

City Board Cooperates for Parking Areas; Adopts A Taxi Cab Ordinance

Hearing Conservation Program to Be Started By Exchange Club

An ambitious hearing conservation plan to be started in the Roanoke Rapids schools in conjunction with the Halifax County Health Department has been announced by the Roanoke Rapids Exchange Club.

George W. Davis, chairman of the club's Hearing Conservation committee, said the club will purchase immediately an audiometer with which to test hearing and has agreed to take care of partial expenses of a school health nurse in giving hearing tests to the city's school children. He said the committee hopes to start checking the hearing of children in five of the grades by February 1.

Dr. Robert F. Young, Halifax County Health Officer, Dr. Matthew S. Brown, Roanoke Rapids eye, ear, nose and throat specialist, I. E. Ready, Superintendent of Roanoke Rapids city schools, and Mrs. Kathleen Suiter, city school nurse, worked with the Exchange Club committee in setting up the long-range hearing conservation plan.

It was pointed out by Davis that a number of children in the schools are suffering from hearing deficiencies which affect the quality of their school work and generally serve as a handicap. He said unless there is some marked trouble present and a physician is consulted, parents often are unaware of their child's condition because hearing tests are not conducted as regular thing in school examinations. With the audiometer equipment in action the school nurse will be able to tell where deficiencies are and how bad they are.

He said the work projected by the Exchange Club will be at the start a program which is not too far-reaching. Davis said the main purpose in starting the ear checks is to bring to parents and teachers the awareness that certain children are suffering in some degree from deafness which may be easily remedied if found early.

Correct measures will be taken by family physicians where financial conditions permit, and other public health agencies will cooperate in taking care of those children whose parents are not able to afford corrective treatment.

The club's committee will finance the purchase of the audiometer and will pay part of the salary of a public health nurse who will be able to devote about two full days of her week to the (Continued on Page Ten)

Berkeley Will Head Ministers For New Year

The Rev. Edmund Berkeley, Rector of All Saints Episcopal Church, was elected president of the Roanoke Rapids-Weldon Ministerial Association for the 1948-49 year, when the Association met here Monday at the First Presbyterian Church.

Vice-president of the ministers' group is the Rev. W. E. Thompson, pastor of the Pentecostal Holiness Church, and the Rev. John T. Maides, pastor of South Rosemary Methodist Church, was elected secretary-treasurer for the coming year.

The Association members discussed the accomplishments of the past year and looked ahead to another successful year of work in the two cities. Among the accomplishments of the past year were sponsorship by the Association of a simultaneous vacation church schools, an interdenominational teacher-training school and several other activities sponsored by the ministers of the two towns jointly.

Ira Lee Allen Dies At Home After Illness

Funeral services will be conducted tomorrow afternoon at three o'clock from the Gurney Chapel Church for Ira Lee Allen, 51, who died at his home yesterday morning about 6:30 after a prolonged illness.

Services will be conducted by the Rev. W. E. Thompson, pastor of the Pentecostal Holiness Church and burial will be in the Love-Allen family burial plot near the Allen home on the Littleton Highway.

Mr. Allen was formerly an employee of the Roanoke Mills, but had been in ill health for several years.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Dora Love Allen; two daughters, Miss Dorothy Allen and Miss Maxine Allen of the home; and six sons, Perry, Kenney, John and Lester Allen, all of Roanoke Rapids, Wilbert Allen of Alston, Texas, and Herbert Allen with the U. S. Army in Germany.

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Marines On The March In Tsingtao, China



Soon after their arrival at Tsingtao, China, U. S. Marines reinforcements march on the outskirts of the city to keep in trip for guarding American lives and property. The reinforcements were sent to Tsingtao from Pacific bases late in November. (AP Wirephoto).

Buggs Island Dam Inspection Set For Friday; Gen Wheeler To Speak

Another Hiss In Spy Probe

New York, Dec. 8.—(AP)—Donald Hiss, former State Department employee, was called today with his brother, Alger, to testify before an espionage-probing federal grand jury.

The jury entered the third day of its renewed investigation with a federal official reporting it to be near a "final conclusion."

The inquiry began Monday following disclosure of statements by Whittaker Chambers, confessed former Communist courier, that Alger Hiss had supplied important government documents 10 years ago for delivery to Russian agents. Hiss has flatly denied the accusations.

Chambers, now a senior editor of Times Magazine, appeared before the jury Monday and yesterday, along with Alger Hiss, and is scheduled for a third session in the closed jury room today.

