have a hospital connection, and it ought, let each go to its nearest hospital and make an arrangement for the care of its indigent patients at so much per day, or by some other plan, such as an endowment, or lending a certain sum of money to add additional physical space for such county, such money to be paid back in charges for patients. There are many ways by which this could be arranged and I for one wish to say I had rather try to strengthen some nearby, well established institution than to try to raise a weakling in our midst, for I surely think such a venture would almost die aborning.

## CITIZEN.

### Snake Eats

The ideas that a venomous snake can strike its full length or more, and that it can not strike except from a coiled position, are popular but erroneous beliefs, biologists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture state. Most of our poisonous snakes, when irritated, can strike from any position, and the greatest length of stroke is about three-fourths their own length.

## ARRESTED ON SERIOUS CHARGES.

### White Slavery, Theft of Automobile, Store-breaking, Transporting Liquor, Driving While Drunk

Last Thursday morning at eight o'clock two white men, Ernest White, 30, married, five children, and his brother Benny White, 17, of Hopewell, Va., were placed under arrest near Rich Square under the charge of transporting liquor and operating an automobile while under the influence of liquor, but this proved only a beginning of their trouble. Before they could be given a preliminary hearing in court other more serious charges were lodged against them--store robbery, the theft of an automobile, and a violation of the white slave act by Ernest White.

Their trouble here began when they had tire trouble just after leaving town and they sent Norman Jones, a colored man living near town, to town to purchase an inner tube and gave him a jar full of pennies to pay for it. This aroused suspicion. While the officers were considering what to do Mr. H. L. Fayhe, of Roanoke Rapids, arrived and informed the officers that Ernest White, of Hopewell, Va., who had been charged with violating the Federal white slave law had left Roanoke Rapids early that morning for Roxobel in search of the woman who had left Hopewell, Va., with him several days before, going North, and finally leaving White in Baltimore, so Mr. Fayhe and Mr. J. T. Cullifer, who was at work here and had known White in Hopewell, Va., went out with Officer P. L. Grant to where the Whites were waiting for the inner tube and placed them under arrest. Liquor was found in the car and the Whites had imbibed freely. A large quantity of canned goods, candy and other things were found in the car, a new Ford, that had been run about five hundred miles. In the car was found a card from the Ford dealer in Hopewell, Va., to G. G. Miller of Hopewell telling him that as his car had been in use 30 days that it would be well to bring it back to be looked over. Officer Grant phoned to the Hopewell dealers to know if they had sold a Ford of a certain number and was informed they had sold such a car to G. G. Miller but that it had been stolen the night before. Mr. Miller came over for his car and with him Virginia officers with warrants. In the meantime the office of the United States District Attorney had been informed of the white slave charge. The Virginia officers were very anxious to relieve North Carolina of the keeping of the Whites, but in the meantime Officer Massey of Pleasant Hill township with Mr. Rash came over and claimed the goods found in the Whites' possession and the jar of pennies were stolen from Rash's store the night before.

The Whites were held by Northampton authorities under bonds of \$500 for Ernest and \$200 for Benny, but should they be released from these other warrants are in the possession of officers.

### Woodland Bazaar a Success

The Baptist Missionary Society of Woodland church wishes to thank all who shared in making the bazaar a success. It realized \$140.00 profit.

The more trifling the man the more patent pencils and fountain pens he seems to carry around in his vest pockets.

## "THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS"

After going strong for twelve months, the Woodland Community Club held its twelfth meeting Thursday night of last week and by the forty odd members present, it was pronounced one of the best, if not the best meeting of the whole year.

Dr. W. R. Parker was the unanimous choice for president and so he was reelected to this position for the ensuing year. E. G. Griffin was reelected vice president. W. V. Harrison was elected secretary.

