

THE ZEBULON RECORD

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Bridges Dedicates Lighting System; Bulldogs Victors

Last Monday night was a completely successful night as far as Wakelon School is concerned. State Auditor Henry Lee Bridges dedicated the new lighting system at the athletic field, Wakelon's football team defeated Wendell, and a record crowd witnessed both events.

Mr. Bridges, a former resident of this community and a Wakelon graduate, delivered the dedication address following remarks by Principal Fred Smith of Wakelon, Principal Ed Boyette of Wendell, and Wallace Temple, chairman of the Wakelon District School Committee. Mr. Bridges was introduced by Ferd Davis, editor of the Record.

"This light installation represents continued progress on the part of Wakelon School," the Council of State member declared at the halftime ceremonies, "and I am proud to have been a member of a Wakelon student body."

He pointed out that he was the youngest of twelve children in one family, all of whom attended the local school at the same time — believed to be a record in North Carolina.

Presents Opportunity

Mr. Bridges cited the opportunity for recreational service the lighting system presents, and declared that on the playing fields of North Carolina are developed the qualities of leadership and the principles of leadership that have made ours a great state.

The dedication, originally scheduled for last Friday night and postponed because of rain, was attended by the largest crowd to attend a sports event at Wakelon since before the war. Perfect weather prevailed. Printed programs were given spectators.

Wakelon won the football game handily on a short pass from Henry Kitchings to R. McSwain for the first touchdown, followed by Robert Kitchings' 52-yard runback of an intercepted pass. Jimmie Greene scored a point after touchdown on a line play.

The local eleven meets Spring Hope here tonight at 8 o'clock. Last year Spring Hope and Wakelon battled to a 6-6 tie.

TO BE HERE



Dr. John W. Kincheloe, Jr.

Dr. John W. Kincheloe, Jr., pastor of the Hayes Barton Baptist Church in Raleigh, will conduct the annual revival at the Zebulon Baptist Church, beginning with the evening service on Sunday, October 16. The services will be held at 7:30 each evening through Friday, October 21.

Dr. Kincheloe is a graduate of the public schools of Rocky Mount, where his father has served as pastor of the First Baptist Church for thirty-two years. He holds degrees from the University of Richmond and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has held pastorates in Emporia, Virginia, North Wilkesboro, Norfolk, Virginia and Raleigh. He is recognized as one of North Carolina's outstanding Baptist ministers.

Music for the services will be provided by the Adult Choir and the Youth Choirs under the direction of Mr. Claude Cook and Mrs. Rodney McNabb.

GUARD PAY

New pay scales for drills with the National Guard were announced yesterday by Capt. Barrie Davis, commanding officer of Battery A, 113 FA Bn.

As compiled by S-1c Clifford Gilliam, the new drill pay is as follows: Master Sergeant, \$6.61; S-1c, \$5.63; Sergeant, \$4.65; Corporal, \$3.92; Pfc. \$3.18; Private, \$2.66.

Masonic Notables Appear on Local Program; Jewels Presented Masters

Dr. Charles B. Eldridge, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, was the guest speaker at the communication of Zebulon Lodge No. 609, AF&AM, held last week, and at the conclusion of his talk he presented 25 Year Certificates to eleven members of the Zebulon Lodge for continuous membership and service in Masonry.

Distinguished visitors at the meeting were Douglas Pike of Raleigh, Deputy Grand Master for the 15th District; Dr. Reid T. Goe, Worshipful Master of Wm. G. Hill Lodge No. 218, Raleigh; H. A. McAllister, Worshipful Master of Hiram Lodge No. 40, Raleigh; and visitors from other lodges in this section.

Social Hour

Prior to the meeting Dr. and Mrs. Chas. Flowers entertained the visitors and senior lodge officers at a social hour in their home on Wakefield Street.

The 25 Year Certificates were presented to R. Vance Brown, Dr. George S. Barbee, W. C. Campen, J. F. Coltrane, F. D. Finch, Dr. Chas. E. Flowers, Dr. L. M. Massey, W. L. Temple, Charles G. Weathersby, C. V. Whitley, and M. J. Sexton.

The monthly supper meeting was prepared and served by Claud Dunn, M. T. Debnam, and E. C. Daniel, all old members of the Zebulon Lodge.

Jewels Presented

Past Master's Jewels were presented to Jesse Franklin Coltrane, Luther Malcus Massey, Elbert Clifton Daniel, Sr., William Bernice Bunn, William Silas Cheaves, George Sprite Barbee, Robert Vance Brown, Wallace Gardner Temple, Robert Hoyle Bridgers, Charles Ely Flowers, Sr., Walter Leland Simpson, and Ralph Hugh Bunn.

Worshipful Master Elwood Perry was presiding officer.

Services Held for Bus Victims; County School Head Criticised

Hatteras Fishing Trip, Admitted by Inscoe, Partial Cause of Feeling

Vigorous criticism of Nash County school authorities has been made by residents of the western and southern portions of the county, following the Ferrell's School bus tragedy last Tuesday, with most of the criticism being directed at L. S. Inscoe, county school superintendent.

A coroner's jury, meeting at Nashville last Friday, found the County Board of Education and the State Highway Commission guilty of criminal negligence in failing to provide adequate school bus facilities, and to clear an adequate right-of-way near the Turkey Creek bridge where the accident occurred.