Federal courthouse sources indicated Mrs. Alger Hiss also probably would go before the jury at a later session. She had been accused by Chambers of copying some of the documents which her husband allegedly took from the State Department files.

Lions Club Has Annual Party

Bill Cope, professional British entertainer was the feature on the program last night, when the Lions Club held their regular meeting in the form of a Christmas dinner, with their wives as guests, at the high school cafeteria.

The meeting was a culmination of an attendance "race" in which the club was divided into teams. Every place at the table was taken, with approximately 150 present.

The cafeteria was festive with Christmas groups of red, green and silver bearing white frosted candles. The speakers' table was centered with a huge white sleigh, drawn by white reindeer and filled with dozens of lovely red carnations mixed with Christmas silver and evergreen upon which was frosted artificial snow.

Harvey Woodruff, president, presided. The meeting was opened with a song and address of welcome by the Lion W. Bernard Allsbrook. Mrs. Allsbrook responded to the greeting.

The meeting was turned over to the Rev. Edmund Berkeley, program chairman, who introduced Bill Cope, the entertainer for the evening.

Cope began his performance by playing on the piano accordion and having the group join in group singing.

President Woodruff, reminded the members again of the annual Lions' Christmas party of underprivileged children to be given. He suggested that the committee of about 30 who would furnish cars to carry out the Christmas baskets, given by the Lions each year, visit the homes beforehand and be sure to be present for the Christmas party December 17.

Buggs Island, Va.—All plans have been completed here for an inspection trip of the Roanoke River Development by members of Congress and officials of North Carolina and Virginia which will take place on Friday.

Lieutenant General Raymond A. Wheeler, Chief of Engineers, United States Army, is scheduled for an illustrated address on the Buggs Island Project and the Roanoke River Basin Development generally. Brief talks will be made by senators and congressmen from the two states and the governors or their representatives of the two states.

More than 250 persons have accepted invitations to be present as the guests of the Mecklenburg Virginia Civic Council which is host for the occasion, and which is being assisted in the affair by the Roanoke River Basin Association and the Roanoke River Flood Control Committee. United States Army Engineers are in charge of the entire program.

Following the address by General Wheeler, which is scheduled for 10 o'clock the distinguished guests will be recognized and brief remarks will be made by some of them, after which the entire gathering will be guests of the Mecklenburg Virginia Civic Council at luncheon.

Following the luncheon the Army Engineers have arranged to divide the group into smaller groups under the escort of an Army representative, each, and an inspection trip will be made over the entire project.

The Buggs Island Project is the first dam to get under construction in the vast program for development of the Roanoke River Basin for flood control, hydroelectric power and recreation. Ten other dams in the basin are included in the Government's project.

Influential Lobbying Seen In 1949 General Assembly Term

By Lynn Nisbet

RALEIGH, Dec. 8.—To extent far greater than has been the case for many years several groups with divergent ideas about state governmental policies are attempting to influence elected members of the general assembly in advance of the formal convening date of that body.

There is more "lobbying" going on now than old timers have seen before at comparable period. The term lobbying is used here in its broadest sense of attempting to influence legislation, not in the narrow and too commonly accepted meaning of a paid representative of some special interest. Fact is, the most pernicious and obnoxious lobbyists are persons who bitterly resent that designation.

It is hard to put a finger on specific items in the current lobbying activities, and almost as hard to identify the lobbyists. But there wouldn't be so many rumors and so much talk about preliminary attempts to influence legislation without factual basis. It is axiomatic in court circles that many things are known which cannot be proven by admissible evidence. The pre-

Lane Has Only One More Day For Inspection

Mechanical Inspection Lane No. 38, which has been in operation here since last Tuesday will close tomorrow afternoon to move to Jackson, it was announced today by the lane supervisor E. G. Whitehurst.

He said response to the lane which is now visiting Roanoke Rapids for the last time in 1948, has been "slow" this week and expressed doubt that all vehicles in the Roanoke Rapids area have been inspected as they are required before the January 1 deadline which has been set forth for all motor vehicles.

The lane here, located on East Twelfth Street between Roanoke Avenue and Hamilton street, will be open tomorrow from eight o'clock in the morning until five o'clock in the afternoon for its last day. On a previous visit the lane had remained open for 16 hours a day to give motorists an opportunity to get their cars inspected day and night, but so few people took advantage of the lane's policy that it was discontinued on subsequent visits.