After numerous items of business, it was announced that the program committee had succeeded in getting our own townsman, Senator W. H. S. Burgwyn, to make a talk. If the Senator is better at one subject than another it certainly must have been the timely and current subject which he took, "The True Spirit of Christmas," for he handled it in a most appropriate and beautiful manner. So many people fail to get the real true spirit of Christmas, it was very fitting that the club should be reminded right at this time of the many apt illustrations referred to by the speaker. Nothing more clearly illustrated his idea of the real spirit of Christmas than a little incident which came under his observation in Bertie County some months ago. He was returning from the town of Windsor on Christmas eve. He had occasion to stop at a little country store, and while there engaged in conversation with the proprietor, whom he had never seen before. He found him a fine gentleman. The conversation drifted from one subject to another and finally about Christmas and different people. The store keeper inquired of him if he knew a certain man of Bertie, and when he informed him he did and that he was very fond of him, the stranger said, "I think he is one of the best men in this whole world." "Just one year ago today," said he, this gentleman rode up to my store and inquired if there were any widows in the community who needed help, or if there were any children, who would be overlooked by Santa Claus. When I assured him of numerous poor people in the community who were greatly in need of food and clothes, this great big hearted gentleman said, "Make up a list of groceries and articles of clothing and send to every one in the whole community whom you think need help, don't tell them who sent them, but send me the bill and I will pay it." While the Senator spoke for more than 30 minutes, this little incident so clearly illustrates his big idea running through his talk about the true spirit of Christmas, and because time and space forbid, we shall forgo further reference to his talk.

At the close of Mr. Burgwyn's talk it was suggested that members of the club make it a point to give something to some poor person, white or colored, this Christmas. Every member present signified by standing, that they would make some unfortunate person happy this Christmas by giving them something.

S. N. Parker and E. C. Parker, Potecasi, were present and joined the club. E. C. Parker made a splendid talk along the same line as Mr. Burgwyn did. This was greatly appreciated by the club.

The delightful dinner served by the Thursday Afternoon Club could not be surpassed. The decorations, suggestive of the season, were very beautiful.

D. H. B.

## School Closed

The Rich Square public school was closed last week by the County Health Officer on account of an outbreak of influenza in another part of the county, it was stated. Local physicians gave it as their opinion that there was no need for the closing, and patrons and local school authorities wanted it continued, but had to yield to the powers that be.

Rich Square has a nine months term, one month of which is paid by a special tax, and every day that the school is closed now delays the closing in the spring when many farmers need their boys to help with the crops. The closing order works an unnecessary hardship and accomplishes no good. The theaters and churches are not closed.

## Music-Literary Club of Severn

Mrs. Earl Bryant of Boykins, Va., was hostess to the Music-Literary Club of Severn, Friday evening, Dec. 14th, from 7:30 to 11 o'clock in the home of Mrs. J. J. White of Severn.

A Christmas program of stories, jokes, stunt, game and music was enjoyed by all.

During the social hour two very interesting contests were engaged in. Mrs. H. W. Maddrey won first prize and Mrs. G. A. Pruden the booby.

Each guest was presented a "popper" after the explosion of which, was found to contain caps to be worn and a fortune to be read.

Mrs. Bryant, assisted by Misses Una and Evelyn White, served a two plate luncheon.

This being "Pollyanna" night, Santa Claus made a most welcomed visit to the club, bringing a filled bag from which he presented each club member a lovely gift from her Pollyanna. This brought forth a real Christmas spirit and much excitement as each package was opened one at the time.

In January the club will be entertained by Misses Johnson, Long and Urdike of the Pendleton school faculty in Pendleton.