Dr. R. E. Earp of Thanksgiving, highway commissioner for the fourth division, revealed, however, that he had sent letters to all school superintendents in the division on August 30 requesting that they inform him of such critical spots as the Turkey Creek bridge where accidents might occur. He disclosed that Principal O'Neal of Ferrell's School had not replied to his letter, but had notified local authorities of the danger spot.

Denial Made

Assistant Nash County School Superintendent C. H. Friese denied Friday that the bus was overloaded, following the action by the coroner's jury. Superintendent Inscoe was not available for comment at that time, having left for a fishing trip to Cape Hatteras shortly after the accident Thursday morning.

The criticism of Mr. Inscoe in the Ferrell's section comes from two causes: belief that he failed to give proper consideration to pleas that something be done about the school bus route earlier this year, and what appeared to Ferrell's School patrons as an unsympathetic attitude following the tragedy.

H. L. Puckett, who has a child in the Ferrell's School, disclosed this week that earlier this year he carried a petition from patrons of the school district to Superintendent Inscoe's office in Nashville requesting that an extra bus be added, and that children living on the Massey Road — including five of the bus victims — be permitted to attend Middlesex School instead of Ferrell's School. He was accompanied by Vester Massey.

"Already Dead"

Puckett's contention was that the school children would be required to make a bus trip of only 4 miles under his proposal, while the plan in use required them to travel over 17 miles. He further declared that it would be more efficient because the teacher load at Ferrell's was greater than at Middlesex.

When Puckett delivered the petition to Inscoe's office, he said he was informed that his petition was "already dead." Ferrell's residents, however, hold that the petition was never acted upon, since John Roberson, chairman of the Nash County Board of Education, told them he had never seen it.

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EVANGELIST



The Rev. F. D. Heddon

The revival services at the Methodist Church this week have featured the outstanding preaching of the Rev. F. D. Heddon, pastor of the Chestnut Street Methodist Church of Lumberton, N. C. Interested congregations have responded splendidly to the services, according to the pastor of the church, with the result that there has been individual rededication and a strengthening of the spiritual fellowship in the church. The services continue through Friday evening this week.

The regular weekly Worship Service will be held Sunday evening at 7:30.

Frank Kannon Opens Department Store In Bunn Building

Frank Kannon has opened his clothing store in the new building beside Bunn Electric Company, and is receiving daily additional merchandise to complete his stock. Frank, who has a host of friends in this community, states that he will carry quality merchandise offered at the best prices possible.

Already he has Arrow and McGregor shirts, Giffon suits, and many other name brands. "It will be a policy with us to advertise only what we have," he said. "We don't want folks to come in to Kannon's Department Store looking for something we say we have unless we can sell it to them."

The new store is brightly fluorescent lighted, giving the careful buyer an opportunity to examine the goods before making a purchase.

P-TA MEETING

The Wakelon Parent-Teacher Association will hold the second meeting of the school year at the high school auditorium next Monday night, October 17, at 8 o'clock.

Bridges Addresses Rotary Club

State Auditor Henry Lee Bridges, native of the Wakefield community, spoke to Zebulon Better Citizens last Friday night on better citizenship, asserting that good civic club members necessarily are good citizens in that they are impelled to exercise their right of suffrage.

Mr. Bridges urged that each citizen take a great part in politics,

Thousands Attend Rites For Seven Children Killed in Bus Accident

In North Carolina's worst school bus wreck and this community's greatest tragedy, seven school children lost their lives last Thursday morning when their school bus, driven by Charles Bryant, crashed into a Little River Ice Company truck, driven by Pete Bryant, on the Turkey Creek bridge near Ferrell's School.

Both drivers were absolved of responsibility for the accident by a Nash County coroner's jury last Friday morning. Homer Bunn of Middlesex served as chairman of the jury, which blamed highway and school authorities for the crash. There is a sharp curve at the bridge, and vision is obscured by dense vegetation along the right-of-way.

Four children were killed outright, including Ronnie Carter, who operated the bus "stop" sign, who was thrown out of the school bus by the impact. Others died in a Rocky Mount hospital.

The tragedy was felt in Zebulon almost as strongly as it was in the Ferrell's and Middlesex communities; most of the children were known here, as are their parents. Some of the less severely injured children were brought here for treatment.

Funeral Services

Funeral services for six of the victims were held from the Union Hope Baptist Church at 3:30 Saturday afternoon by the Rev. J. N. Stancil, assisted by other ministers from Zebulon and neighboring communities.

Over 5,000 people attended the services, for Judith Massey, 7-year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Massey; Joanne Debnam, 11 years old son and Carolyn Debnam, 8 years old, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Debnam; Carol Julian Bryant, 12, and Shelby Jean Bryant, 14, children of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Bryant; and Ronnie Ray Carter, 8-year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Carter.

On Sunday afternoon services were held for the seventh victim, Bobby Lee Strickland, at Rocky Cross Baptist Church by the Rev. Charles Auten and the Rev. J. N. Stancil. Bobby Lee was the son of Mr. and Mrs. B. S. Strickland.

Judith Massey was buried in the Massey cemetery on Massey Road; Ronnie Carter, in a grave beside the church, Caroline Sue and Betty Jo Debnam were buried in the Bryant cemetery, in graves beside Shelby Jean and Carol Julian Bryant. Bobby Lee Strickland was buried following services Sunday in the Rocky Cross cemetery.

which, he declared, is another name for "public affairs." He attributed North Carolina's progressive government to the interest taken by the electorate in seeing that capable and honest men served in positions of responsibility and trust.

The program tonight will be directed by Vaiden Whitley and the International Service Committee.