Whitehurst said all motorists who drive after the first of the new year will subject themselves to indictment for failure to have their cars checked within the time allowed. He said faulty vehicles are still causing accidents daily on the North Carolina highways.

He made one last plea for owners in and near Roanoke Rapids to take advantage of the lane's presence for the last time here and urged that they bring their vehicles for inspection while the last chance of the year is still available.

River Rises to 41.5 Feet; Flood Danger Believed Averted

Weldon.—The Roanoke River still swollen by heavy weekend rains in the Virginia and upper North Carolina watersheds, rose to a measured 41.5 feet here this morning, it was reported by weather observer L. M. Shearin, who said the water was still showing a slight rise.

Indications were however, that the "danger point" of 42 feet would not be exceeded and damage would be slight. The Mush Island farming section near Weldon and farm lands of William Pierce and others farmers on the Halifax and Northampton County banks of the river were reported under water, however all industrial property in the Weldon area seemed to be safe.

Yesterday Garrett DeMott, head of the State Weather Bureau in Raleigh, had predicted a 42-foot river in the river at Weldon, and possibly a 44-foot crest. The 42-foot level here is considered to be a critical point, since much property is subject to flooding once the 42-footmark has been exceeded.

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Chinese Army Battles Reds Near Nanking

Nanking, Dec. 8.—(AP)—Units of the government's hardpressed 12th Army group were reported today to have smashed through Communist encirclement in the crucial battle for Nanking.

The government military news agency said these units had made contact with other Nationalist troops advancing northward from the new Hwai River defense line about 100 miles northwest of here.

There was no confirmation of the report by foreign military circles. The military news agency report had no other details.

The bulk of the 12th has been trapped nearly two weeks south of Suhsien, rail town 45 miles south of fallen Suichow. The army group, short on food and ammunition, is getting some supplies by air.

Meanwhile, other Communist columns were reported tightening the noose on the 250,000 government troops which abandoned Suichow a week ago in an attempt to relieve the 12th Army group.

Weather

North Carolina: Mostly cloudy with little change in temperatures through Thursday. Partly cloudy and slightly cooler west and central portions tonight. Rain Thursday and over coastal areas this afternoon.

14 Shopping Days Until Christmas



Discuss Many City Problems In Long Session

The Roanoke Rapids Board of City Commissioners met in a four-hour session yesterday to take action on civic matters ranging from the establishment of free parking areas to an ordinance for the general regulation of taxi cabs in the city.

Soon after the meeting had come to order a delegation of merchants from the North Side requested the cooperation of the city in building driveways into two lots which are being turned into free parking lots by merchants in the section.

W. P. Taylor was spokesman for the delegation which included T. S. Brown, J. A. Wilburn and W. G. Bunch. He said the downtown merchants will cooperate in cleaning, putting down gravel and zoning parking spaces on a lot on Roanoke Avenue in the 200 block between the McCracken Tire Company and Fitts-Crumpler and a larger lot in the 100 block between the AB Cleaners and the Dr. Pepper Bottling Company to be used as free parking areas. The work on establishing lots will be done by the merchants and the Commissioners were asked to construct driveways into the parking areas. Board members commended the plan and agreed to use city funds in constructing the drives to the lots.

It is expected that the lots proposed will handle more than 30 cars, thus offering an aid to the acute parking conditions in the city.

Later in the meeting the Board adopted an ordinance for the complete regulation of taxi cabs in the city. The ordinance was recommended to the Board members by Mayor W. B. Allsbrook, who said Chief of Police T. J. Davis and he had gone over it thoroughly and believed it to cover the needs of the city adequately.

Some of the provisions of the ordinance which was worked out after consultations with taxi operators in the city, are that all operators will be required to obtain an operator's permit for each cab in operation and drivers must also have permits issued by the city Board. All operators and drivers will be required to be of good character and must not have been convicted of certain laws which are enumerated in the ordinance. Under the ordinance all cabs will be subject to inspection periodically by a designated taxi inspector selected from the city's police force. It also requires that operators inspect the cabs they operate at frequent intervals to see that they maintain high standards of safety and cleanliness.

The ordinance regulates the solicitation of business and the manner in which it may be carried on, the conduct of drivers toward passengers and other activities of cabs hitherto not regulated by the city. A rate schedule suggested by the cab operators is incorporated in the 28-page ordinance which Mayor Allsbrook said was patterned on an ordinance recently adopted by the City of Durham.