## Mrs. W. E. Jenkins Entertains

Roxobel, N. C., Dec. 13--Mrs. W. E. Jenkins entertained at a bridge luncheon on Tuesday, December the 11th, for the members of her bridge club. After a two course luncheon, a salad course, and a fruit gelatin course both carried out in colors yellow and white, bridge was played at three tables. Mrs. T. F. Norfleet received prize for high score a pair of hand painted candle sticks. Yellow and white baskets filled with the yellow and white mints, were given as favors. The house was beautifully decorated with potted plants here and there. Roses were used in profusion. Mrs. Jenkins's guests were Miss Jamie Norfleet, Mrs. H. R. Paschel, Mrs. E. R. Tyler, Miss Floyrette Peele, Mrs. Cling Barnes, Miss Annie Norfleet, Mrs. W. M. Norfleet, Miss Mary Lee Capehart, Mrs. T. F. Norfleet, Mrs. B. F. Burkett, Mrs. G. B. Spivey, of Roxobel; Mrs. A. Ruffin, and Mrs. Stephen Norfleet of Kelford.

## Appointed Game and Fire Warden

Mr. Edgar Bracy has been appointed district Game and Fire Warden to succeed P. L. Grant, resigned. Mr. Bracy will have some deputies to serve under him. His special territory will be between Rich Square and Roxobel and the Roanoke. This is a good appointment. We believe Mr. Bracy will do his duty to the best of his ability.

## SEABOARD NEWS

### School Closed--Crops About all Gathered--New Buildings--Personal Items

Rev. D. P. Harris, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Ruggles, Misses Edith Bradley, Sarah Alice Harris, Dorothy Maddrey and Mr. E. B. Maddrey attended the Christmas cantata "The Lord's Anointed" which was presented at Murreboro Baptist Church Sunday evening.

Mr. Alexander Davis, a student of U. N. C., Chapel Hill, was the guest of Messrs Alvah Bullock and Crocker Maddrey a few days the past week. He left Sunday for Norfolk to visit his sister, Mrs. F. C. Weaver.

Mr. Wm. Proctor, of Raleigh, was the week end guest of his friend, Mr. Matt R. Stephenson. Messrs. W. R. Vick and A. H. Hubbard spent Thursday in Raleigh on business.

Miss Mary Long of Pendleton school faculty, arrived Saturday to spend the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. F. Long.

Rev. R. R. Grant and daughter Elizabeth, accompanied by Miss Leona Harris, spent Friday and Saturday in Durham. His daughter Minnie and her friend, Miss Webster, accompanied him home Saturday.

Mrs. C. R. Kee and daughters Irene and Alma and Mr. Dallas Kee spent Sunday and Monday in Norfolk visiting and shopping.

Mr. Paul Spencer and family spent Sunday and Monday in Norfolk.

Mrs. J. L. Harris and daughter Vera Scott spent a few days in Ahsokie the past week, guests of her mother, Mrs. Jesse Bozeman.

Miss Edith Bradley, of Louisburg high school faculty, arrived home Saturday to spend the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Bradley.

Mrs. C. H. Griffin and son Leslie spent Saturday in Norfolk shopping.

Messrs Vernon Cordle, Bruce Jones and Howard Parker, students of U. N. C., Chapel Hill, arrived home Friday to spend the holidays with their parents.

Mr. James Harris spent a few days in Chapel Hill the past week. Mesdames J. L. Taylor, S. V. Edwards and son James Taylor and Mrs. A. J. Crocker spent a few days in Norfolk the past week.

Miss Gertrude Harris, a member of Gallaway high school faculty, arrived home Friday, her school having closed on account of the flu epidemic.

Messrs H. R. Harris Jr., T. J. Stephenson Jr., and Crocker Maddrey arrived home Thursday to spend the Christmas holidays with their respective parents.

Mrs. G. Fenton Crocker was hostess to the high school faculty Wednesday evening at six o'clock at a three course dinner after which they enjoyed playing bridge until a late hour.

Miss Elizabeth Dennis Harris, of Lawrenceville high school faculty, spent the week end with her father, Rev. D. P. Harris.

The Woman's Missionary Society of Seaboard Baptist Church held its December meeting in the Sunday School rooms of the church last Wednesday afternoon. The annual report of the society exceeded the expectations of the most optimistic. At the conclusion of the business meeting the membership was invited into an adjoining room where a beautifully lighted Christmas tree was the center of attraction. (Continued on page eight)