After hearing the recommendations of Mayor Allsbrook and the points covered in the ordinance a motion was passed unanimously by the Board to adopt the ordinance and to make it effective on February 1 or (Continued on Page Ten)

Merchants Group Directors To Meet

Members of the Board of Directors of the Roanoke Rapids Association of Merchants will meet in regular session in the Association office tomorrow morning at 10:30, it was announced here today.

The directors' meeting was previously scheduled to be held late last month, but was postponed until tomorrow due to the unavoidable absence from town of several of the members of the Board. Several important matters are expected to claim the attention of the Board and all directors have been urged to be present.

ROANOKE RAMBLINGS

By PAT NANTZ

Mr. and Mrs. Pete Garner and children, Nancy and Scotty, and Mrs. Garner's mother, Mrs. Matthews, spent a delightful weekend at the Skyline Drive....

While I was congratulating those who were celebrating their birthday yesterday, I forgot to include R. J. Hatchell... he is not to be confused with the Roger Hatchell, who goes to school... because he is just a mite older, in fact, he is Roger's father... his age was not revealed, so he must be getting on up there... here's hoping you did have an enjoyable day, Mr. Hatchell...

Wishes for a very happy birthday go to Donald Barber and Robert Deaver of the elementary grades... and to Tom Myrick, who is sixteen and to anyone who may be interested, I am eighteen today....

Congratulations are in order for Helen Hawkins and Mason Harps who were married Sunday at the First Baptist Church....

The reason why so many of the high school girls are smiling these days, is not because a new crop of boys have arrived in town, but because Miss Turner, coach of the girl's basketball team of the local high school, issued their uniforms, Monday... some of them were quite surprised to receive a gold uniform... most of them for the first time since they have been going on... in case you're wondering why they get so excited

over the color of the uniform, it's because if you wear a gold one you are good enough to play in a game; after such forwards as Mary Frank Allsbrook, and Evelyn Rooke, and guards like Betty Myrick, and Froggy Askew have helped run the score up so high there's no danger of our losing... those in the white just wait patiently for these to graduate from school and will their uniforms to those who deserve them... and by the way, tonight marks the opening of the season which everyone in Roanoke Rapids always waits for the boys and girls of our team will challenge the teams of Aurelian Springs High School to night in the Armory... this is just a practice game for both high schools, so maybe we will get a preview on what our teams will do with some of the other teams in the same conference with us... Betty Myrick, who was co-captain of the girl's last season, was naturally chosen as captain for this year, with last season's high scorer, Evelyn Rooke, as co-captain....

I have been told that Shelton Wilder is a betting person, and I would give anything to know what that bet was that he made with Roger Hatchell and he won... and he has also been passing hints around that if anyone gives him a Christmas present, to give him handkerchiefs... and you must admit that is a strange request, because people don't usually ask for that old stand-by of a present... handkerchiefs....



Old Father Roanoke Says:

THE EDITOR TAKES OVER: Readers of this column are anxiously waiting to find out what was in "the fateful package" that Jiggs, the Herald's Washington street carrier, "had to get through to Langford's."

The suspicions of Old Father Roanoke IV, yesterday's columnist, have been confirmed. As he prophesied, the package contained high explosives: pictures of Old Father Roanoke at dramatic stages of his life.

The object in rushing them to Langford's was to have line-drawings made for the Herald. The Old Egotist hoped their publication in this column would stem the growing tide of hostility to his column. He counted on inspiring a counter-rush of admirers, especially of the bobby-sox variety, to his rescue.

We of the editorial staff anticipate the opposite reaction: they will put the finishing touches to the column, hurry the end.

Please take time out now to look at the Langford drawings. They are exceptionally faithful representations.



Young Father Roanoke

The first drawing is of Young Father Roanoke taken in 1888. A little arithmetic will tell you it was Leap Year. Our hero was 22 and, as you can see, at the very height of his attractiveness to the other sex. An over-confident little girl from Milwaukee hoped she could make something

In His Prime



Year 1908 Age 42

The second picture is of Middle-Aged Father Roanoke, taken in another Leap Year, 1908. Father Roanoke was 42 and a widower. A 19-year-old girl from over Gumberry way told him that boys of her own age were "so vapid and silly." She went for "men of experience." The Middle-Aged Father Roanoke lost.

That year, William Jennings Bryan ran against William Howard Taft. Faithful Democrat that he was, Father Roanoke voted for Bryan. Bryan lost.



Aging Father Roanoke

Came 1928. Aging Father Roanoke was again a widower. De-

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